



# GUYAUSHK'S NEWS

Dedicated to the Overall Health of the Heart, Mind, Body and Soul  
for Individuals, Families, Communities, and Tribal Organizations



## ISKIGAMIZIGE - GIIZIS MAPLE SUGAR MOON



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**FINAL ISSUE!**

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## HEADING HOME ...

The last part of March was a difficult one for our Red Cliff Community. Especially for the family of Phillip Gordon. A special condolence for his wife Vicky "Bab", brothers Tommy Joe, Father Kevin, and sisters Joyce and Kathy. He passed away into the Spirit World on March 26, 2009 at approximately 5:10 a.m.

Currently Phillip served as the Vice-Chairman of our Tribe. This was a position he held a couple of other times. In the 1960's, he also served as our Tribal Chairman at a time, when we had no money to speak of! Very little funding came from the Federal Government, but, people at that time were still committed to improving the lives in our Community.

In the 1960's, there was a movement by Senator Gaylord Nelson to turn the Apostle Islands into a National Park. However, within that movement was the inclusion of the Red Cliff and Bad River Tribes. Our leaders, with the support from others, fought this decision and ultimately won! This meaning, we remained to be independent

sovereign Indian Tribes on our lands. Phillip was one of the individuals from Red Cliff who travel to Washington D.C., to testify before Congress and lobby for the protection of our Tribal lands. Other individuals from Red Cliff involved were Albert "Ted" Bresette, Alberta Gordon, Elma Peterson, and Marge Pascale. Please forgive me, if I left out any names of individuals who went to Washington. But on the local front, many of our Tribal members also provided support and fought to retain our lands.

As I teach classes, in Red Cliff through the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe Community College, I have realized many of our own people do not know some of this history of our Tribe and leaders from the past.

For quite some time, I wanted to sit down with Phillip to get some of the mechanics or logistics about this effort in the 1960's. He was the last of those mentioned who traveled on behalf of our Tribe. I wanted to see how this began, how this was funded, why was Loretta (Ellis) Metoxin from

Oneida available in this effort...and to clarify many unanswered questions, in an effort to document this for future generations.

An encouragement to individuals to document the little stories in your family and in your community...these pieces can help retain our history, culture, traditions, and past. They may help to explain things as they are..in this day and age. It will help keep the memory alive of our ancestors, elders, relatives who have "headed home."



Phillip C. Gordon  
1939 - 2009

# LEADERSHIP

In the development of Gyaushk's News, I am usually not sure what I am going to say. However, in the previous issues, they have all come together and most of the time, as I am writing them! In the back of my mind, I thought of the April issue of Gyaushk's News would address Leadership and it is fate (maybe...not sure of the word I am thinking of...) that the death of a leader in our Community would solidify this issue on Leadership.

Throughout my travels, in meeting other Tribal people, i.e., elders, elected officials, staff, community members, etc., I've been able to receive lots of thoughts, comments, and feedback on Leadership. This is from the traditional or cultural and modern day perspective on Leadership.

The follow is a summary of advice, that has been provided to me (which I've utilized a number of times) on the "role" of Leadership, in our Tribal Communities:



## ADVOCATE FOR ELDERS AND YOUTH

- Talk and create an atmosphere of open dialogue with Elders and Youth
- Develop long-term plan based on their needs
- Full access to services from birth to death

## REVISION IN TRIBAL GOVERNMENT

- Update Tribal Constitution
- Integration of Anishinabe teachings/traditions
- Assess our Legal system

## INCREASE TRIBAL NATURAL RESOURCES

- Continue to acquire lands within our boundaries
- Require Tribal Council first right of refusal to purchase land
- Require Tribal member first right of refusal to purchase land
- Understanding our history through training and awareness for all

## TRIBAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

- Consider Tribal "pay back" for students sent obtaining higher education
  - Through Education/Tribal funds
- Increase higher education opportunities
  - Require all staff to have a high school/GED diploma
  - Attainment of Certificate or Associate degree for all staff
  - Incentive for completion of Bachelors or beyond for Tribal members
- Conduct feasibility study for Community input on Tribal School and Alternatives
- Construction of "Campus" for all education and learning activities

## CONTINUED PROTECTION OF SOVEREIGNTY AND TREATY RIGHTS

- Commitment at the local, county, state, and federal levels on sovereignty
- Create and support Tribal and Inter-Tribal efforts to protect rights
- Continue to educate Indian non-Indian people on sovereignty and Treaty Obligations
- Join forces and encourage open dialogue with local, county, state, and Federal Government and Agencies to work together to protect resources

*Leadership, continued on Page 4*

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Tribal and Community involvement for input and planning economic Development
- Total exposure of Casino and Hotel efforts
- Economic Development based on our own natural resources
- Support individual Tribal businesses
- Joint efforts with surrounding Communities

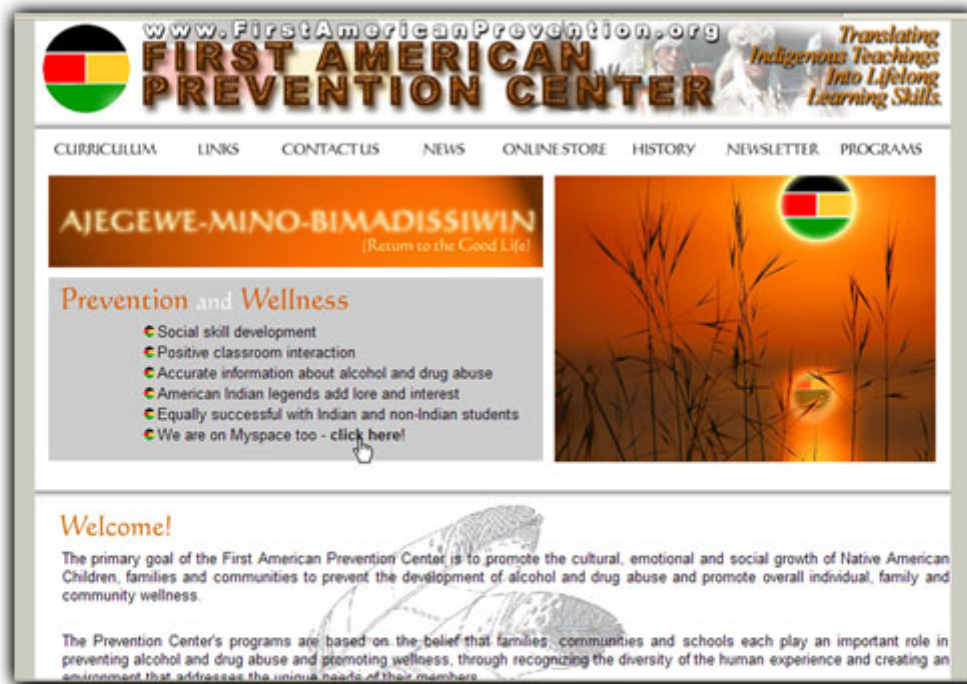
### TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Encourage 150% commitment of Tribal staff to members served
- Review and revise organizational structure
- Encourage integration of Tribal teachings within the organizational structure
- Seeking input from Community, Family, and staff in development

### CULTURE/TRADITIONS

- Emphasize and acknowledge the importance of Veteran's in our Community
- Continued awareness of our Anishinabe culture and language
- Respect for individual's Spirituality – Anishinabe, Christianity, or other
- Anishinabe names for various places on the Reservation
- Promotion of wellness and balance of the heart, mind, body, and soul





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## ANOTHER VIEW OF LEADERSHIP

In previous issues of Gyaushk's News, I've mentioned my Doctoral Project, in obtaining my Doctorate in Business Administration degree, pertained to the encouragement of integrating Native teachings or philosophies into the Organizational structure.

This Project has been revised for possible publication, under the title of: "SEAGULL'S JOURNEY: A LESSON IN TRIBAL LEADERSHIP." This also illustrates the diverse and complicated area....which is called Leadership.

The following lessons are discussed:

LESSON 1	Leadership
LESSON 2	Historical Aspect
LESSON 3	The traditional way of life
LESSON 4	A cultural Organizational consideration
LESSON 5	A relationship with our animal brothers/sisters
LESSON 6	Resources to assist
LESSON 7	Immediate family
LESSON 8	Extended family
LESSON 9	Tribal Community
LESSON 10	Communication
LESSON 11	Political Structure

The poem, Thinking Back, was written many years ago and revised a couple of times over the years. It is included in "SEAGULL'S JOURNEY: A LESSON IN TRIBAL LEADERSHIP," as a way in which to pull all the resources, teachings, research, etc. It also represents the old and new way of looking at life from different perspectives.

Another View of Leadership, continued on page 6

THINKING BACK

Each day Seagull awakens  
With new thoughts and idea's  
To what the future holds,  
The survival and existence of a great people

In his idea's,  
He thinks of the new day and age.

In this thoughts,  
He tries to visualize a simpler life.

As Seagull is sitting at home,  
He calls out for Nokomis,  
When no answer comes,  
He remembers....  
Remembers she is gone,  
To a place where there is a better life.

He remembers the simpler life that is gone,  
A life when everyone took care of each other,  
He thought of the old people,  
Standing, talking, walking, dancing, laughing....

Where did they go?

When faced with this question,  
He can remember,  
Each one leaving this world to the next,  
Of each person's wisdom and knowledge,  
Gone....lost....forever.

The memories he has of the past,  
Are his key to the survival of the future.

He sits back....ponders....  
Of today's complications and  
Yesterday's memories.

Each day as Seagull awakens,  
With new thoughts and idea's,  
To what the future holds,  
And realizes he can survive,  
Because he remembers a life  
Long ago.....



# SEVENTH GENERATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

In many Tribal Communities, people thought of the impact of the decisions they made for the day and how it would affect the next Seven Generations.

Here is an exercise you might want to consider. I challenge you (as an individual, family member, Community Leader, Tribal employee, Tribal Leader, etc.) to take a few minutes to fill in the following Action Plan. In conjunction with the Seventh Generational Philosophy, think about how your planning, will affect the next Seven Generations.

## WITHIN 7 DAYS

a)

b)

## WITHIN 7 WEEKS

a)

b)

## WITHIN 7 MONTHS

a)

b)

## WITHIN 7 YEARS

a)

b)

WORKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE: FOR THE NEXT 7 GENERATIONS



# The GEE GA WA BA MIN Section

The previous issues have allowed me to share lessons and teachings learned while on my various journeys. The last issue of Guyaushk's News was the final segment of Elder Teachings.

I guess my purpose with getting the word out there for individuals to consider the integration of teachings and philosophies into the Tribal Organizational structure has been realized. I hope the issues of Guyaushk's News has planted a seed in other people to take it a step farther. Just like the seed was planted in

my mind way back in 1977.

This will be the final issue of Guyaushk's News. I say this with some sadness and some happiness. I've enjoyed pulling the information together for each of the issues and trying to document a part of our Red Cliff history, culture, and traditions.

But with all things...sometimes the purpose is fulfilled, then it is time to move on to other things.

I want to thank people for their thoughts, comments, and encouragement.



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## AND FINALLY ...

I interviewed, was selected, and accepted the position to be the new Chief Operating Officer for the United Indian Health Service, in Arcata, CA. This is a health Consortium of nine Tribes in northern California. So for the next few months, there will be a gradual move/relocation to there. I will start in May for 2 weeks, come home for 2 weeks...then back in June. This is a truly exciting opportunity, from different aspects.

