

tribal observer

JANUARY 1985

THE SAGINAW CHIPPEWA INDIAN TRIBE



WASHINGTON VOTERS TRIM TREATY RIGHTS

Washington state's sportsmen struck a blow against Indian treaty fishing rights, and other special privileges for Indians, in last month's elections.

The vote was 812,429 to 733,305 or 53 to 47 percent, for Initiative 456, which forbids the denial of access to natural resources based on "race, sex, origin, cultural heritage, or by and through any treaty based upon the same."

It declared that the 1924 federal Indian Citizens Act ended special off-reservation legal rights or privileges for all tribes.

Barbara Lindsay, spokeswoman for SSPAWN, a sportsmen's group, called the vote "a great victory. What we've been for is equal rights for all citizens," she said.

SAPAWN stands for Steelhead and Salmon Protection Action for Washington Now.

C. Montgomery Johnson, director of a "Nix 456" campaign, said the measure was "designed by its proponents to wipe out the culture as well as the rights of Native Americans." He predicted that federal courts would rule that the initiative violates the U.S. Constitution.

Federal court rulings have granted Michigan Indians immunity from state fishing regulations, resulting in a dispute that has continued for a decade. Another court hearing will be held early next year. The Michigan United Conservation Clubs has been considering a state initiative similar to the one passed in Washington.

Supporters of the Washington initiative say that even if federal courts overturn the measure, it already has gotten the attention of politicians who've been ignoring the problem.

"It sends a clear message," Lindsay said, "that a majority of Washingtonians are plenty ticked off over treaty rights and its effect on our fisheries, and we want something done about it."

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December 16, 1984



MICHIGAN GAINS

From the 1790's until the 1850's, several treaties were made between Michigan Indians and the United States government. These legal arrangements are most commonly understood to cede Indian lands to the federal government, but other purposes, such as establishing tribal boundaries, asserting American jurisdiction, setting up Indian reservations, and guaranteeing Indian prerogatives in fishing and hunting, were also formally achieved.

While these treaty results are generally appreciated, few have given much attention to the enormous benefits derived by the United States and individual states, such as Michigan. The respective treaties gave to the federal government millions upon millions of acres of land which became, without exaggeration, the basis of the economic development of the United States and the state of Michigan. Ceded lands were sold to settlers, lumbermen, mining interests, speculators, and others, and the money derived was used to pay off the national debt and finance government operations, in peace and wartime.

The landed heritage of the American Native people was also given away by the federal government to railroad and canal companies to finance the construction and operation of these internal improvements; for instance, the Soo Canal constructed in the 1850's was largely financed by a 750,000 acre land grant from the federal government. Such a grant was not unusual, and most often it was a profitable windfall that enriched individuals, families, and communities.

Federal lands obtained from Indian treaties also supported education in Michigan and throughout the nation as sections 16 and 36 of every township were set aside to aid public education.

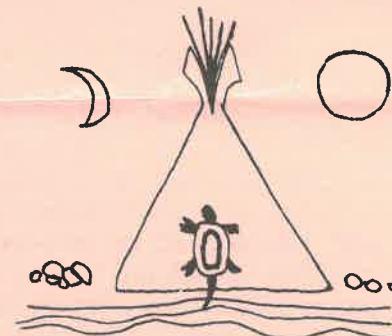
Ceded lands also yielded vast wealth for the citizens of Michigan as agriculture, lumbering, and mining flourished and advanced the economic development of Michigan and the American Nation. Millions of acres of land were cultivated, millions upon millions of board feet of timber were cut, and millions upon millions of tons of iron

ore and copper were dug from the earth, that provided wealth and prosperity for many, but for very few Indians.

Former Indian Territory in Michigan yielded other resources, such as fish, salt, silver, coal, oil and gypsum, and they, in short, gave Michigan and the United States greatness while the former occupants and owners suffered dispossession, depopulation, and impoverishment.

Indeed, it is quite ironic that Native Americans are now deriving minimal benefits from the same treaty agreements, which have enormously bolstered the development of the state of Michigan, and curiously Indians are currently characterized as exploiters of the environment.

By: John H. Humins
Assistant Professor
Michigan State University



WIC PARTICPANTS

I just wanted to say thanks to everyone for being so co-operative in switching to the new WIC schedule. The WIC Clinic days are pretty successful due to the fact that people are keeping the scheduled appointments. Keep up the good work. Also, since the Tribal Center will be closed on Tuesday the 15th, WIC day will be held on Wednesday the 16th of January. If you can't make it, please call and we will schedule you into the next WIC Clinic day.

Megwetch
Patty Heron

IN-HOME SERVICES

The Commission on Aging for Isabella County provides in-home services for persons age 60 and older who reside in the county. Services include personal care, home chore, outreach, and a new program which began October 1, 1984, case management. The following brief explanation will give an idea of activities included in each service to help you decide how they may be useful to you.

Personal care provides assistance with personal needs such as bathing, dressing, ambulation and transferring, and feeding. Home chore assists with heavy housecleaning tasks such as mopping floors, vacuuming and cleaning cupboards. Outreach services provide information and referral concerning programs pertinent to older adults. Case management provides assistance to older adults with multiple needs such as needing help with financial problems, completing applications, or those experiencing anxiety because of family problems or a recent loss. Persons involved with this program will work with a case manager who will help them determine needs and make arrangements for appropriate services, and make frequent reassessments to assure appropriate service delivery.

If you are interested in any of the above services, please contact the Commission on Aging at (517) 772-0748. A case manager will make an appointment with you to discuss services and eligibility.

Barbara Frankenfield

FOUND:

One pair of Hockey ice skates. See Rose Wassegijig.

BOY SCOUTS MEETING

The Boy Scouts of America are having weekly meetings at the Ojibwa Conference Room in the Tribal Center. Meetings are held every Monday at 6:00 p.m. All boys 12 to 18 years old are encouraged to participate.

ARE YOU IN NEED OF ENERGY ASSISTANCE?

Starting December 14, 1984, the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc., will be accepting applications for energy assistance through their Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) with funding provided through the Low Income Energy Assistance Block Grant.

Under this program, payments will be made to households having annualized incomes meeting the 125% of poverty income guidelines as below:

<u>Household Size</u>	<u>125% of Poverty Income Maximum</u>
1	6,225
2	8,400
3	10,575
4	12,750
5	14,295
6	17,100
7	19,275
8	21,450

For family units with more than 8 members, add \$2,175 for each additional member.

PROOF OF INCOME: Each applicant MUST present proof of income when applying for assistance. This must include ALL household income for the past thirty (30) days prior to date of application.

SUBSIDIZED HOUSING: Families residing in HUD or subsidized housing will be eligible for benefits under this program if they are: 1. Directly responsible for their heating bill and 2. Are currently paid up in their rent.

THIS IS NOT A CRISIS PROGRAM: Past due bills, or being out of fuel is NOT a requirement for eligibility of this program.

AMOUNT OF BENEFITS: Benefit payments will vary from approximately \$30 to \$200, dependent on the income level of the household and heating fuel type(s).

For more information and application forms, contact the following person:

Bay Mills - Gordie Newland
Hannahville - Gloria McCullough
Keweenaw Bay - Gerry Mantila
Saginaw Chippewa - Ruth Moses

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL APPLICATIONS IS
JANUARY 15, 1985!



JOHNSON O'MALLEY

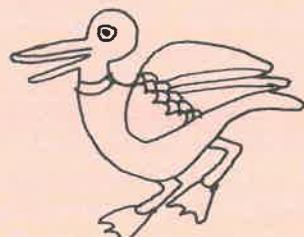
As our first semester of the 1984-85 school year winds down, our students now face final exams. A certain amount of anxiety is inevitable, however our students are urged to put forth their best effort. Being somewhat "up tight" during exam time is experienced by students at all educational levels, through college. Exams cover only information presented within these past four months. One formula that has worked well for me is to answer the questions/problems that I could readily solve first, and then return to the more difficult questions or problems.

Our tutors will return upon resumption of classes at CMU; after their five week mid-term break. The public school begins its second semester on Monday, January 28, 1985.

Although there was an attendance problem with some students this semester, the greater majority had good attendance. We the Johnson O'Malley/Title IV-A staff, and Parent Committee would like to extend our Congratulations to the parents of the following students; who had perfect attendance record to date:

WEST INTERMEDIATE 1ST SIX WEEKS

Ella Casner
Leann Francis
Rachel Francis
Carla Jeffrey
Donald Jeffrey
Chris Lerma
Sharrie Moses
Leeann Pelcher
Mary Perez



WEST INTERMEDIATE 2ND SIX WEEKS

Nathan George
Heather Jason
Tracy Johnson
Chris Lerma
Sharrie Moses



MARY MCGUIRE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Brad Bennett	Bobbi Jo Jackson
Glen Bennett	Connie Jackson
Amos Cloud	Tonya Jackson
Dustin Davis	Stacy Johnson
Christina Donahue	Valerie Lytle
Jenna Falcon	Crystal Mark
Tomie Falcon	Bambi Pelcher
James Floyd	Brandy Pelcher
Robert Francis	Summer Peters
Gilberto Franco	Diana Quigno
Jamie Fulton	Carlos Sanders
Amanda George	Paul Shomin
Jennifer Vasquez	Rose Shomin
Omero Vasquez	Lewis Sprague
Allen Wassegi jig	Twyla Sprague

As we enter into another year, followed soon after, by a new semester, some students can look back to a productive, and satisfactory first semester. Hopefully, these will carry on into next semester.

Those who are not satisfied with their first semester results, will hopefully strive toward improvement.

To do so will require class attendance, as the prime requisite. In order to learn, one must be present where the learning is taking place (school). Secondly, he/she must apply themselves to the particular task at hand, be it math, science, english or whatever. Learning is not something we are born with, it is acquired; neither does it come automatically. We are born with the capacity, or capability, to learn, or absorb knowledge.

There are many people involved in the education process, all with the same goal-to see their students complete their schooling, and to graduate. However, no matter how much effort these persons put into the transferring of their knowledge to others, the student must also put forward some effort. Teachers take pride in the number of students they are able to give a passing grade. The more passing students, the more successful the teacher.

Much effort, time, and expenses are used in educating our students, from the school bus ride in the morning, to the several programs in operation for subsidizing students.

Johnson O'Malley aids those with school related expenses not furnished by the school, and due to family economic conditions, are not affordable by parents or guardians.

The Title IV Program is geared toward academics, in that tutors and counselors are put into West Intermediate and at the high school. From October 23 to the present there have been 2 to 6 tutors from Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity of Central Michigan University at the Tribal Center, each school day with the exception of 2 days.

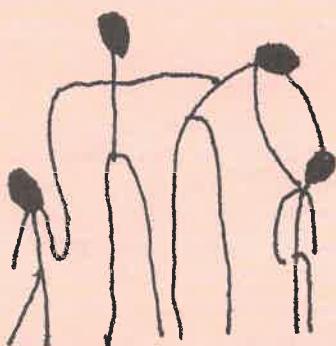
It should be remembered that these tutors cannot help students if the students do not avail themselves of this service. Thus far, only elementary students have taken advantage of this opportunity for help.

It is the stated goals of the JOM/Title IV Programs to decrease our large drop-out rate. To accomplish this, it is necessary first to reduce the absentee rate.

Dropping out of school does not occur at elementary school level, yet West Intermediate and High School students are not seeking help from the available tutors.

To put in 10 or 11 years of schooling, and then quitting upon reaching the age of 16, is a gross waste of time and resources. That is to say, your time and resources. If students bent on dropping out of school would pause to reflect on the cost of countless breakfasts, lunches, school buses, school clothes, school necessities, teacher salaries and effort parents have put forth over the period the student is school age, some probably would reconsider.

Wilmer Smith, Cory Flamand, Pat Schwalbach and Jeanette Deiss



PARENTS

Are you aware of your child's whereabouts and activities? There are still many young people out on the road late at night, some appearing to be under the influence of alcohol or pot and being destructive.

Please don't ignore the fact that your child could be abusing these substances. We know that it is very easy to believe our children can do no wrong, but others may observe and not want to report this behavior in fear of offending you. You must take the time and the measures to have your child in early or by curfew when the kids take off or hide.

We realize young people need to be with their friends, but there must be a limit to every enjoyment for them to learn responsibility for their own lives. If you feel you would like to discuss any child rearing problems, please feel free to talk with any of our committee members. We're not experts, but we would like to assist you in any way we can. Cheryl Ebling, our Family Counselor would be a good person to talk to as well.

We have some GREAT kids that may be going in the wrong direction. Maybe we can prevent our children from depending on a "good time, alcohol, pot, or whatever" and get them steered toward a better future.

We need the community as a whole for support, to support each other, never mind blaming each other, your children are your responsibility as well as ours.

If you are a person who has provided alcohol, pot, or any type of dope to a young person, JUST THINK of the DAMAGE and DANGER you may be doing. AND, remember, you are also subject to the consequences of "Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor" under our Tribal Juvenile Code.

Show your child you care, by teaching and giving them your attention.

Che Me Gwetch!
Your Child Welfare Committee:

Marylin Williams
Judy Floyd
Cynthia Floyd
Patty Heron
Lorna Call

A NEW FACE AT NIMKEE CLINIC

Margo Kmiecik is the new face you will see around the Tribal Center after January 7th. Margo will work along with Tom Sincic as a Nurse Practitioner and Community Health Nurse. This will mean improved services to you. We will now be able to see patients at the clinic Monday thru Friday with less interruption. As you know the clinic was closed on certain days for community visits or when the nurse practitioner was on sick leave or vacation. We hope that through this change we can better serve you.

HEALTH TIP FROM NIMKEE CLINIC

Adults need immunization too. Every individual should have a tetanus booster shot every ten years. This will prevent lockjaw caused by a wound or injury. It may also save you from trips to the emergency room to get the shot should you injure yourself. The immunization is totally protective for 5 years. If you have not had a tetanus shot in the last ten years come to the clinic.

IMPETIGO

I would like to share some signs and symptoms of Impetigo, if you think your child has Impetigo please bring them to the Clinic. Impetigo usually will begin in a dirty scratch.

It first appears as discolored spots of various sizes and shapes. Then small vesicles form and break, spreading germladen fluid to the surrounding area.

The draining lesions rapidly form yellow, honey colored crusts and scabs and the tissue around them is red.

The lesions may be on any part of the body but most often are seen on hands, face or perineum.

Again, if you suspect your child has impetigo, please bring them to the Clinic. Impetigo is contagious and spreads fast.

Thank you
Twila Schrot, LPN

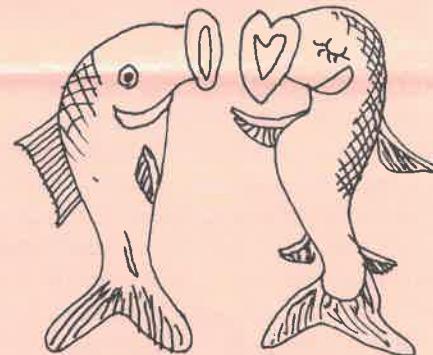
TIS THE SEASON FOR: COLDS & THE FLU

These are caused by viruses, and may affect the nose, throat and chest. The stuffiness, sore throat, aching and ear popping may last a few days to 2 weeks.

Treatment: Nothing will make it go away! Antibiotics do not kill viruses. What you want to do is make your child comfortable until his body cures itself. First have him drink lots of liquids (including jello and frozen pops) and get extra rest. Give aspirin every 4 to 6 hours if he has a fever. For runny or stuffy nose, use a decongestant; for coughing, use expectorants.

If your child's cold is getting worse after 1 week, if coughing keeps them up all night, if temperature goes above 102 degrees (do not rely on how warm he feels, take the temperature with a thermometer) if ears have pain, your child should be seen at the clinic. Thank you.

Twila Schrot, LPN



MICWA

Michigan Indian Child Welfare Agency has cut back on our number of employees. As a result Sister Anne Jeffrey has been laid off. This lay off came just before Christmas and was a shock to Sister Anne and myself. I have worked with Sister Anne for one year and felt we worked good together as a team. I will now attempt to service the Mt. Pleasant and the surrounding areas. I hope all will give me time to adjust and be patient with me if it seems at times I'm not "doing my job", I hope to have it all under control soon!

Carla Sineway
Case Aide, MICWA

INFORMATION/REQUEST

A statewide workshop is being planned for women in June 1985.

Along with many helpful workshops (which will be announced at a later date) we are planning a fashion show.

We would like to invite people who are experts at sewing to show off your skills. We want to have clothing and accessories that are of floral/ woodland design.

You may model your own designs or have one of our models show your work. It would be very nice, if some of your work was offered for sale.

If you are interested in showing your work, please let us know so we can get an idea of what we should make preparations for. Contact Kim Sawmick or Lorna Call at (517) 772-5700 or (517) 773-9887.

MICHIGAN COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

HISTORY: The Michigan Commission on Indian Affairs was first established in 1965 and consisted of 11 commissioners and a director. The first Commission office was in Muskegon, Michigan. In 1979 Public Act 195 was amended to increase Commission membership in the Wayne County area by two members. Commissioners are appointed by the Governor and serve three year terms. The Commission meets four or more times annually in various parts of the state. Part of every meeting is devoted to public comments. The Commission establishes policy which guides the activities of the director and staff. The staff of the Commission on Indian Affairs is housed in the Department of Management and Budget.

PURPOSE: The Commission investigates problems common to Indian residents of this state. The primary duty of the Commission is to assist tribal governments, Indian organizations and individuals with problems of education, employment, civil rights, health, housing, treaty rights and any other right or service due Indian people of this state.

PROGRAMS: The tuition waiver program was enacted into law in 1976 and amended in 1979. The law provides tuition for Indian students who can prove at least 1/4 degree Indian blood and have lived in Michigan at least one year prior to applying. The tuition waiver is only applicable to Michigan public, state, community or public junior college, public college or public university. The student applicant must qualify for admission as a full time, part time, or summer school student. Enrolled students must maintain satisfactory progress. The applicant's tribal certification must be verified by the Commission on Indian Affairs.

The program is under the joint administration of the Commission on Indian Affairs and the Michigan Department of Education. For information about the program, contact the Commission office at (517) 373-0654.

BLOCK GRANTS: The Commission coordinates with the Michigan Department of Labor to allocate Community Services Block Grant Funds to Indian tribal groups and organizations which have met the criteria necessary for state recognition.

PUBLIC ACT 428: The Commission verifies tribal certification and will help Indian contractors in their effort to bid on jobs or services let by the State of Michigan.

OTHER INDIAN AGENCIES: The Michigan Commission on Indian Affairs cooperates with other Indian desks within state government. These include:

- Indian Education Office
- Indian Review Board
- Bilingual Education Office
- Michigan Department of Public Health/CHR Program

For further information please contact the:

Commission on Indian Affairs
611 West Ottawa Street
3rd Floor, North Tower
P.O. Box 30026
Lansing, MI 48909
(517) 373-0654



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