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# TRIBAL OBSERVER

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

## CHECK THESE OUT

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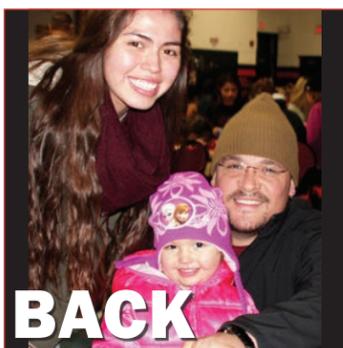
**Repatriation**  
SCIT repatriates ancestral remains and funerary objects on Nov. 19.



**Active Native Youth**  
Youth throughout the community are proudly showcased.



**Native American Month**  
SCITC hosts a variety of events celebrating Anishnaabe people.



**Home for the Holidays**  
Community members gather for festivities and fellowship.

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## Tribal Council challenges Morning Sun article and decision regarding National Labor Relations Board

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**  
Photojournalist

With the mainstream media nowadays, many Native Tribes have taken to press releases and placing paid advertisement in the local press to make sure an important story is reported in its entirety. The process breaks down when the local press refuses to comply by turning down an advertorial (a paid advertisement considered an editorial) and decides to use the submitted piece as they see fit.

The advertorial explains, "In the Nov. 11 issue of the Morning Sun, Rick Mills wrote an article

describing the National Labor Relations Board ("Board"), or NLRB, recent decision in the ongoing litigation between the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and the Board.

Mills' article "Feds order Tribe to allow union efforts, rehire worker" provides, at best, a confused version of the events and meaning of the Board's decision.

The position of the Tribe is similar to that of many tribes throughout the country. The Tribe believes that the federal law that allows for union organizing, that National Labor Relations Act, does not apply to

federally-recognized Indian tribes or their gaming facilities.

The Tribe's position rests on two legal principles: 1) that the federal law does not apply to state governments and Indian tribes are not mentioned at all in the law and 2) that application of the federal law to the Tribe would violate the Tribe's rights under its treaties of 1855 and 1864. United States Supreme Court precedent cited by the Tribe in its litigation supports this position and this issue will ultimately "be argued before the Federal Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals and possibly the Supreme Court."

The San Manuel Band of Mission Indian in Highland, Calif. back in 2007 fought unsuccessfully against the NLRB in their assertion of Tribal sovereignty and the Mashantucket Pequot's, who own Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun in Connecticut, have a similar history.

The advertorial continues "the Tribe has had a case in litigation against the Board since 2011 when the Board filed a complaint against the Soaring Eagle Casino's No Solicitation Policy. The Tribe argued that the Board does not

**Tribal Council | Page 3**

## The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe distributes semi-annual two percent funds

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**  
Editor

On Thursday, Nov. 20, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe distributed its semi-annual two percent funds derived from Class II gaming at its Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and Saganing Eagles Landing Casino properties.

This year, the Tribe distributed \$2,139,786.70 in Isabella County and \$739,556.68 to Arenac and Northern Bay County.

"The Tribal Council funded \$2,139,786.70 in total with \$1,326,667.70 going to government projects and \$813,119.00 to local area schools," Public Relations Director Frank

Cloutier said. "Later that day at the Standish-Sterling Central High School, the Tribal Council awarded \$739,556.68 with \$483,694.06 going to government projects and \$255,862.62 to local area schools."

Isabella County local units of government handed in 32 requests totaling \$4,490,114.03.

The public schools submitted 290 requests with a total of \$3,913,775.24. Arenac and Northern Bay County submitted 52 applications, with the schools providing 27 requests, for a funding grand total of \$1,837,601.60.

**Two percent | Page 12**

## Our local leaders speak on two percent grants

**Mike Pung, Mount Pleasant Public Schools superintendent**



"These Tribal grants are instrumental in allowing Mount Pleasant Public Schools the opportunity to expand educational offerings into areas that would otherwise not be possible. Some examples include,

but are not limited to, technology in classrooms such as: Smart boards, computers, iPads and wireless systems. The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe has also afunded many educational field trips for our students. These grants have also made safety upgrades in our buildings a possibility by funding video surveillance systems and electronic doors.

The Mount Pleasant Area Technical Center has been able to keep up with technological advances in each of our programs as a result of Tribal funding. We have been fortunate to receive grants for state of the art equipment which is used to educate students from the entire Gratiot Isabella Regional Educational School District (GIRESD).

It is evident that because of these grants we have been able to provide our students with up-to-date equipment, cutting edge technology and additional educational experiences.

On behalf of the Mount Pleasant Public School District, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe for sharing their resources with us to benefit the youth of our community."

**Riaan Anthony, City of Mount Pleasant recreation director**



"It is the Partners Empowering All Kids (PEAK) goal to see all children succeed and become happy, well adjusted, and productive members of our society. Because we hold these beliefs so strongly, PEAK offers tuition rates on a sliding income-based scale, and provides scholarships for families that qualify based on financial hardship. Overall, the PEAK program provides unique opportunities and immeasurable benefits for the youth and families in the Mount Pleasant area. We are extremely proud of the many lives we impact and hope to continue to build this great program in the future. Because of this ongoing support we receive from the Tribe, we are now employing PEAK students that have been with us for many years.

The PEAK program cannot exist without the support of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. On behalf of the City and the PEAK program, we would like to thank you from the bottom of our heart for supporting the PEAK program for the last nine years."

**Brenda Upton, Isabella County Commission on Aging director**



"Since 1995, the Isabella County Commission on Aging has been blessed to receive funding through the two percent distribution of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

On Thursday, Nov. 20, 2014 we received \$200,000.

This funding will be used to provide direct care and services to older adults throughout Isabella County. Within the nutrition program, it will help purchase and prepare food for both home delivered and congregate meals. In our In-Home Services Program, it will help provide a program participant with personal care and homemaking. It will also be used to help pay an older adult's heating or medical bill. In the Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs, it will help pay the hourly stipend for a foster grandparent and senior companion who work with special needs children and adults. In our Gold Key Volunteer Program, the funding will help reimburse volunteers for their mileage when they transport elders to medical appointment, grocery shopping and deliver meals to our home delivered meals recipients.

For the last 19 years, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe has affected the lives of thousands of elders and their families. Your gift has made us a stronger service provider and a stronger community. We thank you for your generous heart."



## Silas "Hosh" Jackson

Jan. 26, 1940 - Sept. 30, 2014

Silas "Hosh" Jackson, 74, of Muskegon, Mich. passed away Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2014 at the Sanctuary at the Park Nursing Home in Muskegon. Silas was born Jan. 26, 1940 in Roberts Landing, Mich., the son of Albert and Melvina (Peters) Jackson. Hosh lived in Mount Pleasant, Mich. before moving to Grand Rapids, Mich. for many years and then moving to Muskegon.



Hosh was employed as a machine operator for various companies in the Grand Rapids area. He enjoyed going to the park for walks, loved western movies and enjoyed Elvis, Hank Williams and Batman.

Survivors include his nieces and nephews: Rosemary Storrs, Marilyn Sanders, Dan VanVugt, Marjorie Vasquez, Louise Hunt, Lindy Hunt, Cindy Quigno, Susan Bettistea, Duane Pelcher and LaVern and Ruth Pelcher. Also surviving are many great nieces and nephews. Hosh was preceded in death by both parents, two brothers Amos and John Jackson and a sister Elsie Storrs.

Funeral services for Silas were held Friday, Oct. 3, 2014 from the Chippewa Indian United Methodist Church with Rev. Owen White Pigeon officiating. Interment took place in Woodland Cemetery near Rosebush following the funeral service. The family gathered with friends Oct. 2 from 6-9 p.m. at the church. A Prayer Service was held at 7 p.m.

## Calvin Joseph White Pigeon

Nov. 15, 2014

Calvin Joseph White Pigeon, 89, of Mount Pleasant, Mich., passed away Saturday, Nov. 15, 2014 at the Isabella County Medical Care Facility in Mount Pleasant. Calvin was born in Hamilton, Mich., the son of William and Clara (Rosette) White Pigeon.



Calvin worked as a landscaper most of his life. He was a member of the Eagle Clan of the Nottawasippi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians. He served very proudly in the United States Army as a PFC from March 23, 1943 until his discharge on Oct. 29, 1945. He went ashore on D-Day, June 7, 1944 on the beach at Normandy, serviced in Northern France, the Ardennes, Rhineland and in Central Europe. He was awarded the European African Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon with one Silver Battle Star and Bronze Arrowhead, three Overseas Service Bars, a Purple Heart Medal and was then awarded a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster for the second time he was wounded, a Bronze Star Medal and a Good Conduct Medal. He was a member of the VFW Post in Holland, Mich., the Ogitchedaw Warrior Society of Mount Pleasant and the NHBV Veterans.

Survivors include his sister-in-law, Virginia Pigeon, and his many nieces and nephews who he thought of as his children, including Jerome Whitepigeon, Julie Whitepigeon, Jocelyn Perkins, Douglas (Jon) Speer, William Whitepigeon, Gary Oskaboose, Maryanne Antoine, William Oskaboose, Debra Perkins, Scott Perkins and Joni Sams. Calvin was preceded in death by his parents William and Clara Rosette White Pigeon, a brother Edward Whitepigeon, a sister Mabel Perkins and a brother Howard Pigeon.

A service celebrating Calvin's life was held Tuesday, Nov. 18, at the Rowley Funeral Home with Pipe Carrier Dwight 'Bucko' Teeple officiating. Graveside services were held on Wednesday, Nov. 19 at the Hamilton Cemetery, Hamilton, Mich. Traditional drum songs were played during the visitation on Monday evening. Friends desiring to make a memorial contribution in Calvin's memory are asked to consider the Disabled American Veterans.

## Donald Lewis Miller III

July 13, 1982 - Nov. 2, 2014

Donald Lewis Miller III, age 32, of Mount Pleasant, Mich. passed away unexpectedly Sunday, Nov. 2, 2014.

Funeral Services for Donald were held at the Tribal Gym on Thursday, Nov. 6 with Brian Corbiere officiating. Interment followed in the Woodland Cemetery. A luncheon was held at the Tribal Gym after the committal service.

Donald was born on July 13, 1982 in Hayward, Wis., the son of Donald and Nancy (Trepanier) Miller Jr. Donald was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan. He previously worked for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, Jack Link's Beef Jerky and bow picking for wreaths. Donald enjoyed hunting and spending time with his family.

Donald is survived by his daughter, Lakaia Monay Kwa Miller-Keshick of Escanaba; mother, Nancy Trepanier-Miller; brothers, Nicolas Earl Miller and Kevin Joseph Miller, both of Mount Pleasant; sisters, Julia (David Hosler) Miller, Mariah Rose Miller and Dawna Miller, all of Mount Pleasant; nieces and nephews, Kaydance Mae Miller, Nicolas Miller Jr., Kerrina Miller-Hosler, Maingan Miller-Hosler, Gizhep Miller-Hosler and David Hosler Jr.; and many aunts and uncles.

Donald was preceded in death by his father, Donald Lewis Miller Jr.; grandfathers, Donald Lewis Miller, Sr. and Walter Joseph Trepanier; grandmother, Geraldine Trepanier; uncles, Patrick Henry Trepanier, Sr., Joseph Alfred Trepanier, Bryan Miller; and aunt, Jolene Faye Wilson.

## Trevor Robert Watson

Nov. 26, 1955 - Nov. 11, 2014

Trevor Robert Watson passed away Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2014 at age 58. Born Nov. 26, 1955 to Robert and Delores (Addiss) Watson in Lansing, Mich. In his younger years, Trevor worked as an ironworker. He later went on to work construction framing houses and later went to work maintenance for the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort. Trevor was a jack-of-all-trades who enjoyed life, loved to travel and loved his little dog, Sasha. Preceding him in death were his sister, Ellyn Andrews and father, Robert Frederick Andrews.



Surviving are his parents, Dee and Ken Watson; brothers, Wayne Watson, Ken Watson III, Mike (Deb) Watson, Miles (Marci DeBoer) Andrews and Rex Reichenbach; sisters, Darci (Steve) Tucker, Dawn Reichenbach, Sharon (Tom) Shepherd and Naomi Addiss; aunt Ellie and uncle Bob Hawk as well as several nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

A memorial service was held on Monday, Nov. 17, 2014 at Skinner Funeral Home, Lansing Chapel. For those desiring, memorial contributions may be made to the Child Fund in Trevor's memory.

## In Loving Memory of Richard Earl Davis (Snooks) who went away 3 years ago Dec. 20, 2011

We miss you so much. We find it hard to believe you are gone. Our hearts ache with sadness we'll feel our whole life through. A million times we needed you, a million times we've cried.



If our love could of saved you, you never would of died. The hurt, the grief, the whys are still with us and at times unbearable. We miss you and love you.

Love, Connie, children; Buzz and Conni, Casey, Lil Man and Lisa. Grandchildren; Brandy, David, Jonathan, Jasmine, Lil Richard, Miles, Clayton, Bella and Emma.

**2014**  
Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center  
**LOGO**  
contest

The winner will be chosen on Dec. 16, by the Health Board and Clinic Directors.

Winner will receive one night's stay at the Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel

To submit a logo please contact:  
Karmen Fox; 989.775.4631, kafox@sagchip.org  
Karen Naganashe; 989.775.4936, knaganashe@sagchip.org

## Public Notice

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police provide law enforcement services under 638 Contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). Included within said contract; The Bureau of Indian Affairs reserve the right for "First Right of Refusal" pertaining to any complaints against the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Department and/or its Officer's.

As result of this contractual procedure; All complaints against the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Department and/or its Officer's must first be directed to :

**BIA Interal Affairs SSA Justin Wendland**  
justin.wendland@bia.gov | 701-250-4545

## Zane Mikal Jewell

I spend most of my days with thoughts of you  
Everything about you I hold near & dear they couldn't be any more true  
Than the love that I carry in every second of my life  
The pain I still feel at the very thought of your struggle is like a knife  
A knife that pierces my heart and reaches my soul  
All I wanted for you is to be well, that was MY final goal  
But alas that was not your true destiny  
I wish I could still hold your hand or kiss your forehead before I go  
What your future was to hold, now no one will ever know  
All we have now are the memories of how and who you wanted to be  
And some of the wishes that you wanted to carry out and see  
I don't miss the hospital visits and procedures, but I do miss the people who took care of you  
Because they did their best to make your life comfortable and I believe these are few  
All this, still feels so unnatural and so unreal.  
From the day you were born and set forth on this earth so calm, so relaxed, so quiet - such an eventful birth  
A mother always falls in love with the 1st sight of her child  
Who only knew that you would turn out so lively and wild?  
Throughout this whole ordeal,  
I learned so much over the past couple of years  
To not take anything for granted and that with family and friends you can face your fears  
Son, you have taught me way more than I could ever learn out of a book  
I know the tears I shed and the pain that I feel are only the many cogs of our life's wheel  
I pray and hope that someday the hurt and pain will subside for the time we had you in our lives, you took one heck of a ride  
You will always be first and foremost in our hearts we know you'll go far wherever you are; we gave you are best parts  
You will always be our Biggest & brightest shining STAR  
Love you Cub, momma

## ATTENTION HUNTERS

### Display Your Hunting Trophy!

Submit your photos to [TribalObserver@sagchip.org](mailto:TribalObserver@sagchip.org) to display your buck on the January 2015 Tribal Observer's Buck Pole.

**Deadline: Dec. 12, 2014**

Check out the Tribal Observer **ONLINE**

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

### Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police

6954 E BROADWAY, MT PLEASANT, MI  
TEL: 989-775-4700

**OWN IT?**  
RESPECT IT. SECURE IT.

Project ChildSafe is a nationwide program promoting safe firearm handling and storage practices through the distribution of free, cable-style locks. We are doing our part to promote safe storage, but we need your help! Call for details!

LOCKS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE TRIBAL POLICE DEPARTMENT WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.



## Tribal Council continued from front page

have jurisdiction over the Tribe's casino and the Board ruled against the Tribe in April 2013. After the Board ruling, the Tribe appealed to the federal Court of Appeals and was set for oral argument at that Court when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled the Board panel ruled against the Tribe was unconstitutionally appointed by President Obama.

As a result of the Supreme Court's decision the federal Court of Appeals sent the Tribe's case and many other cases around the country, back to the newly constituted Board for review and decision. Not surprisingly, the new Board ruled the same way as the prior Board and issued its decision against the Tribe on Oct. 27. The Tribe has recently filed an appeal again to the Federal Sixth Circuit Court of appeals and that case is currently pending."

"In an Oct. 27 NLRB vote at Soaring Eagle, the employees soundly made their voice heard and rejected the attempt by the Security, Police and Fire Professionals of America to unionize," SCIT Public Relations Director Frank Cloutier said. "Out of 159 possible ballots, 129 voted against and only 16 voters supported joining a union. In political circles, an 81.1 percent vote against unionization would be an overwhelming rejection by our employees of the NLRB effort."

Cloutier is certain Mills' article misconstrues the Board's decision and its relevance to the Tribe and wanted to clarify those comments through the Tribal media where both the Tribal Observer and Indian Country Today are picking up the story.

The advertorial asserts, "According to Mr. Mills, the decision by the Board means the Tribe will post and distribute notices telling employees that the Soaring Eagle has violated federal law and that management has suspended no-solicitation rules aimed at stopping efforts to form unions." This statement is simply not true.

The Tribe has a right to appeal the Board's decision and does not have to comply with the Board's order unless and until the Tribe ultimately loses its case at the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals or the U.S. Supreme Court.

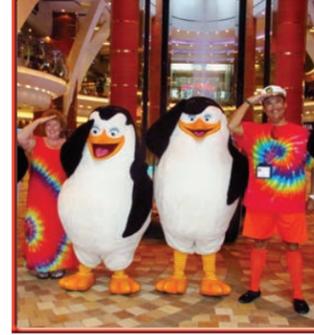
Most egregious was Mills' claim that the notice routinely issued by the Board in these cases that provides that the employer will not suspend, discharge, or otherwise discriminate for support of the union was the Tribe's notice. This is also not true. The Tribe has not posted any notice presented by the Board in its decision and is not obligated to do so. The Tribe has and continues to maintain that the National Labor Relations Act does not apply to the Tribe and that the Board does not have jurisdiction over the Tribe or its casino.

The Tribe takes its case with the Board seriously and reporting by this paper on such a matter of importance to the community should be taken seriously as well.

As press time, Tribal Council has not rendered any other statement but will continue to protect our treaties and Tribal sovereignty against the efforts of the NLRB.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY ROO!**



**Happy 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Joe and Sue Sowmick**  
From Skipper & Rico



**Happy 4<sup>th</sup> Birthday Gabriel!**  
Love, Mommy, Daddy, NuNu



**Happy 21<sup>st</sup> B-day!**  
We are proud of you & your accomplishments  
Love, your family



**Happy Birthday SRMMPPCPSHSCP**  
DECEMBER 17



**Happy Birthday Mom!**  
We're so proud of you.  
To another year young!  
Love, Vanessa and Mikey

**Attention Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veteran & Warrior Society Members**  
**Now Recruiting New Members**  
**Meeting Will be Held**  
The first Tuesday of the month in the Seniors Room  
Time: 6 p.m. | For more information: 989-775-4175

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe will be conducting a public meeting for the purpose of receiving comments from all interested Tribal and non-Tribal residents within the boundaries of the Isabella Reservation and lands in the Saginaw District (Arenac County) on the Tribe's intent to apply for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfield's Clean up Grant(s) to help support the cleanup needed at the former Stop & Go property located at 4708 South Huron Road, Standish Township, MI 48658.

The meetings will be held at the following locations, dates and times:

### Standish:

Wednesday, Dec. 3, 2014 | 4 - 6 p.m.  
Saginaw Chippewa Saganing Tribal Center  
54445 Sturman Rd., Standish, MI 48658

### Mount Pleasant:

Thursday, Dec. 4, 2014 | 4 - 6 p.m.  
Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Center  
7070 E Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 8858

If awarded, the EPA Brownfield Clean up Grant will be used to conduct environmental cleanup activities and possible demolition activities at the former Stop & Go property.

The grant funding, if awarded, will allow the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe to receive up to \$200,000 in EPA funds. If awarded, funding requires a 20 percent cash and/or in-kind match contribution by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe (approximately \$40,000).

Draft copies of the grant application and draft Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives detailing the activities proposed and related costs will be available for review at the Grants Office located in the Tribal Operations Building at 7070 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 between the hours of 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday beginning Monday, Nov. 24, 2014. A Written Comments Form will be available to provide written comments.

Written comments may be submitted through 5 p.m., Friday, Dec. 5, 2014 and may be sent to the Saginaw Chippewa Grants Office, 7070 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Comments received before the public meeting record is closed on Friday, Dec. 5, 2014 will receive a response with said comments included in the grant application submitted to EPA.

If you require this information in an alternative format, or wish to request a reasonable accommodation because of a disability, contact: 989.775.4083 or 989.775.4029 or TTY 7-1-1.

## Indian Child Welfare Committee Vacancy

The Indian Child Welfare Committee (ICWC) has been established to provide community input on the welfare of children of the Tribe. They make recommendations to the Tribal Court regarding termination of parental rights, guardianships, and/or adoptions, and the appropriate disposition of any minor in need of care. The ICWC also license foster homes and child care centers. The ICWC meets twice a month with special and/or emergency meetings occurring on occasion.

**There is currently one vacancy ICWC Board.**

**Letters of interest must be submitted to Anishnaabeg Child & Family Services by Feb. 1, 2015.** Please include your contact information and a brief statement about why you would like to be on the ICWC in your letter.

**Please feel free to contact Felicia Bross at 989-775-4906 for more information.**

### Send letter of interest to:

Anishnaabeg Child & Family Services  
7070 E Broadway Rd, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858



## Tribal Council

### Chief

Steven Pego, District 1

### Sub-Chief

Lorna Kahgegag Call, District 1

### Treasurer

Shelly Bailey, District 1

### Secretary

Sandy Sprague, District 1

### Sergeant At-Arms

Ron Nelson, District 2

### Tribal Chaplain

Jennifer Wassegijig, District 1

### Council Member

Delmar Jackson Sr., District 1

### Council Member

Lindy Hunt, District 1

### Council Member

Julius Peters, District 1

### Council Member

Chip Neyome, District 1

### Council Member

Tim J. Davis, District 1

### Council Member

Michele Stanley, District 3

## 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.

### Minaadendamoowin ~ 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.



## Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems

### DON SEAL

Planning Director

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, in conjunction with Indian Health Services (IHS) is seeking Tribal Members to inventory their Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (POWTS) Project.

Phase one is just an inventory, pumping and inspection of the POWTS systems and once all data is gathered, the repairs will be completed as a subsequent phase two, known as the POWTS Repair Project.

SCIT and IHS are encouraging Tribal Members to participate in the project as a benefit to the Tribal Member homeowners. We will be conducting an inventory of private onsite wastewater treatment systems for Tribal Member homes throughout the Isabella

Reservation, Clare, Arenac, Midland and Isabella counties in Michigan.

Septic systems will be pumped and inspected at no expense to the homeowner by licensed and certified pumpers and inspectors. Homeowners must be willing to allow pumpers and inspectors on site for this work. This work will be scheduled with the homeowners.

**Please contact Don Seal if you have questions or concerns:**

Don Seal

Planning Director/Community Engineer

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of MI

7070 E. Broadway Rd.

Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

## E. coli problem in Chippewa River – How you can help

### CAREY PAUQUETTE

Water Quality Specialist

Have you heard about the E. coli problem in the Chippewa River? Were you nervous to go tubing or canoeing this summer because of it? Many people have called asking questions about the safety of our local rivers, lakes, and swimming holes because of the high bacteria levels. Now that we know the problem, we need your help to fix it.

Did you know our waste water and septic tanks can have a large impact on the rivers, lakes and streams? Septic tanks can get damaged in a number of ways. Cracked lids, tree roots, and full tanks will allow material inside the tank to leak into the land and water nearby. The material is loaded with bacteria including E. coli. The human waste will be picked up by storm water and snow melt, which runs off to the nearest surface water.

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), septic tanks should be pumped and inspected every one to three years.

Tribal members are encouraged to sign up for a free program to have your septic tank inspected and pumped. This program is brought to you through a collaborative program by Indian Health Services, the Central Michigan District Health Department, and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

The program is voluntary. To qualify, you must be a Tribal member. The septic tank must be at your primary residence and located within Arenac, Midland, Clare or Isabella County. Space for this program is limited so call to sign up soon.

If you have questions or would like to sign up for the Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Program, POWTS, please call **989-775-4014**, email [cpauquette@sagchip.org](mailto:cpauquette@sagchip.org) or stop in to the Tribal Planning Department.

# POWTS

## Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems Project

**WHO:** Tribal Member Homeowners

**WHERE:** Isabella Reservation, Clare, Arenac, Midland and Isabella Counties.

**WHY:** To gauge the need for funding to correct deficiencies within Indian Country.

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe (SCIT) in conjunction with Indian Health Services (IHS) is seeking Tribal Members. Septic systems will be pumped and inspected at no expense to the homeowner by licensed and certified pumpers and inspectors.

**For more information, please contact:** Jessica DeVerney-McLaughlin at 989-775-4014

## Tribal Observer

Boozhu! The Tribal Observer, a monthly newspaper, is published on the first of each month. To change your mailing address or contact Tribal Observer staff, please call 989-775-4010. 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  
7070 E. Broadway R.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858  
You may also e-mail us at [observer@sagchip.org](mailto:observer@sagchip.org).

Subscription rates are \$30 per year for non-Tribal members and \$15 for Tribal Members 49 years and younger. Tribal Elders continue to receive complimentary mailed copy but are still required to fill out a subscription form.

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, The 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 advertise your business, 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

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### Please check one:

- Tribal Member Elder 50+ (I want my complimentary copy)
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Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858



# Annual AOVWS Veterans Feast honors the women warriors

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Photojournalist

A packed house of veterans and community members and families came out in support of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Anishinabe Ogichedaw Veterans & Warrior Society (AOVWS) held a Veterans Feast "Honoring the Women Warriors" at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Ballroom on Nov. 8.

The AOVWS Honor Guard began the ceremony with a Grand Entry featuring four Eagle Staff and 10 flags representing our nations and armed service branches.

Special speakers for the event included the first-ever female commander of a VFW Post Rolene Amsler, Grand Traverse Band Odawa Elder and Ogichedaw Eagle Staff Carrier Linda Woods and SCIT Tribal Elder Bonnie Ekdahl.

The Wabanaisee (Snowbirds) Singers also joined the festivities and offered a hand drum song in honor of the warriors.

AOVWS Veteran Tony Perry enjoyed his first assignment as chairman and event coordinator of the annual celebration.

"I took on a large obligation and responsibility and when I first thought of it, I wanted to honor the women warriors, not because we are matriarchal

in origin but we need to show respect to the grandmothers, mothers and aunties," Perry said. "The women do not always get the notoriety, respect and acknowledgment that they need and that is close to my heart. I was close to my great grandmother, grandmother and my mother and I see them as women warriors.

Perry said the outpouring messages from the guest speakers were overwhelming and well received by the capacity crowd.

"To have Rolene Amsler, the first female commander of a VFW, Eagle Staff Carrier Linda Woods and our own SCIT Tribal Elder Bonnie Ekdahl was special," Perry said. "Bonnie isn't

a veteran, but she is a warrior for the people in this community and I wanted to acknowledge that and give her that respect to share her exceptional story of light and hope for other women out there who may be struggling."

"My parents Frank and Phyllis Kequom taught me to work hard, be honest and help the Tribal community," Ekdahl said. "This event holds a special place in my heart because they both really enjoyed coming to dinner, hearing the speakers and greeting community members. Dad was very proud to be a World War II veteran and seeing the flags carried into the ballroom and it always made him feel proud, and we, in turn, were proud of him. It was a great honor to be asked to speak at this event because it was a room full of heroes."

Okima II David Perez Sr. (U.S. Army) said women not only give birth and raise a child in a good



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Tribal Council Secretary Sandy Sprague accepts a recognition award on behalf of Tribal Council from AOVWS Veteran Tony Perry.**

way but has also served bravely in time of war and conflict.

"Recognition from the Tribal community that includes male and female alike means more to me than any other recognition," Perez said. "I've heard it said, 'My heroes are those who risk their lives every day to protect our world and make it a better place — police, firefighters, and members of our armed forces.' Once a year, our Veterans Feast demonstrates the pride of a First Nation by honoring warriors male and female."

Perez said this year's attendance was great and offered a sincere miigwetch to SCIT Tribal leaders and community.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Veteran Rolene Amsler commands the podium as she speaks on the honor of being the first female given leadership responsibilities as a VFW commander.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Tribal Elder Bonnie Ekdahl fondly remembers her father Frank Kequom and his years of service to his country.**

## Saganing Eagles Landing Casino October Employees of the Month

**CHRISTY FEDAK**

Administrative Assistant

Congratulations to the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino October Employees of the Month, Dareth Johnson and Ann Trombly.

Dareth works in the Accounting department and has been nominated several times in the past. Recently, she was nominated by the Security department for the great job she does on a daily basis.

Dareth is an exceptional associate that has been since with SELC since the opening in 2008. She

accurately completes her accounting work and is very cautious with her work assignments. Recently, Dareth helped the Slot department with the progressive reading system. She suggested ideas to make the business run smoother and has helped the Security department reduce the number of keys that they count on a monthly basis. She is always very courteous to the guest and also her fellow associates. Thank you, Dareth, for your great work ethics.

Ann (Barb) Trombly is a slot tech supervisor and has been with SELC since 2008 as well, but has

been working for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe many years before that. Leading by example is just one of the ways Ann excels as a supervisor.

Ann comes up with creative ways and unique tools to help train the staff. She completes all assignments in a timely manner and has proven that she can take on any project and meet or exceed the expectations of management. Not only does Ann think outside the box, but has a great attitude with tremendous guest service. Thank you, Ann, for all your hard work and dedication.



Courtesy of SELC

**Dareth Johnson works in the Accounting department at SELC.**



Courtesy of SELC

**Slot Tech Supervisor and Employee of the Month Ann Trombly.**

## Request for Proposal/Project Manager

On behalf of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, Tribal Council is preparing to receive all interested proposals for project management and oversight to an important community investment. Tribal members and/or Native Americans are strongly encouraged to apply. The proposed project manager must include development and future plans for the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School (MIIBS) including a community survey assist with guidance.

The Council is seeking a project manager with experience and can demonstrate the key components necessary to complete this important project on time and within a developed budget.

Please include within your proposal: A cover letter outlining your educational background and key project experiences, an overview of your project approach (project scope of services) and proposed fee required to complete project phases (pre-design, design, construction and closeout) and any reimbursable fee.

**Tribal Council will evaluate proposals based on the following criteria:**

- Tribal Member/Native American preference
- Education Level
- Relevant Experience examples such as:
  - Management of construction documents (AIA)
  - Feasibility studies
  - Budget management
- Leadership Capability
- Past Performance (if applicable)
- Fee

**Please forward your detailed proposals along with references by Jan. 1, 2015 to:**

Marcella Hadden,  
MIIBS committee member  
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe  
7070 East Broadway  
Mount Pleasant, MI 48858

The Community Safety Institute with assistance from The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribal Police Department Present:



**Thursday, December 4, 2014**  
8:30a.m. - 5:30p.m.

**Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Ballroom**  
6800 Soaring Eagle Blvd.

**Contacts:**  
Melissa Montoya  
989.289.4487  
Public Relations  
989.775.4096  
Sergeant  
Craig Wilson  
989.775.4837

**Presentation Topics Include:**

- Neighborhood Watch Basis
- Volunteer Management
- Planning and Conducting Meetings
- Strategic Planning
- Reporting Suspicious Activities
- Partnerships
- Target Hardening for the Home

- Free of Charge
- Lunch will be Provided
- Grand Prize Drawing SECR Package (Must be present to win)
- Participants will receive a free toolkit



Community members are encouraged to attend!



## SCIT repatriates ancestral remains and funerary objects from the University of Michigan's Museum of Anthropological Archeology

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Photojournalist

Below freezing temperatures and a biting northern wind was no match for the warmth of community to be present when ancestors come home. Tribal Elder Bert Hunt saw the beauty of the snow and cold weather as a good sign.

"Doing something that warms your heart doesn't mean it will be easy because sometimes we have to suffer before we see the good we can do together," Hunt said. "It is a beautiful day... it always is when we bring our ancestors home. There are many frozen tears of joy out here today."

On Nov. 19, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and its Ziibiwing Cultural Society repatriated the ancestral human remains of 94 Native American individuals and 812 associated funerary objects from the University of Michigan's Museum of Anthropological Archaeology in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Ziibiwing staff and community volunteers worked diligently during a three-day preparation with the Michigan Anishnaabek Cultural Preservation & Repatriation Alliance (MACPRA), the Chippewa-Cree Indians of the Rocky Boy's Reservation of Montana, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and the Wyandotte Nation of Oklahoma to bring home ancestors and their associated funerary objects from the numerous museums, universities and institutions across the country since the passage of the 1990 Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).

Tribal Elders Alvin Windy Boy and Duncan Standing Rock Sr. were the visiting Montana dignitaries in attendance with Windy Boy making his second Ziibiwing repatriation.

"I took part in repatriation with the Turtle Mountain Tribe about four years ago and I've always felt at home on your ceremonial grounds... your weather reminds me of back home," Windy Boy said. "I think it is times like this where we truly feel a part of the circle and we know we are all connected, whatever Tribe we are from."

Elder Standing Rock Sr. shared a teaching on how his ancestors went through the snow of the Canadian Rockies of Alberta and ended up at the Rocky Boy Reserve in Montana.

"Migration stories are common with our people and we knew if we could get over that big mountain, we would be survivors," Standing Rock Sr. said. "From the province in Alberta, Canada to the migration through Minot, North Dakota, our people followed the sacred fires that led this Ojibwe into big mountain country and we are blessed by the Great Spirit for making that journey."

Ziibiwing Executive Director Shannon Martin informs "the University of Michigan posted a Notice of Inventory Completion in the Federal Register on Oct. 16, 2014. From 1923 to 1935, human remains representing, at minimum, 94 individuals were removed from the Younge site (20LP1) in Lapeer County, Mich. The site is located on farmland north of Imlay City and had been plowed over for years. Between



Photo courtesy of Marcella Hadden

**Tribal dignitaries across the U.S. and Canada joined more than 50 community members at the "Recommitment to the Earth" repatriation ceremony at the Nibokaan Ancestral Cemetery.**

1923 and 1935, amateur archaeologist Carman Baggerly collected at the site with the landowner's permission."

"Baggerly donated many of the human remains and objects to the University of Michigan Museum of Anthropological Archaeology (UMMAA) throughout that period," Martin said. "These donations prompted a UMMAA excavation of the site that occurred from July 19 to Nov. 5, 1935, under the direction of Wilbert Hinsdale and Emerson Greenman. The human remains date to the Late Woodland Period (900-1300 A.D.) based on objects found at the site. No known individuals were identified."

Midewewin Tribal Elders George Martin and Brian Corbiere led the community in the "Recommitment to the Earth Ceremony" at the Tribe's Nibokaan Ancestral Cemetery. The cemetery was established in 1995 for the explicit purpose of reburying repatriated Native American ancestral human remains and associated funerary objects.

Okima II David Perez was on site with the Anishinaabeg Ogitchedaw Veterans & Warrior Society (AOVWS) Healing Eagle Staff and SCIT Behavioral Health Helping Healer Beatrice Jackson had her personal Eagle Clan Healing Staff and offered cedar and tobacco to participants.

Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Elder Greg Lambert respectfully

offered a medicine smudge to every aspect of the proceedings.

AOVWS Veteran Tony Perry placed each item carefully in a good way for reburial.

"I am honored to be a part of this and bring our ancestors back where they belong," Perry said. "It is a humbling, sobering experience to know there are people out there that disrespect and desecrate our people and our Nation by digging them up and taking DNA samplings, artifacts and bones for their own personal gain or curiosity. I think this is something that continues to go on and it needs to be exposed and on the forefront of modern media to make people aware of what is going on against our people, our culture and our Elders."

Perry mentioned the duties that he was asked to do is one of the highest honors an Ogitchedaw is privileged to

perform for their community.

"As Ogitchedaw, our job is to serve and protect no matter what or where... to serve the community and the ancestors is a high honor," he said. "Handling each bundle makes one reflect and one particular bundle I started getting choked up and my Elder asked me if I needed a break and I told him I'll be OK. It is emotional, not just a physical thing we go through with repatriation, and it's a deeply spiritual and emotional thing that comes from the heart. Ogitchedaw means the big hearted, and I find certain relevance and deeper meaning of that today."

A "Journey Feast" to conclude the ancestral ceremonies and protocols was held after the "Recommitment to the Earth" ceremony at 2 p.m. at the Ziibiwing Center.



Photo courtesy of Marcella Hadden

**One-by-one, people laid their prayers of semaa (tobacco) in a sign of reverence and respect as AOVWS Okima II David Perez and the Ogitchedaw Healing Eagle Staff stand silently at the western door.**

### Member Needed

For the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Health Board. We are in need of one health board member.

- 1.) Must be a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.
- 2.) Must be 18 years of age.
- 3.) Must have strong interests in the health services provided and the health problems within the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Community.

Meetings are held once a month and a stipend is given for each meeting attended (If eligible).

Term of office is three years with three more years with Tribal Council approval.

**If interested:**

Write a short letter stating why you feel you would make a good Health Board Member.

**Mail or bring to the clinic:**

Attention: Michelle George  
2591 South Leaton Rd.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI. 48858

\*Please include your phone number or a contact person. \*When the letters are received at the end of the time period they are given to Tribal Council to make the final decision.

If you have any questions, please call Michelle at 989.775.4602



**Positions Now Available!**

Apply today at  
[www.migiziedc.com](http://www.migiziedc.com)

## Adopt a Pet

**Sassy**



Sassy is a 9-year-old Hound mix who came to HATS in late October 2014 with her sister Mandy.

Both of the sweet girls are looking for a quiet retirement home where they can share their affection with a special someone. They both enjoy going for walks and play with toys when they are not curled up at your feet! Adoption rate has been reduced. Animal ID 21297965.

**Happy**



I'm Happy, a 2-year-old Domestic Shorthair mix. Someone threw me out of their van in a parking lot. Can you believe it? I was pretty upset about it initially, but after the HATS staff calmed me down, I realized I'm better off. I'm cuddly and I love belly rubs. Cat nip is a vice, as well as wet food. If you're looking to add a queen bee to your household, I'm your girl. Animal ID 23363575.

**Available at: The Humane Animal Treatment Society**

1105 S. Isabella Rd. Mt. Pleasant ➔ [Hatsweb.org](http://Hatsweb.org) ➔ 989.775.0830 ➔ Email: [info@hatsweb.org](mailto:info@hatsweb.org)  
Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Saturday: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Puppies (under six months): \$175, Dogs: \$160, Cats: \$85



## Forty credits: How many do you have?

**MIKKI MARCOTTE**

Case Manager

Anyone wanting to receive social security payments, disability payments and/or Medicare has to earn 40 work credits. It takes about 10 years of full-time work to earn 40 work credits. You can earn less by working part time but never more than four work credits a year.

Did you know that when you turn 65 you MUST go on Medicare for your health insurance unless you are working and getting your health insurance through your employer? Being a Tribal Member does not count towards earning

your credits or qualify you to remain on the Tribal insurance after you turn 65.

There are two parts to Medicare Part A (hospitalization) and Part B (doctor visits).

Part A (hospitalization) will cost about \$440 a month if you did not earn your 40 work credits.

Part B will cost about \$105 a month. So if you do not have the work credits, your Medicare will cost about \$550 a month for the rest of your life.

Curious about how many work credits you have? Call or stop in the At-Large Department and we will show you how to find out. Everyone who comes in will get a prize!

## Saganing Powwow needs your help

The Saganing Traditional Powwow is a self-funded, traditional, non-competitive powwow and cannot happen without your help and support.

The money earned through memorial/announcement/booster sales and advertisements from local businesses is what makes this powwow possible, along with profits raised from gate sales.

When you purchase a memorial/

announcement spot in the powwow booklet, you are showing your support for the Powwow and making it possible next year.

This year's Saganing Traditional Powwow will be held June 20-21, 2015 at the Saganing Powwow grounds.

Look for the memorial/announcement application in the Tribal Observer in the coming months. We look forward to your continued support.

*To Keep in Touch  
ACROSS THE MILES*

*"Keeping in touch with the people we care about helps keep the spirit of Christmas alive in our hearts all year long"*

*Thinking of you and wishing you a Very Merry Christmas*

*From the At-Large Staff*

*Craig Lisa, Mikki, Denise & Gloria*

### Save the Date - Jan. 8, 2015

At-Large is hosting a Tax Workshop in conjunction with the regular Housing Financial Workshop in Saganing.

Someone will be on hand to answer tax questions.  
Call 1-800-844-6271 to register.

*Experience the fascinating history and rich culture of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan at the Midwest's Premier American Indian Museum*

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10am-6pm

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Staff at the ZiiBiwing Center**

### ANISHINABE PERFORMANCE CIRCLE

## GRADUATION

**Tuesday, December 16, 2014**

**6:00pm**

**BROADWAY THEATRE**  
216 E. BROADWAY  
MT. PLEASANT, MI

FREE & OPEN to the PUBLIC

**INVITE YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY!**

A RECEPTION WILL IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW THE PERFORMANCE

*Guiding our Future Leaders*

Sponsored by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Housing Department and the ZiiBiwing Center

## COMMUNITY CULTURAL TEACHING & FEAST

**DECEMBER 13 • 12-4PM**

*Celebrating Winter Solstice & the Holidays*

**FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**Agenda:**

- 12:00 Welcome
- 12:30 Feast
- 1:30 Cultural Arts
  - Adult Activities
  - Ornament Making:
    - Moccasin
    - Birch Bark
    - Etching
    - Porcupine Quillwork
  - Youth Activities
  - Holiday Crafts
- 3:00 Cookie Decorating
- 3:30 Songs
- 4:00 Closing

**ZIIBIWING CENTER**  
6650 E. Broadway  
Mt. Pleasant, MI  
989.775.4750  
[www.sagchip.org/ziiBiwing](http://www.sagchip.org/ziiBiwing)



## Community Emergency Preparedness event offers survival education and fun

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Photojournalist

On Oct. 27, several Tribal departments including Nimkee Public Health, Seventh Generation and the Nimkee Healthy Start Program came together at the Elijah Elk Cultural Center to offer survival education and fun to more than 75 participants.

Healthy Start Child Nurse Helen Williams provided materials and sang the praises of the event being a huge success.

“Emergency preparedness for the family does not have to be a difficult task, you can have fun and learn how to be

ready should disaster happen,” Williams said.

Public Health Nurses Twila Schrot and Sue Sowmick, and Physician Barry Kissoondial, M.D., informed the audience of the importance of immunizations and preventative measures to keep a family healthy.

Sowmick also provided free flu shots to Tribal members in attendance.

Kissoondial ensures keeping up-to-date with immunizations is the way to protect the community.

“There are some situations where after an immunization, some will experience a fever, pain at the site of injection, body aches, making one feel that you

should not receive that immunization again,” Kissoondial said. “We must keep in mind that these are not allergic reactions, they are not contraindications to receiving future immunizations. The best thing to do is to contact your health care provider/staff at the office and discuss your concerns and symptoms you may have had in the past. We must remember the benefits of the immunizations, and also keeping healthy prevents other infections from occurring.”

“For further information on immunizations, outbreaks of certain infections in your local areas I would recommend going to the websites of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and also the local and state health departments,” Kissoondial said. “Please feel free also to contact the staff at Nimkee for any further information you may need.”

Informational websites Kissoondial recommends include the Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention at [www.cdc.gov/](http://www.cdc.gov/), the Central Michigan District Health Department at [www.cmdhd.org](http://www.cmdhd.org) and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services at [www.hhs.gov/](http://www.hhs.gov/).

Williams discussed the new Community Emergency Planning Guide, a collaborative

effort between the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center Emergency Preparedness Grant and the State of Michigan Office of Public Health Preparedness.

Williams answered the audience’s questions, and Administrative Assistant II Lee Ruffino and Seasonal Garden Worker Quinn Pelcher of Seventh Generation presented an “edible plants in our backyard” demonstration. They also gave a delightful and insightful tour of the Seventh Generation greenhouse.

The action moved outside when Maintenance Worker Lacey Mandoka offered teachings of life survival skills. Mandoka demonstrated how to begin building a shelter in the wilderness with supplies found in the woods. She also showed how to start a campfire using material found in nature and the process of filtering and purifying water.

The group did have a bit of fun with the kids because when Mandoka was teaching how to start and build a fire, Williams took the water that was filtered then put on the fire



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Nimkee Dr. Barry Kissoondial (right) joins Public Health Nurse Sue Sowmick, RN, in sharing information at the Oct. 27 Emergency Planning event at the Elijah Elk Cultural Center.**

for boiling and replaced it with hot cocoa. When the kids came back to the fire to taste the purified water the comments were, “hey... running the water through the blue jeans, sand and gravel filter made the water taste like hot cocoa.” To practice more outdoor survival skills, some hot dogs and toasted marshmallows over the open campfire were offered to the eager participants.

Williams thanked the Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel for providing the grand prizes for the evening (an overnight stay at the waterpark with four waterpark passes, a pro golf gift certificate for \$50 and an \$80 dollar value spa visit at the Soaring Eagle Spa.)



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Seventh Generation Maintenance Worker Lacey Mandoka instructs Tribal youth during an emergency planning exercise on how to purify water in the wilderness.**



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# Your Voice My Voice



**Wednesday, Dec. 3 • 7 p.m.**  
**Monday, Jan. 19 • 7 p.m.**

**Location:** Tribal Operations Seniors Room  
7070 E. Broadway Mt. Pleasant

Dec. 3, 2014 marks the one-year anniversary of our oath of office. Let’s discuss what was accomplished, your concerns and our future.

Tribal Council Member Chip Neyome is offering an opportunity to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribal Membership to participate in an open discussion. Members are encouraged to attend with the intent of asking the tough questions, providing possible solutions and with the willingness to listen to others. Neyome will moderate and lead the discussion.

Tribal ID required for entry. Teens to adults welcome. No young children.



## Foster care parents honored during ACFS' second annual banquet

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

Anishnaabeg Child and Family Services staff honored foster care parents at the second annual foster care banquet Saturday, Oct. 11 in the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym. Appetizers were served at 4 p.m., with speakers during the 5 p.m. dinner.

Chris Harris, of Center for Foster Success and director of Seita Scholars Program from Western Michigan University, was the main speaker. He discussed his experience as a foster parent.

He also discussed the Seita Scholars Program which allows selected foster children to attend college at no cost.

"Thanks to (the ACFS) team for having me speak at the foster parent appreciation dinner..." Harris said. "It was a wonderful time. Having been in the business off and on for



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Chris Harris, director of Seita Scholars Program from Western Michigan University, discussed his experience as a foster care parent.**

more than 21 years, this is the first time I have seen foster parents appreciated in this way."

Two massage therapists from Naturopathic Institute of Therapies and Education gave chair massages and two Behavioral Health employees did acupuncture.

"It was great to see our foster parents come out and enjoy themselves for the night," ACFS Administrative Assistant Samantha Strand said. "It was our hope to honor and celebrate them and try to show them just how much they truly are appreciated... We are grateful to each and every one of our foster parents for all that they do for our children. We look forward to continuing to work with them in the years to come..."

Foster care parents were honored with Pendleton blankets and the Indian Child Welfare Committee was also recognized and gifted with a fleece jacket.

"It's great to honor our people, they are our unsung heroes," Indian Child Welfare Specialist

Eliza Owl said. "They are there whenever we need them, even if it's 3 a.m. We need more foster parents. If you have space in your heart and home, please give us a call (989-775-4906)."

Tribal Youth Council also put in time and effort, providing child care during the event.

Healthy Start Child Nurse Anna Hon shared stress management techniques.

Carole Tally was one of the foster care parents in attendance.

"I enjoy being a foster parent," Tally said. "The joy of having a child in my home is a blessing. I will continue to do this as long as I am able. The love of a child: Priceless. I can't express enough the need for foster homes in the district. Positive love is around us."

The event was a success in honoring those who open up their hearts, as well as their homes.

"Thank you to all involved in the event of honoring our



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Healthy Start Child Nurse Anna Hon shared stress management techniques.**

foster parents," Felicia Bross, foster care specialist said. "The foster parents that have devoted their lives to helping our community are irreplaceable and I cannot say thank you enough to those that have. If you are interested in becoming a foster parent or respite care provider, please call 989-775-4906, we can never have too many open homes in our community for those in need!"

## American Cancer Society receives donation from SECR "Middle of the Mitt" Festival

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Photojournalist

The rock and roll genre is no stranger to giving back to the community and the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Marketing and Table Games departments proved just that with a sizable donation to the American Cancer Society.

"This morning we presented The American Cancer Society with a check for \$9,503.50 and it for such a great cause," SECR Advertising/Public Relations Manager Kristina Griffus said. "The check was on behalf of the proceeds donated by Brent Jackson of Mad Turtle Productions and Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort from the fifth annual Middle of The Mitt Music Festival held back on Sept. 20."

Pat Wyble and Catina Lowe accepted the check from SECR Table Games Director Brent Jackson on behalf of the American Cancer Society and the Relay for Life of Jackson County.

"The Relay for Life and the American Cancer Society helps so many people in so many ways," Wyble said. "It is fantastic that the Soaring Eagle and Mad Turtle Productions are able to join with us in being able to provide essential programs to cancer patients everywhere. This is a great festival that includes so many people from

the mid-Michigan area and this money is going to be able to help fund a lot of programs."

Lowe said the American Cancer Society estimates there are more than 14 million cancer survivors.

"The ground-breaking research, programs, and services are made available to our communities because of generous donations made by individuals and organizations," Lowe said. "It is those efforts from people and organizations that host events and help make cancer research a top priority."

Jackson had a few people to thank for making the event possible.

"I would personally like to thank Jesse Brennan of Everleaf Music who helped me run the Middle of the Mitt," Jackson said. "I enjoy Mad Turtle Productions and the festival is my baby. It all started when I was approaching 40 and wanted to have a big shindig to commemorate the occasion. Since I had been in bands off and on over the years, I wanted to put on a show. I asked a friend who had experience with festivals to lend a hand. Before, during and after the show, we had a lot of people who liked what we'd done."

Jackson enjoyed the whole experience and in speaking with his mother and father,

they said it reminded them of the time they would gather with other 'Nishnobs at "horseshoe bend" to sing, play guitar and have good times.

"They (mom and dad) are getting up in age and when they spoke of those times, I could see they revered those cherished memories," Jackson said. "I knew what we were doing was a good thing so Middle of the Mitt Music Festival was born."

The festival was the fifth Annual Middle of the Mitt but it was in actuality their seventh production; two of them were birthdays, including the 11/11/11 Music Festival and the other was Jackson's original party.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**SECR Table Games Director and Mad Turtle Productions Owner Brent Jackson (left) and Jesse Brennan of Everleaf Music present a check to American Cancer Society Relay for Life representatives Pat Wyble and Catina Lowe.**

## SECR "Star of Excellence" Banquet



Courtesy of SECR

**Matt Haggard from SECR Housekeeping won Employee of the Year and a \$2,500 prize.**



Courtesy of SECR

**Janis Kratz from SECR Table Games won Supervisor of the Year and a \$2,500 prize.**

**KRISTINA GRIFFUS**

SECR Advertising and Public Relations Manager

Every three months, Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort associates who have demonstrated efforts beyond their regular responsibilities may be nominated as a star of excellence.

"Star of Excellence" nominees are invited to a breakfast award ceremony to receive a \$100 SECR amenity card, \$50 dining card, beautifully engraved plaques and their photos taken to be posted on the wall in the associate dining

room for the following three months.

In addition to recognizing the outstanding SECR associates every three months, SECR hosts a dinner banquet for these associates who were nominated throughout the year. During this year's annual dinner on Thursday, Nov. 6, there were drawings for cash prizes.

The winners of this year's cash prize drawings are Matt Haggard from Housekeeping and Janis Kratz from Table Games.

Congratulations to everyone who has been nominated throughout this past year! Keep up the excellent work.

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## Art shawl collection brings awareness to cardiovascular disease

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

With the determination to increase awareness of America's number one killer, heart disease, the Ziibiwing Center is hosting the "Healing Through Culture and Art Shawl Collection" changing exhibition.

On Nov. 4, Ziibiwing provided a healthy heart luncheon during the grand opening. The "Healing Through Culture and Art Shawl Collection" was created by artist Suzanne L. Cross to emphasize cardiac health and care.

Cross, ACSW, LMSW, PhD, LLC, is an Elder and member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan. She is an associate professor at the Emeritus-School of Social Work—MSU and a National Child Welfare Workforce Institute tribal consultant. She is also an open heart surgery survivor.

Ziibiwing Curator William Johnson welcomed the guests and used a Richard Kamler quote to introduce Cross; "Art is our one true global language. It knows no nation, it favors no race, and it acknowledges no class. It speaks to our need to reveal, heal, and transform. It transcends our ordinary lives and lets us imagine what is possible."

Cross created 13 shawls in recognition of the 13 moons from the Anishinabe Creation Story.

"Each shawl has its own story and design to encourage American Indian women and to recognize important values of changing lifeways to prolong and save lives," Cross said. "The collection also had focus on the seven generations and pays tributes to the unborn and those that have walked on."

Aside from being a shawl maker and bead work artist for



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Shawl maker and bead work artist Suzanne L. Cross attended the grand opening of her "Healing Through Culture and Art Shawl Collection" exhibition.**

most of her life, as well as a survivor, Cross had other reasons for creating this collection.

"I wanted to focus on prevention," Cross said. "Some women still think this is a man's disease and they have nothing to worry about so they are not concerned... I hope the collection informs, supports and encourages mindfulness of self-care to increase heart health, which will result in better overall health."

The 1 p.m. ribbon cutting ceremony left the exhibit officially open to the public. American Heart Association representatives attended the day's festivities, as did Nimkee Public Health personnel.

At 2 p.m., a survivors' panel consisted of Angela Peters, Charmaine Shawana and Marvin Davis, three heart disease survivors who shared their stories of fear, survival and life-changing habits.

During her fifth trip to the hospital due to heart-related conditions, Peters suffered a major heart attack. She had a 90 percent blockage in her arteries.

"I was obese all my life, I was a smoker, I wasn't drinking at the time, but I had high

blood pressure, high cholesterol, family history of vascular problems," Peters said after Cross read common causes in women. "I remember on the third (attack), my symptoms were... heavy pressure on my back between my shoulder blades, heavy pressure on my chest and back."

Peters now pays attention to what she eats and consumes more traditional foods.

"I'm feeling better than I ever have in my entire adult life," Peters said. "I lost almost 100 pounds, I'm eating right, no longer insulin dependent... It's been a long road, but I'm feeling a lot better. I'm not afraid anymore. I hope people can take better care of themselves and they don't go through the things I went through."

For bravely sharing their stories, Peters and Shawana were presented with red shawls made by the In Stitches Quilting Group. Davis was presented a gift, with the promise of receiving a red sash in the near future from Elizabeth Hughes and Colleen Wagner of In Stitches.

"Women's (cardiovascular disease) symptoms are often much different than men's," Cross said. "Women tend to be less likely to report chest pain or discomfort than men. Instead, they report vague, less typical



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Angela Peters, Charmaine Shawana, Cross and Marvin Davis were honored by Ziibiwing employees and In Stitches quilting group members for sharing their brave stories.**

upper back pain, shoulder pain, pressure in the center of the chest, some sweating... lightheadedness or dizziness, unusual fatigue, difficulty lifting arms, anxiety..."

The "Healing Through Culture and Art Shawl Collection" will be on display until Feb. 28, 2015.

Cross created the shawl collection during a healing process after surgery. She was taught to always approach traditional work with positive thoughts, and while recalling positive events in her life, each shawl was created. She shared that during her experience of pain and a time of healing, beautiful and meaningful items can be created to hopefully inspire others.

Shawls serve as symbols of womanhood and are of significance to the culture. Cross has given shawls as gifts of

appreciation, for ceremonies, celebrations and donated many for Tribal events and conferences.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Cross made the "Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe Shawl" with the SCIT logo, and an eagle to signify strength. The floral bead work is special to Cross as two of the flowers were partially beaded by Violet C. Jackson Cross, the artist's mother who has "walked on".**

## Take the right step

**JUDY DAVIS**

Nimkee BCCCP Clerk

*(Editor's note: The following information is from the December 2014 health-e headlines Consumer Health News Service, with permission to print in the Tribal Observer.)*

There is a right way – and a wrong way – to climb stairs. Most people put a foot on the first step, lean forward on their toes, and lift the other foot off the ground to advance to the next step. Wrong!

Keep walking this way and you will have knee problems!

Take the right step: Stand straight and push off your instep, not your toes, using the larger hip and thigh muscles to lift you to the next level. As these muscles become more accustomed to being used, they will become stronger and more supportive, and it will be easier for you to climb stairs.

And don't forget, you can still walk at Morey Courts for free, courtesy of the Nimkee Public Health 4x4 Grant.

# Seasons Greetings

To our beloved ones serving our country



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U.S. Navy

Aviation Maintenance Admin.  
Virginia Beach, Virginia  
USS Bataan ship



**Kevin Ricketts Jr.**

Air Force

A1C- F22 Crew Chief  
Tactical Aircraft Maintainer  
Alaska/Elmendorf Richardson



**Jonathan Steele**

Air Force (15.5 years)

(Master Sergeant) Combat Shield  
Electronic Warfare Evaluation  
Program Production Supervisor  
Nellis AFB, Las Vegas



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Christmas	niibaa'anamaegiizhigad

**MNO NII-BAA-NA-MAAN**  
**HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS**

Nichols, John, D, & Nyholm, Earl. A Concise Dictionary of Minnesota Ojibwe. University of Minnesota Press. Minneapolis. 1995. Title by Isabelle Osawamick.

## WIGWAM WISDOM

The Wigwam has sheltered our ancestors from storms and bad weather since the dawn of time. The wigwam has witnessed the hardships our people have had to endure not only through the hands of change and war, but upon our strongest enemies, ourselves. The spirit of the wigwam does not forget and keeps with it the wisdom to guide the souls that have strayed back to a peaceful life.



Comments or feedback can be sent to: wigwam\_wisdom@yahoo.com

*\*(WW is intended entertainment purposes only. Please make sure to seek professional counseling when necessary.)*

**Dear WW:** I recently had a miscarriage and am having difficulty in letting go. I so badly wanted a child and this would have been my first one. I was so excited, I went out and bought everything the minute I found out. Needless to say, I now realize why my mother always talked about never buying anything until after the child is born. To top it off, I feel my husband is no longer attracted to me. I wake him up when he falls asleep on the couch but he doesn't always come to bed. Can anything else go wrong? **Tears in Heaven**

**Dear Tears:** We all grieve differently and your husband is also grieving. It's OK to be depressed while you are grieving and symptoms of grieving include all the things you just stated; regret, feelings of unattractiveness, loneliness, doom, etc. Give your situation some time and realize that it's all a part of grieving. Don't make any important decisions for at least four seasons. If you have a spiritual leader to talk to and guide you both through your grieving, that would be helpful. My condolences.

**Dear WW:** I am seriously considering divorce and mostly because I feel it's not good to stay together for the children. To make a long story short, I'm just not happy. Yes he works and is good to the kids but I AM JUST NOT HAPPY! I wish I had a better reason but I don't. How do I move on and think about myself for once? **Divorcee**

**Dear Divorcee:** It's a little late to think about yourself now that you are a mother and wife. I would suggest you do that after your child/children are 18. Divorcing your husband will NOT make you happy. As a matter of fact, it will probably make life harder for you. If you want to see your children half the time and have them be influenced by your ex-husband's new girlfriend or wife, then I would say go for it. However, my suggestion would be to stay until your children are grown and put their happiness before your own. Seek professional counseling or a physician if you are not happy it may be a sign of depression.

**Dear WW:** Me and my new husband are at odds, once again. It's no secret that we have plenty of money but what I consider helping, my husband considers flaunting. His family is not well off and in discussing our Christmas lists, I would like to purchase some good quality items for them that they can't afford. He says that in doing so would be considering "bragging." His idea is to be practical and give modest gift certificates. What do you think? **Checking My List**

**Dear List:** Congratulations on your wealth, however, do realize that the best gifts are not necessarily the most expensive. He is telling you what he wants to do for his family because he knows them best. Once you get to know his family, you will understand them better. I would suggest a good smoked ham which can be pricy yet practical and enjoyed by the whole family! Happy Holidays.

## WHERE ON THE REZ?



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Comic courtesy of Allyssa Shawboose

Tribal Observer

# COMIC CONTEST

Email your submissions to [observer@sagchip.org](mailto:observer@sagchip.org) or turn them in to the Tribal Observer office located inside the Tribal Operations building.



## "Gifts from the Creator: Photography by Marcella Hadden" featured in exhibition

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

Marcella Hadden, member and public relations manager of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, has been taking photographs for as long as she can remember. Little did she know, her photographs would eventually receive considerable recognition.

The "Gifts from the Creator: Photography by Marcella Hadden" exhibition is on display through Dec. 12, 2014 as part of the Art @ the Andersen at the Andersen Enrichment Center in Saginaw, Mich.

The exhibit features a series of nature photographs inspired



Courtesy of Marcella Hadden

**The color burst of a dahlia flower demonstrates how a photo artist transmits their vision to accent the beauty of a still life.**

by Hadden's Ojibway culture. Her photography focuses on the clans, and names given during Naming Ceremonies.

Hadden continues to sharpen her photography skills by attending workshops and classes, and meeting with other local photographers to share knowledge.

Currently, Hadden's repatriation photo is on display at the National Museum of the American Indian as part of the Nation to Nation Exhibit. Her work is also on display at SCIT's Seventh Generation Ceremonial Building, the Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel, the Ziibiwing Cultural Center and has been used on the Mount Pleasant, Mich. map and as a bus wrap for the Isabella County Transportation Commission.

Hadden also had a rotating display of photographs through Art Reach of Mid Michigan a couple years ago.

Working under her Ojibwe name, Niibing Giizis or Summer Moon, Hadden has a Mount Pleasant studio surrounded by acres of land on Remus Road. National Geographic published one of her photographs from the pond on her property. She caught a turtle with an apple in its mouth, submitted it to National Geographic and it was published in 2011.

Along with portraits and family photos, Hadden frequently photographs numerous Tribal events and ceremonies, with powwows being one of her favorite events to shoot. Hadden hopes to prepare a Native and/or powwow dance exhibit in the near future.

When approaching retirement, Hadden plans to eventually expand her studio to contain more natural lighting and a dressing room. She also plans to focus more on newborn photography shoots, along with boudoir sessions.

Hadden captures family photographs for many Tribal members. Migizi Administrative Assistant III Tonia Kequom booked a photography session with Hadden to update their family photos.

"On the day of our shoot, Marcella was energetic, creative and very patient," Kequom said. "All of our photos were fantastic. It was a hard decision to make on which we would select to be placed over our fireplace mantel. She is wonderful to work with and we wish upon her many blessings and much success."

Hadden's most prized possessions photographed thus far include the "blood moon" in early October 2014 and red berries throughout all seasons.

When asked how being chosen for the exhibit felt, Hadden said she went running in the house to share the news with her husband, Lee.

Art @ the Andersen was established by the Saginaw Arts & Enrichment Commission to give artists the opportunity to show off their work in the Great Lakes Bay Region. It is made possible by a grant from the Arthur D. Eddy Memorial Fund and supported by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.



Courtesy of Marcella Hadden

**A technique utilizing depth of field as a science in macrophotography is evident in how the needles draw the viewer into the pine cone.**

The exhibit is located at 120 Ezra Rust Drive, Saginaw, MI 48601. More information is available at **989-759-1626** and [www.artsaginaw.org](http://www.artsaginaw.org).



Courtesy of Marcella Hadden

**The red berries photograph is featured in the "Gifts from the Creator: Photography by Marcella Hadden" exhibition at the Andersen Enrichment Center in Saginaw, Mich.**



Courtesy of Marcella Hadden

**The natural symmetry of nature photography can enhance how one frames a picture as seen in numerous photos like this from Summer Moon Photography.**

## Two percent distributions continued from front page

"Clearly the need is very apparent in the number of requests being submitted," Tribal Council Treasurer Shelly Bailey said. "The Tribal Council is very proud that we can be part of satisfying some of these requests and we only wish we could fund each and every one."

The Isabella County distribution took place at 9 a.m. in the Tribal Operations Senior's Room located at 7070 E. Broadway in Mount Pleasant, Mich.

The Isabella County contributions will include technology updates of smart boards and iPads in the Mount Pleasant Public Schools, a brand new playground at the Beal City Carl D. Mayes



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Tribal Council Secretary Sandy Sprague, Treasurer Shelly Bailey, Sub Chief Lorna Kahgegab Call and Chief Steven Pego distribute the Saganing-area two percent funding at the Standish-Sterling Central High School Auditorium on Nov. 20.**

Elementary school, a suicide prevention speaker at Shepherd High School and on.

The Saganing distribution took place at the Standish-Sterling High School Auditorium, 2401 Grove Rd. in Standish, Mich.

"This is like Christmas here early," City of Omer Mayor Alice Sproule said with plans to purchase a much needed new compressor.

James Daly, Arenac Township supervisor, said the

funds will be used for a veterans memorial and cemetery. Other Standish-area funds will go toward road repairs in Au Gres, road improvement and maintenance in Lincoln Township, computer and software updates in Sims Township, Standish Township fire department equipment updates, new office equipment for Whitney Township, and campus-wide state of the art technology for Au Gres-Sims, according to Superintendent Jeffrey Collier.

Hosting the two percent location, Standish-Sterling Schools Superintendent Darren Kroczaleski said he was glad Tribal Council was present.

"You have an open invitation anytime you'd like to use our facilities," Kroczaleski said to Tribal Council. "All of that good is because of what you do... Your generosity and giving goes on and on."

Kroczaleski said the funding will assist in a new public address (PA) system for the elementary school, student assessment for advanced placement and the "Friends of Rachel" anti-bullying program.

Both Isabella and Saganing two percent distributions were filmed by SCIT Media for live web stream broadcast and are available to watch online at [www.sagchip.org](http://www.sagchip.org).

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# Fairbanks returns to CMU Homecoming football game as honorary captain

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Photojournalist

Selected as the honorary captain at the Oct. 4 Central Michigan University Homecoming football game against Ohio University, Anthony Fairbanks is an Ojibwe from the Red Lake and White Earth Indian Reservations of Minnesota and a former CMU football player. During his CMU athletic career, Fairbanks played on two Mid-American Conference Championship teams coached by the CMU Hall of Famer Herb Deromedi in 1979 and 1980.

Fairbanks has been serving as superintendent for the Little Wound School District in Kyle, S.D. since 2012.

“Coming back to Central Michigan as the football teams’ honorary captain was truly an awesome experience,” Fairbanks said. “I received the invitation via email from my former coach Plas Presnell last spring. It was such a surprise that I read the email three or four times to really believe it. To be back on campus definitely brought back some great memories.”

“I still remember watching Central Michigan win the 1974 National Championship game on TV during my high school sophomore year and deciding right then and there that I wanted to be on that team,” he said. “I didn’t receive any scholarship offers during my senior year at Sault Ste. Marie high school, so I went down to Central’s football stadium in August of 1977 to try out for the team as a walk on. I was fortunate to make the team and played my sophomore through senior seasons on the varsity. It was especially a lot of fun playing on our 1979 and 1980 championship teams. We were undefeated my junior year in ’79 and feel very fortunate to have played with a lot of great players on that first MAC championship team.”

Fairbanks remembers when Presnell joined the Chippewas



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Former CMU football standout and Red Lake/White Earth Ojibwe Native Anthony Fairbanks is recognized as Honorary Captain at the 2014 CMU Homecoming game.**

as a graduate assistant in 1978 during his sophomore season.

“I have always appreciated his ongoing support as a player and as alum,” Fairbanks said. “It was also very special to be around my former head coach Herb Deromedi. His leadership and mentorship as my coach has always positively inspired me, even after all these years. I still see him as my coach today.”

Deromedi stood with Fairbanks on the field as they reflected on many fine memories together.

“Every year student athletes get an opportunity to come back to their alma mater and remember the good times they had during their academic career,” Deromedi said. “To see the work that Dr. Fairbanks is doing for Native students in South Dakota is inspiring and is the true honor of being a football coach. To see a student athlete you coached continue their education and make a difference in their community is why (Fairbanks) received the distinguished recognition of honorary captain during CMU Homecoming.”

When Fairbanks came back out on the field at Kelly Shorts Stadium, the special moment

and memories came into focus.

“It was very humbling and a dream come true to be back in the team meetings, in the locker room before the game and on the sideline with the team again...,” Fairbanks said. “The thing that impressed me the most was how welcoming, kind and respectful the players, coaches and staff were to me throughout the weekend. The team’s character that Coach (Dan) Enos and his staff

have developed is excellent. They made me feel like I was a part of their team, like we are all still brothers as one team and one family. It was also a lot of fun to win the game. Everyone played with a lot of heart.”

The Chippewas notched another successful homecoming win by beating the Bobcats 28-10.

An advocate of education for more than 30 years, Fairbanks previously served as superintendent for the Laguna Department of Education, an assistant professor for New Mexico State University, Native American development specialist for the University of Wisconsin, elementary school principal, dean of students, middle and high school football coach, consultant to the Blandin Foundation and executive director of the American Heart Association for Montana and Alaska.

He is also on the New Mexico State University College of Education Board of Advocates. He has a bachelor’s degree in recreation from Central Michigan University, master’s degree in education from the University of Minnesota, and a doctorate in educational policy and administration from the University of Minnesota.

Much of Fairbanks’ career has focused on education reform, academic proficiency and safe learning environments for all students. In 2010, he advocated for safe schools to the United States

Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Oversight Hearing by testifying as an expert witness. He also testified on current issues and recommendations for strengthening Indian education within the Elementary and Secondary Education Act Reauthorization at the 2013 United States Congressional Briefing. In his role as superintendent throughout the past eight years, Fairbanks’ school districts have increased student proficiency in reading by five percent and in math four percent on average each year.

As the first Native American principal in the 120-year history of the St. Mary’s Elementary School in Red Lake, Minn., Fairbanks developed and facilitated several Indian reservation community and school district leadership programs. He was also the first Native American executive of the American Heart Association.

Fairbanks’ publications are centered on American Indian and Alaska Native attributes that contribute to their ability of transitioning between Native and non-Native cultures, communities and education systems.

## Guidelines for safe holiday shopping

**JIM CATES**

Tribal Police Captain

With the holiday seasons approaching, the Tribal Police Department would like to share tips on how to stay safe while shopping.

1. Always make sure packages and shopping bags are locked in the trunk along with any purses or other valuables.
2. Park in well-lit areas.
3. Never shop alone. Try to be with a group.
4. Keep receipts in pocket, not inside the bag.
5. Keep an eye on receipts and credit cards. Be aware of who is handling them.

6. Don’t try to be a hero, if someone takes a bag with force, be a good witness for the police.

7. Let loved ones know where you are going shopping. Notify them with any shopping plan changes.

8. Keep cell phone well charged in case of emergencies.

9. Always be aware of your surroundings!

10. The less opportunity is presented for someone to be a victim of crime, the more chance of a crime not happening.

The Tribal Police Department wants to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday and joyous new year.

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*Experience:* Former Prosecuting Attorney Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, and Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Indian Reservation; Former Public Defender Assiniboine Sioux Tribe; Criminal Defense Attorney

*Tribal Affiliation:* Member of the Six Nations Tribe, Ontario Canada

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Shepherd | Grade: 3

Soccer

Nevaeh Badger

Mount Pleasant | Grade: 11

Tennis

Alexander Ojeda

West Intermediate | Grade: 7

Football

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Lamphere | Grade: 12

Volleyball

Alicia Starkey

Chippewa Hills | Grade: 5

Rocket Football

Jayden Neyome

Mount Pleasant | Grade: 10

JV Basketball

Marjorie Merrill

West Intermediate | Grade: 7

Basketball

Mattea Merrill

Freeland | Grade: 5

Basketball

Samantha Venegas

SCA | Grade: 5

Grass Dancer, Drummer, Lacrosse

Christopher Spencer-Ruiz

Mount Pleasant | Grade: 9

Hockey, Basketball

Noah J. Sawmick

Seibert | Grade: 3

Little League Baseball

Atreyu Sineway

Caro | Grade: 11

Wrestling

Nathaniel Ernst

Caro | Grade: 11

Wrestling

Kenya Spencer

Caro Schall | Grade: 5

Taekwondo

Blake Spencer

Caro | Grade: 7

Taekwondo

Mark Spencer

Caro Schall | Grade: 3

Basketball

Kyla Spencer

Ithaca North | Grade: 5

Football

Matthew Federico

Standish-Sterling | Grade: 11

Dance, Powderpuff football

Isabelle Brock

Standish-Sterling | Grade: 6

Football, Basketball

Hunter Brock

Shepherd | Grade: 9

Basketball, Tribal Youth Police Academy, Young Marines

Alexandra Pelcher

Fancher | Grade: 5

Football

Albert Shomin

SCA | Grade: 4

Football

Paul Shomin III

Kinney | Grade: 3

Baseball

Dakarii Graveratte

Beal City | Grade: 4

Football

Skylur Graveratte

Beal City | Grade: 7

Football

Justin Graveratte

MPHS | Grade 10

Volleyball, Basketball

Kallena Ricketts

MPHS | Grade 11

Basketball

Warren Ricketts

Shepherd | Grade 8

Basketball

Carli Sprague

Renaissance | Grade 5

Xtreme Soccer

Elijah Otto-Powers

Ganiard | Grade 1

Soccer

Isaiah Otto-Powers

SCA | Grade 3

Baseball, Hockey

Daniel Wemigwans

West Intermediate | Grade 7

Hockey, Baseball

Tommy Wemigwans Jr.

Central Michigan | Freshman

Marching Band

Breanna Colwell

MPHS | Grade 12

Football, Wrestling

Gage Colwell

School | Grade 1

Flag Football, Basketball, Baseball

Zhaawan Martell

School | Grade 4

Rocket Football, Basketball, Baseball

Jimaganish Martell

School | Grade 5

Rocket Football, Basketball, Baseball

Giizhig Martell

Sacred Heart | Grade 3

Football, Powwow, Grass Dancer

Richard Delacruz

Pullen | Grade 1

Student Council/Service Learning

Kaya Rose

Pullen | Grade 3

Football, Student Council/Service Learning

Kadenn Rose

Shepherd | Grade 4

Football

Jayden Bross

Beal City | Grade 5

Hockey, Softball

Izabella Benzinger

Shepherd | Grade 2

Softball, Gymnastics, Dance

Aanzhenii Starkey

Shepherd | Grade 4

Football

Miingin Starkey

Shepherd | Grade 11

Wrestling, Track

Skyler Neyome

Shepherd | Grade 12

Pom Poms Dance Team

Tina Neyome

Shepherd | Grade 8

Football, Wrestling, Baseball

Kobun Neyome

Coleman | Grade 11

Varsity Cheerleading

Tiffany Mitchell

Coleman | Grade 10

Varsity Football

Bailey Mitchell

Grand Blanc | Grade 7

Football

John Cates II

Shepherd | Grade 4

Cheerleading

Aiyana Bross

Shepherd | Grade 1

Baseball

Dayton Bross



## SCIT and CMU educate on Christopher Columbus truths

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

In collaboration with the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and the Ziiibwing Center, Central Michigan University hosted Indigenous People's Day events Oct. 13, 2014.

From 12 to 1 p.m. in the CMU Bovee Terrace Rooms, the Soup & Substance: Truth Behind Columbus discussion involved a luncheon educating on Christopher Columbus facts. Ziiibwing Center Director Shannon Martin, CMU Native American Programs Director Colleen Green, SCIT Public Relations Director Frank Cloutier and CMU Associate Vice President of Institutional Diversity Carolyn Dunn led the discussions.

CMU students questioned why public schools do not educate on the truth behind Columbus.

"Unfortunately, history books are quite inaccurate and they are difficult to change," Martin said. "The way to teach the history has to come from Indigenous peoples working with scholars who write history books."

In the CMU Bovee Auditorium, a 4:30 p.m. film screening and discussion on "The Canary Effect" took place. The award-winning documentary looks into the devastating and continuing effects of U.S. policies and genocidal practices on North American Indigenous people.

"It is always our intention to educate our community on Native



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Ziiibwing Center Director Shannon Martin, CMU Native American Programs Director Colleen Green, SCIT Public Relations Director Frank Cloutier and CMU Associate Vice President of Institutional Diversity Carolyn Dunn led "the truth behind Columbus" discussions.**

American culture using a historical perspective and facts that cannot be discredited," Green said. "...The students in attendance were outraged by the miss information they had received through the public school system."

Cloutier is hopeful Indigenous People's Day will continue to be recognized as opposed to the celebration of Columbus Day.

"CMU is one of the best schools around for producing educators," Cloutier said. "There is a lot we can do here, between Central Michigan University and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, to make changes."

CMU's Native American Programs and Office of Diversity Education were also sponsors for the day's educational series.

## SEWPH hosts November food drive



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

The Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel hosted the "Splash Away Hunger Food Drive" on Nov. 12 and 13. Guests could bring in two food items for one free day pass at the waterpark. The donated items went to the Isabella County Soup Kitchen.

A total of 2,282 pounds of food was collected throughout the two days.

"This was a great opportunity to give back to the community, which proved to be very successful," SEWPH Associate General Manager Melinda Coffin said. "We will continue to plan this event yearly. Next up is our "Giving & Swimming" event to benefit the Marine Toys for Tots. We are hoping to have another successful event for this as well."

## Recognizing Our Active Native Youth

Chippewa Hills | Grade 7

Football

Seth Wladysiak

MPHS | Grade 12

Cheerleading

CeCe Henry

McGuire | Grade 5

Football, Baseball, Basketball, Lacrosse

Simon Quigno

MPHS | Grade 12

Cross Country

Isaiah James-Minowaabi Ruffino

Shepherd | Grade 6

Dance

Madison Pelcher

Shepherd | Grade 8

Choir

Michael Pelcher

MPHS | Grade 9

Lacrosse, Cross Country

Cauy George

SCA | Grade 6

Lacrosse, Junior Air Rifle

Lars George

Shepherd | Grade 9

Basketball, Track

Alicia Raphael

Shepherd | Grade 5

Basketball, Softball, Gymnastics

Andee Raphael

SCA | Grade K

Football, Soccer, Basketball

Gracin Montoya

"I'm aware of him all night, I would know if he had trouble breathing"

"It's safe and natural when breastfeeding to have baby in bed with you"

"I keep the covers away from his face"

"I put pillows next to him so he won't roll off"

"I slept with all my babies and they were fine"

"She is so comfortable on the soft couch"

"She likes to be really warm"

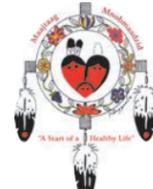
## Have you had these thoughts when putting an infant to sleep somewhere other than in a crib, on their back?

...so did the parents of the 120 infants who died last year in Michigan sleeping in an adult bed, on a couch, with too many covers, faced down, or in some other unsafe way. Any baby in an adult bed is at risk for suffocation from covers, pillows other bedding, or being rolled on or smothered.

Accidents can happen to any family. The safest way for infants to sleep is alone, on their back, in a crib in their parents' room, without extra blankets or any toys in the crib.

**Every baby counts, every sleep time counts. Make an informed choice about where your baby sleeps.**

More info at: [www.michigan.gov/safesleep](http://www.michigan.gov/safesleep)



Sponsored by Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan Healthy Start/MDCH Safe Sleep Project



# Editorial: What does it mean to be a Tribal Elder?

**RONALD G. DOUGLAS**

Contributing Writer

*(Editor's note: The following is a letter to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan from Tribal Elder Ronald G. Douglas, written on Oct. 22, 2014.)*

I am approaching the age of 73 and remember so many of my relatives dying by that age when I was a child in the City of Flint and when nobody would admit their Chippewa Indian heritage. There were no programs to help them with their health or welfare. It was sad since they were all so good to us kids in my family.

Today's world has changed that so I am proud to tell my friends and neighbors that I am a Tribal Elder and to describe what that means. I want to put that message here for our relatives and friends in the Tribe so they can see how good our world is for Tribal Elders.

One of the greatest things is that I now feel important since I belong to a great social group who all seem to care about me and are willing to help me. I do not have to worry about my health care with the wonderful care that I get at the Nimkee (Medical) Center and from referrals to experts when I need

them. I spent some time exercising at the (Nimkee Fitness Center) and by joining in community walks throughout the years. This kept me determined to stay in good shape, by walking several times a week.

I have been awhile to see my children and also receive help and prescriptions when they could not get them other places. This makes me feel so much better.

I have so many happy memories of the fun that took place at the powwows; watching and dancing with other Elders and relatives.

I have a brother who has greatly improved his lifestyle with his residence at the Andahwod Assisted Living Center. I remember prayers for his problems with his health, but those are long behind him there.

Many other nice memories are from the trips all over the world with other Tribal Elders as we visited Hawaii, Australia, Italy, Central America and other places here in the United States. Those were more than I ever dreamed of. It has also been a lot of fun visiting a place called the Soaring Eagle Casino (& Resort) to watch and listen to entertainers without leaving our home or go to other cities.

So many of my memories of relatives who were born in the late 19th Century and the stories they told me of our heritage have been preserved in the Ziibiwing museum and cultural center in exhibits and in its library for other people to share those stories and pictures that I grew up with. One example was my great aunt, Julia Cook, who was such a good role model for me and her image is now preserved for my descendants and friends to enjoy. It is good to hear the language that all of my relatives spoke returning to its regular sound in my life.

I am thankful for the per capita that has allowed me to share events with our children and grandchildren and to assist them when there was a need or a celebration of birthdays and other accomplishments of our grandchildren.

The discrimination of my heritage by neighbors has ended as they see the Tribal enterprises, our donations to local governments and education programs and the tremendous employment opportunities for local people. Our casino with its entertainers appearing has

added to a pride in who we are.

As an Elder, I can only hope that this list of accomplishments and benefits by our nation will continue to grow with careful planning and a continuation of the efforts that have benefited all of our Elders so that we are now proud to call ourselves members of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. This is to show my strong appreciation of our Tribal community and its benefits.

With sincerest thanks,  
Ronald G. Douglas

## Tribal Gym and Kitchen Rental

To utilize the Tribal Gym and/or kitchen you must complete the Rental Application and Rental Agreement. The use of these facilities are not available Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (excluding funeral services but you still must complete the rental forms.) You can obtain the required forms from the Youth LEAD main office or they are also accessible on the Tribal website.

Below is the required deposit and rental fees. If you have any questions regarding renting the facility, please contact Youth LEAD at 989-775-4506.

	Deposit	Non-Returnable Fee
Gym	\$100	\$125
Kitchen	\$100	\$125
Both Gym & Kitchen	\$100	\$150
Funeral Use	\$100	\$50

**Spread Holiday Cheer!**

With the Properties of Migizi EDC...  
**Gift Cards Now Available:**

- Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel
- Eagle Valley Outfitters
- Sagamok Shell Stations (Isabella & Saganing)
- Cardinal Pharmacy

**\$50**

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10,000 YEARS OF OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE

**CARDINAL PHARMACY**

**Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel**

**EAGLE VALLEY OUTFITTERS**  
10,000 YEARS OF OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE

**sagamok express**

**CARDINAL PHARMACY**

**MIGIZI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CO.**

**Soaring Eagle PROPERTIES**



## Physical Education Teacher Assistant Saboo receives "Educator of the Month"

Education Administration would like to take this opportunity to showcase the shining stars in our department. We are proud of each and every team member within our department and think the community should know about you!

Congratulations Scott Saboo for being selected as our November Educator of the Month! The following is a questionnaire completed by Saboo:

**What program do you work for?** Saginaw Chippewa Academy

**What is your title?** Physical Education Teacher Assistant

**How long have you worked for Education Department?** Parent/Student Advocate at Mount Pleasant High School for three years and Teachers Assistant at SCA for the past three years.

**When you were younger, what did you want to be when you grew up?** My dad.

**What is your favorite part of working in this department?** I like the fact that I am making physical education fun for the students. Every day many students stop and ask me, "What are we doing in gym today." So I know that they are looking forward to being active.

**What is your funniest memory in working with our students?** A young student asked me, "Mr. Saboo, why do you have long hair?" I said, "Because I'm an Indian man and started wearing it long when I started living a good life." She said, "You must have been bad a long time ago." Then I explained that it's grown since I've been on the Red Road.

**Something people may not know about you?** I am a diabetic. I am able to control it with better nutrition and from the exercise I get by being a physical teacher assistant at the Saginaw Chippewa Academy.

**Do you have any hobbies or special talents?** I love running with my German Shepherd dog around the Rez and watching the Detroit Lions, especially this year.

**What is your favorite movie?** The Avengers.

**What is your favorite food?** Tacos

Thank you so much for being such an integral part of our education team! We appreciate you!



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

SCA Physical Education Teacher Assistant Scott Saboo accepts his award. (Pictured left to right: SCA Principal Marcella Mosqueda, Saboo and Tribal Education Administrative Assistant II Christina Halliwill.)

## SCIT Education Department receives Library Services Enhancement Grant

### MELISSA MONTOYA

Education Director

We are pleased to announce the Education Department is the recipient of a 2014 Native American Library Services Enhancement Grant in the amount of \$65,642 for the project: Enhancing Our

### McGuire

The following students earned perfect attendance for October: Phoebe Defeyter, Katie Green, Caleb Kequom, Jacob Quigno-Grundahl, Christopher Bartow, Skylar Leureaux, Giizhig Martell, Taleah Pelcher, John Stevens, Makayla Stevens, Mia Bennett, Mackenzie Burger, Zheesheeb Compo, Tayden Davis, Jasmine Isham, Vanessa Lerma, Jesse Ritter-Bollman, Kayn Weldon, Aaliyah Mena, Chyla Wells and Isaiah Harris.

### Renaissance

The following students earned perfect attendance for November: Tia Diamond, Trystan Diamond, Novaly Hinmon, Gabriel Steele, Greg Steele, Seth Snyder, Tyler Snyder, Glendon Bennett, Brysen Chamberlain, Josiah Hill, Katie Pigeon, Sam Hampton, Cordelia McDaniel, Kaylee Bigford, Mason Peterson, Nixie Snyder and Josclynn Shaw.

### Ganiard

The following students earned perfect attendance for October: Leia Black, Lilly Chamberlain, Gary Chippeway, Dehmin Kahgegab, Ava Vogel, Mya Chippeway, Aaron Hendrickson, Nadia Mills, Isaiah Otto-Powers, Miah Perez, Dylan Bennett, Gabriela Escobedo, Darien Mandoka-Haggard, Darius Lopez, Tiara Osawabine, Elijah Teller, LaRae Wilson, Kaden Fair, Devyn Bennett, Zoey Mandoka-Haggard, Lucas Jackson, Nautica Mena-Strait, Cole Therault and Hudson Yager.

Foundation: Updating and Improving Tribal Library Collaboration and Services.

We would like to give special thanks to Tribal Librarian Anne Heidemann for her hard work in obtaining this grant to further improve the Tribal Library services for the community. We would also like to thank the Grants Department, Accounting Department, and Legal Department for their help and assistance. Most of all, miigwetch to Tribal Council and their support for our efforts.

### Vowles

The following students earned perfect attendance for October: Blyden Anderson, Augga Gibbs, Aolani Gibbs, Mateo Harris, Zamiah Marshall, Ringo Stevens, Joaquin Jackson, Kaitlyn Barteau and Raynee Richards.

### Fancher

The following students earned perfect attendance for October: Gloria Altman, Damion Mandoka-Haggard, Elisha Hoorman, Matthew Jackson, Elijah Otto-Powers, Zamil Rueckert, Alina Ruffino, Albert Shomin, Dawnseh Wilson, Miingan Jackson, Eli Marin, Cheyanne Odem, Jenna Rios, Mollie Smith-Rodriguez and Isaiah Teswood.

### Saginaw Chippewa Academy

The following students earned Student of the Month for September: Lillian Loonsfoot, Charmaine Castillo-Pelcher, Kayana Pelcher, Alexis Trepanier, Joshua Wemigwans, Julianna Garcia, James Morland and Liberty Morland. The following students earned Student of the Month for October: Donovan Harris, Gizhep Miller-Hosler, Gracie David, Robert Saunders, Caden Pego, Paul Shomin, Christopher Spencer-Ruiz and Aana Hinmon.

### Tarbell receives Student of the Month from Mount Pleasant Rotary Club



Courtesy of Niibing Giizis/Summer Moon Photography

Bethany Tarbell was chosen as the October Student of the Month from the Mount Pleasant Rotary Club. The luncheon was held Monday, Nov. 17 at Mountain Town Station.

Tarbell is part of AISES American Indian Science Engineering Society. She had a 3.4 GPA. She graduated from WAY. She is also involved in STEM. Bethany was dual enrolled and she had already earned 21 college credits by the time she earned her high school diploma.

### Higher Education Deadline: Feb. 15, 2015

The following higher education items are due for Fall 2014 the remaining balances (second installments) and Spring 2015 funding:

- Fall 2014 grade reports
- Spring/Winter 2015 class schedules
- Original receipts for reimbursements (For students enrolled in 1-5 credit hours)
  - For Student Fees, Textbooks And Course Required Materials
- Default balances must be paid in full for Spring/Winter 2015 funding
  - Contact Higher Education to Ask About Your Default Balance
- New students must submit the following completed applications
  - Higher Education Application
  - Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver (Michigan Residents)
  - Copy of Tribal I.D. / State I.D.
  - Degree Audit / Program Plan (Outline of courses required to fulfill degree)
  - Accreditation Information (Trade/Vocational/Online Students)
  - High School Transcripts (For students interested in Youth Leadership Program only)

Higher Education Packets can be found outside of the Youth LEAD Main Office

### For Additional Information Contact:

Rosanna Romero with Youth LEAD Higher Education  
Phone: (989) 775-4505 or Email: RoRomero@sagchip.org

### Do you have an SCA Alumni Success Story?

We would love for you to share them with us. The SCIT Education Department is accepting submissions of your success stories. If you were a former student, your child was a former student or somebody you know was a former student of the Saginaw Chippewa Academy, we want to celebrate their success.

### Please answer and submit the following questions:

- Students Name:
- Story of Success
- Years Attended SCA
- How did SCA help you achieve the success?

### Please send your completed answers to:

SCIT Education Department  
7070 E. Broadway Rd.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Or email your submission to:  
challiwill@sagchip.org



## Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College celebrates Native American month

### SCTC EXTENSION

November is an exciting month each year as we enter the season of thankfulness. This is a time of year we focus on family and are truly thankful for the blessings that abound in our lives. Here at Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College Extension, we are thankful for all the time we get to share with the community.

For SCTC, November is also Native American month; it is a time to celebrate who we are as Anishnaabe people. There were many interesting activities packed into the month just for that occasion. A Native American month kick



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Basket maker Kelly Church visited SCTC to share her knowledge and assist with participants making their own black ash basket.**

off was held Nov. 4; students were able to enjoy hot chocolate, cider and donuts, make a



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**SCTC President Carla Sineway participates in the Nov. 14 Black Ash Basketry crafting project.**

friendship bracelet and register for classes.

A highlight of Native American month was the Indian corn soup presentation developed by the Extension office.

Grand Traverse Band Elder Theresa Shananaquet of Kewadin, Mich. generously shared her knowledge of "ashing" Indian corn with SCTC Extension Coordinator Mary Pelcher and STEM Recruiter Kathy Hart in early November. This ashing process is used in the preparation of the traditional corn soup. Shananaquet learned this traditional process from her mother and grandmothers. This process is the muddy mix of boiling Indian corn with hardwood ashes in

order to break the hulls off the kernel of corn. The corn is rinsed continually in order to wash away the ash and the hulls. It was then ready to be frozen to in order to cook with meat later during Native American month.

On Nov. 13, SCTC held Traditional Corn Soup and Fry Bread day. The processed corn was cooked with meat to make a tasty soup, and fry bread was also served as an accompaniment. Pelcher shared a presentation on the ashing process, and Carla Sineway talked about her fry bread experience. It was a delicious presentation as participants were treated to this gourmet delight.

On Nov. 14, SCTC Extension was happy to host basket maker Kelly Church to the campus. Church shared her basket knowledge with participants. Each participant was able to make and take a genuine black ash basket home. This is another age old tradition and art of Anishnaabe people.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College tutors James Falls and Breanna Knudsen demonstrate a quick, delicious way for students to get much needed fruits and vegetables by making smoothies during the kick-off event.**

The month rounded out with Anishnaabe crafts where participants were able to make a necklace pouch, a bone bracelet, or porkey quill earrings. There was also a day to make baby moccasins. Jenna Wilcox of Nimkee Public Health is always willing to share this beautiful Anishnaabe craft with anyone willing to learn. Wilcox has graciously visited SCTC many times.

We are truly blessed to be Anishnaabe people, it is wonderful to see all these activities being shared and carried on by the younger generations.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Mary Pelcher, SCTC Extension Coordinator, explained the Traditional Corn Soup "ashing" process.**



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**SCTC hosted the Traditional Corn Soup and Fry Bread Day on Nov. 13. The processed corn was cooked with meat to make a delicious soup.**



# Behavioral Health PROGRAMS

Nog-da-win-da-meg • "Taking care of one another"

2800 S. Shepherd Rd.  
Mt. Pleasant MI, 48858  
**989-775-4850**  
[www.sagchip.org/behavioralhealth](http://www.sagchip.org/behavioralhealth)

### Outpatient Services

The outpatient program strives to meet the needs of the Anishnabek population of children, adolescents, adults and the elderly through the delivery of integrated services. This program is guided by ideals and principles that are reflective of the Anishnabek values and beliefs.

There are many reasons why an individual may need mental health counseling. He or she may have a chemical imbalance that is making it difficult to function, which can be aided through drugs but may also require some form of talk therapy. There may be unresolved trauma that is plaguing an individual. In nearly any case where a psychological issue is making daily functioning a problem, mental health counseling can help.

- Individual Adult Counseling & Couples Therapy
- Early Recovery Skills/Basic Education Group
- Individual Child & Adolescent Counseling
- Anger Management Education
- Intensive Outpatient Counseling
- Batterers' Intervention Group
- Transitional Supportive Living
- Anger Management Group
- Anishnabek Helping Healer
- Traditional Practitioner
- Gambling Addiction Counseling
- Adolescent Substance Abuse Group
- Parent Counseling
- Group Counseling
- DBT Group
- Family Counseling
- Women's Support Group
- Case Management Services
- Psychiatric Services
- School-Based Counseling

### Residential Services

Located in the heart of the Isabella Reservation, we offer community-based programs catering to the needs of Native Americans who want to begin a journey to recovery. Programming is based on the twelve steps and incorporates the cultural and traditional process. Residents are exposed to the Ojibwe language, ceremonies, Native values and historical contexts through our cultural curriculum which is supported by our clinical approaches.

#### Program Goals:

- Promote balance and harmony within individuals and the community.
- Provide services aimed at reducing personal, family, social, physical, emotional and spiritual distress to individuals.
- Provide an environment that is met with honesty, humility, love, truthfulness, bravery, respect and wisdom.
- Provide documentation and evaluation of services pertaining to all clients' activities, planning, management, support services and training.
- Provide coordinated professional referral sources as a network of recovery support linkages.

### Nami Migizi Nangwiihgan "Under the Eagle Wing"

The purpose of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan's domestic violence program is to assist those affected by domestic violence in finding another path without abuse.

Individual needs will be addressed by utilizing emergency transportation to other shelters and case management services. We are dedicated to providing resources, safety and advocacy to ensure the physical, mental, spiritual and emotional well-being of families victimized by violence. In order to achieve balance and independence, we as a community, need to re-establish a support network of services and resources.

The domestic violence services are open to anyone who is a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault and/or stalking.

- Batterers' Intervention Program
- 24/7 Support
- Group Therapy
- Individual Therapy
- Case Management
- Cultural Sensitivity
- Confidentiality/Privacy
- Victim Advocacy
- Education and Outreach

## Struggling?

Need Support? Need skill reminders?

Join us at RTC-Behavioral Health for the **Drop-in Relapse Prevention Group**

**Mondays: 5:30-7 p.m. (Dinner on your own)**  
**Fridays: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. (Light lunch included)**

**Come when you can! As often as you want!**

#### Topics covered include:

Red Road teachings, step work, relapse prevention skills, mindfulness, medicine wheel teachings and case management services.



## Top-notch country acts Montgomery Gentry and Wynonna Judd bring twang and sass

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

Powerhouse country vocalist Wynonna Judd and duo Montgomery Gentry hauled their bands and equipment to the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort stage for their Oct. 25 show.

Born Christina Claire Ciminella, but she's known as her stage name Wynonna from the country music duo The Judds, with her mother Naomi.

Wynonna and The Big Noise started the night off right, with her outshining, dynamic vocals.

"No One Else on Earth", the number one hit on the Billboard Hot Country Singles from 1992 was Judd's first song.

Judd followed with "What It Takes" and The Judds' second number one single on the country charts, "Why Not Me".

"I shared a bus with my mama for 10 years and I survived," Judd said laughing. "Mama was a tough cookie. She still is. She raised us with faith and attitude. We grew up on nothing but welfare and food stamps, but our dreams were big. And here I am today."

Adding to her strong vocal pipes and sassiness was her strong wit, causing the audience to roar in between songs. Judd stopped singing when she saw "Jeff" in the audience talking to his friend during her performance.

"Do you know who I am," she asked Jeff before he nodded no.

Judd pulled Jeff on stage with her to take a "selfie," and Judd showed Jeff exactly who she was: Country and extremely talented.

"Young Love" and a bluesy/rock cover of Foreigner's "I Want To Know What Love Is" kept the audience captivated.

Judd's encore included a standing ovation of "Grandpa (Tell Me 'Bout the Good Ol' Days)" and Led Zeppelin's "Rock And Roll".

"Aren't you something? That was worth the trip right there," Judd said referring to the audience's ovation.

Montgomery Gentry was up next. Eddie Montgomery (vocalist) and Troy Gentry (guitarist, vocalist) proved they were ready to rock, energize the crowd and perform their infinite number one hits including "If You Ever Stop Loving Me", "Something to Be Proud Of", "Lucky Man", "Back When I Knew It All" and "Roll With Me".

Ten more of their songs have reached the country charts top 10 list, including the number three

hit "Gone", the most played 2005 country song by a duo.

Hit after hit included "Where I Come From", "My Town", "All Night Long", "Daddy Won't Sell the Farm", "Some People Change", "She Couldn't Change Me" and "Hell Yeah".

"We have been in the studio working on our brand new CD and our brand new single, would you like to hear it," Montgomery asked the audience about the song "Headlights".

Before "Something to Be Proud Of", Montgomery revealed his patriotic side.

"I'm going to say something loud and proud; this is the greatest country in the world right here," he said. "We can dream as big as we want to."

My mama loves this next song and I really want you to listen to the words, Montgomery said.

"If you don't know anyone in your family like this song, then it's probably you," he said of "Long Line of Losers" triggering audience laughter.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Wynonna Judd & The Big Noise perform "Why Not Me" at the Oct. 25 SECR show.

Montgomery said his favorite song they have recorded to date is "Cold One Coming On".

The Montgomery Gentry show closed with the third single from the album "Back When I Knew It All" from 2009, "One in Every Crowd" and an encore of the sassy, opinionated 2007 single "What Do Ya Think About That".

It was a night full of country, sass, twang and a little bit of rock and roll with both Wynonna and Montgomery Gentry engaging the crowd all night long.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Eddie Montgomery (left) and Troy Gentry, together Montgomery Gentry, awed the crowd with their infinite number of hits, one after another.

# KRAPOHL'S

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## Rock legends go “Southbound” as the Doobie Brothers light up the stage

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

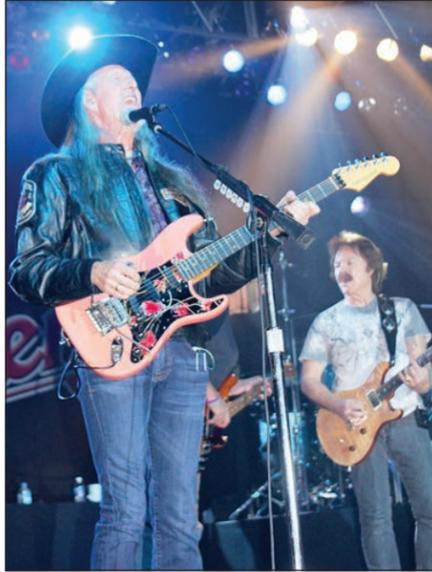
Photojournalist

The Doobie Brothers rocked another sold-out night at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Nov. 1 as the legendary group took their third appearance “Southbound” with an energized crowd along for a nostalgic ride.

With five top 10 singles, 16 top 40 hits and four Grammys marking a stellar career, with their Nov. 4 release of “Southbound”, the Doobie Brothers are re-inventing themselves with Nashville style by collaborating with some of country’s top stars for all-new versions of a dozen of the band’s classic hits.

Joining founding Doobie Brothers members Pat Simmons (vocals/guitar), and Tom Johnston onstage were 1978 recruited Doobie Brother John McFee (guitar/strings/vocals) with “Southbound” tour band mates Guy Allison (keyboards/vocals), John Cowan (bass/vocals), Marc Russo (saxophone) and Ed Toth and Tony Pia on drums.

Appropriately enough, the band rocked Nashville for “Country Music’s Biggest Night” during their Nov. 5 live ABC Network performance on The 48th Annual CMA Awards. They joined former Soaring Eagle alumni Hillary Scott of Lady



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Doobie Brothers guitar slingers Pat Simmons (left) and Tom Johnston go “Southbound” as they rock their seminal hit “Without You” to the delight of another sold-out crowd.**

Antebellum and Hunter Hayes on a crowd rousing rendition of “Listen to the Music”.

The guest artists joining The Doobie Brothers on their “Southbound” release contains the following CMA superstars who SECR Production Manager Henry Kubin confirms to have graced the Soaring Eagle stage: “Listen to the Music” (with Blake Shelton and Hunter Hayes on guitar), “What a Fool Believes” (with

Sara Evans), “Long Train Runnin’” (with Toby Keith and Huey Lewis on harmonica), “China Grove” (with Chris Young), “Takin’ It to the Streets” (with Love and Theft), “Rockin’ Down the Highway” (with Brad Paisley), “Take Me in Your Arms (Rock Me)” (with Tyler Farr) and “You Belong to Me” (with Vince Gill).

The years have witnessed many changes in the Doobies, but the band’s most recent studio lineup harkens back to their earliest days. Simmons and Johnston continue to front the group. And the multi-talented John McFee made his mark back

in 1978 and continues to rock with Pat and Tom as a power trio backed by stellar bandmates.

“The sound of the band is the same; Tom and I are still involved in writing the songs and arranging,” Simmons said. “It brings the sound of the early ‘70s back to the forefront. Tommy and I now have been working together longer than any other time the band has been in existence, steadily working every year, touring.”

The Doobies’ style and influence can be seen in many of the tunes they performed that evening, whether it be the down home “Black Water” or the power chords of “China Grove”.

Johnston says the Doobie Brothers are basically an American band that covers a lot of areas.

“We cover blues, R&B, country, bluegrass, rock ‘n’ roll,” Johnston said. “It’s based on rhythms, rhythm structures, picking, and harmonies. That’s been the signature of the band. Think about the influences that come into this band. You take Pat, who comes from a folk-blues background, with a lot of picking and stuff like that – he was a big fan of Rev. Gary Davis and Dave Van Ronk. I come from a blues, soul, R&B, and rock ‘n’ roll background. Then you stick John McFee into that mix – John came from a country background when he started out, and was in a country band, Southern Pacific. And he is a session musician – he’s played with everybody from Steve Miller to Van Morrison to Elvis Costello. If it’s got strings, he can play it.”

Kent McKinney and his wife made the concert pilgrimage from Fort Wayne, Ind. and exclaimed the Doobies was a great concert and worth the drive.

“We were very happy we made the six-hour round trip to see them,” McKinney said. “The band sounded very good. I actually went to YouTube to see how they were holding up after all the years. After viewing how good they still sounded, I made the decision to make the trip to Soaring Eagle. This has been my wife’s and I first concert in many years and the last concert we went to we paid \$8.50 a ticket. The Doobies did not disappoint us and we had not seen them before.”

Michael and Terri Wold flew in from Hickory, N.C. to Michigan just to come to Soaring Eagle and see the Doobie Brothers in concert.

“I got my first eight-track tape when I was 14 years old (The Captain and Me),” Michael Wold said. “Ever since, the Doobies have been my favorite band and they still sound great. The songs are timeless, appealing to people of all ages. The Doobie Brothers are one of the few bands that have continued to play and record for over 40 years. Thanks to Tim (McCullough) and the Soaring Eagle Casino staff for making us feel right at home. We hope we can come back again sometime and enjoy another excellent show.”

## MAZE and Frankie Beverly bring a whole lot of soul to SECR

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

It is quite possible the best kept secret in the music industry graced the stage of the sold-out Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort’s Entertainment Hall on Friday, Oct. 17. Established in the early 1970s, there is no doubt MAZE featuring Frankie Beverly still has the ability to put on one great show.

With his soulful voice, 67-year-old Frankie Beverly completed the gifted soul and quiet storm band, MAZE.

The moving, energetic performance kept the audience on their

feet, dancing a majority of the night away while singing along.

As struggling musicians in the ‘70s, MAZE and Frankie Beverly did not receive their big break until Marvin Gaye picked them to be the opening band on his tour, allowing them to perform some original music.

“How many of you are seeing us for the very first time,” Beverly asked the audience. “We’ve been doing this for 45 years... I remember it was 1975 and we were in a San Francisco club and Marvin Gaye was in the house.”

The second song performed, “We Are One”, is a high-energy song, with a big band style. The

song was a hit single in 1983.

The 1993 single “The Morning After”, a soulful, slower song made the audience sway and sing along.

Guests were on their feet and singing along to every word of the 1989 single, “Joy and Pain”. The lyrics “joy and pain are like sunshine and rain” traveled throughout the hall repeatedly.

Their 1976 debut album released singles “Happy Feelin’s”, “While I’m Alone” and “Lady of Magic”. In 1980, MAZE released U.S. R&B chart singles “Running Away”, “Before I Let Go” and “We Need Love To Live”.

In 2009, a tribute to MAZE’s hits was released. “Silky Soul Music: An All Star Tribute to Maze Featuring Frankie Beverly” included modern musicians covering MAZE’s biggest hits.

MAZE and Frankie Beverly ended the set with an encore of “I Wanna Thank You”, the 1983 single appropriately thanked the audience for attending and still supporting their music.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**R&B and soul singer Frankie Beverly performs “We Are One” with soul/quiet storm band MAZE.**

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## The “Rez Road Rally” delivers message supporting the war on drugs

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Photojournalist

The war on drugs in the Tribal community took to the streets and subdivisions as the Celebration of Hope Committee (a representation of many Tribal departments and community members against substance abuse on the Reservation supported by Tribal Council) delivered a Nov. 8 message during the “Rez Road Rally.”

An impressive parade entourage of more than 25 community vehicles along with several agencies joining the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Department (Michigan State Police, Isabella County Sheriff

Department, Mount Pleasant City Police and the Central Michigan University Department of Public Safety) as they rode through the Rez honking horns and waving as community families came out to support their efforts.

The “Rez Road Rally” concluded after the one-hour parade route and participants joined the community for a Mexican-style luncheon as special guest speakers Melissa Montoya and Alice Ricketts shared their testimonials in the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym.

The second installment from the Celebration of Hope Committee included a warrior ceremony of commitment where participants pledged by crossing

over a rope that signified and demonstrated their continued support on the war on drugs, a similar demonstration of the historic declaration on the war on drugs celebration that was held on Sept. 24.

The next scheduled event involves a Dec. 4 Neighborhood Watch “Toolkit Training” from 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Ballroom. The program is sponsored through SCIT, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police, SCIT Public Relations and the U.S. Department of Justice. For more information, contact Sgt. Craig Wilson at **989-775-4837**, Erik Rodriguez at **989-775-4096** or Melissa Montoya at **989-289-4487**.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Sgt. Harry Ambs (left) is all smiles as he goes over the “Rez Road Rally” route with fellow Sgt. Craig Wilson.**

## Holiday tips to prevent food borne illness

*(Editor’s note: The following article comes from the Central Michigan District Health Department “Promoting Healthy Families, Healthy Communities” with permission to publish. CMDHD serves Arenac, Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Osceola and Roscommon counties. For more information, visit its website at [www.cmdhd.org](http://www.cmdhd.org).)*

Keep food safety in mind this holiday season. Keep cold foods cold and hot foods hot.

The holidays are fast approaching and excitement is in the air. When making plans for your holiday feast, food safety is probably not on the top of your list. Most guest lists include people who are especially vulnerable to food borne illness – older people, young children, pregnant women, and

anyone with a compromised immune system.

To keep your family gathering from being memorable in the wrong way, it’s important to take steps to protect your guests from food borne illness.

“To ensure our holiday foods are not only delicious, but safe, the following suggestions of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are provided to reduce the risk of the most common foodborne illnesses,” said Michelle Patton, director of Environmental Health Services for Central Michigan District Health Department.

**Cooking:** Cook to proper temperatures. Foods are properly cooked when they are heated for a long enough time and at a high enough temperature to kill the harmful microbes that cause foodborne illness. Follow

temperature guidelines provided with the food packaging, and if in doubt, visit [www.cmdhd.org](http://www.cmdhd.org) for a handy temperature chart you can use for reference.

**Chilling:** Refrigerate promptly. Public health officials warn people to refrigerate foods quickly because cold temperatures keep most harmful microbes from growing. Refrigerators should be set at 40 degrees Fahrenheit and the freezer at zero degrees Fahrenheit. Whatever you do, don’t rely on the natural outdoor temperature on the porch to keep foods at proper temperature.

**Baked goods:** The FDA warns people not to eat uncooked cookie dough, homemade or premixed; or batters made with raw eggs, because raw eggs may contain microbes that can cause illness. Proper

cooking kills the microbes that cause illness.

**Eggnog:** Eggnog made with raw eggs also presents disease risk to consumers. While cooking can destroy the disease-causing microbes, people can still get sick when the eggnog is left at room temperature for several hours before drinking. Other options are pasteurized eggnog brands sold in grocery dairy cases; these should also be kept refrigerated.

**Turkey:** Thawing the turkey fully before cooking is important to reduce the risk of foodborne illness. If a turkey is not fully thawed, the outside of the turkey will be done before the inside, and the inside will not be hot enough to destroy disease-causing microbes. Allow the correct amount of time to fully thaw and cook a whole turkey. Allocate 24

hours per five pounds to defrost in the refrigerator, and whatever you do, don’t defrost the turkey on the kitchen counter. Refer to temperature guidelines for stuffed turkeys which need to be cooked longer. To check a turkey for doneness, insert a food thermometer into the inner thigh area near the breast of the turkey, being careful not to touch the bone. The turkey is done when the temp reaches 180 degrees Fahrenheit. If the turkey is stuffed, the temp of the stuffing should be 165 degrees Fahrenheit to assure that it is completely cooked and safe to eat.

“Following these simple guidelines will ensure you have a happy and safe holiday season,” Patton said. “Remember the golden rule: Keep hot food hot and cold food cold.”

## Warm Autumn Quinoa Salad

*(Editor’s note: The following article is written by Natalie Rizzo, a dietetic intern at Teachers College, Columbia University, and a certified nutrition educator. Permission to reprint granted by Veggiecation®. This article has been submitted by Nimkee Public Health’s Nutritionist Sally Van Cise. For additional nutritional info, fitness tips and healthy recipes, visit Natalie’s blog at [www.nutritionalanatalie.com](http://www.nutritionalanatalie.com).)*

As the holiday season approaches, it can become a

struggle to include veggies as part of your party foods, let alone your daily meals. Here is an idea for those of you who like to combine “the usual” with a bit of an adventure! It can easily be a holiday dish or simply a home-comfort casserole.

Familiar to many in this recipe are Brussels sprouts, those wonderful cruciferous veggies that look like small cabbages (cruciferous veggies are known for their cancer-fighting and anti-oxidant components). Another well-known vegetable

is the sweet potato (a Beta-carotene champion). Then – the two lesser known ingredients, quinoa and delicata squash. Quinoa is a quick-cooking whole grain originating with the pre-Columbian civilizations that lived in the Andean Mountains of South America. Delicata squash is a winter squash, sometimes referred to as sweet potato squash. Dried cranberries and walnuts round out this delicious, warming and very nourishing casserole. Happy Holidays!

### Warm Autumn Quinoa Salad

#### Tools and Equipment:

- Measuring Cups & Spoons
- Cutting Board
- Knife
- Large Bowl
- Baking Sheet/Casserole Dish
- Sauce Pot
- Stove & Oven

#### Ingredients:

- 1 Delicata Squash
- 1 sweet potato
- 1 pound of Brussels Sprouts (or 1 stalk)
- 1 cup of Quinoa
- 2 cups of vegetable broth
- 1/3 cup dried cranberries
- 1/4 cup chopped walnuts
- 2 tablespoons of olive oil
- Salt and Pepper to taste

#### Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
2. Cut squash and sweet potato into small 1-2 inch pieces. There’s no need to peel either of these ingredients—the skin gets soft when cooked. Make sure to scrub the skin thoroughly with water and a vegetable scrubber.
3. Place chopped ingredients in a bowl and coat with 1 tablespoon of olive oil and salt and pepper to taste.
4. Evenly spread squash and sweet potato on a baking pan and bake in the oven for 30-40 minutes or until tender.
5. While squash and sweet potatoes are baking, chop Brussels sprouts into thin slices.
6. Cover sliced Brussels sprouts with 1 tablespoon of olive oil and salt and pepper. Add walnuts to Brussels sprouts mixture and stir.
7. Evenly spread Brussels sprouts onto a baking sheet or casserole dish. After the squash have cooked for about 15 minutes, add Brussels sprouts to oven and cook everything for another 15 minutes.
8. While everything is in the oven, begin cooking the quinoa. Combine quinoa and broth in sauce pan and bring to a boil. Once boiling, cover and reduce heat to low. Simmer for about 15 minutes.
9. Once squash and sweet potatoes are tender and Brussels sprouts are getting golden brown, take out of the oven. Combine squash, sweet potatoes, Brussels sprouts, and cooked quinoa in one bowl. Add dried cranberries to the final dish and stir.
10. Enjoy your seasonal autumnal dish!

### Nimkee Fitness Center Group Exercise Schedule December 2014

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8 a.m.	Aqua Fit Sharon		Aqua Fit Sharon		Aqua Fit Sharon
12:10 p.m.		Suspension Training Jayme	Boot Camp Jaden	Fat Blast Jayme	CrossFitness Jaden
4:15 p.m.					Fat Blast Jayme
5:10 p.m.	Fat Blast Jayme	Kick & Step Jeni	Suspension Training Jayme	Power Hour Leah	

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## Tribal Elders take Christmas shopping trip to Frankenmuth, Mich.



Observer photos by Joseph Sowmick

On Nov. 14, the District One Tribal Elders made their annual pilgrimage to "Little Bavaria" for a feast and some Christmas shopping in Frankenmuth, Mich.

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Shuttle Bus took the Elders from Andahwod for a 90-mile journey full of fun and laughter. The Elders then enjoyed a classic Thanksgiving-style feast at the Bavarian Inn with their signature chicken dinner with all the trimmings. After visiting the Castle Shops of Bavaria, the entourage went shopping at the world famous Bronner's CHRISTmas Wonderland.

## Happy Holidays: Tips on how to avoid the stress of the season

*(Editor's note: The following article was submitted by Felicia McCrary, Andahwod BSW intern, used with sources from "25 Ways to Fight Holiday Stress" [2012] and "Holiday Stress" [2006].)*

During the holidays, stress can look very different from any

other times of the year. Most people feel a duty to make the holidays the best they can for their families and the people around them. Often times, circumstances both in and out of our control can be taxing on a person's wellbeing. Here at Andahwod, we would like to

offer some tips to help you keep away from stress as we make our way through this festive season.

Sleep is a necessary part of life that often gets focused on less and less in these busy months. Forgetting this vital act can keep us tired throughout the days and not functioning at our very best. To keep yourself stress free, try not to neglect your body's need for sleep in the process of spreading good will and cheer. Drinking a cup of chamomile

tea or a glass of warm milk and turning off electronics an hour before bedtime are just a few ways to help promote sleep.

The holiday time can be very busy between attending holiday events, gathering with friends and family, and shopping for loved ones. As the invites start to go out, start to make a list of what events are most important to you. Planning ahead is key to staying away from holiday stress. Chances are some appearances will have to wait—and that is okay! Overbooking

yourself can cause so much unnecessary stress. Be flexible, know your limits, and try to stick to them.

There is so much pressure in this day and age to get the newest toys and gadgets for ourselves and those around us. This holiday season; don't cut your wallet short by overspending on gifts and decorations. Instead, starting a new tradition can relieve some of the pressure and make a memory that will last so much longer than the latest gift ever could.

## DECEMBER 2014 Tribal Elder Birthdays

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 3 Alvin Chamberlain, Alfreda Moses, James Bailey, Rebecca Fuller, Nancy Rossbach, Patricia Sprague              | 16 Virginia Hoon, Sylvia Zelinski   |
| 4 Saundra Charles, Cynthia Cisneros, Brenda Rubin   | 17 Shirley Burch, Stephanie Peters, Donna DeLap   |
| 5 Julie King, Tony Stevens, James Wheaton   | 18 Alfred Dennis, Eleanor Hawk, Vivian Meredith, Cynthia Sprague                                      |
| 6 Teri Bennett, Lorraine Dumas, Margaret Worsham  | 19 Carol Jackson, Pamela Shawboose  |
| 7 Tracy Chamberlain, LeEtta Hansen, John Wheaton  | 20 Clinton Pelcher Jr., Richard Davis, Deborah Jackson, Jason Slater                                  |
| 8 Mary Floyd, Wayne Johnson Sr.   | 21 David Bonnau, Faith Davis, Jacqueline Roach, Janice Walker   |
| 10 Suzanne Cross, James Maki, Douglas Zocher  | 22 Dale Fowler Jr.  |
| 11 Paul Jackson, Sandra Smith   | 23 Jim Davis  |
| 12 Bradford Mandoka, Ruth Moses, Sue Kusowski, Beverly Pamp-Ettinger, Kenneth Sprague, Albert Wayne, John Brown | 24 Dorothy Dale, Brenda Miller, Michael Poolaw  |
| 13 Randall Bennett, Alma Mitchell, Gerald Moggo, Stella Pamp, Timothy Stevens                                   | 25 Terry Bonnau, Steven Pelcher, Joey Fowler  |
| 14 Marlene Collins, Ronald Johansen, Ruth Lenhart, Marjorie Gordon, Ruth Mullins Cheryl Roy, John Trepanier     | 26 John Bennett, Helen Black, Lu Ann Phillips, Patricia Wemigwans, Earlene Jackson, Timothy Smith Jr. |
| 16 Ronald Douglas, Darlene Munro, Lanette Zaleski,  | 27 Yolanda Gonzalez, Paul Stevens, Carol White Pigeon   |
|   | 29 Judy Bryant, Thomas Kequom, William Castle   |
|   | 30 Virginia Zocher, Jerome Whitepigeon Sr.  |
|   | 31 Rosaleane Brown, Marie Saboo   |

## Happy Birthday... Please check your mail

### GAYLE RUHL

Andahwod Administrator

Is your birthday coming up? Are you looking for a birthday check in the mail? The Tribal Council approved birthday checks to all Tribal Member Elders, 50 years of age and older to be mailed out the month of their birthday.

Andahwod receives many calls from District I members

asking where their birthday check is. The birthday checks are mailed out inside a birthday card. Please look for the birthday cards at the beginning of your birthday month.

If you are a District I SCIT Elder and do not receive a birthday card from Andahwod after the fifth of your birthday month, please call us at the number below. All birthday cards are sent to

the address on file with the Tribal Clerk's office.

District I Elders with a guardian or conservator will have checks mailed to those court-appointed representatives. Elders from District II and III will need to contact those departments for questions. Questions for District I call 989-775-4300, District II call 989-775-5810, and District III call 989-775-4944.

## Snow removal services for District One Elders

### JULIE PEGO

Case Manager

Winter has arrived so don't forget to sign up for snow removal services.

Elders must be at least 62 years old or have a medically-documented disability to

qualify. If there are able bodied adult children in the home, we cannot qualify you for snow removal services.

The service has a \$50 fee for the season and this will need to be paid before services can begin. This fee is to offset the cost of gasoline

and maintenance of the snow removal equipment.

All applying Elders need to schedule a home visit with Julie Pego, case manager, before services begin. Please call Julie at 989-775-4306 or Estella, Elders advocate, at 989-775-4307, to apply and to schedule your visit.

## Andahwod December Events

### Euchre

Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 at 6 p.m. | Contact: 989-775-4300

### Language Bingo

Dec. 4 at 1 p.m. | Contact: 989-775-4307

### District One Elders Christmas

Dec. 15 from 6-8 p.m. | Contact: 989-775-4302  
• Please call to sign-up

### Elders Breakfast

Dec. 10, 17 from 9-10 a.m. | Contact: 989-775-4300

### Bingo with Friends

Dec. 17 at 1 p.m. | Contact: 989-775-4307

### Elders New Year's Eve Drop

Dec. 31 from 5-7 p.m. | Contact: 989-775-4302  
• Please RSVP to attend

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\*See complete details by visiting [SoaringEagleCasino.com](http://SoaringEagleCasino.com) or Players Club.

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## DECEMBER 2014 EVENT PLANNER

### Walking Club

December 1, 3, 9, 10, 15, 16, 22, 23 | 12 - 12:50 p.m.  
 • Location: SECR Entertainment Hall  
 • Contact: 989-775-5624

### Parenting Class

December 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 | 3 - 5 p.m.  
 • Location: Nimkee Public Health  
 • To register, please contact: 989-775-4616  
 • "Becoming a Love and Logic Parent"  
 • For parents of children ages 6 and younger

### ACFS Christmas Bazaar Fundraiser

December 6 | 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
 • Location: Eagle's Nest Tribal Gym  
 • Contact: 989-775-4906  
 • All proceeds go toward the ACFS Foster Care Program.

### Youth Council Language Class

December 10, 24 | 5:30 - 6 p.m.  
 • Contact: 989-775-4505  
 • Open to any Tribal youth in the community between the ages of 12-17 years old.  
 • Classes are free, space is limited.

### Housing Financial Workshop

December 18 | 12 p.m.  
 • Location: Housing Conference Room  
 • Contact: 989-775-4552

### Wellness Support Group

December 18 | 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.  
 December 19 | 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. & 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.  
 • Location: SECR 2nd Floor Conference Room #235  
 • Contact: 989-775-5624

### Basketball Clinic

December 11, 12 | 6 - 8 p.m.  
 • Location: Eagle's Nest Tribal Gym  
 • Contact: 989-775-4149  
 • Girls: Grades 4-8  
 • Boys: Grades 4-6

### Energy Efficiency Workshop

December 11 | 6:30 p.m.  
 • Location: Housing  
 • Contact: 989-775-4581

### Red Dress Fashion Show

February 6 | 6 - 8 p.m.  
 • Location: Ziibiwing Center  
 • Contact: 989-775-4059

### Super Saturday

December 13 | 3 - 7 p.m.  
 • Location: 209 W. Broadway  
 • Contact: 989-775-4115  
 • Youth LEAD joins Painted Purple Pottery Studio.  
 • \$5 vouchers available for the first 40 Tribal Members.  
 • Pick up your vouchers at the Youth LEAD office located at the Tribal Operations building.

### Women's Support Group

December 16 | 5:30 - 7 p.m.  
 • Location: Behavioral Health  
 • Contact: 989-775-4896  
 • Ham dinner provided

**Save the Date!**

**HONORING SAGANING TRADITIONAL POWWOW**

**June 20 & 21, 2015**

**2015 Powwow**

**— Date Change —**

The 2015 Powwow will be held on  
**July 24, 25 & 26**

**Gamblers Anonymous (GA) Meetings**  
 12-step program for people that have a gambling problem.

**Mondays & Thursdays 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.**

Mount Pleasant First United Methodist Church  
 400 S. Main St. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

### Narcotics Anonymous Meetings

**Tuesdays:** 6 p.m., Wesley Foundation at CMU  
 1400 S. Washington St., Mount Pleasant

**Thursdays:** 6:30 p.m., First Methodist Church  
 400 S. Main St., Mount Pleasant

**Saturdays:** 7 p.m., Mount Pleasant Alano Club  
 1201 N. Fancher Rd., Mount Pleasant

## TRIBAL COMMUNITY CALENDAR | DECEMBER 2014

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT./SUN.
<b>1</b> Women's Traditions Group B. Health   5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  Men's Society Meeting Behind SCA   6 p.m.	<b>2</b> Ogitchedaw Meeting Seniors Room   6 p.m.  Euchre Andahwod   6 p.m. - 8 p.m.  AOVWS Meeting Seniors Room   6 - 8:30 p.m.	<b>3</b> Youth Council Meeting Tribal Gym   3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.  Open Gym Tribal Gym   6 p.m. - 9 p.m.  Parent Advisory Meeting SCA Cafeteria   5 p.m. - 6 p.m.	<b>4</b> Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation   11 a.m. - 1 p.m.  Talking Circle 7th Generation   3 p.m. - 5 p.m.  Traditional Healers 7th Generation   8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	<b>5</b> AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge   7 p.m.  New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference   1 p.m.  Traditional Healers 7th Generation   8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	<b>6</b> Talking Circle Andahwod   10 a.m.  <b>7</b> New Spirit Support Group B. Health   4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
<b>8</b> Women's Traditions Group B. Health   5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  Men's Society Meeting Behind SCA   6 p.m.  Grandmother Moon B. Health   6:30 - 8 p.m.	<b>9</b> Euchre Andahwod   6 p.m. - 8 p.m.  Donnie Dowd Sweat Lodge B. Health   4 p.m. - 10 p.m.	<b>10</b> Youth Council Meeting Seniors Room   4 p.m. - 5 p.m.  Open Gym Tribal Gym   6 p.m. - 9 p.m.  Donnie Dowd B. Health   10 a.m. - 4 p.m.	<b>11</b> Tribal Observer Deadline   3 p.m.  Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation   11 a.m. - 1 p.m.  Talking Circle 7th Generation   3 p.m. - 5 p.m.  SCA Curriculum Night SCA   5:30 - 7:30 p.m.	<b>12</b> AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge   7 p.m.  New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference   1 p.m.	<b>13</b> Talking Circle Andahwod   10 a.m.  <b>14</b> New Spirit Support Group B. Health   4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
<b>15</b> Women's Traditions Group B. Health   5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  Men's Society Meeting Behind SCA   6 p.m.	<b>16</b> Euchre Andahwod   6 p.m. - 8 p.m.  Healing Lodge B. Health   5 p.m. - 9 p.m.	<b>17</b> Open Gym Tribal Gym   6 p.m. - 9 p.m.  Youth Council Meeting Tribal Gym   3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.  Education Advisory Board Meeting   9 a.m.  Donnie Dowd B. Health   10 a.m. - 4 p.m.	<b>18</b> Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation   11 a.m. - 1 p.m.  Talking Circle 7th Generation   3 p.m. - 5 p.m.  SCA Winter Program SECR   6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	<b>19</b> AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge   7 p.m.  New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference   1 p.m.	<b>20</b> Talking Circle Andahwod   10 a.m.  <b>21</b> New Spirit Support Group B. Health   4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
<b>22</b> Women's Traditions Group B. Health   5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  Men's Society Meeting Behind SCA   6 p.m.	<b>23</b> Euchre Andahwod   6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	<b>24</b> Tribal Ops Closed Christmas Eve  Open Gym Tribal Gym   6 p.m. - 9 p.m.  Youth Council Meeting Seniors Room   4 p.m. - 5 p.m.	<b>25</b> Tribal Ops Closed Christmas Day  Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation   11 a.m. - 1 p.m.  Talking Circle 7th Generation   3 p.m. - 5 p.m.	<b>26</b> AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge   7 p.m.  New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference   1 p.m.	<b>27</b> Talking Circle Andahwod   10 a.m.  <b>28</b> New Spirit Support Group B. Health   4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
<b>29</b> Women's Traditions Group B. Health   5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  Men's Society Meeting Behind SCA   6 p.m.	<b>30</b> Euchre Andahwod   6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	<b>31</b> Tribal Ops Closed New Year's Eve  Youth Council Meeting Seniors Room   3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.  NYE Round Dance Tribal Gym   6 p.m.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SECR Payroll</li> <li>● SCIT Per Capita</li> <li>● SCIT Payroll</li> <li>● Waste Collection*  <small>*Bins must be curbside by 6:30 a.m.</small></li> </ul>

Tribal Departments: Our primary source for information is the Shared Network Community Calendar. You may access the Community Calendar by going onto the Shared-Drive and clicking on the Tribal Community Calendar. This is a very useful tool that we suggest everyone explore. Start by creating a shortcut, then adding an event, enjoy!



## Tribal Observer Classifieds

To place your ad, call the Tribal Observer at 989-775-4010, Email: [observer@sagchip.org](mailto:observer@sagchip.org), visit our office in Tribal Operations or mail to Tribal Observer, Attn.: Classified, 7070 E. Broadway, 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)

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

### 100 Employment

#### Tribal Operations

##### Social Services Supervisor

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in social work or related field required. Master's degree preferred. Four years experience in a human services setting and one-year supervisory experience. Must have knowledge of applicable tribal and federal law as they pertain to Tribal children and families. The social services supervisor concentration will be in the area of protective services, along with acting as the lead to the supervisor management team.

##### Tribal Police Officer

Open to the public. Must be at least 21 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Associates degree preferred. Must be able to pass departmental fitness evaluation. Must be MCOLES certified/certifiable or capable of meeting certifiable standards.

##### Special Education Teacher

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in special education or education, valid Michigan Elementary Teaching Certificate with special education endorsement. Must be willing to attend training.

##### Health Professionals Pool (Temporary)

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma. Experience required is based on job opening requirements. Applicant must be available on short notice for short term employment.

##### Leadership Apprentice

Only SCIT members may apply. Must have satisfactorily completed 12 credit hours. Must provide documentation of acceptance at an accredited college/university in Michigan. Must currently have a cumulative 2.5 grade point average. Must submit an official transcript and class schedule during recruitment process. Must be a full-time college student. Applicants must submit a declared degree audit during recruitment process.

##### Strategic Grant Specialist

Open to the public. Bachelor of Arts degree in related field of study or equivalent experience. Must have grant writing expertise, planning skills and demonstrated ability to work with federal/state agencies. Three years experience in management and/or administration of federal grants and contracts and demonstrated experience in program development.

##### Native American Applicant Pool

All Native Americans that meet the minimum qualifications. Tribal preference applicants are encouraged to submit application information to the posting. For employment and training opportunities, the following criteria will be utilized where applicable: A member of SCIT. Direct descendants

of members of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan. All others who are members of federally-recognized Tribes, indigenous to the United States or an indigenous aboriginal Tribe of Canada.

##### LPN - Assisted Living

Open to the public. Valid State of Michigan practical nurse license. One year of long term care experience preferred.

##### Wildlife Biologist

Open to the public. A master's degree in biology is preferred; or a bachelor's degree in biology and three years work experience in wildlife biology. Prefer experience in wildlife/natural resources policy, knowledge of GPS equipment, wildlife management practices, zoology, forestry, ecology and grants management. Knowledge of tribal, federal, state and local government helpful.

##### Tribal Operations

**Grounds Maintenance**  
Only SCIT members may apply. Must have experience and show knowledge in landscaping, grounds maintenance or a maintenance-related job environment as described in the essential job duties.

##### Administrative Assistant I

Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma (or equivalent) with six to 12 months clerical experience. Applicant must possess the ability to accurately and efficiently type reports and correspondence.

##### Elementary Teacher

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in education. Must possess a valid State of Michigan Teaching Certification. Prefer minimum of two years teaching experience and working experience with Native Americans.

##### Bus Driver - Part Time

Open to the public. Must have high school diploma or equivalent. Must meet the minimum requirements for a school bus driver as defined by the State of Michigan; Must be at least 21 years old.

### Casino

##### Director Cage & Count

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Education experience must include a bachelor's degree or above in business or accounting and five years of casino cage & count managerial experience. Must have the ability to deal effectively and interact well with customers and associates. Computer experience and good organizational skills are necessary. As a 24/7 operation, this position is expected to work a variety of shifts to maintain effective communication.

##### Comptroller

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in accounting or business with an accounting minor, or MBA in accounting. CMA or CPA a plus. Minimum of 12 years accounting experience in casino and/or hospitality industry, of which four years experience in a senior accounting supervisory position.

##### Line Server Part-Time

Open to the public. Must have high school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age; must be able to work weekends, holidays and graveyard shifts. Good physical ability for walking, standing, lifting, and bending. Must be able to lift 25-50 pounds regularly. Native American preferred.

##### Steward

Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Desire to work hard. Must have an organized and thorough in work ethic and a strong desire to provide service. Exceptional people skills, high level of enthusiasm and professionalism.

##### Waitstaff Level I

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must have accurate math skills. Must be able to deal with the public under stressful situations, be a team player, work flexible hours.

##### Bartender Part-Time

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must have accurate math skills.

##### Housekeeping - Casino

Open to the public. Must have high school diploma or equivalent. No previous experience required. Must be able to follow simple written and verbal instruction, and be willing to accomplish repetitive tasks.

##### Server Assistant

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must have accurate math skills.

##### Laundry Attendant

Open to the public. Must have high school diploma or GED. Previous hotel housekeeping/laundry experience preferred.

##### Stewarding Shift Supervisor

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent. Must have basic math skills. Must be detail-oriented. Must have two years supervisory experience in the hospitality stewarding field or three years of SECR hospitality division experience or an associates degree in the hospitality field.

##### Lead Cook

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent. Two years of restaurant cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility, proven leadership, communication and teamwork skills. Formal education in the form of a culinary degree from an American Culinary Federation (ACF) accredited school may be accepted to satisfy part of the work experience requirement.

##### Table Games Dealer

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have high school diploma

or equivalent. Training fee: Applicants must pay a \$400 fee for training. This fee can be payroll deducted at \$50 per week. If successful completion of training has been met, the fee will not be required for additional games. (Fee is waived for Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribal Members only).

##### Finance Trainer/Scheduler

Two year college degree or equivalent experience in a related field with minimum five years relevant work experience as a supervisor or trainer. Must be timely and accurate with reports. Must have knowledge of computers as associated with word processing and spreadsheet applications.

##### Front Desk Agent

Open to the public. high school diploma. Hotel experience in front office operations preferred, but not necessary. Must have cash handling experience and one year minimum of customer service experience.

##### Server Assistant

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must have accurate math skills.

##### Bell Person Part-Time

Open to the public. Previous work experience that included customer service responsibilities. Qualified applicants should possess a friendly and outgoing personality.

##### F&B Cashier

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Some cash handling, banking, or accounting experience preferred.

##### Keybooth Attendant

Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma. Available to work all shifts including weekends and holidays.

##### Transit Driver

Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must be at least 21 years of age. Must have a valid Michigan driver's license and must be able to obtain and maintain a Tribal drivers license and qualify for coverage by our insurance carrier. Must have a valid CDL with passenger endorsements.

##### Call Center Lead

Open to the public. High school diploma or equivalent required, two years college credits preferred. Candidates must have minimum of one year reservation experience

with a hotel, casino, rent a car, airline, cruise ships or travel agency. Prior training and supervisory experience preferred. Typing skills required. Computer literate and capable of using various software applications. ends.

##### F&B Custodial Worker

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent. Must have basic knowledge of power washing equipment, power vacs, and hydraulic lifts. Must be willing to further knowledge of food equipment. Experience in back of the house operations preferred.

##### Valet Parking Attendant

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must have a valid Michigan drivers license and must be able to obtain and maintain a Tribal drivers license and qualify for coverage by our insurance carrier.

### 130 Services

##### Fox Home Builders

All types of home improvements. Kitchen and bath remodeling, additions. Experienced and local. 989-773-4665.



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## Youth LEAD event sparks holiday spirit for families and community

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Photojournalist

One fond Christmas memory from the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort was when Andy Williams, dressed in his signature sweater, sang the timeless classic “(There’s No Place Like) Home for the Holidays.” I could hear that refrain loud and clear as the SCIT Youth LEAD Department and the Saginaw Chippewa Youth Council sparked a festive spirit throughout the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym at their annual “Home for the Holidays” event on Nov. 20.

The warmth of the community was no match for the weather outside (and it was frightful). That brought a north wind and single digit temperatures.

A superb Thanksgiving cornucopia featuring turkey, ham, stuffing, cranberries, pumpkin pie and just about every other dish was lovingly prepared by SECR Chefs Betty Riddle and Shaun McGee and the Food & Beverage team.

Master of Ceremonies and Youth LEAD Activities Manager Ronnie Ekdahl and Youth Council Representative Kenson Taylor ran the festivities through a “pin the nose on the snowman” contest, a musical “turkey leg” game and drew door prize tickets for poinsettias and holiday centerpieces.

“A lot of the Tribal youth who participate in our gym programs and the afterschool program came to the event with their families,” Ekdahl said. “It’s a great event for our staff and to see a fully-packed gym with Elders and youth together is heartwarming.”

Ekdahl said the event was the community debut of their new big screen and projector upgrade for the Eagles Nest and the crowd got to watch a DVD of “A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving” and the SCIT Afterschool Program Disney favorite “Frozen”.

Youth LEAD Director Jennifer Crawford worked registration with LEAD Youth & Families Specialist



**SCIT Youth Council Representative Kenson Taylor gets in the holiday spirit.**

Colleen Maki, Leadership Intern Betsey Alonzo and Saginaw Chippewa Youth Council representatives.

“This is an opportunity for our Youth LEAD staff to recognize the support the families of the Tribe and community have given our programs,” Crawford said. “The smiles and laughter were all over the gym last night... everyone was truly showing the spirit of the holidays!”

SCIT College Vocational Recruiter and Youth Council Advisor Rosanna Romero also provided support with the festivities. Youth LEAD staffers Lindsey Sprague and Lucas Sprague helped coordinate the contest segments of the “Home for the Holidays” event.



Observer photos by Joseph Sowmick

**Tribal youth have some musical fun with the “pass the turkey leg” game.**



**Emcee Ronnie Ekdahl takes a moment to pose with his family, wife Rosemary and son Michael.**



**Olaf gets an assistant as a Tribal youth plays “pin the nose on the snowman.”**



**Youth Council President Milan Quigno-Grundahl shares a funny moment at registration with Youth Council General Representative Vanessa Romero.**



**The Shawboose Family (Scott, Vanyork, Amy & Alyssa) are “Home for the Holidays.”**



**Assistant Human Resources Manager Mary Quigno smiles while holding her son, Elijah Gary Quigno.**



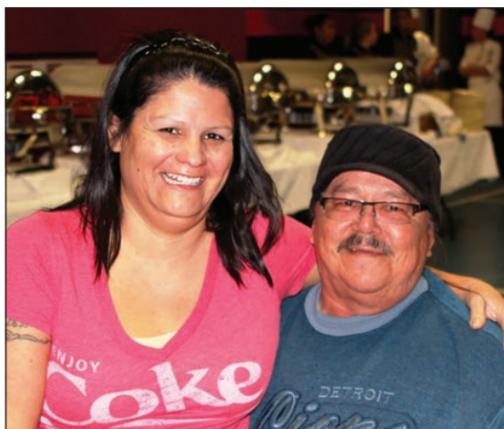
**An Elder experiences “Home for the Holidays” kindness first-hand.**



**Nimkee Clinic Nurse Sue Sowmick gets a youth ready for the winter flu season.**



**SCIT Administrative assistant Dawn Morrow strikes a holiday pose with her daughters Wabaa and Madison Pelcher.**



**Consuelo Gonzalez and Kenny Sprague share their holiday spirit.**



**SCA student Adam Saboo enjoys the event with his parents Scott and Kim.**