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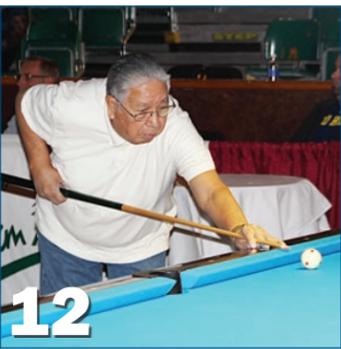
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# TRIBAL OBSERVER

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

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## Chief Pego addresses Feb. 22 State of the Tribe speech

*(Editor's note: The following is Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Chief Steven Pego's 2015 State of the Tribe speech during the Feb. 22 community meeting in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment Hall.)*



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Tribal Chief Steven Pego offers a heartfelt message before the State of the Tribe Address on the importance of continuing the war against drugs and alcohol on the Reservation.**

"Tribal Council and I would like to begin by thanking you for joining us today. I am told this address will be available on our Tribal website for anyone who was unable to attend this morning.

Technology is a wonderful thing when it comes to reaching out to the Membership. I am very happy to inform you that when considering our communication with the Membership, we recognized the difficult position the Tribal Observer was put into when asked for budget reductions. Their choice to transition to electronic versions of the Observer, in order to save money, was appropriate but problematic, at best. Not everyone has the capability to retrieve the Observer online.

Tribal Council decided to fund the Observer to ensure that

each Tribal household would receive the printed edition of the Observer from here on out. That way, we can ensure you receive the information, events and announcements each month.

It has been a privilege and an honor to serve as your tribal chief to this point. This job is not without challenges and obstacles. Your leadership is working each and every day to

ensure we have a long lasting and solid future.

Today, I am very happy to report that your Tribal community stands on solid ground. Tribal Treasurer Shelly Bailey will be providing a detailed breakdown of all of our accounts and where each one is at. Although one of our biggest challenges is the per capita account, I want each one of you to know that the rest of our portfolio is on solid ground. The per capita account is funded by the profits from our Class III gaming revenues. Although we remain profitable, the amounts of revenues we have come to count on have decreased over the past several years due to market challenges, the economy and other factors.

Some years ago, it was decided to reduce per capita to ensure we could sustain the distribution through 2019. Unfortunately, we have had to use the future's trust money to maintain the level of per capita payments to this point.

Tribal Council needs to make changes to the distribution plan to ensure we can support the

per capita plan for the future. We need to know what type of impacts future reductions will have on you and your families. Tribal Council will be mailing a questioner to the entire Membership. Please take this opportunity to provide us with your best thoughts regarding per capita and how we can address these short falls for the future.

There have been some very significant and challenging adjustments before your Tribal Council in regards to Obama Care and the many changes and adjustments we have all had to adapt to. We have Connie Sprague from Benefits and Lisa Peters from At-Large here with us today who will be providing information in regards to member benefits and health care coverage.

It is very important that we continue to promote and support employment, education and community involvement. All of these are critical in preparing for our future and the future of our youth.

State of the Tribe | 6

## Migizi Interim CEO offers insight on MEDC properties

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Photojournalist

On Feb. 22 at the Saginaw Chippewa State of the Tribe Address, Migizi Interim CEO Lisa Darnell provided an insightful presentation on the Migizi Economic Development Company (MEDC) and the myriad of properties it represents.

Tribal Chief Steven Pego serves as the Migizi Board of Director chairperson with the Director of Purchasing David Charles serving as vice chairperson. Other Migizi Board members include Tribal Council Secretary Sandy Sprague as

secretary and Tribal Council Treasurer Shelly Bailey as a board member.

The three other Migizi Board members include Public Relations Director Frank Cloutier, Investment Research Analyst Melanie Burger and community Tribal Member Darryl Jackson. There is currently a vacant position on the Migizi Board.

"The Migizi Board of Directors makes a great team and we are together on what our focus and customer service initiatives are for fiscal year 2015," Darnell said. "We will endeavor to 1) get all Migizi EDC businesses to exceed

projections and to maintain profitability, 2) remain focused on the improvement of existing businesses and new implementations to make them enticing 3) more Tribal collaboration to increase revenue and customer base for all and 4) researching new business opportunities with a focus on items that the Tribe spends a lot of resources on to see if we can internalize.

It is an honor to come address the membership at the State of the Tribe meeting and I wanted to let everyone know we need their help and welcome their input."

Migizi presentation | 9



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Interim Migizi CEO Lisa Darnell delivers a business presentation to 369 Tribal Members at the annual State of the Tribe Address on Feb. 22.**



## Attention Tribal Members:

Who are current and qualified Flagstar mortgage holders and have not yet responded to the letters that have been sent, and are interested in lowering your interest rate, monthly payment and adding money back into your cash flow. Call today to get the details.

Representatives from Flagstar Bank will be at Tribal Housing on March 13, 2015 at 12 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. to answer questions you may have regarding the refinance.

**Please R.S.V.P to Sherrill Kennedy at 989.775.4552 with the time you would like to attend.**



## Tammy Paul

Oct. 20, 1961 - Feb. 2, 2015

Tammy Paul, age 53, of Mount Pleasant, Mich., passed away Monday, Feb. 2, 2015, at McLaren Central Michigan.

Funeral services for Tammy were held Thursday, Feb. 5, 2015, at Clark Family Funeral Chapel with Rev. Owen White-Pigeon officiating. Interment followed in Woodland Cemetery.

Tammy was born Oct. 20, 1961, in Mount Pleasant, the daughter of Kermit and Elarine (Casner) Paul. She was a homemaker. Tammy was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan. She enjoyed playing bingo and golfing.

Tammy is survived by her daughter Tonya Lea Paul of Mount Pleasant; grandchildren Layla, Linsey, Adrianna and Caleb Paul; brothers Dennis R. (Dorothy) Christy Sr. of Rosebush, Mich., Kermit Bennett Paul Jr. of Rosebush and Jason K. (Laurie) Casner of Mount Pleasant; sisters Flossie Sprague of Mount Pleasant, Adelaide (Timothy) Davis of Mount Pleasant and Elarine (Frank) Hunt of Coleman, Mich.

Tammy was preceded in death by her parents and her daughter Terri Lynn Paul.

## Rita Lily Bailey

Dec. 22, 1925 - Feb. 10, 2015

Rita Lily Bailey, age 89, of Mount Pleasant, Mich., passed away Tuesday, Feb. 10, 2015 at McLaren Lansing.

Funeral Services for Rita were held Saturday, Feb. 14, 2015, at Clark Family Funeral Chapel with Pastor Lee Rhodes of Breckenridge United Brethren Church officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Ronald McDonald House or Community Cancer Services.



Rita was born Dec. 22, 1925, in Norwich, England, the daughter of Albert and Violet (Dawson) Didwell. She was a war bride, marrying James Bailey on Aug. 15, 1943, in Norwich, England. Rita was employed for 25 years in the kitchen at Carey Hall, Central Michigan University. Following retirement, she enjoyed lunches with her retiree friends. Rita loved to bake bread and knit, she taught knitting at Ganiard Elementary School. Rita was the most caring and kind person to all she met, but the loves of her life were her family.

Rita is survived by her children, Sandra Rood of Mount Pleasant, Jim (Mary Lue) Bailey of Wheeler, Mich., Carol Shanks, Trudy (Rick) Ralston, Brenda Nolan, Kathy (Paul) Dintaman and Mark (Karen) Bailey, all of Mount Pleasant; 22 grandchildren; 46 great-grandchildren; five great-great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews with special nieces Veronica Farrell and Barbara Durga, special cousin Lillie Clingham, and special friends Julie McClain and Rose O'Brien.

Rita was preceded in death by her husband James Bailey on June 11, 2000, her sons-in-law, Abe Rood, Archie Shanks, Dan Nolan and Jack Farrell, and niece Velma Kyser.

## Saginaw Chippewa Conservation Committee 2015 Regular Meeting Schedule

- March 12** • 12 p.m. • Planning Dept
- March 26** • 12 p.m. • Planning Dept
- April 9** • 12 p.m. • Saganing Tribal Center
- April 30** • 12 p.m. • Planning Dept
- May 14** • 12 p.m. • Planning Dept
- May 28** • 12 p.m. • Planning Dept
- June 11** • 12 p.m. • Planning Dept
- June 25** • 12 p.m. • Planning Dept

\* All times and locations subject to change by committee

## Virginia Pigeon (Whitepigeon)

March 26, 1929 - Feb. 17, 2015

Pigeon (Whitepigeon), Virginia (Graverette); our beloved mother, quietly passed on to the spirit world Feb. 17, 2015, with family gathered around. She had a brief struggle with cancer that ended her life. Bii-mi-zaak-wod (Clearing Sky) zhinkaazo. Mishiike dodem (Turtle Clan) Saginaw Chippewa Anishinaabe kwe. Full-blood Tribal Elder, educator and pipe carrier, she was 85 years young.



Virginia raised five children, had 14 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren (with one more on the way.) She even had a great-great-grandson which made five generations of her family.

Virginia inspired and encouraged many people with her strong Indian values and teachings about Mino Bimaadiziwin: The good traditional life. She danced in her traditional dress at many powwows. Her children and grandchildren carry on dancing and ceremonies that she taught them.

She retired from the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe as parent-infant guidance specialist. She earned her master's degree in Education Administration at Central Michigan University, a bachelor's degree in Secondary Education at Western Michigan University.

Her work included director of education for Pokagon Potawatomi Tribe, Michigan Indian employment and training services coordinator, 8th grade English teacher at Kalamazoo schools, public health nurse for Grand Rapids Health Department and nurse at Borgess Hospital. She served on the Board of Directors for Michigan Indian Legal Services, helped coordinate the annual SCIT powwow, started the Tribal Princess contest, started the Tribal Baby Celebration, volunteered in Enrollment Department and the Election Caucus Committee and started Indian Education Program in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Virginia was the last surviving child of six of Amos Graverette and Sarah Hart. She married Edward Whitepigeon in 1949. Her son, Jeffrey Pigeon Sr. preceded her into the spirit world.

Surviving children are Jerome Whitepigeon, Julie Whitepigeon (Ray Cadotte), Joy Perkins, Doug "Jon" Speer, Delores Bullbear of whom she considered her daughter and her beloved little dog, Neempsh. She leaves many loved nieces and nephews, extended family, everyone who called her "Ma" or "Mom" including many cousins and friends.

Traditional services for Virginia were held Saturday, Feb. 21, 2015, at Clark Family Funeral Chapel in Mount Pleasant with Bucko Teeple officiating. Interment followed at Riverside Cemetery in Hamilton, Mich.

**ATTENTION**  
Anishinabe Ogitchedaw  
Veteran & Warrior Society Members

Now Recruiting New Members

**Meetings Will be Held**  
The 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the Month in Seniors Room  
Time: 6 p.m. | For More Information: 775-4175

### Report Suspicious or Criminal Activity!

**Do Your Part In Stopping Crime!**

Assist Your Local Law Enforcement and Narcotics Enforcement Teams in Protecting the Future of Your Community!

Protecting your children, family, community and future should be a priority!

**Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police**  
Dispatch: 989-775-4700  
Tip Line: 989-775-4775

**Bayanet (Narcotics Enforcement)**  
Tip Line: 989-779-9697  
*Anonymous and Confidential*

## HEY FRIENDS!

**- ALERT -**  
NEW HOURS COMING SOON!

**Our waterpark will NOT OPERATE on the following dates. Operation of hotel will not be affected by these changes.**

Note: Nbakade Restaurant will remain open daily. The hotel pool area and fitness center are also available outside of the waterpark. Miigwetch! (Thank You)

March: 3, 4, 10, 11  
April: 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29  
May: 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27  
June: 2, 3

## Don't Shatter the Dream.

**Tribal police are cracking down. Don't drink and drive.**

BIA Office of Justice Services  
Indian Highway Safety Program

**Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police**

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

OWN IT?

RESPECT IT. SECURE IT.

ProjectChildSafe.org

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.

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

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

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

## Order Establishing Spring Wild Turkey Season 2015

Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 105 subdivision 6(B) the 2015 Spring Wild Turkey Season shall begin **Wednesday, April 1, 2015** and will close on **Monday, June 1, 2015** unless ordered otherwise. The 2015 Spring Wild Turkey Season will allow for the harvest of two bearded Turkeys per license.

Licenses and harvest tags are available starting March 25, 2015 at the Tribal Planning Department office. \$15 per harvest tag, only two tags allowed per license. Please refer to the Ordinance 11 on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe website for rules and regulations.



## Per Capita Mail Update

**JEANETTE MANDOKA**

Per Capita Member Specialist

The Per Capita Department has recently been informed by the postal service that all mail is being routed through Grand Rapids, Mich. This change is due to the Lansing, Mich. hub closing.

With this change, there is a delay in checks and advices being received by the membership. It will depend on the postal service operating procedure to determine when the mail will arrive at each residence. All mail is sorted individually and will be delivered as sorted, not by "household."

Direct deposit to any bank is a secure way to receive per capita funds on the scheduled pay date. Forms are available on line or at the Per Capita Department.

**Please update all information pertaining to any current address change or contact number, through the Tribal Clerk Department.**

**Information regarding any changes are recorded on the hotline.**

**Per Capita Hotline: 989.775.4037  
Toll Free: 800.225.8172**



**Happy 6<sup>th</sup> B-day**  
to our baby!

Love, Your family



**Happy Birthday**

to MY Baby

Love, Auntie

## 2015 Powwow logo contest: "Honoring the Water"

**POWWOW COMMITTEE**

Attention all artists, the Saginaw Chippewa Powwow Committee is having a logo design contest for the upcoming powwow. If you would like to enter please send your entries to the Powwow Committee.

Your logo design should be designed around the theme "Honoring the Water" entries can be in color (four color max.) Your designs can be hand drawn or created electronically.

**Please mail your design entries to:**

Attn: Powwow Committee  
7070 E Broadway Rd, Mt. Pleasant MI 48858

If you create an electronic version it can be emailed to [cgraveratte@sagchip.org](mailto:cgraveratte@sagchip.org) They can also be dropped off at the At-Large Office to Craig Graveratte.

**All entries must be received no later than March 27, 2015.** Please include your contact information along with your entry.

The winning design will be displayed on the T-shirts for this upcoming year. The winning logo design will receive \$200 and a free T-shirt or hoodie with your design.

Prizes will also be awarded for second and third place as well (yet to be determined).

If you have any questions, please contact us at **989-775-4942**.



**Happy 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday**  
**Marcella**



*I wanna wish my LOVING hubby Randy*  
**a Happy 50<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY**

Love Ronda.

### Anishinabe Language Revitalization

#### — Committee Vacancy —

*Individuals who are committed to revitalizing Anishinabemowin*

We are seeking Youth Representative for the ALRC. Candidates must be at least 18 to 25 years old and able to attend monthly meetings.

Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 10 a.m. in the east side of the Break Room (Old Seniors Room) at Tribal Operations

**Please send Letters/emails of interest to:**

Mail to: Anishinabe Language Revitalization  
Department Committee Vacancy  
7070 E. Broadway Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Email to: [ajpeters@sagchip.org](mailto:ajpeters@sagchip.org)

**For further information:**

Please call the ALRD Office at 989.775.4126 or visit the website: [www.sagchip.org/language/index.asp](http://www.sagchip.org/language/index.asp)

### Attention Deer Hunters!

In an effort to better manage the deer herd and deer hunting opportunities on Saginaw Chippewa Tribal land, we are requesting that you please fill out a Deer Harvest Survey for the 2014 hunting season on the Tribal website. Your input will go directly to the Tribal Wildlife Biologist and will greatly assist in future deer herd management and hunting opportunities on tribal land.

Please take five minutes to complete the survey, even if you did not harvest a deer during the 2014 season, as your input is greatly appreciated.

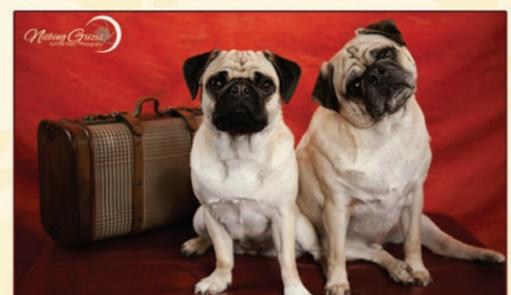
The link for the survey can be found on the main webpage and under Services > Planning Department: <http://www.sagchip.org/planning/deersurvey.aspx>

### Rez Pets

"It's Raining Cats and Dogs!"

Attention Tribal Members or employees, please submit a photo of your pet to show them off in the April Tribal Observer. Households with two or more pets, please submit a group photo!

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



**Please include:**  
Owner's name, pet's name, age and breed

**Deadline:** Monday, March 16



**Mino Dibishkaan Gegek Pamp!**

*Happy Birthday Gegek Pamp*

**Mdasswi-shi-goodwaswi biboon**  
(16 years old)



**Happy Birthday**

**Janice!**

**Loads of Love**  
*Mamma B & your Sissy Net*



**Happy 15<sup>th</sup> Birthday!**

**Evelyn**

Love: Dad, Mimi & Papa

**Happy Birthday**

**Abe,**  
Love Shirley

## ELDERS' TRIP

### Powwow Homecoming 2015

**Check-in: Friday, July 24, 2015**

**Check-out: Sunday, July 26, 2015**

Registration forms were sent out in January. The registration form does need to be mailed in along with your registration fee which needs to be a money order or a cashier's check. **No personal checks.**

**Mail registration forms to:**

Trip Program 7070 E. Broadway  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

If you have any questions call Sheila Leaux at 989.775.4135 or email [saleaux@sagchip.org](mailto:saleaux@sagchip.org)



## Tribal Council

- Chief**  
Steven Pego, District 1
- Sub-Chief**  
Lorna Kahgegab 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.



## 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, 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.

## Christian hip-hop artist Little Battle Axe shares the gospel to SCIT community

### NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Christian hip-hop artist Robert "Little Battle Axe" Ornelas of Anaheim, Calif. shared the gospel of Jesus with the Tribal community during his Feb. 10 concert in the Eagles Nest gymnasium hosted by Youth LEAD.

The 21-year-old rapper is on his "Don't Lose Hope Tour" where he will continue to travel the country. He has shared his

story with other Native American tribes, jails, prisons, schools, night clubs and youth correction facilities since the age of 8.

According to littlebattleaxe.com, in February 2014, Little Battle Axe began his "Beautiful World Tour" where he traveled throughout all 50 states in a period of three months.

Little Battle Axe hopes that one day he can follow his dad's footsteps and become a pastor, according to his website.

The website states, "He continues to travel the country, ministering and performing to reach out to the broken hearted and lost. He plans to continue ministering full time. Hip-hop will always be his number one passion, and he will continue to combine gospel and hip-hop. The mission is to bring souls to Jesus Christ."



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Little Battle Axe called all youth up with him to share the gospel of Jesus.**



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Christian hip-hop artist Robert "Little Battle Axe" performs during the Feb. 10 Youth LEAD concert.**

## Tribal Observer

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



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

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe  
c/o Tribal Observer  
7070 E. Broadway Rd.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

### Subscription rates are \$30 per year.

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

*The views expressed within the Tribal Observer do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tribal Observer, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council, 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

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

### Please mail form to:

Tribal Observer  
Attn: Subscriptions  
7070 E. Broadway Rd.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

### Contact Information:

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



## Wesaw appointed to Michigan Advisory Committee of the U. S. Civil Rights Commission

### VICKI LEVENGOOD

MDCR Contributing Writer

The Michigan Department of Civil Rights (MDCR) announced on Feb. 3 that Director Matthew J. Wesaw has been appointed to serve on the United States Civil Rights Commission's (USCCR) Michigan Advisory Committee. The two-year appointment was effective as of Jan. 29, 2015.

"Michigan has a long, proud tradition of being a leader in civil rights," Wesaw said. "I look forward to joining with other state leaders to continue to advocate fairness, equality and justice for all people."

Wesaw has been MDCR director since November 2013. Prior to joining the department,

he worked 26 years for the Michigan State Police and six years with the Michigan State Police Troopers Association. He has served as a tribal council member, vice chairman and past chairman of the federally-recognized Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians.

Governor John Engler appointed Wesaw to the Commission on Indian Affairs and the Community Service Commission.

Governor Jennifer Granholm appointed Wesaw to the Michigan Civil Rights Commission where he served for eight years, including as chair from 2010 to 2012. Governor Rick Snyder appointed Wesaw to the council on Law Enforcement and Reinvention Committee.

The USCCR was created by the Civil Rights Act of 1957 as an independent, bi-partisan federal agency whose mission is to inform the development of national civil rights policy and enhance the enforcement of federal civil rights laws. The USCCR is comprised of eight commissioners, half of whom are appointed by the President and half of whom are appointed by Congress.

Fifty-one state advisory committees (representing all 50 states and the District of Columbia) are made up of citizen volunteers who are appointed by commissioners to assist with fact-finding, investigation and information sharing.

The newly-appointed Michigan Advisory Committee



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

MDCR Director Matt Wesaw (left) shares a moment with Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder at the United Tribes Summit at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on May 12, 2014.

will also be led by a long-time MDCR employee. Donna Budnick, who worked for MDCR from 1997 to 2007 as the American Indian Affairs

Specialist, has been reappointed to the committee and asked to serve as chairperson. The first meeting is expected to be scheduled soon.

## NCAI releases analysis of President Obama's Fiscal 2016 budget request

### BY SARAH BECCIO

NCAI Contributing Writer

*(Editor's note: Founded in 1944, the National Congress of American Indians is the oldest and largest American Indian and Alaska Native organization in the country. NCAI advocates on behalf of tribal governments and communities, promoting strong tribal-federal government-to-government policies, and promoting a better understanding among the general public regarding American Indian and Alaska Native governments, people and rights. SCIT At-Large Tribal Council Member Michele Stanley serves as an NCAI Board Representative.)*

On Feb. 4, National Congress of American Indians released an analysis of the president's fiscal year 2016 budget, which highlighted the impact on funding for Indian programs. The budget proposes overall an increase of 12 percent for BIA over the fiscal 2015 enacted level, the largest increase in more than a decade (excluding Recovery Act funding) and a nine percent increase for the Indian Health Service.

Overall, several proposals in the fiscal 2016 budget request would improve the federal government's fulfillment of treaty and trust responsibilities in the federal budget, proposals which should benefit from bipartisan support. NCAI and tribal leaders will continue to work with appropriators and members in both the House and Senate to underscore the importance of strengthened investments in direct services to tribes and funding for programs administered by tribes.

President Brian Cladoosby responded to the fiscal year 2016 budget release with, "Indian Country strongly supports the several increases that recognize the treaty and trust responsibilities, with the goal of parity in governmental resources for tribes. Tribes also strongly support the proposal to make BIA and IHS contract support costs mandatory, which tribes have called for in tribal consultation over many years."

### Highlights of fiscal 2016 president's budget include:

- Mandatory contract support costs: The fiscal 2016 budget

includes a legislative proposal to reclassify contract support costs as permanent funding beginning in fiscal 2017.

- Native youth: The creation of Generation Indigenou, which is a comprehensive multi-agency initiative to help improve the lives of and opportunities for Native youth in multiple areas such as broadband access and college and career-readiness.

- Tiwahe (family) initiative, a comprehensive and integrated approach to address the inter-related problems of poverty, violence, and substance abuse faced by Indian communities, The fiscal 2016 budget would provide \$15 million to expand the Tiwahe initiative, \$6 million more for social services, \$4 million more for law enforcement for alternatives to incarceration, and \$5 million more for aid to tribal family courts.

- Public safety: The budget includes \$417.4 million for the Department of Justice public safety initiatives in Indian Country, which is a \$102 million increase.

- Tribal Behavioral Health Grant (TBHG) increases. The

TBHG would receive an additional \$25 million as part of Generation Indigenou. With the expansion of the TBHG program, SAMHSA aims to reduce substance use and the suicide among Native youth and address conditions which impact learning in Bureau of Indian Education schools.

- Indian Education funding would increase for BIE, expanding broadband for BIE

schools, and scholarships and higher education.

As Congress makes decisions as a part of the appropriations process in the coming weeks and months, NCAI urges law-makers to support parity in governmental and program funding as well as promote Indian self-determination to achieve the vision of broader progress in Indian Country.

### Attention Tribal Members



Courtesy of SCIT Planning Department

The Tribal Council for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe has deemed that the pole barn located at 1575 N. Shepherd Rd. is surplus property. Therefore, proposals are requested from any interested SCIT Tribal Member wishing to acquire and relocate the pole barn for their own use. Please submit proposals to the SCIT Planning Department no later than March 23, 2015.

**WANTED**  
**ATTORNEY AT LAW**  
William L. Antrobis

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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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## State of the Tribe

continued from front page

You have been given a card from the At-Large Department asking what you know about the 40 credits earned for Medicare coverage. We have found that some of the members do not qualify for Medicare at retirement due to a break or lack of work history. These folks can help you with your transition to retirement and health care coverage.

Remember the privilege of membership comes with many benefits and we are here to ensure you understand and are taking advantage of each benefit offered to you.

I would like to address changes that are being made to our Treasury department and efforts to reorganize their efforts. Tribal Council and the Investment Committee have been working to update job descriptions with compensation and those positions are currently posted.

You should also know that the money in our investments is invested and secure. Charles Schwab is the brokerage house for these investments and any changes to this structure will be communicated to you as they happen. Please feel confident that Tribal Council assures any changes will be for the best to secure our future.

Sean Reed, legal counsel, is here and will be providing information on the ongoing union litigation, contract support cost litigation and compact negotiations.

The federal government, over the past several years, has been decreasing the amount of funding for Tribal programs and Indian Health service resulting in a shortfall. We have charged our legal department with litigating these treaty obligations and demand complete funding. Any dollars awarded back will bring about relief to those departments struggling with decreased dollars through the funding process.

The good news is that President Obama's 2016 proposed budget for Indian Country is showing an increase of 12 percent and if passed, will help relieve the amounts that have to come out of the Tribal government's budget.

We have talked for some time about the expansion to Saganing Eagles Landing Casino. After careful consideration and changes to the size and scope of the project, I am happy to report that the schematic design with JCY is 50 percent complete.

ROWE Engineering has been brought on to develop the civil engineering for the entire casino

property and surrounding contiguous property. Meetings are ongoing with our neighbors Lake State Rail, ITC and Consumers Energy so we can process and address any issues that they may bring up during construction.

We want to ensure that the growth in Saganing is an enhancement to our efforts here in Mount Pleasant and not a detraction. We will be able to offer a nice restaurant, 148 hotel rooms and room for another 400 slot machines. This work has been fueled by the efforts to build this business and its growth to support profitability and services provided.

Planning has continued its work with M-DOT and Arenac County to relocate the Worth roadway in front of the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino to allow for future growth and community development. This relocation south of its current location

will bring Worth Road square with the Lake State Rail crossing further south from its current location providing added safety and ease of traffic.

The Tribe is currently developing the franchise agreement with Standish Township that will allow us to provide water and waste water services to White's Beach neighborhood in Saganing. That agreement will detail the relationship between the Tribe and the township and which entity is responsible for exactly what services that will be provided. This will enhance their community while creating another revenue stream for our Tribal community.

Your Tribal community is here to grow and develop with you and your families. Your Tribal government is here to provide those basic services that will enhance and compliment

your lives while supporting education and higher education.

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribal government supports 36 different departments with over 120 individual programs all designed to enhance your quality of life while providing excellent services.

We remain committed to creating and maintaining a safe and productive community you can be proud of while promoting growth and future sustainability.

You will hear from our Migizi Interim CEO Lisa Darnell on plans for the future of Migizi and those Migizi business units, as well as information from Raul Venegas, marketing director for the Soaring Eagle and Saganing properties.

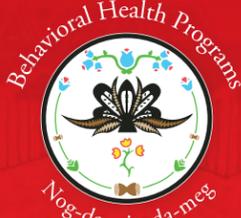
I would like to thank you for your attention and support. Together we can make a difference."



### For Sale

Beautiful four bedroom home, completely remodeled in 2012 including electrical. Hardwood flooring, new carpet, remodeled kitchen. Full finished basement, located in the City of Mt. Pleasant on a quiet cul-de sac, close to schools. Market evaluation of \$215,000 **ASKING \$195,000.**

Call for an appointment to see this beautiful home. 989.560.2488 days or evenings.



## Behavioral Health

# PROGRAMS

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2800 S. Shepherd Rd.  
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[www.sagchip.org/behavioralhealth](http://www.sagchip.org/behavioralhealth)

### Outpatient Services

The outpatient program strives to meet the needs of the Anishinabek 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 Anishinabek 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
- Anishinabek 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	• Cultural Sensitivity
• 24/7 Support	• Confidentiality/Privacy
• Group Therapy	• Victim Advocacy
• Individual Therapy	• Education and Outreach
• Case Management	

# 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.



## Stranger danger as adults: How to protect yourself and loved ones

**DENISE PELCHER**

Contract Health Clerk

We have all heard of “stranger danger” to help educate our children of the dangers of talking to and trusting strangers. But have we ever thought about “stranger danger” for our parents or the elderly in our community?

We need to start thinking about those dangers because more and more, they are the ones being targeted. In this day and age, there are so many ways for people to scam, cheat, and fraud us out of our money and property that we need to beware and be educated on those scams and how to protect ourselves and our loved ones.

### 1. Be aware that you are at risk from strangers—and from those closest to you.

More than 90 percent of all reported elder abuse is committed by the older person’s own family members, most often their adult children, followed by grandchildren, nieces and nephews, and others.

Common tactics include depleting a joint checking account, promising but not delivering care in exchange for money or property, outright theft, and other forms of abuse, including physical abuse, threats, intimidation, and neglect of basic care needs.

Everyone is at risk of financial abuse, even people without high incomes or assets.

### 2. Don’t isolate yourself, stay involved!

Isolation is a huge risk factor for elder abuse. Most family violence only occurs behind closed doors, and elder abuse is no exception.

Some older people self-isolate by withdrawing from the larger community.

Others are isolated because they lose the ability to drive, see, or walk about on their own. Some seniors fear being victimized by purse snatchings and muggings if they venture out.

### 3. Always tell solicitors: “I never buy from (or give to) anyone who calls or visits me unannounced. Send me something in writing.”

Don’t buy from an unfamiliar company and always ask for and wait until you receive written material about any offer or charity.

Neighborhood children you know who are selling Girl Scout cookies or school fundraising items may be an exception, but a good rule of thumb is to never donate if it requires you to write your credit card information on any forms.

It’s also good practice to obtain a salesperson’s name, business identity, telephone number, street address, mailing address, and business license number before you transact business.

Always take your time in making any decision.

### 4. Shred all receipts with your credit card number.

Identity theft is a huge business. To protect yourself, invest in—and use—a paper shredder.

Monitor your bank and credit card statements and never give out personal information over the phone to someone who initiates the contact with you.

5. Sign up for the “do not call” list and take yourself off multiple mailing lists.

Visit [www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov) to stop telemarketers from contacting you.

Be careful with your mail. Do not let incoming mail sit in your mailbox for a long time. When sending out sensitive mail, consider dropping it off at a secure collection box or directly at the post office.

You also can regularly monitor your credit ratings and check on any unusual or incorrect information at [www.AnnualCreditReport.com](http://www.AnnualCreditReport.com).

To get more tips on protecting yourself from fraud, visit [www.Onguardonline.gov](http://www.Onguardonline.gov), which includes interactive games to help you be a smarter consumer on spyware and lottery scams issues.

### 6. Use direct deposit for benefit checks to prevent checks from being stolen from the mailbox.

Using direct deposit ensures that checks go right into your accounts and are protected. Clever scammers or even scrupulous loved ones have been known to steal benefits checks right out of mailboxes or from seniors’ homes if they are lying around.

### 7. Never give your credit card, banking, Social Security, Medicare, or other personal information over the phone unless you initiated the call.

Misuse of Medicare dollars is one of the largest scams involving seniors. Common

schemes include billing for services never delivered and selling unneeded devices or services to beneficiaries.

Protect your Medicare number as you do your credit card, banking, and Social Security numbers and do not allow anyone else to use it. Be wary of salespeople trying to sell you something they claim will be paid for by Medicare.

Review your Medicare statements to be sure you have in fact received the services billed, and report suspicious activities to **1-800-MEDICARE**.

### 8. Be skeptical of all unsolicited offers and thoroughly do your research.

Be an informed consumer. Take the time to call and shop around before making a purchase. Take a friend with you who may offer some perspective to help you make difficult decisions.

Also, carefully read all contracts and purchasing agreements before signing and make certain that all of your requirements have been put in writing. Understand all contract cancellation and refund terms.

As a general rule governing all of your interactions as a consumer, do not allow yourself to be pressured into making purchases, signing contracts, or committing funds. These decisions are yours and yours alone.

**Protect your loved ones: Signs to look for.** If you know or care for an older adult, here are some additional warning signs that may indicate they are the victim of financial abuse:

- There are unusual recent changes in the person’s accounts, including atypical withdrawals, new person(s) added, or sudden use of a senior’s ATM or credit card.
- The senior suddenly appears confused, unkempt, and afraid.
- Utility, rent, mortgage, medical, or other essential bills are unpaid despite adequate income.

• A caregiver will not allow others access to the senior.

• There are piled up sweepstakes mailings, magazine subscriptions, or “free gifts,” which means they may be on “sucker lists.”

Every state operates an Adult Protect Services (APS) program, which is responsible for receiving and investigating reports of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and in most states, the abuse of younger adults with severe disabilities.

APS is the “911” for elder abuse. Anyone who suspects elder abuse, neglect, or exploitation should make a report. The reporter’s identity is protected. APS services are confidential, so the reporter may not be able to learn the outcome of the case.

APS respects the right of older persons to make their own decisions and to live their lives on their own terms. In cases of cognitive impairment, however, APS will take steps to protect the older person to the degree possible.

**Steps to take if you’re a victim.** If you think you’ve been scammed, don’t be afraid or embarrassed to talk about it—waiting could only make it worse. Immediately:

- Call your bank and/or credit card company.
- Cancel any debit or credit cards linked to the stolen account.
- Reset your personal identification number(s).

Also, contact legal services and Adult Protective Services if warranted. To find your local office, call toll-free at **1-800-677-1116** weekdays 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET.

Source: [www.ncoa.org/enhance-economic-security/economic-security-Initiative/savvy-saving-seniors/top-8-ways-to-protect.html#sthash.LGYVG2Lh.dpuf](http://www.ncoa.org/enhance-economic-security/economic-security-Initiative/savvy-saving-seniors/top-8-ways-to-protect.html#sthash.LGYVG2Lh.dpuf)

## Are You Prepared?

• 40 Credits • Medicare • Social Security • Disability

For more information, call the At-Large Department at 1-800-884-6271

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe

### At-Large and Saganing Outreach Program

Case Manager Outreach Luncheon and Information

March 5, 2015 | 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Saganing Community Building

11 a.m. | Sign-in and Welcome  
12 p.m. | Luncheon  
1 p.m. | Medicare Update

*Bring your questions and learn about the Medicare changes that may affect you for 2015.*

**Don’t miss out on At-Large activities!**

Check out our page in the Tribal Observer and at [www.sagchip.org/atlarge](http://www.sagchip.org/atlarge)

## Powwow Program Booklet

### HONORING SAGANING TRADITIONAL POWWOW

**Your Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone #:** \_\_\_\_\_ *(please print clearly)*

**Please make check payable to SCIT:** (Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe)

**Mail to:** Saganing Powwow 7070 E. Broadway Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

*Each sponsor will receive one copy of the Program booklet, but only if the application is filled out completely and legible. Please make sure to include your phone number in case we have any questions regarding your ad.*

**Your Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Wording:** \_\_\_\_\_

---

**Sponsorship Size:**  
*(Check the Size you would like)*

\$25: 1/4 page

\$50: 1/2 page *(no picture)*

\$60: 1/2 page *(with picture)*

\$ ? : Booster only \_\_\_\_\_  
*(enter amount)*

Please note that the Date of the  
2015 Saganing  
Traditional Powwow is  
**June 20 & 21, 2014**



## Tribal and federal officials provide tips for dealing with cold weather conditions

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Photojournalist

Arctic winds have been bringing a powerful message from the northern door as Mount Pleasant, Mich. breaks a season low of -19 degrees set in 1929. Tribal and federal officials from Nimkee Public Health Emergency Planning, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police, SCIT Public Relations and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security provide information on dealing with the bitter cold weather conditions.

The Sasiwaans Language Immersion Program, the Saginaw Chippewa Academy and the Youth LEAD Afterschool Program closed Feb. 19, 20 and 23 due to subzero weather.

"The bitter cold temperatures have forced local area schools to close and just a brief exposure to this winter weather can be severe," said SCIT Emergency Planning Coordinator and Nimkee Public Health Nurse Helen Williams said. "Preparation and having an emergency plan is key for all families and the information that FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security is providing is accurate and timely."

Williams reminds the Tribal community that an Emergency Planning Guide

was developed specifically to address these concerns.

This useful guide is the result of a year's work with the cooperation of multiple Tribal entities and the funding was provided by the Operations of Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant.

A copy of the SCIT Emergency Planning Guide was mailed to Tribal Members in August 2014 and was made available during the Feb. 22 State of the Tribe Address.

SCIT Tribal Education Director Melissa Montoya affirms student safety is the main priority of the Education Department.

"We do our best to make the best decision possible for our SCA students. The age of the bus fleet that is responsible for transporting students is also a factor. According to the National Weather Service, wind chill temperatures as low as -19 degrees can cause frostbite in as little as 30 minutes or less, depending on the wind speed," Montoya said. "Should a bus break down or experience mechanical problems while transporting children in these extremely cold temperatures, the Education Department cannot realistically reach the students and get them safe in that short amount of time."

SCIT Public Relations Manager Marcella Hadden mentions there are Elders and other family members who need

assistance during these times and it is the way of Native people to take care of one another.

"In winter weather like this, it is a good idea to check up on family and friends to make sure they are safe and warm," Hadden said. "We also need to remember our pets during this time because their exposure to these temperatures, even for a brief time, can be fatal."

Saginaw Chippewa Police Captain Jim Cates would like the community to know Tribal Police are ready to assist during the upcoming hazardous winter conditions.

"With the extreme cold temperatures that are expected to be in the area, I would like everyone to know that if there is someone that they want checked on because of the cold, the Tribal Police officers are willing to do that during their patrols," Cates said. "All anyone

in the Tribe has to do to make that request is contact Dispatch (989-775-4700) with the person's name and address that they would like checked on and we will do so."

With the severe cold temperatures, frostbite and possibly death could result in a matter of minutes if left untreated. Cates mentions "...our Tribal Police Officers can help someone take some precautions to protect themselves against the cold and it would give a Tribal Member some peace of mind knowing that their loved one is OK."

FEMA, from their Chicago field office of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, issued a winter weather advisory Feb. 18.

"Whether traveling or at home, subfreezing temperatures and wind chills can be dangerous and even life-threatening for people who don't take the proper precautions,"

said Andrew Velasquez III, FEMA regional administrator. "FEMA continues to urge people throughout the Midwest to monitor their local weather reports and take steps now to stay safe."

During cold weather, FEMA strongly urges you to take the following precautions:

- Dress in layers and keep dry;
- Know the symptoms of cold-related health issues such as frostbite and hypothermia and seek medical attention if health conditions are severe.
- Make sure your vehicle has an emergency kit that includes an ice scraper, blanket and flashlight – and keep the fuel tank above half full.
- If you are told to stay off the roads, stay home. If you must drive, don't travel alone; keep others informed of your schedule and stay on main roads.

### Seeking foster parents for temporary emergency placements

Anishnaabeg Child and Family Services (ACFS) is seeking loving, responsible foster parents who are members of the Saginaw Chippewa community and willing to provide temporary custodial care to children on an emergency short-term basis, while we find the best resource for the child within their extended family.

Children often realistically come into care after hours or on short notice. We often need a short-term resource for several days while we locate

family members and make a plan for an appropriate placement for a child.

Successful applicants must be upstanding members of the Tribal community with no criminal record and a good understanding of child development. Foster parents do receive reimbursement, but providing comfort to a small child at a difficult time is often gratifying.

Interested prospective foster parents should contact ACFS Director Amy Durie at 989-775-4901.

*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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Artist-in-Residence **March 23-27, 2015**

## Featherwork Workshop

with Jason George

- Instructions and cultural teachings.
- Adults: Create your own Feather Bustle!
- Students: Create a Feather Mandala!

**Student spots still available! Adult Workshop Full!**

<b>K-8 Students:</b> 1-day workshop \$4 per student \$2 per educator/chaperone All materials provided	<b>Adults:</b> 5-day workshop 5:30pm - 8:30pm \$150 per person All materials provided
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**Registration required • Reserve Your Spot Today!**

Contact Glenna Genereaux to register at 989.775.4744 or ggenereaux@sagchip.org

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## MOTHER EARTH WEEK

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**April 20-24, 2015**  
9:30am - 1:30pm

**\$2** per educator (with their classroom)  
**\$4** per student (or chaperone)

\*Price does not include tours of the permanent & changing exhibits

**Agenda:**

- History of wild rice
- Wild rice sampling
- Wild rice harvest
- Language teachings
- Hands-on environmental activities

Pre-registration is required. Reserve your space today!

Contact Glenna Genereaux at (989) 775-4744 or ggenereaux@sagchip.org

Bring your own brown bag lunch. Catering options also available!

**ZIIBIWING CENTER**  
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## Migizi presentation

continued from front page

The mission of MEDC is to secure the economic well-being for the next seven generations of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe while adhering to the highest ethical standards. Migizi's Mission Statement is to "build strong relationships, diversity, and promote economic development, and create self-determination for the Tribe and its members."

Migizi Vice Chairperson David Charles is encouraged by Darnell's leadership and Controller Jennifer Rezler.

"With Lisa Darnell and Jennifer Rezler, we have a strong management team in place to continue to improve Migizi's operations and financial bottom line," Charles said. "Both have taken their current positions in the last year and Jennifer has a lot of good past accounting experience that she brings to the table. And when we looked for experience within Migizi, Lisa has been a project manager for years and her experience with financial analysis will be an asset as we strengthen all Migizi properties."

Darnell informs the MEDC focus for the past six months has been completing an analysis on all properties for Tribal Council.

The analysis includes a review of marketing, financials, inventory, staffing and operations at Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel, Soaring Eagle Hideaway RV Park, Wabooz Run Golf Course, Isabella Sagamok Gas Station and Convenience Store, Saganing Sagamok Gas Station and Convenience Store, Cardinal Pharmacy, Eagle Valley Outfitters, Eagle Bay Marina, Eagles Landing Gift Shop, Migizi EDC Corporate and the Aking Holding Company.

"The Aking Holding Company is a division of Migizi that provides oversight of commercial, residential and farm land holdings and property space," Cloutier said. "Of the 10 parcels of land that the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe own in Arenac and Isabella County, over 649 acres of this land is leased out to area farmers for organic crop production. It also includes over 143 acres of land is available for lease for future development opportunities."

Darnell shared with the community in attendance what resulted from the business analysis was staff reorganization

and subsequent changes to get the right people in the right places within the businesses. The changes include 1) a new controller hired and accounting reorganized, 2) a new marketing manager with less outsourcing, 3) additional collaboration with SECR on marketing efforts, 4) evaluating inventory and procedures and 5) adjusting budgets to increase revenue and decrease expenses.

"We have noticed improvements from these changes

and our customer service initiatives, but we know that we still have further progress that needs to be made," Darnell said. "We want our shareholders to be proud of what you have and most importantly we want you to patronize your businesses."

Darnell concluded her presentation by requesting membership input and encouraged the membership to visit the Migizi booth to fill out our survey of what you they would like to see.

"My door is always open for any comments or concerns that you would like to discuss," she said. "You can reach me at 989-775-4225 or [ldarnell@sagchip.org](mailto:ldarnell@sagchip.org). The Migizi Board of Directors and Tribal Council are also open to feedback. Please feel free to email them directly or speak to them after the presentation".

MEDC is preparing a Migizi 2014 Annual Report that will be available to the Tribal Membership via web post at [www.sagchip.org](http://www.sagchip.org) in April.

## Watching the wonder of Wiki's wilderness

CHARMAINE SHAWANA

Contributing Writer

I hear the crickets and the frogs, sitting here on the porch at the cabin. Every once in a while, I hear an eagle screech or see a crane fly by. It peaceful here and I love the quiet and the solitude. It's so different from my home with my grandkids, phones ringing, and people stopping by.

The water is different every day at the cabin. While the sun shines down on it, I see a different hue to the color of the water with the passing of the clouds and the sunlight.

It's pretty primitive, there is no running water or electricity,

but the simpleness of the place reminds me of my grandparents' home. We have a campfire outside we frequently cook on. Actually, it's a grate over a fire. We make tea from the lake, and it's so good. Usually we bring in water from home and make a nice dinner eating outside at the picnic table.

Most days I am looking through the binoculars for birds, watching the cranes, reading magazines or books, or just plain relaxing. There is always something to do there. The rustic cabin allows for mindless dawdling or daydreaming. We bought a new canoe last year and only took it out once. I look forward to

more time on the water on that canoe.

I know it does a world of good for my high blood pressure and my type A personality, and I look forward to each and every visit. We went yesterday and put a brand new dock in. I guess the winter is the best time to put in a new dock walking on the ice instead on balancing precariously on the board while trying to hammer. It looks good.

It's gone through some changes though, a new addition, some paint, and the place takes on a whole different view.

I love that place, rustic and all. It's a special place for memories and peaceful thoughts.

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## Families Against Narcotics representative discusses son's heroin overdose

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

A "Families Against Narcotics" (FAN) representative discussed truths about heroin to a broad audience in the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym on Feb. 11 hosted by Youth LEAD.

Phil Pavona, executive director of Families Against Narcotics for the Okemos/Ingham county chapter, retold the events of the accidental heroin overdose death of his son, Eric, in August 2011.

In 2008, the height of Eric's opiate addiction began. After using prescription drugs and after two years at Ferris State University, Eric began using heroin. He was living with his parents and attending Baker College.

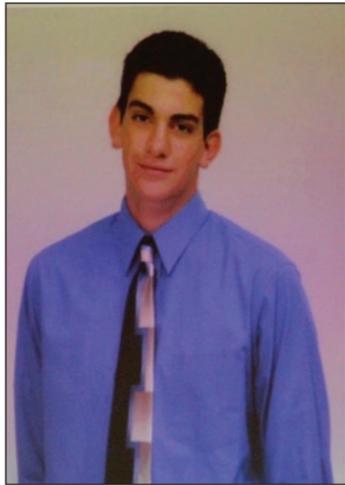
Eric spent a lot of time hanging out with friends in East Lansing, Mich. He began dating a woman he'd known in high school, and she introduced him to heroin, Phil Pavona said.

"We just assumed he was drinking a little too much with friends," Phil said. "I was very naïve."

Eric was put in rehabilitation and admitted to Sparrow's detox program. Eric spent merely three days there (the maximum covered by insurance). Phil learned there was a 97 percent failure rate for treatment.

"So, if 100 kids entered the program, 97 kids would fail, leave detox and use again," Phil said frustrated.

Phil was told if Eric relapsed, it would be a one year wait until he could be



Courtesy of Phil Pavona

**Eric Pavona's high school graduation picture. Eric died at age 25 from an accidental heroin overdose on Aug. 28, 2011.**

re-admitted. Within 10 days, Phil said Eric tested positive for heroin and was kicked out of the program.

In the two years of Eric's struggle, he, his parents and four sisters experienced ongoing infuriating circumstances with the court, health care systems, jail, 12-step programs, counseling and rehab.

"My son's first (drug recovery program) sponsor gave him heroin," Phil said.

After trips in and out of jail, inpatient programs and treatment, Eric was released on a tether to his parents' home. He overdosed 48 hours later but survived.

"An employee at the jail told me 19 kids were released from jail due to overcrowding," Phil said. "Five of those kids overdosed and three more died from an overdose... When Eric was released, no one ever told me the first 24 to

72 hours are when addicts tend to use again."

In mid-August 2011, Eric told his parents he was going to dinner with a friend. That night, he used heroin and overdosed in a strip mall parking lot. He was taken to Sparrow Hospital, but his parents were not notified due to federal privacy laws. Phil said he previously signed all the necessary forms for HIPAA laws and was supposed to be contacted.

One thing that really upset Phil was the physician treating Eric wrote on the records that Eric had "no support system, he was a street kid." The doctor made the assumption based on Eric's age and because his parents could not be contacted.

If my wife and I would have known he overdosed on Aug. 26, he would not have died on Aug. 28 from another overdose, Phil said.

Phil believes regularly using prescription drugs can lead to hard drug addictions.

"Every day in the United States, 2,000 teenagers try a new prescription drug," Phil said. "We lose someone every 14 minutes in the U.S. from prescription drug overdose."

Phil has advice for youth today, "drug dealers only want your money, they do not want to be your friend. Recognize your

worth, value and potential."

He also offers advice to parents, "don't be naïve and stupid like we were as parents. Look at all your medications at home and lock them up. Talk to your kids about opiates and what is going on in the streets."

Eric died on his parents' 29th anniversary. They no longer celebrate that date.

The average opiate recovery takes at least five rehabs before an addict is ready to even begin thinking about turning their life around, Phil said.

"They are not bad kids, they just hide from their problems instead of work on their problems," he said.

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribal Police Department has a drug drop box in its lobby 24 hours a day, seven days a week, as does the City of Mount Pleasant Police Department.

According to families-againstnarcotics.org, the FAN Mission and Vision is "to raise awareness of the prescription opiate drug abuse epidemic, to reduce the stigma and change the face of addiction, to educate about the dangers of prescription and illegal narcotic use and to support those affected by drug abuse and addiction."



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Phil Pavona, executive director of Families Against Narcotics for the Okemos/Ingham county chapter, retold the events leading to his son's accidental heroin overdose and death during the Youth LEAD-hosted event.**

A FAN chapter is also located in Saginaw, Mich., where regular meetings occur the second Tuesday of the month from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Grace Baptist Church at 4619 Mackinaw. All are welcome to attend. For more information, call 989-799-5846 or email [saginaw@families-againstanarcotics.org](mailto:saginaw@families-againstanarcotics.org).

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 (989) 423-5625

**Attention Tribal Members**

The Ziiibwing Cultural Society Board of Directors needs to fill a 2-year term vacancy. Please submit a letter of interest and resume to:

Shannon Martin  
 6650 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858  
 or email [smartin@sagchip.org](mailto:smartin@sagchip.org)

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snow	zoogipon
white	waabishkaande
wind	dakaanimad
chill	dakaji
blizzard	biivan
whirlwind	gizhibaayaanimad
dress (warm)	giizhoo'o
coat	babiinzikawaagan
blanket	waabooyan
cover	agwazhe
handkerchief	moshwens
north	giiwedin
northern lights	jiibayagniimi'idiwag
wait	akawaabi
thaw	ningide
spring	ziigwan
think	maaminonendam
green	ozhaawashko

**AABIJI GIISHOOZAN (KEEP WARM)**

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:** My husband has his own company. I would like to know how to deal with his secretary! Last week when I stopped in, she was rubbing his shoulders as I stood in the doorway speaking to him. She knew I didn't like that but ignored me all the same. When I call for my husband, she puts me on hold for a very long time. How do I get her to stop these little games she's playing? **Grow Up Already!**

**Dear Grow Up:** I don't believe the secretary is your problem. Your husband is who you really should be addressing this. If you must know, she's doing the things she does because your husband allows it. He doesn't care that it hurts you. You need to ask yourself why you allow yourself to be treated like you do. If anyone needs to grow up, I believe it would be you. You need to pack your bags and leave. Don't go back until he realizes that you are his WIFE and one with feelings. You can bet that secretary will get what's coming to her in one way or another. If you really want to get back at her, let her have him. You know first hand how cold and unfeeling he can be. It's called karma—what goes around, comes around! You deserve better, unfortunately, you just don't know it yet.

**Dear WW:** I have been invited to Disneyland with my in-laws. My husband will not be attending as he has a pre-arranged business trip. All expenses are paid so this is a no-brainer for me. Only one small problem—my in-laws! What more do I need to say? Besides lack of parenting skills, they are pretty good people. It's hard to see the disrespect the kids have for the parents and all the backtalk. Maybe I can point it out when it happens so they are more aware of it? If I don't say anything, I'm bothered by it. If I do say something, I'm an out-cast! What should I do? **Disney Bound**

**Dear Disney:** As an invited guest with all expenses paid, you'd be better off not saying anything. What you can do is talk to your kids about it before you go on the trip. Bring the awareness to your kids and maybe they will be ones to say how disrespectful it is. If you say something as an invited guest, you might not be invited again. Even if you did say something, the chances of them changing are slim. The most you can do is be there and be pleasant. This is a perfect opportunity for you and your kids to be role models. If it gets too bad, take time out and do something alone with your own kids.

**Dear WW:** How do you stand by and let someone make the worst mistake of their life? My brother is so in love, he can't see straight. Not only is he with an older woman but now he wants to have kids with her. However, it's public knowledge that she had her two kids from a previous relationship taken away due to her home being unsanitary. Currently, she's staying with him so he hasn't seen that side of her yet. **You Can't Pick Your In-Laws**

**Dear In-Laws:** Who your brother loves is really none of your business. Please accept that there is nothing you can do to change his mind. Good for you for being blessed with wisdom to know the difference. I suspect your brother is a caretaker and has found his goal in life in taking care of a needy woman who lost her kids and home. Wanting to marry someone who had her kids taken away is not good marriage material, however, it is not our place to judge. Be there for your brother in case he ever needs to confide in you. That's about all you can do.

## WHERE ON THE REZ?



**Do you know where this is?**

Answer the puzzle correctly by March 17 through e-mail or telephone. Your name will go into a drawing and one winner will receive two free announcements in the Tribal Observer.

**Submit Answers To:**  
 dcantu@sagchip.org  
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## LAST MONTH:



Sign at Sagamok Shell  
(Mount Pleasant)

**Last Month's Winner:**  
 No Winner

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.

## Adopt a Pet

### Yogi

Yogi is a 4-year-old Mastiff/Shepherd mix. Yogi is a very fun-loving dog who was surrendered to HATS when his owners became homeless.



Yogi is a high-energy dog who is seeking an active home with maybe another dog but with no cats! Yogi has been around kids and dogs before so it shouldn't be anything new for him! Yogi does well with houstraining so the transition to a home environment should be easy!

### Simba

Simba is a 1-year-old Domestic Short-hair/mix. He has been with HATS since August 2013. He's an independent guy with an agenda of his own.



He marches to the beat of his own drum, and that's the way he likes it. He can easily entertain himself, but he'd like to find someone who wouldn't mind cuddling up to him every once in a while.

**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



## WPBA hosts tribal youth clinic and Pro-Am charity event

### NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Unique from any other sporting event, the Women's Professional Billiard Association (WPBA) offered plenty of personal interaction time with its players.

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort hosted the world's best female billiard players Feb. 4-8 during WPBA's Masters 9-Ball Championship for the 2015 Women's Pro Billiard Tour season.

Kicking off the event was the WPBA Kids' Clinic for Tribal

youth on Wednesday, Feb. 4, in the afternoon. WPBA players "The Black Widow" Jeanette Lee, "The Striking Viking" Ewa Mataya Laurance, Vicki Paski and Laura Smith taught strategic plays to the youth in attendance.

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal youth members Walter Trepanier, Andre Leureaux, Shaine Francis, Kobun Neyome, Justin Mannie, Camron Pelcher and Tony Garcia learned billiard skills from the best women in the sport.

The same night, WPBA hosted a charity Pro-Am to benefit the 8th annual Saginaw Chippewa Round Dance.

"The WPBA fundraiser was a nice surprise as it was unexpected," said Melissa Montoya, interim tribal education director. "We are very grateful to Tribal Council and SECR Marketing for their generosity and thoughtfulness..."

Each participant paid \$100 to play in the charity with a WPBA professional involving Allison Fisher, Jeanette Lee, Karen Corr, Ewa Mataya Laurance, Brittany Bryant, Jennifer "9MM" Barretta, Jasmine Ouschan, Monica "The Assassin" Webb and Kelly "KwikFire" Fisher.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**"The Black Widow" Jeanette Lee teaches Camron Pelcher some of her billiards moves during the WPBA kids' clinic.**



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Tribal Council Member Julius Peters poses with World Champion and Hall of Famer Allison Fisher of WPBA.**



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Justin Mannie (left) and Kobun Neyome play a match with coaching from "The Striking Viking" Ewa Mataya Laurance.**

Joining Montoya were many other SCIT Members and employees including Tribal Council Member Julius Peters, Tribal Elder Lester "Woody" Chippeway, Gaming Commission Chairperson Brian Chippeway, SCA Language Teacher Nathan Isaac, Ziibiwing Center Director Shannon Martin and Guest Service Performance Development Specialist Tim McCullough.

"Going into the event was intimidating for an amateur pool player like myself," Montoya said. "I don't think I've picked up a pool stick in 20 years. Meeting my teammates and our designated professional, Brittany Bryant, put my mind instantly at ease. She was very encouraging, patient, and a lot of fun. It was definitely worth stepping out of my comfort zone for this experience."

The charity raised \$3,300 for the Saginaw Chippewa Academy Round Dance.

"The proceeds from the fundraiser will be used toward honorariums for the invited singers traveling from Alberta, Saskatchewan, Texas, Wyoming, and Minnesota," Montoya said. "We are humbled and overwhelmed with the support shown from the SCIT community. The success



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**The Feb. 4 WPBA Pro-Am fundraiser raised \$3300 for the Saginaw Chippewa Academy's 8th annual Round Dance. (Pictured left to right: "The Black Widow" Jeanette Lee, Jennifer "9 MM" Barretta, Ojibway Language Teacher Nathan Isaac, Interim Education Director Melissa Montoya and WPBA World Champion Allison Fisher.)**

of this event is determined by everyone who assists to make participation and support from this experience possible, we the community. Miigwetch to are very grateful."

## 43rd Annual Dance for Mother Earth Powwow

April 4 & 5, 2015

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Sat: 12:00 & 7:00 pm  
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## SCIT Planning Department Tree Planting Program

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Planning Department is excited to announce a tree planting program. We are looking for interested community members to help us re-establish forest areas along rivers, lakes, ponds, or any other water. Trees and shrubs help to stabilize soils along stream banks and shorelines, provide shade for fish and other organisms living in the water, and work as purifications systems for our environment. We have ordered several varieties of small, bare root trees from the Conservation District to plant this Spring. The trees typically arrive in late April. The trees vary in size from small seedlings to approximately five feet tall.

**In order to be eligible for the program, community members must meet the following requirements:**

- Ownership of the land (near water) where trees will be planted.
- Be willing to nurture and protect trees (regular watering, protection from mowing).
- Trees must be planted on Tribal property or within the Tribal Boundary.

**Please submit your application to:**

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe Planning Department  
7070 E Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

**Or by email:** cpauquette@sagchip.orgt

Not all applicants will be chosen, but please apply. We have a lot of trees to plant!

**Please contact Carey Pauquette, water quality specialist, with any questions:** 989-775-4016

**Applications will be accepted through March 31, 2015.**

## March 13 & 14, 2015

# 8th Saginaw Chippewa Round Dance

### Friday & Saturday

**-Friday Schedule-**  
9:00pm- Round Dance Social  
12:00am- Raffles/Drawings  
1:00am- Closing  
ALL NIGHT Concessions

**-Saturday Schedule-**  
5:00pm- Pipe Ceremony, Feast & Round Dance Teaching  
7:00pm- Round Dance  
8:30pm- SCA Honoring  
11:45pm- Memorial Song  
12:00am- Raffles & Drawings  
1:00am- Closing  
3:00am- Closing

**FREE ADMISSION** both nights  
All Children must be accompanied and supervised by an adult.

*The 8th Annual Saginaw Chippewa Round Dance invites all singers and families to attend. World Class singers from across the United States and Canada bring their gift of song to share with all. This annual event grows larger and more exciting year after year and this will be our best yet!*

**Spot Dances Every Half Hour**

**For More Information:**  
Nathan Isaac (989)954-4471  
Aaron Chivis (989)506-0609  
"Bud" Day (231)492-3271  
"Cub" Sprague (989)708-2227

-All Singers presented the Sticks receive an honorarium.  
-All singers are welcome and will be acknowledged.  
Live Recording by ReZonance Productions

**Emcee:** Mike Sullivan Wisconsin  
**Stickman:** Joe Syrette Michigan  
**Invited Singers:**  
Arnold Alexis Alberta  
Dezi Chocan Alberta  
Jermaine Bell Wyoming  
Hokie Clairmont Minnesota  
James Stephenson Texas  
Opie Day Minnesota  
Matt Isaac Ontario  
Dan Isaac Quebec  
Gabe Gaudet Ontario  
Wayne Moberly Alberta  
Nathan Roy Ontario  
Elijah Stevens Ontario  
Biddy Keewatin Saskatchewan  
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Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Gym - 7070 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

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Premier, 4WD, Auto, V6, 3.0L,  
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**54 mos/\$225**/\$10,999



**2010 Dodge Avenger**  
R/T, FWD, Gas I4 2.4L, Auto,  
57k Miles, 4DR, Cruise. #FU017  
**60 mos/\$235**/\$12,600



**2007 Chevy Tahoe LT**  
RWD, Gas/Eth. V8 5.3L, Auto,  
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FWD, Gas I4 2.2L, Auto, Red, 75k  
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**2006 Chevy Malibu**  
Maxx LTZ, FWD, V6 3.5L, Auto,  
White, 101k Miles. #EP012B  
**54 mos/\$178**/\$8,695



**2009 Chevy Silverado**  
1500 LT, Ext. Cab, 4WD, 166k  
Miles, V8 Gas/Eth. #EU037A  
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**2011 Chevy Cruze**  
LT w 1LT, FWD, Auto, Turbo  
I4 1.4L, 73k Miles. #EU209  
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**2008 Mercury Sable**  
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**2004 Chevy Silverado**  
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4WD, Gas/Eth. V6 3.0L, Auto,  
54k Miles, Blue, Cruise. #FU033  
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Miles, Convertible Top. #EU204  
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**2008 Ford Expedition**  
Limited, 4WD, Gas V8 5.4L, Auto,  
Black, 108k Miles. #FT133A  
**54 mos/\$388**/\$18,900



**2012 Nissan Frontier**  
Ext. Cab, 4WD, Gas V6 4.0L,  
Auto, 37k Miles, White. #FU001  
**72 mos/\$364**/\$22,850



**2011 Chrysler 200**  
Touring, FWD, Gas/Eth. V6  
3.6L, Auto, 19k Miles. #FU002  
**66 mos/\$263**/\$15,280



**2011 Chevy Equinox**  
LS, FWD, Gas Ecotec I4 2.4L,  
Auto, Black, 63k Miles. #FU021  
**66 mos/\$269**/\$15,695



**2010 Ford F-150 XLT**  
Regular Cab, RWD, 55k Miles,  
Gas V8 4.6L, Auto. #FU031  
**60 mos/\$316**/\$16,950



**2011 Ford F-150 SC**  
Ext. Cab, 4WD, Turbo Gas V6  
5.3L, Auto, 69k Miles. #FU023  
**66 mos/\$422**/\$24,500



**2011 Ford F-150 XLT**  
Ext. Cab, 4WD, Gas/Eth. V6, 63k  
Miles, Auto, Black. #EU131  
**66 mos/\$398**/\$23,195



**2010 GMC Acadia**  
SLT1, AWD, Auto, Gas V6 3.6L,  
4DR, White, 69k Miles. #EU213A  
**60 mos/\$399**/\$21,400



**2010 GMC Sierra SLE**  
1500 Crew Cab, 4WD, Gas/Eth.  
V8, Auto, 81k Miles. #ET415B  
**60 mos/\$376**/\$23,600



**2011 Ford F-150 XLT**  
Ext. Cab, 4WD, Auto, Turbo Gas  
V6, Red, 104k Miles. #FT185A  
**66 mos/\$347**/\$20,195



**2014 Jeep Compass**  
Sport, 4WD, I4 2.4L, Auto, Blue,  
20k Miles, 4DR, Cruise. #FU012  
**72 mos/\$319**/\$19,995



**2011 Ford F-150 XLT**  
Crew Cab, 4WD, Gas/Eth. V8  
5.0L, Auto, 78k Miles. #ET306A  
**66 mos/\$472**/\$27,395



**2014 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT FWD**  
42k Miles, 4DR, Auto. #FU013  
**72 mos/\$309**/\$19,495



**2011 Jeep Wrangler**  
Sport, 4WD, Gas V6 3.8L, Auto,  
40k Miles, Cruise. #EP091A  
**66 mos/\$389**/\$22,600



**2012 Ford F-150 XLT**  
Crew Cab, 4WD, Gas/Eth. V8  
5.0L, 33k Miles, Auto. #FU025  
**72 mos/\$446**/\$27,900



**2013 Ford Edge SEL**  
Certified, AWD, V6 3.5L, Brown  
Metallic, 24k Miles. #EP107  
**72 mos/\$463**/\$28,950



**2013 Lincoln MKX**  
Certified, Premium, AWD, Gas V6  
3.7L, Auto, 40k Miles. #EP104  
**72 mos/\$536**/\$33,500



**2012 Ford F-150 XLT**  
Crew Cab, 4WD, Gas/Eth. V8,  
Auto, Blue, 31k Miles. #EP035  
**72 mos/\$531**/\$33,200

## JUST ARRIVED

### 2013 Ford Taurus 4DR SEL AWD

6 Cyl., Auto, Leather Heated Seats, Rear Camera, 1-Owner,  
43k Miles, Ingot Silver Metallic. **72 mos/\$346**/\$21,700

### 2012 Ford Escape 4DR XLT FWD

4 Cyl., Auto, Air, Cruise, Tilt, Power Locks & Windows,  
Stereo CD, Sync, Charcoal Cloth Interior, Steel Blue, 45k Miles,  
1-Owner, Moon Roof. **72 mos/\$308**/\$19,350

### 2013 Lincoln MKZ 4DR AWD

Auto, Air, Full Power, 5,700 Miles, Save Thousands, Ruby Red  
Clearcoat Metallic, Moon Roof. **72 mos/\$535**/\$33,400

### 2013 Ford Escape 4DR SE FWD

4 Cyl., Eco, Auto, Tilt, Power Locks & Windows, CD, 24k Miles,  
1-Owner, Ruby Red, Alloy Wheels. **72 mos/\$329**/\$20,600

### 2013 Ford Taurus SEL 4DR FWD

6 Cyl., Auto, Navigation, Leather Heated Seats, Rear Camera,  
Sync, Tuxedo Black, 35k Miles. **72 mos/\$347**/\$21,800

### 2013 Ford Taurus SEL 4DR FWD

6 Cyl., Auto, Air, Tilt, Power Locks & Windows, Power Drivers Seat,  
22k Miles, Silver Metallic, 1-Owner. **72 mos/\$331**/\$20,800

### 2013 Lincoln MKX 4DR AWD

3.7L 6 Cyl., Auto, Full Power, Black Metallic, Vista Roof, 1-Owner,  
Power Lift Gate, Sync, 31k Miles. **72 mos/\$526**/\$32,900

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# Red Dress Fashion Show

honors loved ones affected by heart disease

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

Heart disease is the number one cause of death in the United States. In conjunction with healthy heart events, the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways hosted a Red Dress Fashion Show on Friday, Feb. 6 in the lobby.

The 24 models who dressed in red and walked the runway did so for loved ones affected by heart-related health problems.

According to statistics, someone has a heart attack every 34 seconds in the United States, and every 60 seconds someone in the U.S. dies from a heart disease-related event.

SCIT Elder and Ziibiwing Center Board Member Suzanne

Cross (Bneshiinh kwe – Bird woman) was the first to tread the runway. Cross walked with her granddaughters; 11-year-old Elizabeth Kay Cross and 6-year-old Alexis “Suzanne” Holochwost, who is a namesake to Cross.

Cross and her granddaughters walked in honor of all of those who have walked on as a result of heart disease. She also shared her appreciation of the community support on her “Healing through Culture and Art Shawl Collection” on display at Ziibiwing.

“Although heart (cardiac) disease is the number one cause of death for male and female American Indian/Alaska Natives, the female population often experiences heart disease differently than men and often aren’t aware of these differences,” Cross said. “Women may still think heart disease is only a man’s condition and not a concern for them. The Red Dress Fashion Show and dinner was a wonderful way to raise awareness for not only SCIT women, but also for the children and men who participated and attended the event. The Ziibiwing Culture Center was a wonderful locale and a collaborative event for the (shawl collection) Changing Exhibit...”

Cross created the collection with a cultural approach to increase awareness and emphasize cardiac health and care. She is hopeful the collection will inform, support, and encourage mindfulness of self-care to increase heart



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Mother and daughter duo Ella (left) and Karmen Fox walk in honor of their grandmother Estella who passed away in August 2009 from a heart attack.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Layla Pigeon (left) and Aviana Gomez walked for Aviana’s sister, Mari, who was born with congestive heart defects.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**The adorable Annabella McHugh walked the runway in honor of her grandmother who passed away.**

health, which will result in an improvement of overall health.

Tribal community members of all ages walked the runway. Tahlia Alonzo walked in remembrance of her great-grandfather Albert Alonzo, who passed away of a heart attack in 1961. Tahlia encouraged everyone to get regular check-ups, regardless of age.

Mary Graveratte’s granddaughters Julianna and Adrianna and great-grandson Donovan took to the runway in her honor. Graveratte is a heart disease survivor. The children also walked for their late great-grandparents Chester and Christine Graveratte.

Nimkee Executive Health Director Karmen Fox walked

the runway with her daughter Ella.

“We walked in honor of my grandma, Estella, who passed away from a heart attack in August 2009,” Karmen Fox said. “I believe she really died of broken heart syndrome. My grandpa had passed away from cancer, and she was his caretaker. She began having heart palpitations, dizziness after his death. Two heart doctors cleared her and said she was fine. She had all the common symptoms of women associated with heart attacks; she thought she had the flu. Ultimately, she went to sleep and never woke up. (My daughter) Ella is her namesake, born in June 2010.”

Punkin Shananaquet traveled from the

Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi – Gun Lake Tribe – to join the special occasion.

“My red Jingle Dress is significant for healing,” Shananaquet said. “I’m honoring my entire family who has gone to healthy eating and physical activity to honor my significant other – David Shananaquet – so he will be here for our grandchildren. Jingle Dressers also represent healing for all creation; past, present and future.”

SCIT Public Relations Manager Marcella Hadden and her granddaughter, Christina Benz, walked together. Hadden walked for “all of the grandmothers who take care of their grandchildren.” She keeps healthy by



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Julianna, Donovan and Adrianna take to the runway in honor of their grandmother, Mary Graveratte, who survived heart disease.**



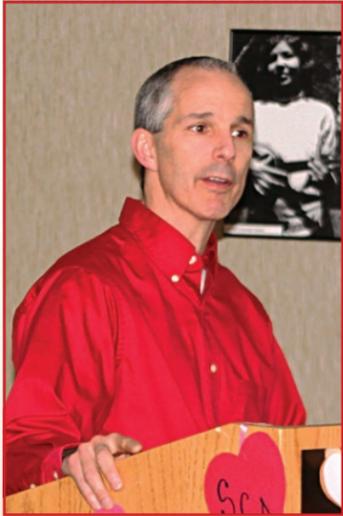
Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Christina Benz walked the runway with her grandmother Marcella Hadden. They both walked to promote healthy living and encouraged others to quit smoking.**



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**SCIT Elder Suzanne Cross walked with her granddaughters; 6-year-old Alexis Holochwost and 11-year-old Elizabeth Cross. Suzanne’s “Healing through Culture and Art Shawl Collection” is on display now at Ziibiwing.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Nimkee Physician Dr. Jeffrey Striebel discusses how to prevent silent heart attacks.**

not smoking and encouraged others to quit, no matter their age. Benz walked for “all Native teenagers and would like to remind them that smoking is ‘not cool’ and to keep sema sacred.”

Three-year-old Mari Gomez was escorted by her grandmother, Terri Biggs. Gomez is a heart disease survivor and had heart surgery shortly after birth. Her sister Aviana Gomez and friend Layla Pigeon also walked in her honor.

Tribal Elder Marvin Davis was the last to take the runway in his red attire. Davis survived two heart attacks. As an active patient with

diabetes requiring insulin three times a day and 17 units at bed time, he is doing well and recovering fine.

“Staying healthy, proper diet and progressive weight loss; this, our Tribal people can also achieve as help and advice is readily available from staff at Nimkee Health Clinic,” Davis said.

After the Red Dress Fashion Show, Nimkee Center Physicians Dr. Prem Barry Kissoondial, M.D., and Dr. Jeffrey P. Striebel, D.O., presented healthy heart information.

Striebel provided information to on how to “know your risk of heart disease including: Family history, tobacco use, diabetes, blood pressure/hypertension, cholesterol, waist line, activity level and stress levels.”

He also suggested “knowing your blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar numbers, get a physical, have the courage to change what you can and don’t give up, know your body and if you don’t feel well; get help, and find ways to decrease stress.”

Guests were also treated to a healthy heart dinner catered by Nbakade Family Restaurant.

Ziibiwing Center Sales and Events Coordinator Glenna Genereaux assisted with the event planning, and made details come together smoothly.

“The planning was a group effort from all departments,



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Punkin Shananaquet of the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi – Gun Lake Tribe – danced the runway in her red Jingle Dress.**

which made it easier,” Genereaux said. “The committee thought it would be nice to have red napkins, so I was researching rental fees for those and stumbled upon heart-shaped tables. I was so excited when I saw those so I asked (Ziibiwing Director) Shannon (Martin) and got approval to get them for the event.”

Youth Alternatives Worker Alice Jo Ricketts made the flower arrangements, and young students created additional decorations.

“I reached out to the principal (Marcella Mosqueda) at the Saginaw Chippewa



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Three-year-old Mari Gomez is a heart disease survivor who had to have heart surgery shortly after birth.**

Academy and asked for heart decorations,” Genereaux said. “So, the students spent a day making them. I had enough hearts to put up around the stage, podium, and tables. I spent all afternoon hanging up the hearts. No heart was left behind.”

Sasiwaans Immersion School students created tulip decorations made out of egg cartons that were on display along the runway.

Eighty-five guests attended, and with the great turn out, there is already hope Ziibiwing will again host next year’s Red Dress Fashion Show.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Joel Hon walked in his red attire for his great-grandmother Arroyo who passed away from a heart attack.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Nimkee Center Physician Dr. Prem Barry Kissoondial presented healthy heart information.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Tahlia Alonzo walked in remembrance of her great-grandfather Albert Alonzo who passed away from a heart attack in 1961.**



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Virginia D'Artagnan plays basketball at Mount Pleasant High and dances Fancy Shawl to keep her heart healthy. She is the reigning Miss Wiigwaasmin, the National Cherry Festival Indian Princess 2014-2015.**



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**SCIT Tribal Elder Marvin Davis has survived two heart attacks and is recovering well, while now living a healthy lifestyle.**



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Julie Whitepigeon enjoys Jingle Dress dancing to keep healthy. She wore a crocheted and beaded dress from her friend in Canada.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**The beautiful flower arrangements were made by Youth Alternatives Worker Alice Jo Ricketts.**

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## SCTC celebrates February heart health month with Valentine's Day event

### MARY PELCHER

SCTC Extension Coordinator

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College celebrated February's healthy heart month on Feb. 5 with an evening of Valentine's Day activities focused on family enrichment. There were approximately 50 people that attended, all of whom enjoyed an evening of food and crafts.

The school-aged children were provided school valentines that they were able to embellish and sign, making them all ready to give away at their school Valentine's Day parties. All participants painted heart window cling decorations and were able to weave a paper heart-shaped basket.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Tribal youth Roman Hart is ready to make Valentine cards for his family... especially his grandma, Kathy Hart.**

A healthy homemade soup and bread supper was also provided. To top off the evening, participants were able to decorate their own heart-shaped cookies for dessert.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Tribal student Millie Pelcher and Leia Trasky are having some family fun on craft night.**

Participants also received educational information from the American Heart Association on heart health. According to the AHA, heart disease is the number one killer among American Indians and Alaskan Natives. Additionally, 36 percent of American Indians and

Alaska Natives that die of heart disease will do so before the age of 65.

The AHA recommends 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous aerobic activity every day for kids!

The AHA gives simple steps to a healthier lifestyle.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Students Landon Rowlett (left) and Eli Harris concentrate hard on their card making.**

1) Don't smoke, 2) check blood pressure regularly, 3) eat a healthy diet, and 4) get moderate to vigorous physical activity each day.

More information regarding a healthy heart can be found on its website heart.org.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Judicial Services Victims of Crime Advocate Amber Shepard displays her colorful culinary creation.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Tribal Member Daniel Jackson shows his special valentine confectionary.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Jennifer Lindstrom (left) checks out Tribal student Guadalupe Pelcher's artwork as they prepare to glue on their cards.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Proud mom Bonita Franco encourages her son Owen as he decides what heart to place on his Valentine's Day card.**

## SCTC to offer additional courses for first-time college attendees

### SCTC STAFF

This summer, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College will offer classes geared towards first-time college attendees and those individuals who require developmental courses before enrolling in college-level coursework.

Developmental education is designed for those students who have been away from school for some time, or those that may want a refresher in some of the more fundamental aspects of Math and English.

Our Student Development Course (SDV 099) is also a great fit for those individuals

who would benefit from learning some of the less well-known aspects of becoming a successful college student. Items such as library research skills, accessing financial aid, the academic calendar, academic writing, email access and so much more are all covered in this course.

Our Student Services staff is ready and waiting to answer questions and help people register for and enroll in summer courses.

To find out if these courses are a fit for you, SCTC uses the COMPASS placement test. This is an un-timed test designed to measure student readiness in Math, English and Reading.

There is no fee to take the test.

These courses are offered FREE for all American Indian students. Non-American Indian students may also qualify.

To find out more about COMPASS testing, or to register for classes, please call the Registrar Amanda Flaughner at 989-775-4123.

**2015 Summer Academic Calendar**

**February 9|** Registration opens for Summer 2015 classes

**May 1|** Summer registration ends

**March 30|** Fall 2015 Registration begins

**May 8|** Summer I classes begin

**May 15|** Summer I add/drop ends

**June 5|** Last day for "W" - Summer I

**June 22|** Summer II registration ends

**June 29|** Summer II classes begin

**July 3|** Summer II add/drop ends

**June 26|** Last day for Summer I classes

**July 31|** Last day for "W" - Summer II

**August 21|** Last day for Summer II classes

---

**ATTENTION NEW STUDENTS**

You must complete a Compass Test, and have a complete file, in order to register for classes.

**Please call (989) 775-4123 to set up your Compass test**

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College

**2015 SUMMER CLASSES**

**Session I: Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> - Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup>**

**\*\*\*NOTE: all Summer I classes start on Friday, May 8th and continue following the schedule below:\*\*\***

Code	Course Title	Days/Times		Location	Instructor
ENG 098	Basic Writing I	M/W 10-12	T/R 2-4	Comp. Lab	TBD
ENG 099	Basic Writing II	M/W 2-4	T/R 10-12	Comp. Lab	TBD
MTH 095	Fundamentals of Math	M/W 2-4	T/R 10-12	East 2	Crosswait
MTH 099	Beginning Algebra	M/W 10-12	T/R 2-4	East 2	Crosswait
SDV 099	Academic Methods		T/R 12-2	Comp. Lab	Swarthout

**Session II: Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup> - Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup>**

Code	Course Title	Days/Times		Location	Instructor
ENG 098	Basic Writing I		T/R 10-12	Comp. Lab	TBD
ENG 099	Basic Writing II		T/R 2-4	Comp. Lab	TBD
MTH 095	Fundamentals of Math		T/R 10-12	East 2	Crosswait
MTH 099	Beginning Algebra		T/R 2-4	East 2	Crosswait
SDV 099	Academic Methods		T/R 12-2	Comp. Lab	Swarthout

M/W = Monday & Wednesday      T/R = Tuesday & Thursday



## Pre-kindergarten teacher Pappas receives "Educator of the Month"

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

Congratulations Suzanne Pappas for being selected as the February Educator of the Month! The perks of this award include an induction into the Education Apple Orchard, educator's goody bag, a gift certificate and a traveling educator award.

The following is a questionnaire completed by Pappas:

**Which program do you work for?** I work for Saginaw Chippewa Academy.

**What is your title?** I am the pre-kindergarten teacher.

**How long have you worked for the Education Department?** It will be five years this August.

**What is your favorite part of working in this department?** Working with the kids and my co-workers, when you work with good people, coming to work is fun and rewarding.

**What is your funniest memory in working with our students?** My funniest memory is of one little guy who told me this joke, "how do you fix a broken pizza?" "With 'mato' (tomato) paste" then he gave a huge belly laugh.

**When you were younger, what did you want to be when you grew up?** I have always wanted to be a teacher.

**What is something people may not know about you?** I am a farm girl at heart.

**Do you have any hobbies or special talents?** I love to read!

**What is your favorite movie?** Bridesmaids

**What is your favorite food?** Mashed potatoes; my grandma's recipe.

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



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**SCA Teacher Suzanne Pappas (middle) accepts her award from Administrative Assistant II Christina Halliwill (left) and SCA Principal Marcella Mosqueda.**

### Renaissance

The following students earned perfect attendance for January: Seth Snyder, Tyler Snyder, Brysen Chamberlain, Josiah Hill, Katie Pigeon, Kathlyn Dunn-Anderson, Kaylee Bigford, Jonna Mejia, Sway Mandoka and Logan VanOrden.

### West Intermediate

The following students were recognized on the honor roll for the third marking period: Esme Bailey, Quinnlan Burger, Karen Chippewa, Lucas Dye, Cory Gaskill, Hunter Genia, Gabriel Jackson, Sydney Jackson, Walker Jackson-Pelcher, Jarred Johnson, Treazure Jones, Madison Kennedy-Kequom, Hunter Kequom, Jesse Mandoka, Calvin Parish, Aleeya Peters, Mastella Quaderer, Joe Quintero, Owen Smith, Kyra Trofatter, Lindsay Watters and Carlee Williams. **Honorable Mention:** Dylan Klein and Kimberly Chamberlain. The following students earned perfect attendance for third marking period: Esme Bailey, Marisa Bennett, Kimberly Chamberlain, Bryan Chingman, Andrew Chingman III, Karen Chippewa, Julian Flory, Jose Garcia, Cory Gaskill, Makayla Jackson, Gabriel Jackson, Jarred Johnson, Madison Kennedy-Kequom, Hunter Kequom, Jade Leaux, Montana Leaux, Aleeya Peters, Aaron Schlegel, Aliana Seybert, Shaylyn Sprague, Kyra Trofatter, Richie Vaquera and Carlee Williams.

### Pullen

The following students earned perfect attendance for January: Logan Bird, Caleb Burger, Nikodin Davis, Trevor Isham, Zhaawan Martell, Javanni Perry, Isaiah Rodriguez, Bailey Burger, Jasmine Davis, Ryan Flaucher, Leonard Pamp-Ettinger, Tavia Agosto, Arianna Altman and La'Anna Trudeau.

### McGuire

The following students earned perfect attendance for January: Arianna Bird, Mackenzie Burger, Tayden Davis, Mazhaquet Keshick, Isaiah Harris, Ivan Munoz, Aaron Graverette, Uniqa Munoz, Destiny Shawano, John Stevens, Christopher Bartow, Phoebe Defeyer, Hazen Shinos, Caleb Kequom and Katie Green.

### Fancher

The following students earned perfect attendance for December: Gloria Altman, Daniel Bennett, Jamie Cross-George, Elijah Fosmore, Damion Haggard, Matthew Jackson, Miingan Jackson, Eli Marin, Madison Nahgahwon, Cheyanne Odem, Jenna Rios, Alina Ruffino, Albert Shomin, Mollie Smith-Rodriguez, Thomas Trasky, Alek Welch and Dawnseh Wilson.

### Ganiard

The following students earned perfect attendance for December: Caedynce Bailey, Devyn Bennett, Dylan Bennett, Lilly Chamberlain, Tehya Flores, Rosemarie Green, Darien Haggard, Zoey Haggard, Konner Hilleger, Nathaneil Houghton, Lucas Jackson, Dehmin Kahgegab, Darius Lopez, Trent McConnell, Nautica Mena-Strait, Ramon Negrete-Ledesma Jr, Shilyanna Negrete-Ledesma, Tiara Osawabine, Miah Perez, Ava Vogel and LahRae Wilson.

### Mount Pleasant HS

The following students earned a 3.0 GPA or higher for the third marking period: \*Yasmin Pelcher-Arias, Kendra Cyr, Allen Crockett, Zebulun Hampton, Chyna Bergevin, Shailyn Pontiac, Hailey Ritter, Simone Bigford, Edgar Peters, Onica Miller, Dajia Shinos, Tanner Williams, Rebecca Curtis, Nia Lewis, Callista Sowmick, Eli Starkey, Kataya Peters, Destiny Wetherbee, Jeffery Vasquez, Milan Guigno-Grundahl, Brandy Russell, Jaclyn Matthews, Kristin Peters, Trent Smith, Phoenix Slater-Snowden and Sully Schlegel. \*Students earned a 4.0 GPA for the first six weeks. The following students earned the attendance incentive for the third marking period: Westley Adams, William Anderson, Simone Bigford, Miles Bussler, Gage Colwell, Ivan Curry, Tristin Key, Nathaniel Mandoka, Brenden Odem, Kataya Peters, Shailyn Pontiac, Lesley Simental, Phoenix Slater-Snowden and Quinn Steel.

### Shepherd

The following middle school students earned a 3.0 GPA or higher for the third marking period: Aiyannah Borton, Sienna Chatfield, Luciano Escamilla, Thomas Romero, Camron Scarlott-Pelcher, Matthew Smith and Emma VanHorn. **High School:** Leo Bennett, Jarek Chamberlain, Kylie Fisher, Zykia Godlewski, Jacob Jackson, Devyn McKeever, Arionna Mejia, Tina Neyome, Dia Niezgoda, Alicia Raphael, Carina Romero, Allyssa Shawboose, Joey Sineway, Abbey Sura and Scott Sura. The following middle school students are being recognized for attendance in the third marking period: Christina Benz, Aiyannah Borton, Taylor Burton, Uriah Main, Kobun Neyome, Toby Pamp, Camron Scarlott-Pelcher, Carli Sprague and Emma Vanhorn. **High School:** Leo Bennett, Jarek Chamberlain, Taylor Cogswell, Adam Jewell, Sedona Mejia, Tina Neyome, Dia Niezgoda, Alicia Raphael, Carina Romero, Kara Sanders, Joey Sineway, Isabella Smith and Abbey Sura. The following elementary students earned perfect attendance for December: Tierra Ash, Aiyana Bross, Trey Bross, Kaitlyn Cantu, Sebashtion Davis, Lily Dean, Alize Jackson, Tylor Linville, Andee Raphael, Maya Ryan, Olivia Sineway, Aanzhenii Starkey and Aubreyanna Stevens. The following elementary students earned perfect attendance for January: Tierra Ash, Jaden Bross, Kaitlyn Cantu, Sam Cloud, Jonathan Cogswell, Sadie Cogswell, Sabashtion Davis, Alize Jackson, Lakota Jackson, Kasina Laughlin, Tylor Linville, Madalyn Sineway, Olivia Sineway and Aanzhenii Starkey.

### Vowles

The following students earned perfect attendance for December: Aaliyah Dunlap, Aviana Gomez, Metao Harris, Joaquin Jackson, Mia McCreery, Anissa Quiroga and Raynee Richards.

### Saginaw Chippewa Academy

The following students earned Student of the Month honors for December: Dante Riggs, Erius Mena, Quinn Pelcher, Anita Pelcher, Raymond Pelcher, Annie Lada, Mnookmi Massey, Francis Sheahan. The following students earned perfect attendance for December: Jaycee Sheahan-Kagahgab, Lillian Loonsfoot, Zhaabwii Pamp-Etinger, Joseph Jackson, Robbie Pamp-Etinger, Angelo Leaux, Sandra Slater, Keaton Quintero, Alex Grice, Red Arrow LaLonde, Inara Curry, Auriah Hunter, Robert Saunders, DaShawn Rueckert, Felicia Saunders, Donna Wiltse, Dasia Wiltse, Chelsea Pelcher, Thalia Bennett and Francis Sheahan. The following students turned in all homework for December: Ahjinees Osawabine, Charmaine Castillo-Pelcher, Joseph Jackson, Joshua Velasquez, Kaleb Potter, Prentiss Jones, Liam Arbogast, David Jackson, Albert Trepanier, Alex Grice, Charles Trepanier, Gracie David, Inara Curry, Kayana Pelcher, Justin Perez, Maiingan Miller-Hosler, Red Arrow LaLonde, Landon Pelcher-Harless, Riana Chippewa, Meadow David, Dakota McQueen, Anita Pelcher, Karma Pelcher-Scarlott, Raynah Perez, Landen Rowlett, Robert Saunders, Kyleigh Scarlott, Alexis Trepanier, Kaley Davis, Angela Hawkins-Gonzalez, Josiah Hernandez-Wemigwans, Tawny Jackson, Felicia Saunders, Ahsiniis Smith, Calijah Trepanier, Thalia Bennett. Mnookmi Massey, Mana Pelcher and Andre Leaux.

The following students earned Student of the Month honors for January: Kearnin Alexander, Gracin Montoya, Maiingan Miller-Hosler, Frederick Highley, Shelayna Collins-Pelcher, Ariel Hinmon, Jacob Williams and Lars George. The following students earned perfect attendance for January: Zhaabwii Pamp-Etinger, Robbie Pamp-Etinger, Joshua Velasquez, Inara Curry, Quinn Pelcher, Sandra Slater, John Wemigwans, Robert Saunders, Raymond Pelcher, Quenten Rolfes, Felicia Saunders, Adrianna Garcia, Julianna Garcia, Foster Crampton, Mana Pelcher, Sara Saunders and Lars George. The following students turned in all homework for January: Charmaine Castillo-Pelcher, Joshua Velasquez, Kaleb Potter, Albert Trepanier, Alex Grice, Charles Trepanier, Gracie David, Inara Curry, Jayden Schout-Pelcher, Kayana Pelcher, Maiingan Miller-Hosler, Quinn Pelcher, Red Arrow LaLonde, Landon Pelcher-Harless, Riana Chippewa, Meadow David, Frederick Highley, Kerrina Miller-Hosler, Kyleigh Scarlott, Alexis Trepanier, Anita Pelcher, Karma Pelcher-Scarlott, Raynah Perez, Landen Rowlett, Wabigwan Shawnoo, Alex Taylor, Shelayna Collins-Pelcher, Josiah Hernandez-Wemigwans, Tawny Jackson, Raymond Pelcher, Felicia Saunders, Ahsiniis Smith, Calijah Trepanier, Bruno Wemigwans, Julianna Garcia, Ariel Hinmon, Tavia Kahgegab, Annie Lada, Layla Paul, Lindsay Paul, Alberta Trepanier, Kayden Weekly-Dean, Chelsea Pelcher, Andre Leaux, Liberty Morland and Matthew Quaderer.

## Leadership Apprentice Vacancies

There are a few vacancies left in the Leadership Apprentice Program. Applicants may apply on the sagchip.org employment website. The Leadership Apprentice program is to create opportunities for tribal members to acquire the necessary education, experience and skills to perform positions of leadership and responsibility for the tribe.

Apprentices are placed in departments related to their respective degree, however, there may be times when they are assigned to a different department based on the circumstances and or needs of the tribe. This program is intended for students pursuing an Associates, Bachelors; Master's or is seeking a trade or vocational certificate.

### Applicants must meet the following minimum qualifications:

- Must be a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan
- Must have satisfactorily completed twelve credit hours
- Must provide documentation of acceptance at an accredited college/university in the state of Michigan
- Must currently have a cumulative 2.75 grade point average
- Must submit an official transcript and class schedule during the recruitment process
- Must be a full time college student
- Applicants must submit a declared degree audit during the recruitment process
- Must successfully pass a fingerprint/background check

For further information, please call higher education at 989-775-4505



## McCreery empowers youth through programs in Isabella County school district

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Photojournalist

Youth LEAD Empowerment Aid Michael McCreery is employed through the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and reminds students if they have not yet completed their high school diploma or GED, they do not need to lose hope. Youth LEAD and its resources can help steer a student in the right direction.

“Through our newly-created youth empowerment aide position that focuses solely on students enrolled in alternative high school at Mount Pleasant Oasis/WAY (computer-based home-schooling) and Shepherd’s Odyssey, we are better able to provide support to our youth who benefit from the nontraditional school setting,” McCreery said. “Youth LEAD is working to reach out to those students who have dropped out of school for whatever reason to offer encouragement and support to get back onto their educational journey. We believe that all youth can succeed academically – we just need to help them find what path works best for them.”

In addition to providing support to the students in the alternative settings, McCreery said he is also working with others (Mount Pleasant Community and Adult Education [MPCAE], Michigan Works, SCIT Human Resources and the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College) in a coordinated effort to help them to help identify future goals.

“Many students in the alternative setting may think that college



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**SCIT Tribal youth and Odyssey student Chase Ramirez receives some mentorship from CMU Volunteer Alyssa Sutton.**

is not an option,” McCreery said. “Beginning this year, we are taking our alternative students on college tours to help them see that it is a realistic goal for them.”

“If there is a student out there wondering if it’s too late for them to complete their education, we are here to tell you that it is not,” he said. “Youth LEAD wants to empower you to accomplish your goal and it does not matter how long it has been since you were last enrolled in school. You can do it, and we will be there to support and encourage you along the way!”

Student Services Supervisor Stacie Zeien works at MPCAE, a community resource center for mid-Michigan residents for more than 40 years. MPCAE programs range from preschool to adult education. MPCAE provides support to K-12 programs throughout Isabella County.

“We are proud that our program strives to strengthen our community, our workforce, and meet the unique needs of our

learners in the process,” Zeien said. “We currently have approximately 70 students involved with our programs that identify themselves as Native students, and to be able to have Michael and Youth LEAD working together with us makes our program stronger. It is our hope that our program will continue to grow and be an integral resource for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and the entire community.”

In a partnership with the City of Mount Pleasant and the SCIT two percent funding, MPCAE assists with the PEAK (Partners Empowering All Kids) Program, to provide afterschool and summer programming.

MPCAE was also instrumental in bringing Girls on the Run, a running and empowerment program for 3rd to 8th grade girls. Originally in Mount Pleasant, Girls on the Run has since grown to 26 sites in the mid-Michigan area.

Youth LEAD Director Jennifer Crawford was instrumental in creating the Girls on the Run program while she was an employee of MPCAE and she also appreciates the work McCreery is doing with Tribal students.

“We want all of our students to have the same support and resources available to them whether they are in the local middle schools and high schools or one of our area alternative schools, providing them with the encouragement and support to go beyond their high school diploma or GED,” Crawford



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Youth LEAD Empowerment Aide Michael McCreery shares a laugh with Oasis/Way students. (Pictured left to right: McCreery, Sarah Shomin, Devon Durfee, Eric Trofatter, Tyler Jackson and Cheyenne Princing.)**

said. “Michael has done an excellent job creating relationships with the staff and students at both Oasis/WAY and Odyssey. While the primary focus of our department is (ages) 0-24, we are here to encourage and support adults beyond that as well to complete their education. By doing so, we are helping to create an environment for our youth that supports and expects educational success.”

Carolyn K. Johnson, of the Isabella County Trial Court, believes the Youth LEAD and MPCAE collaboration is great attribute to the community.

“The staff at MPCAE is always helpful and provides pertinent information and feedback to our staff which assists us in monitoring a student’s attendance, progress and success,” Johnson said. “Students who attend MPCAE have the opportunity to be a part of an actual class in a classroom, they can do work in the lab at their own pace as well as take-home work. This allows the

student to achieve their education at their own pace, which has a huge impact on their progress. We are also appreciative that the students are eligible for transition services if they are age 21 or under and have been placed in the Isabella County Correctional Facility or Isabella County Non-Secure Facility.”

Youth LEAD Leadership Manager Deb Smith said SCIT now has nine youth empowerment aides and five empowerment advisors in school districts throughout Isabella County.

MACAE recently received a “2015 Program of the Year Award” and is the only statewide organization of adult education programs.

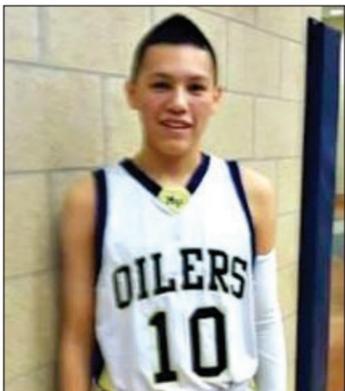
“We are deeply honored to have been selected as the ‘Program of the Year’ recipient,” Zeien said. “The award recognizes our commitment to high-quality adult instruction and services as well as our dedicated efforts to contribute to our community.”

## SCA successful alumnus: MPHS basketball player Grant Trepanier

*(Editor’s note: The following introduction was written by Interim Tribal Education Director Melissa Montoya, the remaining article was written by former Saginaw Chippewa Academy student Alyssa Andy.)*

*Dibaadendziwin or humility is one of our Seven Grandfather Teachings. Our ancestors believed that to live with humility is to recognize that we are equal, we all make mistakes, we all like to have our successes rewarded, and to put others before ourselves. We are not boastful people. We do not brag about our own accomplishments. We are taught that recognition will be given to us when it is our time. Culturally, we continue to practice this way of life. We often recognize the accomplishments of our friends and family members. We speak on their behalf and honor them for their success.*

*The Saginaw Chippewa Academy does its best to instill a balanced education to its students, both culturally and academically. The Seven Grandfather Teachings are included in daily lessons. They are also modeled in the way students and staff interact and treat each other. It is a pleasure to see current and former*



Courtesy of Youth LEAD

**Former SCA student Grant Trepanier is currently attending MPHS and is a member of the Junior Varsity basketball team.**

*SCA students living in the ways of their ancestors.*

*The Education Department would like to share the journey of former Saginaw Chippewa Academy student Grant Trepanier. We are very proud of this young man and all that he is accomplishing. We are also proud of his cousin, Alyssa Andy, also a former SCA student, for thinking of him and sharing his story with us.*

Sports have a huge impact on Indian Country. Historically, our warriors fought great battles defending our families and

home. Currently, our people’s battles are addiction, poverty, and diseases like diabetes. Sports have been a positive outlet for our Native youth.

One of our shining athletes of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe is Grant Trepanier. Grant Trepanier is currently a student at Mount Pleasant High School. Grant plays on the junior varsity basketball team as a shooting guard. While watching him play from the stands, you can’t help but notice his true sportsmanship. As his fellow teammates come off the court, Grant is right there with a towel, water, and words of encouragement.

Grant started his academic career at the Saginaw Chippewa Academy, instilling great culture values and teaching. This gave Grant the strong foundation in his identity as a Native American student and athlete. You can see the Tribal community pride in the huge cheering section for our Native athletes.

While interviewing the coach Pat Onstott, I asked him questions about the team. These players practice four times a week and have two games a week. These players also have to dress up on game days. They also must

be passing four out of five classes in order to play. If you miss school, you cannot attend practices or games.

To our Tribal community, sports are the new anti-drug. To play basketball we know you have to stay in school, pass your classes, but most importantly, stay clean. For some, it’s that excuse to peers, “No thanks I’ve got a game.”

Basketball, or any sport is also a stress reliever. No longer, as Native Americans, do we brag about the well-known athlete, Jim Thorpe; we now have

Shoni and Jude Schimmel! And we will all soon hear, “Hey did you see Grant Trepanier play last night?”

*Fantastic work Grant! You are an inspiration and great role model for your tribe. Keep up the hard work. Many people are watching and looking up to you for all that you have accomplished and will continue to accomplish.*

*The Education Department would also like to recognize and thank the family of Grant for supporting his success. Student success begins in the home.*

### 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
- Years Attended SCA
- Story of Success
- 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 to:  
challwill@sagchip.org



## Ouschan wins the SECR-hosted 2015 WPBA Masters Champion

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

For the sixth consecutive year, the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort hosted the Women's Professional Billiard Association (WPBA) Masters Event Feb. 4-8, 2015. The 9-Ball Masters Event championship staged the top female competitors in the world of professional billiards.

Forty-eight elite players competed for the "2015 WPBA Masters Champion" title. The matches commenced Thursday, Feb. 5. The players vying for this year's title included two-time consecutive, defending champion, "Little Devil Girl" Ga-young Kim, "KwikFire" Kelly Fisher, "Duchess of Doom" Allison Fisher, the "Black Widow" Jeanette Lee, Helena Thornfeldt, and more.

Alongside the WPBA Masters was the Soaring Eagle Open IX featuring pro/amateur singles 9-Ball and 8-Ball tournaments in both men and women's divisions, with 440 players.

The Masters Champion finals were held all day Sunday, Feb. 8, with ESPN3 broadcasting live. Jasmin Ouschan from Klagenfurt, Austria and



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**The 2015 Women's Professional Billiard Association (WPBA) Masters Event Champion Jasmin Ouschan gives her acceptance speech.**

Ga-young Kim from Seoul, South Korea went head to head in the final rounds.

"It was an exciting final match with amazing shots from both players," said Shannon Martin, Ziibiwing Center director and participant in the Feb. 5 Pro-Am WPBA fundraiser. "Unfortunately, the reigning champion Ga-young Kim made more mistakes than Jasmine Ouschan. Ouschan capitalized on Kim's mistakes to run-out the tables for the wins, which led her be victorious over Kim with the final results of 5:1 and 5:3."

"I am so happy that I managed to win this tournament," Ouschan said, according to jasmine-ouschan.com. "The semi-final was tough because I could not play my best at all times but the final was amazing. I was totally in the zone and that felt really good. I had so much fun performing like this. That victory gives me so much energy."

SECR Guest Service Performance Development Specialist Tim McCullough was onsite for the competition.

"We had a great turnout this year for the WPBA tournament; our guests always look forward to the women returning each and every year," McCullough said. "This was one of those years you could feel the excitement build all weekend leading up to the final table watching Jasmin Ouschan come away with the win against a tough competitor in Ga-young Kim."

Along with McCullough, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council Member Julius Peters handed out the trophies to runner-up Kim and the 2015 WPBA Masters Champion, Ouschan.

"One thing you can count on at our (WPBA) event is personal interaction with the players which is unique in any professional sport," McCullough said.

Several WPBA players said they enjoyed the SECR atmosphere.

"The (competitors) talk about this being one of the events they look forward to all year long, not only for the great room they get to play in, but the casino and resorts amenities (spa, swimming pool, etc.), plus the amazing restaurants they get to choose from right here on the property," McCullough said. "I know many of them booked appointments at our newly-remodeled spa and can't say enough good things about the service."

According to WPBA.com, "there are nearly 300 player members participating at the professional and regional tour grass roots level who make up the Women's Professional Billiard Association. Established in 1976 under 'Women's Billiard Alliance,' this membership-owned organization provides opportunities for aspiring female players to reach the pinnacle of the sport."



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Jasmin Ouschan from Klagenfurt, Austria won 5:1 and 5:3 against Ga-young Kim.**

"This tournament keeps growing here at SECR, and it's because the fans continue to support the live action pool tournament that the WPBA brings to Mount Pleasant, Mich. and for that, we thank them," McCullough said.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Tribal Council Member Julius Peters hands the WPBA Masters Event runner-up Ga-young Kim her trophy.**



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Ga-young Kim from Seoul, South Korea won second place in the WPBA Masters Event.**



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Tim McCullough and Julius Peters pose with champion Jasmin Ouschan.**

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## Country artists Joe Nichols and Craig Morgan gave a crowd-pleasing performance

### NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

American country music artists Joe Nichols and Craig Morgan each performed their greatest hits for the Jan. 20 Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort audience.

As a veteran of the United States Army, Craig Morgan knows what country music is all about. Morgan served on active duty for nine and a half years as a member of the 101st and 82nd Airborne Divisions and remained in the reserves for another six and a half years.

Morgan began his musical career in 2000. He has charted 17 times on the Billboard country charts. "That's What I Love About Sunday" spent four weeks at the top of the charts and became the number one country hit of 2005. Six more of his singles have reached Billboard's Top Ten including "Almost Home", "Redneck Yacht Club", "Little Bit of Life", "International Harvester", "Love Remembers" and "Bonfire".

One-by-one, Morgan introduced his band and each member performed a memorable solo.

Fiddle player Jim Ed Hodges performed a solo of The Charlie Daniels Bands' "The Devil Went Down To Georgia", guitarist Seth Taylor took on Aerosmith's "Walk This Way", keyboardist B.J. Kyle and bassist Perry Richardson rocked energetic solos, acoustic guitarist Michael Rogers played "One More Last Chance", a Vince Gill cover and Russ Whitman did a drum solo of the Super Mario Brothers theme song.

Morgan performed his major hits and then some. He played drums with Whitman and performed "This Ole Boy", a cover of The Eagles' "Life In The Fast Lane", his first big hit, "Almost Home" and Justin Timberlake's "Drink You Away".

He announced he is in the process of working on a new record. The fans approved of that news.

Since his 1996 debut, Joe Nichols has released eight studio albums. His albums have produced 14 Top 40 singles on the Billboard Hot Country chart. Nichols began his show with the hit "Brokenheartsville".

Nichols performed numerous songs off his latest album "Crickets" (2013) including: "Hard To Be Cool", "Gotta Love It", "Y'ant to", "Love Has a Way", "Just Let Me

Fall in Love with You", "Yeah", "Footlights" and "Hee Haw".

"I like the new album because there are different things on it instead of just hardcore country," Nichols said. "I've also got some songs that are a little bit goofy like me."

"Impossible", "One Woman Man", "Smokes" and "Running Down a Dream" were also on the set list.

"I wrote this next song after a bad break up," Nichols said of "The Shape I'm In".

Nichols was born and raised in Rogers, Ark. His father, Michael, worked as a trucker and also played bass guitar in local country bands.

"I grew up on traditional country," Nichols said. "I started doing this song a couple years ago sarcastically then it became part of the show. So, how many country and rap fans do we have in the crowd tonight? Here's the thing, you hear how fast I talk, I can't pull (rap) off, so maybe I will just sing the thing."

Nichols and his band then played a country twang version of Sir Mix-A-Lot's "Baby Got Back".



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Country singer Craig Morgan performs "Redneck Yacht Club", his second single released from his 2005 album "My Kind of Livin".

Before his recent hit, "Yeah", the Recording Industry Association of America-certified Gold single, Nichols began the chorus of Aloe Blacc's "The Man".

The top 10 hit "Size Matters (Someday)" and his third number one hit "Gimme That Girl" were also performed.

His encore involved the highly anticipated number one singles "Tequila Makes Her Clothes Fall Off" and "Sunny and 75".



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

American country artist Joe Nichols performs one of his number one singles "Brokenheartsville", released in 2002.

## TRIBAL FOOD VENDORS WANTED



### REQUIREMENTS:

- Vendor must be registered with the SCIT regulation and tax department.
- Vendor business owned by SCIT Tribal member.
- At least one Serve Safe certified worker present at vendor's booth at all times.
- Vendor is responsible for all costs associated with obtaining Serve Safe certification.
- Vendor must obtain liability insurance prior to first Outdoor Concert. (June 25th 2015)
- Vendor must present the certificate of insurance to SCIT prior to start of each concert.
- Only 5 vendors will be allowed per show.

### SERVE SAFE CLASSES AVAILABLE.

- 2 Serve Safe classes will be offered on April 12 & 13, 2015.
- 8 hour class Sunday April 12, 2015 from 1:00PM - 9PM or Monday April 13, 2015 from 9AM - 5PM.
- \$85.00 per person | Valid for 5 years, in all 50 states.
- Must have fully executed 2015 Outdoor Summer Concert Series contract.
- SIGN-UP DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY APRIL 1, 2015

Sign up today! Contact Consuelo Gonzalez at 989.775.0096 or Raul Venegas at 989.775.5135



## Mino Bimaadiziwin: Finding wellness and the way to the good life

### DAMIAN FISHER

Contributing Writer

I'm weeks away from the National Physique Committee (NPC) Flint/Mid-Michigan bodybuilding show on April 11, and my continuing challenge is measuring progress toward my goal of being competitive in my bodybuilding division (Grandmasters: 50+) rather than just participating.

Pre-contest preparation encompasses many aspects including exercise, diet, lifestyle and relationships to reach the physical balance and to achieve the visual esthetic necessary to be competitive and place well in bodybuilding.

I like SMART goal setting (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Time-bound) because the hardest part of pre-contest preparation is changing lifestyle, diet and exercise from off-season habits to contest focus.

"Cold turkey" change is an option, but, at my age, I've



Courtesy of Damian Fisher

**Damian Fisher prepares for his bodybuilding competition at the Nimkee Fitness Center.**

found that gradually shifting gears is gentler on my body than making abrupt changes. Well thought out transitions are the best ways for me to initiate and sustain meaningful changes in lifestyle and achieve satisfactory outcomes.

Progress toward my goal to be competitive can be easily measured in terms of body fat percentage. The hard part is making enough change to actually be measurable. So I chose something new this season to get from off season diet to contest diet. I tried a popular

nutritional supplement company's "24-day challenge." Gimmicky diets are not a sustainable way to lose weight and keep it off, but for my specific purpose, it was a perfect way to make that pre-contest diet transition because its intense focus on diet supplementation and monitoring was strict, but it was of a short duration.

The regimen's sharp focus changed the way I monitored my nutrition without changing what I needed to eat to fuel my workouts and feed my muscle development. This is an important process step that most diets fail to fully explore and their proponents fail to educate as being an important step in any diet's success. I didn't radically change what I was eating, I radically changed the way I watched what I was eating.

I really didn't know what to expect of this 24-day challenge because my weight remained steady at around 200 lbs. However, my body fat percentage dropped from 18 percent to

14.5 percent and I didn't lose any size in my chest, shoulders, arms or legs but lost inches off my abdomen!

If I had relied on the bathroom scale alone I would have been very disappointed with the results after three weeks of work, but with the information from a before and after skin-fold body fat measurement test (done by the fitness professionals at Nimkee Fitness Center) I am highly energized and ready to fully engage in a more rigorous, but typical and sustainable, pre-contest diet.

Pre-contest diet and exercise demand a precision that is easily measured through diligent monitoring. Anyone can practice that by keeping an exercise and nutritional journal. There are smartphone applications for this or you can do the paper and pencil method; I do both!

Fitness is easily measured if you keep an exercise journal. Anyone who has seen me working out knows that I write in my journal after every set.

I record the exercise, repetitions, sets, and weight. I also record how I feel after every movement. I'll say whether I felt strong and ready to move up in weight or if I felt tired and had to stop short of my desired performance. I'll even comment on why I felt that way.

A journal is a convenient way to measure progress and it's been an important feature of my health for a long time. I have a record of when I could only do sit-ups on an exercise ball with my arms crossed and now I use a decline bench and two 50 lbs. dumbbells when do sit-ups!

This is the way I practice good health, you may choose any way that makes you happy and moves you closer to your own goals; whatever they may be. I just say keep track and share your progress often because what you'll learn is how to make informed choices that work for you. Make that choice and you will be on your way to wellness and the good life!

## Forget "the diet" and enjoy your food: March is National Nutrition Month

### SALLY VAN CISE

Nutritionist

So much emphasis seems to be placed on weight loss and supplements, counting calories, and using "diet foods" and avoiding foods we love. In truth, "dieting" just doesn't work, long term.

Here is another article attesting to that fact. It is from the February 2015 issue of Environmental Nutrition, entitled "'On and Off' Diets May Not Work", by Sharon Palmer, R.D.N., editor.

What's the best way to lose weight? That's the question that spurs the \$20 billion per year U.S. weight loss industry. Increasingly, research suggests that an array of popular weight loss diets can help you lose weight, but

over the long term they may not be so effective.

In a new study published in Circulation: Cardiovascular Quality and Outcomes (November 2014), Canadian researchers compared the results of randomized clinical trials on four popular diets: South Beach, Weight Watchers, Zone, and Atkins. They found that all four diets were moderately effective at decreasing weight in the short term, but weight loss was not sustained over the long term.

In fact, when compared to usual care, Weight Watchers was the only plan that was consistently more effective at reducing weight at the 12-month mark, with an average weight loss of 7.7 to 13.2 pounds after one year. However, at two years, the weight lost was partially regained.

It's becoming clear that short-term diet solutions—that people go on and off—are not the answer to weight loss. Instead, adapting a long-term, sustainable strategy that involves a lifelong shift in eating behaviors, food choices, and physical activity may be the most successful approach. Perhaps it's time to replace our current notion of "dieting" with the more positive message: Healthy eating for life.

The implications for all of us is to learn to include healthy foods daily, without believing we have to exclude foods we think of as "bad," such as bacon, brownies, pizza or Fritos. Really!

To the right are two recipes for nutrient-packed kale and broccoli, perked up with bacon! (If you do not care for bacon - just substitute any

smoky and salty item such as Canadian bacon, ham, smoked turkey or a veggie-based substitute. You can add

a bit of Liquid Smoke for more flavor if you like; also add one to two tablespoons of olive oil.)

### Lemony Bacon Kale



#### Ingredients:

- 1 bunch of kale, leaves torn off and torn into bite size pieces (*roughly*).
- 4 strips of bacon
- 1-2 T fresh squeezed lemon juice (*bottled stuff is not so tasty*). (*aim for 2 T if you like really lemony like me*)
- good sprinkle of garlic powder, salt and pepper.

#### Instructions:

1. In a medium skillet, pan fry bacon until crispy, remove bacon, remove pan from heat
2. Juice lemon with a lemon squeezer or by hand (watch for seeds!) right into pan, be sure to scrape up all browned bits from bacon
3. Put pan back on heat, add kale and spices, stir kale to coat with bacon grease
4. Put lid on pan and periodically stir kale until soft, about five minutes
5. While kale is cooking chop bacon into bits, add directly into pan when kale is about done
6. Enjoy!

### Bacon Broccoli



#### Ingredients:

- 1 bundle of broccoli crowns, cut into smaller florets (*or buy bag of pre-cut broccoli florets*)
- 3-4 slices of bacon, sliced into 1/2" pieces
- 2 Tablespoons raw pine nuts (*or walnuts as pine nuts are pricey*)
- 1 teaspoon garlic salt
- 2 Tablespoons olive oil
- Pepper & shredded or grated parmesan for seasoning at the end (*optional*)

#### Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees.
2. Line a large baking sheet with foil for easy clean up.
3. In a bowl combine broccoli florets, pine nuts, and bacon pieces, adding in garlic salt evenly. Pour olive oil over everything and combine with hands to make sure all of the broccoli gets some olive oil.
4. Place broccoli mixture onto baking sheet and spread out evenly as the bacon will have a tendency to stick together.
5. Bake for 40 minutes until broccoli looks roasted and bacon is cooked crispy, removing broccoli from oven to stir and flip every 10 minutes (*or else you will burn the dish*).
6. Season with optional pepper and a dash of freshly-grated parmesan.

### Nimkee Fitness Center Group Exercise Schedule March 2015

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8 a.m.	*Aqua Fit Sharon		*Aqua Fit Sharon		*Aqua Fit Sharon
<i>*Location Change: Aqua Fit will now be held at the Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel</i>					
12:10 p.m.	Turbo Kick Jayme	Suspension Training Jayme	Boot Camp Jaden	Fat Blast Jayme	CrossFitness Jaden
1:10 p.m.			Turbo Kick Jayme		Turbo Kick Jayme
5:10 p.m.	Fat Blast Jayme	Kick & Step Jeni			
5:30 p.m.			Belly Dance Deanna		



## Energy drink dangers discussed during Jan. 28 presentation

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

After a night of restless sleep, many people turn to energy drinks for that extra boost, unaware of the countless dangers those beverages bring. Diabetes Educator Tamara House, R.N., of the Nimkee Wellness Center, discussed these hazards during a Jan. 28 dinner and presentation in the Eagle's Nest Tribal Gym.

House said the high levels of sugar in energy drinks cause "obesity, cavities and high blood sugar."

"Native Americans seem to be at higher risk of diabetes,"

House said. "Diabetes is present within 28 percent of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe community, whereas it is in four percent of the general population."

The Food and Drug Administration requires caffeine warnings on energy drinks.

"It's not a medication, it's a drink that contains a warning label," House said. "That, right there, is a concern."

House said there are "many health risks due to caffeine intoxication including: irregular or rapid heartbeat, stomach problems, anxiety or panic, restlessness, nervousness, rush, jolt and crash episodes,

headaches, problems sleeping, seizures and even death."

"There are many ways to naturally boost energy," House said. "Ideas include daily vegetables and other whole foods, regular exercise, sleep, hydration and stress management."

Angela Peters, SCIT member and director of Anishinaabe Language Revitalization Department, shared alternatives on how to hydrate in a healthy way.

Peters said water is a natural energizer. She suggested drinking water infused with cucumber, lemon, lime, watermelon, mint leaves or maple syrup.

"Watermelon helps the body flush out toxins," Peters said. "Mint leaves are a nice, refreshing flavor to add to your drink... It can also help you digest more effectively... Mint also helps relax cramped up stomach muscles."

After her heart attack, Peters began using maple syrup to replace imitation sweeteners. She suggests mixing a tablespoon of real maple syrup in a 12-20 ounce bottle of water.

"You can also use maple syrup in coffee or tea to replace artificial and other sweeteners," Peters said.

The presentation was a supporting event of the Ziibiwing



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Diabetes Educator Tamara House, R.N., of the Nimkee Wellness Center, discussed energy drink dangers.**

Center's "Healing Through Culture and Art Shawl Collection" exhibit co-sponsored by the Youth LEAD Department and the Nimkee Center.

## Nimkee offers clarification on Affordable Care Act "Indian Exemption"

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Photojournalist

As families come closer to filing their taxes before the April 15 deadline, the Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center, the At-Large Program and the Benefits Department have received a lot of phone calls regarding the Affordable Care Act (ACA) "Indian Exemption".

Executive Health Director Karmen Fox, M.S.A., is aware of the Act and the documentation that is being requested to be eligible.

"If you are a Native American

and enrolled with a federally-recognized Tribe like SCIT, as long as you have your Tribal ID or paperwork, that is considered your "proof of membership" and you don't need a letter from Nimkee Clinic, a tribal health clinic, or Indian Health Service (IHS) facility," Fox said. "However, if you are a descendant and receive services from Nimkee Clinic, our administrative staff can assist and provide you with a letter for your documentation."

Fox said if a Native patient receives services from another tribal health clinic or IHS facility, they should contact them

directly and ask them to provide the patient with a letter or requested documentation.

At-Large Program Supervisor Craig Graveratte informs all SCIT Members have BCBS Insurance and/or use Nimkee Clinic, so they are covered and there is no need to file for the exemption.

"If the SCIT Member has someone living in their household that they claim on their taxes that do not have insurance and they receive care at an IHS facility then the exemption should be filed," Graveratte said. "So the short answer is, if you have insurance or are a

member of a federally-recognized Tribe, you do not have to file the exemption at this time."

Under the Act, every American must have health care coverage, but there are special exemptions that exist for Alaska Native and American Indian people. Alaska Native and American Indian people are exempt from the requirement to purchase insurance if they can show evidence of:

- Enrollment in a federally-recognized Tribe;
- Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act shareholder status (village or regional), or;
- Eligibility to receive

services from a tribal health clinic or IHS Facility.

Previously, only members of federally-recognized tribes and shareholders of ANCSA corporations had the option to apply for the Indian Exemption when filing their taxes.

A recent announcement from the federal government allows descendants, people with a Certificate of Indian Blood and/or those who are eligible for services through a Tribal health care provider will now be able to claim the Indian Exemption when filing their taxes (<http://anthctoday.org/aca/index.html#section3>).

## Colorectal cancer awareness: A screening can save your life

**JENNA WILCOX**

Women's Health Coordinator

Did you know that by wearing blue you are showing support for colorectal cancer awareness? March is National Colon Cancer Awareness Month and the "National Dress in Blue Day" is Friday, March 6, 2015.

Colorectal cancer is a term used for cancer that starts in the colon or the rectum. According to the American Cancer Society, there are many risk factors that can contribute to someone's chances of developing colorectal cancer, including being 50 years of age and older, personal history

of colorectal polyps, inflammatory bowel disease, family history of colorectal cancer or polyps, racial and ethnic background, history of type 2 diabetes and lifestyle related factors such as diet, weight, exercise, smoking and heavy alcohol use.

Common signs and symptoms may include: Change in bowel habits, rectal bleeding or blood in your stool, persistent abdominal discomfort, nausea and vomiting, and unexplained weight loss. No noticeable symptoms may occur in some cases which is why you should start getting screened for colorectal cancer starting at the age 50 or sooner if you are at higher

risk. It is also recommended to maintain a healthy weight, adopt a physically active lifestyle and diet, and avoid or limit alcohol and tobacco products.

As your medical home providers at the Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center, we truly care about your overall health and wellbeing. We strongly suggest and recommend that you have your annual screenings with your primary care provider. For all Nimkee eligible patients: To schedule your annual men's health or women's health screening please contact your primary care nurse at the clinic.

Help us by wearing blue on

Friday, March 6, 2015 to bring awareness to colorectal cancer and show support to those who have survived, those who have passed on and those who are

fighting the battle currently.

More information about colorectal cancer can be found at the American Cancer Society's webpage at [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).



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**Are you a Tribal Member interested in being a Fireworks Vendor this season?**

Migizi EDC is accepting bids for land leases for the 2015 Fireworks season.

**Bids are due by March 31 at 5:00pm.**

For more information and to receive a bidding package, please contact 989.775.4144



## The grief cycle: Learning to empathize with those affected

**FELECIA MCCRAY**

BSW Intern

Grief is a natural healing process that everyone experienced at some point in their life. It not only is a way of responding to death or sickness, it can be applied to a change in lifestyle; getting a new boss or moving to a new city. Unfortunately, many of us do not fully understand this process or the importance it plays in our lives and the lives of others.

One of the main misunderstandings people have about those who are grieving is that one day they will “just get over it.” Many of us can empathize with an individual who has just suffered a loss. The problem then becomes still understanding grief when it is years after a person’s death and those closest to them are still having trouble

copied. What we tend to ignore is that grief looks different for each and every individual and it should be treated as such.

Elizabeth Kubler-Ross in her book, “On Death and Dying”, identified five stages of grief.

The following are some of the most common feelings and emotions experienced in each.

It is normal to feel any or all of these things because grief is a natural body process of the body. It should be noted that an individual can feel effects of multiple stages at once.

### Stage 1: Denial

- Avoidance, isolation, shock and numbness.

### Stage 2: Anger

- Outbursts at small things, angry for trivial reasons, headaches.

### Stage 3: Bargaining

- Regret, second-guess medical/professional advice, turn towards religion/spirituality.

### Stage 4: Depression

- Fatigue, insomnia, crying spells, self-pity, appetite loss, lack of energy and concentration.

### Stage 5: Acceptance

- Calm, withdrawal

Reaching the fifth stage does not mean that we have simply moved on without ever looking back. We must recognize that things will never return to the way they were. For that reason, we learn to operate in a

“new normal.” It is important to remember that grief is not a mathematical equation that fits everyone the same. Some stages are never reached by some, while others spend years in just one. The best thing we can do for someone in the grieving process is show empathy, not sympathy.

Dr. Brene Brown shares the difference between sympathy and empathy very well.

If we imagine a person falling into a pit there are multiple ways to address them. Sympathy can be described as looking down on the person and giving surface level feedback. They commonly start sentences with “at least.”

On the other hand, empathy could be described as climbing

down into the pit with the person. Now that the two are on the same level, the person can get to know what pushed them into such a dark place. They may even know a way out. It is okay to not have the answers. In fact, response rarely makes something better. What makes something better is connection. Sometimes the person who is feeling down just wants someone to hear them out. Be that person to climb down and just sit with them for a while.

*Sources: Elizabeth Kubler Ross, On Death and Dying (Ross, 1969). The Power of Empathy [video], 2013; Dealing with Death and Grief, 2014*

## Andahwod Elders Super Bowl raffle

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Photojournalist

At the Jan. 28 Elders Breakfast, Tribal Member Dan McCreery was the lucky winner of the Elders “Super Bowl” Raffle... a 50-inch Vizio LED Smart HDTV. His mom, Elders Advisory Board Member Carole Tally, sold him the grand prize ticket. His brother, Michael McCreery, said Dan had his new TV set up on Feb. 1 just in time to have a bunch of people over to watch the New England Patriots beat the Seattle Seahawks 28-24 in Super Bowl XLIX.

Tribal Elder and Andahwod resident Guy Fallis won the \$200 cash prize and Anishinabe Nini Brian Corbiere won the third prize of \$100 cash.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Tribal Council Member Chip Neyome (left) joins lucky winner Dan McCreery and Tribal Police Captain Jim Cates as they hold the grand prize.**

“A big miigwetch goes out to all the individuals who purchased tickets and this will help us fund Elder Activities for FY2015 and other upcoming events,” Andahwod Senior

Assisted Living Administrator Gayle Ruhl said. “We will have to get together as a committee to plan our next contest but we sure do appreciate the community support of our Elders program.”

## Save the Date: Spring Fling

Unfortunately, due to poor weather conditions, the Elder Services program canceled and rescheduled the Elder Valentine's Day Party.

Save the date for April 11, 2015 from 6 to 11 p.m. for the rescheduled Valentine's Day event “Spring Fling.” Music, games, photos, prizes, dancing, treats and more are planned.

## MARCH 2015

### Tribal Elder Birthdays

1 James Schneider	15 Arthur Henry Jr., Coy McCollum
2 Randall Jackson, Bernardino Perez Jr., Janice Hill, Arthur Miller Jr.	17 Merton Flory, Joseph Kowalski
3 Angela Bennett, Winona Hancock, David Joseph, Susan Pretzer	18 Marion Williams, Thomas Bates, Rhonda Dutton, Wanda Wallace
4 Elizabeth Cabay, James Gingerich, Phillip Nelson, Barbara Walraven	19 Rita Redman, Janice Roach
5 Nancy Henry, Gerald Slater, Kenneth Vasquez, Wanda Brodie, Terry Cummings, Herbert Robinson Sr., Clifford Saboo Jr.	20 Etta Ayling, Oliver Leauteaux Sr., Lawrence Verga Sr.
6 Jessie Glover, JD Snowden, Diane Morley, William Burnham	21 Marlene Jackson, Elaine Kraska
7 Daniel Cloutier	22 Kim Ambs, Kim Aasved, Paige Vanderlooven
8 Timothy Stevens, Martha Van Nuck, Lorraine Walker	23 Lisa Zangara
9 George Sprague, Marsha Gibson, Theodore Kowalski, Robert Stanton, Russell Stevens	24 Larry Bearden, Joyce Sandell
11 Jolene Quinlan, Clifton Chippewa II, Robert Neilson, Bernadette Reyes, Stephen Walraven, Darwin Ziehmer	25 Naomi Staggs, Joseph Chamberlain, Stella Falsetta, Constance Pallett
12 Lorna Kahgegab Call, Julia Wixson	26 Timothy Bennett, Clifford Chamberlain
13 Bernadine Gross, Sherry Bame	27 Rex Alma, John Miller Sr.
14 Debra Vidana, Linda Davis, Patrick Otto Sr., Barbara Roy	28 Thelma Henry-Shipman, Dawn Hunt, Kelly Huyser
	29 Brian Wray, Steven Moore, Craig Waynee
	30 Janet Barnhart, Esther Chatfield
	31 John Rhodes, Michele Stanley

## Elders Advisory Board Vacancy

Interested elders must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- 50 years and older
- Advocate for Tribal Elders
- District One
- SCIT member
- Attend meetings regularly

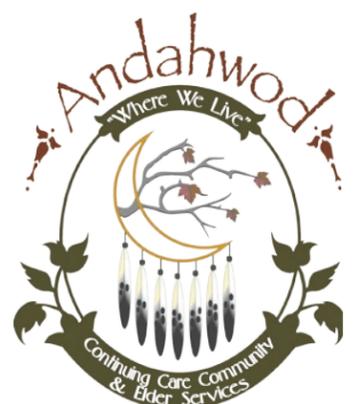
If you meet these requirements and would like to be a part of the EAB please submit a letter of interest with your name, address and phone number to:

### Deadline:

March 31, 2015

Andahwod CCC & ES  
2910 S. Leaton Rd.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.

**For more information, please call: 989-775-4300**



## Andahwod March Events

### Euchre

Tuesdays/Thursdays at 6 p.m. | Contact: 989-775-4300

### Jewelry with Kay

March 3 | Contact: 989-775-4300

### St. Patrick's Craft

March 4 at 1:30 p.m. | Contact: 989-775-4300

### Language Bingo

March 5 at 1 p.m. | Contact: 989-775-4307

### Elders Breakfast

March 11 & 25 from 9-10 a.m. | Contact: 989-775-4300  
• All SCIT Tribal Member Elders from all districts can enjoy a free breakfast

### Bingo with Friends

March 18 at 1 p.m. | Contact: 989-775-4307

### Audio Book Club

Mondays at 4 p.m. | Contact: 989-775-4300

### Exercise

Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. | Contact: 989-775-4300

### Crafts with Elisa

Tuesdays at 1 p.m. | Contact: 989-775-4300

### Therapy Dogs with Margo

Wednesdays at 1 p.m. | Contact: 989-775-4300

### Knitting

Thursdays at 1 p.m. | Contact: 989-775-4300

### Movie in CGA

Thursdays at 6 p.m. | Contact: 989-775-4300



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*Easter Brunch*  
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**AT AURORA BUFFET:**  
 11AM-6PM | \$19.95/PERSON



## MARCH 2015 EVENT PLANNER

### Parenting Classes

- March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 | 3 - 5 p.m.
- Location: Nimkee Public Health Kitchen
  - To Register: 989-775-4616
  - "Becoming a Love and Logic Parent"
  - For parents of children ages six and older

### Men's Meeting

- March 5, 12, 19, 26 | 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- Location: Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
  - Contact: 989-775-2370 ext. 214
  - Open communication, talking circle
  - Food will be provided
  - For adults and young men (6th grade and older)

### Youth LEAD Luau

- March 6 | 6 - 8 p.m.
- Location: Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
  - Contact: 989-775-4506
  - Food, games and giveaways
  - Hula hoop and hula dance contests

### Women to Women Group

- March 6 | 12 - 3 p.m.
- Location: Nimkee Public Health Kitchen
  - Please RVSP: 989-775-4654
  - Lunch provided

### Youth LEAD Snow Snake Trip

- March 7 | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Location: Snow Snake Mountain, Harrison, Mich.
  - Contact: 989-775-4506

### Fitness Support Group

- February 11, 25 | 12 - 1 p.m.
- Location: Nimkee Public Health Kitchen
  - Contact: 989-775-4780

### Women's Support Group

- March 17 | 5:30 - 7 p.m.
- Location: Behavioral Health
  - Contact: 989-775-4896

### Family Spirit Support Group

- March 18 | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Location: Nimkee Public Health
  - Contact: 989-775-4616

### Spring Feast

- March 18 | 5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- Location: 7th Generation
  - Contact: 989-775-4780

### Housing Financial Workshop

- March 19 | 12 p.m.
- Location: Housing Conference Room
  - Contact: 989-775-4552

### Youth LEAD Paintball Trip

- March 28 | 11 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- Location: Lone Wolf Paintball in Clinton, Mich.
  - To register: 989-775-4121
  - Limited tickets available
  - Ages 10 and older, children 17 and under must have a signed waiver form and be accompanied by an adult.
  - All equipment included, along with 500 paintballs and two hours of play time on the field.

### Youth LEAD Detroit Pistons Trip

- April 4 | Time: TBA
- Location: Auburn Hills, Mich.
  - To register: 989-775-4505
  - Limited tickets available, no hold on tickets
  - Food and beverage voucher included
  - Tribal Members only

### Girls Youth Group

- March 4, 11, 18, 25 | 5 - 6 p.m.
- Location: Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
  - Contact: 989-775-4021

### At-Large Meet & Greet

- March 15 | 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- Location: SCA
  - Contact: 989-775-4949

**Coffee**  
..... with the .....  
**Captain**

March 14, 2015 • 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
In the Tribal Operations Seniors Room

This will be a time for anyone who has any of questions, comments or concerns to speak with either Captain Cates or other Tribal police officers so they can be heard. This is an informal setting for everyone to come and meet Captain Cates and have a place to talk with him. Coffee and donuts will be provided.

For more information: 989-775-4700

**Talking Circle**

Wednesdays at 7 p.m.  
Andahwod Maple Room

For more information contact: Kim 989.289.3088, Roger 989.944.1937

## TRIBAL COMMUNITY CALENDAR | MARCH 2015

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT./SUN.
<b>2</b> <b>Women's Traditions Group</b> B. Health   5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  <b>Traditional Healers</b> 7th Generation   989-775-4787	<b>3</b> <b>Ogitchedaw Meeting</b> Seniors Room   6 p.m.  <b>Grandmother Moon</b> B. Health   7 p.m. - 8 p.m.  <b>Traditional Healers</b> 7th Generation   989-775-4787	<b>4</b> <b>Open Gym</b> Tribal Gym   6 p.m. - 9 p.m.  <b>Youth Council Meeting</b> Seniors Room   4 p.m. - 5 p.m.  <b>Traditional Teachings</b> Saganing   11 a.m. - 1 p.m.	<b>5</b> <b>Sacred Fire Lunch</b> 7th Generation   11 a.m. - 1 p.m.  <b>Talking Circle</b> 7th Generation   3 p.m. - 5 p.m.  <b>Bear Hide Bundle Making</b> B. Health   6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	<b>6</b> <b>AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting</b> Andahwod Maple Lodge   7 p.m.  <b>New Spirit Moon</b> Andahwod Conference   1 p.m.	<b>7</b> <b>Talking Circle</b> Andahwod   10 a.m.  <b>1/8</b> <b>New Spirit Support Group</b> B. Health   4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
<b>9</b> <b>Women's Traditions Group</b> B. Health   5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	<b>10</b> <b>Donnie Dowd - Sweath Lodge</b> B. Health   5 p.m. - 10 p.m.	<b>11</b> <b>Open Gym</b> Tribal Gym   6 p.m. - 9 p.m.  <b>Youth Council Meeting</b> Tribal Gym   3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.  <b>Donnie Dowd - Healing</b> B. Health   10 a.m. - 4 p.m.	<b>12</b> <b>Sacred Fire Lunch</b> 7th Generation   11 a.m. - 1 p.m.  <b>Talking Circle</b> 7th Generation   3 p.m. - 5 p.m.	<b>13</b> <b>AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting</b> Andahwod Maple Lodge   7 p.m.  <b>New Spirit Moon</b> Andahwod Conference   1 p.m.	<b>14</b> <b>Talking Circle</b> Andahwod   10 a.m.  <b>Girls Basketball Game</b> Tribal Gym   1 p.m.  <b>15</b> <b>New Spirit Support Group</b> B. Health   4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
<b>16</b> <b>Tribal Observer</b> Deadline   3 p.m.  <b>Women's Traditions Group</b> B. Health   5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	<b>17</b> <b>Saganing Bingo with Friends</b> Saganing   10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.	<b>18</b> <b>Education Advisory Board</b> Meeting   9 a.m.  <b>Open Gym</b> Tribal Gym   6 p.m. - 9 p.m.  <b>Youth Council Meeting</b> Seniors Room   4 p.m. - 5 p.m.	<b>19</b> <b>Sacred Fire Lunch</b> 7th Generation   11 a.m. - 1 p.m.  <b>Talking Circle</b> 7th Generation   3 p.m. - 5 p.m.	<b>20</b> <b>AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting</b> Andahwod Maple Lodge   7 p.m.  <b>New Spirit Moon</b> Andahwod Conference   1 p.m.	<b>21</b> <b>Talking Circle</b> Andahwod   10 a.m.  <b>22</b> <b>New Spirit Support Group</b> B. Health   4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
<b>23</b> <b>Women's Traditions Group</b> B. Health   5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>Open Gym</b> Tribal Gym   6 p.m. - 9 p.m.  <b>Youth Council Meeting</b> Tribal Gym   3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.	<b>26</b> <b>Sacred Fire Lunch</b> 7th Generation   11 a.m. - 1 p.m.  <b>Talking Circle</b> 7th Generation   3 p.m. - 5 p.m.  <b>SCA Reading Activity Night</b> SCA   5 p.m. - 7 p.m.	<b>27</b> <b>AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting</b> Andahwod Maple Lodge   7 p.m.  <b>New Spirit Moon</b> Andahwod Conference   1 p.m.  <b>Baby Moccasin Class</b> Nimkee Public Health   2 p.m.	<b>28</b> <b>Talking Circle</b> Andahwod   10 a.m.  <b>29</b> <b>New Spirit Support Group</b> B. Health   4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
<b>30</b> <b>Women's Traditions Group</b> B. Health   5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	<b>Gamblers Anonymous (GA) Meetings</b> 12-step program for people that have a gambling problem.  <b>Mondays &amp; Thursdays 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.</b>  Mount Pleasant First United Methodist Church 400 S. Main St. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858		<b>Narcotics Anonymous Meetings</b> <b>Tuesdays:</b> 6 p.m., Wesley Foundation at CMU 1400 S. Washington St., Mount Pleasant <b>Thursdays:</b> 6:30 p.m., First Methodist Church 400 S. Main St., Mount Pleasant <b>Saturdays:</b> 7 p.m., Mount Pleasant Alano Club 1201 N. Fancher Rd., Mount Pleasant		<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.

##### 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.

##### 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.

##### Native American Applicant Pool

All Native Americans who meet the minimum qualifications. 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.

##### Resident Care Manager

Open to the public. Must be a licensed registered nurse (BSN preferred), with at least one year of long term care experience. One year of supervisory experience in a long term care setting preferred. Knowledge of and/or willingness to learn about and understand the Tribal community and outside systems is required.

##### Secondary Language Immersion Specialist

Open to the public. Must possess required specialized unique skills include demonstrated fluency and knowledge of Anishinabe language acquisition, a clear understanding of immersion philosophy and two

years experience teaching Anishinabemowin with children in a school setting or community setting. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent.

##### 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.

##### Investment Manager

Open to the public. CPA or Masters degree in finance or accounting with four years experience in cash management and investing. Must have excellent computer experience using a variety of software packages, investment software packages. Must possess strong analytical skills, inter-personal skills and communication skills.

##### Journeyman Lineman Manager

Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Candidate must have a Journeyman License with lineman experience or must have completed the journeyman examination requirements as administered by an accredited Lineman Apprenticeship Training program or five years three phase high voltage experience with appropriate electrical license.

##### Applications Support Specialist I

Only members of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and/or current employees who work in the IT department may apply. Two plus years IT applications/software experience or four year IT related degree and one year IT related experience or four year IT related degree and one year gaming/hospitality experience

##### Support Services Technician II

Open to the public. Must have three plus years IT help desk experience or four year IT related degree and one year IT related experience. Provide Level II help desk and field support.

##### Water Operator Intern

Only members of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe may apply. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Training in hydraulics, physics, biology, science or related field will help in learning this field

### 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 and 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.

##### Steward

Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Exceptional people skills, high level of enthusiasm and professionalism.

##### 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.

Formal education in the form of a culinary degree from an American Culinary Federation accredited school may be accepted to satisfy part of the work experience requirement.

##### Host/Hostess

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Needs to be able to deal with the public under stressful situations, be a team player, work flexible hours including weekends, holidays and graveyard shifts.

##### Massage Therapist

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years or older upon employment. High school diploma or equivalent required. Must have a valid Michigan massage certification. A total of 600 hours required for Massage certification.

##### Housekeeping Manager

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age and have a minimum of two years housekeeping supervisory experience in either hospital-ity or casino field. Must be computer literate and capable of using various software applications including Excel.

##### Journeyman Electrician

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must have and maintain a State of Michigan Journeyman Electrician license. Must have at least six years experience in the electrical trade including completion of an apprenticeship.

##### Kitchen Equipment Worker

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a high school diploma. Must have three years experience in commercial food equipment repair. Universal certification and/or within 30 days after employed.

##### Line Cook

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent. One year of restaurant cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility, communication and teamwork skills. Or six months of SECR internal culinary training.

##### Accounting Manager

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in accounting or business with accounting minor, or MBA in accounting. Five to six years experience in the gaming industry. Must have extensive experience in accounting software systems. Strong working knowledge of GAAP principals related to the resort industry.

##### Saganing Inventory Control Warehouser

Open to the public. High school diploma or equivalent. Must be able to obtain and maintain a tribal driver's license. Requires a chauffeur's license. Food identification/receiving experience (one to three years).

##### Bartender

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent. Native American preferred.

##### Inventory Control Warehouser

Open to the public. High school diploma or equivalent. Must be able to obtain and maintain a tribal driver's an Industrial Truck Operator Permit. One to three years experience in receiving or warehousing.

##### 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.

##### Transit Driver Part-Time

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 or a Chauffeur's License.

### 130 Services

##### Fox Home Builders

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## Summons and Complaint Notices

### SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT IN THE MATTER OF CHELSEA BENNETT:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court 6954 E. Broadway Rd Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 989-775-4800 Summons and Complaint Case No. 14-CI-0647 Plaintiff: Gateway Financial Solutions P.O. Box 3257 Saginaw, MI 48605 989-791-2505 Plaintiff's Attorney: Schisler Law, Scott Schisler P48832 P.O. Box 3257 Saginaw, MI 48605 989-791-2505 vs. Defendant: Chelsea Bennett 2730 Ivy Lane Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 Notice of Defendant: 1. You are being sued. 2. You have 21 days after receiving this summons to file an answer with the court and to serve a copy on the other party or to take other lawful action. Please note that if you were served by certified mail or served outside of the reservation land you have 28 days to answer attached complaint. 3. Failure to file an answer or take other action within the time allowed may result in a default judgment being entered against you for the relief requested in plaintiff's complaint. **This summons expires June 22, 2015.**

### SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT IN THE MATTER OF CHAD ADKISSON:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court 6954 E. Broadway Rd. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 989-775-4800 Summons and Complaint no. 14-CI-0740 Plaintiff: McLaren Flint McLaren Regional Medical Center, Plaintiff's Attorney: Peter S. Shek (P32749) 803 N. Michigan Ave. Saginaw, MI 48602 vs. Defendant: Chad Adkisson 222 Highfield Flint, MI 48504 Notice to defendant: 1. You are being sued. 2. You have 21 days after receiving this summons to file an answer with the court and to serve a copy on the other party or take other lawful action. Please note that if you were served by certified mail or served outside of the reservation land you have 28 days to answer complaint. 3. Failure to file an answer or take other action within the time allowed may result in a default Judgment being entered against you for the relief requested in Plaintiff's complaint. **This summons expires on April 15, 2015.**



## Youth LEAD families find a fabulous feast of “Frozen” fun in Frankenmuth

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Photojournalist

On Jan. 31, the thermometer read 35 degrees, but inside the Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn, there was festive fun, a fabulous feast and “Frozen” movie magic in the air.

The Youth LEAD department had a special day as 50 lucky participants ventured through mid-Michigan flurries to get a glimpse of Disney characters Olaf the Snowman and royal sisters Princess Elsa and Anna.

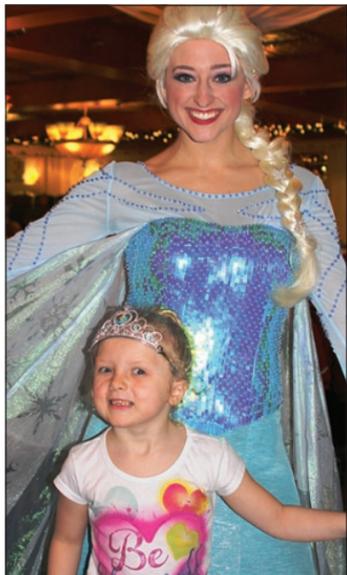
The German-themed restaurant served up their famous family chicken dinners but it was clear the sold-out ballroom guests were all about meeting the beloved “Frozen” cast members.

College Vocational Recruit Support Specialist Rosanna Romero attended the special day with daughter Natalia and her dad Gerald.

“My 5-year-old Hummingbird Girl (Natalia) was so ecstatic about meeting Elsa and Anna for the first time that her entire bedroom was transformed into the ‘Frozen’ theme,” Romero said. “I want to thank Betsey (Alonzo) and Colleen (Maki) from Youth LEAD for coordinating such a fun-filled event for all the toddlers that attended.”

Alonzo enjoyed the festivities almost as much as the parents and children did.

“The look of joy and amazement on all the youth’s faces made the experience itself magical,” Alonzo said. “Children’s faces were lit with glee as the beautiful Elsa and Anna made their rounds. Olaf was a great addition for the boys. His silly smile was enough to get the kids out of their seats. The food was fabulous, and the dessert was a treat in itself... Youth LEAD will continue to search out events like this one that we know the community young and old will enjoy. Thank you



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Emily Rose Marie Stanaway is pleased to finally meet Princess Elsa.**

to all in attendance we hope it was an event to remember.”

Healing and Wellness Coordinator Cathy Fisher said her 20-month-old granddaughter Alexis wasn’t ready to meet the six-and-a-half-foot tall snowman.

“Seeing him on TV is different than seeing him in person and Alexis was pretty scared of the real Olaf,” Fisher said. “My 4-year-old granddaughter Aria said she was so very excited for this day to come. The event was very well organized and fun and

this will be a lasting memory for my girls. We want to go back to the Bavarian Inn to see Cinderella next. I want to thank the Youth LEAD department for this chance to share in their excitement and have it be a lasting memory.”

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Administrative Assistant II Bethel Merrill took her daughter Simone, and her grandsons Karsyn Sineway and Mangan Merrill.

“My grandsons loved seeing Olaf and Simone loved seeing the two princesses,” Merrill said. “It was an event that was so special for everyone. I would like to say thank you, Youth LEAD, for sponsoring a trip for the younger children and their families.”

Risk Manager Tracy Terrill-Leathers complimented the Youth LEAD department on bringing another successful Tribal event that was worth the drive.

“My daughters Jasmine and Isabelle... enjoyed meeting the princesses in real life,” Terrill-Leathers said. “We enjoyed the delicious chicken dinner and the specially-made Olaf cupcakes for dessert! As a parent, I loved watching all the kids so excited and happy! Thanks, Youth LEAD department!”



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**The Delagarza family is happy to meet the star of the Disney movie “Frozen”.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Proud mom Rachel Saboo holds her little daughter Mia as they meet Princess Elsa.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Rosemary Ekdahl holds her son Michael as he looks up to Olaf the snowman.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Tribal youth Bree Sprague meets Princess Anna at the Bavarian Inn.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Grandsons Karsyn Sineway (left) and Mangan Merrill share a moment at a “Frozen” display with their grandma, Bethel Merrill.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Paige Hartupée shares a smile as she wears her regal finery with Princess Anna.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Tahlia Alonzo agrees with Princess Elsa’s song “cold doesn’t bother me anyway” as she wears her snowflake dress.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Two princesses meet as Tribal youth Grace Flores (daughter of Riki and John Flores) smiles with Elsa.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Jasmine Terrill-Leathers (left) and Isabelle Terrill-Leathers wear their tiaras as they meet Princess Anna.**