



Wabanaki Alliance

November
1981

Funded by the Penobscot Nation and Diocesan Human Relations Services Inc.



Bingo a boon to the Island



THE BIG MONEY — Lt. Gov. Joseph Francis, left, and Miles Francis, Bingo Committee president, present \$2,500 each to Clara Chessie (left) and Cora Tate, who split the \$5,000 jackpot. The full-card bingo game was a surprise to the 502 Sunday players last month. Officials feared too much commotion with advance notice of the award.

INDIAN ISLAND — Five years of Sunday bingo games culminated last month in an award five times the size of the usual jackpot.

An average crowd of 502 players were on hand for the surprise climax. The prize was split between two grandmothers, Cora Tate of Eddington, and Clara Chessie of Lincoln, who both straddled full-card bingo in 52 calls (there are 25 numbered spaces per card).

Mrs. Tate has played at the Penobscot tribal games since they started. "I've never won too much, \$50 maybe," she said. She will spend some of her \$2,500 share of the award on her grandson, coming to visit her from Germany for Christmas.

Mrs. Chessie said she comes to bingo "a couple times a month."

A well-known patron of the Island bingo games Shirley Hathaway was not present for the big award. She is able to handle 30 cards at once, entirely by memory.

Asked why the \$5,000 award was released, Bingo Committee President Miles Francis said, "you've got to treat your customers right. We're second only to the Seminole (a Florida Indian tribe) in Indian bingo."

Francis is proud of the job he and his staff have done with the Indian Island Bingo games and proceeds. Funding for children's recreation programs and "Christmas turkeys for every household on the reservation" are among many things supported by bingo. The committee, a branch of tribal government, has been generous with grants to causes it seems worthy of financial support.

In addition to the Sunday evening games, the committee oversees operation of a game room (mechanical games of chance) and a snack bar, both of which provide income.

Bingo and the game room are sometimes criticized by those opposed to legal gambling, but Francis replies, "it's either the Indian Island Bingo or I don't know how we'd keep this building open."

Francis said bingo was initially to support the costs of operating the tribal Community Building, built in 1976-1977. "We had a building and no way to support it," he said.

Bingo games started with \$1,400 from the Penobscot Nation tribal council, and 30 people attended the first game. The first games gave the winners \$5 for "regulars" and a \$75 jackpot. Regular games are now \$50, ten times the original figure. "Consolation" prizes are now \$1,000.

"As the crowd grew, the prizes grew," Francis explained. A majority of the players are non-Indians, many from out-of-town.

Original organizers of the Island bingo were Francis, chairman, Donald Nelson, Manfred Francis and Sam Sapiel. The current committee includes Lt. Gov. Joseph (Jo-Jo) Francis, Martha Neptune, Donald Nelson and Manfred Francis. Irving Balco has been appointed bingo manager.

Francis commented, "the enjoyment I get out of it is seeing the benefits that the tribe as a whole receives."

Other things sponsored by bingo include bean suppers, parties and supplemental support of meals for the elderly.

DA re-opens case of Micmac killed by car

ELLSWORTH — The controversial case of a Micmac blueberry raked killed by a hit-and-run motorist will be re-opened, a legal official confirmed.

District Attorney Michael Povich told Wabanaki Alliance that he will conduct an investigation of the Aug. 17 incident in Dabbs, in which a deputy sheriff later pleaded "no contest" to charges he left the scene of a "personal injury accident."

Deputy Sheriff Murray B. Seavey, 50, of Cherryfield, paid a \$100 fine on his no contest plea to the charge. Possible fines range from \$25 to \$1,000 for the offense. Since the court action, a number of area residents and others have complained that Seavey should have been charged with manslaughter,

and that \$100 was a small price to pay for a man's death.

Because "the hue and cry has been so loud," Povich said, "This is not dead, this is not the end of it. I'm re-opening it. I'm reviewing it. I will issue a public statement, probably a written statement, that will be available to anyone."

Povich has met with editors of both the Ellsworth American and The Bangor Daily News, and both of those newspapers have printed editorials critical of the handling of the hit-and-run death of Joseph B. Peters, 20, a Micmac from Big Cove, New Brunswick. The first editorial to call for further investigation was printed in the September issue of Wabanaki Alliance. (Continued on page 8)

Francis wins Lt. Gov. slot

INDIAN ISLAND — Joseph (Jo-Jo) Francis won his bid for the tribal lieutenant governor's job handily, edging out four competitors early in the returns.

At final count, Francis, age 47, tallied 149 votes after the Sept. 2 election. Candidate Eugene Loring, 60, garnered 101 ballots; Nicholas Dow, age 37, captured 88 votes; Neil Phillips, age 45, 55 ballots; and Rose Scribner, age 40, two votes.

At one point during the election, Francis complained he was accused of using tribal stationery in his campaign. He emphatically denied the charge.

"I intend to work with the Governor and the council. I personally believe that I have a good working relationship with the council," Francis told Wabanaki Alliance.

Asked if he would seek the top job in 1982 now held by Gov. Timothy Leavitt.

(Continued on page 8)

Group seeks to impeach Gov. J.H. Nicholas

PLEASANT POINT — Ralph Dana and more than 160 other Passamaquoddy tribal members have signed a petition seeking to remove Gov. J. Hartley Nicholas from office. His term ends next fall.

Dana said he has submitted his petition to tribal leadership, but there has been no action in recent weeks.

Asked for comment, Nicholas said he is biding his time, and has not yet decided how he will respond. He said he contacted

U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs official Harry A. Rainbolt, and Rainbolt told him: "No way, I'm not going to get involved in your internal affairs."

Both Nicholas and Dana have contacted tribal legal counsel Thomas N. Tureen about the matter. Said Nicholas, "I called Tom up and he said 'I think I could persuade them (BIA) to send someone down.' I said, let us deal with this ourselves. This is after all an internal affair."

However, in an Oct. 2 letter to Dana,

Tureen stated in part, "it would seem to me that the assistant secretary for Indian Affairs or his delegate should supervise a recall election and that a recall petition, in the absence of specific tribal action, should be submitted to the Assistant Secretary in the first instance."

As in a related story about the firing of Pleasant Point's health director (in this issue), the petition drive involves Peter Bailey. Dana was involved in an earlier petition to hold a referendum on adoption,

The vote was to determine if someone "with less than one quarter Indian blood should be adopted into the tribe."

A date was set for the vote, but Nicholas cancelled the referendum, maintaining the petition "contains forgeries, duplication of names, and there are people who requested to take their names off."

Nicholas complained that his mother's name appeared on the petition, and that she asserted it was a forgery. Dana said

(Continued on page 10)

editorials

The perfect place

We have no personal stake in the sale of a piece of Indian Island property advertised in this issue.

But we think the Penobscot Nation and its members could have a big stake in it.

For sale is the former home of Molly Spotted Elk, a celebrated Penobscot who married a French journalist. She herself was a writer, poet, professional dancer and spiritualist in traditional Indian ways. That is only background.

The house itself is exceedingly well constructed, with fine woodworking and other details . . . it does require some work. The property includes Penobscot River frontage and a deep lot. The Indian Island Elementary School is practically across the street, and the location is near the bridge to the City of Old Town and major roads.

All this is leading up to a proposal: why not acquire the property for a tribal museum, gallery, and offices? The asking price is not exorbitant, and this could be the tribe's opportunity to grab some needed space for a worthwhile project. In fact, to erect a new building of comparable size would cost many times the asking price for this property.

A tribal museum and cultural center should not be a back-burner issue for the Penobscots. Face it, language and culture can easily slip from your grasp, just as many rare artifacts have probably been lost forever.

Perhaps this new museum/cultural center could offer a permanent home for the work of Dr. Frank T. Seibert on the Penobscot language. It could certainly offer a home for many treasures that, without such protection, may be buried forever.

Second warning

This newspaper has sounded a warning bell before about decreasing federal aid to Indians.

It's happening.

The Penobscot-Passamaquoddy land claims were won none too soon. The Indian community should realize that President Reagan is in many respects opposed to the goals of Indians. Don't look to him or his administration for help.

All of us are feeling the squeeze, and more cuts are inevitable. How hard, and when they fall, may be negotiable. But the message is unmistakable. Indians had better develop economic and financial resources with true self-sufficiency in mind.

We don't have the answers, but we urge tribal governments to make some answers a top priority. If you don't it is your people, and you yourselves who will suffer.

You can't just play the game, you must be ahead of the game. You cannot gamble on unlimited government support.

The cycle of dependency is drawing to a close.

Wishful thinking

Wouldn't it be nice if once, just once, the people of Pleasant Point put aside their political differences, sat down together, and agreed that there are more important things to do than bicker and backstab.

What would the elders of the Passamaquoddy Tribe have said about all this 300 years ago? For that matter, what do the elders of the tribe think now?



The Robert Abbé museum at Bar Harbor.

Editorial

Further inquiry

This community is not satisfied with the disposition that prosecutors and courts have made of the case involving the death of Joseph B. Peters, the young man killed on Route 193 in Deblois on Aug. 17.

The legal consequences of this fatality, so far, have been a nolo contendere plea by a part-time deputy sheriff, Murray B. Seavey. He pleaded nolo contendere to a charge of leaving the scene of an accident, and was fined \$100. The penalty seems greatly disproportionate to the offense. If Seavey did indeed leave the scene of a fatal accident for which he was responsible. He has been at pains to emphasize that he did not plead guilty to any charge but only declined to make a legal defense. There seems to be an intimation here that something more was involved in the incident than was disclosed in the legal proceedings.

The shadow of doubt cast over the episode is sufficient to warrant a further grand jury inquiry into exactly what did

happen when Peters was killed. Citizens have raised a number of questions: was anyone else with Seavey? Did he report the accident as hit and run offense by an unknown motorist at once, or immediately disclose it as a mishap in which he was involved? Is there any evidence on the predicament of Peters when hit, i.e. was he lying on the thoroughfare, sitting on it, or walking across it or alongside it? If Seavey did hit Peters and leave the scene, did any other vehicle strike him prior to Seavey's return?

The authorities have dealt with the death of a young man in a manner entirely too off-hand and superficial. The community is entitled to a more complete report. It has no citizens so mean and lowly that their death is adequately punished by a \$100 fine.

(The above editorial is reprinted from the Oct. 6 edition of The Ellsworth American.)

Editors wanted for training course

TUCSON, Arizona — A program that has trained journalists in newspaper editing positions in the last two years is accepting applications for the 1982 session.

Those accepted into the 1982 Editing Program for Minority Journalists will work with a variety of editors during the eight-week session at the University of Arizona journalism department in Tucson.

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letters

A Stetson student

Stetson

To the editor:

I am a fifth grade student. I am doing a research project on the Penobscot Indians. I would appreciate any information you can send me.

Michelle Miles

Doing school report

Stetson

To the editor:

I am a 6th grader in Stetson, and I am doing a report on Indians with two of my friends. We would appreciate any information you could send us on the Penobscot Indians.

Thank you so much for your prompt attention to this.

Barbra Bellefleur

Deserved equality

Lowell, Mass.

To the editor:

I am a student at the University of Lowell in Lowell, Massachusetts. I am writing a research paper which will direct itself toward the Native American and his legal battle for his deserved equality and civil liberties in the United States.

It would be appreciated if you could send me any material and/or bibliographies that you might have collected as regards this subject. I would be happy to submit payment for any of these materials upon notification of a fee due.

I am especially interested in the recent litigation in your state involving the Penobscot tribe and the Passamaquoddy reservation.

Kathy Brown

A few errors

Presque Isle

To the editor:

In October's Wabanaki Alliance: "Micmacs seek federal recognition status," there were a few errors. The second paragraph, line seven, about the Houlton Band of Maliseets: The Maliseets have agreed to adopt us into their band, but thus far Micmacs are resentful to join due to the management of earlier years. The Indians around the Northern Aroostook County have not received much service in the past, and they feel that it would not be any different in the future if they were adopted in the Houlton Band.

John L. Morey

Secretary

Association of Aroostook Indians

Link to heritage

Winter Garden, Fla.

To the editor:

I moved a few months ago and haven't received a paper since. Would you please check your records and let me know if my subscription for this year has run out. I really miss this link to my heritage.

Also please send information on classified ads and space ads.

Rachel McGilivray

Artifacts, progress

Dover-Foxcroft

To the editor:

I grew up in Woodsville, N.H., on the Connecticut River. In that area there are large intervals along the river and there is an old corn mill in North Haverhill, and just about one half mile north of Woodsville, one was uncovered on top of a bluff at the "Narrows," when the road was being widened. Unfortunately, progress took its usual course, and it was blasted away.

Many of the farmers find artifacts when they plow their fields, and the old folks used to tell how the brick yard in Woodsville was closed because of burials found there.

Thought this bit might be of interest to you. Keep up the good work.

Ellie Barnes

Needs information

Stetson

To the editor:

I'm a fifth grade student. I am doing a research project on the Penobscot Indians. I'd appreciate any information you could send me. Thank you for your earliest attention to this.

Katrina Veeder

German interest

Hann, West Germany

To the editor:

You will be surprised when you get a letter from Germany from a friend of the Passamaquoddy Indian reservation.

I've befriended Mr. Wolfgang Ritter, the father of Mr. (Roger) Ritter in Maine, an Indian member of the Passamaquoddy Tribe.

I would like to go there to this reservation, but before I must learn the language of the Passamaquoddy. So please send to me the newspaper of the Passamaquoddy and Penobscot Indians. I will pay when I get your newspapers. Thanks in advance and write to me soon.

Kurt Gernhand

Term paper

Millinocket

To the editor:

I'm a high school senior and I'm doing a term paper on the Indian Land Claims. I would like some information on this subject so I could successfully complete my project. Thank you.

Todd Sweet

Accurate, thorough

Augusta

To the editor:

Having talked with representatives from the Penobscot Nation and Central Maine Indian Association, I understand that Wabanaki Alliance covers Native American issues in Maine thoroughly and accurately.

Because of our agency's commitment to serve as resource agents to the state's Indian CETA prime sponsors, as well as a personal interest in your efforts, please enter our subscription to your paper.

Richard H. Bulger

State Employment & Training Council



CLOWNING AROUND — John Loring, 5, of Indian Island, wearing the "72" jacket, joined his friend Tony Solomon, 9, of Fredericton, N.B., on a recent frog hunt at the Indian Island lagoon.

WASHINGTON — Three Washington lawyers were awarded a record fee of \$10.6 million for their work on behalf of eight Sioux Indian tribes. The lawyers won a judgment of \$106 million from the United States in settlement for the taking of seven million acres of land in the Black Hills, South Dakota.

The fees were awarded to Arthur Lazarus, Jr., on behalf of his law firm, and to Marvin J. Sonosky and William H. Payne.

Lazarus told the New York Times that he did not have "the slightest idea" of how many hours of work he and the other lawyers had done since they started representing the tribes on a contingency basis, almost 25 years ago. Lazarus said the "bulk of the work" had been done by himself, his partner Richard Schiffer and Sonosky.

Chief Judge Daniel M. Friedman of the Court of Claims said that although the award to the lawyers was "more than twice the previous highest award" of attorney's fees in an Indian claims case, it was "fully justified" and "necessary to compensate the attorneys adequately for their services." The court noted that when the three attorneys took over the case in 1956, the Sioux had already lost their case twice in court.

Payne, who told the Daily Oklahoman that his share of the fees would be about \$1.5 million, said: "I'll tell you this about

Indian cases. You have to be a young man when you take 'em. I wouldn't take another Indian case now."

Clarification

In a story in last month's Wabanaki Alliance, about Dr. Frank Seibert's work on a Penobscot language dictionary, the name of Mary Rhine was inadvertently left out.

Rhine, a tribal member, has contributed a great deal to the project, working on numerous 3x5 cards that define Indian words. She has been with the project from the beginning, according to anthropologist Paulena Seiber, assistant to Dr. Seibert. Also working on the project part time, since the beginning, is Paul Francis Jr., a tribal member.

Brief vocabulary lists are being prepared for the flyer that is circulated on Indian Island.

CALICO BEAN BAG CAT

This delightful kitten will bring a smile to the young and old alike. Great project for the Christmas Bazaar. Kit includes fabric, pattern, floss, and instructions. All you add are the beans. Finished cat measures 10" long with a 7" tail. Send check or M.O. \$3.50 kit, \$5c postage and handling: Rachel McGilivray, 48 So. Park 36-303 Winter Garden, Fla. 32787 (Limited Supply).

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Penobscot Indian Children's Center today announced its policy for meals served under the Child Care Food Program. Meals will be made available at no separate charge without regard to race, color, or national origin to children at the Penobscot Indian Children's Center.

Subscribe!



CENSUS STUDY — Jean Chavaree, member of the Penobscot Nation census committee, studies the "roll" with Tribal Genealogist S. Glenn Starbird. Those persons listed on the census of 1860 are considered full-blooded Penobscot Indians. Many decisions are yet to be resolved on more recent census data. Committee chairman is Sadie Mitchell.

Poetry

Moose on the loose

Moose on the loose
Not to be tagged
Slaughtered or quartered
No bounty on my head
Just my rack of antlers
Wading through the swamps
Eating the tender grasses
Jogging through the pines
Nibbling at the tender buds
Gallop through the flat lands
Catching the winds of sweet scents
Pausing at the water's edge to listen

Hearing the frogs play bass
And the birds sing soprano
And the crickets play the reeds
And I hear the partridge drum
All these sounds I hear
When I stop and listen
When I am on the loose
I hear only the music
Of my hooves
Pounding the turf
Splashing through the swamps
Beating my tune on the earth

Then I stop and laugh
At the thought of
My legs as drumsticks
My drumsticks beating
Beating the earth drum
The earth drum tightly stretched
Over a hoop of peace
And laced with hope
All of us creatures
Forming a beat
All of us created beings
Formed with a beat

Vibrating throughout the universe
Unity in this place
Unity in that place
All loosely tied together
With each beat
Resounding in each other's chambers
Carrying on the tradition
And the chant of the creator
Oh, it feels good to be
On the loose
Beating on the earth with my feet
Dancing in the winds, yaaaa yaaa.

Sipsis

(Sipsis is a Penobscot from Indian Island. Her name means "Little Bird.")

Bailey case: On or off the census?

PLEASANT POINT — Peter Bailey is 37 years old and considers himself a Passamaquoddy Indian. In fact, he speaks the language with ease.

It's not surprising, since he grew up with his adoptive Passamaquoddy parents, Josephine and Peter Bailey Sr., on the reservation.

The couple was childless, and in 1946, a Roman Catholic Sister of Mercy, the late Sister Claire, presented the Baileys with an "Indian baby."

Peter Bailey was placed on the census in 1952, and has been on it ever since. But in the 1960s, a tribal governor had him reclassified as non-Indian, although still a tribal member. Bailey said the original 1952 paperwork is lost.

After a recent petition drive by Ralph Dana and others on the issue of adoption, it appeared the tribe would vote on whether or not to adopt anyone into the tribe with less than one quarter Indian blood. The petition would directly affect Bailey, who so far cannot prove his blood quantum.

Gov. J. Harleyn Nicholas of Pleasant Point believes the petition, which he rejected as invalid because of alleged forgeries and duplication of names, is aimed solely at Bailey.

At a joint tribal council meeting following Dana's petition, Bailey's case was reviewed, but he was not removed.

So for the time being, Peter Bailey, who with his Passamaquoddy wife, Shirley, has five children on the tribal census, is himself a tribal member. Bailey said some people may resent his college education.

Said Governor Nicholas, "a man who in his mind and heart thinks and feels Indian, to treat him like this is unfair."

Tureen's case

Gay Head Indians okay land claims

GAY HEAD, Mass. — In a settlement designed by Maine land claims lawyer Thomas N. Tureen, the Wampanoag Indians here voted approval to a package that will deliver them land valued at \$2.8 million.

The Gay Head Wampanoags on Martha's Vineyard are separate from Mashpee Wampanoags on Cape Cod. Mashpees have been unable to prove their status as a tribe.

Tureen, who visited Indian Island in Maine recently for the funeral of Pauline Love, mother of Penobscot Gov. Timothy Love, told Wabanaki Alliance he was generally happy with the vote of 115-60. He said the margin of support was similar to that of the Penobscot-Passamaquoddy settlement voted on last year.

The out-of-court deal with the Gay Head Taxpayers Association resolves seven years of struggle by the Indians.

A wire service story quoted tribal council president Gladys Widdiss as

"relieved that we're now off that dime we've been stuck on for the past several years. I'm also pleased with the margin. I've been worried for the past four or five days."

However, 43 tribal members filed a motion in U.S. District Court to intervene in the settlement, claiming it was unfair. "It's a splinter group and they tried to sway the vote," Widdiss said.

The settlement must now be approved by the Massachusetts Legislature, and then by Congress.

Maine's \$81.5 million settlement was first approved by the Maine Legislature in Spring 1980, and then by Congress the following fall.

The town of Gay Head retained rights to a 50-foot strip of beach to guarantee access to the water by non-Indians. Martha's Vineyard is a small island where many wealthy people have summer homes.

Alcoholism agency moves

ORONO — Wabanaki Corporation, an inter-tribal Maine alcoholism counseling agency, has moved its head offices to Bangor.

Located for several years in a former Catholic convent on Main Street in Orono, the nonprofit corporation is now housed at One Kenduskeag Plaza, in the downtown area. Director Steve Francis said the rent is considerably less for the Bangor space, which consists of two large rooms on the first floor.

Francis said the Wabanaki Corporation board of directors approved moving the offices a couple of weeks ago. Rent was expected to be increased about \$200 per month at the 93 Main St. building, owned by St. Mary's Parish and the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portland.

The new phone number for the agency is 847-6519 / 6510.

Wabanaki Corporation is set up to serve alcoholics in five communities; the two sister Passamaquoddy reservations, the Penobscot reservation, and two off-reservation groups: Association of Aroostook Indians and Central Maine Indian Association.

Francis indicated federal funding of the agency is secure for the current fiscal year.

BIA boss writes book

WASHINGTON — Theodore W. Taylor, former Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs from 1966 to 1970, is writing a book on the Bureau of Indian Affairs.



Old Mashpee meeting house.

Old meeting house faces fix-up

MASHPEE, Mass. — The old Meeting House here, originally built to "civilize the savages" by Europeans settling Cape Cod, is due for restoration.

According to the Mashpee Indian newsletter Mittark, efforts are underway to raise money to restore and maintain the historic site, along with the Old Schoolhouse, built in 1831 and also known as Ockway Chapel.

The schoolhouse represents the white man's efforts to teach reading and writing to natives. Mashpee was then designated a Plantation, and it was thought that

Indians would be fully assimilated into white culture.

Mashpees became known as "praying Indians" because of their early and complete conversion to Christianity.

The newsletter reports that Massachusetts at one time provided the death penalty for persons caught educating Indians.

The Mashpee Meeting House continues to serve the Indians, and is open to visitors. So far, friends of the Meeting House have raised more than \$2,500 through "Las Vegas Nights" at Dunfee's, and the Outrigger Hotel in Hyannis.

Sisters of Mercy to stay with Indian schools



SCHOOL LUNCH BREAK WHEN — Photographed during World War II era, these workers in the Indian Island school lunch program [and others] were from left, Mary Ketchum Lewis, Jim Lewis, Cecilia Ketchum Banks, state Indian agent Hiram Hall [or Cyde Cummings?], and Clara Paul Schaeffer. [Photo courtesy of John Banks]

INDIAN ISLAND — The Sisters of Mercy, associated with Penobscot and Passamaquoddy reservations for more than a century, will continue to be involved in the administration and teaching at local schools.

That was the word from Gov. Timothy Love, in answer to a question from Wabanaki Alliance. The Governor said there are no changes anticipated in the administrative structure of the Indian Island Elementary School, of which Sister Helen McKeogh is principal. The school committee is composed of tribal members.

Although several years away, Love said a new school building is in early planning stages. It could cost an estimated \$4 million he said, and would be located on landfill near the community building, which houses a tribal gymnasium. The gym would serve the school's needs, he said.

The new school would probably include grades seven and eight (junior high). Currently, the Island school handles kindergarten through sixth grade.

At Pleasant Point, where Sister Maureen Wallace is principal, the Beatrice

Rafferty School includes junior high grades in a separate building. Sister Beatrice was a school teacher at the reservation many years ago.

At Indian Township, the junior high school is part of the reservation complex, and for the first time ever, the school has a principal who is not a Sister of Mercy. He is Ed Vandall, a Chippewa-Cree Indian.

Indian Island continues to use an aged schoolhouse with various wings built on over the years. The two Passamaquoddy reservations have more modern schools. The old Township school was torn down following years of vandalism. The old Pleasant Point school was burned by an arsonist who was apparently never identified.

Resolution fails

At a Penobscot tribal council meeting earlier this year, tribal member Mildred Akins attempted to get a resolution passed that called for resumption of religious classes in the Indian Island school. She further called for a guarantee that the "Sisters of Mercy by tradition be reaffirmed the full protection of the Nation and, continuance of the teaching role and security they have received in past years."

The double resolution failed to pass.

Mrs. Akins, a devout Catholic, based her resolution on the fact that "the traditional practices of the Penobscot Nation have, since formal education was introduced to the Nation, been carried out by teachers being Sisters of Mercy; religious classes over these hundreds of years have been taught in our schools by Catholic Religious Sisters and Clergy since the 1700's; since religious classes have been removed from the school on the

reservation, members of the Nation are now undergoing severe social value changes, which in many cases do not reflect traditional, social, moral and religious values and caring for each other."

Several Penobscot tribal members filed suit in March 1979, in U.S. District Court, to halt the teaching of religion at Indian Island school. The suit said the school was public, and teaching of religion illegal. The suit resulted in the religion class being moved out of the school building.

The suit was filed by lawyer Hugh Calkins, now of Dover-Foxcroft, on behalf of Penobscots Martin Neptune, Stanley Neptune, Sipsis, and Patrick Shay (now deceased).

Penobscot attends child abuse workshop

PORTLAND — Angie Mitchell, an off-reservation tribal member employed by Penobscot Health & Human Services, recently participated in a workshop titled, "Use or abuse of cultural diversity in the 80's."

Mitchell was a "presenter" at the workshop, which was sponsored by a Cumberland County child abuse and neglect organization, United Way, and Maine Department of Human Services.

Among speakers were Gerald Talbot, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Mitchell was hired by the Indian Island health agency to serve as Southern Maine outreach worker.

Store closes after 44 years

INDIAN ISLAND — Opened in 1937, the small store operated by Mabel and Francis (Bunny) Ranco will end an era when it closes down this month.

The beloved candy and food shop was featured in a recent story in this newspaper.

Mabel Ranco said she and her husband will enjoy retirement, but she will miss many customers. She publicly thanked the long time patrons of the store, some of whom she served as she watched them grow up, then served their children.

Houlton health staff takes training

By Brenda Potchies

HOULTON — Mary London, Coordinator of Outreach with Sally Joseph and Gloria Tomah, outreach workers for the Health Department of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, have returned from Nashville, Tennessee after participating in a two week training course titled "Nutrition Awareness."

The course, held at the Ramada Inn Airport, was scheduled from September 15th to the 25th. The session was sponsored by Indian Health Services, a segment of Public Health Service, Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Various topics covered in-depth were basic nutrition, nutrition and its relation to health, lifecycle nutrition, nutrition and dental health and promoting better nutrition.

At the conclusion of the training session, each participant was graded and received a certificate certifying them as having participated and completed this nutrition course.

Indian participants from Florida, Mississippi, North Carolina, New York as well as Maine were invited to attend this session.

Mabel's is the oldest surviving store on the reservation, and is remarkable for still selling delightful penny candies. The Rancos ignored inflation, and kept their treats affordable to the youngsters of the Island.

The store only closed once, for three and one half years, when Bunny and Mabel moved to Bridgeport, Conn., to work in the war effort. He worked at U.S. Aluminimum, she worked at General Electric.

For about four years, Mabel operated a lunch counter with a full menu, and the counter stools remain. Actually, the Rancos have sold the freezer, handsome oak display cabinet, and other items. Prices on goods have been reduced.

At various times, the following people have operated stores on Indian Island: Evelyn Sapiel, Grace Nicola, Violet Francis, Manfred Francis, Wally Pehrson, Pauline Shay, Irene Lewey, Gardner, Elsie Tomah, and Bruce Poolaw.

Hunters' breakfast full of beans

By Diane Wilson

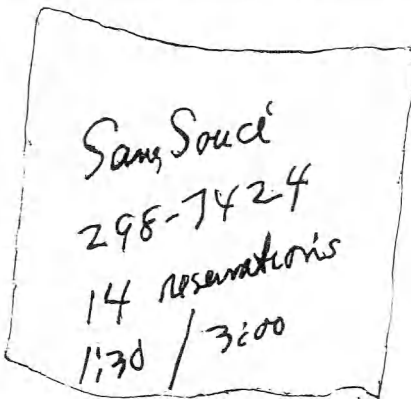
INDIAN ISLAND — A first hunters breakfast was held here Oct. 1, sponsored by the firemen of Indian Island.

This year about 120 people came and there was a lot of good food.

Dana Neptune cooked beans and Howard Wilson cooked grits and homemade biscuits. Also, eggs and sausage and coffee and donuts were served.

The firemen that helped out were Ted and John Bartlett, and S.C. Francis, Francis Sapiel.

There were three door prizes: first, a shotgun won by Rhonda McManus; second a knife won by Hope Powell; third, a compass won by Pat Knox.



AN ARTIFACT of the Maine Indian land claims settlement is this scrap of paper noting "reservations" at the elite Washington, D.C. restaurant called "Sans Souci." The reservations were for Maine Indian negotiators having lunch with the Washington Post, the day before the signing of the settlement act by President Carter, Oct. 10, 1980. A recent newspaper column by Art Buchwald lamented the closing of "Sans Souci," for years a hang-out for the rich and powerful.

FOREST TECHNICIAN

The Penobscot Nation Dept. of Natural Resources is currently seeking a forest technician. Duties include overseeing timber operations, planning, supervising, inspecting, reports, etc. Also, assisting Dept. of Natural Resources personnel in various areas of forest management.

Qualifications include a 2 year associates degree in forest management but appropriate experience may be substituted. Must be in good physical condition and willing to work out of doors.

This is a permanent full time position, 40 hours per week. Salary is \$10,500-\$15,000 depending on experience and qualifications. Deadline for applications is November 20, 1981. Please send resumes to Dept. of Employment, P.O. Box 405, Old Town, Maine 04468 attention D. Sellas.



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Ex-POW visits Passamaquoddy son



Wolfgang and Gertrud Ritter

By Steve Cartwright

INDIAN TOWNSHIP — An extraordinary father-son reunion took place here last year when a former German POW found a long lost son in the Passamaquoddy tribe.

Wolfgang Ritter revisited the crumbling prisoner of war camp at Princeton — where he was held, and escaped during World War II — and discovered a son Roger, now 36, whose mother is a Passamaquoddy Indian. The first meeting was tentative but not tense; and a joyous, emotionally close relationship has developed between the retired German travel agent and his son, a tribal housing official.

All that Roger Gabriel (he has now changed his name to Ritter, which means "knight" in German) knew as a boy was that his father's name was Wolfgang . . . and that the senior Ritter knew that he had a longing to see quiet, friendly little Princeton again.

Ritter and his second wife Gertrud left their home in Frankfurt, Germany and flew to Maine this summer for another visit with Roger and his family. Ritter talked about the new twist his life has taken, and the past that led up to it. He speaks excellent English, and during one of his many escapes from various U.S. POW camps, he posed as a Scotsman named Johnny McGriffin, and got a job on the Illinois Central Railroad.

Ritter, now 62, was captured by U.S. forces in Tunisia in 1943, and remained in the U.S. until 1946, becoming fond of America and Americans even though a wartime prisoner. Asked if he was a Nazi, Ritter said, yes, that is correct. "Some people will lie about it today," he said, but he does not deny his past.

A kindly, engaging man who enjoys travel and fine dining, Ritter said he was a boy of 14 when Hitler came to power, and as a patriotic German, he supported his country at the time.

He also earned the title, "slipperiest POW in the U.S.," he said, and recalled that at one prison camp, an officer assumed he was American and at first denied him entry at the gate, saying "no civilian clothes in here." He was admitted, however.

At Princeton, where the POW camp was located smack in the middle of Indian Township Passamaquoddy reservation, Ritter said he was "treated as good as a POW could be treated." Morale remained high.

And for Ritter, a German Army reconnaissance expert, the prospects of escape remained high, too.

He teamed up with friend Max Domina, a fellow POW, and with a knife "borrowed" from the camp kitchen, ducking the nighttime searchlights, the pair carved a gap under the high voltage electric fence surrounding the compound. "I didn't want to try by myself, I needed some support," Ritter remembered.

Max, tall and thin, squeezed through the opening. Ritter, who is a bit more



Roger Gabriel Ritter

plump, got stuck. That night, their escape effort ended right there, but they were not discovered. On a second try, with some additional digging, both men made it out, wearing unmarked clothing carefully exchanged at the camp laundry for their "Prisoner of War" marked fatigues.

The two German buddies headed down Route 1 toward the village of Princeton, apparently unafraid and for all the world like college students who had pulled off a fraternity prank.

Ritter and Domina thumbed a ride, and as luck would have it, the first car to stop was a border patrol. Ritter recognized the guard, but somehow, the guard didn't know he had picked up POW's. He dropped them off in town, but everything being closed, they hiked back to camp, crawling under the fence again.

The second night out was not so dull. We saw five figures coming. We hid.

They passed, and passed again," Ritter said.

"When one of the figures came closer it grew into a lady. And all of a sudden we were surrounded by these five Indians: one man and four ladies."

One of the young Passamaquoddy women turned out to be Mary, with whom Ritter would fall in love.

Another guard drove up. He chatted, and asked my Max didn't speak. "Oh, he's Polish," Ritter told him. Max began singing the one popular American song he knew, and the guard moved on.

Ritter decided to take a risk, and told Mary Gabriel he was a POW.

"I like that," she said. She quickly spoke in Passamaquoddy to her companions, who agreed to keep the secret.

Max too met his match; a young woman named Mildred. "Twenty-one nights in a row we went out," recalled Ritter with a chuckle; "Max to Mildred, me to Mary."

But Ritter said his relationship was no laughing matter. "It was a real alliance — a love affair if you like — between Mary and me." Ritter stressed he was not just a soldier out for kicks. But until 1960 he never knew he fathered a child.

That child has four children of his own, by his Passamaquoddy wife Lorraine. Coincidentally, both Lorraine and Gertrud Ritter are schoolteachers. Roger and Lorraine have traveled to Frankfurt, where they met Wolfgang Ritter's sons by a previous marriage. Although Roger and his half-brothers could not understand one another, they got on well. Especially after a few beers at a local establishment, the elder Ritter said.

On the very first meeting, at Play-sted's Camps in Princeton, Roger Gabriel remembered: "We sort of steered around each other for about four hours . . . I was sort of waiting for him, and he was sort of waiting for me, I started for the car. I said I was very glad to meet him, and he said, 'It's taken a long time,' and he sort of put his hand on my shoulder. That was it. That was the acknowledgement."

Last Christmas, a bundle of presents arrived at the reservation from Frankfurt, for the grandchildren.

Ritter boasted that he and Max "always promised ourselves to be back before dawn. We broke that promise every night, and came back when the sun was high in the sky, 20 minutes before roll call."

The fun and games atmosphere was illusory. Other POWs envied Ritter and Domina's freedom, but were not so skillful at escaping.

One POW was caught digging his own hole under the fence — Ritter said he and Max refused to share their escape route — and was beaten on an earlier scare. This so angered prisoners they almost rioted, Ritter said.

Another POW went "barbed wire crazy." He cut his leg with an axe, and later walked right out the main gate and climbed atop a roof. He was shot in the stomach by a guard, and taken to Bangor, where he presumably recovered.

Those incidents led to a forced exodus. The entire group of Princeton POWs were transferred to more secure camps, Ritter said.

Ritter continued to escape, whether it was Fort Devens, Mass., or Battle Creek, Mich. He worked in the woods and at the laundry in the POW camp at Princeton; he worked on the railroad and harvesting crops, when he escaped from western camps.

While a farm laborer in Clinton, Illinois, an American "pal" of Ritter's began to suspect his true identity when Ritter could not produce a draft card. Ritter took his friend to a bar and got him "drunk as



Mary Gabriel

hell," hoping to escape in the morning. But that night his pal turned him in.

"When I was captured, my first thought was to escape. Not because I was a Nazi. Not because I was a soldier, but because of the barbed wire. I wanted freedom," Ritter said.

Crow tribe unhappy with ruling

CROW AGENCY, Montana — "The United States has once again broken a long-standing Treaty with the American Indian," said Bob Kelly, of the Crow Tribe of Indians.

A recent Supreme Court ruling, settling a dispute over who has final jurisdiction to regulate fishing of the Big Horn River, the Crow Tribe of Indians or the State of Montana, has left the Crows "high and dry," a tribal press release says.

On March 24, the court held that due to certain technicalities omitted in the treaty signed by the Crow Tribe and the United States over one-hundred years ago, the Crows have since presumptuously and falsely claimed title to the bed and the banks of the Big Horn River.

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HAVING A LOOK around, from a good vantage point, is young Theresa Pardilla, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Pardilla of Indian Island. She's riding on the shoulders of Tammy Mitchell of Indian Island.

Smoke-out to clear air at Island

INDIAN ISLAND — For a three month period 7 percent of patients seen at the Penobscot Health Clinic have experienced upper respiratory problems. One cause of this high percentage may be smoking.

Some facts on Smoking and Health

Lung cancer is the number one cause of cancer deaths among men. In the last thirty years there has been a 400 percent increase in women's lung cancer deaths. By the late 1980's lung cancer is expected to be the number one cancer killer in women.

Over fifty-two million Americans still smoke. Nine out of ten of them have said in surveys that they would like to quit.

Need a reason to quit? On Nov. 19 the American Cancer Society will be sponsoring its fifth consecutive event as a nationwide celebration.

Indian Island will be participating in this year's smoke-out. The community will be planning special events to support



Lumbee man urges public health career

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — A Lumbee Indian says the University of North Carolina's "school of health is the number one in the nation."

Ronald Oxendine, 23, visited the newspaper office in Orono to explain that he is on a "talent search" for ambitious high school students who are interested in a career in public health.

Oxendine, who grew up in Pembroke (North Carolina) and graduated from Pembroke State University, is working on a graduate degree at UNC-Chapel Hill. Pembroke State U. was formerly called Indian Normal School.

"It's going to take a good sturdy student to stand up" to the UNC program, Oxendine said. The program is one of five in the U.S. that has federal Indian Health Service scholarships available, and UNC is the only such school on the east coast.

Oxendine said the UNC admissions committee is "somewhat sensitive to Indians" and he is personally involved with the school in "a working relationship that is really growing."

Oxendine was accompanied by Theodore N. Mitchell of Indian Island, a Penobscot who is assistant dean for counseling Indian students at University of Maine at Orono.

Death of Micmac probed

(Continued from page 1)

One of the controversial aspects of the case is that Povich at first announced a grand jury would handle matters in superior court; but the case did not go beyond district court. Unsubstantiated rumors suggest Seavey may have covered for someone else involved in Peters' death.

"I will try to put the rumors to rest," Povich said, adding that he "obviously underestimated" the reaction to Seavey's plea, and subsequent fine. Povich said he "will try to put together an objective report," and that he has "instructed my police officers to collect the reports."

Asked about an autopsy report on Peters, Povich said that it is available, and shows that Peters' injuries were mostly "above the waist." Povich said police theorize that Peters was lying or sitting on Route 193, possibly passed out, when Seavey's car struck him, at night, in thick fog.

Peters was legally intoxicated when struck by Seavey's vehicle, according to police reports.

Paint samples taken from Peters' clothing have been sent to the FBI.

Povich said he has been besieged by reporters and other citizens concerned about the case. "It's just that I've been overwhelmed and inundated in the last two weeks to the point of mental exhaustion."

Seavey has resigned from his deputy sheriff's position, but was still serving as Cherryfield chief of police at press time. Seavey worked during the blueberry season as a private security guard for Wyman's blueberry firm.

Suit filed

BANGOR — As Wabanaki Alliance went to press, lawyer Freeman Robinson of Bangor, representing the estate of Joseph B. Peters, filed a suit for \$500,000 in Penobscot County Superior Court.

The suit names as defendants: Washington County, Cherryfield Police Officer Murray B. Seavey, the Town of Cherryfield, and Jasper Wyman and Son Co. of Milbridge.

District Attorney Michael Povich of Ellsworth said he will file a motion asking that the negligence suit be dismissed.

Francis wins

(Continued from page 1)

Francis said he would not rule it out. Love has not indicated publicly if he will seek a second term as governor of the Penobscot Nation.

In other election results, Kenneth Paul Sr. easily swept to victory in his incumbent race for school committee. He received 252 votes. Another incumbent, Vivian Massey, garnered 201 votes, and candidate Deanna Labossiere received 148 votes.

Michael Ranco emerged the winner in a contest with Irene McDougall for a slot on the census committee. Ranco received 222 votes; McDougall, 140 ballots.

In a referendum on whether a children's trust fund (of land claims interest payments) should be voluntary or mandatory, the vote was 366 to 114, in favor of a voluntary fund.

Islanders attend Indian conference

ALEXANDRIA, Virginia — Several members of the Indian Island School Committee, and the director of Central Maine Indian Association, attended a conference last month on "Indian issues."

The school board members were Ken Paul, Erlene Paul, Vivian Massey; also attending was James Sanborn, CMAA executive director.

U.S. Senator William S. Cohen of Maine, billed as a speaker at the four days of meetings, did not show up. He was slated to talk on "Indian issues of the future." Cohen is chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs.

New chief named

PLEASANT POINT — Bruce Francis, former head forester for Indian Township, has been appointed chief of police at Pleasant Point.

Francis was the first Passamaquoddy to graduate from the University of Maine at Orono's forestry school.

Gov. J. Hartley Nicholas said he is very pleased with the appointment. Francis succeeds acting Chief Gilbert Tomah of Pleasant Point, who replaced Don Lemos.

Corbett resigns

INDIAN ISLAND — Howard (Bud) Corbett of Indian Island has submitted his resignation as director of Public Safety for the Penobscot Nation.

Gov. Timothy Love confirmed the resignation, but declined to comment further. Corbett had held the job about two years. He supervised both the police and fire departments. A new department head had not been appointed as of press time.

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NOTICE PENOBSCOT NATION

Tribal members are required to have a permit to hunt deer during the November season. Permits are available upon request at the municipal building.

Sunday hunting during the November season will not be allowed on TRUST LANDS, but will be permitted on reservation lands during November, by sustenance permit only.

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Beat-up blue aluminum canoe on Stillwater River above Orson Island. If found or seen please call Mark at 866-4885.

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Tasty Indian recipes sought

ORONO — Got a favorite recipe for fiddleheads, or fry bread? Got a delicious way to prepare zucchini?

This newspaper wants to assemble a cookbook of selected recipes from readers, whether "Indian food" or not.

If you have a favorite, send it to Wabanaki Alliance, 95 Main St., Orono, Maine 04473. All persons sending us a recipe will receive a free copy of the cookbook, if enough recipes are forthcoming to make the project worthwhile.

This is an equal opportunity job, and we seek men who cook as well as women. Children, too, may submit special favorites.

We look forward to hearing from you, readers.

Houlton Band gets a foothold

by James Wherry

Long ignored by both the United States and the State of Maine, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians was recognized by the federal legislation which settled the Maine Indian Land Claims and which was signed by President Carter on October 10, 1980. The majority of the 347 members of the Houlton Band live in or near the town of Houlton, Maine. Although the Maliseets do not have a reservation, the Houlton Band has a \$900,000 trust fund established under the Settlement Act to finance the purchase of a 5,000 acre reservation. This reservation will be designed to meet the residential, recreational and commercial requirements of the Houlton Band.

The ancestors of the current members of the Houlton Band of Maliseets hunted and lived off the land throughout Aroostook County which is part of the original homeland of the Maliseet people. By the third quarter of the nineteenth century, non-Indian settlement of Aroostook County had so strained the ecology of the region that Maliseet hunters could no longer rely on the traditional hunting economy. As a location commonly visited by the roving Maliseet hunting families, Houlton early developed into a focus for settlement. As the family hunting groups that made up the Maliseet Nation became increasingly sedentary, the Houlton Band emerged as an autonomous and stable community. Over time, the Band grew as individuals married into the community, and the Maliseets adjusted to the changing ecology by a mixture of traditionally Indian and non-Indian economic endeavors.

For at least the past one hundred years, the Houlton Band of the Maliseet Tribe has lived at locales in the Houlton area popularly known as the Houlton "Indian Reservation." Without external recognition of its leaders or of its sovereignty, the Houlton Band of Maliseets was organized under the informal leadership of men known as Nikañalpat (literally, the head out front).

For the Maliseets living in the Houlton community, employment was at the bottom of the economic scale. Seasonally, Maliseets could find work cutting timber, picking potatoes, raking blueberries, and making Christmas wreaths. Throughout the year, families could supplement their meager incomes by making baskets from brown ash. Making baskets remained a limited adjunct to the family income, since until recently, potato baskets sold for nine dollars a dozen. Day labor was occasionally available through the Town Office, and family members were normally required to work for the Town to receive a general assistance payment. As late as 1970 the average per capita income was \$900/year.

Many of the Maliseets' homes on the Houlton "reservation" would now be viewed as sub-standard, but most families owned their own homes and everyone enjoyed the relative security provided by living in an insulated Maliseet community. In 1947, however, that security was fractured when the Maine State Legislature passed a bill to tax Indians who lived off the State recognized reservations for the first time in State history. Between 1947 and 1970, nearly forty Maliseet homes were lost to taxes and subsequently bulldozed by the Town. Often, Maliseet families were forced to move into even less desirable housing.

Under these conditions of abject poverty, nearly every Maliseet family was affected by alcoholism. And endemic poor health led to an average life expectancy of 45 years. Until 1960 when Maliseet Terry Polchies graduated from Houlton High School, no Indian had ever received a secondary education. In 1962 a Micmac, Tom Battiste, became the second Indian to graduate from the Houlton High School.

After military service, Tom Battiste returned to Houlton to attend Ricker College in Houlton. While at Ricker College, Tom Battiste worked with Terry Polchies to involve the Indian community in activities at Ricker College. Their successful efforts to involve the leading men and women of the Houlton Band culminated in the organization of a non-profit corporation, the Association of Aroostook Indians (AAI), in 1969.

AAI was formed to provide much needed services to the Indian people in Aroostook County, and to work toward State and Federal Recognition of the Maliseet and Micmac Indians in Aroostook County. A part of the original purpose of the AAI, the recognition effort for the Houlton Band of Maliseets, culminated in the 1980 Maine Indian Claims Settlement Legislation. During the months of August and September 1979, Houlton Maliseets circulated and signed a petition authorizing the AAI Board of Directors to act in their behalf, to work toward inclusion in the Maine Indian Claims, and in October the AAI Board of Directors appointed a sub-committee to act as the Houlton Band Negotiating Committee.

The Committee first worked with recognition researcher James Wherry to draw up a membership list for the Houlton Band, based on two criteria: first, that potential members belong to pre-1900 Houlton Maliseet families or to families linked to these by marriage and residence; and sec-



BIG MOMENT — President Jimmy Carter, left, shakes hands with Terry Polchies, Houlton Band chairman, at signing of Maine Indian land claims, Oct. 10, 1980. In background, from left, Gov. Joseph E. Brennan, Secretary of State Edmund S. Muskie, Sen. George J. Mitchell, Secretary of the Interior Cecil Andrus.

ton Band Negotiating Committee members unanimously elected.

The six members of the negotiating Committee were also elected to form the Band Council. This Council has made decisions by a majority vote of its members. The Houlton Band of Maliseets currently has no constitution or formal law and order structure. The creation of such a structure is a pressing need for the Band.

On October 10, 1980, President Carter signed into law H.R. 7919, the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act. With that signing, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians became a federally recognized tribe and received a \$900,000 trust fund to be used to

protect their settlement land against alienation and state taxation in the same manner as trust lands of the Penobscots and the Passamaquoddies. The Maliseets argue that the state should not impose property taxes on their land, nor impound it for non-payment of other taxes or private obligations. The Maliseets, in turn, could not sell the land, but leasing or exchanges for other plots would be acceptable. Neither the state, nor the U.S. government could condemn the lands for public purposes without first seeking alternatives. If the land were condemned, the proceeds would be used towards the purchase of additional land. Negotiations with Attorney General James Tienney have gone smoothly, and an agreement is expected soon.

Meanwhile, the Maliseets are losing no time in taking advantage of their new federal status. As soon as they were recognized they began correspondence with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service. They created a Maliseet health department, directed by Frederick Thomas, and developed plans for a health clinic. The clinic will complement other available services, by providing emergency care, referral services and a prevention program. It is scheduled to open this fall. Chairman Terry Polchies has also announced plans to begin a Maliseet social service program and an Indian education committee, with the assistance of the Bureau.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The above story first appeared in the magazine 'Indian Truth.' It's written by the former executive director of the Houlton Band of Maliseets. Reprinted by permission.

...the Maliseets are losing no time in taking advantage of their new federal status...

ond, that the individuals have maintained cultural and linguistic ties which cause them to be seen by the community as "skin" (Indian). This process led to the creation of the first formal membership list of the Houlton Band of Maliseets.

In March, the first formal general membership meeting of the Houlton Band of Maliseets was held under the chairmanship of Terry Polchies, who served as chairman of the Negotiating Committee. At this meeting, a progress report on federal recognition and inclusion in the Maine Indian Land Claims was presented and the Houl-

ton Band of Maliseets and the State of Maine. Congress had contemplated that further negotiations between the Houlton Band of Maliseets and the State would result in trust restrictions being placed on land to be acquired for the Band, which would necessarily entail some exception to the application of the laws of the State.

In negotiations with Attorney General James E. Tienney, the Houlton Band has emphasized that Congress intended to pro-



The Penobscot Nation's war canoe at starting line.

Penobscots win in war canoe

OLD TOWN — Cheering spectators and more than 100 hardy canoeists braved chilly winds and a raging river Saturday for the first annual Penobscot Canoe Race sponsored by Old Town Canoe and the City of Old Town.

Overall winners from the field of 57 were: first place, Reinhart Zollitsch in the kayak class with a time of 1:23, second place, John Morris and Bill Clark in the Class 2 medium with 1:24; and third place, Penobscot Nation in the war canoe class with 1:28.

The 10-mile course started at the North Fourth Street Extension public landing, ran around islands in the river, under the Indian Island bridge, and wound up back at the boat ramp.

Following the 10 a.m. race, which officially adjourned at 1:30 p.m., the Great Zucchini, otherwise known as escape artist Robert Wilkinson, performed downtown.

Council fires health director in dispute

PLEASANT POINT — The director of the Passamaquoddy health and social services department, a one million dollar operation, was fired last month following months of acrimonious tension with tribal leadership.

At press time, Wabanki Alliance learned that Lt. Gov. Cliv Dore has been named new health center director. The appointment must be confirmed by tribal council, and if approved, means Dore will step down as lieutenant governor.

Madonna M. Sotomah, director of the new reservation health center since April 1980, became embroiled in a bitter struggle with Gov. Joseph Hartley Nicholas, who sought her dismissal in the wake of alleged insubordination.

Finally, on Oct. 17, the tribal council voted 4-2 to terminate Sotomah as director. Mary Altwater, assistant health director for the tribe and a councilor, abstained. Altwater also declined to take over Sotomah's job, and nurse Doris Kirby, a former nun with years of experience serving the tribe's health needs, has been appointed acting director.

Voting for dismissal were councilors Valerie Emery, John Nicholas, Virginia Tomah and Lt. Gov. Cliv Dore. Favoring reinstatement were councilors Margaret (Dolly) Smith and John Dana.

Sotomah has retained lawyer Ron Cofas of Machias, and Governor Nicholas has John Ramei of Machias as legal counsel in the matter.

Tensions began to build last year, when Sotomah refused to acknowledge Peter Bailey as her deputy director. Bailey, favored for the job by Governor Nicholas, was hired Sept. 29, 1980. "By Oct. 10 I was already writing memos on Peter," Sotomah said in an interview. She said she originally supported a different in-

dividual for the job. "He (Bailey) was not attending in services and staff meetings," Sotomah alleged.

Sotomah claims she was forced to manage the health center "without the help of an assistant director (Bailey)."

"It's a relatively simple thing," he said. "She was the director of our health center, and I charged her with multiple instances of insubordination," most of them in connection with Peter Bailey.

Nicholas said that at first he considered Sotomah "willful, headstrong and defiant." He claims things got worse. He said he received "many" complaints. For example, Shirley Bailey — Peter Bailey's wife — submitted a small bill five times and each time Sotomah refused to authorize payment. Finally, Nicholas himself okayed payment, he said.

Nicholas charges that Sotomah kept Peter Bailey off the job for 97 days. "He lost all that pay, three months' pay," he said.

"It began turning. Finally, it was little things. I got a letter from her stating Peter's antics were making her ill physically," Nicholas said. It was at that point he shifted Bailey to Digital. "I did violate policy by not following procedure," he conceded.

Sotomah claims that prior to her Aug. 25 termination notice, she personally refuted all of Nicholas' complaints about her, first made July 13. "I refuted those, item by item, factually," she said, adding, "the council made no motion for dismissal." She claims Nicholas told her, "don't think this issue is dead, because I'm going to pursue it personally with the council."

Sotomah alleges that tribal personnel policy was not followed in her case. In fact, she said things were backwards: that the



LOCKED OUT — Pleasant Point health center director Madonna Sotomah, fired by the tribal governor, found her office door padlocked last month. She proceeded to answer the buzz and occupy her office. Later, tribal council confirmed her termination.

grievance hearing should not follow the termination notice, but should precede it.

Asked about this, Nicholas said that his council would not take action. "I thought if they can't act, I'll act," he said.

At one point, Sotomah suspended Bailey for unauthorized use of federal Indian Health Service funds to hire an emergency medical services coordinator (Mary Graham). Bailey was suspended without pay Dec. 10, 1980, for one week. "But Hartley paid him anyway," she asserted.

At another point in time Bailey and Sotomah discussed their conflicts, but apparently were unable to resolve differences.

Governor Nicholas took matters into his own hands, and assigned Bailey to manage a newly-established reservation shop under contract to Digital, the computer firm. But Nicholas continued Bailey's Indian Health Service (IHS) salary, even though Bailey was no longer connected with the health center.

Nicholas explained his actions by saying, "I thought: why not? Let's get this thing (Digital) going. We live in an area where unemployment is 80 percent. Peter's talents were not being utilized. I

would use them, only briefly." So the Governor transferred Bailey to Digital, where he supervised eight workers.

"I know it was wrong. I shouldn't have done what I did," Nicholas said in an interview. "I immediately realized my mistake. I didn't try to hide it," he said. Bailey resigned his IHS position in May.

The Governor said the Tribe will pay back \$3,000 to IHS, in an agreement worked out after Sotomah notified IHS officials of the violation.

Aware that Sotomah had called attention to the violation, Nicholas declared, "I told her (Sotomah) if you are reinstated on a technicality such as this, I will immediately terminate you within 24 to 48 hours."

Sotomah told Wabanki Alliance the Tribe owes IHS closer to \$5,000. She said that in addition to the unauthorized use of IHS funds, she has evidence that Nicholas harassed her in her job. Six days after an Aug. 25 "employee action notice" sent by Nicholas to Sotomah, terminating her employment, a tribal grievance committee recommended that Sotomah "be kept on as IHS director and that a special meeting be held to resolve this case as soon as possible."

PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM RECRUITING AMERICAN INDIANS

The School of Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is currently recruiting individuals interested in entering graduate school in the field of public health. The mission of the school is to prepare individuals for professional health careers aimed at preventing disease and disability and in analyzing, improving, promoting and maintaining the health of the public. Job opportunities exist for biostatisticians, environmentalists, epidemiologists, administrators, educators, nutritionists along with such roles as researchers, investigators and consultants.

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Training in the programs for master's degrees range between 12 to 24 months depending on the specialization chosen by the student.

Requirements for admission are that applicants have a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, an acceptable grade point average, take the Graduate Record Examination and provide three personal references. Financial support is available through the University and the Indian Health Service. Individuals interested in applying to the Program for the 1981-82 academic year are urged to contact our office.

We welcome any questions or requests concerning the program.

For additional information please contact:

Ronald Oxendine
Director, American Indian Recruitment Program
School of Public Health
Rosenau Hall 201 H
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514

Group wants Governor's removal

(Continued from page 1)

close inspection reveals the name is Margaret Nichols, not Nicholas as the Governor thought, and that Margaret Nichols is a bona fide tribal member. The Governor said he never heard of her.

Nicholas claims three names on the petition appear to be written in the same handwriting, that of Mary Alexander.

The name of Bonnie Stanley appeared twice on the petition, but Dana maintains (this was an honest mistake, and in any case, there are a sufficient number of names without lies (the requirement is for a minimum 50 signatures).

The petition appears to be aimed at Peter Bailey, an adopted Passamaquoddy tribal member of undetermined Indian blood quantum. Bailey, as a separate story in this issue reports, is involved in a controversy between the former health center director and the Governor.

Bailey said his decision to fire health center employee John Dana, a friend of Ralph Dana's, made him a target of petitioners. Bailey has been considered a supporter of Governor Nicholas, while Ralph Dana has been politically aligned with Deanna Francis, an unsuccessful candidate for governor in the latest election.

Dana has relentlessly campaigned against Nicholas, and the impeachment effort appears to be the latest attack.

The latest petition, dated Sept. 14, calls for removal of Nicholas for failure to develop a tribal constitution, violation of personnel policy (the case of the health center director), failure to provide adequate police protection, failure to set up a tribal court system, failure to provide financial reports on tribal enterprises,

misuse of tribal funds, failure to provide equal employment opportunity, and violation of traditional procedures for filling vacant council seats. Nicholas is also charged with usurping authority traditionally accorded the tribal council.

Dana explained that "traditional" is used because no constitution exists, although Nicholas said a draft constitution has been prepared.

One sore point between Nicholas and Dana has been the status of Tribal Trucking, a tribal government business, and Dana's own trucking business, Dana Trucking.

In response to the charge of no court system, Nicholas said that Shirley Bailey was named Chief Judge last spring, when the tribe opted for its own tribal court, similar to the Pennobscot Nation court. Clayton Cleaves was named associate judge.

Nicholas said a lack of money to run the court has been remedied by two recent grants he obtained from Washington, D.C.

Asked what he will do next, Nicholas said, "I'm going to take a little time."

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Job well done

These workers, supervised by Mike Francis, right, erected new playground equipment at Indian Island recently.

Penobscots' years of change on agenda

ROCKPORT — The past ten years of dramatic changes in the lives of Penobscots will be the theme of a three-day planning workshop here.

The Penobscot Nation planning department has scheduled a variety of speakers and discussion groups at the Samoset (named after an Indian chief) Inn. Former Maine governor Kenneth M. Curtis, a Democrat who may seek to unseat U.S. Senator George Mitchell, will give a "key-note" speech.

The department encountered a snag when staff discovered several Penobscot tribal council members would not be able to attend the sessions, even if commuting on a daily basis. Councilor Francis (Bunny) Ranco questioned holding the conference in Rockport — about two hours' drive from Indian Island — when facilities are available in Bangor, "or right here in our own Community Building."

Gov. Timothy Love indicated it was not possible to re-schedule the event, but that Ranco's point would be considered in future conference planning.

Love is slated to open the conference at 9 a.m., Nov. 3. A panel will follow, with an "overview of reservation development, 1968-1977." Panelists listed are Eugene Loring, Andrew Akins, Michael Ranco, Love, Nicholas Dow, Kenneth Paul, James Sappier, Irving Ranco and Matthew Sappier.

Topics to be covered in small group meetings include community development, economic development, education, employment and housing.

On Nov. 4, Gregory Buesing, a longtime worker for Indian rights and recognition, is scheduled to talk on "the role of the

private sector in reservation development in the early 1970's." Buesing, now attending law school, worked for years helping organize Association of Aroostook Indians in Houlton, and later worked as coordinator of Indian Task Force for a federal government funding agency in Boston.

A lecture on Penobscot participation in the Maine State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, will be given by Harriet Price.

Thomas N. Tureen, nationally-known Indian claims lawyer and counsel to Penobscot Nation, will talk about the "history of the Maine Indian Land Claims Case."

On the afternoon of the second convention day, guest speakers lined up are Paul F. Zendzian, mayor of Bangor and a lawyer; U.S. Housing and Urban Development official Edward Bernard; and James E. Mitchell, former director of Maine State Housing Authority. Those speakers will discuss reservation housing.

The evening program features talks by Edward Hipckley and James H. Murphy, former state commissioners of Indian Affairs (a post that has been abolished by Governor Joseph Brennan); John W. Stevens, former Indian Township tribal governor and a former state commissioner (the first Indian to hold the post); and Harvey Johnson, chairman, advisory committee to U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. Johnson is former chairman of the Governor's Executive Council, a state body that has been dissolved.

Curtis will close the program with his address, on an unannounced topic.

Thursday morning, the final session, involves a "wrap-up" and overview of the previous discussions.

Isaac accepts cash settlement

MILLINOCKET — Mary Francis Isaac, a Penobscot, has accepted a \$1,335 settlement of her discrimination case involving Town Manager William Ayoub, according to the Katahdin Times.

The out-of-court settlement followed two years of threats, charges, investigations and rulings in the dispute. Isaac originally alleged she was harassed and discriminated against as town book-keeper, including being the butt of jokes about Indians.

Ayoub repeatedly declined comment on the charges. Isaac brought the matter to the attention of Maine Human Rights Commission in October 1979, and four months later the commission found reasonable grounds to believe unlawful

discrimination had occurred.

Isaac was transferred to a job with the Millinocket public works department.

Town Council Chairman Dean Beaupain was quoted as stating, "The town made an economic decision. We have had enough lawsuits. We gave her what she wanted and settled the issue. Actually, the case was settled several years ago except for the payment of the money. The town had refused payment. Then she threatened to sue in federal district court. Rather than get the town in another lawsuit, we agreed to the settlement," he said.

Isaac was represented by lawyer Thomas N. Tureen, who is legal counsel to the Penobscot Nation and Passamaquoddy Tribe.

Millinocket man fined \$40 for driving without license, other court cases

INDIAN ISLAND — The following matters were heard at Penobscot Tribal Court, recently, the Honorable Andrew Mead presiding:

New arraignments

Edward J. Francis, 19, Millinocket, charged with operating without a license Sept. 9, at Indian Island. Plea of guilty — requested a waiver and fine to be indicated: Judge Mead indicated \$40 fine.

Louis K. Paul, 54, Indian Island, charged with keeping a vicious dog, Sept. 15, at Indian Island. Plea of not guilty, continued for trial.

Louis K. Paul, 54, Indian Island, charged with permitting dog to roam at large, Sept. 15, at Indian Island. Plea of not guilty, continued for trial.

Louis K. Paul, 54, Indian Island, charged with permitting dog to roam at large, Sept. 22, at Indian Island. Plea of not guilty, continued for trial.

Trials

Penobscot Nation vs. Donald Francis, Bert Francis and Joseph Francis, Jr., charged with disorderly conduct. Cases dismissed by Nation.

Small Claims Hearings

Elsie Lolar vs. John Davis (disclosure): ordered to make payments in the amount of \$10 per month, first payment due Oct. 1, and each month thereafter until bill is paid in full. Failure to comply with court order means defendant will be held in contempt of court and sentence of 48

hours in Penobscot County Jail will be imposed.

Everett Sapiel vs. John Davis (disclosure): ordered to make payments in the amount of \$5 per week, first payment due Oct. 5, and each week thereafter until bill is paid in full. Failure to comply with court order means defendant will be held in contempt of court and sentence of 48 hours in Penobscot County Jail will be imposed.

Civil Hearing

Penobscot Tribal Reservation Housing Authority vs. Shirley Francis Plaintiff's Motion to dismiss appeal and defendant's motion to show cause heard. Both motions denied, appeal to be sent to appellate court.

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Flashback



The new bridge

Thirty-one years ago this month, on Nov. 29, the one-lane bridge linking Indian Island with the City of Old Town was formally opened. In this early photo, a bateau used to ferry people to the island in pre-bridge days is still present, and looks in good shape. Gary Mitchell is the young lad resting on the oars.

news notes

Sapiel, Mills tie in pentathlon

MASHPEE, Mass. — Although only five Indian persons entered a sports event here called a "pentathlon," its promoter — also a winner — called it a success.

Sam Sapiel, a Penobscot from Indian Island, said next year he anticipates greater participation. He said several Penobscots who had indicated they would enter, did not show up.

Sapiel and "Chiefie" Mills of Falmouth, both representing the Boston Indian Council, tied for first place in the recent event, which included stunts in canoeing, swimming, a foot race, shotput, and bike ride. Mills is a Wampanoag.

Other participants were Brian Polchies, a Micmac from Cape Breton, Nova Scotia; Jim Peters of Mashpee, Wampanoag; and Freeman Ward, Micmac from Bed Bank, New Brunswick.



New staffer in Governor's suite

INDIAN ISLAND — Marie (Mitchell) King of Indian Island has been hired as executive secretary to Gov. Timothy Love, replacing Blanche Corbett, who resigned.

King began her duties Sept. 18. She was formerly employed by the University of Maine at Orono. A graduate of Beal College in Bangor, she is the mother of four children: Christopher, John, Christa and Mitchell.

Correction

A story in the October issue of Wabanaki Alliance incorrectly identified Tom Vicaire of Mattawamkeag as Central Maine Indian Association (CMIA) board chairman. Vicaire is a member of the board, but not the chairman.

Actually, there is no chairman as such. The president of the board, Mary Isaac of Millinocket, resigned her position, as was correctly reported in the story.

Finch leaves island after 3½ years

INDIAN ISLAND — Lawrence Finch, former guidance counselor in the Old Town school system, was wistful as he left his human services post recently, at the Penobscot Nation.

"I've enjoyed my three and one half years here. They (the tribe) are almost like family," Finch told this newspaper. "I wish them nothing but the best in the future. And if ever needed, I'll be at their beck and call," he said.

Finch at first worked for the State of Maine Department of Indian Affairs, then, after that department ceased to exist, he worked as director of human services on the reservation.

Penobscot payroll on computer

INDIAN ISLAND — What used to involve five bookkeepers now requires only one.

The payroll of the Penobscot Nation has been successfully programmed into the recently acquired Digital computer at Indian Island, and things are running "pretty smoothly," according to Dan Nelson, fiscal officer.

Dan is assisted by Scott Davis, computer operator/programmer.

Indian actor dies

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — Dan George, an Indian chief and actor nominated for an Oscar for his role in "Little Big Man," died in a hospital Sept. 23. He was 82.

Gwen Williams, nursing supervisor at Lion's Gate Hospital in North Vancouver, said George died at 2 a.m. She said he had been in and out of the hospital for months. The cause of his death was not made public.

George was born on Vancouver's North Shore and was chief of the Tel-lal-wati section of Coast Salish tribe of British Columbia.

He became a spokesman for native Americans after he won fame as an actor in the late 1960s.

Firemen's Ball Set

INDIAN ISLAND — The annual Penobscot Nation Firemen's Ball is scheduled from 8 p.m. to midnight, Nov. 23, at the Community Building. A live band and buffet will be featured.

Sapiel 5th in footrace

PLEASANT POINT — James Sapiel, a Passamaquoddy who attends Shead High School in Eastport, crossed the finish line in fifth place, in a recent cross country meet at Calais.

Obituaries

PAULINE FRANCIS LOVE

INDIAN ISLAND — Pauline F. Love, 48, of 22 Center St., died Sept. 25, at a Bangor hospital, following a long illness.

She was born Dec. 31, 1932, at Old Town, the daughter of Bertie and Violet Shay Francis.

Mrs. Love was a former member of the tribal council, housing authority and the health and social services board. She was a member of St. Ann's Church. She is survived by her husband, John Love; her mother, Violet Francis; three sons, Timothy Love, governor of Indian Island, John Jr. and Richard; two daughters, Paula and Emily; one brother, Joseph Francis; one half-brother, Gilbert Francis, all of Indian Island. Also, by three sisters, Alberta Diviak of Los Angeles, Calif., Marjorie Bartley of Live Oak, Fla., and Margaret Neptune of Indian Island; one half-sister, Christine Nicholas of Searsport; two nieces, Jeanette Lucy of Rockhill, S.C., and Ila Nicola of Los Angeles, Calif.; one nephew, Calvin Torner of Orono; and eight grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated at St. Ann's Church, Indian Island, with the Rev. John Civiello, celebrant.

Interment followed in the tribal cemetery.

JOHN W. NEPTUNE

PLEASANT POINT — John Warren Neptune, 49, died Oct. 18, at a Calais hospital.

He was born in Pleasant Point, Jan. 22, 1932, the son of Jerome and Elizabeth (Lewey) Neptune. He is survived by four sisters: Angela Barnes of Eastport, Clara Keener, Theresa Gardner and Elizabeth Pond all of Perry; two brothers, Louis and Peter Neptune both of Perry; several nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated at St. Ann's Catholic Church, with the Rev. Joseph Mullen, celebrant. Burial was at the tribal cemetery, Pleasant Point.

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