

Wabanaki Alliance



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May 1982

Tribe OKs 1880 census

INDIAN ISLAND — In one of the most dramatic actions in tribal history, members of the Penobscot Nation voted recently to accept an 1880 census as defining "full blooded" Indians, rejecting the previously used 1860 census.

The vote carried by a mere seven votes, and in passing, ensured that an estimated 200 Penobscots would not be removed from the census. If the 1860 version had been turned down, those members would have lost their status, and all benefits of being a tribal member — such as per capita payments from land claims that average \$250 per month.

To say feelings ran high at the general meeting is an understatement. Gov. Timothy Love, emceeing the meeting that was closed to all non-members, decided this was "too serious an issue" but simply "raised the hand" vote. He ordered those who favored the amendment to the 1880 census to the side of the room, and those who opposed it — and wanted to retain the 1860 census — to the other side.

Whole families and their relatives moved to one side or the other, and Manfred Francis, unwilling to take either side, stood right in the middle of the two separated groups. Love, who favored the amendment, conceded later it was one of the more tense moments in his life.

The final vote to approve the amendment was 71-64. A first vote yielded 72-64. Immediately following the vote, dozens of members left the meeting, acknowledging that the census vote was their reason for attending. Relief showed on many faces, anger on some others.

To some, the amendment allows people who are "too white" to be Nation members. It will be the end of the tribe, someone predicted. The "real Indians" voted against the amendment, others said.

But to those who favored the amendment, it was the only fair thing to do, they said. And to some cases, they were voting to keep their own children on the tribal census. They said those opposed were

(Continued on page 5)



ELDEST RESIDENT of Indian Island, Sadie Ranco, Penobscot, celebrated her 86th birthday, April 2. Her senior citizen friends threw a party, but Sadie said, "I wish they'd forgotten. I'm too old!" She worked many years at a children's home in Bangor, retiring about ten years ago. With her is Jimmy Stevens and Eunice Crowley. Sadie had just signed a petition being circulated to retain Stevens as senior citizens coordinator. His job is jeopardized by funding cuts. Seniors' chef Gerry Francis praised Stevens' work.

Workfare starts at Island

INDIAN ISLAND — The Penobscot Nation's new welfare (general assistance) rules deny services to tribal members not living on tribal land.

The changes took effect April 1, according to Carolyn Strnad, deputy director of the tribal health and human services department. Strnad said the state has been putting pressure on the Indian Island administration to revise and clarify its welfare regulations, and the tribe has now done so. Under the land claims settlement act, the reservation has "municipality status" in terms of providing welfare. Strnad said.

In the first few days of the changes, there have been no major complaints from on or off reservation tribal members, she said.

The Penobscot Nation's regulations now conform with State of Maine law, rather than the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) policy formerly in force. The reservation policy now resembles the policies of most Maine towns and cities.

As Strnad points out, off reservation Indians may seek assistance from the community in which they live, and Strnad said the tribe will be an "advocate" for anyone needing help. She said Penquis Community Action Program, Bangor, and Central Maine Indian Association, Orono, could also offer guidance.

The welfare caseload for Indian Island has been lower than in years past, with about 125 cases on the reservation, and 35 cases off the Island. Those 35 cases have been dropped by the tribe.

Workfare starts

In other action, Strnad's department is initiating a workfare program, whereby able-bodied welfare recipients will be asked to do some work.

Strnad said those persons on welfare cannot, under the law, be required to (Continued on page 6)

Sioux lose land claims appeal

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Supreme Court has refused to hear an appeal from the Oglala Sioux tribe of South Dakota, seeking the restoration of Black Hills land taken from the Sioux Indians in 1877.

The supreme court had ruled in 1980 that the seizure of some 7 million acres of land from the Sioux was unconstitutional. As a result of this decision the Sioux were to receive more than \$100 million in compensation — but no land.

The Oglala, one of eight Sioux tribes involved in the 58-year-old suit, split off from the other seven before the 1980

decision, and refused to renew its contract with the lawyer who had handled the case for 24 years. They said they would not be bound by any monetary settlement without restoration of land.

Editor TV guest

ORONO — Wabanaki Alliance Editor Steve Cartwright will be the guest of host Kim Mitchell, Penobscot, on "Wickeegan," airing Monday, May 3, at 7:30 p.m. on TV stations of the Maine Public Broadcasting Network (MPBN).

FBI probes Passamaquoddy records

PLEASANT POINT — Tribal Gov. Joseph Hartley Nicholas has confirmed an unofficial report that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has been investigating Passamaquoddy financial records.

"The FBI did take quite a few records," Nicholas said. "I told them they could take whatever they want. I told them, 'you can have anything you want to. I don't have anything to hide.'"

Nicholas said the investigation may relate to an estimated tribal expenditure of \$43,000 in federal funds, some six years ago. He said that expenditure

was "disallowed" by the federal government. Nicholas' brother, Francis J. Nicholas, was tribal governor at the time.

"If there's any dirty linen, we'll air it," said Governor Nicholas. However, he said he did not anticipate any problems. Nicholas said government officials and two FBI agents have visited both Pleasant Point and Indian Township. Indian Township is a sister Passamaquoddy reservation near Princeton. Harold J. Lewey is currently Township governor.

Assistant U.S. District Atty. William Browder, contacted at his Bangor office, confirmed the FBI investigation. He refused to release any information, but was eager to know what this newspaper had learned. Rumors on the reservation indicated certain current or former tribal officials could face indictments by a grand jury.

Browder reluctantly acknowledged this was a possibility, but would neither confirm nor deny the rumors. He said the investigation may take a couple of months.



Gov. J. H. Nicholas

editorials

Gov. Love

Penobscot Nation Gov. Tim Love took a week's vacation in Florida last month. He and his family deserve at least that much.

Love works much overtime, works very hard, and has a job that follows him home. You can't leave the office and say to someone, "Sorry, it's after five. I'm not governor now." We believe Love has guided the tribe through turbulent times, including much friction over land claims money, the tribal census and the availability and delivery of services.

The job has turned Love's hair gray, just as the Presidency aged Jimmy Carter.

On top of all this, Tim Love's mother, Polly, died. Then, a half year later, his father, John, passed away. This is not an easy time for Love, who must decide if he will seek reelection this fall to a second two-year term.

Love has made a few mistakes, but so what. On balance, as one of the youngest governors in tribal history (still under 30), he has done a splendid job.

Workfare

A workfare program has been launched at Indian Island, and we wonder if it will get up to speed.

For those who don't know, "workfare" is a version of welfare where the recipient does some actual work in exchange for the welfare vouchers or payments, known on the reservation as general assistance.

In fact, welfare has been called many things in recent years. It seems people are unwilling to admit welfare for what it is, calling it instead "human services" and other euphemisms. Welfare is handouts for the poor, the needy. Sometimes welfare is abused, when underserving people receive it, and sometimes the very system of government handouts is an abuse.

The cycle of dependency created by welfare leads to generations of welfare recipients. It almost becomes an inherited trait. The grandmother is on welfare; her daughter gets a monthly check; the grandchildren will sign up as soon as they are able. How do we break this vicious cycle, especially in times of high joblessness?

Workfare strikes us as an idea with potential, good and bad. As a letter sent to Penobscot welfare recipients states, "This program will be designed for all employable applicants." Obviously, not all people can work, so there may be exceptions. But certainly a lot of people can do some sort of odd job, chore or task.

While participating in workfare will not bring the welfare recipient a fatter check, it will provide him a measure of self-esteem in the community. And it may sharpen some of his skills, making him more employable.

Probably the biggest flaw in the Indian Island workfare program is that welfare people cannot be forced to participate. There is no legal requirement that able-bodied persons work for their government check, paid in full by taxpayers. So if somebody doesn't want to work, he can thumb his nose at workfare, and still get his welfare check.

In all honesty, we don't have very high expectations for Indian Island workfare. People who live on welfare do so for deep-seated reasons. There is no instant cure for social and economic ills. But we say, give it a try.

With about 125 welfare cases on the Island — and this shows marked progress — something should be done.



Alison Sapiel and friends, inspecting seedlings at Indian Island greenhouse.

Garden needs helpers

INDIAN ISLAND — Due to funding shortages the tribal community garden will have to rely on volunteer labor this year.

Anyone willing to lend a hand (or shovel) is encouraged to come to the garden between 7 a.m. and 11 a.m., Monday through Friday starting May 5.

In August, at the peak of the harvest season there will be a garden pot-luck-

supper for all those who have helped with the garden. The meal will feature all the tasty fresh vegetables grown in the garden, according to Alison Sapiel, in charge of the garden project.

"Come help plant, weed, and water to get your tummy ready for fresh peas, snap beans, zucchini, beets, carrots, sweet corn, cabbage, tomatoes, green peppers, melons, etc.," Sapiel said.

Alliance's future in doubt

INDIAN ISLAND — As noted in a separate story in this issue, the Penobscot Nation has defeated a proposal to pick up the larger share of funding for this newspaper.

Last year, the Penobscots contributed \$16,350 to Wabanaki Alliance, and this funding is now just about exhausted.

In March, members voted 31-13 to reject a proposal that sought \$23,500 from the Penobscot Nation. But in a unanimous vote immediately following the rejection, members voted 40-0 to ask that a revised budget be submitted to the tribe. The second vote came after Wayne Mitchell, a tribal member,

stated the newspaper is important for communication, and should not be abandoned after five years of successful publication.

Over the years, Wabanaki Alliance has attempted to enlist Passamaquoddy, Miqmaq and Maliseet financial support, but to no avail.

The newspaper has thus found it necessary to seek the bulk of its support from the Penobscot Nation. It should be emphasized that for years, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland has sustained and sponsored the newspaper, and continues to support it today. Without tribal help, however, Wabanaki Alliance will cease publication.

Wabanaki Alliance

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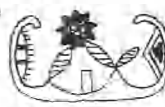
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letters

Teens still 'drunk or stoned'

Pleasant Point

To the editor:

I am writing in hope that you will print this letter in the Wabanaki Alliance news-letter column.

I am writing mainly to the Pleasant Point tribal leaders. I would like to be assured that they know of my concern with the drug and alcohol problems on the reservation.

About two years ago, I wrote a letter expressing my feelings about the drug and alcohol problems on the reservation. I gave my idea of what I felt could prevent some of the drug and alcohol problems. I suggested a recreation center with billiard tables, pinball machines, etc. For the past two years I have been assuming that the tribal leaders, of Pleasant Point, didn't think that was a good idea. I say this because since my last letter, I have not seen a recreation center or any other plans to give people fun, constructive things to do. I also have not seen a change with the drug and alcohol problems on the reservation.

I, as a teenager recognize our problem with drugs and alcohol. I really believe if we had a place like the recreation center, things would be different. I realize a recreation center won't totally take away the drug and alcohol problems. I do believe, though, that it will prevent and give people an alternative to drinking and taking drugs.

We teenagers are the future leaders of Pleasant Point. I would hate to see a bunch of "burnouts" as our future leaders. Let's try and prevent the problem before it's too late.

I must also assure you that I realize drug and alcohol problems are everywhere. If I thought there was a way to solve it for everyone, I would surely give my suggestion. Of course, I have no suggestion. So for now, let's think of ourselves. From there we can work our way up the ladder.

Since these two years have passed, I believe the drug and alcohol problems have become greater. It seems to be an everyday thing for many people. They believe there is nothing else to do but to get "drunk or stoned." From the looks of things, I can see why that is a usual excuse. There simply is nothing to do on the reservation.

During the night hours many teenagers are out getting "stoned or drunk." This is why I suggest a place to hang out. A place to have fun and enjoy each other. That is all I ask. Please remember that we are the future leaders of Pleasant Point. What we are today is our tomorrow.

Sincerely,

A Concerned Teenager

Former leader speaks out

Indian Island

To the editor:

As your former chief and governor, who had served you for four terms, "8 years" now presently serving a four year term as your councilman, I want to thank you for your letters and your phone calls. It shows you still have an interest in your tribe.

The most often asked question by your letters and calls is am I satisfied with our present system of governing. In answer to you all, I am going to be frank with you, as you asked my opinion, my answer is no I am not satisfied.

Our tribal election is but a few months away, September 1982. I am looking forward to some changes for a better system in our government. I am concerned for our security for the future. If some changes are not made.

I appreciate your letters, keep them coming as I have no working capital, if you wish an answer to your letters please enclose stamps.

We hope to come up with some plan to save our paper the Wabanaki which I am sure you enjoy.

Francis J. Ranco

English interest

Warwickshire, England

To the editor:

Thanks very much for swift reply to my letter and for the copies of the Wabanaki Alliance for which I am most grateful.

I found the paper very interesting and informative, and enclose \$6 for subscription and \$4 as a donation. I realize this is not very much, but do hope it will be of use to you.

I would very much like to know more about the Indian people and townships in your area, and the languages spoken. My best wishes to all at Wabanaki Alliance.

Jeremy Isaac

CMIA to elect

ORONO — Two new directors will be elected at a Central Maine Indian Association (CMIA) membership meeting, May 13, at 7 p.m., at CMIA offices, 95 Main St., Orono.

Acting CMIA director Melvin (Tom) Vicaire said in addition to filling the two vacancies, a proposed by-law revision would set a "majority age" of 18, meaning that CMIA members must be of age to vote. This has never been stipulated in the past, Vicaire said.

General meeting vote unjustified

Wells

To the editor:

I would like to express my feelings regarding the last General Meeting held on Thursday, March 18th. I was very disappointed that the Investment Committee's budget was turned down, mainly because of the importance of this committee. I don't believe anyone realizes what we are doing or trying to do and I would like to explain.

When we were to receive our settlement, it was decided that an Investment Committee be appointed to monitor our account with the government and recommend to the people our investment procedure. A committee of seven was formed and from the beginning, Deanna LaBossier, has been doing an excellent job monitoring our account. She has discovered errors made by the government and these have been rectified by them. She has spent time in Albuquerque learning the process by which their system is set up and has become known to all the people there. We should be proud we have someone who is capable of this job. The most important part of this job is keeping track of our investments which are in many banks across the country, from Maine to California. This is how the government uses our money, which is fine. But we do need someone to keep track of these investments. As you can see, our money is not invested by the government in one lump sum, but in many smaller investments, thereby making it a full time job keeping our eye on these to be sure we are getting the correct return of interest and that the amounts coincide with what we

have. Included in the budget was a request for one full time person and one part time person to work on these accounts and do whatever paper work needs to be done regarding these. This request was denied. Lord knows what will happen when our function ceases.

I have heard comments like, "What do we need an Investment Committee for." As you can see, if we want to know what our money is doing and where it is, we need an investment committee. Our honesty and ability has been questioned. All investment committee members are volunteers and I am proud to say I have worked for one year with this group and am one of the originals, along with Deanna LaBossier and Irene Pardiola. There are now four committee members and Deanna is being temporarily employed by the Administration for the job she is doing as Trust Dept. head and works along with the committee.

There were comments made at the meeting to hire a financial expert. A financial expert is going to charge thousands of dollars for the same information we are getting now, and this will come out of the payout.

If we do not want to fund the Investment Committee for the amount they need, how will we pay a financial expert?

Please write your comments to Gov. Love if you feel this committee is needed.

June Ranco Lane

Investment Committee Member

Free eagle poster

WASHINGTON — A poster stating "We care about eagles," depicting the American bald eagle, is available for the asking from National Wildlife Federation, 1412-16th St., NW, Dept. FM, Washington, D.C. 20036. Send a postcard only.

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CHANGING OF THE GUARD — Or, more correctly, the directors: Dr. Eunice Baumann-Nelson has been appointed head of the Penobscot Nation Department of Health and Human Services, succeeding Alan Sanborn, who has taken a job as executive director of the Episcopal Church's National Committee on Indian Work, in New York City. He had been in charge of the clinic two years. Baumann-Nelson is a former clinic director, who recently taught a course on northeastern Indians at College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor. Both Sanborn and Baumann-Nelson are Penobscot tribal members.

Island men want camping program for Indian youth

INDIAN ISLAND — Two men here who work with tribal youth in sports think a camping trip might be as good as a basketball game.

Red Bartlett and Dennis Pehrson say that a wilderness experience can teach an

Indian youngster self-confidence, initiative, self-reliance, cooperation, and other basic human values. They believe trips, and possibly permanent woods camps, should be organized to help instill these values, and "open the minds" of young people, whether Penobscot or from other tribes.

The concept has been tried before, in Wabanaki Wilderness Pursuits of Orono, but despite some success, the program foundered a couple of years ago from lack of interest, commitment and leadership.

Bartlett and Pehrson call their project "back to life," and think it can be done with a minimum of money. Already, Pehrson said, he has a group of about 15 parents willing to volunteer their time.

Besides survival in the wild, youth can learn to simply enjoy the outdoors, becoming aware of nature's balance and beauty. Bartlett said, "Not everyone's interested in going out for sports," he said. "This gives them an alternative."

Some of the activities Bartlett and Pehrson hope would be taught are wood-carving, pottery, sweetgrass gathering for basketry, split ash basketry, and medicinal and edible plant identification.

If trips are organized, each young person will be responsible for bringing his own food and clothing, Bartlett said. This will keep costs low, he explained.

Pehrson and Bartlett are exploring the possibility of acquiring the leftover Wilderness Pursuits equipment, which includes four canoes, backpacks and other paraphernalia. All of it is currently held by Wabanaki Corporation, a Bangor-based Indian alcoholism agency.

Watt deeds land to native Alaskans

WASHINGTON — U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary James Watt awarded 23,000 timbered acres on Admiralty Island off southeast Alaska to the Sitka-based Shee-Atika Native Corporation.

The land had been selected by the village corporation under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act but the selection had been delayed because of opposition by the Sierra Club.

The island is famous for its Sitka Spruce, other old-growth forest resources, bears, eagles and other wildlife.

Maliseet land bill enacted

By Brenda Polchies
Special to Wabanaki Alliance

AUGUSTA — A governor's bill, titled An Act to Amend the Maine Implementing Act with Respect to the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, and presented by Senator Michael Carpenter of Aroostook County and co-sponsored by Representative Genette Ingraham of Houlton, was passed in the 110th Legislature.

The legislative approval came during the final week of proceedings and the bill was signed into law April 13, by Governor Joseph E. Brennan and Houlton Band of Maliseets Chairman Terry Polchies. A 19-13 vote in the Senate and an overwhelming vote in the House of Representatives enabled the bill to pass handily.

Briefly, the "Statement of Fact" reads: "The Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act of 1980, Public Law 96-420, enacted by Congress, created a \$900,000 Land Acquisition Fund for the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians. Under the provisions of that federal act, the Secretary of Interior of the United States cannot use funds to

acquire land for the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians until the State enacts appropriate legislation approving such land acquisitions." This bill is the product of negotiations between the state and the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians.

Under the provisions of this act, the lands acquired by the secretary for the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, to be called "Houlton Band Trust Land," will be subject to the general laws of the state with certain limited exceptions; they will be subject to make payments in lieu of property taxes, and they will be subject to certain special restraints on alienation. This act provides for the creation of a special trust fund of \$100,000 to assure the satisfaction of tax obligations owed to Maine governmental entities.

The act will become effective 90 days after adjournment of the legislature, as required by the Constitution of Maine, and the act shall be effective only upon enactment of legislation by the federal government ratifying and approving this Act without modification.



Passamaquoddy champs

The Indian Township Passamaquoddy girls basketball team took 4th place, recently, in the Washington County Junior High Girls Basketball Tournament. From left, [front row], Amy Tomah, team captain Rachel Sockabasin, Lilly Sockabasin; [back row, l-r] Myra Mitchell, Bethany Gabriel, Laura Sockabasin, Amy Tomah, Dottie Newell, Tonya Sockoby. With them is coach Donna Allen.

Richter completes police training

WATERVILLE — Karl A. Richter of Pleasant Point, a Passamaquoddy, was among 39 law enforcement people graduating March 26, from Maine Criminal Justice Academy here.

Ceremonies were held at Thomas College, with a commencement address by state Atty. Gen. James E. Tierney. The Academy marks its 42nd session of municipal and county basic police school.

"With the training these officers have received, they are now prepared to perform their functions and tasks for the citizens they serve," said Maurice C. Harvey, Director, Maine Criminal Justice Academy.

The 485-hour curriculum includes subjects in Accident and Criminal Investigation, Firearms, First Aid, Maine Criminal and Motor Vehicle Law, News Media Relations, Patrol Procedures, Police Ethics, Police and the Public, Specialized Subjects (e.g., youth control, crisis intervention and conflict management, police records, etc.).

Maine law requires that all full-time municipal police officers and deputy sheriffs successfully complete the 12-week municipal/County Basic Police School within one year of their employment.

Richter works with the Pleasant Point Police Department.



An All-Star

Miles Francis Jr., from Indian Island in Old Town has been selected to play for the Maine State Squirt Hockey All-Stars in Rhode Island, one of 15 players chosen in the state to represent Maine at the New England Spring Festival Hockey Tournament.

Gordon Wakelin from Casco Bay will be the Maine All-Stars coach for the tournament.

Miles, 10, played for the Old Town Rotary Squirts and the Old Town Pee Wees in the Penobscot Valley Hockey Conference.

Miles has been playing hockey since age 8 and has attended the National Hockey School in Montreal, St. Andrews Hockey School in New Brunswick, and Sussex Hockey School in New Brunswick. He plans to attend Exeter Hockey School in Exeter, New Hampshire this year.

Miles is the son of Miles and Donna Francis of Indian Island.

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Dana Mitchell, left, and Barry Nelson, both of Indian Island, chat with Tom Brown after lecture at University of Maine at Orono.

Tom Brown describes his wilderness survival school

ORONO — As a boy of seven, Tom Brown was already a rebel, or perhaps a throwback, in the New Jersey society around him. He began exploring the wild Pine Barrens near his home.

Later, after attending college for two weeks, he lived in those woods for a full year, walking away from civilization stark naked, without so much as a knife. Anyway, his local draft board had rejected him for physical reasons, and he figured it was a good time to lay low.

What really confirmed Brown as a man of the woods was a chance encounter — a "most incredible coincidence" he calls it — with an Apache "grandfather," who as Brown tell it, taught him the wisdom and lessons of Indians and the ages. He spent a number of years living and learning with his "grandfather."

Later, at 27, Brown married, took a mental job, and was dissatisfied. He thought he ought to repay the Apache for some of what he learned, and in the process do what he could to halt pollution and other violations of natural resources. So he started a wilderness survival school based at his New Jersey farm. Today, at 38, Brown operates three such schools, one of them on the west coast.

Despite his allegiance to wilderness, he finds himself getting from place to place to speak; he has joined the lecture circuit. His latest stop was at University of Maine

at Orono, sponsored by Native Americans at Maine, the Indian student group on campus.

He said he was pleased to see an audience that looked "rugged enough" to be forestry students, unlike the paler counterparts he recently addressed at Princeton University.

Brown spoke with conviction and passion about what he believes is his calling. He showed some slides of his wilderness survival training trips, and told some anecdotes — such as when a grizzly bear mauled his rented jeep while he cowered, unharmed, under the vehicle. He said the bear tore out the rear end, and mangled the entire jeep. He worked three years to pay for the jeep, he said.

"Grandfather's" most admired wild creature is the chickadee. Brown said he couldn't understand why, until one frigid day, hiking in high winds, he noticed there wasn't a sign of wildlife anywhere... until he heard the cheerful "chick-a-dee-dee-dee." The bird is always cheery, looking on the bright side and celebrating nature and its own small life. This is why he is so admired, Brown said.

The lecture included a demonstration by one of Brown's associates of how to start a fire with a "bow drill." A bow is moved back and forth, spinning a stick very rapidly until smoke appears. You then blow into the smoke until a flame leaps up from some dry tinder. Unfortunately, the demonstration didn't work, but everyone applauded anyway.

The audience included many Indian people, both Penobscot and Passamaquoddy, plus a couple of Maliseets and others. A drawing was held for a benefit raffle for the Indian student club, and a \$100 first prize, and pack basket second prize, were awarded.

Probably one of the more intriguing aspects of Brown's schools is that, for Indians, the courses are free.

Child abuse a conference topic

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Innovations in computer education and new techniques for dealing with child abuse will be among featured workshops at this year's National Indian Child Conference.

The annual conference is scheduled for September 12-16, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Phoenix, Arizona. NICC Chairman, Jerry Bread, expects delegates nationwide with an increased representation from the northwestern states.

Close vote on census

(Continued from page 1)

protecting their per capita from any decrease due to increased membership.

One young Penobscot man marched out of the meeting smoking a cigar purchased at the tribal snack bar. "I'm a full blood now," he said sarcastically. (Most Penobscots agree that there are few if any full-blooded Penobscots alive today.)

For months, the elected tribal census committee struggled to come to grips with the dilemma of the 1860 versus 1880 census. The matter is one of the most controversial ever addressed, at Indian Island. If the 1860 were kept, then many Penobscots were by definition less than one quarter blood Indian "Quarter blood" as the standard federal as well as local Indian definition of the minimum requirement for bona fide tribal membership.

Some Island residents have accused prior tribal administrations of "padding" the rolls of Penobscots for a bigger population, thus enhancing applications for state and federal grants and services. Love had denied that his, or previous administrations, engaged in such activity.

In any case, the recent vote of the general meeting, with less than one eighth of total membership participating, has ensured that membership will top 1,500.

Several census committee members voted to oppose the amendment, even though in some cases, it could hurt the member's own family.

More census matters

In other actions at the five hour meeting, tribal members voted, after much acrimonious debate, to reinvest 22.7 percent of interest earned on the \$12.5 million Penobscot share of the land claims trust fund. That vote carried, 44-7.

In regard to a \$1 million trust fund set aside for senior citizens, the tribe voted 46-4 that the elderly have a right to the entire amount of interest earned, without any withholdings. In a related decision, seniors were given the right, by a 46-7 vote, to decide the fate of their land claims earnings.

In a vote with no opposition, the members at the meeting decided to give themselves the right to appeal their status on the tribal census; in a less overwhelming vote, members gave "the power of removal" to the census committee. That item carried, 87-48.

In an unrelated matter, "dangerous building ordinances" for the tribe were passed, 58-32. Tribal Lt. Gov. Joseph Francis estimates there are seven to eight buildings "at least" on the reservation that pose a "threat to the community" through possible fire or personal injury. Also, vacant buildings are sometimes used as hang-outs for youngsters, and this is considered unsafe.

No to newspaper

Finally, at the bottom of the agenda and with less than 50 persons present, a proposed budget for the Wabanaki Alliance newspaper, seeking \$23,500 for a fiscal year starting July 1, was soundly rejected. The vote was 81-13.

The proposal stated that should voters turn it down, the newspaper would cease publication. However, tribal member Wayne Mitchell introduced a motion, which passed 46-0, asking Wabanaki Alliance to revise its budget and submit another proposal to the Nation.

Micmac named runner of year

BOSTON — Patti Catalano, a Micmac, has set new records in footraces.

The Boston resident finished second in a recent Boston marathon, and then won nine races consecutively, setting a U.S. record of 49:33 in the Jacksonville River Run 15-kilometer race.

She was recently named Road Runner of the Year by RRCA, the Road Runners Club of America.



BOSTON MARATHONER Jeannette LaPlante, 44, a Wabanaki Alliance board member, completed the famous course last month in less than four hours — she is the first Penobscot woman to run the Boston Marathon since famed runner Andrew Sockalexis, more than 70 years ago. She is the first Penobscot woman to enter the race. "Heartbreak Hill didn't bother me at all. I was up to mile 20 before I knew it," LaPlante said. She said the 70-plus degree weather was oppressive, but she has no regrets. Will she do it again? Probably not.

To qualify for the Boston Marathon, LaPlante ran 3 hours, 29 minutes, in the over age 40 class. In the Casco run, LaPlante trimmed 37 minutes off the time it took her to run the Paul Runyan marathon, held every summer in Orono.

To prepare for Boston, LaPlante had been running 60-70 miles per week, often after dark, on weekdays.

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Obituary

JOHN J. LOVE, SR.

INDIAN ISLAND — John J. Love, Sr., 50, of 22 Center St., died March 28, 1982.

He was born at Old Town, May 11, 1931, the son of Richard and Emily (Mitchell) Love. He was a member of St. Ann's Catholic Church. He had been employed by the Cianbro Corp. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean Conflict.

He was predeceased by his wife, Pauline (Francis) Love. He is survived by three sons, Timothy, John Jr. and Richard, all of Indian Island; two daughters, Paula and Emily, both of Indian Island; four sisters, Theresa Guimond of Connecticut, Ann Breau of Orono, Edna Becker of Indian Island and Christine Doucette of Old Town; seven grandchildren; several nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated at St. Ann's Catholic Church, Indian Island, with the Rev. John Civiello officiating. Interment will be in the Tribal Cemetery.



VISTA [Volunteers In Service to America] worker, Alex Smith, helps a youngster with her roller skates, on a visit to Indian Island. A Hartford, Ct., native, she is a Williams College graduate who spent time on an Ojibway [Chippewa] reservation. She is living in Bangor.

Letter from VISTA worker

As a VISTA volunteer working through Tribal Governors, Inc. I am trying to organize and fund a silkscreen printing project. I am looking for members of the Penobscot, Passamaquoddy, Micmac, and Maliseet tribes living in the Bangor/Old Town area who would be interested in becoming involved in such a project. Using the knowledge and experience of some of the older members of the tribes and the energy and artistic ability of the younger members, we would design and hand-print six or eight different sets of note cards to be sold in arts and crafts stores, galleries and Indian craft stores throughout the state. Each design would represent some aspect of Penobscot, Passamaquoddy, Micmac, or Maliseet culture and on the back of each card, an explanation of the design, as well as the origin of the screened cards, would be printed. In this way different members of the tribes would pull together to create a product that

will speak to the general public of Native American history and culture.

Anyone who is interested should contact me at 866-5526, Monday through Friday, 8 to 4. You need not be experienced in the arts as there will be all kinds of work from designing and printing to actual distribution. These will, for the most part, not be paid positions; although you will have the opportunity to get valuable experience in print-making as well as marketing, and especially for students interested in applying to art school, this project will be a great addition to your portfolio. Once we do get a group of people together, we will set up a loose schedule that will be dependent on when the members of the group are free to work. Please give me a call if you are at all interested and we can talk more.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Alexandra Smith

Clinic needs more dental patients

INDIAN ISLAND — Dr. William Burns of the U.S. Indian Health Service (IHS) in Nashville, came to observe at the Dental Program here, March 15. He commented that the Dental Clinic is seeing more patients than in the past.

However, he made it clear that unless the tribe can increase the number of patients in the program, the dental program is in danger of being cut.

The IHS needs data to show the federal government that at least 30% of the Indian population in the service area have been examined. The federal government has been shown data to prove that there is a need for dental services, but not that there is a demand for those services.

"Funding," Burns said, "is based on demand for services as shown by service

use." Burns said that IHS is mainly interested in primary care, "which they define as oral examinations, hygiene instruction, X-rays (when needed), diet counseling, needed fillings, and needed extractions."

"It is important for you and your children to have a dental check-up and cleaning every six months. We can then tell you if you need further treatment," said Dr. Stuart V. Corsi, tribal dentist. "If you have dentures, it is important that you have an oral examination once a year to see how your mouth is reacting to the dentures. Call us today for an appointment. You don't have to have toothaches. If you care for your teeth! Also it is important that you show the IHS that you are using the program. It's your Dental Clinic, support it!"

Woodstove safety means a snug home

By Joe MacIntyre

Now that winter is winding down, (we hope), and the need to keep the wood stove roaring all day and most of the night is ending, it is very tempting to close it off, perhaps give it a coating of stove polish for the summer, and forget it until next fall.

This is the wrong thing to do.

Most of us think, if we think of safety very much at all, that now that the heating season is about over and we haven't set fire to something, our homes or ourselves, that the problem is over. It isn't. There is always next year.

Take the time now when you can shut it down on a warm day, one of the ones we are starting to have, and spend some time with your stove.

During the past winter your stove and stove pipe has been building up a thick layer of creosote on the inside. Creosote is the black kind of tarlike deposit that results from having burned wood. It is the incomplete combustion product of wood, the moisture and sap in the wood. It is more pronounced in green wood than wood that is well seasoned.

This creosote is flammable and is the cause of many stove fires and most chimney fires. It has to be cleaned out every year and often in the middle of the year.

There are chimney cleaning firms listed in the yellow pages of the phone book who do a good job of cleaning chimneys. Call one soon.

If you decide that you want to tackle the job yourself and save the cost, here are a few suggestions:

First, it is a dirty, messy job so wear old clothes. And inside of the house it might not be a bad idea to check the whole project out first with your wife so that you don't do it soon after she's just finished cleaning.

Remove the stovepipe to the chimney, and while you have it down, check the entire length of the pipe to see if there are any burn-out spots. A stove pipe does not last forever. The burn-out places will not necessarily be all the way through the pipe, but rather will have a very thin kind of wrinkled rusty appearance. Take a screwdriver or some similar tool and try putting some pressure on the pipe in different places. If the metal gives easily to the pressure, it is thin and without doubt needs replacing. If it does, do not take any chance — replace it — and make sure that the metal screws holding the

various sections together are solid and holding. Then scrape the creosote out of the pipe, make sure it is clean and sturdy, and then reassemble.

The chimney itself should then be cleaned. From the roof a length of chain, such as tied-together tire chains or whatever, can be lowered into the chimney and swing around so that they hit all sides as you lower them little by little down the chimney, knocking all the creosote loose. If chains are not available, another device that works well is a burlap bag filled with stones or bricks and tied at the end of a rope.

When the chimney is thoroughly cleaned, then you'll have to get all the creosote out of the chimney at the bottom. There is a cleanout door for this. Be sure and look in the creosote and see if there are any small chunks of masonry mixed with the creosote. If there are, it may be that your chimney is starting to loosen. The mortar between bricks will, with age, dry out and loosen and fall out. These must be replaced. Call a chimney man and have him look at it for you.

Now you are ready to tackle the stove itself. Again, clean out the creosote in the stove, (there shouldn't be quite as much of it). And also check very carefully the firebrick inside the stove. Make sure all are still solid and still cemented firmly in place. Take hold of them and try to move them. They should be firmly in place. Look inside with a flashlight and see that none of them are cracked or broken. These bricks are what contains your fire and prevents it burning through the side of the next stove.

Next, check the legs and base of the stove and the platform upon which it sets. Make sure that these are all solid and secure.

If you haven't done it this winter, when you put everything back together, assemble things so that your stove is about thirty (30) inches out from the wall. Not only is this a very good safety precaution, but you will also get 25% to 35% more heat from the same amount of fuel.

And last, but not least, check all around the walls, sides and back of the stove and make sure that your insulation protectors are still in good shape. Notice if there are any badly scorched places. It may mean that it should be replaced or that your stove was too close to the wall.

When you are finished and the mess is cleaned up, then give the stove a good coat of stove polish.



BEST OF FRIENDS — Five-year-old Passamaquoddy Chad Socka-usin of Indian Township, isn't one little bit scared of these two big buddies, who join him on a walk near his reservation house.



WHO IS SHE — This sunny photo of Frank Mitchell, a Penobscot, was taken nearly two decades ago. But who is the lass seated beside him? And is it really Frank Mitchell, and where are they? (Photo courtesy of Florence Mitchell Herskind)

Ranco takes post with publisher

INDIAN ISLAND — Michael Ranco, a Penobscot who has been a planning consultant to the tribe here, has accepted a position as regional director for advertising and sales with a Portland firm.

Ranco, a sports enthusiast who contemplated starting his own sports newspaper, will be involved in production of various sports publications. The first project, he said, is the 1982 Maine Runners Guide, to be published by Material World, the Portland company. Material World also publishes Maine Law Review, and other journals, Ranco said.

Ranco, interviewed for the job in Augusta, was selected from two dozen applicants. He is part of a staff of 17, and is responsible for eastern Maine. He has hired Craig Miller, a sportsman and realtor, to work under him in advertising. Ranco will receive a salary and commission.

For several years, Ranco has organized and managed the Andrew Sockalexis Track Club at Indian Island. The club has produced some topnotch runners. Ranco

has also organized track meets, including the annual Sockalexis Memorial 4 mile road race at Indian Island, held in July.

Ranco and his family reside on Indian Island.

Houlton adds staff

HOULTON — The Houlton Band of Maliseets, a recently formed group that shared in the Maine Indian land claims act, is expanding its staff at its Putnam Arcade headquarters here.

According to Houlton Band director Terrance Polchies, a resident of Bangor, the following positions will be filled: director, department of real estate; director of vital statistics; home/school liaison worker; and tribal planner.

Polchies said Indian preference will be used in hiring, although in other respects the band is an "equal opportunity employer."

Polchies has advertised the positions in the Bangor Daily News.

Corrections

A story in the April issue of Wabanaki Alliance was incorrectly headlined "Tribe buys water works." Actually, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point voted to purchase the Eastport Water Company, but the sale was contingent on several federal agencies providing money through grants, loans, or a combination thereof.

A photo caption about a Passamaquoddy student tour of University of Maine at Orono should have included Sam Dana and Rick Kelley, both counselors at Indian Township. Both men helped organize the first visit to the campus by Passamaquoddy high school students.

POSITION AVAILABLE

Coordinator for the Indian Task Force of the New England Federal Regional Council. Serves as only staff person for a task force working for and representing all the New England Indian Tribes and groups. Salary in \$20s. This is not a federal job. Send resume to M. Osolnik, HHS, Room 2411, JFK Federal Bldg., Boston, MA 02203, by May 7, 1982.

news notes

Vicaire takes helm at CMIA

ORONO — Melvin (Tom) Vicaire of Mattawamkeag, twice director of Central Maine Indian Association (CMIA) in the past, has again assumed that role.

Acting Director Vicaire takes over from James Sanborn, Bangor, who was hired in August 1981. Sanborn left his post by mutual agreement with the CMIA board of directors. He said there are no hard feelings, and he will miss a fine staff. "I learned a whole lot. I got a lot out of the experience," Sanborn commented.

Vicaire told this newspaper he is pleased to help an organization with which he has long been associated. He is proprietor of Mattawamkeag Hardware & Gun Shop.

Newell notes health service cutbacks

INDIAN TOWNSHIP — Medical expenses allowed under contract health care have been curtailed here, health director Wayne A. Newell has announced.

Under revised priorities, Newell said, the federal Indian Health Service will no longer pay for "elective hospital and/or outpatient care (care that can safely be deferred for more than 60 days). Nor will IHS pay for luxury procedures, such as cosmetic surgery."

These measures were taken "in order to stay within our contract budget during the remainder of this contract year," Newell said. "This reduced level of services will remain in effect until at least Aug. 1."

Still covered by IHS is urgent and emergency care, and care needed within 30-60 days.

'Prevention' theme of health meeting

DENVER, Colorado — The practice of preventive health and its role in improving the health care status of Indian people was the focus of the fifth National Indian/Alaska Native Health Conference held last month in Tucson, Arizona.

The conference theme, "Preventive Medicine — The Key to the Future," illustrated the increasing emphasis placed on preventive health measures in treating problems such as diabetes, heart disease, poor nutrition, alcoholism, and other major health-related problems in American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

"We need to look at why certain diseases occur so frequently among Indian people," said Muriel Ortega, a Papago Indian who was instrumental in the conference planning. "And we need to find out what Indian people can do for themselves to help prevent these diseases."

AA is 24 years old

INDIAN ISLAND — A potluck supper and guest speakers brightened the occasion of the 24th anniversary of the Indian Island Alcoholics Anonymous group.

The first official AA chapter in the area, the Indian group that welcomes non-Indians was founded by Clarence and Violet Francis. More than 100 people turned out for the evening program, organized by Bobcat Glossian (Francis Saple).

Plans are already being discussed for a gala 25th anniversary next year.

Bibliography set for publication

ORONO — The American Friends Service Committee's Maine Indian Program will publish: "The Wabanaki: A Selective, Annotated Bibliography," this month.

It contains some 300 works about Maine Indians, annotated by Eunice Baumann-Nelson, a Penobscot, who holds a PhD in Anthropology. It is especially recommended for teachers and librarians and as a resource for college students and anyone interested in Indian people of Maine. Retail price is \$6.50, plus handling, 75c. A 15 percent discount is offered to libraries and schools. Send order with check made out to AFSC, to Box 226, Orono, Maine 04478.

Bi-lingual ed. ending?

AUGUSTA — Recent news reports disclose that Passamaquoddy bilingual education projects — in place at Indian Township and Pleasant Point reservations — may see heavy budget cutbacks in the future.

Much will depend on the Reagan administration and Congress, as they work out a federal budget. Also uncertain is the future of French, Indo-Chinese and Spanish bilingual programs in Maine, according to Barney Serube, state education consultant.



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