

E-Noodinagan

*A Bi-Weekly Electronic Publication
from the Ziibiwing Center*



ZIIBIWING CENTER
of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways

Binaakwii-Giizis
(Moon of the
Falling Leaves)
October 2015

Eagle Feather events took place at the Ziibiwing Center beginning on October 14 with an Eagle Feather Cleansing. In these events all of the Eagle Feathers in Ziibiwing's Sacred and Ceremonial Collection are brought out to be cleaned, honored and feasted. These objects are rarely seen and normally held in the "highest level of restricted access" at the Ziibiwing Center, Curator William Johnson explained. Only members of the Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veteran and Warrior Society and Eagle Clan Kwewag (women) are allowed to touch these feathers with bare hands. The general public is not allowed to touch them and Ziibiwing staff wear cotton gloves when handling them. Community members are welcome to bring their own eagle feathers to be cared for at this time. Instruction is given, if needed, in how to clean their feathers, but staff does not touch the Tribal community's eagle feathers.

This is a very special time for the Ziibiwing Center and the Tribal community because of the great respect and importance of the eagle in the Anishinabek culture. Long hours and a good amount of energy were spent on this three day endeavor. Members of the community, Bea Jackson and Julie Whitepigeon, both Eagle Clan Kwewag and Ogitchedaw Veteran, Kent Jackson, were involved with handling the required duties. When asked why they agree to do this extensive work they shared some very interesting view points. Kent gave several reasons. "Out of respect", he said, "and as a responsibility as a Pipe Carrier and Ogitchedaw Warrior. It's a great honor to be a part of this living history. I feel their strength when I look at these feathers. It makes a beautiful life! (Bimaadiziwin)" He added, "It's fun, too, visiting with those who come through to honor the feathers." He mentioned a visitor from Flint, MI had just left after honoring the feathers.

Bea Jackson shared some of these same sentiments. She mentioned feeling a sense of responsibility "as an Eagle Clan woman to take care of these spiritual items that belong to our clan. It brings me great joy to see these feathers and to be able to visit their spirit." She added that it is also her desire to ensure that they are properly cared for.

Traditional religious leader and extremely talented artist, Bibamikowe (Brian Corbiere), gave teachings on the Spirit of the Eagle on the night of the Feasting of the Eagle Feathers. He shared songs accompanied by Bea Jackson. He was assisted with the proceedings by Ogitchedaw Warrior, Tony Perry, and Curator William Johnson. Founding Ziibiwing Director, Bonnie Ekdahl, who was here for the feast, was also called upon to assist with the ceremonies. Johnson mentioned that the Ziibiwing Cultural Society has been handling this "physical and spiritual" responsibility for seventeen years now.

We were happy to have in attendance Native Skywatchers and artists, Annette Lee and William Wilson, who were in town and stopped by, along with some of their family members, to share a meal and a part of their evening with us. In addition, we were honored to share dinner with prior SCIT Chief Audrey Falcon and some of her family members. Miigwetch to them and to each and every one of you who shared your time, presence and delicious potluck offerings with those community members who were here on that special night.

We look forward to having you come for dinner at Ziibiwing on November 6th from 6-8pm for the Spirit Feast. This is a wonderful and touching event where we share the memories of our loved ones who have gone on to the Spirit World. We bring pictures of them, bring their favorite food and tell a little about them. We hope to see you here!

Honor a loved one who has walked on to the Spirit world
by bringing to share the favorite food, stories and photos
of that special someone who touched your life.

SPIRIT FEAST

Nov. 6
6pm-8pm

FREE & OPEN
to the PUBLIC

ZIIBIWING CENTER
of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways

6650 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI
www.sagchip.org/ziibiwing
989.775.4750

Collection Showing:

BOARDING SCHOOL ARCHITECTURE

FREE & OPEN to the Public

Saturday, November 14, 2015 • 10am-3pm

with Anita Heard, Research Center Coordinator

View selected archival material that offers information about the Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School buildings and their construction history. On display will be architectural drawings, conspectus inventory and postcards that lend a perspective of layout, structural updates and campus site plans.

Objects will remain on display in the Research Center thru November 21, 2015 • 10am-5:30pm



ZIIBIWING CENTER
of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways
The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

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The Art of the Quillbox Workshop

with Yvonne Walker Keshick



Artist-in-Residence

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All Materials Provided

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Nov. 9-13

Registration required

Contact Glenna Genereaux to register
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Exclusive Sponsor:



Ziibiwing Center • 6650 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 • Open Mon-Sat • 10am-6pm

For more information call (989) 775-4750 or visit us at www.sagchip.org/ziibiwing

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