

I-500 to celebrate 50 years of racing in February

By Shannon Jones
Bay Mills News

SAULT STE. MARIE — Race fans are in for a treat this year as the I-500 celebrates its 50th anniversary. Events will kick off on Monday, Jan. 29, but preparations will begin well before that.

According to Race Director Ric Federau, track prep is something that takes place throughout the year.

Many projects have already been completed at the track, including a new, state-of-the-art operations center that has been constructed above turns 1 & 2 at the northeast area of the track. This also allows spectators and fans to purchase a suite and watch the event in the warmth of the facility.

There are also steps leading from the hill to the famous I-500 infield bridge now in place, as well as new fencing throughout various locations on the track. The South race officials tower, between turns 3 & 4, has been totally renovated as well.

“As I-500 race week gets closer, the involvement becomes more evident,” said Fed-

erau. “Watering the track commences on an escalated level around Christmas time each year. Watering is done throughout the day and night hours.”

The entire race operation is done completely by volunteers. More than 100 volunteers come together each year to make the event possible.

“Volunteers are the backbone of the project,” noted Federau, adding that anyone interested in volunteering is welcome to contact him. “Come out and volunteer to help. The I-500 can use a multitude of various abilities. From painting, cleaning, and inside office work, to grounds work and heavy machinery operations, regardless of one's ability, there is a spot for you. Be a part of the I-500 and volunteer your time and efforts towards something that's fun and rewarding. The I-500 Project takes care of those who volunteer.”

Some of the special events planned this year include:

- Ice skating on Monday, Jan. 29 at the track from 7 to 9 p.m.
- Mini-Snowmobile Races begin at 7:30

p.m. on Monday, Jan. 29 in the parking lot

— "Brad Redman Memorial" race to be held on Wednesday, Jan. 31 at 8 :30 p.m.

— The Guinness World Record snowmobile parade on Thursday, Feb. 1, which will end at the I-500 track

— Additional races on Thursday, Feb. 1 (Woody's Challenge)

The green flag on the race will drop on Saturday, Feb. 3, at 10 a.m.

While no one is sure how many spectators will attend the 50th anniversary race, it's guaranteed to be in the thousands. The race itself provides a substantial economic boost to the Sault Ste. Marie area.

“Over the past several decades the I-500 has enjoyed more and more international, regional and local media coverage. The commencement of the social media path has opened endless opportunities giving support



to the I-500 event. This means the promotion of the race and all it has to offer has made the I-500 a vacation destination for winter sports enthusiast,” said Federau. “Media coverage has helped to enhance the spectator base and there is a consistent increase of on-site fans during race week and on main event race day. There is also more social media views than ever before.”

To view the full race schedule, or volunteer, visit the race website at www.i-500.com.

Grants to fund BMIC infrastructure

BAY MILLS — Bay Mills Indian Community will develop approximately 90 new home sites, thanks to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's decision to award the tribe grants totaling \$4 million to develop water and sewer systems.

Two separate grants, totaling \$2 million each, will fund the construction of water and sewer infrastructure for the tribe's planned Plantation Hills Housing Development, which is located on the Bay Mills Indian Reservation near Brimley. Completion of the housing development had been stalled for nearly a decade, due to lack of funding for critical infrastructure.

There is a high demand for single-family homes within the boundaries of the Bay Mills Indian Reservation, and many community members living outside of community wish to return to Bay Mills to live and work.

“These grants will help Bay Mills put more tribal members on the path to homeownership. With utilities in place, tribal members may soon apply to banks for construction/mortgage loans,” said Bay Mills Indian Community Chairman Bryan Newland. “This project will create jobs and meet the demand for local housing in our community.”

The grants were awarded by the USDA Office of Rural Development. U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-MI – Ranking Member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, which oversees rural development funding – was instrumental in assisting the tribe with acquiring the funds.

“There is a critical need for investments in water and sewer systems across Michigan, including our Upper Peninsula, and Rural Development is an important partner in meeting these needs,” said Senator Stabenow. “This investment will provide an economic boost to the community, create jobs and provide affordable housing for tribal members.”

“We are grateful to Sen. Stabenow and USDA Rural Development for their support. This project had been stalled for many years. But, their hard work has made jobs and housing a reality for our community,” added Newland.

The tribe expects to begin construction on the water and sewer systems in 2018. After receiving notice that the infrastructure grants were awarded, Bay Mills Indian Community authorized the use of tribal funds to install electric service for the Plantation Hills Housing Development.



CHRISTMAS PARTY SUCCESS — Bay Mills Indian Community hosted their annual Children's Christmas Party on Saturday, Dec 16, at the Armella Parker Building. Local youth had the opportunity to speak with Santa, get a gift, and enjoy refreshments.



Chairman Newland provides an update to the community

By **Bryan Newland**
Bay Mills Tribal Chairman

Getting off to a fast start!

It has now been more than one month since our community has entrusted me to serve as tribal chairman. As you would expect, it has been a bit of a whirlwind as I try to get up to speed. I want to thank our tribal administration staff for their work in helping me get started. I want to especially acknowledge Andrea Kinney, Kathi Carrick, and Albert Bertram for their effort.

In just several weeks, our new council has begun to lay the groundwork for big things to come. We have tried to make our work more transparent, and provide more information to employees and community members – this includes posting our meeting agendas in advance of our meetings, and moving our meeting times to the afternoons so that more people can attend. We have also adopted a budget for 2018, which will allow us to plan for our future

and begin to make needed investments in our community. This work includes investing in the development of our new housing project on Plantation Road.

I am presently working with council members to draft a “2020 Agenda” for the Executive Council’s approval early in the New Year. This agenda will establish clear goals to accomplish before 2020, and will establish priorities to guide the Council, tribal administration, and tribal employees over the next two years. I intend to communicate that agenda to members and employees.

We have also been busy tending to important items in the past several weeks. I have worked with the Chippewa-Ottawa Resource Authority to begin the work necessary to negotiate our new fishing agreement with the State of Michigan in 2020. As a council, we have also been working to address the Line 5 pipeline beneath the Mackinac Straits to protect our treaty rights and our Great Lakes waters. This included meeting with key state officials

in Lansing to advocate for shutting down the pipeline, submitting comments for the record on the state’s pipeline review process, and issuing public statements in coordination with other treaty tribes. That work will remain a priority as long as I serve as your tribal chairman.

In January and February, we will be hosting a series of meetings with our tribal fishermen and interested community members to develop priorities for our upcoming negotiations with the state. Please be on the lookout for information related to that effort.

Our Executive Council has also made it a priority to hire a chief financial officer, and we have begun the process of interviewing candidates. Hiring a good CFO is necessary for managing our budget, planning for our future, and making smart investments in new businesses.

I am going to do my very best to communicate our work with tribal members, to listen to your ideas, and to answer your questions. I know that the members of our Executive Council feel the same. I want to encourage you to share your ideas about how to improve our community, and I want to empower you to develop those ideas to make them a reality.

Please check out our tribal website, and my official “Tribal Chairman” Facebook page for regular updates about what is going on here at Bay Mills. And, please don’t hesitate to call, email, or stop-in to share your thoughts, questions, and concerns with me – I work for you. Miigwetch, and happy holidays!

You can reach me at 906- 248-3241 or bnewland@baymills.org. My official Facebook Page is “Bay Mills Indian Community Tribal Chairman.”

Snowmobiles wanted for Guinness Book record challenge

SAULT STE MARIE — If you have a snowmobile and the urge to help break a world record, The Sault Events has an invitation for you.

On Thursday, Feb. 1, 2018, Sault Ste. Marie will attempt to break the Guinness World Record for most snowmobiles in a parade. The record was previously set in Whitecourt, Alberta, Canada, when 1,047 sleds participated in the parade.

Mary Jo Duvall, coordinator for The Sault Events, said the group has set its goal at 1,250 sleds, all of which must complete a full two-mile parade route to be counted for the record.

“We are excited to mark the special occasion of 50 years of the I-500 with a record-breaking snowmobile parade on the Thursday before the main event,” she explained.

The parade route will end at the I-500 track, where participants can stay to enjoy the beverage tent and a food truck competition while watching Thursday’s race – The Woody’s Challenge – a 25-lap sprint undertaken by qualifying pro racers.

Parade participants will receive free admission to Thursday’s race with their parade bracelet and will enjoy free snowmobile parking at that event.

To participate, all drivers will be required to have a valid driver’s license and all snowmobiles must be registered. Proof of registration and driver’s license will be required at registration. Kid’s mini-sleds are not allowed to enter.

Pre-registration is required. Register your sled at www.saultstemarie.com and be a part of history. For more information, contact DuVall at 906-632-3366.

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cmleapley@baymills.org

Brimley Unit
Brimley Area Schools
Ages 7-18
Mon-Fri, 3:05-6:30 p.m.
Unit Director: Jennalee Somes 248-8574
jsomes@baymills.org

CAMP Site
Malcolm High School
Grades 6-12
Tues, Wed, Thur, 3-6 p.m.
Unit Director: Rob McRorie 635-6388
rmcroe@baymills.org

— ALUMNI —
SPOTLIGHT



Mike Phillips, 2014 alumnus of Bay Mills Community College’s Computer Information System (CIS) program, was successful at obtaining full-time employment as an Information Technology Repair Technician for Ford Motors in 2015.

“BMCC gave me the confidence to pursue a career in the information technology field,” said Phillips. “The advantage came from the teachers, who are dedicated to seeing their students succeed.”

To find out more about BMCC’s CIS program, contact them at 906-248-3354, or follow them on Facebook and/or Twitter.

Executive Council meets to discuss tribal matters

By Shannon Jones
Bay Mills News

BAY MILLS — Bay Mills Executive Council met for regularly scheduled meetings on Nov. 27 and Dec. 11. Absent from the Nov. 27 meeting was Vice Chair Brenda Bjork. All members were present at the Dec. 11 meeting.

Tribal Manager Albert Bertram gave a report at the Nov. 27 meeting. He presented the council with prospects on a software purchase that would streamline the grants process within the tribe. The software would also make it easier for the tribe to apply for more grants. Bertram said he was working with grant-funded departments about the process and software would be paid for with indirect cost monies. Bertram hopes to deploy the new system before the end of the year.

In financial reports, Controller Greg Parker noted the search for a chief financial officer is narrowing and he will include the council in on communications with potential candidates.

In legal reports, attorney Candy Tierney noted she was still trying to acquire information about a deal made between the state of Michigan and En-

bridge regarding Line 5. The back-door deal did not include any consultation with tribes and information on it was limited. She noted that the tribe is still opposed to Line 5 and will continue working on the matter. Chairman Bryan Newland said he would be following up as well and will issue a press release in response.

Items approved at the meeting were:

- Appointment of Ashley Bowen to the Child Welfare Committee
- Reaffirmation of poll votes (1) donation to basketball team (2) authorization of council as signers to bank account
- Two resolutions regarding the BIA Master Contract
- Amendment to Off-Reservation National Forest Gathering
- Funding for electric in the Plantation Hills project
- Sponsorship of the Ojibwe Charter School Robotics team

In tribal member comments, a tribal member noted he would like to see changes to the local court system that would allow for the tribe to punish criminals for longer terms. Currently, the tribe is limited due to the existing criminal code. Chairman Newland said he would like this to be discussed during a working session.

The Dec. 11 meeting was another full agenda for the council.

In reports, Chairman Newland noted that he is working with other individuals to establish what resources are available to help community members in need. Currently, the tribe attempts to help out individuals on a case-by-case basis when items such as their furnace or water heater go out. But Newland noted there are many state, local, and federal resources that offer programs. He will work with a handful of individuals on the property assistance program. The group will meet again in January.

Tribal Manager Bertram noted he is working on setting up training at Lake Superior State for council members in the coming months.

In the General Manager’s report for the casino, Richard LeBlanc noted that improvements are continuing at the property. These efforts include painting, carpeting, and replacement of part of the fire suppression system. Plans to change out the ATM vendors are also in place. He said the casino is preparing for the new year in regards to promotions.

In old business, the council approved the budget for 2018. The group previously held a working session to look over the numbers and discuss. The prior council had

established the budget and was acknowledged for their work.

Other items approved were:

- 2018 Subcontract for Administration and Biological Services (CORA contract)
- Request for Phase II of Sewer Grant
- Health Board Vacancy: Paula Carrick was appointed
- Donation for the annual New Year’s Eve Sober Family Celebration
- Legal Services Contract for Kathryn Tierney
- Board Training and Retreat
- Reaffirmation of Poll Votes: (1) Donation for emergency assistance for elder (2) Donation for tribal member for educational trip

In tribal member comments, an employee suggested the council review how tips are allocated with slot staff and security at the casino. After much discussion, the council said they would look at the policy. A tribal employee also noted he felt the dismissal of a co-worker was uncalled for. The council listened to his concerns, but noted that human resources issues are not the focus of the council.

The next meeting of the Bay Mills Executive Council will take place on Monday, Jan. 8 at 4:30 p.m. in the tribal administration building.

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OPINION

A Charlie Brown Christmas Tree remembered

By Sharon M. Kennedy

The perfect Christmas tree is illusive. Does it really exist, or is it only something we imagine? Something magical remembered from a book or a childhood corner of our mind where myth and reality merge and blur until we cannot tell one from the other?

One thing was for sure. Our Christmas tree of 1987 left no doubts in my daughter’s mind or mine. Our tree screamed the truth. “Take me back to the forest and let me die in peace,” it said. “Back in the woods, I’ll be shelter for chickadees until all my needles fall off. Then I’ll be food for pilated woodpeckers.” At least that’s what I imagined it was saying as it stood alone and forlorn in a corner of our living room.

Although it didn’t breathe one word, I knew that tree was no more at home in our apartment than it would have been in Macy’s Department Store. My buddy, Roger Pilon, now of Grand Marais, but at the time of Sugar Island, had insisted we needed a balsam instead of the traditional spruce. He scouted his property three weeks before Christmas and found what he considered the “perfect” tree. By the time he threw it in the back of his truck and dragged it into our home, it had been leaning against his shed for a week.

I always told my daughter to tell the truth no matter what. I said it was much better to be truthful even when there were consequences, but I must admit I didn’t follow my own advice when it came to that tree. Roger was so proud of it the buttons on his jacked almost popped off when he showed it to us. Before he brought it in, he shook off the loose snow. The frozen stuff stayed in place until hit by heat. Then it dripped all over the carpet.

Anyone could see Balsam was gasping for water so as soon as it was screwed into the stand, we gave it a drink. Then Stephanie and Roger set to work decorating. Earlier in the day, I had hauled out Christmas decorations from my childhood as well as new ones. Everyone knows strings of lights are the first things to put on a tree. The ones I had were from previous years so naturally they were a tangled mess. We plugged them in to make sure they all worked and they did until they were strung around Balsam. It was only after they were neatly in place they decided not to work.

The hunt for the culprit was on. In olden days, Christmas lights were the size of your thumb. If one went out, they all went out, but when mini lights came on the

market, it was a different story. Unfortunately, I was still using the lights from my childhood. Roger unscrewed each one and finally replaced the defective bulb. Then it was on to colorful ornaments, strings of silver tinsel, paper chains, and finally the angel on top. Roger lifted Stephanie and I snapped a picture as she put the finishing touch on Balsam.

We darkened the room and stood back to admire the tree. We stood in silence for a long time. We were searching for the right words to describe what we saw. I coughed. Roger cleaned his eyeglasses. Finally, Stephanie, who was five at the time, spoke. If my recall is correct, her words went something like this. “That is the ugliest tree I’ve ever seen, but thank you Roger for giving it to us because nobody else would want it.”

With those few words, we knew we needn’t hold in our laughter. We thought Stephanie might not notice how pathetic Balsam looked, but once the truth was out, the tree was fair game. Even Roger admitted the popcorn balls had to be bound with string and tied to a branch because there was no place to hide them. The bright lights exposed the sparse needles that were falling as fast as the snow outside our windows. After placing nicely wrapped presents underneath it, our Balsam was still the sorriest tree in all the land.

I know you have had at least one Charlie Brown Christmas tree in your living room. Maybe your father, brother, uncle, cousin, boyfriend, husband, or child chose it for you and you didn’t have the heart to tell the truth. You suggested maybe it would look better if the side facing out was turned towards the wall. Maybe it needed just another box of tinsel or a dozen more ornaments. It might have been a bit too tall or three feet too short. Perhaps it was a white pine instead of a spruce and everyone knows pine trees are impossible to decorate.

So, what did you do when confronted with an unwanted tree and eager faces looking to you for approval? You lied, that’s what you did. You lied to protect those you love. You found one thing to praise and then you found another. You said it smelled nice and the decorators did a good job. You plugged in the lights, played a Christmas CD, passed around mugs of hot cocoa, and declared the tree was the most beautiful ever to grace your home. Because when it comes to Christmas, we’re all liars. You know what I mean, don’t you?

Merry Christmas everyone!

Kennedy is a freelance writer who resides in Brimley.

Charitable giving - It’s an American tradition

By Tom Purcell

Ah, the giving season is upon us - the best time of the year to be an American.

According to Giving USA 2017: The Annual Report on Philanthropy for the Year 2016, American giving rose to \$390 billion last year - a 3 percent increase over the prior year.

Americans give around 3 percent of our collective income to charity - more than the citizens of any other country. Better yet, these are individual Americans, not the government, who are generating the lion's share of the contributions.

According to the National Philanthropic Trust, the vast majority of U.S. citizens donate to charity - and 91 percent of high net-worth households do. Though most of the contributions come in small amounts, the average household contribution equals \$2,520 - no small amount of generosity.

Giving USA says individual Americans gave an estimated \$281.86 billion in 2016 - an increase of 3.9 percent over the prior year. Individual giving accounted for 72 percent of all charitable giving in 2016.

The balance of giving, some 28 percent, came from foundations (\$59.28 bil-

lion), bequests (\$30.36 billion) and corporations (\$18.55 billion).

In 2016, the United States government gave about \$40 billion in foreign aid to more than 100 countries - only about 10 percent of what our individuals and private organizations gave.

The fact is America is the most generous country on Earth, and most of the giving is coming from individuals sharing their hard-earned dough.

According to a 2006 report by journalist John Stossel, Americans give 3 1/2 times more, per capita, than the French, 7 times more than the Germans and 14 times more than the Italians.

Though not all Americans are as generous as they could be.

One might assume that the more liberal folks in America - folks who voice their concerns about the poor - would be more likely to donate to charitable causes. But that turns out to be a myth.

Stossel set up a Salvation Army bucket in two places: Sioux Falls, S.D., and San Francisco, Calif. San Francisco has a lot more dough and a lot of people who classify themselves as politically liberal; only 14 percent of the people who live there attend church. Sioux Falls is a rural, middle-class community in which half the folks are churchgoers.

So which city gave more? The Sioux Falls folks won hands down. Stossel pointed out that the simple reason why is that liberal folks tend to believe the government should take care of the poor, whereas more religious folks tend to be big believers in giving their own time and money to help a variety of charitable causes.

Stossel found, in fact, that almost all the people who donated to the Salvation Army in Sioux Falls were churchgoers. And that churchgoers are four times more likely to give to charity than those who are not.

Another interesting finding was that the people who give the most, as a percentage of their wealth, aren't the richest Americans or even middle-class Americans - they're the folks on the lower end of the economic scale. They give almost 30 percent more of their income than anybody else.

In any event, the holiday season is upon us, and it is the favorite time of the year for Americans to give to individuals and to the charities of our choice.

Bolstered #GivingTuesday, a global day of giving that now falls on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving, the giving season is off to a great start. On #GivingTuesday, more than 2.5 million individuals donated \$274 million - nearly \$100 million more than last year.

As I said, it's the giving season, the best time of the year to be an American.

©2017 Tom Purcell. Tom Purcell, author of "Misadventures of a 1970's Childhood" and "Wicked Is the Whiskey," a Sean McClanahan mystery novel, both available at Amazon.com, is a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review humor columnist and is nationally syndicated exclusively by Cagle Cartoons Inc

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Submissions may be emailed to: newspaper@baymills.org.

Brimley Elementary announces Students of the Month

BRIMLEY — Brimley Elementary school has selected the following students at their Students of the Month for November:

Albert Walden is a role model, leader, and gentleman in our classroom and is always ready to learn, with body basics, and awesome listening. He is kind and helpful in our classroom and at school. Albert is a responsible learner as he completes his tasks in a timely manner and follows directions. He also makes good decisions when it comes to safety. We are thrilled to have Albert as an important member of our classroom family and look forward to his leadership every day. — Ms. McPherson

Tyler Bedell is a very hard worker. He does a great job listening to directions the first time they are given. Tyler often volunteers to be a helper in the classroom. He is a good friend to all of his classmates and does an excellent job following the Bay’s Ways each day. Tyler is a great leader in and out of the classroom. I have enjoyed getting to know Tyler this school year and I look forward to watching him grow throughout the remainder of the year. — Mrs. Schaedler

Zoe Anderson is a cheerful girl that always has a positive attitude. She does anything that is asked of her. She always goes above and beyond what is expected of her whether it is with her school work or helping her classmates. I know that I can always count on her to be following the Bays' Ways and to be a good role model for her classmates. We are very fortunate

to have her in our classroom. Congratulations, Zoe! — Ms. Peller

Jordin Brugman has been doing an amazing job this month following the Bays' Ways by being safe, respectful, responsible, and ready to learn. Jordin works hard in our classroom and has even made the Honor Roll for Quarter 1. Jordin is a kind and caring student who is always willing to help a friend and classmate in need. We are so proud of you Jordin. Keep up the great work and congratulations! —Mrs. Rutledge

Addisyn Ranta works very hard in class every day and always does great quality Kindergarten work. Addisyn is also a great helper in the classroom, always willing to help her teacher and her classmates. She has made it to pink (outstanding) on our classroom behavior chart many times this year. Addisyn is a sweet, happy girl who is nice to her classmates. She is a joy to have in class. Awesome job, Addisyn. Keep up the great work! — Miss Allison

Hadley Hopper comes into class every day with a smile on her face. I never have to remind her to do things. She follows the classroom routine perfectly. Hadley listens and pays attention, so she can make sure that she is following directions. I can count on her to run errands or help me with anything needed, because she shows great responsibility in all school settings. Her hard work has helped her to do well in all areas. Hadley is kind to others and often gives a helping hand to her friends.

Brimley High School/Middle School Honor Roll

- Quarter 1
- 7th grade
- Savannah Albrough*, Kailiegh Bensel, Ella Bowen*, Julianna Carrick*, Kenneth Clow, Zachary Daniels, Jordan Fegan-July, Aiyana Giddis, Lindsey Hill, Kayleigh Hopper*, Sydney Hopper*, Braedon Kemp*, Cameron King, Kaylee Komejan, Betty Kovas*, Kelsie Lyons, Elsie McGuire, Logan Peake, Chloe Teeple*, and Logan Thomas.
- 8th Grade
- Aiden Beseau*, Stephanie Bishop*, Reece Blake-Pesola, Craig Carrick, Kaedence Chaplin, Colon Hopper, Adrianna Hyder, Cole Johnson, Carlie Keyser*, Kayla Kincheloe, Alexis Leapley, Caleb Lipponen, Sadie McGuire*, Siersha Miller*, Dominic Morrison, Graydon Newland, Riley Parish, Willem Perron, Luke Slater*, Harold Stenglein, Alana VanderMeer*, and Heavenlee Ann Vandusen-Dauzat.
- 9th grade
- Natalie Albrough, Zoey Bell, Kora Blake, Austin Burley, Carmen Cameron, Lily Carlson, Justin Carrick, Jaden Fus*, Kadin Goetz, Cameron Hoomstra, Kayden Johnson, Paige Johnson, Torin Miller, Janine Nappoletano, Sarah Rosa, and Aryahna Tinker.
- 10th Grade
- Victoria Aikens*. Tommissa Archambea, Cole Brehm, Philip Brown*, Jaymie Cameron, Zachary Gross, Zachry Indish, Garrett Johnson, Mikayla Kime, Katelyn Krull, Justina Massey, Trevor Moran, Austin Plotkin, Derek Postma*, Jacob Skonieczny, and Raina Vert.
- 11th grade
- Samantha Bishop*, Jenna Cameron, Mason Cameron, Dylan Carrick*, Kendra

- Carrick, Hayley Gambardella, Jessie Hall, Zoey Hall, Autumn Halvorsen, Marcus Harris, Tiia Hyvarinen, Jamie Johnson, Delilah Kelly, Abigaile LaRue, Thomas Marske, Ivory Maxwell, Kierra Perron, Payden Teeple, Kristyn Van Sickle*, and Paula Walden.
- 12th Grade
- Autumn Aikens*, Dante Cappelli, Michael Gordier, Joshua Gross, Maurice Harris, Sean Hill, Jacob Hopper, Samuel Hopper, Preston Huskey, Conner Johnson, Nathan Recla, Ann-Maire Rice, Brendan Schornack, Megan Schornack, Sarah Schornack*, Julia Stenglein*, and Baylie Waybrant.
- Brimley Elementary Honor Roll
- Quarter 1
- 6th grade
- Hunter Baragwanath, Paris Bedell*, Stacy Bishop, Landon Cameron, Isabelle Caraccio*, Mila Croad*, Aaliyah Deuman, Grace Dumas*, Laila Duvall*, Zac Ennis, Brendan Gross*, Abby Hoffman*, Kiara Hopper*, Lennon Howell, Evan Hyder, Anna Keyser*, Camela Kemp, Raegen Kopitsch, Ceara LeBlanc, Kai Morrison*, Meredith Newland, Autumn Ward*, and Simon Whealy.
- 5th grade
- Bradley Anderson, Dallas Andrus, Morgan Barnes, Jordin Brugman, Addison Carrick*, Ciarah Carrick, Memphis Courser, Summer Kinney, Trey Lynn*, Evan Mills*, Jaydon Niemi-Alcorn, Mark Osborne, Angelyn Sergeiko, Benjamin Smart, Paul Sweeten*, Andrew Teeple, Phoenix Thompson, and Chendra Tremblay.
- *Denotes all A's

It is nice to have such an awesome student in our class. Nice work, Hadley! — Mrs. Hill

Luke Toms is always willing to help adults and fellow students. Luke is the peace maker in the classroom. Luke always encourages his fellow classmates to be kind to one another and does his best to be a good example to all. Congratulations, Luke! — Mrs. Waters/Mrs. Gross

Addison Hill is a very kind young lady who shows a lot of perseverance. She is improving her organizational skills, and is always willing to help out in the classroom. She can be counted on to make good decisions. She is trustworthy and will stand up for what is right. We are so happy that she is in our class! — Mrs. Hope

Kiara Hopper is a delightful student. She always helps those in need. She follows the Bays' Ways and is always Ready to Learn. Kiara is a very conscientious student. She turns in all of her work. Not only did she make the Honor Roll this first quarter, but she made all four Honor Rolls last year too. Kiara not only does well in school, but is a good basketball player too. Congratulations Kiara on a job well done! —Mrs. Osborne

Garrett Albrough is a pleasure to have in class and has the biggest heart that I’ve ever witnessed. Garrett is always kind to others and accepts people, and their differences, with ease. Keep up the outstanding work, Garrett! — Mrs. Jarvi and Miss Jarvie

Calie Tremblay walks in every day with a big smile and a great attitude. She works hard and never misses an assignment. I appreciate her upbeat personality and how she can be

counted on to make the right choices. Congratulations Calie in earning SOTM! — Ms. Teeple

Autumn Ward is an excellent student. She works very hard to make sure all of her assignments are completed and done correctly. Autumn offers a helping hand to teachers and fellow students whenever it is needed, often without ever being asked to do so. She is thoughtful and conscientious, and she has a great sense of humor and responsibility. Autumn is a student that is a great role model for others. Keep up the good work, Autumn! Congratulations on being our Student of the Month. — Mrs. Hutchins

Peyton Beseau is a role model and leader in our classroom and is always ready to learn. She is respectful in school and on the playground where she waits her turn, raises her hand when she wants to be heard, and has a quiet voice in the classroom. Peyton is kind and helpful in our classroom and at school. She is a responsible learner. We are so fortunate that her is in our class this year. Keep up the great work! —Mrs. Ver Strate

Masyn Miller is one who never has to be reminded to say please or thank you, which is something we love! If ever a friend is in need of help, he is right there to lend a hand. He gets right to work every day and when he doesn't understand, he seeks out assistance like a responsible student. Masyn is respectful of his peers, teachers, and other staff, raising his hand when he wants to get a word in and waiting until it is his turn. He is a wonderful student that everybody is lucky to know! — Mrs. Castagne



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Ojibwe Charter School announces Students of the Month

BAY MILLS — Ojibwe Charter School recently chose their November Students of the Month. Ojibwe Charter School uses the Seven Grandfather Teachings for their Student of the Month program along with TRIBE. TRIBE is a positive system of following school wide rules. TRIBE stands for; Treat others kindly, Ready to learn, I need to listen, Be safe, and Everyone tries their best. The Grandfather teaching for November was Bravery or Aakode'ewin.

Aakode’ewin- Bravery is to face the foe with integrity. In the Anishinaabe language, the word literally means "state of having a fearless heart." To do what is right even when the consequences are unpleasant.

Khale Kieliszewski
Kindergarten/First Grade: Mr. Collins
The Kindergarten and First Grade is happy to announce our choice of Khale Kieliszewski as our Student of the Month for November. Khale is one of our top academic performers and he is quick to help his friends. Khale is considerate, kind, and fair. He follows our classroom and school rules and he is respectful towards everyone in our building. Keep up the good work



Khale!
Zak Forrester/2nd grade: Ms Heikkinen
I am happy to announce that Zak Forrester is our Student of the Month for November. Zak shows bravery by being honest when it matters most. He is willing to say and do what is right even if his classmates don’t. I can always count on him to be brave and honest! Great job Zak!
Morrison LeBlanc/3rd grade: Mrs.

Bowen
Makayla Moglovkin is the fourth grade student of the month for November. Makayla is an excellent student both in academics and behavior. In class she shares her ideas with others and listens closely to her peers. Makayla has a positive attitude and always shows excellent effort in her school work. She brightens our day with a friendly smile and treats others with kindness and respect. Great job Makayla!
Jenna Murphy/5th grade: Ms. Hunter
I chose Jenna for the student of the month for November/Bravery because she is always willing to try new things and is always volunteering to share her work with her peers. Jenna is always willing to help her classmates with their work if they need it. She always wants to help with anything in the classroom also.
Quinton Doyle/6th grade: Ms. Hunter
I chose Quinton for the student of the month for November/Bravery because he is always willing to talk about his writing prompts that we do with his classmates. He has come out of his shell this month and is making a lot of new friends.
Bowen
The third grade student of the month for November is Morrison LeBlanc. Morrison has been doing a great job all year, both academically and behaviorally. He is such a hard worker and always comes to school with a smile on his face. He has a great personality that lights up the room. I am very proud of Morrison’s accomplishments thus far this year. Keep it up Morrison!
Makayla Moglovkin/4th grade: Mrs.

Regional Science Fair winners announced

SAULT STE. MARIE — The Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD Mathematics and Science Center held its annual EUP Regional Science & Engineering Fair for grades K-8 on Nov. 16 at Lake Superior State University.

Brimley, Cedarville, Engadine, JKL Bahweting, Ojibwe Charter, Pickford, Rudyard, St. Ignace, Soo Township Elementary, Washington Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, and St. Mary’s schools all participated in the event.

There were 193 projects and 250 students in the competition this year.

Science reasoning is considered a critical 21st Century skill and working through the scientific process through activities like science fair projects enhances those skills. In fact, regional state assessment data indicates that schools that participate in Science Fair score higher on both the Grade 5 and Grade 8 science assessments.

The EUP Math and Science Center worked with EUP teachers and LSSU faculty to expand the science fair in the last two years to include engineering projects in addition to science.

Students were asked to present their ideas, methods and results and to discuss their overall project. Judges then evaluated the project based on pre-set judging criteria. The judging panel consisted of mem-

bers of our local community, governmental entities, LSSU faculty, LSSU teacher education students, as well as EUPISD Center staff.

The following students placed in the top three of their grade:

KINDERGARTEN
1st Place: Marshall Dankert (Rudyard)
2nd Place: Group Presentation — Owen Suggitt and Josie Suggitt (JKL Bahweting)
3rd Place: Leah Love (Soo Township Elementary)

FIRST GRADE
1st Place: Ella Cooper (Soo Township Elementary)
2nd Place: Anna Kabat (Rudyard)
3rd Place: Marek Metrish (Soo Township Elementary)

SECOND GRADE
1st Place: Scarlett Garvon (Brimley)
2nd Place: Jake Carpenter (Cedarville)
3rd Place: Marrah Grigsby (Cedarville)

THIRD GRADE
1st Place: Oliver Dankert (Rudyard)
2nd Place: Finley Johnson (Soo Township Elementary)
3rd Place: Jedidiah Brady (St. Ignace)

FOURTH GRADE
1st Place: Granger Desormeau (Soo Township Elementary)
2nd Place: Group Presentation - Lexie Metz and Avery Visnaw (St. Ignace)

3rd Place: Lillian Clarke (JKL Bahweting)

FIFTH GRADE
1st Place: Lawrence LeBlanc (Brimley)
2nd Place: Brian Li (Soo Township Elementary)
3rd Place: Sophia Bush (St. Mary’s)

SIXTH GRADE
1st Place: Group Presentation — Jonathan Ingalls, Trevor Visnaw, and Ethan McLean (St. Ignace)
2nd Place: Rowan Mauldin (St. Mary’s)
3rd Place: Mila Croad (Brimley)

SEVENTH GRADE
1st Place: Group Presentation - Julie In-

nerebner and Morgan Brow (JKL Bahweting)

2nd Place: Haleigh Mattson (St. Ignace)
3rd Place: Laura Innerebner (JKL Bahweting)

EIGHTH GRADE
1st Place: Emily Kiekhaefer (St. Mary’s)
2nd Place: Peter Harman (Cedarville)
3rd Place: Group Presentation — Ellie Purple and Miriam Clark (JKL Bahweting)

First place winners received a trophy, second place received a plaque, and third place winners were honored a medal.

Athletes honored at sports banquet

BRIMLEY — On Nov. 16 Brimley Area Schools held their Fall Sports Banquet.

The following student athletes were honored for their accomplishments:

Ladies Cross Country

MVP – Kendra Carrick

Men’s Cross Country

MVP – Nate Recla

Most Improved – Sam Hopper

Most Heart – Jacob Skonieczny

Rookie of the Year – Cameron Hoornstra & Hunter Lipponen

Varsity Football

MVP – Offensive: Mason Harrist

MVP – Defensive: Tristan Lyons and

Hunter Lipponen

Atta Boy – Kaleb Johanson

Ironman – Dante Cappelli

Mr. Football – Mason Harris & Kaleb Johanson

Most Improved - Liam P

JV Volleyball

Rising Star: Victoria Aikens

Most Improved – Jolie LeBlanc

Coaches Award – Tommissa Archambeau

Varsity Volleyball

MVP – Julia Stenglien

Miss Volleyball – Sarah Schornack

Coaches Award – Autumn Aikens

Most Improved – Samantha Bishop

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YOUR HOMETOWN AGENCY.

United Way hosts annual Chili Cook-off

SAULT STE. MARIE — On Dec. 8 the United Way held the annual Chili Cook-off on the campus of Lake Superior State University.

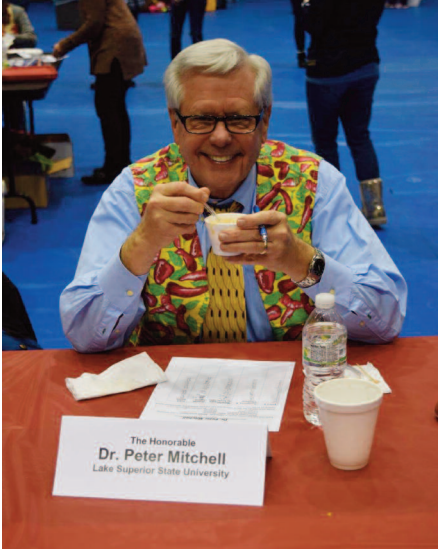
- This year's winners are:
- Best overall chili recipe
- 1st - Home of Mackinac County
- 2nd - Diane Peppler Resource Center, Inc.
- 3rd - Students United of Sault High

- Best Themed dish (Tailgate food)
- 1st - Hearthside Assisted Living
- 2nd - The Salvation Army Sault Ste Marie
- 3rd - Diane Peppler Resource Center, Inc.

- People's Choice award
- 1st - Diane Peppler Resource Center, Inc.
- 2nd - Hearthside Assisted Living
- 3rd - Smith & Company Real Estate
- Honorable Mention - Home of Mackinac County (who was 1 vote away from tying for 3rd place)

- Best Decorated booth
- 1st - Hearthside Assisted Living
- 2nd - Great Lakes Recovery Centers, Inc.
- 3rd - Smith & Company Real Estate

A total of \$3,367 was raised at this year's event.



Fewer unpaid parking tickets could trigger block of license renewal

By STEPHEN OLSCHANSKI
Capital News Service

LANSING — Drivers in Michigan with unpaid parking tickets might be given a break by the Secretary of State when it comes to license renewal if current state law reverts back to an earlier, tougher form.

The Secretary of State can refuse to renew your license if you have three unpaid parking tickets. A bill that recently passed the Senate would keep that number from reverting back to six, which is slated to happen Jan. 1.

The original bill was given a sunset, meaning the law and its three-ticket threshold would expire Jan. 1. If it does, lawmakers believe cities will not be able to effectively collect unpaid fees because there won't be a big-enough incentive for drivers to pay their tickets.

Cities often use ticket revenues to pay for public safety and city services. Collecting more fees would provide higher revenue for the services.

“(The bill) just removes that sunset so we can continue to have the program in place which helps our cities collect unpaid parking tickets and make sure people are responsible, when they break the law, that they are doing their due diligence on the fines they have occurred,” said Sen. Dave Hildenbrand, R-Lowell.

A law in 2012 established the three-ticket minimum and was sponsored by Hildenbrand, who is sponsoring the bill to keep it that way.

“So every four years you have to renew your license. What the bill allowed the Secretary of State to do, when they send out your driver's license renewal and you had three unpaid parking

tickets, they would basically just say ‘hey, you can't renew your driver's license until you get this taken care of,’” Hildenbrand said.

Grand Rapids, which pioneered the program, has had success with the law, city officials say.

That city wrote off approximately \$1.2 million in unpaid tickets before the state law was passed, City Treasurer John Globensky said. Since 2012 when the law passed, the city wrote off only another \$275,000 as more people paid their tickets because of the law.

“After six years the city can no longer collect on a ticket,” Globensky said. Grand Rapids was losing money it could use for public safety and services.

The law has shifted the burden of collection to the district court in Grand Rapids, Globensky said. When a person renews his or her license, the Secretary of State can see that the court has placed a hold on that renewal until the fines are paid.

Furthermore, the Secretary of State will also issue a \$45 license clearance fee after the tickets have been paid, but the clearance fee could also be waived by the court.

A Senate Fiscal Agency analysis found that Grand Rapids sent \$2.8 million in unpaid parking tickets to the courts and 81 percent of the costs were collected because of the bill.

A House fiscal impact analysis found that if the law were not enacted, drivers would have less incentive to pay their outstanding tickets. And the Secretary of State could lose more revenue if the \$45 clearance fee goes away.

While lowering the threshold from six

tickets to three boosted revenue for public safety and city services by prompting more people to pay their fines, it was also about giving people a chance to take care of their outstanding tickets.

“It's just kind of a nudge for people to take care of their unpaid parking tickets because, really, municipalities, especially our big municipalities, didn't have a way to enforce these collections,” Hildenbrand said.

A sunset on Hildebrand's bill to lower the ticket trigger from six to three was first put in place as a review method to see if the policy worked for cities. The policy is optional, Globensky said. Not all cities use the policy.

“All of the feedback was that it was working fine, it was accomplishing the goals of making sure people were taking care of their outstanding liabilities,” Hildenbrand said.



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Those that wish to be considered must apply to the corresponding announcement number by the close of business on **the day the vacancy announcement closes. The closing date will be listed on the vacancy announcement.** All applicants who have applied to the announcement on or before the listed closing date and are found to be qualified will be referred for consideration.

How to apply: Apply online at USAJobs.gov. This online application process allows applicants to submit employment information that can be printed for personal use and/or edited on the website for future use. If you do not have a USAJOBS account the system will help you establish one. Your account can be used for other federal job vacancies.

Important: If you wish to be considered for this position, you must apply prior to the closing date listed on the vacancy announcement. Please specify which duty location you wish to be considered for. Locations include: **Rapid River, MI or Munising, MI. Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply to both duty stations.**

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Women say sexism still exists in Michigan legislature

By **STEPHEN OLSCHANSKI**
Capital News Service

LANSING — When Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum was a state representative in 2012, she was silenced on the floor of the House for using the word vasectomy.

The same day her colleague, Lisa Brown, now the Oakland County Clerk, was silenced on the floor for saying vagina. Both women were banned from speaking on the floor.

When Byrum’s mother, Dianne Byrum, was elected to the Michigan Senate in 1998, a sergeant of arms reprimanded her for allowing her son to sit in her seat for a family photo.

“That would not have happened to a male senator,” Dianne Byrum said.

Sexism was common when they served in the Legislature, the women said.

Has anything changed?

“I doubt it,” Barb Byrum said.

A litany of sexual assault and harassment allegations has rocked Congress, sports and Hollywood recently. Many of the accused men have lost their jobs, and allegations appear almost daily. It hasn’t gone unnoticed by women who serve or have served in the state Legislature.

In state legislatures nationwide the number of women lag men nearly 4 to 1. Michigan is just below the national average with 23.6 percent of state lawmakers who are female, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. Arizona leads the nation with a legislature that is 40 percent female.

Thirty-one of the 110 Michigan House districts are represented by

women. Four of the 38 Senate districts have female senators

That’s hardly progress, according to women who serve today.

“In 1921 we had one woman state senator and today we have four,” said Sen. Margaret O’Brien, R-Portage. “While some might say, ‘well, that’s an increase of 400 percent,’ I would say we barely moved the bar. “When our population is much more than 10 percent, why do we have only 10 percent of the senators as women?”

Women who are former lawmakers say sexism in the Legislature has prevailed for a long time.

Lana Pollack, current chair of the International Joint Commission, served three terms in the Legislature beginning in 1983. During two of her terms she was the only Democratic woman senator.

“I walked into many rooms for many years where I was the only woman in the room,” Pollack said.

And men noticed. “It was as if I ignored a sign on the door that said ‘men only’ and somehow I missed that signal,” she said.

Sexism came in two forms. The first was when men talked over her and degraded her ideas, ideas that were acceptable for them to talk about.

“The other kind, and there was plenty of that, is just lewdness and that kind of sexuality that is totally inappropriate,” Pollack said. “It’s assaultive verbally or assaultive physically. The physical assault, the worst of it, was somebody planting a wet kiss on my mouth as a total gross surprise.”

It wasn’t just Senate colleagues who

were sexist, she said.

“It was from other lobbyists, labor leaders, civil servants, Gov. (James) Blanchard’s cabinet,” Pollack said. “I’m not painting a wide brush, but what I’m trying to say is there were a lot of dark lights everywhere, but a lot of bright lights, too.”

It continues today, O’Brien said.

“I can only speak for the state Capitol, but sometimes I feel like I’m in a boys’ locker room,” O’Brien said. “But I grew up with brothers so usually I can defend myself pretty well, but the sexual harassment stuff threw me for a loop.”

Beyond assault and harassment, women legislators say they have to deal with working in a role still viewed as untraditional for a woman by male legislators.

Women were quicker to be gaveled for minor lapses in decorum during her time in the legislature, Dianne Byrum said.

Barb Byrum said she was told she was being a child and needed to be placed in timeout like one of her kids when she spoke out on the floor.

Often the denigration of women legislators is a bipartisan slam at their roles as mothers, O’Brien said.

“The assumption is, if a woman has kids at home, maybe we need to think twice about that,” O’Brien said. “And that’s not a Republican issue or a Democrat issue. That’s just a societal issue where we need to break out of some stereotypes.”

Women lawmakers resent being pigeonholed, and that keeps some from running for election, she said.

“Because apparently women are

only supposed to care about education and healthcare and men can care about everything and women can only think one way on certain topics,” O’Brien said. “That actually keeps women from running for office.”

Women lawmakers are often underestimated, even when they hold leadership positions, said Dianne Byrum, the first-ever female Democratic House Leader.

“Women were always underestimated,” she said. “They had to be harder workers but women kind of knew that going in,”

She was often challenged by the previous House leader, Kwame Kilpatrick, who as mayor of Detroit would show up in Lansing with an entourage and acted like he was still leader, she said.

“It was a constant challenge of authority.”

Pollack said serving is a balancing act. “It’s tough because people depend on you, yet other people are trying to undermine you.”

How could things improve?

It starts with more dialogue and a higher standard of behavior in the Legislature, O’Brien said.

It’s not just fellow legislators she’s talking to but also staff members who have faced sexism.

“I’m trying to do a lot of listening, talking to staff in casual conversations because there is a lot of them who don’t feel comfortable. And so they’re not willing to share information. Is there a depth of a problem? I don’t know.”

More women elected to office would help, Dianne Byrum said. They bring a different perspective and tend to be more collaborative.

Pollack agrees: “I’d like to see more women on the board of directors and more women in the cabinet and more women bosses. “In both parties.”

Michigan kids caught in health insurance gap

By **KALEY FECH**
Capital News Service

LANSING — More than 100,000 Michigan children who don’t qualify for Medicaid but cannot afford private insurance are at risk of losing health insurance.

The federal government failed to renew funding for the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) before Oct. 1. Now it’s uncertain if funding will be restored.

CHIP is an insurance plan for working families, said Meghan Swain, executive director for the Michigan Association for Local Public Health.

Most funds provide health care to children through the MICHild program and to pregnant women, said Angela Minicuci, communications director at the Department of Health and Human Services. There are 116,000 Michigan residents covered by the program.

It’s vitally important to providing health care to children of lower income families, said Emily Schwarzkopf, a health policy analyst for the Michigan League for Public Policy.

“Without it, children would not have access to regular doctors appointments, the ability to get preventive care or immunizations, Schwarzkopf said. “If a kid is sick, they can’t go to the doctor and they can’t get medication.”

The program provides health insurance to almost nine million children. Five states have already run out of the funding but received a little extra money from the federal government to help support the programs, Schwarzkopf said.

Michigan is in somewhat better shape.

“We have funding that will bring us through about April or May of next year,” Minicuci said.

But the agency is preparing to warn participants of looming changes in early 2018.

“We will need to begin notifying residents that coverage may be ending or changing,” Minicuci said.

CHIP has had bipartisan support in Congress and until now there have been few obstacles to getting the funding reauthorized.

“Should we run out of funding, we would need to do a couple of things,” Minicuci said. That includes asking state lawmakers for new funds or finding another source of them or cutting the program.


“We could partially fund some programs,” she said. “We might need to change the types of coverage that some programs have.”


What happens depends on whatever funding solutions state legislators develop.


“There is the possibility that should we not have federal funding identified and the state is unable to identify funding to cover that CHIP funding, individuals could lose the coverage that they receive through CHIP funding,” she said.


Schwarzkopf said the league hopes if funding is not restored, the state will find a way to pick up the tab.

“Obviously that would be a lot of money that the state would not be receiving from the federal government, so you have to look at what funding is available,” she said.

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Special Olympics athletes take part in Unified Bowling Tournament



STRIKE! — Area 35 Special Olympics held their annual Unified Bowling Tournament at Dondee Lanes in Sault Ste. Marie on Saturday, Dec. 9. Athletes from the tri-county area participated, and several members of Bay Mills Indian Community volunteered at the event.

The tribe has been a longtime supporter of the organization and is the sponsor of their annual awards banquet.



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Cloverland Electric sells off Lighthouse.net

SAULT STE. MARIE — In 1997, Cloverland Electric purchased Lighthouse Computers as a wholly-owned, for-profit subsidiary. At the time, the company provided dial-up internet service, computer sales, service and training. Through the years, much has changed in the telecommunications industry and many companies have disappeared or changed direction.

The telecommunications industry requires constant attention and a flexible company that can meet the changing interests of its subscribers.

“Years ago, Cloverland Electric sought to fill a need to provide local telephone access (dial-up) to the internet for residents in the Eastern Upper Peninsula,” said Dan Dasho, Cloverland’s president and CEO. “The equipment and technology is always upgrading to deliver high-speed service. Cloverland Electric’s board has decided it can better serve subscribers by transferring Lighthouse.net to a true telecommunications company that has a history of delivering high-quality

broadband, cable TV and phone service.”

On Jan. 1, 2018, Lighthouse.net will shift ownership to CCI Systems, Inc., headquartered in Iron Mountain, and will be managed under CCI's cable operator, Packerland Broadband.

Packerland Broadband is currently serving more than 7,000 subscribers in Wisconsin and the South Central Upper Michigan communities. They offer video, data, voice, and security services to homes and businesses in nearly 60 rural communities.

“We are excited to welcome the customers and employees of Lighthouse.net to the CCI Systems family,” said Cory Heigl, vice president and general manager of Packerland Broadband. “We have the knowledge, tools, and a vision to invest in the future of Lighthouse.net and look forward to helping make the Upper Peninsula even more attractive to businesses and residents by offering high-tech communication services.”

CCI plans to keep the name Lighthouse.net, but will integrate the Light-

house team with Packerland Broadband leadership and culture. Throughout the next year CCI, via Packerland Broadband, has committed to investing in a variety of products and services, focusing heavily on increasing broadband speeds, including gigabit Internet, which Packerland plans to release in about half of its communities.

“Big companies largely invest in the big cities, many times leaving the rural

communities behind,” says Heigl. “We believe that our communities deserve more.”

As CCI Systems and Packerland Broadband move forward together with their vision to bridge the digital divide, their plan involves enabling rural areas to prosper. The duo intends to continue building and upgrading systems in underserved communities throughout the Northwoods.

Bilingual Michigan high schoolers could get diploma endorsement

By JINGJING NIE

Capital News Service

LANSING — A group of people are trying to establish a prize program for Michigan high school graduates who are proficient in two or more languages.

The program is called the Seal of Biliteracy. It is a diploma seal awarded by a school, school district or county office of education to recognize students who demonstrate a high level of proficiency in one or more languages in addition to English.

Around the country, 27 states have adopted the program.

“This is the highest award for recognizing the knowledge of foreign language for students,” said Marzanna Owinski, a language coordinator for the Polish Mission of the Orchard Lake Schools. The mission preserves and promotes Polish culture in America.

Owinski pitched the idea of establishment of Seal of Biliteracy to the Michigan Department of Education in September 2016.

She is now working with the Department of Education in a multi-language task force that will decide the requirements and standards for the program.

"We're hoping to finish it this year," she said.

“It is going to be available for students graduating as early as June 2018,” said Irma Torres, a world language consultant at Oakland Schools, who is also working with the task force. “I’m very happy to have this in place for students who are learning another language and can achieve a certain required level of proficiency.”

About 10 percent of high school graduates from California have received the Seal of Biliteracy on their diploma. Each state develops its own criteria and guidelines. Michigan would have its unique standard as well.

Exams for the program usually cover speaking, reading, writing and listening.

Generally only a few world languages like Spanish, French, Chinese, Japanese and German are taught in schools. This program gives a chance to students who know other languages to be recognized for their language ability, Owinski said.

“We have to pay attention more to languages,” said Owinski, noting that Michigan imports and exports products from and to many countries. Bilingualism can open perspectives and also helps in employment.

According to the study, “Employer Preferences: Do Bilingual Applicants and Employees Experience an Advantage?” 66 percent of employers prefer bilingual candidates.

In Michigan, some districts have already implemented a local program.

In 2014, the Dearborn School District established its own Seal of Biliteracy. Detroit Public Schools and Utica Community Schools, two of the biggest districts, also offer programs in partnership with Welcoming Michigan, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that supports diversity in communities.

Utica Community Schools established the Seal of Global Language in 2016. Almost 150 students graduated with a seal the first year and 174 students graduated with a seal this year.

“Utica Community Schools expects that our students attain a high level of global language proficiency. We also celebrate and honor the diversity of our students and know that these experiences are preparing them for success in a global economy,” Superintendent Christine Johns said.

The idea is also supported by organizations like the Michigan World Language Association.

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Taylor Knight Brugman

Taylor Knight Brugman, of Brimley, passed away peacefully on Dec. 11, 2017 at Hiland Cottage hospice in Petoskey after a short battle with cancer. He was born in Mineola, NY on May 8, 1953 to George and Helen (Knight) Brugman.

He is survived by his wife of 15 years, Elisabeth; his sister, Martha McLeod (Alan Drinan), of Enfield, Connecticut; sister-in-law Deb Brugman of Brimley; brother-in-law Hugh Staples of Cincinnati, Ohio; nephews Brett Nees of Lafayette, Indiana and Casey Nees (Deana Cunningham) of Roxboro, North Carolina; nieces Jennifer DiBuccio (Anthony) of Richmond, Virginia, Danna Brugman of Brimley, Jaclyn LeBlanc Anderson (Kristine T. Bennett) of Egmont, British Columbia, and Lauren LeBlanc of Brimley; special step-nieces Maxx McLeod Anderson (Steve) of Sault Ste. Marie, Kathleen (Ken) Pawlanta of Fredric, Kelly Donnelly of Brimley, Audrey (Mike) Breakie and Shelly (Steve) Morris of Bay Mills; many grand-nephews and grand-nieces; and many friends.

His parents and his brother George predeceased him.

Taylor graduated from John Jay High School in Hopewell Junction, NY, earned a certificate of floral design in Waterbury, Connecticut, and was the owner of Spy Hill Florists in Beacon, NY. He also worked as a florist in New York in Hopewell Junction, Kingston and New York City.

Taylor loved American classic cars, a love he shared with his father and brother. He owned many over his lifetime and had an encyclopedic knowledge of many more. He greatly enjoyed participating in online groups devoted to Honda Insight, Kaiser, and Willys cars, and had online friends from around the world who shared this passion.

Taylor was also passionate about music, recording, and community theatre. Taylor designed lights and sound for concerts and theatrical performances in upstate New York, the Poconos, and Sault Ste. Marie. He helped convert a movie theatre in Wappingers Falls, NY to the County Players Falls Theatre and served on that community theatre group's Board of Directors. He formed KMA Records with the lead singer of Ralph, a band from Moscow, Pennsylvania.

Taylor was Kewadin Casino's first entertainment director and brought such artists as Tammy Wynette, Chubby Checker, and Bill Miller to that venue. An enthusiastic supporter of the Soo Theatre's restoration, a former Soo Theatre Project Board member, and its longtime Technical Director, Taylor installed, designed, and operated lights and sound for the Theatre since its re-opening in 2005. He was instrumental in moving and installing the large donation of equipment from the Mackinaw Theater when it closed in 2006.

He owned Lake Street Studio, a full-service audio recording studio at his home in Brimley, as well as the Borderland Records record company. Through the studio he helped bring about two projects of special local historical interest, a CD of music about the life of John Johnston and an audiobook about the American Café read by its author. In the studio, he helped many express their special gifts and preserve their musical memories.

He was also the founding President of the Soo Film Festival, a nonprofit group with a mission of bringing movies back to downtown Sault Ste. Marie.

In everything he did, he loved to work behind the scenes to make things better and help others shine.

Donations in Taylor's memory may be made to the Soo Theatre Project, 534 Ashmun Street, in Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

A public gathering in his memory will be held in the spring at the Soo Theatre. C.S. Mulder Funeral Home and Cremation Services is assisting the family with arrangements. Condolences may be left online at www.csmulder.com

Robert R. “Bob” Pries

Robert R. “Bob” Pries, 79, of Brimley, formerly of Reese, died Nov. 30, 2017 at War Memorial Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie. He was born Dec. 21, 1937 in Saginaw, son of the late Archie and Hilda (Schultz) Pries. Bob was a 1955 graduate of Saginaw High School. On Aug. 1, 1981 he was married to the former Joan Findlay. She survives him. Mr. Pries retired from General Motors in Saginaw.

Surviving, besides his wife Joan, are his two sons and two daughters, Steven and Gregory Pries and Kristine Fiting and Shelly Goodman and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Services have taken place with the assistance of C. S. Mulder Funeral Home.

Brandon John Mills

Brandon John Mills, 20, of Strong's, passed away on Nov. 18, 2017 after his fight against leukemia. He was at his home surrounded by his loving family.

Brandon was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan on September 13, 1997. He graduated from Brimley High School with the class of 2017. Brandon was passionate about sports and helped out in any capacity at any sports event at his high school. He enjoyed listening to music, making everyone smile, and spending quality time with his family and friends. He spoke highly about teacher, coach and mentor Scout Hester. He has far too many close friends to mention each one individually. Brandon loved many and was loved by all. The courage he has shown should be a lesson to us all.

Brandon is survived by his parents: Brian and Sherry (Klein) Mills of Strong's; a sister: Jessica Mills of Brimley, MI; two brothers: Nathon and Joshua Mills both of Strong's; a niece: Malina Mills of Brimley; and two nephews: Davyn Olmstead of Brimley and Kade Mills of Strong's. He is also survived by his grandparents: Lorraine and John Mills of Strong's and Jackie and Jerry Klein of Eckerman ; as well as many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Services have taken place. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be left to Brian and Sherry Mills to help with funeral expenses. Condolences may be left online at www.csmulder.com.

Rebecca (Becky) Ann Munz

Rebecca (Becky) Ann Munz (Teeple), Zhaaskwa Biimskaa Noodin Kwe, began her journey to the spirit world on Oct. 12, 2017. She was born in Bay Mills Indian Community on Jan. 24, 1942. She married Paul Anthony Munz on May 30, 1964 in Bear Valley, Wisc.

They had four children Tamara (Tamie) Ann Munz (Mark Pulvermacher), Derek Anthony Munz, Kamalia (Mia) Munz and Cassandra (Casey) Lanz (Munz) (Dina Lanz).

Becky touched many lives while living in Wisconsin; she cherished her family and relatives and developed close friendships. She returned to Bay Mills Indian Community in 1994, feeling like she had come home and loved her community of extended family. Becky taught beading classes and sewed regalia. She was a driving force for a return to traditional foods and gardening practices. The Do Indigenous Gardening (DIG) project was an achievement that culminated in the Indigenous Gardening Conference, which she spearheaded.

Becky served on variety of committees and focused on strengthening the community she dearly loved. She spoke the language and passed along knowledge to whom ever asked. She was a proud recipient of the Frank Hugo Award.

The following is written by her beloved daughter Mia: She is a great mom to us. We are going miss you in the family. I hope she is in God's hands. She loved Tami, Mia, Casey, Derek, Dad. She loved going to casino. She has many friends at Bay Mills. Her friends will miss her at Bay Mills.

She is preceded by a dear sister, Winifred Naomi Ethelbah (She Who Watches). She is survived by Arlene Manabat, Thomas Teeple, Michael Teeple and Darlene (David) Clem.

Services took place with the assistance of Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home.

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New comprehensive cancer program to benefit local tribal members

SAULT STE. MARIE – The Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan was recently awarded a five-year National Comprehensive Cancer Control Program grant of \$210,238 per year, in order to impact and decrease colon, breast, and lung cancer, improve quality of life among cancer survivors, and decrease cancer morbidity and mortality for Michigan’s American Indian population.

The ITCM project, Three Fires Can-

cer Consortium, will work to address cancer related health disparities among Michigan’s American Indian population through the use of policy, systems, and environmental change strategies.

Five tribes are included in this program consortium: Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Bay Mills Indian Community, Hannahville Indian Community, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, and the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians. The combined population of the participating tribes reaches 54,077 American Indians across 31 counties. In addition, resources gathered from the project will be shared with all 12 Michigan tribes.

“Disparities in health care and health status have persisted among American Indian and Alaska Native populations for decades” said Cathy Edgerly, program manager with ITCM. “Among many health issues faced by these populations, cancer has become an increasingly evident public health issue. While cancer incidence rates among non-Hispanic whites have been decreasing, an increase in cancer incidence rates have been noted among American Indians and Alaska Natives.”

“We see higher incidence rates at younger ages; often outside recommended screening guidelines among Michigan’s Native American population,” added Noel Pingatore, ITCM

project investigator.

In order to address these disparities, ITCM will implement strategies while working closely with the tribes through the Three Fires Cancer Consortium leadership team. The leadership team, which includes a member from each tribe, is tasked with four key priorities: primary prevention, early detection, survivor needs, and cancer disparities.

Strategies include: small media campaigns to promote commercial tobacco cessation and colon cancer screening; alcohol screening tools and counseling services; provider education to address cancer survivorship needs and resources; and tribal clinic-community health linkages to increase the use of cancer related preventive health services.

The Michigan Three Fires Cancer Consortium project is set for success with a strong collaborative effort from tribal health agencies, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Michigan Cancer Surveillance Program, Michigan State University, and American Cancer Society. Each of these partners will ensure that program strategies are informed by surveillance data and that the evidence-based, culturally tailored interventions will promote health equity while meeting the unique needs of Michigan’s Native Americans.

Names & Faces

In Memory of Becky Munz

My wife and I are sorry to hear of Becky’s passing. Please take comfort in knowing she is no longer in pain or suffering in any way.

Becky was a very proud Native American lady. She as especially proud of her son and three daughters.

When I first met Becky, she was playing at the China Shores machine at Kings Club. After we had played next to her for quite awhile, making comment after comment to her, she never spoke.

Finally, I looked at her, and said, “Just because your ancestors were here before mine, doesn’t mean you’re better than me.”

She looked me right in the eye and laughed. From that day on, we were great friends.


She taught my wife and I about Native American customs, and how traditionally Natives are mostly quiet and private people. I don’t know about the rest of her children, but I know she passed that on to Mia.

We would ask Mia how her mother was doing and she would say, “she’s okay.” Then she would call her mother, and bring us the phone, and Becky would tell us how she really was.

Becky was one of the main reasons we returned to Bay Mills Resort and Casino for many years. May she rest in peace. — Tom and Sara Prolst

Parish named to Dean’s List

Bay Mills tribal member Joshua Parish, of Howell, has been named to the Dean’s List at Western Michigan University Cooley Law School. Parish is a graduate of Brimley High School and the son of Brenda Rosa and Clarence Parish. He and his wife, Cortnie, have three children: Nathan, Zoey, and Adelyn.



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Most state forest roads in Northern Lower Peninsula will open to ORV use Jan. 1; check maps for closed areas

LANSING — Approximately 6,300 miles of roads in Michigan’s 4-million-acre state forest system will open to off-road vehicles Jan. 1, while about 1,200 miles will remain closed.

Signs are not yet in place, but will be installed on roads that are closed to ORV use as soon as possible, depending on ground conditions. ORV riders who intend to use state forest roads are asked to check DNR maps for closures at www.michigan.gov/forestroads. Final maps will be available by Dec. 31.

DNR Director Keith Creagh authorized the road use plan Thursday after a presentation to the Natural Resources

Commission. The decision to keep some roads closed was made with substantial public input.

“Lots of planning and consideration have gone into this to make sure that all forest users can have the best possible experience,” said Deb Begalle, chief of the DNR Forest Resources Division. “The plan balances motorized recreational access with the need for resource protection.”

Opening the roads to ORV use is authorized by Public Act 288, signed by Gov. Rick Snyder in September 2016, which authorizes use of ORVs on state forests roads. The statute also requires the

DNR to inventory and map all state forest roads. An inventory of northern Lower Peninsula roads is complete; forest roads in the rest of the state will be mapped by Dec. 31, 2018.

Areas that will remain closed to ORV traffic include 4.3 miles of roads in the Deward Tract, which is along the Manistee River between Grayling and Gaylord; roads within the Pigeon River Country State Forest, Mason Tract and Sand Lakes Quiet Area, where quiet recreation is emphasized; and some roads offering access to the Au Sable River leading to Black Hole, Sheep Ranch and Old Campground access sites. Also remaining closed: 6.7

miles of state forest roads near the Big Oaks Equestrian State Forest Campground on Avery Lake near Atlanta.

In addition, DNR staff will monitor ORV and nonmotorized trail use in the VASA Trail System after working with a coalition of both types of users to determine the most appropriate roads to open to ORV use. DNR staff also are in the process of working with Camp Grayling in an effort to provide ORV users with a safe route to connect to state forest roads in the area.

For more information on the effort to inventory and open state forest roads, visit www.michigan.gov/forestroads.

DNR seeks candidates for 2018 Conservation Officer Recruit School

LANSING — The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is seeking candidates for its 2018 Conservation Officer Recruit School, a 23-week training academy that is the first step in becoming a conservation officer.

Recruit School #9 runs July 15-Dec. 21, 2018, at the training academy in Diamond Lake, near Lansing, Michigan.

“The academy demands total effort and commitment,” said 1st Lt. Steve Burton, training section supervisor in the DNR 2018 applications reduced Law Enforcement Division. “It challenges recruits academically and physically. But those who succeed are on the path to an exciting, fulfilling career as a Michigan conservation officer. Not just anyone can wear our gray and green uniform. Only the finest men and women should apply.”

The DNR is an equal opportunity employer and encourages diversity among its applicants. During the academy, recruits become state of Michigan employees and are paid biweekly. After graduation, they become probationary conservation officers and spend several more months training throughout the state before being assigned to one of Michi-

gan’s 83 counties, in which they will live. The entire training process, which includes the academy, takes one year before candidates become full-fledged conservation officers, due to the high quality and diverse nature of the training.

An applicant must:

- Be a U.S. citizen.
- Be at least 21 years old before graduating from the academy.
- Become a resident of Michigan by completing the Probationary Training Program.
- Be allowed to lawfully possess a firearm in Michigan.
- Possess a valid Michigan driver’s license.
- Possess a satisfactory driving record.
- Possess a clean criminal record absent of any felony convictions.
- Submit to a thorough background investigation measuring the applicant’s suitability for law enforcement work.
- Pass the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) physical fitness test.
- Complete and attach the Job Fit Questionnaire, Location Preference

Sheet, a cover letter and resume when applying.

A detailed guide to the application process is available at www.michigan.gov/conservationofficers.

For more information contact Sgt. John Meka at mekaj@michigan.gov or 517-284-6499

Section of snowmobile trail in Marquette closed

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has closed a bridge along Trail No. 8 in Marquette County for repairs, shutting down a section of the main east-west snowmobile connector route in the Upper Peninsula.

A cracked bridge support beam needs to be replaced along Snowmobile Trail No. 8 in Marquette County. “A major support beam has been cracked on the underside of the wooden bridge that needs to be replaced,” said Ron Yesney, DNR Upper Peninsula trails coordinator in Marquette. “Unfortunately, this forces us to close the trail between Champion and the Baraga Plains to through traffic.”

Alternative routes are available to the north (Trail No. 5 to Trail No. 14) or south (Trail No. 5 to Trail No. 18).

The bridge is located northwest of Champion, not far from Van Riper State Park. “Access to Michigamme, Nestoria and Three Lakes will be possible from the west, but not the east,” Yesney said.

The DNR and the Moose Country Snowmobile Club are working on bridge repairs. Engineering is underway. The DNR plans to reopen the bridge in mid-January.

Check for the latest information on the status of DNR closures at www.michigan.gov/dnrclosures.

BOW Program offers winter sports workshop

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources Becoming an Outdoors-Woman Program is offering a Beyond BOW Winter Sports Workshop at Porcupine Wilderness State Park.

Scheduled for the weekend of Jan. 26-28, 2018, the program is for women who have some previous experience and would like to enhance their skills and abilities.

Participants will have opportunities to ice fish and cross-country ski both Saturday and Sunday, and, in addition, snowshoeing will be offered Saturday. Participants should bring ice fishing gear, snowshoes, cross country skis, and outdoor apparel appropriate for winter weather. There is a downhill ski resort as well for those who wish to bring downhill skis.

A fishing license is required for those who wish to fish during the workshop. An all-species fishing license should be purchased prior to the event. The cost is \$26,

or a 24-hour license may be purchased for \$10. A Recreation Passport or daily parking pass also is required for entry to the state park.

Participants will meet at the Kaug Wudjoo Lodge Friday afternoon/evening for two nights of lodging. Instructors will be on-site beginning at 2 p.m. to assist with check-in. Dinner will be provided by the instructors Friday evening. The lodge has a full kitchen, so participants will be able to prepare their own meals on-site for the remainder of the event.

Enrollment is limited to 10, and enrollees must be 18 or older. The deadline for registration is Jan. 8, 2018. Class information and registration materials are available online at www.michigan.gov/bow. This will be a rain, shine or snow event. For further information, contact Michelle Zellar at 906-293-5131 or email zellarm@michigan.gov.



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Announcements

Reminder to students

Reminder to Bay Mills Indian Community Education Incentive Program participants: Students enrolled in the Higher Education Incentive Program for Fall 2017 must submit an official grade transcript or email grades to sbelk@bmcc.edu or sbelk@baymills.org for course work completed during this period within two weeks of receiving grades. We can no longer process incentives from prior semesters if they are turned in late.

Bay Mart holiday hours

For the upcoming holidays Bay Mart will be adjusting its hours on the following days:

- Christmas day open: 10 a.m. to 12 a.m.
- New Year’s Eve open: 5 a.m. to 2 a.m.
- New Year’s Day open: 8 a.m. to 12 a.m.

Income based housing assistance is available

MSHDA is accepting applications for the Housing Choice Voucher Program for Chippewa County. This is rental assistance for low-income households. Applications will be accepted until Jan. 30, 2018. Submit your application online at: <https://webapp.mshda.cgi-bps.com> or <http://www.michigan.gov/mshda>.

Reasonable Accommodation: If you or a member of your household is a person with disabilities and requires a reasonable accommodation to apply for the MSHDA Housing Choice Voucher Waiting List, please call (517) 241-8986 to assist you with your application.

Boys & Girls Club reminder

Both Clubs will remain closed for Christmas Break through Jan. 5. They will re-open on January 8th for regular Club hours.

Executive Council Meeting Schedule

- The next meeting will take place on Jan. 8, 4:30 p.m., in the Tribal Administration Building.

Sign up for updates

Bay Mills tribal members can receive a weekly update of news and events by emailing newspaper@baymills.org. Please place ‘Tribal update’ in the subject line. The update is sent out every Thursday.

BMCC Registration

The last day to register for spring classes at Bay Mills Community College is Jan. 4. Courses are offered online and on campus for the term. To view the courses being offered, visit www.bmcc.edu.

Foot clinics being held

Bay Mills Health Center will hold the following foot clinics:

- Jan. 23, 1:30 to 3 p.m.
- Feb. 27, 1:30 to 3 p.m.
- March 27, 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Clinics are held at the Bay Mills Health Center, 12124 W. Lakeshore Drive. No appointment needed. Foot care can take about 30 minutes. Waiting time depends on number of clients who attend each clinic. Please check in at the front desk so that they can put you on the list.

Holiday Hours for Health Center

The Bay Mills Health Center holiday hours are as follows:

- Dec. 22: CLOSED
- Dec. 25: CLOSED
- Dec. 26 to 28: OPEN, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Dec. 29: CLOSED
- Jan. 1: CLOSED
- Jan. 2 to 5: OPEN, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sec. of State holiday hours

All branch offices and the Office of the Great Seal will be closed in observance of the Christmas and New Year’s holidays.

All offices will be closed:

- Friday, Dec. 22, and SUPER!Centers will be closed on Saturday, Dec. 23 and Monday, Dec. 25 for Christmas.
- Friday, Dec. 29, and SUPER!Centers will be closed on Saturday, Dec. 30 and Monday, Jan. 1 for New Year’s.

The Secretary of State’s Office mails notices to motorists 45 days before their driver’s license or license plates expire to give them ample time to renew. Licenses and plates that expire on a day when state offices are closed, such as a holiday or weekend, can be renewed the following day without penalty.

Family event on New Year’s Eve

Attention all kids! Do you love snowmen, playing in the snow, and all things

winter? Start off 2018 and Sault Ste. Marie’s 350th anniversary year with winter-themed kids games and craft. Snowshoe races are hosted by Bird’s Eye Outfitters (shoes provided). Events begin at noon. Win a big prize at the Teen Cornhole Tournament, beginning at 1 p.m.

This family-fun event will take place outside on New Year’s Eve, so please dress warm. Get cozy by the space heaters, warm up with some hot cocoa and other delicious treats.

Scholarship opportunity announced

The BlueBird Certified Public Accountants Scholarship for Native American Accounting Students provides three (3) awards of up to \$5,000 each for the 2018 academic year. As a competitive, merit-based scholarship, the BlueBird Certified Public Accountants Scholarship for Native American Accounting Students was established to assist Native American students in pursuing their goals of higher education and accounting, and ultimately to enter the accounting profession. Scholarships shall be granted to eligible applicants on a yearly basis (as long as there are funds available). Each award is for a 12-month period, renewable for a second year pending demonstration of exceptional progress. Scholarships are awarded through competitive application and are open to Native Americans only.

Eligibility Requirements

1. Must be a Native American. (Documentation of Native identity is required. Attach a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood, letter from tribe, and a photograph).
2. Must be a full-time student at an accredited college or university.
3. Must be actively involved in the Native American community by completing 60 hours of community service with an approved Native American Community Agency and provide documentation of hours served from that Agency on official letterhead.
4. Two letters of recommendation are required from A) an Academic Recommender and B) an American Indian Community Recommender. Letters of reference must be on official letterhead from the individual supplying the reference.
5. Must have completed the BlueBird Certified Public Accountants Scholarship for Native American Accounting Students Application and be in good standing in accordance with all Scholarship Rules and Regulations (see pp. 9–10).
6. All undergraduate students must have a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.00 and all graduate students must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.50.
7. Must have completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and have financial need as determined by the appropriate Office of Financial Aid.

The BlueBird Certified Public Accountants Scholarship for Native American Accounting Students Application consists of the following

- The Application (all forms are in the downloadable pdf link below). Answer all questions, sign, and submit online to scholarship@bluebirdcpas.com.
- Personal Statement. All applicants must provide a complete essay with responses to questions 1–3 in Part II.
- Academic Study Plan Form. This form must be completed and signed by your school’s Academic Adviser.
- Transcripts. Official copies of transcripts from all colleges previously attended. See release waiver section in Terms and Conditions Form (p. 8).
- Letters of Recommendation. Forms are required from A) Academic Recommender and B) American Indian Community Recommender. Letters of reference must be attached on official letterhead from the individual supplying the reference.
- Native American Community Service Form
- Terms and Conditions Form
- Rules and Regulations

Application Procedures

You may download the application online at <http://bluebirdcpas.com/scholarship-cpa-accounting-firm-reno-nevada/>. All documents must be submitted online no later than Feb. 15, 2018, to scholarship@bluebirdcpas.com by 5 p.m. PST on the deadline date. No faxed or late applications will be accepted. Applicants are responsible for following up on their application status with the Scholarship Coordinator. If you have any questions or need assistance in completing any portion of the BlueBird Certified Public Accountants Scholarship for Native American Accounting Students Application, please email scholarship@bluebirdcpas.com. Deadline: Feb. 15, 2018

Tahquamenon Falls announces February events

Snowshoe Hike

Date: Feb. 3 and 24

Time: 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Location: Tahquamenon Falls State Park, 41382 W. M 123, Paradise

Join the park naturalist for a guided snowshoe hike through the forests of the Upper Falls. You will learn tips and tricks for staying upright in your snowshoes, while also learning about winter ecology during this fun one mile off-trail excursion. No pre-registration is required and there will be snowshoes available to borrow. The fun begins at the end of the parking lot near the bonfire.

Lantern Lit Snowshoe Trail

Date: Feb. 3

Time: 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Location: Tahquamenon Falls State Park, 41382 W. M 123, Paradise

Bring your snowshoes (or cross country skis) to hike/ski the one mile lantern lit trail at the Upper Falls. The trail is illuminated with more than 70 kerosene lanterns and loops through the beautiful winter forest. The trail begins and ends near the Upper Falls restroom building, there will be snowshoes available to borrow and there is no pre-registration required. This event may be canceled if temperatures/wind chills are five degrees or below. Please check out their Facebook page for day of event updates www.facebook.com/TQ-Falls.

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