

*You're invited to join us for the First Peoples Fund*

## **George Martin Award Luncheon**

**July 26, 2019 • 12pm-2pm**

**Free & Open  
to Interested  
Parties**

Will take place at the Ziibiwing Center  
6650 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI • 989.775.4750

**Corn Soup and  
Fry Bread  
lunch provided!**

### **HONORING OUR CULTURE BEARERS: 2019 JENNIFER EASTON COMMUNITY SPIRIT AWARDS RECIPIENT**

“. . . Use only hardwood ashes when “ashing” the shucked corn kernels. Ashes from softwood, coal, leaves, trash are always taboo because the mandaamin (corn) will never separate from its shell.” These teachings in the ways of processing Indian corn to sustain his people were given to George by elders. In the 1960s, after 10 years in the United States Air Force, George moved his family to his wife’s homeland near Hopkins, MI. Her mother, Gladys Sands, who lived with them, was a black ash basket weaver and knew the old ways of preparing Indian corn to eat. George credits Gladys for teaching him the art. He also practices peyote stitch beadwork.

“My wife Sydney and I try to show others to live your culture, every day,” George says. “Being an active elder in my Anishinaabe community shows others to keep going. My kids, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren see me beading every day.”

Tribes throughout the Great Lakes region, as well as colleges and universities, invite George to teach Indian corn making. He was featured on The Cooking Channel’s “My Grandmother’s Ravioli.” Lisa Linda Lee Tiger (Muscogee [Creek] Nation) nominated George for the Community Spirit Awards to recognize him for his 60+ years as a beadwork artist, culinary artist, storyteller, Men’s Traditional powwow dancer and Head Veteran Dancer, jewelry-maker, and mixed media artist. “He is a cultural icon, and yet a humble man content to bead, make soup, and share knowledge and stories with his people,” Lisa says.



**GEORGE MARTIN,  
Hopkins, Michigan  
Lac Courte Oreilles  
Band of Lake Superior  
Chippewa Indians**



**First Peoples Fund**

#### **The Jennifer Easton Community Spirit Award presented by First Peoples Fund**

recognizes exceptional Native artists who have shown a lifetime commitment to perpetuating their art and sharing it within their communities. These practicing artists embody First Peoples Fund’s core principles: knowing our history and ourselves; honoring our ancestors and relations; sharing our stories and knowledge.