
Tribal observer

NOVEMBER 1984

THE SAGINAW CHIPPEWA INDIAN TRIBE



CAR SEATS FOR INFANTS AND CHILDREN

Most of you know that car accidents are the leading cause of injury and death, for children under 5 years old. We are concerned about this problem in our Community. We want to help you protect the children of this Community, from these preventable injuries and deaths; therefore, we have purchased a supply of car seats for infants and children under 5 years old. These seats are now available at the Nimkee Clinic.

These car seats can be rented for \$5.00 with an additional \$5.00 deposit. For this fee the infant seat is yours to use until your child needs a child size seat. The child seat is rented for six months after which time you can purchase your own or pay \$2.00 per month toward the purchase of the rental seat.

When you come to the Clinic we will show you how to properly use the seat and supply you with other information about how the car seats work to keep your child from being injured.

For details contact Patty Heron or John Frisch at the Clinic. Thank you.

The Nimkee Clinic Staff
Patty, John, Twila, Tom

ALERT! YOUR SMALL CHILDREN NEED CAR SEATS

The Tribal Police will be helping protect the children in our community by making sure children in a car are properly restrained. It is a violation of tribal and state law not to have children under 5 years old in a proper car restraint. The police will be issuing citations for the first offense which can be cleared by participating in an educational program and obtaining a car seat for your child. Second offense will involve a fine.

We hope that you will make car seats for children your responsibility so we will not need to issue citations.

The Tribal Police Department



JOHNSON O'MALLEY

Although our seniors (10) are performing well, under-classmen (Grades 9-11) seemingly are performing below their potential. Tutoring sessions are held each day in our Tribal Center, but only elementary students are availing themselves of these services thus far.

At the elementary levels, absenteeism and tardiness continue to be a concern, although it is less than earlier in the school year.

At the High School, absenteeism, and cutting classes, by students, is still a concern. These practices, at all grade levels, are limited to a relatively small number of students, usually from the same household.

This year we have a total of 227 JOM eligible students at the following schools:

Mt. Pleasant High School	50
West Intermediate Junior High	27
Mary McGuire Elementary	72
Beal City High School	4
Shepherd Elementary	2
Coleman High School	1
Chippewa Hills High School	1
Ganiard Elementary	7
Pullen Elementary	6
Rosebush Elementary	7
Fancher Elementary	3
Standish Elementary	2
Remus Elementary	6
Vowels Elementary	3
Tribal Pre-School	32

GRAND TOTAL 227

We have 175 students in the Mt. Pleasant Public Schools.

Those attending other than Mt. Pleasant Public Schools, are those living in the Saginaw Chippewa service area (Isabella County), but are bused out of District Schools, such as Chippewa Hills and Coleman. Due to the Saganing Indian Community's affiliation with the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe, we serve two elementary students from that locale. Thank you.

Wilmer Smith, JOM Coordinator

MICHIGAN INDIAN CHILD WELFARE AGENCY

We are still in need of Native American foster homes for our children.

If there are any tribal members in these county areas: Huron, Tuscola, Sanilac, Arenac, Bay, Saginaw, Gladwin, Isabella, Gratiot, Clare, Oceana, Mecosta, Montcalm, Genessee, Lapeer and St. Claire, these counties are served by M.I.C.W.A.'s Mt. Pleasant branch. We are in need of foster homes in these areas.

Workers will be in the office full time December 5th and 6th to receive telephone calls, either collect or regular calls, for those of you who are interested in being a foster parent. When you call we will be happy to explain what foster parenting is about.

Please mark on your calendars December 5th and 6th and think about the Indian children that need you!

Our phone number is 517-773-1223 or you may write M.I.C.W.A., 7070 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Sister Anne Jeffery - Caseworker
Carla Sineway - Caseworker Aide



HOME REPAIRS

To all Tribal Members:

Tribal members within Tribal Jurisdiction, applications are available at HIP Office for repairs of homes and trailers, for review. Deadline date for applications is December 20, 1984.

The HIP Office will be closed for (3) three months starting December 31, 1984 to April 1, 1985. Thank you.

Russell Bennett
Contract Compliance Officer
Home Improvement Program

Report to Indian people for Health Management, Contract Health Services, and Substance Abuse Program.

October 1, 1983 through September 30, 1984. Contract Number 239-84-0005.

This report is being submitted to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Community as required in the general provisions of (P.L. 93-638), Contract with the Indian Health Service.

The Health Staff under this Contract thank you for your continuing support and cooperation with the growing pains of change, and the expansion of Health Services.

This report will provide a brief outline of services and activities provided during the Contract year.

PROGRESS REPORT:

Tom Sincic, FNP/CHN was hired to replace Jane Powers. Nimkee Memorial Health Clinic was expanded to provide two (2) Family Nurse Practitioner/Community Health Nurses. Recruiting strategies for the second Family Nurse Practitioner/Community Health Nurse were unsuccessful.

John Frisch was hired as the full-time Clinic/Community Health Educator. Health Education Services are now available for the Community, through the Clinic and Health Board.

Cheryl Ebeling was hired full-time to develop the Family Resource Office, which provides full-time counseling, Social Services and referral.

Nimkee Memorial Health Clinic had a total of 3,142 outpatient services and 156 Community Health Nursing Services for eleven (11) months.

The Dental Fluoride Mouth Rinse Program was a very successful nine (9) month Program, again this year. Thank you Twila Schrot, LPN.

The Indian Health Service Immunization Initiative Program has improved from 33% to 82%. Thank you Tom Sincic, FNP/CHN.

The Inter-Tribal Council Community Health Representative Program is in the process of being updated and will work closer with the Nimkee Health Clinic and have Medicial Supervision by the Community Health Nurse.

Judy Floyd was hired as Patient Registration Clerk for Contract Health Services. Indian Health Service now requires that all IHS medical and clinical service participants be patient registered. If you have not registered for Contract Health Services please register with Judy Floyd. GOOD LUCK JUDY!!

Rose Wassegijig is the newest staff member in the Nimkee Clinic. She is the Medical Office Assistant/Receptionist replacing Geraldine Strong. Rose Wassegijig and Anne Peters will be attending training to learn Third Party Billing for Health Insurances and Medicaid.

Jeanette Johnson, Jean Pego and I continue to try and stretch the funds available for medical services and were successful in making them last all year. The total number of authorizations for the year:

Medical Authorizations:	2,238
Dental Authorizations:	353

The Ojibwe Substance Abuse Program successfully obtained their license to operate from the State of Michigan again. Darryl Jackson was hired to replace Delmar Jackson Jr., as the Youth Counselor. The State Office of Substance Abuse Services now requires that all counselors become certified through the State. Henry George and Bruce Hinmon have become certified Apprentice Counselors. Both Marilyn Williams and Darryl Jackson are continuing to work on obtaining their certificates.

CONGRATULATIONS and keep up the good work!!

Audrey A. Falcon, RN
Health Administrator



RESIDENT APPOINTED TO INDIAN COMMISSION

Delmar Jackson, Jr., of Mt. Pleasant, has been appointed to the Michigan Commission on Indian Affairs.

Jackson was notified of his appointment last Monday by George Navarrette, assistant director of personnel at Governor James Blanchard's office. The governor makes the appointments.

Jackson said he has been involved in Indian affairs for two years. He presently is the program director of the YMCA Rainbow Project. The project is an outreach program for Native Americans.

Jackson previously worked as a substance abuse youth counselor and youth coordinator for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Reservation.

Jackson, 23, said he feels the problems that face Native American youth needs to be heard in the commission.

"I sent a letter to Governor Blanchard and said the youth haven't been properly represented. The commission needs somebody who understands the youths problems in Michigan," Jackson said.

Jackson is the youngest member of the nine-person committee.

Navarrette said when the appointments were discussed a youthful member was desired. There was a vacancy for a commission member in this area and Jackson was appointed. Navarrette said the fact Jackson worked with the substance abuse program was also a factor along with the support of local tribal chiefs.

The Indian Commission is divided into seven districts throughout the state. The commission meets once a month for 10 months of the year in either Lansing or cities where the commissioners are from.

In 1965, the Indian Commission was formed as a part of Social Services. In 1972, though, the commission became part of the executive office of the governor. The governor appoints all members of the nine-person commission for three year terms.

As stated in the Michigan Manual, the purpose of the commission is to "assist in solving economic, educational, health, and general welfare problems through state and federal programs."

INDIAN SCHOOL

The Tribal Council has established a school board to work on the development of a Tribally Controlled school. The Council has been very concerned about our children's education and the devastating drop-out rate of our students. The school is going to be available for any student who wishes to attend, we will not force anyone to withdraw from the Mt. Pleasant School system, but it will be open to students at any point in their education.

Some of the curriculum we will have offered will be: General education, College preparatory and Vocational training. We hope to offer as many electives as possible.

We are working to have the school open within the next two years. We will work to have immediate accreditation for the school upon its opening or soon after. We will have a school of the highest quality, to instill real Indian pride in self, family and community. We feel our Tribal children have alot of potential that is not being developed or recognized in the public school system.

We ask for your support in helping to make this school a reality in the near future and you are most welcome to attend the board meetings here at the Tribal Center. A work session is scheduled for Wednesday, November 28, 1984 at 7:00 p.m. Megwetch.

The school board members are: Connie Sprague, Richard Quigno, Tim Davis, Cory Flamand, Patty Heron, Kim Sawmick, Terry Vasquez and Lorna Kahgegab Call, selected from a list of persons who had volunteered.



SAGINAW CHIPPEWA HEAD START

Hours - 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Days - Monday - Thursday of every week.

We are still enrolling children (3 to 5 yrs. of age) in the Head-Start program, it is not too late. We started our first day of school on Tuesday November 6, 1984. Our schedule of school days are the same as the Mt. Pleasant Public School System's schedule, so if they are closed we will also be closed.

If you know of anyone who has a child in this age group who hasn't enrolled please have them contact our office at (773-2635).

If any of the parents who have enrolled their child, but decided not to send them, have changed their minds, please let me know. We have room for 30 students, and presently only have 22 enrolled. We would like to have the chance to work with your preschoolers and you.

I would also like to take this time to say thanks to all of the friends and parents who have so generously helped us get started. A special word of thanks from all of the staff and students to the Saginaw Chippewa Fund Raising Project for it's \$250.00 dollar donation, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Quigno for their \$100.00 donation, Mr. Pat Mena and Mr. Jeff Jackson for helping to unload supplies for our classroom, Sean Chippeway (Fluffy) for donating fish for our aquarium, Mr. Chris Jackson for helping to put together some of the equipment, Ms. Mary Chippeway, Ms. Teresa Mena, Ms. Joyce Francis, and Ms. Shellie Jeffery for helping in the classroom with the children, and a very special thanks to all the parents who have come and helped us out in the classroom and rode the bus with the kids on many occasions. Without this support through the start of this program, we would not have been able to start as soon as we did, again thank you all!

Sincerely,

Connie, Marge, Corinne, and the Head Start Children (Gremlins)

Dear Council Members:

I had contacted Senator Donald Riegle regarding the need for an equitable settlement to allocate the benefits of the recent land claim award. He informed me that a tentative compromise has been reached whereby the entire award would go to the tribe, but with the rolls reopened for descendants in return. As a descendant, I heartily support the plan.

I consider the chance to gain tribal membership a far more valuable asset than a per-capita share. I have also communicated my support of the compromise to many Indian people involved in programs across the state.

Many descendants are vitally interested in preserving Indian rights and culture. I believe that these people will support the settlement even though some descendants are opposed. I believe that the plan recognized descendants' interests, as it must, since their ancestors were part of the same treaty; it will help the tribe by showing a state-wide unity and larger number of members to be reconed with.

As a past active member of several Indian organizations in Flint and across Michigan, and from my own prior experiences as a minority businessman, I am highly aware of the difficulty of starting individual businesses. I am also aware of our need to act cooperatively; the tribal government is our only way to leverage our individual experiences and abilities.

I have recently graduated from law school and I believe that a good education will always remain out of reach of most Native Americans until we can afford the financial independence which allows our children to think beyond food and decent shelter. Although I cannot travel to Washington, D.C. to do more, please again accept my gratitude for your efforts.

Sincerely,

Ronald G. Douglas
410 South 10th Street
Wausau, Wisconsin 54401

F.A.S.
(Fetal Alcohol Syndrome)

NIMKEE HEALTH CLINIC

In many of our Communities it is still not commonly known or accepted that alcohol consumption during pregnancy is harmful. Alcohol is a very potent teratogen (an agent which causes birth defects).

F.A.S. is a birth defect caused by maternal alcohol consumption during pregnancy. It is probably the 2nd most common birth defect among newborns. The defect affects the newborn both mentally and physically during developmental stages of pregnancy.

The complete syndrome is termed Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS), milder forms of prenatal alcohol damage are termed Fetal Alcohol Effects (FAE).

Epidemiology:

FAS has been found in virtually every ethnic and cultural group, and in every social class.

Minimal incidence figures in most populations studied range from 1 in 600 to 1 in 1,000 births.

Therefore, FAS may be the most common cause of mental deficiency in children.

If a pregnant woman is severely abusive of alcohol, her risk of having a baby with FAS is about 40%.

The highest risk group is older mothers who already have had one or more affected children.

The severity of FAS involvement seems to rise with each succeeding affected child born to an alcoholic woman.

At present, the only method of prevention is to diminish or eliminate maternal alcohol consumption during pregnancy.

FAS has only been considered a health risk factor since 1973, but from historical references: Judges (13:7) in the old testament of the Judaic Bible, describes how a messenger angel warned Samson's mother, "Behold thou shalt concieve, and bear a son: and now drink no wine or strong drink".

John Frisch
Health Education

The Nimkee Health Clinic has added a Family Resource Office. Some of the services provided by this office are:

1. Tribal staff in-service training in the areas of Communication; Crisis Counseling and Intervention; Stress Identification and Control; and others as needed.
2. Community presentations in the areas of: Stress and stress related illnesses; Child Development, the normal emotional and physical development of children; Crisis-how to help yourself or someone else in crisis; Suicide intervention-how to intervene when someone threatens suicide; and other programs as needed by the community.
3. Individual and Family counseling.
4. Act as a liaison between the Indian people and other agencies outside of the Indian community in the areas of social services, mental health centers, and in-patient mental health treatment.

Members of the community are encouraged and welcomed to make suggestions for community presentations and other services that will contribute to the emotional well being of our Indian children and families. Please feel free to call Cheryl Ebeling (517) 772-5700 for suggestions or more information.



COMMUNITY COURT

Court Report - September

Sprague, Joseph, Jr. - Convicted after bench trial of Open Bottle in Vehicle, Code Section 1.2325. \$75.00 fine and court costs.

Court Report - October

Alaniz, Gonzalo and Elsie - Charged with Failure to send children to School in violation of Tribal Code Section 1.2024. Punishable by up to 10 days in jail and/or \$50.00 fine. Case adjourned pending improvement in children's attendance.

Compo, Elsie - Charged with Failure to send children to School in violation of Tribal Code Section 1.2024. Punishable by up to 10 days in jail and/or \$50.00 fine. Case adjourned pending improvement in children's attendance.

Kendall, Daisy - Charged with Failure to send children to School in violation of Tribal Code Section 1.2024. Punishable by up to 10 days in jail and/or \$50.00 fine. Case adjourned pending improvement in children's attendance.



SUNDAY AFTERNOON SUPER BINGO SCHEDULE 1985

January	6	\$35.00
January	20	\$35.00
February	3	\$35.00
February	17	\$35.00
March	3	\$75.00
March	17	\$35.00
March	24	\$35.00
April	14	\$35.00
April	21	\$75.00
May	5	\$35.00
May	19	\$35.00
June	2	\$35.00
June	16	\$35.00

\$35.00 Admission - \$11,500.00 Prize Giveaway

\$75.00 Admission - \$24,000.00 Prize Giveaway

All games start at 1:30 p.m., players may purchase additional cards for some special games, including the Super Jackpot!

Reservations are needed to attend and can be made 8 weeks prior to each game. REQUESTED SEATS ARE NOT ALWAYS AVAILABLE!!

Please Note: We play Bingo on hard cards every Thursday at 10:30 a.m., Friday and Saturday at 6:30 p.m. Reservations are not required, first come first serve basis.

COST: \$2.00 Admission
.25 each hard card
.50 Specials
.50 Do-It-Yourself
\$1.00 Jackpot (\$1,000.00)

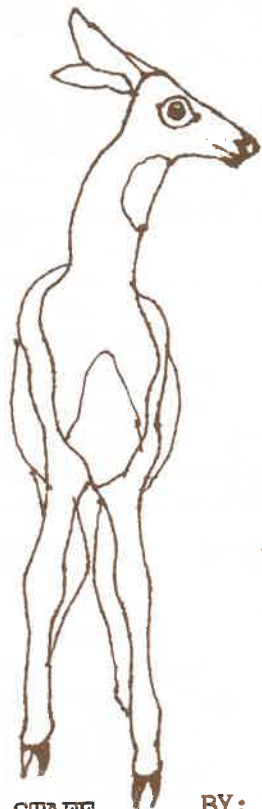
Buy all you want!

Please feel free to call us regarding our Bingo. Thank you.

(517) 773-2998 or 773-9423



The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
7070 E. Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858



A deer running; silent
swiftly on fleeting hoofs

Hardly notices crescent moon
or sparkling stars

Running free in the brisk
October air. There is no fear.

But the hunter waits;
with heart pounding.

What is he afraid of?



TRIBAL OBSERVER STAFF

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SAGINAW CHIPPEWA TRIBAL BINGO