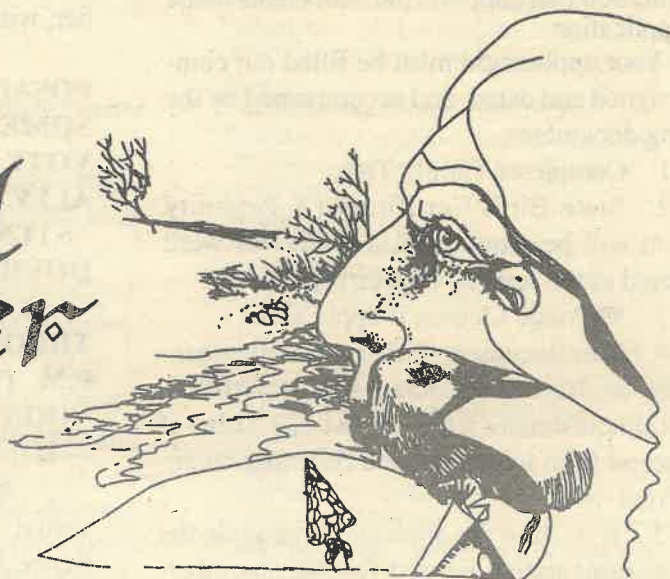


tribal observer



50¢

Boozhu! welcome to the July issue of the Tribal Observer. The 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
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JULY 1994 VOLUME 5 ISSUE 7

MISKWIMINI-GISS (Ojibwe) Moon of Raspberries

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



Observer Photo/Christi Belfi

Lighting up the sky

Fireworks are a big attraction, whether or not they occur on the Fourth of July or at a local community celebration. The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe was a major sponsor of the June 10-12 Mt. Pleasant Summer Festival and for a related story and pictures see page 8 and 9.



Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik

Frank and Phyllis Kequom carry the American and Michigan flags during the opening ceremonies of the Seventh Annual Michigan Indian Family Olympics on June 27. Over 400 participants showed up for the games, which were conducted at Central Michigan University's Lyle Bennett/Alumni Track in Mt. Pleasant.

Seventh Annual Indian Olympics

Games prove family fun for all

Under sunny skies and warm temperatures, over 400 Native Americans participated in the Seventh Annual Michigan Indian Family Olympics at Central Michigan University's Lyle Bennett/Alumni Track.

The events kicked off after a blessing by Virginia Pigeon, parade around the track and an introduction by guest speaker Joe Begay. Begay, who is from Tuscon, Ariz., is a Navajo silversmith, actor and singer

(See OLYMPICS page 3)

Enrollment concerns and questions addressed

Over the past several months "Tribal Enrollment" has become a very big issue of concern by Tribal members and descendants. First of all, I would like to address why enrollment is important to an individual and to a Tribe.

A. To an individual, a Tribe is the political entity that governs a person and it provides a sense of belonging to a community who shares the same cultural ties. Tribal members are united by their ties to a common community that shares their experiences.

B. To a Tribe, enrollment is the utmost important thing, without members a Tribe can not exist. In determining membership, a Tribe is exercising its sovereign powers. By maintaining a membership roll, the Tribe is guaranteeing that the Tribe's identity will be preserved in the future.

Secondly I want to share with you the exact wording from the Tribe's constitution on the membership requirements, which are:

The Enrollment Requirements pursuant to the

Tribe's Constitution, Article III Section 1. a,b,c and d which reads:

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) Nov. 10, 1883;
- (2) Nov. 13, 1885;
- (3) Nov. 7, 1891; or
- (4) Dec. 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 sub-section (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 THIS AMENDED CONSTITUTION.**

d.) Any person of at least one-quarter degree
(See ENROLLMENT page 2)

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Enrollment

(Continued from page 1)

Indian Blood who is an adopted child of any member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan or is married to any member of the Tribe **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, Sub-Chief, Tribal Secretary or Tribal Council Member.

Frequently asked questions and concerns of Tribal members

Now that you know the Membership criteria, let's address some of the questions and concerns that our office gets calls on every day.

IF I RECEIVED THE DOCKET PAYMENT DOESN'T THAT AUTOMATICALLY MAKE ME A MEMBER? No, it does not.

a.) In order to be considered a member of the Tribe your name must appear on one of the rolls in the Constitution under Section 1a.

b.) Or you would of had to apply for membership during the last "Open Enrollment Period," from November 1986 to May 4, 1988 and have met the qualifications at the time you made application and received notice that your name was placed on the Membership Rolls of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe.

c.) Or you would of had to apply as a "Child Born to a Member and have met the One-Quarter Blood Degree requirement."

d.) The only exception to being a child born to a member is if you were one of the 268 applications that were received during the last open enrollment period that was left in pending and unprocessed when the Enrollment staff was laid off on March 31, 1989. By a motion made by Tribal Council on March 3, the Council gave approval for these pending files to be processed. If you are one of these 268 people, you will be notified shortly.

A LOT OF PEOPLE HAVE JUST ASSUMED THAT THEY ARE ENROLLED MEMBERS AND/OR HAVE ASSUMED THAT SOMEONE ELSE HAD MADE APPLICATION FOR THEM; IF YOU DID NOT MAKE APPLICATION FOR YOURSELF...DO NOT ASSUME ANYTHING.

2.) BLOOD QUANTUM CRITERIA:

a.) As far back as the original Tribal Constitution of May 6, 1937, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe has always required **"ONE-QUARTER DEGREE INDIAN BLOOD"** as the blood quantum requirement for membership. This has never changed and is still in effect today.

b.) When we calculate a person's blood degree we go by the blood degree already established on the certified rolls by the Tribe and the Bureau of Indian Affairs Washington Office. The Tribal Clerk's office can not change a person's blood degree without proper authorization of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Washington Office. If you feel that there was an error made in calculating your blood degree feel free to contact my office and we will review your blood degree and then direct you as to how to go about working on getting it corrected. However, it is up to the individual to provide the documented proof to warrant a change, it does not get changed just because a person says, "I know that I am more." You must be able to provide the proper documentation.

3.) WHAT TO DO WHEN MAKING APPLICATION FOR ENROLLMENT:

July, 1994

a.) First of all you should know that the Membership Criteria under Article III of the Constitution will be followed precisely as stated in the Constitution.

b.) Each application must be accompanied by documentation that supports the statements made in the application.

c.) Your application must be filled out completely, signed and dated, and accompanied by the following documents;

1. Completed Family Tree;
2. State Birth Certificate (A Paternity Statement will be required if your Parents were not married at the time of your birth);
3. Marriage License if applicable;
4. Other documents pertinent to membership such as, Bureau of Indian Affairs certifications, Relinquishment letters from other Tribes if you descend from more than one Federally recognized Tribe.

5. It is up to the applicant to provide the proper documentation needed for their membership, **it is not the responsibility of the Enrollment Department to provide you documentation to verify your rights to membership.**

4.) ILLEGAL INDIANS:

a.) **WHAT IS AN ILLEGAL INDIAN?** I have yet to know what an illegal Indian is, either your Indian or your not.

b.) As the Tribal Clerk/Research Specialist, I can assure you that every application that comes across my desk must be documented and researched completely before I send it on to the Tribal Certifier for certification. (The Tribal Certifiers are the Tribal Chief or the Sub-Chief) They also review each application before they certify them for membership or deny them membership.

c.) It is impossible for someone to be enrolled as an illegal Indian this day in age. Perhaps years ago enrollment was done differently, but for the last five-and-a-half years of my employment with the Tribe it has been done according to the Tribal Constitution and the Enrollment Ordinance.

d.) If you feel that you know someone on the rolls who should not be on the rolls then you need to contact my office and I will set up a meeting with you, myself and the Enrollment Advisory Board to go over your documented proof. You must be able to document your allegations or we can not take them before the Tribal Council. **THE MEMBERS OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL (AS A WHOLE) ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN DISENROLL MEMBERS.**

e.) Relinquishment of membership can be done by any member (or parent/guardian of any member child) who wishes to relinquish their membership. However, remember when you relinquish your membership please note that you are also giving up any entitlements and rights that you may have as a Tribal Member. Once you've relinquished your membership you no longer meet the "automatic" requirements for membership under Article III of the amended Constitution of November 4, 1986. Such person can only be re-enrolled through adoption by the Tribe. However, pursuant to the Tribal Constitution Article III Section 1.d. as printed above you can only be considered for adoption if your a child adopted by a member or a spouse of a member and the individual has to be at least one-quarter degree Indian.

5.) OPEN ENROLLMENT PROPOSAL:

a.) The open enrollment proposal has been at a stand still lately, at this point we are waiting for the proposals to be drawn up into petition form and a committee to be appointed to start the procedures that need to be started.

b.) The proposal will allow Tribal Descendants who are at least one-quarter degree Indian blood to be eligible for enrollment. As you currently know, only children born to members can apply for membership. So, if you have a grandparent on the rolls you wouldn't be eligible for enrollment **under the current constitution.**

c.) **The proposal will also clarify the Canadian**

Bands issue in regards to dual enrollment.

d.) It will also enhance the adoption provision to include people who are at least one-quarter degree Indian who have close and substantial ties to the Tribe to be considered for adoption as a member, with some restrictions.

***KEEP IN MIND THAT THESE PROPOSALS WILL BE PUT ON A BALLOT AT SOME POINT FOR THE MEMBERS TO VOTE ON EACH PROPOSAL INDIVIDUALLY.**

6.) ENROLLMENT STAFF AND BUSINESS HOURS:

a.) **OUR OFFICE IS OPEN MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY FROM 9 A.M. TO 4 P.M. (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE NOON HOUR FOR LUNCH).**

b.) The staff consists of:

April L. Borton/Tribal Clerk-Research Specialist; Linda Shomin/Deputy Clerk; Michelle Renee Jackson/Assistant Clerk; Katherine Cherry/Assistant Clerk; Sarah Shomin/Assistant Clerk; Angela Wemiqwans/Assistant Clerk and Lorna Kahgegab Call/Contractual Research Assistant

7.) FUTURE GOALS OF THE ENROLLMENT/TRIBAL CLERK'S OFFICE:

a.) At some point we hope to have our office set up as a research center to provide complete family trees on all the descendants to go back to an original Base Enrollee of the Tribe.

b.) To be able to provide the proper documents to get Tribal Members Blood Quantums corrected on the base rolls.

c.) To maintain a Tribal Descendancy Rolls of descendants who don't meet the one-quarter degree requirement but who's children may qualify in the future by marrying back into the Tribe.

d.) To see the Tribal members start building the blood degrees back up, as it stands right now 50 percent of our members are 1/2 degree Indian or less. A lot of Tribe's are dealing with blood quantum issues and it's important for Tribal Members to know these facts for future generations and for preserving the existence of the Tribe.

8.) MONTHLY COLUMN:

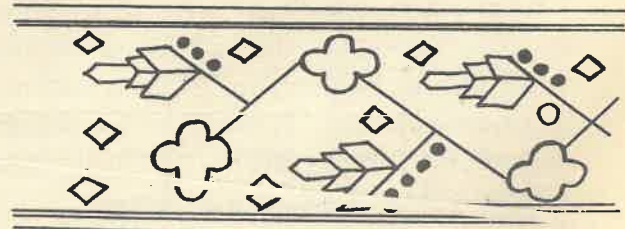
a.) Each month, I will answer concerns of the Tribal Members and put their questions and a response in the Tribal Observer regarding Tribal Enrollment Issues as long as the issues keep coming, so feel free to send a letter to my office that you would like a response to.

I hope this article helps to answer some of your questions and concerns. I look forward to hearing from the members in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,
April L. Borton/Tribal Clerk
Miigwetch

Tribal membership figures

Total members:	2,521
District 1 members:	708
registered voters:	328
District 2 members:	47
registered voters:	35
District 3 members:	1,766
registered voters:	541



Olympics

(Continued from page 1)

Local Tribal community members made many positive statements about the event.

"This is the best thing to keep the kids off the streets," said James Pego. "My main concern is our youth and the bringing up of them."

Seventh Generation Program Coordinator Milton Pelcher liked the idea of all Michigan Tribes coming together for the event.

"I think it's a wonderful thing that they're doing," he said. "It's strengthening Native Americans as a separate people...I think it's fantastic."

Community Health Prevention Service Director Diana Marble said the event wouldn't have been possible without the help of the numerous volunteers from the Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center.

"The hours volunteered by our Nimkee staff was astronomical," she stated. "Next year's planning is already starting and it's never too late to volunteer. We're always in need of volunteers for this event."

The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa Indians won the traveling trophy and the overall competition.

Results from the Seventh Annual Indian Family Olympics on June 27

Baby Crawl

First Place- Wayne Young, Grand Traverse Band
Second Place- Elijah Avery, Saginaw Chippewa
Third Place- Zachary Young, Grand Traverse Band

Tot Trot

First Place- Serrina O'Brian, Detroit Urban
Second Place- Nelson Schenose, Grand Traverse Band
Third Place- Aryl Brauker, Saginaw Chippewa

Bean Bag Toss

First Place- John Miller, Saginaw Intertribal
Second Place- Pierre Shawboose, Grand Traverse Band
Third Place- Beatrice Shananaquet, Grand Traverse Band

Standing Broad Jump

(3 and 4)
First Place- Jordan Shomia, Grand Traverse Band
Second Place- Beatrice Shananaquet, Grand Traverse Band
Third Place- Denay McIntyre, Lansing NAIC
Third Place- Trisha Heron, Saginaw Chippewa
(5 and 6)

Female:

First Place- Ashley Rueckert, Saginaw Chippewa
Second Place- Diane Webster, Detroit Urban
Third Place- Lamora Shawboose, Muskegon (Grand Rapids)

Male:

First Place- Jordan Rhinehart, Saginaw Intertribal
Second Place- Gary McHouston, Detroit Urban
Third Place- Jerod Rhinehart, Saginaw Intertribal
(7 and 8)

Female:

First Place- Erin Rueckert, Saginaw Chippewa
Second Place- Angel Fluegge, Detroit Urban
Third Place- Kristina Yopez, Detroit Urban

Male:

First Place- Michael Smoke, Detroit Urban
Second Place- Steven Jackson, Saginaw Chippewa
Third Place- Ira Mahaulen, Grand Rapids
(9 and 10)

Female:

First Place- Elizabeth Robinson, Sault Ste. Marie
Second Place- Ira Fuller, Saginaw Chippewa
Third Place- Sandra Harrison, Detroit Urban

Male:

First Place- Wayne Jackson, Saginaw Chippewa
Second Place- Christopher Gruber, Detroit Urban
Third Place- Jeff Bussie, Grand Traverse Band

20-Yard Dash

(3 and 4)

First Place- Joaquim Bear, Ojibway Shawnee
Second Place- Alicia Shananaquet, Grand Traverse Band
Third Place- Denee McIntyre, Lansing NAIC

50-Yard Dash

(5 and 6)

Female:

First Place- Erica Stanton, Grand Rapids Intertribal
Second Place- Nicole Stanton, Grand Rapids
Third Place- Ashley Rueckert, Saginaw Chippewa

Male:

First Place- Bobby Keller, Grand Rapids
Second Place- Kelvin Kilgima, Grand Rapids
Third Place- Bart Gibbs, Grand Rapids
(7 and 8)

Female:

First Place- Erin Rueckert, Saginaw Chippewa
Second Place- Kristina Yopez, Detroit Urban
Third Place- Jessica Wizniewski, Burt Lake Band

Male:

First Place- Michael Smoke, Detroit Urban
Second Place- Hiram Lopez, Detroit Urban
Third Place- John Wilson, Grand Traverse Band

75-Yard Dash

(7 and 8)

Female:

First Place- Victoria Lopez, Detroit Urban
Second Place- Melissa Hinojosa, Detroit Urban
Third Place- Tashina Bennett, Saginaw Intertribal

Male:

First Place- Neal Rounito, Detroit Urban
Second Place- Cody Mena, Saginaw Chippewa
Third Place- Sky Gonzalez, Little River Band
(9 and 10)

Female:

First Place- Krystal Davis, Grand River
Second Place- Elizabeth Robinson, Sault Ste. Marie
Third Place- Michelle Smoke, Detroit Urban

Male:

First Place- Justin Boyd, Lansing NAIC
Second Place- Chris Broome, Grand Traverse Band
Third Place- Chris Yopez, Detroit Urban
(11 and 12)

Male:

First Place- Josh Pelcher, Saginaw Chippewa
Second Place- Mike Johnson, Saginaw Chippewa
Third Place- Bucky Shanks, Saginaw Chippewa

100-Yard Dash

(9 and 10)

Female:

First Place- Jackie Pego, Saginaw Chippewa
Second Place- Ricki Durfee, Saginaw Chippewa
Third Place- Ruby Bennett, Saginaw Chippewa

Male:

First Place- Justin Boyd, Lansing NAIC
Second Place- Ronnie Lydel, Detroit Urban
Third Place- Chris Gruber, Detroit Urban
Third Place- Mike Shananaquet, Grand Traverse Band
(11 and 12)

Female:

First Place- Carrie Heron, Saginaw Chippewa
Second Place- Janice Kratz, Grand Traverse Band
Third Place- Cecelia Schwanke, Grand Traverse Band

Male:

First Place- Josh Pelcher, Saginaw Chippewa
Second Place- Mike Johnson, Saginaw Chippewa
Third Place- Bucky Shanks, Saginaw Chippewa



Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik

Seventh-month-old Saginaw Chippewa Tribal member Lucas Martinez competes in the baby crawl during the Games.

(13 and 14)

Female:

First Place- Dana Miller, Grand Traverse Band
Second Place- Stephanie Spencer, Saginaw Chippewa

Male:

First Place- Tim Cass, Grand Rapids
Second Place- Josh Aikens, Detroit Urban
Third Place- Jacob Broome, Grand Traverse Band
(15 and 16)

Female:

First Place- Kim Perry, Sault Ste. Marie
Second Place- Fawn Cass, Grand Rapids
Third Place- N'Davis Pego, Saginaw Chippewa

Male:

First Place- Sam Shinos, Grand Traverse Band
Second Place- Scott Loonsfoot, Grand Rapids
Third Place- Scott Campbell, Detroit Urban
(17 to 19)

Female:

First Place- Shannon Mejia, Lansing NAIC
Second Place- Michelle Kauska, East Jordan

Male:

First Place- Jeremy Wilson, Grand River Band
(20 to 25)

Female:

First Place- Grace Trudell, Detroit Urban
(26 and up)

Female:

First Place- Faith Montoya, Saginaw Chippewa
Second Place- Robin Spencer, Saginaw Chippewa
Third Place- Teri Rueckert, Saginaw Chippewa

Male:

First Place- Mark McIntyre, Lansing NAIC
Second Place- Bill Wilson, Grand River
Third Place- Mel Wilson, Grand Traverse Band

220-Yard Dash

(11 to 13)

Female:

First Place- Cecelia Schwanke, Grand Traverse Band
Second Place- Dana Miller, Grand Traverse Band
Third Place- Rosebud Bear, Detroit Urban

Male:

First Place- Josh Aikens, Detroit Urban
Second Place- Steve Alberts, Grand Traverse Band
Third Place- Josh Pelcher, Saginaw Chippewa
(14 to 16)

Male:

First Place- Frank Wilson, Grand Traverse Band
Second Place- Kevin Shaw, Grand Traverse Band

440-Yard Dash

(13 and 14)

Male:

First Place- Joe Mejia, Lansing NAIC
Second Place- Josh Aikens, Detroit Urban
Third Place- Melvin Wilson, Grand Traverse Band
(15 and 16)

Female:

First Place- Kelly Banks, Detroit Urban
(17 to 19)

Female:

First Place- Shannon Mejia, Lansing NAIC
Male:
First Place- Frank Wilson, Grand Traverse Band

1-Mile Run

(13 to 15)

Female:

First Place- Maia Montoya, Saginaw Chippewa
Male:
First Place- Joe Mejia, Lansing NAIC
Second Place- Frank Wilson, Grand Traverse Band
Third Place- Paul Rueckert, Saginaw Chippewa
(16 to 19)

Female:

First Place- Shannon Mejia, Lansing NAIC
Second Place- Michele Shaw, Grand Traverse Band
(20 to 29)

Male:

First Place- Rick Yannott, Grand Traverse Band
Second Place- David White, Detroit Urban
(30 to 39)

Male:

First Place- Rick Mulholland, Grand Rapids
440-Yard Walk
(30 to 39)

Female:

First Place- Diane Lissfelt, Detroit Urban
Second Place- Alice Oviebo, Detroit Urban
Third Place- Dora Guzman, Detroit Urban

Male:

First Place- Rick Mulholland, Grand Rapids
Second Place- Robert Ryan, Detroit Urban
Third Place- Jack Sowmick, Saginaw Chippewa
(40 to 49)

Female:

First Place- Sally Banks, Detroit Urban
Second Place- Norma Rapp, Saginaw Chippewa
Third Place- Rosa Bear, Detroit Urban

Male:

First Place- Mel Wilson Sr., Grand Traverse Band
Second Place- Dennis McSwiggen, Saginaw Chippewa
(50 to 64)

Female:

First Place- Margaret Sandrock, Detroit Urban
Second Place- Phyllis Kequom, Saginaw Chippewa
Third Place- Grace Pego, Saginaw Chippewa

Male:

First Place- Thurman Bear, Detroit Urban
(65 and up)

Female:

First Place- Geneva Mackety, Saginaw Chippewa
Second Place- Helen Fowler, Saginaw Intertribal
Third Place- Dorothy Cramer, Saginaw Chippewa

Male:

First Place- Frank Kequom, Saginaw Chippewa

440-Yard Pre/Post-Natal Walk

First Place- Stephanie Sprague, Saginaw Chippewa
Second Place- Bobbie Jo Jackson, Saginaw Chippewa
Third Place- Angeline Matson, Saginaw Chippewa

100-Yard Wheelchair Race

First Place- Willie Alberts, Grand Traverse Band

440-Yard Relay

(20 to 29)

Female:

First Place- Grace Trudell, Tammy Ferguson, Allenor Chir and Cynthia Adams; Detroit Urban
(30 to 39)

First Place- Daniel Yopez, David White, Dora Guzman and Diane Lessfelt; Detroit Urban

Second Place- Duane Cornelius, Robert Ryan, Rosa Bear and Alison Oviebo; Detroit Urban
Third Place- Pearl Broome, D. Montroy, Mary Pelcher and Cathy John; Grand Traverse Band

(Any age)

First Place- Kevin Shaw, Frank Wilson, Sam Shinos and Rick Yannott; Grand Traverse Band
Second Place- Jeremy Wilson, Bill Wilson, Andrew Wilson and Doug Wilson; Grand River

Third Place- Maia Montoya, N'Davis Pego, Bear Benz and Josh Pelcher; Saginaw Chippewa

Due to spatial and time limitations, the rest of the results will be in the August issue of the Observer. They will also be accompanied by full coverage of the event

Tribal Matters

TRIBAL COUNCIL:

Gail Jackson, Tribal Chief
 Timothy Davis, Tribal Sub-Chief
 Mary Lynne Chippeway, Treasurer
 Gerald Slater, Sergeant-At-Arms
 Gary Quigno, Secretary
 William Federico, Member
 Beatrice Colwell, Member
 Ronald Jackson, Member
 Arlene Molina, Member
 Lorna Kahgegab Call, Member
 Julius Peters, Member
 John Hart Sr., Member

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:

Gail Jackson, Tribal Chief
 Timothy Davis, Tribal Sub-Chief
 Mary Lynne Chippeway, Treasurer
 Gary Quigno, Secretary

GAMING COMMISSION:

Gail Jackson
 Timothy Davis
 Mary Lynne Chippeway
 Ronald Jackson
 Arlene Molina
 Shelly Foster
 Sue Durfee
 Charmaine Benz
 Patricia Peters
 William Federico
 Julius Peters

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 Gary Quigno
 Julius Peters

FINANCE COMMITTEE:

Gail Jackson
 Timothy Davis
 Mary Lynne Chippeway
 Ronald Jackson
 Lorna Kahgegab Call

LEGAL COMMITTEE:

Gail Jackson
 Timothy Davis
 Mary Lynne Chippeway
 Beatrice Colwell
 John Hart Sr.

Contributions to governmental bodies from gaming funds about \$2.7 million

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe has made contributions totalling about \$2.7 million to state and local governments, the Tribal Council announced recently.

Payments were made to the following governments in the amounts indicated:

State of Michigan	\$2,127,051
Isabella County	\$434,603
Chippewa Township, Isabella County	\$37,286
Arenac County	\$30,000
Deerfield Township, Isabella County	\$5,974
Wise Township, Isabella County	\$5,974
Nottawa Township, Isabella County	\$5,974
Standish Township, Arenac County	\$5,974
Lincoln Township, Arenac County	\$5,974

These payments were made pursuant to an agreement reached last August between the state and its seven federally-recognized Indian Tribes which requires contributions of a fixed percentage of Tribal

gaming revenues.

"I am well aware of the positive impact the success of the Tribe's operation has had on the economic outlook for the Indian community and the Mt. Pleasant community as a whole," said Sen. Joanne Emmons, R-Big Rapids. "For that reason, I was an outspoken supporter of the timely finalization of the Gaming Compact."

Emmons represents the 23rd State Senate District which includes Isabella, Mecosta, Barry, Ionia and Montcalm counties.

Payments to the local governments are to be made on a semiannual basis to assist with the cost of governmental services to the community and to offset costs associated with the impact of Tribal casino's on local governments.

Tribal Public Relations Director Joseph Sowmick remarked, "the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe has seen an economic resurgence and will continue to grow through reinvestment in our local communities."

Investment possibilities

Tribe ironing out options to help educate members about finances

By Scott Csernyik

It's looked at as a way of helping Tribal members bank on a financially secure future through investing their time in an upcoming educational opportunity.

In an effort to help provide an understanding of these financial options, the Tribe's Finance Committee and officials from Isabella Bank and Trust are hammering out plans for providing information on investments.

The Mt. Pleasant-based institution has recently started a brokerage subsidiary, Wall Street Corner at Isabella Bank. Investment Counselor Paul Siers, who also is the bank's vice president and trust officer, has been closely working on the educational project with the Finance Committee, including Treasurer Mary Lynne Chippeway.

"These classes may be an opportunity for Tribal members to take a portion of their per capita checks

and invest them wisely for the future," she said. "Why blow all of this money on today?"

The adults and youth need to educate ourselves about saving toward the future as a chance to grow. I believe if you are to teach someone the value of money when they are young, then there will be a positive effect down-the-line."

Siers, who also is a certified trust and financial adviser, said he has witnessed a need to educate Tribal members on the alternative investment product choices.

"We're talking about long-term investment goals that may be best met through conservative mutual funds," he said. "This is purely an education seminar and not a sales pitch."

It's important to help Tribal members understand and to know what is out there. Once they have these educational tools, they can shop around and find

(See INVEST page 11)



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Board to meet on July 23

The Michigan Indian Legal Services Board of Trustees will meet at 1 p.m. on July 23 at 160 East State Street, lower level, in Traverse City. The public is encouraged and invited to attend.

Recycling reminder

The Isabella Reservation Recycling Depot is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., as well as every second and fourth Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. If no one is visibly there, the gate is still open.

All doors are labeled for proper placement. Please break down all cardboard boxes. Your effort is greatly appreciated.

-Submitted by Keith Bertrand

Saginaw Chippewa Depot Manager



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Football player to shine with high school all-stars

Mt. Pleasant High School Class of '94 graduate Vinnie Kequom will be one of 88 players taking to the gridiron during the 14th Annual Michigan High School East-West All-Star game on July 30 at Spartan Stadium on the Michigan State University campus in East Lansing.

Kequom, who'll be attending Grand Valley State University in the fall, said he's been spending some of his spare time this summer weight lifting and running. He also plans on trying out for the Division II school's gridiron squad.

He also said he's looking forward to the upcoming football game at MSU.

"It'll be a good time," he commented.

Kequom will be playing for the West All-Stars, who are behind the series to the East by one game. Last year, the East All-Stars blanked the West, 29-0.

The East All-Stars are selected from nominees whose schools are located in Wayne, Oakland, Monroe, St. Clair, Lapeer, Sanilac, Huron, Macomb and Tuscola counties. This represents 229 high schools and about 269,300 students. West players are chosen from schools located in the counties not previously listed and consists of 418 high schools and about 277,900 students.

Purpose of the game is to first promote high school football in the state, as well as raise money for the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Scholarship Fund, according to All Star Chairman Larry Rueger.

The game is expected to be televised on Pro Am Sports Systems (PASS) and tickets at the gate will cost \$6 each. All-Star game tickets can be ordered through Jim Clawson, 21681 Thorofare, Grosse Ile, Mich. 48138 and checks can be made out to the MHSFCA. One must also include a self-addressed envelope.

Partnership targets healthy lifestyles as major priority

By Kristen Ratkos

Where have we been?

Where are we going?

Members of the Circle of Health Partnership (COHP) contemplated these questions and formulated answers at their second annual retreat conducted at the Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center of Higgins Lake June 16 and 17.

The organization is devoted to promoting healthy lifestyles and preventing alcohol and substance abuse. It consists of representatives from the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe, Central Michigan University, along with several other organizations within Isabella and Midland counties.

About 50 people who shared this common goal engaged in two days of discussion, activities and fellowship at the rustic lakeside setting.

"I'm hoping that we'll be able to have a new sense of togetherness," said Kathleen Miller, project director for COHP. "That we'll be able to decide that yes, we are all very unique communities, but that we also have a lot of common themes."

In order to explore the paths the organization had taken and examine future direction, the group divided into respective resource teams.

Lisa Wixson, community prevention planner for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, led the group discussing Tribal issues.

"One of our main focuses on the Reservation is alternative activities," Wixson said. "That's what our community wants and that's what we're really good at."

Examples of this included The Human Race, Freedom Walk, Indian Family Olympics and Community Feast. Participants also mentioned other projects in the works such as a self-esteem poster and video about alcohol and substance abuse.

Tribal strengths centered on culture, continued economic growth and development, an increase of funds for programs, along with mandatory drug



Observer Photo/Courtesy

Pictured left to right, Joe Sowmick, Lisa Wixson, Charmaine Benz, Dottie Batchelder, Margaret Grewe and Kathleen Miller.

testing of Tribal employees and elected officials.

An additional asset stated was the Soaring Eagle Casino is the only gaming facility statewide that does not serve alcohol. Another issue the group reached a consensus about is the necessity of unity.

"Historically, Native American people are family-oriented," Wixson said. "All the people are involved and it's not just focused on one group."

Looking ahead, participants listed goals they anticipate reaching and plans to expedite them. A stronger community commitment to healthy lifestyles was also listed as a priority, along with increased awareness of alcohol and substance abuse.

They also discussed tobacco, expressing a desire for people to learn the traditional uses in order to refrain from abuse.

The group concurred recognition of Tribal members who are positive role models, while also enlisting other traditional community leaders that would benefit the community. Some commented

increased involvement on the part of parents with children could also reap positive results.

Several groups would be targeted to assist in accomplishing the various goals. These include the Tribal Council, supervisors for various areas including the card room, parents, youth and educational services. Employees seeking substance abuse services and education, should receive assistance, the group added.

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, a condition which may inflict children of women who consumed alcohol during pregnancy, is an issue deserving attention as well. Educating young parents at the Parent Child Center could have a positive impact, participants suggested.

(See RETREAT page 9)

Saginaw Valley Indian Association Second Annual Powwow

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Community supports gatherings

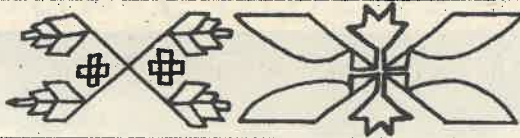
At-Large community gatherings were attended by about 125 Tribal members and their families, with the Region 4 having the highest turnout.

The Region 4 meeting took place in Bridgeport, and includes members from the Saginaw, Flint and surrounding areas.

The agenda included introductions of the At-Large Program Committee and staff, reports, discussions, as well as a question and answer session. Some of the topics discussed include Elder activities, medical coverage and open enrollment.

The next set of community gatherings is tentatively scheduled for August and September.

Your participation is welcomed and we hope to see you there!



Recreational ideas needed for program

The At-Large Program is looking for ideas for future activities. It would be beneficial for the Benefits Committee to hear and see your ideas. If you have any interesting or unique places or activities that may appeal to different age groups, submit them to:

Amy F. Alberts
At-Large Advocate
7070 E. Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, Mich. 48858

The submitted ideas may be considered for the upcoming activities.

Weaving tradition and technology

The At-Large Program is reviewing the possi-

HOSTS AND HOSTESSES NEEDED!

The At-Large Program is seeking three individuals willing to volunteer for the At-Large seniors' trip to Sault Ste. Marie on August 11-13

Volunteers will be required to assist Elders and the coordinator with certain needs, as well as being responsible for bus roll calls

If interested, please send name and address to:

At-Large Program
7070 E. Broadway

Mt. Pleasant, Mich. 48858

Names need to be submitted by July 23

bility of providing a opportunity for enrolled Tribal members to attend workshops and/or conferences of an educational manner.

Currently, the Benefits Committee is considering the possibility of those who express an interest in the "Weaving Tradition and Technology" conference organized through the American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES).

If you are interested in more information regarding this particular conference, packets may be requested through the At-Large Program by calling (800)-225-8172 (in-state) or (517) 772-5700 for all other areas.

The registration and additional information must be returned by Aug. 5 with no exceptions. Those applications submitted will be reviewed and a determination will be made during the regular At-Large Benefits Committee meeting in August.

Entertainment complex to feature Tribal symbolism through design

By Scott Csernyik

While certain woodland creatures have been a major influence on the Ojibwe culture, they'll also be a major part as architectural imagery with the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe's multi-use entertainment complex.

Playing a major role in this phase is AmerINDIAN Architecture. The Minnesota-based design team is led by Native American Dennis Sun Rhodes and business partner Dan Feidt.

Rhodes is an enrolled member of the Northern Arapaho Tribe of the Wind River Indian Reservation of West Central Wyoming with over 21 years of experience.

Stressing a sensitivity to "Indian space needs, Tribal identity, heritage and symbolism," AmerINDIAN projects include, The Turtle at Native American Center for the Living Arts in Niagara Falls, N.Y.; Pine Point Experimental School at the White Earth Indian Reservation in Minnesota and Little Wound High School on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

During the selection process of the architect and engineering design team on May 12, Rhodes stressed the importance of American Indian architectural icons.

"At one time, we were the ultimate stewards of the Earth," Rhodes said. "You want them to leave here with something and that can be education."

Since that time, Rhodes has stuck to his pledge of meeting with the Tribal community to deter-

mine the local importance of symbolism. Those talks included a June 10 gathering at the Sowmick Senior Center.

"Some of these things are very important in finding out how Tribes relate to the symbols in a con-



Observer Photo/Joe Sowm

DENNIS SUN RHODES

temporary way," he stated to the group of about a dozen. "They're important for us to know so we can use those symbols as part of our design interpretation."

In creating successful architectural design, Rhodes has developed a philosophy that "translates Indian cultural identities, heritage and symbolism into contemporary architecture."

Whether it's designing a building the shape of a turtle, including a female symbol such as the moor

(See ARCHITECTURE page 1)

POWWOW & EVENTS SCHEDULE

July 1-3 13th Annual Traditional Powwow and Spiritual Conference at Sault Ste. Marie on the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians' Reservation on Shunk Road. For more information call (906) 635-6050.

July 2 and 3 22nd Annual Oneida Powwow in Oneida, Wisc. at the Norbert Hill Center on Seminary Road of Highway 54. Free camping. For more information call (414) 833-6760 after 5 p.m. or write Oneida Powwow Committee - P.O. Box 365 Oneida, Wisc. 54155.

July 2 and 3 International Year of the Indigenous People Powwow '94 in London, Ontario. Annual Heritage Celebration at the Longwoods Conservation Area. For more information, contact N'Amerind at (519) 672-0131.

July 8 Michigan Commission on Indian Affairs Annual Commission meeting at Mackinac Island. For more information, contact (517) 373-0654.

July 9 and 10 Annual Kettle Point & Stony Point First Nation's Powwow at Kettle Point, London, Ontario. Sponsored by the Kettle & Stony Point First Nation. For more information, call (519) 786-6680.

July 12-17 21st Annual Honor the Earth Traditional Powwow in Hayward, Wisc. Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibawa; location: Junctions "K" and "E". For more information, call (715) 634-2100.

July 16 and 17 Walk in the Spirit Powwow at Dowagiac. At the Sacred Heart of Mary Church Grounds on 51841 Leach Road. For more information, contact Sr. Anne at (616) 782-5298.

July 16 and 17 Ninth Annual Bay City Powwow in Bay City at Veteran Memorial Park. For more information, contact April Borton at (517) 772-5700.

July 16 and 17 Walpole Island Annual Powwow at Walpole Island, Ontario. For more information, call (519) 627-1476.

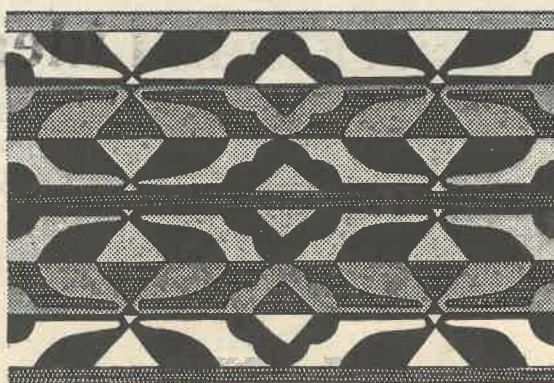
July 22-25 16th Annual Spiritual Conference & Traditional Powwow in Barga at the Ojibway Campground- Home of the Original Midnight Two-Step World Championship. For more information, contact (906) 353-6623.

July 23-24 10th Annual "Honoring Our Heritage" Powwow in Flint at the Clio Firemen Park on Dixie Highway (Dort Highway). Sponsored by the Genesee Valley Indian Association. For more information, contact (313) 239-6621.

July 23-24 Grand River's Champion of Champion's Powwow in Brantford, Ontario at the Six Nation Chief's Wood Tent Trailer Park on Highway 54, eight miles east of Brantford, Ontario. For more information, contact (519) 446-4391.

July 30-31 Second Annual Saginaw Valley Indian Association Powwow in Bay City at the Bay County Fairgrounds. For more information, call Sue Majeske/Mike Salgat at (517) 684-1399 or Craig Wayne at (517) 846-6451.

July 30-Aug. 1 34th Annual Wikwemikong Indian Day Powwow in Manitoulin, Ontario at the Powwow grounds. For more information, call (705) 859-3122 or (705) 859-2385 or fax at (705) 859-3851.



Aug. 6 and 7 Little Elk's Retreat Traditional Powwow in Mt. Pleasant at the Saginaw Chippewa Campground on Tomah Road. Friday night ground blessing and camping is also available by contacting Tribal Center at (517) 772-5700.

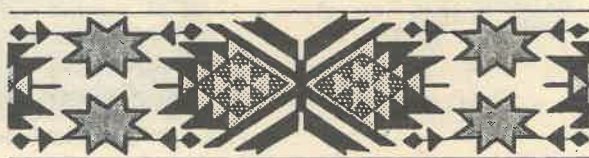
Aug. 6 and 7 Land of the Menominee Powwow in Keshena, Wis. at the Woodland Bowl. For more information, contact (715) 799-5114.

Aug. 13 and 14 18th Annual Traditional Leonard J. Pamp Powwow in Burlington. For more information, contact Bea Pamp at (616) 729-9434.

Aug. 20 and 21 12th Annual Traditional Powwow in Lebanon, Ind. at the Boone County 4-H Grounds. For more information, contact Nancy Malaterre at (317) 482-3315 or Susie Deem at (317) 545-5057.

Aug. 26-28 Fifth Annual Traditional Anishnabeg Mon-Weh Indian Center Powwow in Rapid River at the Tri-Township School on 10070 Highway #2. For more information, call (906) 786-0556.

Aug. 27 and 28 Windsor Ontario Canada Second Annual Competition Powwow. For more information, contact Allen Henry at (519) 948-8365 or Jean Gagnon at (519) 973-9192.



Observer Photo/Courtesy

JAMES AND JANICE HILL

Couple exchanges vows

James T. Hill and Janice M. Quigno, daughter of Ben and Mary Quigno, were married May 23, 1994 in Carefree, Ariz. A reception was conducted at the Blue Bird Cafe and Books where they are employed. They spent the Memorial Day weekend visiting relatives in Mt. Pleasant.



Campgrounds open



Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik

The Saginaw Chippewa Campgrounds is open for those looking to get away to the great outdoors.

Located in a rustic setting affectionately known as "The Hill," is the Saginaw Chippewa Campgrounds.

And with the advent of warm weather, the campgrounds is open to those looking for a place to relax and enjoy outdoor living while in Mt. Pleasant.

The Saginaw Chippewa Campgrounds are located at 7498 E. Tomah Road, which is about one mile south of Broadway and Leaton roads.

The campgrounds have running water, electricity and showers. Rates are as follows:

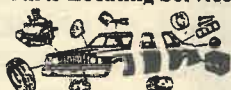
- \$10 - one day
- \$20 - up to three days
- \$40 - five days
- \$50 - seven days

Reservations for the campgrounds may be made by contacting the Soaring Eagle Maintenance Department at (517) 775-3823 or Soaring Eagle Gaming at (517) 772-1212. If one has any questions or complaints, please call Bernie Sprague at (517) 772-1212.



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Tribal support sparks positive community reaction

By Kristen Ratkos

Music, laughter, children playing, cotton candy, carnival rides and fireworks combined to make the 10th Annual Mt. Pleasant Summer Festival a fun family-oriented event June 10 through 12. Thousands of people from mid-Michigan, including Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members, gathered together in the spirit of community harmony at Island Park to enjoy the festivities. And for the first time, fireworks were featured for two nights. This first-time event, sponsored by the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe, was reminiscent of displays in the park 10 years ago, said Tribal Communications and Public Relations Director Joseph Sowmick.

The Tribe's Finance Committee approved a \$5,000 contribution to festival organizers for the two-night show, put on by Melrose Pyrotechnics, Inc. of Indiana. The other major sponsor of this year's Summer Festival was Morbark Industries of Winn. "It was a good will gesture on the part of the Tribe to give back to a lot of the community," Sowmick also said.

Using a gauge of positive responses of Tribal members and employees, Sowmick said they hope to have the opportunity again next year. Community members participating in the events expressed appreciation for the fireworks and other contributions of the Tribe.

"I think it's really good. I like that idea because my kids and I can go out together and see it," Mt. Pleasant resident Carla Beaton said. "I think (the Tribe) has a pretty good influence because they have a lot to offer the community." Tamy Bruce of Mt. Pleasant shared this opinion of a positive Tribal impact.



Observer Photo/Christi Belfi
Two nights of fireworks dazzled thousands of mid-Michigan residents on June 10 and 11.

works," said Doug Sias. "I think they're starting to do a lot for the community now." Mt. Pleasant Fire Department employee Mike Klein, said he is thankful for the generous help the Tribe has provided to various Isabella County emergency service agencies.

"They've done a lot for this community and they keep growing every year with it," he said. "It's a good thing. They've done a lot of good, a lot of positive things." "I think it's good because I hear a lot of comments about the Indians - a lot of people say they just sit over there and don't do anything and don't contribute," Shepherd resident Eric Stattle said. "Things like this get back to those people and show them that they're doing something. I don't like the casino idea, because I don't gamble."



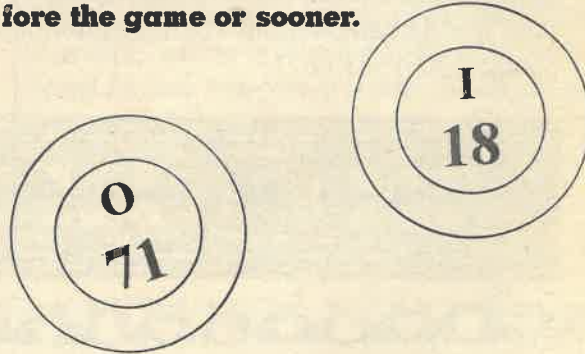
Observer Photo/Scott Csornyik
Four-year-old Meaghan Rachor spent some time on the midway with her six-year-old brother, Ben. The children were accompanied by Kristi, their mother.

However, several other people commented on the positive impact the casino has had on the community. "I think it's really nice the Tribe is sponsoring this and giving something back to the community," said Mt. Pleasant resident Mark Weaver. "I think the casino operation has really added a lot to the local economy, a lot of employment, and I think that's wonderful." "The casino has been really great for the county. I think it's provided a lot of jobs, so that's really good," agreed Mt. Pleasant's Dave Zerbe. "I think its (the casino) brought a lot of people in... a lot of people like to gamble and things like that. It's going to bring a lot of money in," said Leilani Bigelow of Shepherd. But the big pay out for a lot of folks came in the form of bursting skyrockets and booming noises over the downtown Mt. Pleasant park. "The fireworks is a wonderful idea," a Clare woman who wished not to be identified said. "It's wonderful for the (Saginaw) Chippewa Indians to sponsor because they got a lot of people into Mt. Pleasant."



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Observer Photo/Scott Csornyik
Native Americans Sheridan Pelcher (left), Ben Hinmon and Candace Vasquez volunteered some of their spare time to work at the festival, including the Beverage Tent on June 10.

"I think they bring a lot of things into the community and I don't think they really take much out," she added. Her sentiments were echoed by others who thought the fireworks helped get the festival started off with a bang. "It's nice the Tribe has something to do with it because they influence the community so much anyway," said Central Michigan University student Brett Benthall. "I think that's what makes Mt. Pleasant what it is - between Central and the Native American influence." One Mt. Pleasant resident believes the Tribe is giving more as they've gained finances. "I think it's good they're helping sponsor the fire-

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Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik



Observer Photo/Christi Belfi

What goes up...must have been launched from the ground

The Van Loo family takes a break while setting up for the June 10 fireworks display at Pickens Field as part of Mt. Pleasant Summer Festival activities. Pictured to the left is son Mike, along with parents Ted and Carol, who operate Melrose Pyrotechnics, Inc. The results of their hard work and creative efforts delighted thousands of festival goers, who witnessed spectacular explosions of color and noise above Island Park. The two nights of fireworks were sponsored by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Retreat

(Continued from page 5)

Members of the Tribal resource team commented on the retreat's impact.

"I think we're making headway, but I think there's always roadblocks," Wixson said. "I think there is a lot of healing that needs to go on and it definitely needs to start before this is actually going to be a 100 percent success."

Dottie Batchelder, counselor/program developer for Ojibwe substance abuse program, talked about how the retreat may benefit the Tribe.

"With the resource team we have some support for what we're trying to plan," she said. "The sessions gave them ideas of how we're going to address community commitment and how we can be more supportive of role models in the community."

It also shows some of the planning that we need to do with our program towards presentations for the parents and for the school system."

Working together, Miller said, is the key to success.

"Community prevention is the way of the future," she said. "We really need your assistance in teaching us more cultural diversity issues and helping us to become better people in sharing."

"It's really going to take all of us to work together in order to have a dent in the community—the bigger community as in Isabella County and Midland County."



Observer Photo/Jason Prieur

Helping out

Lending a hand in cleaning up Housing and Trailer Park areas of the Reservation on June 13 are, pictured from left to right, Miles Luft, Eli Bennett, Nick Vasquez (kneeling), Keith Bennett, Adam Luft, Stephanie Starkey, Chuck Luft and Matthew Starkey. Standing behind the children is Youth Activities Coordinator Kevin Chamberlain. The group picked up trash from 1 to 4 p.m. and were paid \$1 for each bag they filled. The enterprising youth filled 29 trash bags and were also rewarded with a pizza and pop party. Not pictured is Kyle Wilson, Seryna Sprague, Raini Sprague and Ron Sprague.

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InnerView

(Editor's note: The "Young Dreams" Dance Troupe from Red Lake Nation, Minn. came to our Reservation for a June 8 performance at Central Michigan University's Warriner Auditorium. Milton Pelcher and the Seventh Generation Program provided a community cookout for Harland Downwind, Lee Lousher, Sr., Myron Barrett and the rest of the troupe. The three warriors from Red Lake Nation were interviewed by Joe Sownick).

Tribal Observer: The Red Lake Nation's Young Dreams Dance Troupe brings forth a message of sobriety and healthy lifestyles for our youth. When did the troupe form?

Harland Downwind: "Well, it came about as a concept in 1992. We (some people from Red Lake) went dancing in Amsterdam with a group sort of like the American Indian Dance Theatre. We were there for 10 days. Then when we came home, we went and saw the American Indian Dance Theatre and took a group of kids. And on the way back, we said, "what if we could do something like that, if we could put that together?" We had the dancers and we had the drum, the Eyabay drum, who really is the backbone of the performance because of their music. Their music is so full of energy and power and makes the dances perform a lot better. When we got home we decided that we will put some acts together, using our culture and facing modern day problems. So we sat down and wrote the scripts and the program. Pretty much from there, we got the kids to come, and they started practicing. This was back in 1991. We practiced all that fall and winter and those kids gave up their free days - their days out of school, their evenings and even their weekends to come and learn skits and how to dance. Many of our dancers have never danced before and they were just starting out ... and asking a lot of questions.

T.O.: How did the unique idea of developing a sobriety message with traditional dance and culture come about?

H.D.: The concept was that we would portray a message instead of just doing a dance show and have the kids come out and dance. Since one of the biggest problems still facing Indian people in the country is alcoholism, we figured we would put on a prevention type of program, so that's the way we decided it would work best for us. That way we could take it out to other communities across the country and show how our traditions support a sober lifestyle.

T.O.: You must have many requests from Indian Country to come bring your message. Have you found yourself travelling to many Native communities this year?

H.D.: Well this has been our biggest and longest tour here, the one where we went on the most stops away from home. But we're getting real popular. People are starting to use us, and they're calling for us to come out. We feel it is an honor to share are dance and music with our people.

T.O.: Myron, what are your feelings on your Red Lake Nation youth coming together? As an Elder that travels with the group, it must make you feel very proud.

Myron Barrett: Since we had our kids as a group and seeing them perform and seeing the emotions at our Reservation - coming to Reservations such as yours and seeing the emotions from the crowd - it makes it all worthwhile in the three years we've put into it.

T.O.: I know you talked about the heart of the drum



Observer Photo/Christi Belfi

The "Young Dreams" Dance Troupe from Red Lake Nation, Minn. are currently embarked on their biggest and longest tour. They performed in Mt. Pleasant at Central Michigan University's Warriner Auditorium on June 8.

in the performance, what is the importance of the drum that you bring with your young dancers?

M.B.: The importance of the Eyabay drum that we have with us, the boys that are honored, they all have respect for themselves in their drum and the community that we're from. The songs that they sing, they sing with pride, with dignity and with honor for everybody. It makes us feel good and we want to dance when they're up there singing.

T.O.: With your youth dancers, is there a lot of encouragement for them to get into the drum group, or do they form their own drum group inside the troupe?

M.B.: No, nobody tried to copy us on the Reservation. We work in a school and let the kids know about the dance troupe. If they want to join, all you have to do is come talk to us and we'll get them to be a part somehow. That's how our little kids are getting involved.



Observer Photo/Christi Belfi

The troupe encourages audience participants in its performances, evident in this "Friendship Dance."

T.O.: Myron mentioned the school, is that the Indian school for your Native youth there?

Lee Lousher, Sr.: It's an all-Indian school. We have three of them on the Reservation that we currently go into. We do self-help programs for the kids, wellness programs, cultural curriculum for the kids dealing with the stories, the legends, how they can feel good about themselves and who they are, and being proud of it, and how to carry that with them throughout life. And one of the things that we stress with our kids is that they feel good enough about themselves. They don't have to use chemicals, no matter what form it comes in; alcohol, drugs, inhalants, or whatever it is. Hopefully your kids are going to pick up on this in the performance. The kids we have involved in our dance troupe are all chemically free. The message that they're trying to carry to other kids on other reservations from other areas is they want to show them there's a good life out there without the chemicals. Their performances, they try to really reach out to other young Indian kids from no matter where. All the different reservations that we've visited, our kids have gotten along real good and they're not afraid to share some of the things they use to help them stay straight. The other message is that they're telling other kids all over, that it's okay to be straight, there's nothing wrong with it. That's a lifestyle we should be leading.

"The songs that they sing, they sing with pride, with dignity and with honor for everybody."

T.O.: With the ages of your group, you constantly have new people come in; is it something that's done within your school for the troupe?

L.L.: Ever since we started, we've encouraged our young people in the schools, those that are wanting to stay straight, that there is opportunity to get involved in us. The one thing that we ask of the kids is that they maintain their sobriety, that they don't get into chemical use. The other thing that we stress really heavily is the education part of it. All our kids have got to maintain their grades as we go and perform different places. So they've got to maintain their own personal things like their sobriety and their education - that comes first and these other things are a part of it.

T.O.: When you get people to come see your performance in other communities, what are your hopes that are going to be provided by your dancers and your troupe.

H.D.: The message that I'd like to leave wherever we go is that there's a lot of problems and issues young people are facing, and we'd like to leave the message of hope, that there's a better way. Things are good for us. They see us up there really enjoying what we're doing; that our culture is alive and strong and that's where we as Indian people need to turn in order to get our answer. It seems real mixed up to me to that we should have to go to the white man for answers to our problems. We should find that within our own circles with our own Elders and in our own communities. That's the message I'd like to leave - if you have a problem, there are Indian people here that can help you. Every reservation we go to, there are Elders that have the answers for young people. We're fortunate at Red Lake where there's a lot of Elders and there's a lot of people teaching to us about how to maintain a balance in our life. A balance of culture, spirituality, mental health and a positive lifestyle and still have a good life. That's what we

(See TROUPE page 11)

Troupe

(Continued from page 10)

are put here for - to help each other to have a good life. And they see the dancers up on stage doing that. You can just see it in our dancers and our singers ... all of us that travel together have the same kind of lifestyle. They don't have to turn to drugs and alcohol. They don't have to turn to those kind of things to feel better. There's other ways. Get out there and start dancing. There's a lot of older people who don't know how to do that either, they don't know how to get into it. It's so easy. You just start the way a lot of us started when we first quit drinking. We started chasing Powwows. We didn't dance, we just watched. Pretty soon we were singing, we were dancing, and at home we were doing a lot of the cultural things we need to do and it just falls right into place. It just takes a few people to get it going. That's the kind of message I hope people get through the troupe. And look at their own lifestyle, if they're drinking and partying and having a lot of problems maybe they need to look at a different lifestyle. That's the kind of message. Especially for young kids. They don't need to do that to be cool, they don't need to do that to be accepted. What we're doing is the kids become the leaders in their communities. It's a leadership type of thing and your leaders will emerge if you have some cultural activities happen.

T.O.: If anyone wanted to get into contact with Young Dreams from Red Lake, Minn., how would they go about bringing your troupe to their community?

H.D.: Call Red Lake at (218) 679-3392 or (218) 679-3321 and ask for Marge Morgan. You can get in touch with the troupe by writing Red Lake Rehab. Program, P.O. Box 114, Red Lake, Minn. 56671.



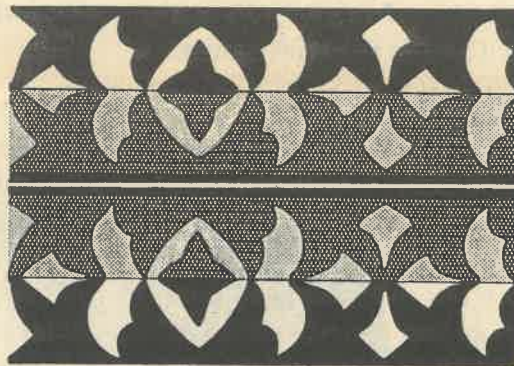
The group receives a standing ovation during their curtain call.

Observer Photo/Joe Sowmick



Observer Photo/Joe Sowmick

Pictured from left to right, Lee Lousher Sr., Myron Barrett and Harlan Downwind.



Community moved by troupe performance

"A lot of times everyone says, 'we need to do something.' I was quite surprised that the Red Lake dance troupe also had a message about alcohol, which has done quite a bit of damage to the Native population. And for them to get up there and have this whole story about that is quite remarkable, and when we start talking about role models, that's what we need. Myself, working in the field of alcohol prevention and relapse, I've automatically put myself in that spot. Although I'm not as highly visible as this group is and I commend them greatly for what they're doing."

-Patrick Wilson, Chemical Dependency After-Care Counselor, Ojibwe Substance Abuse Services

"I think the kids bring a real powerful message about substance abuse and they're really good role models. I think they have an excellent way of communicating that to the people. I'm glad they could be there. I think that the message that they bring regarding learning the traditional ways and using those as tools for healing is a way that is something that we all value and it's a very integral part of our culture and our being. I'm glad that they're incorporating that."

-Charmaine Benz, Program Director for Ojibwe Substance Abuse Services

Invest

(Continued from page 4)

investment vehicles appropriate for them."

Siers said the investment options could primarily focus on conservative mutual funds. A mutual fund is an open-end investment company that invests money from its shareholders in a diversified group of securities, such as stocks or bonds.

He also stressed an interactive relationship with the Tribe before the seminar classes are planned.

"I would frankly appreciate Tribal member input in developing the seminar," Siers stated.



Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik

Tribal Council Treasurer and Finance Committee member Mary Lynne Chippeway goes over some financial information with Investment Counselor Paul Siers.

To help expedite this process, Tribal members can circle the interests in filling out the following form and mail it to Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Op-

erations, 7070 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, Mich. 48858 or by phoning their choices to Chippeway at (517) 772-5700, extension 231.

Yes, I am interested in seminars discussing (circle as many as one wishes):

- MUTUAL FUNDS
- BANK ACCOUNTS
- LOANS
- ESTATE (WILLS AND TRUST) PLANNING
- OTHER _____

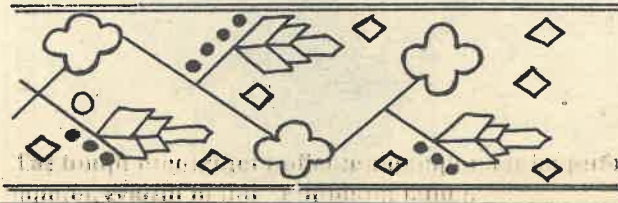
Preferred seminar meeting time:

- MORNING
- AFTERNOON
- EVENING
- JULY
- AUGUST
- SEPTEMBER

Name _____
Phone _____

In arranging the educational sessions, Chippeway said it is important Tribal members learn about financial options in the marketplace.

"Money spent is money gone," she stated. "But money invested, could provide personal room to grow. It's an opportunity for this Tribe to join hands with the bank in a cooperative spirit."



Group offers training

Center One (ORBIS) would like to come to our Tribe and provide training for the staff and board. The training will include tutoring techniques and board by-laws.

I feel this is an excellent opportunity for us to receive this training at no charge to the Tribe. I'm sure the information we will receive will be beneficial for our education program.

The training is scheduled for July 6 at 10 a.m. for the tutor training and 1 p.m. for the board by-law training. The training will only go until 3 p.m.

The Education Department has also been asked to host the Center One fall training, scheduled for Oct. 6 and 7. It's very exciting for Center One to request us to host these trainings. I hope you will be able to attend either or both. Please mark your calendars. I will be looking forward to seeing you.

-Submitted by Carla Sineway
Education Director

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Health

Diabetic victims remembered during Walk



About 20 people get ready to participate in the June 1 Memorial Walk conducted in remembrance of those who have suffered with diabetes and its complications.

Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik

By Lois Bush, RN
Diabetes Coordinator

The Memorial Walk, which took place on June 1, was another program developed this year to increase awareness of the number of persons who have suffered with diabetes and its complications in this community.

The event was co-sponsored by the Diabetes Program and the Seventh Generation Project, which is funded through the Tribe and the Kellogg Foundation.

The group walked from the Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center to the Elijah Elk Cultural Center where they enjoyed a picnic supper of charbroiled chicken and hamburgers, as well as those great

homemade pot luck dishes brought by the community participants.

Congratulations again to Cindy Floyd who won the Weber charcoal grill and Kyle Wilson who won the youth bike. Each participant who walked to remember someone who had suffered with diabetes was given a Cedar tree to plant in their memory.

We truly appreciate the beverage donations from the Soaring Eagle Bingo concession and to all the staff who cooked- Steven, Susan, Scott, Sandy, Mary and Ida Mae- Megwetch!

I'd also like to thank each participant for their attendance and to all the Tribal employees who worked hard in this joint venture.

Employees affirm substance abuse problems with youth

As a result of experience with the Native American youth of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, we can attest to the presence of drug activity on a regular basis.

Children as young as eight-years-old are being introduced to a variety of inhalants and a steady flow of marijuana. We have witnessed or overheard youth of all ages comment on getting high with the previously mentioned ways.

Given percentages, a fair estimate is that 70 to 80 percent of the youth on our Reservation are introduced to marijuana before they are 10-years-old. Of that figure, 60 to 70 percent will smoke it just to be "cool" and unfortunately, 80 to 90 percent of those kids will continue to smoke it as they become addicted or as they find themselves with not a whole lot more to do or live for anyway.

Some Tribal youth are also subject to parents using cocaine on a regular basis. Will these children pick it up? As mentioned, there is also the presence of inhalants in the community. As an estimate, we believe that 60 to 70 percent of our youth have been asked to sniff, and about 80 to 90 percent of these kids have at least tried. We have three confirmed cases of extreme use which has already permanently affect these youth. The presence of alcohol in our community is commonplace, it is a "given."

The youth of this community have to deal with so many different troubles, those that even young adults have a hard time handling. It is, we feel these pressures and inconsistencies in their lives that push them right into the drug scene.

(See YOUTH page 13)

Nutritionist's advice is food for thought

By Jason Prieur

Learning to eat right and what foods are best for you are important to a healthy life-style, advises Tribal nutritionist Carolyn Yager.

She has been working for the Tribe since 1985 until she took a leave of absence for the birth of her daughter. Yager returned to work as in January.

Yager is available to everyone in the community who has nutritional questions or concerns about a healthy diet. She has recently started to offer individual and group counseling to get people in the know.

Some of the special concerns when it comes to Tribal members are diabetes and heart problems, as well as weight management.

"Diabetes is the biggest health concern for many Native Americans," said Yager.

She would like to teach the community about early detection and what preventive measures can be taken to avoid any unnecessary health risks. Yager stresses the value of exercise and a healthy



Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik

CAROLYN YAGER

eating habit to help prevent or control diabetes.

The nutritionist completed her undergraduate

(See FOOD page 13)

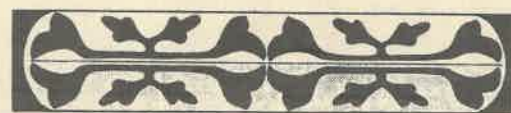
Down the "Red Road"

As I begin my journey down the Red Road, I find my vision becoming blurry. I begin to see patterns of hatred, jealousy and power. That's not what I am supposed to be seeing. As an Anishnabe, I am supposed to be seeing love, harmony, balance and unity. Instead, I see the Anishnabe positioning themselves higher than the eagle.

As a youth, I see others being torn apart, being told who to communicate with, how to act and how to speak. But not me. I will balance myself with everyone. I will walk the new Red Road and learn to speak, communicate and act toward others as for they are my brothers and sisters.

After all, that is what the Anishnabe stands for.

-Anonymous



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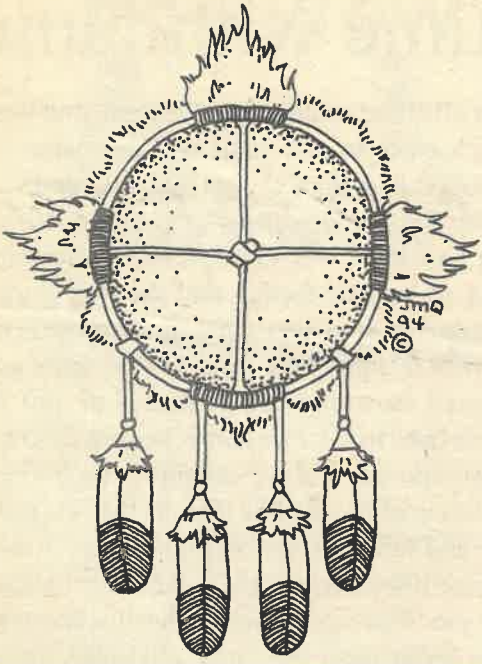
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Exercising patience with clinic phones

It has been reported that the phone number one uses to call the Nimkee Clinic has not always been answered. If this happens to you, please try again.

This occasionally occurs when the facility receptionist is really busy. Several telephone numbers ring into the clinic at one phone, and if one call leaves a message the following calls must wait.

To save time, please keep in mind where or to whom you are calling. Use extension numbers whenever you can. Also, keep the conversation short. A detailed history will only need to be repeated when the facility receptionist transfers you to the appropriate department.

And, if you are asked to hold, please be assured

that your call will be picked up as quickly as possible.

These lines ring into the facility receptionist's desk:

Front Medical Reception Desk: 772-3767

Indian Health Services: 773-9887

Community Health Services: 772-0758

Dental Clinic: 772-4121

Ojibwe Youth Center: 772-5070

Ojibwe Substance Abuse: 773-9123

Occasionally 772-5700, and possibly others will ring in here, especially when busy.

-Jolene Quinlan

Nimkee facility receptionist

Mothers cautioned not to drink during pregnancy

When you're pregnant, everything you eat or drink goes to your baby. If you drink any kind of alcohol- like beer, wine, wine coolers, liquor or mixed drinks- it reaches your baby right away. Alcohol can hurt your baby. It can keep your baby's body, including its heart and brain, from growing right.

If you drink while you're pregnant, your baby could be born with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, or FAS for short. Many babies with FAS are mentally retarded. Some have faces that don't look normal. Others have heart problems.

Your baby could be born with some but not all of these problems. This is called Fetal Alcohol Effects or FAE. Babies with FAS or FAE may have health problems for the rest of their lives.

Research shows that even small amounts of alcohol can increase the risks of birth defects. So the safest choice is not to drink at all during your pregnancy.

In fact, it's best to stop drinking before you try to become pregnant. Three weeks after you conceived, your baby's important organs are already forming. But you may not even know you're pregnant yet. During that time, alcohol could affect your baby's developing brain and body. So if you are thinking about getting pregnant, you should stop drinking before trying to conceive.

After your baby is born, you should still avoid alcohol if you are breast-feeding. Alcohol could reach your baby through your milk. This could cause problems in your baby's development.

-Reprinted with permission from the March of Dimes

Food

(Continued from page 12)

work at Western Michigan University then continued with her dietetic training in Washington D.C. Finally getting her practical experience through Borgus Hospital in Kalamazoo.

When Yager is away from the office she enjoys reading mystery and crime adventures. Taking her own health-conscious advice, she also swims and bike rides in her spare time.



Twelve steps of the Sacred Pipe

Step One Admit we are powerless over alcohol and that our Indian way of life had become unbearable.

Step Two Come to believe that the power of the pipe is greater than ourselves and can restore us to our culture and heritage.

Step Three Make a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of the Great Spirit through the sacred pipe.

Step Four Make a searching and fearless moral inventory of who we are and understand the symbolic meanings of the four great directions.

Step Five Acknowledge to the Great Spirit, to ourselves and to Indian brotherhood our struggles against the tide and its manifest destiny.

Step Six Be entirely ready to have Manitou remove all these defeats of an alien culture.

Step Seven Humbly ask Manitou to remove our shortcomings through the "Medicine Way."

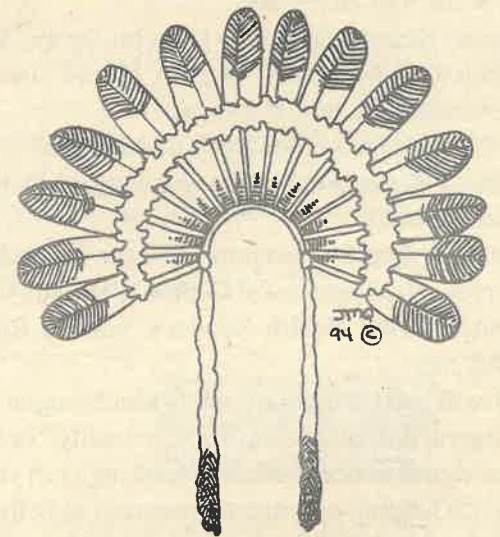
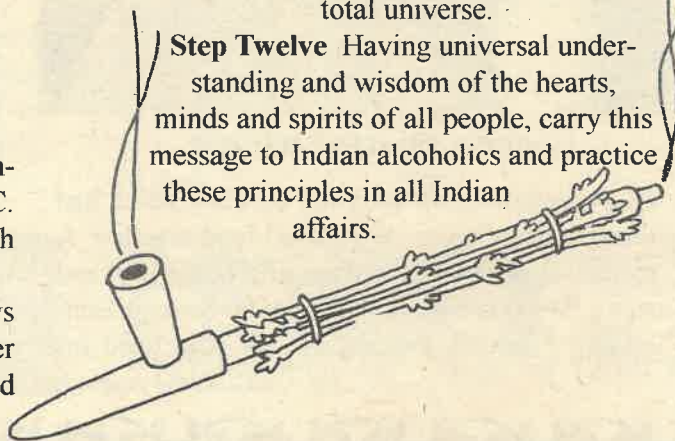
Step Eight Make a list of all the harm that came to our people from alcohol and become willing to make amends to them all.

Step Nine Make direct amends to our people that struggle against the alcoholic disease wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

Step Ten Continue to take a personal searching and fearless moral inventory of who we are and when we sell out, promptly admit it.

Step Eleven Seek through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with the equality and brotherhood of all the Earth's creatures and the great balancing harmony of the total universe.

Step Twelve Having universal understanding and wisdom of the hearts, minds and spirits of all people, carry this message to Indian alcoholics and practice these principles in all Indian affairs.




Youth

(Continued from page 12)

One could write a novel on the subject, this statement is to better help others understand the presence of drugs and the danger that the Native American Youth of our community are faced with.

-Signed by Carla Sineway, Deb Smith, Kathleen Fields and Micaela S. Escamilla from Tribal Education; Youth Activities Coordinator Kevin Chamberlain; David Chatfield, OSAS Youth Counselor; Milton Pelcher, Seventh Generation Program coordinator; Receptionists Carol Shanks, Jeanette Leaux, Angela Trofatter and Sandy Swartz; Shawn Pelcher and Jean Coughlin from Dental; Joe Sowmick, Communications and Public Relations director; Lisa Bollman, Social Services Case Worker and ICW Case Worker Carolyn Ogilvie-Cohen.



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Retiree plans on spending newly-found time with family

By Jason Prieur

Besides receiving sacred herbs, a black walnut basket and an address organizer, Infant Mental Health Specialist Virginia Pigeon was blessed with another gift on the day of her retirement.

At 4:55 a.m. - about three hours before her final day of work would begin on May 31 - Virginia's third great-grandchild, Jacob, was born in Kalamazoo.

"This is the best retirement gift that anyone can give me," she remarked at a noon luncheon given in her honor.

She plans on spending some of her newly-found free time enjoying the company of her 22 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

And those who worked with Virginia keep it no secret she will be missed.

Family Resource Program Director Debbie Robb reflected on Virginia's "sensitivity and sincerity when entering a family's home."

Robb added her other attributes included "experience and patience when working with these young families."

Richard Osburn, program director for children and prevention services at Central Michigan Community Mental Health Services, echoed Robb's sentiments.

"I will miss Virginia terribly she brought with her a great deal of wisdom and spirituality," he said.

Her duties concentrated on working with young families helping coordinate resources to help provide parenting skills.



Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik

Virginia Pigeon shows off her retirement cake during a luncheon celebration in her honor.

I first met Virginia about 20 years ago when I was working as a Title IV-Indian Education Administrator in Carleton. She was also involved with Title IV and we would see each other at meetings and conferences. These were usually the only times we had a chance to talk to each other and we got along well. After I left Title IV and moved to Mt. Pleasant, I rarely saw Virginia.

Then one night I received a call from her asking me if I would pick her up from town. When we got back to my house, she explained she was working in Traverse City and also attending Central Michigan University. She has to take a Greyhound bus to Mt. Pleasant to Mt. Pleasant so she could attend these classes, and then another one back to Traverse City.

She also usually had to go down to Lansing the

day after she came to Mt. Pleasant, and was needing a place to stay until that bus came. So, she would call us when she got into town and we would bring her home with us - and then usually drove her Lansing. I was so impressed. I mean here she was, in her late forties, and she was going to get her degree no matter what the obstacles were.

Well, I didn't hear from her for quite awhile. I figured she either had graduated or quit. When I came back to Mt. Pleasant to work at a group home, I ran into her and we caught up on the years we were out of touch. She told me that she did graduate and received her masters' degree. I didn't see her too often because she was usually too busy with her job. That was something special about her. She was dedicated to her work and to her "moms."

When there was an opening in the Parent Infant Guidance Program for an apprentice, I decided to apply since it would enable me to work with Virginia and to learn from her. I have seen first-hand how caring she is. She took phone calls at all hours, nobody who needed help was turned away and there were no "regular working hours" for Virginia. She was there anytime, every time.

My only regret is we did not have more time to work with each other. In know I learned much from her, both in our line of work and much in the way of Native American spirituality and culture. We thought very much alike, so we did not have disagreements.

Virginia, you will be missed. You have been a friend, mentor, teacher and sounding board. But most of all, you have been there to help. The participants in the Parent Infant Guidance Program, your co-workers, the community, it doesn't make a difference. You've been there when you were needed.

They say all good things must come to an end and I guess they do. After working here six months, my friend has decided to retire. She has definitely

(See RETIREE page 15)

Tribute to a friend

How do you write a story about someone that has been your friend, teacher and co-worker without making it sound like she is a superwoman? I don't know, but I am going to try. I would like everyone to know just how dedicated and knowledgeable this woman is.

Program busy with several activities

All my relation:

This is an update on the Seventh Generation Program.

From May 15 through 18, a group of 15 youth and six adults went to the Sabaskong Indian Reserve in Canada for their spring gathering. It brought together people from our area, as well as Wise, Minnesota, Manitoba, Kenora, Fort Francis and Grand Portage, along with other areas in Canada.

What we witnessed was a lot of sharing and an open concern about our past and future in a ceremonial way, through the use of pipes, tobacco, water, smudging and lodges. To understand the depth of concern, one would have to been there. Our group, for the most part, was very attentive. They learned the sacredness of tobacco, the songs, the drum and hopefully some respect. In the latter, we need more of this in most areas of our lives.

On June 1, we co-sponsored with the Nimkee Clinic's Diabetes Department a walk from the clinic to the Elijah Elk Cultural Center. This was



MILTON "BEAVER" PELCHER

an awareness event focusing on ones we've lost through this disease. We shared food together. A raffle was also conducted for a barbecue grill and also a 10-speed bike. On behalf of the Seventh Generation Program, I thank you all who were in-

(See PROGRAM page 15)

Tribal members at Saganing complete adult education

Tribal members Barbara Ann Cabay-Braley and Roger Lee Bordeau graduated from the Adult Education program during a June 7 commencement.

Cabay-Braley has four children and has been living in the Saganing community most of her life. She also works as the Elders Hostess at the Saganing Community Center, where she worked for three-and-a-half years.

Bordeau has two children and lives in nearby Sterling. He plans on continuing his education by attending college in Grand Rapids. When he isn't spending time with his two sons, Bordeau can be found hunting or fishing.

The best of luck goes out to the both of you in whatever you do.

-Submitted by Aggie Flynn

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When getting married

Don't forget to inform Social Security of name change

By Donald L. Hire
District Manager

It's the time of year when many brides-to-be are busy with a list of "things to do" before their wedding. The Social Security Administration (SSA) would like them to add one important, but easily managed item, to that list.

If you're going to change your name when you marry, remember to tell Social Security.

For women who are working, reporting a name change assures that they will receive proper credit for their earnings and, one day, all the Social Security benefits they are due. For women who don't work outside the home, reporting the change will

ensure their Social Security record shows the correct name when the time comes to apply for benefits.

Another important reason to report a change of name is that Internal Revenue Service and SSA records should show the same name and Social Security number. If they don't, your tax refund could be postponed.

But if a woman continues to use her maiden name after marriage, they don't need to report the marriage. They just have to be sure to use their maiden name consistently throughout their working years. And if someone should change her mind later, let Social Security know at that time.

To report a name change, call Social Security's toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213, Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. One will also need to complete an application for a Social Security card and provide either the marriage certificate to verify your old and new names or two documents- one with your maiden name and one with your married name. All documents must be originals or certified copies. The application form lists acceptable documents.

I would like to remind everyone the service is free. Don't be misled by any business that offers for a fee to complete the paperwork for you. The process is simple and you don't need to pay anyone for a revised Social Security card.

Program

(Continued from page 14)

volved.

We had the Red Lake Young Dreams Dance Troupe come here on June 8, which was co-sponsored by Central Michigan University's Minority Affairs and the Saginaw Ojibwe Substance Abuse Department. It was a very inspiring performance consisting of youthful dreams to learn dancing in a positive effort to combat alcohol, drugs and inhalants that have, and continue to destroy our people. To abstain from such a powerful enemy of the Anishanawbe is not an easy quest. Only through actions of the people in manners such as this can we defeat such a foe.

Our youth council also had a give-away for the Red Lake Young Dreams Dance Troupe and we were able to sit with them and share food. My sincere appreciation to all the volunteers that helped in this event, such as the Elders who donated some food that they also prepared and the Education Department director who was consulted on the amount of food to prepare. Parents also helped prepare potato salads. Our Fitness Department donated t-shirts utilized in the give-away. Donations received were put back into the youth council portion of the grant.

We also have a garden with tomatoes, peppers, and string beans, among other garden seeds. We will eventually have a chicken coop. We are projecting to raise chickens and sell eggs in the future.

Our wood-working shop should be open before long. The community will be notified when this happens.

To the Seventh Generation Steering Committee, I can never say enough. The reality of it all is that we are responsible for the next seven generations. This belongs to the people.

Part of you,
Milton Pelcher, Coordinator
Seventh Generation Program



Kiddie car wash

Pictured above are the some of the enterprising Binoojiinh Montessori students who conducted a car wash on June 2 and raised \$60 for school supplies after washing 12 vehicles. Scrubbing the hood in the bottom photograph are, from left to right, Austin Floyd, Elizabeth Teachworth, Cheyenne Stevens, Tabitha White and Jennifer Sylvester.



Observer Photos/Scott Csernyik

Retiree

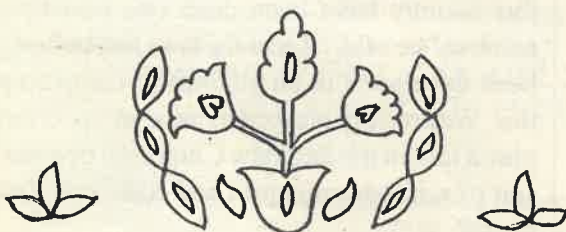
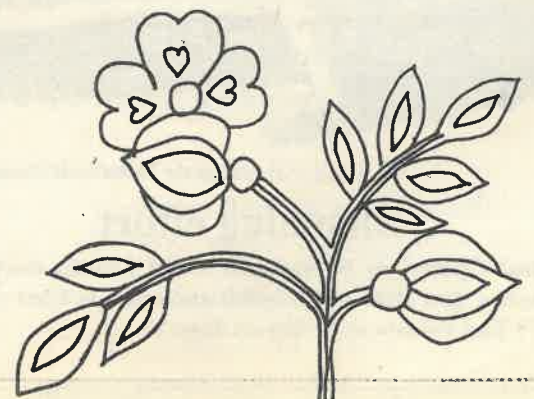
(Continued from page 14)

earned her rest. She has many grandchildren and a couple of great-grandchildren to visit and teach.

One of the greatest desires is to ensure our youth know their own culture and spirituality. She is a wonderful teacher of these things and I hope she will be asked to help teach culture to our Tribal youth. She is very knowledgeable and is also an excellent role model.

Chi-miigwetch, Virginia, we will miss you and we love you.

-Submitted by Deb Johnson



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Still time to register

Youth-oriented program promotes culture, self-esteem

By Jean Flamand

With hopes of providing Native American youth a better understanding of their culture, a first-time summer program is currently being offered to help achieve this goal.

Title V is sponsoring the Niibin (Summer) Youth Program for incoming sixth, seventh and eighth graders. Education Director Carla Sineway said it's not too late to participate in the program.

Classes are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday meetings include lessons covering such topics as self-esteem, how the medicine wheel works, goal setting and working with

Junior Achievement in business management. They also discuss personal issues including wellness, stress, perspectives, and a positive frame of mind.

Thursday gatherings focus on a craft activity or a field trip, such as zooming around in go carts or visiting a splash park. Participants are also served lunch.

"The Education Department has been wanting to make programs focusing on the needs of the community and the Niibin Youth Program is just the beginning," stated Sineway.

If one attends Youth Activities Coordinator

Kevin Chamberlain's field trip or activity on the same day as the Niibin youth program, it is considered a substitute for attendance.

The program lasts for six weeks from June 14 to July 28. There is an incentive at the end of the program for children who participated. Sineway said some of the ideas were visiting Lake Michigan, Mackinac Island or Mall of America.

She added their goal is to continue to talk about school and provide informal group counseling. Tutoring is also available for the students.

For more information about the program or tutoring, contact the student advocate at (517) 772-5858.

Tribal members building a better better future at 'home sweet home'

By Kristen Ratkos

Many dream of newer, better homes, but it usually takes more than dreams to achieve nicer living conditions.

Tribal member Norma Rapp knows this firsthand.

Success has not come easy for her, she said.

And through employment as a bingo floor worker and insurance money which she acquired following her husband's death, Rapp was able to move into a new double-wide trailer on Broadway Street's Isabella Park East June 8. In addition, she has purchased a 1994 Chevrolet Cavalier.

Employment is also important to a healthy self-esteem, Rapp mentioned.

"It makes people feel better about themselves," she stated.

Rapp also said many youth today lack the responsibility to stay employed, however "everyone should have the chance for a job."

Budgeting, she added, is necessary for financial stability.

Besides working, she has taken classes at Bay Mills Community College. Rapp also says she lacks the time to attend school now, but would like to resume her education in the future.

Bonnie Quigno, a 17-year employee of the Reservation and current bingo manager, is also enjoying financial success.

She bought her home five years ago through an Isabella Bank and Trust mortgage, and is now adding a 16- by -30-foot recreation room, complete with a used pool table and other accessories.

The addition was possible through the sale of

land her parents had given her and a home improvement loan.

Quigno's three children are excited about the room, and plans to purchase a big screen television.

"Our home comes first ... that's mainly the important thing," Quigno explained. "We invest all of our money in the home, all the time."

The recreation room not only serves enjoyment purposes, but also raised the value of her home \$15,000.

"We're finally getting somewhere," Quigno said.

She attributes their success to years of working.

"Even myself, I wouldn't have dreamed of owning my own home, being able to mortgage one," Quigno said. "It's not (hopeless). I thought it was, for me."

Juanita Slater, another Tribal member, said her dream was that she'd always wanted was a larger home.

Those aspirations became reality in February when she and her husband Chuck moved into their new modular house on Tomah Road.

Slater says she is satisfied with her three bedroom residence, which also has two bathrooms.

Both Chuck and Juanita are on disability leave from their jobs, but manage to maintain financial success. Juanita has worked for the Reservation seven years, doing "accounting for bingo."

Over time, positive changes have occurred on the Reservation due to increased job availability, she said. "It seems like houses are popping up everywhere," Slater noted. "Work your hardest and follow your dreams. Save money and look toward the future."

Company selected to manage project

The Christman Company has been selected along with its joint venture partner, C.R. Klewin, Inc., of Norwich, Conn., to manage the construction of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's multi-million entertainment complex.

Christman, currently celebrating its 100th year in business, has constructed many of the area's most noteworthy projects over the years, including the Agriculture Hall on the Michigan State University campus in 1908. Since that time, the company has been responsible for some of the state's most noteworthy construction projects, including the Fisher Building in Detroit, the original Cobo Hall, about one-third of the historic MSU campus, the historic restoration of the Michigan State Capitol Building, along with many other industrial, health care and institutional projects.

Even with its rich history and vast experience, Christman will be challenged by the scope of the Tribe's project.

"This project promises to be truly unique, particularly for the Midwestern United States," said Jim Cash, business development director of Christman. "We're very excited about it, not only because it is a major construction project, but also because of its economic development potential for the Mt. Pleasant area."

It also gives us exposure to an emerging trend in the construction industry, which is the development of Native American tourism facilities."

The development of multi-use entertainment complexes by Native American groups has become a national trend that followed the onset of large scale Native American gaming operations in the over the past decade.

Christman President Phil Frederickson, sees more than economic benefits resulting from the project.

"Over the years, the Native American people of this country have been dealt one injustice after another," he said. "Recently, laws and policies have been developed in an attempt to compensate for this. We are very pleased to have an opportunity to play a role in the Saginaw Chippewa peoples' pursuit of self determination and economic development."



Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik

Blooming effort

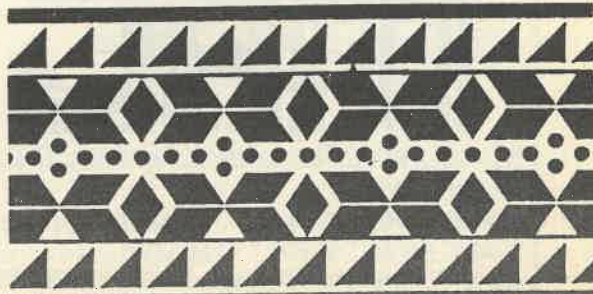
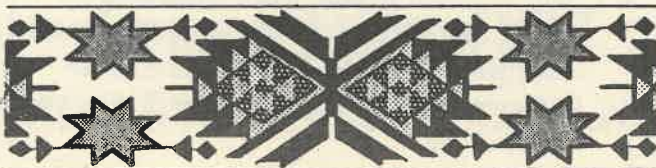
Tribal Operations Receptionist Carol Shanks works on planting two flats of marigolds and salvia in front of the 7070 East Broadway facility on June 22.

Tribal Operations employment posting

From the office of Gordon D. Henry, Sr. Personnel Manager

The following positions are currently open in Tribal Operations with the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

- Youth Prevention Assistant, open until filled.
- Investment Manager, open until filled.
- Mental Health Social Worker, open until filled.
- Parent/Infant Mental Health Specialist, open until filled.



Bill allows increase of authority for Tribal police

Michigan Tribal police will have increased law enforcement authority under legislation signed on June 11 by Gov. John Engler, according to state Rep. Jim McBryde.

The Mt. Pleasant Republican, who sponsored the bill, said the legislation extends state certification to Tribal police. Rapid growth of casinos on Reservations has heightened the need for increased Tribal policing autonomy.

"Lack of state certification for Tribal police raised some troubling issues," said McBryde, co-chair of the House State Police Appropriations Subcommittee. "A Tribal officer's authority currently does not exceed Reservation boundaries and is limited only to American Indians. Furthermore, other enforcement agencies seeking help from Tribal police are frequently hindered by complex state and federal certification and jurisdiction regulations."

The law amends the state definition of law enforcement officer to include Tribal police. Tribal police will have to comply with the minimum standards established by state law, but are exempt from Michigan Law Enforcement Officers schooling is they complete a national or another state training program meeting federal standards.

Local law enforcement authorities who support the change include Capt. Ralph Sawmick from the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe; Capt. Wade Teeple from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe and Chief of Police Michael Hazen from the Lac Vieux Desert Band.

"By empowering Tribal police, jurisdiction disputes and false arrest lawsuits will be avoided," McBryde said. "In addition, the good working relationships between Tribal officers and other law enforcement agencies would be advanced, promoting much more effective agency cooperation and public safety."

On June 30, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians will honor McBryde for his sponsorship of the bill. Tribal Chief Gail Jackson will participate in this ceremony to be conducted at the Clarion Hotel.

ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBERS:

The Circle of Health Partnership and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe is currently producing a video regarding alcoholism and its effect on our community. If you know of someone who has passed away from the disease of alcoholism or an alcohol related incident, we would like to honor their memory in this video. Please submit a photo with the name, age, date of birth and date of death to:

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
c/o Lisa Wixson/Amanda George
7070 East Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, Mich. 48858

If you do not have a photo, but would like to honor the memory of a loved one who has passed on due to an alcohol related incident, please call the Tribal Center at (517) 772-5700 and ask for Lisa Wixson at extension 302 or Amanda George at extension 254. Chi miigwetch.



Observer Photo/Courtesy

Country great to appear

Country artist and Indian gaming supporter Willie Nelson will be appearing at the Clare County Fair on Aug. 4 at 8 p.m. Pictured next to Nelson is Nathan Quigno, along with Cubby Sprague, front left, and Lucas Sprague. The Native American youth met the singer May 29 at a Lake Erie performance while traveling in Cleveland, Ohio during a Memorial Day weekend trip that also took them to Sea World. For more information about Nelson's Clare County performance, call (517) 539-9011.

Department won't be taken for 'granted'

The Grant Writing Offices are now fully staffed with Donna Minor serving as grant writer, plus Grant Writing Assistants Angela Mitchell and Dawn Perez.

The staff assists Tribal departments in preparing the grants which often fund programs for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. Most grants are federally-funded, though some are from private or foundation sources.

The Indian Child Welfare Act Grant was submitted in late May. This is a non-competitive grant for Federally Recognized Tribes. It was formed to protect the best interests of Indian children and Indian family preservation.

Carolyn Oligive-Cohen is now serving as our Indian child welfare case worker. Her office is located in the Social Services building.

The staff is now completing the Youth Sports Facility Grant Application due July 20. This grant

would set the funding for the construction of a youth facility to include a gymnasium, arcade and the office of Youth Activities Coordinator Kevin Chamberlain.

The Youth Sports Facility was developed to eliminate illegal drug and substance abuse of the youth in Indian Housing Authority and communities. This is a highly competitive grant with only eight awards nationwide to Indian Housing Projects.

Although the Tribe and Housing Authority has not won funding in the past for the facility, the grant application has ranked favorably. The Tribal Council, as in past years, has agreed to a match funding of the facility.

Along with the Youth Sports Grant we will be assisting Housing in completing the Youth Drug Elimination Grant. This grant, due July 29, funds the position of the Youth Activities Coordinator.

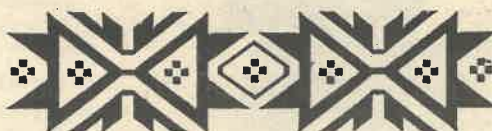
Architecture

(Continued from page 6)

or using the wolf as a sacred image in creating a house, Rhodes has stressed a sensitivity to a given Tribe's needs and identity.

"At one time, we were the ultimate stewards of the Earth."

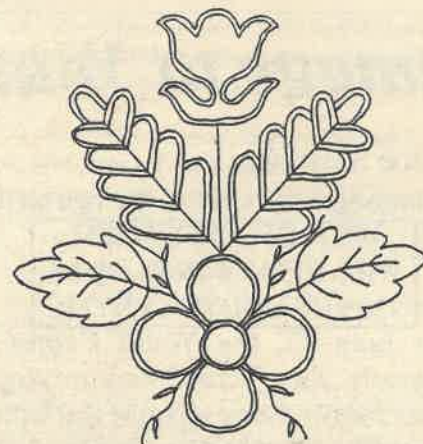
"What we're looking for is some design clues from symbols of your Tribe on heritage themes," he also told the Elders. "These are very strong personal feelings that should be a part of your complex."



Tribal Court offenses

Charges filed in Tribal Court from June 1 to June 24:

Injury to public peace, disorderly conduct, malicious mischief, minor in possession and gaming violation-conspiracy to defraud, one each; trespassing, two; controlled substance, three; and contributing to the delinquency of a minor, four.



Squad takes second

Two Tribe-sponsored teams recently competed in the June 13 D.A.R.E. golf tournament at Valley View in Shepherd with one of the foursomes finishing in second place.

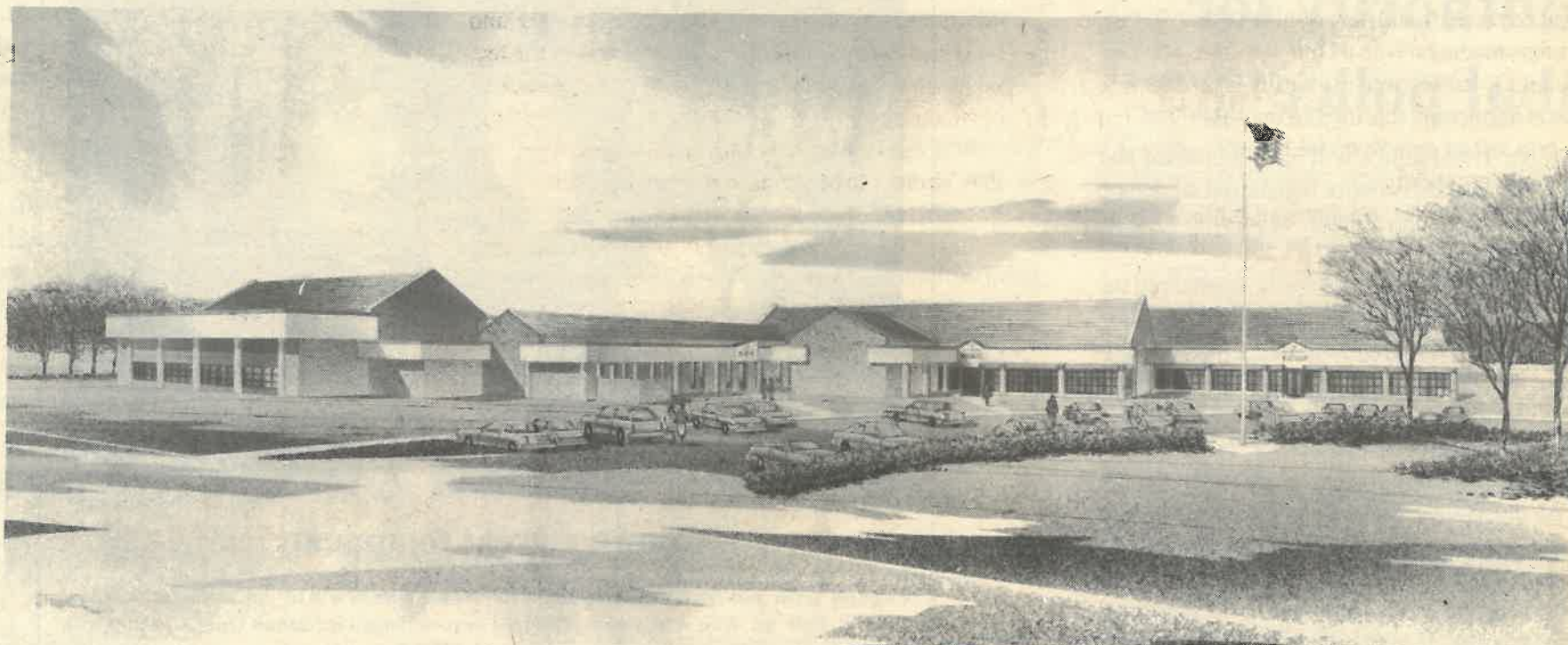
Brian Quigno, Phillip Sprague, Allen Pego, and Robert Pego notched a 61, which was only one shot off the winning's team posting.

The team of Ralph and Jeremy Sawmick, Doug Gurski and Bert Palmer also participated, with Jeremy winning closest to the pin on No. 8 at an estimated two-foot, eight inches.

We would like to remind everyone who has a golf membership to buy all their golf merchandise, plus food and beverages from Valley View, The Pines and Pleasant Hills.

-Submitted by Brian Quigno

Tribe booms with several new construction activities



An architectural rendering of the Tribal Public Safety Building. The 35,000-square foot building will be located on the southwest corner of Leaton and Broadway roads. The facility will house the Tribal Police and Fire departments, along with Tribal Court.

By Bill Mrdeza
Community and Economic
Development Director

Tribal community members no doubt have noticed a flurry of activity recently as the Tribe embarks on a series of concurrent construction projects.

Basic concept, planning, and design work is presently underway related to the proposed entertainment facility/destination resort complex. Since the entertainment facility project is covered in more detail elsewhere, this discussion will center on primarily three new construction projects either currently underway or planned to begin this summer.

Visitors to the Tribal Center may have noticed a great deal of activity on the south side of the building. The Tribe is in the process of adding on to the Tribal Center with seventeen new offices, a small conference/meeting room, and a storage area on the lower level. This will enable some departments (such as Tribal Clerk and Social Services) to move back to the Tribal Center from their temporary

office space located between the Commodity Foods building and the Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center.

Several other offices will be shuffled around as part of a revised space plan once the addition is completed. The scheduled date for completion of the Tribal Center addition is November and Ojibway-Greenwald Construction Enterprises received the bid award for the project.

Another project which will begin soon is an expansion to the Soaring Eagle Casino/Slot Machine Building. The proposed 24,000 square-foot addition will take place on the northeast side of the building and will extend toward Ogemaw Drive. Besides an additional 450 to 500 slot machines, the facility will also house "back of the house" office space on both a first floor and second floor mezzanine level.

Work on this project began several weeks ago with the construction of a new parking lot north of Ogemaw Drive. This lot will provide additional staff and patron parking, as well as serve as a staging area for construction equipment and materi-

als. Work on the addition proper is scheduled to begin during the last week of June with completion anticipated in early November. J.R. Heineman and Sons, Inc. are contractors on this expansion project.

The final major construction project being undertaken this summer is the new Tribal Public Safety Building. This building is scheduled to be bid out in July with construction to begin in August. Anticipated substantial completion is November, 1995. This 35,000 square-foot facility, the largest single construction project undertaken by the Tribe to date, will house the Tribal Fire Department, Tribal Police Department and Tribal Court.

It will be located on the southwest corner of Leaton and Broadway Roads. An architectural rendering of the facility accompanies this article. The contractor for this project will be selected using a competitive open bid process, with preference given for Native American contractors. Should there be any questions regarding these projects, readers are encouraged to contact the Tribal Planning Office at (517) 772-5700.

Damage to Youth Center slows renovations, dampens spirit

By Joe Sowmick

The message is as clear as the sign on the wall:

ACTS OF VANDALISM
WILL RESULT IN CLOSING
OF THE YOUTH CENTER.

On June 22, the Youth Center closed momentarily...for a Tribal Police investigation.

Officer Joe Chambers reported that witnesses in the area of the Youth Center, located at 7363 East Broadway, saw an unidentified youth on bicycle fleeing after stealing a box of paints and splashing them on the building and sidewalk.

Further investigation revealed the suspect also used a pool cue to damage a newly-renovated wall of the Youth Center.

Officer Chambers mentioned in recent days vandalism has occurred in the area.

"After this investigation, I have another complaint on Nish-Na-Be-Anong ... and it's the same type of stuff," he stated. "It's just destruction, there's no other word for it."

Chambers said Tribal Police procedure has the officer at the scene take pictures, statements and fingerprints. A police report is then submitted to Tribal Court and the prosecutor.

Dave Chatfield, Chemical Dependency Prevention Counselor, has been in charge of the renovation of the Youth Center and was visibly upset at



David Chatfield, left, and Tribal Patrolman Joe Chambers display some of the items allegedly used in a recent vandalism at the Youth Center. Paint was dumped around the west wall of the building and a hole was punched into an inside wall with the end of a pool stick. Police have a suspect connected to the act.

what he described as a lack of respect.

"This has got to stop," he said. "I believe we've got one person that did this and maybe several young people in the community running around

and doing this stuff.

As soon as we catch them, I believe we can put a stop to it and save the Youth Center from being

(See VANDALISM page 19)



Area man dedicated to family involvement and serving his country

By Joe Sowmick

Many Tribal members have come back to work on the Reservation in recent months. It has allowed the Tribal community and their respective families an opportunity to reunite with their loved ones.

Ronald Johanson and his family is an example of what is happening throughout the Michigan Tribes as our people begin to come home to share in our economic prosperity.

U.S. Drill Sergeant Johanson, more commonly known as "Eskie," resided in Mt. Pleasant until he entered the Army in 1977.

Sgt. Johanson respects the treatment he received in the service.

"I've been treated on my merits as an individual and on what I could offer my country", Johanson said. "Responsibility was a lesson learned through being directly in charge of four million dollars of equipment and 14 soldiers' lives."

Sgt. Johanson has been recognized for his Native dancing, performing across the U.S. and Europe. "Eskie" mentioned his traditional lifestyle helped in his preparation during Operation Desert Storm.



SGT. RONALD JOHANSON

"It brought the important of being in balance with nature", the Drill Sergeant said. "Because the nature of our occupation dealt with coping with the environment, our Native ways provided me with my shield."

Sgt. Johanson is committed to family involvement when walking the Powwow trail.

"My daughter Dana has won quite a bit as a fancy dancer and my son James is just starting to come into his own as a fancy dancer," he said. "It makes me feel good when I see our young people coming back to our traditions."

He is married to Judy Stevens and also mentions that "in order to be strong in military life, you need to be resilient."

"She has been supportive of my military career and of our children's learning of our culture and traditions," he added.

When posed the question of the changes of what man our Tribe will see since his departure in 1977, "Eskie" chimed, "You're going to see a grown man with civic responsibilities and a hope to be a good role model."

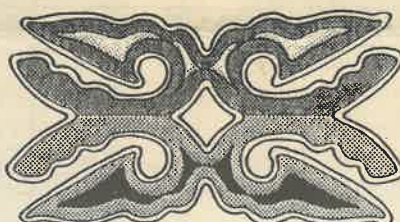
"It makes me feel good when I see our young people coming back to our traditions."

Johanson also stated it is "what I try to do with my kids and family life and that's what I would like to bring to the Tribe."

The civilian Johanson would like to bring scouting to the Reservation. He has years of training and has been a part of scouting implementation. His hope is to bring scouting to our Reserve.

"Eskie" attributes his faith in the family unit from the examples taught by the late Louis Pontiac, Ida Mae and James Strong and the Don Stevens (Red Arrow) Family.

As always, our Tribe grows strong as we extend greetings to our brothers and sisters that come back to our community.



Pow Wow War Stories

Veteran
Soldier souls are
Secretly appeased
When
Suddenly
Eagle bone whistles
Blow reverence to
Earth and spirit parties.

Time stands still when
Womens voices
Mimmick hallowed chants.

Humbled..
Honor beats and
Pride filled hearts
Passionately salute those

Indigenous native veterans of

Foreign Wars in
The United States of America.

cmb

Interns serving a key role

Observer staff sketch provided

The Tribal Observer (Editor Joe Sowmick) and Central Michigan University (Journalism Department Chairperson John Palen) would like to commend photojournalist Thaddius Bedford and public relations major Jason Prieur for a successful completion of their contributions in Journalism 539.

Jason, a Six Nations Mohawk, along with Thaddius, a Native American studies major, performed their respective duties well and proved the mutually beneficial need of this continued professional internship.

CMU students Christine Belfi and Kristen Ratkos were selected by the Personnel Commission for internships during the summer months.

Kristen is a Journalism senior with a year of writing experience from CMLife. She brings her strength of stories with a personal insight to our community.

Christine is a Communications major that brings a wealth of photography experience to The Tribal Ob-

server and works directly with managing editor and Tribal employee, Scott Csernyik.

Scott is a seasoned reporter and photographer with six years of experience, having worked in the mid-Michigan community for most of that time.

Jean Flamand is an Administrative Assistant Trainee who rounds out our Public Relations Department. Jean is a Tribal member who covers family events and offers insight to the youth in our community.

Joe Sowmick, editor for the Tribal Observer, is pleased to have this fruitful relationship with Central Michigan University and hopes to continue to educate students in offering this experience to work with our Tribe.

As always, please submit articles to the:
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
c/o The Tribal Observer
7070 East Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, Mich. 48858

Vandalism

(Continued from page 18)

closed and other places from being vandalized."

The Tribal Observer reported in its June issue the Finance Committee was in process of approving funds for the renovations and has since filled the request.

"Maybe the construction will have to be put on hold in place of taking the kids out and having a good time," Chatfield stated. "By showing them respect for the contents and the building and how it goes with the ability to use the Youth Center."

Tribal youth Sam Jackson was enjoying his summer vacation while doing some artwork at the Youth Center. When asked how he felt about what happened, Sam said, "Terrible ... This place was looking nice with lots of stuff."

This incident is just an example of how a few vandals can spoil a good thing for the rest of our Tribal community.

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The right of Indians to freedom of the press was established under the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Title 25, United States Code, Section 1301, et seq.). Generally, subsection 1301 (1) of the Indian Civil Rights Act makes it unlawful for tribal governments to regulate the content of privately owned publications. However, the Tribal Observer is a tribally owned publication managed under the supervision of the Tribal Council. All publications must undergo an editorial review process prior to publication and the Tribal Council has authorized an editorial board to assist the staff in the preparation of the Tribal Observer for publication.



"How does one subscribe to the Tribal Observer?"

To become an Observer subscriber, mail a \$5 check or money order to:
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
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7070 East Broadway Road
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
The subscription will be active at the first of the month and one should receive the paper by the 15th of each calendar month.
Call the Tribal Observer at (517) 772-5700, extension 301 for suggestions or any questions.

July, 1994

CHURCH DIRECTORY

FAITH INDIAN CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
6304 East Broadway
Robert Pego, Pastor
(517) 772-5625

Sunday School 10 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Evening Worship 7 p.m.
Thursday Prayer 7 p.m.

CHIPPEWA INDIAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
7529 East Tomah Road
Rev. Joseph Sprague
(517) 772-5521

Sunday School 10 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Evening Worship 7 p.m.
Thursday Prayer 7 p.m.

SAGANING INDIAN CHURCH
Stermann Road, Saganing
Devin Chisholm, Pastor
(517) 846-6277

Sunday Worship 2 p.m.
Bible Study
Tuesday 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

Deadline for submissions in the August issue of the Tribal Observer is July 22



Over 18?
Want to get a GED or High School diploma?

We may have the program for you...
For most adults, efforts to get a GED or high school diploma can be quite difficult. On the average, it takes a person three months a year to prepare to successfully take the five GED tests.
The Adult Education Program, which runs through the Tribal Education Department, can assist you in reaching this goal.
For more information, contact 773-5858, extension 204 or 208

community calendar



july

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. R & R Independence Day	5 O.S.A.M. 7:30 p.m. AA open meeting	6 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. Highway Safety	7	8	9 Recycling Depot open 9 a.m. to noon
10	11 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. R & R	12 O.S.A.M. 7:30 p.m. AA open meeting	13 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. Highway Safety	14	15	16
17	18 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. R & R Youth trip- Splash water park	19 O.S.A.M. 7:30 p.m. AA open meeting	20 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. Highway Safety	21 Youth trip- Wilderness Animal Park	22 Baraga Powwow	23 Baraga Powwow Recycling Depot open 9 a.m. to noon
24/31 Baraga Powwow (24th)	25 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. R & R Youth trip- Cedar Point	26 O.S.A.M. 7:30 p.m. AA open meeting	27 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. Highway Safety	28	29	30

If your organization has an event for the calendar, call the Observer at (517) 772-5700, extension 301