

Wigwam to Wigwam

"YOUR HOUSE TO HOUSE NEWS"

Wigwamen Annual Tenant Picnic



July/August 2007

Newsletter

The clock is counting down to the 7th Annual Wigwamen Tenant Picnic. This year, the event will be held on Saturday, September 15th and, as usual, it will be held at Christie Pits Park.

The picnic gets underway at 11:00 a.m. and runs until 4:00 p.m. All Wigwamen tenants are welcome to attend and the event will feature the usual activities,

such as, BINGO, children's games, prizes, face painting, plenty of tasty food and lots of fun for the entire family.

This year's picnic does not have a 'rain date' as a standby (in case of bad weather) so it will take place on Saturday, September 15th, rain or shine.

We really hope to see everyone there for this fun event!



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Photos from 2006 Picnic

Terrace Happenings

By Sarah Jayne Kendall

This year's landscaping contract for Wigwamen Terrace has been awarded to Tumivut Earthkeepers. Tumivut Earthkeepers is a program designed to address the social and economic issues faced by homeless youth. The program provides on-the-job training for youth with significant barriers to employment.

I would like to express my appreciation for the program and comment on the fantastic job being done around the property. The crew is reliable, professional and very committed to completing the task at hand. Many tenants have popped into my office to voice their pleasure with the property's appearance. For more information please contact Paul Richard, Earthkeepers Manager at 416-651-6750 or www.nameres.org/earthkeepers.html.

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The Social Club held this year's election and the following lists this year's committee:

- Elizabeth Gordon – President
- Noni Bennett – Vice President
- Gladys Ashkewe – Secretary/Treasurer

Keep your eye out for future event postings. Congratulations to all! Here's wishing the Club another successful year.

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A few reminders:

- Please don't feed the pigeons or the squirrels
- A monthly 50/50 Draw is held. Tickets can be purchased from Frances or Sarah Jayne. Tickets are \$1 each or \$5 for 6 tickets.

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Wigwamen would like to extend a warm welcome to Don Jabokowoam. We wish you many happy years here in our community.

Sarah Jayne Kendall
Wigwamen Terrace Manager

2007 Flower Power Report

By Jodi Hetherington

The response to this year's 9th Annual Flower Power contest was great. A big thank you to all that entered.

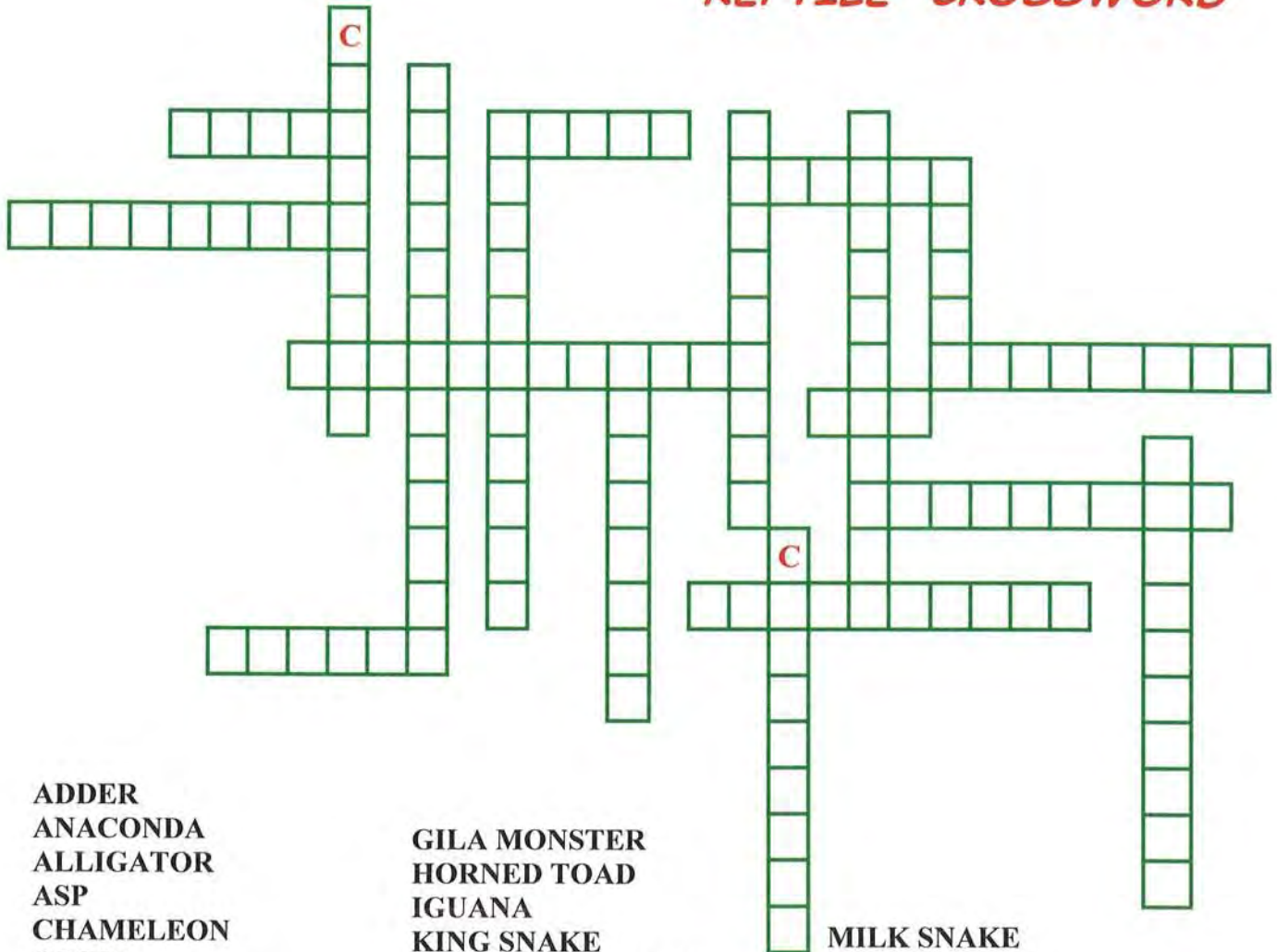
Judging took place on Wednesday August 8, 2007 and the winners will be included in the September 2007 edition of the Wigwam to Wigwam newsletter.

Jodi Hetherington
Tenant Relations Officer



Kids' Stuff!

REPTILE CROSSWORD



ADDER
ANACONDA
ALLIGATOR
ASP
CHAMELEON
COBRA
CORAL SNAKE
CROCODILE

GILA MONSTER
HORNED TOAD
IGUANA
KING SNAKE
KOMODO DRAGON
GECKO
WATER MOCCASON

MILK SNAKE
PYTHON
RAT SNAKE
RATTLESNAKE

V	G	P	A	C	A	L	F
B	K	Y	P	P	U	P	O
O	I	T	T	G	T	R	A
T	T	X	U	F	K	M	L
Y	T	E	L	G	I	P	M
E	E	L	O	P	D	A	T
O	N	E	C	Y	L	F	Q
J	K	C	I	H	C	U	B

BABY ANIMALS



PUPPY
KITTEN
FOAL
CALF
JOEY
CUB
KID
PIGLET
CHICK
TADPOLE

[SEE PAGE 7 FOR ANSWERS]

Kekuli - Winter Pit House

By Warren Canney

One of the great things about spending time at the Quaaout Resort and Conference Centre, on the Squilax Indian Band Reserve (near Chase, B.C.), is the fabulous opportunity one has to learn about the Band's history and customs.

While vacationing at the lodge, it was great to be able to take friends and family around the Reserve to see the many historical and educational sites they have on display.

All over the resort's property are information boards explaining the history and customs of the Squilax Indian Band. In one area, they have built a Kekuli (pronounced Kik-willi) on the property. A Kekuli (seen below) was the permanent home of the Aboriginal peoples during the colder months (primarily, December to March)

The ancestors of the present day Indian Band engineered and built this type of structure over 10,000 years ago. These spacious dwellings could easily house several families (20 - 25 people) while offering protection from the harsh environment outside.

Women would dig the foundation using sharpened digging sticks and then put the loose dirt into large baskets. These baskets were then passed from hand to hand to the site so the dirt could be used to cover the roof of the Kekuli. Insulated by the earth below and snow above, these houses were perfectly adapted to the cold.

Nearby, a traditional sweat lodge sits down by the lake and is used regularly by Band members who live nearby.

Another unique feature of the resort, are the two teepees set up a short distance from the lodge itself. They represent the 'mobile home' traditionally used during the warmer months. More adventuresome, present-day vacationers are able to pay so they can sleep in the teepees instead of in one of the regular hotel rooms.

A brand new, 18 hole golf course (on over 300 acres of land) just opened on August 1st and is now providing even more employment opportunities for those living on the Reserve.

This was our second stay at the resort and it was first class, all the way.



Wigwamen Waabnong Update

By Warren Canney

Wigwamen Waabnong (20 Sewells Road) has been open for just over two years now. And, for the second year in a row, a family BBQ was offered to the tenants who live in the building.

On the morning of Saturday, July 21st, the large BBQ unit was rolled into position, tables and chairs were set up and the prepared food and frozen hot dogs and hamburgers were brought out along with the condiments. By 11:30 the first of many meals were being rolled out and enjoyed by our tenants.

A great deal of preparation went into making this event a real success. Thank you to everyone who pitched in and made the BBQ so hugely popular.



During the BBQ, the July 50/50 Draw took place. There is a joke amongst many of the tenants in the building that the winner of the draw is always

someone who lives on the 3rd floor. Not to disappoint anyone, our latest winner also lives on the third floor of the building!

Congratulations to Darrell Seale for being our latest 50/50 Draw winner. He took home \$55.00 in winnings.



Summer Youth Employment

We are very fortunate to have students working in the building for the second summer in a row. Returning from last summer is Jerome Manners. Jerome is doing maintenance work around the building along with newcomers Darryl Pezzack and Bryan Douse.

Audrey Rodrigopulle and Kesha Williams are running the Kids' Summer Program, as Counsellors. The students are provided through Tropic Community Services.



Everyone in the building, young and old, has benefited greatly from the work being done by these students and we are grateful.



Lakota (Sioux): The Origin of the Prairie Rose

Long, long ago, when the world was young and people had not come out yet, no flowers bloomed on the prairie. Only grasses and dull, greenish gray shrubs grew there. Earth felt very sad because her robe lacked brightness and beauty.

"I have many beautiful flowers in my heart," Earth said to herself. "I wish they were on my robe. Blue flowers like the clear sky in fair weather, white flowers like the snow of winter, brilliant yellow ones like the sun at midday, pink ones like the dawn of a spring day--all these are in my heart. I am sad when I look on my dull robe, all gray and brown."

A sweet little pink flower heard Earth's sad talking. "Do not be sad, Mother Earth. I will go upon your robe and beautify it."

So the little pink flower came up from the heart of the Earth Mother to beautify the prairies. But when the Wind Demon saw her, he growled, "I will not have that pretty flower on my playground."

He rushed at her, shouting and roaring, and blew out her life. But her spirit returned to the heart of Mother Earth.

When other flowers gained courage to go forth, one after another, Wind Demon killed them also. And their spirits returned to the heart of Mother Earth.

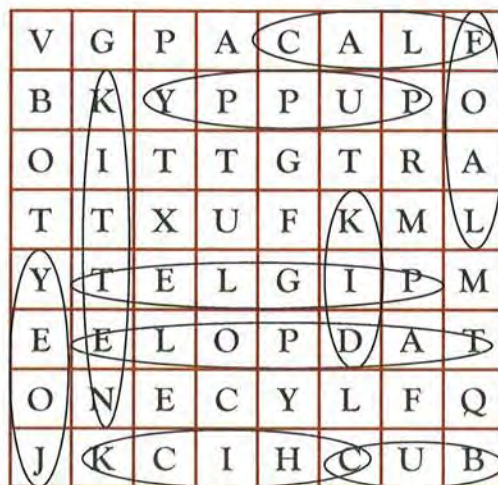
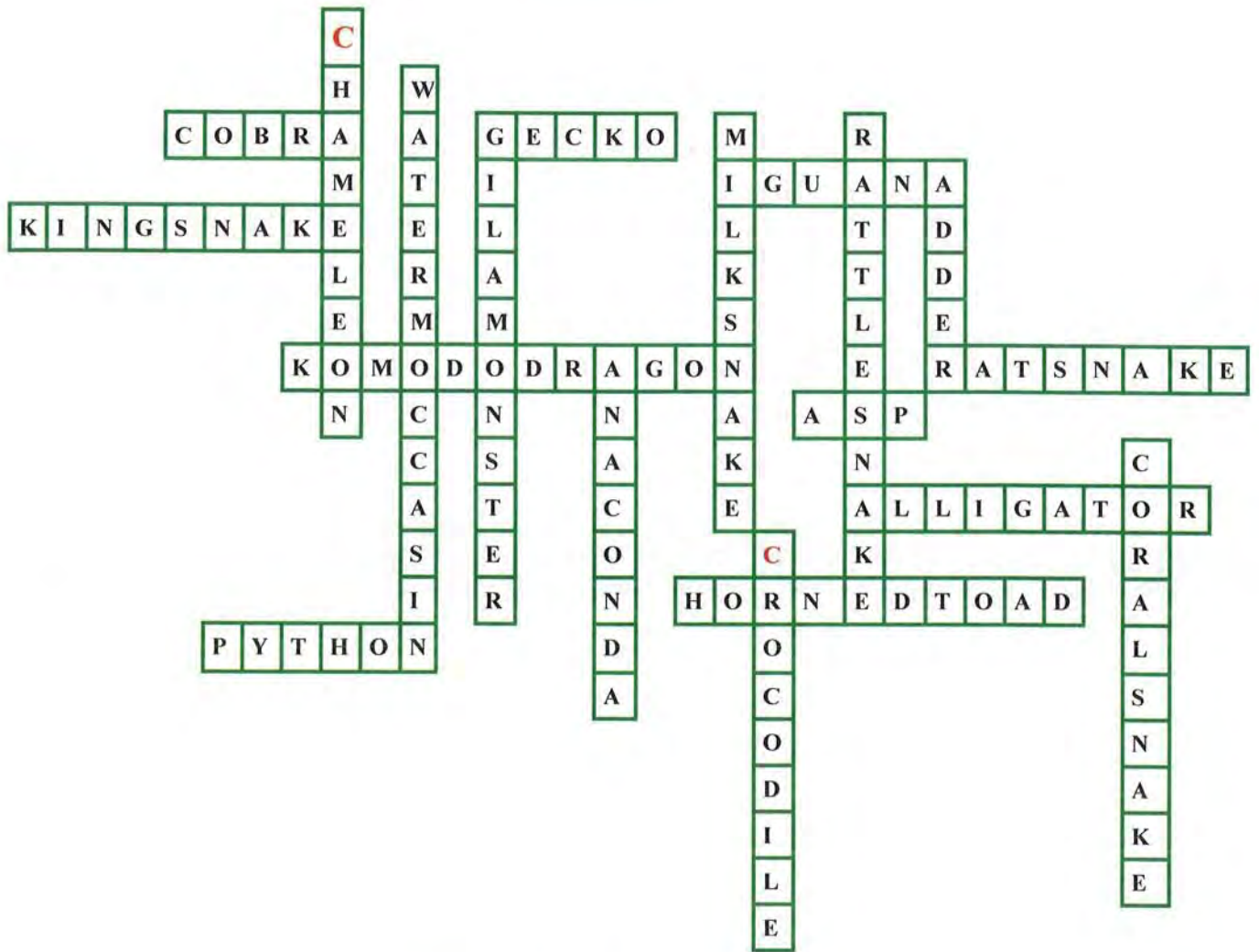
At last Prairie Rose offered to go. "Yes, sweet child," said Earth Mother, "I will let you go. You are so lovely and your breath so fragrant that surely the Wind Demon will be charmed by you. Surely he will let you stay on the prairie."

So Prairie Rose made the long journey up through the dark ground and came out on the drab prairie. As she went, Mother Earth said in her heart, "Oh, I do hope that Wind Demon will let her live."

When Wind Demon saw her, he rushed toward her, shouting: "She is pretty, but I will not allow her on my playground. I will blow out her life."

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CROSSWORD ANSWER
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The Origin of the Prairie Rose (cont'd)

So he rushed on, roaring and drawing his breath in strong gusts. As he came closer, he caught the fragrance of Prairie Rose.

"Oh--how sweet!" he said to himself. "I do not have it in my heart to blow out the life of such a beautiful maiden with so sweet a breath. She must stay here with me. I must make my voice gentle, and I must sing sweet songs. I must not frighten her away with my awful noise."

So Wind Demon changed. He became quiet. He sent gentle breezes over the prairie grasses. He whispered and hummed little songs of gladness. He was no longer a demon.

Then other flowers came up from the heart of the Earth Mother, up through the dark ground. They made her robe, the prairie, bright and joyous. Even Wind came to love the blossoms growing among the grasses of the prairie. And so the robe of Mother Earth became beautiful because of the loveliness, the sweetness, and the courage of the Prairie Rose.

Sometimes Wind forgets his gentle songs and becomes loud and noise. But his loudness does not last long. And he does not harm a person whose robe is the color of Prairie Rose.

From the Lakota Sioux: The Origin of the Prairie Rose