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Ahnee (Hello)!

Here we are at the last week of August, and I can not believe the summer has gone so quickly! Please make sure you take time with family before the school season starts and the cooling temperatures keep you from going outside! There are plenty of great opportunities happening this weekend in our area. First I want to recognize that at the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa this weekend there is the Cherry Capital Con 2009 taking place August 29-30th (<http://www.cherrycapitalcon.com/>). If you were, or still are an avid comic book collector please don't miss out on this event. Also, if you have children and if the weather forecast is correct for this weekend, this is a great "indoor" activity for all ages!

Also occurring this weekend (Saturday, August 29th) in the area, in which the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa is the presenting sponsor of this year's "Traverse City Microbrew & Music Festival". This festival is taking place at the Village in TC. For more information please visit: www.tcbeerfest.com. In Friday's TC Record Eagle, on page 10A there is a full page advertisement on the festival. Also, an excellent on-air interview this morning by Omelette and Finster – 97.5FM (www.wklt.com) with Sam Porter, the Director behind this festival (www.porterhouseproductions.com).



08.21.09 Great opportunity to meet all of the dedicated and committed staff of Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc. in Sault Ste. Marie, MI (<http://www.itcmi.org/>). Megwetch (thank you) to Sharon Teeple, Executive Director, and all of the ITC staff for the information shared and of course...the delicious luncheon!



08.24.09 Desmond Berry (second from left) and I met with representative from the Conservation Resource Alliance (www.rivercare.org). Also pictured (L-R) are Dan Hubble, Desmond, Amy Beyer (Director), Richard Redmond, and Matt Thomas (Development Coordinator). The Conservation Resource Alliance's mission is "Preserving and Protecting Northern Michigan's Waterways, Wildlife and Forests". From the discussion I had, I can definitely see the commitment and passion each of these individuals have in maintaining these mission and direction! Since 2001, the Grand Traverse Band, through 2% revenue allocations, has contributed \$210,000 for the Conservation Resource Alliance's River Care Program – great partnership and collaboration!



08.27.09 Representatives from Blue Cross Blue Shield Blue Care Network of Michigan (www.bcbsm.com) met with me to further develop a working relationship and consultative approach for healthcare coverage of our membership and employees. This was an initial "meet and greet" with follow up meetings for the full Tribal Council happening next. Pictured (L-R) are Jeffrey Connolly (VP, BCBSM & President, West Michigan Operations Corporate Executives), Ken Dallafior (Senior Vice President Group Sales & Corporate Marketing), and Frank Smith (Sales Manager Marketing & Sales). As a side note, it was nice to meet a former Detroit Lion pro football player – Ken Dallafior! (Ken also played for the San Diego Chargers).



08.27.09 Erik Zehender of Fountain Point Resort (www.fountainpointresort.com) invited me as a guest to the Leelanau County – Suttons Bay Rotary Club which was hosted by Fountain Point in Lake Leelanau, MI. This was a great opportunity for me to meet other interested and invested community members of Leelanau County! The second picture captures a presentation from Lee Bowen (Leelanau County Road Commission) to Leelanau County Sheriff Mike Oltersdorf, with Ken Cerney watching on. I believe there was an inside joke here but I'll leave that between the Sheriff and Mr. Bowen!



08.27.09 I am standing with Fountain Point Resort family owner, Erik Zehender. The Resort was established in 1889 and you can definitely see, and feel, the historical presence that the Resort has both with the property and with the ownership. I believe that Erik and his brother Theo are fifth generation owners of the property. I look forward to collaborative events (maybe a pow wow along the waterfront of Lake Leelanau!) and activities with the ownership.



(Note: the following report comes from Executive Assistant/“Traveling Reporter” for the Tribal Chairman – Ms. Dora Willis! Also, all pictures of the Clydesdales were taken by Dora – great job!

“Here I am in front of the Turtle Creek Casino where the Clydesdales are posted so people can have pictures taken with them. I was so close that their breath tickled my neck and that was why I was laughing.

Pictures were taken on Thursday August 27th during the ‘hitch’ presentation, which was when they hitch up the horses to the wagons and they are then moved from their temporary barn to the Casino. They are huge and make quite a racket with their horseshoes, which they have to change every 5 weeks as they wear through. The horseshoes are a minimum about 20” in diameter and the horse have to be at least 17.5 hands at the shoulders to be considered as Budweiser Clydesdales. They said that the drivers that hold the whole group together have to be strong as the lines weigh 40lbs, and during long parades the lead driver changes with his assistant to get through. The horses have a 5 year training period before they are considered part of the ‘team’ and older horses are teamed with the ‘rookies’ for a year before they are allowed to go on their own. I read that they weigh 135 lbs when born, but forgot the gestation period, but it well over 9 months! That’s about all the fun facts I remember...

The Anheuser Busch families started the Clydesdales as part of their advertising in celebration after prohibition was repealed,

The horses will be out at LSC on Sunday starting at 4p

**Friday they are open to the public from 9a to 7p- with the hitch display from 4p to 7p
Saturday open to the public at 9a to 4p and then closed to private party**

The Clydesdales are here in celebration of H. Cox and Sons 40th year celebration..."

Dora, an excellent report! I am definitely looking forward to Monday, as I will be attending a Tribal Leaders consultation meeting in Washington, D.C. with staff of the White House. I will definitely be providing an update, with pictures, in next week's email blast. The meeting on Monday is an effort for President Obama's administrative intent to reach out to tribal leaders and develop better consultative processes with Tribal Nations. Increasing awareness of matters and concerns in Indian Country only benefits tribal citizens of all Nations when legislative, executive and judicial decisions are made. Megwetch to Jodi Gillette, Deputy Associate Director, White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, on her work effort in organizing and coordinating this opportunity for Tribal Leadership! Professionally and personally, I want to express my gratitude to Inter-Tribal Council of MI (ITC), and Executive Director Sharon Teeple, for providing support cost for my travel to Washington. In my capacity as Chairman on ITC's governing board, I will do my utmost in respect to that honorable position for ITC and Michigan Tribal nations in carrying forth collective messages.

Have an enjoyable weekend and week!

Chairman Bailey

www.gtbindians.org

"A Nation grows stronger when built upon shared visions."