



October 2020 | Volume 31 | Issue 10  
Binaakwii-Giizis (Moon of the Falling Leaves)

# TRIBAL OBSERVER

THE SAGINAW CHIPPEWA INDIAN TRIBE... "Working Together for Our Future"

## Grant attained for protective fencing to help prevent vandalism on former boarding school grounds

### PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPT.

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan's Tribal Historic Preservation Office was awarded a tribal heritage grant from the National Park Service (2019-2020) to install a protective fence around two buildings at the site of the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School, or MIIBS, a historic district property listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

The MIIBS was part of the Federal Indian boarding school system, which removed American Indian children from their families and culture as part of a forced education and assimilation initiative that persisted for nearly a century.

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe is in the planning stages of rehabilitating and repurposing the site for the healing of our people.

"It is with heavy hearts that we share with you that our efforts have already been compromised. Vandals have breached a section of the fence and accessed the buildings," said Marcella Hadden, tribal historic preservation officer.



Observer photo

**Each year, vandals trespass on the former Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School grounds. The Tribal Historic Preservation Office has been awarded a grant to install a protective fence around two buildings of the site.**

**MIIBS is photographed here during one of the Honoring, Healing and Remembering past events.**

"We must now face the cost of repairs and deal with the very painful reality that people are desecrating the site."

Hadden continued, "Based on postings on social media, some think it is 'interesting' or 'fun.' Some think they are 'ghost hunting' on the site of an ancient Indian burial ground. These hurtful actions have prompted the Tribe to call on university, civic, and public communities to support and assist tribal efforts to stop the unlawful access to this important historic site."

Any unauthorized access (including walking the grounds) may be subject to civil and criminal penalty.

By preserving and protecting this important cultural and historical resource, we take a step toward restoring trust with the non-Native community

and the Federal Government.

The Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways, has a permanent exhibition about the MIIBS and co-hosts "Honoring, Healing & Remembering."

As we await Ziibiwing's reopening during this public

health crisis, we invite you to educate your communities by visiting <http://www.sagchip.org/ziibiwinglplanyourvisit/pdf/AIBSCurrGuide.pdf>

The Tribe also encouraged community members to wear an orange shirt on Sept. 30 for additional awareness.



Courtesy photo

**Vandals damage a fence surrounding the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School grounds.**



Courtesy of Lisa Martin

**A new development, buildings on the MIIBS grounds were recently spray-painted with graffiti.**

### Features

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Orange Shirt Day is an event, created in 2013, designed to educate people and promote awareness in Canada about the Indian residential school system and the impact it has had on Indigenous communities for over a century-an impact that continues today.

If you have information or knowledge of anyone trespassing at MIIBS, please contact Tribal Police at **989-775-4700** or the anonymous tip hot line at **989-775-4775**.

## Attention Tribal Members:

**Beginning Oct. 1, Tribal Members (under the age of 50) will need to purchase a \$30 annual subscription if they wish to continue receiving the mailed copy of the Tribal Observer.**

The monthly Tribal Observer will continue to be available online on the [sagchip.org](http://sagchip.org) website, however any Tribal Member household (where an elder does not reside) wishing to continue receiving the mailed copy, must opt-in with a \$30 annual fee to cover the cost of postage and printing.

Head of household Tribal Elders will continue to receive the mailed paper. Elders do not need to make any updates; it will continue to be mailed directly to you.

The Tribal Observer will be working with the IT Department in the near future to make the online Tribal Observer more user-friendly and visually appealing for its audience.

For those Members under 50 who wish to keep receiving the mailed Tribal Observer, please send a \$30 check

or money order to: Tribal Observer 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. We unfortunately cannot take credit card information at this time.

Please be aware, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, mailing your payment will be most convenient for you. In order to enter the Black Elk Building, you must schedule an appointment and have your temperature checked before entering the building, in an effort to keep the community's health and safety in mind.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. This is in effect to help save costs for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, due to departmental budget reductions and trying times COVID-19 has brought upon us all.

PRESORTED STANDARD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
GREENSBORO, MI  
PERMIT # 338





## Alexis Doris Mae Pelcher

Oct. 6, 1965 – Sept. 6, 2020

Alexis Doris Mae Pelcher, age 54, of Mount Pleasant passed away Sunday, Sept. 6, 2020.

Alexis was born on Oct. 6, 1965, in Mt. Pleasant, the daughter of Clinton Jr. and Anita (Altman) Pelcher. Alexis was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. She graduated from Mt. Pleasant High School in the class of 1983.

Alexis was an avid fan of Harley-Davidson. She enjoyed garage sales and going to craft shows. She loved spending time with her family and hanging out with her grandchildren.

Alexis is survived by her daughter, Miranda Pelcher-Miley of Mt. Pleasant; Miranda's father, Joe Miley; grandchildren, Aubrey Skye Pelcher-Bonstelle, Melva Jolene Pelcher, and one granddaughter on the way; father, Clinton (Honi) Pelcher Jr.; brothers, Raymond (Teri) Pelcher, Warren Pelcher, and Clinton (Herminia) Pelcher III; sisters, Krystal Pelcher, Sheridan (Keg Gregg) Pelcher, Valerie Pelcher-Moore, Cinda Pelcher, Rane (Ricky) Compo, Theresa (Billy Marshall) Pelcher, and Christina (John Meshiguad) Pelcher; special friends, Marci Heronemus and Miranda Shenoskey; and special cousin Randy Altman and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and greats.

Alexis was preceded in death by her mother, Anita Pelcher; nephews, Joshua Pelcher, Brandon Pelcher, and Eli Sprague; and niece, Aydril Holt.

An outdoor funeral service was held at Clark Family Funeral Chapel at 2 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 11, 2020, with George Pamp officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



## Martin Peter Francis

Jan. 10, 1963 – Aug. 26, 2020

Martin Peter Francis, age 57, of Mount Pleasant, passed away Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2020, at Laurels of Mt. Pleasant.

Martin was born Jan. 10, 1963, in Mt. Pleasant, the son of Simon and Shirley (Cooper) Francis. He was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Martin loved spending time with his grandkids, playing pool, and going to concerts.

Martin is survived by his daughter Sadee Francis (Brandon Wagner) of Grand Rapids; son Levi Francis of Mt. Pleasant; mother Shirley M. Francis of Grand Rapids; grandchildren Brandon "Nuggs" Clark, Francis Wagner, Tyler Andrew Wagner, Amelia Marie Wagner, Kiwadin Espinoza, and Amara Espinoza; brothers George (Marianne) Francis of Waldron, Ross Francis and Maury Francis, both of Lansing; sisters Rachel Francis, LeAna Sams, Nina Francis, and Reba Navejar, all of Mt. Pleasant; and many nieces and nephews.

Martin was preceded in death by his father Simon Francis; daughter Maria Francis Espinoza; sister-in-law Winona Francis; and niece Michaela Jackson.

The family received friends during a public visitation on Monday, Aug. 31, 2020 at Clark Family Funeral Chapel, with a rosary being prayed on, on Monday evening.

Due to the ongoing executive order for indoor gatherings, a private funeral service took place on Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2020 at 2 p.m. at Clark Family Funeral Chapel with Steve Pego officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



## Richard "Rich" Camburn

Nov. 6, 1968 – Aug. 29, 2020

Richard "Rich" Allen Camburn, age 51, passed away on Aug. 29, 2020 on northbound US-31 doing what he loved, riding his Harley.

Rich was born Nov. 6, 1968 in Grand Haven to Jean Ann Collins and Clare Evan Camburn II.

Rich married his wife, Cassandra Carol Camburn on Sept. 22, 1990 and they had four children who grew up in Blue Lake Township, Mich.

Rich had worked at Camburn's Bakery for 10 years, then transitioned to be a drywaller by trade.

He was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

He was known for his green thumb, his essential oils, his quick-witted humor, and his hair.

Rich is survived by his children, Richard Allen (Brittany Marie) Camburn Jr., of Chesapeake Va.; Zachary David (Jessica Lauren) Camburn, of Loveland, Ohio; Ariel Cassandra (Mason Tyler Maloy) Camburn, of Cocoa, Fla.; Alexa Jae (James Richard Ramsey) Camburn, of Twin Lake, Mich.; nine grandchildren, Hailey Ann Camburn, Gabriella Reese Camburn, Siena Pamela Camburn, James Richard Ramsey III, Solomon Fox Maloy, Henry Allen Camburn, Elliott Lane Ramsey, Milo Ezra Maloy, and Minerva Sable Maloy.

Rich was preceded in death by his parents: Jean Ann Lang and Clare Evan Camburn II.

According to his wishes, cremation has taken place and a Celebration of Life Gathering was held at his home on Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2020.



## Matthew James "Chew" Jackson Sr.

Sept. 13, 1982 – Sept. 19, 2020

Matthew "Chew" James Jackson Sr., age 38, of Mount Pleasant passed away Saturday, Sept. 19, 2020, at the Mid Michigan Medical Center in Midland.

Matt was born on Sept. 13, 1982, in Mt. Pleasant, the son of Delmar and Mary (Quezada) Jackson. He was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Matt was an avid gamer and collector; collecting Marvel comics, legos, and video game memorabilia. Matt enjoyed reading and his favorite author was J. R. R. Tolkien.

Matt loved the time he spent canoeing through the Everglades, with his brother Samuel. He was known for his choice of style, often making him run late.

He loved his children and they were always the most important things to him. He was a jokester and will be remembered for his great sense of wit and humor.

Matt is survived by his children, Makayla M. Jackson and Matthew J. Jackson Jr.; parents, Delmar Jr. and Mary Jackson; siblings, Lilith Mejia, Samuel J. Jackson, and Cecilia M. (Chase) Stevens; nieces and nephews, Tony L. Mejia Jr., Arionna (Noah) Crispin, Sedona (Cole Cummings) Mejia, Jonna Sage Mejia, Lucas J. Jackson, Thomas Henry, Kyla Henry, Hunter Stevens, Emma Henry, and Gunner Stevens; great-nephew, Malcolm Cummings; grandparents, Delmar Sr., and Julia Jackson; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Matt was preceded in death by his grandparents, Karen R. Britton, and Leo and Enedina Quezada; uncle, Simon J. Jackson II; nephew, Kyle Anthony; and cousin, Justin Bennett.

An outdoor funeral service was held at Clark Family Funeral Chapel at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 24, 2020. Graveside services followed in Woodland Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.



## Tribal Loan Reminder

from the Tribal Clerk's Office

To avoid delays in the processing of your Tribal Loan, you must first complete your 2021 Annual Report.

The 2021 Annual Report is now available online (sagchip.org) from the Tribal Clerk's Office, under the frequently requested forms tab.

Also, please remember to include copies of two IDs, with one of them being your Tribal ID.



## Attention Community Members

### Volunteers Needed

To help secure the MIIBS site by camping  
Every weekend in October

For more information, please contact:  
Tera Green  
• Phone: 989.775.4750 • Email: TeGreen@sagchip.org



## Well & Septic PROGRAM

Free to Tribal Members who reside within the IHS service area: Isabella, Clare, Midland, Arenac Missaukee counties

If you are experiencing problems with your well or septic, please contact the Planning Department.

\*You must own your home.

To make an appointment: Please call the Planning Department at (989) 775-4014.

## Tribal Court Business Hours

Mandatory masks, health questionnaire and temperature scan will be taken at the door and all requirements must be met/passed before admittance into the Tribal Court Facility. Entry by appointment only.

### Tribal Court Clerk front window

Please call 989.775.4800 to schedule an appointment with the Tribal Court Clerks.

- **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday:** 8 a.m. - 12 p.m., 1 - 4:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday:** 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., 1 - 4:30 p.m. (closed from 8 a.m. - 9 a.m. for staff meeting)
- **Friday:** 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

### Probation

Please call 989.775.4827 989.775.4844 to schedule an appointment with probation

- **Monday - Friday:** 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### Healing to Wellness

Please call 989.775.5894 989.775.5811 or 989.775.4793 to schedule an appointment with Healing to Wellness.

- **Monday - Friday:** 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## Tribal Operations entry is currently by Appointment Only

Tribal Operations buildings are still on "lock down" mode, anyone coming in must make an appointment.

### If making an appointment, you must:

- **Wear a mask** or be given one by the department they have an appointment with
- **Prescreen question:** You will be asking if you have a cough or shortness of breath. If the answer is "yes," you will have to reschedule at a later date.
- **Temperature check:** Community members will be met at the door by a Tribal employee.
  - **Temperature of 100.4 or below:** you may enter.
  - **100.4 or above:** you must reschedule and cannot enter the building.

## Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort construction update

Work continues on Phase One of the hotel renovation with rooms having wall finishes installed and the new headboards and TV enclosures being installed. Bathrooms are being completed with new tile and shower enclosures.

The hotel lobby is scheduled to open in October with the new rooms coming on line in December.

Work in Phase Two is still focused primarily on the first floor area with new plumbing being installed and other ceiling related work. Fencing is being installed by the hotel employee entrance for the new construction elevator and dumpsters that will be needed once room demolition begins next week.





## Tribal Council Regular Session Meetings

The Regular Tribal Council Sessions occur at 9 a.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the Council Chambers in the Black Elk Government Complex, in accordance to the Tribal Constitution.

Meetings are open to Tribal Members.

Administration will announce ahead of time if meeting date or time changes for possible weather or emergencies. However, it is rare the times change.

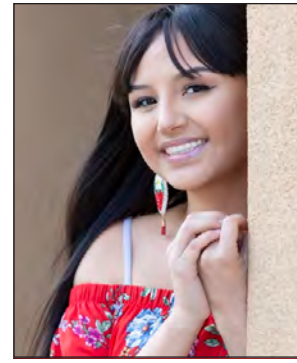
Administration's administrative assistant III compiles and prepares the agenda.

Approximately two weeks prior to the meeting, an email is sent to Tribal Operations employees to remind them of the meeting and request any submissions for the agenda.

Any SCIT Tribal Member or other individual/department must submit a written request if they wish to be placed on the Regular Council Session agenda. Anyone wanting to be added can call (989) 775-4003.

### Regular Council Session Dates

- Oct. 6 • Nov. 3 • Dec. 1



*Happy 19<sup>th</sup> Birthday Mattea! Momma loves you!*



**Happy 22<sup>nd</sup> Birthday Margie!**  
*Momma loves you!*



*Happy Belated 19<sup>th</sup> Birthday Tony!*  
*Momma Loves ya!*



**Happy 22<sup>nd</sup> Birthday honey!**  
*Love your family! October 11th!*



*Happy 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Hubby!*  
*Love you!*



## MIIBS Survey

Your input is being sought. Decisions need to be made about the use of the buildings associated with the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School (MIIBS) near Pickard Road. Your views are critical so that these decisions reflect the wishes and needs of community members.

All responses are anonymous. An edited summary of findings, with no information that could identify you, will be shared with the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council and Isabella County community.

**Please take a moment to complete the survey by following the link below:**

[https://cmich.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_6Pecx5eEk2OWcQt](https://cmich.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6Pecx5eEk2OWcQt)

## Black Elk Building Drop Box



Courtesy of Michelle Colwell

A Black Elk Building drop box has been installed and is located at the main entrance (HR entrance.) The drop box is for the 24-hour convenience of the Membership and community to correspond with any governmental department/program.

The drop box is to utilize immediately. The mailroom staff will be checking it twice daily at approximately 8:30 a.m. before their rounds and 3:30 p.m.

The Membership should utilize envelopes to protect their privacy and address the envelopes appropriately to alleviate any confusion or undirected mail.

## ATTENTION

**When choosing an online school for the completion of your High School Diploma, GED (General Educational Development) or Equivalent, the online School **\*\*MUST BE ACCEPTED & ACCREDITED BY YOUR STATES BOARD OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT\*\*****

Please check with your Department of Education to ensure that all your hard work will result in you meeting the Tribe's Educational Requirement.

**For more information, please contact:**  
The Tribal Clerk's Office at 989.775.4051

## Annual hydrant flushing

**Attention Tribal Community homeowners:**

**The Water Plant maintenance staff will be flushing hydrants Oct. 5-9.** Please refrain from washing white and light-colored clothing during business hours, as the flushing of hydrants will disturb any water main sediments and will stain clothing items. We will do our best to complete this process as quickly as possible. Your patience and understanding during this annual occurrence is very much appreciated.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Utilities Department at (989) 775-5141.

## Notice: Tribal Members residing within Tribal Trust Land

The Tribal Fire Department offers, to Tribal Members, the opportunity to request pool fills by the utilization of Fire Department apparatus and equipment. The request must be a Tribal Member that resides within the Tribal Trust Land of the Fire Department jurisdiction. Once the request is made, the requester will be instructed to complete the necessary application process and payment for such services.

All payments will be submitted to the Tribe's Accounting Department where a receipt will be generated and must accompany the application. All requests for pool fills will be scheduled and will be based on availability of that piece of Apparatus and Equipment.

The Fire Department will not be responsible for any damage caused by the pool fill request and is not responsible for any damage that caused due to the Apparatus driving on the lawn; this is the responsibility of the Tribal Member.



The following rate applies to the Apparatus that will be used for this request and does not reflect the cost of any additional equipment that may be needed for each request.

**Water Tender (Tender 1) - \$85 per hour from the time the resource begins with travel to the request and ends at the estimated time of return.**

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe | Community Engineer Donald L. Seal, Planning Department

## Order Establishing Small Game Season 2020

Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 106 subdivision 3 the 2020 Small Game Season shall begin Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2020, and will close on Wednesday, March 31, 2021, unless ordered otherwise.

The 2020 Small Game Season will allow for the bag limit as listed:

- Pheasants shall be limited to male pheasants ONLY with a limit of five per day.
- Badger, beaver, muskrat, mink, pine marten, fisher and otter are ALL CLOSED to small game hunting.
- Badger, beaver, muskrat, mink and otter will be OPEN for TRAPPING season. Bag limits per Trapping Season Order.
- Bobcat is limited to two tags only whether hunting, trapping or a combination of seasons.

Small game species are defined in Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 103 subdivision 66.

Licenses will be available starting Sept. 14, 2020 at the Tribal Planning Department office.

Animal harvest must be reported within 72 hours of take by phone, email or online.

- "Other Indians" may not hunt on Tribal Trust or Tribal owned Fee Land.
- Other Indians as defined in Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 104 subdivision 52.
- Please Refer to the Ordinance 11 on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe website for rules and regulations.





## Tribal Council

### Chief

**Tim J. Davis** | District One

### Sub-Chief

**Joe Kequom** | District Three

### Treasurer

**Maia Spotted Tail** | District One

### Secretary

**Jennifer L. Wassegijig** | District One

### Sergeant-at-Arms

**Martha Wemigwans** | District One

### Chaplain

**Alice Jo Ricketts** | District One

### Council Member

**Ronald F. Ekdahl** | District One

### Council Member

**Theresa Jackson** | District One

### Council Member

**Chip Neyome** | District One

### Council Member

**Carmen Otto** | District One

### Council Member

**Gayle Ruhl** | District One

### Council Member

**Ron Nelson** | District Two

## The Clothesline Project



### For Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October

The Clothesline Project originated in Massachusetts in 1990 to address the issue of violence against women. The Clothesline is made up of T-shirts created by survivors or in honor of someone who has experienced incest, domestic violence or sexual assault. It is a vehicle for those affected to express their emotions and promote awareness.

- ▶ The Clothesline will be displayed throughout the month of October.
- ▶ Shirts and materials to decorate are available to the community, free of charge.
- ▶ Please contact Behavioral Health Programs at 989-775-4850 to arrange to pick up your T-shirt and materials.



## PROPER FACE MASK IS REQUIRED

(If you don't have your own, one will be provided for you)



PROPER FACE MASK



MASK MUST COVER MOUTH & NOSE



PLAY ON  
PLAY SAFE



Beginning Monday, Sept. 14, we will no longer allow our guests to wear some kinds of masks which have been found to be less effective in preventing the transmission of COVID-19. The restricted mask types are bandanas, masks with valves, and neck gaiters. We are making this change in conjunction with other casinos in Michigan and recently updated CDC recommendations for face masks.

**David Charles**  
Chief Operations Officer



## The Seven Grandfather TEACHINGS

### Nbookaawin – Wisdom

To live with wisdom is to acquire and use experiences as guides for making equitable and mature decisions.

### Zaagidowin – Love

To live our lives with love is to understand our capacity to realize, empathize, and nurture the needs of others.

### Minaadendamooing – Respect

To live with respect is to give mutual consideration for shared and differing ideas as well as for the world around us.

### Zoongide'ewin – Bravery

To be brave and have courage is to recognize our moral and mental strength and to do what is appropriate.

### Gwekwadiziwin – Honesty

To be honest is to recognize that we have the ability to live our lives with honor and integrity.

### Dibaadendiziwin – Humility

To live with humility is to recognize that we are all equal, we all make mistakes, we all like to have our success rewarded and to put others before ourselves.

### Debwewin – Truth

To live in truth is to recognize the difference between right and wrong and to be faithful to ourselves as well as the world around us even when the right way is not the easiest way.

## Conservation Committee Seats

The Planning Department is soliciting letters of interests for adult Tribal Members interested in serving on the Saginaw Chippewa Conservation Committee (SCCC) for a Tribal Council appointed two-year term beginning Nov. 15, 2020. Per Ordinance 11, section 102, subdivision 2 and the approved Ordinance 11 Committee By-Laws.

**Please submit a letter of interest along with your qualification and experience to:**

Donald Seal  
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan  
Planning Department  
7070 E. Broadway Rd.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858  
dseal@sagchip.org

**All letters of interests must be received no later than Friday, Oct. 23, 2020 at 3 p.m.**

## SECR Access Club and Box Office hour changes

**The Soaring Eagle Access Club's hours have changed from 24 hours per day to the following.**

### Sunday – Thursday

- Resort Access Club 8 a.m. to 2 a.m.
- Slot Palace Access Club 8 a.m. to 12 a.m.

### Friday & Saturday

- Resort Access Club 8 a.m. to 4 a.m.
- Slot Palace Access Club 8 a.m. to 12 a.m.

**Please keep in mind that the Box Office hours have changed as well. The Box Office hours are 12 to 8 p.m. seven days a week.**

## Tribal Observer

Boozhu! The Tribal Observer, a monthly newspaper, is published on the first of each month. To contact Tribal Observer staff, please call 989-775-4010 or email [observer@sagchip.org](mailto:observer@sagchip.org). To change your mailing address, please contact the Tribal Clerk's office at 989-775-4055. Community advertisements will not be accepted over the phone.



**Submissions from the Tribal community are encouraged and can be sent to:**

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe  
c/o Tribal Observer  
7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Subscription rates are \$30 per year.

Story ideas, articles and photographs from the community are always welcome. The Tribal Observer reserves the right to edit and/or refuse any submissions or advertisements for publication. The Tribal Observer is published by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and is subject to an editorial review process.

*The views expressed within the Tribal Observer do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tribal Observer, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council, Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort or its employees or any other enterprise of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. The Tribal Observer works to uphold the highest integrity in news reporting and supports the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968.*

## Tribal Observer Advertising

If you would like to place an advertisement, please contact the Tribal Observer at 989-775-4010 for more information.

**Announcements** - Including birthday, wedding, engagement, congratulations, etc., costs \$10 and is open to Tribal Members, community members and employees. Double-sized announcements are \$20.

**Political ads** - All political ads will be 1/4 page and have a red border stating as such. The cost is \$500. Political ads may include, but are not limited to, any opinion or advertisement that is political in nature and/or any Letter to the Editor that does not conform to guidelines.

## Tribal Observer Subscription Form

Please send \$30 for the annual subscription. Checks may be made out to SCIT.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail form to:**  
Tribal Observer  
7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

### Contact Information:

Phone: 989-775-4010  
Email: [Observer@Sagchip.org](mailto:Observer@Sagchip.org)  
[www.Sagchip.org/TribalObserver](http://www.Sagchip.org/TribalObserver)





## Sixteen hours of Administrative Leave granted to the essential Tribal Government employees that worked throughout closure

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

Last month, the Tribal Observer reported that Tribal Council approved pay for essential government employees for a portion of the time worked during the Tribal Operations closure.

In addition, on Sept. 10, Tribal Administrator Dustin Davis announced in an email to Tribal

Operations directors that Tribal Council passed a motion to offer 16 hours of Administrative Leave for those essential employees.

The motion, passed during a special Wednesday, Sept. 9 Tribal Council meeting, was made by Gayle Ruhl, and supported by Carmen Otto, to approve the 16 hours for all exempt essential government employees (excluding Tribal Council members) who worked during the periods of April 6, 2020 to June 7, 2020.

“Recognition helps employees see their value in the organization; it assists in their contributions to the success of their program and our organization overall,” Davis said in the email. “I appreciate the partnerships that we have formed within our organization and know how effective we can be to support each other during challenging times.”

The granted Administrative Leave is to be used by Dec. 31, 2020.

## Tribe’s, Migizi EDC.’s operations of Eagle Bay Marina come to an end

**PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPT.**

Upon advice and direction from the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribal Council and the Migizi Economic Development Company Board of Directors, operations of the Eagle Bay Marina located in Standish, Mich. have ended.

The decision to stop the commercial operation of Eagle Bay and transition the property over to the Tribe’s Planning Department for use in a more environmentally-friendly way was made after significant consideration and debate. Discussion is currently taking place regarding the best use for the facility.

The re-tasking of this business is in keeping with long-standing tradition of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe to return land to its natural state and act in an environmentally responsible manner.

While Tribal leadership looks forward to the future of Eagle Bay Marina property, they would like to sincerely thank the loyal customers and staff who have contributed to the unique experience provided by the marina.

Many commercial marinas are large and impersonal; Eagle Bay Marina provided dedicated customer service that made even the newest customer feel like family. The staff of Eagle Bay Marina provided years of dedicated service and will be greatly missed.

Eagle Bay Marina acts as a launch point for emergency and rescue craft to the Saginaw Bay, and current plans include continued operation of the boat launch area.



Observer photo

**Migizi EDC.’s operations of the Eagle Bay Marina in Standish, Mich. come to an end.**

Please watch for further details as the department transition of the marina is completed and its future announced.

Please contact Frank Cloutier, public relations director, at 989-775-4076 or at [fcloutier@sagchip.org](mailto:fcloutier@sagchip.org) for further information on the announcement.



Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School

### Committee Vacancies

Would you like to be a voice for those who can no longer speak for themselves? Now is your chance!

#### Committee Meetings

10 - 11 a.m. | Ziibiwing Center

Meetings are held once a month, on a Wednesday



#### Send Letters of Interest to:

**Marcella Hadden**

Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

**Email:**  
MIHadden@sagchip.org

**Mail:**  
**MIIBS Committee**  
c/o Marcella Hadden  
6650 E Broadway Rd  
Mt Pleasant, MI 48858

The MIIBS Committee is dedicated to SCIT’s efforts to transform, preserve, and finance the development of the Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School to become a place for healing, education, wellness, and empowerment at a local, national, and global level.

#### Interested committee members need to:

- Meet every other week on Wednesdays at 10 a.m.
- Implement strategic plan and vision of Tribal Council.
- Ensure properties are managed safely and effectively.
- Share information with community and partners on project.

## Tribal Child Welfare Affidavits

**Tribal Child Welfare Affidavits will be mailed out & made available on Sept. 28, 2020 and DUE by 5 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 30, 2020.**

**Tribal Clerk’s Office is open by appointment only:**

- Monday – Thursday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Closed on Fridays except for deadline date

**\*\*Notarization of Clerk’s Forms is NOT required at this time\*\***

#### Forms are available:

By mail, email and online at [www.sagchip.org](http://www.sagchip.org)

Post marked forms, email or faxed will not be accepted

**For more information, please contact:** The Tribal Clerk’s Office at 989.775.4051

## 2021 ANNUAL REPORTS are now being accepted

**Deadline: May 4, 2021 by 5 p.m.**

**Tribal Clerk’s Office is open by appointment only:**

- ▶ Monday – Thursday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- ▶ Closed on Fridays except for deadline date

**\*Notarization of Clerk’s Forms is NOT required at this time\***

- Forms are available by mail, email and online at [www.sagchip.org](http://www.sagchip.org)
- Post marked forms, email or faxed will not be accepted

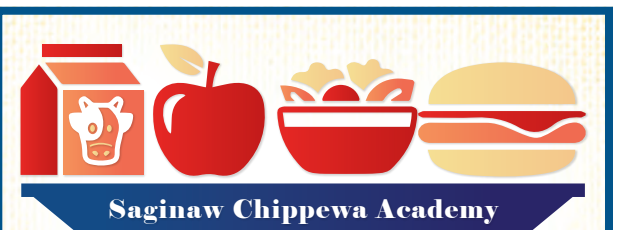
**For more information, please contact:** The Tribal Clerk’s Office at 989.775.4051

## Per Capita services are available by:

- **Phone or appointment:** call (989) 775-4040
- **Fax:** (989) 775-4075
- **Email:** [percapita@sagchip.org](mailto:percapita@sagchip.org) (please include an approved email when filing your Annual Report)
- **Mail:** Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe  
Attn: Per Capita Department  
7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
- **Hotline:** (989) 775-4037 (to keep up to date on announcements)

**Per Capita Forms can be found at:** [www.sagchip.org](http://www.sagchip.org)

Click on Government\Per Capita Department\Frequently Requested Forms links.



## FREE Breakfast & Lunch

▶ To all ages 0-18 (Also any student receiving special education services up to age 26)

▶ Available any school calendar day through December 2020!

▶ Breakfast and lunch are available for all hybrid and at-home students.

▶ Families can opt-in for delivery services by completing the form located online at: <https://forms.gle/s8Ak9RNUmrFXoJsAA>



## Business Regulations Hours

**Business Regulations is open from: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday to Friday**

**By appointment only. Contact staff at:**

- **Melissa Owl**  
989-775-4175 | [mowl@sagchip.org](mailto:mowl@sagchip.org)
- **Chris Sineway**  
989-775-4105 | [cgsineway@sagchip.org](mailto:cdsineway@sagchip.org)
- **Rosanna Keshick**  
989-775-4109 | [rkeshick@sagchip.org](mailto:rkeshick@sagchip.org)





## Central Michigan University athletes donate school supplies to SCA

**ERIK RODRIGUEZ**

Public Relations Manager

On Tuesday, Aug. 25 a group of student athletes from Central Michigan University graciously dropped off school supplies for K through 5th grade students at the Saginaw Chippewa Academy.

The donations were received by members of the Tribal Education Department.

During the pandemic, the CMU lacrosse team were brainstorming ideas of how they could give back to their local community. They have spent a lot of time with the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Community and thought, amidst this



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Central Michigan University lacrosse team athletes donate school supplies to the Saginaw Chippewa Academy and Tribal Education Department on Tuesday, Aug. 25 at 9 a.m.**

pandemic, it would be great to collect school supply items and donate them to assist in the return to school.

“We have been gathering supplies all summer, and with having the unique opportunity with getting a fifth year and

another opportunity to play, we wanted to find a way to give back,” said senior Kylee Fraizer.

CMU women’s lacrosse has continued to support Tribal youth with clinics and by volunteering their time in working with the SCIT Afterschool Program that is run by the Recreation Department. There is a mutual respect and understanding of the “Creators Game” and they continually highlight the significant of that.

“This donation means that they are absorbing this culture all the way and this is just a small way to impact a great community and family members in a very positive way,” said Sara Tisdale, head coach of CMU Lacrosse.

The CMU Chippewas continually look to find other ways to incorporate the Native American culture tied to this game into their program in a respectful and appropriate manner.

“One of the reasons I chose to come to Central was partially because of this unique opportunity and partnership with the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe,” said senior Brianna Hart. “It is so important to know that you are playing for other people than just your team, your family, and something more than yourself. It is for that unique bond with those community members that appreciate us, and we appreciate them more than they could know.”

## Parents can create new Halloween traditions during pandemic

**BALL STATE UNIVERSITY**

MUNCIE, Indiana – If communities follow new guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for Halloween, families should consider creating new traditions that do not involve trick-or-treating, parties, and get-togethers, said Jill Walls, an associate professor of Early Childhood, Youth, and Family Studies at Ball State University.

On Monday, the CDC posted guidance for the holidays, including Halloween. The federal agency warns people to avoid higher risk activities, including door-to-door trick-or-treating; attending crowded, indoor costume parties; visiting indoor haunted houses; or going on hayrides or tractor rides with strangers.

“The most important part of any holiday is spending quality time together and making memories,” Walls said. “COVID-19 has created a lot of uncertainty for families, but I think it’s possible to still have fun this Halloween season while staying safe. Parents should take time to prepare their children for some new traditions and provide reassurance about the other upcoming holidays, including Thanksgiving and Christmas.”

Walls suggests that families watch an age-appropriate, Halloween-themed movie together, make a Halloween craft, play board games, bake holiday-themed food, or have story time where someone reads a Halloween or fall-themed book aloud.

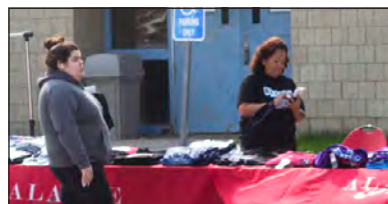
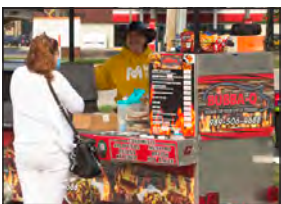
It also might be fun to “visit” friends in costume via Zoom or other online video platforms, Walls said.

And, for the little ones that just enjoy the costumes and treats, parents could set up candy bowls in various rooms of their home and have children trick-or-treat around the house or apartment.

If your community allows Halloween activities to go on in neighborhoods, Walls encourages residents to place wrapped candy outside their homes in open bowls, instead of handing it out.

“I think about many hands reaching inside those bowls, which is not necessarily sanitary. Costumes with masks and gloves might be the best way to go this year!”

## Recreation Department holds one-day event to support local vendors



Observer photos by Matthew Wright

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

Local vendors were displayed throughout the Tribal Gym parking lot on Sept. 16 as part of the Recreation Department’s Vendor’s Row event.

The event, held from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., held Bubba-Q by Darcy Baldwin, Anishinaabe sportswear by Charmaine Shawana, “Aalarue” by Sheila Leareaux, Tina’s Frybread by Christina Sharp and New Winds by Michelle Otto.

According to Kyle Shomin, youth and family recreation specialist of the Recreation

Department, the event idea came about in an effort to help local vendors while no powwows were held this year.

“The name ‘vendor’s row’ comes from the motocross community,” Shomin said. “At a typical weekend race, they line all their vendors up next to the race track and call it ‘vendor’s row.’”

Proper COVID-19 safety guidelines were required including social distancing and wearing face masks.

The Tuesday event offered to-go food orders only and saw a respectable turnout.



### October Month of Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness

#### Office and Porch Decorating Challenge Oct. 1-9

- Deck out your Tribal Ops/SECR/Saganing office or your porch in purple for Domestic Violence Awareness
- Send photos of your decorated office/porch to [Prevention@sagchip.org](mailto:Prevention@sagchip.org)
- 1st and 2nd place prizes for best offices and best porches
- Purple lightbulbs and yard signs will be available for pick-up more details to come!

#### Domestic Violence Awareness Walk Completed throughout the month of October

- Sign-up for the walk on Eventbrite to receive a free T-shirt.
- You can choose the length of your walk and when you complete it, so please enjoy at your own pace! There will be signs and sidewalk markers directing participants
- T-shirt pick-up will be at the Farmer’s Market Pavilion from Oct. 6-8 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. for those who registered
- Take a photo of yourself completing the walk and email to [Prevention@sagchip.org](mailto:Prevention@sagchip.org)
- Participants who send their photos by Oct. 23 will be entered into a prize drawing.
- All prizes will be drawn on Oct. 26 at 5 p.m.

#### United Families Art Contest Oct. 1-14

- Artists can submit their creations of the theme “United Families”
- Artwork can include, but not limited to, paintings, beadings, drawings, crafts, sculptures, etc.
- Participants are encouraged to take a picture of their artwork and send to [Prevention@sagchip.org](mailto:Prevention@sagchip.org)
- **Prize Categories are as follows:**
  - Ages 12 and under (1st and 2nd winners)
  - Ages 13-17 (1st and 2nd winners)
  - Ages 18 and up (1st and 2nd winners)

**For more information, please contact:** Behavioral Health at [Prevention@sagchip.org](mailto:Prevention@sagchip.org)





## Bonnie Sprague honored by Native business organization

### FREDRICK KUHLMAN

Marketing Manager  
Migizi EDC

The American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association has named Tribal Member, Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel General Manager Bonnie Sprague as its Industry Professional of the Year.

Sprague was selected for this honor by AIANTA based on her outstanding leadership, accomplishments, and contributions to Native American tourism.

The Mission of AIANTA, based in Albuquerque, N.M., is to define, introduce, grow and sustain American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian tourism that honors traditions and values.

Each year the organization chooses the professional who they feel has displayed

exceptional service in advancing the awareness of Native American and Native Alaskan businesses.

“Bonnie has been a true example of an outstanding leader who possesses the correct attributes and executes every day,” said Migizi CEO Robert Juckniess. “This award is an indication of her value to Migizi Economic Development Company and the entire Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. We all congratulate Bonnie on her success.”

This award quickly follows the Mount Pleasant Chamber of Commerce, selecting Sprague as the Mt. Pleasant Citizen of the Year in February.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this year’s American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association conference was held virtually during the week of Sept. 14,

with Sprague receiving her award on Sept. 18.

When notified of this honor, Sprague responded, “I am pleased, honored, and humbled to accept the 2020 AIANTA Industry Professional of the year. We are blessed to have this diverse and excellent organization that provides Tribes with quality tourism experiences across the country. A very special thanks to AIANTA for selecting me and an enormous salute to all of this year’s nominees who made incredible contributions to tribal tourism and our tribal communities.”

Bonnie Sprague has served the Tribe for more than three decades, first in gaming, and currently as the general manager of Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel. She has led the waterpark team since opening and continues to chart the path forward for one of Michigan’s most visited waterparks.



Courtesy of Fredrick Kuhlman

**Bonnie Sprague, general manager of the Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel, is honored with the American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association’s Industry Professional of the Year.**

Team members at the waterpark and throughout Migizi turn to her for guidance, leadership and support.

All team members throughout Migizi Economic Development and the

waterpark offer the sincerest of congratulations to Bonnie Sprague on this outstanding achievement and her contribution to the advancement of Native American businesses and concerns.

## MSU Extension offering Adulting 101 for high school students this fall

### MSU EXTENSION

Back by popular demand, MSU Extension is offering Adulting 101 again this fall. These engaging educational programs are designed for high school students

to help demystify the obscure reality of being an “adult.”

Each class is packed full of important life skills and tools necessary to live independently.

The Adulting 101 fall series will run on Oct. 12, 19, and 26 with topics including

Interviewing for Success, Household Tasks and Developing a Spending Plan.

Classes are held online via Zoom starting at 4 p.m. EST and last approximately one hour.

Youth must register to receive the zoom link. Register online

at: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/Adult101Fall/>.

Each quarter, MSU Extension will be offering a series of Adulting 101 classes for youth. Future topics include: Credit versus Debit, Informed Renter, Youth Voice, Public Speaking,

Conflict Resolution, Student Loans, Understanding Investing and more.

If you are interested in learning more about Adulting 101, please contact MSU Extension Educator Michelle Neff at [hydemich@msu.edu](mailto:hydemich@msu.edu).

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**OCTOBER 2020**

**ALL MONTH LONG**  
Crafts Raffle Drawings  
Pumpkin Painting Movies

**CLUE 8<sup>TH</sup>-11<sup>TH</sup>**  
The Mysterious Disappearance of Colonel Mustard

**MUMMIES OF MID-MICHIGAN 15<sup>TH</sup>-18<sup>TH</sup>**  
Translate the Ancient Tablet!  
Wrap a Mummy Jonathan Rand

**SOARING EAGLE SCHOOL OF MAGIC 22<sup>ND</sup>-25<sup>TH</sup>**  
Potion Making Baffling Bill the Magician

**HAUNTED HOTEL 1<sup>ST</sup>-4<sup>TH</sup>**  
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Special Halloween Characters Appearances

**THIS IS HALLOWEEN 29<sup>TH</sup>-31<sup>ST</sup>**  
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Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel

Soaring Eagle PROPERTIES





## Editorial: Annual Freedom Walk held virtually this year

**SHUNA STEVENS**

Prevention Coordinator,  
Behavioral Health

The Virtual Freedom Walk 2020 was different this year, but had some familiar qualities as we moved forward with the new normal of social distancing.

Launching Friday, Aug. 28 on the sagchip.org website, the Virtual Freedom Walk was still able to give the iconic Freedom Walk T-shirts out to the community, and instead of the standard protocol of an in-person welcoming ceremony, breakfast, speakers, walk, and give-aways, speeches were pre-recorded.

We pre-recorded Chief Tim J. Davis providing his opening remarks, Tribal Chaplain Alice Jo Ricketts giving a blessing and Council member Carmen Otto sharing her words of hope.

Tribal Elder and Freedom Walk emcee Joseph Sowmick kicked us off in the right way via the pre-recorded message, and of course, our courageous community member speakers, Kelly Lancaster and Anna Winters, shared their stories of sobriety and hope.

This was followed by community members sharing their photos and/or videos of their walk and support of sobriety via the Behavioral Health website

and social media accounts.

“The Virtual Freedom Walk 2020 effort came together seamlessly and was truly an effort that exemplified recovery in our community,” Sowmick said. “Having Tribal Chief Tim Davis there and Tribal Chaplain Alice Jo Ricketts to give a blessing provided a continuity to the speakers that were present. In a time of uncertainty with COVID-19 moving through communities across Indian Country, the spirit of Freedom Walk was again a shining light that came piercing through the darkness. Tribal families, community members and employees came together where they were and all supporting this signature event in a good way (mino bimaadiziwin).”

This event helps show support for those who are choosing to be and stay sober.

We hope this opportunity provided some continuity for a time when things are so uncertain. Until we can gather safely again together, this virtual message of hope and love can resonate further because participants were able to participate in the walk on their own time and wherever they happened to be all across Indian Country.

Behavioral Health Prevention would like to say chi-miigwech to the Tribal



Courtesy photos

The 2020 Virtual Freedom Walk was launched on Friday, Aug. 28 with the community completing on their own time. Once completed, participants emailed their photos to Behavioral Health Programs.

Council who has supported this event year after year, and to the community who continues to show dedication in seeking and supporting mino bimaadiziwin.

Tribal Council graciously supported the Virtual Freedom Walk by granting the use of one hour Administrative Leave for Tribal government

employees to use between Aug. 24-27, 2020.

Hope to see everyone in person next year for Freedom Walk 2021.

### Ziibiwing Center November Events

- **Virtual Spirit Feast: November 1-25**  
(Curbside pick up of Spirit Feast Plates & Sacred Medicines while supplies last)
- **Veterans Day: November 11** (Facebook Call-Out for “I Love My Veteran” Pictures)
- **Circle of Indigenous Arts Market:**
  - **Virtual Artist Business Training: November 5**
  - **Virtual Art Market: November 6 & 7**

### Honoring the Memegwesi (Little People)

#### Winter Offering Bundle for the Sanilac Petroglyphs

Memegwesi are known to protect Anishinabe children, sacred medicines and sacred places. Teachings about the memegwesi tell us they protect the people against sickness. In the spirit of reciprocity and respect, we give them a gift bundle to thank them for their important work.



#### Suggested gifts for the Memegwesi:

- Buffalo jerky & dried fish
- Maple sugar candy
- Little tools
- Small copper items
- Pennies
- Little clothing & hats
- Needles & thread
- Buckskin & fur scraps
- Dry corn & wild rice

A drop box for Little People gifts is located in front of the Ziibiwing Center

All items must be received by Thursday, October 22.

Megwech for your anticipated donations.

For more information contact:

Marcella Hadden at (989) 775-4751 mlhadden@sagchip.org



THPO

### 2020 EAGLE FEATHER



#### VIRTUAL CLEANSING & HONORING

October 7, 2020 • 11:00AM

WWW.SAGCHIP.ORG

#### LIVE DEMONSTRATION OF CLEANSING WITH EAGLE CLAN REPRESENTATIVES

Call 989.775.4750 to schedule curb side pick up of free cleansing kits while supply lasts.

**No Public Feast this year.**

William Johnson • 989.775.4730 • wjohnson@sagchip.org for questions

### HAND PRINT STONES

In conjunction with Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls (MMIWG) Exhibit

#### Collection Showing

November 14, 2020 - May 5, 2021

Free kit to students in grades K-12 while supplies last!

Call Ziibiwing at 989.775.4750 October 1 - 30, 2020 to arrange curbside pick-up for your kit.



Decorate your stone in the Medicine Wheel colors included with the kit.

Return the finished stone to Ziibiwing by November 5, 2020.

Your artwork will be on display thru May 5, 2021 as part of the MMIWG exhibit.

### VOICES that MATTER

Join us on Facebook Live @ODEcmich

#### “Back to Our Indigenous Roots” pt. 2

A dialogue on what it means to live as an indigenous person in the current climate and how Indigenous people are reinvesting in their traditional ways of life.

#### Panelist:

- Erik Torske (Aztec), CMU Student
- Ayebah Wilson (Navajo), CMU Student
- Cicilee Chivis (Ojibwe/Odawa), CMU Student
- Shannon Martin (Ojibwe/Potawatomi), Ziibiwing Center Director
- Dr. Adam Haviland (Anishinabe), Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College Faculty

Monday, October 12, 2020, 6:30pm (EDT)



“CMU, an AA/E/O institution, strongly and actively strives to increase diversity and provide equal opportunity for all individuals, irrespective of gender identity or sexual orientation and including but not limited to minorities, females, veterans and individuals with disabilities.” ODE@CMICH.EDU



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## Two new police dogs join the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police K-9 Unit

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

Two new police dogs have recently joined the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Department's K-9 Unit. Dutch Shepherds Sjevka (2) and Hit (3) are joining seasoned professional Esko, a 10-year-old German Shepherd.

Each K-9 comes from a different country and has learned commands in another language.

Sjevka, Sgt. Neil Schiefer's K-9 and partner, knows his working commands in Czech. "Sedni" is sit. "Lehni" is down, and "Zustan" is stay, for example.

Hit, Sgt. David Feger's K-9, knows his commands in German.

Esko, Officer Derek Williams' K-9, knows his commands in Polish.

Sjevka originally comes from the Czech Republic and Hit comes from Germany, but both dogs came to the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police from Northern Michigan K9 in Clare, Mich. where the K-9s were certified.

The K-9s receive basic obedience in the country they were born in. They start training them as young puppies and experiencing different environments to become a police dog. Northern Michigan K9 then receives the police dogs from overseas where they start 'imprinting' the dogs, meaning they get them familiarized with bomb searches or drug searches, according to Schiefer.

Due to COVID-19, Sjevka and Hit had extra training time.

"They were supposed to start (with the Tribal Police



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

(Left to right) Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Officer Derek Williams and seasoned veteran K-9 Esko, Sgt. David Feger and newcomer K-9 Hit, and Sgt. Neil Schiefer and newcomer K-9 Sjevka pose for a photo on Sept. 9 after practice bomb and drug searches in the former Tribal Operations building.

Department) in March but because of COVID, everything got pushed back to June," Schiefer said. "So, while they were (with Northern Michigan K9), they received more training than originally planned."

Sjevka, Sgt. Schiefer's dog, graduated at the end of June and officially began with the Tribal PD in late July, early August.

Sjevka is an "explosive certified dog," meaning he searches for bombs, and is also a patrol dog. Hit and Esko perform drug searches.

"Sjevka is also trained in suspect apprehension, article searches, tracking, building searches – meaning building searches for a 'bad guy' inside," Schiefer said. "He has around 15 different orders that he has to be able to find, and we are always adding more."

"He has a pretty big responsibility to keep the community safe," Schiefer said of his K-9 Sjevka.

What are the dogs' greatest rewards after the searches are complete? A ball – specifically Kong toys.

"Everything (Sjevka) does is for the ball," Schiefer said. "All these dogs have a very high ball drive. And whether they are working in tracking or building searches, they love that ball (at the end of the search)."

According to federal guidelines from the National Police Canine Association, a minimum of 16 hours of training per month is recommended,

dedicated to "regular canine maintenance training to ensure a high level of performance for both the handler and the canine" (leerburg.com).

Schiefer said the dogs go well above the required number of hours, especially when they are just starting out with the department.

"We have a lot of responsibilities and we have a lot to do with the K-9s," Schiefer said. "The more training we can get in, the better. Just like with anything we do. We sub scenarios for these dogs that are realistic."

In the former Tribal Council offices in the old Tribal Operations building, the K-9s practice their techniques.

Each leashed by their human police partner, the canines search the building. Each dog comes to a full sit and freezes when they find the bomb (Sjevka) or the drugs (Hit and Esko) they are in search of. Then, they receive the greatest rewards to them: the ball and a lot of praise.

Sgt. Schiefer, Sgt. Feger and Officer Williams led the Tribal Observer through K-9 training on Wednesday, Sept. 9 at 9 a.m. inside the former Tribal Operations building.

Sjevka was up first and found the placed "bomb" in an empty desk in an impressive amount of time.

Next, Hit and then veteran Esko both found two rounds of placed drugs which were compromised of meth, heroin and a chunk of crystal meth, provided to the police department by the DA's Office. The drugs were wrapped in a mason jar, which the dogs can pick up the scent through. The K-9s can also pick up scents through closed car trunks and glove compartments.

At 10 years old, German Shepherd Esko has served several years as police K-9.

"It's hard to say when he will retire, but it's close," Officer Williams said of Esko.

Why do police work with the Shepherd breeds?

"They're really a good all-around dog for police work," Schiefer said. "They have a really good nose, they are really loyal in the aspect of protection... they've been doing it



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Police K-9 Hit, a 3-year old Dutch Shepherd, finds the hidden drugs in a practice search in the empty former Tribal Operations offices.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Newcomer Sjevka, a 2-year-old Dutch Shepherd, began with the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police K-9 Unit in late July.

so long they've been bred for it. They have a long history of (working with police)."

There is a lot of additional equipment that comes with working with the K-9s.

With the push of a button from several feet away, the police vehicle's back door opens. The patrol cars carry first aid kits for the handlers as well as the K-9s. The officer's computer screen in the vehicle displays the back seat's temperature for the K-9. The vehicles also all have temperature alarms on them when the dogs have to be left inside the cruiser.

"If we have a hot, summer day (and the vehicle reaches a certain temperature), I will get an alarm on my vest. It will page me to my vest and the windows open down, the fan will go off, and the siren will go off," Schiefer said. "And the vehicle (also gives an alert) in the winter when it gets too cold. There is a hot temperature the vehicle cannot go above and a cold temperature that it can't go below."

In the grassy area across from the former Tribal Council entrance, Sgt. Schiefer placed a small article (a small knife, in this instance) for the K-9s to find, one at a time.

They knew they were searching for an article by the command they were given. Once they find the item, they identify it by freezing up or sitting still.

"This (item search) is for

an example if someone has thrown something out of a car, or someone is hiding an item, the K-9s will find it," Schiefer said. "This even comes in useful if officers lose their flashlight or keys, and the dogs will find those."

Sgt. Schiefer said the reason he became a police officer is to help people and make the community a safer place. Working with a K-9 is a major benefit.

"I always loved working with dogs growing up and loved watching my grandpa train dogs for rabbit hunting," Schiefer said. "This started my passion for working dogs. When the opportunity came to apply for the K-9 position, I knew I wanted to go for it. I have enjoyed my time since then and I know there is no better partner to have than a dog."

Schiefer said K-9s are an integral part of police work.

"From assisting in cases where suspects have fled, interacting with children at schools for K-9 demonstrations, to making sure the public is safe on bomb threats – all of these are important functions and a great way to serve the community," Schiefer said.

Esko, Sjevka and Hit have trained their entire lives for the job that they do. Each day they travel alongside their human partner, no matter what the day's work entails – all while keeping the community safe.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Sjevka successfully finds a small article hidden in the grassy area and is awaiting his reward from Sgt. Schiefer.



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## Tribal Libraries receive two grant-funded projects

### TRIBAL LIBRARIES

Your Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Libraries are excited to share the news about two grant-funded projects that will provide opportunities for community members to both create their own books and to shape the way the libraries incorporate traditional culture into library organization.

The first of these grants is an enhancement grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services. This project is called Kina gda gindaasomi, kina gda zhibiigemi (We All Read, We All Write). Community members will be invited to write and illustrate their own books.

“The Tribal Libraries always strive to encourage a literacy-rich community,” said Tribal Librarian Anne Heidemann. “With this project, we hope to enable a connection with Indigenous authors

and illustrators, and empower community members to take the inspiration those authors and artists provide and tell their own stories.”

The project will invite authors and illustrators from tribes across Turtle Island to visit the community through video conferencing and will provide participants with the tools and support to create their own books.

Over the years, we have heard from people who have life stories and knowledge that they wish to share, and this will be an opportunity to make that a reality. We will then publish these books, which will be made available through the libraries.

“While we had originally planned only for printing a limited run of these books, the current situation means that we will explore options for creating ebooks,” Heidemann said. “We always try to be flexible, and will

certainly be continuing that through this project.”

The second project is a national leadership grant, also from the Institute for Museum and Library Services.

Library organizational systems match the values of the people who create them, which in most cases was a white man who believed in a colonialist view of the world. That worldview includes damaging and false ideas about many groups of people, especially Indigenous people.

In this project, we will invite community members to be part of a group who will work together to create a way of organizing library books that reflects Anishinaabe ways of thinking and being.

“This project is an opportunity to be a leader in addressing an issue that affects libraries everywhere,” Heidemann said. “What we do here will be shared so that other libraries can see how they could make changes



to decolonize and Indigenize their own systems.”

The libraries, as part of the Tribal Education Department, always work to incorporate the culture and language into all aspects of operations, but “in the years that I have served here so far, it has become clear that the organizational systems we use do not reflect respect for the culture and language, and the community should have the opportunity to determine how their libraries are organized,” Heidemann said.

This project will be facilitated by a community member, to be hired soon, so that the project is led from an Anishinaabe perspective.

If you are interested in participating in either one of these projects, please contact the Tribal Libraries, and keep an eye out for more details coming soon.

“We are so fortunate to have been awarded both of these prestigious grants,” Heidemann said. “Despite the necessary changes to the ways we are working, we believe that all of our goals for these projects can be achieved in a safe way using video conferencing and other online tools.”

The Libraries are hiring part-time facilitators for both of these projects and are looking for candidates who are comfortable working remotely.

## October 2020 Tribal Elder Birthdays

- |  |   |  |   |   |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| 1) Caroline Zocher<br>Joanne Butzin<br>Ross Francis<br>Sandra Johnson                | 6) James Smith Sr.<br>Helen Huyser<br>Nonda Lynn<br>Daniel Sawmick<br>Susan Schramm<br>Kathleen Yacks | 12) Kim Elliot<br>Barbara Krause<br>Tina Montoya<br>Richard Van Vugt<br>Kim Elliott                      | 18) Terry Chamberlain<br>Robert Federico<br>Lindy Hunt<br>Kelley Stevens            | 25) Sandra Rood<br>Philemon Sprague Jr.<br>Tom Bailey<br>Kenneth Jeffrey Jr.                    |
| 2) Jamie Ritter<br>Beatrice Seger<br>Oren Brown<br>Valerie Quinn                     | 7) David Sisco Jr.<br>Rebecca Bratten<br>Kathleen Koenig<br>Colleen Sisco<br>Kelly Trombley           | 13) Phyllis O'Neal   | 19) Blanche Kuhn<br>Gordan Hart<br>Paul Pego  | 26) Audrey Nelson<br>Mariann Pelcher – Wright<br>Ann Rubin                                      |
| 3) Marion Joseph<br>Trudy Ralston<br>Mark Rueckert<br>Sandra Compau<br>Aaron Camburn | 8) EllenKellog-Bachert<br>Ronald Pelcher  | 14) Daniel Bailey<br>Dennis Kequom<br>Roger Rusch<br>Carrie Farr   | 20) Gilbert Hendrickson<br>Lawrence Sprague Sr.<br>Linda Willard<br>Kevin Wray      | 27) Ruthie Pelcher<br>Gonzalo Ramirez Jr.<br>Mark Spencer<br>Kenneth Stevens                    |
| 4) Gonzalo Alaniz Jr.  | 9) Phyllis Brodie<br>Sharon Sasse   | 15) Christopher Bailey<br>Theodore Cantu<br>Dejay Elk<br>Theodore Stevens Jr.                            | 21) Judy Pamp<br>Krystal Pelcher<br>Gypsy Angiano<br>Spencer Kirby                  | 28) Julia Hay<br>Jeanette Mandoka<br>Carpenter<br>Michael Randall<br>Christina Salter           |
| 5) Elsie Sanders<br>Sandra Chappel<br>Claire Dunnigan<br>Joyce Moore<br>Cheryl McKee | 10) David Perez Jr.<br>Terri Rueckert<br>Roger Tebo   | 16) Charlene Chancellor<br>Marvin Davis  | 22) Robert Rodriguez Jr.<br>Kimberely Stigger                                       | 29) Kenneth Fallis<br>Donna Proper  |
|  | 11) Kenneth Lee   | 17) Lisa Bennett<br>Sarah Martin<br>Minnie Stevens<br>Cynthia Dalton<br>Marjorie Dubay<br>George Francis | 23) Jeffrey Smith<br>Rebecca Jackson<br>Scott Saboo<br>Ramona Walker<br>Dean Waynee | 30) Dinah Griffus<br>Colleen Chippeway<br>Gloria Mulbrecht                                      |
|  |   |  | 24) David Brodie  | 31) Brenda Champlin<br>Ronald Falcon<br>Antonio Rodriguez<br>Joseph Snyder Jr.<br>Stacey Fallis |

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## Adopt a Pet

**Betty**  
Betty is a 7-month-old female Domestic Shorthair mix. Betty would do best in a home without small kids. She is affectionate but she does not like being carried around. She would do well in a home with other felines and small dogs.

**Skywalker**  
Skywalker is a 3-year-old male Treeing Walker Coonhound. He is a handsome, long-legged boy. He has been with the Humane Animal Treatment Society since early last month. Now, he has been neutered and is ready for adoption!

**Humane Animal Treatment Society**  
1105 S. Isabella Rd., Mt. Pleasant  
Phone: 989.775.0830 Email: [hats.publicrelations@gmail.com](mailto:hats.publicrelations@gmail.com)  
Hatsweb.org

\*Building is currently closed to walk-in visitors. Adoption visits must be scheduled ahead.





## Anishinaabemowin WORD SEARCH

biidaaban	daybreak
nibaagan	bed
anwebi	rest
dakaayaa	cool weather
apaabowe	season
daataagwa'igan	oatmeal
giikanaamozigan	bacon
ozaawaakizan	toast
dagwaagin	autumn
waabooyan	blanket
mazina'igan	book
aniibiishaaboo	tea
aniibiishakik	tea kettle
ombisjigaans	baking powder
zhiiwitaagan	salt
bakweshigan	flour
naboob	soup
bisigadanaaboo	dumpling soup
ikwanaamo	breath
bimaaji	life

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

A Concise Dictionary of Minnesota Ojibwe by John D. Nichols and Earl Nyholm

## Anishinaabemowin CROSSWORD

### Word Bank

- mndaa-mi-ni-keng
- gii-zhook-ni-wen
- nbiing-kedj
- ne'ksi-naa
- gwe-kaan'de
- ne'dbi-kad
- nii-biish-an
- kosmaan

### Down

1. Harvesting corn
2. Dress warm
3. It's getting darker
6. Leaves

### Across

2. It's changing color
4. I am cold
5. It's getting colder
7. Pumpkin

### Answers

**Down**

1. mnaamnikeng (harvesting corn)
2. gii-zhook-ni-wen (dress warm)
3. ne'dbi-kad (it's getting darker)
4. nii-biish-an (leaves)

**Across**

1. gwe-kaan'de (it's changing color)
4. nbiing-kedj (I am cold)
5. ne'ksi-naa (it's getting colder)
7. kosmaan (pumpkin)

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## Puff, puff, pass: not while you're pregnant!

**ANNA HON**

Healthy Start Maternal  
Child Nurse

Recently, I was having a conversation with a group of ladies on the Reservation telling me that they were convinced that the only thing that helped them or their family member during their pregnancy was marijuana.

Things you should know before you make the decision to use weed during pregnancy: the THC and other chemicals affect different organs in the body, including the brain, lungs, blood vessels, heart, and liver.

The FDA has NOT approved medical marijuana from treatment of any medical condition including morning sickness

Did you know you are breaking the law if you smoke on federal tribal land? Yes, although recreational and medical marijuana use is legal in Michigan, it is still illegal to use on the Saginaw Chippewa Reservation because of federal law. And DHHS gets referrals for the babies that have a positive meconium (baby's first poop) screen?

Check out what may happen when cannabis is consumed during pregnancy.

Newborns have increased tremors, high-pitched cries, exaggerated startle reflexes, and abnormal sleep patterns.

When a child reaches 3-4 years of age, and were exposed to heavy cannabis use (one or more joint per day), the child typically has memory problems, verbal skills problems, visual and verbal reasoning, hyperactive and difficulty paying attention.

By age 9-10 children can have deficits in reading, spellings and executive functioning (the set of skills responsible for self-regulation).

At age 14, the children did significantly worse in school and were twice as likely to display delinquent behavior. And there is also growing evidence that prenatal exposure to cannabis leads to higher rate of mental illness in childhood and substance abuse in adolescence.

At Nimkee through the Healthy Start Program, we can provide you with Preggie Pops and or Seabands, which have helped many women suffering from nausea and vomiting.

Pregnant patients may call Nimkee Public Health at **989.775.4695** and ask for



Courtesy photo

**When marijuana is smoked or eaten, the chemicals reach the fetus by crossing the placenta.**

a maternal child staff member, either Becky Cogswell or Samantha Chippeway.

## World Mental Health Day is Oct. 10, 2020

**CENTRAL MICHIGAN  
DISTRICT HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT**

Central Michigan District Health Department would like to recognize the 2020 World Mental Health Day campaign which aims to increase the awareness of the public health significance of suicide and suicide attempts and to reduce the rate of suicide throughout the world.

Every year, nearly 800,000 people take their own life and many more people attempt suicide. Every suicide is a tragedy that affects families, communities and entire countries

and has long-lasting effects on the people left behind.

While the link between suicide and mental disorders is well established, many suicides happen impulsively in moments of crisis with a breakdown in the ability to deal with life stresses, such as financial problems, relationship break-up or chronic pain and illness. Suicide rates are also high amongst vulnerable groups who experience discrimination. By far, the strongest risk factor for suicide is a previous suicide attempt.

Added to the risk of suicide and suicide attempts is the fear of COVID-19. While changes to our daily lives such

as working from home, unemployment, home-schooling of children, and lack of physical contact with other family members, friends and colleagues, it is important that we look after our mental health as well as our physical health.

Suicides are preventable. There are several measures that can be taken to help prevent suicide and suicide attempts, especially during COVID-19:

- Take breaks from the news and social media
- Make time to unwind, take deep breaths and use mindfulness
- Take care of your body: maintain good nutrition, get

adequate sleep, avoid alcohol and drugs

- Connect with others virtually or by phone. It is ok to reach out and ask for help.
- Set goals and review priorities
- Realize that you are not alone and reach out to others who may feel isolated

Stigma surrounding mental disorders and suicide makes it difficult for people to seek the help they need. The prevention of suicide has not been adequately addressed due to a lack of awareness of suicide as a major public health problem and the fact that it is taboo in many societies to openly discuss it. Raising community awareness

and breaking down the stigma is important for countries to make progress in preventing suicide.

Suicide is a complex issue and, therefore, suicide prevention efforts require coordination and collaboration among multiple sectors of society. These efforts must be comprehensive and integrated as no single approach alone can make an impact on an issue as complex as suicide.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: **1-800-273-TALK (8255)**

Sources: World Health Organization (<http://www.who.int>); World Federation of Mental Health (<https://wfmh.global>).

## Domestic Violence Awareness Month sheds light on victim-survivors, calls for an end to violence inflicted on Indigenous peoples

**STRONGHEARTS  
NATIVE HELPLINE**

Every October during Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM), advocates and communities across Indian Country and the United States rally together to honor survivors of domestic violence and support abuse prevention.

In 2020, StrongHearts Native Helpline once again calls on advocates, tribal leaders, reservation and urban Indian community members, service providers and Native organizations to support the movement to prevent and end domestic violence, which disproportionately affects millions of Natives every year.

Violence against Indigenous peoples began with European contact and has continued to this day, adding up to more than 500 years of abuse. Domestic violence, which continues as a tool of colonization, represents a lack of respect for Native peoples.

Native women and men in the United States experience domestic violence at alarming rates, with more than four in five Natives having

experienced some form of violence in their lifetime and more than half experiencing physical violence by an intimate partner in the past year.

Domestic violence has many faces: physical, sexual, emotional, cultural, financial and digital. It doesn't discriminate and includes violence against children, elders, LGBTQ2S individuals. There is also a strong connection between domestic violence and thousands of missing and murdered indigenous women.

Native nations in the Lower 48 and Alaska native villages continually go underfunded for lifesaving domestic violence services.

Now in its fourth year of operation, StrongHearts has received more than 9,103 phone calls and online chats requesting critically-needed support to deal with intimate partner violence. Of the phone calls, 5,010 were received in 2019 — a 396.04 percent increase from 2018.

This year during the COVID-19 pandemic, conversations focused on domestic violence have attracted international media and public attention. Alarming increases in domestic

violence have been documented worldwide, due to victims and their abusers being trapped in close quarters while sheltering in place during quarantines.

In August, in an effort to help Natives affected by all forms of violence during this uncertain and dangerous time, StrongHearts added sexual violence advocacy to its existing domestic and dating violence outreach services.

"We must continue to heighten public awareness of the issues of violence in Indian Country," said StrongHearts Native Helpline Director Lori Jump (Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians). "StrongHearts Native Helpline urges all individuals not only during October but throughout the year to believe survivors, speak out and take action against abuse, and to share supportive resources with their loved ones and communities in a concentrated effort to put an end to domestic violence forever."

StrongHearts Native Helpline is a safe, anonymous and confidential domestic, dating and sexual violence helpline that offers culturally-appropriate support and advocacy for American Indians and Alaska Natives.

If you or someone you love is experiencing domestic, dating or sexual violence or if you have questions about your behavior, help is available. For one-on-one advocacy, click on

the Chat Now icon at <https://www.strongheartshelpline.org/> or call **1-844-7NATIVE (762-8483)**. Advocates are available daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. CT.

Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center

# DRIVE-THRU

## FLU SHOT CLINICS

**Saturday Oct. 3, 2020  
& Saturday Oct. 17, 2020**

**10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**  
**Nimkee front entrance**

- Last registration at 1:45 p.m.
- Please follow signs, lineup will be from the direction of Nimkee Fitness
- Please remain in your vehicle
- Ages 6 months and up, if under 18 must have had an influenza vaccine in prior years.
- Please do not come to the Flu clinic if you have any symptoms of COVID-19 or have been exposed to COVID-19 in the last two weeks.
- Prizes and giveaways
- Weather permitting

**For more information, please contact: Sue Sowmick at 989.775.4699**








## Michiganders join hundreds of cancer patients, survivors nationwide to call on Congress: make cancer a national priority

Amid pandemic, advocates hold virtual meetings with members about increased cancer research funding and equitable access to clinical trials

### THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY CANCER ACTION NETWORK

LANSING, Mich. – Nearly 700 cancer patients, survivors and their loved ones from all 50 states dialed into calls and log onto virtual meetings during the week of Sept. 13 to ask members of Congress to make the fight against cancer a national priority.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the American Cancer Society Cancer Action

Network (ACS CAN) hosted its annual Leadership Summit and Lobby Day virtually for the first time.

While the event looked different, the advocates' dedication to critical issues, including increased cancer research and prevention funding and improved and more equitable access to clinical trials remains the same.

"Cancer hasn't stopped, so neither have we. Congress must take action to address the needs of cancer patients during and beyond the pandemic,"

said Lisa Lacasse, president of ACS CAN. "Emergency funding alone is not enough. We need consistent and significant increases in cancer research and prevention funding to ensure we maximize past investments and continue to make significant progress preventing and treating a disease that is projected to kill more than 600,000 Americans this year."

In addition to urging lawmakers to boost research and prevention funding, ACS CAN volunteer advocates will also encourage lawmakers

to advance legislation that addresses disparities in cancer care and supports more equitable access to cancer clinical trials through the Henrietta Lacks Enhancing Cancer Research Act (the Act).

Communities of color and other medically underserved groups continue to have higher cancer rates and are less likely to be diagnosed early or receive optimal treatment compared to other groups.

The virtual meetings follow a Lights of Hope Across America event held Saturday

where 45,000 lit bags decorated with the names of those who've fought cancer were displayed in homes nationwide as a powerful message of hope.

In Michigan, volunteers completed a "virtual trip" around the state through their Michigan Lights of Hope Tour fundraiser. The symbolic journey started at the Mighty Mac, Michigan's Mackinac Bridge, made its way around the beautiful Upper Peninsula before crossing the bridge and going around the mitten.

## Oct. 15 is Indigenous Pink Day to raise awareness for breast cancer

### AMERICAN INDIAN CANCER FOUNDATION

Indigenous Pink Day is an annual breast cancer awareness campaign held every October.

Oct. 15, 2020 is Indigenous Pink Day, a national breast cancer awareness campaign for American Indians/Alaska Natives.

The American Indian Cancer Foundation asks Indigenous people of all ages to join by wearing pink and sharing photos on social media using the hash tag #IndigenousPink to raise awareness of breast cancer in Indian Country.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among Native women, and is the second leading cause of cancer death. However, all bodies have breast

tissue and are at risk for developing breast cancer.

Indigenous Pink Day aims to educate communities about the importance of early detection, and remind men, women, non-binary, and gender fluid relatives to stay up to date on cancer screenings.

Because this national campaign happens on a digital platform, community members are able to participate from anywhere!



Talk to your primary care provider at your next appointment to discuss the recommended breast health screenings guidelines. On

average, women start their yearly mammogram screenings at age 40 along with monthly self-breast exams starting at age 21.

NF Nimkee Fitness

October Class Schedule

\*All class sizes are limited to four people

L.I.F.E. Strength & Conditioning

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 12 p.m.

• Attend class or drop in for the Workout of the Day

M.E.L.T.

Monday: 4:10 p.m. Friday: 10 a.m.

Family Focused Fitness

Tuesday & Thursday: 10 a.m.

Core & Stretching

Tuesday & Thursday: 4:10 p.m. Wednesday: 10 a.m.

Open Indoors

Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- Mask or shield required at all times (masks and face shields can be provided)
- Five Fitness Center members allowed at one time
- Group classes still held outdoors
- Locker rooms are available, showers are NOT available

Must call to make a reservation: 989.775.4690

- Only able to reserve one hour at a time, in half hour increments
- If there is availability you may walk up
- Reservations can be made as early as a week in advance

## October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

### CENTRAL MICHIGAN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

This October, the Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD) is proud to support National Breast Cancer Awareness Month – a time to promote regular breast cancer screening and early detection of breast cancer.

Breast cancer is a type of cancer that starts in the breast. Breast cancer occurs almost entirely in women, but men can get breast cancer, too.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2019), other than skin cancer, breast cancer is the most common cause of cancer in women, no matter your race or ethnicity. In fact, one in 10 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer under the age of 45 (Protect Your Health & Assess Your Risk, 2019). It is very important to get regular screenings like mammograms, that can help detect breast cancer early and increases the effectiveness of available treatments (American Cancer Society, 2019).

Programs are available to assist with the costs of having a mammogram.

A mammogram is an X-ray picture of the breast. Doctors use a mammogram to look for early

signs of breast cancer. Regular mammograms are the best tests doctors have to find breast cancer early, sometimes up to three years before it can be felt.

The United States Preventive Services Task Force (2016) recommends that average-risk women who are 50 to 74 years old should have a screening mammogram every two years. The recommendation also says women can choose to begin getting mammograms every other year in their 40s. Certain risk factors may lead to mammography in women younger than 50 and should be discussed with their primary care doctor (Stay Healthy, 2017).

The Central Michigan District Health Department participates in the Michigan Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Navigation Program (BC3NP). This program provides free annual breast and cervical cancer screenings and diagnostic services to eligible women. To be eligible for the program, a woman must be between age 40 and 64, have no insurance, and meet income requirements. Women between the ages of 21-39 who are referred to the BC3NP with an abnormal screening pap test, clinical breast exam or abnormal mammogram, which requires breast or cervical diagnostic services, may also be eligible for services.

Women who are diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer through the program or through another care provider without insurance may be eligible for Medicaid for their treatment. If you do not fit the eligibility, please call to find out about other programs that may be able to assist you.

CMDHD also offers navigation services for women with insurance who need help accessing their services. They can help make appointments, find transportation, or further explain the breast and cervical cancer screening process. For more information or to schedule an appointment for breast and cervical cancer screenings, contact your local CMDHD branch office.

- Arenac County:** 989-846-6541 ext. 1316
- Isabella County:** 989-773-5921 ext. 1406
- Clare County:** 989-539-6731 ext. 1216
- Osceola County:** 231-832-5532 ext. 1216
- Gladwin County:** 989-426-9431 ext. 1316
- Roscommon County:** 989-366-9166 ext. 1316

For more information about the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program, please visit: [www.michigancancer.org/bcccp](http://www.michigancancer.org/bcccp).





## OCTOBER 2020 | Tribal Community Event Planner

### Technology Support for At-Home Learners and Families

October 1 | 1 - 3 p.m. & 5:15 - 7:15 p.m.

• 989.775.4071 or 989.775.4453

- Students and families who need support with managing Zoom meetings, Google classroom and/or any other aspect of remote learning are invited to come with phones, laptops, Chromebooks, etc. to receive technical support from SCA teachers and K-12 staff.
- Tables will be spaced for social distancing
- Masks required
- If you have questions, we've got answers.
- Hosted by the Saginaw Chippewa Academy and K-12 Education Department.

### Homemade Applesauce Zoom Workshop

October 5 | 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

- Registration: 989.317.4826 or [gugonzalez@sagchip.org](mailto:gugonzalez@sagchip.org)
- Supplies provided
- Registration required

### Native Farmers Market

October 6 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

- Farmers Market Pavilion (corner of Leaton and Broadway roads)
- 989.775.4629
- Items include: Seasonal produce, baked goods, beaded/sculpted/natural art and Indigenous foods.
- Healthy food/Native art vendors: Maple syrup, eggs, honey, seeds, cottage foods, plants, organic protein and wild rice.
- You do not have to be Native American to sell produce/plants/other.
- You must be Native American to be an art vendor.
- Like us on Facebook!

### Drive Thru Flu Shot Clinics

- Everyone must wear a mask
- Please stay home if you are ill or have been exposed to COVID in the two weeks prior to the clinic.

October 3 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

- Nimkee front entrance drive through (6 months and up)

October 8 | 7 a.m. - 1 p.m.

- SECR Entertainment Hall (employees)

October 13 | 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

- Saganing Community center (employees and adult community members)

October 17 | 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

- Nimkee front entrance drive through (6 months and up)

October 20 | 3 - 9 p.m.

- SECR Entertainment Hall (employees)

October 28 | Time: TBD

- County wide flu clinic sponsored by the Central Michigan District Health Department and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.
- This will be a drive thru clinic at the SECR parking garage.
- More details to follow

### Meditation for Beginners

October 7, 14, 21, 28 | 7:30 p.m.

- To register: 989.400.1838 or [gugonzalez@sagchip.org](mailto:gugonzalez@sagchip.org)
- Registration deadline: Sept. 9, 2020
- Creating a happier, stress-free life
- Presented by Dr. Ben Ramirez-shkwegnaabi
- Eight-week workshop series for anyone who would like to learn more about meditation
- Each session will be 30-45 minutes
- No supplies or experience needed
- Join safely over Zoom link
- No cost to register

### Self-Care Weekly Activities

- Held online on Zoom
- Email to sign up: [chosawabine@sagchip.org](mailto:chosawabine@sagchip.org)

November 4 | Stress Reducing Techniques

November 11 | Guided Imagery

- Relaxation for the mind and body

November 18 | Four Sacred Medicines

- How and when you use them

November 25 | Gratitude

- Living a life of being thankful

### SCIT Elders Breakfast Drive Thru

October 14 | 9 - 10 a.m.

- Andahwod Front Entrance
- Sign-up: 989.775.4300
- SCIT Elders only; bring SCIT Elder Tribal ID.
- Stay in vehicle and sign for free breakfast.
- Breakfast includes: scrambled eggs, sausage, potatoes, fruit and toast.
- Sorry, no sales.
- Please call ahead of time to be placed on list.



Check out the  
**Tribal Observer**  
**ONLINE**

[www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver](http://www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver)

## OCTOBER 2020 | Tribal Community Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat./Sun.
			1	2	3
					4
5	6	7	8	9	10
					11
12	13	14	15	16	17
				Tribal Observer Deadline	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
					25
26	27	28	29	30	31

- SECR Payroll
  - SCIT Per Capita
  - SCIT Payroll
  - Curbside Recycling
  - Waste Collection\*
- \*Bins must be curbside by 6:30 a.m.





## Tribal Observer Classifieds

To place your ad, call the Tribal Observer at 989-775-4010, email [observer@sagchip.org](mailto:observer@sagchip.org), call to make an appointment in the Observer offices in the Black Elk Building or mail to Tribal Observer, Attn.: Classified, 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Please have all submissions and payment in by deadline. Classified rates are \$10 for 15 words or less and 75 cents per additional word. Any thumbnail image costs an additional \$15. **Apply to job postings online at [www.sagchip.org](http://www.sagchip.org). \* Job postings are subject to change daily.**

<b>100</b> Employment	<b>125</b> Miigwetch
<b>105</b> Lost and Found	<b>130</b> Services
<b>110</b> For Rent	<b>135</b> Events
<b>115</b> For Sale	<b>140</b> Giveaways
<b>120</b> Announcements	<b>145</b> Miscellaneous

### 100 Employment

#### Tribal Operations

##### Waste Water Operator

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Three years' experience in wastewater/water field or directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations. Must be willing to take classes in microbiology, advanced math and beginning algebra courses. Must have an aptitude for operating and maintaining water treatment and waste water treatment mechanical equipment and be skilled in the operation, repair and maintenance of mechanical, lab equipment and electrical equipment.

##### Technical Services Technician II

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in information technology, computer science, or related field or three years IT support desk experience with one of the following certifications: Microsoft Certified Desktop Support Technician certification, Comp TIA A+ certification, Comp TIA N+ certification, experience with Windows Server and Desktop OS and Microsoft Office Suite. Experience with busy and stressful situations.

##### Senior Associate General Counsel

Open to the public. Juris Doctor from an ABA accredited law school. Member of the Michigan State Bar Association and in good standing. Four years of experience as a practicing attorney; minimum of three years consecutive experience working full-time for an Indian tribe or Indian organization in the

practice of law, including Indian law and tribal court, and closely related fields dealing with tribal interests. Experience in managing complex legal issues. Licensed to practice law in the State of Michigan; or must be licensed in another state and become licensed in the State of Michigan following the next available bar exam; or by reciprocity no later than six months after date of hire.

##### ACFS Director

Open to the public. Master's degree in social services, human services or related field. Five years' social services experience. Two years' experience in a supervisory capacity. Experience working with tribal communities and outside social services. Experience with budget administration, operation, reports, contract management and development. Certified social worker and/or licensed clinical social worker preferred. Obtain HIPAA certification within five business days of hire. Under the supervision of Tribal Administration, direct, establish, plan and coordinate all activities and segments included within Anishnaabeg Child and Family Services (ACFS). This includes prevention and outreach services, protective services, ICWA and Licensing services.

##### Behavioral Health Director

Open to the public. Master's degree in social work, human services or related field. Five years' experience in the field of both clinical work and administrative work. Full licensure required. Three years supervisory experience, including goal setting, program and budget development and administration required. Experience

in working with the tribal community and outside systems. Experience in working collaboratively across multiple organizations and community systems. Knowledge of Native American traditions and culture preferred. Must maintain any educational requirements needs such as Continuing Education Credits (CEU's) for state licensure and ongoing CARF accreditation commission requirements. Native American preferred.

##### Associate General Counsel

Open to the public. Juris Doctor from an ABA accredited law school. Experience as a practicing attorney, familiarity with federal Indian law preferred. Member of the Michigan State Bar Association and in good standing. Excellent communication, written, verbal, research, and computer skills. Must be able to pass background check to meet the employment requirements as they pertain to the position.

##### Police Officer

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be a U.S. citizen and at least 21 years of age. Associate degree preferred. MCOLES certified or MCOLES certifiable. Must be able to pass departmental fitness evaluation. Current Special Law Enforcement Commission through the Bureau of Indian Affairs or ability to obtain and maintain. Must not have criminal history that would prevent applicant from acquiring any certification or qualification required.

##### Dental Assistant

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Graduate of a dental assisting program or two years of

dental assisting experience. An equivalent combination of education and directly related experience may be considered. Certification to expose dental radiographs. Ability to obtain HIPAA Certification, Blood Borne Pathogens Certification, BLS Certification and Safety Training within 30 days of hire. Under the supervision of chief dental officer and in accordance with rules defined by the State of Michigan, obtain patient from waiting room and perform chairside assisting, dental charting, dental laboratory procedures, equipment sterilization, maintenance, cleaning, and exposing radiographs for dental clinic.

##### General Labor Pool Worker

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent. Must be physically fit and be able to perform manual labor. Applicants must have a telephone contact number and be available on short notice for short term employment.

### Soaring Eagle

#### Kitchen Equipment Technician

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. High school diploma or GED. Three years of experience in commercial food equipment repair. Must have a current and must be able to maintain a current Universal Refrigerant Certification.

#### Bingo Supervisor

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. High school diploma or GED. Must have three years' Bingo experience. One year in a supervisory capacity preferred. Must be willing to work weekends and all shifts.

#### Server Assistant PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be able to pass background check to meet the employment requirements as they pertain to the position.

#### Host/Hostess

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Six months food or hosting experience and/or the ability to successfully pass in-house training.

#### Line Server

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be able to work weekends, holidays, and graveyard shifts.

#### Cashier PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be able to operate a POS. Must have basic math

skills and pass a written math/MICROS test with 80 percent accuracy or better.

#### Crowd Control Associate Seasonal

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be able to work any shift assigned, including weekends and holidays. Protect Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort assets to include guests, vendors, entertainers and employees. Work in conjunction with other Tribal entities and organizations: Tribal Police, Surveillance, Tribal Fire and Mobile Medical Response and other agencies.

#### Bartender

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Bartending experience preferred. Must be able to successfully complete and maintain TIPS (Training for Intervention ProcedureS) Certification as part of SECR's commitment to responsible alcohol service.

#### Waitstaff PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Restaurant server experience preferred. Frequent walking and standing in a smoking environment and contact with the general public.

#### Saganing

#### Maintenance Worker PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. One year custodial and maintenance experience. Experience with plumbing and carpentry.

#### Casino Ambassador

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Six months of heavy cash handling or hospitality experience in a fast-paced, high-pressure environment. Must pass a math proficiency test with a minimum score of 70 percent.

#### Security Officer PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Security or surveillance experience preferred. Must be able to work any shift assigned, included weekends and holidays.

#### Transit Driver

Open to the public. Must be at least 21 years of age. Must have good hearing and at least 20/40 vision in each eye with or without corrective lenses. Must be able to work all shifts including weekends and holidays.

#### Executive Hospitality Manager

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Bachelor's degree in business administration, hospitality or related field. Five years of progressive experience in hotel operations. Five years

of experience in a food and beverage management capacity. Sales, rooms, food and beverage experience. Previous hotel management experience.

#### Players Club Representative PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be able to pass background check to meet the employment eligibility requirements as they pertain to the position.

#### Beverage Waitstaff

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Serving experience preferred.

#### Cashier

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Six months cashiering and/or hosting experience. Must be able to operate a POS.

#### Line Cook

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. One year of restaurant cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility, or six months of Saganing internal Culinary training.

#### Finance Cashier PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Six months cash handling or cashiering experience. Must have basic math skills with the ability to pass a written math test with 80 percent accuracy and ability to handle large amounts of currency.

#### F&B Attendant

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Cash handling, banking, or accounting experience preferred.

#### Guestroom Attendant

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Three months of housekeeping experience preferred.

#### Cleaning Care Team Associate

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must pass a health screening before entering the facility for scheduled shift. Must complete a workplace safety orientation. Must wear employer provided personal protective equipment during scheduled shift such as a face mask, gloves, etc. This is a temporary position through Dec. 31, 2020.

#### Count Team Associate

Open to the public. Six months cash handling experience. Gaming, banking, or customer service experience preferred.

#### Beverage Waitstaff

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Serving experience preferred.

#### F&B Custodial Worker

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Kitchen cleaning experience preferred.

## Summons and Complaint Notices

### NOTICE OF HEARING TO KALLIE STEPHENS IN THE MATTER OF ONE MINOR CHILD

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court 6954 E. Broadway Rd. Mount Pleasant, MI 48858 Case 19-JCW-0050 To: Kallie Stephens in the matter of one minor child, date of birth 01-21-2014. The court has taken jurisdiction of the minor in reference to the case number listed above. A petition for termination will be conducted by the court on October 14, 2020 at 2 p.m. in the courtroom at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court listed above. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED: that Kallie Stephens personally appear before the court at the time and place state above. This hearing may result in the court continuing its jurisdiction over the minor and the eventual termination of parental rights.

### SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT IN THE MATTER OF JACQUELINE MARIE JACKSON:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court 6954 E. Broadway Rd. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 989-775-4800 Case no. 19-CI-0384 Plaintiff: Fannie Mae, Plaintiff's attorney: Gary C. Bengston, Trott Law, PC 31440 Northwestern Hwy Ste.145 Farmington Hills, MI 48334 248-723-5066 Vs Defendant: Jacqueline Marie Jackson 3201 Aagimaak St. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Notice to the defendant: You are being sued in the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court. 2. You have 21 days after receiving this summons to file an answer with the court and to serve a copy on the other party or take other lawful action. Please note that if you were served by certified mail or served outside of the reservation land you have 28 days to answer attached complaint. 3. Failure to file an answer or take other action within the time allowed may result in a default Judgment being entered against you for the relief requested in Plaintiff's complaint. **This summons expires Dec. 29, 2020.**





### Win a \$82,000 Escalade or a share of \$45,000 in cash & Premium Play!

Saturdays in October | 6PM - 10PM

Every week, one winner each hour from 6PM-9PM will win up to \$2,000 in Premium Play and 500 bonus entries into our Grand Prize drawing. At 10PM one lucky ACCESS Club member will win \$5,000 in CASH!

**Grand prize Cadillac Escalade drawing at 10PM on Saturday, October 31, 2020.**



WEDNESDAYS OCT. 7, 14 & 28  
6PM-10PM

Each hour, you could win cold hard cash starting with \$1,000 at 6PM and increasing up to \$3,000 at 10PM!



THURSDAYS | 3PM-11:59PM

Play your favorite slots for a chance to win \$25 in Premium Play! Ricochet Rewards will randomly award 50 players \$25 in Premium Play. These random rewards can ricochet multiple times between the hours of 3PM and midnight every Thursday!



FRIDAY OCT. 30 | 6PM-11PM

Each half-hour, one lucky winner playing slots will be drawn to win \$500 in Premium Play!



SUNDAYS | 5PM-10PM

Join us every Sunday for hourly hot seat drawings for a chance to win \$500 in Premium Play!



### Your Chance To Win \$100,000 in CASH!

Fridays & Saturdays | 5PM - 10PM

Join us on Fridays & Saturdays in October for our Candies & Cash promotion! Each hour from 5PM-9PM one winner will select 4 candy corn and move across our game board to win an accumulation of prizes! Cross the finish line to win \$100,000 in cash!



MONDAYS | 12PM - 9PM

One winner every hour from 12p - 9p will play a game for a chance to win up to \$500 in cash!



WEDNESDAYS | 4AM - 11:59PM

Earn points and get Premium Play!

Points Earned	Reward Amount
300	= \$5
800	= \$10
1800	= \$25

Every hour from 9AM - 9PM we will be doing a drawing for up to \$100 in Premium Play.



SUNDAYS | 10AM-10PM

Earn 1000 points for a chance to win \$100 in cash and Premium Play. Drawings every 15 minutes!



Exchange your \*coins to dollars at the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino cashier and receive \$10 premium play.

\*Must exchange \$50 or more in coin to receive premium play. Limit one exchange per week Monday-Sunday.

Now through November 1, 2020