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SEPT. 16, 1997 VOLUME 8 ISSUE 18

WAABIBAGAA-GIIZIS (Moon of Leaves Turning Color)

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

Hotel completion deadline set by Tribal Council

By Joe Sowmick
Editor

A new sense of optimism is under construction down Soaring Eagle Boulevard as Tribal Council has set a completion deadline of June 1.

"We're happy to tell the Tribal membership that things are moving again and the expedition of the project has taken a turn toward the positive," stated Tribal Chief Kevin Chamberlain. "We have recently been approving a lot of settlement agreements and working with a lot of different trade contracts, design and color scheme issues.

"The thing that pleases me most is we're taking the time to think everything out and put it on a timeline and we handed down the order that we want to have this done by June 1 with an opening date set for July 1. As owner of the project, we want to



The hotel and conference center portion of the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort has a targeted completion deadline of June 1. It is anticipated the multimillion facility will be fully-operational by July 1.

dictate what is going to happen and if the other people on the project can't see that we don't want them."

Chamberlain said the reason former contractor Perini Building Co. of Southfield and architect Cunningham,

Hamilton and Quiter of Minneapolis were released was the inability to complete the project through Council directives.

"We are the owners and we are paying the bills. It's time for us to stand up and say this is

what we want, this is when we want it, if you can't do it we will find somebody who can," he remarked. "Most of the subcontractors are working and landscaping is continuing so I would like to inform the membership that a lot of these issues are being resolved and we are moving forward."

Through unanimous decision of Tribal Council, the Christman Co. of Lansing was chosen as the new contractor for the project and will be working with architectural firm of Dow Howell Gilmore Associates of Midland.

Considering the scope of the project and the continued growth of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, much speculation has surfaced about

that are searching for something negative about the Tribe and that's unfortunate because we're doing a lot for the community.

Community Meeting
Sept. 22
5:30 p.m.
Soaring Eagle
Bingo Hall
Refreshments
will be served

"In fact, I found out that we tested with lasers for three months and the project didn't move at all. In addition to that, I found the foundation is two to three times stronger than it needs to be. I want people to know we're going to complete this project and let them say what they want. We're going to show them that in the end this is going to be a world class resort."

Sub-Chief Tim Davis also stated the Tribe has extensive documentation supporting Chamberlain's statement. (See HQTEL page 2)



Reservation reflection

Zubler's Indian Craft in Houghton Lake has had a long-standing tradition of weekly powwows on Thursdays during the summer months. For a contemporary look at the self-billed "Home of the Indian Powwow" see pages 10 and 11.

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Gaming employees' efforts shine

When thinking about 'stars,' usually visions of entertainers on stage or blinking lights in the sky come to mind. Stars can also be found at Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort in the form of Tony Boyer and Marilyn Johnson.

On June 4, a couple from Toledo, Ohio, was visiting the casino and lost a packet containing a very large amount of money. Robert Thorley and his wife feared the worst—that their money was gone forever.

However, a very alert and honest slot attendant, Tony Boyer, found the packet and turned it over to security personnel. The Thorleys were able to describe the packet and the money was returned.

"I want you to know how impressed both my wife and I were with not only the friendliness, but the efficiency and thoroughness of the whole procedure," said Robert Thorley. "What could have been an ugly memory became a pleasant occasion and we are looking forward to our next visit."

Because his honesty and integrity, Soaring Eagle is proud to name Tony Boyer as Employee of the month.

Marilyn Johnson, a casino finance supervisor, was selected by the employees to be July's Boss of the Month because she is a prime example of what a great boss should be. Softspoken and friendly, Marilyn can be found working right alongside her employees.

For four years, casino patrons and employees have benefited from Marilyn's professional yet caring demeanor. She is always willing to help wher-



MARILYN JOHNSON AND TONY BOYER

ever or whenever she is asked. For example, Marilyn volunteered to help Soaring Eagle's Human Resource Department at the recent Job Fair, where over 500 people were interviewed and hired.

The overwhelming success of the casino is not because of the big payouts or prizes like new cars. The success is the direct result of loyal and dedicated employees, like Soaring Eagle's stars Tony Boyer and Marilyn Johnson.



Observer photo/Judy Whitman

S-s-s-chool days

Nicole Chippewa, left, found this fearsome rubber rattlesnake an interesting addition to the new Saginaw Chippewa Academy lower elementary classroom. Teachers including Kim Price, right, welcomed students to the Broadway school during an open house on Sept. 5. Classes started the following Monday.

EDUCATION BEGINS IN THE HOME

Hotel

(Continued from page 1)

ments.

Councilwoman Shelly Foster can see how progress is being made and congratulated her fellow Council members on working together to get the project moving again.

"I think it's a positive step and we can show the community that we can work through this

and look forward to other projects in the future," Foster explained. "I know the community has strong feeling about the project and being on Council I recognize and support that. I can see where we were a year ago and where we are right now. I think it's necessary to get this information out to our community and let them know we're taking a step in the right

direction."

Council member Mary Lynne Chippeway works as Director of Security for Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and continually demonstrates her concerns for the security of our youth.

"I'm glad we're back on track and we have a deadline for completion of the hotel which will provide jobs for our children in the future," Chippeway said.

"The resort will provide all kinds of opportunities for advancement in any business arena our children choose. We're providing an infrastructure for the next generations of our Tribe."

With the passage of Proposal E last November, we can expect at least three casinos coming to the metro Detroit area. Even with this increased competition in the

gaming industry, Chippeway feels that Detroit casinos will not be a threat.

"I was in downtown Detroit for a gospel singing about three years ago," Chippeway remembered. "In the middle of downtown Detroit they had the church doors locked. They had to unlock the doors to let me in and chain them back up for the safety of the congregation. Based on that fact and Detroit

being a high crime area, I don't see that as a threat."

Chippeway has travelled across the country and cautioned that every casino that opens up doesn't necessarily mean it will have the same success as Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

Christman Co. Project Manager Tom Alliston assured Tribal Council that they are willing to work in an

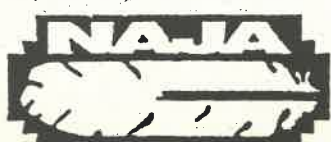
(See HOTEL page 13)

tribal
observer



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

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



Advance notice needed for tours

Saginaw Chippewa Public Safety officials request a three-day notice before scheduling tours at the facility.

"The staff is very proud to give tours of the building, but we really need advance notice," stated Capt. Ralph Sawmick. "We're always eager to accommodate these requests, however there are certain public safety issues occurring on a daily basis so advance planning is a must."

For groups wanting to tour the facility, located on the intersection of Broadway and Leaton roads, Sawmick said Wednesday through Friday is best. To schedule a tour, contact Cathy Chamberlain at (517) 775-4702 or Deanna Pelon at (517) 775-4701.

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

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

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



Woodland tale explains the origin of the killdeer

By Simon Otto
Contributing Writer

Indian people have a story for just about everything that happens, including why the animals are called what

they are. They try to agree on all the stories, and even though they are from different Tribes and geographical areas, the stories are similar most of the time. Storytellers

have the option to change stories so that it will fit their area or occasion. The following story is one that has been passed down and it may have changed

somewhere along the way, but this is how I heard it.

Back when the animals and birds could talk, this is what happened. One day Bineshi (Bird) decided to go where he had noticed there seemed to be plenty of food for him and his family. He could see a large field where the bugs were plentiful. His legs were long, which made it easier for him to catch bugs.

He went to the field everyday and he would see his friend, the deer (Wawa-geshi) also

feeding. They were a good pair. The bird would follow the deer, because as he walked, he would stir up bugs and they would start to run and Be-neshi would quickly gather them up.

As time went on, the bird would go to the field every day and feed. But one day, he went to the field and he noticed the deer wasn't there. He wondered what happened to it. Well, he went on feeding until he was full. Returning to his home, he told his mate about the absence of his friend, the deer. He

couldn't help but wonder where he was.

The next day, as he went to the field again, he stumbled over the deer's body. His friend was dead and he was so sad. After looking closer, he saw where the deer had been hit on the head. Somebody or something had killed him. This was his friend and now he was dead. It made him upset and he quickly ran back to his village. He was so excited that the only words that came out of his mouth were, "Kill-

(See BIRD page 4)



Observer photo/Scott Csernyik

Pick a card

Tommy the Magician performs a card trick during the Labor Day Community Picnic on Sept. 1 at the Saginaw Chippewa Campgrounds.

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Tribal Matters

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 Tom Kequom, Sergeant-At-Arms
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 Josephine Jackson, Member
 Mary Lynne Chippeway, Member

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 Shelly Foster
 Mary Lynne Chippeway

Bird

(Continued from page 3)

deer, killdeer." All the rest of the birds of the village then told the other birds, "Killdeer, Killdeer." So that is why he is called killdeer today, because of what happened long ago when the Mother Earth was young.

The killdeer is one of the earlier arrivals. It usually arrives in March and can be heard by its call or even can be seen.

Killdeer's nest in open fields on the ground and usually have four eggs, white with brown speckles on them. If you get too near its nest, the killdeer will run from the nest and start dragging a wing, pretending it is hurt, or fall over as if it is wounded, so you will follow it. This is a ploy to lead you away from its nest.

One time when my car was on the blink, I walked to the store using the railroad tracks for a short-cut and noticed a killdeer running ahead of me, going through her antics as if hurt. On the way back I again saw her, only this time I saw where she came from and looked and there beneath the track rails was the nest. That must have been terrible for those little birds, because at that time the trains were still running.

(See BIRD page 17)



The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe Of Michigan

7070 EAST BROADWAY MT. PLEASANT, MICHIGAN 48853 (517) 775-4050
 TRIBAL CLERK'S OFFICE 800-566-6090 FAX (517) 775-3346

ELECTION NOTICE

TRIBAL COUNCIL GENERAL ELECTION

Districts I, II, and III
 NOVEMBER 4, 1997, 8 am to 8 pm

Pursuant to Ordinance No. 4 Section 2. (a) REGULAR ELECTIONS. The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of odd numbered years shall be the date for regular elections of the Tribal Council.

Section 4. (b) CONTINUITY OF VOTER REGISTRATION LISTS.

Once a voter's name is placed on a list, that registration shall be of continuing validity and the voter shall not be required to reregister unless:

- (1.) That voter has failed to vote in the last two years;
- (2.) That voter has moved within the same voting district;
- (3.) That voter has moved into another voting district; or
- (4.) That voter has had a change of name.

Section 7. (b) QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR THE TRIBAL COUNCIL. In order to be elected as a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council, an individual candidate must meet the following qualifications:

- (a) Must be a member of the Tribe on the day petitions are taken out.
- (b) Must be 25 years of age or over.
- (c) Must be a resident of the district for which he/she will run for at least one year immediately preceding the election.
- (d) Must not be an employee of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
- (e) Must never have been convicted of a felony.

NOMINATING PETITIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE AUGUST 18, 1997 in the Tribal Clerk's office. TO VOTE, REGISTER NOW-IF you have NOT voted in the LAST two (2) years. You MUST be registered to vote 30 days prior to the election.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD—VOTE!!!



The things we value

No matter what our backgrounds, we all share many common values.

We recognize the importance of family and the roles we play in leading our young to adulthood.

We cherish the traditions that grow from our many cultures, providing us a unique sense of identity.

And we place value on education—education that helps us reach our potential and provide for future generations.

We at Central Michigan University also hold these beliefs and recognize that our shared traditions and cultural differences blend to build a richer and stronger community.

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your convenience!



Here's Why!

I'm Tom Baumann, Store Director.

My goal is to make your shopping experience at
Ric's Food Center a pleasant one!



Here's Why!

**I'm Jason,
from the
produce
department.**
It's my goal to
make sure you
get fresh,
quality produce!



Here's Why!

I'm Dorothy, a cashier.

My goal is to be speedy and accurate. The cashiers at
Ric's will even help you take your groceries to your car
if you'd like—with a smile!

Here's Why!

**We're Dawn and
Heather from
Season's Deli.**

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variety of fresh
sliced meats and
salads, plus a full
line of fresh
bakery products!



Here's Why!

**I'm Stephanie,
from the bottle
return and
lottery
department.**

We feel it's
important to
provide
PERSONAL
service at the
bottle return
counter!

We're Here For You!



Legislator prompts drug-fighting efforts

State Rep. Jim McBryde, R-Mt. Pleasant, is urging House leadership to take up his legislation making

Michigan a regional drug interdiction state before it is too late.

House Bill 4860 is in the House Judiciary

Committee. McBryde sent a letter to the chairman urging action.

"My bill not only protects the programs already in place but provides an opportunity to expand our efforts," said McBryde, R-Mt. Pleasant. "With the federal aid made possible by this legislation, we can shut down the drug pushers who are preying on Michigan residents."

House Republican Leader Ken Sikkema also called for the committee to take up the bill immediately.

"The McBryde bill was introduced June 3 and is still pending in committee," said Sikkema, R-Grandville. "The chairman of the house Judiciary Committee should move this bill when we return Sept. 23 so the Michigan National Guard can

again become a major partner in the state's effort to stop drug trafficking."

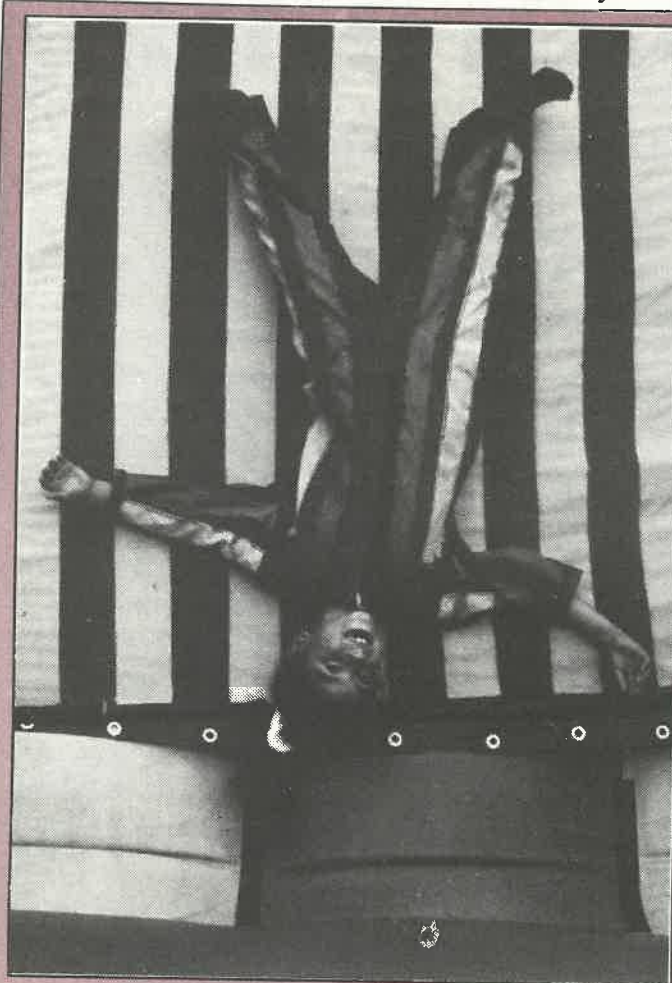
McBryde noted that if the Legislature does not act soon, the federal government can decide to make another state the regional center.

The legislation:

- Allows the governor into reciprocal a i d agreements with other states regarding the use of National Guardsmen.

- Ratifies the National Guard Counterdrug Compact, allowing the

(See EFFORT page 7)



Observer photo/Scott Csernyik

Upside down clown

Tribal youth Lindsey Sprague is just hangin' around on the Velcro Wall during the Labor Day Community Picnic on Sept. 1 at the Saginaw Chippewa Campgrounds.

**Come and join the
FIRST ANNUAL
CELEBRATION
OF SOBRIETY
Saturday, Sept. 20
1 to 9 p.m.**

**in the Tribal Education Department
(old Bingo Hall) on the corner of
Leaton and Broadway**

**We are looking forward to your participation as Michigan
Indian Tribes and Mid-Michigan AA Groups come together to
CELEBRATE SOBRIETY!**

**Events for the day will include a POWWOW, DINNER,
GUEST SPEAKERS, FRIENDSHIP and FUN!**

Schedule of events:

1 to 4:30 - Powwow. Grand Entry at 1 p.m. Bring your regalia and encourage dancers from your area to participate.

4:30 to 6:30 - Buffet Dinner. Provided by Saginaw Chippewa Indian and Ojibwe Substance Abuse Services.

6:30 to 7:45 - Guest speaker Marilyn A. Ermatinger from Wallace, Ontario, Canada.

7:45 to 9 p.m. Keynote speaker Jim Brown from Bemidji, Minn.

A block of rooms has been made available at the Best Western, (517) 772-1101, at a special rate of \$55.80 (ask for Celebration of Sobriety). Reservations must be made by Sept. 5. Camping is also available in the Tribal Campground. Call (517) 772-2285 for reservations.

**Please, no photographs or
videotaping allowed!**

**For more information or for a
registration form, contact
Lisa Kennedy at Ojibwe Sub-
stance Abuse Services, 2250
Enterprise Dr. Suite 1, Mt.
Pleasant, MI 48858. Phone:
(517) 775-4599, fax (517) 773-
0540.**



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Meeting times and places



Monday

Relapse Prevention
2250 Enterprise Drive
Suite 1 (Petro Plaza)
4 p.m.

Tuesday

Women's Spirituality Meeting
3548 S. Shepherd
1 p.m.

Tuesday

A.A. Meeting
3548 S. Shepherd
7 p.m.

Thursday

Women's A.A. Meeting
3548 S. Shepherd Rd.
1 p.m.

Men's Spirituality Meeting
of The Acorns
2250 Enterprise Dr.
Suite 1 (Petro Plaza)
1 p.m.

Friday

A.A. Meeting
3548 S. Shepherd
1 p.m.



Tooshkenigs a driving force at annual golf tournament

Results from the Little Elk's Retreat 13th Annual Golf Tournament on Aug. 7 and 8 at Winding Brook in Shepherd are as follows:

Men's Open "A"

Steven Tooshkenig, first, 159; Ryan Sprague, second, 160; Allen Pego, third, 160; Jeff Williams, fourth, 166; John Concannon, fifth, 168; and Rick Kewayosh, sixth, 169. Skins, two each, Allen Pego, Ryan Sprague and Steve Tooshkenig. Longest drive on #3, Rick Kewayosh; #16, Ryan Sprague; and closest to pin #11, Allen Pego.

Men's Open "B"

Chris Groleau, first, 164; Ken Sands, second, 178; Robert Pego, third, 178; Waylon Pego, fourth, 185; Aaron Sprague, fifth, 189 and Dean Jacobs, sixth, 192. Skins, Chris Groleau and Robert Pego, two each; Ken Sands and Josh White, one each. Longest drive on #3, Robert Pego; #16 Dean Jacobs; closest to pin #2, Robert Pego and #11 Dean Jacobs.

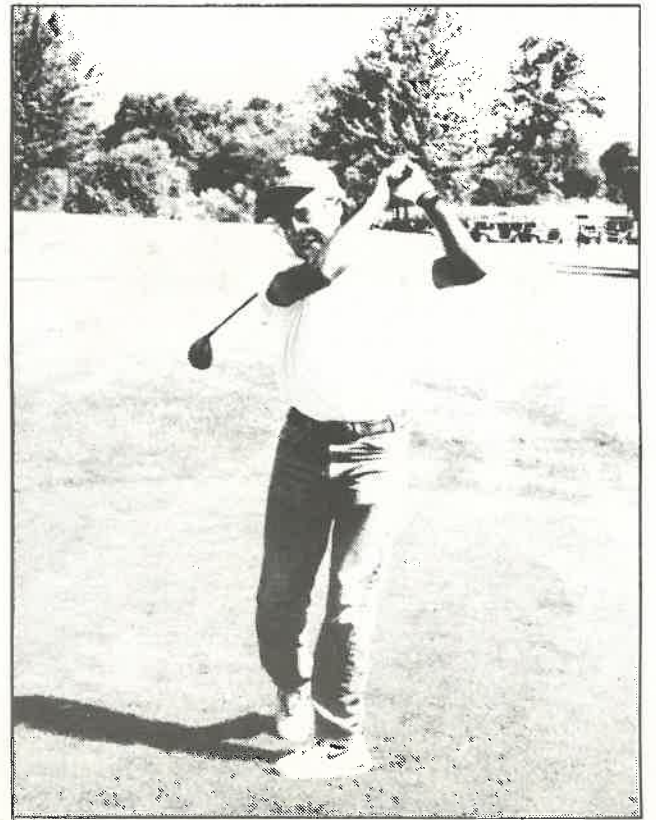
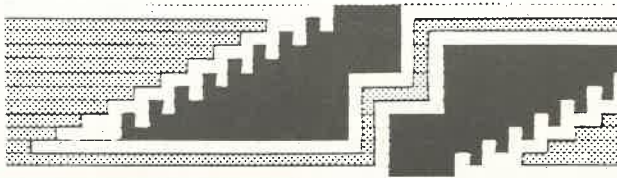
Senior's Open

William Tooshkenig, first, 163; Don Petoskey,

second, 172; Fred Williams, third, 193; Reginald Wrightman, fourth, 197; D.K. Sprague, fifth, 207; and James Pego, 213. Skins, William Tooshkenig, three; James Pego, two and Don Petoskey, Fred Williams, Reginald Wrightman, John Quigno and Paul Mandoka, one each. Longest drive on #3, Don Petoskey; #16, James Pego; closest to pin #11, Fred Williams.

Women's Open

Cheryl Tooshkenig, first, 152; Darcy Crampton, second, 179; Shirley Tooshkenig, third, 180; Jill McIntyre, fourth, 189; Kerri Henry, fifth, 206; Chris Chingman, sixth, 209; and Annette Martin, seventh, 286. Skins, Cheryl Tooshkenig, seven; and Darcy Crampton, one. Longest drive on #3, Cheryl Tooshkenig; #16, Kerri Henry; closest to pin #5 Chris Chingman and #17 Shirley Tooshkenig.



Observer photo/Scott Csernyik
John Quigno takes aim during the Senior's Open of the Little Elk's Retreat 13th Annual Golf Tournament at Winding Brook in Shepherd.

Reservation Reverie

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Elder Dorothy Dale shares the following memories of camp meetings of years past:

The 1920s, 30s and 40s were my generation's growing-up years. It was the time of one-room schools that had to accommodate grades one through eight. There was togetherness even if it wasn't wanted.

To get to our camp meeting at the North Branch Church on Meridian Road in Mt. Pleasant, we either walked, rode horses, took a horse and buggy or drove the Model T Ford. On the Ford there was a spark that was by the steering wheel that had to be pulled down to help the person that was cranking get the car started. What a car—but we loved it.

These are some of the people who attended the camp: Julia and Owasso Gesic; Jim and Helen Peters; Frank Peters and family; Charley David and Shuck-do-qua; Louie Pontiac and family; George Mandoka and family; Cy Otto and family; Willis and Elizabeth Jackson; John Jackson and family; Jim Strong and family; Peter Bennett and family; Charlie Chamberlain and family; Issac and Lucy Pelcher; Elijah Elk and family; John and Jessie Davis and family; Mike and Lisa Neyome (they always had the camp store where the kids would save their money to buy candy); and Leona Pego and family.

There were many more people and visitors too numerous to remember. A lot of visitors had to travel a week to come to our camp meeting.

A large tent was set up to accommodate all the people. During the day it was the dining room and at night it was the nearest thing to a motel.

Yes, those were good times.

We little girls would giggle and the boys would throw pieces of bark from trees at us to get our attention. A young lad even gave me a package of Wrigley's spearmint chewing gum. Guess he liked me a little bit, even though I was in the certain stage of the "I hate boys club."

Families were families, if you know what I mean. They played, prayed, worked and did things together. They were like the Three Musketeers—all for one and one for all.

When the camp meeting was no more at the North Branch Church grounds, I don't remember, but I still miss those days. They are good memories.

We as people don't appreciate the simple things of life. That's all we had then was simple things.

Now getting back to reality, I have really enjoyed my visit back into the "deja vu" of my life. Hope you have, too.

Annual camp meeting a time for fellowship

By Dorothy Dale
Staff Writer

Another camp meeting has come and gone for the year and what a meeting it was. It started Aug. 24 and ended on Sept. 1, Labor Day. The weather was as weather goes—some good sunny days and some rainy days.

There were so many things going on each day. The first day started a little slow with not very many people, but as the week got started, more and more people attended.

Cleve Ross is a young man from Oklahoma and a scholar of the Bible. He led a discussions with some of the congregation about the traditions and tools of the trade. By "tools," he meant fasting, prayers, singing praises, confession of wrongdoing, talking to God every day and reading the Word.

Every night of the camp meeting at supper time, one family and relatives would cook for the congregation. They had more fun when it came time for their family to cook. Most would cook some of the food at home and cart it down to the dining hall in the chapel. The suppers raised money for the visiting preachers' expenses.

The pastor of the meeting was the Rev. Charles Nahwegahbo of Little Current, Ontario. He became a Christian when he was 18 years old, and studied for two years to become a pastor. He pastored from 1964 to 1989 at the Manitoulin Gospel Church in Ontario. His wife, Georgenia, is an elementary school teacher. They have six children—five girls and one boy—and 10 grandchildren. They are one big happy family.

The other preacher was the Rev. Tim Miller of Grand Rapids. The singers were Philaman Bird, Norma Bird and Linda Bird of Canada also. They harmonize well and sing like angles.

The camp meeting was energized by the spirit of God.

On Monday, everyone shook hands with one another, wishing them well, hoping to see them next year.

Effort

(Continued from page 6)

Michigan National Guard to coordinate efforts with the National Guards of other states.

•Designates the Michigan National Guard as a law enforcement agency for obtaining federally forfeited drug assets.

The Department of Defense has said it will prioritize support to states that are regional counterdrug centers.

"This is the harvest season for marijuana growers," McBryde said. "The state police and National Guard units are working overtime, doing what they can. They need help, and we can give it to them."

"The governor just announced the Partnership for a Drug-Free Michigan. The Legislature should join the governor, letting drug dealers know they are not welcome."

"More important than the millions of dollars on the line are the lives at stake if we don't act now."





Tribe pledges support for local Toys for Tots effort as Marine endeavor marks its 50th year

By Judy Whitman
Staff Writer

Years ago, Toys for Tots helped make the Christmas holidays brighter for children on the Isabella Reservation.

Today, the Tribe is planning to assist Toys for Tots by making warehouse space available for future December toy distributions.

"We helped them, now they're helping us," said casino shuttle bus driver Richard Barz, a former Marine who heads the local Toys for Tots drive which provided over 6,000 toys to children in Isabella and Clare counties last year.

Tribal Council Chaplain Alvin Chamberlain and wife Cathy, a Tribal Police Department employee, attended a special meeting of the organization on Aug. 20 to announce that Tribal Council had approved taking steps toward providing a new home for the program.

Barz explained the building the group currently uses—the former Giant store office on the north end of Mt. Pleasant—is for sale, making the selection of a new site critical.



Observer photo/Judy Whitman

Toys for Tots volunteers attending the Aug. 20 event included many people with Tribal ties. Among them were, not pictured in order, Tribal Councilman Alvin Chamberlain; Cathy Chamberlain, Lt. Joe Kequom, and Kellie Nightlinger from Tribal Police; Al Jackson and Tony Starkey from Soaring Eagle security; Mary Jackson from Table Games; valet attendants Tracie Bellinger and Beth Block; and casino shuttle bus driver Richard Barz, a former Marine who serves as director of the Isabella/Clare County Toys for Tots effort. Other attendees included Marines 1st Sgt. Albert Hamm Jr. and Sgt. Greg Young, Jeff Goyt from the Clare County Sheriff Department, Robert David and Rich Duynslager from the Isabella County Sheriff's Department, Andrew Longuski from the Michigan State Police, Gary Lockwood from the Mt. Pleasant Police Department, volunteers Fern Richards from New Century Auto Sales, Caroline Ramsey from the Exchange Club, Dawn Mitchell from Hafer Hardware, Lucinda Clark from Microtel Inn, Mary Baumann, and Rita and Harold Moline.

Alvin and Cathy Chamberlain took a proposal to Tribal Council and met with the planning and finance committee to determine whether the Tribe could help meet the group's needs.

"What we were asking for was a warehouse-sized building. They need warehouse space anyway, and we

wanted it to be able to be used for Toys for Tots," Cathy Chamberlain said.

The building would primarily be used by the group during the holiday season for the accumulation and wrapping of toys, as well as for the giveaway, which is usually scheduled about a week before Christmas. The Tribe would utilize

the space for the rest of the year.

Cathy Chamberlain said the project received the nod from Council. "At this point, it hasn't been turned down, it's just a matter of finding the right ways and means," she said.

That includes dealing with issues like location, traffic control, parking
(See TOYS page 18)

Preventive efforts can ensure natural resources for future generations

National Pollution Prevention Week is Sept. 15-21. Pollution prevention means not producing a pollutant or waste.

Make responsible decisions as consumers and waste generators that will ensure our natural resources are sustained for future generations. Choose to reduce, reuse and recycle.

For more information, call the Recycling Hotline at (517) 773-9631.

Tribal Elder publishes third volume of tales

Tribal Elder Simon Otto has announced the publication of "Ah-Soo-Can-Nah-Nah," a book of legends and stories from the past.

The book, whose Ojibwe title means "Storyteller," includes tales the author remembers from childhood.

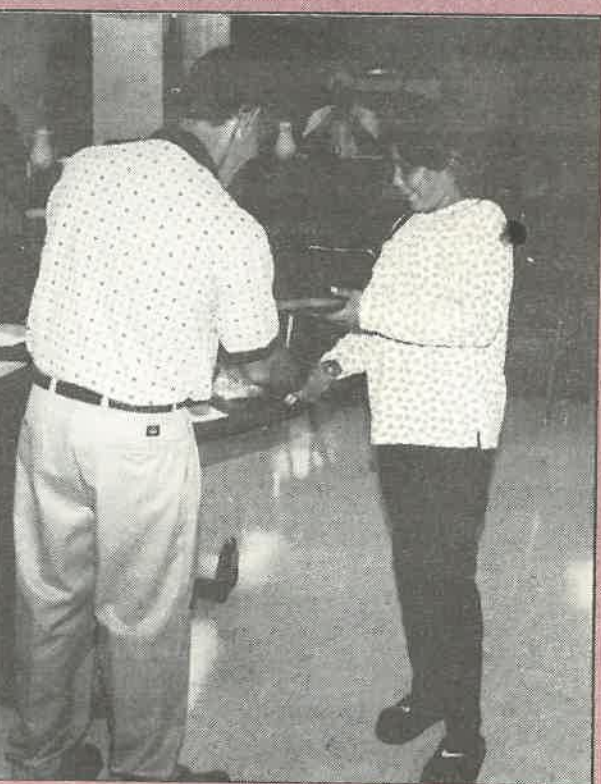
"Some stories were heard from the Elders and wise ones. Some have never been told before," Otto stated.

The release is Otto's third. His earlier works include "Walk in

Peace" and "Grandmother Moon Speaks." The Tribal Observer is honored to have printed excerpts from both books.

For more information or to purchase copies of "Ah-Soo-Can-Nah-Nah," contact Simon Otto at 3267 North Club Road, Indian River, MI 49749 or call (616) 238-7728.

HONOR MOTHER EARTH—RECYCLE!!!



Observer photo/Scott Csernyik

Outstanding effort

Eleven-year-old Ashawnee Sprague recently received the Presidential Academic Achievement Award for maintaining an "A" average as a fifth grader in the Shepherd Public Schools. Ashawnee's parents, Valerie and Kenny Sprague, accompanied her during the award presentation at a Shepherd Board of Education meeting in July.

Ordinances dictate mandatory recycling

By Monica Borgman
Recycling Education Specialist

Isabella County and the city of Mt. Pleasant have ordinances that require the mandatory separation of recyclable materials and yard waste from household garbage.

Following are some guidelines explaining how to participate in the recycling program.

If you live in a single-family home or apartment building with three units or less, you should have a recycling bin which belongs to the property. When you move, leave the bin behind for the next occupant to use.

The property address should be written on the bin with a permanent marker. If the bin becomes lost, a replacement can be purchased by calling the city at (517) 773-7971, ext. 233.

Your bin is for holding household recyclables until collection occurs. Each week, on your regular garbage pick-up day, the recycling truck will come and your bin will be emptied.

If your recyclables were not properly prepared or if your bin contained unacceptable items, the driver will leave them in the bin
(See SORT page 15)

What can be recycled?

Isabella County Material Recovery Program accepts the following items: newspapers, magazines, catalogs, corrugated cardboard, boxboard (no pizza boxes, frozen food boxes, or beer/pop cartons); brown, green and clear glass jars and bottles; #2 plastic bottles and jugs with a seam across the bottom (no margarine or whipped topping bowls); aluminum cans, foil, pie and food trays, tin cans, metal food and beverage containers and empty aerosols.

The MRF accepts white office paper and mixed office paper, which are not accepted through the curbside program. Grass clippings, leaves and brush, and motor oil are accepted for a fee. Household hazardous waste is accepted by appointment only.

The Tribal recycling depot is located on the east side of the Tribal Operations building on the corner of Leaton and Broadway. For a list of county recycling depots, call the Recycling Hotline at (517) 773-9631.



At-Large member Clarence Squanda casts his vote in the art contest while wife Louise examines a sculpture by Byron Bird which won the Best of Show award.

Observer photo/Judy Whitman

Woodlands art is focus of show

By Daniel Ramirez
Art Consultant

The purpose of the art competition at this year's powwow was to show off the art of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe and to support other Anishnaabe artists from around the area.

As art consultant for the Tribe, it is my job to locate and work with the artists of the Tribe. During the development stage of the show, the committee and I decided not to follow the standard formula that other art shows follow. We wanted to give our powwow a new platform to show contemporary and traditionally inspired artwork.

I was very happy to see that 40 people took the time to come out and participate in the contest. Competition is tough and showing your art and crafts can be a little intimidating, however, all

went well and the weather even held out for us.

I would like to add briefly that Mark Heron helped make the show a success and that I and others at Ziibiwing Cultural Society will truly miss him.

This year's powwow "Best of Show" prize went to Byron Bird. Many of his small hand-built dancing figures appear throughout the casino's Eaawiyaang exhibit.

In the beadwork category, the work of Janice Beckhorn won first place. Janice is well-known on the Midwest powwow trail. Second place went to Judy Johansen of the Red Arrow Family. Judy put together a dynamic beaded bandolier bag. The work of Cara and Stacy Fallis won third place.

In the basketmaking

category, master basket weaver and Tribal member Bob Wabagkeck of Oscoda won first place with his large hamper. Second and third place went to the brother and sister team of Ben Shinos and Sarah Turkey. Ben and Sarah were also featured artists at the recent Basket Makers' Conference in Lansing.

Anishnaabe painter Mark Bruder won first place in his category with his colorful rendition of a fancy dancer. In second place, Chad Avery submitted two very nice works, and in third place was the painted collage work of Kayle Crampton.

In the mixed media category, Delores Laban's stained glass piece depicting a traditional dancer won first place, and Faith Montoya-Pego's beautiful painted skull took second. Third place went to Wenonah

Bird's jingle dress outfit.

The sculpture category winner was Dennis Christy, with second place going to Byron Bird. The "First Annual Floral Drawing Contest" winner was Faith Montoya-Pego.

I would like to thank the people on the Powwow Committee for allowing me to organize this first art competition.



Tribal member Bob Wabagkeck's basket won first place in its category.

Tribal princess title is crowning achievement

By Judy Whitman
Staff Writer

Tribal princess Dayna Johansen says she's been dancing almost since she could walk.

The fancy dancer was crowned Miss Saginaw Ojibwe on Aug. 10 during the Little Elk's Retreat Powwow.

The daughter of Ron and Judy Johansen is a junior at Shepherd High School, where she is an active member of the Anishnabe Youth Council.

"I've been wanting to enter the contest for a couple of years," she said.

"She and her mom started working on beadwork and basically put together a whole new outfit. They worked on it all winter," said her father.



DAYNA JOHANSEN

Johansen said the princess competition involved filling out an application including four essay questions, then answering one of those questions in a public speaking segment in front of the whole powwow audience.

Johansen said she responded to her assigned question—"Where do you see yourself in five years?"—by answering, "I hope to be attending a prestigious Native American college, studying to become a psychiatrist, and still following the powwow circuit."

In the months and a half since capturing the title, Johansen has already represented her Tribe at events around the state. "Every weekend since, I've gone to a powwow," she noted.

She said she really likes the extra attention that being a princess brings. "During Grand Entry, I get to go in right after the head dancers and they announce my name."

The title also leads to a certain amount of teasing. "During the two-step, the announcers are always telling the princesses, 'Go find a little prince, or at least dance with a frog,'" Johansen laughed.



Conference builds youth leadership qualities

The summer of 1997 will be one to remember for 1,370 Native American youth who recently gathered in Phoenix, Ariz., for the national UNITY conference on youth leadership.

Youth traveled to the "Valley of the Sun" from diverse American In-

dian and Alaska Native communities, representing 66 Tribes and 21 states.

Coordinated by United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc., the conference focused on three attributes of leadership: character, commitment and courage.

Youth were challenged to "take a stand," and commit to helping their Tribes, villages and communities as well as living healthy lifestyles.

Youth put their commitment to the test by participating in one of the largest community service projects conducted

by Native American youth since President Clinton's recent initiative on youth volunteerism, launched at the President's Summit for America's Future in Philadelphia.

"Over 1,300 youth spanned the Phoenix (See UNITY page 16)

Houghton Lake shop has a time-honored tradition

For over 60 years, it's been a place where Native Americans have gathered during the summer to share dances, songs and stories with visitors and tourists at Houghton Lake.

Zubler's Indian Craft Shop, located on M-55 in Roscommon County, has hosted Thursday afternoon gatherings in a cooperative cultural venture for many members of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

Even though its participants have changed, grown older or passed on, the focus of the powwows has been toward youth. The experience has proven to be equally educational for travelers and dancers alike.

"It was my first real exposure to our Native heritage," said Ron "Eskie" Johansen, who first danced at Zubler's

when he was eight-years-old.

Now 37, Johansen

OBSERVER TEXT AND PHOTOS BY SCOTT CSERNYIK

"The time has come for your family to relive a piece of history, visit Zubler's in Houghton Lake every Thursday afternoon. Your family will enjoy taking a step back in time with a free Indian powwow."

-Zubler's advertisement on WUPS 98.5-FM



Every Thursday afternoon during the summer, Zubler's Indian Craft Shop is a beehive of activity as tourists and visitors attend hourly mini-powwows at the Houghton Lake business. Over the years, most of the traders and dancers who have taken part in the activity are members of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

said the business has served as an opportunity for youth to sharpen their dancing skills and learn about their culture in a relaxed setting.

"It's a good place for teaching the kids, the younger ones," added Johansen. "When I was young, a lot of the kids and their families were poor. We didn't have the money for elaborate regalia.

"A lot of it was handed down. Zubler's was a place where you

could dance and no one could put you down for a less-than-adequate outfit."

Eighteen-year-old fancy shawl dancer Tonya Jackson started coming to the northern Michigan attraction when she was a tender seven-months-old with her great-grandmother Maggie Jackson.

"I have a lot of fun while I'm doing it," Tonya said. "I see it as an educational activity for all to enjoy."

Julia Jackson, who's been making fry bread at the "Indian Bread" booth for six or seven years, echoed her daughter's sentiment.

"I feel that a lot of the children can learn about the Native American culture," she stated. "There's a lot of sharing going on and it's just a good experience...especially for the younger ones."

During the presentation, master of ceremonies Don "Red Arrow" Stevens tells the crowd "this is one of the longest running programs in the state" going back to the 1930s.

As he continues on explaining several dances and their meanings, the Tribal Elder says, "animals were very important to us

then as they are today."

Owosso resident Rose Perina, who's been coming to the Houghton Lake during the summer for the past 62 years, said she remembers when Zubler's was first being built.

"I can remember when they were first putting this up," she said. "They had two Indians then. There were no cabins and the area was pretty undeveloped...no tourist sites or places to go, just a few stores."

Zubler's bears the namesake of its founder, Fred Zubler. After 20-some years,



In assembly line-like fashion, jingle dress dancer Amber Scott, foreground, gets some help getting ready from Renata Borton, who in turn has assistance from Auntie Gloria Stevens with braiding her hair.



Don "Red Arrow" Stevens tells the crowd a story as granddaughter and fancy shawl dancer Mandy Jo Stevens waits her turn to dance.

of sharing Native culture through weekly gatherings



"It's been a long, long-standing tradition. I get people coming into the store saying how they brought their children up here and now they're bringing they're grandchildren. I've been able to watch a lot of the people who come here grow up. It's been a really neat experience which benefits everyone involved."

-Linda Arnold

Decades before the resurgence of powwows, many Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members relied on the afternoon gatherings as a consistent opportunity to dance and for small financial reward. This picture was taken about 35 years ago and was originally sold in postcard format to tourists at the time. Pictured second from the left is Eli Thomas, also known as the ceremonial Chief Little Elk, who coordinated the afternoon events for about 40 years.

the business traded hands and has been in the Arnold family for 32 years.

Linda Arnold said the weekly powwows draw a lot of visitors who are very enthusiastic about the form of "entertainment."

"It's a total change of scenery and a break from what is offered as something to do in the area," she stated. "It's been a long, long-standing tradition. I get people coming into the store saying how they brought their chil-

dren up here and now they're bringing they're grandchildren.

"I've been able to watch a lot of the

people who come here grow up. It's been a really neat experience which benefits everyone involved."

**Do you have a fond memory
or recollection
from being at Zubler's?
If so, please contact the
Tribal Observer staff at
(517) 775-4011
or write the
Tribal Observer
7070 E. Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858**



Julia Jackson finds a little cool shade while making fry bread on a hot summer day.



From wood carvings to jewelry, visitors examine authentic Native American crafts.



Traditional dancer Chase Stevens is one of many Tribal youth who have danced most of their lives at Zubler's in the summer.



Basket making tradition weaves together past and present



Observer photo/Judy Whitman

Anna and Marclay Crampton display handcrafted items they acquired during the 1997 Great Lakes Native Basket and Quillbox Makers' Gathering. Included are, front row left to right, sweetgrass placemats/wall hangings by Angeline Gabow; a small basket by Barbara Kioyshk; two baskets by Lavina and Morry Day; a birch bark box with quills by Angeline Gabow; small sweetgrass basket and bell by Mary Adams; open black ash basket with feet by Minnie Jackson; bark quillbox by Lillian Wiser; black ash with sweetgrass basket by Mary Adams; bark quill box with eagle by Juanita Blackhawk; and open black ash cattails by Ben Shinos and Sarah Turkey; large wastepaper basket by Elaine Porter; large sweetgrass basket with lid by Barbara Kioyshk (a gift from James Aquash); red and white black ash basket by Mary Adams, black ash basket with handle by Larry Sprague; and a brown and orange black ash basket by Frank Weese.

Successful conference leads to the formation of basket and quill boxes makers' association

By Judy Whitman
Staff Writer

An August gathering of Native American basket and quillbox makers was deemed so successful organizers hope to form an association of Great Lakes region craftspeople.

Thirty-six artisans from Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, New York and Canada took part in the 1997 Great Lakes Native Basket and Quillbox Makers' Gathering, included in Michigan State University's Festival of Michigan Folklore.

Nokomis Learning Center of Okemos co-sponsored the gathering. "We began with a core group of basket and quillbox makers, then canvassed the Great Lakes region with mass mailings to help us identify prospective participants," said Nokomis Education Facilitator Marclay Crampton, one of the event's organizers.

His mother, Anna Crampton, was included among the Saginaw Chippewa participants, as were

Nancy Owl, Minnie Jackson, Larry Sprague, Agnes Rapp and Bonnie Jackson. Mohawk, Onondaga, Seneca, Odawa and Potawatomi as well as Ojibwe crafters attended.

"I would estimate no less than 5,000 baskets were displayed throughout that four-day weekend," said Marclay Crampton.

Sales were brisk and many of the crafters depleted their entire stock by the event's end. Basket making demonstrations, talking circles and media interviews also kept participants busy.

Everyone enjoyed the gathering so much a decision was made to turn it into an annual event and form a Great Lakes association of basket and quillbox makers similar to groups in other parts of the country.

In fact, several members of the California Indian Basketweaver's Association (CIBA) took part in the conference.

"We hope to form an association to perpetuate and facilitate basket weaving and quillbox making in the

Great Lakes region in all aspects—teaching, the exchange of ideas, and also aiding basket weavers in marketing their works and obtaining access to materials," said Crampton.

The latter issue is especially important in ensuring the continuation of traditional crafts. "Black ash is getting much harder to get," said Anna Crampton, noting the trees are often cut for pulpwood.

Pesticide sprays, 'no trespassing' signs and the permits often required to harvest materials on public lands are among the other roadblocks artisans face.

"There are also instances where Elders aren't capable of gathering or securing their own materials," said Marclay Crampton, adding that perhaps the organization could find a way to provide these Elders with the supplies they need. "That way, basket makers who sit idle [despite] their experience could produce materials if they wish, for financial gain or just for the sake

(See BASKET page 16)

Ask Nokomis
Grandmotherly wisdom
for all ages

"Kook-Ba-Nog-Nick-Kaa" Basket Making

Went to a basket making class in Flint taught by Larry Sprague the famous basket maker. As we walked into the class room there sat seven adults and one six-year-old trying to figure out how to perfect the art of basket weaving.

It reminded me of the many days on end when we had to make baskets to sell so we could sustain our bodies by buying food and essentials, especially during the winter months when the snow was falling down in big, fat flakes. We would sit in the living room with the big pot-bellied stove throwing out heat while Mom, Dad, brothers, sisters and Grandmother all had certain duties to contribute to Kook-Ba-Nog-Nick-Kaa, earning our living.

Back to Larry and his class. All the students were fixing their splints and this is how they were taught to do so. They had to fix 12 splints the same size, six for the bottom and six for the sides. They were going to make the Ojibwa pattern. Instructions:

1. Lay six splints down on the table.
2. Take one more splint and weave it into the bottom splint, under one, over two, under two, over one. Second row: over two, under two, over two. Third row: under one, over two, under two, over one. Fourth row: under two, over two, under two. Fifth row: under one, over two, under two, over one. Sixth row: Over two, under two, over two.
3. Bend splints so they look like trees standing tall all around the bottom of the basket. Now take weaver splints and weave in and out all around the basket until it is as high as you want it to be.
4. Bend the splints into the basket, cut the splints about one inch from the top of the basket rim and fold them into the inside of the basket to hold it together.
5. Next take two thicker splints and put one on the outside of the basket edge and the other on the inside. Take another thinner splint and wrap it around the rim, up and over all around, then tuck the splint into the basket.
6. Turn the basket over and wrap another splint around the bottom rim of the basket, making a platform.

Hope I've made the instructions easy. Together, we made a basket.

Gee, the splints can make a novice's fingers sore, but with time and practice, calluses will grow. Then you will have mastered something to be proud of, "BASKET FINGERS."

Nokomis





Officials using Fire Prevention Week as a time to educate the community

By Scott Csernyik
Staff Writer

Tribal firefighters hate to see anyone get burned because they

didn't know how to act properly during an emergency.

That's why during National Fire Preven-

tion Week from Oct. 5-11 their aim is to educate as a preventive means to disaster.

"Our goal is to give the community helpful hints to prevent fires in the homes and businesses on the Isabella Reservation," stated Tribal Fire Chief Fred Cantu. "While we want our message to reach adults, we also realize an equal importance to teach the younger generations fire safety and proper preventive practices."

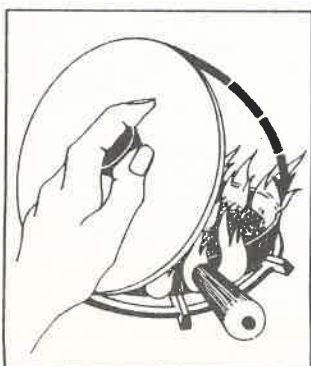
Cantu said common causes of household fires include:

- Faulty electrical equipment;
- Overloaded circuits;
- Kids playing with matches;
- Smoking in bed, and
- Shorts in extension cords which are

(See FIRE page 19)



- Don't panic!
- Cover burning pan with a lid or other object at least as wide as the pan opening.
- Don't use water, sugar, flour or baking powder.
- Turn off the burner.
- Don't carry a burning pan. Let it cool completely.
- Improper use of a fire extinguisher can spread grease and flames to a wider area. Extinguishers can be used if the fire has spread from the pan to other surfaces.
- Always call the fire department (from a neighbor's phone when necessary) if the fire gets out of control or after the flames are extinguished and there is a chance it can restart.



How kitchen fires start: Ten minutes after grease or cooking oil overheats, an acid aroma is emitted. Ten minutes later, smoke and vapors fill the room. Vapors are ignited by the burner, and a fire starts. Remember, never leave cooking unattended.



Hotel

(Continued from page 2)

environment of total and open cooperation in all matters in the completion of the project.

"I think some of the positive things we see is developing open communication and working together with all parties. A strong goal on the part of the Council was to establish a time to hear specific problems and issues on a weekly basis," Alliston said. "We have established a detailed project schedule as requested by Council and if we follow the conditions set and keep communication open I believe the schedule is achievable."

Dow Howell Gilmore President Don Koster indicated his company has worked for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe on several projects and welcomes the chal-

lenge of completing Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

"We are working with our architects on the project and assisting Tribal Council as consultants on a needs basis with design of the casino," Koster informs. "We have a very aggressive schedule but we have a good team process between construction managers, subcontractors, architect, engineers and interior designers. We are optimistic in meeting that schedule and look forward to the successful completion of the project."

Koster further pledged to work with Zibiwing Cultural Society to assure that the resort reflect our unique culture and heritage.

"Daniel Ramirez and Bonnie Ekdahl are an important part of our design committee and we look forward to working with them," he added.

Christman Co.

Project Superintendent Gary Shannon realizes the importance of completing the project according to schedule but is making sure the construction is done in a safe manner.

"Our corporate safety program will be followed along with the safety program of every subcontractor and it's been set up with the Tribal inspection group that the Tribe's safety supervisor will be reviewing the process every step of the way," Shannon stated. "I would like to say to the Tribal members that this is a whole new ball game. The subcontractors that were here before are geared up and ready to come back and we will be accountable to the needs of the Tribe."

Tribal Chief Building Inspector Bob Ash is pleased the project is ready to move ahead once more and assures all safety aspects are ready for continuing construction.

Tour bus business booms

By Judy Whitman
Staff Writer

The number of tour buses destined for the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort has increased dramatically following the Aug. 25 debut of incentive packages for patrons.

"I get on the buses and everyone starts clapping," said Tour and Travel Supervisor Kevin Ricketts, who often greets the incoming tour groups.

"Many of the players are just blown away by this," he said, adding, "Every casino has group 'perks,' and this is our first. They love it."

The incentives, offered to tour groups who register in advance with the

casino, entitles patrons to a \$10 match play plus a \$2 discount on meals at the Firefly buffet restaurant.

Tour groups must meet some criteria to be eligible, including scheduling their tour at least two weeks in advance.

They must also comply with all Michigan Department of Transportation requirements and plan to stay at the casino for at least four hours. Some restrictions may also apply during special promotions.

News of the incentives has spread like wildfire. "We haven't even done our mass mailing yet, and just by word of mouth,

calls are coming in from everywhere," Ricketts reported on Sept. 4.

"Next Monday we have 10 buses scheduled, when we usually average only one or two," he said.

One tour operator even called to say he was doubling the number of buses he usually brings to the Soaring Eagle, due to the increase in interest created by the incentives.

"It's working out wonderfully," Ricketts concluded.

For more information about tour bus promotions, contact the Soaring Eagle Tour and Travel Department toll free at (888) 7-EAGLE-7.

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"We have a controlled system in place and there are no safety problems on the site and we don't intend on having any in the future," Ash confirmed.

"The problems that we had in the construction before are behind us and we now have a solid design, construction and inspection team to get this job done. We're considering this as a new job and I want the Tribal members to know we are going to come through this with flying colors!"

Not to be confused with Councilman Ron Jackson, Tribal Project Liaison Ron Jackson applauds the positive

participation of Tribal Council in getting the project moving forward once more.

"We have more participation as Tribal people in this project because of the position Council took in placing control of the operation," Jackson said proudly. "We have more liberty for changes in the job flow and concept design and we will be able to keep the cost down on the project."

Tribal Treasurer David Otto has looked at the expenditures of the multimillion dollar project and will continue to monitor the finances on a regular basis.

"When I was elected to Tribal Council, I thanked all of the people who voted for me and told them I was going to do everything I can to help our people," Otto exclaimed. "As Tribal Treasurer, I'm going to make sure we're getting what we pay for. That's the way it should be with this project and everything that is spent in gaming and Tribal Operations."

Tribal Attorney Michael Phelan and the law firm Morrissey, Schlosser, Ayer & Jozwiak spent many hours addressing the legal concerns of the

(See HOTEL page 19)



At-Large

TRIBAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT III (AT-LARGE)

Ronald Jackson
8570 N. Hubbardston Rd.
Hubbardston, MI 48845
(800) 225-8172
(800) 884-6271
Out-of-State messages
(517) 775-4020
NO COLLECT CALLS
(517) 981-6610

AT-LARGE BENEFITS COMMITTEE

Region 1 Representative

John York
5451 Pine St.
Harrisville, MI 48740
(517) 724-5473
NO COLLECT CALLS

Region 2 Representative

Rod Crampton
11028 Radcliff Ave.
Allendale, MI 49401
(616) 892-6267
NO COLLECT CALLS

Region 3 Representative

Thelma Henry-Shipman
(Benefits Committee Chairperson)
6044 Pte. Tremble
P.O. Box 703
Pearl Beach, MI 48001
(810) 794-9272
NO COLLECT CALLS

Region 4 Representative

Neuel E. Denman
2237 Pero Lake Road
Lapeer, MI 48446
(810) 664-4885
NO COLLECT CALLS

AT-LARGE ADVOCATE

Amy F. Alberts
7070 E. Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
National Direct Line
(800) 884-6271

Members invited to community gatherings

Updates from Tribal departments as well as a chance to meet District 3 candidates for Tribal Council will highlight the At-Large Program's September community gatherings. Tribal members and their families are welcome. All meetings will start at 1 p.m. Dates and locations are:

- Region 1, Sept. 20 at VFW Post 3753, 240 Chrysler Road, Oscoda.
- Region 2, Sept. 27 at the FireFighters Hall, 1940 Fuller, N.E., Grand Rapids.
- Region 3, Sept. 28 at Coral Gables, 2838 East Grand River, Lansing.
- District 4, Sept. 21 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1227 W. Francis Road, Mt. Morris.

Maps of the Mt. Morris and Oscoda areas appeared in the Sept. 1 *Tribal Observer*. Maps to the remaining gatherings are below.



Cultural conference helps youth understand potential

The sixth annual Native Youth Leadership Conference convened in Grand Rapids with 40 youth representing many federally recognized Tribes plus several urban areas.

The Aug. 18 to 22 conference gathered in order to help the youth tap into their leadership ability and potential as Anishinabe youth.

The conference was coordinated by Native American Prevention Services of Grand Rapids, currently a program of the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan.

Youth were challenged to work on increasing their leadership skills by engaging in many hands-on initiatives including games, challenge courses, communication through theater and team-building exercises.

Healthy lifestyle areas focused on alcohol use/abuse, healthy relationships, and HIV/AIDS prevention as well as reinforcing cultural values.

A highlight of the conference included De-Ba-Jeh-Mu-Jig Theater

Group from Wikwemikong, Ontario, who presented an entertaining performance and followed it up with a one-day training the following afternoon.

"De-ba-jeh-mu-jig," meaning "storytellers" in Ojibwe and Cree, is a professional group of Anishinabe performers that has traveled extensively and is committed to the vitalization of the Anishinabeg culture, language and traditions through education and original creative expression.

The youth of the conference worked closely in small groups with a facilitator from the group and worked on communication, team-building and expression of youth issues through theater.

Strong, healthy lifestyle messages were given by Thurman Bear of the Medicine Bear Academy of Detroit; Sharla Smith, an intern with the Inter-Tribal Council, and Harry Simpson from the AIDS Speakers Bureau of the Michigan State

(See MEET page 15)

Letters

To all the families of Russell B., "Nug," Trudy, Dorson and Ben H.:

Since there have been so many families and friends who have had loved ones pass away this summer, it prompted me to send these families a letter.

I would like these families to know that even though I live far away, it saddens me to hear when one of our members has passed away, because most of the time it's people I have known pretty well myself.

I'd also like for these families to know that there are times when I can only be there in "spirit" when such unfortunate events occur, and that I feel their pain also.

Even though I'm far away, I'll never forget where my roots are. God bless us all and may our Creator comfort us, through our families and friends, who are still here for us.

God Bless—
Sincerely,

Carmen (Otto) De Los Santos

To the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council and At-Large Program office staff (Amy, Cathy and Gloria):

I wish to extend my gratitude to all of you and the At-Large volunteers for the hard work and effort put forth to make the Coming Home Project such a wonderful experience for my husband Al Roth and myself.

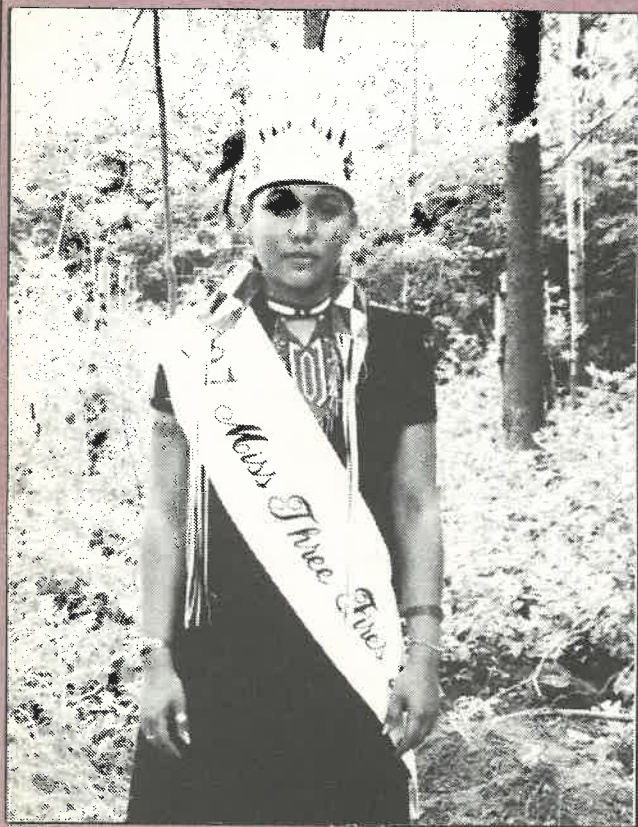
We had a wonderful time and are really proud to be a part of the wonderful things happening in the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe.

Thanks also to the Tribe and the Tribal Council for making the Coming Home possible. It was our first time at the Little Elk's Powwow and will remain a fond memory for the rest of our lives.

Miigwech,

Bunny and Al Roth





Observer photo/Judy Whitman

Three Fires princess

De-Ahna Lewis, a member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, was crowned Miss Three Fires Anishnaabe on Aug. 10 during the Little Elk's Retreat Powwow on the Isabella Reservation.

Johnson appointed as chair of national gaming group

President Clinton announced on Sept. 2 the appointment of Tadd Johnson as chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission.

Johnson will serve as a recess appointee. He was nominated on July 31 and his nomination is currently pending before the Senate.

Johnson, a member of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, hails from Lino Lakes, Minn. He is an attorney in private practice at the law firm Johnson, Hamilton, & Quigley, where he specializes in negotiating self-governance agreements for Native American Tribes.

Johnson served as the interim executive director and counsel of the Bois Forte Band in Minnesota in 1995.

Prior to that, he was staff director and counsel for the House Sub-Committee on Native American Affairs. He also served as counsel on Indian affairs for the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs from 1991 to 1993. During his tenure with the committee, Johnson was responsible for the oversight hearings held on Indian gaming issues.

Johnson received his bachelor of arts degree from the college of St. Thomas in 1979 and a juris doctor from the University of Minnesota in 1985.

The National Indian Gaming Commission, under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior, was created to regulate all affairs relevant to gaming on Indian lands.

The commission has the power to monitor gaming activities, levy fines, inspect all premises located on Indian lands, conduct background investigations and conduct audits.

The chairman oversees the day-to-day operation of the commission and has the power to issue orders temporarily closing gaming activities, levy and collect civil fines, approve regulation and classification of gaming classes, and approve management contracts for Class II and III gaming.

The appointment of the chairman will ensure continued leadership at the National Indian Gaming Commission.

Meet

(Continued from page 14)

Medical Society). All expressed abstinence as a choice to help stop the cycle of unhealthy lifestyles.

The youth were also put to the test by participating in the challenge course at Camp O'Malley, which included a low team building initiative, high ropes course and a climbing wall.

Cultural warrior games also seemed to be a favorite of the youth as it spoke to honor and respect values from our teachings.

Jack Chambers from the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa and Renee Dillard from the Grand River Band of Ottawas spoke about the mean-

ing of a warrior through their own experience and teachings from our culture.

Lastly, a commitment ceremony took place in which those youth who were ready to make a commitment to leadership and healthy lifestyles shared their vision of what that commitment entails for their own personal lives.

Each one that committed was given a saymaa (tobacco) pouch with a medicine wheel as a symbol of their commitment.

The conference in 1998 will again be in August with the location to be announced. Information will be mailed out in the spring and all interested youth are encouraged to contact their youth program coordinator or Tribe for more information.

Sort

(Continued from page 13)

with a notice explaining the problem.

If you forget to put out your recyclables or your bin isn't full, simply wait till the collection on the following week to put your bin out.

All other rental property in the city is considered commercial and is treated differently.

According to the or-

dinance, all commercial properties are to be given the opportunity to recycle by the waste hauler. If there is no established method, recyclables may be taken directly to the Material Recovery Facility (MRF), 4208 East River Road, at no charge.

For further information, call the Recycling Hotline at (517) 773-9631 or visit the MRF at the above address.



Obituaries

Harvey Joseph Chamberlain

Jan. 29, 1957 - Aug. 23, 1997

Harvey Joseph Chamberlain, 40, of rural Dewitt died Saturday, Aug. 23, 1997, as a result of a tractor accident.

He was born Jan. 29, 1957, in Mt. Pleasant, the son of Leland C. and Velma (Bailey) Chamberlain. He lived most of his life in rural Dewitt, where he was a farmer and worked at Oldsmobile in Lansing. On April 22, 1978, he married Robin Halstead in St. Johns.

He is survived by his wife, Robin; son Scott Chamberlain, daughters Kristina, Nichole and Sarah, all at home; parents Leland Chamberlain of St. Johns and Velma Lytle of Mt. Pleasant; grandfather Willie Bailey of Mt. Pleasant; sister Julie Chamberlain of Canton; half brothers Clifford, John Kempf, Tracey, Terry, Joey Lytle and Troy Chamberlain, all of Mt. Pleasant; half sisters Lanette House and Valerie Lytle, both of Mt. Pleasant; and parent-in-law Ronald and Barbara Halstead of St. Johns.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Leland, and sister Patricia Stinson.

The family received friends on Monday, Aug. 25. Funeral services took place Tuesday, Aug. 26, at 1 p.m. at the Osgood Funeral Home in St. Johns with the Rev. Clyde Harris officiating. Burial was at South Bingham Cemetery. Donations will be accepted for Mr. Chamberlain's children.

Russell James

Sept. 24, 1932 - Aug. 31, 1997

Russell James, 64, of Midland passed away Sunday, Aug. 31.

He was born Sept. 24, 1932 in Standish. He married the former Sidney Munger in 1986 in Midland.

He is survived by his wife, Sidney; daughter Rebecca Rittmaier of Plymouth, brother Clifford of Saginaw, sisters Leana of Sterling, Mildred Sepulveda of Bay City, Bernice Nelson of Au Gres, Helen James of Bay City, Jeanette Williams of Flint, Mary Ann James of Detroit; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Mary Rose Medina.

Funeral services took place Thursday, Sept. 1 at 2 p.m. at the Saginaw Indian Church. Friends were invited to call on Wednesday from 11 a.m. until the service time.

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Unity

(Continued from page 9)

community and surrounding Tribal communities as a testimony of commitments to service," said J.R. Cook, UNITY executive director. "It was an amazing sight to see so many young Native Americans doing something positive to make a difference in the greater Phoenix community."

Sponsored by Phillips Dodge Mining Company, the community service day involved a river cleanup at the Ft. McDowell Reservation, graffiti removal in Phoenix, home improvement projects at the Salt River Indian Community and a cultural exchange at the Gila River Indian Community.

A group of dancers from the Lower Kuskokwim School District in Alaska shared their songs and games with elementary school students and numerous youth developed poster board-sized greeting cards for flood victims in North Dakota.

Conferees also heard powerful keynote messages from nationally-known speaker and motivator Howard Rainer, 7th degree black belt Mack Newton and actor Danny Glover.

"Take a stand and believe in yourself," said Newton, who is also a trainer of professional athletes. "Say to your-

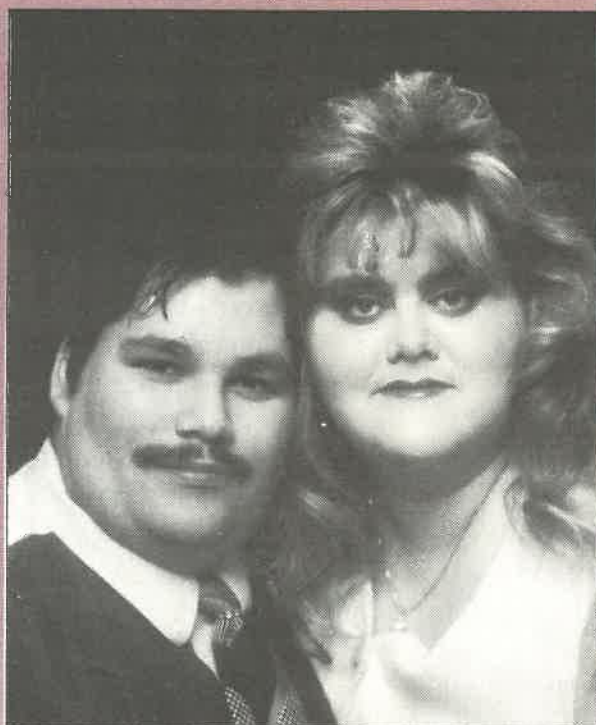
self, 'I will never quit,' and refuse to pity yourself," he said.

Tribal leaders Bernadine Boyd of Ft. McDowell, Gov. Mary Thompson of Gila River, Earl Old Person of the Crow Nation and Ivan Makil of Salt River also challenged youth to be committed to taking a stand for the future of Native America by preparing to become leaders today.

"What we have as leaders is the power to influence people. It is important to respect others, be honest and be willing to move forward," said Mikil. "When the challenges are there, take it on. If you don't, you're not helping your people survive."

"Taking on challenges builds character and every time you take on a challenge you will be rewarded."

UNITY is a national non-profit Native American youth leadership organization.



CLARE-SOWMICK

Navene Marie Clare and David Leonard Sowmick will be united in marriage on Oct. 18 at 2 p.m. at the Chippewa United Methodist Church on the Isabella Reservation. A reception will follow at the Tribal Center.

The bride is the daughter of Maren Ida Clare of Remus and Benjamin Franklin DeMoines II of North Branch. A graduate of Ferris State University, she is currently employed by Soaring Eagle Bingo. She is a descendent of the Little Traverse Band of Odawa Indians.

The groom is the son of the late Chief Arnold and Margaret Sowmick. He is a graduate of Saginaw Chippewa schools, employed by the Tribe's MIS Department.

Christian motorcyclists group meeting locally

The Mt. Pleasant chapter of the Christian Motorcyclists Association meets on the first Tuesday of every month from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Shoney's restaurant on Pickard.

Anyone interested is welcome to attend the meetings. For more information, contact Dan Howe at (517) 775-5077.

Basket

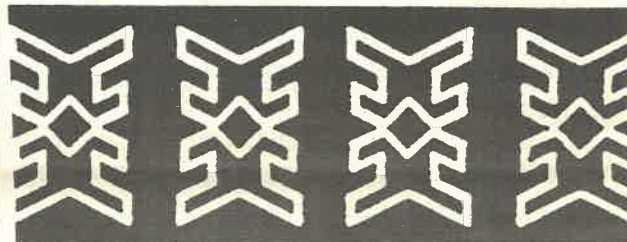
(Continued from page 12)

of peace of mind."

He added that other textile crafts, such as mooschair tufting and the creation of woven fiber containers and pouches, are also practiced in the region. The inclusion of these arts would also be as- set to the organization.

"The Great Lakes is a huge area with a thousand-mile radius from the Straits of Mackinaw. I hope Tribes that weren't represented at this conference will be involved," he said.

Basket and quillbox makers who are interested in attending an October organizational meeting of the association should contact Marclay Crampton at Nokomis Learning Center, (517) 349-5777. The meeting will probably take place in the Lansing area.



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Bird

(Continued from page 4)

But I guess they must have survived, because

I didn't see any dead birds.

The little ones can run almost when they are born. They are a funny-looking bird when they

are young. They are a little fluff of feathers on long stilt-like legs and they can really run. They leave in late October or early November, de-

pending on the weather. Sometimes they are caught off guard by the weather and wake up to snow on the ground. Then they pack up their stuff and go to warmer climates.

These birds can sometimes be heard late at night, maybe scared up by a wandering dog or cat. I then remember what Grandfather would say, "Those crazy kill-deer don't know enough to go to sleep."

Commission to meet

A regular meeting of the Michigan Commission on Indian Affairs will take place Sept. 26 at the Southeastern Michigan Indians, Inc., 26641 Lawrence St.

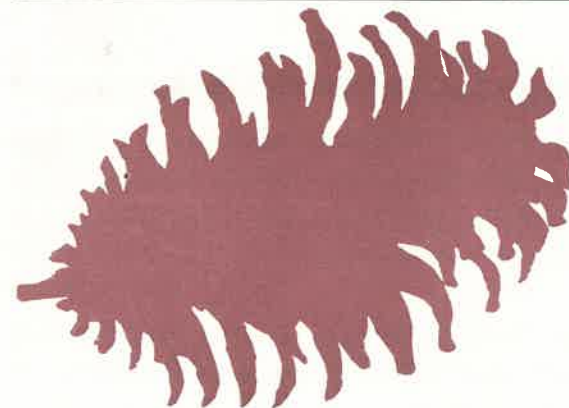
For more information, call (517) 373-0654



Observer photo/Scott Csernyik

Allowance winner

Kiptys Cash Project enters the winner's circle at Mt. Pleasant Meadows after winning the Chief Sowmick Allowance on Aug. 31 in a time of 20.24 for the 400-yard contest. The three-year-old quarter horse, ridden to victory by Ron Louchart, is trained by Tony Cunningham and is owned by Dewey Hilding. Kiptys Cash Project has been in the money six of eight starts and paid bettors \$11.80 to win on a \$2 wager, \$3.40 for place and \$2.40 to show.



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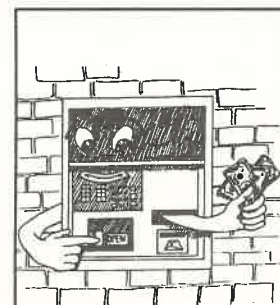
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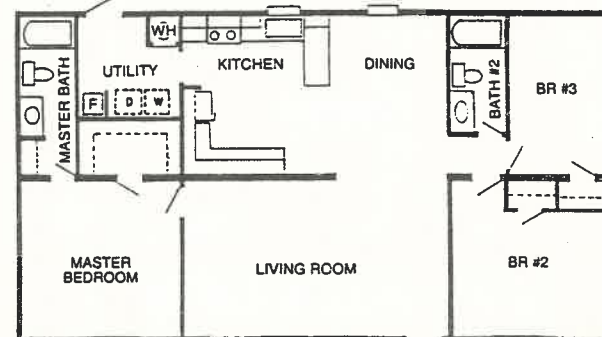
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Sept. 19-20 NASCO Movement Cultural Awareness Program in Albion. For more information, call Linda Cypret at (517) 629-9441, ext. 342 or at (616) 781-6409.

Sept. 20-21 Seventh Annual Zog Da Wah Traditional Indian Powwow in Ausable at the Children's Park. For more information, call Joe Ireland at (517) 739-1994.

Sept. 20-21 Maple River Gathering in St. Johns at Uncle John's Cider Mill. For more information, call Cindy McIraht at (517) 339-3443 (leave message).

Sept. 20-21 22nd Annual "Trail of Courage" Living History in Rochester, Ind. For more information, call (219) 223-4436 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

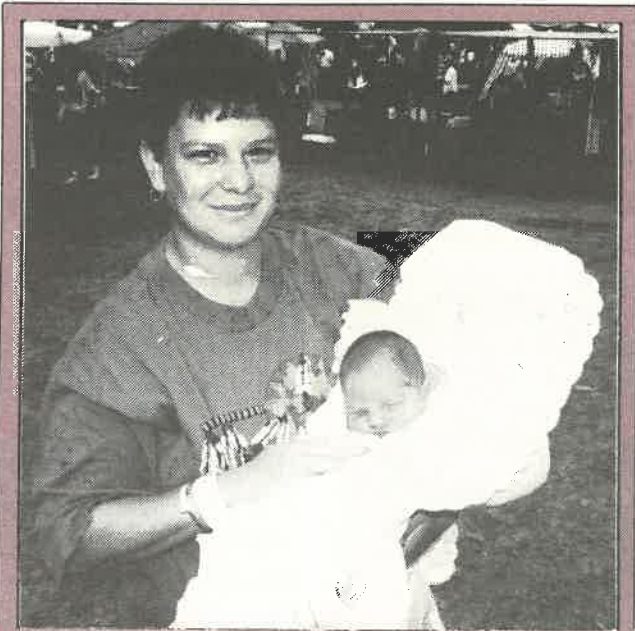
Sept. 26-28 Michigan Indian Day Celebration and North American Indian Association of Detroit, Inc. 15th Annual Powwow in Detroit. For more information, call (313) 535-2966.

Sept. 27-28 Inaugural Land of the Lakes Gathering of the People Traditional Powwow in Warsaw, Ind. at the Kosciusko County Fairgrounds. For more information, call Joe and Bev Morrow at (616) 849-0431.

Sept. 27-28 Festival of the Turning Leaves in Thorntown, Ind. For more information, call John Couch at (317) 436-7485.

Oct. 3-5 Rainbow Dancer Powwow in Springfield, Ill. at the Illinois State Fairgrounds, Natural Resources Area. For information, call Paul Carlson at (217) 525-2698.

Oct. 4-5 Fifth Annual Wind, Rain & Fire Traditional Powwow in Idaville, Ind. Sponsored by Miller's Tree Farm, 11197 East 700 N. For more information, call Buffalo Heart at (219) 278-7021.



Observer photo/Joe Sowmick

Baby boy

Zane Mikal Pelcher was born Aug. 9 to Tonia Toth at the Mid-Michigan Regional Medical Center in Clare. Maternal grandparents are Milton "Beaver" Pelcher and Lois Pelcher, with paternal grandparents being Linda Cooley and Steve Miller.

Toys

(Continued from page 8)
and liability, which means a building probably won't be ready until the 1998 holiday season.

The Chamberlains pledged to keep the issue "on the front burner," with Cathy serving as a liaison between the Tribe and Toys for Tots.

At the August meeting, the group also celebrated the 50th anniversary of Toys for Tots,

founded in 1947 when Maj. Bill Hendricks and members of his Los Angeles Marine Corps Reserve unit collected 5,000 toys for needy children.

The Isabella/Clare County Toys for Tots effort also includes participation from local law enforcement agencies including Tribal, city, state and campus police and sheriff's departments, as well as many other volunteers.



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NOTICE

from Saginaw Chippewa Housing

We at Saginaw Chippewa Housing are asking for your help and input into the point system we are required to use by HUD for admission to housing. As of Nov. 1, HUD is changing how we are funded and hopefully we can anticipate some good changes.

We were required to use the following point system in the past:

Federal Preference Points

Involuntarily displaced.....5 points
Substandard housing.....5 points
Applicant paying 50 percent or more of the total family income for rent.....5 points

Local Preference

Native American within 20-mile radius of housing.....4 points
Native American outside 20-mile radius of housing.....3 points
Non-Native American within 20-mile radius of housing.....2 points
Non-Native American outside 20-mile radius of housing.....1 point

We are no long required to use the Federal Point System. Do you wish to use it? _____
Please rate the Local Preference as follows, using 5 for the highest points:

Tribal member _____
Descendent _____
Native American _____
Non-Native American _____

Thank you for your help and interest.

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Deadlines are the 10th and 25th of each month.

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Location: Isabella Federal Reservation
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Wage: \$6 per hour
Supervisor: Program Director
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Qualifications: Must have a high school diploma or equivalent; must have good knowledge of correct English usage, spelling punctuation, and be able to communicate orally and in writing. Must be able to type at least 35 words per minute. Knowledge of computer/word processor preferred. Must be able to deal with the public in a courteous and professional manner. Temporary work may vary from one (1) hour to two (2) weeks. Applicants must have a telephone contact number and be available on short notice.
For further information about this position, please contact the Tribal Personnel Office.
Please Submit Applications to:
Tribal Personnel Office
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan
7070 East Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Family Nurse Practitioner

Location: Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center
2591 S. Leaton Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
Wage: According to Wage Study
Supervisor: Medical Director/Family Nurse Practitioner
Posting Date: Sept. 5 (closes Sept. 19)
Qualifications: RN licensure by State of Michigan required. Nurse Practitioner certification required. Minimum of two years experience as a Family Nurse Practitioner in an outpatient/clinic setting required. Must be committed to the promotion of health and prevention of disease of the Native American population.
For more information about this position, please contact the Tribal Personnel Office.
Please Send Resume/ Application to:
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Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan
7070 East Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Assistant Elders Advocate

Location: Sowmick Senior Center
Salary: \$7.50 per hour, forty hours per week
Supervisor: Elders Advocate
Preference: In accordance with Indian Preference Laws
Posting Date: Sept. 5 (closes Sept. 19)
Qualifications: Must have High School Diploma or Equivalent; Valid Michigan Driver's License: A dependable vehicle, properly insured, and in good working condition; Knowledge of Services available to the Elderly, with an interest in working with Native American Clients; Must be willing to travel for training. Involves some Evening and/or Weekend assignments.
For more information about this position, please contact the Tribal Personnel Office.
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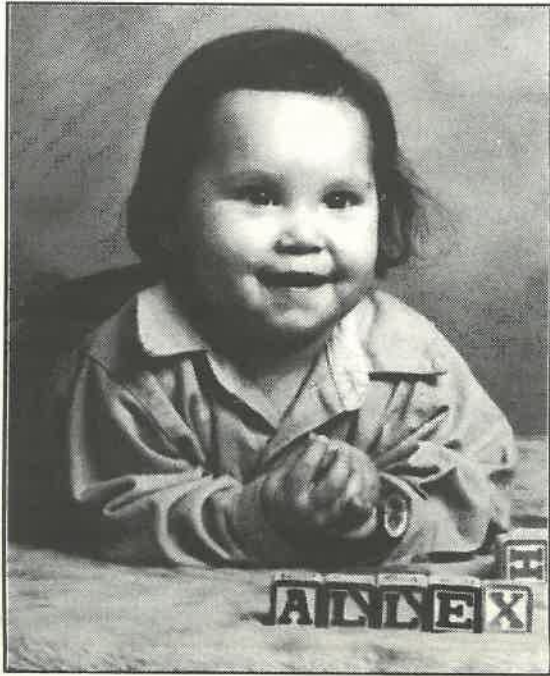
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Hotel

(Continued from page 13)

Tribe in regards to the project.
Similar to the Perini contract, Tribal law applies to the agreement as the primary source of law. Arbitration is used for dispute resolution and an arbitration award may be entered only through Tribal Court.
More information will be available on the status of the project at the next community meeting. This meeting has been scheduled for Sept. 22 at 5:30 p.m. in the Soaring Bingo Hall.

Look who's two— Alex Leasureaux!!!



Happy Birthday Tweet!!
Love, Mom & Dad
Sept. 11, 1997

Fire

(Continued from page 13)
wrapped around wooden furniture.
The accompanying information on what to do in case of a grease fire is a helpful reminder from the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Fire Department. Cantu said if anyone has any questions related to fire safety, the department can be reached by calling (517) 775-4790.

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