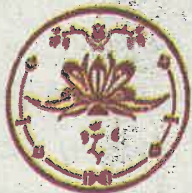


tribal observer



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JANUARY 1, 1996 VOLUME 7 ISSUE 1

MNIDO GIIZIS (Ojibwe) Spirit Moon

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

Expansion tops Tribal news in 1995

(Editor's Note: The Tribal membership has experienced a landmark year in the history of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

Many decisions have been made by the Tribal Council over the last year that will impact our Nation for generations to come.

The Tribal Observer staff appreciates Council support and has welcomed the challenge to report news on a semi-monthly basis.

Selecting 10 news stories from 1995 and ranking them on their impact was a difficult task. We hope through providing this retrospective of our recent past, we can look forward to the New Year and the many changes the Tribe will face.)

1 There's little doubt the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan's multimillion-dollar gaming resort is the biggest news for not just Mt. Pleasant, but all of mid-Michigan.

An official ground breaking for the complex, which will feature a hotel, convention center and three restaurants, took place at the Leaton Road site on Sept. 8.

"It is a proud day for our people," then-Chief Gail Jackson stated. "We should all feel good about being able to build Soaring Eagle Resort and know that we did it by working together."

The resort's theme reflects northern Michigan, taking a sophisticated rustic approach by integrating the natural riverstone, local wood and landscaping of pine trees to create a feeling a elegant comfort.

With a combined square footage of 205,000 square feet, the Soaring Eagle Casino and Bingo

TOP 10 NEWS STORIES FOR 1995

1. Tribe Breaks Ground
2. New Council Sworn In
3. Elders Payments
4. Per Capita Plan Goes Monthly
5. Career Expo
6. Tuition Waiver Issue
7. Little Elk's Retreat
8. 10 Percent Contributions
9. Shell Station Opens
10. Indian Family Olympics

Hall is expected to be one of the largest in the United States. The casino and bingo hall consists of 2,500 cabaret-style seats and a performance hall. There will be 103,000 square feet of gaming floor with 3,500 slot machines, expanded table games and live keno.

What's in store for the new
Soaring Eagle Casino
and Resort?
See pages 10 and 11
to find out!

2 Incumbent Tribal Councilman Phillip Peters Sr. was elected Chief by fellow Council members on Dec. 5 in the closest race ever for
(See NEWS page 2)

"I think we elected some people that we can work with and I know many of the Council members know what's going on. I think we can make a good transition between the old and the new."

-Chief Phil Peters

Council warning on dual enrollment

By Joe Sowmick
Editor

With many examples of progress made over the last few years, it would appear unthinkable that someone would want to relinquish their membership to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Think again.

On Dec. 20, the Flint Journal published a story detailing the efforts of Tribal member Ron Douglas and his hopes to gain federal recognition for the Swan Creek Black River Band of Ojibwa Indians.

A similar effort took place Jan. 4, 1994, when Tribal member Gerry Gould mailed a letter to Saginaw Chippewa members urging them to join the Swan Creek Black River Confederated Ojibwa Tribes of Michigan, Inc., a nonprofit corporation under Michigan law.

The Tribal Council advises all Tribal members that the Swan Creek Black River organization is neither associated with nor sanctioned by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

"It's been a good year for the Tribe and I can't see why anyone would want to give up their membership," said Tribal Chief Phillip Peters Sr. "The Tribal Council has always tried to help our members and it's sad that something like this is going on. It's like we're fighting with ourselves again".

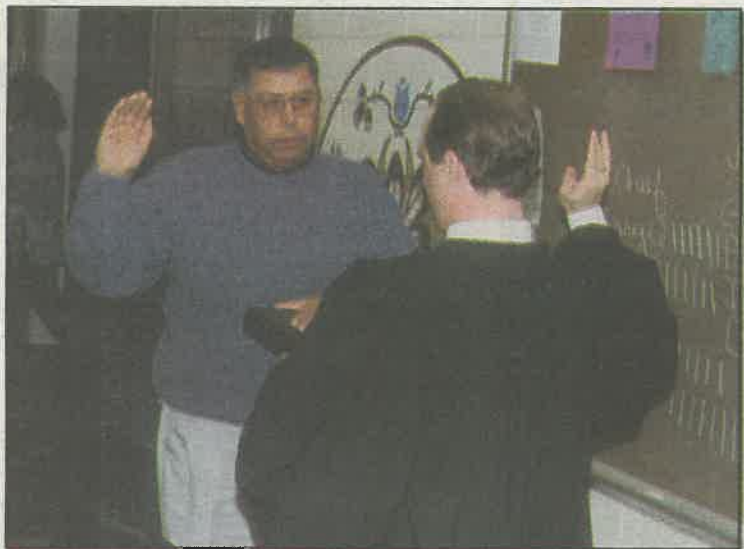
One should be aware that dual Tribal membership is prohibited under Article III, Section 2 of the Tribal Constitution. As a courtesy to our Tribal members, The Tribal Observer has reprinted the Constitution on pages 17 and 18 of this issue.

The Tribal Council has informed legislators in Lansing and Washington as well as each federally recognized Tribe in Michigan that the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe is the modern-day successor of the Saginaw, Swan Creek and Black River Bands of Chippewas.

Each band signed the treaties of 1855 and 1864 which established a Reservation in Isabella County
(See WARNING page 9)

Observer Index

Health.....	page 6
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At-Large.....	page 8
Bay Mills schedule.....	page 9
Baby Celebration.....	page 15
Tribal Constitution....	pages 17 and 18
Employment.....	page 19



Observer photo/Scott Csernyik

Taking oath

Tribal Chief Phillip Peters Sr. is sworn in Dec. 5 by Chief Judge Douglas B. Gurski.



News

(Continued from page 1)

the position. Other members of the Executive Council include Sub-Chief Gary Quigno, Treasurer John Hart Sr. and Secretary Jeanette Leaureaux.

Tribal Council for 1996-97 also consists of Sergeant-At-Arms Tim Davis, Chaplain Delmar Jackson Sr., At-Large Representative Ron Jackson, Saganing Representative Arlene Molina, Rose Wassegijig, Shelly Foster, Julius Peters and Brenda Chamberlain.

"I think we elected some people that we can work with, and I know many of the Council members know what's going on," stated Chief Peters. "I think we can make a good transition between the old and the new."

An unprecedented 58.4 percent (286 out of 489 District One registered voters) came to the polls for the Nov. 7 general election.

3

An Elders Payment Plan, established at a Dec. 6, 1994 Tribal Council meeting, was first reported to the membership on Feb. 15. The plan was implemented because of life expectancy and health concerns. Consequently, Council lowered the Tribal Elder age to 40 years.

These actions pertain exclusively to Tribal Elders Payments, which are allocated in addition to the monthly Per Capita distribution. The annual Elder Payments are to be paid per decade. For example, those who are 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90 and 100 years of age will be paid these respective years of age.

For consistency, the Tribe also established a Burial Program that will provide up to \$3,000 in assistance for the unforeseeable event of death.

4

As of Oct. 1, the Tribe's Per Capita Plan switched from a quarterly to a monthly basis. Ever since the first Per Capita check was issued in the form of a November, 1993 distribution, Tribal members have seen a steady increase in the revenues generated by the gaming operation.

The change does not affect the responsibility of Tribal members to make sure their information is updated with Tribal Enrollment.



Observer photo/Scott Csornyik
The Career Expo is annual event sponsored by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe to address the educational and cultural needs of Michigan's Native youth. Career Expo '96 takes place Feb. 16 at the Mt. Pleasant Holiday Inn.

5

Over 250 Native youth attended Career Expo '95 on Feb. 17. Coordinated by the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Education Department and the Seventh Generation Program, the six-hour event combined education and tradition.

"Education and tradition go hand-in-hand when it comes to preparing Native youth for the future," stated Higher Education Coordinator Ben Hinmon. "The past must play an important role for what we do in the future."

Representatives from 17 colleges and universities were on hand to answer questions and guide Native students on their path to higher education. Various workshops were also conducted on topics ranging from financial aid to the Saginaw Chippewa Leadership Program.

6

The Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver narrowly escaped elimination. Gov. John Engler initially cut funding for the \$3 million program serving about 2,700 Native American college students. Following widespread protests, including a March 8 rally at the State Capitol that drew over 1,000 participants, funding for the program

"Education and tradition go hand-in-hand when it comes to preparing Native youth for the future. The past must play an important role for what we do in the future."

-Ben Hinmon

was reinstated by a House higher education subcommittee. Engler later approved an education budget including the waiver, while making it clear he plans to eliminate the program in 1996. Although Tribal officials are continuing to negotiate to preserve the waiver, its future remains uncertain.



Observer photo/Judy Whitman
Over 1,000 people attended a March 8 rally in Lansing to support continued funding of the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver.

(See NEWS page 4)

**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).



Attention Artists:

Artwork is currently being sought, either donated or for purchase, to display in the Soaring Eagle Resort.

Items for consideration include sculptures, beadwork, paintings, baskets, drawings and stained glass. Registered Tribal members will be given priority when it comes to the selection process.

Contact Sub-Chief Gary Quigno at (517) 772-5700, extension 221 for more information.

For consideration, please submit a photograph of the work to Sub-Chief Quigno's attention at Tribal Operations, 7070 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.

Boozhu! Welcome to the Jan. 1st 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.



FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES IN MICHIGAN

(As of Dec. 13, 1995)

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Bay Mills Indian Community
Enrollment, Diane Carrick
(906) 248-3241
FAX: (906) 248-3283

Jeff Parker, President
Route 1, Box 313
Brimley, MI 49715

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
Main Office Phone: (906) 635-6050
Registrar, Linda Smith (906) 632-5223
Enrollment FAX: (906) 632-5202

Bernard Bouschor, Chairperson
523 Ashmun Street
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Tribal Clerk, Lorna Kahgegab-Call
1-800-225-8172 (Michigan)
Enrollment FAX: (517) 775-3346
(517) 772-5700 FAX: (517) 772-3508

Phillip G. Peters Sr., Chief
7070 E. Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
Enrollment: (906) 353-6623
FAX: (906) 353-7540

Fred Dakota, President
Keweenaw Bay Tribal Center
Route 1, Box 284-A
Baraga, MI 49908

Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior
Chippewa Indians
Enrollment: Helen Smith
(906) 358-4577
FAX: (906) 358-4785

John McGeshick, Chairperson
P.O. Box 249 - Chote Road
Watersmeet, MI 49969

OTTAWA/CHIPPEWA TRIBE:

Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa/Chippewa
Enrollment: Gail Manzano
(616) 271-3538

Joseph Raphael, Chairperson
2605 N.W. Bayshore Drive
Suttons Bay, MI 49969

OTTAWA TRIBES:

Little Traverse Band of Odawa Indians
Enrollment: Julie Skippergosh
(616) 348-3410
FAX: (616) 348-2589

*Frank Ettawageshik,
P.O. Box 246/1345 U.S. 31 No.
Petoskey, MI 49770

(See TRIBES page 14)



Observer photo/Judy Whitman

Peters honored

Helen Peters, second from right, retired Dec. 15 following 23 years of service with various Tribal departments. She most recently worked as an accounting/payroll assistant with Soaring Eagle Gaming. Tribal Councilwoman Brenda Chamberlain presented Helen with a plaque of appreciation during a retirement luncheon held in her honor. Many co-workers and her family members, above from left, Theresa Jackson, Darryl Jackson, Lance Peters and Julius Peters were also on hand to share Helen's special day.

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Tribal Matters

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 Jeanette Leauteaux
 Timothy Davis
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 Shelly Foster
 Brenda Chamberlain

News

(Continued from page 2)

7 The 11th Annual Little Elk's Retreat was a time to celebrate Native traditions while also remembering one of the Tribe's most respected cultural leaders.

The event, which took place Aug. 5 and 6 at the Saginaw Chippewa Campgrounds, honors the late Eli Thomas, also known as the ceremonial Chief Little Elk.

Thomas, who carried with him a vast knowledge of traditional religion and medicine practices, died at age 92 shortly after attending the Tribal powwow in 1990.

"Even though he's gone, his spirit is still there," said his granddaughter Barb "Little Fawn" Sprague. "I know my grandfather is proud of the way we've been keeping the powwow tradition alive."

8 About \$17 million was distributed to state and local governments during 1995 as part of the Tribe's 10 percent distribution of semi-annual payments.

Pursuant to an August of 1993 legal settlement with the state, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe agreed to donate 8 percent of Class III gaming



Observer photo/Bryan Bosch
 Native American tradition flourishes at the 11th Annual Little Elk's Retreat on Aug. 5.

revenues (slot machines) to the state and 2 percent to the local municipalities.

Payments to the local governments are made a semi-annual basis to assist with the cost of gov-
 (See NEWS page 9)

Ziibiwing to meet

The next regular meeting of the Ziibiwing Cultural Society is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 8 at the Sowmick Senior Center. The ZCS Executive Board Structure and the Ziibiwing building name will be some of the items discussed.

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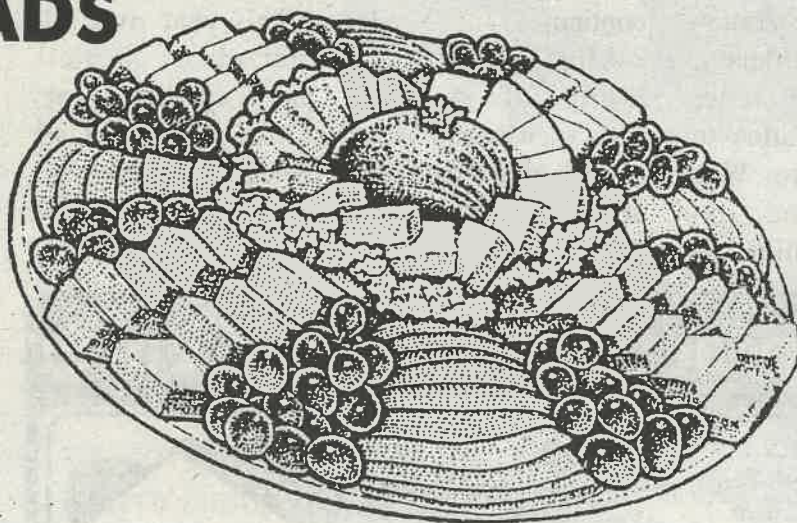
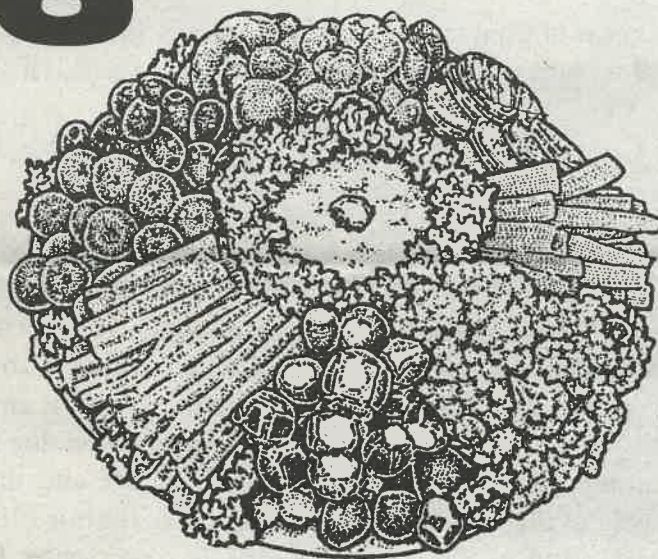
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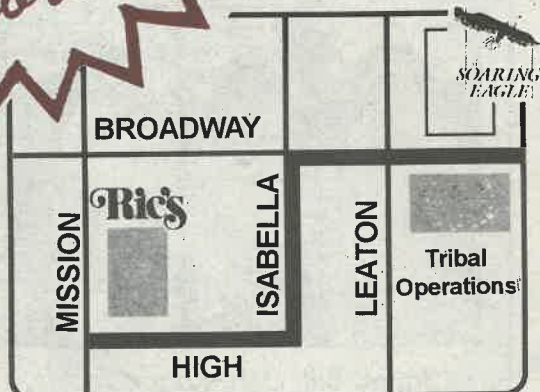
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Health

Diabetics need to remember proper foot care in winter

Proper foot care is important for diabetics, especially in winter. Diabetics who have poor circulation are at additional risk for experiencing problems with their feet during the winter months.

Diabetics, whether they are diet-controlled, taking pills or insulin-dependent, must be aware of weather conditions. Cold causes further constriction of blood vessels which are already affected by diabetes.

Nimkee Diabetes Coordinator Lois Pelcher offers the following suggestions for keeping your feet healthy:

- Use thermal socks and glove liners to keep your hands and feet warm. Multiple-layered clothing also helps retain heat.
- Wear heavier socks such as wool and cotton blends.
- Do not wear wrist bands, garters, tight socks or shoes.
- If your socks get wet, change them as soon as possible.
- As you come in from the cold, change your footwear and wrap your feet in a warm towel.

• If you notice any red marks on your toes or feet that do not go away or that change to darkened areas, see your podiatrist.

If you are diabetic or have poor circulation, do not put your feet by a fireplace or furnace or soak them feet in hot water.

Besides cold temperatures, another danger to diabetics in winter is the dryness in the air often caused by gas forced-air heat.

Diabetics often suffer from excessive drying of the skin caused by a dysfunction of the nervous system. Dry skin is unhealthy and may lead to cracking such as heel fissures which can become infected.

To avoid winter skin dryness, apply a lotion or cream that does not contain alcohol, preferably a Vitamin E lotion, to your feet two times a day. Do not put apply lotion between your toes. Also, avoid soaking your feet as that may make them drier.

Diabetics with questions regarding proper foot care are always welcome to call the Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center at (517) 772-1578.

Runners don't distance themselves from Tribe's annual healthy activity

The fourth year of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Human Race took place in 1995.

Its beginning was with the people of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Indian Reservation near Maretta, Kan.

Seventh Generation Program Coordinator Beaver Pelcher brought this idea to Fitness Director Walt Kennedy and explained to him the

intent of this race. The idea was to promote a healthy activity open to the public, and to share with non-Indians a little of our culture.

At the beginning of the run, the race is started with an Honor Song, and as runners come in, the drumming continues.

After the entire group of runners finish, awards are given and food is served. A nice t-shirt is also given to all partici-

pants.

A guest speaker talks about Native American culture, respecting all forms of life and the need for taking care of ourselves. Each year, a tree has been planted in respect of Mother Earth.

This year over 50 individuals participated in this event. Tribal members Carl Pelcher and Leo Pego took part in the Five Mile Run with Tribal

employees Christine Swanick, Tom George and Walt Kennedy.

Two Mile Fun Run participants included Norma Jean Rapp, Wayne Jackson, Steve Jackson and Faith Montoya.

Several individuals volunteered their services to help make this event a success. Their efforts are greatly appreciated!

Special thanks goes to the sponsors of the

(See RUN page 16)

Knowing about Nimkee



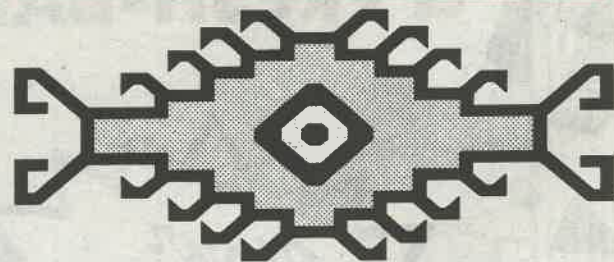
Name: Shawn Pelcher

Position: Medical/Pharmacy Posting Clerk, DME Biller

Shawn has been working for the Tribe for almost five years. Her job duties include posting each day's business and billing Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Medicare and Medicaid. She also does postings on everyone seen in the clinic on a daily basis and keeps track of the cost of prescriptions and how much will be reimbursed by insurance companies.

Shawn joined the billing department in September 1994 after serving as Nimkee's dental receptionist. She previously worked part-time for the gaming operation in 1991-1992. "I enjoy my job because it keeps me busy," she says.

Shawn's hobbies include bowling and shopping. She is currently engaged to be married, and has a three-year-old daughter, Justene Marie Pelcher-Sawmick, who attends the Isabella Reservation's Parent Child Center.



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New teacher makes the grade at Tribal Academy

By Anna Lampi
Staff Writer

Her goal as a teacher is to try to help young people become as successful as they can be in life.

New Tribal alternative education teacher Ginny Haight, who joined the Saginaw Chippewa Academy on Nov. 13, says she has always been attracted to teaching in a non-traditional setting.

A Central Michigan University graduate with a degree in secondary education, she previously served as an adult education teacher for the Fulton school district and worked in a Harrison summer youth alternative program.

"I like working with young people... You get a different view of life through each

student's eyes," she says.

Her favorite subject is life skills, which gives students practical experience in areas like budgeting their money and interviewing for jobs.

Haight feels the Tribe's alternative program seeks to give students an education that is relevant to what going on in their lives.

"They're ready to just take off and go. They only need support, encouragement and direction."

and direction," she says.

The Tribe's alternative program divides its school year into three-week marking periods, making it easier for students to set—and reach—goals.

"It makes school more encouraging," Haight notes.

Max Wolf, who has taught in the Tribe's

see students live up to their potential and begin to view themselves as capable people.

"They all have a certain talent. There's a lot of potential in these kids," Wolf says. "A

lot of them are realizing there's a good future for them."



Observer photo/Scott Csernyik

Project wrap up

Saginaw Chippewa Academy student Sue Judson, right, wraps presents for children at the Tribe's Parent Child Center with Teacher Ginny Haight. The students from the alternative education school collected \$110 in pop cans to purchase the gifts, which were distributed Dec. 15 and 18.

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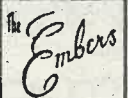

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Harrisville, MI 48740
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Amy F. Alberts
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Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
In-State Direct Line
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Elders events planned

During its Dec. 20 meeting, the At-Large Cultural Planning Committee tentatively scheduled the following events for Elders during 1996.

February: Trip to Toronto, Canada.

April: Trip to Washington D.C., including visits to the Smithsonian and Arlington Cemetery.

May: Elders' retreat in the Higgins Lake area, focusing on hands-on activities such as wood carving, basket weaving and quillwork. A sweat, pipe ceremony and Talking Circle are planned.

June: "Mystery trip."

August: Crow Fair, Montana.

September: Grandparents' celebration.

December: Trip to Detroit including dinner and a performance at the Fox Theater.

Watch for details of these and other events in future editions of the Tribal Observer and upcoming mailings

Representative sought

The At-Large Benefits Committee is currently seeking a Region 2 representative. Members interested in serving in this capacity should submit a letter of interest by Jan. 12 to the At-Large Program, 7070 East Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.

People interested in the position should also plan to attend the Jan. 21 Region 2 gathering in the Grand Rapids area to meet other members and share information about themselves.

Members who would like more information about the duties and responsibilities of the committee are welcome to contact any current committee member, At-Large District Tribal Council member Ron Jackson, or At-Large Advocate Amy F. Alberts.

Locations announced for community gatherings

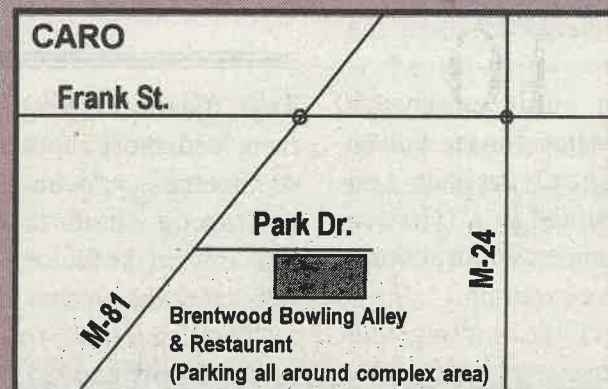
First quarter Community Gatherings for At-Large members will take place as follows:

Region 1 - Jan. 20 from 1-5 p.m. at the Electrical Trades Building, 1300 West Thomas Street, Bay City.

Region 2 - Jan. 21 at 1 p.m. at Pot Bellies Diner, 50 Broadway Street, Muskegon. (Directions: Take west I-96 to Getty Street exit; go north on Getty, then west on Broadway.)


Region 3 - Jan. 27 at 1 p.m. at North American Indian Association of Detroit, Inc., 22720 Plymouth Road, Detroit.

Region 4 - Jan. 28 at 1 p.m. at the Brentwood Bowling Alley and Restaurant, 178 Park Drive, Caro.



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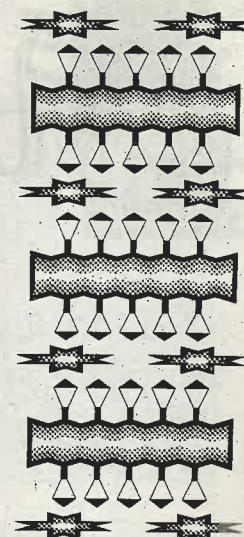


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News

(Continued from page 4)

ernmental services to the community and to offset costs associated with the impact of Tribal casinos on local governments.

The 8 percent contribution to the state for 1995 was about \$13.6 million, while 2 percent donations totalled around \$3.3 million.

The next semi-annual distribution is slated for May 31.

9 The Sagamok Shell Station, which opened its doors Oct. 16, held its official grand opening on Nov. 3. Located at the corner of Leaton and Broadway roads, the store took its name from an Ojibwe word suggesting the meaning of a meeting point.

The business venture is between the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and the Blodgett Oil Co.

10 Over 50 Nations were represented at the Eighth Annual Indian Family Olympics, which took place June 26 at Community Memorial Stadium. The event, sponsored by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, Seventh Generation Program and Kellogg Foundation, drew over 500 participants.

"This event sends a strong positive message of unity, fitness and wellness to the Michigan Indian family," stated participant and Wisconsin Ojibwe Thurman Bear. "It's nice to take home a gold medal, but for us the real reward is a matter of getting up here and taking part in the games."



Observer photo/Judy Whitman

Christmas around the world

Saginaw Chippewa Academy students of all ages celebrated "Christmas around the world" in their Dec. 20 pageant. Above, students depict the Yuletide customs of France while singing a Christmas carol from the region.

Warning

(Continued from page 1)

for those groups of Indians and their descendants.

The composite Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan was reorganized in 1937 under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 and is a federally recognized Tribe with a government-to-government relationship with the United States.

Tribal members are eligible for programs and services offered by the federal government as a result of their Indian status.

Douglas, who has been on contract as Tribal attorney, claims the Tribal government is not responsive to the needs of those members who live off the Reservation.

Citing the Flint Journal, Douglas hopes to meet with the Tribal Council. He mentioned there are 250 to 600 potential members of the Swan Creek Black River Band who are currently enrolled with the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe.

Tribal Clerk Lorna Kahgegab Call confirmed an enrolled Tribal member has never called her office and asked to be disenrolled. She did, however, state there would be a significant impact in the Tribal rolls if 250 to 600 members leave the current 2,674 membership.

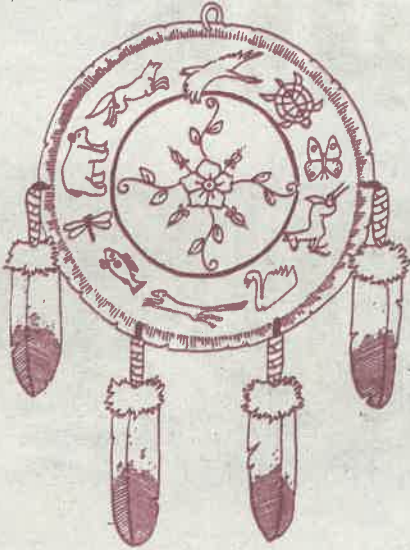
The first immediate impact would be the monthly per-capita program.

"It's a hard job getting the checks out on a monthly

basis," said Per Capita Accountant Rosanne Robinson. "The rewarding part of the job is that Tribal members are grateful for the program. I have never had anyone wanting to give their check back to the Tribe."

Former Tribal Chief Gail Jackson sent correspondence to Sen. Carl Levin on Aug. 24 which states that any federal recognition of Swan Creek Black River is in effect the recognition of a dissident voting coalition of enrolled members of a federally recognized Tribe as a separate Indian Tribe.

"We're a stronger Tribe when we are working together," explained Sub-Chief Gary Quigno. "But if enrolled Tribal members want to leave to support an unrecognized Tribe, they can do so."



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Schedule of Classes - Winter Semester 1996

Jan. 8 - May 10

COURSE #	COURSE NAME	DAY	TIME	CREDITS	INSTRUCTOR
AC 101	Accounting I	Tue/Thu	4 - 6 p.m.	4	Fitzpatrick, N.
AE 109	Fundamentals of Algebra	Mon/Wed	10 a.m. - 12 p.m.	4	Recker, L.
BU 113	Intro to Business	Mon/Wed	4 - 5:30 p.m.	3	Fitzpatrick, C.
CS 112	Intro to Computers	Tue/Thu	1 - 3 p.m.	4	Gillis, L.
CS 112	Intro to Computers	Tue/Thu	4 - 6 p.m.	4	Gillis, L.
CS 214	Systems Development	Mon	4 - 6 p.m.	2	Staff
CS 288	Computer Independent Study(CS-124;CS-145;CS-209;CS-215)				
	(Individual studies in any of the above courses)				
ED 101/151	Study Skills/Library Resources	Friday	12 - 4 p.m.	3-4	Fitzpatrick, N.
EL 101	Fundamentals of Electronics I	Friday	10 a.m. - 12 p.m.	2	Oseland, S.
	(Pre-requisite: MA 101)	Tue/Thu	1 - 3:30 p.m.	4	Brewer, Al
EL 102	Fundamentals of Electronics II	Mon/Wed	1 - 3:30 p.m.	4	Brewer, Al
	(Pre-requisite: EL 101)				
EN 101	English I (Composition)	Tue/Thu	11a.m. - 1 p.m.	4	denHeeten,K.
EN 107	Public Speaking	Tue/Thu	2 - 3:30 p.m.	3	denHeeten,K.
EN-115	Research Writing (or) Adv. Composition	Mon/Wed	1 - 2:30 p.m.	3	denHeeten,K.
MA 102	Algebra II	Mon/Wed	1 - 3 p.m.	4	Recker, L.
MA 112	Business Math	Mon/Wed	4 - 6 p.m.	4	Recker, L.
NA 106	Ojibwe Language II	Tue/Thu	4 - 5:30 p.m.	3	Roy, H.
NA 107	Ojibwe III	Tue/Thu	10:30a.m. - 12 p.m.	3	Roy, H.
NA 113	Native American Awareness	Mon	4 - 6 p.m.	1	Henry, W.
OE 102	Keyboarding (7 weeks only)	Wed	11 a.m. - 1 p.m.	1	Gillis, L.
	(pre-requisite to CS112)				
SO 103	Contemporary Social Awareness	Tue	4 - 6 p.m.	2	Siler, S.
	(formerly Health Awareness)				
AE 105	English Communication Skills	Tue/Thu	6 - 8 p.m.	4	denHeeten,K.
BU 106	Intro to Management Theory	Mon/Wed	6 - 7:30 p.m.	3	Fitzpatrick, C.
BU 109	Microeconomics	Thu	5 - 8 p.m.	3	Born, T.
BU 204	Business Law	Mon	6 - 9 p.m.	3	Born, T.
ED 101/151	Study Skills/Library Resources	Tue	6 - 8 p.m.	2	Oseland, S.
EN 101	English I (Composition)	Mon/Wed	6 - 8 p.m.	4	denHeeten
NA 105	Ojibwe Language I	Tue/Thu	6 - 7:30 p.m.	3	Roy, H.
NA 202	Tribal Personnel Management	Wed	6 - 9 p.m.	3	Born, T.
PY 113	Human Growth & Development	Wed	6 - 9 p.m.	3	Guarjardo, V.
SO 202	Interpersonal Relations & Communications	Mon	6 - 9 p.m.	3	Robb, D.

The Computer Lab will be open for student use on Monday through Friday from 8 to 11 a.m. REGISTRATION FOR CLASSES OPEN FROM NOV. 6 TO JAN. 5

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Observer photos/Judy Whitman

Above, a worker provides guidance from the ground as a crane lifts a huge concrete "T" into place on an upper level of the parking ramp.

Below, foreground, Perini worker Matt Carney removes anchor bolts, while behind him the new hotel, under construction, is visible.



Construction officials share vision of Soaring Eagle casino and resort

By Judy Whitman
Staff Writer

Barring record snowfall, the new Soaring Eagle resort should be completed on schedule, reported construction officials during a recent Gaming Task Force meeting.

Michigan's inclement winters were taken into account when planning the project's timeline, said Bob Storen, president and CEO of Perini's Central Building Division.

itects.

"This is not a glitzy casino destination resort," emphasized Robert Di Leonardo, president of Di Leonardo International. "We want this to be a special place reflecting the local community and local culture, with a 'north woods' feeling."

Di Leonardo, who described the resort as "one of the most exciting project ever developed anywhere," related many details of the interior de-

illusion of a series of birch trees—"As though you're looking at dawn through the forest," Di Leonardo noted. The laminate on the slot bases will also feature custom artwork resembling birches.

"The buffet restaurant will look like an outdoor picnic area," said Di Leonardo. Entering patrons will pass beneath a waterfall.

The hotel's restaurant was described as 'upmarket casual.' "It will feature a lot of area nature artwork," Di Leonardo said.

Tribal members interested in providing artwork for the new facility are encouraged to contact Tribal Sub-Chief Gary Quigno at (517) 772-5700, ext. 221.

Di Leonardo said the bingo hall will feature an atmosphere "fun and exciting, yet not distracting to players." With 2,500 cabaret-style seats, the hall will include the latest in visual technology and sound systems, and will also be utilized for entertainment and special events.

"The hotel will be as comfortable as anyone's home would be... The

"This is truly a world-class destination resort. I think we've set a new standard for the casino industry."

-Robert Di Leonardo

The resort's bingo hall and 1,500-car parking ramp is slated for completion by the end of February. The casino should be finished in late June, followed by the hotel.

"This project is one of the largest to be built in Indian gaming, and to build it in the time it's going to be built will be quite an achievement," noted John Cunningham, president of Cunningham Hamilton Quiter, Arch-

sign, which blends gaming excitement with the relaxed ambiance of Michigan woodlands.

Visitors to the casino will find the main entrance elevated, allowing them to overlook the five-acre playing area, Di Leonardo said. Overhead, a faux ceiling will resemble the sky, while flooring materials evoke a riverbed rock pattern meandering through the casino.

The custom wall coverings create the

"The project is going much on schedule."

New Council in construction

"Busy, busy, busy," is how new Executive Secretary Jeanette Leasureaux describes Tribal Council as construction of the new Soaring Eagle casino and resort progresses.

"Decisions have to be made nearly every day," says Leasureaux.

Five new members joined seven incumbents on the new Tribal Council, which took office Dec. 5.

"Nothing has changed as far as the [construction] schedule. The new people just had to be brought up to speed as far as where we're at," notes Tribal Chief Phillip Peters Sr.

Currently, the Council is

re details nd resort

guest rooms will feel as if you're entering your own private log cabin," he stated.

Included in the 512 rooms are parlor suites with fireplaces, as well as presidential and governors' suites. The lobby will feature textured woods, leather, a fireplace and stained glass windows. The Tribal logo will be

"This project is one of the largest to be built in Indian gaming, and to build it in the time it's going to be built will be quite an achievement."

-John Cunningham

incorporated in the inlaid marble flooring.

"This is truly a world-class destination resort. I think we've set a new standard for the casino industry," said Di Leonardo.

"People will come here not only to gamble, but to get away, and to experience the excitement of this place," he predicted.

pretty well. We're pretty

Tribal Sub-Chief Gary Quigno

forges ahead n leadership

busy overseeing the purchasing of all interior furnishings for the hotel and casino.

Sub-Chief Gary Quigno and Treasurer John Hart Sr. have also been appointed liaisons with construction officials to monitor the day-to-day progress of the construction.

"Right now, we're meeting on Monday with Dave Lewis, the construction supervisor. He lets us know how everything is coming with the new bingo hall, garage and casino," explains Hart.

"The project is going pretty well. We're pretty much on schedule," says Quigno.



A detail of the Soaring Eagle hotel's luxurious lobby as depicted in a Di Leonardo International drawing.

Native landscape architect plans Woodlands plantings

By Judy Whitman
Staff Writer

Landscape architect Ronald Melchert is relishing the challenge of turning last year's field of cucumbers into the grounds of the new Soaring Eagle Resort.

Incorporating regional plants and grasses to create an authentic Woodlands experience, and designing plantings that will create visual interest throughout Michigan's four seasons are among Melchert's plans, shared during a recent gaming task force meeting.

"Since I'm a Native American Woodlands Indian, I'm looking at developing circular patterns reflecting woodlands themes we find a lot in art, and in almost everything in daily cultural life," he noted.

Melchert's designs are among the first aspects of the resort visitors will encounter.

"The overall site organization focuses on strong visibility from the intersection of M-20 and Leaton. The building is

oriented toward the intersection with a boulevard-type entry leading to the main drop-off. We'll use a lot of evergreens—tall coniferous species like Austrian, Scotch and white pine."

Trees, said Melchert, will be planted in clumps in order to get away from the 'lollipop effect' of trees marching along like soldiers.

The entrance will also feature colored concrete paving with a faux pressed brick finish to provide added visual interest.

Melchert will also focus on developing the area behind the hotel, which will feature a 45-foot fountain and stormwater run-off ponds to be used for ice skating in the winter.

An outdoor eating area will also be developed outside the restaurant, and the pool and outdoor sun deck will be surrounded with colorful plantings.

Melchert plans to use shrubs like viburnum, forsythia and flowering

crabapples to add seasonal variety to the plantings.

Lowland grasses native to Michigan will be used in outlying areas instead of sod to minimize maintenance.

Melchert, an Oneida from Wisconsin, heads Melchert/Block Associates, Inc., a 14-member landscape architecture, engineering and surveying firm with offices in St. Paul, Minn., and Hudson, Wis.



RONALD MELCHERT

Melchert began his career studying architecture at Madison Technical School. After two years, he decided to pursue an advanced degree in landscape architecture.

"It just seemed to 'click'

with me. When I was 10 or 11 years old, my family lived on a farm. I used to play in the woods a lot, and I always wanted to know the names of the plants.

Ironically, said Melchert, the values he learned in college were very similar to the traditional Native American perspective he grew up with. "They tried to sensitize us to our environment, to make us aware of the environment. That's what the school of landscape architecture tries to instill in its students. I thought, 'They're trying to teach me to be an Indian—and I'm already there.'"

He believes he's the first registered Native American landscape architect in the nation, as well as the first to have his own business.

Melchert acknowledged the Soaring Eagle project is the he's largest undertaken in his 14-year career.

"I'm very humbled to say I'm glad to be here," he stated.



InnerView

(There are many forms of written expression that tell the continuing history of the Saginaw Ojibwe Nation. Charmaine Benz, director of Ojibwe Substance Abuse Services, is a respected and widely published writer and poet who enjoys sharing her insights. She was interviewed on Dec. 4 by Editor Joe Sowmick.)

Tribal Observer: Charmaine, you've lived on the Isabella Indian Reservation for how long?

Charmaine Benz: I've lived on the Rez here for about the past six years, and I've lived here off and on for most of my adult life. I've lived all over. My father was in the military and we lived in Europe and all over the states, but we've always called Mt. Pleasant home. This is where I belong.

T.O.: You take great pride in your family and being a part of the Tribe, correct?

C.B.: Yes, I think Native people interpret their life by family connections. My connections are to my family, to my community, my Tribe, my nation and I always identify myself as part of that.

T.O.: And for a lot of the Native writers, they chronicle events that have happened in their lives. Is this something that strikes a chord for yourself as a Native American writer and poet?

C.B.: Yes, I think so. I've talked about being a writer and I started writing when I was a teenager, before I started drinking and abusing alcohol. And I just started writing again in the past three years. There was a period in my life, a 20-year period, where I didn't write a lot because I was drinking and abusing. I use writing as a tool for healing, and it has helped me tremendously to put order and logic to a sometimes chaotic life, where things don't always feel like they should be or don't feel right.

T.O.: And we know you're extremely busy, not only as a Soaring Eagle Gaming Commissioner but also as director of Ojibwe Substance Abuse Services. Do you look at poetry as a way to write and chronicle what you've been able to accomplish in your personal and professional life?

C.B.: Yes, I write about my children, my grandchildren, my grandson. I write about events in my life; I write about the healing that's taken place since I've quit drinking, and I write about all kinds of things. I guess I write, you know, from my heart, and the things that I write about are my interpretations of life and how I see things.

T.O.: For a lot of Native writers and poets, it's almost like storytelling. In the concept of writing a poem, do you feel you get to a point where you're trying to do an interpretation like a storyteller?

C.B.: The message that writers give is a message that comes across through the story. Sometimes it can be humorous, or can be truths that

people don't normally see. It's a gift of the writer to interpret and to give that gift back to the people so they can understand. It gives a message of hope sometimes that this is how things are. Not everybody is blessed with that gift.

T.O.: In the past, the *Tribal Observer* has interviewed William Penn, who works with Wordcraft Circle. I understand you had an opportunity to attend one of the Wordcraft Circles, and you were published in the Wordcraft Circle quarterly journal. What was that experience like?

C.B.: I went to a conference in Green Bay that

in the American Nature Writing newsletter?

C.B.: I wanted to show the connection that we have always been here, and the poem is about not coming over on a boat or coming across the Bering Straits. The idea is that we have always been here and that we always will be here and it's almost like a pledge of allegiance. It's my interpretation of where we have come from and where we're going. We will always be here as an Anishnabe people.

T.O.: I also hear that same poem was published in the Environmental Protection Agency Journal. I could see how it would be in a nature writing newsletter, but the EPA Journal? How did that come about?

C.B.: They were celebrating Earth Day's 25th anniversary. They were recruiting some Native work by a Native author, so I sent them a piece of work. They were really impressed with it, and they did a whole feature article. I wrote that Native people were the first environmentalists. We have been the people who have taken care of the Earth. We have a deep respect and appreciation for the Earth. Our Mother Earth is a theme that is common among Native American writers. I wrote about what we did before contact with European peoples, and how we have an appreciation for the Earth that is really different from the non-Native American person.

T.O.: I know former Tribal Chief Gail Jackson was featured in Lansing Metropolitan Woman magazine, and they published your poem "In the Woods, I Hear." Can you give us a little insight on that?

C.B.: The poem is about the connections to the woods, especially birch trees. I wrote about how significant it is to be connected and to have the gift of ceremonies. Ceremonies are very healing. I wrote about "see your sweet incense and gray smoke smudge," and there seemed to be a real rhythm there. Sometimes I feel like I have Elders that are talking through me, or spirits who say things to me, and it comes out that way on paper and pen. That feels really good sometimes, and I feel that this is one of those poems.

T.O.: As I read through it, I know that some of your poetry can be seen as storytelling. But this is almost like you're painting a picture, a healing picture.

C.B.: I try to write things that really portray picturesque things. I try to use all of the senses...the smell, the vision and the hearing. I try to get a real sense of spirituality out of the references. So that's what I come across.

I'm Dreaming a World

I'm dreaming a world
where Anishnabe people are proud
of our woodland legacy

where
our language is a reflection of the hope
that is born with our children when they learn
Ojibwe at the Montessori School
Our hope is heard when our elders sing
Ojibwe hymns
and
whenever the language is spoken
in quiet morning prayer

I'm dreaming a world where prejudice and discrimination
are a thing of the past

and
where only truth and inspiration guide our youth

I'm dreaming a world where reservation alcoholism and violence
are not the social ill of the day

I'm dreaming a world where our
elected Tribal Council truly concern themselves with
future unborn generations of Anishnabe

where we can all live in
a world that's healthy, healing and whole

our future lies not with the mistakes of the past
but

with the hope of the future
ahow

Written by Charmaine M. Benz

was sponsored by the Wordcraft Circle of Native writers. To me, it was so good to be around so many Native people who were writers. I think we all came from different communities and had our own interpretations of life. It's good to get around people that feel as strongly as you do about the rights and wrongs of life. I was really impressed with the common threads we have as writers and the importance of interpreting what we see. It felt really good to be around supportive people who were encouraging and doing the same type of work. I was really impressed with it overall.

T.O.: What was the inspiration behind the work "I am Anishnabe" that was recently published

Part Two of InnerView with
Charmaine Benz will appear in the
Jan. 16 issue of the Tribal Observer



Members must report payments

Any person receiving Per Capita or Children's Payments under the Per Capita Plan during 1995 is required to report this amount to the Internal Revenue Service when filling a 1995 income tax return.

One will receive a 1099 form in the mail from the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan which will show the combined total of any adult or children's payments received, along with the combined total of any federal income tax withheld.

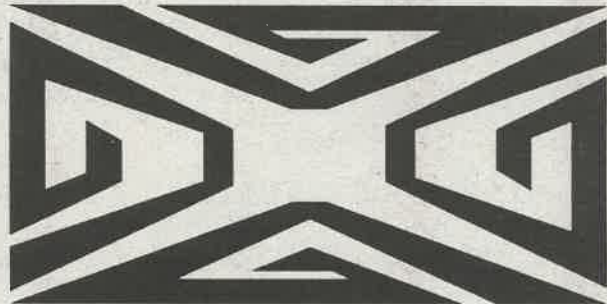
The total amount of the payments received will be shown in Box 3 of the 1099 form. This amount should be reported as Native American Per Capita Payments on Line 21 of form 1040, 1995 U.S. Individual Income Tax Return.

The total amount of federal income tax withheld from these payments will be shown in

Box 4 of the 1099. This amount should be included in the total amount reported on Line 54 of the 1040.

The 1099 form will be mailed out no later than Jan. 31. These will be all mailed out and no one will be allowed to pick theirs up.

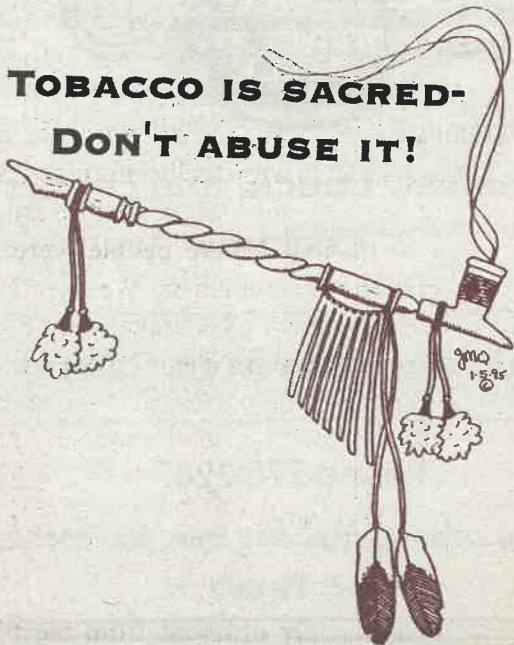
Please allow 10 working days for the 1099 to reach your mailbox.



Family portrait

The Perez family recently posed for a family portrait. Pictured are (clockwise from top left) Craig Perez, David Perez Jr., Mary Perez Kunst and Dawn Perez.

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Keep tobacco sacred.

-From the United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc., in conjunction with the "Mobilizing the Healing Generation" project.



Observer photo/Scott Csernyik

Food friends

Over 400 cans of food were recently collected by Saginaw Chippewa Academy and taken to the Red Cross Food Pantry in Mt. Pleasant. Early Child Coordinator Leanne Barton is pictured with, not in any order, Charles Merrill, Trisha Heron, Erica Peters, Kyle Reed, Alex Grice, Ramon Alaniz, Skyler Avery, Joseph Kennedy, Arnold Sowmick, Anthony Sams, Erin Sprague, Jessica McDonald, Mikayla Jackson, Jessy Stevens, Ethan Howard, Meaghan Rachor and Gizhep Pego.

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(Continued from page 3)

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*Bob Guenthardt, Chairman
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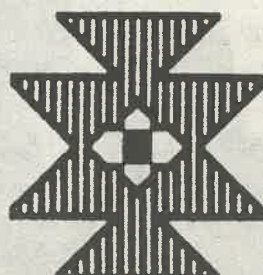
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Wilson, MI 49896-9728

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FAX: (616) 782-0985
Enrollment: 210 S. Front Street
Dowagiac, MI 49047
(616) 782-0887
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Pokagon Administrative Center
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*Interim Official



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Observer photo/Courtesy

Employees assist in toy drive

Soaring Eagle gaming employees helped out during the Dec. 10 Toys for Tots Bootleg Jam, held at the Comfort Inn in Mt. Pleasant. Gaming security guard Richard Barz, a retired Marine who coordinates the toy collection effort for Isabella and Clare counties, pronounced the annual fundraiser a huge success. Above, back row from left, are Cpl. Ubicic, Cpl. Marlin, slot attendant Rebecca Shauger and security supervisor Matt Mead; front row from left, coin exchange workers Jessica Gelvin and Jody Lennox, Nashville entertainer Teresa Langworthy, Cpl. Ulch, Sgt. Flietstra and Richard Barz.

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Annual Baby Celebration unites young and old

The Seventh Generation Program conducted its Fourth Annual Baby Celebration on Nov. 6 at the Comfort Inn in Mt. Pleasant.

Over 90 people attended the event, which was co-sponsored by the Tribal Social Services Department and the Kellogg Foundation.

"The importance of family is vital to Native Americans. This celebration of babies was open to grandmas, grandpas, extended family, aunts and uncles," said Milton "Beaver" Pelcher, Seventh Generation coordinator.

The event opened with a pipe ceremony,

followed by an Honor Song from the local Tribal drum—The High Spirit Singers. The drum includes lead singer Kendall Kingbird, Steve Pego, Anthony Hunt, Dan Jackson, Little Man Quintero, Jason Oldman, Henry Sprague and Paul Shomin Jr. A Talking Circle was conducted following the Honor Song.

"It's always a pleasure to sing for the beginning of life for babies," commented Pego. "It's a good thing that we have the baby celebration and it's been an honor for me to sing at it."

The Talking Circle was conducted by Tribal member Judi

Pamp, who focused on babies, responsibilities of extended families and the need for warmth, love and compassion. Each individual introduced themselves and a shared need for more of these kinds of gatherings was expressed.

"I think that they need to focus more on the kids and babies," said Tribal member Darcy Sprague.

Kaylyn Kingbird was the raffle winner of a basket crafted by local expert basket maker Larry Sprague. A giveaway also took place for all the young ones present.

"It was my first time attending the baby celebration," said Tribal Councilwoman Rose Wassegijig. "I had a nice time visiting with family and friends it also reminded me of our grandparents and our ancestors. I really enjoyed it."



MILTON "BEAVER" PELCHER, LEFT, AARON JEWELL, KEITH JEWELL, JADE PELCHER AND TONIA TOTH



VALORIA WEASEL BEAR AND TAYLOR TREPANIER



DAVID MERRILL JR., CHARMAINE BENZ AND CONSUELO GONZALEZ

Text & Photos
By
Jean Flamand



"The importance of family is vital to Native Americans. This celebration of babies was open to grandmas, grandpas, extended families, aunts and uncles."

-Beaver Pelcher



CATHY BACKUS HOLDS SONJA JACKSON



ROSE WASSEGIJIG AND ALEX LEASUREAUX



Tribe thanked

Shepherd track coaches David Burke and Pat Olsen recently sent a letter of appreciation to Tribal Chief Phillip Peters Sr. and the Tribal Council for their \$42,000 contribution to the new track project.

"We would like to express our deepest gratitude for your generous gift towards our new track facility here at Shepherd. Shepherd track athletes have never had the opportunity to train at home on a rubberized surface. Your gift has helped to put us one step closer to realizing our dream," the coaches stated.

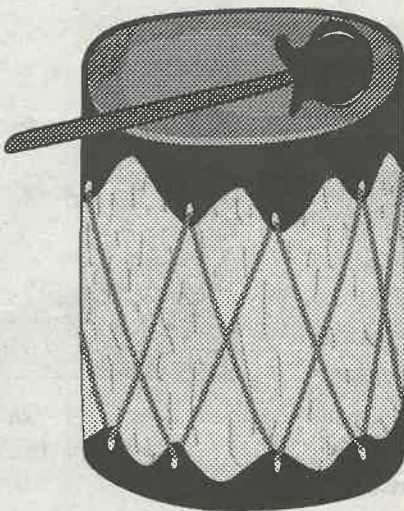
"Many members of our community and Shepherd School staff have also expressed to us their appreciation of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan for their involvement in our project," the letter added.

The track project was one of 35 funded in the recent disbursement of 2 percent gaming revenues to local governments.

Members sought for Tribal Health Board

Tribal members are being sought to fill two vacancies on the Tribal Health Board.

The vacancies are for three-year terms. Names of people interested in serving in these positions can be submitted to Audrey Falcon, Angeline Matson or Karen Lambert, health administration staff, at (517) 773-9887, ext. 286.



Run

(Continued from page 6)
event, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe Seventh Generation Program, Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center and Circle of Health Partnership.



Observer photos/Scott Csornyik

Elder dinner

Jenna Falcon serves Betty Nahmabim during a Nov. 22 dinner at the Sowmick Senior Center. The meal was prepared by members of the Saginaw Ojibwe Anishinabe Youth Leadership Council as part of a community service project. Over three dozen meals were served by the Native American students.

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The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan's Constitution

THE AMENDED CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE SAGINAW CHIPPEWA INDIAN TRIBE OF MICHIGAN APPROVED - NOVEMBER 4, 1986

CONSTITUTION OF THE SAGINAW CHIPPEWA INDIAN TRIBE OF MICHIGAN

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, in order to conserve and develop our lands and resources, to establish justice and promote the general welfare, do adopt and establish this amended constitution for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

ARTICLE I - NAME OF ORGANIZATION

This organization shall be known as the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

ARTICLE II - TERRITORY

The Jurisdiction of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan shall extend to the territory within the original confines of the Isabella Reservation established by the treaty of October 18, 1864 (14 Stat. 657), and to other lands within or without such boundaries which have or may hereafter be added thereto under any law of the United States.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. Membership of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe shall consist of:

a.) All persons whose names appeared on any of the following rolls:

- (1) November 10, 1883;
- (2) November 13, 1885;
- (3) November 7, 1891; or
- (4) December 10, 1982.

b.) All children of at least one-quarter degree Indian blood born to any member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

c.) All descendants of persons whose names appear on any rolls enumerated in subsection (a) of this section who are at least one-quarter degree Indian blood born prior to or within one year of the effective date of approval of this Amended Constitution by the Secretary of Interior, provided that such descendants duly apply for membership in the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan within 18 months of the effective date of amended Constitution.

d.) Any person of at least one-quarter degree Indian blood who is an adopted child of any member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan or is married to any member may become an adopted member of the Tribe pursuant to any adoption ordinance which the Tribal Council may enact. Every person adopted pursuant to this section shall be deemed to be a member of the Tribe of all intents and purposes, EXCEPT that no person so adopted into the Tribe shall be eligible to hold the office of Chief, Subchief, Tribal Secretary, Tribal Treasurer or Tribal Council member.

SECTION 2. Any enrolled member of the Tribe who applies for and becomes an enrolled member of any other federally recognized Indian Tribe, Band or group subsequent to their enrollment in the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan shall thereby forfeit membership in the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and shall be disenrolled and thereafter shall not be entitled to any subsequent rights of membership.

SECTION 3. Any adopted member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan may be subject to disenrollment in the Tribe for the following reasons:

a.) The individual became an adopted member of the Tribe by reason of marriage to a member of the Tribe and such marriage has been terminated by annulment or divorce and such adopted member has neither maintained a principal residence on the Isabella or Saganing Reservation nor remarried to another member of the Tribe for a period of twelve or more consecutive months preceding Tribal disenrollment action; or

b.) The individual become an adopted member of the Tribe by being an adopted child of member of the Tribe, upon reaching the age of 18 or older, elects to abandon Tribal relations with the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan in favor of re-establishing Tribal relations with the Tribe from which they are descendants by blood.

c.) Individuals so disenrolled shall thereafter not be entitled to share any subsequent rights of membership.

SECTION 4. All members of the Tribe shall report to the Tribal Secretary in person or by certified letter at least once each year in order to be entitled to any monetary ben-

efits apportioned to the members of the Tribe. Such report shall contain the member's legal name and current address. The Tribal Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining an up to date and accurate record of such reports, the date filed and the information contained therein.

ARTICLE IV - GOVERNING BODY

SECTION 1. The governing body of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe of Michigan shall be known as the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council. The Tribal Council shall be composed of twelve Tribal members elected by popular vote by the respective resident Tribal members entitled to vote in each of three voting districts.

SECTION 2. The respective voting districts and the number of Tribal Council members to be elected from each as follows:

1. Isabella District - Ten Tribal Council members shall be elected from this District by the resident voting Tribal members of the District. The District shall encompass the Isabella Reservation as established by the Treaty of 1864 and any other lands within or without such boundaries which are contiguous or adjacent to such reservation and have been or may hereafter be added thereto.

2. Saganing District - One Tribal Council member shall be elected from this District by the resident voting Tribal members of the District. The District shall encompass Arenac County of Michigan.

3. At Large District - One Tribal Council member shall be elected from this District by the resident voting Tribal members of the District. The District shall encompass the lands within or without the State of Michigan which are not encompassed in either the Isabella or Saganing Districts.

SECTION 3. The Tribal Council may modify the boundaries of any voting district.

SECTION 4. The Tribal Council may modify the number of Tribal Council members to be elected from each district; provided that, the Isabella District shall not have less than eight Tribal Council members and the total number of Tribal Council seats may not be modified.

SECTION 5. The Tribal Council, so elected, shall elect from its number one Tribal Chief, one Subchief, one Tribal Secretary, and one Tribal Treasurer. Said officers, when so elected by the Tribal Council, shall be known as the Executive Council. The Tribal Council shall appoint all necessary subordinate officers, boards, and committees.

SECTION 6. The Executive Council shall exercise the powers and duties delegated to it by the Tribal Council, which reserves the right of review over the actions of the Executive Council.

SECTION 7. The Tribal Council shall make provisions for all elections, by proper ordinance.

SECTION 8. The Tribal Council shall be elected every two years in the month of November. The date and manner of election to be provided by the Tribal Council as provided in Section 7 of this Article.

SECTION 9. Regular meetings of the Tribal Council shall be held each month of the year on dates designated by the Tribal Council. Special meetings may be called by the Tribal Chairman, or by a Majority of the Tribal Council. When so called the Tribal Council shall have the power to transact business as in a regular meeting.

SECTION 10. Seven members of the Tribal Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting.

SECTION 11. Any enrolled member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan who is 18 years of age or over shall be entitled to vote at any election, on election day in the district in which the member resides, during the official voting hours.

SECTION 12. Any person elected to the Tribal Council must be a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, 25 years of age or over, and a resident of the district from which elected for a least 1 year immediately preceding such election. No person shall be qualified to hold office who is an employee of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, or who has been convicted of a felony.

SECTION 13. The Tribal Council shall be the sole judge of the qualifications of its own members.

SECTION 14.

a.) Any member of the Tribal Council guilty of neglect of duty, misconduct in office or an offense involving dishonesty may be removed from office by the Tribal Council by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Tribal Council members voting, provided such member is first given twenty (20) days notice in writing by the Tribal Secretary or Chief, and an opportunity to be heard and present evidence on his behalf; or

b.) Upon receipt of a petition signed by at least thirty (30) percent of the eligible voters within the voting district concerned seeking removal of a Tribal Council member from that district, the Tribal Council shall call a special election in the concerned district to vote on the removal of the official in question. Only persons qualified to vote in tribal elections in the concerned voting district shall be eligible to vote in a removal election of an official of that district and said removal election shall be held in the same manner as general Tribal elections. Removal shall be accomplished by a majority vote of those voting; provided that, at least thirty (30) percent of those entitled to vote shall vote in such election. Before any such removal election is held in the district from which the Tribal Council received the removal petition and at such meeting the official in question shall have an opportunity to be heard and present evidence on his behalf. The Tribal Secretary or Chief shall provide the official in question at least twenty (20) days prior notice of any district meeting called by reason of submission of a removal petition to the Tribal Council.

c.) The Tribal Council pursuant to removal action under subsection (a.) or a removal petition pursuant to action under subsection (b.) shall set forth in writing the reasons for seeking removal of such official and shall provide the same to such official at least twenty (20) days prior to the meeting at which the official is to be heard.

ARTICLE V - REFERENDUM

Upon petition of at least 30 percent of the eligible voters in each of the three (3) respective voting districts, any enacted or proposed ordinance, resolution or any other regulative act of the Tribal Council shall be submitted to a referendum shall be effected by a majority vote in each of the three respective voting districts; Provided that, at least thirty (30) percent of those entitled to vote in each of the respective districts shall vote in such referendum.

ARTICLE VI - POWERS OF THE

TRIBAL COUNCIL

SECTION 1. The Tribal Council of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan shall exercise the following powers, subject to any limitation imposed by the Statutes or the Constitution of the United States, and this Constitution:

a.) To negotiate with the Federal, State and Local governments.

b.) To employ legal counsel, the choice of counsel and fixing of fees to be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior.

c.) To veto any sale, disposition, lease, or encumbrance of Tribal lands, interests in lands, or Tribal assets of the Tribe.

d.) To consult with the Secretary of the Interior with regard to all appropriation estimates or Federal projects for the benefit of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, prior to the submission of such estimates to the Office of Management and Budget and to the Congress.

e.) To manage all economic affairs and enterprises of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

f.) To promulgate and enforce ordinances, providing for the manner of making, holding and revoking leases or assignments for Tribal land or interest therein.

g.) To create and maintain a tribal fund by accepting grants or donations from any person, State or the United States, and levying taxes or assessments against members or non-members for the use of property and facilities which belong to the organization.

h.) To charter subordinate organizations and to delegate to such organizations, or to any subordinate boards or officials of the organization, any of the powers enumerated in this section, reserving the right to review any action taken by virtue of such delegated powers.

i.) To adopt resolutions not inconsistent with this Constitution and the attached By-Laws regulating the procedure of the Tribal Council itself, and of other tribal agencies, tribal officials, or tribal organizations of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

j.) To regulate the use and disposition of tribal property, to protect and preserve the tribal property, wild life and natural resources of the Tribe, to cultivate Indian arts, crafts and culture, to administer charity, to protect the health, security and the general welfare of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

k.) To levy taxes, assessments, or license fees upon members and non-members doing business within the reservation.

l.) To exclude from the restricted lands of the Reservation persons not legally entitled to enter or reside thereon.

m.) To enact resolutions or ordinances not inconsistent

(See TRIBE page 18)



Tribe

(Continued from page 17)

with Article III of this Constitution governing adoptions and abandonment of membership.

n.) To govern the conduct of Indians while they are the territorial jurisdiction of the Tribe as defined in Article II of this amended Constitution and of tribal members within or without such jurisdiction as authorized by federal law and in governing the conduct of such members in the exercise of treaty reserved rights and immunities.

o.) To safeguard and promote the peace, safety, morals and general welfare of the Tribe by regulating the conduct of trade and the use and disposition of property within the territorial jurisdiction of the Tribe as defined in Article II of this amended Constitution and within any trust or restricted land within or without such territory which is owned by members of the Tribe.

p.) To purchase land of tribal members for public purposes which is situated within the territorial jurisdiction of the Tribe pursuant to condemnation proceedings in courts of competent jurisdiction.

q.) To govern the descent and distribution of real and personal property, within the territorial jurisdiction of the Tribe.

r.) To regulate the domestic relations of members of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe.

s.) To provide for the appointment of guardians or foster homes for orphan, minor, and mental incompetent members of the Tribe and to administer tribal and other funds or property which may be transferred or entrusted to the Tribal Council for this purpose.

t.) To establish a Tribal Court system for the administration of justice and the resolution of disputes within the jurisdiction of the Tribe. Such courts shall be independent of the Tribal Council.

SECTION 2. The Tribal Council may exercise such further powers as may in the future be delegated to it by members of the Tribe, or by the Secretary of the Interior, or any other duly authorized official or agency of the State of Federal Government, or any federal statute or regulation.

SECTION 3. Any rights and powers heretofore vested in the Indians residing on the Isabella Reservation in the State of Michigan but not expressly referred to in this Constitution shall not be abridged or diminished by this Constitution.

SECTION 4. The Tribal Council shall have power to fill any vacancy for an unexpired term that may occur by death, resignation, forced absence, or removal from office, of a Tribal Council member: Provided, that the person so appointed shall qualify according to Section 12, Article IV of this Constitution.

ARTICLE VII - AMENDMENTS

This Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote of the qualified voters in each of the three voting districts at an election called for by the Secretary of the Interior: Provided that, at least thirty (30) percent of those entitled to vote in each district shall vote in such election; but no amendment shall be effective until it shall have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior.

It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Interior to call an election on any proposed amendment upon receipt of a petition signed by one-third of the resident qualified voters in each of the three voting districts.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE VIII - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The Tribal Chief shall preside at all meetings of the Tribal Council and perform the usual duties of a presiding officer, and shall exercise any authority delegated to him by the Tribal Council. He shall countersign all checks drawn by the Tribal Treasurer. He shall be an ex-officio member of all Boards and Committees. He shall vote only in case of a tie.

SECTION 2. The Subchief shall assist the Chief when called upon to do so, and in the absence of the Chief he shall preside. When so presiding he shall have the rights, privileges and duties, as well as the responsibilities of the Chief.

SECTION 3. The Tribal Secretary shall conduct all correspondence of the Tribal Council, and shall keep an accurate record of all proceedings of the Tribal Council and Executive Council meetings.

SECTION 4. The Tribal Treasurer shall receive, receipt for, and safeguard all funds in the custody of the Tribal Council, whether they be tribal funds or special funds for which the Tribal Council is acting as trustee or custodian. He shall deposit all funds in such depository as the Tribal Council shall direct, and shall make and preserve a faithful record of such funds and shall report on all receipts and expenditures and the amount and nature of all funds in his possession and custody at each regular meeting of the Tribal Council, or of the Executive Council. He shall not pay out or otherwise disburse any funds in his possession or custody, except in accordance with a resolution duly passed by the Tribal Council. The Tribal Treasurer shall give a bond satisfactory to the Tribal Council and to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs when required for the handling of Federal Funds or when, in the opinion either of the Tribal Council or of the said Commissioner, there are sufficient funds in the Treasury to warrant such action.

SECTION 5. The duties of all appointive boards or officers created by the Tribal Council shall be clearly defined by resolution of the Tribal Council at the time of their creation or appointment. Such boards and officers shall report to the Tribal Council from time to time as required and their

activities and decisions shall be subject to review by the Tribal Council.

ARTICLE IX - EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS

SECTION 1. Three members of the Executive Council shall constitute a quorum to transact business at all regular and special meetings.

ARTICLE X - RATIFICATION OF CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

These revisions and amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws, shall take effect when adopted by a majority vote of those members entitled to vote at a special election held pursuant to Section 4 (a.) of P.L. 99-346, in which at least 30 percent of those entitled to vote shall vote, and a copy shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Interior within 10 days after the date of the adoption and ratification pursuant to Section 4(d.) of P.L. 99-346.

CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to Section 4 of Public Law 99-346, of June 30, 1986, the amendments and revisions to the Tribal Constitution and By-Laws which were approved by the Tribal Council on April 15, 1985, in Resolution L&O-03-85 were submitted for ratification to the qualified voters of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and was on November 4, 1986 duly ratified by a vote of 150 for approval and 19 for disapproval and zero cast ballots which were spoiled or mutilated in an election in which 169 qualified voters voted in an election in which over thirty percent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, in accordance with Article VII of the Tribal Constitution and By-Laws.

November 5, 1986

Mildred Pelcher, Caucus Committee Judge
Michelle Isham, Caucus Committee Clerk
Henry George Sr., Caucus Committee Teller



Observer photo/Judy Whitman

On a roll

Wheelchairs users now have access to Soaring Eagle Gaming's shuttle service thanks to the purchase of two new 23-passenger buses equipped with wheelchair lifts. Testing out the new vehicles, from left, are shuttle bus drivers Cheryl Dice and Kathi Hann, Bingo Manager Richard Bailey, and drivers Cecil Landon, Jerry Gillespie and Mary Lu Bailey.

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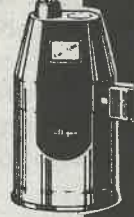
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Classified rates are \$2.50 for the first 15 words and 20 cents for each additional word. All ads must be paid for in advance. To place your ad, call the Tribal Observer at (517) 772-5700, ext. 296, or visit Office #31 in Tribal Operations. Ad can also be mailed to the Tribal Observer, 7070 East Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Deadlines are the 10th and 25th of each month.

- 100 Thank you

105 Special notices

110 Birthday greetings

115 Personal

120 Internships/Workshops

125 Employment

130 Vehicle Sales
- 135 Furniture/Appliances

140 Misc. Sale

145 Garage/Yard Sales

150 Pets

155 Business Services

160 Real Estate Sales

165 Real Estate Rentals

120 Employment

Criminal Investigator

Location: Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, Isabella Indian Reservation
Salary: Negotiable
Supervisor: Tribal Captain of Police
Posting date: Dec. 12 (open until filled)
Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws General Summary: Under supervision of the Captain of Police, investigates criminal complaints utilizing a variety of investigative techniques and procedures to gather information and evidence that will lead to the arrest and conviction of violators of Tribal, Federal and local laws.

Minimum requirements:
1. Must have excellent communication skills to conduct interviews and interrogations that requires a high level of judgement and proficiency.
2. Must be able to complete investigation of difficult, sensitive and complex criminal cases.
3. Must have the ability to investigate cases with full development of facts and evidence to produce well-organized, accurate and objective reports and doing so in conjunction with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Criminal Investigators, F.B.I., Municipal, County and State Police investigative divisions for prosecution in Tribal Federal and State Courts.
4. At least five years of responsible experience as a law enforcement officer.
5. Must be a Certified Police Officer.

6. Possession of the necessary physical capabilities to perform the duties.
7. Demonstrated proficiency in the proper and efficient use of standard law enforcement equipment, methods and terminology.
8. No record of conviction of a felonious crime.
9. Valid Michigan Operator's License and a safe driving record.
10. Ability to establish and maintain positive working relationships with the public and other employees.
11. Ability to effectively understand; follow and give oral and written instruction.
Duties:
1. Investigates criminal complaints and collects, protects and analyzes evidence through the use of established techniques.
2. Directs the investigative processes at a criminal

scene, overseeing the activities of the departmental personnel.
3. Prepares detailed complaint and investigative reports, information sheets and logs of evidence.
4. Reviews and follows up on investigation reports prepared by uniform unit and assists in gathering and preserving information leading to prosecution.
5. Answers inquiries and correspondence and assists local, state and federal agencies in matters relative to case investigation; confers with departmental personnel on pending investigations; and maintains contacts with local business community to promote a free exchange of information.
6. Maintains close contact with Prosecutor's Office and U.S.. Attorney's Office in order to provide information on investigations, obtain warrants and assist in preparation of cases for court.
7. Uses and maintains a variety of investigative equipment such as fingerprint and photographic equipment, drug analysis for narcotics testing, and audio recording equipment.
8. Attends conferences and seminars to receive training and improve professional knowledge and skills, and makes public appearances to explain law enforcement and criminal investigative purposes and procedures.
9. May perform the same duties as a uniformed police officer.
10. Perform related work as required.
Submit resumes and three references to:

Tribal Personnel Office
Saginaw Chippewa
Indian Tribe of
Michigan
7070 East Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, MI
48858

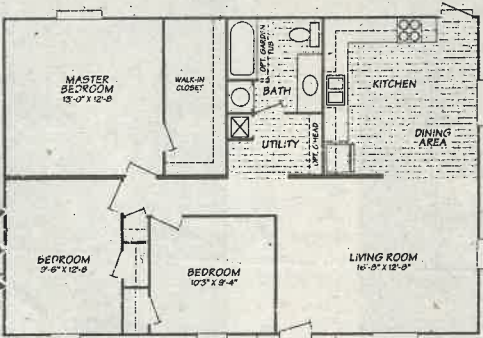
Contractual Research Assistant

Wage: \$8.17 per hour, 40 hours per week
Location: Isabella Indian Reservation, Mt. Pleasant, MI
Supervisor: Tribal Clerk
Preference: Preference will be given to Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members or individuals of American Indian descent.
Posting date: Dec. 27
Closing date: Jan. 19
Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent. Must be knowledgeable in conducting genealogy research; library experi-

ence, familiarity with microfiche; must have computer experience, strong verbal, filing skills and be able to type at least 50 wpm.
1. Assist the Tribal Clerk in conducting Tribal enrollment research.
2. Be able to understand and calculate degree of Indian blood in accordance with Tribal guidelines.
3. Provide reports and updating of enrollment records.
4. Review, update and process enrollment applications.
5. Assist in micro filming Tribal records and rolls.
6. Assist in setting up a reference library system for future research.
7. Assist in computerizing family tree charts.
8. Other duties as assigned.
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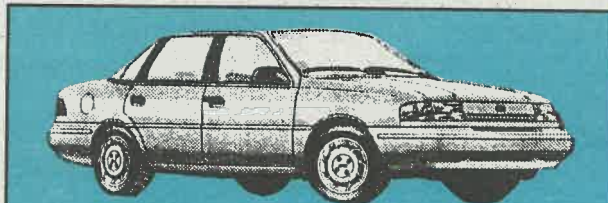
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