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Ahnee (Hello)!

In Northern Michigan, we continue to be blessed with some lasting beautiful weather and much appreciated sunshine! Since last week's email blast was a little lengthy, this week's I promise will be shorter!

In the recent edition of the Indian Gaming magazine (www.indiangaming.com/home), the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians was featured as one of six Tribal Nations to speak on *"Tribal Leader Roundtable: Spotlight on the Economy"*. The entire article can be viewed by clicking on the following link: www.indiangaming.com/istore/Nov09_TLR.pdf.

The Traverse City Record Eagle (www.record-eagle.com) in the past Sunday's issue (11.08.09) featured a story in recognition of the Record-Eagle's year-long 150th Anniversary History Project series, native son Bill Milliken and other area leaders ponder the future, including the question: What will the Traverse City area be like in 2159?

I was asked to be one of four area leaders to respond; please click here to see all four leaders' responses: www.record-eagle.com/150.



11.07.09 On Saturday, I was honored to have been asked to emcee the 7th Annual Grand Rapids Museum's one-day pow wow, "Along the Owashtinong (Grand River)". This is always a fun pow wow and a great time to connect with the Grand Rapids community. We had five drums that showed up, and pictured above is a GTB tribal youth, Andrew Chivis. Andrew was asked to be the Youth Male Dancer as part of the Head Staff. Andrew did an excellent job and we are very proud of him, as we are with all of our Native youth!



11.09.09 Today, I met with Suttons Bay Public School Superintendent Mike Murray (www.suttonsbay.k12.mi.us). Superintendent Murray provided information on two different subject matters; (1) A Framework for Understanding Poverty, by Ruby K. Payne, Ph.D., and (2) Working Towards Great Futures; The Status of Young Children in Our Six County Region (www.tbgreatstart.org). I applaud Superintendent Murray for continuing his focus on bettering the education for all students attending Suttons Bay Public Schools, and to also reach out and build relationships – Megwetch!



11.09.09 I attended the swearing-in ceremony for the Traverse City Commission (www.ci.traverse-city.mi.us). I welcome new Commissioners Gillman and Moore, re-elected Commissioner Bergman, and newly elected Mayor Chris Bzdok. I look forward to increasing our partnering relationship with the government of Traverse City as we take our beautiful area forward. Collaboration and cooperation is key. Please visit Mayor Bzdok's website for more information: www.PlanforTC.com.



11.11.09 Again, on this respectable day, Happy Veteran's Day to all of our Veterans and men and women currently serving! We also show respect to our Indigenous Warriors and fight they historically took on and currently maintain today. The above picture shows United States Coast Guard Commander Jonathan Spaner (Traverse City Station) talking with Omelette and Finster on WKLT (www.wklt.com).

WKLT also invited in the Medicine Lodge Singers to perform an American Indian Veterans Honor Song. Megwetch (Thank you) to Shocko Hall, Karman TwoCrow, Tom Shomin, Tonia Bailey and Nellie Jimmie for providing that honor song to all Veterans and the listening audience of WKLT!

To view the interview with Shocko Hall and the Veterans Honor song by the Medicine Lodge Singers, please click here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=HaSgbYaelQo



11.09.09 On a side note, Northern Michigan's weather for the weekend and first couple days of next week promises sunshine. Before the winter snow falls, there is still time to check out our beautiful surroundings! The above picture taken (with my youngest son Maengun) was in Empire, MI, on the shores of Lake Michigan.

I will be traveling down to Grand Rapids, MI, this afternoon to attend and participate in Grand Valley State University's 34th Annual Great Lakes History Conference (www.gvsu.edu/history - then click on "Great Lakes History"). All conference events will be held at the Robert C. Pew Campus of GVSU. The theme for this year's conference is "*Indigenous Peoples of the Globe: Colonization & Adaptation*". I will be presenting as part of Panel 20 on Saturday titled; Tribal Nation Building and Law Enforcement: A Multi-Level Interactive Relationship. Assistant United States Attorney, Jeff Davis will be presenting on Law Enforcement portion.

This Sunday, November 15th, Deer hunting season officially begins. To all hunters, please be careful in the woods – your safety is important to all of us!

Chairman Bailey

www.gtbindians.org

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