

TURTLE PRESS

SAUGATUCK DUNES

Tribes fight against proposed Lake Michigan Dunes development.

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REMEMBERING D-DAY

Delegation honors past WWII Native American Veterans in France.

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GOLF OUTING

Funds raised for local Veteran organizations.

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SUMMER 2019



NOTTAWASEPPI HURON BAND OF THE POTAWATOMI
A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBAL GOVERNMENT



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NANCY SMIT

“I am proud to be able to continue to serve on Tribal Council with Tribal Elder Nancy Smit.”

- Chairperson Jamie Stuck

NHBP SWEARS IN NEWLY ELECTED TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBER

WRITTEN BY LEIA FULLER | PHOTO BY EMILEE GUZAK

NHBP ISSUED THE OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY ELECTED TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBER NANCY SMIT AT THE PINE CREEK INDIAN RESERVATION IN FULTON, MICHIGAN, DURING THE TRIBAL COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING MAY 16, 2019.

The NHBP Tribal Council will keep the officer appointments the same as prior to the 2019 election. Jamie Stuck will serve as Chairperson, Dorie Rios as Vice Chairperson, Smit as Secretary, Jeff Chivis, Ph.D., as Treasurer, and Homer A. Mandoka as Sergeant-at-Arms.

“I am proud to be able to continue to serve on Tribal Council with Tribal Elder Nancy Smit,” Stuck said. “I’m confident that her relations

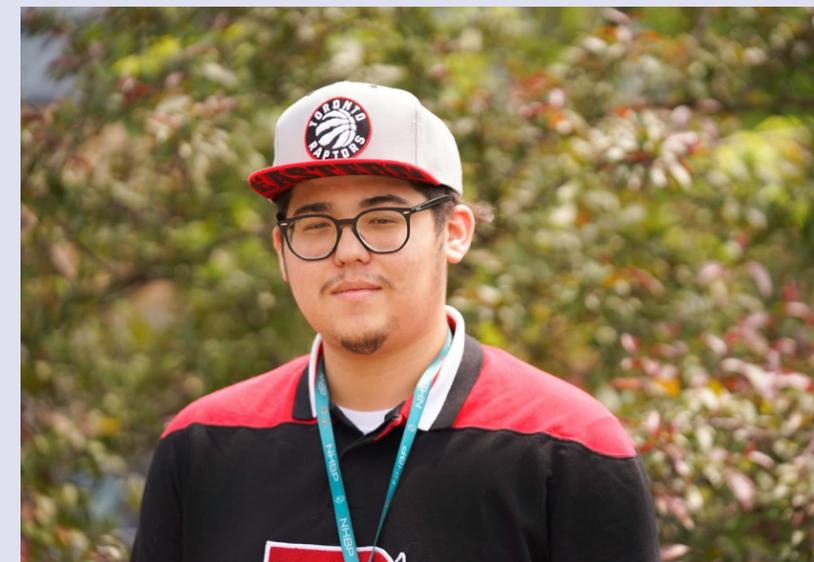
with FireKeepers Casino Hotel, as well as her experience serving on several NHBP committees and as appointed Tribal Council Secretary, will be valuable assets for the Tribe.”

Smit graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in American Indian Studies from Bemidji State University, a Master of Arts from Briercrest Biblical Seminary with an emphasis in Marriage and Family Counselling, and holds a Master’s degree in social work from Western Michigan University. She has served on several NHBP committees for over 15 years. Smit worked for FireKeepers Casino Hotel from 2013 to 2018, most recently as Team Member Relations Supervisor, and was appointed to serve as Tribal Council Secretary in August 2018.

EARN YOUR GED NOW. IT'S NEVER TOO LATE!

WRITTEN BY EDUCATION OFFICE STAFF | PHOTO BY EMILEE GUZAK

Sometimes barriers in our lives prevent us from reaching our goals. This was such the case for Tribal Member Jeff Kendall while he was attending high school. Kendall didn’t complete his high school diploma and wanted another opportunity to complete this academic benchmark. He realized that a General Educational Development (GED) diploma or High School Diploma is much needed for acquiring a job and earning a better salary with better benefits.



Tribal Member Jeff Kendall.

Kendall decided to contact the NHBP Education Office to get started toward earning his GED diploma. The Education Office assists enrolled Tribal Members in all levels of education from pre-K through 12th grade, post-secondary and adult education.

“The NHBP Education Office helped me immensely by providing me with all the tools I needed to pass the GED test, such as the GED study book and practice tests,” Kendall said. “Northern Education Office Coordinator Jason Chivis had also helped me touch up my writing skills and pass the English portion comfortably.”

The Education Office utilizes GED testing services to order test study materials that can be delivered right to Tribal Members’ houses. They also makes use of the four GED testing services practice tests that determine your likelihood to pass each subject area test. From

those results, the Education Office can then identify a personalized best fit study plan for the real GED test.

“I received my GED through using the GED testing services website. I took my practice tests and scored likely to pass, so I was able to mostly study independently,” Kendall said. “I then eventually moved onto scheduling the real thing. What I plan on doing now is going to college and the possibilities are endless.”

If you are looking to earn your GED diploma, please contact Northern Education Office Coordinator Jason Chivis at jason.chivis@nhbpi.com or 616.514.3654. A personalized academic study plan will be created to help you earn your diploma. The plan will best fit your personal study needs such as independent study, online study or classroom training at an adult education center nearest you.

FIREKEEPERS CASINO HOTEL

BREAKS GROUND ON SECOND HOTEL TOWER

PHOTOS BY JAKY REPLOGLE AND EMILEE GUZAK

NHBP and FireKeepers Casino Hotel (FKCH) held a groundbreaking ceremony in June to initiate construction of the second hotel tower and additional amenities at the property in Battle Creek, Michigan. Construction on the hotel tower will provide an additional 203 hotel rooms, including 14 suites, a transformed hotel lobby area, a new signature restaurant, new high limit slot and table game areas and a new VIP lounge.

"We are proud to capitalize on our outstanding business performance in recent years and invest in a second hotel tower with many exciting complementary offerings," NHBP Chairperson Jamie Stuck said. "This expansion represents our continuing efforts to build a solid foundation for the next seven generations of Tribal Members."

The new eight-story hotel will feature upscale built-in décor along with the latest in guest service technology.



Left: Tribal Council Members and FireKeepers Casino Hotel leadership officially break ground at the ceremony. Top Middle: The Nottawaseppi Boyz perform. Bottom Middle: Tribal Member Avrian Keith fills a vile with sand from the event. Right: Renderings show what the finished hotel tower will look like.



The 39,000 square foot first level will include a vibrant new lobby bar and front desk while increasing the focus on seven main pillars which represent the Seven Grandfather Teachings. Nibi will be moved to a new location with seating for approximately 125, and an interior that retains a focus on water, plus a new fire feature. Nibi will also feature expanded wine storage and a private dining area for up to 20, perfect for special parties or small business meetings.

"Our focus from day one was to design a second hotel tower with the upscale, vibrant yet fun and friendly approach which has made our first tower such a big success," FKCH CEO Kathy George said. "This day marks a major step forward in our history and we look forward with excitement and anticipation for the new opportunities ahead of us."

The construction project also redesigns a section of FKCH's existing gaming space. When complete, there will be new High Limit Gaming sections for slots and table games, plus a new bar and VIP lounge for select Red Hot Rewards Club members. The initial target completion date is late 2020.

A WEAVE IN TIME

Late 19th Century Tribal Basket Returned to NHBP

WRITTEN BY LEIA FULLER | PHOTO BY JAKY REPLOGLE

Imagine creating a basket, from scratch, in the late 1800s. Searching for hours in the woods to find the perfect tree. Cutting long, thin strips from the tree log. Measuring the length of the basket, and cutting strips to be that length. Dipping the strips in water, to make them easier to use. Finally, spending hours and hours weaving the basket. In total, the elaborate process would take several days to complete.

In April, a traditional basket created by Indigenous People, from the Colon, Michigan area, in the late 1800s was gifted back to NHBP. This special basket was returned to NHBP by Margaret Mangold, a community member from Colon.

The basket had been passed down from generation to generation within Mangold's family for nearly a century. It wasn't until the basket was passed down to her that Mangold really began to wonder where it came from. After a bit of digging, Mangold discovered that the basket had been gifted to her family by their Native American friends.

Mangold's grandparents, Gerald and Minnie Adams, were married in 1896 and received the basket from their friends in the early

1900s. The basket was then passed down from one family member to another for several years. Along its journey, the basket was used as a laundry basket, for decoration, and even as a storage basket at times. Once Mangold realized where the basket had come from, she felt in her heart that it was best to return it to NHBP.

"I just thought that if the Tribe would value the basket like I value my grandparents' belongings, they should have it," Mangold said. "It just belonged back with their heritage."

The size of the basket is evidence that it would have taken several hours, if not days, to create, especially given the technology of the late 1800s. Although it's hard to tell, Mangold mentioned that it appears that Sweet Grass is woven into the bottom of the basket.

"The sentiment that Tribal Council sent along to Mrs. Mangold was one of great thanks for her gift to NHBP, our Tribe and Community," the NHBP Tribal Council said, in a joint statement. "This gift is instrumental in preserving our history and legacy for generations to come."

To view the basket in person, visit the NHBP Government Center lobby.



This basket was gifted to NHBP in 2019 by Margaret Mangold. The basket was made in the late 1800s and was gifted to Mangold's grandparents by Native Americans in the Colon, Michigan, area.

"I just thought that if they value it like I value my grandparents' belongings, they should have it. It just belonged back with their heritage."
-Margaret Mangold

"The sentiments that Tribal Council sent along to Mrs. Mangold was one of great thanks for her gift from NHBP, our Tribe and Community. This gift is instrumental in preserving our history and legacy for generations to come."
-NHBP Tribal Council

NOTTAWASEPPI HURON BAND OF THE POTAWATOMI
A TRIBE OF THE POTAWATOMI

NHBP TRIBAL MEMBER AND CHIEF JUDGE POPE EARN AWARDS FOR HELPING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

WRITTEN BY LEIA FULLER | PHOTOS BY ERIC MCCLURE

FireKeepers Casino Hotel (FKCH) and S.A.F.E. Place of Battle Creek, Michigan, hosted the 14th Annual Celebrity Server Dinner at FKCH in May. Tribal Members, employees, community members and the public all joined together in unity to assist those who have been affected by domestic violence and raise funds for these victims.

Some members of the NHBP Community were honored with specific awards given out that special night. Tribal Member Drew Phillips and his wife, Heather, received the Ann Schwarz Outstanding Volunteer Award, and Chief Judge Melissa Pope received the Christine Ann Lanning Heart and Soul Award.

Over the past two years, Heather and Drew have shown their commitment by volunteering countless hours in the shelter and in the community for S.A.F.E. Place. They have done everything from installing new kitchen flooring, to hosting drives for supplies and organizing fundraisers, going above and beyond to complete any and all tasks requested of them.

"This all started nearly four years ago, when Christine Lanning invited us to participate in the Walk A Mile event," Drew said. "After the event, we started dropping donations off at the door of the shelter, but we didn't go in. Once we learned more, we knew we had to help in other ways."

After several trips for donations, the Phillips family attended their first Celebrity Server event in 2018, and both were inspired to become involved. Since Heather was a full-time stay-at-home mom, she began volunteering when she was able to pending Drew's work schedule. Once she started to volunteer, she was able to bring in Drew to help with the maintenance type of work. Throughout the past year, the two have been at S.A.F.E. Place for three to five days per week, and continue giving their time, money, and help where it is needed.



Chief Judge Melissa L. Pope, S.A.F.E. Place Volunteer Coordinator Danielle Chauvin, and Tribal Member Drew Phillips and his wife, Heather, accept their awards.

"Being able to connect with the clients through conversations about day to day life brought a real sense of community," Heather said. "To be able to relate to women in crisis on a personal level, to help bring joy to their day, was so rewarding and something that helped me grow"

NHBP Chief Judge Melissa Pope also earned an award at the Celebrity Server event, the Christine Ann Lanning Heart and Soul Award. Christine Ann Lanning, Tribal Council Member for NHBP, served as a Board Member for S.A.F.E. Place for five years prior to her passing. The award is given to someone that embodies her enthusiastic energy, passion and dedication. Lanning's giving spirit and passion for

S.A.F.E. Place's mission was evident in everything she did. She put her heart and soul into the shelter and was loved by all who met her, hence the name of the award.

Judge Pope received the Christine Ann Lanning Heart and Soul Award due to her passion for the organizations purpose aligning so closely with Christine's. She has been instrumental in implementing the NHBP Domestic Violence Code. With a primary focus on victim services, she also worked with multiple NHBP staff to obtain an Office on Violence Against Women Grant to establish a Victim Services Department and the Domestic Violence Victim Advocate position within the Tribal

Court before the NHBP Domestic Violence Code was adopted. Since then, the Victim Services Department has received three additional grants to continue funding Patti McClure as the Domestic Violence Victim Advocate, add a full-time Victim Services Assistant position, expand services and programming, and enhance relationships with partners, including S.A.F.E. Place and the amazing work they do on behalf of Tribal Members and the community-at-large.

Pope also advocates for the expanded return of criminal jurisdiction to Tribes so that they have the ability to protect survivors of domestic violence, as well as survivors of sexual assault and human trafficking. She presents throughout Michigan and the country to encourage Tribes to adopt domestic violence codes, share strategies for exercising jurisdiction, identify the needs of Tribes going forward to protect women and children, and create victim-centered services including encouraging Tribes to develop partnerships with local service providers. Despite these difficult topics, she continues to show a positive attitude, is enthusiastic about her work, is always smiling, and puts her heart and soul into everything she does. Through this, Pope continues to be an advocate for Indian Country and the surrounding community.



One of the tables decorated with Hawaiian leis and a ukulele, as part of the event's Decades of Music theme.

"I greatly respected Councilwoman Lanning," Pope said. "She recognized the responsibility of every person to advocate for the survivors of the epidemic of violence committed against Native women and children, as well as a return to traditional values to end the epidemic of domestic violence – and sexual assault – against American Indian women, children and men. Her commitment to protecting survivors of domestic violence – especially the children who are our most vulnerable of victims – transcended the Citizens of this Nation to all communities, as she demonstrated by her actions of serving on the S.A.F.E. Place Board. She had an absolutely beautiful heart that was filled with compassion. Receiving an award given in memory of Councilwoman Christine Lanning is truly the greatest honor I could receive."



Tribal Member Carol North and Senior Staff Attorney Liz Cook laugh during one of the event's games.

GREAT LAKES IN DANGER:

A PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT WOULD SEVERELY THREATEN THE SAUGATUCK DUNES

WRITTEN BY LEIA FULLER

The Saugatuck Dunes Coastal Alliance is fighting against a proposed marina and development on a section of Lake Michigan's dunes, near the mouth of the Kalamazoo River in Saugatuck, Michigan. The NorthShore of Saugatuck's proposed marina and development would change the ground makeup and have potential ecological and environmental burdens on the surrounding areas.

The 300-acre property owner is working with Cottage Home to develop the dunes into a marina and nearly 40 home sites. One-third of the property would consist of a 1,500-foot-long private boat basin that would be nearly 18 feet deep. The marina would be surrounded by 23 homes. An additional seven homes are proposed in the dune grass fronting Lake Michigan, and another eight homes are proposed along the Kalamazoo River. This development also proposes to add a golf course, stables and a shooting range over time. The development would include an additional 3,400 feet of water access to the property's current 1,400 feet of Kalamazoo River frontage. The NorthShore of Saugatuck development would also have to remove more than 200,000 cubic yards of sand in order to build the proposed marina.

Tribal Council Treasurer Jeff Chivis, Ph.D., is concerned about the project's impact on the Tribe's historical and cultural resources:

“The mining of the sand required to complete this project, as well as other earth-moving activities, could unearth Native American burials or village sites. NHBP and other Potawatomi Peoples have a long historical presence in this area– this is our aboriginal territory and there is good evidence of a cemetery and a Potawatomi village located in the immediate vicinity of this project. Our family stories mention that we have fished in this area for centuries and, historically, it is the location of a former village site where many Potawatomi People moved to avoid removal after the 1833 Treaty of Chicago, including Micksabe’s Band which previously lived on The Huron Potawatomi Reservation at Coldwater. This area also was inhabited by Shashaguay and his family.”

In addition to the potential historic and cultural impacts, many groups taking a stance against the new development argue that the project would negatively impact the environment of Lake Michigan and other local residents. The proposed new homes would hinder the view of hikers from the north and south. One of the biggest concerns is the environmental impact of the boat basin and marina.

The water in the new marina would be warmer than the water in the river due to the surrounding development. This could negatively impact the fish (especially sturgeon) populations that live in the river, which could in turn have “a negative impact on Tribes in the state and their pursuit of restoring the sturgeon population, a culturally significant fish species,” Dr. Chivis said.

The president of the Saugatuck Dunes Coastal Alliance, David Swan, is concerned about what effect the new development could potentially have on the wetlands around and near the property. Even though there are no plans to build on the wetlands directly, adding a large man-made body of water to the area could potentially drain the wetlands and negatively affect the natural resources and endangered species in the area.

As a result of the area's cultural, historic, and environmental importance to NHBP and other Potawatomi Tribes, the Tribe has chosen to oppose the development in order to preserve the historic and environmental resources within this area. The Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians and NHBP have both stepped in as petitioners in this case.

For more information or to get involved in the conservation efforts, check out <https://saugatuckdunescoastalalliance.com/take-action>

GATHERING 2021

It's Coming Sew Soon

WRITTEN BY LEIA FULLER
PHOTO BY JAKY REPLOGLE

The smell of wood burning, sticky fingers from tacky glue, hundreds of yards of colorful fabrics, and thousands of beads scattered about. All of this and more fill the craft room at the Pine Creek Community Center for all Tribal Members to use to create hand crafted NHBP gifts.

The Elders Craft Group has been busy, and recently started to create gifts in preparation for NHBP to host the Gathering of the Potawatomi Nations in 2021. The gifts include Regalia, Tribal Member Mike Mandoka's wood creations, and special necklaces made by Tribal Elders. Last year, Elders took about 400 necklaces to the 2018 Gathering, hosted by the Prairie Band of the Potawatomi. This year, Elders are hoping to create a few hundred necklaces and small Medicine Pouches to help prepare for the 2021 Gathering.

"It's important that we hand out homemade gifts for when we host the Gathering," Tribal Member Jennifer Wethington said. "I love it when I get a homemade gift, it is the best."

The necklaces were started years ago, when late Tribal Member Joey Taylor, walked on. His family went into his house and found numerous colors, styles and lengths of the necklaces. These necklaces, along with the ones made by Elders, were handed out to Veterans in the crowd at the 2018 Gathering and to those carrying an Eagle Staff. This would not be possible if it wasn't for the Elders, who create these one-of-a-kind creations.

"Right now, we need donations from hands," Tribal Member Paula Keith said.

Tribal Members are able to visit the craft room for all of their needs. Elders, busy at work, continue to make Regalia for Tribal Members of all ages. Their goal is to make sure that any Tribal youth or Tribal Member who wants to Dance, has the appropriate Regalia to do so. The Elders encourage all Tribal Members to come out and lend a hand in preparing gifts for the 2021 Gathering.

"We will teach you how to sew and do all sorts of crafts," Wethington said. "Come on out for some food and a good time."



CRAFT GROUP MEETING TIMES:

Mondays

4 to 7 p.m.
Pine Creek Community Center

Wednesdays, after Lunch and Learn

1 to 4 p.m.
Pine Creek Community Center

DONATIONS:

If you would like to donate, Tribal Elders collect items to take to local shelters. You may drop off hygiene products, toothbrushes, toothpaste, etc., to one of the following points of contact:

Grand Rapids: Northern Elders Specialist Leo Pontiac

616.249.8022

Pine Creek: Southern Elders Specialist Nickole Keith

269.704.8354



HONORING A HERO

WRITTEN BY LEIA FULLER | PHOTOS BY LEIA FULLER

The French countryside boasted a variety of beautiful flowers and vines climbing each person's property in France. In each cemetery the delegation visited, they would lay roses on the Native American's graves. The roses, such as those in the background of this photo and the ones laid on the graves, symbolizes the hope and new beginnings for the world after the destruction of World War II.

On a cool morning, 75 years ago, the Allied Forces had a crucial decision to make, that would ultimately shape an entire chapter of world history. Sitting on the English Channel, the Allied commanders made the courageous and frightening decision to move forward with their attack on the beaches of Normandy in Northern France. This heroic decision laid the foundation for the Allied victory in World War II. The bloody battle would end up being a necessary evil, one that put the lives of hundreds of enlisted Native American men and women at risk.

One Native American, from the Penobscot Nation, landed on Omaha Beach the morning of what would later be known as D-Day. As a medic on the beaches, and only 19 years old, Private Charles Shay would start and end the unforgettable day saving dozens of lives and putting himself in the crossfire of the German and Allied forces. In recognition of his remarkable actions, Shay won a bronze and silver star. To this day, at age 94, he is still recognized internationally as a decorated war hero.



Seventy-five years later, an Indigenous delegation from the United States made the journey across the Atlantic Ocean to celebrate Shay and honor Native Americans and their service to the Allied cause during WWII. It is estimated that 25,000 Native Americans served in WWII, with upward of 175 landing on the beaches of Normandy that fateful day.

NHBP Tribal Elder and Veteran Doug Taylor was able to partake in this special trip to celebrate, experience, sightsee, and give honor where it is due. Throughout the 12-day trip, Taylor traveled all over France, visiting special monuments dedicated to Americans, and several specifically dedicated to honor Native Americans.

One of the days that was dedicated to Shay was truly breathtaking. In the morning, the delegation and several French, British, German and American citizens met at the Charles Shay Memorial for a ceremony to honor the bravery of Shay. Several dignitaries from the United States, United Kingdom, and France gave inspiring speeches, thanking the Allied forces and specifically Native Americans for their commitment that day.



Top Left: Crosses mark the graves of Americans who fought at D-Day in WWII. Top Right: The delegation posts their flags at the Brittany American Cemetery and Memorial in Saint-James, France. Bottom: NHBP Tribal Veteran Doug Taylor and Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi Tribal Member Jerry Campbell post their flags on Omaha Beach.

Taylor and the delegation posted their Tribal flags and Eagle Staffs during the ceremony. This honor gave recognition to Shay's heritage, as well as several other Indigenous servicemen and women that did not make it home. After the ceremony, a special water ceremony was held to commemorate the fallen soldiers. During the ceremony, a light rain drizzled down. Joseph Podlasek, LCO Ojibwe, explained how the rain that fell down actually represented a cleansing and meant that the Creator was with them during the ceremony.

“In our Native American beliefs, when it rains during a ceremony, it is considered a good thing,” Podlasek said. “We consider it a cleansing of the spirit, so we welcome and are happy that it rained here today.”

The delegation then watched a few documentary films about Shay and other Native Americans that served in WWII.

Taylor and the delegation visited the Normandy American Cemetery and Memorial on Omaha Beach several times throughout the duration of the trip. During one visit, the delegation honored their Indigenous Ancestors with a special ceremony. The group was guided, one-by-one, to each of the 29 identified Native American graves in the cemetery. Taylor led the blessing for one group and said a prayer at each gravesite. The delegation laid the French flag on the right, the United States flag on the left, and a rose in the center. At one of the gravesites, Taylor broke down in tears during his prayer.

“That one was speaking to me,” Taylor said. “I knew his spirit was with us today.”



“That one was speaking to me,” Taylor said. “I knew his spirit was with us today.”



Top: Tribal Veteran Doug Taylor blesses a WWII Veteran's grave at the Normandy American Cemetery. Bottom: Taylor introduces himself during a ceremony honoring Native Americans who served during D-Day at the Normandy American Cemetery.



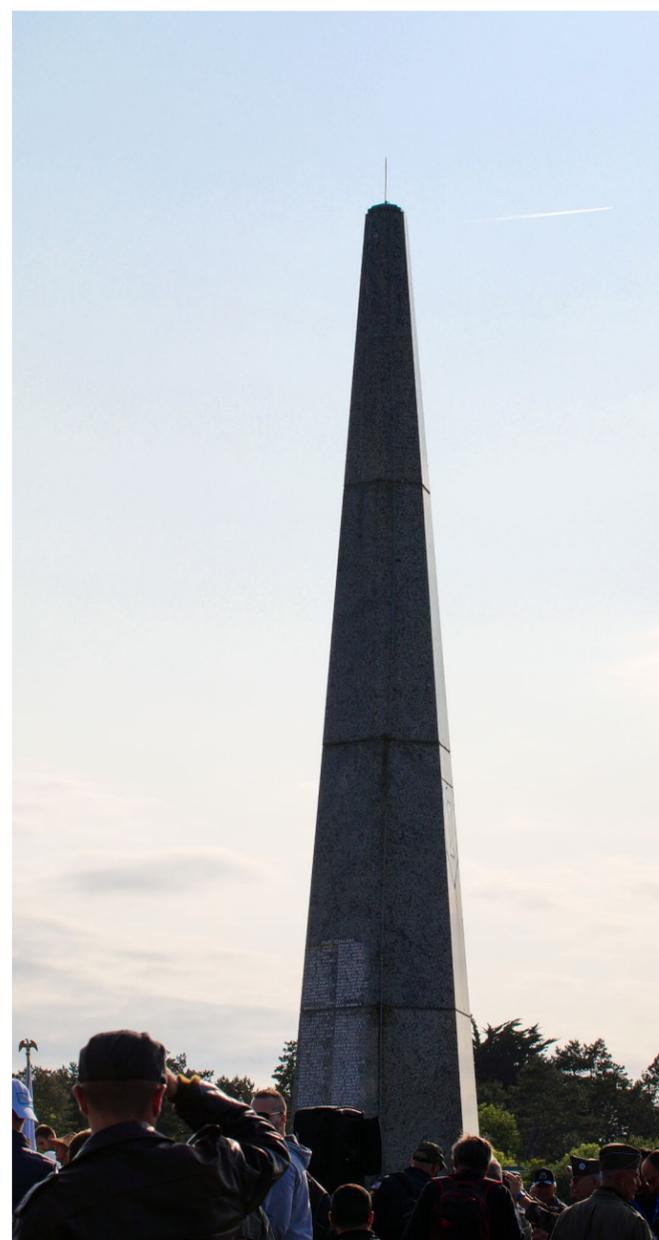
Left: Tribal Veteran Doug Taylor meets U.S. General Ronald T. Stephens on Omaha Beach. Top Right: The delegation received a tour of Château de Colombières, a pivotal site in WWII, and learned a history lesson about propoganda used during the war. Bottom Right: Taylor shakes the hand of Penobscot Nations Member Charles Norman Shay, who served in the 1st Division during the raids on Omaha Beach in WWII.



Taylor was able to post the NHBP flag several times, along with the other Veterans from around the United States. Along with the honors given to the men and women who served, the delegation was invited to attend some invite-only banquets. Many of the banquets, hosted by French dignitaries, entertained guests with WWII singers and re-enactors. From seeing a castle with a moat that was nearly destroyed in battle, to visiting a site that acted as a German military headquarter site during the war, each event was related due to the bonds of the Ancestors of Native Americans.



“It’s more than me coming to visit the sites in France,” Taylor said. “It is about honoring and paying tribute to heroes who gave everything so the people of France and other parts of the world could live in freedom. Charles Shay is and will always be a hero.”



Left: The 1st Infantry Division World War II monument in Normandy, France, overlooks the Easy Red sector of “Bloody Omaha” beach. This monument commemorates the Big Red One’s 627 dead between June 6 and July 24, 1944. Top Right: Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Tribal Members Jerry Campbell and Derek Brunell, Oneida Nations Tribal Member Daniel King, and NHBP Tribal Member Doug Taylor. Bottom Right: Cliffs overlook Pointe du Hoc.

NHBP TRIBAL MEMBER DEREK TENBRINK HIRED AT WDC SUBSIDIARY, BAKER ENGINEERING, LLC

SUBMITTED BY WASÉYABEK DEVELOPMENT
COMPANY, LLC PRESIDENT & CEO DEIDRA MITCHELL

Baker Engineering, LLC, a subsidiary of Waséyabek Development Company, LLC, recently hired NHBP Tribal Member Derek TenBrink as Manufacturing Engineer. His daily activities include maintaining production schedules as well as assuring product and process quality. Future efforts will include applying continuous improvement methods, such as lean manufacturing, for enhancing manufacturing quality, reliability and also cost-effectiveness.

TenBrink said that what makes him unique as an engineer is he started his career on the production floor instead of immediately attending college like many in the profession. After graduating from Orchard View High School in Muskegon, Michigan TenBrink eventually started work at Knoll, a worldwide company specializing in furniture, textiles, leathers, accessories, and architectural and acoustical elements. While working at Knoll, TenBrink noticed a divide between the production and engineering sides of the company. This ability

to identify and bridge gaps grew into a passion for pursuing breaking down those barriers.

While working full time at Knoll, TenBrink decided to pursue a career in engineering and began attending Grand Valley State University (GVSU). This decision was not an easy task; he worked tirelessly, seven days per week, and had many late nights but his hard work paid off, and he graduated with a Bachelor of



Tribal Member Derek TenBrink works as a Manufacturing Engineer at Baker Engineering, LLC.

Science in Engineering in Product Design and Manufacturing Engineering.

After graduating from GVSU, TenBrink worked as an engineer for a local office furniture company specializing in product design. Utilizing the skills and education he got from his college experience he was able to help grow revenue there from \$1 million to \$50 million per year within three years. TenBrink was particularly attracted to Baker Engineering because it was a chance to work for a company NHBP owned.

“I am not just working for a man, but working for my Tribe, my family members and in a sense, myself,” TenBrink said. “As a Tribal Member, it is a very rewarding experience knowing the time, work, and effort you are putting in is going to benefit your fellow Tribal Members.”

When asked what Tribal Members should know about working for Baker Engineering, TenBrink said that the company is very active and continuing to grow. The employees are enthusiastic and hard working, the team is strong, opportunities for manufacturing are increasing, government contracts are picking up as the firm proves itself on previously awarded contracts, and deeper roots are being cultivated in the racing industry.

“Derek has brought in manufacturing processes and expertise, improvements in statistical analysis, and key performance indicators to support a 20 percent increase in the production department and future growth,” said Jack Jerovsek, President of Baker Engineering. “Derek is very passionate about what we are doing and where we are going. He has the Tribe and company’s best interest in mind and wants a long-term relationship with this company.”

Jerovsek further elaborated on the importance of WDC working to create job opportunities for Tribal Members in subsidiary companies. He said that even though TenBrink is one of 1500 NHBP Tribal Members, the benefit of a hands-on stakeholder, such as Derek TenBrink working in a subsidiary company like Baker Engineering, is extremely valuable.

Ultimately, TenBrink said that now that he is working for the Tribe, he has no desire to leave. As he thinks back over his career, a lot of other companies did not feel like home. TenBrink contemplated that perhaps all of the stepping stones in his career led to Baker Engineering.

With younger boys that want to follow in their father’s footsteps and become engineers themselves, TenBrink longs for a place they can work together, providing the boys an opportunity to work for the Tribe as well. He hopes that Baker Engineering will help give his family a chance to grow together as they collectively pursue college and future career plans, each boy giving back to the Tribe, like their father before them.

BUILDING WELLNESS AND EXPRESSING SOVEREIGNTY

Greenhouse Looks to Expand Operations and Impact on Community

The greenhouse is entering an expansion period, in terms of both production and distribution, as it marks over six months of operation on the Pine Creek Indian Reservation. This past spring, the greenhouse successfully launched a free salad bar as a healthy lunch option at Athens Jr./Sr. High School in Athens, Michigan.

"We very greatly appreciate the generosity of NHBP, FireKeepers and The Fire Hub in providing this wonderful opportunity for our students to have fresh produce options to eat everyday as part of their lunch," said Athens Area Schools Superintendent Joe Huepenbecker. "It affords our kids options in their diet that may not be so readily accessible elsewhere and promotes the concept of making good choices to live a healthy lifestyle."

The roll-out of and reception toward the free salad bar was so well received that plans to expand the project to additional schools are already underway.

"The introduction of the free salad bar at Athens was very successful and the students and staff were very happy and grateful," Greenhouse Superintendent Stephen Wherry said. "In fact, when we resume that project in August we'll be adding two additional schools, both the East Leroy Elementary school and a school in Battle Creek."

In order to help meet the increased production and distribution needs of both the Tribal Community and local community partners, as soon as the weather warmed up to summer temperatures the greenhouse staff began transplanting many of the plants to the NHBP Community Garden. Meanwhile, the greenhouse is being revamped to accommodate more plants by the end of the summer.



The greenhouse has also introduced some natural partners to help increase the quality and quantity of plants being produced, as well as serve preventative purposes.

"We introduced the honey bees at the end of April to help with pollination, and the lady bugs at the beginning of June to act as natural pesticides since we use no chemicals in the greenhouse," Wherry said.

Looking forward, the greenhouse hopes to soon add chickens and a donkey to the grounds, as well.

"The chickens will provide fresh eggs for the Tribal Community, as well as manure for the greenhouse to use in planting," Wherry said. "The donkey would help to ward off predators that may prey on the chickens."

Phase II of the greenhouse construction is now underway and scheduled to be completed in October. The construction will include the addition of a bathroom and some administrative offices, a garage for greenhouse machinery storage, a composting and recycling area, as well as a pavilion for visitors to enjoy the sights of the greenhouse and the NHBP Community Garden.



WRITTEN BY ERIC MCCLURE
PHOTOS BY EMILEE GUZAK

BALL GOWNS + SUPERPOWERS

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES HOSTS MOMMY AND ME BALL

Mothers and their children donned their ball gowns and princess crowns as well as capes and masks, all in preparation for the second annual Mommy and Me Ball at the Pine Creek Community Center.

For the second year in a row, the Mommy and Me Ball theme was princesses and superheroes. As a result, the 60 participants included a mix of Disney-inspired princesses wearing a variety of colored dresses and jewelry, and superheroes dressed to showcase their superpowers and guard their secret identities.

"The princesses and superheroes theme is an added bonus to the Mommy and Me Ball event," Membership

Services Manager Tiesha Williams said. "When adults participate by wearing costumes, I believe that their children think they have the coolest parents ever! Plus, the youth get to see some of their parents' dance moves!"

A delicious array of food and desserts, including macaroni and cheese, meatball subs, cupcakes, a candy bar, and punch created a feast fit for royalty and those who had saved the world from the evil supervillains. Once the dancing began, the DJ made sure to include songs that were very interactive for participants, including the hokey pokey, limbo, the Cha Cha Slide, the Chicken Dance and Simon Says.



"I just love to twirl around and dance with my mom," Tribal Member Evelin Stuck said. "My brother is fun, too, but he's a silly dancer."

Other fun features at the event included a photo booth that took instant photos and included fun props for participants to pose with, a face painting stand, and a clown that was able to create a variety of balloon animals and objects.

"The Mommy and Me Ball is such a well put-together event, and my kids seem to really enjoy themselves," Tribal Member Lashana Postell said. "I hope that they continue it year after year!"

This year's Mommy and Me Ball came to a close, before the stroke of midnight for the princesses in

Left: Tribal Member Brooklyn Mandoka wears her princess costume. Top Middle: Tribal Members Sara and Liam Moore, special guest Batman, Tribal Members Brianna and Genesis Diaz, dress as Batman. Bottom Middle: Tribal Member Evelin Stuck dances with her mom, MacKenzie Stuck. Top Right: Tribal Members Lauren Simmons Dances with her son, Leland Craun. Bottom Right: Tribal Members Lashana Postell and her son, The Hulk, also known as Vontey Manning.

attendance, with a special event for mothers. All of the mothers were lined up on the dance floor and, one-by-one, their children gifted them with fruit gift baskets in bowls crafted by Tribal Member Mike Mandoka.

"The idea behind the Mommy and Me Ball is to celebrate motherhood," Williams said. "This event gives mothers a chance to bond with their children, make memories, and just enjoy being a mother."

TEEING OFF FOR VETS:

NHBP HOSTS ANNUAL GOLF OUTING TO RAISE FUNDS FOR LOCAL VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS

WRITTEN BY ERIC MCCLURE | PHOTOS BY JAKY REPLOGLIE AND EMILEE GUZAK



An airplane, from The Hooligans Flight Team, performs a flyover over Binder Park Golf Course during the opening ceremony of the golf outing.

The haunting sound of a bugle's taps echoing through the crisp morning air. An array of flags- NHBP, United States of America, State of Michigan, and those representing the branches of the U.S. military- gently waving in the morning breeze. The jet trails of a military aircraft flyover, by the Hooligan flight team, against the bright blue sky.

These elements combined during the opening ceremony of the 2019 Chief Mognago Veterans Golf Outing, sponsored by the NHBP Veterans Committee, at Binder Park Golf Course in Battle Creek, Michigan.

This year's golf outing marked over a decade of hosting the event, of which the proceeds from the last four years of the event have been donated to local Veteran organizations.

"The goal of the Veterans Golf Outing is to raise funds to support local Veteran organizations that assist Veterans and their families with much-needed clothing, shelter, or food, among other things," said Tribal Council Treasurer Jeff Chivis, Ph.D., who also serves as chair of the Veterans Committee. "Each year, various Veteran organizations suffer from a lack of funding and Veteran needs in the community shift over time. Hosting the annual golf outing allows us to address both of these issues."



Over \$80,000 was raised during this year's golf outing, which was a record-breaking total. Over \$50,000 of the money raised will go toward supporting local Veteran organizations. This year's proceeds will mean that a total of more than \$100,000 has been raised and donated to local Veteran organizations in the golf outing's last four years.

"Thank you to our Tribe for taking care of and supporting us Veterans," said Tribal Veteran Barry Phillips, who also golfed during the golf outing. "This is a great event to be a part of."

The 224 golfers that participated in this year's event were able to enjoy not only a beautiful day of golfing, but also delicious food from FireKeepers Casino Hotel, including dishes from Nibi, Dacey's Tap House and The Fire Hub. The event also came to a close with several giveaways and raffles.



Top Left: Tribal Police Sergeants Ryan Pedley and Larry Juday drive to the next hole. **Bottom Left:** Veterans of the American Legion Post 196 of Union City, Michigan, stand in front of an array of flags. **Above:** Several items, including former Detroit Red Wings forward Darren McCarty's jersey, are prepped for the giveaway during the closing ceremony.



Above: Tribal Member Austin Mandoka leads his team on the green. **Top Right:** Tribal Council Treasurer Dr. Jeff Chivis, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Member Adam Pigeon, former Detroit Red Wings forward Darren McCarty, and Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Members Elizabeth Chivis and Jerome Whitepigeon. **Middle Right:** One of The Hooligans Flight Team's airplanes flies over the golf course during the opening ceremony. **Bottom Right:** Tribal Member Jordan Phillips finishes a swing at the tee.



"I enjoy coming out to support my Tribe and our hard working Veterans," said Tribal Member Denver Hine, who participated as a golfer in the outing. "It's an honor to come play golf with close friends, for such a great cause."

To make the event even more special for participants, three Michigan sports stars joined golfers on the course as well as for photos and memorabilia signing. The three special guests included former Detroit Tigers third baseman and catcher Brandon Inge, former Detroit Red Wings forward Darren McCarty, and former University of Michigan wide receiver Braylon Edwards.





For NHBP and Indian Country in general, supporting Veterans isn't something new. The prominent spirit of giving back to those who have served, and those who continue to serve to protect us, is something that is an inherent part and proud tradition of Native American culture.

"In much the same way as our traditional communities would have done, the community as a whole has worked together to take care of our Veterans," Dr. Chivis said. "Veterans or warriors have always been respected and honored within our Potawatomi culture and community, so the Chief Moguago Veterans Golf Outing follows in that tradition."

The Hooligans Flight Team's twin airplanes fly side by side, as they depart from their flyover during the golf outing's opening ceremony.



Casino Connection: FIREKEEPERS CASINO HOTEL 2019 INTERNS

SUBMITTED BY FKCH | PHOTOS PROVIDED BY FKCH

FireKeepers Casino Hotel (FKCH) welcomes the 2019 interns to the property!

Congratulations to NHBP Tribal Members Doreece Mandoka and Kennedy Collyer, as well as Brett Hermesen on their internship. Collyer and Hermesen currently attend Western Michigan University, and Mandoka attends Kellogg Community College.

During their internship, each will rotate throughout the property's departments, meeting with and shadowing a multitude of different positions through the casino and hotel. The goal is to assist the interns in finding their long-term place at FKCH.



Tribal Member Kennedy Collyer.



Tribal Member Doreece Mandoka and Brett Hermesen.

To view our openings, go to [firekeeperscasino.com/careers](https://www.firekeeperscasino.com/careers) or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. Contact Tribal Development Coordinator Rachel Hayes at 269.660.5411 or rhayes1@firekc.com.

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SIGNS OF COMMUNITY

CITY OF KALAMAZOO MARKS BOUNDARIES OF HISTORIC RESERVATION WITH NEW STREET SIGNS

WRITTEN BY ERIC MCCLURE
PHOTOS BY ERIC MCCLURE

The City of Kalamazoo has taken a meaningful step toward recognizing the first inhabitants of the Kalamazoo area: the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomis Indians. Twenty-five new street signs were installed throughout the Kalamazoo area this past spring, all in an effort to mark the historic boundaries of the 19th century Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomis Reservation.

“We are honored by the recognition of the 1821 Treaty Reservation boundaries by signage installed in Kalamazoo,” said Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomis Indians Tribal Council Chairman Bob Peters. “This occurred through the culmination of many years of dialogue with a group of elected city leaders and engaged community members, all of whom had a great interest in doing the right thing by the Tribe and its Ancestors.”

The Kalamazoo Reservation Public Education Committee, that serves to raise awareness for the local Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomis Indians, led the project to design the new street signs. The street signs include the Tribe’s logo and the phrase, “1821-1827 Pottawatomis Reservation Line,” which recognizes the duration of the Tribe’s Reservation within the Kalamazoo area. The roughly nine-square mile Reservation historically included portions of present-day Portage Street and Stadium Drive.

“We as a People will never forget the historic circumstances which resulted in the forced loss of our lands, or the loss of the Kalamazoo Reservation negotiated under the 1821 Treaty,” Peters said. “The signage



Twenty-five new street signs were installed throughout the Kalamazoo area this past spring, to mark the historic boundaries of the 19th century Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomis Reservation.



The street signs will mark the boundaries of the Reservation at intersections on the following streets within the Kalamazoo area: Burdick, Bronson Boulevard, Douglas, Howard, Lake, Lovers Lane, Michigan Avenue, Miller Road, Nichols Road, Parkview Avenue, Paterson, Stockbridge, Vine, West Main, Westnedge, Whites Road and Winchell Avenue.



of the Reservation boundaries helps to heal some wounds of the past by reminding everyone that the Gun Lake Tribe's Ancestors suffered great historic injustices by the United States (U.S.) government."

The Reservation land had been set aside for the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomini Indians in 1821. The treaty was one of the numerous treaties that the U.S. government made with Tribes, following the American Revolutionary War, the City of Kalamazoo stated in an April 2019 media release.

However, by 1827 the U.S. government had reclaimed the Reservation land from the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomini Indians, just one of the many instances of the government breaking the treaties that it had forged with Native American Tribes. To avoid the forced removal of their people to locations in northern Indiana and west of the Mississippi, the Tribe moved their people and homeland north to present-day Bradley, Michigan, near Gun Lake, the media release stated.

The City of Kalamazoo's decision to recognize the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomini Indians' historical Reservation lands is one that not only positively impacts the Tribe, but Indian Country as a whole, as well.

"This partnership between the Gun Lake Tribe and the City of Kalamazoo is an example of how many local municipalities are beginning to look toward Native American communities and recognizing their sovereignty and role as Sovereign Nations within the community," said NHBP Tribal Council Chairperson Jamie Stuck, who also serves as chair of the Native American Heritage Fund Board. "NHBP similarly partnered with the City of Kalamazoo last year, as the City applied for and utilized funds from the Native American Heritage Fund to cover the costs of removing the Fountain of the Pioneers in Bronson Park. We, as Tribes, increase our sovereignty through continued recognition and partnerships like these."

GLOW FOR THE GOLD:

NHBP HOSTS 2019 LIGHT UP THE
REZ 5K AND 1 MILE TURTLE TROT



WRITTEN BY ERIC MCCLURE
PHOTOS BY EMILEE GUZAK

As dusk settled over the Pine Creek Indian Reservation, walkers and runners from across the community gathered at the Recreational Fields. Music filled the air and faces were illuminated by glow-in-the-dark glasses, finger-tip lights and glow sticks.

A nearby digital clock counted down...0:05...0:04...0:03...0:02...0:01...go! And with that, the 2019 Light Up the Rez 5K and 1 Mile Turtle Trot was officially underway!

Left: Tribal Member Jane Brown and her husband, Travis, work the registration booth. Middle: Kids take off from the start line during the Turtle Trot. Right: Tribal Member Ameris Keith wears glow gear during the race.



“The Light Up the Rez event promotes physical activity for both our Tribal Community and the general public,” said NHBP Health Educator Shelby Gibson, who has organized the Light Up the Rez event for the past four years. “It also gives the public the opportunity to check out The Reservation. I think anything that is promoting physical activity, fun and community cohesion is a great thing!”

This year’s Light Up the Rez event, which marks nearly a decade of holding the event, was one for the record books, as an astounding 302 participants completed the 5K, Turtle Trot or both events.

“I could run 5Ks every weekend, I love this kind of thing,” Community member Corey Moulds said. “It’s a family event. I get to be healthy with my boys!”

Participants were able to enjoy music played by a live DJ, cool giveaways at the NHBP social media booth, Moo-ville chocolate milk at the finish line, and of course, lots of glow gear to help Light Up the Rez!

“My favorite part of the 5K was the music that they played and when we all warmed up together,” said Tribal Member Brooklyn Mandoka, a first-time 5K runner. “The 5K was a lot longer than I thought it would be.”

Each year the proceeds raised from the Light Up the Rez event are donated to a community organization, which is another way the event brings the greater community together. This year, \$2,231.05 was raised to benefit the Regional Health Alliance, an organization that focuses on community partnerships to improve health and well-being in Calhoun County.

In addition to providing a fun family-friendly event and giving back to impactful organizations that strive to improve quality of life in their service areas, Light Up the Rez has helped community members make their own strides to improve their health and well-being.

2019 LIGHT UP THE REZ

**TOP FEMALE FINISHER:
HANNAH KLEIN**

**TOP MALE FINISHER:
TUCKER LAFER**

TOTAL 5K PARTICIPANTS: 201

**TOTAL 1 MILE TURTLE TROT
PARTICIPANTS: 101**



Health Educator Shelby Gibson hands out medals to top participants of the Turtle Trot.

“We love to see all of the people getting out there and being active, while having fun!” Gibson said. “I have heard from several participants that they were getting active months before, to help prepare for the event. Several others have also shared that they plan on continuing to stay active and even get involved in other 5K events. That’s just so great!”



Top Left: Community member Corey Moulds takes a selfie with his niece, Tribal Member Miya Dougherty. Top Right: Tribal Member Sierra Simmons walks with her daughter, Tribal Member Rylynn Pedley. Bottom Left: Tribal Member Violet Pratt. Bottom Right: Community member Diana Wojton with her daughter, Tribal Member Sarah Zlotnicki.



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