

Address correction requested

# tribal observer



Boozhu! Welcome to the March, 1994 issue of the Tribal Observer. As your editor, I would like to mention that this monthly paper is for enrolled Tribal members and our employees. We encourage submissions from our community and can be reached at:

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

Phone (517) 772-5700 Fax (517) 772-3508  
Subscription rates are 50 cents per issue or \$5 per year. The Tribal Observer is a free service to enrolled Tribal members and employees. Advertisements are \$20 per issue or \$125 per year for a 3 1/2-inch by 2-inch (business card) space.

March, 1994 Volume 5 Issue 3

ONOBANI-GISS (Ojibwe) Moon of the Crust on the Snow

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

## Tribe adopts per capita plan for gaming revenue

By Mike Phalen  
Reservation Attorney

On Jan. 6, 1994, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council formally adopted a Per Capita Plan that would enable the Tribe to make regular distributions of a portion of the Tribe's net gaming revenues directly to all adult members of the Tribe.

The formal adoption of the Per Capita Plan (the "Plan") by the Tribal Council marks a milestone in the history of the Tribe and stands as a testament to the success of the Tribe's gaming enterprise.

The approval of the Tribe's Class III gaming compact with the State of Michigan by the federal government cleared the way for the Tribe to formally adopt a per capita plan, which had been in development for several months prior to that time.

The final obstacle to initiating payments under the Plan is the requirement under the federal In-

In Arenac County

dian Gaming Regulatory Act that Tribal per capita plans be approved by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). It is anticipated that the BIA will approve the Plan sometime within the next two weeks and the first payment will be made approximately 10 days from that date.

### *Timing of Payments and Eligibility*

During the first year of the Plan, payments are scheduled to be made on the 1st of March, June, September and December based on 25 percent of the net gaming revenues calculated from the previous quarter.

However, the first payment cannot be made until the BIA has given final approval of the Tribe's Plan and the Tribal Clerk's Office and Tribal Accounting have had time to process the enormous amount of paperwork involved in preparing the

payments for distribution.

Eligibility for per capita payments under the Plan is limited to enrolled members of the Tribe who have attained 18 years of age. The Plan requires that Tribal rolls will be closed for purposes of per capita eligibility only at 5 p.m. 10 working days before the per capita payment is due. Payments will be made by regular mail and will not be available for pick-up at the Tribal Center. Per capita payments are considered taxable income under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act and the Tribe will withhold federal taxes from all payments and issue IRS 1099 income reporting forms to both the recipient and to the IRS.

Tribal members who do not reside within the boundaries of the Isabella Reservation will be responsible for any state or local taxes that may apply.

(See Plan page 2)

## Saganing staff assist members in many ways

By Joe Sowmick and Scott Csernyik

Some of their duties include providing rides to various places such as going to the doctor, assisting students with homework, plus serving senior citizens meals three times a week.

The three-person staff situated at the Saganing Outreach Center is there to help meet the needs of Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members at the satellite Reservation in Arenac County.

The office, located in a 12-foot by 60-foot trailer at 5447 Steerman Road in Standish, is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and is across from the Saganing Indian Church.

While located about 90 miles northeast from Mt. Pleasant, Molina said she doesn't see the Saganing District as a separate Reservation.

"We're just a satellite Reservation of Mt. Pleasant," she stated. "Sometimes they forget we're here, but Mt. Pleasant's been a big help to me. Saganing is my home and that's where I'm going to stay."

According to Molina, the District serves about 14 families and has 38 registered voters. She said the trailer first started out as a substance abuse center.

"There are eight people around here that I know haven't had a drink for years," she stated. "One guy hasn't drank for 24 years. He's the longest one."

While adequate office space is a major concern for the staff, Molina adds "you can't get anything



Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik  
The three-person staff at the Saganing Outreach Center includes, from left to right, Aggie Flynn, Barb Braley and Arlene Molina.

too big for this place."

They've recently initiated a Friday movie and refreshment night for seniors, plus they are trying to arrange bingo as a recreational activity.

"I don't like to see the seniors going into nursing homes," Molina stated. "They don't get the proper care they need."

### *Focus on education*

Working with 17 K-12 students in six Arenac County schools is Education Coordinator Parent Advocate Aggie Flynn.

Although Flynn officially started this position Jan. 18, she had been working with the Standish students since 1991.

Unlike its Mt. Pleasant counterpart, the Saganing District doesn't have Head Start, Alternative Education or a Montessori School.

"Each day, about six to eight kids come here right off the bus and they get help with their homework," Flynn said.

(See Staff page 2)

## Observer Index

Scholarships offered.....	page 4
Student's essay takes second.....	page 6
Photography workshop.....	page 7
At-Large committee vacancy....	page 9
Personnel.....	page 10
Community hockey program....	page 11
Diabetes awareness.....	page 12
Community calendar.....	page 16



# Staff

(Continued from page 1)

Arenac County schools the 17 students attend include Standish Elementary, Standish-Sterling High School, Sterling Elementary, Twining Elementary, AuGres Sims Elementary and AuGres Sims High School.

"I think the kids are doing pretty good as far as school goes, plus getting along with the general public," Flynn said.

Besides helping the youth with their homework, Flynn said she is trying to get them interested in extra-curricular activities.

"A lot of them have never been to a powwow," Flynn stated. "And there's at least four kids in this area who would like to start dancing."

She also said she'd like to be able to help sharpen their computer skills and provide summer jobs for kids since a local soccer program only runs for nine weeks.

In the past, two sophomores worked together with Saganing District elderly in a work experience which included such tasks as washing windows, cutting grass and other general maintenance chores.

"It kept them occupied and they liked it," she stated.

Barb Braley, hostess of the seniors, has been with the Saganing District for three years and will complete for fourth in August.

Besides serving meals from Tuesday through Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., she also reads to them a monthly nutrition education report.

About a dozen people participate in Saganing Outreach activities, Braley said. She also echoes the comments on having more space because "we may have kept some of the people away because of the crampedness."

## Community dinner

Marie Potts said she "just had to get out" and come to the Center's Feb. 18 community dinner, despite still mourning the recent loss of her oldest and that one "can see the house from here."

She looks for companionship and friendly conversation in coming to the Center.

"This helps me," she said. "I knew I could count on this in coming here."

As the 15 adults ate in the main room of the trailer, six children feasted in Molina's office to the back of the Center.

With a Monopoly game set up for play after dinner, the youth all agreed they'd like to have a computer at the Center.

Twelve-year-old Standish-Sterling seventh grader Lisa Flynn aspires to be a lawyer one day and said she also likes to type. A "computer and some little disks" was at the top of her wish list for the District.

Despite having a small playground behind the Center- which includes six swings, monkey bars, a slide, basketball backboard and net- Darrell McMullen Jr. said he'd like to see a "football field out here."

Seventh grader Robin Alberts, who carries a 106 in average in bowling, went for the obvious.

"I'd like a big bowling alley," she said.

Besides Robin, other local youth involved in an area bowling league include Darrell, plus Nicole McMullen and Dan Flynn.

While involved with Parks and Recreation, Tribal member Bernie Sprague was instrumental in setting up the playground area, which also includes two picnic tables and grills left out for Native American families to utilize in warmer months.

But for now, the snow-covered recreation area remains idle, unlike the trailer where Molina, Flynn and Braley work.

# Chief attends conference for women

By Scott Csernyik

They came together in the nation's Capitol from all walks of life to create a strength through communication in fostering a peaceful spirit throughout the global community.

Saginaw Chippewa Chief Gail George attended this "Second Continental Congress of Women of the Americas" from Feb. 17-22 with Soaring Eagle Gaming Commissioner Faith Montoya.

Various topics covered in the conference for women included self-empowerment, family, health, education, environment, politics and public administration.

"We have elected to come together as business and political leaders, teachers, spouses, mothers and daughters, for a mutual purpose, goal and objective, and that is to bring peace, strength and well-being to our family unit, or community, and therefore the world of humanity," stated Dorita deLemos Down, president of the Isabella International Institute, in her greeting letter.

The Institute, along with the help of 11 sponsors, conducted the Washington D.C. event.

Chief George said the panel discussed women's issues from all over the world and noted some cultures "are behind the times" when it comes to equality.



Observer Photo/Courtesy

Chief Gail George at the Washington Monument.

"Some cultures look at equality between men and women different," she said. "I'm more thankful for what we have here because you can be independent."

(See Conference page 14)

# Plan

(Continued from page 1)

## Payments to Members Whose Address is Unknown

Whenever the Tribal Clerk's Office does not have an eligible tribal member's current address, the Tribe will retain that person's per capita payment for a period of one year from the date that such payments were made available.

The Tribe will publish a notice in each edition of the Tribal Observer during the one-year period stating that the Tribe is holding money under such person's name and that they must contact the Tribal Clerk's Office by a specified date or the funds being held in their name will be forfeited to the Tribe.

## Death of a Member

If any member of the Tribe who is qualified to

receive a payment under the Plan dies after the Tribal Council approves a per capita payment but before such payments are disbursed, such payment shall be made to the deceased person's estate in aid of the deceased person's funeral expenses. No further payments shall be made to the deceased person or his estate.

## Elimination of Tribally-Funded Financial Assistance

The Plan also eliminates the need for many Tribal social welfare programs that provide direct financial assistance to tribal members and are burdensome and costly to administer.

These programs will be phased out upon the initiation of per capita payments under the Plan. Tribal members who have been receiving financial assistance through Tribal social welfare programs are expected to use their per capita payments to meet their financial needs.

**6th Annual Powwow**  
**April 9-10**  
**Central Michigan University**  
**Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe**  
**Finch Fieldhouse**  
**on the CMU campus**  
**Mt. Pleasant**

Traditional style/non-competitive dancing  
Traders and food vendors by invitation

Weekend pass \$7  
Daily pass \$4  
Students \$2  
Elders and children under 10 Free

For more information, call:  
**Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe**  
(517) 772-5700  
**Office of Minority Affairs**  
(517) 774-3945  
**American Indian Programs**  
(517) 774-2508



Observer Photo/Thaddius Bedford

## Community event

Tribal Elder and Council member Beatrice Colwell prepares a plate during the Feb. 1 Winter Community Feast attended by about 175 Tribal members and community leaders. The purpose of the event was to remember those who have passed on due to alcohol-related incidents.



# Clarifying access to records of meetings

By Chief Gail George

There appears to be some confusion developing regarding the availability to the public of information and documents pertaining to Tribal Council meetings. I want to take this opportunity to clarify Tribal policy and law on this issue.

1. The only records of Tribal Council meetings that are "public records" and can be made available to Tribal members are the official minutes that have been approved by the Tribal Council pursuant to Tribal law (Ordinance 13, Sub-Section 5 b and c; and Ordinance 19, Section 3.g and Sub-Section 7.e and f). Tribal members are not entitled to obtain copies of or review any recordings, tapes, transcripts or other records of any Tribal Council proceeding except the approved minutes of such meeting.

2. The minutes of any portions of Tribal Council meetings that are confidential and have been declared by the Council to be "closed" sessions of Tribal Council meetings shall be made available to Tribal members (Ordinance 19, Section 3.g).

This policy applies to all members and any special requests for documents or records which are not "public records" as defined above must be made in writing to the Tribal Clerk who should forward such request to the Tribal Operations Officer to be placed on the agenda of the next Council meeting. Special requests made by officials, employees or representatives of the Tribe must be made in writing and signed by the Tribal Chief. The Tribal Clerk shall keep a record of all requests for records which are not "public records."

## Alternative education students aren't lacking in class

By Paul Pioszak

Alternative Education Instructor

It's been mighty cold this winter, but the students enrolled in Alternative Education have been faithfully coming despite the cold.

The group has been working well in Algebra, Science and Native American studies, but continues to falter in writing. Any suggestions?

Winter is a hard time for students. The semester seems to drag and being trapped inside the classroom is, sometimes, stifling. Fortunately, the key to this program is the word "alternative," which

means choice.

The program is designed around the (state) required hours of study and not the required days and therefore, allows for some flexibility. That is what has allowed these students to succeed.

I've been seeing some really wonderful artwork from Brad Bennett. He's got talent! Allan Wassegijig is much improved in his school work. The entire class is excelling, as far as getting work done is concerned. Of course, they all think there is too much work, but don't be fooled- they have plenty of time for other activities. They are working independently of each other and that seems to motivate them, somewhat.

The class took a trip to Mammoth Caves, Ky. last fall and is looking forward to a spring trip in the north. Right now we are considering Isle Royale, but that may change...we'll see.

I know everyone here is looking forward to spring and a chance to get outside, to enjoy the air and get some exercise.

Also, we would like to thank everyone for their support of this program. It helps some students achieve, because the setting is not quite the same as the public schools and the rules are more flexible.

## CMU's Rowe Hall Museum to include Native American works

By Jason Prieur

In the continuing spirit of cultural diversity, Central Michigan University will dedicate a large portion of the Rowe Hall Museum to Native American artwork during a March 30 ceremony.

Scheduled to take place from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Center for Cultural and Natural History, the dedication will include a blessing and a performance by the Little Turtle Singers.

"I think it's a great opportunity for Central Michigan University and the Indian Community abroad to form a closer relationship," said Dave Staddon, director of Native American programs at CMU.

Part of the exhibit will include an extensive collection of weaved Black Ash baskets representing the Great Lakes area donated by Mt. Pleasant resident Olga Denison.

Museum Director Lynn Fauver said they'll be exhibiting about 300 pieces, including bead work, stone sculpture and Native American paintings.

Ten new exhibits will also be opening at the same time of the dedication, along with a 200-gallon aquarium which will be stocked with fish native to Michigan.



Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik

## Clowning around

A tardy Rainbow the Clown creates some balloon magic for Gizhep Gimiwon Pego on Feb. 14 during clean up of after a Valentine's Day party conducted by the Parent Infant Guidance Program. Rainbow was slated as entertainment for the party, but had a little difficulty finding the Tribal Center and showed up after the fact.

The Chippewa Indian United Methodist Church welcomes everyone to come fellowship at:

## REVIVAL WEEK

March 27 to April 4  
services nightly at 7 p.m.  
Good Friday service at 1 p.m.

Guest evangelist:  
Rev. Tachaweka from Cashe, OK

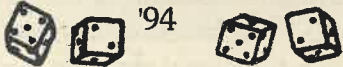
for more information contact the  
Chippewa Indian United Methodist Church  
7529 East Tomah Road  
Rev. Joseph Sprague (517) 772-5521



## TALENT SHOW

The Talent Show Committee is meeting regularly to plan for,

"Return to Pair-A-Dice Lounge"



If you are interested in helping to plan, please call Tribal Education at (517) 773-5858

A registration form is printed to the right for your convenience



## TALENT SHOW

### REGISTRATION FORM

April 12, 1994

7:00 p.m.

Tribal Center Bingo Hall

- \* All participants in the show will be eligible for one \$200.00 and one \$100.00 cash prize drawing. Must be present to win.
- \* All show participants will receive a specially designed sweatshirt.
- \* No age requirement.
- \* Each act cannot go over 10 minutes.
- \* Each act is responsible for their own props.
- \* Refreshments will be available to the audience.
- \* No admission charge.
- \* Register early to be included in the show.

Name of group/act: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant names: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of act: \_\_\_\_\_

Sweatshirt sizes needed: children \_\_\_ s \_\_\_ m \_\_\_ l  
adult \_\_\_ s \_\_\_ m \_\_\_ l \_\_\_ xl \_\_\_ xxl

For more information please call Tribal Education at 773-5858.

Return this form to the Tribal Education Office

by April 1, 1994.

The Faith Indian Church of the Nazarene would like to invite everyone to attend our

## CHURCH RALLY March 11, 12, 13

Evening services start at 7 p.m.

Special speaker:

Reverend Chuck Bowers  
Potawatomi Indian from Cashe, OK

- \* fellowship
- \* special singing
- \* refreshments after services

For more information contact:  
Faith Indian Church of the Nazarene  
6304 East Broadway, Mt. Pleasant  
Robert Pego, Pastor (517) 772-5625

**OJIBWAY-  
GREENWALD  
CONSTRUCTION  
ENTERPRISE**

**GENERAL CONSTRUCTION**

Dependable Service

**772-2202**

1970 AIRWAY DR. - MT. PLSNT



# Tribal Matters

## TRIBAL COUNCIL

Gail George, Tribal Chief  
Timothy Davis, Tribal Sub-Chief  
Robert Pego, Secretary  
Mary Lynne Chippeway, Treasurer  
Gary Sprague, Chaplain  
Gerald Slater, Sergeant-At-Arms  
William Federico, Member  
Beatrice Colwell, Member  
Brenda Chamberlain, Member  
Gary Quigno, Member  
Ronald Jackson, Member

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Gail George, Tribal Chief  
Timothy Davis, Tribal Sub-Chief  
Robert Pego, Secretary  
Mary Lynne Chippeway, Treasurer

## GAMING COMMISSION

Gail George  
Timothy Davis  
Robert Pego  
Mary Lynne Chippeway  
Gary Sprague  
  
Brenda Chamberlain  
Ronald Jackson  
Arlene Molina  
Shelly Foster  
Sue Durfee

## PLANNING COMMITTEE

Gail George  
Timothy Davis  
Robert Pego  
Mary Lynne Chippeway  
Gary Sprague  
Gerald Slater  
William Federico  
Brenda Chamberlain  
Beatrice Colwell  
Gary Quigno  
Ronald Jackson

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Gail George  
Timothy Davis  
Robert Pego  
Mary Lynne Chippeway  
Gary Sprague  
Brenda Chamberlain  
Ronald Jackson

## LEGAL COMMITTEE

Gail George  
Timothy Davis  
Robert Pego  
Mary Lynne Chippeway  
Gary Sprague  
Brenda Chamberlain  
Beatrice Colwell

## Tribe to benefit from federal grant

Recently the Tribe received word that it has been approved for funding of approximately \$90,000 from the Administration for Native Americans (ANA) in each of the next two years.

Although this represents about \$36,000 less than originally requested, it will still allow the Tribal staff to accomplish the objectives proposed under the grant. Funding available through ANA can be used for social and economic development activities as well as projects which strengthen Tribal governance efforts.

Under the approved program, the Tribe proposes to accomplish three objectives:

- 1) to research and create a Tribally-chartered economic development authority,
- 2) to create a Tribal building code and occupational safety and health act (including the staffing a building inspection office), and
- 3) to develop a Tribal environmental code related specifically to the business and residential generation of solid and medical waste.

Also proposed is the hiring of a student intern under the Tribal leadership program to assist staff in developing the structure of the economic development authority. Besides attending classes toward a business-related degree, the intern would be working with planning staff and be exposed to

*Only two weeks left to apply*

many facets of business activity from feasibility analysis to investment decisions and managerial practice.

"This is very good news for the Tribe," said William Mrdeza, Tribal Community and Economic Development Director. "Typically, ANA grants are very competitive and very demanding to prepare. This was our second attempt to secure funding for these objectives from ANA."

As the Tribe continues to grow, we see more instances where the absence of a Tribal building code or environmental regulations creates some problems for the Tribe and its members. This grant will help to fill some of those voids in the Tribal regulatory climate."

Mrdeza credits the efforts of the entire Planning Department staff, as well as the Tribe's most recent strategic planning efforts with the success of obtaining these funds.

"In addition, technical assistance from the Falmouth Institute through their review of our previous application and subsequent recommendations for improvement was invaluable," he added.

For more information on this program and its objectives, readers are encouraged to contact the Tribal Planning Department at (517) 773-5700, extension 262.

## Central scholarships offered

There's only about two weeks left to apply for the American Indian Scholastic Award, a merit-based award given to an American Indian student who has been admitted for the first time to Central Michigan University or is already attending the university.

The funds for the award come from the proceeds of the annual powwow co-sponsored by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and Central Michigan University. The awards are distributed on the basis of the availability of funds.

Award winners will be announced at the annual powwow on April 9 and 10. The funds will be disbursed during the fall 1994 semester after the recipients have registered for 12 or more credit hours.

### Eligibility

Awards will be given in three categories:

1. Two awards for continuing students who have completed at least one semester at Central Michigan University (preference will be given to undergraduates).
2. One award for high school seniors or transfer students admitted to CMU as incoming students.
3. One award for non-traditional students (i.e., over 25-years-old) admitted to CMU as first-year students.

A student who received an award as an incoming student can apply as a continuing student. However, a student cannot apply twice as a continuing student. In case of a tie, the available funds will be split between the recipients in the two other categories, or additional awards will be given in the category with equally-eligible applicants.

### Requirements

A one- or two-page typed essay describing your goals for the future and how a college education will help you achieve them must be included with this application. Applications must be received in the Multicultural Center no later than March 15.

Applicants need to attach proof of eligibility for the Michigan tuition waiver or either Bureau of Indian Affairs or Canadian provincial certification of Indian status to your application and have one letter of recommendation sent in support of your application.

The selection committee consisting of CMU staff members, representatives of the Saginaw Chippewa Education Department and a member of the North American Indian Student Organization at CMU will choose the award recipients on the basis of a combination of factors:

1. Grade point average of 2.5 or more.
2. Participation in school and community activities.
3. Demonstrated promotion of American Indian culture.
4. The content and style of the essay.

For more information about the scholarship, contact Dr. A.M. Ulana Klymyshyn, Director/Multicultural Programming, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859 or at (517) 774-7318.

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.

### Did you know?

Besides Michigan, the Observer is sent to Tribal members in 32 other states!

*Serving the rural area of Isabella, Gratiot, Mecosta, Montcalm and Newaygo counties:*

**SAGINAW CHIPPEWA  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

*Providing cellular telephone service  
SCT is part of a No. 7 limited partnership*

**1-800-995-4000**

**For more information**



# Update on junior high alternative education

By Max Wolf  
Alternative Education Instructor

Although the south end of the Alternative Education building is called, "junior high," we try to steer clear of pigeonholing students into grade classifications.

That's part of the fun alternative education students are allowed a choice- to move at their own pace, free of the highly-restrictive structure of conventional schools.

The small class size allows students to get additional help with weak areas and to accelerate through strong ones.

Most of our class work is done independently in packets and workbooks geared toward individual ability. We are also working on reading our second novel as a class, plus we share readings from newspapers and current magazines.

The majority of my students do very well in math and science, but as a whole, need work in reading and writing.

We have recently started working in "The Mishomis Book" by Edward Benton-Banai. The book is the voice of the Ojibway and comes from the words passed down by grandfathers and grandmothers.

I have learned as much as any of my students and the lessons of the past can be related to all of our lives today.

We are also working at the library, building shelves and classifying the extensive resources available. We have been put on hold with the foul weather, but will get back to work when the ther-

момeter cooperates with us. We look forward to having the work completed and everyone is invited to browse the stacks. There's a bunch of stuff down there.

Our class took a trip to Chicago last December that was a ton of fun. We left town in rain, but arrived in sunshine in Chicago.

We visited the Field Museum, the Shedd Aquarium and rode to the top of the John Hancock Building on a clear night with the lights of Chicago and four states spreading out below us.

We also saw the inside of a couple of mall, thanks to the mostly female composition of our class. Ahem.

We thank everyone who made the trip possible and we look forward to doing another trip in the future, although maybe not the size of the Chicago trip. I wonder what's happening up in Clare?

Since the school year started, I have grown attached to my group of students. Each of them is an individual, with individual needs and desires. I hope that I can help every one of them in some way and that I can make a difference in their young lives. I know they have made a difference in my old one.

**Essays on the Chicago trip**  
*(Editor's note: The following stories were written by alternative education students about their recent trip to Chicago and appear as they were submitted.)*

By Lynette Pego

I really enjoyed the whole trip. My favorite place was the Shedd Aquarium because I like animals. I saw dolphins, whales, fish, and eels. My other favorite place was the Magnificent Mile. I like it because it was lit up and they had a lot of nice stores. We also went to the John Hancock building. We went up to the ninety-third floor. We could see the whole city and four states. The elevator we went up in went 22 miles per hour. We also went to a mall named North Pier.

By Amelia Judson

I thought the trip to Chicago was fun. I like the John Hancock building the most. I could see Indiana, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Illinois. The building was ninety-three stories high. The elevator went

approximately twenty-two miles per hour.

The second day we went to the North Pier, Field Museum, and the Shedd Aquarium. I liked the dolphins, whales, penguins, eels, and the fish at the Shedd Aquarium. I liked the big stuffed buffalo, the dinosaur, and all of the eagles and birds at the Field Museum. I thought it was very fun and I would enjoy going there again.

## Seventh Generation program update

By Milton (Amik) Pelcher  
Project Coordinator  
Seventh Generation Program  
Boozhu, Aneen.

Here I am again to make a few statements concerning the Seventh Generation Program. We still need members for the committee to continue with the community, views and ideas toward the future.

Since last month, we've had a youth meeting and have yet to reschedule meeting dates, but the interest is there.

Again, this is a culturally-gearred program, not intending to force ideas on people, but to understand being humane to all of creation.

I submitted a request to Tribal Council for utilization of the Benzinger farm for use by community members, from young to old.

Time to develop projected goals would transpire through use of this location. The woodworking shop would be there. Other hopes include setting meetings for different age male and female groups, with the emphasis of always touching base with our culture.

We also recently had a feast with the Elders. A number of community volunteers attended this function, and I hope it doesn't offend them to mention their names. If I've left any out of the following list, my deepest apology: Roxene Judson, Gloria Marshall and husband, Jim, Jean Pego, plus Amy Alberts.

Gifts were also given after the meal. The intent was for people to be a part of this- sharing with the meal and sharing by giving; to pray and hopefully bringing our community together; to make us more aware of respecting our Elders and one another.

Chi Miigwech

**Don't forget...**

Take this month to remember someone "shut-in." Send a card, telephone someone, or stop by for a visit. Take a small house plant or several pieces of fruit. You can make a difference in someone's life!

Elders don't forget to reserve your meal by calling Mealsite Manager Marge Cruz at 773-5262 or Elder Advocate Roxene Judson at 772-5700 extension 308 one day in advance. If you cannot make it to a meal, please try to cancel several days in advance. Thanks!

## Sowmick Senior Center Calendar

March 1994						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1 Nutrition Ed: "Food Pyramid" "CMU Center"	2 Exercise W/Diana!	3 "Salt" no more! (make & take).	4 Exercise Class! "CMU Center"	5
	7 Elders Advisory Meeting 11:00AM.	8 "Arts & Crafts" "CMU Center"	9 Exercise W/Diana!	10 Movie & Popcorn!	11 Exercise Class! "CMU Center"	12
13	14 "Healthy Lunch" Prep/Served by HPDP Staff.	15 CMU Activity Center.	16 Exercise W/Diana!	17 "St. Patrick's Day" (wear your "greens"!)	18 Exercise Class! "CMU Center"	19
20	21 Elders Program Staff Mtg. 10:00AM.	22 "Arts & Crafts" "CMU Center"	23 Exercise W/Diana!	24 Movie & Popcorn!	25 Exercise Class! "CMU Center"	26
27	28 Blood Pressure Clinic - 11AM.	29 Birthday Party!!! "CMU Center"	30 Exercise W/Diana!	31		

working for you ... the Tribal Observer

Over 18?  
Want to get a GED  
or  
High School diploma?  
We may have the program for you...  
For most adults, efforts to get a GED  
or  
high school diploma can be quite difficult  
On the average, it takes a person  
three months a  
year to prepare to successfully take the  
five GED tests.  
The Adult Education Program, which runs  
through the Tribal Education Department,  
can assist you in reaching this goal.  
For more information, contact  
773-5858, extension 204 or 208



*Proud to be Native American*

# Mt. Pleasant eighth grader's essay takes second

By Scott Csernyik

West Intermediate eighth grader Amanda Falcon's essay on her pride in being a Native American earned her second place as a local winner in the 25th annual America & Me Contest sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance.

"I was kind of surprised," said Audrey, who is 13-years-old and added she's thinking about being an accountant later in life.

Others who won from the Mt. Pleasant school included first place finisher Sara Rzepecki and Laura Dyer for third. All three received award certificates for their achievement.

The school's participation in the America & Me Essay Contest was sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance agent Ray Faber of Mt. Pleasant.

Sara's first place essay now advances to the state level competition, from which the top 10 essays in Michigan will be selected. Those statewide winners, which will be announced in May, will receive plaques and U.S. Savings bonds valued from \$500 to \$1,000.

Several thousand eighth grade students from almost 450 Michigan schools participated in the 1993-94 America & Me Contest using the topic, "My Roots in America and How I Can Nourish Them."

"I was told that being Native American is a special gift that I'll never lose, a gift that makes me important to America's future," Amanda stated in the beginning of her two-page essay. "Being Native American is very, very special to me and my family."

Amanda is the daughter of Audrey and Ron Falcon and the Observer is printing her essay in its entirety.

Started in 1968 and open to all Michigan eighth grade students, the contest encourages Michigan youngsters to explore their roles in America's future. As sponsor of the contest, Farm Bureau Insurance has earned 11 national awards from the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge.

our land and being forced to move. Although Native Americans lost a lot, they also gained a lot, too.

Sometimes I wonder what it would be like if we still owned as much land as we did back then. One good thing about it is that the land and environment would have been taken better care of. The bad thing about it is that nothing would be the same. In some ways that would be okay; in others, it wouldn't.

My aunt Bonnie is very special to me and teaches me many things I never knew. She taught me all the little details I needed to know about jingledress dancing. Bonnie made my dress and sometimes dances with me at pow-wows.

Pow-wows play an important part in the life of most Indian tribes. Some pow-wows last for several days. Pow-wows are tribal get-togethers where many tribal members express their feelings through dance. This is also a way for many children to learn about their heritage.

My grandparents also teach me a lot about my culture. My grandpa always tells my cousins and me stories about how it was when he was little. He also taught my sister and me stories about how it was when he was little. He also taught my sister and me how to speak in Ojibway.

My grandpa would tell us all kinds of stories and we would always believe him whether they were true or not. There's just something about him that makes us believe the most unbelievable things. It could be that he's a great storyteller or that we just believe in him and everything he says.

I'm glad I'm Native American and that I have so many loving and caring people in my family, like my grandparents, my Aunt Bonnie, and most of all my parents.

I hope this tradition lives on through my family. And I'll do my best to do my part to accomplish this goal.



AMANDA FALCON

## "My Roots in America and How I Can Nourish Them"

By Amanda Falcon

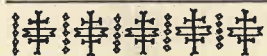
I was told that being Native American is a special gift that I'll never lose, a gift that makes me important to America's future. Nobody knows what's coming in the future and how everything will go.

Being Native American is very, very special to me and my family. Some people think it's no big deal but those are the people that don't realize what a big deal it really is. Some don't know the truth-the facts about Native Americans.

When some people think of Native Americans they think along these lines: battles, violence, poor, uneducated, and wild. Those are the people that don't know or understand.

When I think of Native Americans I think along these lines: creative, very educated, and most important- survivors.

We are the survivors because we've survived many battles and diseases. We've survived losing



## Meeting reminder

The Michigan Commission on Indian Affairs meeting will be March 18 in the former senior's room in Tribal Operations from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The public is invited to attend  
For more information, call (517) 373-0654

1993-1994

"Inn Of The Year"



UNIVERSITY PARK  
CONFERENCE CENTER

KING WHIRLPOOL  
Only \$39.50

Call (517) 772-4000

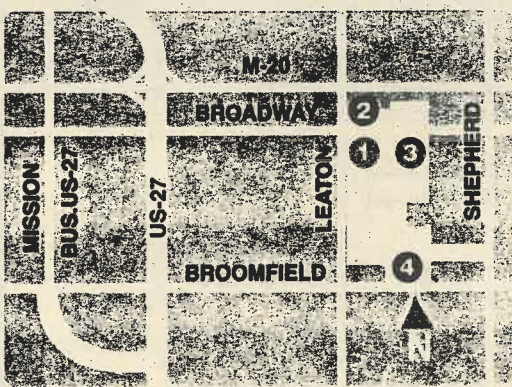
Good Sun-Thurs. Based on availability.  
Advanced reservations required. Expires 3/31/94  
Must mention this ad when making reservations.



Qsiris  
BEAD SHOP

Pre Powwow Sale  
25% off all beads and other  
items in stock

Sue Oseland (517) 561-2198



- 1 Tribal Center and Bingo Hall
- 2 Soaring Eagle Casino
- 3 Soaring Eagle Card Room
- 4 Saginaw Chippewa Campground

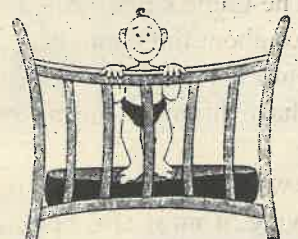
OPEN 7 DAYS

SOARING EAGLE CASINO  
2395 South Leaton Road  
Mount Pleasant, MI 48858  
517/772-8900  
Card Room and Bingo Hall  
1-800-338-9092



## BABY CELEBRATION

March 21 from 6 to 8 p.m.  
Old Senior's Room at the Tribal Center



## "How do I subscribe to the Tribal Observer?"

I'm glad you asked. To become an Observer subscriber, mail a \$5.00 check or money order to:

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe  
attn: Tribal Observer - circulation  
7070 East Broadway  
Mount Pleasant, MI 48858

Your yearly subscription will be active at the first of the month. You should receive your paper by the 15th of each calendar month.

Call (517) 772-5700, Ext. 301 if you have any questions or suggestions for the Tribal Observer.



The Mole Hole  
of Mt. Pleasant

For Gifts That Express Your Good Taste®

Historic Downtown  
217 Main St. Mt. Pleasant (517) 772-0234  
MON-TH 10-6 FRI 10-9 SAT 10-5 SUN 12-5



# Tribal workshop gives students exposure to photography

By Scott Csernyik

About two dozen Mary McGuire Elementary students spent part of Feb. 7 in the dark at the Central Michigan University.

The darkroom, that is.

As part of enlightening the youth to black and white photography during a Professional Development School (PDS) Monday, the 22 children spent five hours on the CMU campus shooting pictures, learning how to develop film and print their negatives.

The cooperative effort between the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and CMU was coordinated out of the Tribal Communications and Public Relations Department.

"The idea behind the learning experience was helping the youth understand the photographic process while having some fun," said Joe Sowmick, communications and public relations director. "We also wanted them to know that photography isn't just a point and shoot deal. The creativity of the individual came through in the process and can be seen in the photographs."

Tribal intern Thaddius Bedford, a CMU senior from Higgins Lake, helped come up with the idea and worked out the details of implementing the activity.

"We wanted the youth to get a taste of photography and see what it is like to develop and print film," Bedford said. "We also were trying to spark an interest in photography that the kids could continue to respond to in the future."

The most enjoyable part of the day for Bedford was "seeing the look on the kid's faces when they got their pictures."

He cited hurdles to the learning exercise was the darkroom portion of the activity.

"It was tricky having 20 some kids in the there all at once," he added. "For future exercises, I would keep the children broken down into specific groups of five. They seem to be much more attentive when in smaller groups."

Besides providing staff, the Tribe also was responsible for purchasing the paper for prints. CM Life, the CMU college newspaper, provided a 100-foot roll of bulk film and the exercise was made a reality by utilizing the Art Department's darkroom.



Observer Photo/Thaddius Bedford

Mary McGuire student Mary Quigno pauses for a pop break during the Feb. 7 photography workshop.



Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik

Tribal Communications and Public Relations Director Joe Sowmick (foreground) and intern Thaddius Bedford show the students how several cameras operate.

Arriving to campus by bus, the fourth, fifth and sixth grade students spent about 90 minutes around campus each shooting several frames of film.

Some groups drifted to the nearby Malt Shop for a few shots, while others braved the cold temperature and brisk wind for outdoor pictures.

"How about the girls' dorm?" asked fourth grader Garrett Vandeperre when it was his turn to take the camera.

Instead, Garrett settled for stopping female coeds on their way to class for a quick snap.

While in Powers Hall, CMU's music building, sixth grade student Brandy Liner took pictures of a man tuning a piano. Her focus turned to people working on sculptures when in the North Art Studio.

Michael Chiodini, also a sixth grader, opted to take a picture of an abstract painting hanging at the University Art Gallery.

"I want to take it real close, so you can't tell what it is," Mike said of the painting, which contained many swirling colors.

While the youngsters ate their sack lunches, Tribal help explained to the group what Bedford was doing when developing their film.

They then were taken to the darkroom for a tour and to view some of their negatives to be printed. Proof sheets of all their negatives were also produced, and the youth each selected an 8- by 10-inch print of their choice from the film they shot.

Students who participated in the exercise included: Aaron Alexander, Andy Boswood, Monica Boswood, Troy Brown, Michael Chiodini, Cristy Conuerse, Jimmy Doty, Brian Ellis, Kalyann Gates, Jessica Heath, Brandy Liner, Monique Lubs, Alex Murphy, Cassie Pepper, Mary Quigno, Cathy Ruiz, Meredith Swartz, Sue Tackett, Garrett Vandeperre, Joey Vreeland, Janine Vasquez and Valerie Wilton.

"I thought the exercise went very well," Sowmick also stated. "It's important to emphasis these types of activities to the youth in hopes it may be something they'll stay interested in."

It would be a benefit for the Tribal Observer if we had Native youths that would be interested in becoming staff photographers. This project was a bridge that involved the Tribe, CMU and Mary McGuire. I would like to see a similar effort with our Tribal youth and elders."

## The Eagle's Eye

# Winner of newsletter contest announced

Darlene Greene, a dealer at Soaring Eagle table games, won the naming contest for the employee newsletter, "The Eagle's Eye." She has been employed here for about three months and also said she loves her job.

"It's a sin to have this much fun at work," Greene commented.

She came up with the name by thinking that when an eagle is flying, it must also be observing and thus the newsletter will be watching for the employees.

There were 62 entries for the contest and as the winner, Greene received \$100 an a "limited edition" gold Soaring Eagle Gaming Token.

Greene also said the employees she has come into contact with are very pleasant to work with. She also believes that the Gaming Industry has been totally beneficial to the Tribe and the surrounding community.

Darlene has an 11-year-old daughter. Although she was born and raised in Mt. Pleasant, Darlene moved away for 22 years and then came back in May of 1993. Again, congratulations Darlene!

-Submitted by Simon Jackson, Table Games Supervisor

## New publication offered

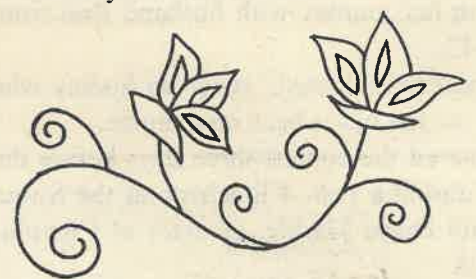
The Tribal Observer would like to welcome a new publication for our gaming employees. "The Eagle's Eye" is the official Soaring Eagle gaming employee newsletter.

The "Eye" will offer our Tribal gaming employees information on operations, current promotions and general interest stories.

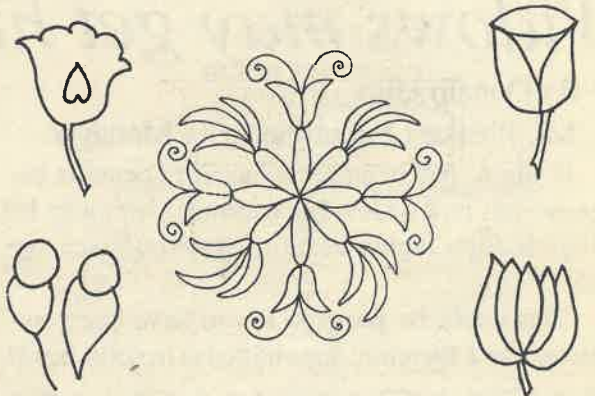
Similar to the Observer, the "Eye" encourages submissions from all gaming employees. Please send your ideas or articles to Betty, Wilma or Jean in the Human Resource Training Department at Petro Plaza or call 772-1212



DARLENE GREENE



Your source for Tribal News.



**SERVICE MAX**

DISCOUNT TIRE & AUTO SERVICE  
201 S. MISSION • MT. PLEASANT, MI

• BRAKES  
• TUNE-UPS  
• ALIGNMENT  
(517) 773-3008

**POWER FLUSH \$39.99** WITH THIS COUPON EXPIRES 3/28/94

**The Guaranteed Lowest Price In Town!**

**AMERICAN • FOREIGN • EXOTICS**

WE DO EVERYTHING FROM MINOR REPAIRS TO MAJOR REPAIRS  
PREVENTIVE & EMERGENCY SERVICE 7 DAYS A WEEK



# Primitive skills to be topic of column

Several recently-developed Tribal programs dealing with youth activities or involving community participation share similar events as part of their objectives. At least two of these incorporate a family wilderness camping experience or plan wilderness survival skills as future activities.

To compliment these planned community activities, as well as to provide those individuals who spend a lot of time outdoors with some practical ideas when faced with difficult situations, the Tribal Observer will be running a monthly primitive skills column.

As always, feedback from members is always welcome and may add to the content of future articles. Since this is merely an introduction to future columns on this subject, let's explore what is envisioned as the scope of these articles.

The term "primitive" is only relative in contrast to what many consider to be a "modern" society. There are many examples of "primitive" technology that is anything but primitive!

For instance, some of the triggers devised for snare and deadfall traps are ingenious in their design, yet exceedingly simple in their operation and reliability.

Perhaps "natural" would be a better substitute for "primitive," since in their purest form, the skills to be discussed entail the ability to master them without the use of modern, man-made tools. The beginner would certainly be encouraged to use knives, saws, nylon cord, etc. when first learning a skill to make it easier to learn. But as one's proficiency grows, knives will be replaced with stone tools, saws with stone axes or celts, nylon cord with natural cordage, until one can finally enter

nature with no crutches from the "modern" world and live comfortably using only those gifts available from the natural world.

This column is also not intended to be about skills specific to the Ojibwe culture. While it is important to preserve the culture and history of the Ojibwe people and the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe in particular, that is outside the scope of what the hopes are to present here, but could be the focus of a monthly or periodic column in its own right.

Tribal elders, members of the Ziibiwing Cultural Society and others would be much better sources of information regarding cultural-specific craft and skills. Individuals wishing to contribute information on specific aspects of Anishnabe cultural crafts or skills are encouraged to contact Communications and Public Relations Director Joe Sowmick with their ideas for possible Tribal Observer inclusion.

Instead, the purpose of this column is to present universal skills that work under a variety of primitive, or survival, conditions for anyone knowledgeable in their use. Future columns will present information on a particular subject in a generalized manner, giving the reader a basic understanding of the skill, materials required and how to carry out the task.

Because of space constraints, as well as the fact the best way to learn something is through experience, those interested in becoming proficient will need to experiment with and refine the basic information presented.

Proficiency in any one skill will increase with the amount of "dirt time" (practice) spent with it. Entire books could be, and have been, written on

almost any one of the specific skills we will be covering (such as brain tan buckskin or friction fire).

In addition, there may be many methods or techniques that can be used to accomplish a specific skill, such as making fire with a bow drill. In some instances, alternative methods may be discussed. Since there generally is more than one way to perform a specific skill, the practitioner is encouraged to experiment with different methods once a basic understanding is reached. We would be interested in hearing about reader experiences with alternative methods.

During the course of this column, information will be presented relevant to five critical concerns when faced with any survival situation: positive mental attitude, shelter, water, fire and food.

Concepts of tracking and nature observation will also be explored as it relates to the previously mentioned five areas of primitive wilderness survival skills. Occasionally, experts in a particular skill, such as primitive pottery or flint knapping, may be asked to contribute in order to enhance information presented on a given topic.

We hope that members of the Tribal community will find this monthly column useful, informative and thought-provoking. It should compliment some of the future activities planned under the Seventh Generation Fund program, as well as some of the youth activities being coordinated within the Tribe.

Next month, the topic of "shelters" will be explored, including a look at such factors as locations, methods of construction, short-term versus long-term types of materials and others.

## Tribal member wins Caribbean cruise

By Jason Prieur

Tribal member Audrey Falcon will be cruising away from her duties as Health Administrator for one week this month after being the lucky winner of a trip to the Caribbean sponsored by a Mt. Pleasant radio station.

Falcon's entry was picked out of about 2,500 in the contest conducted by 94.5 WCEN-FM. She'll embark on her journey with husband Ron from March 5-12.

"I was extremely excited," stated up Audrey, who also said she has never been on a cruise.

She entered the contest three days before the deadline during a Feb. 4 luncheon at the Sweet Onion with Diana Marble, Director of Community Health.

Falcon hadn't heard of the contest until Marble informed her of it at the restaurant.

"I was telling Audrey all about St. Thomas and how beautiful it was," she said. Marble added although she did not win the trip, she's extremely happy Falcon won.

Falcon received a phone call on Feb. 20 at 7:10 a.m. while she was getting ready for work. With her face still covered with soap, she was informed by WCEN that she had won the all-expense paid trip.

Ports the Falcons will visit include San Juan, Tortola at the British Virgin Islands, St. John's Antigua, Bridgetown in Barbados and St. Thomas at the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The package was valued at \$4,000 to \$5,000 and WCEN Account Executive Bob Peters said the promotion went "fantastic."

"It was one of the largest promotions we've given away," he said. "We hope to do it again."

## Widows may get higher benefits at 65

By Donald Hire

Mt. Pleasant Social Security Manager

If you're receiving social security benefits because you're a widow (or widower), you may be eligible for a higher benefit when you reach age 65.

This could be possible if you have been employed, and, therefore, are entitled to benefits based

on your own work record. Ordinarily, you cannot change from a reduced benefit to a full benefit, but that does not apply if you're a widow or widower.

As a person who is entitled to retirement benefits on your own earnings, you can take reduced benefits at age 62 and receive a full widow's (er)

(See Security page 13)

## "It Was A Good Day To Die"

Did Little Elk really live his life or had it merely happened to him? Did he really care about death? To Chief Little Elk, death meant he was going home. Years stretched out before him, never lacking promise, never lonely; a life filled with compassion, beauty, grace and God.

Little Elk knew there was always another day in life. One day wounds the spirit but those behind it come to heal. He had an open heart, he'd let the Great Spirit speak, respecting our Mother Earth for what was given to all of us.

In this life we must all carry our cares, endure the trials set upon us and do right as he has given us the power to see right. Our grandfather, Chief Little Elk, found everlasting in Him who takes from us our burdens so that we may rest. The eagle was sent to guide him, it was a good day to die and he was happy.

Chief Little Elk will forever see your dancing, hear your chanting and beating of the drums. It makes his heart happy.

- Barb (Little Fawn) Sprague

Since 1959

**Mt. Pleasant Realty, Inc.**

"YOUR HOMETOWN REALTOR"

304 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858  
Fax: (517) 773-2197 Ph: (517) 773-5972

**ROBIN STRESSMAN**  
Associate Broker  
Home Office: (517) 773-4387

98% fm

**UPS**

We Deliver the Hitt

OPEN 5,772 HOURS PER YEAR

**Jon's Corner Market**

2514 S. ISABELLA RD.  
MT. PLEASANT, MI 48858  
(517) 772-4999

BEER - WINE - DELI - CHEESES  
MT. PLEASANT'S NEWEST NEIGHBORHOOD MARKET  
IF WE DON'T HAVE IT - TELL US, WE WILL GET IT!



At-Large

TRIBAL MEMBER  
AT-LARGE DISTRICT

Ronald Jackson  
8570 N. Hubbardston Rd.  
Hubbardston, Mi 48845  
In-State messages - Toll-Free  
1-800-225-8172  
Out-of-State messages  
(517) 772-5700  
NO COLLECT CALLS  
(517) 981-6610

AT-LARGE  
BENEFIT COMMITTEE

Region 1 Representative

John York  
2222 McKechnie Rd.  
Harrisville, Mi 48740  
(517) 724-5473  
NO COLLECT CALLS

Region 2 Representative  
Vacant

Region 3 Representative

Thelma Henry-Shipman  
6044 Pte. Tremble  
P.O. Box 703  
Pearl Beach, Mi 48001  
Work- (313) 256-1633  
Home-(313) 794-9272  
NO COLLECT CALLS

Region 4 Representative

Neuel E. Denman  
2237 Pero Lake Rd.  
Lapeer, Mi 48446  
(313) 664-4885  
NO COLLECT CALLS

AT-LARGE ADVOCATE

Amy F. Alberts  
7070 E. Broadway  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858  
In-State calls-Toll-Free  
1-800-225-8172  
Out-of-State calls  
(517) 772-5700

VACANCY

The At-Large Benefits Committee has a vacancy for Region 2. This region includes the north western half of the lower peninsula and the entire upper peninsula. This region has approximately 265 enrolled Tribal members.

The Benefits Committee consists of four members from around the state. We meet once per month to review and act on assistance applications and to discuss a variety of issues concerning the At-Large District.

At this time, we are requesting letters of interest from Region 2 At-Large members who are willing to serve on the Benefits Committee.

Letters of interest should be submitted by March 31, 1994 at 5 p.m. Please return the letters to the At-Large Program.

If you have any questions regarding this vacancy, please contact your Council Member, Advocate or other Regional Representatives.



Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

Community Meeting Notice

"Let us put our minds together and see what life we can make for our children."

-Sitting Bull, Lakota Sioux, 1877

March 17 from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
at the

Urban Indian Affairs, State Plaza  
1200 6th Street, Suite 700  
Detroit

Who should attend:

All interested parties who want to shape the future for our Native American children.

What will we do:

We are planning the new Native American Academy in Detroit which will open September, 1994 as part of the Detroit Public Schools System.

We will provide items for discussion and you will have the opportunity to tell us what you like or don't like.

All of your experiences with school days and school life are important. Future generations will benefit from what you say.

For more information, contact 313-256-1633 and a light lunch will be provided.

This meeting is provided by the Urban Indian Affairs, Wayne County DSS, North American Indian Association of Detroit, Inc., Detroit Indian Education and Cultural Center, along with the Detroit Public Schools

Program hours

From March 15 to April 21, office hours for At-Large Advocate Amy Alberts will be from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

1994 POW WOW  
&  
EVENTS SCHEDULE

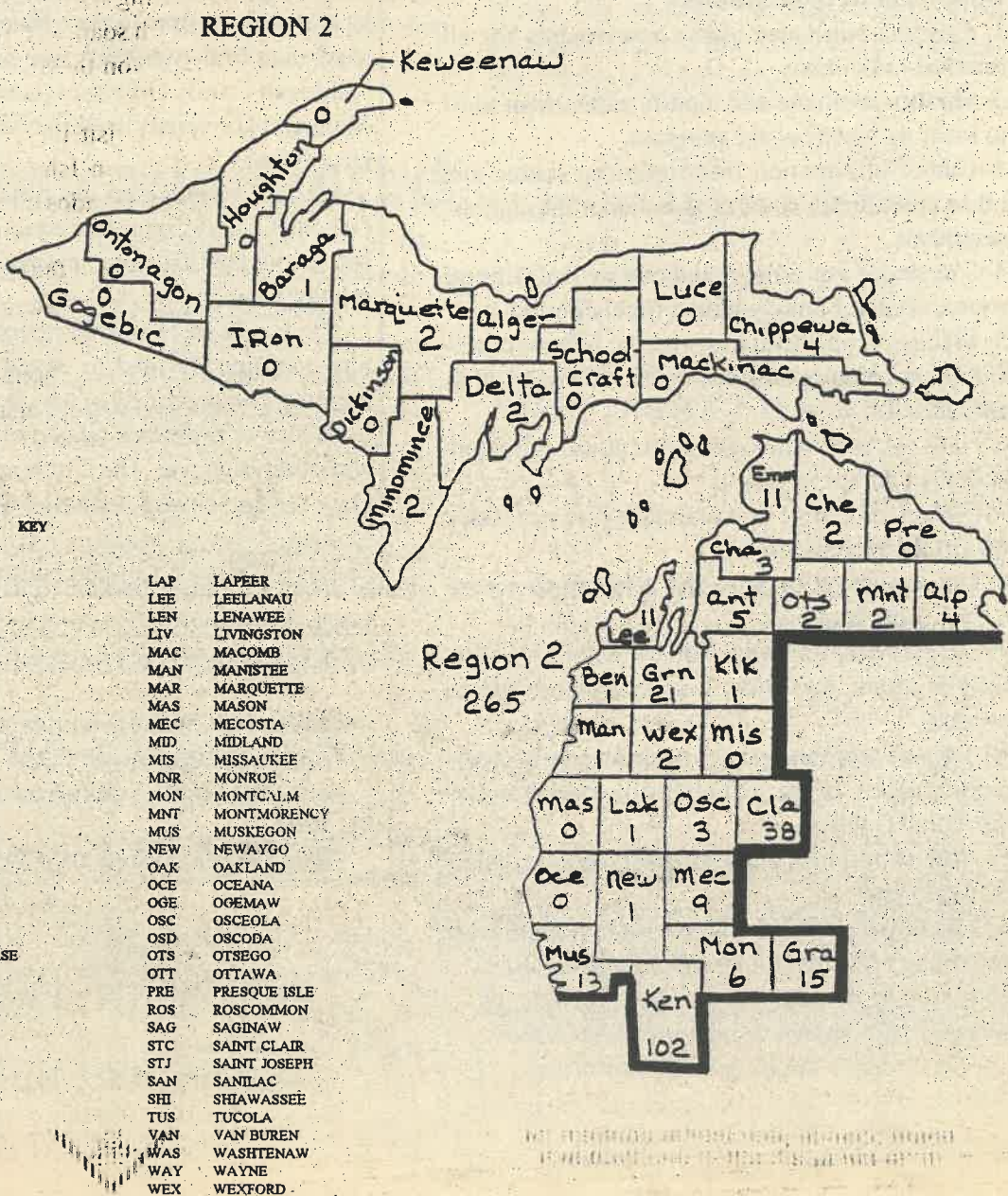
March 18 Michigan Commission on Indian Affairs Commission Meeting in Mt. Pleasant. For more information, contact (517) 373-0654.

March 21-25 "North" Wellness & Women V Conference in Portland, Ore. at the Red Lion Jantzen Beach Hotel. Sponsored by the Indian Health Promotion Programs College of Continuing Education The University of Oklahoma. For more information, call (405) 325-1790.

March 25-27 Indian Law Day & Annual University of Michigan Pow Wow in Ann Arbor. Friday is Law Day and the Pow Wow is scheduled to begin Friday evening at 7 p.m. Grand Entry. For more information, call Mike Dashner at (313) 763-9044.

April 9-10 6th Annual Traditional Central Michigan University Pow Wow in Mt. Pleasant at Finch Field House. For more information, contact (517) 774-2508 or (517) 772-5700.

At-Large Membership Counties





# Personnel

## Positions open in Tribal Operations

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

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

- Entertainment Facility Planning Associate, Financial Specialist, March 23, 1994 closing date
- Entertainment Facility Planning Associate, Hospitality Specialist, March 23, 1994 closing date
- Entertainment Facility Planning Associate, Native American Cultural Specialist, March 23, 1994 closing date
- Entertainment Facility Task Force Secretary, March 23, 1994 closing date
- Counselor/Program Developer, Ojibwe Substance Abuse Services Program, open until filled
- Helping Hands Substance Abuse Counselor, Ojibwe Substance Abuse Services Program, open until filled
- Community Health Representatives (2), open until filled
- Mental Health Social Worker, open until filled
- Physician Extender/Clinic Director, open until filled

### JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

**Job Title:** Counselor/Program Developer

**Location:** Ojibwe Substance Abuse Program

**Supervisor:** Program Director

**Salary:** Negotiable/Personal Service Contract for two years

**Qualifications:** Must be drug and alcohol free for at least one year and maintain sobriety throughout employment. Minimum of two years experience in substance abuse field. Must have a valid Michigan drivers license. Knowledge of CARF accreditation procedures preferred. Counselor must possess ACC credentialing. Experience with substance abuse assessment tools required.

**Preference:** In accordance with Indian Preference Laws

**Posting Date:** Feb. 16, 1994

**Closing Date:** Open until filled

#### Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Conduct substance abuse assessments for all referred individuals.
2. Monitor, evaluate and modify assessment tools to meet the needs of the program.
3. Gather information from referring source and other appropriate sources to conduct through assessments.
4. Document assessment and ensure that referral source receives copy within a timely period.
5. Maintain confidentiality and the release of client information as outlined in P.L. 368 of 1978 as amended.
6. Network with other substance abuse providers and other Tribal resources.
7. Collect, assemble and maintain data necessary for CARF accreditation.
8. Coordinate process for the program to secure CARF accreditation.
9. Develop, monitor and evaluate a quality assurance program regarding Tribal substance abuse services.
10. Provide monthly updates regarding the accreditation process to the Tribal Health Board and/or the Tribal Council.
11. Attend trainings related to position as required by supervisor.
12. Work with funding sources and program staff regarding reporting requirements. Ensure that staff are properly trained in reporting methods. Monitor staff reporting logs and client files.
13. Other duties as assigned by supervisor.

Send resume to: Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe

7070 East Broadway  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

## Insight on Personnel Commission

By Gordon Henry Sr.  
Personnel Director

The Personnel Commission consists of eighteen (18) Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members appointed by the Tribal Council for a two-year term. Their roles are to interview applicants for Tribal employment, rank order of qualified applicants for employment, review personnel grievances, appeals, suspensions and dismissals.

They render findings and decisions in all matters the Personnel Commission reviews and order appropriate sanctions as are required by the Saginaw Chippewa Personnel Policies and Procedures.

A minimum of three (3) Personnel Commission members must be present for interviews, grievance hearings, suspension/dismissal reviews and appeals. The Personnel Commission follows and abides by the Tribal Personnel Policies in making their decisions. Final decisions are rendered by Personnel Commission in a majority vote of three (3) members.

An Equal Employment Opportunity Officer must be present at all Personnel Commission grievances and interviews to assure that EEO Guidelines and Tribal Personnel Policies and Procedures are complied with.

All Personnel Commission members must complete a minimum of eight (8) hours of EEO Training and eight (8) hours of Investigative Techniques Training. All EEO Officers must complete a minimum of sixteen (16) hours and whatever other training is deemed appropriate by the Personnel Department.

Confidentiality of applicants, employees and Personnel Commission members must be adhered to by all Commission members due to the sensitivity of the Personnel Commission. Personnel Commission members in violation of this policy are subject to immediate removal by Tribal Council action.

Applications are solicited periodically from those Tribal members interested in serving on the Personnel Commission.

### JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

**Job Title:** Controller

**General Statement of Responsibility:** The Controller will be responsible for the overall fiscal operations of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, including the supervision of all accounting staff.

**Closing date:** Open until filled

#### Specific Areas of Responsibilities:

1. Must understand standard accounting compliance of Federal, State and Tribal contracting.
2. Responsible for the supervision of all accounting staff.
3. Conduct on-going training for program managers in the area of fiscal management.
4. Conduct training for Fiscal Officer and accounting staff in relation to financial accountability and compliances of government contracts and grants.
5. Develop a detailed accounting operations and procedures manual with the assistance of the Fiscal Officer and Tribal Operations Officer.
6. Provide training for accounting staff in central accounting systems and Fiscal Management computerization.
7. Assist management staff in the preparation of financial reports and program modifications.
8. Monitor and evaluate monthly financial reports with program managers to assure timely submission and compliance.
9. Act as spokesperson for the Tribe in all activities relating to financial requirements and obligations.
10. Other duties as assigned by Tribal Operations Officer.

## Fitness director honored

The Circle of Health Partnership is pleased announced the February "Outstanding Volunteer" is Walt Kennedy, fitness director at the Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center.

Kennedy has been active in organizing and implementing several substance abuse prevention and family unity events in Isabella County and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian community.

He also is currently organizing an event for the American Heart Association called, "Dance for Your Heart." This event will take place on March 27 at the Cactus Club in Mt. Pleasant. The event is three hours of country line dancing to raise money for the American Heart Association. A country line dance instructor will be at the event to provide training and encouragement to participants.

Kennedy, who obtained a master's degree in health education, has organized such successful local events as: the Human Race (a 10-kilometer road race and two-mile fun walk), the Native American Family Olympics (conducted at Central Michigan University) and the Saginaw Chippewa Health Fair.

He has volunteered his time to serve on the Isabella County Tobacco Reduction Coalition and assist with the first-time Saginaw Chippewa Community Feast.

The Circle of Health Partnership is a community coalition devoted to developing and implementing action strategies which will decrease the incidence of problems related to alcohol, tobacco and other drug use. The Circle of Health Partnership region covers Isabella County, Midland County, Central Michigan University and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian community.

## Additional personnel positions

- Investment Manager, open until filled
- Controller, open until filled
- Assistant Tribal Administrator, closes March 21, 1994
- Bookkeeper, March 10, 1994 closing date

HONOR OUR ELDERS

HONOR OUR CHILDREN

Binoojiinsag

(Celebration of Babies)

Anii Anishinabeg!

Booshu Community!

You are invited to come and enjoy this time that has been planned just for you- the community- in honor of our babies, our children, and our families. This is the time to come together and share this "celebration" together.

March 21

Dinner beginning at 6 p.m

Sponsored by Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and Kellogg Foundation.

(Check your mail or get a registration form from the Tribal Center reception desk, or Nimkee Clinic reception desk)



# Sports and Recreation

*Now in its sixth year*

## Community hockey program not on thin ice

By Scott Csernyik

It's a chilly Saturday afternoon at the Jameson Park Ice Arena in Union Township as the Amateur Hockey Association of Mt. Pleasant's Pee Wee team takes to ice against a visiting Cadillac squad.

While the Bandit Industries-sponsored team practices, a confident Henry Sprague Jr. skates over to his older sister's boyfriend and makes a prediction.

"Watch me score the first goal," he says as quickly gets back with the rest of his team for warm-up.

Henry's prophecy came true early in the first period as he slammed the puck into the net- his first of four eventual goals of the day in their 9-1 victory on Feb. 5.

### About the program

AHAMP's Pee Wee team is made up of youngsters ages 11 and 12. Besides Henry, other Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members on the team include Mark Bennett, Mark Vasquez, Paul Rueckert and Jonathan Laske.

Mark Bennett said this is his first year skating and said he likes "havin' fun on the ice."

There are about 125 boys and girls between the ages of 4 and 17 participating in the sixth year of the AHAMP program.

Age breakdowns for the divisions are as follows: Mini Mite, 4-6; Mite, 7-8; Squirt, 9-10; Pee Wee, 11-12; Bantam, 13-14 and Midgets, 15-17.

Their season runs from Nov. 1 to March 30 and includes a new "Learn to Skate" program for those who are lacking necessary skills to play competitively.

"The program allows the kids in a less-threatening manner to learn the sport of hockey without having to worry if they can cut it on a team," said AHAMP President Paul Siers.

Also new to the local program this season was the purchase of a Zamboni the group refurbished.

"The machine has a scraping function which shaves the ice and takes the nicks off, plus it lays water down," Siers said. "It's given us a quality of ice we've never had before."

The local group is part of the Northern Michigan Hockey League and includes teams from Cadillac, Gladwin, Mackinaw City, Gaylord, Petoskey, Boyne City and St. Ignace.

The AHAMP season ends with a tournament in 600 participants covering five to eight teams for each division, according to Siers.

The Pee Wee and Squirt divisions participate in this tourney from March 11-13; Mini Mites, Mites and Midgets, March 18-20 and Bantam during March 25-27.

"The sport of amateur youth icy hockey has just gone crazy," Siers said. "One kid described it as soccer at twice the speed."

The AHAMP also has two Native American coaches, including Farwell resident Scott Killips of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Killips, 23, is a second-year coach and has been playing hockey since he was "two or three."

"Somebody did it for me, so I'll do it for someone else," he said of why he got into coaching.

Siers also said there is always a need for volunteers and interested parties can contact him at 866-2659 for more information. AHAMP's hockey hotline number is 773-7770 for a recorded message regarding the program and hours for open skating and other activity updates.

As part of its fundraising efforts, the group sells a \$10 Hockey Book with \$500 worth of coupons.

"We appreciate the community support," he added.



Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik

Tribal members who play in the Pee Wee Division of the Amateur Hockey Association of Mt. Pleasant include, pictured left to right, Jonathan Laske, Paul Rueckert, Mark Bennett, Henry Sprague Jr. and Mark Vasquez.



Observer Photo/Scott Csernyik



Sending the puck into the net against a Cadillac defender during a Feb. 5 afternoon game is Henry Sprague Jr. Henry scored four goals in the game that his team won, 9-1.

When it comes to injuries, Siers quickly points out that hockey is ranked 13th, with basketball being first, football fourth and fishing 10th, according to data compiled by the National Safety Council, the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the National Sporting Goods Association.

"The protection is so much better than football," he said.

### Tribal member involvement

"We have had a history of having kids from the Tribe involved in our program," Siers also said. "And they've contributed nicely to the program."

But in addition to the kids from the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe, last year there was a student from the Middle East and currently a boy of Korean descent. I'm proud of our cultural diversity."

Siers also said he's been glad to be a part of the local hockey program as another athletic option for area youth.

"Different kids have different talents," he said. "They have to bounce around the different sports and try them to see what best possibly suits them. I'm proud to offer another alternative in this community to see where their talents lie."

### The dream

Volunteers connected with AHAMP also are

equally proud they've been able to improve the program each year.

"When you're doing an all-volunteer deal that is outside, it's easy to do a whole bunch of things in the early years then have it taper off later," said Rink Manager and AHAMP Vice President Bob Weisenburger. "Well, we've tried to avoid that. Each year, we've added a little more value to the program."

Those improvements include, improving the condition of the ice each season; having a warming hut which includes telephones and restrooms; adding lights and music; getting sponsors to buy advertisement spaces around the boards and uniforms; plus providing a pre-season clinic.

"We've taken the outdoor program about as far as we can," Weisenburger said. "But what we're

(See Hockey page 13)

### DISCOUNT AUTO: PARTS AND SALES

Installs New And Used Parts •Buying Cars and Trucks Dead or Alive •Affordable Cars and Trucks •Towing Available During Office Hours •Parts Locating Service



Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30-5:30 Saturday 8:30-2:00  
7323 E. Pickard Rd. 772-3509 773-3509



# Health

*Following treatment measures important*

## Lice infestation can be a hairy problem

By Kathe Martin

(Known to the Head Start kids as "The Bug Lady")

It's that time of year again when cooped-up homes and the sharing of winter hats brings an increase in cases of head lice. The mere words make some parent's skin crawl and scalp itch.

Actually, anyone can get lice. It's not a reflection on one's housekeeping methods or attention to children's personal hygiene. It becomes a problem and a concern when one's home has a chronic infestation that's not being treated.

Head lice are small (1/10- to 1/8-inch long), wingless, six-legged, blood-sucking parasites that are found only on the scalp of humans. Their bites and blood-sucking cause intense itching which can lead to infection if the scalp is scratched repeatedly.

It is a common misconception that lice can fly, jump or hop onto another person. They are only spread by close personal contact with an infected person or by sharing items of an infested person such as hats, brushes, combs or bedding.

Sometimes you won't find the adult louse, but rather the eggs which are called nits. Nits are tiny white to grayish-white eggs which are most commonly found on the hair shaft close to the scalp.

They are laid there by the female louse and attached by a glue-like substance that makes them difficult to remove. Eggs hatch in about seven days and mature in about three more days.

Nits are best found by parting the hair every half-inch or so and looking near the scalp around the back of the neck, behind the ears and near the crown, as well as forehead.

### Treatment measures



There are a number of medications that can be used including Kwell and RID shampoos to kill the adult lice. Only NIX creme rinse has an ovi-cidal effect, meaning that it stays on the hair shaft and kills any eggs that hatch. Children under two and pregnant women should not use or touch Kwell and RID shampoos.



If you have any questions, consult your physician.

If someone in your household becomes infested, inspect every family member and alert anyone who has been in contact with the household for the prior week to check for nits and lice.

Delouse your home by doing the following:

1). Get RID spray from the clinic and use it on carpets, mattresses and other surfaces you can't wash, such as chairs and couches. Let the home air out for several hours before returning after the spray has been used, then do a thorough vacuum job.

2). All bedding and linens which have been used need to be washed in hot water and machine-dried on high.

3). Wash or dry clean any clothing that may have been exposed.

4). Seal stuffed animals, dolls and fluffy toys in plastic bags for seven days or expose bagged items to freezing temperatures for 12 hours.

5). Soak all combs, brushes, and head gear, such as barrettes and headbands, in hot, soapy water for 15 minutes, then rinse well.

6). Hand remove all nits from the hair to prevent reinfestation, which is very important. Many schools and day care facilities have a "no nits" policy for kids before allowing them to return.

Missing any of the above six steps greatly increases one's chances for a repeat infestation and having to go through the process once again.

The good news is that I'm seeing very few cases of head lice in our Montessori Headstart kids. I believe this is because the staff is extremely responsible in minimizing the risks for spreading head lice and also because parents have been great about seeking treatment right away when they are notified their child has nits or lice.

Visiting with kids is always a high point in my week. Even though they refer to me as "the bug lady," I always get hugs and smiles after I "tickle their hair." These prevention visits are an important part of the children's overall health. With the continued cooperation from all of you, I strongly believe we will continue to maintain good control over head lice on the Reservation.

## Dealing with diabetes in the San Felipe Pueblo

(Editor's note: The following submission is an article reprinted from the January, 1994 issue of *Diabetes Forecast*, a publication of the American Diabetes Association. The intent of this article, and others to follow in upcoming months, is to increase awareness about diabetes. The "For His People" article was written by Marcia Mazur, senior editor of *Diabetes Forecast*. Due to spatial considerations, the article has been condensed for Observer readers.

If one has any questions or concerns about diabetes, contact Lois Bush RN, Community Health Nurse/Diabetes Coordinator, at (517) 772-4121 extension 264.)

Despite spectacular desert vistas and the nearness of the mighty Rio Grande, life in New Mexico's San Felipe Indian Pueblo can be grim, especially when your family has been devastated by diabetes.

Kenneth Padilla, a 38-year-old San Felipe Indian, knows all about it.

Although his father, Pablo, has no known diabetes in his family, his mother, Marcella, has more than enough in hers.

Marcella developed type II diabetes when Padilla was a boy. Her two brothers also had the disease. Because they received only the most basic level of care, both brothers eventually required leg ampu-

tations, and both died young from further complications caused by diabetes.

Padilla's own older brother, Joseph, also was diagnosed when Padilla was a boy. He, too, developed complications he could not handle and died in his thirties.

Padilla's mother lost a leg to diabetic complications, but she has responded to newer techniques and is in good health today.

In 1986, at age 32, Padilla heard the same diagnosis: type II diabetes. He has dropped about 40 pounds since then, and keeps in shape by watching his diet, walking whenever possible, and running several times a week.

### Fighting back

Although diabetes is rife throughout the Pueblo, the San Felipe Indians are fighting back. Change and hope are in the air and Kenneth Padilla exemplifies both.

Born in a two-room adobe home, he lived his early years among eight members of his extended family. There was no phone, plumbing or electricity. The family got its light from a kerosene lamp and heat from a wood stove and a fireplace. To get to nearby Albuquerque, they had to ask one of the Pueblo's three or four car owners for a lift.

(See Diabetes page 14)

Dear Indian Community:

Most of you have probably hear of Health Care Reform, also known as the Health Security Act. This is a proposed federal government legislation that will impact Indian Health Service, although no one is sure in what way.

A Health Care Benefit Package for every U.S. American citizen?

There are many speculations being made and we are seeing many changes taking place within Indian Health Service itself. Indian Tribes need to begin taking a proactive role in Health Care Reform issues and not sitting back to wait for the federal government to tell the Indian Tribes how it will be.

The opportunity is possible under a proposed legislation called Tribal Self Governance. Many Indian Tribes in the Bemidji Area office of Indian Health Service are beginning the process now.

Since 1977, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan has chose to develop its own health care delivery system and provide as many direct health care services on site as possible. A lot of the medical services are limited by funding. We do not have a "blank check" budget to work with. I'm very proud of the Tribe for its desire, through P.L. 93-638, Indian Self Determination Act and P.L. 94-437, Indian Health Care Improvement Act, to provide and direct as many of its own health care services as possible.

If you would like more information regarding Tribal Self Governance, please call me at (517) 773-9887, extension 224. Asking for your support!

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey Falcon

Health Administrator

## DIABETES AWARENESS DAY

March 23 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

in the old seniors room

Event is open to the public

Diabetes information

Door and prizes and lunch

## Ojibwe Fitness Center

### HOURS

Monday and Friday

8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

### AEROBICS

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

12 to 1 p.m.

Tuesday and Thursday

4 to 5 p.m.

Step Aerobic and Floor Aerobic  
Beginners to Advanced

## FOLTZ'S BICYCLE SHOP

4992 E. PICKARD  
MT. PLEASANT, MI 48858  
772-0183



MOUNTAIN BIKES ROAD BIKES BMX

SKATEBOARDS IN LINE SKATES

Most major credit cards accepted

Open six days a week



# Hockey

(Continued from page 11)

really shooting for now is our own Olympic-size indoor facility."

About two dozen business people, community leaders, amateur hockey organizers and Central Michigan University officials met Feb. 3 to discuss the possibility of using Finch Fieldhouse as a viable indoor skating facility.

Currently, about 10 to 14 games are played over the weekend at the Union Township facility and AHAMP organizers are convinced an indoor facility would be popular in the community.

"We're convinced we're going to have an indoor rink," Weisenburger stated. "The question is where and when. We know it can happen. It's not just for hockey, it's for ice skating."

During two weekends when AHAMP games were not scheduled, various community groups have rented the rink for skating activities, according to Weisenburger.

"We know that having an indoor facility could work," he also stated. "It would be really good for the community."

# Security

(Continued from page 8)

benefit at 65. Or, you can take your widow's (er) benefit at 62 and get you full retirement payment at age 65.

Here's an example of how this works:

Rebecca Litchfield, a widow, visited her social security office just before her 62nd birthday and learned she had some choices to make. Her full (age 65) widow's benefit would be \$800, but she could take a reduced widow's benefit of about \$660 at age 62. Because she had worked, she also was due a full (age 65) retirement benefit of \$600 with a reduced benefit of \$480 payable at age 62.

These are her choices:

1. She could take a reduced widow's benefit of \$660 at age 62. That would remain her benefit forever (except for annual cost-of-living increases); or
2. She could take the smaller retirement benefit of \$480 at 62 and switch to her full widow's rate (\$800) at 65.

Litchfield also has to ask herself these questions:

Can she live on the small income (\$480) for three years in anticipation of the higher benefit (\$800) at 65?

Or would she rather get something in between (\$660) right away with no option of switching later to a higher benefit?

She can get some help in making her decision by talking with a social security representative, who will further explain her options.

If you too are faced with making a decision on which benefit to take, we suggest you talk to a social security representative about the options that are available to you.



Observer Photo/Thaddius Bedford

## Michigan State Powwow

Hundreds of people, including many Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members, attended the 13th Mid-Winter Pow Wow celebration at Michigan State University on Feb. 19 and 20. The event was sponsored by the North American Indian Student Organization (NAISO).

## Tribal graphic is more than just a logo

(Editor's note: What started as a logo contest has become a part of our Tribe's proud history. Julius offers this insight on behalf of the Peters family. His only request ... that this article not be reprinted without written permission.)

For those of you who don't know the story behind the logo of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe:

This logo not only represents the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe, but it symbolizes two very important people that had a major impact on my life.

At the age of seven, I lost my mother. I then went on to live with my Grandfather and my Grandmother.

The middle of the logo symbolizes the headdress worn by my Grandfather, Simon Peters. Simon Peters was a traditional man with old Indian values.

My grandfather's headdress was made of Eagle and Pheasant feathers. The Eagle is a sacred bird of the Indians. He chose the Pheasant feathers for the reason that it was a beautiful bird to him.

The top of the logo symbolizes the Yolk my grandmother, Annie Peters, wore upon her chest. She had once told me the floral design meant beauty and love.



The acorns upon the logo was worn by both my Grandfather and Grandmother. They considered the acorns to be a symbol of Indian people.

My grandparents had once stated to me, "The acorns are like the Indian people. Once small and new to the world, but with time, love and care, they will stand tall, beautiful, and mighty."

In a sense, the words they spoke to me are coming to be true. The once small Tribe that I grew up to know, is growing and prospering.

May the Grandfathers in the sky look upon us and bless us.

Therefore, the logo of the Tribe will always be a symbol of two very missed and loved people in my life. Megwetch.

-Submitted by Julius Simon Peters

## Tourist complex in the planning stages

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council started a historic project in January after they issued the order to start planning for the next phase of the Tribe's gaming business- a project now well under way.

A special task force of council members, Gaming Commission members and other community members has been formed to oversee and guide the planning for the new facility.

The Tribe's Planning Department has assigned one of it's staff, Richard Tilmann, to coordinate the project and four additional people will be hired soon to complete the planning team.

"We will be working to build a facility that will support the Tribe not for just a few years, but for generations to come," said Tribal Sub Chief Tim Davis, who also is a member of the Task Force, in describing the project. "It will include a full range of tourist related services, not just a Casino."

Although the shape of the new tourist complex is still in the idea stages, it will include a casino and gaming center, a hotel, restaurants, a convention center, retail shops and an Anishnabe museum/cultural center.

"We feel that the Cultural center is a very important piece of the project," Tilmann said. "It will not only draw more people here to this community to spend their tourism dollars, it will also give the Tribe a great way to educate the non-Indian people about the history and culture of the Great Lakes Native Americans, and about this Tribe in particular."

The project as it is currently mapped out calls for ground breaking to begin in the spring of next year, 1995. Construction of the total complex will probably take several years.

However, the new Casino will be the first priority, and should be operating sometime in 1995.

Famous Pub Burgers • Pizza  
Cocktails • Appetizers



Live Entertainment  
Darts • Pool Tables  
Downtown Mt. Pleasant  
772-5486



# An overview of the Bay Mills staff

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe has been a satellite site for Bay Mills Community College, located in Brimley, since January of 1990. Since that time, many classes have been offered here and the program works in conjunction with the Tribe's Education Department.

Staff include:

Sue Oseland- coordinator. Oseland has been working with the Tribe since 1989. See her if you have questions, concerns regarding admissions, registration, testing, financial aid, etc. Her office is located in the tribal Education Department, located in a portable East of the Tribal Center.

Bethel Merrill-secretary. Merrill, a Saginaw Chippewa Tribal member, works in the Tribal Education department. She can assist in filling out necessary paperwork and help students with questions they may have.

Melanie Allen-Instructor. Allen has been teaching BMCC classes since 1990. Her teaching assignments include math classes, study skills, library resources, and human growth and development.

Elizabeth Banks-Instructor. Banks has been teaching BMCC classes since 1990 and has been working for the Tribe since 1989. Her teaching assignments include English classes, creative writ-

ing, journalism, psychology, and environmental science.

Clarence Burrowes- Instructor. Burrowes has been teaching classes since 1991. He teaches many of the computer classes, including the introduction to computer classes, spreadsheets, and computer graphics.

Chuck Fitzpatrick- Instructor. Fitzpatrick is in his second semester with BMCC. He teaches management and business classes.

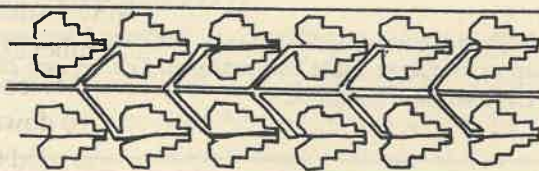
Nancy Fitzpatrick- Instructor. She is in her first semester with BMCC. Fitzpatrick teaches accounting and introduction to word processing classes.

Helen Roy- Instructor. Roy, a member of Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve, Manitoulin Island, is in her first semester with BMCC. She teaches the Ojibwe Language classes.

In addition, we have recently become involved in the classroom instruction via Interactive TV.

Two classes are presently being offered from Bay Mills, which we connect with in the IATV classroom at Central Michigan University.

If you are interested in finding out more information regarding Bay Mills Community College classes, please contact the Tribal Education Office, (517) 773-5858, extension 204.



SUPPORT OUR NATIVE BUSINESSES

## Diabetes

(Continued from page 12)

With unemployment high in the Pueblo, Padilla went to Albuquerque to earn a nursing assistant's degree, then took several jobs in his field there before joining Pueblo's health program.

Today, Padilla, his mother and father, his girlfriend, and their four children- who were born in a hospital- live in a three-bedroom house with a kitchen, living room and bathroom. They are warmed by a gas heater, enjoy movies on their VCR, phone conversations with friends, football games on TV and trips to town in their own pickup truck.

In 1991, Padilla became one of four Community Health Representatives (CHR) working for the Pueblo of San Felipe. The San Felipe Tribe, through the authority of Public Law 93-638, contracted from the U.S. Indian Health Service to provide medical services to the Pueblo. Padilla works in the CHR office located in the Pueblo.

His job: to help educate his fellow Indians on the prevention and treatment of non-insulin-dependent (type II) diabetes.

### Lasting traditions

Although Padilla is pleased with the recent advances in health care, he bemoans some of the Pueblo's cultural losses.

"We used to visit each other's families, going from house to house. And people would come in and hug each other. Today, people are afraid to touch. They don't hug anymore.

I hope our traditions last, and that our children continue talking our language. Mainly, I hope that a cure can be found for diabetes. That is why we are doing all this. But we are really just starting. There are more plans under way.

Although life may be easier in cities such as Albuquerque, Kenneth Padilla is happy to be among his own people.

"I would rather live here on the Pueblo," he says.

-Submitted by Lois Bush RN

## Conference

(Continued from page 2)

dent. I don't think I could live like that with the man considered as total head of household.

I look equality as you're no better than me and I'm no better than you."

She added there were "lots of translations" from speeches being delivered and the ladies had to wear headphones for this.

"It was hard to keep up with them," the Chief said of the translations.

Chief George also said other Native American women were there, including some Council members and their families. She also said there was one Native American woman on the panel.

When it came learning she was a Chief, she said the other Native women were "real excited about it."

Despite being Chief, George stressed to the other women she's "still herself." She added the other Native women have similar problems and questions.

While the brunt of the trip concerned the conference, George said there was some time to sightsee. Classic American stops she saw included the Washington Monument, Arlington National Cemetery and the Lincoln Memorial.

She also had an entertaining chat in a local park with Missouri Sen. Margaret Rennau of the 8th District.

After talking for a few moments, the pair discovered they both entered the political arena after their husbands passed away.

"It's important to have the time to devote to the position because it requires it," she said.

While at the Washington airport waiting for their flight back to Detroit, George and Montoya also bumped into a celebrity of a heavyweight caliber-Evander Holyfield.

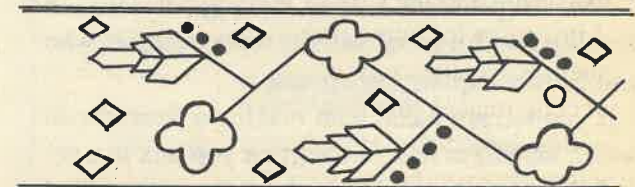
"We saw this big guy with a leather jacket on that said 'heavyweight champion of the world,'" George said. "So I asked him if he was, and it turned out he was just one of the people traveling with Holyfield.

He told us to wait and the champ would soon show up. While we were waiting, I asked these two big guys, 'are you his bodyguards?' They had a good laugh and I felt embarrassed because obviously the champ doesn't need bodyguards."

When Holyfield arrived, the pair took pictures and also got his autograph. George also said she gave him a letter of invitation to visit the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe.

Another inspirational part of the visit George noticed was the Scripture from Philippians 4:13 inscribed on all of the jackets worn in the Holyfield entourage.

"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength," the Scripture states.



**BRASS CAFE & SALOON**

**DISTINCTIVE DINING**

LUNCH • DINNER

APPETIZERS • COCKTAILS

772-0864

MAIN AT MICHIGAN DOWNTOWN MT. PLEASANT

SHOPPING • DINING • ENTERTAINMENT



DOWNTOWN MT. PLEASANT

Your source for  
Native news...  
The Tribal Observer



### SUPER BINGO SUNDAYS

\$35 packets feature \$300 regular games with a \$3,500 super jackpot on February 20 and March 20.

\$100 packets feature \$1000 regular games with a \$15,000 super jackpot on February 6, March 6 and March 27.

Make your reservations for these dates by calling Soaring Eagle Bingo at (517) 773-2998 or 1-(800) 338-9092.

Please give your last name spelled out with your first name, area code and phone number, date of game, number of people in your party, and if you prefer smoking or non-smoking. Reservations are expected to be picked up 15 minutes before the game or sooner and made 24 hours in advance.

Cancellations are expected the day before the game or sooner.





## Near Rosebush

# Tribal member reflects on school days 64 years ago

By Geneva Mackety

My school days began when I was six-years-old. Being the oldest of four children, it was my lot to enter first the world of A B C's and 1, 2, 3's. This was 64 years ago.

The old schoolhouse, situated on a 40-acre farm two miles west of Rosebush, was the family nest. Grandpa Moses Pelcher and Daddy Jim Pego on a typical day, had been up early milking the cows, plus feeding the horses, pigs and chickens. Mother Lenora (Pelcher) Pego and Grandma Maria Pelcher had a farm-fresh breakfast of golden, hot cornmeal, along with fresh, homemade bacon and hot biscuits prepared. The whole family, sleepy-eyed Roselene, Buddy and baby Phyllis on the way would sit down to eat.

After breakfast, Grandpa led us to the parlor where we had family devotions. This consisted of Grandpa playing the piano, singing the morning Indian song and then him reading the Bible in Indian. It ended with us all kneeling to pray.

Then off to school, with Daddy holding my hand as we walked the one-mile across the fields to our one-room schoolhouse. On top of the hill, he would say "Geneva, there's the schoolhouse down there. You can make it from here. Be good!" With the squeeze of my little hand, he hurried back home. I ran on to school.

In the fresh September air, kids were playing outside: girls skipping rope and boys playing a game of basketball. The teacher, Agnes Prout, young and pretty with smiling eyes. She would ring the school loud and long. At nine o'clock sharp we were sitting at our desks. The schoolhouse was one big room with cheery-big windows on the west side. A big blackboard was at the front of the room, along with the teacher's desk and also several long benches. These were the recitation seats. Your one-on-one contact with the teacher.

A huge, round, black furnace about six-feet tall stood like a sentinel in the back of the east wall. The big boys took their turns throwing in the wood and coal. How we drank water I don't remember. The toilets were outside, one for boys and one for girls. A card was in the entry way indicating which one was occupied. No two kids didn't dare go out there together. Good and strict!

## Students and class lessons

All eight grades were taught in this one big room. We sat at desks according to our grades. First grad-

ers had the smallest desks. These desks increased in size to the big farmer boys in the large desks situated by the big windows. There were about 30 or more students. Only seven Indians and a few migrant farm Mexican workers were of the ethnic group.

Miss Prout opened class by asking all to stand like soldiers to repeat the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag, sing America and repeat the Lord's Prayer. Then classes began.

The first graders came forward to the recitation benches. Each did their reading. "See Spot run, "Dick and Jane helped mother carry water from the well." The next row of kids, the second graders, came to do arithmetic:  $2+2=4$  and  $10-2=8$ . These were written on the big black board. English was my favorite, as we learned sentence structure, such as nouns, pronouns, verbs and adjectives, etc. Then we learned how to sound out words. We learned from one another. The slow were tutored by their peers.

When I was through studying my particular lessons, I would listen to the grade ahead of me. A lot of lessons were learned like this. In those days, many subjects were taught by note. We memorized long poems like the "Village Smithy," some of Longfellow's "Hiawatha," and "September Days."

We had big country spelling bees. My cousin, Viola Pelcher and same age as I, spelled down the township. At the county level, Viola spelled them all down. We wore feathers in our hats for a long time after that.

## Hard times

After my Daddy Jim Pego died, we moved from the 40-acre farm about a mile west from the school house and we went to the same school. Uncle Ike and family moved to the stone house since Grandpa was getting old and not that able to farm.

From this place we had a longer trail to walk, about two miles, but to the same Rosebush Grade School. Being a country school, the farmer kids studied agriculture. We were taught types of soils, categorizing the many species of animals on the farm such as milking cows, including, Holstein, Jersey and Guernsey; plus Herefords, the meat cows. We also learned about the different types of fruits, like apples, pears and peaches. We also memorized the different types of chickens, plus

much more.

The noon recess was also exciting. Bigger kids played softball. I played at times on the boys team. "That Geneva can really bat in those home runs," they'd say. Miss Prout was a good runner and batter, too.

The United States was just coming out of the Great Depression. Daddy's untimely death at 33 with double pneumonia and Grandpa's death too, caused us some hard times. But from the big garden, we stored in the earth cellar potatoes, cabbage, corn and turnips. We canned tomatoes, corn, string beans, apples, pears and strawberries. That's how we survived. The country issued my mother a Mother's Pension of \$25 a month.

For school lunch, mother baked bread. This bread was for school and sometimes all we had between the slices was fresh rendered homemade lard and brown sugar sprinkled on top.

This brings tears to my eyes as I think of my sickly mother, Lenoara, saying, "Children I don't have any lunch for you today to take to school. I'll bring it to you. You meet me at noon under that big tree on the south side of the road."

We couldn't hardly wait for noon to come. There she would be, smiling with the lunch she laid out of hot fried potatoes, squaw bread, strawberry jam and a big jug of warm tea. How delicious. How loved we felt by our little, sick widowed mother. She made us feel like we were eating in Hawaii under a big palm tree.

## The way to school

We walked on those unpaved gravel roads every day there was a sunny morning, plus rainy weather as well. The winters were fun with snowball fights along the way and also pushing each other in the ditch. One day it snowed most of the day to about three feet. Farmers came after their children. Cars got stuck. I had a hard time keeping track of Roselene and Buddy. Our neighbors came after their children in their car. They invited us to ride in their car. After getting stuck a number of times, we arrived safely at home. Mother came to meet us smiling from ear to ear.



## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

### TITLE V

### 1994-95 SCHOOL YEAR

Individuals are invited to stop by the Tribal Education Office on March 4 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. to discuss the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe and the Mt. Pleasant Public Schools Title V program for the 1994-95 school year. The Education Office is located east of the Tribal Center in the building closest to the road. Our address is 7070 East Broadway Road, Mt. Pleasant. All are welcome.

## County receives housing grant

Isabella County has been awarded a Housing Preservation Grant for \$200,000 to provide assistance to homeowners residing outside of Union Township and the City of Mt. Pleasant.

Priorities for home improvements are for items such as weatherization, insulation, or correction of code-related violations. All improvements made will be subject to established energy guidelines and will meet specific housing quality standards.

Applications applying for rehabilitation assistance must be at or below the very-low income guidelines to qualify for a 100 percent grant. Those above the very-low income limits up to the low-income limits qualify for an amount of assistance reduced proportionately. Please refer to the following scale:

	1	2	3	4
Low-income	17,650	20,150	22,700	25,200
Very-low income	11,050	12,600	14,150	15,750

	5	6	7	8
Low income	27,200	29,250	31,250	33,250
Very-low income	17,000	18,250	19,550	20,800

(See County page 16)

**KOPY KORNER**

- Professional Resumes
- Quality Copies
- Full Color Printing

1323 S. Mission  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858  
(517) 773-7343  
FAX - (517) 772-5127 M-F 8-6; Sat. 9-5

Serving the Reservation over 70 years

**BORDER'S CORNER STORE**

- \*beverages
- \*groceries
- \*spirits
- \*lotto

Open 9 am-10 pm Sunday to Thursday  
9 am- 12 midnight Friday and Saturday  
7024 East Pickard Ave. Mt. Pleasant 772-4929



Brian Smith

KRAPOHL FORD LINCOLN MERCURY

1415 E. Pickard St.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

OFFICE: 772-2991

FAX: 772-6142

## WINDOW TINT SPECIAL

10% off any auto, home or business job with mention of this ad in Tribal Observer.

call Mike Jarrett at 772-1729 for appointment

\* DJ for all occasions  
(make your wedding reservations now!)

\* window tinting





County

(Continued from page 15)

Improvements on the home are secured with a five-year diminishing lien. The lien will require that property sold, disposed of or left as an inheritance would require 100 percent return of funds during the first year and would be reduced by 20 percent yearly until forgiven.

The Isabella County program is being administered by EightCAP, Inc. For additional information, the following individuals can be contacted:

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe  
William R. Mrdeza  
7070 E. Broadway  
(517) 772-5700 extension 262

EightCAP, Inc  
Cheryl Lombard, Housing Coordinator  
403 South University  
(517) 772-0110

Community thank you

I would like to thank the community for their donations during the past year. Many items have been circulated to help those in need.

The "Boutique" is now in the process of changing to spring and summer outfits. Please feel free to stop in to browse or visit. All monetary funds or material donations are welcomed.

Thank you,  
Jean Pego, Emergency Relief Program

it's in the Tribal Observer!

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

Sterman 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 AND PROUD



Observer Photo/Thaddius Bedford

Being aware

First-year Delta College student Karen Petteys of Sandusky takes a peek at the booth sponsored by the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe during Global Awareness Week '94 activities at the junior college. The seventh annual program followed the theme, "Overcoming Prejudice & Hate In Our World." The International Fair took place Jan. 31 and Feb. 1-4.

Just a reminder

Submission deadline for the April issue of the Tribal Observer is March 24.

community calendar

march

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Ojibwe Substance Abuse Meeting 7:30 p.m. AA open meeting	2 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. Highway Safety	3	4	5
6	7 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. R & R	8 O.S.A.M. 7:30 p.m. AA open meeting Saganing Bloodpressure Clinic	9 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. Highway Safety	10	11	12
13	14 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. R & R	15 O.S.A.M. 7:30 p.m. AA open meeting	16 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. Highway Safety	17	18 Saganing Potluck 7 p.m.	19
20	21 Baby Celebration 6-8 p.m. O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. R & R	22 O.S.A.M. 7:30 p.m. AA open meeting	23 Diabetes Awareness Day 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Old Senior's Room  O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. Highway Safety	24 St. Patrick's Day	25	26
27 Palm Sunday	28 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. R & R	29 O.S.A.M. 7:30 p.m. AA open meeting  Saganing meeting on concerns for Council meeting	30 O.S.A.M. 7 p.m. Highway Safety	31		

If your organization has an event, call the Tribal Observer at (517) 772-5700