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JUNE 16, 1997 VOLUME 8 ISSUE 12

ODE'MIN-GIIZIS (Moon of the Strawberry)

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



Observer photo/Scott Csernyik

Rodeo riders

Lucas Sprague and Samantha Chippeway demonstrate their turning skills on the obstacle course during Bike Rodeo '97 on May 31 at the Tribal Public Safety Building. For a closer look at the event, which drew over 200 participants, please see pages 10 and 11.

National association protects the integrity of Indian gaming

By Joe Sowmick
Editor

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe was host to a June 5-6 National Indian Gaming Association seminar titled "Protecting the Integrity of Indian Casinos."

"It seems that Tribal sovereignty across the country, including ours, are under attack on a regular basis," Tribal Chief Kevin Chamberlain said. "As a member of NIGA, our Tribe can be a leader and a voice in Washington against these attacks."

In his introduction to the 70 seminar participants, Chamberlain thanked NIGA Executive Director Tim Wapato for coming to our Tribe and for keeping Tribal Council informed on issues that affect Indian gaming.

"We send out information to our members on anything that may affect Tribal sovereignty and our right to operate Indian casinos," Wapato explained. "Protecting the integrity of Indian casinos is a part of that and NIGA is here to help in any way."

NIGA began the seminar by informing participants of pending discussions. (See NIGA page 2)

Officials share gaming insight

By Judy Whitman
Staff Writer

Officials from Soaring Eagle Casino and Tribal Police united recently to share their insight with visitors from across Indian country.

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribe played host to about 100 people attending the National Indian Gaming Association's May 5-6 conference, entitled "Frauds, Cheats and Scams: Protecting the Integrity of Indian Casinos."

In over three hours of seminars, Tribal representatives shared wisdom gleaned through experience, tackling topics ranging from establishing internal control standards to the safest

way to "frisk" a suspected gang member.

"We know we have a formidable foe. They are here. They're coming in numbers, and they are good at what they do," said Ray Miesch, Soaring Eagle's director of surveillance, regarding the perpetrators of casino scams.

Miesch said Indian country is once again under attack—this time by criminals who feel Native-run casinos are less sophisticated, hence more vulnerable to their schemes, which range from attempting to pass counterfeit bills to using electronic devices to skew slot machine payouts.

Criminals travel a recognized

(See INSIGHT page 3)

Applications office relocating

The applications office for Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort will move to a new location in Pickard Square on June 19.

The move is designed to make it easier for people applying for employment with the gaming operation.

Currently, people seeking employment must pick up applica-

tions and background investigation packets at the casino. After an applicant fills out the paperwork, it has to be stamped and verified at the Gaming Commission office in Pickard Square, then taken back to the applications office in the casino for processing.

Moving the applications office into the

same complex as the Gaming Commission office will expedite the hiring of an additional 600 employees.

Application office hours will be 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call (517) 775-0065, or call the Soaring Eagle job hotline at (517) 775-0062.

"This casino isn't managed by a management company. Most of the managers are Tribal members, and many have been here since the inception of gaming."

-Bonnie Quigno

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Observer photo/Scott Csernyik

Congressional visit

U.S. Rep. Dale E. Kildee, D-Flint, District 9, shows a letter he co-authored which opposes a proposal to the tax portion of the budget reconciliation imposing an unrelated business tax on the gaming revenues of Tribal governments. Kildee visited the Isabella Reservation on June 1 and discussed various issues, including Tribal sovereignty and related social programs, with Tribal leaders. "We believe a tax on Native American Tribal government revenues is unwarranted, ill-advised and raises serious constitutional questions," the letter stated.

Insight

(Continued from page 1)

"Midwest circuit" that follows the length of the Mississippi River, from the casinos on the Gulf Coast to the riverboats and finally the burgeoning gaming operations in Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Casinos in the latter three states work together to fight fraud, said Miesch, who serves on the board of the Michigan Indian Gaming Communication Network.

"The most powerful tool we have in surveillance is the fax machine," he noted, describing the way

Midwestern casinos cooperate to exchange information on suspected criminals.

"The networking we do may make the difference between catching them, or talking about how bad they've hit us," Miesch said. "We want them to know they're not welcome in Indian country."

He also emphasized that communication between all casino departments is important

in fighting the criminal element.

"There is strength in numbers. The more sets of eyes, the better," he said, describing how all employees, including non-finance departments like housekeeping and foodservice, can work with surveillance and security to blow the whistle on scams.

Another important ally is Tribal Police. Three criminal inves-

(See INSIGHT page 12)

Falcon earns accolades

Michigan State University sophomore Jenna Falcon achieved a 3.5 or better grade point average for the spring semester, placing her on the Dean's Honor Roll.

The daughter of Ron and Audrey Falcon is pursuing a degree in accounting.

NIGA

(Continued from page 1)

sion taking place in the House Ways and Means Committee on federal taxation of Indian gaming.

NIGA Chairman Rick Hill recently sent a letter to President Clinton citing opposition to

•Over 200 years of federal Indian policy has included the immunity of Tribes from taxation as governments.

NIGA Conference Coordinator Dianne Wyss summed up the continuing congressional attacks on Indian gaming rather accurately.

"I hope they don't try to balance the budget on the backs of Indian people!" she exclaimed.

Later that day, swift action by Tribal Council sent a letter to Congressman Dave Camp, R-Midland, voicing our Tribe's position.

Camp, a member of the Ways and Means Committee, read the letter on behalf of the Tribe on June 6 and pledged his support of the Tribe's position.

"The Tribal members should know that we do have friends in Washington like Dave Camp and 9th District Rep. Dale Kildee," Tribal Sub-Chief Tim Davis said. "Our Tribe has grown to a point where we need to be active in Washington

(See NIGA page 12)

Program reinstated

After several months of review and being on hold, the Tribal Council authorized the re-opening of the Emergency Assistance Home Repair Program.

The program will be operated under the same guidelines as it was previously, with a maximum grant amount of \$2,500. All Tribal members are eligible to apply, but can be served only once during the program year.

Applicants can qualify for assistance either by age, income or handicapped status. The program is designed to serve those members owning their own home who have needed repairs of a true emergency nature. It is likely the eligible activities will be more narrowly defined for the next program year.

Members wishing additional information, including an application form or program guidelines, can contact Tribal Planning Director William Mrdeza at (517) 775-4013 or write c/o Tribal Planning Department, 7070 East Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe,
Seventh Generation and

At-Large programs

will be hosting a

Basket Weaving

Class

June 19 and 20

Garfield School

1221 Garfield Street

Port Huron

This opportunity is limited

to 12 participants

To reserve a spot, call

(810) 984-3101, ext. 337



Bill H.R. 1554 on three points:

•Tribes are sovereign governments and sovereigns do not tax sovereigns;

•Gaming is economic development implementing Tribal self-determination, a cornerstone of Administration policy and a primary purpose of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act; and

**tribal
observer**



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

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



Boozhu! Welcome to the June 16th issue of the Tribal Observer. The semi-monthly paper is a free service to enrolled Tribal members and employees. Submissions from the Tribal community are encouraged and can be sent to:

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

Phone (517) 775-4011 Fax (517) 772-3508
Subscription rates are \$15 per year. Contact the Tribal Observer for rate information on advertisement sizes from business card to full-page. Story ideas, photographs and advertisements are also welcomed from the community. Deadline for copy each month is on the 10th and 25th.



Patron makes '100' her lucky number

By Judy Whitman
Staff Writer

When Alma Loveland was born, Grover Cleveland was president, the Columbia Chainless Bicycle was the latest innovation in transportation and the wind-up victrola was advertised as one of the wonders of the world. Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Hawaii and Alaska had yet to become states.

The spry grandmother turned 100 years old on May 20 and celebrated by spending the following afternoon at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

An avid gambler, the Lake George resident



Observer photo/Judy Whitman
Family and friends gathered at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort for the 100th birthday of Alma Loveland, seated.

marked her 98th and 99th birthdays at the casino as well.

"I come here as often as I can," she said.

The Soaring Eagle rolled out the red car-

pet for the centenarian, providing her with a free lunch at the Firefly Restaurant, balloon bouquets, a corsage, and best of all—\$100 in Soaring Eagle

tokens.

"You made her day," said Loveland's granddaughter, Barbara Spence, who traveled from Toledo to join

(See PATRON page 12)

"Nga wiikminim."
("I invite you.")

4th Annual Anishnaabe Family Language Camp June 27, 28, 29

in Alden, MI (East of Traverse City, west of Kalkaska)

Language workshops for all ages begin Friday evening.

Bring your tents, sleeping bags, lawn chairs, camping gear.

No registration fee, meals are provided.

If you missed the last three camps, please make plans on attending.

Sponsored by the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians of the Anishinaabe Nation.

For more information, please call Kenny Pheasant at (800) 216-7081.

HONOR OUR ELDERS

Tribal program can help avoid having a bum summer

Niibing ~ In the summer.

The Tribal Education Department will once again host a summer

program called Niibing.

The Niibing Program will offer a variety of age-appropriate

activities for Native youth of the Saginaw Chippewa community. All activities will be educational or recre-

ational to allow students to have fun and learn at the same time. Educational activities will focus on reading

and math.

The Niibing program will be a five-week program beginning on June 30. The schedule

time will be Monday through Thursday, 1 to 4 p.m. (Field trip days may start earlier and end later.) The program will end on July 31 with a picnic/banquet.

Native students ages six to 15 years of age may attend with parent permission. The students will meet at the gymnasium in the Tribal Education Department. This will also be the meeting place for field trips. A small snack will be provided each program day. Students are encouraged to attend the full program.

Parents must sign the attached registration form for each child to attend the Niibing program. Transportation to and from the program is the responsibility of parents. Transportation for field trips will be provided.

Students will be expected to be respectful to each other and to the staff of the Niibing Program. Of course, no smoking, drinking or drugs will be tolerated. Parents will be asked to pick up any students violating the rules.

Niibing Program June 30, 1997 to July 31, 1997 Monday - Thursday 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. 775-4501

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
30 June Niibing Program Begins	1 July Lake Trip	2 Class & Craft Day	3 Lake Trip
7 Class & Craft Day	8 Canoeing	9 Class & Craft Day	10 Lake Trip
14 Class & Craft Day	15 Sleeping Bear Dunes	16 Class & Craft Day	17 Horseback Riding/ Lake Trip
21 Class & Craft Day	22 Higgins Lake Trip	23 Class & Craft Day	24 Detroit Zoo
28 Class & Craft Day	29 Splash Trip	30 Class & Craft Day	31 End of Program Banquet



Tribal Matters

TRIBAL COUNCIL:

Kevin Chamberlain, Tribal Chief
 Tim Davis, Tribal Sub-Chief
 Gary Quigno, Treasurer
 Ben Hinmon, Secretary
 David Otto, Sergeant-At-Arms
 Alvin Chamberlain, Chaplain
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 Shelly Foster
 Tom Kequom

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 Mary Lynne Chippeway

Program helps make home mortgages possible

The purpose of the Native American Homeownership Program is to help Native Americans have the opportunity to become homeowners.

Unfortunately, there have been minimal options to secure private financing on trust land or on private land located on a Reservation. Thus, the 184 loan program was enacted by HUD in 1994 to help eliminate the barriers of obtaining financing on land in an Indian area.

An eligible borrower is one of the following:

- An Indian family or individual
 - An Indian Housing Authority
 - A Tribe
 - An Alaskan Native
- Homes purchased through this program

can be financed with a bank, savings and loan, mortgage company or other approved lender.

The requirements that must be met by the borrower include: a steady income, an acceptable credit history, sufficient income to make payments on the mortgage and pay other bills, and enough money available to make a downpayment and pay required loan fee.

An IHA or Tribe can also finance the house through a bank, savings and loan, or approved lender.

Some of the requirements that must be met by the Tribe or IHA include: documenting skills and experience to undertake the project; audited financials and the ability to manage the

debt service.

The loan may be used to finance the following:

- Purchase of an existing house
- Rehabilitation of an existing house
- Purchase and rehabilitation of an existing house
- Construction of a new or manufactured house

The property requirements are that the house being purchased, built or moved must be located on land that is either trust-restricted or within the operating area of an IHA or Tribe.

In addition, the house must meet standard quality requirements.

meet construction and safety codes and be a single family residence (one to four units).

For homes located on trust land, the Tribe must have certain items in place, including legally enforceable foreclosure and eviction procedures that name the court having jurisdiction over any cases filed.

The Tribe must also enact an ordinance assuring the mortgage is a first lien on the home or providing that state law shall determine the priority of liens against the property.

Leasing procedures for the land on which the (See HOME page 18)

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| 2. | Regular Bingo | \$350 |
| 3. | Regular Bingo | \$350 |
| 4. | Regular Bingo | \$350 |
| 5. | Letter "X" | \$500 |
| 6. | Regular Bingo | \$350 |
| 7. | Regular Bingo | \$350 |
| 8. | Regular Bingo | \$350 |
| 9. | Crazy "T" | \$500 |
| 10. | Regular Bingo | \$350 |
| 11. | Regular Bingo | \$350 |
| 12. | Regular Bingo | \$350 |
| 13. | 9 Pack Wild | \$500 |
| 14. | Regular Bingo | \$350 |
| 15. | Regular Bingo | \$350 |
| 16. | Regular Bingo | \$350 |
| 17. | DO-IT-YOURSELF | \$1,000 |
| 18. | Plus Sign | \$500 |

JACKPOT GAME

(Played on the same sheet)

- | | | |
|------|---------------|---------|
| 19a. | Regular Bingo | \$500 |
| 19b. | Letter "X" | \$500 |
| 19c. | Coverall | \$1,000 |



**TOBACCO IS SACRED-
 DON'T ABUSE IT!**

Tobacco is one of the gifts given to us by the Creator for our proper, healthful use.

With its smoke, through the sacred pipe, we send our prayers.

However, as in many other areas, we have used tobacco for the wrong reasons. Cigarette smoking has become an unhealthy habit for too many of us.

Thousands die each year from tobacco-related illnesses. Don't add your name to the list.

Keep tobacco sacred.

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

Homes to be given away

Tribal Council approved the giving away of three homes to qualified Tribal Elders at their regular meeting in June.

The double-wide modular homes will be awarded to those qualified members who have applied to the program and demonstrate the greatest need.

In order to apply, the applicant must be a Tribal member at least 55-years-old and furnish a site upon which to put the home. The Tribe will provide the home, foundation, water, sewer and connections to electric and/or gas sources.

Applications are available from the Tribe's Planning Department at 7070 East Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Applications are due by July 25, 1997.

For more information about the program or to request an application form, contact the Planning Department at the previously mentioned address or call (517) 775-4013.

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Tom Baumann - Store Director

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Health



Observer photo/Scott Csernyik

Memorial Walk

The High Spirit Singers, pictured clockwise, Beaver Pelcher, Kendall Kingbird, Jason Oldman and Dan Jackson share a song prior to the start of the Third Annual Memorial Walk on May 29. The march is conducted in commemoration of those who have passed on due to diabetes and its complications. It also lends support to those currently afflicted with the disease.

CMCH launches youth diabetes support group

Central Michigan Community Hospital's new youth diabetes support group will meet on June 24 from 6 to 7 p.m. in the hospital's conference room F.

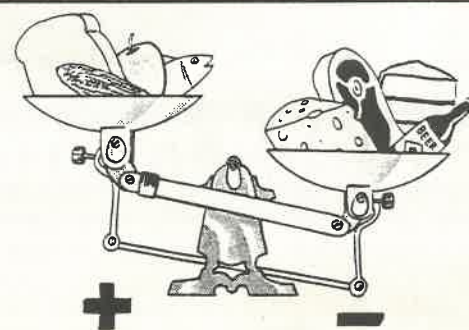
The group is intended for children with diabetes and their parents, families and friends.

The group will meet once a month to discuss diabetes topics such as insulin control, carbohydrate counting, complications, exercise and more.

For further information, contact the Wellness Center at (517) 773-0530.

CMCH also hosts a support group for diabetics of all ages and their families. This group will also meet June 24 beginning at 7 p.m. in conference room FDJ.

Regular meetings take place on the fourth Tuesday of each month. New members are always welcome. Call the above number for more information.



**The Fitness Center
is only open for
the summer from
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**



Golf outing set

The third annual Amy Otteman Memorial Golf Classic has been set for July 18 at the Riverwood Golf Club in Mt. Pleasant.

The tournament is in memory of Amy Otteman, who was a Mt. Pleasant High School athlete and an oncology nurse. Proceeds will be placed in a fund in Amy's name to benefit nurse education.

The year's classic features both nine and 18-hole events. A shotgun start at 9 a.m. will open the 18-hole

tournament, to be played on the red and white courses.

At 12:30 p.m., the nine-hole tournament will begin on the blue course.

The 18-hole event is open to the first 40 four-person teams at the cost of \$44 per person if registered before June 20.

The nine-hole event is open to the first 12 foursomes at the cost of \$35 per person before June 20.

After June 20 registration increases by
(See GOLF page 15)

Mammography screening guidelines revised by American Cancer Society

The American Cancer Society recently announced a change in its breast cancer screening guidelines.

Following its March meeting, the ACS board of directors voted to recommend women begin annual mammography screening at age 40.

Prior to this meeting, the society's guidelines suggested women ages 40 to 49 could be screened by mammography every year or two.

"The research evidence now tells us that by beginning a program of annual mammography at age 40, women can give themselves the best chance of detecting cancer early, when there is a higher opportunity for long-term survival and more treatment options," stated ACS President Dr. Myles P. Cunningham.

About 18 percent of all breast cancers occur in women in their 40s, and 13 percent of the 44,000 women expected to die of breast cancer during 1997 will be below age 50.

To arrive at its new guideline, the ACS convened a workshop of experts to review current data from randomized clinical trials from across the world. The workshop panel also reviewed other means of measuring the effectiveness of mammography screening, including increased frequency of early-stage cancers detected, the corresponding decrease in late-stage cancers being diagnosed, the decrease in tumor size, and the spread of cancer to nearby lymph nodes.

"The public debates about mammography screening, especially for women in their 40s, have confused women of all ages and their doctors, too," said Dr. Marilyn Leitch, a surgical oncologist

who chairs the ACS's Breast Cancer Advisory Committee.

"We are confident that this new guideline is appropriate. It's our responsibility to provide usable and understandable information, not only in the form of a simple guideline, but also about the benefits and limitations of screening. We hope this change will lessen the confusion," she added.

According to Dr. Leitch, breast cancers generally grow faster in women in their 40s than in older women. The new recommendations for more frequent annual screening should result in greater reduction of death. Existing data from more recent studies using annual screening report lower mortality rates than do data from trials screening every 18 to 24 months.

In reporting the new guideline, Dr. Cunningham also noted the limitations of mammography, including false negative and positive exams, the lack of universal high-quality mammography, as well as costs inherent in wide-scale screening and associated follow-up procedures.

"We don't have enough knowledge to say which women will benefit the most from screening, especially among women in their 40s, or which women will not benefit at all. It is just prudent to offer screening to all women 40 and older with the confidence that overall, mammography's lifesaving benefits far outweigh its limitations," Cunningham said.

Native American women interested in receiving mammography screening should contact the Nimkee Clinic's Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program at (517) 775-4618.



Tribal youth encouraged to participate in CMU summer sports and activities camps

Interested *potential* athletes, current *world-class* athletes, young superstars, mini-Air Jordans, aspiring artists, undiscovered geniuses, potential pop icons, bored stiffs and those with nothing to do...

How about becoming a participant in Central Michigan University's summer sports and activity camps?

These camps are for youth ages 6 years to the graduating class of 1998.

The Saginaw Chippewa Parks and Recreation Department has a limited number of slots open for youth to participate in camps for the following sports and activities:

- Football
- Boys' and girls' basketball
- Wrestling
- Baseball
- Girls' softball
- Volleyball
- Soccer
- Field hockey
- Youth activities (one to six weeks for youth ages 6 years to junior high)

These camps are designed to help you learn skills, motivate you develop your talents and gain confidence, as well as have fun. You will meet new friends from around the state.

All camps last a week in duration. Participants will stay on the CMU campus in the dormitories. Room and board is provided.

If you would like to learn the fundamentals of a particular sport, how to use a camera, develop your fine arts skills, or just have fun, call Mike Poolaw at (517) 775-8847 or April Borton (517) 775-4000.

Native woman honored

Ms. magazine recently named a Native American leader among their 1996 Women of the Year.

Rebecca L. Adamson (Cherokee), president and founder of First Nations Development Institute, is one of seven women honored this year by the magazine for stepping up and speaking out through private acts and public example.

Adamson shares the distinction as a 1996 Ms. Woman of the Year with such famous women as Rosie O'Donnell and Pat Schroeder.

"Every once in a while, there is someone who has a gift not only for bringing people together, but for bring worlds together.

"Both despite and because of her quiet, unassuming manner, Rebecca Adamson is one of those rare leaders," said Gloria Steinem in her profile of Adamson in the January/February issue of Ms. magazine.

"I feel like all I've really done is give voice to Native people. It is their brilliance that makes projects work," said Adamson of the recognition.

In 1980, Adamson founded the nation's only Native American-controlled organization to support culturally-appropriate economic development.

(See HONOR page 16)

Helms Funeral Home

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Announcing. . .

Barbara E. Heller, D.O.

Central Michigan Healthcare System is pleased to announce the addition of Barbara E. Heller, D.O., to the medical staff.

Dr. Heller, who is board certified by the American Board of Family Practice, joins Central Michigan Healthcare System after participating in a private practice in Bangor, Maine. Dr. Heller received her medical degree from Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in Kirksville, Missouri. She completed an Osteopathic Rotating Internship at the Community Health Center of Branch County in Coldwater, MI, and a Family Practice Residency at Southern Illinois University in Belleville, IL. Dr. Heller also was a medical exchange student at Kantospital, Basel, Switzerland.

Dr. Heller will be on active staff at Central Michigan Community Hospital and will be practicing at the new Central Clinic - West High Street. Appointments can be scheduled by calling (517) 773-7663.

Barbara E. Heller, D.O.
Family Practice

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Special athletes share competitive spirit during annual event

By Joe Sowmick
Editor

"Sharing the spirit since 1972," one of the largest programs of its kind again converged on the campus of Central Michigan University.

It's the 25th Michigan Special Olympics State Summer Games.

"This year we had

over 3,400 athletes and about 1,000 volunteers helping to make this event the success it is," Michigan Special Olympics Executive Director Lois Arnold said. "We appreciate the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe's support over the years and we had many volunteers associated with the

Tribe. We couldn't do it without the volunteers!"

Will Laczek has been a volunteer for the last five years and keeps coming back.

"What I've found out is once you volunteer for the Special Olympics, you just end up doing it again," chuckled Laczek. "Seeing these

Olympians come out with their coaches and their families can't help but make a person feel good inside.

"I would like to make one point, though," Laczek stated. "It's not about winning...it's about the opportunity to compete."

Professional athletic

competition is something former CMU basketball star Ben Poquette knows well. He spent his career playing for the Chippewas from 1973 to 1977 and in the NBA for ten years with Detroit, Utah, Cleveland and Chicago.

"As a CMU alumni, I'm glad to see the games

here. I got hooked back when they had the international games here in 1979," Poquette recalled. "The desire, dedication and work these athletes put in getting here and the rewards they get just crossing the finish line, it's dramatic."

(See OLYMPICS page 13)

Lots of tots get shots

By Judy Whitman
Staff Writer

Jessica Sowmick won a pink flamingo and Valerie Leksche won a giant dog. Willis Tarbell took home a giant frog, while Carlos Anderson claimed Winnie the Pooh.

In fact, all the children who have attended Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center's immunization clinics—not just the winners of the stuffed animals above—have walked away winners, as the vaccinations they received will protect them against childhood diseases.

Forty children got their shots at the April 25 immunization clinic, which included a special giveaway of the above items in honor of National Immunization Week.

The turnout set a new record for Nimkee, which boasts a 90.8 percent immunization rate for Tribal children—significantly higher than the state's.

"The walk-in clinics have been so successful, which is really good for the health of the community," noted Medical Director Nancy Tupica.

She thanked Dr. Eisenmann, Twila Schrot, Sandi Grace, Nettie White, Shawn Pelcher, Susan Bettistea and the rest of the Nimkee staff who have helped to make the clinics successful.

"I'd also like to thank all the moms, dads, aunts, uncles and other family members. Everyone who brings a child in to be immunized should be thanked," Tupica said.

Other winners of giveaway items included Demetrius Pelcher, Devon Durfee, Gary Rueckert, Wade Bennett and Mariya Floyd, who each received a \$10 Meijer's gift certificate.

The next Nimkee immunization clinic will take place on June 16. Contact the Nimkee Clinic at (517) 775-4600 for more information.

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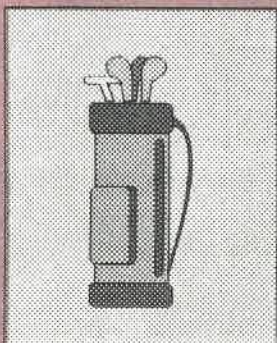
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InnerView

(S. Timothy Wapato is a Tribal Elder and the Executive Director for the National Indian Gaming Association based out of Washington D.C. He was interviewed at the Comfort Inn in Mt. Pleasant on June 5 by Editor Joe Sowmick.)

Tribal Observer: First off, I would like to welcome you to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. I'm glad we finally have an opportunity to meet. What Tribal Nation do you hail from?

Tim Wapato: I'm from the Colville Confederated Indian Tribes of north central Washington state.

T.O.: How did you get started in the National Indian Gaming Association?

T.W.: Well, I've been around Indian country and Indian issues for the last 40 years in a variety of positions. My personal philosophy is I try to work in areas that are under attack relating to Tribal sovereignty. I spent 10 years before working in Washington, D.C., on Indian treaty fishing rights in the Pacific Northwest at a time where people were shooting at Indians for exercising their right to legally fish. In 1989, I accepted a position in President Bush's administration as the commissioner for the Administration of Native Americans.

T.O.: What does the ANA do?

T.W.: They are a granting organization within the Department of Health and Human Services. I was in that position for four years. I left that appointed position when the Clinton administration came in.

T.O.: I hear you also have an extensive background in law enforcement.

T.W.: I worked with a number of Tribes as a consultant in security, surveillance and regulatory activities. The reason I did that was my 23 years of law enforcement experience in the Los Angeles Police Department. I retired from my position as lieutenant of detectives in 1979. I have kept current with investigating activities and techniques. I did some consulting with Tribes concerning Indian gaming in 1993. At the same time, Rick Hill ran for the chairmanship of NIGA. Rick was elected on the platform to make NIGA a viable organization that could protect treaties and our sovereign rights in gaming. After Rick was elected in a landslide, he approached me on becoming executive director for NIGA. I told Rick I would accept the job if he and the NIGA Board of Directors agreed unanimously. I didn't want to work with a board that would be engaged in political infighting. In March 1993, the board made that unanimous decision and I've been the executive director since.

T.O.: Have you seen much growth in the NIGA organization since you assumed your directorship?

T.W.: Since Rick Hill became chairman, we have grown from 63 member Tribes to a current 162 member Tribes and the growth has been steady each year.

T.O.: What is the main objective of NIGA?

T.W.: I would say NIGA's main purpose is to work on a national basis and protect the sovereignty of Native Tribes and their right to participate in gaming. We also educate Congress, the media and the general public on the importance of these issues. We also keep our members informed of what is happening on the national scene related to Indian gaming. It's really been a hectic 4 1/2 years in this position because we've been under attack by the legislature and the media ever since Rick was elected.



Observer photo/Scott Csernyik

CHIEF KEVIN CHAMBERLAIN AND NIGA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TOM WAPATO

T.O.: It's interesting that you requested a board consensus rather than having a majority vote before accepting your position. Do you believe that helps take politics out of the process?

T.W.: Well, I think we have to have a consensus vote on a number of issues relating to attacks on sovereignty. Each Tribe is obviously a sovereign unto itself and needs to look at doing what is in their best interest to protect their sovereignty. We believe in a broader sense on a national basis there are a lot of areas where Tribes can agree on what needs to be done to protect sovereignty. That is the way we try to operate at NIGA as much as possible—to obtain a consensus position of our member Tribes. This is especially true on legislative issue that may be harmful to Indian gaming and will be harmful to Tribal sovereignty. One of the things Rick supported and initiated even before he was NIGA chairman was to forge a better working relationship with the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI). One of the things Rick did was to propose and establish a joint NIGA/NCAI task force. It helped both national organizations to be better informed on what's happening in Indian gaming and collectively in unison move forward. Since then we haven't had any split recommendations between our organizations, which is good. Many times when politicians in Washington hear different positions regarding Native issues from Native organizations they tend to say, "Aha! There's a division here we can exploit." Most NIGA members are also NCAI members and it benefits everyone to keep this ongoing relationship solid.

T.O.: It seems the old philosophy of "divide and conquer" is still prevalent even within the Indian gaming industry, correct?

T.W.: It is especially more "divide and conquer" with Indian gaming. I don't think anybody in their analysis suspected that Indian gaming would be as successful as it is across the country. It seems the general politician is jealous over this success and tends to take a racist position toward the industry ... maybe economic racism is a better term. Somewhere down the line, short-sighted people believe it is wrong for Indian Tribes and Indian people to have money and make money. There is a fallacy in the country and it basically comes from the high-profile casino like the Pequot's Foxwoods. The Pequots have a very

small Tribe and Foxwoods is in a market of 42 million potential patrons. It makes a lot of people in the media believe that all Indian people are rich. All Tribes that have casino operations aren't like that.

T.O.: It sounds like multi-million dollar operations like Foxwoods and the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort feed this inaccurate representation for all Indian casinos.

T.W.: There are many small gaming operations who do not have a customer base like yours or are as profitable. Some people believe it's not right for Indians to live in nice houses or drive nice cars. Of course it's OK for Donald Trump or Steve Wynn, but not guys like us. We have to fight against that kind of public opinion. I personally know there are about 30 Indian colleges across the country and they are primarily supported by contributions. I've heard of instances when these colleges do solicitations for contributions, some people mail back news clippings about Tribes like the Pequots who give per capita payments instead of offering a contribution.

T.O.: I've never heard the term "economic racism." The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe has the most profitable casino in Michigan and we do share the Tribe's success with our membership. Do you see economic racism across the country to Tribes that give per capita payments?

T.W.: Yes, they do come under fire and I believe that can be economic racism. My personal opinion is that gaming revenue should be used to provide infrastructure for Tribes but when there's obviously an excess after the immediate needs of the Tribe is taken care of it is certainly within the legal sense of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) and a policy decision that the Tribe makes to provide per capita payments to their members. This should not be criticized. Nobody criticized the State of Alaska in the 1970s when every resident of the state received a dividend check from the oil that was flowing out of Prudhoe Bay. Nobody questioned that they should be sharing that revenue with residents of Michigan or Washington. Yet when an Indian Tribe is developing money from its own resources and gives per capita payment to members that address long-term needs of the Tribe...that's when they come under scrutiny. Tribes are sovereign nations and are self-governed. How Tribes choose to spend their revenues is up to each individual Tribe.

T.O.: Do you see many instances of Tribes with casino gaming diversifying their business portfolio?

T.W.: Most Tribes have a policy of diversifying their economy. I think most Tribes feel that gaming won't be as wildly successful as it has been in many places. To have an economy that withstands the upturns and downturns of business cycles is in the best interest of any Tribe. I think Tribes have developed business sophistication through their involvement in Indian gaming and they now have the capability and resources to evaluate the potential success of many diverse business ventures.

T.O.: Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort is owned and operated exclusively by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan. Despite their popularity, many people question how Indians can run these casinos. How does that type of comment make you feel?

T.W.: Well, I am considerably older than you are and through my 62 years of life I've found that as soon as some people find out you are an Indian, they feel your intelligence, skills and abilities are lim-

(See WAPATO page 13)

Bike Rodeo '97 steers community yo

It's no secret that eight-year-old Brooke Kequom loves to ride her bike.

"I ride it every day," she said. "It's a lot of fun."

And Brooke found Bike Rodeo '97 lots of fun as well. Besides riding her bike with scores of other children, Brooke thought the obstacle courses were really neat.

"They trained us how to stop and other things to be safe," she explained. "The 'road' [course] was the funnest."

Brooke also mentioned one other highlight of the day, other than learning about bicycle safety.

"They had snacks," she stated.

**OBSERVER
TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHS
BY
SCOTT CSERNYIK**

The May 31 event at the Tribal Public Safety Building drew over 200 participants, including many families.

"I liked the fact that there were so many families there," said Youth Service Officer Louise Dickerman, who conducted bike safety inspections. "I couldn't believe the amount of people who showed up."

"The event was also just as much fun and as rewarding for the police department as it was for the kids."

-Youth Service Officer Louise Dickerman

Dickerman said 87 bikes were registered and over 100 helmets were given away. Free t-shirts were also handed out to the first couple hundred participants.

"Plans are already underway for next year's bike rodeo," Dickerman added. "It was just a real fun and well-rounded day."

"The event was also just as much fun and as rewarding for the police department as it was for the kids."



The bicycle parade twists its way around the Isabella Reservation during Bike Rodeo '97 on May 31. The main goal of the event was to conduct safety inspections on bicycles, while registering them at the same time. Over 200 people attended the event, including many families from the Tribal and Mt. Pleasant communities. The day netted 87 bikes being registered. Over 100 helmets were given away.



Saginaw Education Coordinator/Parent Advocate Aggie Flynn helps register one of the total 87 bikes.



Dear Saginaw Chippewa Tribe,

I could be writing this letter from the hospital or worse yet, the funeral home, but thanks to your Bike Rodeo this past Saturday, I am not.

My daughter received a bike helmet from your rodeo. On Sunday, June 1, she was wearing the helmet while riding her bike. She stopped at a park to play, but did not remove her helmet. While swinging, she was hit in the head by a baseball from a nearby game. It snapped the helmet—both the plastic and Styrofoam—but thank God, she was not hurt.

If she had not been wearing this helmet, she would have been seriously injured. The impact broke not only the helmet, but the plastic headband that she was wearing, yet she did not even have a scratch.

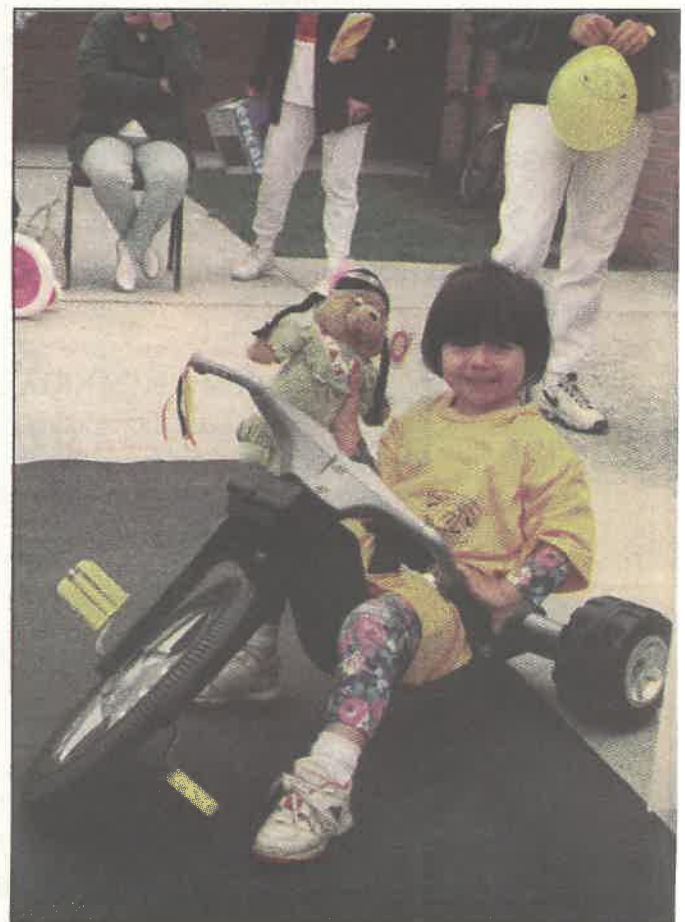
I would just like to thank you for saving my child.

Keep up the good work!

**Jodie Bishop
Mt. Pleasant**



Youth Service Officer Louise Dickerman shares a laugh with Sara Chasteen as Safety Pup looks on.



Alexandria Sprague shows off her new friend.

outh toward path of safe summer fun



Amanda Dage, left, and Miranda Pelcher Miley are all smiles over the free goodies they received.

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Department officials would like to thank the following sponsors for their private donations to Bike Rodeo '97:

- Pro Comm, Inc.
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- Terry's Cycle of Alma
- The Pawn Shop
- Nimkee Clinic
- Saginaw Chippewa Youth Center
- Saganing Outreach Center
- Saginaw Chippewa Fire Department



Earl Pelcher visits Safety Town during his fun-filled time at Bike Rodeo '97.

Kids' top ten bike safety tips



1. Always wear a bike helmet.
2. Stop and check traffic before riding into a street.
3. Don't ride at night.
4. Obey traffic signs and signals.
5. Ride on the right-hand side of the street.
6. Check brakes before riding.
7. Be careful turning left—motorists may not see you.
8. Give cars and pedestrians the right-of-way.
9. Wear light or bright-colored clothes.
10. Avoid broken pavement, loose gravel and leaves.



David Merrill Jr. proves he's a "big wheel" while learning about bicycle safety at an early age.



Isaac Pego learns what can happen when one doesn't follow proper bicycle safety rules.



Insight

(Continued from page 2)

tigators—Clare Fox, Robert James and Jim Osterman—who bring a combined total of over 60 years' experience to the Tribal force also provided information during the seminar.

Osterman, an expert on gangs, outlined the Soaring Eagle's "zero tolerance" policy regarding gang activity, including wearing colors or "flashing," using threatening gestures.

The importance of a casino's internal regulation was emphasized by both Chief Financial Officer Val Ulmer and Table Games Director Darryl Jackson.

Enumerating different scams he's aware of, Jackson said casinos can fight criminals by establishing tight internal controls and having well-trained gaming operators.

Looking for deviations from standard procedures is one way to spot scams—especially those that involve collusion, or the participation of casino staff.

"I take the time to go out on the gaming floor. If I see anything unusual, I'll certainly question it," he noted.

Ulmer explained the importance of creating a "paper trail" to establish accountability for revenue, as well as accounting procedures that immediately shed light on any irregular practices.

Director of Slots Lori Colwell also provided an overview of



Observer photo/Judy Whitman
Among the Soaring Eagle's participants in the NIGA conference were, from left, Assistant General Manager Bonnie Quigno, Director of Slots Lori Colwell, Chief Financial Officer Val Ulmer and Table Games Director Darryl Jackson.

the Tribe's slot operation, which currently includes 4,004 machines.

"I played the wrong machine!" groaned a seminar participant when he learned of the chance to win a million dollars by playing the "Eagle Millions" progressive slots.

Assistant General Manager Bonnie Quigno outlined the history of Soaring Eagle Casino for the visitors, ranging from the time in 1981 when a Tribal Council member suggested bingo

games as a way to replace dwindling federal funding, to a peek into the future as the casino prepares to open its state-of-the-art arcade and a gift shop in July.

Quigno proudly noted the Soaring Eagle is 100 percent in compliance with the state compact and federal regulations.

"This casino isn't managed by a management company. Most of the managers are Tribal members, and many have been here since the incep-

tion of gaming," said Quigno, herself a 16-year veteran of the Tribal gaming enterprise.

"We knew gaming would continue and grow to be what it is today," she added.

NIGA

(Continued from page 2)

as well as Michigan."

Casino security and surveillance dominated the seminar and Surveillance Director Ray Miesch was pleased to be able to show his counterparts our operation.

"I thought the seminar provided an excellent opportunity to exchange information and form a communication network across Indian country," Miesch remarked. "The fact that NIGA is coast to coast makes the seminar important. I believe it's a stepping stone."

Networking between seminar participants occurred throughout the two days, which Miesch said is a valuable tool.

"It has got to happen. It's just 'united we stand,' and we can't be alone at this," he said. "The more surveillance directors get to meet each other and develop trust, the quicker information will flow and make our operations more efficient."

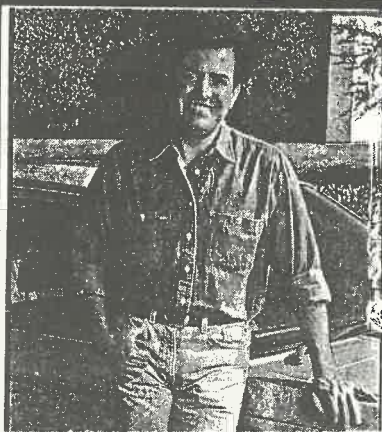
Assistant General Manager Bonnie Quigno expressed an interest in having the national seminars hosted at the Soaring Eagle Resort once the hotel and convention center are fully operational.



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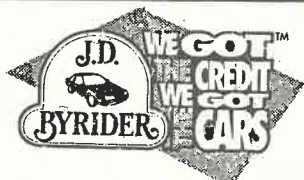
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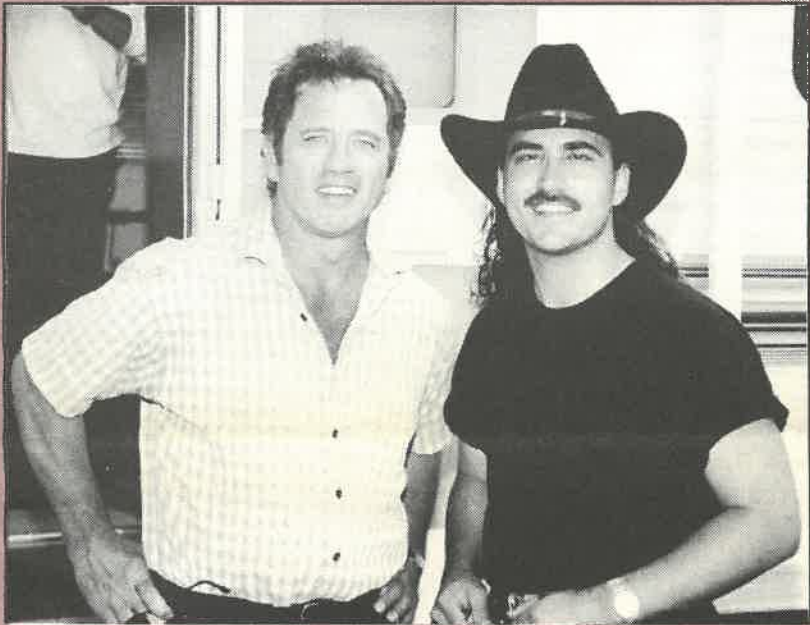
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Observer photos/Joe Sowmick

Sunday in the park

Alisha Chamberlain, daughter of Tribal Chief Kevin Chamberlain, shares a moment with grandma Cathy Chamberlain at Rods in the Park on June 8. Also pictured with her Aunt Cathy is Alisha's cousin, Lindy Sowmick. Left, Chief Kevin Chamberlain is all smiles as he poses with Tom Wopat, better known as "Luke Duke" from the television show, "The Dukes of Hazzard." The Salt River Band opened for Wopat at the WCEN-FM's Sixth Annual Bootleg Jam.

Olympics

(Continued from page 8)

The spirit of the competition has brought Pete Salhaay back for his 15th year of volunteering.

"Just to see the growth of what the Special Olympics has become is amazing," Salhaay said. "To see those Olympians on that medal stand, it brings a tear to my eye. You never know what's going to happen, and something is going to touch you before you leave."

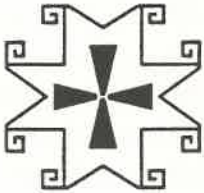
Yours truly had the honor and privilege to place these medals around the neck of these athletes and to watch their faces light up. Pete Salhaay knows what he is talking about.

"I look at the Special Olympics as another example on how Central

Michigan University and theSaginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe can do something special for the community," said Robert Rulong, associate vice president of university relations. He also serves on the board of directors for Michigan Special Olympics.

"With the position the

University and the Tribe are in, to bring all these families to our area shows how we can make a difference together," Rulong said.



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Wapato

(Continued from page 9)

ited and you would not be able to accomplish anything individually or collectively. And I realize that's a racist position, although it's not the same as passing a law that says you must ride in the back of the bus. It is, however, in effect the same thing whether it's overt or covert racism. We see this because of the success of Indian gaming. There's also this perception that all these management companies are ripping off our Tribes. It may have been true in the earlier years. Nowadays, we find many Tribes terminating management contracts once they are ready to run the operations by themselves.

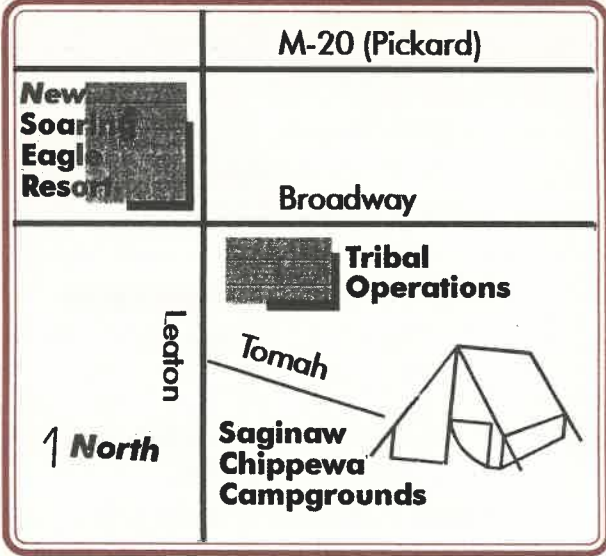
T.O.: It has certainly been a pleasure to host a National Indian Gaming Association conference and getting to meet you. Any closing thoughts about our Tribe and casino?

T.W.: Just with what I've seen of your operation and how your Tribe is providing services for its members, I believe you're on the right track. Once your hotel and convention center is open, we would like NIGA to come back to your Reservation for another conference.

Campgrounds open

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

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



The campgrounds office is open all week from 8 a.m. to midnight and can be reached at (517) 772-2285.

Rates for the campgrounds are as follows:

- \$10 - One day
- \$20 - Up to three days
- \$50 - One week





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Obituary

Robert Samuel Henry (Wabazoo)

Robert Samuel Henry (Wabazoo), 66, died April 17, 1997. He was born on Christmas Day, 1930, to Arthur Nowagceshig Henry (Chief Iron Star) and Alice Beechum in St. Charles, Mich. Iron Star was the last reigning chief of the Saginaw Chippewas before the Tribe adopted a Council form of government.

Although he was raised in a time when our religion was outlawed, Wabazoo always followed the ways of our Elders. He graduated from St. Charles



Observer photo/Courtesy

Robert Henry enjoys some quality family time with Corey Henry at the At-Large Program's Grandparents Celebration on Sept. 8 at the Mt. Pleasant Comfort Inn.

High School and completed three years at G.M.I. in Flint. Following in the warrior tradition, he served in the Korean War. After his return, he married Rose Marie Chase on April 2, 1955. He worked for General Motors for 35 years, then retired to his dream home on Glen Lake, Mich.

Wabazoo was intensely proud of his heritage. He loved the drums and attended many powwows. In his later years, one of his greatest pleasures was being part of the At-Large trips. It meant a lot to him to renew old friendships with many of the cousins he grew up with.

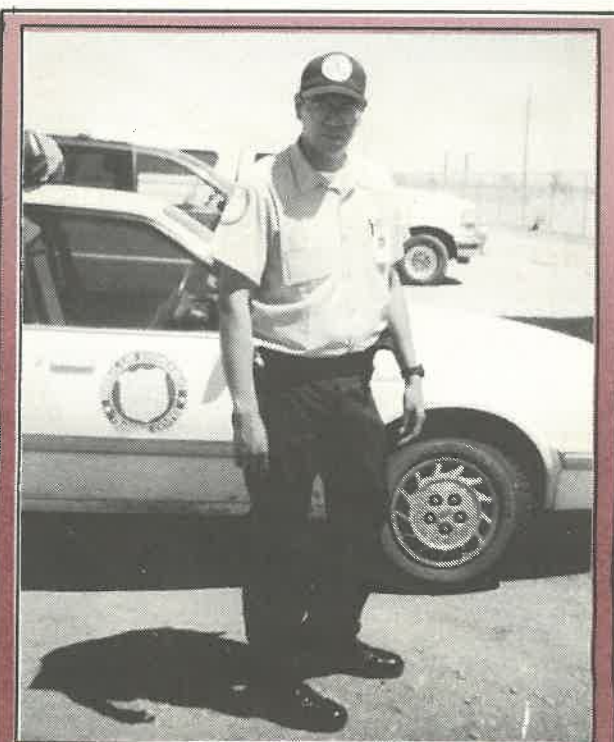
He was preceded in death by both parents and sisters Pearl Brown, Glendora Hancock and Caryl Chapman, as well as grandson David J. Henry.

He leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Rose Marie Henry, daughters Robyn W. Henry of Burton

and Nonda L. Lynn of Lewiston; sons Robert N. (Judy) Henry of Roseville, John O.C. (Barbara) Henry of Hubbard Lake, Craig O. Chase of Fort Wayne, Ind., and beloved grandchildren, his hope for the future.

He is also survived by his only brother, Arthur R. (Myrtle) Henry of Bloomington, Calif., and special cousin Lawrence (Barbara) Verga of Luzerne.

He touched the lives of many others—nieces, cousins and many grandnieces and grandnephews too numerous to mention. He is at peace in the Land of Souls. Ahow.



Observer photo/Courtesy

JAMES W. PONTIAC

Pontiac graduates from federal police academy

Tribal member James W. Pontiac was one of 29 American Indians to be graduated from the Federal Police Academy in Artesia, N.M.

Graduation for the class totalling 52 took place on April 29.

Pontiac, who holds a degree in criminal justice from Michigan State University, is employed by the Nett Lake Police Department in Minnesota.

He plans to go on to earn a master's degree in law or criminal justice.

Pontiac is the son of Rudy and Margaret Pontiac of Grand Rapids.



Basket Weaving Workshops July 17 and 18

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Golf

(Continued from page 6)

\$10.

Both events include lunch on the course, a player "goodie bag," dinner and a silent auction following play.

The silent auction will feature golf and travel packages and over 100 autographed items including signed pieces from Lee

Trevino, Pete Sampras, Arnold Palmer, Barry Sanders, Wayne Gretzky, Shaquille O'Neal and many more.

For more information or to register a team, call Tim Otteman at (517) 774-3911 or (517) 886-4122.



Two retire from state commission

The Michigan Commission on Indian Affairs congratulates Executive Director William LeBlanc and Executive Assistant Betty Kienitz on their retirement and wishes them the best in all future endeavors.

The office will be operated by Indian Affairs Commission Chair Karen Kay and Vice Chair Carlota Beauprey until the staff positions can be filled.

They will have office hours in the Michigan Department of Civil Rights' Suite 700 of the Victor Building, 201 N. Washington Square, Lansing, from 9 a.m. to p.m. Monday through Thursday. They can be reached by telephone during the same office hours on Fridays.

Michigan Department of Civil Rights staff will be answering telephone calls for the Commission at (517) 335-3165.



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Meeting times and places

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Relapse Prevention
2250 Enterprise Drive
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4 p.m.

Tuesday
A.A. Meeting
Youth Center
7363 E. Broadway
7 p.m.

Tuesday
Spiritual Group Meeting
2250 Enterprise Dr.
Suite 1 (Petro Plaza)
1 p.m.

Thursday
Women's A.A. Meeting
3548 S. Shepherd Rd.
1 p.m.
Call 772-4616 first

Friday
A.A. Meeting
Youth Center
7363 E. Broadway
1 p.m.



Reservation Reverie

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Elder Dorothy Dale shares the following memories of school days approximately a half-century ago:

SCHOOL'S OUT! What's that old saying? "No more school, no more books, no more teachers' looks." That was an old saying when I was in school.

Of course we had a "schoolmarm"—long black dress, ruler in one hand, a big bun on the back of her head. But we did learn a lot, especially the "three R's"—reading, "riting" and "rithmetic." Another subject was deportment, which meant behavior, the manner in which one conducts oneself at school, home, church, or wherever we happened to be.

We went to a one-room country school where first through eighth grades were taught. Our teacher's name was Mary. She was so good to us.

Of course we had to carry our lunch to school in a lunch box, brown sack or even a lard bucket. We didn't have light bread to put into our buckets, so Mom would make fried Indian bread for us. The other kids would make fun of our Indian bread until they tasted it, then they would trade their lunch for ours.

Mary, our teacher, would put a large kettle of navy beans on the potbellied stove, early in the morning, and by the time we had our lunch our beans would be ready. Fried bread and beans—what a treat.

"The other kids would make fun of our Indian bread until they tasted it, then they would trade their lunch for ours."

Outside of our white schoolhouse was an artesian well, made by boring into the earth until water is reached and from internal pressure flows up like a fountain. Even on the hottest summer days, we could go to the fountain and drink the coldest, most refreshing water in the whole world.

Yes, I loved our teacher. She gave me many good and treasured memories. This is some of the advice she gave to us:

Be true to yourselves. Honor your parents and grandparents and those in authority. Some of your peers will tell you to do things you know you shouldn't; use your common sense because you are the one responsible for your actions. Be proud of yourself. Stand tall. Mind your own business. Also, have a good sense of humor, enjoy this Earth we live on and don't abuse it. Mother Earth is like our own bodies; the rivers are her veins; she protects our animals, birds and insects.

All I can say is, "Have a good summer." Go on picnics, swim, play ball, and if you're old enough, find a summer job or volunteer at the hospital or for other worthwhile programs. There's so much to do.

Do you have a special story or memory to share? Write to "Reservation Reverie" in care of the Tribal Observer, 7070 East Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858, or call (517) 775-4011. Please include your name and address for verification purposes.



Honor

(Continued from page 7)

velopment initiates to help Native American communities reduce their dependence upon the federal government. First Nations has worked with Indian communities such as the Oglala Lakota on the Pine Ridge Reservation to develop the Lakota Fund, one of

the country's first micro enterprise leading circles, as well as helping develop the Porcupine Clinic, one of few community-controlled (non-Indian Health Service) health clinics on a Reservation. "Reducing dependence on federal dollars was once considered loony," Adamson said, adding, "Now it's considered necessary." Since 1994, through

its grant making and technical assistance program, the Eagle Staff Fund, First Nations has distributed millions to Native-controlled projects, helped foster the birth of dozens of micro-enterprises in Indian Country. For additional information about First Nations, please call (540) 371-5615.

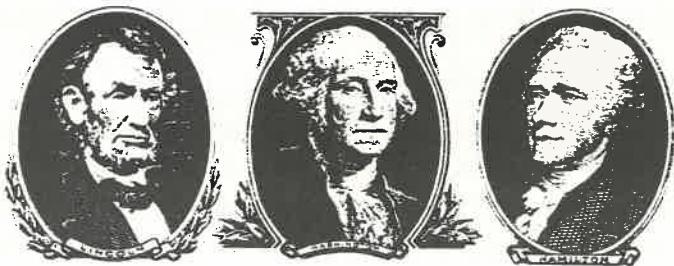


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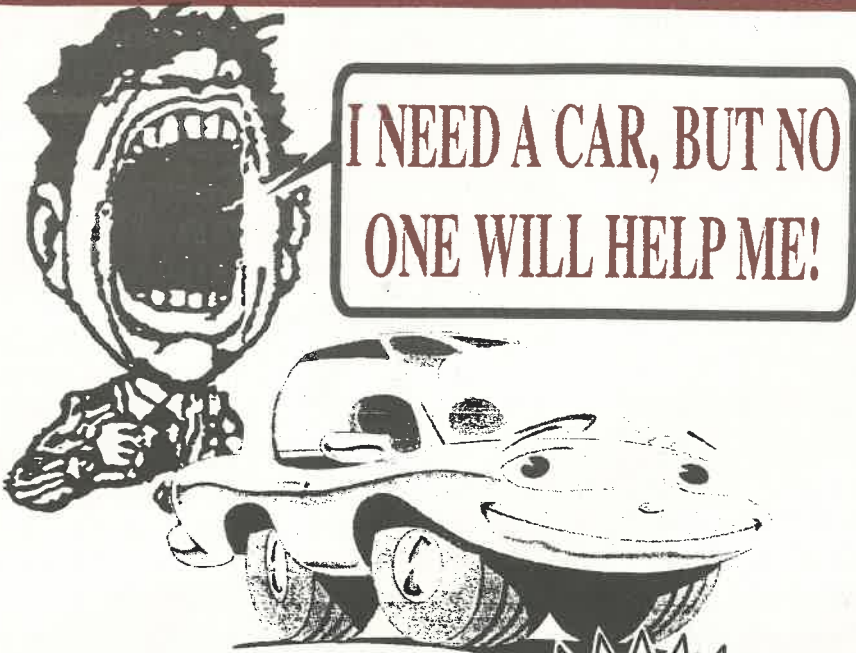
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Recycling batteries powerful way to protect Mother Earth

**By Monica Borgman
Recycling Education
Specialist**

Every year, Americans purchase nearly two billion dry cell batteries to power their radios, watches, clocks, toys, laptop computers, cellular phones and household appliances.

The battery industry estimates that each household uses and disposes of an average of eight batteries annually, adding 167 million pounds to the municipal waste stream.

The three most common types of household batteries are alkaline, carbon-zinc and nickel-cadmium. Most of these batteries end up as household garbage, and

are either landfilled or combusted depending on the community you live in. Unfortunately, these methods of waste disposal pose threats to public health and the environment because of the toxic metals batteries contain.

The term "dry cell" refers to the type of electrolyte contained in these kinds of batteries. In dry cell batteries, the electrolyte is absorbed or gelled in other materials inside the battery casing.

Some dry cell batteries contain heavy metals, such as mercury, cadmium and lead, that perform crucial functions within the battery. Heavy metals are con-

tained within the battery casing and pose no real risks while in use. Problems arise when they are discarded with ordinary municipal solid waste.

Even though dry cell batteries represent less than 1 percent by weight of municipal solid waste, they accounted for 52 percent of all the cadmium and 88 percent of all the mercury found in the municipal solid waste stream in 1989.

Battery casings eventually corrode, leaking the battery contents. In a landfill, battery leaks may contribute to groundwater pollution; in an incinerator, batteries can rupture and contaminate the residual ash. Long-term expo-

sure to heavy metals can cause severe health problems including brain damage and cancer.

Between 1984 and 1989, battery manufacturers successfully reduced the overall amount of mercury in dry cell batteries by over 75 percent. This change contributes to decreased levels of mercury entering the municipal solid waste stream.

Another important change is the promotion of the use of substitutes for certain types of batteries. Rechargeable nickel-cadmium batteries are being used in place of alkaline batteries in certain applications.

While the use of nickel-cadmium batteries can reduce significantly the number of batteries entering the waste stream, it might actually increase the amount of heavy metals

entering the waste stream, unless these rechargeable batteries are collected and recycled. This results because the percentage of cadmium in the nickel-cadmium batteries is much higher than the percentage of mercury in alkaline batteries.

What can you do? Here are some suggestions:

•Buy the rechargeable nickel-cadmium batter-

ies, reuse and recharge them, and when they need to be replaced, dispose of them properly by bringing them to the Isabella County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program.

•If you use other dry cell batteries (alkaline, carbon zinc, mercury oxide, silver oxide, zinc-air, lithium) and they need to be replaced, do
(See BATTERIES page 18)

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Aerosol cans can be recycled

Isabella County has added empty aerosol cans as an acceptable material in its recycling program.

Empty aerosols may be placed in your recycling bin if you have curbside collection, or taken to one of the county depot sites, including the one behind Tribal Operations.

Empty aerosols should be recycled with other steel food and beverage cans currently accepted. Cans must be empty and caps must be removed. The spray nozzle may remain on the can.

Questions? Call the Recycling hotline at (517) 773-9631.

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To place your ad, call the Tribal Observer at (517) 772-5700, ext. 296, or visit Office #31 in Tribal Operations. Ad can also be mailed to the Tribal Observer, 7070 East Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.
Deadlines are the 10th and 25th of each month.

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125 Employment

Receptionist/ File Clerk

Location: Isabella Federal Reservation
Wage: Per wage study
Supervisor: Accounting Finance Manager
Preference: In accordance with the Indian preference laws
Posting Date: June 3
Closing Date: June 17
Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent; one to two years of office experience preferred; must possess excellent verbal communication skills.
For more information about this position, please contact the Tribal Personnel Office.
Please submit applications/resumes to:
Tribal Personnel Office
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
7070 East Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Gaming Commissioner

Location: Isabella Reservation
Wage: \$32,500-34,500,

fringe benefits and leave time commensurate with Tribal senior management positions
Supervisor: Tribal Council
Posting Date: April 23 (open until filled)
Preference: In accordance with Indian preference law
Qualifications: Must be an enrolled member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be eligible to be licensed in accordance with the highest standards for gaming employees under Tribal and federal law and submit to complete background investigation and periodic background review. Must be drug-free at all times and submit to initial drug screening and random drug testing. Must have own transportation and a valid driver's license.
For more information about this position, please contact the Tribal Personnel Office.
Please submit applications/resumes to:
Tribal Personnel Office
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe

7070 East Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Police Dispatcher/ Corrections Officer (3)

Location: Tribal Police Department, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, Isabella Indian Reservation
Wage: Per wage study
Supervisor: Sergeant
Preference: In accordance with Indian preference laws
Posting date: June 6
Closing date: June 20
For more information about this position, please contact the Tribal Personnel Office.
Please submit applications/resumes to:
Tribal Personnel Office
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan
7070 East Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Cage Cashier

Location: Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort
Wage: \$7.79 per hour
Supervisor: Cage Supervisor
Qualifications: Must be at least 18 years of age. Some accounting experience preferred. Must be able to deal with the public in a professional manner. Must be able to operate computer and calculator. This is a "KEY" position
Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws. *Closed competitive in-house*

only: Tribal members encouraged to apply.
Posting date: June 5
Closing date: June 18
For more information about this position, please contact Human Resources.
Submit applications to:
Human Resources
Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort
6800 Soaring Eagle Boulevard
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Table Games Pit Boss

Location: Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort
Wage: \$12.30 per hour
Supervisor: Table Games Supervisor
Qualifications: Must be 18 years of age; have at least one year experience as a table games dealer. Must have a good attendance record. This is a "Key" position.
Preference: In accordance with Indian preference laws. *Closed competitive in-house only.*
Posting date: June 5
Closing date: June 18
Training Fee: Applicant must pay \$200 up front, \$200 upon successful completion. (Waived to Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members and anyone currently working in Table Games Department.)
For more information about this position, please contact Human Resources.

Please submit applications/resumes to:
Human Resources
Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort
6800 Soaring Eagle Boulevard
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Finance Shift Manager

Location: Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort
Wage: Depending on experience
Supervisor: Finance Director
Qualifications: Four-year degree in management, written and verbal communication skills, two to three years supervisory experience, two to three years in management. Computer experience required.
Preference: In accordance with Indian preference laws. *Closed competitive in-house only.*
Tribal members encouraged to apply.
Posting date: June 5
Closing date: June 18
For more information about this position, contact Human Resources.
Submit Application to:
Human Resources
Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort
6800 Soaring Eagle Boulevard
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Casino Finance Pool

Location: Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort
Wage: \$6 per hour

Supervisor: Finance Supervisor
Qualifications: Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be able to handle money accurately and work well with the public. This is a key position.
Preference: In accordance with Indian preference laws
Posting Date: April 28 (open until filled)
For more information about this position, contact Human Resources.
Apply to:
Human Resources
Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort
6800 Soaring Eagle Boulevard
Mt. Pleasant MI 48858

Medical Director (Pool—4 to 10 hours monthly)

Location: Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort
Wage: \$80-100 per hour
Supervisor: General Manager
Qualifications: Must be 18 years of age; MD or DO. Capable of meeting the licensing requirements of this state. Board certification in occupational medicine or emergency medicine is desirable. At least three years practice as a general or family physician. Demonstrated personal leadership and managerial skills. Ability to effectively interface with and treat all levels of employees.

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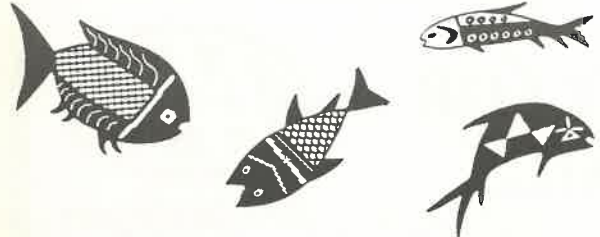
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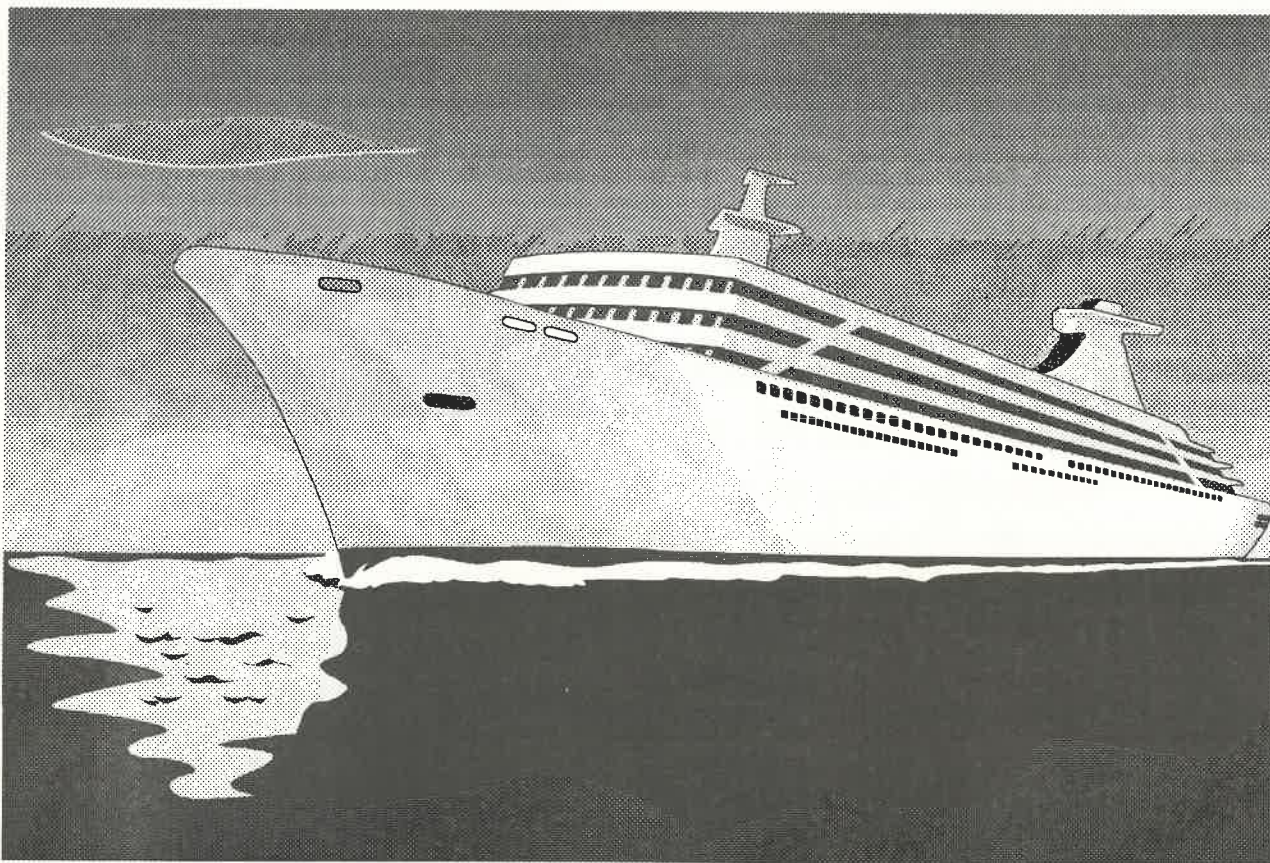
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