

tribal observer



50¢

Boozhu! Welcome to the June 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
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Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

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JUNE 1994 VOLUME 5 ISSUE 6

ODEIMINI-GISS (Ojibwe) Moon of Strawberries

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

Planning Department reorganizes for specialty projects

As many in the Tribal community know, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe is about to embark on a project of such proportions and scope that it will impact on the lives of members for generations to come.

This refers, of course, to the proposed entertainment facility complex. As previously reported, the Tribe has made a preliminary commitment to expand the horizons of its gaming activity and consolidate its current operations into one, expanded, casino complex. Additional related activities could include a hotel, conference center, museum and other components - in short, a destination resort.

As we move toward this vision, the Tribe's Planning Department has assumed a pro-active role. In order to focus more directly on the various responsibilities the department is faced with, we have undergone a reorganization for at least the initial stages of the entertainment facility planning effort.

William Mrdeza, Community and Economic Development director, will continue to serve as the Department Director and will maintain the Planning office in the Tribal Center together with Amanda George, Planning Department secretary.

From the Tribal Center, the Planning Department will continue to be involved in a variety of programs previously administered from there including the Emergency Assistance Home Repair Program, the BIA/Housing Improvement Program (HIP), Indian Health Service P.L. 93-638 water and sewer construction contracts, economic diversification activities and coordination of various construction projects.

George will no longer be responsible for Nottaway Office Products since we are currently considering reorganizing this function into a full-service office products supply store. Instead, she will be shifting the focus of her activities (in addition to her departmental secretarial function) to IHS P.L. 93-638 contract management. The department will, with her assistance, be overseeing the completion of the tribal sewage lagoon expansion and relocation project, as well as assisting members who are constructing new homes obtain water and sewer service.

George will also be devoting a portion of her time (that which is left between other assignments and attending Central Michigan University) to working with the Tribe's Legal Department on the preparation of a Tribal building code and occupational safety and health act.

This latter project is part of a two-year program funded by the Administration for Native Americans for approximately \$90,000 per year. The purpose of the grant, prepared by Planning Department staff, is to strengthen Tribal self-governance

(See PLANNING page 2)

At Binoojiinh Montessori

Families checking out literacy pilot program

By Scott Csernyik
"Who's in the Shed?"

There's a lot of children at the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Binoojiinh Montessori School that know.

They also understand why "Munching Mark" got a toothache after eating a mountain of sweets.

And when it comes to making "A Strange Stew," the youth are aware of how many vegetables go into the creation.

The book titles are just three of 67 the youth could choose to read within the Rigby Education Family Literacy Project. The pilot program included six Head Start classrooms under the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc. - a first in the nation to be used a model for other areas.



Ambrosia Stevens, left, and Jessica Sowmick show off some of their favorite titles in the Rigby Education Family Literacy Project.

Those involved in the project included Native American youth in Mt. Pleasant, Sault St. Marie Classrooms #1 and #2, Keweenaw Bay, Hannahville and St. Ignace.

Children were allowed to check the Rigby books out at the end of the school day for overnight, which helped teach them responsibility. Individual classroom charts were created with all the student's names and titles listed to monitor how many books they read.

Besides getting books into the home, another of the program's goals was to increase shared reading time between parents and children. Other objective included getting children to enjoy reading.

"The idea here is learning to read and reading to

(See RIGBY page 6)

Councilman resigns over enrollment concerns

Citing inaction with Tribal enrollment, Robert G. Pego resigned from the Tribal Council effective May 16.

"My decision is based on the unfairness that is being perpetrated against Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members, and the fact that nothing is being done with Tribal enrollment," Pego stated in his letter to Chief Gail Jackson. "Tribal enrollment is the single most important issue that our Tribe faces today, in this day that we live, our political enemies would say, 'we are not a Tribe, yet we take Tribal members off the rolls and put nonmembers

on."

Pego, who was elected to the Council in November and officially assumed duties on Dec. 7, also stated Tribal enrollment "should be treated as the most sacred link to our past."

"I've tried to influence change in these areas, but now see that this effort is futile," the letter further read.

In the wake of Pego's resignation, John Hart Sr. was appointed to replace him. Hart finished third in the May 3 election and joins Lorna Call and

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Council

(Continued from page 1)

Julius Peters as recent additions to the Tribal Council.



Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik

LORNA CALL AND JULIUS PETERS



JOHN HART SR.

All 12 seats of the Council are currently occupied.

Adult education graduates three

Over 50 people came to the Tribal Center Senior's room to attend the first ever Adult Education graduation ceremonies conducted on the reservation.

Michael Campbell, Kelly Kowalski and Carol Shanks received their diplomas from the Tribal Board of Education.



CAROL SHANKS



MIKE CAMPBELL

Instructors Melanie Allen and Clarence Burrowes congratulated the graduates on their perseverance in completing their course material and computer lab exercises.

Sue Oseland from the Education Department gave a presentation in recognition of those students who completed their GED requirements: congratulations to Maria Blake, Michael Freeborn, Sandra Guthrie, Teresa Mena, N'Daunis Pego and Bonnie Quigton.

Planning

(Continued from page 1)

by creating a chartered and staffed economic development authority, develop environmental codes related to solid waste disposal and medical waste incineration and prepare the above-mentioned building code.

Besides the main Tribal Planning Department located in the Tribal Center, Richard Tilmann, Tribal Business Development director, will coordinate the activities of the newly created Entertainment Facility Task Force Office, located in Pickard Square near Meijer Shopping Center. This office will primarily be responsible for the initial planning and construction oversight of the proposed Entertainment Facility.

This single project is so large and complex in scope that it was felt a single focused effort would be needed to ensure its successful completion. To date, the office staff, together with the Entertainment Facility Task Force board (comprised largely of Tribal Gaming Commission members) have interviewed and hired three consultants to work on the planning and design of the project. The marketing firm of GLS from San Francisco, Calif. was hired to conduct a market study and analysis. Johnson, Johnson and Roy of Ann Arbor have been selected as planning consultants. They will be responsible for working with the Tribal Planning Department and Tribal community to develop a community master plan, the first completed since 1978. Finally, the architect and engineering design team headed by Hornberger and Worstell, also of San Francisco, will be responsible for the overall site design and facility program for the entertainment complex.

An integral part of their preliminary work will involve community input into the design process. The final consultant yet to be hired will be the construction manager, responsible for coordination of the overall construction schedule by the general contractors.

Tilmann is being assisted in this very important effort by his newly-hired staff of specialists on the project. These include: Kim Wilson, secretary/documents manager; William Zehnder, financial analyst; Kim Sawmick, Native American Cultural specialist and Scott Martin, hospitality specialist.

In addition, the Entertainment Facility Task Force team is working closely with the Ziibiwing Cultural Society and Bonnie Ekdahl on the proposed cultural center/museum. This component has the potential of satisfying the Tribe's need of a repository for repatriated artifacts and archival material, to provide a learning center to inform the non-Native public about the Tribe and its history, and would provide a unique, cultural experience for the patrons visiting the entertainment complex. This component alone could be a highly significant event for the Tribe.

For more information on these projects concerning the general functioning of the Tribe's Planning Department, contact Mrdeza at (517) 772-5700, extension 262. Tilmann is available for questions at (517) 775-3232.



Observer Photo/Joe Sowmick

From to left to right, Larry Sprague, Steve Pego, Bird Pego and Bruce Bennett.



Healthy lifestyles topic of conference

Local Tribal members received Council support to join delegates from U.S. and Canadian Tribes at the Third Annual Wellness and Native Men conference in Mesa, Ariz.

The May 9-12 conference was sponsored through a joint effort of the Phoenix Indian Health Service and the Indian Health Promotion Programs of the University of Oklahoma.

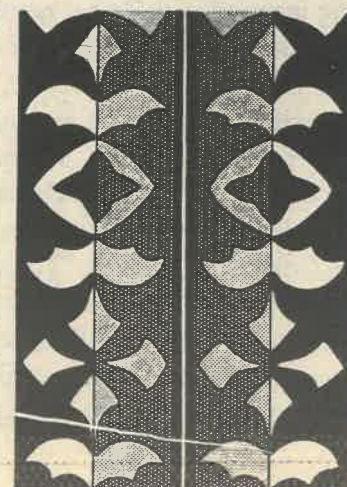
Billy Rogers, a Kiowan native, has worked with native men and youth for several years and is no stranger to

the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe. Earlier this year, he offered a team building workshop for Tribal management and was a presenter for the annual women's wellness conference where the Tribe also participated.

Rogers encourages men to take healthy risks and to develop their intimacy and spirituality.

"What we wanted to do was assist men at looking at their own lifestyles and looking at the physical, mental, spiritual and emotional lives," he said.

(See CONFERENCE page 3)



Tribe adopts public defender program

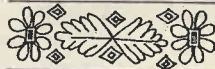
By Mike Phelan
Reservation Attorney

At a regular meeting conducted on May 10, the Tribal Council adopted the Saginaw Chippewa Public Defender Program, which will ensure all Tribal members charged with crimes in the Tribal Court will have equal access to criminal legal representation.

The Council believes that the Public Defender Program will help to maintain a standard of fairness within the Tribal criminal justice system by promoting equal treatment under the law for all tribal members charged with crimes in the Tribal Court.

The Council had found that adequate legal representation was beyond the reach of some Tribal members due to financial limitations. The Saginaw Chippewa Public Defender Program allows the Tribal Court to appoint an attorney at the Tribe's expense for Tribal members who cannot afford the services of an attorney when the Tribal member is charged with a crime that carries a potential penalty of incarceration.

Attorneys appointed to represent a tribal member will be selected from a list of attorneys admitted to practice before the Tribal Court. Tribal members charged with crimes who cannot afford the services of an attorney should request an attorney during their initial court appearance.



Author seeking help on Civil War

By Quita V. Shier

The American Civil War ended over a century ago and little has been written of the experiences of the Native American participants in this war. There were entire regiments of Native Americans who served on both Union and Confederate sides who fought against each other.

Although there were Native Americans who served in the various branches of the service from Michigan, very little is known of the state's "Indian Company," Company K of the First Regiment Michigan Sharpshooters. Since their story has never been told, I propose to write a book about the officers and men of Company K, the Metis' and the Anishnabek (Odawa, Ojibwa and Potawatomi) who served bravely and with distinction for a country that at the time of the Civil War did not recognize them as citizens.

We are asking the members of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal community for their help in locating photographs of the soldiers of Company K and any stories of war experiences these soldiers would have passed down to their descendants. Full acknowledgments will be given to those who donate material for use in the book.

Any help would be greatly appreciated, and a first for the Michigan history books. Please contact the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe at 7070 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858 or 517-772-5700.

The following is a roster of the men of Company K who served from Isabella County:

John Andrew
Daniel Ashman
Peter Burns (Barnes)
William Ca-be-coung
Amos Chamberlain
Charles Chatfield
Samuel Chatfield
Jacob Collins
John Collins
William Collins
George Corbin
John David
Mark Pe-she-kee
David George
John Isaacs
William Isaacs
Solomon Kar-ga-yar-sang
Jackson Nar-we-ge-she-qu-a-bey
Joseph Ne-so-got
Marcus Otto
Solomon Otto
Daniel Pemas-se-gay
James Quar-bo-way
Thomas Smith
Thomas Wabano
John Wau-be-noo
William Way-ge-she-going
Joseph Williams

Conference

(Continued from page 2)

He added issues of domestic violence, alcohol and drug use, as well as oppression are more important than the gambling issue many Tribes face.

When asked if there was one message to convey to our Tribe, Rogers commented, "as we go through our journey I would say let today be the day you look at your behavior, why you do the things you do. Try and start tomorrow fresh, forgive yourself and understand that you have a responsibility and commitment and can be empowered to move forward."

Elder Dennis Alley, when asked about the relationship of alcohol and diabetes, made a logical statement.

"They are both a disease and should be treated," he stated. "There is help! It is a choice, and once people get motivated to get well there will be change."

Daughter Denise Alley was asked what message she had for our women warriors.

"Just love yourself and remember it all begins with

you," she remarked. "You can work from there and you can't change anyone else."

Alley assured the women warriors that "once you can love yourself and then you can move to love your family and your co-workers."

Chester Flores, waboose clan leader and Sells, Arizona Anishnaabe, mentioned the good feeling of everyone working together and the spirit of wellness that brought all the different Tribes together.

The concept of the Third Annual Wellness and Native Men's Conference was to assist men at looking at their own lifestyles and examining how the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual aspects interplay on the lives of the Anishnaabe.

The Tribal Council sent five representatives to this year's conference. Accompanying Joe Sowmick was Larry Sprague, Bruce Bennett, Steve and Bird Pego.

In recollection of the conference, Sprague said, "it was kind of neat meeting different Indians from all over. People treated us real good."

When asked if the experience could have been better, he wished he could have brought his boy with

him.

"Youngsters need something more like this," he stated.

Pego thought having father and son attend the next conference would be a good idea.

"Our children are our future leaders," he said. "We want them to have strong and sober minds to lead our community into the future."

Bruce Bennett echoed the statements from Sprague and Pego.

"I attended last years conference with Steve and learned a lot," he stated. "I would like to see our youth have a chance to attend these kind of conferences".

Bird Pego mentioned it was nice to be there with his father.

A fellow Ojibway, Wayne Michaeo from First Nations, Ontario, said, "the most powerful thing that I got out of the conference was my first sweat lodge experience."



Observer Photo/Scott Csemvik

Pottery workshop

Artist Frank Ettawageshik, left, and Alternative Education Instructor Max Wolf work on getting a pit ready for the firing of clay objects made during a May 23-24 pottery workshop. The event, coordinated by the Seventh Generation Program, had about 10 participants.



Observer Photo/Joe Sowmick

Senator visits

State Sen. Joanne Emmons, R-Big Rapids met with Executive Council members on May 20 to discuss information on issues affecting state and Tribal governments. Sen. Emmons is an incumbent from the 23rd District and is seeking re-election. The district includes Isabella, Montcalm, Ionia, Mecosta and Barry counties. Pictured from left to right are Sub-Chief Tim Davis, Emmons, Treasurer Mary Lynne Chippeway and Secretary Gary Quigno.

Tribal Matters

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

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Timothy Davis
Mary Lynne Chippeway
Beatrice Colwell
John Hart Sr.

Seventh annual

Michigan Indian Family Olympics set for June 27

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe is pleased to announce the Seventh Annual Family Olympics on June 27 under the theme, "Family Unity Through Health" at Bennett Field on the campus of Central Michigan University.

Guest speaker will be Joe Begay from Tuscon, Ariz. He is a Navajo silversmith, actor and singer. Begay has been featured in the television show "Little House on the Prairie," along with movies such as "Three Amigos" and "Tombstone."



Observer Photo/Courtesy

The softball throw is one of many events at the Michigan Indian Family Olympics. Last year, the games drew about 425 participants.

"The unique thing about this event is that there is something for the whole family," said Fitness Director Walt Kennedy. "It's a whole lot of fun and that's the way it is supposed to be."



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Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the opening ceremony starts at 10 a.m. Several new events are included this year, most notably a wheelchair race.

T-shirts will be given to the first 350 participants and registration is \$2 per person and \$7 for families.

Lunch also will be provided, including submarine sandwiches, fruit, cookies and beverages. Transportation for Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members will be provided from the Tribal Center to CMU.

The college's Bennett Field is located on Preston Street, west of Mission directly behind Finch Fieldhouse.

Volunteers are needed to assist in many different areas. If one would like to help out with timekeeping, registration, scores or lunch distribution, contact Deb Johnson at (517) 772-1717.

For more information about the event, contact the Nimkee Wellness Center at (517) 773-9887.

We hope to see everyone at the Olympics and remember, if you don't want to be an athlete, then be an athletic supporter!

-Submitted by Deb Johnson



Sowmick Senior Center Calender

June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29- Exercise
June 3, 7, 10, 14, 17, 21, 24, 28- CMU Activity Center
June 6- Lunch Guests: AmerINDIAN Architects
June 7- Nutrition Ed.
June 9, 23- Movies and Popcorn
June 9- Rabies Clinic
June 13- Elder's Adv. Mtg. 10 a.m. Barbershop Day
June 14- Flag Day
June 19- Happy Father's Day!
June 20- Elder's Program Mtg. 10 a.m. BP clinic 11a.m.
June 21- Video: The Brain at Risk
June 27- SCIT Family Olympics Finch Fieldhouse
June 30- Third Quarter Birthday Party!

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



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.



Observer Photo/Joe Sowmick

Sweet impact

Denny and Darla Lobert are aware of the influence the Soaring Eagle Casino has had on the Mt. Pleasant community. Their business, The Artic Dream at 4639 East Pickard Avenue, has been serving a "casino sundae" since May. Darla's creation features three scoops of ice cream and three toppings of one's choice topped off with whipped cream and a large chocolate coin.



Observer Photo/Joe Sowmick

From left to right, Consuelo Gonzalez, Liz Zygmunt, Vinnie Kequom, Mindy Durfee and Brandi Pelcher. Not pictured are Jason Wixson and Aaron Ash.

Several Native students graduate

On May 16, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal community came together to celebrate with seven Native American graduates.

Those recognized at the May 16 Seniors Honors Night, conducted at Mt. Pleasant High School, included students graduating from MPHS and Oasis High School.

Education Director Carla Sineway started the evening with a brief introduction followed by the invocation given by Owen Whitepigeon.

Tribal Chief Gail Jackson and Sineway offered a tribute to the Oasis and MPHS graduates. Chief Jackson told the group "our community is proud of you" and "your generation will be the leaders of our future."

Mary Pelcher, Education Department assistant,

presented the graduates with certificates of appreciation on behalf of the Tribe.

Wilma Henry, who works in the Soaring Eagle Gaming Training Department, was the guest speaker for the evening. She had previously worked directly with the students as the high school's parent-teacher advocate.

She told the group she was very proud of their accomplishments and hoped they would continue to take courses at Bay Mills Community College or at some other institution of higher learning.

Local musician Kevin Chamberlain completed the evening with a song in honor of the graduates.

Those graduating from MPHS included Consuelo Gonzalez, Vinnie Kequom, Jason Wixson and Liz Zygmunt. Native graduates from Oasis were Aaron Ash, Mindy Durfee and Brandi Pelcher.



Four to go fore!

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe is pleased to announce this year's participants in the Third Annual PohlCat Benefit to be held on July 18.

Cindy Quigno
Ellie Van Horn
Mark Vasquez, Sr.
Alvin Chamberlain

Please stop by the Public Relations office at the Tribal Center to receive your golf registration.



The Inter-Tribal Council, Indian Health Services and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan
Announces

A domestic pet vaccination clinic

(Tribal members only)

on June 9 at the

Pole Barn next to the
Commodities Building

from 9 to 11 a.m.

and at the

Saganing Outreach Trailer from
2 to 3 p.m.

All Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members are invited to participate in the free vaccination clinic

Domestic dogs and cats owned by Tribal members are eligible for these free vaccinations for their pets at the location and times listed above

Due to the schedule of the veterinarian and the sanitarian, no other times or locations will be available

A responsible party (owner) must be present to control the animal being vaccinated, or the vaccination will not be administered

Contact People Include Alta Little Moon at (517) 773-9887 extension 273 (Isabella)
Arlene Molina (517) 846-9361 (Saganing)

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Rigby

(Continued from page 1)

learn," said Doris Etheridge, key account consultant for Rigby Education who helped coordinate the Tribal pilot program.

Head Start officials from the six classrooms connected with the program met with Etheridge at Mackinac Island on May 20 to discuss how the pilot project went over the course of the school year.

"I think one of our goals next year with returning students is to do more writing experiences," said Montessori teacher Sandi Stevens. "Next year, we're even thinking of a Read-A-Thon as a way to raise money to support the program."

Stevens also said Rigby donated about \$8,000 worth of materials to initiate the program at the Montessori School, which included a total of 469 books, plus 1 matching cassette tape for each of the 67 titles and several tape players.

Rigby Education also paid for all of their training, as well as provided the "big book" easel. Of the 469 books encompassing the 67 titles, there are six copies each of the "little books" and one copy each of the "big book" - which is about 12- by 18-inches in size. Children checked out the smaller books, while the larger ones were used in the classroom.

Stevens added they didn't just allow the one class of Head Start children to check out the books, but all of the Montessori children.

"That's what Rigby is all about," she said. "It's getting children to read."

And while several children successfully completed reading all 67 titles, this didn't stop them from rereading the books.

The Rigby books often link several different learning areas, such as science, math and behavior with language. Blending rhyme, repetition and rhythm, the stories are big on colorful illustrations or pictures and brief with text.

"I think that contributed to a lot of the success we had with the Rigby program," Stevens commented. "The children were so intrigued with the bright illustrations and it made it easy for the parents because they're weren't many words. It took the pressure of them finding an appropriate book for them like maybe at the library."

Some of the titles like, "Creature Features" and "I Spy" incorporate clues which grasp the child's interest in discovering the answer to the riddle. In author Brenda Parkes, "Who's in the Shed?", the entire story centers on the big white sheep, sleek brown cow, old gray mare, little red hen and fat pink pig finding out what's in the shed with various cutouts on the pages revealing more and more what critter might be housed in the building.

The book appropriately begins:

*"Down at the farm
one Saturday night
the animals woke
with a terrible fright.
There was howling
and growling
and roaring
and clawing
as something was led
from a truck*

to the shed.

*"Who's in the shed?"
everyone said.*

And after the five barnyard animals poke around trying to figure the question out, the book concludes:

*"How dare you stare!"
roared the circus bear.
And everyone ran
away
from
there."*

Five-year-old Ambrosia Stevens, enrolled in the morning Head Start program, was the first child to complete reading all of the 67 titles on March 7. This honor is distinguished in the form of a laminated cutout of a monkey holding a banana taped above the checkout chart.

"Ambrosia didn't monkey around," it states on the picture. "She has already read all the books in the Rigby Literacy Program."

She admits "reading is fun" and that she also read the Rigby books to her "mom and grandma."



Rigby Education representative Doris Etheridge previews the big book version of "Little Red Riding Hood" at the May 20 conference with school and Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan officials at a May 20 conference on Mackinac Island.

Sandi Stevens also said they try to have a classroom activity related to a particular Rigby book read to the youth.

For "A Strange Stew," the children made a pot of the chow which had "less than 22 vegetables in it, because that's what the counting book required."

After reading "The Little Red Hen," the group made bread. For "Munching Mark," Nimkee Wellness Center dental assistants Rennae Ross and Jennifer Shanks paid the class a visit to discuss proper dental hygiene habits.

Then there was "The Enormous Watermelon" book where several popular Nursery Rhyme characters tried to move the obvious.

"We measured the watermelon with a string and had the children guess how big they thought it was," Stevens added. "We then cut it up and they put

their seeds in a cup. We talked about color and some of them noticed the white seeds seemed soft and the black ones hard. I think we had a total of 667 seeds from this particular watermelon.

We really did a lot with the watermelon. So, the books can develop into something more than just reading them."

Besides requesting more titles at the conference, Stevens also said they'd like to acquire books with multi-cultural themes or ones dealing with self-esteem issues.

She also added she had nothing to say but good things about the Rigby program and how it has helped the Montessori children and their families.

"Rigby has brought the most parental involvement in our school," she said. "In forming proper reading habits for the future, it all starts with literacy."

Etheridge also told the group they plan on using the Michigan pilot project for Navajo Indian Reservation in Arizona.

"Currently, this is the only literacy program to be doing this in the United States," Etheridge said of the Rigby pilot project. "We're going to be patterning this program to be passed around to the nation's other Head Start programs."

Linda Rourke, education support manager for Rigby Education, said the company only sells its books to schools. The first products from Rigby Education were brought to this country from Australia and New Zealand, she added.

"We examined the New Zealand techniques for reading because they are the most literate English-speaking country in the world, so they must be doing something right," Rourke said.

Rigby Education has only been in the United States for about eight years, getting it start with line of 20 "Tadpole" books- stories written by children for children- plus a handful of traditional tales. They are located in Crystal Lake, Ill.

"We believe we have some really unique products," she also said. "We've tried to focus on immediate reading success at the simplest level."



Besides Michigan, the Observer is now sent to 35 other states!

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Tribe sponsors festival fireworks

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribe will be helping get the June 10-12 Tenth Annual Mt. Pleasant Summer Festival started with a bang by sponsoring the fireworks display.

But instead of having the pyrotechnics on only one night like last year, this time the festival will feature two shows of lighting up the sky on June 10 and 11.

The following is a schedule for the weekend full of food, entertainment and family activities:

June 9

7 - 10 p.m.

Party Down Under 21 Island Pavilion

3 p.m. - 12 a.m.

Carnival Rides- One Price Day!

June 10

5 p.m. - Dusk

Slow Pitch Matball

11 a.m.

Park Opens, Carnival Rides

3 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Beef and Pork Barbecue, Beverage Tent

7 p.m.

\$2 Entry into Beverage Tent

6 - 8:30 p.m.

Live Music

9 p.m.

"Skyline & The Back Street Horns"

Dusk

Fireworks

Sponsored by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

June 11

8 a.m.

Registration for ABATE Motorcycle Show

8 a.m. - Dusk

Slow Pitch Matball

9 a.m.

Three on Three Slamfest, Sand Volleyball

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

ABATE Motorcycle Show

10 - 12 a.m.

Carnival

10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Arts and Crafts

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Piece to Piece Quilt Show Downtown

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

McDonald's Children Village

11 a.m. - Noon

Parade Broadway and Main

Noon - 1 a.m.

Beef and Pork Barbecue, Beverage Tent

1:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Bootleg June Jam

2 p.m.

Dinger Derby

7 p.m.

\$2 Entry to Beverage Tent

7 - 9 p.m.

"Teen Angels"

9:30 p.m. - 1 a.m.

"Skyline & The Back Street Horns"

Dusk

Fireworks

Sponsored by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

June 12

8 a.m.

Registration for CMN's Rods in the Park

8 a.m. - Dusk

Slow Pitch Matball

8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

CMN's Rods in the Park

9 a.m.

Sand Volleyball

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Carnival, Arts and Crafts

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

McDonald's Children Village, Piece to Piece

Quilt Show Downtown

Noon

Three on Three Slamfest

Noon - 5 p.m.

Beef and Pork Barbecue, Beverage Tent

1 p.m.

Duck Race

1 - 5 p.m.

Polka Dance with the Andy Nester Orchestra



The Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center

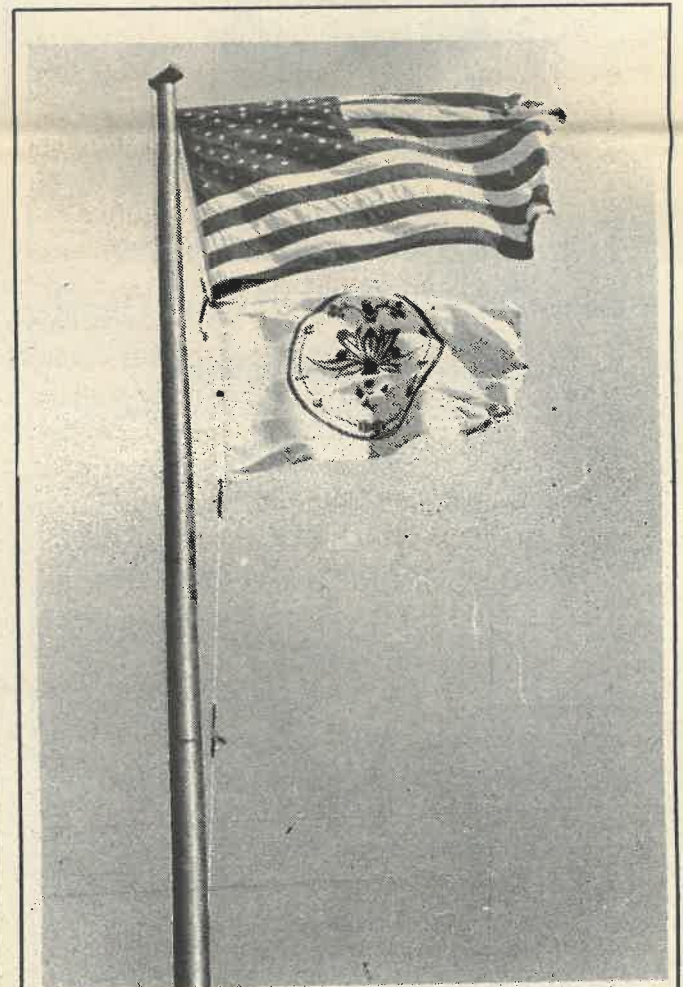
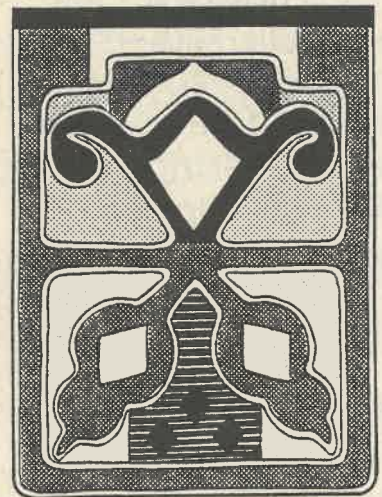
announces a

MEMORIAL WALK June 1, 5:30 p.m.

In remembrance of those who have suffered with diabetes and all of its complications. We will meet at the Nimkee Memorial parking lot.

If you had a family member who had diabetes and has gone on to the Spirit World, we would like to include their name in our memorial service. If you have other brothers or sisters that should be recognized, please contact us and have them walk with us in their memory.

We will have a potluck supper at the:
Elijah Elk Cultural Center
East Remus Road (at Benzing's Farm)
Please consult Lois Bush or Walt Kennedy at
(517) 772-4121 for more information.



Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik

Flag Day

Observed on June 14, Flag Day was designated in 1895 through the efforts of the American Flag Day Association. It commemorates the anniversary of Congress adopting the American flag in 1777.



Ward

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2222 McKechnie Road
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(517) 724-5473
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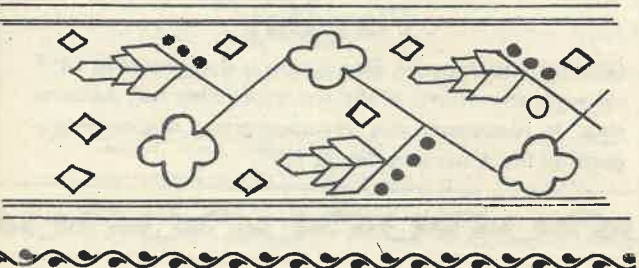
Region 2 Representative
Earlene Jackson
401 S. 9th Street
Escanaba, Mich. 49829
(906) 789-1271
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Region 3 Representative
Thelma Henry-Shipman
6044 Pte. Tremble
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Pearl Beach, Mich. 48001
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Region 4 Representative
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AT-LARGE ADVOCATE

Amy F. Alberts
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ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBERS
THE AT-LARGE PROGRAM
WELCOMES YOU TO A
"COMMUNITY GATHERING"

The At-Large Program would like to invite you and your family to an informal gathering. You will have the opportunity to meet your At-Large Tribal Council member, At-Large Benefits Committee and At-Large Advocate. There will be time for a question and answer session. Food and beverages will be provided.

Region 1 with Representative John York on June 5 at 3 p.m. in the Saganing Indian Church, Sturman Road, Standish. Phone (517) 846-6277

Region 2 with Representative Earlene Jackson on June 12 at 11 a.m., follow the powwow signs to Riverside Park, Monroe Street, Grand Rapids. Bring lawn chairs.

Region 3 with Representative Thelma-Henry Shipman on June 18 at 11 a.m., follow the powwow signs to Lake Lansing, Lake Drive, Haslett. Phone (517) 487-5409. Bring Tribal identification and lawn chairs.

Region 4 with Representative Neuel E. Denman on June 11 at 1 p.m., Bicentennial Hall, 3670 Southfield Road, Bridgeport.

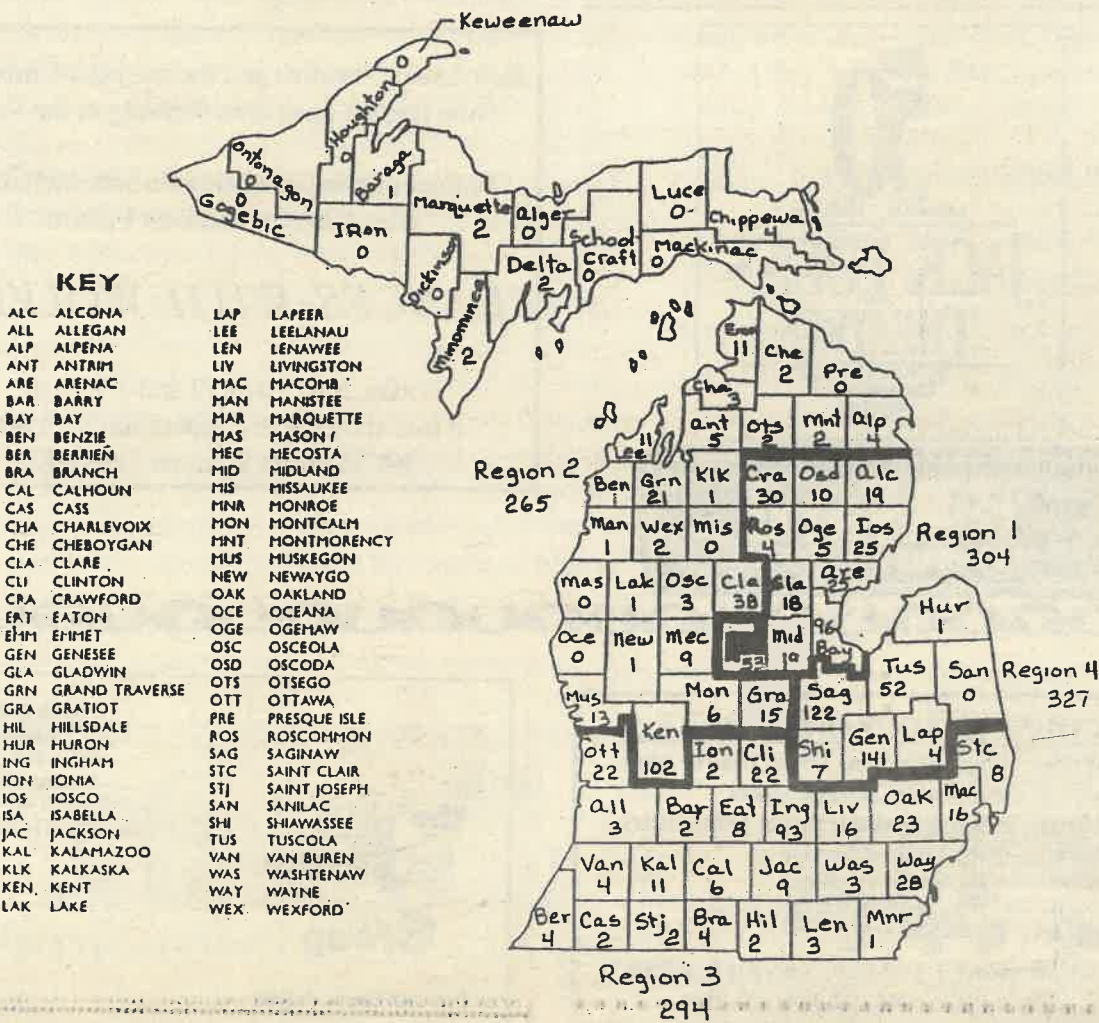
For additional information, contact Amy F. Alberts at (800) 225-8172 or your regional representative. The gatherings are sponsored by the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe of Michigan.

Committee vacancy filled

Earlene Jackson is the new Region 2 representative for the At-Large Benefits Committee. She was appointed to the position on May by the Tribal Council after three letters of interest were considered for the seat.

The At-Large Program also send its thanks to Zilda A. Jenkins for previously serving as the Region 2 representative. She contributed to the Benefits Committee since 1992. It is with great appreciation we say "thank you" for your interest.

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan
At-Large Membership by County



Powwow & Events Schedule

June 3 South Eastern Michigan Indians, Inc. Awards Banquet Celebration 19th Anniversary at Alcamo's Hall, 21801 E. Nine Mile Road in St. Clair Shores. Starting time at 6 p.m. and for more information, call (313) 756-1350.

June 10-12 Naes College Second Annual Powwow in Chicago, Ill. Co-sponsored by Chicago Park District & Native American Education Services, Inc. For more information, contact Leonard Malatrare at (312) 761-5000.

June 11-12 Annual Homecoming of the Three Fires Powwow at Grand Rapids. Co-sponsored by the Grand Rapids Inter-Tribal Council and the City of Grand Parks Department. This will be at the River Bend Pavilion Riverside Park. For more information, call (616) 774-8331.

June 11-12 Barrier Powwow at the Barrier Friendship Center in Barrier, Ontario. For more information, call (705) 721-7689.

June 11-12 Third Annual "Honoring Our Veterans" Powwow in Brimley. For more information, contact Sara at (906) 248-3354 or Art (906) 248-3208.

June 18-19 First Nation Chippewas of Sarnia 33rd Annual Powwow in Sarnia, Ontario at the Community Centre at Marlborough and Virgil. For more information, call the Band office at (519) 336-8410, or after 5 p.m. (519) 332-1831.

June 18-19 17th Annual Lansing Indian Center Powwow in Lansing. For more information, call the Lansing North American Indian Center at (517) 487-5409.

June 22-25 Sixth Annual Great Lakes Indian Artist Association Workshop and Exhibits/Sales in Traverse City. Northwestern Michigan College Native Art show sale and exhibit. Workshops begin on June 22; artists reception during the evening of June 24. Woodland Indian Market is June 25 and the public is welcome. For more information, contact Mike Petoskey at (616) 922-1030 or Frank Ettawageshik at (616) 267-7441.

June 24-26 18th Annual Great Lakes Powwow in Wilson at the Hannahville Potawatomi Indian Community Reservation. For more information, call (906) 466-2342.

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.

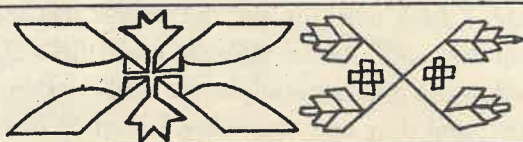
July 22-25 16th Annual Spiritual Conference & Traditional Powwow in Barga at the Ojibway Campground-Home of the Original Midnight Two-Step World Championship. For more information, contact (906) 353-6623.

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.



June, 1994

Tribal Observer - Page 9

Bay Mills Indian Community
Co-sponsored by Bay Mills Community College
Traditional
POWWOW
Vets III
June 11-12

"Honoring Our Veterans"

1 and 7 p.m. Grand Entries
Host Drum: Rainbow Singers
Head Dancers:

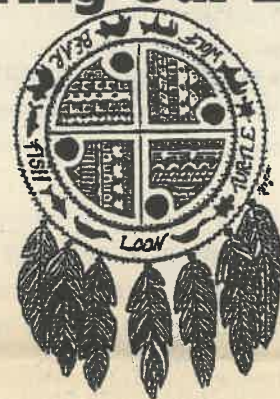
Bucko Teeple and Michelle Wellman
Head Veteran: Andrew LeBlanc Sr.
Master of Ceremony: Allard Teeple
PUBLIC WELCOME - FREE ADMISSION
No Drugs or Alcohol (WDAI)

Native American Traders ONLY...Please
For more information, call:
Art LeBlanc (906) 248-3208
Rich Lewis (906) 248-3354

Saginaw Valley Indian Association Second Annual Powwow

Traditional/Non-Competitive

Honoring Our Elders



July 30-31

at the Bay City Fairgrounds
Doors open to the public at 11 a.m.

MC: John Bailey
Head Veteran: George Martin
Honorary Elder Dancers: Bob Wayne (Lone Eagle) and Bess Schneider
Head Male Dancer: Miengun Pamp
Head Female Dancer: Cathy John
Host Drum: Kalamazoo Singers with Steve Pego
Open Drum

Arena Director: Bill Wheatley

Grand Entry:

July 30- 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.
July 31- 1 p.m.

Traders/Dancers Registration:

Call Craig Wayne (517) 846-6451

Admission:

Elders & Children under five: free
Adults \$2
Family Rate \$5
Group Rate (20 or more) \$20
For more information,
contact Deb Johnson
at (517) 772-1717

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InnerView

(Editor's note: Kevin Chamberlain is a Saginaw Chippewa Tribal member who has lived in the mid-Michigan area all of his life. He currently works for the Tribe as Youth Activities Coordinator. His talent in the performing arts is well known throughout the community.)

T.O.: You are an artist. How do you feel about the performing you do in the mid-Michigan community?

K.C.: I'm proud to be part of the community. I would like to pursue my music ability as far as I can go and hope that the community would be behind me and support me. I really see it as having a potential of going somewhere in whatever shape or form. I hope to be working with music somewhere. I may not be Garth Brooks, but I want to professionally play music in whatever capacity - whether it's backing up some one or singing background the rest of my life - the ultimate fame doesn't matter to me. I always want to be a part of that, whether its here in mid-Michigan or in Nashville or all around the country. I'll always remember that I'm from mid-Michigan and that I'm a Native American from this Tribe. That's real important to me.

T.O.: You're very much into community service, donating your time for many functions. How do you feel when you get the chance to do this type of work?

K.C.: It's definitely based on personal gratification more than anything, especially during a wedding or funeral there's definitely no money involved. That it's just something where I kind of look at myself as the community music advocate. Most of the time when there's a wedding or funeral I'm called upon to play a song in honor of the people getting married or in honor of the person who passed away. It's an honor and it's the least I can do to help give my respect to the person who's passed or give my support to those getting married. It's real easy to do these things. I really enjoy playing for my community and it's usually not a matter of money. It's just something I really enjoy and it's the easiest kind of work you could ever ask for because it's totally enjoyable.

T.O.: You mentioned that you sing and play guitar. Is there any other instruments you play or would like to get involved with?

K.C.: I've played the piano and a little bit of lead guitar, which is different from playing rhythm acoustic guitar. I would really like to get into a third instrument, like the mandolin or even the fiddle. I feel those are two instruments that are woodwind, similar to what I'm playing now acoustically. They are similar in that they all have a neck and strings and you play cords on them. I would like to further my abilities with these instruments.

T.O.: Any influences in your artistic drawing that you would like to mention?

K.C.: Much like the music, the art started very early with my elementary teacher Mrs. Mashiuski. She always encouraged me to further my ability. But I think more importantly something that I believe a lot of our Native American students need is the support from their mom and dad. I got a lot of that early on and I really felt that they cared and I knew that they wanted me to achieve the most that I could in my art because I've been drawing since kindergarten. It is one of those things that if you started early anyone could be good at it.



KEVIN CHAMBERLAIN

T.O.: You've done a significant amount of work for the Tribe and you've contributed a lot of art work. What's your inspiration?

K.C.: A lot of people ask why I don't charge more or ask for more of a cut from shirt sales. I have designed probably over 25 or 30 shirts in the past six to seven years and I keep a copy of all of them at home. I have this huge trash bag full of shirts. It goes back to that musical thing where I feel it's community service that I have the ability and I don't feel like I need to charge everybody for personal gain. I get enough of that doing consignment with people in town and companies. I just feel like a lot of the work I do for the Tribe, I do is part of my heritage I'll charge for it, but I'm not a greedy person looking for materialistic gains.

Granted, there are times you have to charge and have to put a price on things so that you are not walked on.

T.O.: Your having a primitive survival skills class can you please tell me about it?

K.C.: The main purpose of the primitive outdoor life skills is something that I always wanted to stress to the kids more than anything and I do practice some of these skills while I've been out camping. The purpose is to show the traditional outdoor ways our people lived. I think that's where a lot of tradition is. I think, unfortunately, a lot of people today think that being Native American is how you dress and what you look like and whether or not you go to powwows every summer. That's part of it... don't get me wrong. I think that if some of our people could learn about the ways that our ancestors lived; every day they had to hunt and gather, every day they had to grow things, every day they had to learn from the land.

And I think our kids and our people can learn about that stuff. We are going to teach these skills to our youth and hopefully some pride will be installed and they can say, "Hey, I learned how to build a fire with out a match and without anything from the modern world or I can build a shelter in a snowstorm and I can go out there and live if I have to like my ancestors did." That's the message we are trying to give the youth.

T.O.: What kind of message would you give our Native youth that are getting involved with doing art work, computer graphics or the performing arts?

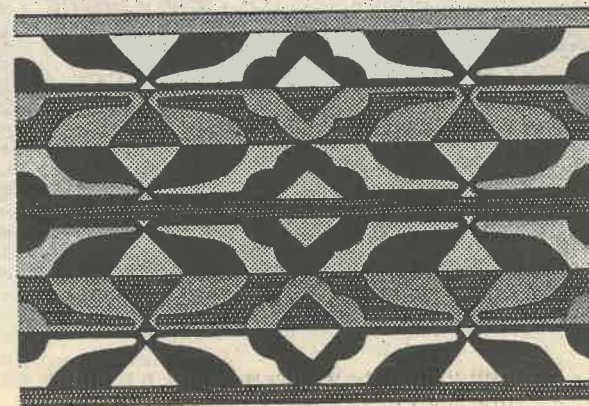
K.C.: Never stop. I know a lot of kids who were really good artists when I was in school who, I'm pretty confident, don't do that anymore. Unfortun-

nately I'm sure it's do in part by lack of support from family and friends. That's probably a lot of it, that's kind of an educated guess because I've been working with a lot of the youth here for about eight to nine years. If they can just continue to keep doing what they are doing and do it for themselves and if you don't see anybody else who cares and you don't feel that anybody else cares... do it for you because you have the talent and if you give it up, you're going to lose it. Unfortunately, some of these kids may have to find this in themselves because they might not get support from mom and dad or uncle or grandpa and grandma. That's just the harsh truth.

T.O.: You've mentioned a lot about family. How important is that commitment from your extended family and how has that helped you mature as a performer and an artist?

K.C.: I've always believed that family - what you're taught from the day your born until present - the sooner you start receiving that love you deserve, the better off you'll be in the future. You will be able to make tough decisions to go out and do the things you want to do because you'll love that confidence and self esteem within yourself to do it something. A lot of kids here need that confidence. We still have a very strong family network and it's that way with my own family. With my daughter and my wife, it's important to me to be a part of their lives. I don't want anything less for my daughter. Family to me is just about everything because if I lost my family... I wouldn't have a whole lot to work for. The performing's fun and having the ability is fun, but if you lose that which is a part of you - that drive right down in your heart what makes you tick - it will really take away a lot of your will power.

Kevin would like to thank his family for their support. His wife, Candy, his mom and dad, Alvin and Cathy, sisters Kim and Kerry, brothers Kelly and Gary and his inspiration, daughter Alisha Marie.





Observer Photo/Courtesy

BERNARD AND GAIL JACKSON

Couple says "thanks"

We would like to express our appreciation to the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members from Saganing for their thoughtfulness and kindness in preparing a potluck dinner for myself and my new husband, Bernard, on May 21.

The gift certificate we received from the Saganing District members was greatly enjoyed at the Red Lobster.

We find the members in Saganing to be friendly, hospitable, kind and down-to-earth, making us feel right at home on every visit.

Again, thank you for your friendship and thoughtfulness. The food was delicious. Fourteen-year-old Robin Alberts made the fry bread and her mother, Betty, made some very good soups.

Arlene, you are a very good organizer along with Barb Braley and Aggie Flynn.

Myself and Bernard are very happy to call you all very good friends and family. You are all greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Gail and Bernard Jackson.

(Editor's note: The pair recently got married on May 12.)

Viewing tax as a benefit

By District Manager Donald L. Hire

Some young workers regard Social Security taxes as an unwelcome deduction from the family's income.

They think about how they could use the money to pay bills or save for their children's education. Retirement often seems too far off on the horizon to care about.

But the Social Security taxes young parents pay can help with more immediate concerns should misfortune or tragedy strike. An unexpected serious illness or injury to a parent or a young parent's untimely death raises concerns of what help there is for the children.

One may be surprised to learn that about 3.5 million children were receiving benefits at the end of last year. Each month, Social Security paid nearly \$1.2 billion to children in families where one or both parents were disabled, retired or deceased. These beneficiaries are the biological or adopted children or stepchildren of an eligible worker.

To receive Social Security benefits, a child must:

- have a parent who is disabled or retired and is entitled to Social Security benefits; or
- have a parent who died after working long enough in a job where he or she paid Social Security taxes; and

- be under 18-years-old; or
- be 18- to 19-years-old and a full-time student (who has not completed grade 12); or
- be 18-years-old or older and disabled (with a disability that began before age 22).

When one applies for benefits for a child, they need to furnish the child's birth certificate and the worker's Social Security number. Depending on the type of benefit involved, other documents may be required.

Generally, a child's benefits will continue until they reach the age of 18. If the beneficiary is under age 19 and attending and elementary or secondary school, benefits continue until the student graduates or is 19-years-old.

A parent who is receiving benefits solely because he or she is caring for a child beneficiary may receive these benefits until the child is 16-years-old.

Then, although the parent's benefits stop, the child's benefits will continue for two more years (longer if the child is in school or meets the disability definition previously discussed).

Native program explained

Lansing Community College (LCC) is a comprehensive community college in the state capitol offering open admissions and a highly diverse and flexible array of curricular choices -- over 150 career programs and more than 2,000 different courses and seminars. In 1992-93, 17,011 students were enrolled full time in accredited programs of studies at LCC. Our total student population averages more than 40,000 annually.

LCC's Native American Indian student population is representative of many differing Native cultural groups from around North America and the world. In 1992-93 LCC enrolled 139 Native American Indian students, increasing to 159 in 1993-94.

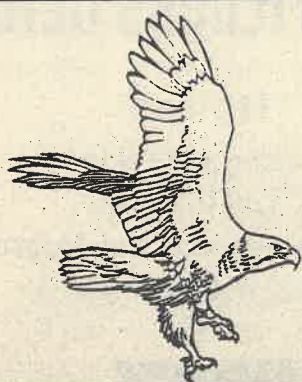
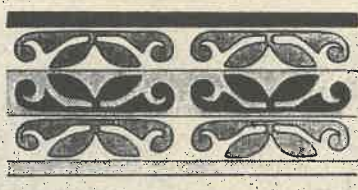
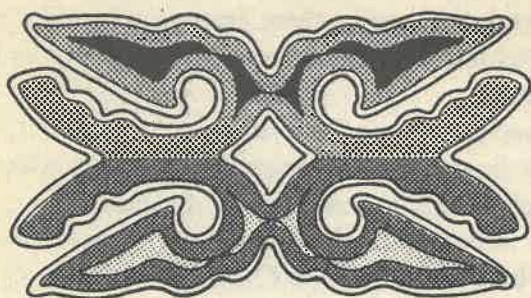
Since its inception July 1, 1991, the Native American Leadership Program (NALP) has helped hundreds of Native American students with educational planning and career development, graduating 37 from one full year of programmed studies in the history, tradition and future of Native American leadership and community development. While in the program our students also help provide community services, learning how to plan and implement projects such as our annual Great Lakes Native American Art Show, Wordcraft Circle Writer's Conference, television and educational video productions, and many other on and off campus events and projects of their choosing in the mentor-apprenticeship phase (spring and summer semesters) of the NALP.

Philosophy

Linking Native American high school and college students to communities is culturally appropriate and educationally sound. Traditionally, they are linked to the community by an extended family system, but many have been "disconnected" because of problems (i.e., relocation, family disruption). Extremely high dropout rates are one result.

NALP students are involved in traditional learning activities (honor feasts, talking circles, powwows etc.), as well as academic and professional skills training for contemporary jobs in telecommunications, journalism, computer science, and

(See LCC page 16)



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Health

Representatives assist Tribal members in many ways

By Scott Csernyik

Their Tribal jobs cover many aspects of health-related areas including diabetes, injury prevention, optical and transportation for those who are unable to make it to a doctor's appointment.

Serving Tribal members in Isabella, Clare, Midland, Missaukee and Arenac counties are Community Health Representatives Susan Bettistea, Alta

Home Health Care as a certified nurse's aide from the National League of Nurses.

Areas concerning optical, Elders and transportation are handled by Quigno. She started working for the Tribe on March 21 after working at Central Michigan University's Physical Plant for almost 20 years. Little Moon started on the same day as Quigno.

with, Bettistea said they "never know what you're doing for the day" because their plans can change.

As Quigno's back up for optical, Bettistea said "it's amazing how much time and paperwork that entails." She added the Tribe gets their optical needs taken care of through Great Plains Optical, S.D.

With diabetics, Little Moon said she helps Tribal members monitor their blood-sugar levels and instruct them about home glucose tests.

"It's important for any of the Elders to have their family be involved with their health," Little Moon commented.

Injury prevention is another area concerning Little Moon. She stresses if a Tribal member is involved in a visit to the emergency room or stays at a hospital overnight, they should contact a Com-

(See HEALTH page 13)



Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik

From left to right, Cindy Quigno, Susan Bettistea and Alta Little Moon.

Little Moon and Cindy Quigno.

Bettistea's duties include WIC recertification and income verification, optical, transportation and maternal/child- which are home visits to pregnant mothers. She has been a community health representative since September of 1993, and previously worked for the Tribe as a dental/medical receptionist and part-time secretary for the Families First program.

Little Moon concentrates on diabetics, injury prevention and transportation. Besides working for the Tribe, she also is employed with Meridian

Although the job can be hectic, Quigno admits it is "really enjoyable working with the Elders."

"When you're on the road with the Elders, you hear some pretty interesting stories," she also said.

Transportation is provided to Tribal members for doctor appointments when there are no family members to do so. Some of those physician visits can take a Community Health Representative to Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids, Lansing or Bay City.

"We have a lot of Elders here who don't have family to help them," Quigno added.

And while they have specific areas they deal

Keeping baby's teeth healthy

Putting baby to bed with a bottle in his or her mouth can cause their teeth to rot, cautions staff from the Nimkee Dental Clinic.

If the child's bottle has milk, formula or juice in it, these drinks can sit in baby's mouth overnight and eat away at the teeth. This is called "Baby Bottle Tooth Decay" or BBTD. This condition is very painful for children and can cost a lot of money to have treated by a doctor. Sometimes children with BBTD even have to put in the hospital to have their teeth pulled.

Here are some suggestions to help keep your child's teeth healthy and free from BBTD.

- Put baby to bed without a bottle. Do not let the baby fall asleep with a bottle in his or her mouth. If one wishes to give the child a bottle at bedtime, fill the bottle with only water.
- Teach your baby to use a cup by the time they are one-year-old.
- If the infant is upset or irritable, do not always use a bottle to soothe them. Instead, try cuddling, patting, talking, singing, reading or playing with the child.
- If one gives the baby a pacifier, do not dip it in sugar, honey, syrup or anything else that is sweet. Sugary foods can cause the child's teeth to rot.

For more information, contact the Nimkee Dental Clinic staff at (517) 772-3767.

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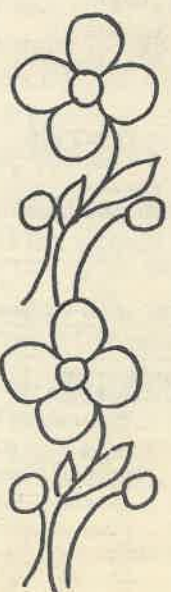
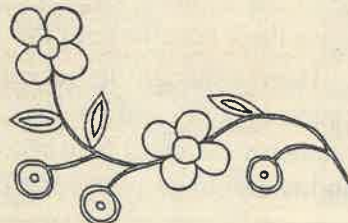
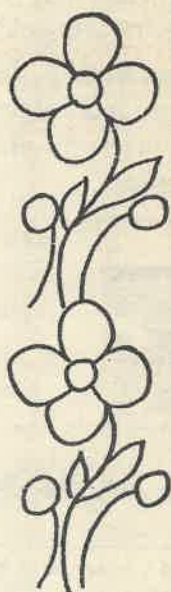
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Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik

Friendly faces

Staff members of the Dental Department at the Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center for Tribal Dentist Linda Jackson (not pictured) include, standing from left to right, Lorie Peters, dental/pharmacy billing clerk; Ileen Peterson, RDH, dental hygienist and Rennae Ross, CDA, dental assistant. Also pictured sitting are Shawn Pelcher, dental receptionist/clerk (left) and Jennifer Shanks, dental assistant.



Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik

Scholarship recipients

Rennae Ross, left, Mary Kunst, middle and Linda LeBeau each received \$400 student incentive scholarships for academic excellence from Bay Mills Community College at a potluck luncheon at the Hill on May 12. The awards were available to any BMCC student attending the SCIT program enrolled in a minimum of seven credit hours per semester, maintained a 3.0 grade point average in each class and had three or less absences in each class.



Indian school graduates 72

Seventy-two seniors participated in graduation exercises at the Flandreau Indian School on June 3 in Flandreau, S.D., according to Chief School Administrator Jack A. Belkham.

The Flandreau Indian School, the oldest continuously operating off-reservation boarding school in the nation, is operated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Courses are offered in the following areas: general, career, vocational and college-bound. A wide range of competitive sports and extracurricular activities are also offered.

Any student who is interested in attending the Flandreau Indian School during the 1994-95 school year should begin the application process soon. For more information, contact (605) 997-3773 or 1-800-942-1647, or write to the school at Flandreau Indian School, Flandreau, S.D. 57028.

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Health

(Continued from page 12)

munity Health Representative.

"That way, we can check into it and see if there is anything that could have been done to prevent the accident," she added.



SEVENTH ANNUAL MICHIGAN INDIAN FAMILY OLYMPICS JUNE 27

REGISTRATION AT 9 A.M.

**Sponsored by the
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Individual and Team Awards

Participants will be provided lunch

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

Please return the enclosed registration form to the address listed by June 13

* A limited number of shirts are available to

those who pre-register (on a first-come, first serve basis).

For more information, please contact:
Walt Kennedy, Fitness Director or Diana Quigno,
Asst. Fitness Director
Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
2591 Leaton Road
Mt. Pleasant, Mich. 48858
(517)773-9887

* Free bus transportation is available for Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Members: Bus runs to CMU, will begin at 8:30 a.m. from the front of the Tribal Center. Transportation from CMU back to the Tribal Center will be available at the completion of the Family Olympics event.

SEVENTH ANNUAL MICHIGAN INDIAN FAMILY OLYMPIC REGISTRATION FORM

Sponsored by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe

Pre-registration fee: \$2 per participant, \$7 per family

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

AGE: _____ MALE: _____ FEMALE: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

SHIRT SIZE: CHILD S _____ CHM _____ ADULT S _____ ADL _____ ADXL _____

LIMITED TO THREE EVENTS PER PERSON

BABY CRAWL: _____ TOT TROT (10 YD): _____ BEAN BAG TOSS (3-4) _____
STANDING BROAD JUMP: (3-4) _____ (5-6) _____ (7-8) _____ (9-10) _____
20 YD DASH: (3-4) _____ (7-8) _____ (55-64) _____ (65-UP) _____
50 YD DASH: (5-6) _____ (9-10) _____ (11-12) _____ (13-14) _____ (15-16) _____
75 YD DASH: (7-8) _____ (13-14) _____ (14-16) _____ (17-21) _____ (22-29) _____
100 YD DASH: (9-10) _____ (15-16) _____ (16-19) _____ (17-19) _____ (20-29) _____
220 YD DASH: (11-13) _____ (16-19) _____ (20-29) _____ (30-39) _____
440 YD DASH: (13-14) _____ (17-19) _____ (20-29) _____
1 MILE RUN: (13-15) _____ (16-19) _____ (20-29) _____ (30-39) _____
440 - WALK: (30-39) _____ (40-49) _____ (50-64) _____ 65-UP _____
440 - PRE/POST-NATAL WALK _____
100 YD Wheelchair race _____
440 RELAY: (12-15) _____ (16-19) _____ (20-29) _____ (30-39) _____
440 RELAY - COMBINATION OF FOUR (4) _____
220 - WALK: (30-39) _____ (40-49) _____ (50-64) _____ (65-UP) _____
SOFTBALL
THROW: (5-7) _____ (8-10) _____ (11-12) _____ (13-14) _____
(15-16) _____ (17-19) _____ (20-29) _____ (30-39) _____
(40-49) _____ (50-64) _____ (65-UP) _____
LONG JUMP: (11-12) _____ (13-14) _____ (15-16) _____ (17-19) _____
(20-25) _____ (26-UP) _____

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(Parents signature if under 18 years of age.)

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Listening to Elders is important for understanding their wisdom

By Stephanie Sprague

Often when we remember our childhood, we remember our parents, grandparents and others and their constant nagging or correcting of our ways. For instance, do you remember your parents saying, "Don't run with that pencil or you're going to poke your eye out!" or "Don't look like that because your face may stay that way." Did you ever listen? Did you ever stop to think, what if I did poke my eye out if I ran with this pencil or what would happen if my face did stay like this? I'm sure we've all heard the sentence that starts with "Well, when I was young. . ." Often we would dread this sentence because we knew how it would end or because we had heard it time and time again. We all know that our mentors just wanted to share some of their lifetime knowledge and experience with us, but did it always have to be so boring or end in a lecture about how good we have it compared to how it was when they were young? Often we hear only what we want to hear from our parents, grandparents, and mentors until we realize that it's too late to hear what we should have heard from these people of wisdom and pride.

I'm sure we have all been sitting around at one time or other with our friends, carrying on a conversation and mentioned the words, "Well, you know, my grandfather used to say. . ." only to discover that you cannot recite the words as Grandpa really said them? Maybe you've tried to teach your children a lesson the way your grandfather used to teach you, like why the trees grow the way they do or why those rocks are shaped the way they are or maybe how it came to be that Grandpa only liked plain hamburgers from McDonald's? As a young woman, have you tried to just once make the fry bread like your grandmother used to, only to regret never taking the time to sit down and watch her, so you would now know just how she made every piece taste better than the one before? Nevertheless, by the time we realize this, it is often too late, which brings us around to facing the fact that we never allowed ourselves to hear these things.

"We all know that our mentors just wanted to share some of their lifetime knowledge and experience with us, but did it always have to be so boring or end in a lecture about how good we have it compared to how it was when they were young?"

Eli was a strong man filled with wisdom, strongly filled from head to toe. His face, he had a face of many lines, lines left behind from many years of living, living a young life of laughter and learning and later going on to live a life of teaching and storytelling. His hands, Eli had the hands that had seen many years of working, working to make the crafts that he loved to make, the crafts that to this day are still in circulation on our mother earth. His feet, feet that had traveled many miles on mother earth, feet that had performed many

dances, and attended many gatherings. His body, a body that was filled with spirit, a spirit that loved to live, to laugh, to share, a body that had lived many beautiful days and fulfilled many dreams.

Grandpa was always willing to share his culture, and people were always willing to listen. "Grandpa" was a great man to me and many others. He loved to share his teachings and stories with young people. As a young girl, I often traveled to different places with my grandfather: powwows, schools or just to visit friends. He was always traveling. Most times my dad would be the one to drive him. My dad would ask Grandpa, "What time do you want to leave?" Grandpa always responded "Kiizhep" which meant "morning," he never gave a time, just "Kiizhep." To me this meant that we had better be ready to go when he arrived at the house, and if you were still sleeping. . . well, he would wake you up by calling out, "Hey, hey," and then he would wait until someone responded, which most times would be my dad saying, "Yea, I'll be down in a few minutes." Then grandpa would say, "Well, we got to get going; they're expecting me, you know."

"Nothing was ever wasted. Which brings me to remember Grandpa's sandwiches from McDonald's that were left under the front car seat that went unnoticed until you smelled them, still they were always good for the birds."

Once we were all loaded up, mostly with Grandpa's baskets and his "best sellers" as he put it, we would be on our way. Often Grandpa would want to take his famous "short cuts," which he and his buddies used to travel on back "in the days." It would take us about an hour out of the way, but he insisted we take the short cuts. Along our travels we would often play games to pass the time. One was to guess how many cars you would meet between here and there; Grandpa was always the winner. We would often see many animals along the way, dead or alive. They were always of use to Grandpa. A deer seen crossing the road or eating in the field was thought of as good luck to Grandpa. A porcupine was always good for the quills, even if you had to chase it up a tree like he and my dad "Little Beaver" (as Grandpa used to call him) did one time. Nothing was ever wasted. Which brings me to remember Grandpa's sandwiches from McDonald's that were left under the front car seat that went unnoticed until you smelled them, still they were always good for the birds.

Grandpa loved powwows, no matter what the condition or how he felt, he loved to be at the powwows. Which brings me to remember the one memory that I will never forget and maybe the one that made me realize all of those memories that I should have remembered. Grandpa was such a strong man of culture in my eyes that I never realized that he any one day leave this world, to begin

his journey to the spirit world. It was the last day of my grandpa's powwow, "Little Elk's Retreat." The day started as a nice sunny day, but as the day went on, it started to get darker and darker. Everyone knew that Grandpa was in the hospital and that he was not doing so well. We all prayed and hoped. As the day went on, people started to remember Grandpa and the many impressions that he had made on their lives. As I listened to these people talk about the many things they had learned from Grandpa, I realized all of the teachings and stories that I had missed, not heard or allowed myself to hear.

The day went on and it was announced that Grandpa (Eli) made a request: he wanted to be at the powwow. Before he began his journey to the spirit world, he wanted to spend his last hours surrounded by his people, laughing, singing and dancing. He wanted to be a part of this, just as he always had been before. They did not deny him this request because soon after he was up to the powwow grounds. My dad had built him a wig-wam where he would lay. Grandpa arrived and the powwow came to a halt so everyone could go visit Grandpa (Eli) one last time. As the drum groups sang their songs for him, I looked around at all the sad faces and realized what a great effect Grandpa's leaving would have on these people. They too had realized that with him a great part of our culture would leave, because with him he carried many of the teachings and stories that must be passed on to our people.

It was then that I realized that I must be one of them. I must listen, I must hear these things. And then it happened. Grandpa left us, to begin his journey to the spirit world. It hurts me today, that I didn't realize this before it was too late, that I never took the time to do this, to listen. So now I must go on always regretting this: This is why I'm telling you, those of you who still have these grandparents around you: sit down, ask questions, ask why, let them tell you stories of their knowledge. Even though the sentence may start with, "Well, when I was young. . ." that may be one of the most valuable teachings your grandparent has to tell you, and these teachings and stories will be things you will remember for the rest of your life. There is a reason for their telling you these stories and teachings—they want you to know these things so they will go on and on. Tell them to your children because they may never get the chance to meet these grandparents, great-grandparents and mentors, but at least they will have these stories and teachings brought down from them through you. Stop and listen before it is too late!

"If you don't hear these things now, then how will these teachings, beliefs and stories survive and live on?"

Seeing this situation, and if you were a young person today and had a great grandfather around that was full of wisdom of your beautiful culture and surroundings, would you even think twice

(See LISTEN page 20)

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Patty Heron - (517) 772-3572
Charmaine Benz - (517) 772-5700
Alternate Sue Durfee - (517) 772-0408

Students reminded to have a social security card for work

School is nearly over and students across the nation are getting ready to start hunting for summer jobs--some for the first time. One thing to remember is that job applicants will need to show an employer-to-be their Social Security card.

"Most young people whose parents claim them as dependents for income tax purposes already have a Social Security number--as the law requires," said Donald Hire, manager of the Mt. Pleasant Social Security office. "But, if you have never had a Social Security number, you'll need to apply for one. If you are 18 or over, you'll need to apply in person at your local Social Security office."

If your card has been lost or stolen, you can get an application for a free replacement card by calling the toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213, any time of the day. Or you can visit your local office.

"Providing the correct name and Social Security number to your employer ensures that you will get credit for your earnings and that your Social Security earnings record will be correct," said Hire. "Your future benefits will be based on this record, so it's important that it accurately reflects all of your earnings."

Hire noted that workers can check their earnings by completing a Personal Earnings and Benefit Estimate request form available from Social Security. Just call the toll-free telephone number and ask for this form.

June, 1994

Michigan Indian Directory Urban Groups and Organizations

North American Indian Association of Detroit, Inc.

22720 Plymouth Road
Detroit, MI 48239-1327
(313) 535-2966

American Indian Health and Family Services of Southeastern Michigan Inc.

Minomaadzwin
4880 Lawndale
Detroit, MI 48210
(313) 846-3718

American Indian Services, Inc.

75 Victor
Highland Park, MI 48203
(313) 865-4433

Southeastern Michigan Indians, Inc.

22260 Ryan Road
P.O. Box 861
Warren, MI 48090-0861
(313) 756-1350
(313) 756-1352 Fax

Genesee Valley Indian Association

609 W. Court Street
Flint, MI 48503
(313) 239-6621
(313) 239-6622
(313) 239-8710

Saginaw Inter-Tribal Council

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

Getting hooked on fishing

Michigan's ninth annual Free Fishing Weekend will be observed June 11-12 and organizations are encouraged to sponsor clinics for the event.

During that second weekend in June, no fishing license or trout/salmon stamp will be required to fish in Michigan. This applies to both Great Lakes' and inland waters statewide, and to Michigan residents and non-residents alike. All other fishing regulations still apply.

Michigan's annual Free Fishing Weekend provides a great opportunity for experienced anglers to introduce fishing to children, friends, or family members who have never had the chance to try this sport. This year's event will continue to focus on first-time fishing opportunities for both young and adult anglers.

Conservation and fishing clubs, civic groups, chambers of commerce, bait and tackle shops, along with other businesses and individuals have had great success since the inception of the Free Fishing Program in sponsoring instructional fishing clinics, derbies and fishing-related activities during the annual Free Fishing Weekend.



FREE FISHING WEEKEND
June 11-12, 1994



Tribal Observer - Page 15

Lansing North American Indian Center/ Michigan Indian Benefit Association

1235 N. Center Street
Lansing, MI 48906
(517) 487-5409

Grand Rapids Inter-Tribal Council

45 Lexington Avenue NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
(616) 774-8331

(See DIRECTORY page 19)

A note of thanks

On behalf of our family, I would like to thank the Tribe, Tribal programs and community members for their prayers, concerns, flowers, cards and phone calls during my recent illness. I am doing fine and feeling better every day.

-Submitted by Jean Pego

(Editor's note: Jean Pego works with Emergency Relief Services at the Tribal Center. The Observer joins our community in wishing her a speedy recovery.)

Ojibwe adds staff

The Ojibwe Substance Abuse Services would like to welcome two additions to their staff.

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal member David Chatfield was recently hired as the Chemical Dependency Prevention Counselor. His duties will be to provide substance abuse counseling and recreational activities for our Native youth.

David has many changes that he would like to see for the Youth Center. Currently, the Youth Center has two pool tables and a 19-inch television.

Renovations are already underway to improve the existing area. David will be meeting with the Tribal Finance Committee and Mid-State Substance Abuse in anticipation of receiving funding for the much needed improvements.

"I would like to get a large television with a compact disc player and video cassette recorder so our community can have family movie nights and dances through the summer," he said.

David is looking at educational as well as classic movies with emphasis on those movies that will bring in the youth stimulate parental involvement.

"I think the biggest message for the youth is prevention and getting back to nature," he said. "I'd like to get the youth involved in drumming and dancing so we have our own drum corps and dance group."

Ojibwe Substance Abuse Services is also pleased to have Patrick Wilson on staff. Patrick is an Odawa from the Grand Traverse area and will be working with adults as the Substance Abuse After-care Counselor.

Patrick will be taking change of the Monday relapse and recovery meetings and the Wednesday Highway Safety classes held at the Youth Center.

Patrick would like to "give the clients a more trusting atmosphere where they can come in and talk."



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Oscoda, Mich. 48750
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Sturman Road
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Phone: Home- (517) 846-6124
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Greensky Hill Indian Church
Rev. Dale Ostema
1206 State Street
Charlevoix, Mich. 49720
Phone: Office- (616) 547-2654
or (616) 547-2028
Home- (616) 547-5168

Thoughts for Tribal members receiving per capita checks

As receptionists for the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Center, we receive many telephone calls from individuals inquiring about the dividend checks.

After finding out the amount, people will say, "Is that all?" We get irritated with individuals who complain about the amount. What were we getting a year ago? Nothing.

Be thankful the Tribal Council is distributing the dividend check instead of letting the millions of dollars sit in the bank. If our deceased Tribal members could have lived to receive the money, they would've been so proud!

This money should be received with pride and the honor of being who we are. Now ask what I can do for my Tribe and not what this Tribe can do for me.

-Submitted by Receptionists Carol Shanks and Jeanette Leaux

Employment positions offered

From the office of Gordon Henry Sr.
Personnel Manager

The following positions are currently open in Tribal Operations:

- Mental Health Social Worker, open until filled
- Controller, open until filled
- Investment Manager, open until filled
- Substance Abuse Counselor (outpatient), open until filled
- Dental Clinic Receptionist/Clerk, open until filled
- Assistant Grant Writer, closes June 2, 1994
- Swimming Pool Lifeguard, closes June 6, 1994

June, 1994

Kewadin Indian Church

Contact:
Percy Anderson
123 Lake Street
Elk Rapids, Mich. 49629

Northport Indian Church

Rev. Marshall Collins
Northport United Methodist Indian Church
P.O. Box 17

Northport, Mich. 49670
Phone: (616) 386-5169

Pawating Magedwin United Methodist Church

Rev. David G. Knapp
(Home Address)
1620 Cambridge SE
Grand Rapids, Mich. 49506

Bradley Indian Church

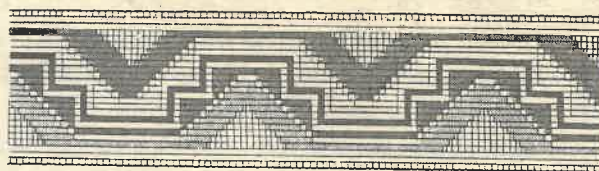
South of Bradley, Mich.
Rev. David G. Knapp

Salem Indian Church

West of Bradley, Mich.
Rev. David G. Knapp

Mt. Pleasant Indian Church

Rev. Joe Sprague
3490 S. Leaton Road
Mt. Pleasant, Mich.
Phone: Office (517) 773-0931
Home- (517) 772-5521



Tribal Court offenses

Offenses filed in Tribal Court from May 1 to May 26:

One each- controlled substance; minor in possession; malicious mischief and injury to public peace. Two charges of theft, as well as assault and battery, along with four incidents of disorderly conduct and driving with a suspended license. There were also 102 traffic and civil citations.

My dreams tell me,

Spirits speak at night
Mumbling ancient chants.
Possessing secrets
Deep inside our Mother Earth.

Clan brothers and sisters
Weep
Over
Progressive Assimilation.

Standing there
Watching
Wiping tears of blood
Over
Forgotten ceremonies
And
Anishnabe mouths
Without tongues.

cmb

LCC

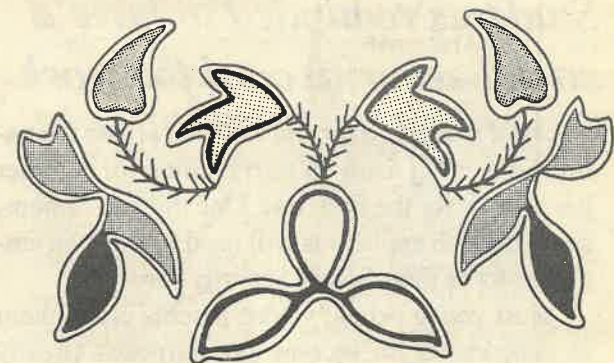
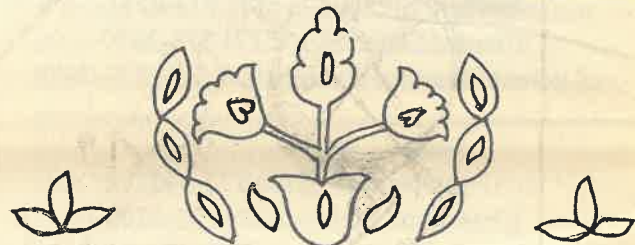
(Continued from page 11)

any field they choose. Other activities provide opportunities to become mentors for youth and children in organizations such as the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, local social service agencies, private business, State and Tribal Government, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Michigan State University.

The NALP introduces students to culturally appropriate decision-making models, self confidence building exercises, and problem solving strategies as they plan their own careers. Several LCC-NALP graduates are working in such diverse areas as graduate school, Tribal communications, construction technology, substance abuse counseling and many different career paths.

Community service learning experiences provide highly motivated NALP students opportunities to work in culturally enriched and supportive environments with mentors in their fields of interest. Students are selected according to their commitment to meeting the challenge of higher education.

Lansing Community College
Native American Leadership Program
26 - Registrar's Office SPS Bldg. 122
P.O. Box 40010
Lansing, Mich. 48901-7210
Phone: (517) 483-9803 Fax: (517) 483-9795
Lansing Community College Native American Leadership Program



ANNUAL SPRING CLEANUP JUNE 6 - 15

- House-to-House pick up
- Leave trash at end of driveway
- No household garbage or automotive parts
- Volunteer Day- June 13 at 1 p.m. Pick up trash on Reservation. The Youth Activities Program will sponsor an activity for participants. Meet at Housing Office. Youth can meet with Youth Activities Coordinator Kevin Chamberlain after 1 p.m. at his office.

June 6 E. Broadway/Trailer Park
June 7 Ojibway/Otto
June 8 Ogemaw/Sowmick
June 9 Tomah/Leaton
June 10 Remus/Anyone Missed
June 13-16 Anyone Missed (Please Call)

Sponsored by the
Saginaw Chippewa Tribe and
Saginaw Chippewa Housing Authority
Please call Housing Office at 773-4000 if you
have any questions. Megwetch !!

Tribal members sharing lasting bonds of matrimony

By Geneva Mackety

June is the month of weddings and graduations. There are some interesting facts about the vows spoken in marriage by our Elders in years gone by: "for better or for worse, in sickness and in health, for richer or for poorer, until death do us part." And at the holy altar by our minister we answered, "I do," and meant it.

I began to ponder about our Elders and wondered how long some of them had lived together in holy matrimony. I thought first of those grand old people who were deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Whitney Alberts. His wife is still living on our Reservation. Their years together were 77 years. Ike and Lucy Pelcher married for 75 years (they lived on their own farm

and did all the chores together with the children helping).

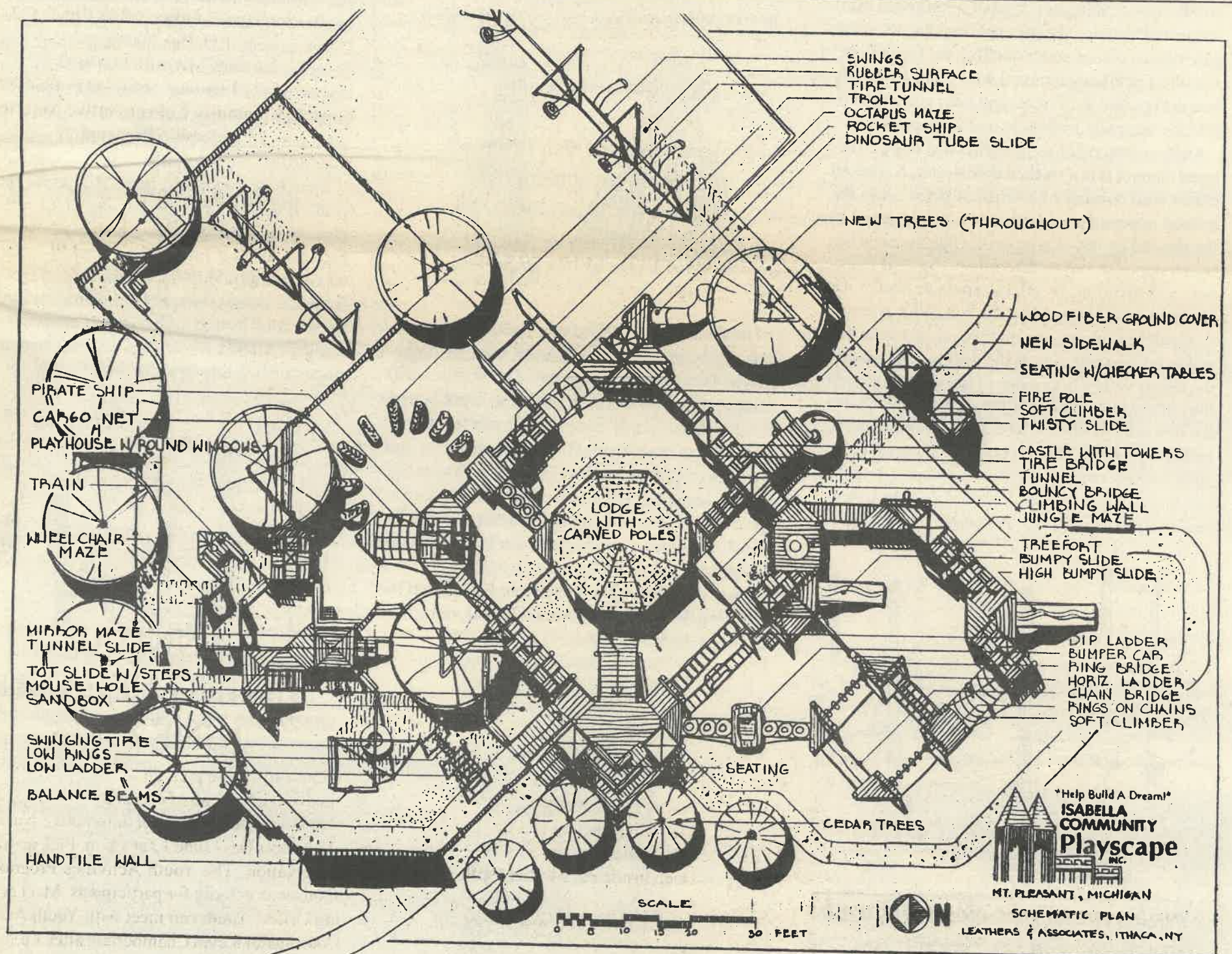
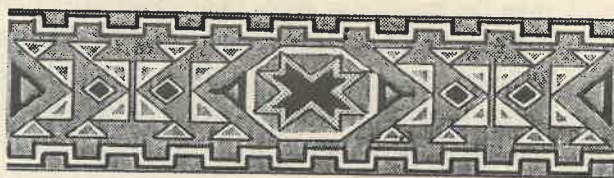
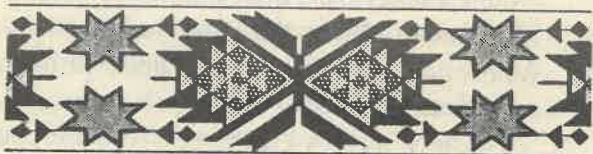
John and Jessie Davis had their own cabin in on 80-acre woods and were married 65 years. (John was a hard railroad worker and lumberjack.) Their good humor and Jessies strong faith in God were their secrets. John died at 86 and Jessie at 96.

Moses and Maria Pelcher 60 years. Their marriage was glued together by hard work on their 80-acre farm with three children helping. Moses was a local preacher, his morning family devotions with Indian singing and prayer were daily happenings. Some of these couples still living and joined "for better or worse" are Willie and Daisey Bailey. Their marriage presently stands at 56 years (in

her words: "The first 50 years are the hardest; the next 50 are a piece of cake").

Other couples include: Andrew and Teresa Falcon 41 years; Jim and Elsie Pego 45 years; Frank and Phyllis Kequom 44 years; Bud and Grace Pego 42 years and Willis Sr. and Joanne Jackson 41 years.

There are many more of you out there who have been married over 35 years. I would love to hear from you. Congratulations to all of you. Continue to be good examples to us of those loving and solid marriages. If you have anymore information on marriages, write Geneva Mackety 3846 W. Baseline Road, Mt Pleasant, Mich. 48858 or call at (517) 644-5266.



The Playscape schematic design includes a council lodge, pirate ship, octopus maze and dinosaur tube slide.

Isabella Community Playscape design presented

Some parts of the Playscape design may look familiar - the pirate ship, octopus maze, dinosaur tube slide and council lodge. Everything included in this drawing was created by the children in our community. The schematic drawing above is representative of what the Isabella County Playscape will look like once it's built.

Dennis Wille, architect for Leathers and Associates, mentioned that this is the first Playscape to be built that incorporates Native culture.

The council lodge will have eight poles to be carved by Saginaw Chippewa artists. Any artists who would like to be a part of Playscape, please contact the Tribal Observer.

Mark your calendars! Playscape is scheduled to be built October 12-16 in Island Park. Making this dream come true will require the help of everyone in the community. To volunteer your time, talent and materials call (517) 772-6194, the Isabella County Volunteer Center.

-Submitted by Kathy Ward-Backus

Surviving in style with part two of primitive shelters feature

In our column last month, we covered the topic of basic primitive shelters. We looked at the characteristics that made up a successful shelter, considered location, explored natural materials and discussed three types of shelters: natural shelters, the lean-to, and the debris hut.

As the idea of long-term shelters was explored further, it became evident that in order to do the subject justice in even the most elementary way, more than two articles would be needed. Therefore, rather than conclude our study of shelters with this article, at least one more will be needed. Remember also that this is not intended to be an all-inclusive examination of the subject.

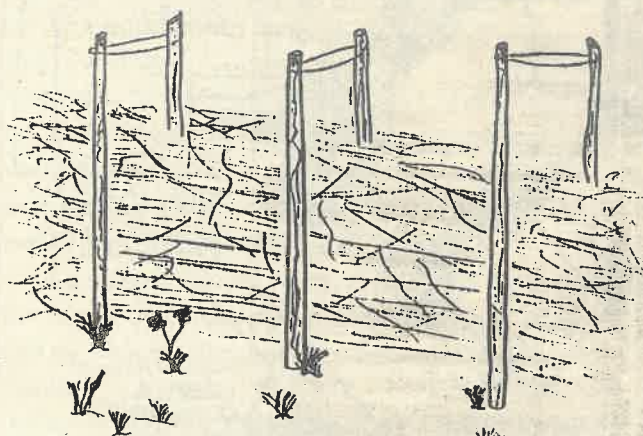
For instance, we will not be covering the different styles of dwellings used by various tribal groups such as the Iroquois long house, the woodland wigwam, the Mandan earth lodge or the plains-style tepee. The reader is instead reminded that the focus here is on primitive survival-type shelters that are of a longer-term nature.

Advanced materials and construction methods

Before exploring some advanced shelter designs, a word about additional construction materials and methods is first in order. In the previous article, we discussed debris as a kind of all purpose insulation and exterior shelter covering. For the most part, debris (or loose litter found on the forest floor) was used in an unstructured way - that is, simply heaped up until sufficient thickness is reached to provide adequate insulation and waterproofness.

Another method of using debris in a more structured manner is in a stacked debris wall. A stacked debris wall consists of a series of poles set in the ground opposite one another at a height equal to the desired height of your wall. The distance between opposite stakes determines the wall thickness and therefore its effectiveness at insulating. One-and-a-half to two-feet thick is about average.

Flexible saplings are interwoven between the stakes on the same side of the wall to help contain the debris. When both sides of the wall have been thus interwoven with saplings, the space between the two sides is filled with debris. It might help to tie the tops of the stakes opposite one another together in order to prevent them from spreading too far apart as debris is added. Remember, the lighter and more airy the debris, the better it insulates.



Stacked Debris Wall

Stacked debris walls have many uses, some of which will be explored in the advanced shelters we will discuss. They can be built to enclose an area, a domed roof structure built on top, then the entire affair capped off with a thick layer of debris for waterproofness. These make excellent group shelters. Stacked debris walls can also be used to either totally enclose or form a semicircular wall around a shelter and fire pit to make an effective heat reflector. Stacked debris walls also make excellent blinds from which to observe or hunt game. The uses to which this versatile construction technique can be put are limited only by one's own creativity and the abundance of materials at hand.

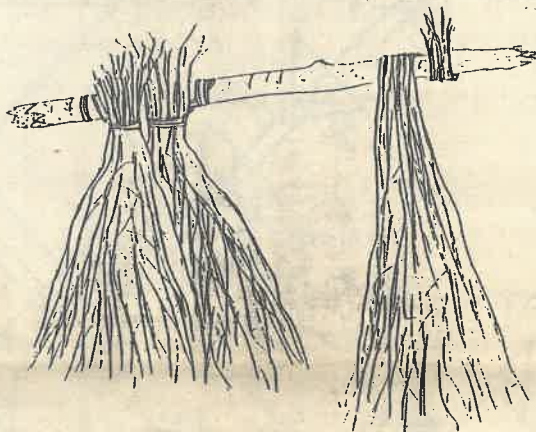
Another extremely useful material and construction technique is what might be referred to as "sur-

vival cement." Much like adobe used in the southwest, survival cement is easy to make and results in extremely tight, strong shelters. To make survival cement, simply mix equal parts of fibrous material (such as mud and grasses) together and allow to dry. The mixture dries and sets up like cement and proves to be extremely strong and water-resistant. Survival cement can be used to patch holes in a shelter, dome over a brushed roof, build reflecting walls and chimneys, or as mortar to hold rocks and logs in place. Shelters made in this manner can last for years.

A final material that we will discuss that can be used in shelter construction is thatching. Thatching is best made from long grasses and reeds, both of which are hollow-stemmed providing a good insulating air space.

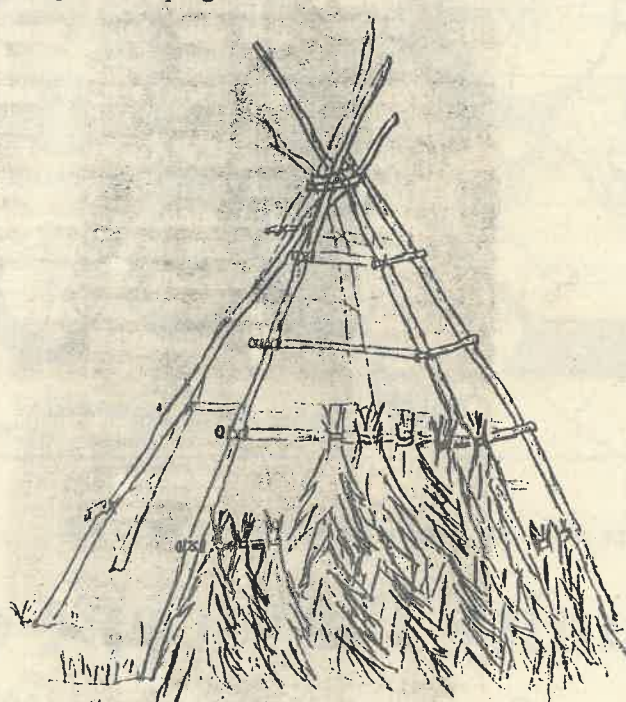
Branched materials such as pine boughs can be used, but they will have to be tied in thicker bundles than the grasses in order to achieve sufficient insulation and waterproofness. Gather the thatching materials into three-to four-inch thick bundles, all pointing in the same direction. Each bundle will be tied several inches down from the root end onto your shelter framework, with the tops of the thatch pointing downward and "broomed-out" (in order to intertwine with one another).

Detail Of Thatch Bundles Attached to Cross Tie: Two Methods



The thatching is applied to a shelter framework that can be tepee shaped, lean-to style, or dome-shaped (to name a few styles). The bundles will hang root-end up and will be tied to cross-beams that run horizontally around your shelter framework. These cross-beams should be spaced so that the thatch material can overlap itself by about one third its length. The thatch is applied beginning at the bottom, then going up the structure much like shingling a house, overlapping the lower courses as you go up.

Once completed, the thatch can be secured by wrapping the entire structure with cord, or by laying brush up against it.



Use of Thatch on Teepee Framework

Modified lean-to

With these materials and methods in mind, we will leave the reader with one more shelter idea before closing our investigation of primitive shel-

ters for this month. This is actually a modification of the lean-to that was discussed in the previous article and can be looked at as a transition shelter that is somewhere between a short-term survival shelter and a longer-term, more permanent primitive dwelling. It also can incorporate the materials and methods we just discussed in various areas of its design. Since we discussed the lean-to previously, we will only focus on some improvements to or modifications of the basic design to make this type of shelter more efficient.

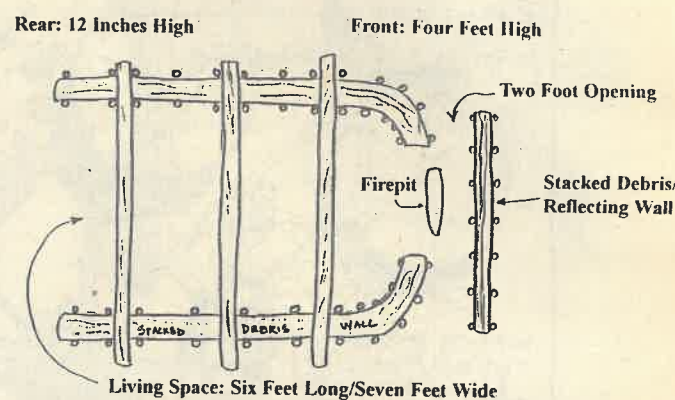
Essentially, the modified lean-to incorporates the basic lean-to design, with the addition of brushing in the sides and continuing them around the front of the shelter to form short half walls. These side walls can be of stacked debris wall construction and will serve to insulate the shelter further from cross winds. In addition, a stacked debris wall which extends up as high as the roof of the shelter is built parallel to the front and about two feet away. This further blocks the wind, reflects heat from the fire pit back into the shelter, and creates a chimney effect for smoke.

The back wall of the lean-to (where it contacts the ground) should be stuffed with debris to create a short, flat surface to insulate the user from drafts and to provide a reflector at the back of the shelter. This way, both the front and the back of the shelter can receive heat.

The front reflector can be made more efficient by using the stacked debris wall concept, but filling the space between the upright supports with small logs, held together by, and covered with survival cement. This same concept could also be used to construct the side walls.

Thatching could also be used to build the side walls if horizontal supports were first lashed in place to hold the thatching. A stacked debris wall between the thatching and the interior of the shelter would add additional insulation and protection from the weather. Finally, thatching can be used for the roof instead of the debris covering previously mentioned. Make sure, however, that the roof slopes sufficiently to allow water to run off.

Top View of Modified Lean-To Plan



The lean-to design can also be modified into a group shelter when four or more people are camping together. By building a series of lean-to's into a circular shape (all openings facing inward), a complete enclosure can be formed. There should be an eight-foot opening in the center of the circle to allow for a fire pit. Occupants sleep with their heads toward the fire, feet toward the sloping back of the shelter. A small doorway is provided for entering and leaving the structure, next to which is stacked a supply of firewood. The fire watcher sits in front of the firewood so as not to block the heat to the occupants. Each member of the group takes a turn watching the fire throughout the night. This type of shelter can be easily built in a day with all members of the group involved in the shelter's construction. A group shelter of this nature allows enough room so that members of the group can work on tools or other projects protected from the weather and, with the addition of the fire, well into the night.

As can be seen, by using the basic principles of a stacked debris wall, survival cement and thatch-

(See *SHELTERS* page 19)

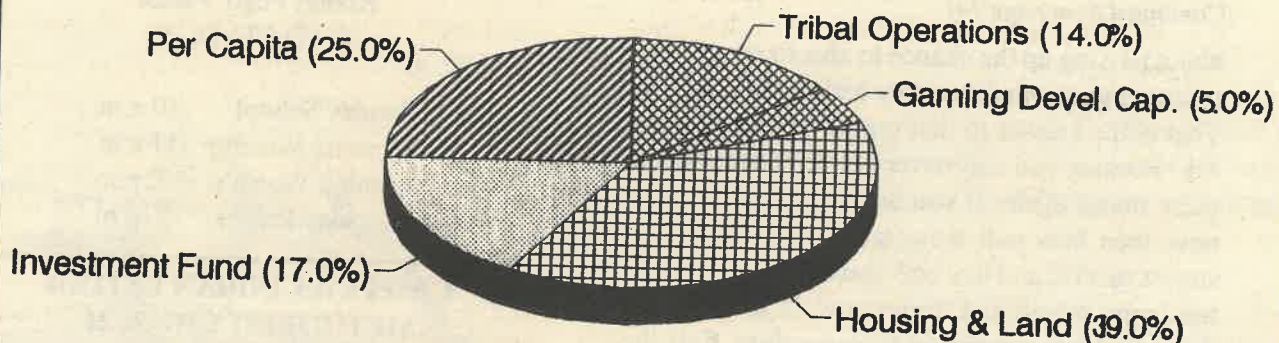
Directory

(Continued from page 15)

Michigan Urban Indian Consortium
1235 Center Street
Lansing, MI 48933
(517) 374-6166



Gaming revenue graph



This graph represents how gaming revenues are distributed to the five funds set up in the per capita plan. This is net of 8 percent given to the State of Michigan and 2 percent given to various local governments.



Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik

Protesters on Broadway

Ousted Tribal Council member Gary Sprague, pictured left, joins other Native Americans and Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members in protest on May 18 at Tribal Center. Allegations were made against Tribal government, selected departments and personnel.

Youth earn honors

Several Tribal students attending Chippewa Hills Public Schools have earned special honors and awards including: seniors David Starkey and Nikki Aasved for graduating; fourth grader Jason Howard, seventh grader Steve Bailey, eighth grader Chris Bailey and Nikki Aasved for being on the honor roll; second grader Eric Howard and Jason Howard for perfect attendance. Jason Howard was also recognized for his outstanding achievement on the MEAP test.

A potluck supper was conducted on June 1 at the Remus High School to honor these special students and they received gifts donated from area businesses including: J.C. Penney's, MacGregor News Agency, Coca Cola, Westside Deli and Western Auto in Weidman.

This summer, several activities are being planned for the native American students, including a mini powwow, the making of traditional outfits, overnight camping, basket making, clay pottery, making of Indian tools, along with the constructing of a float for Weidman Days.

Any Indian child attending Chippewa Hills are invited to attend these activities, scheduled for June 20 through July 15. For more information, contact Marvin Lett at (517) 967-3614.



BUS TRIP

**KALAMAZOO TO WASHINGTON D.C.
LEONARD PELTIER FREEDOM WEEKEND**

June 24

Departure from Oakland Drive/I-94 car pool parking lot. Bus leaves at 6:30 p.m.

June 25 - June 26

Leonard Peltier Freedom Weekend international rally in Washington, D.C.

June 26

Early evening departure from Washington, D.C.

June 27

Early morning arrival in Kalamazoo

47 Seats available. \$65 per person. Seats will be on a first come first serve basis.

For more information call: Kevin Kamps, Leonard Peltier Support Group at (616) 387-8558



Dance troupe to perform

On June 8 at 7 p.m. in Central Michigan University's Warriner Hall, the Seventh Generation Program in conjunction with CMU and Ojibwe Substance Abuse will be bringing in the Native dance group, Red Lake Young Dream Dance Troupe, who promote and advocate sober lifestyles.

EVERYONE IS INVITED

The Saginaw Ojibwe Seers Youth Council will be the hostess while the dance troupe is here. They will be camped out at the Elijah Elk Cultural Center.

COME SHARE THE CULTURAL AND
EXCITING LIGHT SHOW PROVIDED BY
OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS
FROM RED LAKE
A BIG MEGWETCH

There is no charge for this event, but donations will be accepted to go toward our Youth Council.



Shelters

(Continued from page 18)

ing, combined with a bit of ingenuity, shelter designs can be modified to suit individual needs and situations. Of course, other methods and materials (bark slabs for instance) can also be used and incorporated into shelter construction. The next article in this series will focus on several additional advanced, long-term shelter designs. By using only natural materials in these shelter designs, we are able to begin to blend with the harmony of creation and more fully experience the gifts available only through a true survival living situation. These advanced designs will allow one to live for extended periods of time, close to nature, in relative comfort and security. Shelters built naturally also blend into their surroundings, allowing the user to freely exist away from the scrutiny of others.

Listen

(Continued from page 14)

about passing up the chance to absorb every story, teaching and belief that they had to tell you? No. That is the answer to that question, and why you ask? Because you may never get the chance to hear these things again. If you don't hear these things now, then how will these teachings, beliefs and stories survive and live on? You need to hear these teachings, beliefs and stories now, so you can pass them on from generation to generation. Tell the young people of this nation to pay attention to their grandparents, great-grandparents and mentors. Take the time to listen because this knowledge they have to share is nothing you'll ever hear in a classroom or find in any history book on the face of this earth, it lies within the heart and mind of our parents, grandparents, and mentors. So please, listen.

Thanks to all of the maintenance crew for helping during the school year. You are all greatly appreciated.
P.C.C. Staff

Golf membership recognition

We would like to thank all of those who signed up for this year's golf membership. To make it more of a success, feel free to buy any of your golfing merchandise or snacks and beverages from these establishments: Valley View, Pleasant Hills and The Pines.

These businesses extended their services to us and we should do the same.

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

Sturman 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.

SAGINAW CHIPPEWA INDIAN TRIBE
BAY MILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Summer Semester Classes

June 7- July 21
MA112 Business Math 4 Cr. T,Thrs. 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Lab 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.
HL102 Health Awareness 2 Cr. T,Thrs. 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

For more information and to register for classes, contact the Tribal Education Office, (517)773-5858, ext. 204
7070 E. Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, Mich. 48858

Deadline for submissions in the July issue of the Tribal Observer is June 24

"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
Attention: Tribal Observer Circulation
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.



community calendar



june

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. Highway Safety Memorial Walk 5:30 p.m.	2 MDT meeting at 2 p.m. in the Clinic conference room	3	4
5	6 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. R & R COHP Evaluation Team meeting from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at CMU SPRING CLEANUP	7 O.S.A.M. 7:30 p.m. AA open meeting SPRING CLEANUP	8 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. Highway Safety SPRING CLEANUP Red Lake Young Dream Dance Troupe 7 p.m. at CMU	9 Rabies Clinic 9-11 a.m. Pole barn behind Tribal Center; also from 2-3 p.m. at Saganing Outreach Trailer SPRING CLEANUP	10 SPRING CLEANUP	11 Recycling Depot open 9 a.m. - noon SPRING CLEANUP
12 SPRING CLEANUP	13 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. R & R SPRING CLEANUP	14 O.S.A.M. 7:30 p.m. AA open meeting SPRING CLEANUP Flag Day	15 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. Highway Safety SPRING CLEANUP	16 COHP Retreat at Ralph MacMullen Conference Center in Higgins Lake Everyone welcome	17 COHP Retreat at Ralph MacMullen Conference Center in Higgins Lake Everyone welcome	18
19 Father's Day	20 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. R & R	21 O.S.A.M. 7:30 p.m. AA open meeting Summer Begins	22 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. Highway Safety	23	24	25 Recycling Depot open 9 a.m. - noon
26 Dart tournament at The Main. Registration at 4 p.m., with games starting at 6 p.m. Contact The Main or Jack Sowmick at (517) 773-3997 for more information.	27 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. R & R Michigan Indian Family Olympics at Lyle Bennett/ Alumni Track on the campus of CMU	28 O.S.A.M. 7:30 p.m. AA open meeting	29 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. Highway Safety	30		