



75¢

FEBRUARY 16, 1996 VOLUME 7 ISSUE 4

NAMEBINI-GISS (Ojibwe) Moon of the Suckers

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

Longtime employee reflects on Reservation life

By Judy Whitman
Staff Writer

When Jean Pego began working for the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe, Broadway and Leaton were dirt roads and Tribal offices were located in a house on Tomah.

Jean, who marked her 25th year working for her Tribe on Feb. 1, received a gold pin in honor of her service.

She's spent the last eight years as the community outreach worker for the Tribe's Emergency Relief Program.

The program provides many services including operating a food pantry and making clothing and personal care items available to people in emer-

gency situations.

Her ties to the community run deep.

Born on the Isabella Reservation but raised in Flint, she returned at age 16 to live with her grandparents, George and Clara Mandoka.

Having grown up away from her family on the Reservation, she remembers meeting her grandfather for the first time at a summer Methodist Camp Meeting at the Hill.

"When I was growing up, I would hear other children talking, and wish I had grandparents too," she recalls.

When her grandmother—whom she had met the year before—pointed out her grandfather at the

camp meeting, Jean was overjoyed. "I ran up to him and threw my arms around him," she recalls, laughing. Her grandmother was left to explain to the puzzled man that the vivacious girl hugging him was his granddaughter.

Years ago the Reservation was much more rural than it is today. "We had all the old houses then," Jean recalls. "I grew up in the city, so living in the country was wonderful."

Living along Broadway were the Baileys, Eleanor Sprague, Ben Quigno and Jim Strong.

She remembers everyone gathering on Friday nights at Charlie



Observer photo/Judy Whitman

JEAN PEGO

"Betsy Hall's dad, Jim Peters, was pastor of the church at that time. My grandfather, George Mandoka, was assistant pastor.

"Grandpa was hard of hearing. On Sunday

mornings, he'd pound on the ceiling to wake us girls up," Jean remembers fondly. "We'd have to get up and fix breakfast, and while we were getting

(See PEGO page 9)

Chamberlain's house to watch wrestling on the first television on the Reservation.

The church on the Hill was an important center of social as well as religious life.

New Tribal cemetery planned near campgrounds

By Scott Csernyik
Staff Writer

Ziibiwing Cultural Society officials are planning to create a new Tribal cemetery for the reinterment of repatriated remains.

The 18-acre site, located south of the Saginaw Chippewa Campgrounds, will be the fourth Tribally-owned cemetery in Isabella County.

"Our Repatriation Committee has been looking for a place for reinterment of human remains," said NAGPRA Coordinator Kayle Crampton. "But with the current Tribal cemeteries not having burial records, we thought it might be a good idea to start on a new cemetery on the Reservation."

The Ziibiwing group became involved with investigating cemetery history about a year ago as part of exploring the 1990 Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). The measure directs all publicly-funded institutions to compile lists of Native American religious and funerary artifacts, as well as human remains. It also orders these entities to notify respective Tribes of origin who might have the right to reclaim them.

Crampton added there may be the possibil-

ity of using the new site as a contemporary cemetery.

"There's been talk of using it for those who pass on in today's times," she stated. "We've been looking into whether it should be active to those now passing away or just for those who have been in museums."

Boundary survey work for the cemetery began in mid-January. Crampton said the ZCS is hoping the project will be complete by the end of the year.

Ziibiwing repatriation efforts have primarily focused on Michigan State University, where artifacts and remains of over 100 Tribal ancestors are currently housed from the excavation of the Fletcher site over 25 years ago.

Located on the west bank of the Saginaw River within the northern limits of Bay City, the Fletcher site has been attributed to the period around 1740 to 1770.

Although local amateurs raided the location for years, subsequent "professional" excavation of the location took place between 1967 and 1970 by MSU officials.

"But that's just one museum," Crampton added. "As we look at it, MSU is the first mu-

seum we are repatriating from. While it has the most artifacts and remains, it is not necessarily the easiest.

"The repatriation process will also prove difficult to fulfill from other museums because of the mere fact of proximity. As it was common practice for museums to swap artifacts or human remains, there will be a bone here and a bone there. When these remains were dug up, [archeologists] may have kept a skull, but sent the arm

(See CEMETERY page 10)

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Health Department experiencing growing pains

By Anna Lampi
Staff Writer

Goals were set and services reviewed at the Tribal Health Department's Strategic Planning Session, held Jan. 27 on the campus of Central Michigan University.

Assistant Health Administrator Angeline Matson said the Health Department stands at a crossroads because of the growth it has experienced.

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members coming in for services.

"The reliance on Tribal funding has increased while federal dollars from Indian Health Service provide a decreasing portion of our overall budget. This situation has resulted in a push to re-think our patient eligibility guidelines and how we provide services to the patient population," Falcon

tients and our services," Matson noted.

Other health-related services also saw increases in usage since 1992. The Dental Clinic reported a 209 percent increase in patient visits, while Ojibwe Substance Abuse services saw the average number of clients increase by 61 percent.

Client contacts in the Mental Health Services division were up 899 percent since 1992.

Matson said 54 percent of the 1,898 Native Americans who received services at Nimkee last year were Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members.

Fourteen percent were members of other federally-recognized Tribes, while 31 percent were descendants of non-recognized Tribes.

An additional 1,152 non-Indian people also received limited services at the clinic. These included Tribal employee health screenings, tuberculosis tests, and services provided to partners or spouses of Tribal members during pregnancy or for other conditions.

Matson was surprised by the high number of patients with private insurance, including 60 percent of

the Saginaw Chippewa members using the clinic.

Fourteen percent of Tribal members were

eligible for Medicaid or Medicare insurance, while 17 percent had no resources except Contract Health Ser-

vices.

Twenty-six percent, however, had no insurance and were not eligible. (See HEALTH page 3)



Observer photo/ Anna Lampi

Angeline Matson, interim administrative supervisor for the Family Resource Program and Bill Mrdeza, community and economic development director, co-facilitate the strategic planning session on Jan. 26.

"We need to make some decisions," she emphasized.

Health Administrator Audrey Falcon labeled 1995 a difficult year.

"We continue to see increases in the numbers of patients coming to the [Nimkee] Clinic yet there were fewer

stated.

The number of patients receiving services at Nimkee increased by over 57 percent from 1992 to 1995, while staffing levels increased by 28 percent.

"Our staff hasn't really increased at the same level as our pa-

TRIBAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Program highlights from the annual report

Administration

- Struggling to address problems including space needs, long-term planning, CHS budget shortfalls and Tribal members in need of health insurance

Medical

- Implemented Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Project, helping Indian women receive mammograms and other cancer-detecting screenings.
- Purchased new medical equipment for the Nimkee Clinic thanks to Tribal Council funding.
- Soaring Eagle Gaming assumed responsibility for gaming employees health programs, allowing Nimkee to focus on services for the Tribal community.

Pharmacy

- Experienced increase in demand for services. A Pharmacy Technician will be added to the staff.

Dental Clinic

- Rennae Ross was named IHS Dental Assistant of the Year!
- Jennifer Shanks completed her on-the-job training program and passed her national Certified Dental Assisting examination.
- Despite problems with patients not showing up for appointments, the clinic worked hard and logged more dental patient visits than last year.

Business Office

- Received the Bemidji Area Business Office Award!
- Converted all patients' charts to an easier-to-use system on schedule through the Medical Records Grant.
- "Check in" and "check out" systems were implemented at the front desk.
- Medical and Dental Receptionist duties, after a trial combination, were once again separated.
- A new pharmacy computer system was installed to provide daily electronic billing.

Community Health and Fitness

- Injury Prevention Program was awarded a grant to purchase infant/toddler car seats.
- The Diabetes Program client list has doubled in the past three years.
- As the Maternal-Child Health Educator-Nurse caseload remains high, a second nurse will be added to the staff.
- The Eighth Annual Michigan Indian Family Olympics drew 400 participants, encouraging family and community activities centered around physical fitness.

Substance Abuse

- All counseling staff have achieved the Apprentice Counselor Certification.
- Hosted the annual Freedom Walk during powwow weekend to celebrate freedom from alcohol and drug abuse.
- Focused on prevention activities such as mini-powwows at Mary McGuire Elementary, regalia making classes, holiday parties and community forums.

Mental Health

- Requests for emergency assistance are at an all-time high. Staff providing counseling services are maintaining large caseloads exceeding appropriate levels. They are working hard to help people cope with the difficulties they face.

*tribal
observer*



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).



**Community
Gatherings**

**Every Tuesday
from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
at the Helping Hands Office
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Traditional

- Cooking with Today's Foods
- Stories from Community Members
- Crafts and Sewing Help
- Dance Training and Help

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HONOR TRADITION

Boozhu! Welcome to the Feb. 16th 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:

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
c/o Tribal Observer
7070 East Broadway Road
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Phone (517) 772-5700 Fax (517) 772-3508
Subscription rates are \$15 per year. 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 10th and 25th.



Health

(Continued from page 2)

gible for CHS assistance. The cost of their services was absorbed by the clinic.

"At Nimkee, we're serving an important need for this 26 percent of Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members," Matson noted.

Many Native Americans would be eligible for Medicaid if they did not receive per-capita payments.

"We cover what Medicaid used to cover," acknowledged Falcon, adding that many of these patients need long-term care. "We're seeing more and more large medical bills."

The Health Department experienced an overall budget increase of 11 percent from

1994 to 1995, Matson said.

In contrast, federal funding has increased by only 1.47 percent from 1993 to 1995.

The Tribal Council supplement, however, has increased by about 115 percent during this period.

During the strategic planning session, health department staffers created a vision of what Tribal health care should be like in the year 2006.

Suggested were health insurance for every Tribal members, a larger facility, an emphasis on prevention, and improved staff to patient ratios.

Also cited was the need to train Tribal members for key positions, consolidate all health services into one location, and implement Tribal self-gov-

"We cover what Medicaid used to cover. We're seeing more and more large medical bills."

-Audrey Falcon

erned health care.

Appointed by Tribal Council, the 16-member Tribal Health Task Force has been charged with reviewing health services and making recommendations for change and future direction.

Matson said the task force will examine suggestions generated at the planning session and develop a two-year plan to implement these goals, which will then be reviewed by the Tribal Council.

Survey responses also studied

The results of a recent health service survey were also discussed at the Jan. 26 strategic planning session.

The survey was mailed to all Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members age 16 or older who live in Michigan.

Survey forms were color-coded to indicate the area from which they were returned while preserving respondents' anonymity.

About 200 members returned the survey. Most felt the Tribe should provide health insurance for low in-

come, elderly and disabled Tribal members who are not insured.

Positive aspects of Tribal health services cited by respondents included the fact there are no out-of-pocket costs to patients, same-day appointments and good location.

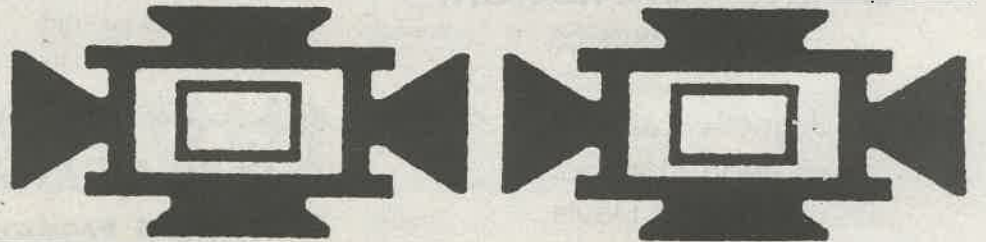
"These are some things I think speak well of us," noted Angeline Matson.

Survey participants said an inconvenient location, long waiting room times and a perceived lack of confidentiality were factors they did not like about Tribal health services.

Matson said the department should look at Isabella County residents' responses to the location question because they gave more realistic data for the local population served by the Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center.

"I believe when people read these questions, they thought mostly of Nimkee Clinic," she said.

Other services survey respondents said they would like to see provided by the Tribe included a nursing home for Elders and a full-service laboratory offering X-rays.



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Funds available for home water and sewer repair

Applications are being accepted for the Indian Health Service's unmet needs program that addresses problems such as failing wells or septic systems in existing housing.

"The program allows repair or replacement of failing systems for sewer treatment and water supply," said Richard Tilmann, business development director.

To qualify, a homeowner must be a Tribal member and live within IHS's service area of Isabella, Clare, Midland, Missaukee and Arenac counties. Til-

mann said the work will be performed this summer.

Tribal member Carol Shanks had a new drain field and septic system installed through the program last summer.

"It's a whole lot cheaper than getting a drain field and septic tank on your own," she said. "All it cost was a \$41 permit. It's great the program exists."

For more information about the program or to get an application, call the Planning Department at (517) 772-5700, extension 225 or 262.

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Please give your last name spelled out with the first name, area code and phone number, date of game, number of people expected to play and if one prefers smoking or non-smoking.

Reservations are expected to be picked up 15 minutes before the game or sooner and made at least 24 hours in advance.

Cancellations are expected the day before the game or sooner. Management reserves the right to modify, postpone or cancel any session.

A special thanks goes to Kathe Martin for her assistance in choosing the Christmas and New Year's babies and for her record keeping of the newborns.

-Jean Pego,
 Emergency Relief Outreach

Thank you to the community for their donations in 1995 to the Emergency Relief Program.

-Jean Pego
 Emergency Relief Outreach

Occupational Health Nurse

Department: Soaring Eagle Gaming
Wage: Negotiable depending on experience
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Qualifications: Must be at least 18 years of age, BSN from a four-year Bachelor's in Nursing program. At least one year of successful clinical experience. Be a CPR instructor or be willing to be trained. Bloodborne pathogens/OSHA training qualified to teach/train employees. (May need to establish medical supervision from the doctor for standing orders of any kind.)
Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws

Posting date: Jan. 31 (open until filled)

Duties and responsibilities:

1. Assists employees who are injured or become ill at work. Could make referrals to Occupational Medicine/ Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center.
2. Performs pre-employment health screening as mandated by the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe. (Includes all required by the Tribe.)
3. Conducts health clinics, including blood pressure screening, diabetes testing and immunization clinics (including tuberculosis testing and hepatitis B vaccinations.)
4. Acts as resource person on health matters, reviewing such items as physicians reports on employee health, workers compensation insurance claims, medical restrictions on employee work and the policies and procedures of the medical department.
5. Performs audiometric (hearing) testing, establishing baseline date and performing annual follow-up testing.
6. Assists with the hearing conservation program and develops and enforces employee safety policies, assuring that protective equipment is appropriate and properly used.
7. Responsible for training and medical supervision of first-aid teams.
8. Establishes and maintains medical department records.
9. Carries out studies and investigations on health or safety-related questions and prepares reports, summaries and recommendations on these questions for management.
10. Risk management, including early identification, correction and prevention of risk factors that have potential to harm employees.
11. Supervises customer first-aid program and develops policies.
12. Other duties as assigned.

Submit resumes and three references to:
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THURSDAY

From 3:30-4:30 p.m.
 At the Helping Hands Office
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Everyone welcome!

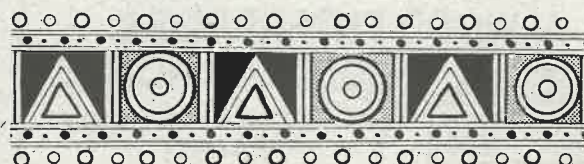
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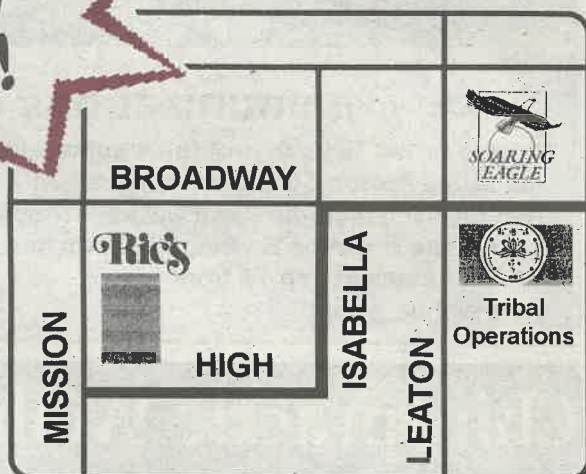
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Health

Budgeting and home management class offered on March 4 at Nimkee

By Liz Tormanen
Nimkee Maternal-Child
Service Intern

Classes on budgeting and home management will be a great opportunity to pick up some tips on grocery shopping, cooking, paying bills and much more.

We want to make a relaxed, fun atmosphere for the classes. What we would like most of all is your input. Your attendance at the first meeting would be greatly appreciated so we can generate ideas and decide on regular meeting times.

Our first meeting is

scheduled for March 4 at 1 p.m. in the Fitness Center Conference Room at the Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center. This is an invitation for the entire community, and children are welcome to attend. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. Please call Susan Bettistea at (517) 772-3767 extension 291 or Liz Tormanen at extension 275, if you have any questions or need transportation.

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• Keep away from convenience stores.

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• **Eat before you go grocery shopping.** On an empty stomach, everything in the store looks appetizing.

• **Shop aggressively.** Visit one store for the specials on meats. Visit another store for the specials on produce.

• **Use coupons.** Read the Sunday paper or the local shopper to find store specials and coupons.



Observer photo/ Anna Lampi

Movin' to the beat

Tribal member Dorothy Netmop, middle, tries out the new exercise program for Elders by the Commission on Aging. Central Michigan University students Carla Hamlin, left, and Cathy Muffler, right, lead the group at the Sowmick Senior Center.

It's not too late!

The BEST SNOWMAN CONTEST deadline has been extended to **March 4**

So build those snow people NOW and call Patrick (773-9123) or Dave (772-5070) at Ojibwe Substance Abuse Services to have a picture taken. Winners get movie passes and food! The contest will be judged (from photos) on March 6.



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Observer photo/Judy Whitman

Immunizations offered

Nimkee nurse Twila Schrot finds some willing volunteers in Misty, Lisa and Louis Proton during the clinic's last immunization clinic. The children received their third and last shot which provides lifetime protection against the Hepatitis B virus. Nimkee's next walk-in immunization clinic will take place March 14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. All childhood vaccinations will be given.

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Students are 'write' on when it comes to current events

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From Ben Rachor"

By Jean Flamand
Staff Writer

From a Native American legislator to U.S. troops in Bosnia, Saginaw Chippewa Academy students are reaching out to different parts of the world by writing letters while they learn about current events.

The 24 first and second grade students have been recently studying many famous Native Americans, including U.S. Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, D-Colorado, and Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma Chief Wilma Mankiller.

They've also sent letters to American troops, with hopes of a response to their many questions.

"A lot of them didn't know where Bosnia was, so we explained (See WRITE page 11)

that to them and told them how our troops are there to keep peace," said Co-Teacher Angie Hosler.

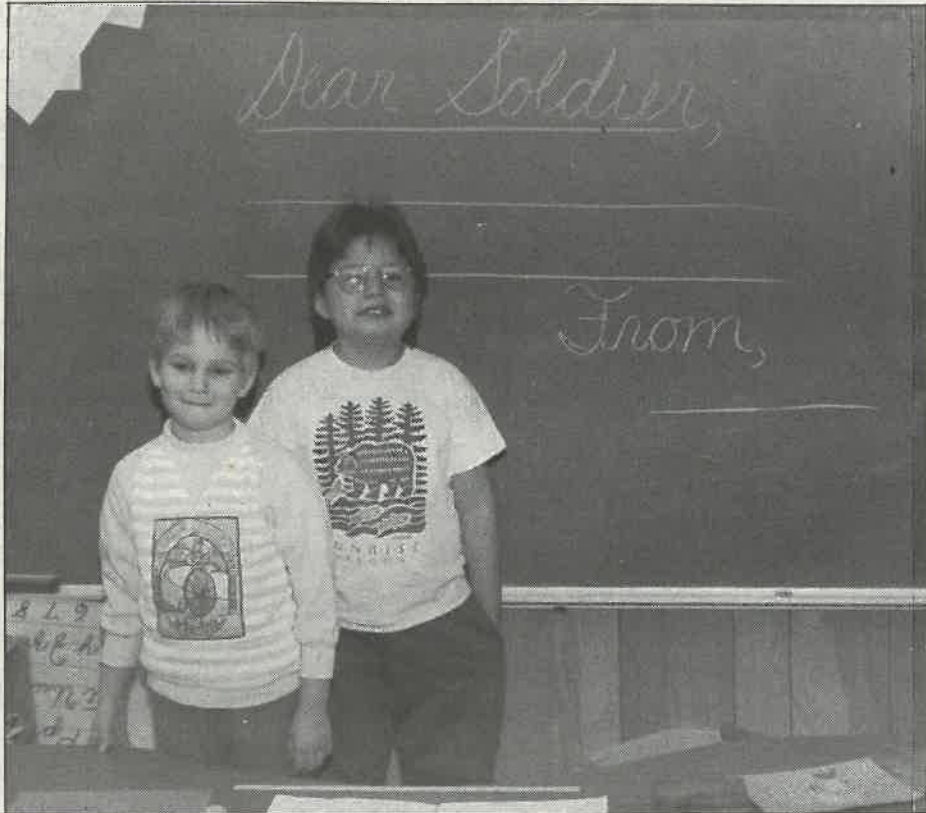
"We know they are away from their families, so we wanted to take the time and write them."

Co-Teacher Kim Price said the study unit helps the students learn many skills.



Observer photo/Scott Csernyik

BEN RACHOR, LEFT, AND SAM PEGO



Observer photo/Scott Csernyik

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Observer photo/Scott Csernyik

Falina Penigar, left, and Kayla Cantu stand by the "Time Line of Life."

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Gatherings a time for sharing input

By Joe Sowmick
Editor

The first quarter community gatherings brought over 500 Tribal members out to each of the four regions...including Tribal Chief Phil Peters, Sr.

"I made an extra effort to attend all four meetings just to introduce myself to the Tribal membership," Chief Peters said, adding, "I was really surprised at the turnout."

Chief Peters, along with Tribal Treasurer John Hart, Saganing Council member Arlene Molina and At-Large Council member Ron Jackson were greeted by a standing room only crowd of 170 at the Region 4 gathering in Caro.

"We expected about 100 people to show up but this is fantastic," exclaimed Region 4 representative Neuel Denman. "This is the first meeting we have had in Caro and it shows there is a lot of interest in this community."

Denman applauded the Tribal Chief and other Council members for coming to the community gatherings and believes it demonstrates togetherness and makes the Tribe stronger.

Amy F. Alberts, At-Large Advocate, viewed the attendance as the beginning of a productive year.

"The involvement

and networking is needed very much. Working with the urban Indian centers and other agencies that help our Native people is important," Alberts explained. "Without the support of the Tribal Council, the At-Large program would not have the dollars to assist the 1,850 members that live off the reservation."

Alberts summed up the record attendance and the presence of the Tribal Chief and Council in one word... "historic."

Topics covered included a briefing of recent governmental action by At-Large Council member Ron Jackson; a Ziibiwing Cultural Society update by Mae Pego; a status update on Tribal



Observer photo/Scott Csernyik

Region 3 Representative and At-Large Benefits Committee Chairperson Thelma Henry-Shipman shows off some of the items used as door prizes during the Region 1 gathering in Bay City.

enrollment by Deputy Clerk Steve Pego and an update on the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver and Ca-

reer Expo '96 by Higher Education Coordinator Ben Hinmon.

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Pego

(Continued from page 1)

ready, he'd play the piano and sing. He'd get those hymns going, and Grandma would say, 'Listen to that old man in there.'"

"There were some good times back then. There would be box socials at the church. The ladies decorated the most beautiful lunch boxes—some funny, some pretty. The men would bid on

the boxes," she explains.

Each man who purchased a box lunch also received the privilege of eating lunch with the lady who had prepared it. "You hoped your neighbor didn't get mad at you for sitting with her husband," Jean remembers.

"We also used to have basket bees at the church. Eli Thomas organized them. A bunch of little old ladies came, and every-

one had their spot. We'd make a day of it. Some of the ladies would cook lunch—homemade biscuits, pies, pots of soup."

Jean settled on the Reservation, marrying Maurice Pego in 1956 and raising three sons, Paul, Chris and Maurice Leo.

1970 was a banner year for the family. Jean, her mother-in-law Lena Strong, and sister-in-law Geraldine Jackson all graduated from Mt. Pleasant's adult education program at the same time.

"A few months later, I was called to work down at the new Tribal offices," Jean recalls, adding, "I'd had some bookkeeping in night school, so I suppose that's why I was chosen."

The Tribal Operations building at the time—Pete and Alice Bennett's old house—consisted of one big office and two smaller ones.

"Willis Jackson Jr. was the Chief then," Jean says. Other Tribal administrators included Ben Quigno, Judy Floyd and Betty

Otto.

"Lorna Call was the head community health representative,

dish towels and soap. (Though she points out, in a grandmotherly fashion, "I'm not

"There were some good times back then. There would be box socials at the church. The ladies decorated the most beautiful lunch boxes—some funny, some pretty. The men would bid on the boxes."

-Jean Pego

and Eleanor Sprague was the other CHR. I came in as a part-time secretary—that's how I first started."

Though the offices were makeshift, the sense of community was strong. "We were proud to be growing, and to have an office here for the first time," she notes.

Jean's job eventually became a full-time one. The Tribal offices moved twice, first into a trailer on Nish-Na-Be-Anong, then to the present location in the 1970s. "The building wasn't as big then," Jean says.

She worked for the Indian Health Board for 17 years, keeping records and processing the monthly insurance company billings, before taking her current position as community outreach worker.

She lends her personal touch to the program, helping young couples moving into their first apartment assemble essentials like

here to help them live. I'm here to help you get a start—then you're on your own.") New parents also receive "baby starter kits" containing a pink or blue outfit and items like baby shampoo, cotton swabs and a thermometer.

She even scouts area sales for bargains on used items. "I go to the rummage sales in Shepherd in April to look for things like baby beds and strollers—whatever people need," she notes.

And Jean Pego remembers.

She remembers when she and her cousin Helen lived with their grandparents, and children would go to a free outdoor theater in Rosebush, sitting on benches and eating popcorn.

She remembers when families traveled to the North Branch Church on North Meridian Road to listen to sermons by visiting

ministers. "They didn't have a regular pastor, but Annie and Simon Peters kept the church up."

She remembers when the first Tribal administrators would leave work at night only to find their cars mired in the mud on the unpaved Tomah Road. "We'd all be out there at five o'clock, pushing each other out."

"We were proud to be growing, and to have an office here for the first time."

-Jean Pego

And it is her memories, and the memories of other Tribal Elders, that interweave to form the tapestry of a community where—despite growth and many changes—the past is not lost or forgotten.

"Those were my favorite years," Jean says, reminiscing. "I wouldn't care if we were back there yet."

"Those were the good old days."





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Cemetery

(Continued from page 1)

bone elsewhere."

The other three Tribally-owned cemeteries include the Nippinsing Cemetery in Rosebush, Nottawa Cemetery near the intersection of Denver and Vandecar Roads, and Baseline Historical Indian Cemetery, west of U.S. 27 in Isabella Township.

It's been at least 50 years since anyone has been laid to rest at Baseline and even longer at the other cemeteries. Because burial records weren't kept, tracking down historical information on all three has been a challenge. This difficulty has been compounded by the lack of current official land surveys, lack of regular maintenance and vandalism.

"It has to do with basic human dignity and inequities within the system. If you look at this nation, moral and ethical responsibility has to be fair for all groups of people."

-Bonnie Ekdahl

"It is important to see closure on the repatriation process for at least some of our ancestors," Crampton said. "A Tribal cemetery will be highly visible to our people so we don't have to worry about the threat of vandalism or some outsider coming and digging them up."

ZCS Director Bonnie Ekdahl called the repatriation process a matter of restoring dignity. "You're always going to have to take care of



Observer photo/Scott Csernyik
Crew Chief John Dart explains on Jan. 16 to Anna Crampton and Marjorie Gordon, right, how the process of doing a boundary survey works. Also pictured to the left is Ed VanAtten, an instrument man. Dart and VanAtten are employees of Ruddell Engineering Inc., a division of Rowe Engineering, Inc. The planned 18-acre cemetery is located south of the Saginaw Chippewa Campgrounds.

those who have passed on," Ekdahl said. "It's accepting responsibility and taking care of business." In prior interviews about repatriation, Ekdahl said what has happened to Anishinaabek as a people is "sad."

"It has to do with basic human dignity and inequities within the system," Ekdahl said. "If you look at this nation, moral and ethical responsibility has to be fair for all groups of people."

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By Helen Roy & Micko
Tribal Education Department

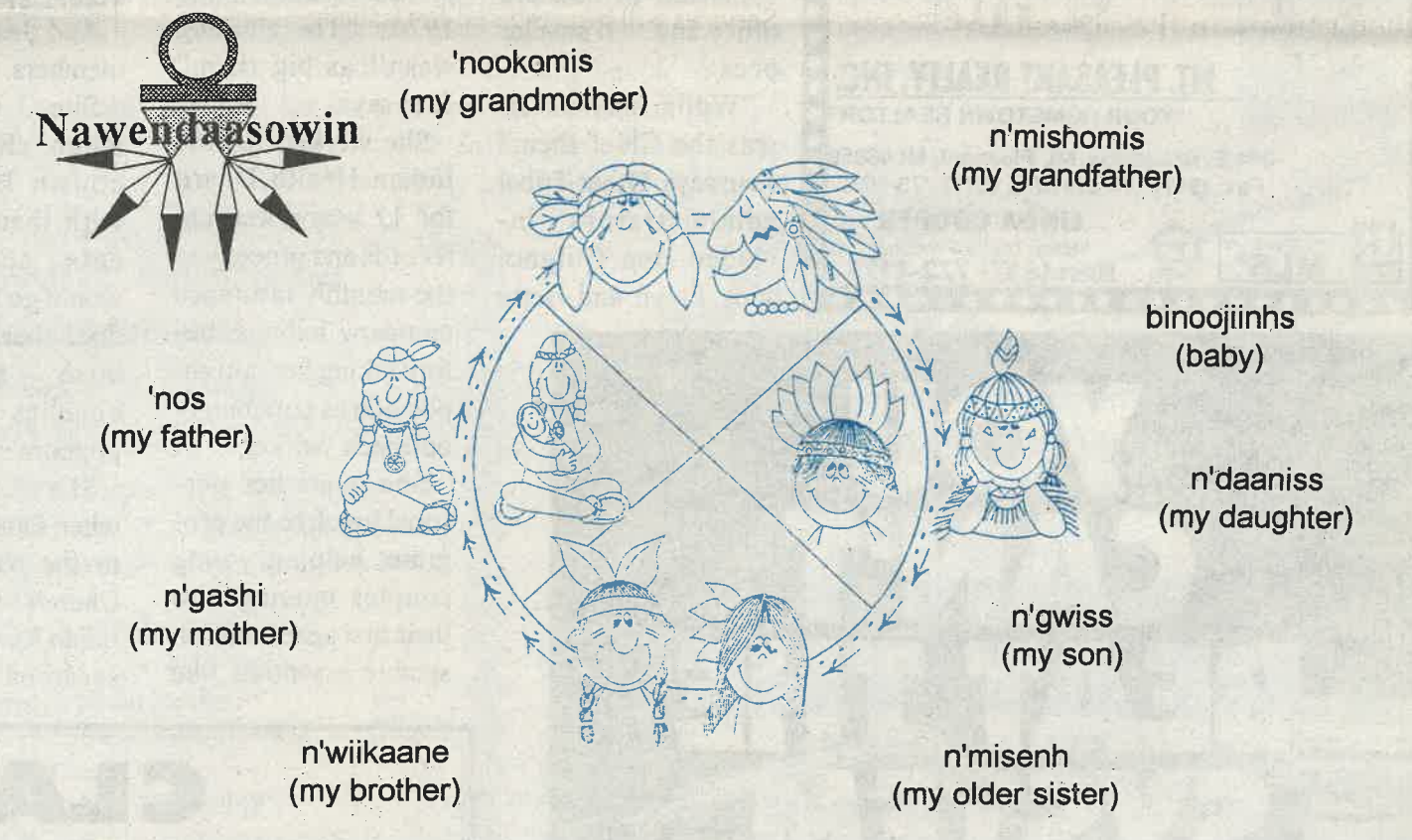
Nda-nawendaagonag
("My relatives")

Besides just knowing the names of relations, we will look at different ways to use them. I hope you won't mind too much if you see your name being used.

n'mishomis maaba aawi,
John Hart zhinkaazo

(This is my grandfather,
his name is John Hart)

You can replace the underlined part
with any other relation name and of
course using different names. For in-
stance, "n'daaniss maaba aawi, Sue
zhinkaazo".



aaniish ezhi-nawemaad
maaba

(how are you related to him/her)

In these examples, you may name a
person instead of saying "maaba". For
instance, "aaniish ezhi-nawemaad Joe"
or "gaawiin nda-nawemaasii Joe".

gaawiin nda-nawemaasii
maaba

(I'm not related to him/her)

"Kizhep" zhinkaazo nda-
binoojiinsim

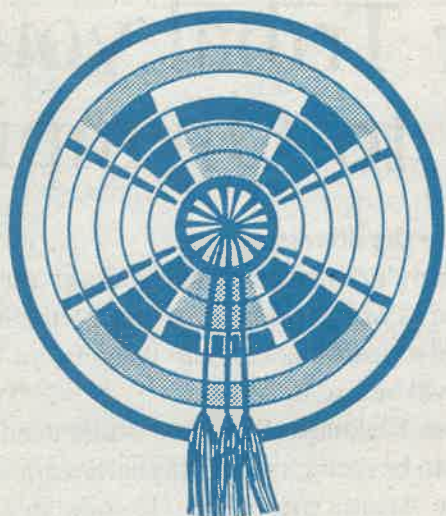
(My baby's name is "Kizhep")

"binoojiins" is "baby" used in the pos-
sessive form. You can replace it with
any relation name.

Sounds Consonant sounds are the same as in the English language. The "g" will always have the harder sound as in "geese" and not the softer sound as in "giant". "Zh" is pronounced like the "s" in "casual", while "nh" is a nasal sound like the "n" in "point". Vowels are pronounced as follows:

"aa" like the "a" in "ball" • "ii" like the "ee" in "seem" • "e" like the "e" in "bed" • "a" like the "u" in "bus"

"oo" like the "oo" in "book" • "i" like the "i" in "sit" • "o" like the "o" in "so"



Respect

Respect means to feel or show honor or esteem for someone.

Showing respect is a basic law of life. Treat every person from the tiniest child to the oldest Elder with respect at all times.

Special respect should be given to Elders, parents, teachers and community leaders.

Touch nothing that belongs to someone else, especially sacred objects, without permission.

Never walk between people that are talking, never interrupt people who are talking. Speak in a soft voice, especially when you are in the presence of Elders.

Each morning upon rising, and each evening before sleeping, give thanks for the life within you. Consider your thoughts and actions of the past day and seek for courage and strength to be a better person.

Seek for the things that will benefit everyone.

-Grandmother (Mishomis) Joyce Hart



Babies honored

The Community Outreach program gave its annual recognition to the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe's Christmas and New Year's babies. The New Year's baby was Sierra Rachel Crockett, daughter of Paula and Dave Crockett. Sierra, held by her mom, at left, with big brother Brian and mom's cousin Jamie Francis, entered the world on Jan. 6 weighing 6 pounds, 11 ounces. The Christmas baby, Breanna Joan Colwell, right, is the daughter of Jeff Colwell and Michelle Jackson. Breanna made her appearance on Dec. 29, weighing 9 pounds.



Emergency radio network is no snow job

By Joe Sowmick
Editor

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe emergency radio network is now estab-

lished.

From Lansing up to the Mackinac Bridge, the network will inform Tribal employees, clients and patrons about

severe weather closings.

Participating radio stations include WMMI 830 AM; WCEN 1150 AM; WCMU 89.5 FM; WCEN 94.5 FM; WCFX 95.3 FM; WUPS 98.5 FM and WCZY 104.3 FM.

WMMI/WCZY General Manager Mike

Carey said their stations get emergency weather condition updates from the Weather Channel.

"They specifically do weather for the Central Michigan area and it gives an up-to-the-minute response," Carey said.

WCEN Meteorolo-
(See RADIO page 17)

Commission to meet

The Mid-State Substance Abuse Commission Board of Directors will meet 7 p.m. on Feb. 21 at 105 West Fourth Street in Clare.

The board will elect a new slate of officers and also review its bylaws. Contracts with Michigan Jobs Commission/Michigan Rehabilitation Services will be presented for Isabella, Clare and Gladwin counties. These contracts will provide for collaborative substance abuse and work development services for persons who have a disability that prevents them from working.

For more information about substance abuse services in Arenac, Clare, Gladwin, Roscommon, Osceola, Midland, Isabella and Mecosta counties, as well as the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, call Executive Director Lois Hartzler at (517) 386-4020.

Write

(Continued from page 7)

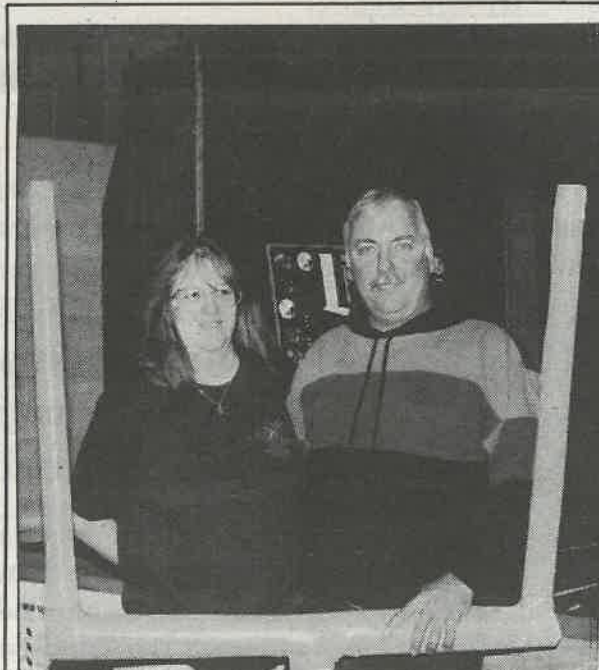
"It's good penmanship practice, as well as an effort to learn about current events," Price explained. "They've also got pen pals who are their age."

The students wrote letters to Sen. Campbell, telling him they have been reading about him and hoping he might respond to their many questions.

"We learned that Ben Nighthorse Campbell had a difficult childhood and that his mother had a disease called tuberculosis and his father was an alcoholic," second-grader Ben said. "His father also taught him judo

and how to make jewelry. He is also a senator and now lives in Washington, D.C."

The students are also studying a hands-on history project called "Time Line of Life." It shows the evolutionary history of various reptiles and amphibians.



Observer photo/Judy Whitman

Big screen winners

Lynn and Debbie Grencz were the winners of Soaring Eagle Casino's January giveaway. The Harrison couple took home a 60-inch television from Michigan Microtech and a complete "Superbowl Party" including food from Red Lobster and Papa John's Pizza, and t-shirts from Chippewa Beverage.

CMCH offers screening

Fall and winter seasonal sun patterns may affect our moods, causing depression, low energy levels and increased appetite. Central Michigan Community Hospital will offer a free screening to evaluate the symptoms of Seasonal Affective Disorder on Feb. 20 from 2 to 6 p.m. in the Frank D. Johnson Conference Room.

Drs. Wayne Ross and Elbert Lee will conduct the screening and make recommendations about treatment or coping strategies. No appointment is needed. For more information, call the Wellness Center at (517) 772-6780.



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Classroom competitiveness key for Tribal youth hoping to embark on summer trip to Olympics

By Max Wolf

Alternative Education Teacher

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribe, in conjunction with the Education Department, Parks and Recreation, Substance Abuse and the Circle of Health Partnership, has announced plans to send 14 Tribal youths to the Summer Olympic games in Atlanta, Ga. from July 27 to Aug. 2.

Participants in the trip will travel to the Georgia state capital in rented "land yachts" and will stay at the McKinney campground about 40 miles south of Atlanta. Shuttles to and from the city will transport students and chaperons to the games.

Because of the limited number of available tickets, students will "earn" the privilege of attending by meeting certain specific goals set up by their respective schools. A system of points has been established by each school, taking into account attendance, behavior, attitude, GPA, improvement, community involvement, and participation in cultural activities.

Student numbers have been divided into four districts based on numbers of Tribal members in attendance. Points and eligibility will be determined by the persons in charge of the respective districts. The districts are divided as follows:

Shepherd District

Includes Shepherd Middle and High Schools, and Odyssey; Len Klakulak, supervisor. Six students; two tickets available.

Mt. Pleasant District

Includes Mt. Pleasant High School, Oasis and Sacred Heart; Micaela Escamilla, supervisor. Twenty-two students; five tickets.

SCIT District

SCIT Alternative Education; Ginny Haight and Max Wolf, supervisors. Twelve students, two tickets.

Participating students will be chosen from among the highest point-getters from each district, but we do not want to think of this as a competition for available spots; it is meant as a reward for students who accept their responsibility to the Tribe and the community.

In the instance of no eligible participants from any of the four districts, tickets will be redistributed among the highest point-getters in the remaining districts.

The land yacht caravan will leave early in the morning from the Tribal Center on July 27. It will arrive in Atlanta roughly 16 hours later. Scheduled return date is on Aug. 2.

Cost of meals and lodging will be absorbed through Tribal and departmental sponsorship. The only instance where students will need money is if they choose to stock up on the many millions of Olympic souvenirs available.

Event tickets are in hand for men's field hockey on July 29, and the track and field competition on July 31. Tickets to more events will be distributed by lottery beginning Feb. 10 and every effort will be made to grab up some more.

As the remainder of the school year progresses, eligible participants will be chosen, and chaperons will be selected to travel with the group. We will also be choosing people to act as drivers for the trip, and stay at the campground during the events to insure the security of the campsite. Meal money and a stipend will be of-

fered to the drivers.

Many activities are available at the campground as well, including boating, swimming, fishing and probably facilities for hanging out. A good time will be had by all.

Len Klakulak, Shepherd student advocate, needs to be recognized for his hard work in bringing the Atlanta trip to life. He took an idea and worked it into reality.

Members of the Planning Committee include Len, Micaela, Kathleen, Ginny and Max from the Education Department, but they are not the only ones. Dave Chatfield, Kevin Chamberlain, Lisa Kennedy, Charmaine Benz, Joe Wentworth and Summer Peters have all worked together to provide input and discussion about the many details involved in an event as big as this. Their dedication to Tribal youth is to be commended.

A big thank you goes out to the Tribe and various departments that were generous enough to make this trip possible. It will be an experience that will last a lifetime.

Anyone interested in registering who hasn't done so already, get in touch with your district supervisor. Registration and medical consent forms are still available, and need to be returned as soon as possible.

Lisa and Summer will operate the "Central Office" where student information will be collected and updated on a regular basis. Any questions may be directed to Lisa or any committee member.



Third Annual Native American Bowling Tournament March 9 At Lincoln Lanes In Grand Rapids

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Tribe tackles family violence issue on Reservation

By Judy Whitman
Staff Writer

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribe has set out to combat family violence.

With the help of a \$55,000 federal grant, a Tribal coalition is working with Cooley Law School students to draft a comprehensive domestic violence code.

Their goal is to create laws that reflect the needs of the community, empowering Tribal police and courts to take action against abusers.

"About four years ago, a group of women from the Reservation formed a group to address issues of domestic violence, called the Domestic Violence Task Force," explained Tribal Director of Social Services Catherine Backus.

"Over the years we realized 'domestic violence' was too specific, so we broadened our scope to include any violence that occurs within the context of the family—Elder abuse, child abuse and spouse abuse," she noted.

Backus wrote the U.S. Department of Justice grant that will

fund the project, as well as provide for hiring a Tribal Domestic Violence Police Officer.

"Under the Violence Against Women Act, dollars were set aside to fund programs that try to get police, prosecutors and agencies that deal with domestic violence to work together as a team.

"Because this is a Reservation, we very much want community input into this," Backus emphasized.

Tribal Police Capt. Ralph Sawmick agrees that a domestic violence code is needed.

"There should be a code, because right now nothing is covered. Under Tribal law, an offense has to be committed in the presence of an officer for an arrest to be made," said Sawmick.

Domestic violence is currently handled as a misdemeanor complaint. The victim is required to press charges against the batterer in order for arrest and prosecution to take place.

"It's frustrating when you go there and see bruises on a man or a woman, and yet they don't want to sign a

complaint," Sawmick noted.

He said his department has investigated domestic violence codes used in other Native American communities. He favors an approach which would empower officers to make an arrest when there is physical evidence of abuse, and prosecute the offender without requiring the victim to file charges.

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribe's Domestic Violence Task Force has called upon Cooley



Observer photo/Judy Whitman

Tribal Domestic Violence Task Force members, from left, Prosecutor Donna Minor Budnick, Protective Services Worker Lisa Bollman, Prevention Planner Lisa Kennedy and, far right, Director of Social Services Catherine Backus, with "Mending the Sacred Hoop" workshop presenters Elizabeth LaPrairie and Dawn Suttan.



Observer photo/Judy Whitman

Cooley Law School students participating in the effort include, front row left to right, Ellen Bezninan, Professor Phil Prygoski, Elisa Tummiolo, Christian Novay, Jim Alexander; second row, Dana Monkarsch, Michelle Winn, Mike Meth, Maria Briganti, Marylisa Turner, Steve Cundy, Lisa Adams and Lori Costello.

Law School students for help in writing such a code for the Saginaw

Chippewa Tribe.

Prevention Planner Lisa Kennedy, a member of the task force, said the group chose to work with students in the hope they would be more flexible and willing to learn about Native culture before setting out to draft laws.

About 15 students and two professors have visited the Reservation twice, meeting with Tribal members and staff of agencies that deal with domestic violence issues.

Their second visit took the form of a two-day workshop on domestic violence in Indian country, conducted by Elizabeth LaPrairie and Dawn Suttan of Minnesota's "Mending the Sacred Hoop" program.

LaPrairie and Suttan led the students in a series of activities designed to help them recognize stereotyped perceptions of Native Americans and understand the dynamics of domestic violence, including why victims sometimes stay in violent relationships.

LaPrairie said her research—including surveying Tribal Elders and studying historical records—reveals a picture of traditional Native family life far different from that of European cultures.

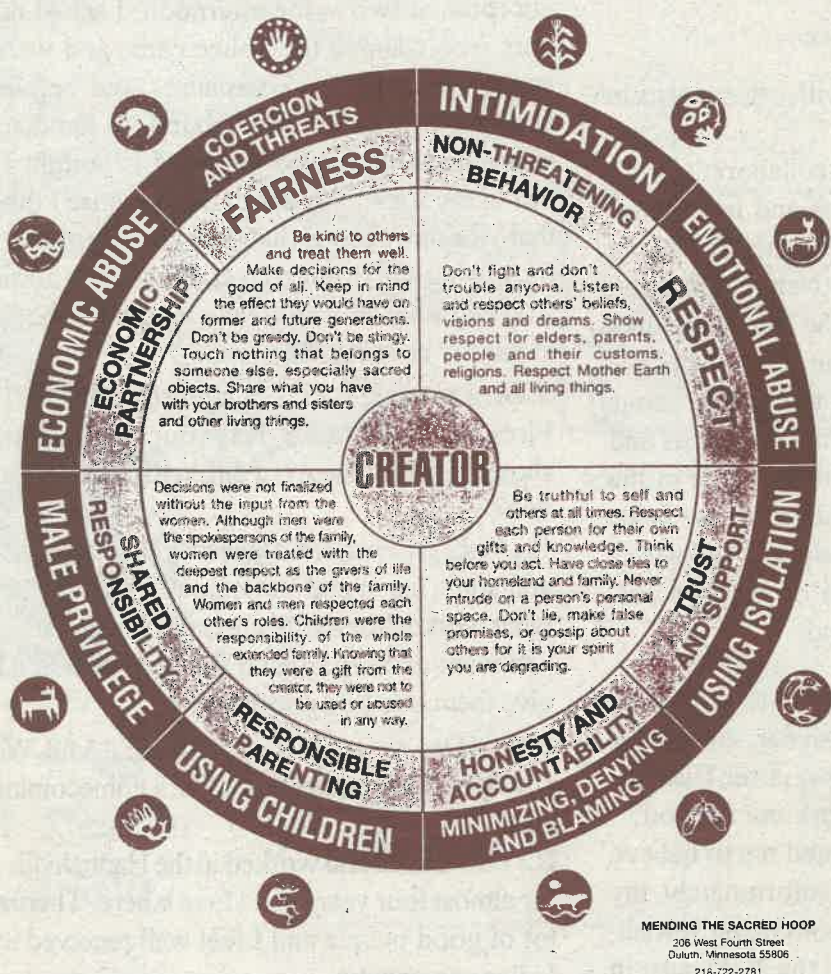
While women in European cultures were often relegated to a "second-class" status, Indian women usually had the right to own property and participate in leadership roles

within their Tribes, some of which were matriarchal in structure.

LaPrairie's research also suggested violence toward children in Indian communities was rare. In one historical account LaPrairie shared with the students, Jesuit priests had suggested removing Indian children from their homes in order to educate them, as their parents would not tolerate any kind of corporal punishment practiced on their children.

While Native Americans traditionally used societal pressure to enforce community standards, the effectiveness of this practice seems to have dimin-

(See HOOP page 15)





InnerView

(Raphael is a singer and songwriter who comes from a family of performing artists. Born in New York City, Raphael first picked up the guitar at age eight. He continued his education at the Guitar Study Center in Manhattan. He began to perform at the Theatre for the New City and the American Indian Community House in New York, where he often collaborated with Pura Fe, lead singer of Ulali. Editor Joe Sowmick interviewed him at the Escanaba 18th Annual Mid-Winter Powwow on Feb. 11.)

Tribal Observer: Raphael, what Tribe are you from?

Raphael: I'm a Kuna and Rappahannock. The Kunas live in the islands off the coast of Panama and the Caribbean. And the Rappahannocks come from Westmoreland County, Va.

T.O.: You recently released a tape with original recordings called "Half-Breed Blues." What's it about?

R: Well, "Half-Breed Blues" is a collaboration of my experiences and beliefs. Ever since I was a small boy, my parents would tell me I come from many cultures and many races and I'm just a human being living on this earth. But I found the people in the world would look at me and look at my name and ask, "What are you?" "Half-Breed Blues" came from the inner struggle and inner conflict I have in being a Native person raised in America. After having been taught a lot of mainstream ideals, I sometimes get the feeling I'm at home nowhere.

T.O.: And we look at the fact that you were born in New York City and grew up in the Big Apple. That must have been an interesting mix with all of the Native people who live there.

R.: Well, New York does have a large Native community and I would often go to the powwows. But also, for a period of time, my parents kept me away from the powwows with my mother's belief that if I didn't hang around powwows, I wouldn't learn to drink with the Indians. I guess I fooled them [laughs].

T.O.: Like many artists, you started getting into music at an early age. Was playing guitar a form of release in your childhood?

R.: It was by design. My parents wanted me to have an instrument, and it was something I picked up willingly. And as a young boy, I often did not have the discipline to practice daily. If I can offer any advice, I would encourage parents to teach their children. If you want to learn how to play an instrument, it's important to practice. Lessons are fine, but the bulk of my learning came from practicing and making mistakes and having to do it over again. I also want to get back to New York a little bit, too. I've found that, as an adult in New York, I'm pretty much a generic-looking person. New York has people from all over the world living there. So, I found a small amount of acceptance. A lot of people accepted who I am, because I'd say the bulk of New Yorkers do not care who you are and where you come from. And New Yorkers hold the attitude, 'We've seen it all; whatever is out there came through New York first, and you can't show us anything new.' So whether you're Indians or guests, diverse people are there from all over the world.



Observer photo/Scott Csernyik

RAPHAEL

T.O.: And do you find that similar to your experiences in the Upper Peninsula where people say, 'Well, this person looks Indian, and this other person ... they don't look Indian,' but in reality they're just as much Indian as the other person?

R.: I didn't notice that in the U.P. quite that much. I've noticed it's a lot more neighborly, a lot smaller population and it's a whole lot less anonymous. I've found that people in this neck of the woods know each other's business, which can be an inconvenience sometimes. In New York, I'm used to doing things anonymously. Here, everybody knows you, and I find myself having to watch my step ... where I go, who I see and what I say. That is different for me.

T.O.: You mentioned you started music at an early age. But you did get some formal schooling in guitar, correct?

R.: Yes, I went to the Guitar Study Center, which was started by musician Paul Simon. There I had group classes and private lessons in guitar and voice technique. I also studied with Audrey Stotler-Poppe, who is an opera singer in New York.

T.O.: Have you collaborated with other artists in the past?

R.: Yes. My favorite person I collaborated with would be Pura Fe of Ulali. She and her friends sing all over the country and Europe. They do a combination of jazz, blues and Native American traditional songs. Right now, she's working on a blues release. And talking about blues, I believe blues originated from some of the Native songs on the southern East Coast in the Carolinas and Virginia. There were often Native people in the 16th and 17th century who would work the fields as slaves along with the African slaves. And working the fields, the combination of the two cultures gave rise to a bluesy sound.

T.O.: And as you talk about "Half-Breed Blues," I see you're of Indian and Jewish descent. Being of three-quarter Indian and one-quarter Irish descent myself, how does that work out for you?

R.: Well, my parents again wanted me to believe I came from different places. Unfortunately, my father did not teach me a lot about being Jewish, other than that he had survived the Holocaust in

World War II. He escaped and ran from the Nazis in Europe. And my mother's experience being Native in her childhood was not always positive. Her father, who was alcoholic, left her with a few memories that she did not want to see me follow. Of course it didn't work out that way. My grandmother, however, had a positive influence on me. My grandmother wanted me to know that I was Indian. She would often give me Indian toys and she would give me books about Indian boys growing up.

T.O.: You talk about the alcoholism in your family's past. Did that influence your life path along those lines?

R.: Absolutely yes. And if I had it to do differently, I probably would not have chosen the life I did choose in my 20s. And I did choose. I believe it set me back a good 10 years in emotional and spiritual purpose, even my standard of living. It's set back a lot of my ideas, a lot of my growth.

T.O.: Do you feel your music fueled the addiction, or did it actually help you come out and come into the light of spirituality and get back to your roots?

R.: Ironically, it was both. When I first started performing, I would often play in bars for \$75 a night plus all I could drink. But I found while drying up and trying to get clean and understanding this thing called spirituality—and I had no clue what that meant—I found that music was spiritual. In my more recent days, the music I've written and the music I've been working on has helped me. And in that sense, it helps me in my recovery. In "Half-Breed Blues," there are a few songs about recovery, which I hope help other Native people.

T.O.: And you look at the song "It Ain't Legal to be Indian." That sounds like a recovery tune in itself.

R.: Well, actually, that particular song is a story about a young man by the name of Joe Medicine who was arrested in Sault Ste. Marie two years ago for just singing and drumming in his own living room at two in the afternoon. I asked neighbors who claimed the police came and were responding to a noise complaint. And before everything was done, they wound up handcuffing him and taking him to jail. And I thought I just had to say something about that because I thought that was outrageous that they could arrest a man for singing and drumming at two in the afternoon. And certainly an Anglo man would not be going to jail for blasting his stereo.

T.O.: I see you work as a counselor for the Three Fires Halfway House. Has your music helped in showing others there is a different path than addiction?

R.: Well, I find myself suggesting that to Indian men and some listen and some don't. All I can offer is what worked for me. Sometimes I find that people just want to be heard and the best medicine I can give them is to be a good listener.

T.O.: Here we are at the 18th annual Mid-Winter powwow. Do you feel this is like a homecoming for you?

R.: I have lived and worked in the Hannahville area for almost four years and I love it here. There are a lot of good people and I feel well received in the Indian community.



Hoop

(Continued from page 13)

ished in today's fragmented communities.

"If you think about what Native people have been through historically—we have been forced to change drastically in a short period of time," LaPrairie noted.

"A lot of our young people and even adults have lost their identity as Tribal people in Tribal communities... There is no harmony, no peace within themselves. Alcohol adds to it," said Tribal Prosecutor Donna Minor Budnick.

"In any community I've been in, whether it was Native American, Hispanic, black or

white, whenever there was domestic violence, alcohol or drugs was involved 90 percent of the time. That's the bottom line," said Tribal Patrolman Joe Chambers, who attended the workshop to give the students insight from the local law enforcement community.

"We need to make some laws to protect people. Sometimes there are children in these situations. They may not be hurt, but they're scared to death," Chambers added.

At the close of the two-day seminar, the Cooley students began "brainstorming" approaches to addressing domestic violence, including ways to assist

victims and provide treatment for batterers.

Lisa Kennedy noted the process may take longer than the students' one-semester class, which ends in April. Working with another group of students may be an option.

Input from the community is also being strongly encouraged. Task force members traveled to Cooley on Feb. 13 to meet with students, and other meetings are likely to take place in the future.

Tribal members interested in taking part in the process are encouraged to contact members of the domestic violence task force for more information.

Classes to take the 'byte' out of computer training

By Judy Whitman
Staff Writer

A cooperative arrangement between the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe and Bay Mills Community College is paying off for Tribal

employees as well as students.

Bay Mills Coordinator Sue Oseland confirmed Tribal Council recently approved the purchase of 11 new Gateway 2000 com-

puters for the college's computer room.

While Bay Mills and Tribal Adult Education students are taking advantage of the new learning opportunities,

(See CLASS page 17)



Observer photo/Judy Whitman
MIS Manager Henry Bouley assists Ojibwe Substance Abuse employees Margaret Grewe and Phyllis Nemetz during the Feb. 7 network training class.

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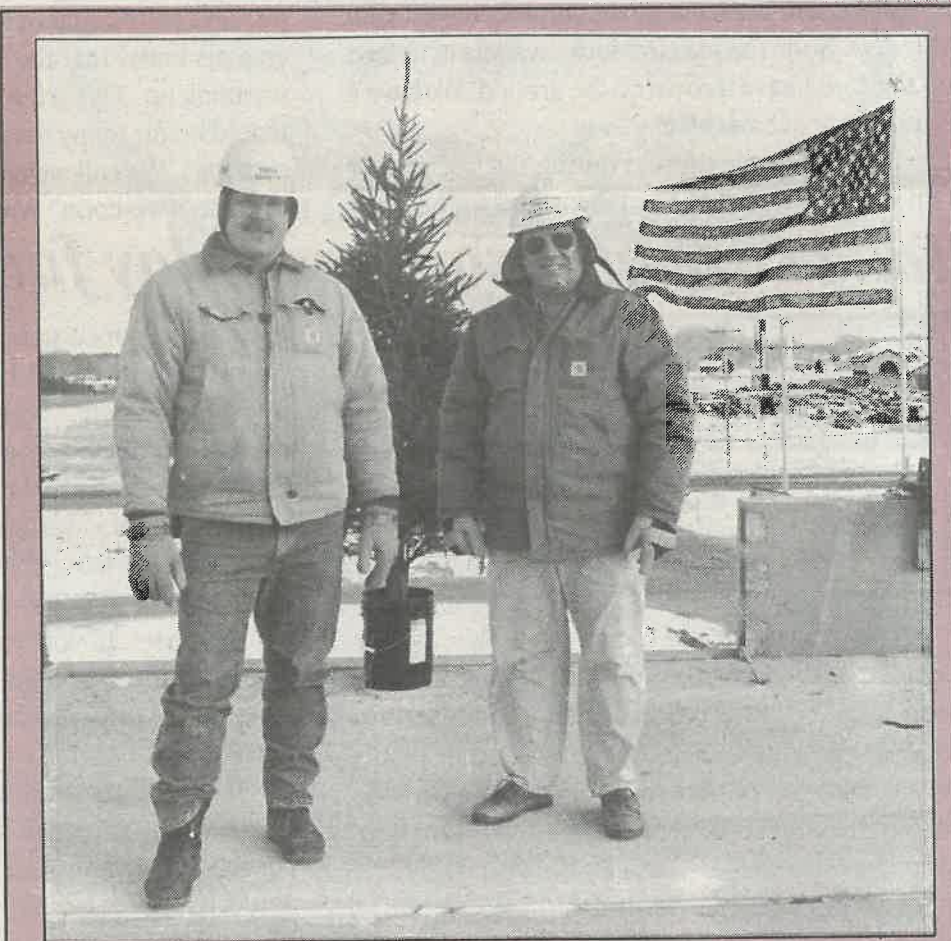
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Observer photo/ Anna Lampi
Tree topping
Safety Coordinator Len Collings, left, and Project Manager Don Kligen stand on top of the Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort's parking deck. Behind them is the pine tree iron workers placed recently for good luck. "It brings you good luck, and the luck is supposed to follow you to the next job," said ironworker Monte Owczarzak.

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Animals know Mother Earth will be warming up soon

By Simon Otto
Contributing Writer

This time of the year it usually warms up for a few days. This occurs most every year, and many people call it the "January Thaw" because it usually comes around the latter part of the month. This year it has come a little bit earlier.

The Great Spirit said this was to happen so certain animals such as skunks would wake up from their winter's nap and venture out to seek a mate. Also, Brother Squirrel and probably many more do the same. It is what the Great Spirit commanded a long time ago so the species of the animal world would continue.

This moderate weather is a boon for those businesses who depend on snow and cold for their livelihoods. The ski resorts have their own machines for making snow, but the temperature has to be at least 32 degrees. The bad part of all this snow is it's hard on the animals.

When the snow is deep, the deer have to eat what they can find. Brother Rabbit has been nibbling our shrubs and on the stray apple tree we have in our yard. He comes during the night and picks up sunflower seeds that have fallen off the bird feeder.

We have three feeders and each one has its own particular visitors. Early in the morning, when it is just getting light, the cardinals are there, usually five or six of them. Then the doves come in, mixed with blue jays. Soon the mallard ducks waddle in to feed off the corn I have thrown on the ground. We have a steady flow of birds all day long.

We used to see turkeys during the last year or two years. There were 13 of them, and we watched

them grow from little ones to big hens and toms. They haven't been around since November, when the hunting season came. I suspect that most of them were taken by hunters or coyotes. With all the heavy snow, they would have had a hard time finding any food. Those who did survive the hunting season probably fell victims to starvation and the severe cold we had in November.

Brother Crow is making his appearance again. I should say more of them are seen now, since they, too, know that spring is on its way. They are getting together to pick out a mate.

"We will welcome spring this year with open arms because 'Pee-boon' Winter made his visit early this year, in the first part of November."

-Simon Otto

Some crows stay here all winter long and live in the swamps where they are protected from the cold winds and the harsh cold. Grandfather used to call them "swamp crows."

These are signs of the coming spring which is only about six weeks away, even though the calendar says the middle of January. The Great Spirit's animals know that the Mother Earth will soon be warming up. This is the way the Great Spirit said it would be for many reasons, and it has been so for centuries. We will welcome spring with open arms, because "Pee-boon" Winter made his visit early this

year, in the first part of November. He'll be leaving soon. Then all life will start to wake up and Mother Earth will have been rested for awhile and the beauty of her spring will start to show all over again.

"Walk in Peace."

Copyright 1996

nightmares flood
my mind
with
ghostly images of floating barges
of garbage

trash blowing across
city streets
and the
stark reality of
hundreds of garbage dumps

evilness rises out
of the black bags filled with
rotting diapers
lifeless refrigerators and
endless mountains of
tires

sadly,
methane gas has depleted our protective ozone
layer

and
Our Mother Earth weeps in
shameful utter disbelief
beneath
hideous oil spills
carbon monoxide filled breath
tears filled with
mercury tainted fish

its time to wake up America,
shake off your self-righteous
consumption

conserve, preserve and recycle
for all our
grandchildren's
grandchildren
yet to be born

Written by Charmaine M. Benz
October 1995

Take care of resources today for tomorrow



If you survived the holiday and have gotten some rest, think about doing something that has long-term meaning: resolve to be a good steward in 1996. What does it mean? Stewardship simply means taking care of resources TODAY with the idea of leaving something behind for future generations.

The principal of stewardship includes recycling, reducing and reusing the resources you consume in daily living, then taking your efforts one step further. In this step beyond comes the awareness and a desire to act on other practices and problems that need to be considered as well.

These are some of the most common ways suggested for streamlining your consumer habits to include the idea of stewardship:

•**Pay attention!** When you are shopping, ask yourself the questions: Does this product provide a one-time use only, and if so, do I need it? Is it reusable, and if I save it will I reuse it or pass it on for reuse? Don't buy a product unless it is durable, reusable, easily repaired, saves money or prevents the need to recycle or dispose. Don't pay for excess packaging and as always, choose a recyclable product if at all possible.

•**Write to your state and local official in support of your environmental concerns and to companies that need suggestions as to how to better**

serve those concerns.

•**Stop junk mail!** Five million tons are delivered to residential households annually. If only 100,000 families put a stop to their junk mail, 150,000 trees would be conserved. Write or call: Mail Preference Service, Direct Marketing Association, P.O. Box 9008, Farmington, NY 11735-9008, or call 212-768-7277.

•**Donate!** If you have unwanted household items or clothing, take them to Goodwill or the Salvation Army—someone may need what you don't want.

•**Extend stewardship to the workplace.** Keep a mug at work and don't use disposable cups. Recycle as much of your office paper and cardboard as possible. Make it a policy to purchase recycled paper products since the quality is now nearly equivalent to virgin products.

These are just a few target areas to work on in 1996. This year, Isabella Recycling, as a joint program of Isabella County and the city of Mt. Pleasant, will be establishing a Household Hazardous Waste Program enabling residents to have access to a safe disposal system for these types of products. The program will likely begin in late summer.

On Earth Day, we will offer free yard waste drop-off, composting demonstrations, and free trees to the first 200 residents visiting the MRF.

As your resource for public information on recycling and solid waste, we encourage you to make suggestions and ask questions you may have. Here at the MRF we can help you **THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY!** Call the hotline, (517) 773-9631.

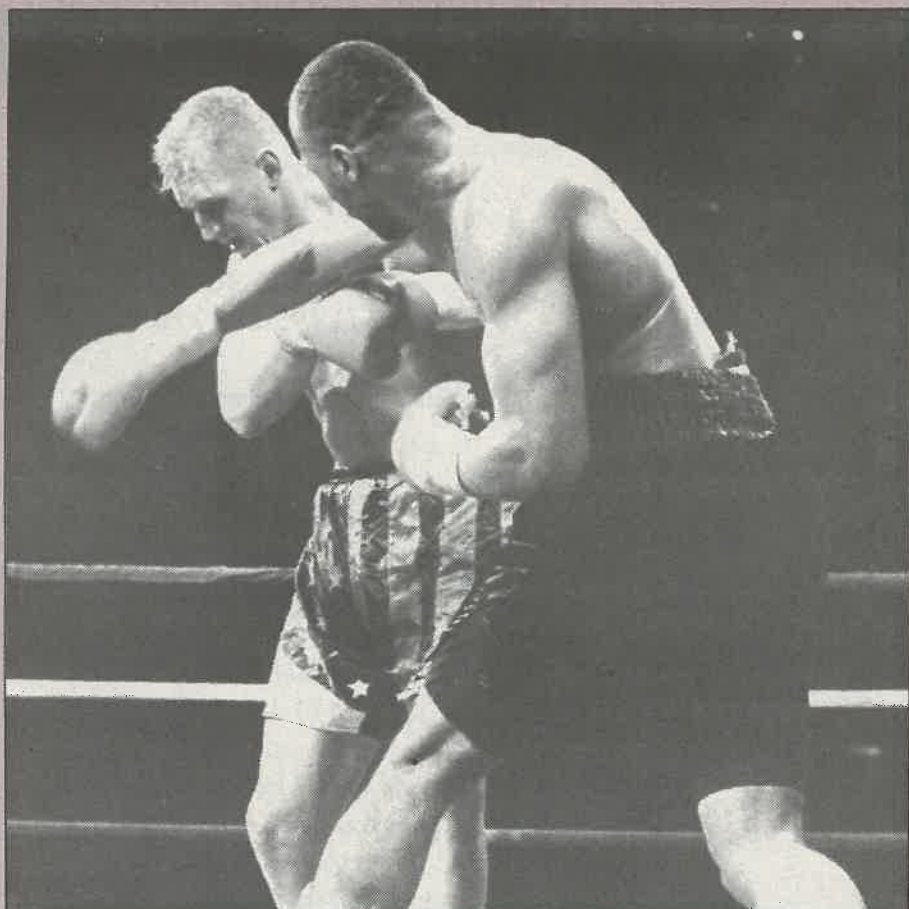
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Observer photos/Scott Csernyik

Punching power

Above, Flint heavyweight Chris Byrd, right, improves his record to 15-0 with a unanimous 10-round decision over Jeff Wooden (11-1) on Jan. 30 during Fight Night at the Palace action. Left, despite taking repeated shots to the head from super-middle weight champion Thomas Tate (30-4), Rocky Gannon (24-4), left, battled back to win a 10-round decision. The event was co-sponsored by the Soaring Eagle Casino.

Radio

(Continued from page 11)

gist Jim Hitpas receives computer updates directly from the National Weather Service. He looks at his role as part of a community service to keep people informed.

"When I get issues

from the local weather office, our radio station gets the news on line as soon as possible," Hitpas explained. "We get a lot of school and business closings and although the weather updates can be quite long, we know we are doing what is in the best interest of the area."

"When emergency

weather is brought through the station, our policy is when anything that is closed or cancelled, we tell people right away then update our list every 30 minutes," said WCFX Program Director Kent Bergstrom.

Bergstrom added that any kind of business operation affecting

Central Michigan residents receives top priority, including Tribal Operations, Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center and Soaring Eagle Casino.

Casino General Manager Josephine Jackson explained Soaring Eagle is a 24-hour operation and if any closings occur, all

personnel are required to report to work.

There has been incidences in the past where operations have closed and reopened within hours. It is the responsibility of all employees to be aware of these procedures and take appropriate actions.



Class

(Continued from page 15)

the computers are also being used to prepare Tribal employees for upcoming advances in technology.

MIS Manager Henry Boulley said many departments—including accounting, grant writing, personnel, the Ziibiwing Cultural So-

ciety and the Gaming Commission offices at Pickard Square—have already been networked.

"We're hoping to have all departments in the Tribal Operations building networked by the end of 1996," said Boulley.

"The advantages of networking include the ability to share resources, such as print-

ers, more effectively, as well as capabilities like file transferring and E-mail," he added.

Some departments may even be "surfing the Net" as early as April, pending approval of the Internet connection by Tribal Council, which is expected in March.

Boulley views the new computer room as a real asset in prepar-

ing employees for these changes.

"It gives us a training room where we can have staff working on the same computers and software that are used at Tribal Operations. That's something we've never had before," he said.

Following is the schedule for March training sessions conducted by the MIS

Department. Tribal employees interested in registering for any classes should contact their program directors. All classes will take place in the BMCC Computer Lab.

•"Intro to Word-Perfect 6.1," March 6 from 8:30 to 10:30

a.m. or 3 to 5 p.m.

•"Intro to Windows 3.11," March 13 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. or 3 to 5 p.m.

•"Intro to the Network," March 20 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. or 3 to 5 p.m.

•"Intro to Quattro Pro 6.0," March 27 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. or 3 to 5 p.m.

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Urban Groups and Organizations**

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P.O. Box 7005
3239 Christy Way
Saginaw, MI 48603
(517) 792-4610
(517) 792-0899 Fax

Michigan Urban Indian Consortium
1235 Center Street
Lansing, MI 48933
(517) 333-6550

**Lansing North American Indian Center/
Michigan Indian Benefit Association**
1235 N. Center Street
Lansing, MI 48906
(517) 487-5409

Grand Rapids Inter-Tribal Council
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Location: Soaring Eagle Gaming

Wage: Negotiable

Supervisor: Casino Administration Manager

Qualifications: Must be at least 18 years of age and have two (2) years of direct experience in supervising an administrative department in a casino, hotel, or restaurant preferred. Excellent customer service, organizational and management skills a must. Two-year college degree preferred.

Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws.

Posting Date: Feb. 7
Closing Date: Feb. 20

See Personnel Dept. posting for details of position duties and responsibilities.

Apply to:
Soaring Eagle Gaming Staffing Department
P.O. Box 369
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804

COAT CLERK ATTENDANT

Location: Soaring Eagle Gaming
Wage: \$5.50 per hour
40 hours per week

Supervisor: Casino Administrative Supervisor

Qualifications: Must be at least 18 years of age. Experience working with general public preferred. Must be able to stand for long periods of time, have good customer service skills. Must be able to lift/move up to 10 pounds.

Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws.

Posting Date: Feb. 6
Closing Date: Feb. 19

See Personnel Dept. posting for details of position duties and responsibilities.

Apply to:

Soaring Eagle Gaming Staffing Department
P.O. Box 369
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804

Cultural Center Planner

Ziibiwing Cultural Society (Contractual)

Location: Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, Isabella Indian Reservation

Wage: \$25,000-28,000 per year

Supervisor: Director, Ziibiwing Cultural Society

Posting date: Feb. 8 (open until filled)

Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws

Qualifications: Bachelors degree preferred; education may be waived in lieu of experience. Must have a keen understanding and respect for Anishinabe culture; must be highly organized with experience in creating new programs, planning processes and management experience, belief in the philosophy of the program, cultural preservation from the Anishinabe perspective.

See Personnel Dept. posting for details of position duties and responsibilities.

Apply to:
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan
7070 East Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH TUTOR

Location: Tribal Education Department, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

Wage: \$6.00 per hour

Supervisor: Student/Parent Advocates, Grades 7-12

Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent; prefer some college. Strong background in mathematics and science helpful. Experience working with Native American Students. Must have a valid Michigan Driver's license.

Preference: In accordance with Indian Pref-

erence Laws.

Posting Date: Feb. 7
Closing Date: Feb. 21

See Personnel Dept. posting for details of position duties and responsibilities.

Apply to:
Tribal Personnel Office

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan
7070 E. Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

SECURITY GUARD (Pool)

Location: Soaring Eagle Gaming

Wage: \$6.00 per hour

Supervisor: Director of Security

Qualifications: Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must be a mature, responsible adult at least 20 years of age in good physical condition. Must provide proof of valid Michigan Drivers License

Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws.

Posting Date: Feb. 7
Closing Date: Feb. 20

See Personnel Dept. posting for details of position duties and responsibilities.

Apply To:
Soaring Eagle Gaming Staffing Department
P.O. Box 369
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804

Supervisor Check Cashing

Location: Soaring Eagle Gaming

Wage: \$9.00 per hour

Supervisor: Gamecash VP of Operations

Qualifications: Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have previous Management experience. Must be able to operate a computer and have some experience with Windows. Must have excellent customer skills.

Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws.

Posting Date: Feb. 6
Closing Date: Feb. 16

See Personnel Dept. posting for details of position duties and responsibilities.

Apply to:
Soaring Eagle Gaming Staffing Department
P.O. Box 369
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804

Teller Positions

Full and Part Time

Location: Soaring Eagle Gaming

Wage: \$7.00

Supervisor: Gamecash Supervisor

Qualifications: Must be at least 18 years of age. Some cashier experience preferred. Must be able to handle the public in a professional manner. Must be able to handle large amounts of cash, operate a computer and calculator.

Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws.

Posting Date: Feb. 6
Closing Date: Feb. 19

See Personnel Dept. posting for details of position duties and responsibilities.

Apply to:
Soaring Eagle Gaming Staffing Department
P.O. Box 369
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804

VALET PARKING ATTENDANT

Wage: \$5.16 per hour

Location: Soaring Eagle Gaming

Supervisor: Casino Administration Supervisor

Qualifications: Must be at least 18 years of age; must have a valid drivers license and a safe driving record. Past customer service experience preferred. Must have the physical ability to work in outside weather conditions and do frequent running.

Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws.

See Personnel Dept. posting for details of position duties and responsibilities.

Apply to:
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P.O. Box 369
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Security
Qualifications: Must be a mature, responsible adult at least 20 years of age in good physical condition with no history of illness. Must pass a physical examination including back x-rays. Must provide proof of valid Michigan Drivers License, have a clear record with no criminal convictions.

Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws.

Posting Date: Feb. 7
Closing Date: Feb. 20

See Personnel Dept. posting for details of position duties and responsibilities.

Apply to:
Soaring Eagle Gaming Staffing Department
P.O. Box 369
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804

Maintenance Director of the Facilities

Location: Soaring Eagle Gaming

Wage: Negotiable

Supervisor: General Manager

Qualifications: Four-year degree in Mechanical Engineering or related field. Engineer design experience or 10 years experience as a facilities manager of a large complex. Mechanically and electrically inclined. Valid driver's license, strong communication, leadership and motivational skills. Thorough working knowledge of computers a must. Applicant will be on call 24 hours, seven days a week, including holidays.

Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws

Posting date: Feb. 8 (open until filled)

See Personnel Dept. posting for details of position duties and responsibilities.

Apply to:
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P.O. Box 369
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804

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See Personnel Dept. posting for details of position duties and responsibilities.

Apply to:
Soaring Eagle Gaming Staffing Department
P.O. Box 369
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804

Wage: \$6.00 per hour
Supervisor: Casino Finance Shift Supervisor
Qualifications: Must be at least 18 years of age, able to handle money accurately and work well with the public.

Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws

Posting date: Feb. 9
Closing date: Feb. 22

See Personnel Dept. posting for details of position duties and responsibilities.

Apply to:
Soaring Eagle Gaming Staffing Department
P.O. Box 369
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804

Secretary

Location: Soaring Eagle Gaming

Wage: \$7.00 per hour

Supervisor: Assistant General Manager

Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws

Posting date: Feb. 9
Closing date: Feb. 22

See Personnel Dept. posting for details of position duties and responsibilities.

Apply to:
Soaring Eagle Gaming Staffing Department
P.O. Box 369
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804

Coin Exchange Worker

Location: Soaring Eagle Gaming

Wage: \$6.49 per hour

Supervisor: Slot Supervisor

Qualifications: Must be at least 18 years of age, able to handle money accurately and work well with the public.

Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws

Posting date: Feb. 9
Closing date: Feb. 22

See Personnel Dept. posting for details of position duties and responsibilities.

Apply to:
Soaring Eagle Gaming Staffing Department
P.O. Box 369
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804

See Personnel Dept. posting for details of position duties and responsibilities.

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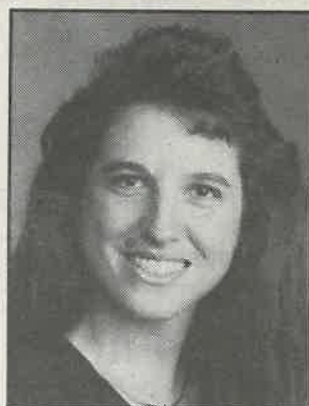
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1992 CHEVY EXTENDED CAB SILVERADO V-8, Auto., Air, Cruise, Tilt, Stereo Cassette, #SU345.....	\$14,248
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