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TRIBAL OBSERVER

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

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Two Percent Distribution
Tribe gives away \$2.9 million to Isabella, Arenac and Bay counties.



Veterans Day Feast
Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Feast welcomes home Native veterans.



Active Native Youth
Youth throughout the community are proudly showcased.



BACK
K-12 Educational Powwow
Powwow draws students from local area schools.

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Tribal General Election yields seven first-term Council members

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK
Photojournalist

According to the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Constitution, every two years there is a General Election to fill 12 Tribal Council seats; 10 from Isabella District One, one from Saganing District Two and one from the At-Large District Three.

In an unprecedented vote that made Tribal electoral history on Nov. 3, District One voters ushered in six first-term council-elect members.

Newcomer Kenneth Sprague received the highest number of votes with newcomers Candace Benzinger, Ronnie Ekdahl, Amanda George-Oldman, Gayle Ruhl and Michelle Colwell also elected.

Other elected District One candidates include incumbents Lindy Hunt and Tim J. Davis, and former Council members Brent Jackson and Diana Quigno-Grundahl.

There were 501 Tribal Members who came to the District One polls

out of a possible 1,031 registered voters (48.5 percent).

There were 25 Saganing District Two voters out of a possible 43 who came to cast their votes (58.1 percent). The turnout was a first where Saganing voters garnered a higher percentage of the electorate. Tribal Council incumbent Ron Nelson won the seat running unopposed.

The At-Large District Three election provided much excitement as the vote found incumbent Michele Stanley and Frank Cloutier both deadlocked at 213. There were 426 At-Large District Three voters out of a possible 1,395 for a percentile of 30.5.

A Nov. 17 At-Large runoff election saw Cloutier win by a 15-vote margin; 309 to Stanley's 294 votes. There were 603 District Three ballots cast out of the 1,401 registered voters for a 13-point increase (43 percent).

Caucus Committee Chair Alice Jo Ricketts personally thanked the voters during the Nov. 3 proceedings but wondered if the unseasonably warm temperatures in the '70s affected the turnout at the polls.

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe 2015 General Election

District One Results

Kenneth Sprague 265	Brent Jackson 208
Candace Benzinger 230	Lindy Hunt 207
Ronnie Ekdahl 228	Diana Quigno-Grundahl 203
Amanda George-Oldman 216	Michelle Colwell 203
Gayle Ruhl 214	Tim Davis 201

District Two Results

Ronald Nelson 25

District Three Results

Frank Cloutier 309

"It was Indian summer on the Reservation and we normally see a better turnout with cold or rainy weather," Ricketts said. "I really did like to see all of the first time voters come out. It's nice to see our youth who just turned 18 wearing their 'I Voted' Tribal election sticker proudly."

Election Director Mario Ruiz from Automated Election Services of Rio Rancho, N.M. provided the necessary electronic equipment for counting all district ballots.

"Automated Election Services has been managing Tribal elections all over the country for more than 30 years," Ruiz said. "We are honored to work closely with the Saginaw Chippewa Caucus Committee for the past few years and currently through the 2015 Primary and General Elections."

The 12 elected members to Tribal Council are slated to be sworn in at the Tribal Operations Seniors Room on Tuesday, Dec. 1.

"Culturally insensitive, degrading" video shown by newly-hired Mount Pleasant High School Spanish teacher stirs uproar

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

A Mount Pleasant High School Spanish teacher caused an uproar after showing students a video and images depicting culturally sensitive Native American historical issues.

The teacher presented the images and the video, rated MA for mature audiences, to the class on Wednesday, Oct. 14.

The Tribal Observer is not releasing the teacher's name due to employment issue privacy.

When the video was shown, the teacher was newly employed in the Mount Pleasant school district, and on the second month of ever teaching at MPHS. Tuesday, Sept. 8 was the first day of school.

The teacher's lesson began with the video "Rethink Columbus Day", and ended with a parody video depicting Dora the Explorer as "Conquistadora." The video, on YouTube, presents topics involving racism, murder, genocide, biological warfare, rape and colonization through crude satire.

The video highlights content including sharing infected blankets,

exploitation of village virgins, the burning of village huts and slavery of aboriginal people.

The teacher then went on to share images of "indigenous children being cut in half by the swords of invaders and being fed to dogs."

Images were also shown of "mothers taking their own lives after taking their children's lives to avoid the atrocities that would occur to them at the hands of their invaders."

Students in the classroom, both Native and non-Native, reported the teacher's actions to youth achievement advisors and MPHS Principal Denny Starnes.

From there, Michael Pung, superintendent of Mt. Pleasant Public Schools, and SCIT representatives were notified.

On Oct. 21, Tribal Chief Steven Pego sent a letter to Tribal Member parents of Mount Pleasant Public School students.

His letter stated, "The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe does not take this or any cultural issue lightly, and therefore, feels strongly about advocating our youth and culture. Your Tribal leadership is making every effort to encourage

the Mount Pleasant District to address this issue head on and ensure our youth and culture are never subjugated to this kind of intolerable behavioral again."

Praising the students who reported the teacher, Chief Pego referenced the Seven Grandfather Teachings in his letter: "Bravery is the ability to have courage and recognize our moral and mental strength and do what is appropriate."

"It is with great pride we commend our students for their bravery in speaking up against such an inexcusable act," Pego said. "We support and encourage our future generations to continue to discover the strength in their voices. More importantly, we empower our youth to use and exercise their voices without fear of retaliation by supporting them fully."

Once Chief's letter surfaced, the Tribal Education Advisory Board Members sent a letter to Pung, and the Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors submitted a letter to Starnes to express their indignation of the teacher's actions.

In an apology letter to Tribal Council, the teacher stated "the intent of the lesson plan was to stimulate thought about Columbus Day."

Immediately following investigation, the Mt. Pleasant Public Schools Board of Education suspended the teacher, obeying progressive policies.

The Board gave a written warning to the teacher, who was still under probation at the time, and the teacher returned to MPHS to teach.

Frank Cloutier, SCIT public relations director, said he understood why the Board made the decisions they did, but felt strongly that the wrongdoings of the teacher went beyond the protections of policy.

"The teacher's actions have endangered our children and their ability to enjoy an equitable reality within the walls of Mt. Pleasant High School," Cloutier said. "I believe the teacher's poor judgment has had irreversible negative effects on the children that this teacher comes in contact with on a daily basis."



Feliz "Poppy" Santos Perez

Dec. 19, 1981 - Nov. 3, 2015

Feliz "Poppy" Santos Perez, age 33, of Mount Pleasant passed away Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2015.

Feliz was born on Dec. 19, 1981, in Saginaw, the son of Feliz and Patricia (Garcia) Perez.

Feliz attended Baker College. He will be remembered for his sense of humor. He had a big heart and is loved by many.

Feliz is survived by his father, Feliz (Beth) Perez; mother, Patricia Perez; siblings, Felicia Ann (Mark Sr.) Erndt, Patrick William Perez, and Amy Renee' (Robert) Saunders; nieces and nephews, Mark Allen Erndt Jr., Sara Ann Marie Saunders, Felicia Mira Marcella Saunders, and Robert William Santos Saunders; and grandmother, Mary Ann Garcia.

Feliz was preceded in death by his close cousin, Krystal Garza.

The family would like to say chi-miigwetch to the Anishinaabe Bimaadziwin Team from the Saginaw Chippewa Academy, Matthew "Cub" Sprague, Aaron Chivis, Nathan Isaac, Joe Syrette, and James Day, who honored Feliz by starting the Sacred Fire.

Funeral Services for Feliz were held at Clark Family Funeral Chapel on Friday, Nov. 6, at 2 p.m., with Pastor Paul Rabich of the United Pentecostal Church International officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



Joe "Beezer" Davis

Feb. 23, 1943 - Oct. 30, 2015

Joe "Beezer" Davis of Caro, age 72, passed away suddenly on Friday, Oct. 30, 2015 at his home.

He was born Feb. 23, 1943 in Fairgrove, the son of the late William and Lucy (Nelson) Davis.

Beezer was a proud member and Elder of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe and the Clio Eagles. He will be remembered as a down-to-earth man with nothing artificial about him.

A practical joker, Beezer was known to give family and friends a hard time and flirt with girls passing by. He was a kind-hearted, generous man and cared deeply about Native American education, especially for those in need. He loved cars, especially his Monte Carlo SS and was a devoted fan of the Detroit Tigers.

Beezer is survived by two daughters, Tonia (Davis) Bleuer of California and Tammi Holbrook of Michigan; one brother, Thomas "Swino" Davis of Caro.

In addition to his parents, Beezer was preceded in death by one daughter, Diane Davis; 11 siblings; and his beloved dog, Taco. The family wishes to extend a special thank you to Beezer's nieces and caregivers, Christine "Midge" Thayer and Michelle Eddy.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, Nov. 5, 2015 at the Ransford Collon Funeral Home in Caro. Memorial contributions may be made to the Davis Family Discretionary Fund, c/o Michelle Eddy, 205 West Sherman St., Caro, MI 48723.



Melanie Ann Flolo

June 8, 1963 - Nov. 7, 2015

Melanie Ann Flolo, age 52, of LosOsos, Calif., formerly of Flint, Mich., passed away on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2015 after a brief battle with cancer.

Melanie was born on June 8, 1963 in Flint, Mich., the daughter of Guy Leroy Smith and Barbara Jean Douglas.

Melanie was employed as a bank teller in California for many years and had worked at the Flint Post of the Michigan State Police before moving to California 24 ago.

Melanie attended Mott Community College for one and a half years.

She loved to travel and went to Mexico on one of her trips. She enjoyed the water, kayaking, and all kinds of sports and enjoyed competing with her brothers. An avid reader, she also enjoyed visiting with family and friends including a special friend, Brenda Rodela of Bakersfield, Calif.

Melanie was proud of her Saginaw Chippewa Indian heritage. Her mother Barbara Krause is a SCIT Member.

Melanie was the person who lit up a room when she entered; she was very outgoing and will be sadly missed by her family and friends.

Survivors include her fiancé Andy Brown of LosOsos, her daughter, Alisha Corey Flolo, her son, Ronald Gale Flolo, her mother and step-father, Barbara and George Krause of Mt. Pleasant; brother, Ricky Lynn Smith of Fremont, Calif. along with several aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Melanie was preceded in death by her father, Guy Smith and two brothers, Neal Smith and Paul Smith.

Melanie, in following her wishes, was cremated in California. A memorial service will be held at a later date. Friends wishing to remember Melanie have been asked to consider a contribution to cancer for breast research.



Douglas Eugene Floyd

Feb. 17, 1963 - Nov. 14, 2015

Douglas Eugene Floyd, age 52, of Mount Pleasant, passed away Saturday, Nov. 14, 2015, at Hurley Medical Center in Flint.

Doug was born on Feb. 17, 1963, in Mt. Pleasant, the son of Frederick Alvin Floyd Sr. and Judy Joyce (Peters) Floyd.

He worked in Table Games and Finance for 22 years at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

Doug was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. He loved hunting and collecting military memorabilia.

Doug is survived by his brother, Michael (Mary) Floyd of Mt. Pleasant and sister, Pamela (Sue) Floyd of Mt. Pleasant; nieces and nephews, Michael Floyd Jr., Monica Floyd, Derrick Floyd, Sabrina Floyd, Austin Floyd, and Casey Floyd; and seven great nieces and nephews.

Doug was preceded in death by his mother, Judy Floyd; brother, Fred Floyd and nephew, James Floyd.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 18, at Clark Family Funeral Chapel with Rev. Owen White-Pigeon officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to The Wounded Warrior Project.



Leonard Leroy Pontiac

Aug. 11, 1935 - Nov. 14, 2015

Leonard Leroy Pontiac, USN (Ret.), passed away Saturday, Nov. 14, 2015. Leonard was born Aug. 11, 1935, in Shepherd, Mich.

His wife, Carolyn Joyce Bray Pontiac and his son, Terry Pontiac preceded him in death.

Leonard was retired from the United States Navy. He was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Survivors include his children, Cheryl Pontiac of Sanford, Fla., Kathleen Pontiac of Oak Hill, Fla., Joanne and Tony Turner of Forsyth, Amy and Roy Jeffries of Forsyth and Lynn Spence of Forsyth; sisters, Violet Saffold of Florida, Roxan Bowan of Geneva, Fla., and Janie Marie Conn of Mount Pleasant, Mich.; 14 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren.

PLEASE REPORT ALL WILDLIFE VIOLATIONS

To the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Department



Dispatch: 989.775.4700
Tip Line: 989.775.4775

Zane Mikal
8/9/97 - 12/29/13

As each day passes I know you are happy wherever you are. You are probably one of the easiest going kids I have ever known. And it always showed through your many actions, always thinking of others before your own needs. Always thinking outside of the box and seeing the whole picture even before I had on many occasions.

The day the palliative doctor wanted to talk to you alone without your dad and me, you made us well aware of how awesome of a kid you were, even though secretly we already knew. Instead of thinking of your needs you thought of ours. You told him you would really like to have someone get hold of Ty Pennington for the "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition" because you knew I always kind of wanted to finish our house from the basement to the yard.

This is the definition of who you are to me the kid with the biggest, kindest, thoughtful and caring heart from beginning to end. Love and hugs always and forever, momma.

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police
6954 E BROADWAY, MT PLEASANT, MI
TEL: 989-775-4700

OWN IT? RESPECT IT. SECURE IT.

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

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

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

The family of Feliz S. Perez Jr

The family of Feliz S. Perez Jr. would like to say chi-miigwetch to the following people for the various ways they helped us through this difficult time.

To the Anishinaabe Bimaadziwin Team from the Saginaw Chippewa Academy for their help starting and keeping the Sacred Fire, drumming and singing at his burial service.

To Consuelo, Chris, and Guadalupe Gonzalez for all their hard work and preparing his feast and helping clean up afterwards.

To Valerie Stramennio for all her assistance with helping us to keep his burial as traditional as possible.

And finally, Clark Funeral Chapel for their attentiveness to our family's needs, accommodating all of us and respecting our tradition.

In Loving Memory of Richard Davis (Snooks)

In loving memory of Richard Davis who went away 4 years ago Dec. 20, 2011.

The holidays are not the same without you. Our hearts still ache with sadness, the silent tears still flow, for what it meant to lose you, no one will ever know. We think of you in silence, and often speak your name, now all we have are memories and your picture in a frame.

We miss you and love you.

Connie, your children; Buzz, Casey, Lil Man and Lisa; grandchildren Brandy, David, Jonathan, Jasmine, Lil Richard, Miles and Clayton.



ATTENTION HUNTERS

Display Your Hunting Trophy!

Submit your photos to Observer@sagchip.org to display your buck on the January 2016 Tribal Observer's Buck Pole.

Deadline: Dec. 11, 2015

Check out the **Tribal Observer ONLINE**



www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver

NOTICE

Any adult Tribal Member in need of financial management and consultation services, please contact:



Charlene Kerby
Independent Contractor required to adhere to professional and ethical standards

At the Members Services Offices
Email: ckerby@sagchip.org
Phone: 989.775.4948



— Notice of Public Meeting —

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

The meeting will be held at the following location, date and time:

Standish: Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2015
4-6 p.m.
Saginaw Chippewa Saginaw Tribal Center
54445 Sturman Rd., Standish, MI 48658

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

The grant funding, if awarded, will allow the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe to receive up to \$200,000.00 in EPA funds. If awarded, funding

requires a 20 percent cash and/or in-kind match contribution by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe (approximately \$40,000).

Draft copies of the grant application and draft Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives detailing the activities proposed and related costs will be available for review at the Grants Office located in the Tribal Operations Building at 7070 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 between the hours of 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday beginning Monday, Nov. 23, 2015. A Written Comments Form will be available to provide written comments.

Written comments may be submitted through 5 p.m., Friday, Dec. 4, 2015 and may be sent to the Saginaw Chippewa Grants Office, 7070 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Additionally, written comments can be emailed to mfisher@sagchip.org. Comments received before the public meeting record is closed on Friday Dec. 4, 2014 will receive a response with said comments included in the grant application submitted to EPA.

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



Happy 10th Birthday

December 3

Lawrence Hinmon
Love, Grandma Sandy



Happy Birthday

AJ

Love you!!



Congratulations

Norm #53

Beast mode on a great football season.

Love Mom & Dad

Foster Parents Needed

ACFS is currently seeking foster parents for a 1-year-old baby boy. No known special needs. State of Michigan funded placement. Qualifying foster parents are eligible to be licensed through the Tribe or the State. If you are interested in more information about fostering this baby, please call ACFS at 989-775-4958, and ask for Marion Williams. Or email at Mwilliams@sagchip.org.

ACFS is currently seeking foster parents for two boys, 11 and 15 years old. No known special needs. State of Michigan funded placement. Qualifying foster parents are eligible to be licensed through the Tribe or the State. If you are interested in more information about fostering one or both boys, please call ACFS at 989-775-4958, and ask for Marion Williams. Or email at Mwilliams@sagchip.org.

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- Coaching-motivation and tips to help you quit
- Educational materials
- Referrals to local programs
- Online coaching
- Text-messaging
- Free nicotine replacement therapy if you qualify

Attention Tribal Members

All Tribal Members turning 18 after Dec. 31, 2015 shall not be eligible to receive adult per capita payments until or unless the Tribal Member provides evidence of high school graduation or equivalent to the Tribal Clerk's office or other department or official determined by Tribal Council.

Seasons Greetings

To our beloved ones serving our country



Joseph Detzler
U.S. Army

Rank: Sergeant

Location:
Fort Bragg, N.C.

Public Notice

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police provide law enforcement services under 638 Contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). In compliance with said contract; The Bureau of Indian Affairs reserves 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:

Bureau of Indian Affairs | Albuquerque Office
Internal Affairs Division | **1.505.563.3880**

Powwow Committee Vacancies

Attention Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Members

The Saginaw Chippewa Powwow Committee currently has six vacancies on the committee to fill. If you are interested in serving on this committee that will assist in the planning, coordination of activities, set up, and daily operations of the event, please submit a letter of interest to the Powwow Committee no later than Jan. 8, 2016.

SCIT Powwow Committee
7070 E. Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

All submissions will be recorded and then forwarded to Tribal Council for selection and notification purposes.



Tribal Members who are interested in obtaining a Market Master Certification from Michigan State University – which requires travel and 20 hours of professional development, please contact Marcella Hadden, public relations manager, 7070 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan or email mahadden@sagchip.org before Dec. 18, 2015.



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.



MIIBS Project Management: Request for proposal

On behalf of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, Tribal Council is preparing to receive all interested proposals for project management and oversight to an important community investment.

Tribal Members and/or Native Americans are strongly encouraged to apply.

The proposed project manager must include development and future plans for the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School (MIIBS) including a community survey in which to assist with guidance.

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

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

Tribal Council will evaluate proposals based on the following criteria:

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

This position is open until filled. Please forward your detailed proposals along with references to:

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

Scope of Services Project Management

For Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Board School (MIIBS) Project

- Initial Fact Finding - acquire and review all previous reports/studies, strategic plans, structural and environmental reports, community survey results, etc.
- Draft and implement MIIBS community needs survey per strategic plan.
- Prepare a report that offers direction and potential work plans to inform future property use and development.
- Continue to review and implement strategic planning goals and objectives.
- Provide quarterly updates to Tribal Council and Tribal Community.
- Design and implement a funding and development plan - such as establishing a foundation and/or permanent endowment.
- Identify, prepare and submit grants with the Grant Department including the administration of the award.
- Maintain open lines of communication with City of Mount Pleasant, State and Federal key officials in the maintenance and development of the former boarding school property.
- Identify and inventory items in MIIBS building that need to be retained or auctioned including storage space.
- Maintain relationships with Tribal Departments to secure and maintain MIIBS buildings/property.
- Continue to provide guidance and assistance throughout the process to help ensure responsibilities and expectations of committee members.
- Conceptualize future plans for what the MIIBS property will look like and its function – from survey results and/or community input.

Volunteers, items needed for Isabella County Christmas Outreach program

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Each year, Christmas Outreach of Isabella County provides items to those in need during the holiday season.

The 2015 Christmas Outreach will take place on Dec. 11 and 12, inside Central Michigan University's Finch Fieldhouse.

The following new or gently used items can be dropped off at the Immanuel Lutheran Church at 320 S. Bradley in Mount Pleasant until Dec. 5: Coats, hats, mittens, boots, linens, Christmas decorations, stockings, books, and jeans.

Monetary donations are also accepted.

Christmas Outreach is a nonprofit organization

that became a formally-organized entity in about 1980, said intern Nicole Granett.

"The group started after several individuals saw duplication of efforts in the community and decided to pool resources to better serve those in need," Granett said.

With monthly meetings September through January, department leaders plan and discuss the December event.

"Volunteers are also needed for Dec. 7-10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and on Dec. 11 and 12 from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.," Granett said. "Please also note that we are focusing our efforts on warm winter outerwear and will not be accepting general clothing, toys or household items."

For additional volunteering or event details, please call **989-773-4204**.

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. 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
www.Sagchip.org/TribalObserver



Isabella, Arenac and Bay County residents have 2.9 million reasons to be thankful

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

On Nov. 20, the local municipalities and schools in Isabella, Arenac and Bay counties had 2.9 million reasons to be thankful during the holiday season.

In both the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Operations and the Saganing Outreach Center, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe distributed its semi-annual two percent funds derived from Class II gaming from its Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and Saganing Eagles Landing Casino properties.

The total two percent distribution for Isabella County was \$2,139,786.70, a \$27,805.35 increase from last distribution's figures.

The distribution given for the Saganing fall figures was \$780,037.01, a \$40,480.33 increase from last year's figures.

The Tribal Council funded \$1,510,486.39 for local units

of government in Isabella and \$657,105.66 to local area schools.

The Saganing total for units of government was \$523,249.59 with \$256,787.42 for education.

Frank Cloutier, SCIT public relations director, announced the amounts to the appreciative community leaders, and believes the reasons for the increases speak well for the Tribe's gaming interest.

"The crowd who came to the (Soaring Eagle) summer concert series and the continued popularity of Saganing Eagles Landing Casino was the economic driver attributing to the increase," Cloutier said. "It shows we do gaming and entertainment well and with the upcoming expansion and other business developments in Saganing, the future looks bright."

Isabella County local units of government and schools submitted 298 requests that would have taken \$6.9 million to fund.

Saganing requests totaled more than \$2.3 million to fund

Two Percent Distribution Fall 2015

Isabella Totals

Isabella County **\$504,580.34**
 City of Mount Pleasant **\$417,000**
 Isabella/Gratiot RESD & Special Ed **\$14,344.66**
 Chippewa Township **\$11,937.34**
 Coe Township **\$266,108**
 Deerfield **\$173,828.61**
 Denver Township **\$6,447.61**
 Isabella Township **\$6,447.61**
 Nottawa Township **\$6,447.61**
 Union Township **\$94,947**
 Wise Township **\$8,397.61**
 Beal City Public Schools **\$95,355**
 Chippewa Hills Public Schools **\$3,000**
 Mount Pleasant Public Schools **\$429,800.93**
 Shepherd Public Schools **\$102,404**
 Isabella/Gratiot RESD & Special Ed. **\$20,150**
 Morey Public Schools **\$3,395.73**
 Renaissance Public Schools **\$3,000**

Total: \$2,167,592.05

Saganing Totals

Arenac County **\$239,200**
 City of Au Gres **\$30,000**
 City of Omer **\$35,000**
 City of Pinconning **\$31,480**
 City of Standish **\$15,357**
 Arenac Township **\$4,426.84**
 Au Gres Township **\$16,710**
 Deep River Township **\$1,000**
 Lincoln Township **\$35,000**
 Mason Township **\$1,000**
 Moffatt Township **\$12,868**
 Pinconning Township **\$3,950**
 Sims Township **\$1,000**
 Standish Township **\$53,318.75**
 Turner Township **\$36,500**
 Whitney Township **\$1,000**
 Village of Twining **\$5,439**
 Arenac Eastern School District **\$72,575.93**
 Au Gres-Sims School District **\$41,425**
 Pinconning School District **\$62,786.49**
 Standish-Sterling School District **\$80,000**

Total: \$780,037.01

the 85 submitted for Tribal Council review.

The Tribal Observer spoke with several local leaders at

the two press conferences and their personal remarks are scheduled for the upcoming January issue.

SCIT Media offered a live web stream broadcast of the proceeding and they are available to watch at www.sagchip.org.

Another Tribal groundbreaking in Saganing delivers the promise of electric power

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

On Nov. 20, another Tribal groundbreaking in Saganing is poised to deliver the promise of electric power. The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe has plans for a new substation, located off of Meyette Road, just east of Foco Road, in Standish, Mich.

Tribal Chief Steven Pego said this allows the Tribe to view current offerings for wholesale power as well as the ability to enter into agreements for the transport and sale of power.

"This project is an act of us exerting our sovereignty in the marketplace of independence and self-reliance," Pego said. "It will provide another avenue for economic development as well as a

boost to our Tribal infrastructure."

Tribal Council Treasurer Shelly Bailey has been an advocate for diversifying the Tribe's business interests and believes this will be another step in the right direction.

"I believe this investment is an excellent cost savings opportunity for our Tribe and will be a possible revenue stream for our future," Bailey said. "It helps promote independence and it truly reflects the sovereignty that our Tribe has always stood by."

A press release from SCIT Public Relations Director Frank Cloutier indicated the groundbreaking would occur immediately following the semi-annual fall two percent distribution at the Saganing Tribal Center (5447 Sturman Rd.)

"The Tribe, being a sovereign nation, has the ability to work

at the federal level of the bulk energy supply, otherwise known as the grid," Cloutier said. "The Tribe has been working with The Department of Energy Indian Energy and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and they have verified that the Tribe can legally attach to the bulk energy supply. The Tribe is also working with the North American Electric Reliability Corporation, Reliability First Corporation, and MISO and with their assistance the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe is registered as a purchasing selling entity, and an e-node waiting for construction."

SCIT Community Engineer Donald Seal informs that CTC Engineering has been designing the substation and working with International Transmission Co. and

MISO for the physical connection to the bulk energy supply line.

"The line that is going to be connected runs directly through the middle of the Tribe's trust lands," Seal said. "The Tribe received a grant for a technical review from the Department of Energy Indian Energy and the report concluded that the Tribe will save approximately 50 percent on energy costs,

based on current node prices. The substation is being designed for the Tribe's current needs and is initially sized at 7MW. The Tribe's current load is closer to 4MW but the substation will have the ability to double in size to 14MW in order to care for the entire property development needs in the area, while meeting requirements of the zoning map."



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council proudly breaks ground for a new electrical substation in Saganing.

School Board

continued from front page

After it was reported the teacher returned to work and was not terminated, Cloutier requested to speak at the Board's Nov. 2 meeting in the Kinney Elementary conference room.

In defense of the insulted students, Cloutier hoped the Board would further the teacher's discipline with permanent dismissal.

After attending the Monday night Board meeting for an hour and half, SCIT representatives and the Tribal Observer were then asked to exit the room by School Board President Timothy Odykirk, as the teacher wished for a closed session to "consider material that was attorney-client privileged."

The teacher, SCIT public relations and Tribal Education Director Melissa Montoya were permitted to remain in the room.

During the closed session, the teacher announced his resignation, according to Cloutier, who was

permitted to stay in the meeting room.

The meeting was then again opened to the public, and the rest of the spectators were welcomed back into the room.

Odykirk said the podium was open for any other individuals to quickly share their opinions in three minutes or less.

Heather Syrette, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa member, and mother of Maya, a student in the classroom, addressed her concerns of the teacher's acts.

Syrette's daughter is on her second year at MPHS, and Syrette said how uncomfortable the "culturally insensitive, degrading" video has left her and her daughter.

Syrette said the teacher needs to be educated and understand why and how the video and images were wrong.

"I wanted to let the Board know, as a parent, I was on the fence about whether or not we want the teacher fired," Syrette said. "Is this teacher going to get pushed back

out in society to make the same choices? Is this teacher really learning from this situation?"

Syrette also discussed the school's lack of diversity.

"The (MPHS) walls are filled with all non-Native people," she said. "Where are the people that were first here? What about having our (Anishinaabemowin) language on the wall? Why not make each hallway in the building open to diversity of all cultures in the school?"

During the public open session, Board Vice President and retired MPHS Spanish teacher Rosa Johnson was the sole Board member to apologize for the teacher's actions.

Johnson said she "does not condone" the other teacher's behavior and "will do everything to not have it happen again."

Following that portion of the meeting, Board Trustee Taylor Sheahan-Stahl departed the meeting, and apologized to Montoya.

"I feel (the teacher) did exactly as (the teacher) should have

done," Cloutier said. "And I'm proud of the teacher for that. I am not, however, at all satisfied with the School Board using policy when the offense of these children goes well beyond that. There were no protections for these children and that's the responsibility of the School Board."

The Mt. Pleasant Public Schools' mission statement is "Mt. Pleasant Public Schools, together with our community, inspires each student through exceptional educational opportunities to become an engaged citizen in a diverse, changing world."

Additionally, their "vision for the future" states, "Mt. Pleasant Public Schools is committed to shaping the future of our schools and the community by creating a safe environment which encourages risk taking, embraces diversity, and offers innovative programs supporting lifelong learners..."

As the SCIT representative portion concluded in the Board meeting, Odykirk said the

schools and Board will continue to move forward with the Tribe.

The PR department is currently looking to schedule a future cultural in-service meeting.

Cloutier reached out to the Federal Office of Civil Rights and the American Civil Liberties Union Education Division in hope to address the issue of "why the School Board chose to stand behind policy when the offense to the students was so personal."

"It is not the Tribe's responsibility to educate the educators," Cloutier said. "The Tribe, historically, has provided an enormous amount of information, resource and detail on our people, culture and history. I believe the School Board should take from that and put together an action plan."

More than 1,200 local area schools, including MPHS students did, however, attend the Nov. 5 and 6 District Powwow, hosted in the Tribal Gym and Tribal Operations, where students were educated on Native American culture, traditions and history.

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66 mos/\$178/\$10,498



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Auto, 44k Miles, Gas I4 1.6L, Full Power, 1-Owner, FWD, MP3. #FC082A

66 mos/\$175/\$10,298



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60 mos/\$169/\$8,995



2013 Ford Escape SEL

Auto, 57k Miles, Turbo Gas I4 1.6L, 4WD, Cruise, MP3. #GT014A

72 mos/\$294/\$18,488



2010 Ford Ranger Sport Ext. Cab 4WD

Auto, 68k Miles, Gas V6 4.0L. #FU194

60 mos/\$324/\$17,495



2010 Ford Taurus SEL

FWD, Auto, 63k Miles, Gas V6 3.5L, 1-Owner, Cruise, MP3. #FP070A

60 mos/\$259/\$13,995



2006 Ford Five Hundred

Auto, 117k Miles, Gas V6 3.0L, FWD, Limited, 1-Owner. #GC014A

42 mos/\$156/\$5,995



2011 Mercury Mariner

Auto, 125k Miles, Gas I4 2.5L, FWD, Black Metallic, 1-Owner. #FU160A

66 mos/\$169/\$9,995



2013 Ford F-250 XLT

Auto, 44k Miles, Gas/Eth. V8 6.2L, 4WD, Ext. Cab, Cruise. #FU190

72 mos/\$486/\$30,495



2009 Dodge Caliber SXT

47k Miles, 4 Dr., Manual, Gas I4 1.8L, Tan in Color, Cruise, Tilt. #FU198

60 mos/\$166/\$8,750



2012 Ford Focus S FWD

Auto, 46k Miles, Gas I4 2.0L, Blue in Color, MP3, Keyless Entry. #FU214

72 mos/\$179/\$11,300



2013 Ford Edge SEL

Auto, 22k Miles, Gas V6 3.5L, AWD, Cruise, Mineral Gray Metallic. #FP055

72 mos/\$454/\$28,500



2014 Ford F-150 XL

Auto, 5k Miles, Regular Cab, 8Ft Box, Gas V8 5.0L, Air, RWD. #FU206

72 mos/\$358/\$22,500



2014 Chevy Silverado

62k Miles, Gas/Eth. V8 5.3L, 4WD, 1500 LT Ext. Cab. #FU136

72 mos/\$472/\$29,600



2013 Ford Fusion SE

Certified, Auto, 43k Miles, Turbo I4 1.6L, Full Power, Black, 1-Owner. #FP082

72 mos/\$261/\$16,495



2012 Jeep Wrangler Sahara Unlimited 4WD

Auto, 35k Miles, Gas V6 3.6L. #FU148

72 mos/\$491/\$30,695



2012 Ford F-150 XLT

Auto, 36k Miles, Gas/Eth. V8 5.0L, 4WD, Crew Cab, Cruise, MP3. #EP035

72 mos/\$494/\$30,800



2014 Chevy Cruze FWD

Auto, 26k Miles, Turbo Gas I4 1.4L, Silver Ice Metallic, 1-Owner. #FU195

72 mos/\$246/\$15,495



2013 GMC Sierra 1500

Auto, 24k Miles, Gas/Eth. V8 5.3L, SLE Crew, 4WD, Cruise, MP3. #FU181

72 mos/\$506/\$31,650



2012 Ford Escape SEL

Auto, 45k Miles, Turbo Gas I4 1.6L, Ginger Ale Metallic, 1-Owner. #FP023

72 mos/\$299/\$18,850



2014 Jeep Patriot Latitude FWD

Auto, 16k Miles, Gas I4 2.4L. #FU146

72 mos/\$309/\$19,450



2014 GMC Terrain SLE

Auto, 9k Miles, Gas/Eth. I4 2.4L, FWD, 1-Owner, MP3, Gray. #GC017A

72 mos/\$341/\$21,495



2013 Nissan Titan SV

Auto, 20k Miles, Gas V8 5.6L, Crew Cab, 4WD, Black, Cruise. #FU200

72 mos/\$469/\$29,400



2014 E250 Cargo Van

Auto, 7k Miles, Regular Unleaded V8 4.6L, Air, Cruise, White in Color. #FU204

72 mos/\$366/\$23,900



2013 Ford Explorer

Auto, 27k Miles, V6 3.5L, XLT, FWD, Trailer Tow Package. #FP040

72 mos/\$527/\$32,995



2013 Lincoln MKZ

Auto, 12k Miles, Turbo Gas I4 2.0L, Certified, FWD, Cruise. #FP046

72 mos/\$469/\$29,450



2011 Chevy Silverado 1500 LT Crew Cab 4WD

60k Miles, Gas/Eth. V6 5.3L. #FT441A

66 mos/\$446/\$25,995



2012 Chevy Camaro

Auto, 23k Miles, V6 3.6L, 1LT, RWD, Convertible, Inferno Orange. #FU178

72 mos/\$364/\$22,800



2013 Ford F-150 4WD

Auto, 26k Miles, Gas/Eth. V8 6.2L, Crew Cab, 1-Owner, MP3. #FU175

72 mos/\$486/\$30,500



2011 Lincoln MKS AWD

Auto, 46k Miles, Gas V6 3.7L, White Platinum Tri-Coat, MP3. #FU215

66 mos/\$344/\$19,500

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Domestic Violence Awareness Month concluded with Empowerment Night

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

As Domestic Violence Awareness Month came to an end, empowering and pampering were the themes at the Oct. 29 Nami Migizi Nangwiihgan-hosted Empowerment Night.

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Gym was filled with Tribal departments and local businesses offering services to domestic violence victims and all guests.

The 6 to 8 p.m. occasion brought in: The Soaring Eagle Spa to provide massages and manicures; M.J. Murphy Beauty College students doing hair and manicures, Anna Hon of Nimkee Clinic offering stress management with kinetic sand and Nbakade Family Restaurant providing dinner.

Robert Storrer of Residential Treatment Center and Rita Lutes Pulley of Behavioral Health provided acupuncture.

DJ Lupe Gonzalez provided music and raffled off prizes throughout the night.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Event organizer/Domestic Violence Support Tech Nicole Nedwash takes a break at the event and gets her hair done.

Marcella Hadden of Niibing Gizis Photography snapped portraits, Daisy Kostus offered reflexology, Beatrice Jackson provided smudging, Isabelle Osawamick shared the language, Carol Corbiere presented Crystal Care Homeopathy, Diana Chipp provided a “five things I love about myself” activity and TIME Honored Occasions provided a photo booth.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Julie Whitepigeon gets her hair done by M.J. Murphy Beauty School students.

The Snowbirds Mae Pego, Christa Gomez, Ndaunis Pego, Judy Scheuffele, Roxanne Sawade, Anita Hall, Lois Dockery, Carol Corbiere and Beatrice Jackson; performed songs for the crowd.

Nicole Nedwash, domestic violence support tech of NMN, began planning the event Oct. 6.

“(My favorite part of the event was) our community coming together as one,” Nedwash

said. “The memories we made, seeing everyone having a great time, the laughter, the dancing, the singing, the smudging and the photos being taken.”

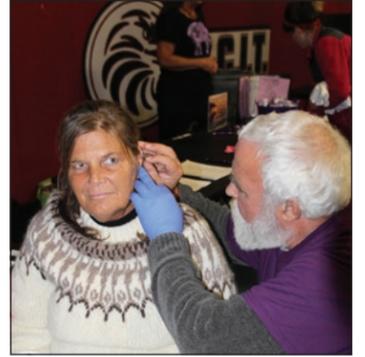
Throughout the night, a total of 157 people attended.

Representatives from Women’s Aid Services and the Women’s Shelter in Midland were also present.

Belly dancers Deanna Monhan, Michelle George and Marcella Garcia of the Nimkee Fitness exercise class performed a dance number.

Nedwash wished to thank those who attended as well as the volunteers.

“I would like to thank everyone on behalf of Nami Migizi Nangwiihgan for your time as well as your generous gifts,” she said. “Your generosity means so much to me and our community. The energy in the room was empowering. I’m proud of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, our employees, and all our volunteers. I can’t wait until next year’s Empowerment Night.”



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Substance Abuse Counselor Robert Storrer gives acupuncture to a guest.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Anna Hon’s stress relief station with kinetic sand was a popular attraction.

Sexual Assault Response Team presents investigation and strangulation training

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

On Oct. 19-20 and Oct. 21-22, the Saginaw Chippewa Sexual Assault Response Team brought a free Trauma Informed Sexual Assault Investigation & Strangulation Training to the Ziibiwing Center.

Two different groups of individuals attended the two-day training.

The training was open to law enforcement, medical professionals, prosecutors, investigators and others in professions that handle the matters addressed.

A total of 118 professionals attended: Tribal Court, Behavioral Health Programs, Nimkee Clinic, Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, McLaren Central Michigan, Central Michigan University Counseling Center, Michigan Department of Health & Human Services, and Isabella County’s Prosecutor’s Office and District Court.

Also present were many police officers from the Tribe, Mount Pleasant City, Isabella County Sheriff, Michigan State,



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Russell Strand, behavioral sciences education and training division chief of the U.S. Army Military Police School, presents during the Oct. 19 training provided by SCIT’s SART.

Shepherd, CMU and Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

SART Lead Brooke Huber began planning the training in April 2015.

“Our Tribal Police Department completed a needs assessment and identified topics of trauma informed sexual assault investigations and strangulation assaults as areas of interest,” Huber said.

Training topics included: Understanding trauma in sexual assault investigation and prosecution, injuries of fatal and non-fatal suffocation in family violence

cases, forensic medical findings in intimate partner assaults, investigating domestic violence cases—looking beyond injury, overcoming the consent defense – defining consent and its (mis) application in sexual assault trials, alcohol and other drug-facilitated sexual assault and the sexual assault medical forensic examination – understanding the role of SANEs and medical evidence in the court room.

SART brought in four presenters including: Dean Hawley, Herbert Tanner Jr., Leslie Hagen and Russell Strand.

Hawley is a forensic pathologist, tenured professor of pathology and laboratory medicine, and director of autopsy services at Indiana University. He has been practicing and testifying as an expert witness for 30 years.

Tanner is director of the Violence Against Women Project within the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan. He lectures for prosecutors and law enforcement organizations on domestic violence examinations, sexual assault, the impact of investigation trauma and prosecution and visual trials topics.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

The Oct. 19 Strangulation Training class was a sizeable crowd in the packed Ziibiwing Center conference room.

Hagen is the national Indian Country training coordinator for the executive office for United States Attorneys. She was an assistant United States attorney where she was assigned to violent crime in Indian Country to handle federal prosecutions and training on domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse issues.

Strand is the behavioral sciences education and training division chief of the U.S. Army Military Police School. He developed the Forensic Experiential Trauma Interview technique which provides a way to interview victims without making them relive the assault in a re-victimizing manner.

The project was supported by the OVV FY13 Award #2013-TW-AX-0039 through the Violence Against Women Tribal

Governments Program Grant.

“Per our grant, we have allocated funding to provide training to our Tribal Police Department, but we decided to make the opportunity available to all tribal law enforcement departments in Michigan, as well as other local professionals,” Huber said.

Along with SART, further Tribal departments made the event feasible.

“I would like to send a huge thank you to the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Food & Beverage Department for providing ample refreshments and lunches each day, to (SECR) for assisting in hotel accommodations, to the Ziibiwing Center for hosting us, to Chief Steve Pego for opening the training in prayer, and to our four wonderful presenters,” Huber said.

Tribal Employees wear purple for Domestic Violence Awareness



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

On Friday, Oct. 15, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal employees wore purple or the Nami Migizi Nangwiihgan 2015 T-shirts for Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The NMN team provided the complimentary shirts, while they lasted.



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Anishinabe Ogitchedaw annual feast shines by welcoming home Native veterans

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

There are very few events that are more touching than welcoming loved ones home.

Take a moment and imagine the love of being able to be present while “Welcoming Home our Native Veterans.” That was the theme of the annual veterans feast for the Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veterans Warrior Society on Nov. 15 at 18:00 hours.

The event, as usual, had a capacity crowd that filled all three of the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort ballroom.

Ogitchedaw Weekaun Kent Jackson brought the medicine to bless the area and smudged the three eagle staffs, the Mino Ode Singers and the Ogitchedaw honor guard.

The grand entry and flag song worked with military precision as the lineup of warriors proceeded into the venue from the eastern door.

Leading the grand entry was Larry Peters carrying the Ogitchedaw Warrior staff.

The other veterans of the honor guard included Willard Big Joe (healing staff), Kent Jackson (healing staff), Damian Fisher (SCIT Tribal flag),

Jonathan Cabral (U.S. flag), Nels Larson (Canadian flag), David Perez, Sr. (State of Michigan flag), Sharon Big Joe (U.S. Army flag), Ken Soney (U.S. Navy flag), Cecil John (U.S. Air Force flag), Jim Adams (U.S. Marine Corp. flag) and Ken Werth (POW/MIA flag).

Mini and Mike Perez served as Ogitchedaw gatekeepers while Ogitchedaw Veterans Butch DeVerney and Chuck Knowles served as door guards.

After the posting of colors, there was a roll call of Ogitchedaw Veterans while the Mino Ode drum offered a veterans song for all in attendance.

Ogitchedaw Secretary Tony Perry was a part of the Nov. 11 celebration and was grateful for another outpouring.

“So very glad there was a great turn out from the community,” Perry said. “It is always a huge honor for the (Ogitchedaw) of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe to be hosts to everyone for the night. Many of our speakers shared their personal experiences and almost all of them talked about the support we get from our families. Our guests in attendance said the meal was awesome. There were so many highlights from the wonderful night. I would like



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Keeping with the feast teachings learned from their mom Sandi, Tribal youth Hopie, Emily and Mishiike (Makayla) Stevens offer heart berries to all in attendance.

to give a chi-miigwetch to the entire community from all the Ogitchedaw for their continued support of what we do for our Tribes and our country.”

Guest speakers included George Martin, Lac Courte Oreilles elder and Korea and Vietnam Air Force veteran; and also Jim Adams, U.S. Marine Corp. veteran.

“Our jobs as warriors who give a life of service (is to) know our work is never done,” Martin said. “It is like the teachings and the stories we learn from our life experiences and in the lodge. We are taught through the influences that we have lived, and we know the true wisdom is in knowing we don’t know, but

we are willing to learn and know the Creator is working in our lives when we embrace the teachings of the sacred fire.”

Isabella Osawamick, Anish-inabe Language Revitalization teacher, offered a prayer in Anishinabemowin followed by a five-course buffet dinner prepared by the SECR Food & Beverage Department. SCIT Chief Steven Pego ushered in the new Ogitchedaw leadership where Perry, Damian Fisher, John Cabral, Chuck Knowles and David Perez Sr. raised their hands to pledge their commitment to the oath of office.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

The Anishinabe Ogitchedaw honor guard came into the venue from the eastern door to begin grand entry.

Special recognitions for the night included a POW table, a meal setting with a single chair and white rose, a tribute for those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Cherokee Tribal Elder Morning Star from Barryton received a special tribute signed by Gov. Rick Snyder marking her years of service to veterans and the community. Star and her family made the event a birthday party as she celebrated her 100th on Nov. 16.

Aspiring filmmaker Devin Weekley-Dean chosen for Sundance Full Circle Fellowship

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

On Nov. 2, aspiring filmmaker Devin Weekley-Dean and his family were pleasantly surprised and honored to learn he was selected for a Sundance 2016 Full Circle Fellowship.

Weekley-Dean spent most of his childhood performing in community theatre plays at the Broadway Theatre in downtown Mount Pleasant, and credits the vocational training he received through his high school courses at the Mt. Pleasant Area Technical Center as a primary influence to pursue filmmaking.

“I owe a lot of the support to my mom (Betsey Weekley) and my family for being there through the practices and encouraging me to be creative,” Weekley-Dean said. “I’m a perfectionist, so if my work is not exactly how I’d like it, I tend to be my own worst critic and almost feel like I don’t want to show it to people.”

“A lot of my inspiration came from the time I spent in the radio production studios and I have to make a big shout out to Mr. (Dan) Bragg because he taught me everything to start with,” he said. “I would also include my friend Ben and my cousin Travis as part of my support also.”

Weekley-Dean plans to begin his Sundance journey with other selected Native American filmmakers at the annual Native Forum Jan. 21-31 in Park City, Utah.

The gathering will be during the launch of the 2016 Sundance Film Festival.

Joining Devin at Sundance will be 2016 Full Circle Fellows from the Diné First Nation (Megan Babbitt, Taylor Bennett-Begaye and Shaandiin Tome.)

Elizabeth Hill, Doodem Ogiishkimanisii, from the Red Lake Band of Ojibwe, works in media relations and community outreach to Native communities for Sundance

Institute’s Native American and Indigenous Film Program.

For the past few years, with the help of a generous grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Hill said there has been a special emphasis on encouraging young Native filmmakers ages 18 to 24 from Michigan and New Mexico to apply for Sundance Institute’s Full Circle Fellowships.

Hill said the program is designed to give training and mentorship to young artists through workshops, meetings and networking at the Sundance Film Festival.

“As the program’s contract public relations specialist, I work closely with the program’s director N. Bird Runningwater, who is Cheyenne and Mescalero Apache, and his staff,” Hill said. “They ensure that aspiring young Native filmmakers, such as Arlan George, who was selected as a 2015 Fellow and to Devin Weekley-Dean, will have opportunities to be mentored and grow in their craft. It’s my role to get the word out to Native media, in particular, about the Fellows and to help the Fellows with media interviews.”

Runningwater was impressed by the energy George brought to the Full Circle program and is excited to have another Saginaw Chippewa student to mentor.

“Through the Full Circle Fellowship, we build on our longstanding mentorship and



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Devin Weekley-Dean is making the journey from an actor in community theatre to filmmaker.

support for three generations of Native filmmakers by focusing on the emerging fourth generation and ensuring these young artists have the tools and resources to share their stories,” Runningwater said. “We look forward to a year full of creativity, collaboration and inspiring experiences with these very talented artists.”

The Fellowship is a yearlong program and includes many activities and opportunities that are not available anywhere else.

Following Sundance Institute President and Founder Robert Redford’s original vision and commitment to supporting Native American artists, the Fellowship program develops and supports young Native filmmakers and offers support for Native artists at all stages of their careers.

“It’s crucial that Native American artists know they can get involved with the program so I also advise on community groups who can help us spread the word and partner on events to deepen

the program’s impact,” Hill said. “Since I am also Ojibwe, I am especially proud of both Arlan and Devin. I love seeing our young people succeed and start on their life journeys to realize their professional dreams.”

Weekley-Dean said the best part about film is “that you can take a story in your head and you make it come alive.”

“It doesn’t matter what it is, or how it looks,” he said. “It’s more fun to make a film than watch it.”

After solving equipment concerns, he soon will begin a production project.

“(The project’s) going to be a documentary-style film about per capita revenue sharing that will try to show all sides of story and I want it to be as real and factual as possible,” he said. “If there are any Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Members who have received per cap that would be willing to be interviewed in front of a camera, please contact me at arcticburnproductions@gmail.com.”

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Tribal Council welcomes Lt. Gov. Brian Calley at Chamber Legislative Breakfast

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe has been a corporate sponsor of the Mount Pleasant Chamber of Commerce Legislative Breakfast for many years, and the effort pays dividends when special guests visit the Reservation of the first time.

On Oct. 23, Lt. Gov. Brian Calley (R-Dearborn) came to address a packed house of business leaders and government officials at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Three Fires Room.

Also joining were 33rd District State Senator Judy Emmons (R-Sheridan) and 99th District House Speaker Kevin Cotter (R-Mt. Pleasant).

SCIT Public Relations Director and Chamber Executive Board Member Frank Cloutier also spoke at the event and shared a prepared statement from Tribal Chief Steven Pego who was unable to attend the event.

"It is always nice to be able to host this event," said Pego's letter. "I think it is important that we stay connected legislatively and support one another on common ground. It is important to have legislators come to the Reservation



Courtesy of Mt. Pleasant Chamber of Commerce

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley addresses a packed Three Fires Room as SECR was host of the Mt. Pleasant Chamber of Commerce Legislative Breakfast.

and see what we are doing to promote business. After all we are in this together and together we will succeed."

Calley said the Michigan Tribes are an integral part of the communities, not only from what they bring to the business climate, but also the cultural richness they have.

"The cooperation, understanding and the intentional efforts to build and maintain these relationships makes us all stronger," Calley said. "We are pleased as an administration to continue this tradition of outreach and we can see the benefit as we move forward. Michigan is

dealing with infrastructure questions and we need to continue to operate together for the success of our people. These major infrastructure resource constraints right now and it is the number one issue on our plate."

Calley maintained a sense of optimism that there is progress being made that will benefit the business communities and Michigan citizens.

"We are inching forward every day toward a long-term sustainable solution," he said. "The infrastructure of Michigan is like a circulatory system for our economy. To the extent that we can get that fixed it will really improve the overall economic outcomes for our entire state."

As a Mt. Pleasant resident, Cotter said he can see the Tribal investment of infrastructure first hand in projects on Leaton Road, M-20 and the work on Enterprise Drive near the Tribal College.

"This is essential as we look at the issue of road funding and infrastructure improvement and this is a serious local issue for Mt. Pleasant as well as a statewide issue," Cotter said. "Something that we are working on at the State Capitol is how we can be a better partner to provide funding for our road investment. It's important to keep in mind we have an

investment that is laying out there on the ground and we need to provide safe roads in the state. It is because of the underfunding over the years that we find that investment is deteriorating. We are close to getting a funding package done that will directly impact the quality of roads in Isabella County."

From the podium, Cotter publicly recognized the Tribe, and commended SCIT for recent humanitarian efforts.

"I was so proud when I saw the news of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe stepping up and making that contribution to the residents of Flint," Cotter said. "What happened in Flint was an absolute tragedy. The Tribe helped with meeting the needs of a serious public health concern. Following the Tribe's lead, we were able to

help by passing some funding at the state level because that's the kind of thing we need to do. We need to step up and help others in times of crisis."

Chamber President Bret Hyble thanked the Council and Cloutier for their generosity in supporting events like the breakfast and mentioned the next function will be at the Comfort Inn on Dec. 9 for their holiday "Business After Hours."

"The Mt. Pleasant Area Chamber of Commerce has enjoyed a lot of sponsorship from the Tribe and the best part about that is we get to highlight our Tribal business interests to the professional community," Cloutier said. "It is an honor to serve on the executive chamber board and we find a lot of common ground as we share with each other at these functions."

Annual Christmas Bazaar

Faith Indian Church of the Nazarene

6304 E. Broadway - Mt. Pleasant, MI

Dec. 5, 2015

9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. in God's Cabin

Lunch Served in the Church

10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. *Donations*

****Church Youth Bake Sale****



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1:15 Cultural Arts

Adult Activities

- Birch Bark Canoe Ornament Making
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Youth Activities

- Holiday Crafts
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3:00 Anishinabe Performance Circle Presentation
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Youth Council representatives encourage youth to graduate, seek higher education

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

“How many of your family members have dropped out of school?” asked Frank Cloutier, SCIT public relations director, at the Oct. 29 Youth Council “Planning Your Future” presentation.

Nearly all of the eight students in the Odyssey Alternative High School classroom raised their hands.

Throughout October, Youth Council representatives; Tonya Jackson, youth empowerment aid and Youth Council advisor; Tribal Council Chaplain Jennifer Wassegijig; and public relations staff traveled to local middle and high schools to discuss the low Tribal Member graduation rate.



Observer photo Natalie Shattuck

Jasmyne Jackson, co-president for Youth Council, gives a “Planning Your Future” presentation.

Cloutier, Tonya Jackson and Jasmyne Jackson, Youth Council co-president, also discussed per capita information and gaming revenue figures at Odyssey.

“Today’s leadership (is) making decisions on per capita distribution that will make it less than its current levels for the near future,” Jasmyne Jackson said. “Today is the day we prepare for tomorrow.”

In July, the Tribal Council passed Resolution 15-131 to amend the per capita plan to require Tribal students, who will turn 18 after Dec. 31, 2015, to earn a high school diploma or equivalent to receive their adult per capita revenue sharing.

Today, nearly 50 percent of SCIT high school students are not graduating.

“Not receiving per capita if you do not graduate may not seem fair, but when you stop and think, 48 percent of your

peers will not make the cut; they will either flunk out or drop out,” Cloutier said to the Odyssey students.

Jasmyne Jackson advised her peers to stay in school.

“Dropping out will result in the forfeit of escrow funds,” Jasmyne Jackson said.

Cloutier reminded the students “if any Tribal Member breaks a law and becomes a felon, per capita will also get taken away from them.”

Jasmyne Jackson wished to remind students that there are plenty of resources to aid with higher education, including: Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver, scholarships for full/part-time enrollment, a leadership program to complete schooling while

gaining work experience, and receiving an imbursement for achieving outstanding grades.

Along with Odyssey, presentations were given at West Intermediate, Mount Pleasant High School, Shepherd middle and high schools, and the WAY Program – Oasis.

“The youth achievement advisor’s jobs are to help students pass their classes and move to the future,” said Marta Escamilia, advisor for Odyssey and Shepherd schools.

“You have the chance to make the right choice, now will you?” Jasmyne Jackson asked the students.

Future plans are being made for another presentation at Beal City schools.

SEWPH food drive collects 2,911 items for Isabella County Soup Kitchen

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

‘Tis the season for giving back, and the Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel continues to do just that.

On Monday, Nov. 2, SEWPH hosted the “Splash Away Hunger food drive.”

Guests could donate two or more food items for a one-day waterpark pass from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. All donations were delivered to the Isabella County Soup Kitchen.

A total of 771 guests brought in at least two canned goods or non-perishable food items, totaling 1,542 items.

SEWPH employees also participated in the food drive for a little friendly departmental competition.

Amongst the departments, 1,369 canned goods or non-perishable food items were collected.

Administration (Sales, Facilities, Promotions, Retail, Front Desk, Security, RV Park, Pro Shop) won the competition, donating 963 items.

The Food & Beverage department brought in 338 items, with Housekeeping collecting 66 items and the Aquatics department gathering two items.

“(There was) an amazing response from our waterpark guests and our (SEWPH employee) teams,” said SEWPH General Manager Bonnie Sprague. “It’s a great feeling knowing that we were able to give back to our local community. Our chosen recipient, Isabella County Soup Kitchen will receive over 2,911 can goods and non-perishable food items.”



Observer photo Natalie Shattuck

SEWPH employees and guests donated a total of 2,911 items for the “Splash Away Hunger food drive” on Nov. 2. The SEWPH staff pose for a photo before the Isabella County Soup Kitchen received the food items on Nov. 3.

SCIT employees support AICAF’s Indigenous women breast cancer campaign

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

The American Indian Cancer Foundation recently announced the first-ever Indigenous Pink Day, a national breast cancer awareness campaign for Indigenous women.

On Oct. 21, AICAF asked men and women of all ages to wear pink and share photos on social media using the hashtag #indigenouspink to spread breast cancer awareness, said AICAF Executive Director Kris Rhodes.

That morning, Saginaw

Chippewa Tribal employees posed for a photo wearing their pink attire in the Nimkee Clinic lobby.

“All of America has jumped onto pink October and sometimes it’s done in ways that exploit the cancer issue,” Rhodes said, according to a press release. “But for the American Indian Cancer Foundation, Indigenous Pink is an important way to raise visibility in our communities where cancer is still invisible and to take control with screening.”

Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death,

and the most common cancer found in American Indian and Alaska Native women. But when breast cancer is found early, the five-year survival rate is 98 percent, according to Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

Nimkee Clinic employees continue to raise breast cancer awareness, not just during each October, but throughout the year. This year’s 20th annual Feather Link Tea brought much attention to the topic.

For more information about Indigenous Pink Day, see americanindiancancer.org/pink.



Observer photo Natalie Shattuck

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal employees wore pink Oct. 21 to support the American Indian Cancer Foundation’s first-ever Indigenous Pink Day, a national breast cancer awareness campaign for Indigenous women.

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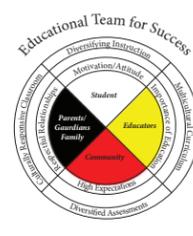


Tribal Education Advisory Board (TEAB) Vacancy Announcement

We are looking for SCIT Members with a love for learning and a willingness to share your wisdom to guide our cultural-based youth educational programs.

Requirements:

- 1.) Must be a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.
- 2.) Must be at least 18 years old.
- 3.) Must not be employed by the Saginaw Chippewa Education Department.



Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each Month at 9 a.m. in the TEAB Conference Room

Letters/emails of interest will be accepted until Jan. 4, 2016 at 12 p.m.

Please send letters of interest/e-mails to:

Tribal Education Administration
7070 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Or E-mail letter to: MMontoya@sagchip.org

For further information call Christina Sharp at 989-775-4501



ANISHINAABEMOWIN WORD SEARCH

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MNO NIIBAANAMAAN! MERRY CHRISTMAS!

maawanji'idiwag	come together
onaagoshi-wiisini	eat supper
baapi	laugh
aajim	tell stories
miikindizi	tease
zaagichigaade	be loved
maamigin	gather
miinidiwag	give
biboondaabaanens	sled
zhooshkwajiwe	go sliding
bimaada'e	skate
zhooshkoshimaan	ski
abinoojiyens	baby
ingwizis	son
Gizhemanidoo	God
bi-naagozi	appear
nichiiwad	stroming
goon	snow
abininjiizo	warm hands
giizhoo'o	dress 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: It never fails, every year my husband tells me he's not going to drink during Christmas and New Years and, of course, I believe him. I feel if he really loves me, he would not drink as he promised. So I am prepared this year to teach him a lesson and if he drinks, we are through! I have been slowly taking things over to my mother's house so when I do have to make the move, it won't be so bad. Why do people tell you things and don't go through with it time and time again? **Last Straw**

Dear Last Straw: I believe the "people" you are referring to are called "alcoholics." Actually, alcoholics have very good intentions, however, they are just that INTENTIONS. It comes with the disease just like lying and denial. Your husband probably really does want to quit but obviously can't. Most alcoholics need some form of treatment in order to quit. I pray that he doesn't end up in the court system in order for that to happen. For you, my dear, I would recommend Al-Anon which is a program for families and friends of alcoholics. One of the things it will teach you is to put the focus back on you and off of him. You can still have a wonderful holiday whether he drinks or not. Try it, what have you got to lose?

Dear WW: I secretly resent my brother and have had this type of feeling most of my life. Whenever he is around our dad, there is a show he puts on and it's ridiculous! He plays the victim card every time. Even when we were small, he would get all the attention because he was so sick and in and out of hospitals. However, now that he's a man, he needs to grow up. My dad is getting too old and can't be changing his tire on his vehicle because he goes whining to him. I don't get it, he's not sick any more and more than capable of doing things on his own and give back for a change. How do I get him to see how selfish he is acting? **Desperado's Brother**

Dear Brother: There is absolutely nothing you can do to change their relationship so just stop before you even get started! Some people are needier than others and that's just the way it is. It's not because your father loves him any more than you. It's because this is how the relationship developed when he was going in and out of hospitals. You are blessed to have your independence and not have to rely on anyone for their emotional or physical support. When the time comes and your father can no longer assist physically, that would be up to him to let your brother know. Until then, accept what you cannot change!

Dear WW: I'm getting married next summer to the man of my dreams! However, I don't want his sister invited to our wedding. Honestly, I feel if she gets invited, I will call the whole wedding off! She is mean and evil and no telling what she will do or say at the wedding. The woman is full of drama and I can see her accidentally falling into the cake for attention. My fiancé says because she is family, we HAVE to invite her. I say, invite her and you can walk down the aisle with her and not me! **Divorce Before the Wedding**

Dear Wedding: If you feel that strongly, I would definitely advise you to postpone the wedding until you have a better handle on your emotions regarding your future sister-in-law. I agree with your husband. It would be a mistake not to invite her and will only cause strife within the family. Plan for the worse but hope for the best!

WHERE ON THE REZ?



Do you know where this is?

Answer the puzzle correctly by Dec. 11 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:
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 or call 989-775-4010

LAST MONTH:



Lacrosse net in front of Ziibiwing

Last Month's Winner:
 No Winner

Tribal Observer

COMIC SUBMISSIONS

Email your submissions to observer@sagchip.org or turn them in to the Tribal Observer office located inside the Tribal Operations building.

Adopt a Pet

Bailey

Bailey is a 3-year-old male Retriever/Black Lab mix. He came to HATS after his owners could no longer keep him due to a lifestyle change. He is very playful and needs a home that will give him enough exercise and play time. He loves walks, playing fetch and anything that involves water. He gets very happy when meeting new humans, so a household with companions 5 years of age or older is preferred.



Klaus

Klaus is a 2-year-old male Domestic Shorthair mix. He is already neutered and has been with HATS since Oct. 28, 2014. He is a little shy at first, but once he warms up, he's a bundle of love. He's looking for a quiet household to call his own, complete with someone to snuggle with all afternoon. And it wouldn't hurt if they gave him treats. He is good with other cats and/or small dogs.



Available at: The Humane Animal Treatment Society

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Snowbirds come together for a historic inaugural Chief's Feast on Oct. 27

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

On Oct. 27, the Snowbird Singer hand drum ensemble came together with a historic idea... an inaugural community feast to honor Tribal chiefs and sub-chiefs, past and present.

Snowbird Singer Mae Pego, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal elder and Mide' Eagle Clan Tribal elder, talked to her husband (Tribal Chief Steven Pego) about the idea and he embraced the idea of honoring chiefs and sub-chiefs.

A large crowd flocked to the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym for the community potluck.

The Mino Ode Singers opened the feast with a welcoming song, followed by a blessing of the food from Tribal Council Chaplain Jennifer Wassegijig.

Frank Cloutier, SCIT public relations director, served as emcee for the event and had the audience captivated as he read a document prepared by Anita Heard, research center coordinator for the Ziibiwing Center.

The Snowbirds also offered a song along with a water and strawberry ceremony for the event.

Outgoing Tribal Sub-Chief Lorna Kahgegab Call said she has served on numerous Tribal Councils and informed this was her last term. She personally thanked the community for all the support given to her and her family throughout the years.

"I have been a sub-chief several times but I'm starting to get what they call 'over the hill,'" Call said. "It has been a real pleasure serving our people and we have come a long way since I worked as a CHR (community health representative) and Tribal clerk back in the '70s and '80s."

Former Tribal Chief Dennis Kequom served four years at the helm of Tribal leadership and he publically congratulated the Snowbirds for hosting the event.

"It's kind of humbling to come in here and see all the people who served as chief and sub-chief, along with all the current and former Council members," Kequom said. "I agree with Steve Pego when he said it is a tremendous undertaking, and it does take a while to wind down after serving. All the trips to Washington get pretty long and the travel around the country is important but it does take you away from family."

Former Tribal Chief Kevin Chamberlain remembers how the Tribe has changed throughout the years and commended his fellow leaders on their resolve.

"Everybody that was sitting up here, I can guarantee you when they took office, they had nothing but good intentions and I believe they still do," Chamberlain said. "I do believe this is the start of something special because they have wisdom that we, as a community, should be tapping into. They have all been on councils at different times and have seen the good, the

bad and the ugly. Historically, we have always looked to our chiefs for wisdom and I think we still need to do that."

Chamberlain advocated for a chief's council that would be available to help the current Tribal Council and many applauded the idea.

Former Tribal Sub-Chief Bernard Sprague kept the ideas flowing with a special one of his own.

Sprague served on numerous councils. He said the first Tribal Council should be honored and never forgotten, as they were called to duty and served the Tribe with commitment and wisdom.

"Many of the laws established by the first Council took days and weeks to finalize but the members were committed to the cause and worked tirelessly to get the job done," Sprague said. "This was true wisdom and leadership by these individuals for they did not receive compensation for their efforts; their motivation was securing the future for the next seven generations and beyond. I will always honor and respect these individuals for their courage, wisdom, visions and commitment."

The first Council had to establish codes and ordinances to comply with the federal government to establish the Isabella Reservation, and many of these are still in effect today, some have been amended, but most are still the law of the land.

"The vision the Tribal Council had in establishing the first Tribal Constitution was remarkable," Sprague said. "They prepared the document so we could grow and expand with the times... Although this constitution was amended in 1986, much of the original wording in the sections is the same words of these wise leaders who continue to guide us."

Sprague pledged his support and is committed to establishing a landmark honoring the members of the first Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council.



Courtesy of Ziibiwing Center

The first Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council from 1937 was honored at the Chief's Feast (E.B. Simonds, John Jackson, James Strong, Peter Bennett, Charles Chamberlain, Isaac Pelcher, Willis Jackson, Lewis Pontiac, Elijah Elk and Frank Peters.)

"If a committee is established to achieve this, I would like the opportunity to serve on this board," Sprague said.

Heard offered the Tribal Observer a historic photo taken in 1937 of the first Council that approved the first Tribal Constitution.

The photo is from the Ziibiwing Center Lewis

Pontiac image collection and can be found on page 102 of the Tribal history book "Diba Jimooyung".

The 1937 Council included Tribal Chief Elijah Elk, E.B. Simonds, John Jackson, James Strong, Peter Bennett, Charles Chamberlain, Isaac Pelcher, Willis Jackson, Frank Peters and Lewis Pontiac.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Seven Tribal leaders were at the head table during inaugural feast (pictured left to right: Dennis Kequom, Bernard Sprague, Audrey Falcon, Lorna Kahgegab Call, Steven Pego, Kevin Chamberlain and Phil Peters Sr.).

SCIT Tribal Chiefs from 1937 to 1990 (deceased)

- Chief Elijah Elk 1937-1939, 1950-1956
- Chief Willis Jackson 1939-1941, 1945-1949, 1956-1969
- Chief James Strong 1941-1943, 1949-1950
- Chief Elmer B. Simonds 1943-1945
- Chief Peter Otto 1975-1982
- Chief Arnold Sowmick 1982-1990

SCIT Tribal Chiefs and Sub-Chief since 1990 (living)

- Chief Kevin Chamberlain
- Chief and Sub-Chief Tim Davis
- Chief Phil Peters Sr.
- Chief Maynard Kahgegab Jr.
- Sub-Chief David Otto
- Sub-Chief Robert Pego Sr.
- Chief Audrey Falcon
- Sub-Chief Bernard Sprague
- Chief Fred Cantu Jr.
- Sub-Chief Ruth Moses
- Chief Ron Falcon
- Chief Gail George (first female chief)
- Sub-Chief Lorna Kahgegab Call
- Chief Steve Pego
- Chief Dennis Kequom Sr.
- Sub-Chief Julius Peters
- Sub-Chief Diana Quigno-Grundahl

Editorial: The Grandmother Full Moon Ceremony and Berry Fast

CHARMAINE SHAWANA

Contributing Writer

Did you know that the moon controls the tides on earth? Yes, it's true. The moon has the power to control the tides. Anishinabek have known this for a long time. We call her our Grandmother Moon.

We call her Grandmother because she has been here forever, and Moon because the changing phases of the moon coincides with the cycle of a woman, every 28 days.

Every woman knows the power of her flow, and, as Anishinabek, we recognize the power of women to bring life into the world. It is recognized, celebrated, and honored.

There is a special time for women called the Full Moon Ceremony. It happens once a month, just like her cycle. It is time when women are particularly powerful. At this time of the month, it is believed she is very special and that time is a time of prayer.

There is even a ceremony for young women when they have their first menses. It's called the Berry Fast; during this time, women of the family come together to recognize the special time when young girls become women.

The young girls fast for a whole year; they will not eat any berries of any kind, not dance in any powwows and refrain from holding any babies as a sacrifice for

recognizing the power of becoming a woman.

The aunts and her grandmother will help her to stay in a separate place acknowledging her power, separate from the rest of the family for four days, in seclusion, in a tent or a separate lodge.

There will be no cell phones, electronic gadgets or any type of modern convenience. Sometimes the men in the family will build her a fire. She can learn to smudge herself, and learn about the power of the smudge with sage.

Her aunts may come and tell her stories about themselves and how they celebrated their first time as a woman. After four days, a feast and celebration and a beautiful young girl emerges the lodge as a woman.

She will be expected to put away her childhood toys and participate in "women chores" around the house. It is a beautiful ceremony and helps a young woman acknowledge the power of life, of bringing life into the world and celebrating the beauty of Anishinabekwe.

The time of the full moon is a special time as well. As Anishinabe, we recognize the significance of our time on mother earth. We are thankful for all she has given us.

In the Full Moon Ceremony, we are asked to pray for our community, our leaders, our families and our mother earth. There is a small feast, a fire, tobacco and some yellow cloth. Songs may be sang, as well.

We are so grateful to live in Michigan, with the sacred waters all around us, for without water there would be no life. Our acknowledgement of the waters, of prayer and the significance of bringing life into the world are all a part of this special time in our lives.

In our old age, as women become grandmothers, we are said to have lots of knowledge having raised children and our families. This special acknowledgement and attribution is given to the grandmothers as we recognize our mother earth and our Grandmother Moon.

The next time you see our Grandmother Moon, give her an acknowledgement, she sees you in all her glory, smiling down on Anishinabek...

what moves you?



"For me it's my daughter.
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I want to be here for her."

get healthy

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Recognizing Our Active Native Youth

Shepherd | Grade: 8

Volleyball, Track, Cross Country, Basketball, Softball



Aiyannah Borton

Fancher | Grade: 6

Football



Albert Shomin

Mt. Pleasant | Grade: 10

Football, Basketball, Baseball



Caleb Alonzo-Vasquez

W. Intermediate | Grade: 8

Football, Baseball, Basketball



Charles Hart

Shepherd | Grade: 10

Michigan Storm Competitive Cheer



Diamantina Niezgoda

Grand Blanc East | Grade: 8

Football



James Cates II

Fancher | Grade: 5

Football



Paul Shomin III

W. Intermediate | Grade: 7

Cross Country, Rocket Football, Wrestling



Thomas Henry

Shepherd | Grade: 4

Rocket Football, Swimming, Soccer, Powwow Dancer



Richard Delacruz Jr.

McGuire | Grade: 5

Football



Kayden Weekley

Pullen | Grade: 3

Choir, Girl Scouts, Ice Skating



Bailey Burger

Pullen | Grade: 2

Baseball



Caleb Burger

McGuire | Grade: 5

Swimming, Softball, Wrestling



Mackenzie Burger

W. Intermediate | Grade: 8

Gymnastics, Girl Scouts



Quinnlan Burger

Renaissance | Grade: 6

Xtreme Soccer, Basketball



Elijah Otto-Powers

Chippewa Hills | Grade: 7

Cheerleading, 4-H Club, Overall Jr. Small Animal Showperson, Student Council



Alexandria Sawmick

SCA | Grade: 6

Lacrosse, Grass Dancing



Christopher Spencer-Ruiz

Shepherd | Grade: 4

Soccer



Anjelina Smith

Floyd Elementary | Grade: 4

Soccer



Gabriel Bryant

Chippewa Hills | Grade: 8

Soccer



Seth Wladysiak

Pullen | Grade: 2

Baseball, Soccer, Basketball



Nikodin Davis

McGuire | Grade: 5

Football, Baseball, Basketball, Hunting



Tayden Davis

Shepherd | Grade: 5

Football



Miingin Starkey

Shepherd | Grade: 3

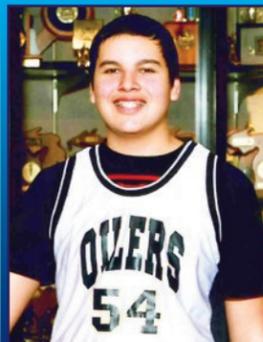
Softball



Aanzhenii Starkey

Mt. Pleasant | Grade: 10

Basketball, Hockey



Noah Sawmick

Sacred Heart | Grade: K

Dance: Jazz/Ballet

Ella Fox

Mt. Pleasant | Grade: 10

Cheerleading

Evelyn House

McGuire | Grade: 6

Football, Basketball, Baseball

Giizhig Martell

McGuire | Grade: 5

Football, Basketball, Baseball

Jimaganish Martell

Pullen | Grade: 2

Football, Basketball, Baseball

Zhaawan Martell

Shepherd | Grade: 4

Volleyball

Nevaeh Badger

Mt. Pleasant | Grade: 9

Cheerleading, Soccer, Track

Lexi Weekley

Shepherd | Grade: 8

Basketball, Traditional Dancer

Tobias Pamp

W. Intermediate | Grade: 7

LaCrosse, Cross country, Wrestling

Matthew "Goo" Quaderer

Bullock Creek | Grade: 7

Musician, Choir, Band

Kiara Ekdahl

Pullen | Grade: 1

Basketball, Bowling, Baseball

Angelo Leureaux

Coleman | Grade: 5

Boy Scouts, Choir

Ian Johnson

Mt Pleasant | Grade: 10

Cross Country

Allen Crockett

Mt. Pleasant | Grade: 10

Cross Country, Lacrosse

Cauy George

W. Intermediate | Grade: 7

Cross Country, Lacrosse

Lars George

Caro | Grade: 8

Wrestling

Mark Spencer

Schall School | Grade: 4

Dance

Kyla Spencer

Caro | Grade: 6

Hunting

Blake Spencer

Caro | Grade: 12

Wrestling

Kenya Spencer

Caro | Grade: 12

Wrestling

Nate Ernst

CMU | Sophomore

Marching Band

Breanna Colwell

W. Intermediate | Grade: 8

Basketball

Mattea Merrill

W. Intermediate | Grade: 1

Bowling, Baseball, Dodgeball

Andre Leureaux

W. Intermediate | Grade: 7

Basketball

Jenna Rios

W. Intermediate | Grade: 8

Football

Tyrone Rios Jr.

Haslett | Grade: 10

Soccer

Keefer Rockney Crampton

Pattengill | Grade: 4

Softball

Avyanna Vidal

Farview | Grade: 2

Flag Football

Kristy Palacios

Farview | Grade: 2

Basketball

Leah Palacios

Mt. Pleasant | Grades: 11 & 12

Warren: Varsity Basketball
Kallena: Varsity Basketball & Volleyball

Kallena and Warren Ricketts



Ziibiwing Center hosts Convening Great Lakes Culture Keepers regional institute

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

On Oct. 26-29, the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways served as host for the Convening Great Lakes Culture Keepers "The Strength in our Stories" regional institute for Tribal libraries, archivists, and museum curators.

Thanks to an Institute of Museum and Library Services Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program grant, the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Library and Information Studies will coordinate five professional development gatherings for tribal librarians, archivists, and museum curators through April 2018.

The continuing education regional institute and associated work meetings are project-based and support the development of a regional traveling exhibition.

The Tribal Libraries, Archives, and Museums (TLAM) Project is an experimental effort at the University of Wisconsin - Madison School of Library and Information Studies to bring indigenous information topics to library and information studies education through service-learning, networking, and resource sharing with American Indian cultural institutions.

Nicole MartinRogers is a descendent of White Earth Band of Ojibwe and provides research and evaluation services through the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation in St. Paul, Minn.

She served as a keynote speaker and spoke on the importance of project management, how to construct logic models and the development of program planning and evaluation of services.

"Project management is an important tool for museums that keeps you organized and proactive," MartinRogers said. "I also find logic models useful because it helps us translate the work we're doing. It assists in communicating the research to language that is easily understood by the stakeholder groups. Oftentimes, those are the non-native grant funders and corporate interests who welcome logic models and project management for review and successful program evaluation."

Anne Heideimann, SCIT Tribal education librarian, attended the gathering and welcomed the chance to network with others across Indian Country.

"These gatherings are always my favorite professional development opportunities and I come away from each one with new understanding, information, and a feeling of belonging to this amazing group of Tribal library and museum professionals," Heideimann said. "One of the keynote speakers, Miranda Belarde-Lewis, spoke of why we tell, collect, and protect our stories. She made the point that we do it because of love, which really resonated with me. As always, Ziibiwing was an amazing site to gather and the staff and volunteers



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Omar Poler, Convening Great Lakes Culture Keepers coordinator, from UW-Madison details the ambitious schedule of events at Ziibiwing and other Tribal locations.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Rita Lara, Oneida Nation Museum director, cautions her colleagues to expect the unexpected in planning exhibits for schools and Tribal departments.

there made everyone feel right at home."

Belarde-Lewis (Zuni/Tlingit) has worked with Pueblo communities and provided instruction on how to research, document, protect and transmit knowledge through Native culture and art.

"I serve as an instructor for the (Project) grant and have been assisting archival professionals in the great lakes region," Belarde-Lewis said. "I think our Native people have used the tools available to us wisely and we are always willing to learn and adapt through innovation in our trade network. If we saw a native artist using metal or beadwork in creating a piece, we can see how much of the work that is now termed multimedia was developed by the indigenous cultural experiences of our ancestors. Using technology to tell our stories now is just another tool we have at our disposal but we should not put all of our faith in technology."

Dawn Sineway-Nephler, Little Traverse Bay Band Odawa cultural librarian, looks forward to bringing back the teachings from the culture keepers' workshop to her Reservation in Harbor Springs.

"We are actually in the process of building our own museum and starting our own exhibits and to build a traveling exhibit with all these different Tribes will give us plenty of direction on how to proceed," Sineway-Nephler said. "The whole idea of showing through exhibits that we are all still here and all connected and to demonstrate how our stories are intertwined, that is true cultural preservation and education. I think the same struggles we are having in Michigan; we can see that those are going on for other tribes in Indian Country. The difference will be in how individual tribes want to tell that story."

Kevin Finney, executive director of the Jijik Foundation,

a 501 c(3) non-profit corporation of the Gun Lake Band of Potawatomi Indians, said it was his second time at the gathering.

"We have a small working Tribal farm where we work to preserve our indigenous agriculture," Finney said. "Our focus is on the preservation of rare and endangered great lakes seeds. We have a seed collection of over 200 varieties of great lakes and Midwestern Native American seeds. The way we developed that seed collection is through the outreach to Native American communities and making people aware that we are willing to share seeds and seed stories to keep indigenous agriculture alive."

Heideimann provided a tour of the Tribal Library and was very proud to receive many compliments from the other attendees on how cozy, welcoming, and full of great resources the Tribal Library has.

Chippewa Watershed Conservancy to purchase Bundy Hill

AIMAN SHAHPURWALA

Water Resource Technician

Bundy Hill, the highest point in Isabella County, reaches 1,270 feet. It contains approximately 100 acres of forested land. Near the peak of the hill lies a 40-foot boulder left on the land by glaciers long ago.

Many families in the local community have memories of visiting this property with family and friends. The location has been a favorite throughout

the years for sledding, hiking, and other activities.

Currently, Bundy Hill is privately owned by the McNeel family. Wakelin "Ranger Mac" McNeel was a famed environmentalist and educator.

Recently, the Chippewa Watershed Conservancy, a local land preservation non-profit organization, entered into an agreement with the McNeel family to buy Bundy Hill.

The conservancy plans to create a nature preserve, to

protect the land, and open it to the public for scenic enjoyment and recreation, and will hold educational events at Bundy Hill throughout the year.

The conservancy is looking to raise \$240,000 through fundraising efforts by seeking donations from local residents, foundations, and at special events. The money raised will support purchasing the land, trail signage, and maintaining the land for generations to come.

Stan Lilley, executive director of the Conservancy, cautions interested people not to attempt to visit Bundy Hill right now.

"The property is still currently privately owned and it is leased for hunting," said Lilley.

Individuals can help the CWC purchase and protect Bundy Hill by making a tax-deductible donation to support the project. Please go to www.chippewawatershedconservancy.org/were-buying-bundy-hill/ for more information.

For more information on this article, please contact Aiman Shahpurwala, water resource technician, at **989-775-4081** or ashahpurwala@sagchip.org.

Resources:

- www.chippewawatershedconservancy.org/were-buying-bundy-hill/
- www.themorningsun.com/general-news/20151012/bundy-hill-isabella-county-tallest-point-could-become-public-space

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Tribal colleges provide an unquantifiable value to the higher education landscape

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

When mainstream society and academics collide, the pervasive nature of the abhorrent stereotypes still overwhelms the uninformed.

Many brothers and sisters have pursued their education through the support of their tribal college experience and the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver and they can sing the praises of what Tribal colleges mean to them.

It is the vocal minority, however, that tends to water down the corn soup and tries to steal the savory taste of a valued Tribal education.

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College President Carla Sineway sees the diatribe as a small part of a larger movement; a movement that struggles every day for existence and worth and SCTC is not exempt from this struggle.

The article in Tribal College Journal, *The Unquantifiable Value of Tribal Colleges*, illustrates the misinformation that molds the opinions and beliefs of many individuals.



“SCTC is not protected from these stereotypes and ideologies, but continues to move forward,” Sineway said. “When we began establishing SCTC in the late ‘90s, ‘the waiting women’ had a vision that this community did not have to settle for a high school diploma, but could have a college education.”

Sineway believes that vision has become the true mission of SCTC.

“While we face funding challenges on all levels, the successes we have made together are well worth the fight,” Sineway said. “The students who enter our doors are apprehensive about this

educational path. However, this is quickly left by the wayside when they walked across the stage at commencement and hear the applause of families and friends. When others have said it’s not worth the time or financial investment, our Tribal College staff is in total agreement and says it’s worth it. Every day at SCTC we see the value, which does not have a price tag, our students.”

On Nov. 18, the American Indian College Fund presented a session on the community and sociocultural return on investment that tribal colleges and universities bring to their communities at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in Denver.

According to the American Indian College Fund, there are 37 tribal colleges in the United States, the majority of which are located on or near Indian reservations. Often these institutions provide the sole higher education services to these remote, rural communities.

The panel will share information on the mission and history of the tribal college

movement and explore the many contributions the colleges have made in areas such as cultural preservation and restoration, creating curricula for adult American Indian learners, sustainability programming, indigenous leadership, and community outreach and development.

At the Oglala Lakota College in Kyle, S.D., the hand-painted, anti-drug and alcohol signs made by students show an activism that is a grassroots tribute to how tribal college students can use social marketing to affect the conscience of the community.

Another active Tribal college can be found on the shores of Lake Superior in Baraga.

Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College provides the only public programming for miles, hosting a variety of speakers and community events like maple syrup-making. Not just students, but all community members including youth and Elders, are welcome to utilize their resources and participate in their programming.

At the fall 2014 meeting of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium, Cankdeska Cikana Community College President Cynthia Lindquist offered some true perspective on how Tribal colleges connect with their community.

“Only at a tribal college do you find a college president ironing table cloths before a banquet,” Lindquist said. “Only at a tribal college do you find faculty members picking up students for a class. Only at a tribal college do you find an academic dean hanging star quilts before a funeral or wake. Tribal colleges are indeed truly unique institutions.”

One story in a Tribal newspaper can in no way do justice to the many ways tribal colleges serve their respective communities.

In the final analysis, perhaps many will find what we know in the Saginaw Chippewa community to be true; the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College is one of many that serve their students as a true institution of higher learning and can hold the mantle of being a true “community” college.

Nov. 11 Veterans Day event at SCTC highlights the way of the warrior

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Many cultures have definitions of what it means to be a warrior. The one that comes to mind from an Elder teaching is “a warrior is someone who is doing the right thing for the right reason.”

On Veterans Day at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, special speakers and a film highlighted different perspectives on “the way of the warrior.”

Amanda Oldman, SCTC grants and special projects coordinator, said David Perez Sr., Tribal elder and Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veterans Warriors Society member, addressed the

students and talked about the importance of honoring and remembering our veterans.

“David spoke on various topics related to his life... serving in the U.S. Army during Vietnam,” Oldman said. “He incorporated growing up off the Reservation as Anishinaabe and shared some personal moments during his time in the military. David also spoke on the importance of finding and embracing more traditional ways of life after his military service.”

Perez holds the office of second in command Ogema II in the Ogitchedaw Honor Guard and welcomed the opportunity to interact with the Tribal College students.

“SCTC has always been friendly toward what we do, and I find the students are very respectful of our traditions and culture,” Perez said. “Many of the same things our service men and women to through can be associated with the boarding school experience. Each of our Native people is dealing with some sort of generational trauma.”

After Perez spoke Arapaho/Odawa Tribal Member Jason Oldman honored David and all veterans with an honor song.

“It is important as Anishinabe to remember where we come from and the warrior society was a part of that,” Jason Oldman said. “Our people learned they are to be leaders and to serve and protect our Tribes and community. A lot of youth want to hear those stories because they are affected with that portrayal of our people in the movies. They would see a warrior on the screen and then they would start asking their Elders and teachers what the qualities of a warrior were.”

Many other tribes have warrior societies where their members are held to higher standards and are expected to do certain things that others can’t or won’t do.

“That’s why we honor and respect those who have made that sacrifice and went to war and served their country,” Jason Oldman said. “And even for those who weren’t in the military, we can learn by coming to events at SCTC and how to walk in the warrior way.”

The students enjoyed the homemade hominy soup and chili made by SCTC President Carla Sineway and SCTC STEM Recruiter Kathy Hart and the sub sandwiches while viewing the documentary “Way of the Warrior”.

why during the 20th century Native men and women have signed up for military service at a rate three times higher than non-Indians.

“That has always been the case that dates back to Company K and Indian sol-



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Arapaho and Odawa Tribal Member Jason Oldman (left) prepares to share a hand drum as Ogitchedaw Ogema II David Perez Sr. looks on.

“The 2007 PBS one-hour film explores the warrior ethic among Native Americans,” Perez said. “It also reveals how Native communities have traditionally viewed their warriors and

diers who served in the Civil War,” Perez said. “Whenever any of our Ogitchedaw get the opportunity to mention that fact, publically, many people in this country are still not aware of that.”

New SCTC Board of Regents member sworn in



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

On Thursday, Nov. 12, Tribal Council Chaplain Jennifer Wassegijig swore in Arthur Cicalo as a new member of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College Board of Regents.

“The lawyer in your family”

Damian S. Fisher

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Youth Achievement Advisor Shelton receives November "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!



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Youth Achievement Advisor John Shelton (middle) accepts his award from Youth Leadership Manager Deb Smith (left) and Tribal Education Director Melissa Montoya.

Congratulations John Shelton for being selected as the November 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 Shelton:

Which program do you work for? K-12 Services.

What is your title? Youth Achievement Advisor.

How long have you worked for the Education Department? 15 years (November 2015).

What is your favorite part of working in this department? Helping my students to be as successful as they can at this point in their young lives and help them prepare to further their education.

Do you have any pets? We had two black labs, Casey and Kaylee, for the entire time we lived in Mount Pleasant. Such great dogs and family. Riddock, a Belgian Trevuren, has been with us for almost two years and is a charmer, yet quite the protector of our household.

What is your favorite vacation spot and why? Ireland has to be my all-time favorite, although I haven't been there since I was 17. My mother was from Ireland and that was where she met my father. We used to go visit my mother's family which was quite large with many awesome aunts, uncles, and cousins. This was our summer four to five week vacation. I have many fond memories of these trips and was very fortunate to have been able to spend that time with relatives. Ireland has changed drastically since then and I look forward to taking my wife there in the near future.

What is your favorite Disney movie? "Remember the Titans" and "National Treasure" (tied).

What is the one thing that you love to do? Why? I love to learn! Although I love to read fictional stories, my main emphasis is in on education, educational trends, technology, and how to do things that spark my current interest.

What is one of your favorite quotes? "Individual commitment to a group effort - that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work."—Vince Lombardi

What is your favorite candy/snack? Kit-Kat and a cup of tea (or coffee will do.)

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

Eight Saginaw Chippewa Academy students honored with Student of the Month awards

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photographer

Several Saginaw Chippewa Academy students received applause and high praise from their teachers and families as they were honored with awards with the SCA Student of the Month award.

Planned and organized by the Positive Incentive Professional Learning Community, the award ceremony and

breakfast was held at the SCA community room at 9 a.m. Nov. 13.

SCIT Education Director and SCA Principal Melissa Montoya offered congratulations to each of the eight students: Pre-kindergartener Caleb Sprague, kindergartener Brihanna Dunham, first grader Joseph Jackson, second grader John Wemigwans, third grader Alexis Trepanier, fourth grader Tawny Jackson, fifth grader Annie Lada and sixth grader Sara Saunders.

"Honoring our students for following the Seven Grandfather Teachings in their daily lives is a key component of the SCA philosophy," Montoya said. "Our hope is to keep our students encouraged with their academics and cultural teachings. The Student of the Month Breakfast is planned and designed to celebrate SCA students and their families. Family support is imperative to student success and it's nice to see family and school engagement

during events like this. There is a true sense of community between SCA and our Tribal families."

After Montoya's welcome address, she turned the ceremony over to the Mino Ode Singers (consisting of AB teachers Joe Syrette, Nathan Isaac, Matthew J. Sprague, James Day and Aaron Chivis with back-up singer Cecilia Stevens.)

The Mino Ode Singers offered a welcome song and an honor song for the students while Syrette respectfully offered a prayer in Anishinabemowin.

The ceremony concluded with a pancake breakfast and family pictures with the students.

Fancher

The following students earned perfect attendance for October: Caedynce Bailey, Kaitlyn Bartreau, Damion Haggard, Zoey Haggard, Matthew Jackson, Collyn Morrow, Kaden Rueckert, Albert Shomin, Kaylie Sprague, Dawnsheh Wilson and Hudson Yager.

Vowles

The following students earned perfect attendance for October: Aaliyah Dunlap, Aviana Gomez, Metao Harris, Joaquin Jackson, Kaden Kjolhede, Mia McCreery, Gavin McCreery.

Shepherd

The following elementary students earned perfect attendance for October: Kearmin Alexander, Nevaeh Badger, Jonathan Bailey, Chayton Chatfield, Johnathan Cogswell, Eyhana Feliciano, Angelica Hinmon, Hunter Johnson, Sarah Osawabine, Jayden Pelcher, Layla Pigeon, Maya Ryan, Brandon Seegraves, Madalynn Sineway, Olivia Sineway, Aanzhenii Starkey and Miingin Starkey. **The following middle school students earned perfect attendance for the first marking period:** Taylor Burton, Miah Chatfield, Sienna Chatfield, Tony Garcia, Nathan Isaac, Jarrad Johnson, Olivia Lawson, Damien Martinez, Toby Pamp, Jacob Sineway and Matt Smith. **The following high school students earned perfect attendance for the first marking period:** Jarek Chamberlain, Hayley Cogswell, Adam Jewell, Uriah Main, Michael Pelcher, Alicia Raphael, Shay Schaefer, Joey Sineway, Scott Sura and Tyler Van Horn. **The following middle school students earned a GPA of 3.0 or higher for the first marking period:** Christina Benz, Aiyannah Borton, Taylor Burton, Miah Chatfield, Sienna Chatfield, Luciano Escamilla, Anna Floyd, Tony Garcia, Quincey Jackson, Jarrad Johnson, Madison Pelcher, Christopher Quillen, Andee Raphael, Camron Scarlott-Pelcher, Jacob Sineway, Matt Smith and Emma Vanhorn. **The following high school students earned a GPA of 3.0 or higher for the first marking period:** Okilani Alaniz, Akima Alaniz, Jarek Chamberlain, Hayley Cogswell, Arionna Mejia, Sedona Mejia, Dia Niezgoda, Michael Pelcher, Alicia Raphael, Shay Schaefer, Allyssa Shawboose, Joey Sineway, Isabella Smith and Scott Sura.

Ganiard

The following students earned perfect attendance for October: Dylan Bennett, Lilly Chamerlain, Mya Chippeway, Gabriela Escobedo, Kaden Fair, Hannah Fleming-Foster, Aaron Hendrickson, Konner Hilleger, Nadia Mills, Meisha Raphael, Darrion Rueckert, Koda Rueckert, Paul Rueckert, Elijah Teller, Jordan Teller, Ava Vogel and LahRae Wilson.

Renaissance

The following students earned perfect attendance for October: Jadrian Jackson, Emma Henry, Novaly Hinmon, Isaiah Otto, Nixie Snyder, Kyla Henry, Arianna Hawkins, Josiah Hill, Isaiah Hill, Kathlyn Dunn-Anderson, Anthony Hawkins and Makayla Jackson.

Pullen

The following students earned perfect attendance for October: Ava Mena, Abraham Gravarette, Micha Wegner, Braeden Bennett, Alex Hinmon, Arilynn Peters, Trevor Isham, Bailey Burger, Juan-Sergio Casas, Ryan Flaughter, Andrew Kequom, Whisper Mandoka, Nicholas Poolaw and Zachary Flaughter.

McGuire

The following students earned perfect attendance for October: Mia Floyd, James Hendrickson, Taylor-Ann Kerkau, Mackena Porter, La'Anna Trudeau, Arianna Bird, Tayden Davis, Isaiah Harris, Lizzy Pamp, Aaron Graveratte, Josie Isham, Taleah Pelcher, Taliyah Poolaw and Destiny Shawano.

Saginaw Chippewa Academy

The following students earned perfect attendance for October: Damien Hunter, Alayna Diesel, Josiah Hernandez-Wemigwans, Caden Pego, Kiyenn Pilar, DaShawn Rueckert, Felicia Saunders and Sara Saunders.

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Soaring Eagle brings Bell Biv DeVoe and Color Me Badd to the stage

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort hosted American music groups Bell Biv DeVoe and Color Me Badd in its entertainment hall on Oct. 30.

Contemporary R&B group Color Me Badd kicked off the show.

Color Me Badd was formed in Oklahoma City with current members Bryan Abrams, Kevin "K.T." Thornton and Mark Calderon.

The group has sold 12 million records in the United States.

They kicked off their set with "All 4 Love" and also performed "I Adore Mi Amor", "Time and Chance", a cover of Blackstreet's "No Diggity" and closed with "I Wanna Sex You Up".

"It's very cool we are here with Bell Biv DeVoe," Abrams said, affirming he has been a fan for years.

The following Monday, Nov. 2, Color Me Badd appeared on "Jimmy Kimmel

Live!" with country superstar Brad Paisley to perform "I Wanna Sex You Up" for Kimmel's latest "Mash Up Monday" series.

The artists were appropriately renamed "Color Me Bradd" for the occasion.

Bridging the gap between R&B and hip-hop with a touch of pop music, Bell Biv DeVoe has been perfecting their image for more than 20 years.

Bell Biv DeVoe consists of three members that branched off from group New Edition: Ricky Bell, Michael Bivins and Ronnie DeVoe.

The group launched its debut album "Poison" in 1990, which pioneered the "new jack swing" (combining hip-hop, funk, pop, and soul) music sound of the early '90s.

"I'm sure everybody in here has their first 'Poison' album, right?" said DeVoe. "Well, why not do a full album."

The group then began performing the tracks from that album.

BBD is best known for the hits "Poison", "B.B.D. (I Thought It Was Me)", "When



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Bell Biv DeVoe consists of Ricky Bell, Michael Bivins and Ronnie DeVoe.

Will I See You Smile Again?", "She's Dope", "Gangsta", "Something in Your Eyes" and "The Best Things In Life Are Free": The Luther Vandross hit featuring BBD, Janet Jackson and Ralph Tresvant.

On stage, BBD said they have "been friends since 1980 when they met in Boston."

Both BBD and Color Me Badd delivered energetic performances with endless harmonies and lively, coordinated dance moves.

For more information on upcoming shows at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, visit its website at



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Bryan Abrams of Color Me Badd belts out a long note at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort concert.

www.soaringeaglecasino.com, "Like" its Facebook page or add the Twitter handle Soaringeagle777.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Contemporary R&B group Color Me Badd kicked off the Oct. 30 show with their hit "All 4 Love".

SECR Fright Night 4 sizzles with excitement and draws a sellout crowd

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Known across the state as "the sexiest Halloween party in Michigan," Fright Night 4 sizzled with excitement on Oct. 31 and drew a sellout crowd.

SECR Marketing Director Raul Venegas made the night special by giving away more than \$10,000 in cash prizes during the costume contests.

"Fright Night has evolved into one of the personal favorites of Players Club members and they get plenty of chances to leave winners," Venegas said. "Along with some great entertainment, we gave away over \$4,000 in door prizes and

everyone got a chance to find a 'Golden Ticket' worth \$5,000 with their paid admission."

SECR Talent Buyer Shad Snowden has seen Fright Night grow and like their New Year's Eve Celebration, the team is always looking for ways to ramp up the excitement.

"The Fright Night 4 event was another huge success on Halloween night," Snowden said. "This year we changed it up and made the event more like a night club atmosphere and it was a huge hit. Not only did we have our same dance floor, but new this Fright Night, we were able to have multiple lighted dance floors around the room and these were well received by our guests. Less than half-way through the evening, we sold out the event with 1500 attendees and we were turning away people at the doors."

Tribal Member Marcella Hadden, owner of Niibing Giizis Photography, was on hand to capture some creative costumes and was able to take pictures for patrons that are available at marcellahadden.com, client password is "SECR". The Clare-based company Sound Productions jumped on board by providing a party bus that transported guests from downtown Mount Pleasant to the event and then back to their location.

Considering the nature of Fright Night 4, event coordinators said it was important to them that their guests could enjoy the party and be safe at the same time.

Marketing Manager Tanya Bardy said this year, SECR decided to put the Marketing

staff in tuxedos and masquerade masks along with the beverage staff and it took the event up a notch as well.

"Coordinating an event like this takes time from planning to execution and we give a big thank you to the production crew from entertainment, they truly are talented folks," Bardy said. "Kudos goes out to the Food and Beverage Department for their creativity. The guests really enjoyed the drink specials that included exotic names like Creamsicle, Fruity Pebbles, Malibu Bay Breeze.

The music for the event was frightfully good with DJ Amie Rose offering some mad skills at the turntable. Her striking beauty has led her to grace the pages of national and

international magazines alike ranging from fashion staples including Glamour magazine.

DJ Sophia, originally known as "DJ Hustle-Lin", her energetic live sets coupled with her charismatic personality and creative song selections have had audiences dancing from coast to coast.

She has appeared in the movies "Fast & Furious 4", "Miss March", and "Should've Been Romeo". Lin has also garnered success by appearing in music videos by Usher, Ne-Yo and the Three Six Mafia.

Tony T., promoter from Most Glamorous Events, gave a big thank you for a wonderful Halloween experience at SECR.

"We all had lots of fun and felt very welcome," Tony said. "The Soaring Eagle Casino &

Resort hotel and concert venue was a top-notch operation and very beautiful. Both Amie and Sophia have expressed to me their appreciation of the way they were treated, and have indicated that not only would they love to be a part of Fright Night 5, but would love to work with Soaring Eagle again."

Daredevil Circus Co. Founder and Director Cassie Truskowski said the event was full of extreme, unique and sexy costumes.

"Fright Night made for some top-notch entertainment and we had an amazing staff providing excellent ambiance for it," Truskowski said. "We look forward to coming back next year because this event really celebrates Halloween in the best way. It was just an amazing event that was packed with so many people dancing and having fun."



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

The McDonald's decided to dress up as "hamburglars" for the Fright Night 4 costume contest.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

There's more than meets the eye as the Transformers' Bumblebee drove in for Fright Night.

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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

Contact: (989) 772-6277
113 W. Broadway, Suite 240
Mt. Pleasant MI 48858



Editorial: The many benefits of a wellness program

TONI SMITH

Wellness Coordinator

In September 2014, I began working as wellness coordinator for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Throughout the last year, I have continued my education and obtained a certificate for "Certified Wellness Program Coordinator" through the Chapman Institute.

I have had the privilege to work with a wellness

consultant since June, through the REACH grant the Tribe received. By collaborating and working together with many SCIT employees throughout the organization, a strategic plan was developed for SCIT.

A new wellness initiative started last month with the creation of a Wellness Council. Wellness Council members serve on the council for two years. The Wellness Council is made up of directors/managers SCIT.

The goal of the Wellness Council is to further develop a wellness program for SCIT employees. I feel great things are in store for the future of SCIT thru the development.

A wellness program can strengthen our business through better customer service, increase employee loyalty, reduce sick days, increase productivity, reduce healthcare costs, increase physical activity to manage/reduce chronic disease, increase quality of life, and create fitter, happier and healthier employees.

A wellness program can strengthen our community by creating a lasting, healthy culture

for future generations to come. Be an agent of change by supporting and promoting Wellness.

Using cues to make walking a habit

JUDY DAVIS

4x4 Grant Coordinator

Developing any habit – good or bad – starts with a routine and walking for exercise is no exception. The trick is to make exercise a habit that is hard to break. According to an Iowa State University study, that may be easier to accomplish by focusing on cues that make going for a walk automatic.

Some research has found that the starting habit, with its initial cue, is what keeps you going. No matter what

exercise you do, if you have something that signals you to start, you will eventually do it without even thinking about it.

For some people, the end of their work day before going home is their cue. For others, it may be the alarm clock going off in the morning. Some research has suggested that it may take a month or longer of repeated behavior before a cue reliably and automatically triggers a behavior, however.

Find something in your daily routine that can be a cue to work for you and start

walking. If you are not currently a walker, start out slowly and for a short duration and gradually increase your time and speed. Even a small amount of exercise is better for you than nothing at all.

And remember, the Public Health 4x4 Grant has provided walking passes for all Tribal Members and employees at Morey Court. With winter upon us, you can always go there to walk on their track. Just ask for the Tribal sign-in sheet at the front desk. And the Tribal Nimkee Fitness Center is available for treadmill walking, also.

December is Drunk Driving Prevention Month

Every day, almost 30 people in the United States die in motor vehicle crashes that involve an alcohol-impaired driver. Choose NOT to Drink and Drive. Before drinking, choose a non-driving designated driver when with a group. If out drinking, get a ride home or call a taxi. Don't let friends drink and drive.

"People who drink and drive put everyone on the road in danger"

Some likely effects on driving

After 2 beers: Your blood alcohol content will be .02% and you will have trouble doing two tasks at the same time and experience loss of judgement.

After 3 beers: Your blood alcohol content will be .05% and you will have difficulty steering and experience reduced coordination to track moving objects.

After 4 beers: Your blood alcohol content will be .08% and you will have trouble controlling speed and have difficulty processing information and reasoning. (.08% is the legal limit in Michigan.)

After 5 beers: Your blood alcohol content will be .10% and you will have a slower reaction time and trouble staying in lane and braking when needed.

After 7 beers: Your blood alcohol content will be .15% and you will have serious difficulty controlling a car and focusing on driving.

(BAC based on a 160 lb man drinking 2-7 drinks in one hour.)

Meet Santa & His Reindeer!

Jingle Splash²

Dec 19th
2:00 - 4:30

Public Welcome!
FREE!

Santa & his reindeer will be in the Hotel Courtyard

\$7.95 + TAX
Drink not included

Soup & Salad TUESDAY

New Year's Eve 2016

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Book prior to 12/12/15 and be ENTERED INTO A DRAWING TO WIN PRIZES such as a FREE 1 night stay, day passes to the Waterpark or dining credits!

New Year's Eve Package
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PACKAGE INCLUDES:

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- \$50 in Dining Credit per Room (to be used at Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel)
- \$10 per Child in Cyber Quest Credit
- Party Favors and Balloon Drop
- Complimentary Shuttle to Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort

*Number of waterpark passes issued will be based on number of registered guests.

Masquerade Party
Baffling Bill the Magician (shows at 7 pm & 10 pm)

MUSIC

Rate is for 12/31/15. Tax, resort fees and room upgrades are not included. Advance payment is required for any reservations for 12/30/15, 12/31/15 & 1/1/16. Cancellation policy requires 1 week notice for refund. Cancellations occurring less than 1 week prior will result in a forfeit of advance payment. Reservations made within 1 week of 12/30/15 will not have the ability to cancel and will forfeit their advance payment. All rooms subject to availability at the time of booking. Management reserves the right to change or discontinue this offer without notice.

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Soup & Salad Bar and Pasta Buffet are available
11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Pasta Buffet THURSDAY
\$7.95 + TAX
Drink not included

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Sports nutrition information: Locating trustworthy websites

NANCY CLARK

Nimkee Public Health

(Editor's note: The following article is provided by The Athlete's Kitchen, November 2015. The article was written by Nancy Clark, M.S., R.D., and reprinted, with permission, as a submission from Nimkee Public Health's Nutritionist Sally Van Cise.)

While the Internet is an amazing resource for sports nutrition information, it is an equally amazing source of confusion. Too many athletes spend too much time surfing the web, looking for nutrition advice about what to eat for optimal performance and good health.

Because the Internet offers the spectrum from good to bad nutrition information, knowing whom to trust can be a challenge.

To try to identify the top nutrition preachers to athletes, I searched online for "sports nutrition experts."

To my dismay, the first expert listed on the page informed me about how I could create my own brand of sports supplements and sell them to make a lot of money. Credible experts came lower on the page. But how are you, an athlete, supposed to know who's who in the nutrition zoo?

To help you find trustworthy websites for general and sports nutrition information, I have

compiled some of my favorite sites. Perhaps you will find them helpful, as well.

General nutrition websites: For information about day-to-day nutrition questions, Marion Nestle's site www.foodpolitics.com offers daily posts.

Nestle is a New York University nutrition professor with degrees in molecular biology and public health nutrition. She delves into hot topics, such as: Is high fructose corn syrup good, bad or indifferent to health? Are organic foods worth the money? Is red meat good or bad? She offers a balanced, well-educated perspective.

The website for The Center for Science in the Public Interest (www.CSPI.net.org) offers "unbiased advice to help you eat healthfully and live longer."

Part of CSPI's mission is to ensure science and technology are used for the public good (not to create the tastiest junk food.) CSPI has changed how we think about trans fats, soft drinks, fast foods, and marketing food to kids.

Among the abundant consumer information, CSPI teaches us how supermarkets get us to buy more junk food (cspinet.org/foodshopping-tricks). As a watchdog for the food industry, CSPI gets some criticism for being a bit extreme, but others value their blunt honesty.

Sports nutrition/sports science websites: For sports

nutrition information, I recommend www.GSSIweb.org, the website for the Gatorade Sports Science Institute.

While you might think that websites funded by Gatorade would be commercialized and biased towards their products, the Gatorade Sports Science Institute is the nonprofit, educational branch of Gatorade.

Their mission statement asserts that GSSI is committed to helping athletes optimize their health and performance through research and education regarding not only hydration, but also the effects of nutrition on the human body before, during and after exercise. Articles in their Sports Science Exchange area (www.gssiweb.org/en/sports-science-exchange) include a range of topics, such as GI distress, antioxidants, immune status, brain function, and protein, as well as abundant information, of course, regarding all you want to know about hydration.

Other industry-funded sports nutrition sites with trustworthy information provided by respected nutrition experts include www.powerbar.com/nutrition-in-training.

The sections on fueling and hydrating, refueling and recovery, and nutrition science include both written tips as well as short video clips of interviews with respected

researchers who suggest ways to optimize performance via smart fueling practices.

For sports nutrition information presented by a leading exercise physiologist, who is not only a researcher, but also an Ironman triathlete, look at www.MySportScience.com.

Created by Asker Juekendrup of the Netherlands, the site provides an unbiased, objective view of a wide range of sports science topics. The info graphics that appear at the top of his blog are highly educational for visual learners.

His blog addresses not only nutrition topics (Should you eat protein before going to bed?) but also overlooked information, such as why some athletes respond to sports supplements while others are non-responders. Juekendrup even offers a list of sports nutrition scientists you might want to follow on Twitter.

"How to" sports nutrition websites: If you want a bit less scientific information and more "how to" nutrition nuggets, surf on over to the USOC website: www.teamusa.org/About-the-USOC/Athlete-Development/Sport-Performance/Nutrition/Resources-and-Fact-Sheets.aspx.

You will find an assortment of sports nutrition fact sheets, including a graphic of what an athlete's plate should look like

on an easy, moderate, or hard day of exercise.

Other fact sheets will answer your questions about alcohol (Did you know a Piña Colada has 380 calories?), caffeine, and vitamin D, among many other topics.

The video clips are filled with nutrition tips, and the recipes encourage you to make your own sports foods. (Homemade sports drink, anyone?)

The Australian Institute of Sport also offers an array of nutrition information at www.ausport.gov.au/ais/nutrition.

In their Sports Supplements section, you will find sports foods and supplement ingredients divided into four groups based on current scientific evidence that determines whether a product is safe, legal and effective in improving sports performance.

For example, caffeine, a proven ergogenic aid, is in Group A, while glutamine and HMB are in Group B, suggesting they are deserving of more research. Substances with little meaningful proof of beneficial effects are in Group C, and banned substances are in Group D.

My stance on supplements remains solid: Why take them if you have not yet optimized your daily diet? The blog on my website (www.NancyClarkRD.com) can help you do just that: fuel well and win with good food!

Nimkee Holiday Hours

Tuesday Nights Nimkee Clinic will close at 7 p.m. beginning Nov. 24, 2015. The Dental Clinic will have scheduled appointments and Medical will have walk-in appointments.

Nimkee Medical, Dental, Public Health and Fitness Center will be closed Dec. 24, 2015 through Jan. 1, 2016 due to construction.

The Pharmacy will be available Dec. 28-30 from 8 a.m - 4 p.m.

Please share this with family and friends so they can properly prepare over the holiday break.

Nimkee Fitness Center Group Exercise Schedule December 2015

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8 a.m.	Aqua Fit Sharon		Aqua Fit Sharon		Aqua Fit Sharon
12:10 p.m.	Muscle Makin' Monday - Jaden	Suspension Training - Jayme	Warrior Wednesday - Jaden	Fat Blast Jayme	
1:10 p.m.			Fat Blast Jayme		Turbo Kick Beth
5:10 p.m.	Intermediate Running - Jayme				
5:30 p.m.			Belly Dance Deanna		

"Merry Christmas"

Challenge for December

Week 1: Immune System Boost

1. Wake up and drink a glass of water.
2. Eat three small meals per day.
3. Go for a daily walk.
4. Lower intake of sugar.
5. Avoid alcohol.
6. Avoid tobacco smoke.
7. Get plenty of sleep.

Week 2: Beat Stress

1. Connect with friends.
2. Pray or meditate.
3. Stretch your entire body (Hold each stretch for at least one minute).
4. Take some deep breaths.
5. Get a massage.

Week 3: Get Moving

1. Get in at least 20 minutes of cardio every day (walk, jog, run, bicycle).
2. Perform at least eight different exercises on two days.
3. Perform two to three sets of 12 ab crunches on three days.
4. Take the stairs instead of the elevator.
5. Do floor exercises during TV commercials (ab crunches or push ups).

Week 4: Boost Energy

1. Eat breakfast everyday.
2. Take a multi-vitamin daily.
3. Snack on whole grains, which give you a slow and steady release of energy.
4. Take a walk around the block and boost energy.
5. If you are tired, take a power nap.
6. Put up Christmas lights.

Week 5: Gratitude Week

1. Wake up and smile.
2. Say a thank you prayer each day.
3. Give a helping hand to someone.
4. Give back to your community by volunteering.
5. Visit an elderly family member.



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MAKE YOUR HOLIDAYS A
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WE'RE GIVING AWAY \$56,500 IN CASH & PREMIUM PLAY!

DEC. 31, 12PM-JAN. 1, 2AM

Spend New Year's Eve with us and you could win big! Just earn 700 points on your Players Club card and you'll get to play a New Year's Match & Win game at any of our kiosks.

- Photo/video booths where you can make your own flipbook or "boogie heads" video!

STUFF THE BUS!

BRIGHTEN A CHILD'S HOLIDAYS.

SAT., DEC. 5 | 9AM-5PM

Help us stuff our shuttle bus with toys that will be donated to the Arenac County Christmas for Kids program. When you donate, we'll give you \$10 in Premium Play!*

*Items must be new unwrapped toys and NOT used toys. Toy must be at least \$10 in value to be eligible for Premium Play.



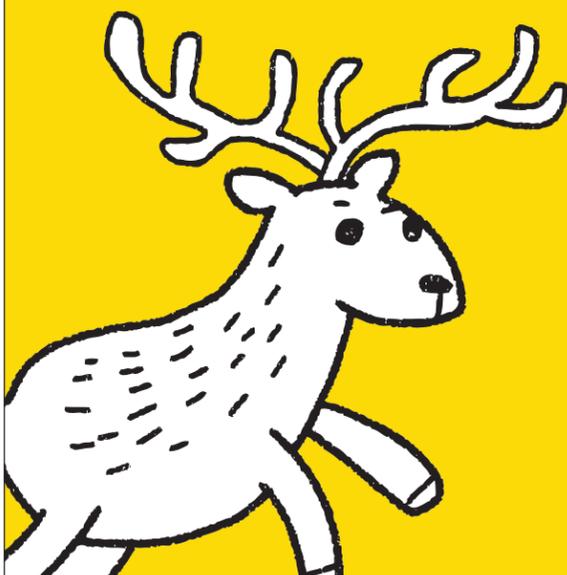
DEER SANTA

WIN YOUR SHARE OF
\$6,350 IN CASH & PRIZES!

SUNDAYS, 11AM-8PM | DEC. 6-20

Earn 500 points on your Players Club card and receive a free, stuffed reindeer! Your new friend could win you a gift card, Premium Play or cash!*

*Limited quantity available on each date.





It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas for Andahwod and Member Services

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Frankenmuth is widely considered one of Michigan's premier tourist destinations, and for the Elders of Andahwod and Member Services, it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas.

Nearly 100 Elders made the pilgrimage to Michigan's "Little Bavaria" with a festive holiday spirit moving through the smiles of staff and patrons alike.

Elisa Schleder, elder community activity assistant, made sure everyone made it up to the second floor Austria Room safely.

"The Elders enjoyed the shopping at the ground level Castle Shops and meal at the Bavarian Inn," Schleder said. This trip for the Andahwod Elders was supported by the raffle fundraisers."

The Bavarian Inn Restaurant serves home cooked meals and since 1888, more than 20 million guests have returned to feast on their world-famous "all-you-can-eat" family-style dinners.

The German-themed feast included platters of premium golden chicken, delicious international specialty breads, homemade chicken noodle soup, coleslaw, fresh salads, dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, buttered noodles, and hot vegetables along with their signature homemade ice cream.

Tribal Elder Judy Bannister joined her sister Ellie Van Horn on the trip and has always enjoyed the Frankenmuth trip, especially during the holiday season.

"We had a great time getting to know each other and enjoyed conversing about a lot of things," Bannister said. "The meal was super good... it always is! I love coming here and it's really not that far of a trip."

Tribal Elder Clarence Squanda attended exclusively for the world famous chicken dinner with his sister Marlene Sova along with Paul and Ivana Stevens.

"I really like the idea of the Andahwod Elders being able to come to an event



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal Elder Joe Fowler (left) took the long drive from Freeland to make the dinner with his family.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

It's all in the family with the Squandas when Clarence (left to right) gets together with his sister Marlene, and Paul and Ivana Stevens.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Friends Helen Peters and Elisa Schleder display the bounty that brings thousands of visitors to the Bavarian Inn.

and join the At-Large Elders; I appreciate the camaraderie it brings," Squanda said. "I kind of look at this as a meet and greet..."

The shopping started to spread through the streets of Frankenmuth past the River Shops due south to the iconic place where the joy and excitement of the Christmas season is present 362 days a year.

The sights, sounds, and spirit of "Bronner's CHRISTmas Wonderland" completely surround any shopper at this store, which is the size of one-and-a-half football fields.

Based on the success and turnout of the first ever collaborative field trip by the Andahwod Elders and the At-Large Tribal Elders from Member Services, this is an opportunity that others surely would not want to miss.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal Elder Guy Fallis hears something going on in back of him and Estella Halliwill isn't quite sure what it is.

DECEMBER 2015 Tribal Elder Birthdays

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 William Leksche | 16 Lanette Zaleski, Virginia Hoon, Sylvia Zelinski |
| 3 Alvin Chamberlain, Alfreda Jenkins, James Bailey, Rebecca Fuller, Nancy Rossbach, Patricia Sprague | 17 Shirley Burch, Stephanie Peters, Deborah Colley, Donna DeLap |
| 4 Sandra Charles, Cynthia Cisneros, Brenda Rubin | 18 Alfred Dennis, Eleanor Hawk, Vivian Meredith, Cynthia Sprague |
| 5 Julie King, Tony Stevens, James Wheaton | 19 Carol Jackson, Pamela Shawboose |
| 6 Teri Bennett, Lorraine Dumas, Margaret Worsham | 20 Clinton Pelcher Jr., Richard Davis, Deborah Jackson, Jason Slater |
| 7 Tracy Chamberlain, Le Etta Hansen, John Wheaton | 21 David Bonnau, Faith Davis, Jacqueline Roach, Janice Walker |
| 8 Mary Floyd, Wayne Johnson Sr. | 22 Dale Fowler Jr., Lori Rickie |
| 10 Suzanne Cross, James Maki, Douglas Zocher | 23 Jim Davis |
| 11 Paul Jackson, Sandra Smith | 24 Brenda Miller, Michael Poolaw |
| 12 Bradford Mandoka, Ruth Moses, Beverly Pamp-Ettinger, Kenneth Sprague, Albert Waynee, John Brown, Sue Kusowski | 25 Terry Bonnau, Steven Pelcher, Mary Rosebrock, Joey Fowler |
| 13 Randall Bennett, Alma Mitchell, Gerald Moggo, Stella Pamp, Timothy Stevens | 26 John Bennett, Bernice Hendrickson, LuAnn Phillips, Patricia Wemigwans, Helen Black, Frank Cloutier, Earlene Jackson, Timothy Smith Jr. |
| 14 Marlene Collins, Ronald Johansen, Ida Ruth Lenhart, Marjorie Gordon, Ruth Mullins, Cheryl Roy, John Trepanier | 27 Yolanda Gonzalez, Paul Stevens, Carol White-Pigeon |
| 16 Ronald Douglas, Darlene Munro | 29 Judy Bryant, Thomas Kequom, William Castle |
| | 30 Virginia Zocher, Jerome Whitepigeon Sr. |
| | 31 Mary Saboo |

Andahwod Thanksgiving

Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal youth Noah Sprague enjoys the holiday event with his Great-grandmother Carole Tally.

Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

The Saginaw Chippewa Youth Council joined the Andahwod staff as guest servers for the Thanksgiving feast. (Pictured left to right: Youth Council members Kenson Taylor, Joseph Wemigwans, Jasmyne Jackson, Quincey Jackson and Youth Council Advisor Tonya Jackson.)

Andahwod CCC & ES Events - December 2015

Crafts with Roger
Mondays | 1 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4302

Euchre & Potluck
Mondays | 6 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4300

Beading with Elisa
Tuesdays | 5 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4302

Jewelry with Kay
Dec. 1 | 1 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4302

Language Bingo
Dec. 3 | 1 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4302

Elders Breakfast
Dec. 9 & 23 | 9 a.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4300

Elders Christmas Party
Dec. 14 | 4:30 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4300

****Activities and events are subject to change.**



DECEMBER 2015 EVENT PLANNER

Al-Anon Family Group Meeting

December 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 | 5 p.m.

- Location: Behavioral Health
- Contact: 989-775-3742
- Strength and hope for friends and families of problem drinkers.

Digital Storytelling Workshop

December 1-3 | 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- Location: Ziibiwing Cultural Center
- Contact: 989-775-4893
- Make a three to five minute movie about addiction recovery.

nDigiFest Film Festival

December 4 | 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

- Location: Ziibiwing Cultural Center
- Contact: 989-775-4893
- Digital stories will be screened.

Women to Women Group

December 4 | 12 - 3 p.m.

- Location: Behavioral Health
- To RSVP: 989-775-4654
- For those approaching menopause and beyond.
- Presenter: Eric Decker, Nimkee pharmacist
- Topic: "Ask the Pharmacist"

Jake and Mary Pine: Traditional Practitioner

December 7, 8 | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- Location: Seventh Generation
- To make appointment: 989-775-4787

Women's Tradition Society

December 7, 14, 21, 28 | 5 - 6:30 p.m.

- Location: Behavioral Health
- Contact: 989-775-4879

Behavioral Health Family Dinner Night

December 16 | 6 - 8 p.m.

- Location: Seventh Generation
- Contact: 989-775-4400
- Suicide Myth Buster: Together, let's learn the truths and myths regarding suicide.
- Meal provided.

SCA Winter Program

December 16 | 6 - 8 p.m.

- Location: SECR Entertainment Hall
- Contact: 989-775-4523

Housing Financial Workshop

December 17 | 12 p.m.

- Location: Housing Conference Room
- Contact: 989-775-4552

Christmas Family Bingo

December 17 | 6 p.m.

- Location: Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
- Contact: 989-775-4149

Happy Holidays: Christmas Brunch

December 18 | 11 a.m.

- Location: Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
- Contact: 989-775-4004

Family Movie Night: Star Wars Episode 7

December 20 | 12:30 p.m.

- Location: Celebration Cinema
- Contact: 989-775-4115
- Two free tickets for each Tribal I.D.
- Free small popcorn and pop per ticket, courtesy of SCIT
- Tickets can be picked up at 8 a.m. on Dec. 18 at the Tribal Operations main entrance.

Ugly Sweater Bowling Tournament

December 19 | 12 - 5 p.m.

- Location: Chippewa Lanes
- Contact: 989-775-4149

Trip to Detroit Pistons Game

January 16 | TBD

- Location: Palace of Auburn Hills
- Contact: 989-775-4149
- \$70 per ticket.
- No hold on tickets.
- Transportation is limited. (First come first serve basis)
- Tribal Members only.
- Pistons vs. Golden State Warriors.
- Ages 13 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

ATTENTION

Anishinabe Ogitchedaw
Veteran & Warrior Society Members

Now Recruiting New Members

Meetings Will be Held

The 1st Tuesday of the Month in Seniors Room
Time: 6 p.m. | For More Information: 775-4175

Due to the Christmas holiday, curbside collection will be delayed one day:

Friday, Dec. 25 will be Saturday, Dec. 26.

TRIBAL COMMUNITY CALENDAR | DECEMBER 2015

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT./SUN.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SECR Payroll ● SCIT Per Capita ● SCIT Payroll ● Waste Collection* <small>*Bins must be curbside by 6:30 a.m.</small> 	<p>1</p> <p>Ogitchedaw Meeting Seniors Room 6 p.m.</p> <p>Euchre Andahwod 6 - 8 p.m.</p> <p>Sasiwaans Classes Tribal Library 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.</p> <p>Youth Council Meeting Tribal Gym 3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p> <p>Traditional Teaching Saganing 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p> <p>Parent Advisory Meeting SCA 5 - 6 p.m.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p> <p>Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m.</p> <p>New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Talking Circle Andahwod 10 a.m.</p> <p>6</p> <p>New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Euchre Andahwod 6 - 8 p.m.</p> <p>Sasiwaans Classes Tribal Library 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.</p> <p>Youth Council Meeting Seniors Room 3:30 - 5 p.m.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p> <p>Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p> <p>Annual Appreciation Dinner Ziibiwing 6 - 8 p.m.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Tribal Observer Deadline 3 p.m.</p> <p>AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m.</p> <p>New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Talking Circle Andahwod 10 a.m.</p> <p>13</p> <p>New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p>
<p>14</p> <p>Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Euchre Andahwod 6 - 8 p.m.</p> <p>Sasiwaans Classes Tribal Library 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.</p> <p>Youth Council Meeting Tribal Gym 3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p> <p>Tribal Education Advisory Meeting Meeting 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p> <p>Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m.</p> <p>New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Talking Circle Andahwod 10 a.m.</p> <p>20</p> <p>New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Euchre Andahwod 6 - 8 p.m.</p> <p>Sasiwaans Classes Tribal Library 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.</p> <p>Youth Council Meeting Seniors Room 3:30 - 5 p.m.</p>	<p>24</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">Tribal Ops Closed</p> <p style="color: green;">Christmas Eve</p>	<p>25</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">Tribal Ops Closed</p> <p style="color: green;">Christmas Day</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Talking Circle Andahwod 10 a.m.</p> <p>27</p> <p>New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Euchre Andahwod 6 - 8 p.m.</p> <p>Sasiwaans Classes Tribal Library 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.</p> <p>Youth Council Meeting Seniors Room 3:30 - 5 p.m.</p>	<p>31</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">Tribal Ops Closed</p> <p style="color: green;">New Year's Eve</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; font-weight: bold;">Talking Circle</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Andahwod Maple Room</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em;">For more information, contact: Kim 989.289.3088, Roger 989.944.1937</p>	



Tribal Observer Classifieds

To place your ad, call the Tribal Observer at 989-775-4010, Email: 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. * Job postings are subject to change daily.**

- 100 Employment
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- 130 Services
- 135 Events
- 140 Giveaways
- 145 Miscellaneous

100 Employment

Tribal Operations

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.

Police Officer FT

Open to the public. Must be a U.S. citizen. Must be at least 21 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Associates degree preferred. Must be able to pass departmental fitness evaluation. Must be MCOLES certified/certifiable or capable of meeting certifiable standards. Must be able to obtain and maintain a Special Law Enforcement Commission through the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Must have a valid Michigan driver's license, insurable under the Tribe's policy.

Human Resources

Director

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in business or human resource management; master's degree preferred. A minimum of 10 or more years experience in human resources management. Must have an in-depth background in developing, implementing and managing HR programs, benefit contract negotiations, compensation programs, familiarity with governmental regulations and complex organizational structures, as well as training and development.

General Labor Pool

Tribal Member posting. Must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent.

Safety Coordinator

Open to the public. High school diploma and two years related experience or equivalent combination of education and experience. Ability to read and interpret documents such as safety rules, operating and maintenance instructions and procedure manuals.

Leadership Apprentice

Must be a Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Member. 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 GPA.

Sasiwaans Early

Childhood Manager

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in education field required. Candidate

must possess a valid State of Michigan Early Childhood Certification and/or ZS Endorsement. Prefer two years of experience and/or combination of related experience and training in early childhood education.

Interim Senior Assisted Living Administrator

Open to the public. Must possess a master's degree in health or human services or similar degree. Must have a minimum of five years administrative experience and a history in personnel management. Experience working with tribal communities and outside systems is required. Knowledge of aging services, assisted living services, Medicare and long term care services required.

Interim Bookkeeper

Open to the public. Two-year degree in accounting plus one year of experience in accounts payable or three years qualifying experience in accounts payable. Analytical problem solving and organization skills. Ability to handle confidential data. Ability to use 10-key calculator and other office equipment.

Dentist

Open to the public. Minimum requirements include DDS/DMD degree from an accredited school and a Michigan Dental License. Must complete a fingerprint/background check. Duties include the provision of dental services associated with a general dentistry clinic to patients served at the facility assigned, or to any other facility or program where the Tribe provides services in accordance with privileges granted. The staff dentist will be responsible for daily activities under the supervision of the chief dental officer.

Case Manager

Open to the public. Master's degree in social work from a school accredited by the Council of Social Work Education is required. Must have current clinical license to practice social work in the State of Michigan. Minimum of two years of experience in related field. Working knowledge of substance abuse treatment protocols, the judicial/legal system required. Experience related to the appropriate recipient population required. Knowledge of Native American traditions and culture preferred.

Primary Language

Immersion Specialist

Open to the public. Must possess specialized unique skills which include a high level of demonstrated fluency, knowledge of age appropriate teaching techniques and a clear understanding of immersion philosophy and language acquisition, five years experience teaching Anishinabemowin. A Bachelor's degree in education and/or possession of a teaching certificate preferred. Must complete a criminal records check in accordance with the State of Michigan.

Hiring in accordance with Indian Preference Laws.

Anishinabe Language Revitalization Director

Open to the public. Minimum five years specific demonstrated experience developing and working with Anishinabemowin programs/projects. Knowledge and certification in native language instruction or bachelor's degree or equivalent combination of education and Anishinabemowin-related experience. Applicant must demonstrate fluency and a strong working knowledge about Anishinabemowin. Person must possess experience developing new programs through research to successful implementation.

Social Services

Support Tech

Open to the public. Must have an associates degree or two years of college. Experience in human services is helpful, but not required. Must have knowledge of or experience with Native American communities. Must have reliable transportation. Must successfully pass a criminal history background check. Hiring in accordance with Indian Preference Law.

Teacher

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in education. Must possess a valid Michigan Elementary Teaching Certificate. RTI experience required in reading and math. Knowledge and/or experience working with Native American students or diverse populations preferred. Must be willing to attend training.

Clerical Pool

Tribal Member posting. Must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent.

Victims of Crime

Advocate

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree or greater in counseling, social work, sociology, psychology, law enforcement, criminal justice, or law. Counseling experience within Native American communities, including victims of crime counseling programs, social work, substance abuse, law enforcement, or family counseling desirable for successful applicant.

SECR

Central Plant Operator FT

Open to the public. Must be 18 years of age or older. High school diploma or equivalent is required. At least three years experience in a central plant or mechanical equipment environment utilizing equipment as described in essential job duties. Must be able to operate computerized equipment and devices. Must have a valid state of Michigan driver's license.

Sous Chef

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

equivalent. Culinary degree from an American Culinary Federation accredited school or must have five years direct experience in food production. Must have excellent supervisory, organizational, and food production skills. Must have ability to comprehend house training and pass by 65 percent standardized written culinary competency test and by 70 percent product I.D. and cooking practical test.

Carpet/Upholstery Cleaner FT

Open to the public. Some carpet and upholstery cleaning experience required. Knowledge of truck mount system a plus. Must pass training test on truck mount operation within 90-day probation period. Knowledge in various chemicals pertaining to daily maintenance of furniture upholstery and carpet. Must have a valid Michigan drivers license, high school diploma or equivalent, be able to obtain a Service License and Tribal drivers license and qualify for coverage by our insurance carrier.

Transit Driver PT

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.

Steward PT

Open to the public. Must be 18 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or GED.

Host/Hostess PT

Open to the public. Must be 18 years of age, have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must have good guest service skills and work well with others.

Lead Cook

Open to the public. Must be 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent. Two years of restaurant cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility, proven leadership, communication and teamwork skills.

Server Assistant PT

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

Waitstaff PT

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

Line Server PT

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

Inventory Control Warehouse PT

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

Cosmetologist PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years or older upon employment. High school diploma or equivalent required. Must possess and maintain a Michigan state license in Cosmetology, with 1600 training hours, followed by completion of State License with two year renewal required. One year experience preferred. Must be able to work days, nights, weekends, and holidays.

Gaming Commission Member

Open to the public. Must be enrolled as a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and at least 18 years old. Must be eligible to be licensed in accordance with the highest standards for gaming employees under tribal and federal law and submit a complete background investigation and periodic background review. Must be drug free at all times and submit to initial drug screening and random drug testing. Must have own transportation and a valid driver's license.

Accountant

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in accounting or bachelor's degree in business with an accounting minor. Must have computer experience with spreadsheets and word processing. Working knowledge of GAAP principals. This position is an entry-level accounting position within the Resort's Accounting Department. During a period of two years, (less if job performance and evaluations dictate), this position will learn the department processes, IT systems and develop relationships with the directors, managers and supervisors to whom they service.

Security Officer PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age and have a high school diploma or equivalent. Ability to handle irate, disorderly or intoxicated guests in a professional manner. May be required to perform their duties during hazardous conditions that could include severe weather and fire.

SELC

Transit Driver FT

Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must be at least 21 years old. Must have a valid CDL with passenger endorsements or a Chauffeur's License.

Transit Driver PT

Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must be at least 21 years old. Must have a valid CDL with passenger endorsements or a Chauffeur's License.

Saganing Casino Shift Manager

Open to the public. High school diploma or equivalent. Bachelor's degree preferred. Five or more years of progressively responsible experience in gaming operations. Three or more years of management experience required, preferably in managing a department.

Finance Cashier PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age and have a high school diploma or equivalent with six months of heavy cash handling or hospitality experience in a fast paced, high pressure environment. Basic math skills with the ability to pass a written math test with 80 percent accuracy and ability to handle large amounts of currency.

Maintenance Worker PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent. Basic knowledge of electricity, plumbing and carpentry. Must have a valid Michigan drivers license.

115 For Sale

Home for Sale



Home for Sale!! 6460 Tomah Road, Mt Pleasant 3 bedroom, 1 bath with large deck, sits on 1 acre with large pole barn!! Great location within working distance for Soaring Eagle! Located just outside of City Limits!! Kathy Edwards 989-854-1866

130 Services

Fox Home Builders

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

Summons and Complaint Notices

NOTICE OF SUMMONS TO APPEAR IN THE MATTER OF MARIA CORONADO WILKINS:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court 6954 E. Broadway Rd. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 (989) 775-4800 Case no. 15-CI-0568 Plaintiff: Maria Campos 746 Hardwick St. SE Kentwood, MI 49548 vs. Defendant: Maria Coronado Wilkins 10440 E. Pickard Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 Notice to defendant: 1. You are being sued in the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court. 2. YOU HAVE 21 DAYS after receiving this summons to file an answer with the court and to serve a copy on the other party or take other lawful action. Please note that if you were served by certified mail or served outside of the reservation land you have 28 days to answer attached complaint. 3. Failure to file an answer or take other action within the time allowed may result in a default Judgment being entered against you for the relief requested in Plaintiff's complaint. **This summons expires May 10, 2016.**



Native students and staff welcome local schools to annual Education K-12 Powwow

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

More than 1,200 area students joined with local Native youth and the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Education Department on Nov. 5 and 6 in celebration of their annual K-12 Education Powwow.

Invited drums for the event included Mino Ode Singers, Wild Bear (comprised of the Genia brothers and friends from Peshawbetown) and the Potawatomi drum Southern Straight from Athens.

Keeping the powwow moving, Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Member and emcee RJ Smith has danced and announced at previous events.

Smith said he noticed positive interactions between the students and their friends who were dancing.

“When we had that opportunity for everyone to come out and dance an intertribal, a lot of their friends would flock to them and for that moment they felt like rock stars and were proud of what they were presenting on behalf of our people,” Smith said. “It was wonderful for their classmates to see them embrace who they are. We have always been survivors and the students can see that we are investing in our Tribal youth and are willing to share these teaching to all.”

Youth Leadership Manager Deb Smith said the K-12 staff



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal Fancy Shawl Dancer Treasure Jones (left) takes a break with sisters Julianna and Adrianna Garcia.

has been doing the Education Powwow for more than 15 years.

“The two-day powwow has about 2,000 students from local schools,” Deb Smith said. “The students have the opportunity to attend one of the workshops and attend the powwow. This year, workshops were crafts, storytelling, regalia, and contemporary Tribal history and lodge teachings.”

The event featured several opportunities for local students to learn from cultural workshops.

Tribal Marten Clan Elder Brian Corbiere taught students about the teaching lodge, including the structure and protocol. Students were able to embrace some experiential learning through being inside

of a teaching lodge built by K-12 staff.

Ziibiwing Assistant Director Judy Pamp and Ontario Tribal Elder Howard Kimewon taught the importance of storytelling, and mentioned this is the time of year for Anishinabe stories.

Seventh Generation Cultural Representatives LeeAnn Ruffino and Dawn Morrow were joined by K-12 staffer Debbie Peterson as they shared teachings about the four directions, four sacred medicines and some language including colors, body parts and animals.

After the teachings, the students were able to enjoy a hands-on craft exercise where they got to make a four direction key chain.

Winnay Wemigwase, youth empowerment aide, and K-12 staffer Kasey McCullough, along with Ziibiwing Youth Worker Zachary Jackson, displayed regalia from each different dance category and explained the different dance styles.

Jackson wore his men’s traditional powwow outfit.

SCIT Public Relations Manager Marcella Hadden and Administrative Assistant Eric Rodriguez provided a workshop creatively titled “Everything you wanted to know about the Tribe but were afraid to ask.”

Students were able to ask any questions they may have about the Tribe or things they have always wondered about. Hadden and Rodriguez also gave a brief history of the Tribe.

Erin Guillen, Renaissance Academy fifth grade teacher, said the Education Powwow had a powerful effect on her students.

“They were able to experience an event that will undoubtedly stay in their minds for years,” Guillen said. “This trip helps to educate our students on the history and traditions of a rich culture deeply embedded in the Mount Pleasant area. The group of students who attended the regalia presentation was asked to prepare a presentation during our writing class when we arrived back to school that day. They then informed the rest of the fifth grade what they learned in the regalia presentation.”

Native youth student dancers included Mnookmi



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

The two-day K-12 Education Powwow had local schools flocking into the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal Elder Brian Corbiere offers some storytelling to high school students in the teaching lodge.

Massey, Margie Merrill, Jenna Rios, Mattea Merrill, Adrianna Garcia, Azheen Wemigwans, Julianna Garcia, Kylie Wemigwans, Meisha Raphael, Tahlia Alonzo, Jasmine Isham, Dajia Shinos, Makayla Stevens, Liberty Moreland, Binayshee Hendrickson, Abby Nahdee, Jasmine Jackson, Madison Kennedy-Kequom, Tristan Jackson, Aiyana Sheahan, Zach Jackson, Mahayla Freeman, Quincy Jackson, Quinn Pelcher, Mona Pelcher, Grayson Montoya, Livia Pelcher, O’Felia Zapata,

Dawnseh Wilson, Ony Zapata, Lahrae Wilson, Simon Jackson, Treasure Jones, Adrian Day, Christopher Ruiz-Spencer, Alexis Trepanier and Alberta Trepanier.

Participating schools joining SCA and Sasiwaans at the “jiingtamok” were Fancher, Mary McGuire, Pullen, Winn Elementary, Kinney, Vowels, Renaissance, Ganiard, Beal City, Odyssey and West Intermediate.

The Tribe also had the full complement of Shepherd elementary, middle and high school students at this year’s celebration.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal youth Binayshee Hendrickson (left) and Jasmine Isham enjoyed dancing for their schools.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Dancers Dawnseh Wilson, Minokami Massey and Lahrae Wilson show the beauty of fancy shawls.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal Elder Howard Kimewon talks to students about Anishinabemwin (Native language).



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Men’s traditional dancer Eric Sowmick shares smiles with Tribal youth dancer Kylie Wemigwans.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal youth Carli Sprague, Alisha Raphael, Waabe Pelcher, Kenzie Moreland and Aubrey Trepanier are cooking up somethin’ with Charisse Yarch.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Invited drum Southern Straight keeps the heartbeat of the powwow in rhythm.