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Ahnee (Hello)!

This past week in Traverse City the “Traverse City Film Festival” is taking place. Our area has been busy from the National Cherry Festival up through this week. This means only good things for our economic region. For more information on the film festival, please visit this site: <http://www.traversecityfilmfest.org/>

This past Wednesday, July 29th, the 7&4 News channel did an excellent feature story on the Grand Traverse Band’s recent 2% allocation. The positive message is a necessary reminder of how through 2% allocations, citizens of northern Michigan truly benefit from tribal gaming. To view the 7&4 News broadcast, please click on this link: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z_9PEjiKTyk. Especially during these tougher economic times, the tribes continued financial contributions to schools, organizations, counties equates to communities, families and individuals being better served and living with more opportunities.

This cycle’s allocation amount was \$791, 179.75 and was awarded to 34 applicants (65 applications were received with a totaled request of \$2,642,065.00). Twice a year, 2% gaming revenue allocations are made to local units of government, resulting from terms of the consent decree which settled *Tribes v. Engler* (Case no. 1:90-CV-611, U.S. District Court, Western District Michigan).

Last Friday, it was a definite honor to meet past Michigan Governor William Milliken and his wife, Helen. It was very endearing how welcomed he made me feel and how interested he was in talking with me. A great couple they are! Governor Milliken was Michigan’s 44th Governor, and served from 1969 to 1983.



07.24.09 I’m pictured with Governor William and Helen Milliken; attending the Milliken Fund special reception which was held at the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa.



Also attending the Milliken Fund Reception were (in 1st picture) Bob Wick and Bob Otwell of TART Trails (www.traversetrails.org); and in the next picture, attending were Diane Conners, Senior Policy Specialist, and Hans Voss, Executive Director; Michigan Land Use Institute (www.mlui.org).



Chef Ted Cizma, and the GT Resort staff, did a great job!



07.27.09

I attended the public hearing hosted by State Representative Wayne Schmidt in Traverse City that dealt with hearing testimony on the challenges businesses are facing with state regulatory agencies. Pictured above is the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa's President/General Manager, Grant Channing who presented testimony in support of PureMichigan advertising funding. Other State Representatives in attendance were: John Proos, Kim Meltzer, Bill Rogers, Jase Bolger, Darwin Booher, and Kevin Elsenheimer.



07.28.09 Representative Wayne Schmidt and I were able to connect for a lunch meeting and continue discussion on our region (employment, energy initiatives, business opportunities, and to me most importantly, the positive impact the Grand Traverse Band has in our region – as a strong economic entity and benefits of tribal gaming).



07.30.09 I had the sincere pleasure of meeting with Commander (CDR) Jonathan Spaner at Traverse City's United States Coast Guard facility (<http://www.uscg.mil/d9/airstattraversecity/>). CDR Spaner is to be commended for his outreach to the Tribe and desire to begin working relationships with the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians. We were provided a delicious meal and tour of the US Coast Guard facility (total of 40 acres and has been in this area since 1941 – exact location!).



CDR Spaner and I enjoying our lunch. Up next, my first “flight lesson”! Desmond Berry, GTB member, was able to attend (who is in the 3rd picture) and be a part of the tour.

Northern Michigan standby – I may soon be taking to the sky and carrying water balloons!☺

Please remember to take part in Traverse City’s Film Festival. I am looking forward to Sunday’s showing at the State Theatre of, “The Only Good Indian”. Native American actor, Wes Studi, will be present at the showing. Mr. Studi has appeared in numerous movies and most notably in “Geronimo”, “Last of the Mohicans”, and “Dances with Wolves”. Here is his website: <http://www.thestudigroup.com/>.

Also do not forget that on August 15-16th weekend, we are hosting our Annual Peshawbestown Traditional pow wow. This is a fun, and free, event that really brings all our communities together. Public is definitely invited and welcomed to attend! For more information please visit our tribal website to view the flyer (www.gtbindians.org).

This past week we had a Tribal Councilor submit a resignation. Councilor Joseph “Buddy” Raphael submitted his resignation with his last official day being this Friday (July 31st). We wish Mr. Raphael well and say, “Megwetch (Thank you)” for his service to our Tribal Nation over the numerous years. The official press release can be viewed at: www.gtbindians.org

Have an enjoyable weekend and week, and make sure to enjoy the summer weather!

Chairman Bailey

www.gtbindians.org

“A Nation grows stronger when built upon shared visions.”