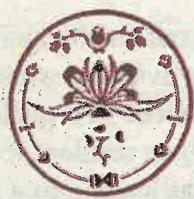


tribal observer



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APRIL 15, 1995 VOLUME 6 ISSUE 7 BEBOKWEDAGIMING (Ojibwe) Moon of the Snowshoe Breaking

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe...working together for the future of Mid-Michigan



Observer photo/Joe Sowmick

Miss Saginaw Ojibwe Princess Summer Peters dances gracefully for the capacity crowd at the 7th Annual Central Michigan University Powwow. She was crowned princess at the Little Elk's Retreat on Aug. 7. Also pictured is Grand Traverse Band member Kathy Johns.



Observer photo/Joe Sowmick

Tribal youth Cecelia Jackson beams proudly from the eastern door of the Central Michigan University Powwow arena. The CMU Powwow Committee selected her to represent the Tribe as Head Junior Female Dancer. About 5,000 people attended the traditional event on April 1 and 2.

Powwow celebrates culture to ensure the future

By Joe Sowmick

People came out in record numbers to join our Native community in celebration of the seventh annual Central Michigan University Powwow on April 1 and 2 at Finch Fieldhouse.

"Teaching the present to ensure the future," was the theme. The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe was once again a major sponsor of the event.

"The Tribe is pleased to be a sponsor and I see a lot of our Tribal members dancing, trading

and watching from the stands," Tribal Chief Gail Jackson proudly exclaimed. "This is the best turnout I've seen. We may have to find a bigger place next year."

The positive relationship the Tribe has with the university was evident as Chief Jackson and CMU President Dr. Leonard Plachta addressed the capacity crowd before the Grand Entry.

"CMU is privileged to host this event, because the powwow facilitates a sharing of cultures between Indians and non-Indians, and especially

between Elders and youth," Dr. Plachta acknowledged. "The CMU powwow reflects our commitment to assisting North American Indian students in achieving their educational goals."

The annual powwow gives the North American Indian Student Organization an opportunity to demonstrate to other students our rich culture and heritage.

Besides the large numbers of CMU students and volunteers in attendance, there was a con-

(See POWWOW page 9)

Executive Council stands united against privately-owned casinos

By Joe Sowmick

A report issued April 11 by Gov. John Engler's Blue Ribbon Commission on Michigan Gaming called for limited expansion of gaming for both privately owned casinos and off-reservation, Indian-owned facilities.

The commission also recommended banning riverboat gambling, barring video gaming devices from Michigan racetracks and increasing

the share of gaming revenue Indian casinos must pay the state.

"The dominate theme of the report is limited expansion," stated Commission Chairman Robert J. Danhof, retired chief judge of the Michigan Court of Appeals. "The commission was careful in its recommendations to limit the size and number of casinos so that the state can main-

(See REPORT page 9)

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Our Elders Speak

Question: The Tribe is trying to support the Elders in any way it can. As a Saganing Tribal Elder, what support have you received from the Tribe, and what can you suggest for future support?

Lawrence Henry - Saginaw Chippewa Elder from Saganing

The benefits program is all right, some people really need it, like me. I don't get enough social security as it is. In the future, I guess they could fix the parking lot, that would help.

Florence Graveratte - Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Elder from Saganing

I would like to see them have their water system. They don't have a good water system here, that's what I would like to see them have.

Elwood Henry - Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Elder from Saganing

I think they are doing a good job here. They took medical benefits away from me because I get this per capita payment. It has helped out, but medical bills are quite expensive. I don't think I can pay for it all.

Harrison Henry - Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Elder from Saganing

What I really don't see is any communication. They had a lot of those trips, but we never heard about it until it was to late. I think a lot of it has to do with communication, whether it's here or there.



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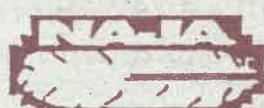
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The Tribal Observer is published semi-monthly by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, 7070 East Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Being a Tribal-owned publication managed under the supervision of the Tribal Council, the newspaper is subject to an editorial review process.

All comments and suggestions are welcomed. The Tribal Observer is also a proud member of the Native American Journalists Association (NAJA).



Waiver receives House approval

Equitable funding for Michigan's public universities and retention of the Indian Tuition Waiver Program recently received House approval, announced state Rep. Jim McBryde, R-Mt. Pleasant.

House Bill 4425, the higher education appropriations budget, passed by an 86-17 vote. McBryde, vice chair of the Appropriations Higher Education Subcommittee, successfully held off floor amendments to eliminate the Indian

Tuition Waiver and greatly increase the budget at taxpayers' expense.

McBryde pointed out the budget legislation includes three new provisions which students seeking waivers must meet. To qualify, participants must be a Michigan resident for one year, enroll in academic areas leading to a degree and exhibit academic progress toward a degree.

HB 4425 now goes to the Senate for consideration.

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 - Council - Address Membership

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10:00 A.M.

Guest Speakers

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- Male - Ted Holappa

11:00 A.M.

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2:15 P.M.

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- Give-a-way

3:00 P.M.

Prayer

- BBQ

5:00 P.M.

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Boozhu! Welcome to the April 15th issue of the Tribal Observer. The semi-monthly paper is a free service to enrolled Tribal members and employees. Submissions from the Tribal community are encouraged and can be sent to:

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c/o Tribal Observer
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Subscription rates are \$15 per year. We would also like to thank our advertisers for their continued support. Contact the Tribal Observer for rate information on advertisement sizes from business card to full-page. Story ideas, photographs and advertisements are also welcomed from the community. Deadline for copy each month is on the 8th and 22nd.



Published on a seasonal basis

Magazine features Native imagery from the heart

*You can taste me like maple sugar
You can hear me speaking
In pine forests and
in the summer's twilight magic.*

I am Anishnabe

I come from the woods and the water and

I have been here forever"

-From an untitled poem by Charmaine M. Benz published in the first issue of N'deh.

By Scott Csernyik

Tribal member Bethel Merill shared verse titled, "Woman and Peyote Man," while Dave Poolaw wrote about a dog named Frybread.

These were just a couple of selections published in the first issue of N'deh—a quarterly mzinigan (magazine) featuring Native American authors and artists.

"I'm real excited about the magazine," stated Mary Pelcher, who helped coordinate the Bay Mills Community College project. "I think it has a lot of potential to grow."

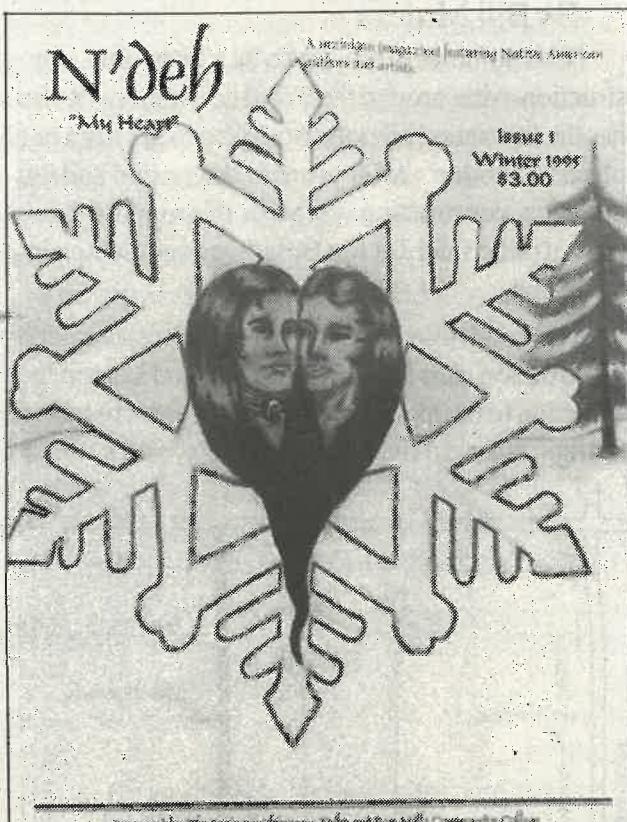
The literary endeavor is a healthy outlet for Native Americans and BMCC students seeking to publish written material and art.

The 18-page glossy magazine showcased poetry, fiction, and artwork from over a dozen writers and artists. The publication also included a "Let's Speak Indian" feature.

"The magazine is the product of a group of Native art-

ists and writers who wanted to show their skills and abilities," Benz stated.

The name of the magazine means in Ojibwe,



"my heart." Organizers of the project thought this was an appropriate title given the fact "all of the works are a reflection of each artist's heart."

"I think it's a unique thing for Tribes, especially in Michigan, because we haven't seen something portraying a Native American magazine as an outlet for Native people," Pelcher added.

The N'deh staff welcomes submissions from Native people, as well as BMCC students. Interested individuals can contact Katy denHeeten at (517) 773-5858, extension 208; or by mailing submissions to N'deh, Tribal Education, 7070 East Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.

When mailing various works, it is requested one includes a brief biography of the artist or writer. If the original is to be returned, one needs to include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Tribal member Amanda George, who had two of her poems published in the inaugural issue, said she sees the magazine as a creative outlet for expressing feelings.

"I think it's a really good reflection on a lot of our feelings," she said. "It's something which cannot be achieved through casual, everyday

speaking. I write to let my feelings out and I think other writers do the same.

"Usually I'll write when something is on my mind or I'm really stressed out. A lot of it also depends on what mood I'm in."

George also said she'd like to venture into penning more spiritual writings.

"It's hard to write about things I don't know about, so that's why I stay in touch with reality," she added."

Bay Mills Community College Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe Summer 1995 Schedule Classes begin on May 15 and end June 30 Registration open until May 12

| Course # | Course Name | Credits | Days | Times |
|----------|-------------------------------|---------|----------|-------------------|
| CS-112 | Intro to Computers | 4 | M,W,F | 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. |
| CS-217 | Computer Graphics/Multi-Media | 4 | M, T, Th | 4 - 6:30 p.m. |
| ED-101 | Study Skills | 1 | W | 4 - 6 p.m. |
| ED-107 | Intro to Teaching | 2 | M,W | 12 - 2 p.m. |
| EN-115 | Research Writing | 3 | T,Th | 12 - 3 p.m. |
| EN-225 | Native American Literature | 3 | M,W,F | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. |
| HP-101 | Introduction to Hospitality | 3 | M,W | 5 - 8 p.m. |
| MA-112 | Business Math | 4 | M,W,F | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. |
| NA-113 | Native American Awareness | 1 | T | 4 - 6 p.m. |
| NA-105 | Ojibwe Language I | 3 | M,W,Th | 3 - 5 p.m. |
| PE-106 | Fundamentals of Golf | 1 | Th | 4 - 6 p.m. |

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Observer photo/Scott Csernyik

Easter eggstravaganza

Coloring Easter eggs during an April 3 PDS Monday are Mary McGuire Elementary students Steve Jackson, left, Wayne Jackson, Cody Mena and Sonya Marcus.



Tribal Matters

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Construction boom to start this summer

Projects target traffic safety

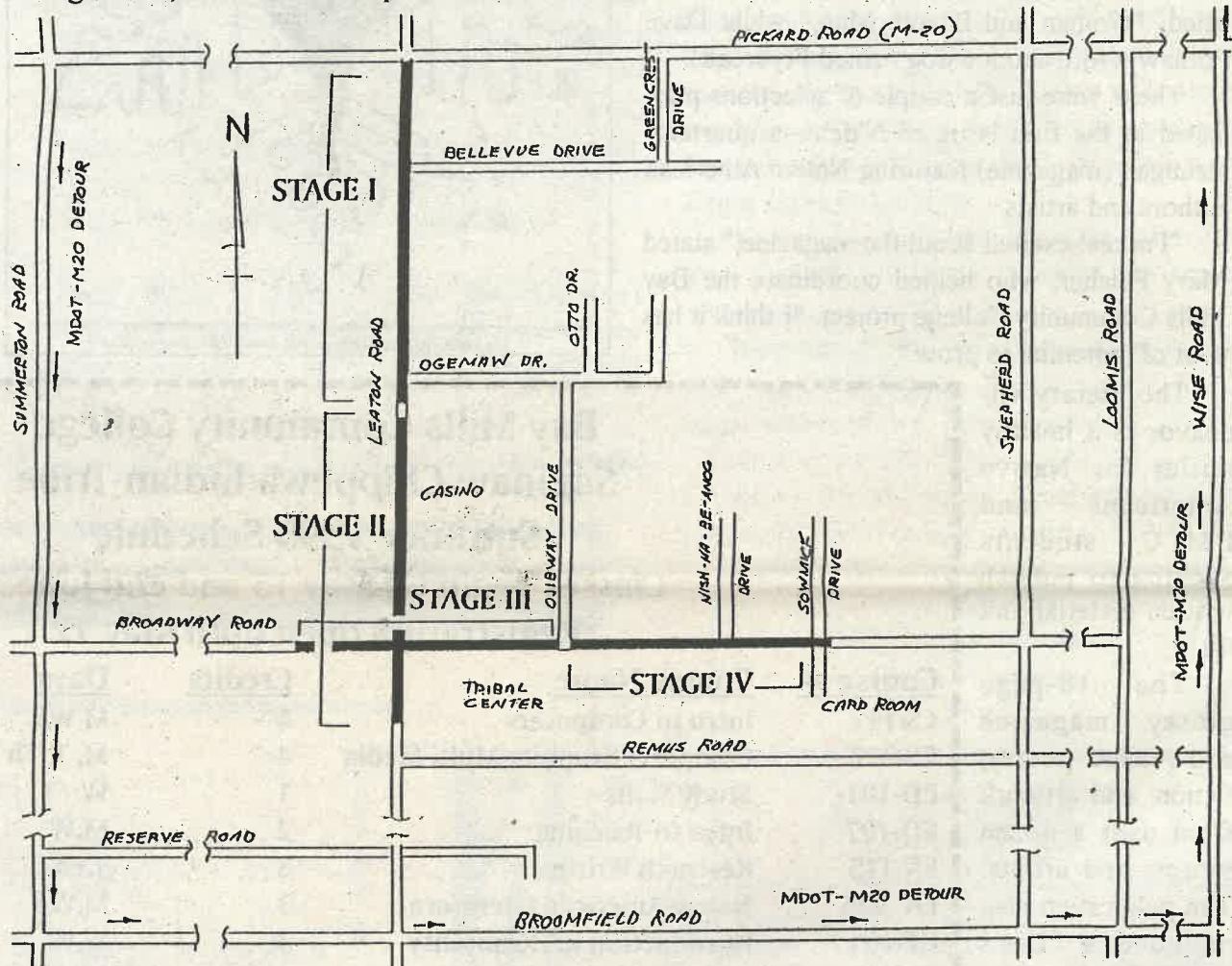
By Bill Mrdeza

This summer promises to be a busy time, construction-wise, around the Tribal community. It also has the frustration of motorists trying to get from one place to another. After years of discussion and negotiation, construction will occur this summer to improve traffic safety at the Broadway and Leaton intersection.

The good news is that the plans for this summer's construction calls for the Broadway and Leaton intersection to be upgraded from its present two lane configuration, to five lanes complete with a traffic

require that sections of Leaton and Broadway will have to be completely closed during short periods (two to four weeks), while being reconstructed. This is because the road width does not allow for two way traffic on one lane, and other traffic flow options would only increase the length of the construction period. During times of road closure, traffic will have to be rerouted onto alternate routes in order to accommodate the access needs of community members, employees and gaming patrons.

The Tribal Council asks for the indulgence of all community residents while this important construc-



Proposed road closures will take place in four stages. Road improvements slated include a traffic light at the intersection of Broadway and Leaton roads.

light. Broadway to the west and Leaton to the south of the intersection will eventually taper back to two lanes. As Leaton Road travels north of the intersection it will gradually taper to three lanes as it joins M-20. The Leaton and M-20 intersection will also receive a traffic signal. Broadway, east of the Broadway and Leaton intersection will taper to three lanes out to the Tribe's Card Room before resuming its present two lane configuration from the Card Room to Shepherd Road. Broadway will also have sidewalks constructed on either side from the Card Room west to the Broadway and Leaton intersection.

The bad news is that all of this improvement will

take place. A map of the proposed road closures by stages accompanies this article. Dates are not yet available, but will be reported once a contractor is selected and submits a construction schedule.

Several other construction-related activities will also be occurring that members should be aware of. M-20 from Summerton to Wise Roads will be undergoing reconstruction this summer also. It too will be closed for several weeks while traffic is rerouted along a detour route. The Broadway and Leaton project is being bid as part of the M-20 project in order to take advantage of economies of scale and to coordinate both activities. M-20 will be converted to five lanes as part of the multi-year Midland and Mt. Pleasant widening project.

The Tribe also has plans to construct a convenience store on the northwest corner of the Leaton and Broadway intersection, concurrent with other construction activities this summer.

Plans are also being explored for the development of a mini-mall and possible fast foods restaurant on the site. Next year, the county road commission plans on widening Broadway by two feet from Summerton to Leaton roads, and resurfacing

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(See ROADS page 12)



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Observer photo/Joe Sowmick

Big winner

Weidman resident Marsha Yunker is all smiles after winning a RCA satellite dish, 27-inch color television and videocassette recorder on March 31 at the Soaring Eagle Casino. There were over 120,000 entries for the monthly prize package, courtesy of Godwins and the Soaring Eagle Casino. Yunker is pictured with Jim Somerville of WCEN 94.5.

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Written by Charmaine M. Benz

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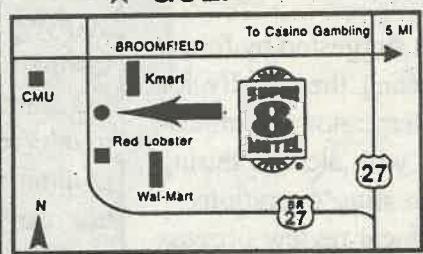
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Health

Dental clinic assistants are all smiles

By Judy Whitman

Like most kids, Jennifer Shanks didn't exactly dream of growing up to become a dental assistant.

However, while searching for a full-time career opportunity, the daughter of Tribal member Carol Shanks discovered an option that seems to suit her.

"The Tribe wanted to hire someone from the community to work at the Dental Clinic and they hired me," she explains.

Shanks has been working at the clinic for nearly two years. In addition to the hands-on learning she has experienced, she underwent training at the Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kan. and also traveled to South Dakota for a course in dental X-rays to prepare her for the job.

In June, she'll take a four-hour test administered by the Dental Assistants National Board to achieve her professional certification.

"I like it," says Shanks of her career choice.

Shanks says she puts her admitted childhood fear of the dentist's chair to work in making her patients more comfortable.

"I was always scared to go to

the dentist, so I try to be extra-sensitive. A lot of patients are really nervous," she acknowledges, adding that their biggest fear is usually receiving shots.

Shanks says she uses different techniques to



Observer photo/Judy Whitman

RENNAE ROSS, LEFT, AND JENNIFER SHANKS

take her patients' minds off the needle, including squeezing their fingers or having them count out loud.

"I try to think of ways to help other people get over their fear. And I try to be really understanding," she says.

Certified Dental Assistant Rennae Ross is also enthusiastic about her work at the clinic.

A graduate of Montabella High School, Ross spent two years "driving boats, working on cranes, and chipping and painting," while waiting to get into the Navy's dental assistant training program.

She passed the 12-week course with flying colors, achieving her certification in 1981.

After leaving the military, Ross returned to the mid-Michigan area. She worked for several dentists in private practice before joining the Tribe's Dental Clinic staff when it opened three years ago.

She describes her present role as one of her best experiences in dental assisting.

"I like it here because it's more of a public health setting," she notes. "We address the needs of patients not by how much money we're going to earn, but based on what the actual needs of patients are."

Diabetic support group to begin

All diabetics are invited to join together at the Sowmick Senior Center on April 19 at 5 p.m. to begin a support group.

Bring your favorite "diabetic" dish to pass and the recipe to share. Meat will be provided by the diabetes program.

The purpose of this group is to help and support each other with the challenge of being diabetic. For more information, contact Alta Little Moon at (517) 772-4121, extension 351.



Forum yields recommendations

By Judy Whitman

Banning 18- to 20-year-olds from Mt. Pleasant bars could cause more problems than it solves.

That was the consensus among over 80 area residents who attended an April 6 community forum on alcohol availability, sponsored by the Circle of Health Partnership and Isabella County Task Force on Substance Abuse Prevention.

Such a ban could lead to more young adults attending house parties, increasing the risk of public disturbances and violence, noted Cpl. James Brugger of the Mt. Pleasant Police Department.

In a recent survey of 104 Central Michigan University students, 81 percent reported they drank less at bars than at parties. Students attending the forum indicated they went to bars primarily to dance and socialize, not to drink.

Other recommendations suggested by forum participants included increasing the penalty for underage drinking to a misdemeanor and imposing fines on minors caught with alcohol during Liquor License Commission sting operations.

Participants also felt a local review process should be part of liquor license renewals.

Circle of Health Partnership Prevention Plan-

ner Sandra Thelen said results of the forum would be compiled and presented to local governments, probably within the next two months.

Planner thanks the many who helped with forum

The Isabella County Task Force on Substance Abuse Prevention and the Circle of Health Partnership would like to thank the 90 people who attended "Community Forum Five—When Does Happy Hour End?" on April 6.

The input from the participants was excellent. The information is being compiled and will be released soon to the community.

Thank you to the presenters who helped to show how availability of alcohol affects consumption. There were many people who worked for months behind the scenes to make this community forum a reality. Thanks for their time and commitment to the very important issue of alcohol use in our community.

-Submitted by Sandra Thelen, Prevention Planner, Circle of Health Partnership

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Damage totaling \$2,000

Reward offered in vandalism of Elder's vehicle

By Joe Sowmick

The smell coming from Nish-Na-Be-Anong Road is all too familiar.

The stench of vandalism.

Sometime between April 1 and 2, vandals thought causing \$2,000 in damage to a 1994 Mercury Sable owned by Owen and Dorothy Smith parked at the housing project was good fun. The malicious destruction included breaking a windshield, busting out four windows and slashing all of the vehicle's tires.

Tribal Police are investigating the incident which has outraged community members. The senseless act prompted a \$200 reward for the arrest and conviction of the individuals involved.

"I don't know if this was selective, but this is still pretty discouraging," Dorothy said. "Kermit Paul had a similar incident within the last week, where he awoke to a broken window at his home near Sowmick Senior Center."

Tribal Police Chief Ralph Sowmick re-

vealed there may be outside people involved in these crimes, but at press time this has not yet been confirmed.

"Even though the tires and windows were bro-

ken, we can be thankful for some things," Owen stated. "Bob (Pego) was at our side, and I know not everyone that lives around here does this sort of thing."

These retired Indian missionaries have served our Native community for many years.

"This act is a violation of human decency and our Tribal law of respect and requires justice to be served," stated Rev. Pego. "The people in our community believe that this is a horrible injustice to our Elders and must stop."

Tribal Prosecutor Donna Minor Budnick echoed those sentiments.

"In order to safeguard a person's foolish or vindictive offense, the Tribal Court has prosecuted 15 cases within the last year," she stated. "Any information that can be provided for the prosecution of this case would be appreciated. This injustice has gone too far... anyone who knows of this incident can claim a \$200 reward for the arrest and conviction of the accused."



Observer photo/Joe Sowmick

Rev. Robert Pego consoles Owen Smith over the \$2,000 in damage done to his 1994 Mercury Sable. A \$200 reward is being offered for the arrest and conviction of individuals responsible for the unlawful action.



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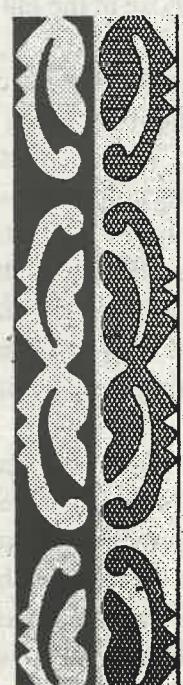
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InnerView

(Editor's note: In the past year, the Tribal Observer has brought Native artists like Wes Studi, Buffy St. Marie, R. Carlos Nakai, Bill Miller, Jack Gladstone, Eddie Benton-Banai and many others to the forefront with InnerView. As editor, I also like to recognize the artistic contributions made by our own Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members. It was indeed a pleasure to interview long time resident and Tribal member, James Bailey Sr. and meet his wife, Rita.)

Tribal Observer: Although you have just recently retired, how has this affected your getting back to Native art?

James Bailey Sr.: Since I retired, which was about 11 or 12 years ago, I needed to find something to do and I couldn't just quit everything. So I made quill boxes and dream catchers. My daughter wanted to make a dream catcher and it took her four months! Of course she would keep bringing it back and I would tell her what was wrong. She finally got it done, but not everyone can make dream catchers unless they know what they are doing.

T.O.: What other types of Native art do you offer through your booth at powwows?

J.B.: I make pipes and staffs ... I have a staff that has a deer skull that has a medicine wheel and a dream catcher in the same design. It was something I thought strongly about and many people mentioned this creation was special.

T.O.: Now you have just participated as a trader at the seventh annual CMU Powwow. Do you have a booth at many powwows in the Michigan area?

J.B.: Every weekend we go someplace in the summer ... it seems that there's a powwow somewhere every weekend and it gives my wife and I a chance to meet our friends.

T.O.: With attending powwows across the region, how do you find your Native art is received by the public?

J.B.: Real good ... especially the quill boxes. They love them, but they can't afford to buy them.

T.O.: How does one get started in doing Ojibwe quill boxes?

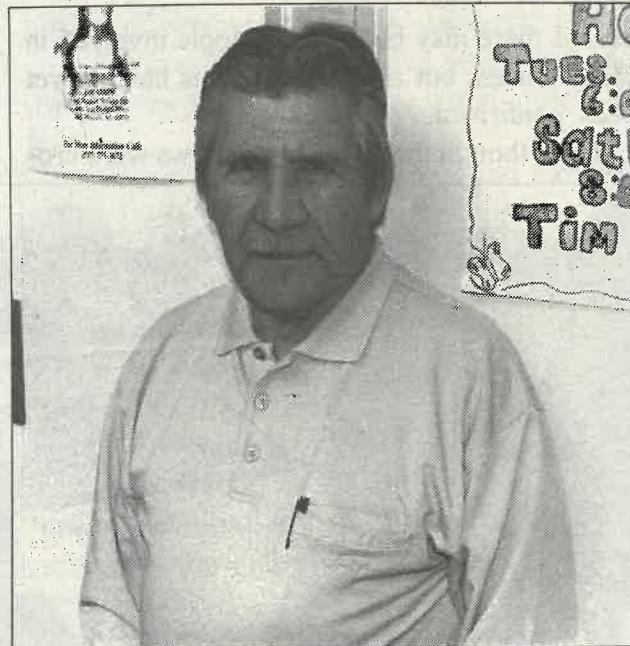
J.B.: First, you need to start with the birch bark, and you can get that one month of the year. And with porcupine quills, they are best to harvest in the fall where their hair isn't so thick. You should get those in the fall also.

T.O.: Let's take each scenario in turn, how do you go about obtaining birch bark?

J.B.: Well, you either got to go where they are cutting pulp wood or where they are making right-of-ways for the state. Other than that, it is illegal to harvest birch bark. It's the same way with the Michigan porcupine, you need to get them on the road where they are freshly killed. I usually use food coloring to color other quills in a piece.

T.O.: Have you ever had an example of Tribal members looking for deer and porkies on the road to help provide you with needed supplies?

J.B.: There's has been that kind of effort, but it takes more than just spotting them on the roads. You have to know which porkie to pick. I have a son (Mark) that picks them up for me and he knows where you can get good porkies. The last one I got



Observer photo/Joe Sowmick

JAMES BAILEY SR.

from him I was able to make eight quill boxes. A lot of times when other people bring me porkies, I can't get any quills from them. So there is a method to choosing the right one.

T.O.: Is that a skill that you passed down to your son Mark, to know which kind of porcupine to use?

J.B.: Yes. I told him what I needed and he watched me pick through the quills of many porkies. After a while, he could tell what I was looking for in quills.

T.O.: Do you use anything else besides birch bark and porcupine quills in making your quill boxes?

J.B.: I also use sweetgrass to cover around the sides of the boxes. It covers up the rough edges and makes the box look better. I know many people who use sweetgrass this way.

T.O.: It sounds like quite a long process.

J.B.: It is. I can do the top or the bottom of a quill box in one evening, but the pictures itself take about four or five days ... if you're lucky.

T.O.: How do you feel once you complete a piece that has taken many hours to finish?

J.B.: I'm just glad it's done (laughs). I really feel that I put some work into it and hope that people can see that.

T.O.: I know you have also done dream catchers. Is there a method to how you go about creating that kind of art?

J.B.: Definitely. It actually looks like a spider web. When I make a dream catcher, if the circle in the middle when you get through isn't perfect, you've done something wrong. It has to end up with a circle in the middle.

T.O.: Have you ever had a situation that once you completed a piece of art that, for whatever reason, it didn't feel right and you would start over?

J.B.: That's a good point because I have redone a lot of stuff that I felt didn't look right or I felt inside that something was wrong with it.

T.O.: Is that just a personal feeling you have with your art or does it go deeper than that?

J.B.: Well, with a dream catcher, if it don't look right you tear it back and start over. You need to satisfy your own mind.

T.O.: What feeling would you like a customer who has purchased a dream catcher to leave with?

J.B.: As a trader, I get asked a lot of questions about this at many powwows. I always tell them with dream catchers, you have to believe in them for your dreams to come true, otherwise they won't work. I know years ago our people traded many things. Nowadays they just pay you for them.

T.O.: Do you look at that as a sign of trading in modern times?

J.B.: I think a lot of the traders that come to the powwows and sell their art would feel that way. I have given away a lot of dream catchers in the past. That's not something that is done just by our Tribe ... it's an old Indian tradition.

T.O.: I know back then, many artists would trade their work for clothing, groceries and such. Now you just trade your art for money?

J.B.: We have a lot of honest traders out there doing good work in the right way and they got to make a living. At some powwows, I've gotten with other traders and traded some of my quill boxes for leather, beads and many different things.

T.O.: What kind of art do you make with leather?

J.B.: Besides dream catchers, I make ladies purses. I made one quite a long time ago and it sold right away so I continue to make those.

T.O.: I see you also make staffs that incorporate leather, dream catchers, medicine wheels and deer. Are there strong emotions that surface as you make that kind of a piece?

J.B.: I guess there are some feelings that come out, but it happens so fast and it comes to you automatically. A lot of people look at these works and say, "How did you figure that out?" It just happens.

T.O.: It appears that this is difficult to explain the many steps taken in completing your work.

J.B.: It's kind of hard to find the words to explain it to you. I know a lot of artists in our Tribe and I think every one of them would know what I'm talking about. I know the Reservation wanted me to have a class to show how to do quill boxes. I told them out of 10 pupils, there might be one who would stick to it. It takes a lot of time.

T.O.: Do you think that's just a product of our "we-gotta-have-it-now" society where kids won't spend the time with Elders to learn Native art?

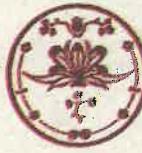
J.B.: It takes time to teach someone how to do it. I've tried to teach some of the Tribal kids and they would stay with it awhile, then they would have other things to do.

T.O.: I know our Tribe's Parks and Recreation Department has an ongoing regalia workshop that is getting people interested in working with Native art.

J.B.: Well, that's good if they will stick with it. The more they do it, the more people will take notice that the Tribe is bringing our ways back. Whether it's artwork or quill boxes, I encourage it because it's dying. It is a dying art.

T.O.: That is not the type of note I was hoping we would end on.

J.B.: Look around ... it is true.



POWWOW

(Continued from page 1)

tinent of Alma College students who came to join the festivities.

Master of ceremonies John Bailey from the Odawa Nation was assisted by arena director Steve Pego from our Tribe.

Honorary Head Dancers this year were Judi Pamp and Frank Bush. Donnie Dowd once more honored the CMU powwow, serving as Head Veteran Dancer.

Representing the student organization were Head Dancers Winnay Wemigwase and Jason Oldman. Saginaw Chippewa youths Cecelia Jackson and Little Man Quintero were the Junior Head Dancers.

The Badger Singers from Wisconsin were the host drum.

For the second year, Grand Rapids resident Roger Jackson provided interpretation for the deaf and was pleased to have the opportunity to participate.

"I'm excited about it for two reasons," he informed. "The deaf would not be able to experience



Observer photo/Joe Sowmick

Recipients of American Indian Scholastic Awards from Central Michigan University on April 1 are, left to right, Thomasine Shawboose, Robert Bressette, Annette VanDeCar, Glenn Turcotte and Mary Pelcher. Pelcher, a member of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians. She has also worked for the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Education Department for six years and plans to pursue a degree in education from CMU. Each award was in the amount of \$500.

ence the full dynamics of the powwow and those Native Americans who are deaf are allowed to be a part and identify with their cultural heritage."

Dallas Chen came to the CMU powwow last year and learned a lot because of Jackson's interpretation.

ian-owned, off-reservation gaming in the City of Detroit, as well as limited expansion of privately owned and operated casinos throughout the state.

The Commission further called for increased regulation of Indian gaming expansion under compacts in accordance with the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988.

Tribal Sub-Chief Tim Davis believes that gaming in Michigan is destined to expand beyond the three newly recognized Tribes and Detroit interests affecting competition.

"I think people like Soaring Eagle and they enjoy the atmosphere and the friendly staff," Davis stated. "They like the games but they still have to go from building to building. This concerns the safety of the patrons, because some patrons are walking from site to site on roadways. Tribal Council is working on that."

The commission recommended against allowing gaming devices in bars or racetracks, citing the threat to revenue from other gaming activities including the state lottery and Indian-owned casinos, as well as the potential for social

harm.

Tribal Council Secretary Gary Quigno sees a difference between Native casinos and the proposed privately owned casinos.

"We look out for our Tribal community and the surrounding areas," Quigno remarked. "The privately owned casinos would be looking out for themselves. I think everyone likes to try the new store in town, but as we keep treating our customers good, they will keep coming back."

The report also found the eight percent share of revenue Indian casinos currently pay the state "unacceptable."

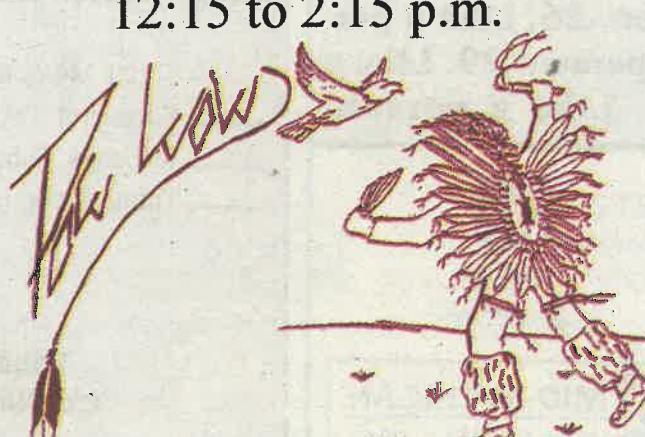
"The state and local governments' share should be based on a rate that is competitive with other states that have casino gambling. The range throughout the United States is now 20 to 27 percent of 'adjusted gross receipts'—gross receipts minus the payout of winnings to wagers," the report noted, adding that Indian-owned and privately-owned casinos should also be subject to all state and local taxes that apply to other business establishments.

West Intermediate School

POWWOW

May 1

12:15 to 2:15 p.m.



Master of Ceremonies: Steve Pego

Blessing By: Beaver Pelcher

Music: High Spirit Drummers and Singers

Dancers From: Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant High School and Mary McGuire Elementary

Sponsored By: The Saginaw

Chippewa Indian Tribe,

Seventh Generation Program,

West Intermediate School

Students & Staff

Powwow Design: Mark Bennett

Committee to meet

The Ziibiwing Collections Committee will meet at 1:30 p.m. on May 8 at the Sowmick Senior Center. For more information, contact Deb Johnson at (517) 773-3810.



Writer believes in letting one's inner dog roam free

By Mack Brushman

Have you ever realized how the most run-of-the-mill thought sometimes generates a really good idea? All of us have come up with such an idea at one time.

Through history, this type of thinking has been responsible for many advents, revolutions and ideals.

The ancient Greeks, for example, gave us a system of mathematics. The Renaissance painters forever changed the world of art. John Locke's treatise on the basic rights of life touched off a revolution that led to democracy. These feats and others like them were conceived and executed by people like us.

The variety of people and where they go with their thoughts is not unlike the variety of dogs and where they go in the physical world. Some dogs are bound by a short chain, while others are free and roam thousands of miles in a lifetime.

There are three variables to be considered in this analogy:

- The variety of dogs, which represents the

gamut of perspectives found in society;

- The traveling distance of a dog, which represents our knowledge of the world around us; and

- The variety of constraints and barriers, which represents our fear and ignorance.

Arguably, our ability of thought depends on these three variables.

Each one of us has a unique perspective. Everyone you've ever met sees the world somewhat differently. This determines where your symbolic dog wants to go.

Being an American Indian, I want unity in my nation, therefore, my dog is always looking for ways to achieve this. I want wealth and independence, therefore, my dog is searching in vain for a career option suitable to me.

What we know as humans enables our dog to go anywhere within the realm of knowledge. Since I've been in three car accidents, I know a lot about them, therefore, my dog is very capable of finding ways to prevent them.

Since I have a basic understanding of human thought and the behavior of dogs, my dog is able

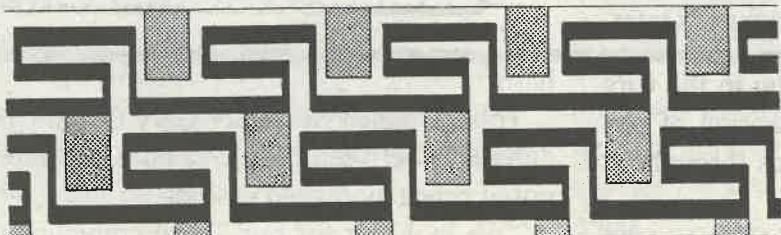
to discover the similarities between the two. Writing this speech, drawing parallels between my thought process and the behavior of dogs with my dog was somewhat awkward. It could best be described as my dog seeing its reflection for the first time. Scared but amused, he and I continued.

All of us are scared and ignorant to some extent and that is what prevents our dogs from discovering everything. For example, since I'm not a medical genius, it's impossible for my dog to find a cure for cancer. When I was eight and terrified of nuclear war, my dog would seldom pursue these thoughts. Fear and ignorance keep us from growing, just like chains, while lack of energy keeps our dogs from going anywhere and everywhere.

The identity of my dog is somewhat ambiguous. When I write things like this article, I think he's probably one of those stray dogs who appear at your house out of nowhere and are gone within a week.

On the other hand, when I get frustrated over

(See DOG page 14)



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A few brief lessons

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4. Like a person. 5. Like a person. 6. Like a person. 7. Like a person.
8. Like a person. 9. Like a person.
10. Like a person. 11. Like a person. 12 Like a person.
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27. Like a person. 28. Like a person. 29. Like a person.
30. Like a person. 31. Like a person.

on how to treat
a person with
a disability



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At the Elijah Elk Cultural Center

Sugar bush proves to be a sweet learning opportunity

By Amanda Mena, Frances Mena, Christian Shomin and Erin Anderson

On March 17, we started the sugar bush by going up to the Hill to tap the maple trees. We drilled holes in the trees; hammered in the taps and hooks; and hung up the buckets. The sap started flowing immediately, drop by drop.

While we waited for the sap to accumulate, we headed to Beaver's to get ready to cook. After some cleanup, we started building a sugar shack out of materials we found on the farm.

Christina, Amanda, Frances, Jacqi, Henry and Tonya painted the walls in yellow, red and blue; and also included a medicine wheel, a mountain, along with a rising sun for accent. It's a beautiful building, suit-



Christina Shomin shows off one of the finished pints of maple syrup. About 80 pints were bottled this year during the traditional springtime activity.

said this pot was passed from generation to generation since the first French explorers visited, but we take some of what he says with a grain of salt. The pot looks more like something he found along the highway, possibly hanging in someone's yard with petunias growing in it.

Springtime event rich in Native tradition

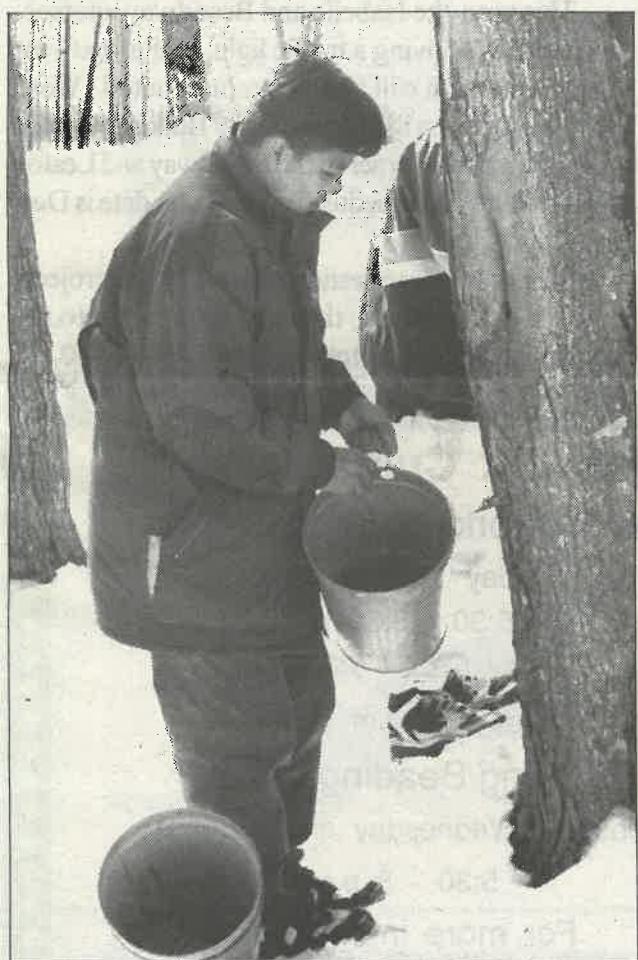
In springtime, the Anishnabe families began working the sugar bush. Entire families participated. After all the work was finished, the community would have a feast.

In our modern times, we've been fortunate to have our Tribal Alternative Education students involved in fulfilling and completing this year's sugar bush. They have really worked hard and we're proud of them.

At a March gathering, Tribal Elders and youth decided to have a pancake breakfast. The date will be announced very soon.

-Submitted by Beaver Pelcher

ZIISBAAKDOKE (Making maple syrup)



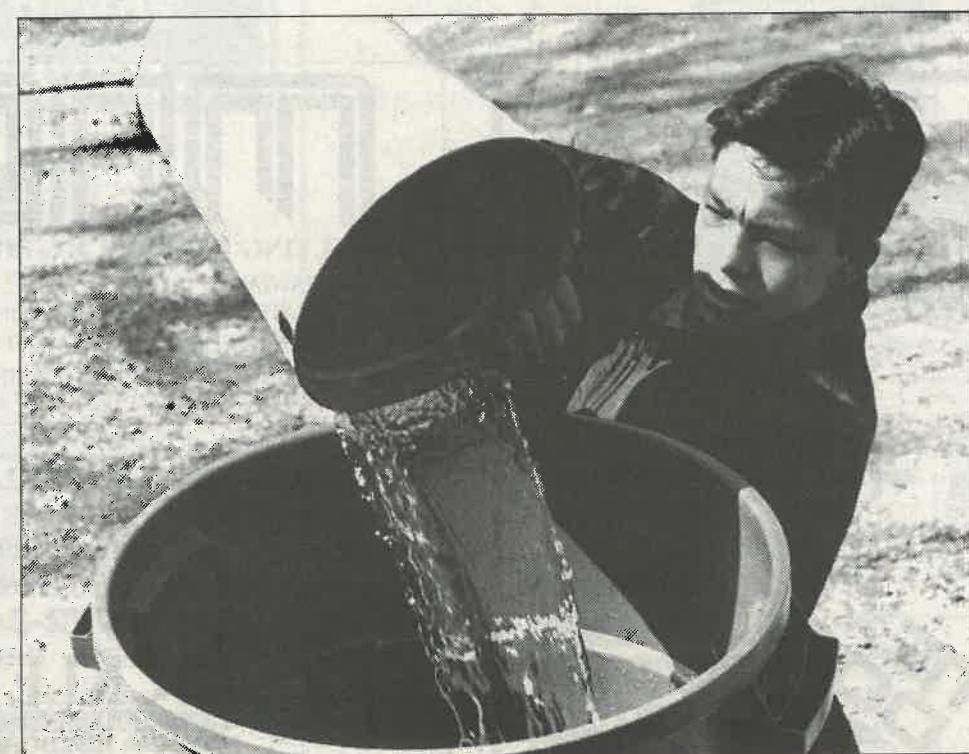
Henry Sprague attaches a metal bucket onto one of the 30 trees used in the sugar bush this year.

able for wedding receptions after the syrup project is done. One can phone Beaver at (517) 775-3425 for more information and reservations.

During the following week, we headed back to the Hill to collect the sap. The 30 buckets we hung produced slowly but surely and we readied about 60 gallons of sap for cooking. The sap is tasteless and colorless when it's first collected. It also doesn't look like much.

Beaver said the trees told the people of what rewards were in store with patience and hard work. He sprinkled tobacco at the base of each tree to thank the Creator for what we were taking from the trees.

We then took the sap back to Beaver's and started a roaring fire under an ancient black pot. Beaver



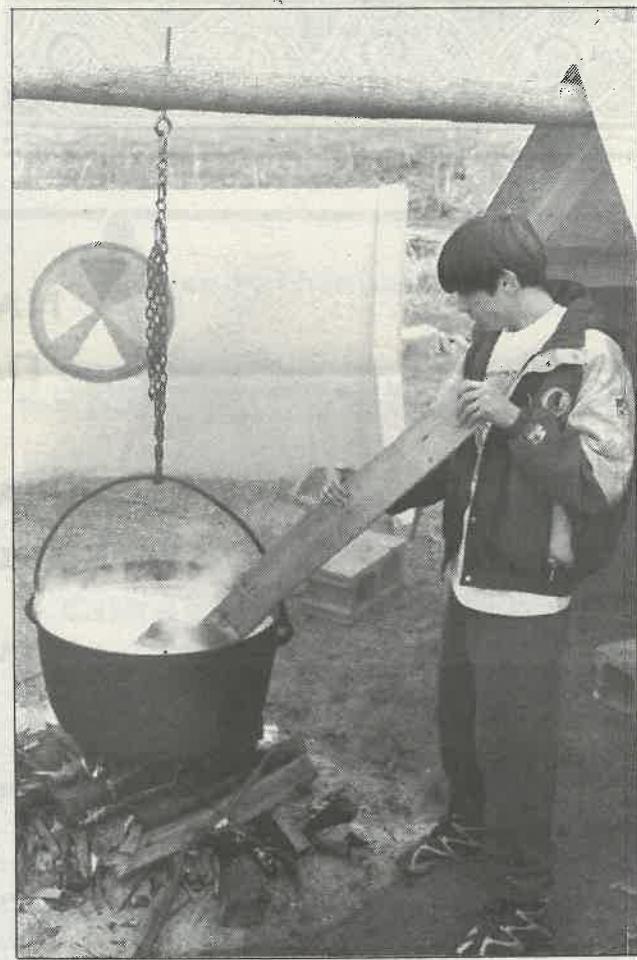
Henry Sprague pours syrup collected from trees at the Hill into a large container.

The fire burned hot and the sap started boiling. After six hours, the sap reduced far enough to turn a dark brown color and taste-testing proved it to be sweeter than anything Mrs. Butterworth ever bottled.

The syrup was then poured through strainers and filters. After that, it was packaged in pint bottles with Seventh Generation labels, ready for consumption.

As we worked around the fire, we chopped and stacked wood. The weather didn't cooperate well with the sap production and we found ourselves running short from time to time. After a run to the Hill, Beaver brought back chunks of bucket-shaped sap ice he called "sugar cubes." We melted them down and they cooked up fine.

As syrup-making winds down,

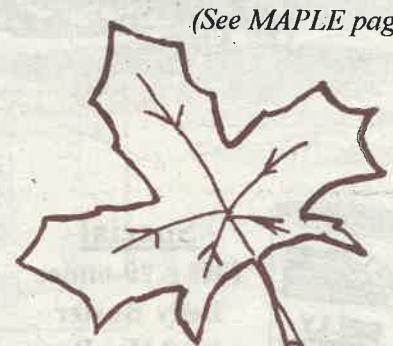


Roger Tackett proudly stirs the boiling sap. After six hours of this process, the sap reduces to a dark brown color.

we ended up getting about 80 pints of syrup. We plan on having a pancake feast for the Elders and orders have also been taken for sales of the bottles. Proceeds will go back to the Seventh Generation program.

We thank Beaver for his help

(See MAPLE page 12)



Observer photos by
Scott Csernyik



At-Large

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At Michigan State University

Ziibiwing group views collection

Twenty representatives from the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe visited Michigan State University on March 24 to view the collections held at the East Lansing learning institution's museum.

Anishinaabe ancestral remains and their associated funerary objects are housed in several buildings on campus. The one-day tour included informational sessions presented by various scientists at the university.

The trip was organized by the Ziibiwing Cultural Society, an advisory board sanctioned by the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council. Under the recently passed Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), the Tribe will take part in a process which allows them to reclaim their ancestral remains and any associated funerary objects. Tribes throughout the United States and Canada are involved in this process of negotiation.

"This was our first visit with any museum in the country and we hoped to learn how objects are housed, what they have and to gain as much information as we possibly can about this collection," stated Ziibiwing Office Coordinator Kayle Crampton. "The Ziibiwing Cultural Society members were pleased to see the interest from Tribal members at all levels, including our Elders, department heads and youth."

The Michigan State University Museum acquired the ancestral remains and their funerary objects through archaeological excavation projects that began in 1967. MSU officials were called after the United States Army Corps of Engineers disturbed the Anishinaabe cemetery while bulldozing a catch basin for sand along the Saginaw River. Once the cemetery was exposed, "treasure seekers" began arriving with shovels and the situation quickly grew out of hand. The private landowner, Fletcher Oil Co., turned the project over to the MSU archaeologists and formal excavation of the cemetery began.

MSU initially excavated the cemetery in 1967, returning again in 1968 and 1970. About 100 people were removed from the cemetery which dated back to the mid- to late 1700s. These Anishinaabe ancestors had been buried in cedar board boxes. They were buried with many personal objects, including kettles, beads, glass bottles, bowls, necklaces, gun flints, knives, muskets and many ceremonial objects they would need to accompany them on their journey.

Most of these objects are in the MSU collections, but some were lost when "treasure seekers" dug into the graves and are now probably part of private collections.

Several of the trip's participants described the helpless feeling of knowing their ancestors were part of a "collection" and their personal funerary objects were kept clear on the other end of campus.

The members of the group also felt discouraged by the information that was provided. Many expressed a concern over having been given only partial information regarding the Fletcher Site Cemetery. Tribal member Charmaine Benz, who also is a Ziibiwing Repatriation Committee member, described her feelings in a poem she wrote after returning from the trip, which accompanies this article.

Another trip to MSU is being planned by the Ziibiwing Cultural Society later this year.

Ongoing usage of the ancestors to study
Cranial capacity,
Femur length, and
dental wear and tear.....

Aborted out of our mother earth
they wait
to be examined under a cat scan
and
radio-carbon dated.....

Our ancestors lie
as specimens in an ordinary brown cardboard box
labeled
"Miscellaneous skulls
Probably Indian".....

Written by Charmaine M. Benz on March 26, 1995

process.

"Responding to NAGPRA and negotiating for the recovery of ancestral remains is an absolute priority for the Ziibiwing Cultural Society," Ekdahl explained. "It will be a positive step in healing. After the chaos of our history, we are restoring basic human dignity and respect to the past and for the future."

"We do not anticipate it being an easy process, but we willing accept the challenge and wholeheartedly believe the Anishinaabe perspective deserves equal consideration and respect in the world of science."





POWWOW

&

EVENTS

SCHEDULE

April 22 and 23 (tentative) "Honoring the Young Child". Inter-Tribal Traditional Powwow in La Cross, Wisc. at the University of Wisconsin- La Cross, Mitchell Hall Gymnasium. For more information, call the University at (608) 785-8225. Traders can call Ron at (608) 785-2980.

April 28 and 29 New Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas, N.M. at the Wilson Complex. For more information, call (505) 454-3188.

April 29 and 30 4th Annual American Indian Council, Inc. Traditional Powwow in Lebanon, Ind. at the Community Building 4-H Grounds. For more information, contact Nancy Malaterre at (317) 482-3315 or Susie Deem at (317) 545-5057.

May 6 2nd Annual Land of Falling Waters Traditional Powwow in Jackson at the Parkside

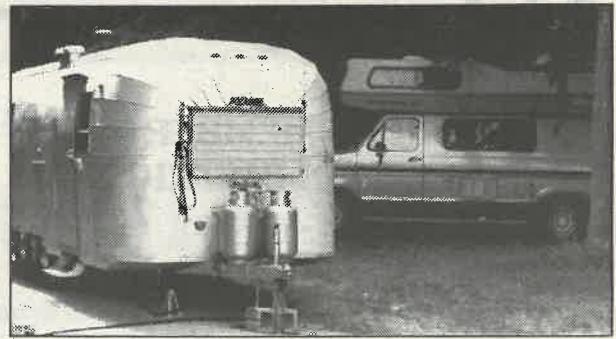
Junior High School Field House. For more information, contact Roger Heerspink at (517) 787-9252.

May 6 and 7 Red Road Traditional Benefit Powwow in Dowagiac at Dowagiac Union High School, 701 W. Prairie Ronde Road, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Substance Abuse Task Force Benefit for Halfway House Funding. For more information, call Julie Stauffer at (616) 782-9222.

May 6 and 7 Toronto International Powwow in Toronto, Ontario at the SkyDome Stadium, Indian Art-I-Crafts, 10 Woodway Trail, Brantford, Ontario N3R5Z3. For more information, call (519) 751-0040.

May 13 (tentative) 7th Annual Great Lakes Indian Artist Association Workshop and Exhibit/Sales in Traverse City. Northwestern Michigan College Native Art show sale and exhibit. Workshops begin on June 22. Woodland Indian Market is June 25. For more information, contact Mike Petoskey at (616) 922-1030 or Frank Ettawageshik at (616) 267-7441.

May 15-18 First Nations Development Institute's Fifth Annual Oweesta Conference in Albuquerque, N.M. For more information, call (703) 371-5615.



Observer photo/Scott Csernyik

The Saginaw Chippewa Campgrounds is located off of Tomah Road and offers a rustic setting for campers.

Campgrounds open

The Saginaw Chippewa Campgrounds offers a rustic setting for area travelers wanting to get in touch with the great outdoors while visiting mid-Michigan.

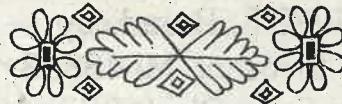
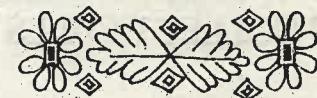
Located off of Tomah Road in an area affectionately known as "The Hill", the campgrounds feature running water, electric hookups and showers. Shuttle service will also be available upon request and the campground is located within two miles of the Tribe's Soaring Eagle Gaming facilities.

The campground office is open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to midnight and can be reached at (517) 772-3256.

Reservations for the campgrounds may be made by contacting the Housekeeping/Maintenance departments between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Monday through Friday at (517) 772-8900, extension 413, 415 or 417. Reservations are not necessary for overnight camping.

Rates for the campground are as follows:

- \$10 - One day
- \$20 - Up to three days
- \$40 - Five days
- \$50 - Seven days



Dog

(Continued from page 10)

the pettiest of petty things, I realize he's probably a housebroken poodle that has an outdoor access door but prefers to stay around the yard.

Regardless who my dog is, it's my responsibility to grow as an individual for the betterment of my dog.

Now that you know what your dog is, it's important to take good care of it so it can return the favor. Be honest with yourself so your dog knows exactly where to go. Learn as much as possible so your dog may run and discover anything. Overcome your fears and prejudices so your dog can be absolutely free.

Main Street
Audio-Video-Movies

701 North Mission
Mt. Pleasant
(517) 773-7370
Open Daily 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

FREE LAYAWAY!

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SMALL TOWN SERVICE**

Main Street

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- Car Stereo
- Home Stereo
- TVs VCRs
- In-Store Repair

USED CDs
USED NINTENDO
IN-STORE REPAIR
TVs VCRs STEREOS
CAMCORDERS



TRIBAL OBSERVER CLASSIFIEDS

Classified rates

Classified rates are \$5.00 for the first 15 words and 20 cents for each additional word.

All ads must be paid for in advance.

To place your ad, call the Tribal Observer at (517) 772-5700 extension 296, or visit our office in Tribal Operations. Ads can also be mailed to the Tribal Observer Classifieds, 7070 East Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.

Deadlines are the 10th and 25th of each month for the next issue.

125 Employment

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Department

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Department is accepting applications for Police Officers. The expanding department is interested in hiring certified and entry level personnel.

Qualifications: Applicants must be a U.S. citizen at least 21 years old, less than 36 years old as of date of hire. Must possess a high school diploma or GED. Must provide department with valid passing scores from the MLEOTC pre-employment tests. Must have integrity and reputation above reproach. Valid State driver's license, no misd. arrests within last three years. No felony convictions (includes expunged.) Must go through and pass the selection process to be consid-

ered. Must meet all certified requirements.

Selection Process: Includes MLEOTC pre-employment test scores, background investigation, oral interview, urinalysis/drug screen, psychological evaluation, medical exam.

Salary: Entry level \$19,760, upon certification \$21,120 annually, tops out at \$33,280. Certified starts at \$21,120 (negotiable pending qualifications.)

Benefits: Includes health, dental and life insurance. Paid vacation, sick days, personal days, holidays. Furnished uniforms and equipment. Education hours, fitness time allotted. Retirement plan.

Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws.

Closing date: Open until filled.

Send application to:
Tribal Personnel Department
Saginaw Chippewa Tribe of Michigan
7070 East Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Searching for the biological father of Scott Douglas Griffin, born Edwin Dale Lash on Feb. 2 or 4, 1959, in Flint. Mother is Nancy Lash. Has two sisters, Tina and Sharon. Biological father's name is believed to be Tom Brandon or Braddon. Scott was adopted in April, 1959 by the Griffin family.

If you have any information about his father or other family members, please call 517-371-3629, or write: Scott Griffin, 1313 New York St., Lansing, MI 48906.

SOAR



Like an Eagle.

Come fly a kite.

April 22 is Kite Flying Day from 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at Elijah Elk Cultural Center. The first 20 children and parents to arrive will receive a free kite. A potluck picnic will be included. Meat will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass.

Call (517) 775-9123 for more information.

Sponsored by Ojibwe Substance Abuse Services and the Elijah Elk Cultural Center.

Surveillance Supervisor

Closed Competitive In House Also Open to Tribal Members

Location: Soaring Eagle Gaming

Wage: \$9.00

Supervisor: Director of Surveillance

Qualifications: Must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent. Casino CCTV experience and law enforcement background preferred. Strong written and oral communication skills. Ability to train surveillance personnel.

Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws.

Posting date: April 4, 1995

Closing date: April 17, 1995

Duties and responsibilities:

1. Maintain variance reports from cash handling departments.
2. Chart variance reports and investigate patterns of short-

Classifications

| | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|-----|---------------------|
| 100 | Thank you | 145 | Misc. vehicle sales |
| 105 | Special notices | 150 | Furniture |
| 110 | Birthday greetings | 155 | Appliances |
| 115 | Personal | 160 | Misc. sale |
| 120 | Internships/workshops | 165 | Garage/yard sales |
| 125 | Employment | 170 | Pets |
| 130 | Car sales | 175 | Business services |
| 135 | Truck sales | 180 | Real estate sales |
| 140 | Van sales | 185 | Real estate rentals |

ages. hours per week. Regular part-time position.

Location: Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center, Isabella Indian Reservation, Mt. Pleasant.

Supervisor: Tribal BCCCP Coordinator

Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent. Must be able to type a minimum of 40 words per minute. Must have an interest in the health care of Native American women. Must be able to maintain patient confidentiality and patient privacy. Must possess good verbal and written communication skills and be willing to be trained with billing procedures for the BCCCP fund.

Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws.

Posting date: March 29, 1995. (Open until filled.)

Job summary: Performs clerical and secretarial duties for the Tribal BCCCP Coordinator in all aspects of the program as required.

See Personnel listing for more detailed information about this position.

Submit applications to:

Tribal Personnel Office
7070 East Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

130 Car sales

1993 Oldsmobile Achieva, excellent condition, \$9,500. Lou or Norma, (517) 643-7351.

180 Real Estate Sales

One-family homes, main street, Mt. Pleasant. (517) 772-4632 after 7 p.m.

SPRING SPECIAL!

Place your 10 word classified in the Tribal Observer for only \$2.50. Call (517) 772-5700 ext. 296, or stop by Office 31 in Tribal Operations for more information!



Tribal Breast and Cervical Cancer Contract Program (BCCCP) Clerk

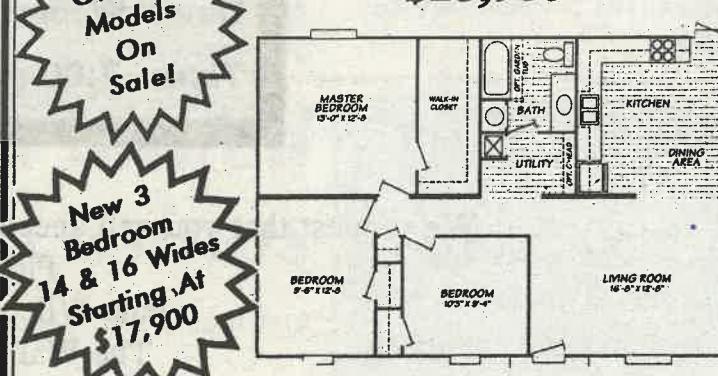
Wage: \$7.00 per hour, 16

Apply to:

Soaring Eagle Gaming
2284 Enterprise Drive
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

CLARK Mobile Homes

New Homes Starting At
\$25,900



M-20 or US-27 **517-772-2703**

30 Year Financing
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Turn Key Packages

Mr. Pleasant Michigan

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Maybe A Free Chainsaw Will!!

Hurry Limited Time Offer Expires 4/29/95



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Over 103 Pre-Owned Vehicles In Stock!

1992 TEMPO 4 DR GL

Auto-Air-Cruise-Stereo
Green Metallic #SC102A
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\$6,880
48 months
Only \$172.85

1993 MERCURY TRACER WAGON

Auto-Air-Cruise-Med. Mocha
Metallic-#RU238A-Clean Car
\$9,660
54 months
Only \$220.53

1993 PONTIAC SUNBIRD L.E.

Auto-Air-Stereo-Bright Blue
Metallic-#RU172
Clean Running Car
\$8,989
54 months
Only \$205.44

1993 GEO METRO HATCHBACK

5 Speed-Great Gas Mileage-Clean Car-
#SU020A-Low Mileage Local Trade
\$5,999
54 months
Only \$136.95

1994 MERCURY TOPAZ GS

4 Dr.-Loaded Program Cars-Low
Mileage-4 To Choose From-
Red-White-Silver-Grey
\$10,840
60 months
Only 224.20

1993 RANGER XLT PICKUP

Air-4 Cyl.-5 Speed-Sliding Rear
Window-Stereo Cassette-Cloth Seat
\$9,998
54 months
Only \$228.30

1993 AEROSTAR

Extended Wagon-Bright Blue-7
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Cruise-Stereo Cassette-#ST024A
\$12,985
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Air-Cruise-Stereo Cassette-
Alum. Wheels-#SU064
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Only \$289.38

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We request that you call ahead to reserve a seat for this meeting.

Please call:

Jane Wilcox or Paul Siers

The Wall Street Corner

210 E. Broadway

Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

517-773-3585 or 1-800-378-2555

Place: Mt. Pleasant Holiday Inn
Date: Wednesday, May 3, 1995
Time: 7:00 p.m.

We request that you call ahead to reserve a seat for this meeting.

Please call:

Jane Wilcox or Paul Siers

The Wall Street Corner

210 E. Broadway

Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

517-773-3585 or 1-800-378-2555

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