

June 2016 VOLUME 27 ISSUE 6
Ode'min-Giizis (Moon of the Strawberry)

\$1.00

TRIBAL OBSERVER

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

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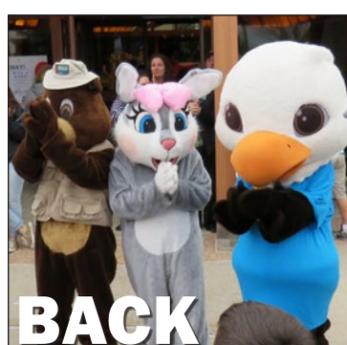
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Third drop off sweeps 62 pounds of prescription drugs out of community

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

The number of drug overdose deaths in Michigan rose by 14 percent in 2014, according to data released in March by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

"Prescription drug and opioid abuse is a problem that is impacting communities all across our state," said Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, chair of the state's Prescription Drug and Opioid Abuse Task Force, in a press release. "We are coming together to reverse this trend that is hurting Michiganders across every geographic and demographic category. No family is immune from this so all families must come together to fight the stigma of addiction and know that it's OK to ask for help."

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

and its Behavioral Health Programs continued to do its part to help eliminate unused or expired prescription pills by hosting the Community Spring Cleaning RX Drug Drop Off on Thursday, May 12.

The third Tribal drop off event was a success, collecting more pounds than the past two events.

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police reported 37 pounds, 11 ounces of assorted pills were collected, along with 12 sharps containers, approximately 3 gallons of liquid and four large trash bags of recyclable material.

Kevin Ricketts, event coordinator and prevention specialist for Behavioral Health, calculated the liquid weight and said the three gallons would be an estimated 25 pounds.

Ricketts; Jennifer Crawford, prevention coordinator; and Alice Jo Ricketts, prevention specialist, determined the total



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

The Drug-Free Teen Club, Tribal and Mount Pleasant City officers, attendees, and event organizers show off how many pounds of pills were collected throughout the day.

weight collected of expired or unused drugs (pills and liquid form combined) was 62 pounds.

"Our first drop off resulted in 26 pounds, and our second event netted 40 pounds, so we most definitely surpassed our past collections," Crawford said.

Kevin Ricketts said the number of pounds collected was a success, but reminds the community that prescription drugs may be dropped off at various locations at any time.

Drop off | 7

Tribe distributes nearly \$3 million to local units of government and area schools

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan released its semi-annual 2 percent distribution, funds derived from

Class III gaming, at its properties Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and Saganing Eagles Landing Casino on May 20.

During this spring 2016 semi-annual distribution, the Tribe gave \$2,128,364.02

to Isabella County with \$1,489,854.81 in distribution to local units of government, and \$638,509.21 towards area schools.

At the Saganing Outreach Center in Standish, Mich., the

Tribe distributed \$757,105.59 for Arenac and Northern Bay County with \$492,115.91 allocated for local units of government, and \$264,989.68 earmarked for education.

The grand total of money distributed for this semi-annual distribution was nearly \$3 million, at \$2,885,469.61.

"Our Tribal Council understands the importance and needs of local communities," said Chief Frank J. Cloutier. "The condition of our state's infrastructure meets some of those needs by focusing on roads and

Two percent | 3

Two Percent

Distribution Spring 2016

Isabella Government

- Isabella County \$356,700.94
- Gratiot/Isabella RESD \$14,344.66
- City of Mount Pleasant \$553,750
- Chippewa Township \$165,046.64
- Deerfield Township \$7,949.91
- Denver Township \$7,949.91
- Isabella Township \$184,587.91
- Lincoln Township \$22,875
- Nottawa Township \$7,949.91
- Wise Township \$9,899.93
- Village of Shepherd \$158,800

Total Government: \$1,489,854.81

Isabella Education

- Beal City Public Schools \$58,632
- Chippewa Hills Public Schools \$7,772
- Mount Pleasant Public Schools \$344,146.93
- Shepherd Public Schools \$197,550
- Morey Public Schools \$4,908.28
- Renaissance Public Schools \$5,500
- Gratiot/Isabella RESD Schools Districts \$20,000

Total Schools: \$638,509.21

Isabella Total: \$2,128,364.02

Saganing Government

- Arenac County \$260,152.46
- City of Au Gres \$19,000
- City of Omer \$10,000
- City of Pinconning \$56,289
- City of Standish \$8,328
- Arenac Township \$1,000
- Au Gres Township \$25,702
- Deep River Township \$18,114.45
- Lincoln Township \$1,000
- Mason Township \$16,000
- Pinconning Township \$1,000
- Sims Township \$1,000
- Standish Township \$22,600
- Turner Township \$20,930
- Whitney Township \$11,000
- Village of Twining \$20,000

Total Government: \$492,115.91

Saganing Education

- Arenac Eastern School District \$69,991.90
- Au Gres-Sims School District \$65,351.33
- Pinconning School District \$69,646.45
- Standish-Sterling School District \$60,000

Total Schools: \$264,989.68

Saganing Total: \$757,105.59



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal Chief Frank J. Cloutier welcomes representatives from local governments and schools at Isabella 2 Percent press conference.



Elijah Richard Jackson

May 28, 1932 – April 26, 2016

Elijah Richard Jackson, known to everyone as "Yogi," of the Isabella Indian Reservation passed away Tuesday, April 26, 2016. He was 83.

Yogi was born May 28, 1932 in Rosebush, Mich. to Willis Sr. and Elizabeth (Williams) Jackson. He retired from Central Michigan University's Facilities Maintenance Department in 1993. Yogi was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.



His father, Willis Sr., served on the first federally-recognized Tribal Council, and continued to serve as chief for several years. Yogi was one of the first volunteer bingo callers. He collected many things, especially classic cars and antiques. Yogi loved to travel and he loved to camp. He especially loved deer camp.

Although he did not have children of his own, he was blessed to be a dad, and uncle to many generations of kids, and a grandpa to Scott, Tyrone, and Jenna. Yogi was the last surviving member of the Willis and Elizabeth Jackson family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, brothers Russell, Joe, Harold, Willis Jr., and Edison; sisters Mary, Winifred, Maxine, and several nieces and nephews. Yogi's generous and kind spirit, as well as his infectious smile will be greatly missed.

Funeral services were held at Clark Family Funeral Chapel on Friday, April 29, 2016 with Rev. Owen White-Pigeon officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Chippewa United Methodist Church.

Roger Harry Ambs Jr.

Feb. 2, 1948 – May 4, 2016

Roger Harry "Chief" "Butch" Ambs Jr., age 68, of Des Moines, Iowa and formerly of Kalamazoo, Mich., died Wednesday, May 4, 2016.

Roger was born on Feb. 2, 1948 in Kalamazoo, son of Roger and Christine (Peters) Ambs Sr.

Known as a man who lived life to the fullest, he was an avid Harley Davidson motorcycle rider, enjoyed car racing, especially his 1965 Chevelle and cherished his German Shepherds.

Roger was very proud of his American Indian heritage. He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Daniel.

On May 21, 1988, Roger married the former Sandra K. Thurston, who survives him.

Also surviving him are two children, Kelly Doran and Andrew (Mary Jo) Doran; a goddaughter, Robin (Jim) Schrupp; four grandsons, Jade, Tate, Davious and Dominic Doran; a granddaughter, Marissa Doran; a brother, Ralph (Alison) Ambs; in-laws, John and Ann Thurston; a sister-in-law, Patricia (Rodger) Bolen; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

The funeral service was held Thursday, May 12 at Langeland Family Funeral Homes, Westside Chapel.

Rev. Owen James Smith Sr.

May 20, 1920 – May 21, 2016

Rev. Owen James Smith Sr., age 96, of Mount Pleasant, Mich., passed away Saturday, May 21, 2016 at his home.

Owen was born on May 20, 1920, in Lansing, Mich., the son of James Louis and Lucy (Chingwash) Smith Sr. He served during WWII in the Army Air Corps as a medic and attained the rank of Buck Sergeant First Class airman.



Owen attended Olivet Nazarene College in Kankakee, Ill., and in 1952 began his ministry career at Faith Indian Church of the Nazarene. He dedicated more than 30 years in ministry working for the Nazarene North American Indian District.

Owen married Dorothy Dozier on June 4, 1952, in Lansing.

He was a member of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians and the Faith Indian Church of the Nazarene. He enjoyed reading, doing word searches and enjoyed the bird aviary at Andahwod.

Owen is survived by his wife, Dorothy Smith of Mount Pleasant; his children, Dwight (Susanna Russo) Smith of San Francisco, Joyce Smith of Bethany, Okla., Julie (Paul) Pego of Mount Pleasant, and daughter-in-law Jeri Smith of Bethany, Okla.; four grandchildren, Michael Smith, Michelle Smith-Jaramillo, John Silversmith, David Silversmith; one great-grandchild, Alex Smith; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Owen was preceded in death by his son Owen Smith Jr.; three brothers and one sister.

Funeral services were held on Friday, May 27, at Clark Family Funeral Chapel in Mount Pleasant with Pastor Doyle Perry officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to the family.

Vivian Kay Pelcher

April 24, 1966 – April 30, 2016

Vivian Kay Pelcher, age 50, of Mount Pleasant, Mich., passed away Saturday, April 30, 2016, at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing.

Vivian was born April 24, 1966, in Flint, the daughter of Basic and Sharon (Isaac) Naganashe.



Vivian was a homemaker. She was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. She enjoyed playing bingo, golfing, traveling and movies with popcorn. Vivian loved spending time with her grandchildren.

Vivian is survived by her special friend, Robin Nieto; her children Marcine (Dominick) Shaffer of Ithaca, Theresa Pelcher, Angela Nieto (Danny Loga), and Bianca Nieto (Taylor Vasquez), all of Mount Pleasant; seven grandchildren; brother Andrew Naganashe of Lansing; sisters, Charlene (Robert) Chancellor of Flint and Karen Naganashe of Mount Pleasant.

Vivian was preceded in death by her parents and brother, Mark Stevens.

Funeral services for Vivian were held on Thursday, May 5, 2016, at Clark Family Funeral Chapel with Jake and Mary Pine - Traditional Healers officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



Promoting Healthy Food and Native Art

Every Tuesday

June 7 - Oct. 18, 2016

Where: Farmers Market Pavilion

Corner of Broadway and Leaton roads

Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Items for Sale

- Wild Rice
- Jam & Jellies
- Fresh Seasonal Produce
- Baked Goods
- Maple Syrup

For more information, please contact:

SCIT Public Relations Department at 989.775.4059

Now seeking produce and Native American art vendors.

Please contact Marcella Hadden:

989.775.4059 or mahadden@sagchip.org

- There is no charge to be a vendor.
- You do not need to be a Native American to sell produce.
- You must be a Native American to sell Native Art.

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.

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.

In Loving Memory of Joshua Mark VanHorn

"Jocko"

6-7-80 – 6-16-15

Son, Brother and Father

One year ago God called you home. It still seems like yesterday. You left a hole in our hearts that can never be filled. Not a day goes by that we don't think of you. We are thankful to the Lord for letting us have you in our lives. You were a very loving and caring person who thought of others' feelings.

We love and miss you so very, very much!

Your mother, brothers, daughter and dad!

Also your other family at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel.



Elders

Homecoming Powwow Trip

Lodging choices include:

- Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort
- Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel

*Limited rooms available at SEWPH. First come, first serve basis.

For more information, please contact:

At-Large/Member Services at 989.775.4944

Seventh Generation Revitalization of

People's Traditional Powwow

Sept. 10 & 11, 2016

Calling all community artists or families that would like to donate any kind of gift; homemade or bought for the giveaway. Family or Individual sponsored spot dances. Dance specials.

Jackson Family sponsored Hand Drum Contest!

Vendors

- Vendor sign is by donation
- Give a gift for the blanket, or sponsor a spot dance, monetary donations excepted as well.

Watch for Raffles

Raffles will include:

- Renowned Tribal Sculpture (Donated by Jason Quigno)
- Bunky Echohawk painting



If you have any questions or would like to help out in any way, please contact Seventh Generation at 989-775-4780. Miigwetch.



Check out the
Tribal Observer
ONLINE

www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver



TRIBAL MEMBERS

Receive important Tribal announcements via text messaging. Text the letters **SCIT** to the number **32363** to subscribe to SCIT



Attention: Tribal Clerk/Enrollment Hours

Tribal Clerk's/Enrollment office is closed on Fridays for walk-in/desk services for Administrative Office days, until further notice.

The Clerk's office will still be open Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. for regular business.

PER CAPITA NOTICE TO TRIBAL MEMBERS

As of May 1, 2016, the Per Capita Department will no longer mail Direct Deposit/advice statements. This effort is to cut cost and go green. An advice statement will be available immediately at NO charge as requested.

You may choose to continue to receive advice statements each pay period by a phone call, or a written request to this department. This option will incur a \$5 cost to you if a duplicate is needed in the future.

Thank you for understanding and the help to go green. We are working to meet the needs of the Tribe and membership!

All questions may be directed to the Per Capita Department.

*Have a great spring! Bah maa pi!
Per Capita Department Staff*

Two percent

continued from front page

public safety vehicles. We are excited about the continued collaboration and the opportunities we can grant in the future."

Since May 1994, when the Tribe first started the semi-annual distributions, more than 200 million (\$232,499,398.73) has been given to date.

Erik Rodriguez, interim public relations director, said this year there were 405 individual requests.

Local units of government turned in 100 requests, and 305 requests were handed in from local area schools, Rodriguez said.

"Isabella County submitted 39 government, and 260 school requests... that would have taken \$8.1 million to fund," Rodriguez said. "Saganing requests totaled more than \$2.1 million to fund the 106 submitted for Tribal Council review."

Tribal Council and the Finance Committee reviews and prioritizes the many different requests.

"As we continue to look for economic opportunities and expansion of other interests, we remain confident that our Tribe and businesses will be competitive in the marketplace," Rodriguez said.

SCIT Media offers a live web stream broadcast of both Isabella and Saganing press conferences and they are available at www.sagchip.org.



Linda, My lover lady

Happy Birthday

Love, Rogelio

Happy Father's Day

Hot Rod



Congratulations

Rachel!

I am proud of you.

Love ya, Rod

Indian Child Welfare Committee Vacancy

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

There is currently one vacancy

Letters of interest must be submitted to Anishnaabeg Child & Family Services by July 1, 2016. Please include your contact information and a brief statement about why you would like to be on the ICWC in your letter.

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

Send letter of interest to:

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

Attention Tribal Members

With the decrease in per cap coming, now is the time to contact Housing for financial and budgeting assistance.



For more information, please contact:

Sherrill Kennedy at 989-775-4552 or SKennedy@sagchip.org

Are you a SCIT Community Member between the ages of 15 & 25?

Have you attended drug or alcohol treatment? We want to hear about your experiences and opinions.

You are invited to participate in a qualitative research study and receive a \$25 Tim Horton's gift card.

Participation includes a one to two hour interview at an agreed upon time and place. Your participation will be confidential.

If you are interested in participating:

Please contact Kehli Henry at:

henry1ka@msu.edu or call or text 989.307.1414

If someone you know may be interested in participating, please give them my name and contact information.

****This study is being conducted with permission from the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council.**

Water Program seeking input from the Tribal Community

The Planning Department's Water Program staff is seeking input from the Tribal community. We would like to take you out for coffee to discuss your concerns, memories, priorities, etc. related to water resources.

If you are interested in telling us your stories, sharing your opinions, or learning more about the Water Program please contact us. Thank you.

Your Stories are Needed

The Water Quality program wants to gather first-hand stories regarding the water in this area to get a historical aspect of the Chippewa, Coldwater and Pine Rivers within Isabella County. They would also like stories of the Saganing River in Arenac County.

If you are a Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Member or a member of another tribe, please identify that in your submission as well.

Aiman Shahpurwala
Water Resource Technician | 989.775.4081

Carey Pauquette
Water Quality Specialist | 989.775.4016

Taylor Hollis
Watershed Outreach Coordinator | 989.775.4162

You can mail your submissions to:

Carey Pauquette
SCIT Planning Department
7070 E. Broadway,
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.

You can also email your submissions to:

CPauquette@sagchip.org.

We look forward to reviewing your submissions!

Planning Department/Water Quality Program Staff



Tribal Council

Chief

Frank J. Cloutier, District 3

Sub-Chief

Brent D. Jackson, District 1

Treasurer

Gayle Ruhl, District 1

Secretary

Michelle R. Colwell, District 1

Sergeant At-Arms

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Council Member

Tim J. Davis, District 1

Council Member

Lindy Hunt, District 1

Council Member

Amanda Oldman, District 1

Council Member

Kenneth Sprague, District 1

Council Member

Ron Nelson, District 2

Editorial: June Migizi EDC properties update

FREDRICK KUHLMAN

Migizi Marketing Manager

The businesses of Migizi Economic Development Company have seen an abundance of activity in the last few weeks. The seasonal businesses Waabooz Run Golf Course, Eagle Bay Marina and Soaring Eagle Hideaway RV Park have returned to full operation and are experiencing a positive opening.

Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel has seen large crowds since the beginning of the year and that trend appears to be continuing. In an effort to cross-promote Tribal properties, the current spring package for the waterpark, "Gizi's Family Getaway," includes gaming credit at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

Premium play credit at the casino helps to maximize guest visits by allowing them to experience not only the waterpark, but also spend time on the gaming floor, resulting in additional gaming revenues from the waterpark guests.

By experiencing more of the leisure and entertainment options offered by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, guest families find there truly is something available to all ages resulting in return visits.

The growth of Cardinal Pharmacy continues with new products being added and services offered.

Cardinal has been experiencing growth in its front-end retail operations as well as the pharmacy. Both pharmacists are able to assist with patients' needs and other aspects such as prescription transfers.

Tribal Members and employees who have not yet discovered the benefits of using the pharmacy are invited to visit and learn what is available to them.

Cardinal Pharmacy also offers gift baskets for all occasions. Gift baskets can be made to order or customers can select from premade baskets at very reasonable prices. There is also a selection of Michigan made and made in Michigan products available: wines, beers, T-shirts and window stickers can all be found for those who are smitten with the mitten.

Guests will also find crafts from Tribal artisans including dream catchers, dance stick and jewelry as well as smudging kits and sweet grass tails.

The renovation of the former Isabella Sagamok Shell, now Sagamok Express Mobil, has made



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

The former Isabella Sagamok Shell will now be the Sagamok Express Mobil, serving Mobil Synergy gas at their 12 gas station pumps just in time for Memorial Day weekend.

significant progress. The new canopy and dispensers have been installed and are operational.

One of the features of the new pumps is the consolidation of grades through a single hose. The former dispensers required three hoses, one for each grade of gasoline offered. Customers now will be able pump their fuel without the inconvenience of tangled hoses.

In the coming weeks, canopy lighting will be upgraded to LED style which will result in significant energy savings, the curb-side price signs on both Leaton and Broadway roads will be replaced and the parking lot will be repaved.

Management and staff would like to thank you for your patience during these upgrades.

Migizi Economic Development Company welcomes input on your Tribal businesses and is here to serve all members. Thank you for the opportunity to be of assistance.

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.



Powwow Workers Needed

Position Open date: June 1-30, 2016

Dates that will be worked:

July 28 - Aug. 1, 2016

Tribal Members only preference will be placed on NON-employed Tribal members, temp workers and seasonal workers.

Must be willing to commit to ALL 5 DAYS \$100 a day compensated



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



Local author and environmental activist Jane Keon talks toxic land, water

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Local author Jane Keon has been recognized and supported by environmental activists for her leadership and advocacy for the Pine River Superfund cleanup efforts.

Keon is a founding member of Pine River Superfund Citizen Task Force, an EPA-sanctioned Community Advisory Group that is overseeing the cleanup of chemical contamination.

She recently published a book about the first 16 years of the task force, entitled "Tombstone Town: Left for Dead, Marked with a Tombstone, A Toxic Town Fights Back."

Keon provided an overview of her work with the St. Louis, Mich. advisory group on April 21 at the Elijah Elk Cultural Center.

She was introduced by SCIT Environmental Specialist Sally Kniffen who has followed her research with great interest.

"We thought it was important to bring Jane to the Reservation to inform the community of this environmental catastrophe so close to home," Kniffen said. "Birds have been literally falling out of the air and dying and her research speaks to that. Forensic testing of the birds show exceptionally high rates of

DDT from eating contaminated worms and other insects."

The occasion marked the first time Keon has presented her research on a reservation.

"Even though we may seem far away from the Reservation, for the sake of the ancestors who made the treaty, it should be of importance to the Tribe's historical boundaries to see the river cleaned up and the fish again safe to eat," Keon said. "Since 1974, there has been a no-fish consumption advisory on the lower 36 miles of the Pine River, because of the high levels of DDT in the fish flesh. Getting the river cleaned up will benefit the Tribe and everyone else as well."

Keon was honored by Alma College President Jeff Abernathy in 2011 with the Community Service Award and by the City of St. Louis with the Spirit of St. Louis Award, and in 2014 by the Chippewa Watershed Conservancy for her efforts in protecting and preserving the Pine River.

"Keon has devoted a lot of time and energy in leading her community's environmental clean-up efforts," Abernathy said. "Her book describes the persistence of community volunteers in dealing with local, state and federal agencies. She models



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Seventh Generation Cultural Representative Ben Hinmon (left) explains the offering of prayers with author and environmental activist Jane Keon.

for our students how to use what they learn in the classroom to better their communities."

A superfund site like "Tombstone Town" is a highly contaminated and orphaned site, Keon said.

"Usually, the polluter or polluters have been allowed to leave without doing much or anything to clean the site up. Because they are 'off the hook,' U.S. taxpayers must pay for remediation at the site," Keon said. "For many years, chemical factories and refineries paid a small tax into a federal fund, the superfund, but during the Clinton administration, the tax was allowed to expire, and by the early 2000s, the money was all gone. Now money for cleanup of sites like those in

St. Louis has to be allocated to EPA by Congress."

City of St. Louis Mayor James Kelly was also in attendance.

"There had been a lot of concern about buying a home in St. Louis due to the possible contamination of the St. Louis wells," Kelly said. "Also, the EPA and the Michigan DEQ have spent hundreds of millions of dollars and have worked for over 15 years cleaning up the river and the adjacent nearby properties, which included replacing much of the yards in a nine-block area. They have the plan nearly completed for the plant site and the burn pit as well."

Kelly said the city has come together during the crisis and



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Author Jane Keon is joined by City of St. Louis Mayor James Kelly at Tombstone monument.

the agencies are starting to see their point of view and have been successful in several areas.

Keon said Velsicol had given out free fill dirt (contaminated with DDT and PBB) to St. Louis residents to fill low spots in their yards.

"Later the EPA contractor told us that while digging up yards in the neighborhood, they found evidence that what we had said really did happen," Keon said. "If they had ignored our local knowledge, much of the DDT contaminated soil in people's yards would not have been dug up and replaced with clean soil."

Soaring Eagle
Waterpark
and Hotel

Celebrate Your Birthday at the Waterpark!

\$30 ADD
Cyber Quest
\$50 in Cyber Quest Credit

\$30 ADD A
Pizza Package
2 Pizzas - Pepperoni or Cheese
2 Pitchers of Soda - Refillable During Party

\$125 Mon/Fri
\$150 Sat/Sun
Base Party Package
• 1 Hour in Party Room
• 4 Hours in Waterpark
• 10 Passes, 4 Spectator Passes & the Birthday Child is **FREE**
• Gizi Birthday T-Shirt for the Birthday Child
• Discount at Gift Shops

\$20 Reserved Table

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Soaring Eagle

BINGO





Money Smart Week storytime educates and entertains youth at Tribal Library

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

On April 25-29, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Library celebrated Money Smart Week with storytime that educates, informs and entertains Tribal youth.

Education Librarian Anne Heidemann said Money Smart Week is a public awareness campaign designed to help consumers better manage their personal finances.

“We have a ton of free resources available at the Tribal Library on topics including making a budget, planning for retirement, preventing and recovering from identity theft, understanding your credit report, dealing with foreclosure, and the risks of pay day loans,” Heidemann said.

The Tribal Library partnered with the Anishinaabe Language Revitalization Department and the Isabella Community Credit Union to make this an event for



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal students show off the materials and gifts they received during Money Smart Week as SCIT Library and ALRD staff accompany them.

kids ages 4-7 with their parent or caregiver.

“Kids will learn about financial responsibility in a fun, interactive way that also promotes reading and the Ojibwe language,” Heidemann said.

Margaret Flamand, primary language immersion specialist for ALRD, started working in the outreach program last month and was co-presenter with

Anishinabe Outreach Specialist Isabelle Osawamick.

“We did the Money Smart workshop last year and it was wonderful to do it this year together,” Flamand said. “The participants learned to count the coins and money in Anishnaabemowin. They repeated language when matching money to appropriate pictures.”

Heidemann said as part of Money Smart Week, all Saginaw Chippewa Academy students in pre-K to second grade received a free copy of the picture book, “Rosemary Well’s Bunny Money.”

“Money smart habits start early, but it’s also never too late to learn more, so sharing this information with folks of all ages is our priority,” Heidemann said. “As part of the Education Department, the Tribal libraries are committed to developing confident citizens who excel in any venture they pursue, and having money smarts is important to every individual’s success.”

Library Assistant Kimberly Condon said Money Smart Week is a great way for kids to learn what it means to save money.

“This year, the kids were able to interact with a volunteer, Melissa Voss, from (Isabella Community Credit Union) to understand the

difference between short-term goals and long-term goals. She elaborated on how to achieve them,” Condon said. “The kids also had a visual lesson about zhoonyaa (money). They used Anishnaabemowin when saying and describing different denominations. They finished the lesson with describing what they were going to buy.”

Tribal Library Assistant Lee-Anne Disel said the children were very interactive with Osawamick and Flamand and had a lot of fun learning the language.

“I love this program, not only because it’s free for everyone who participates, but it provides a lot of great information on how to better manage your personal finances,” Disel said. “It stresses the importance of financial education and learning to manage your money, and I think that’s a great thing for kids to learn at an early age.”

Drop off

continued from front page

“There are people using other dispensaries such as the Tribal Police Department’s drop box, which is in their lobby and can be used any time,” Kevin Ricketts said. “Also, Cardinal Pharmacy and Nimkee (Medical Clinic) have the capability of accepting unwanted or expired prescription drugs. The community victory will be when individuals are not holding onto these items and are getting rid of them at proper places immediately.”

Mount Pleasant’s Division of Public Safety building at 804 East High St. also offers a 24/7 mail slot for prescription drop offs.

Pain killers are powerful opioids that are highly addictive. Opioid dependence affects millions of Americans today.

Prescribed opioids can lead to the use of highly addictive and dangerous illegal substances, especially heroin. Michigan ranks 10th nationally in per capita prescription rates of opioid pain relievers and 18th in the nation for all overdose deaths, according to www.michigan.gov

Michigan Department of Health and Human Service’s data shows that total drug

poisoning deaths increased from 1,535 in 2013 to 1,745 in 2014 – continuing an upward trend since 2012. In 2014, this was the number one cause of injury related-death in Michigan.

For a few years prior to 2012, the number of drug poisoning deaths had appeared to level off, following a general rise since the late 1990s. In 1999, there were 455 drug poisoning deaths in Michigan, according to MDHHS.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Officer Trent Vatter drops prescription pills into the collection bucket during the third Tribal RX Drop Off event on May 12.

The new data comes as MDHHS continues efforts to address opioid and heroin use in the state. In October 2015, the Michigan Prescription Drug and Opioid Abuse Task Force released several findings and recommendations related to the abuse of these drugs in Michigan and strategies to curb them.

“As members of the health-care community, we need to work together and engage all of our partners to combat the opioid epidemic in Michigan,” said Tim Becker, chief deputy director of MDHHS. “The Michigan Prescription Drug and Opioid Abuse Task Force recommendations will continue to guide our efforts on this issue moving forward.”

Kevin Ricketts said the Tribal drop off occasion was not only rewarding for the event coordinators, but the community as a whole.

“Having community members come out to not only drop something off, but to socialize and share laughs and stories is a reward in itself,” he said.

The event was held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Native Farmers Market Pavilion on the corner of Broadway and Leaton roads.

Behavioral Health also collaborated with numerous Tribal departments including Migizi Economic Development Co., Cardinal Pharmacy, Sagamok Express and Public Relations.

Tribal Police joined forces with the City of Mount Pleasant Police department to collect the unwanted or expired drugs.

My 104.3 radio station was on site from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for a live promotion, and 95.3 WCFX was present from 2 to 4 p.m.

Ten 16 Recovery Network was in attendance, along with members of the Drug-Free Teen Club including Mount Pleasant High School students Evelyn House and Hailey Ritter, and Shepherd High School student Kaitlyn Glowacki.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Saginaw Chippewa Chief of Police Donielle Bannon (right) discusses the benefits of turning in unused or expired prescription pills during her interview with My 104.3 WCZY’s Tina Sawyer.

“I would like to thank the community and everyone who worked to make this event happen,” Kevin Ricketts said. “I am already looking forward to 2017.”

Anyone 18 years or older who deposited their unused or expired pills was given \$10 in premium play, for the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort. All participants were entered into a drawing for numerous prizes.

The grand prize included a backyard gas grill, won by Wendy Pierce.

New Tribal Police Officers sworn in



Observer photos by Natalie Shattuck

On Monday, May 16, two new Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police officers, Dylan Rockafellow (left) and Killian Frisch, were sworn in by Chief Frank J. Cloutier in Council chambers.

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Anishinabe Performance Circle honors graduates at the historic Broadway Theatre

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways hosted its Anishinabe Performance Circle to promote the arts and culture of the Anishnaabek.

The occasion marked the 11-year anniversary of the Anishinabe Performance Circle, which brought both youth and adult dancers to the program.

The Circle fosters a greater understanding of cultural heritage through educational cultural presentations.

The mission of the Circle is aimed at promoting and enhancing positive self-images of Anishinabe children through the use of traditional Anishinabe arts (storytelling, dance, music, and language), and preparing youth as Anishinabe leaders in a multi-cultural society.

Ziibiwing Assistant Director Waabanoqua (Judy Pamp) said this was the second year Ziibiwing offered an adult and teen Anishinabe class together on Wednesdays.

The May 3 program was held at the historic Broadway Theatre in downtown Mount Pleasant and featured a grand



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Congratulations to the Spring 2016 Anishinabe Performance Circle graduating class.

entry with each dancer doing their introduction to the community in Anishinabemowin.

The exhibition featured an inter-tribal, canoe song, biinoojins swing song followed by a traditional men's song, men's grass and fancy, hoop dance, women's jingle, women's fancy and closed with a dramatic performance of an eagle dance.

Anishinabe Performance Circle adult graduates were Joaquin Guerrero, Christopher Spencer-Ruiz, Robin Spencer, Amanda Brock and Jennifer Lindstrom.

Anishinabe Performance Circle youth graduates included Brielle Brown, Brooke Brown, Sofia Astley, Charlotte Ford, Aakeeya Holt, Wren Olson,

Michael Ekdahl, Bree Sprague, Jordan Floyd, Mia Floyd, Kadenn Rose, Kaya Rose and Kyvon Rose.

Dance instructors included Waabanoqua; and Ziibiwing Visitor Services employees including Raymond Cadotte, representative; Zachary Jackson, youth worker; and Renata Borton, coordinator.

Serving as guest dance instructors were grass dancer Bud Day, men's fancy feather dancer Gegek Pamp and jingle dress dancers Virginia D'Artagnan and Aiyanah Borton.

Performance helps included men's fancy feather dancer Gegek Pamp (Shepherd High School) and jingle dress dancers Virginia D'Artagnan (Mount Pleasant High School),

Abby Nahdee (Mount Pleasant High School) and Aiyanah Borton (Shepherd Middle School).

Waabanoqua serves as the emcee and offered a chi-miigwetch to the parents, grandparents and many other community members who have assisted with the Anishinabe Performance Circle.

"I would also like to thank the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council for their continued support along with the SCIT Housing, Ziibiwing Center and the Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel's Nbakade Restaurant for catering the graduation reception," Waabanoqua said. "Your dedication to our culture, history, language and children helps our great nation remain strong."

Ziibiwing Director Shannon Martin recently informed Tribal Council she received news on April 25 about the good work the Anishinabe Performance Circle is doing.

"Judy was just informed via email that the Ziibiwing Anishinabe Performance Circle is a finalist for the 2016 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award (NAHYP) by the President's

Committee on the Arts and the Humanities," Marin said.

The Anishinabe Performance Circle program made the top 50 out of 301 programs from 44 states.

"I would like to commend Judy Pamp, Renata Borton, Raymond Cadotte and Amanda Lewis for their diligence in writing and submitting the application and necessary data to the selection committee," Martin said. "Congratulations to all present and past Anishinabe Performance Circle participants, instructors and volunteers."



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Anishinabe Performance Circle youth Sofia Astley proudly displays her graduation certificate to the Broadway Theatre audience.

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| American Indian Dances | July 2, 9, 16, 23 |
| Kids & Culture Day | July 15 |
| NativeFest | |
| Collection Showing | July 25-30 |
| Car Bingo | July 26 |
| Music & Comedy Night | July 27 |

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Monday, June 6, 2016 • 7am - 4pm

- **MISSION CREEK CEMETERY**
1475 S. Bamber Rd - Mt. Pleasant, MI
7:00am Sunrise Ceremony
- **BOARDING SCHOOL SITE**
1400 W. Pickard - Mt. Pleasant, MI
(Near corner of Pickard & Crawford)

| | |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00am | Breakfast (provided) |
| 9:30am | Pipe Ceremony |
| 10:00am | Grand Entry & Flag Song |
| | <i>Welcoming all Pipe Carriers & Tribal Flag Bearers</i> |
| | Student Roll Call "Remembering the Deceased" |
| | Prayer & Special Guest Speakers |
| | Silent Auction begins |
| 12:00pm | Lunch (provided) |
| 1:30pm | Special Guest Speakers (continued) |
| 3:00pm | Jingle Dress Healing Dance & Celebratory Round Dance |
| | <i>Welcoming all Jingle Dress Dancers</i> |
| 3:30pm | Silent Auction ends |
| 4:00pm | Giveaway & Traveling Song |

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Contact
Amanda Lewis
alewis@sagchip.org
or 989.775.4734

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Call the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan's Public Relations Department at 989.775.4074 or e-mail the Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School Committee at miibs@sagchip.org



Editorial: Tory Fletcher receives Seasonal Operator of the Year award

BONNIE SPRAGUE

SEWPH General Manager

Each year, the Pure Michigan Governor's Tourism Conference on Tourism solicits nominations for their Stars of the Industry Awards. There are many award categories but each hotel property is limited to the number of nominations. This year, I nominated

Tory Fletcher for Seasonal Operator of the Year.

The Seasonal Operator of the Year Award is presented to an exceptional operator who finds innovative ways to attract and retain customers, inspire employees to provide optimal customer service, and drives new revenues, reduces expense while expanding operations.

In April, the Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel management was notified that Tory was named the Seasonal Operator of the Year Award. Tory received an engraved plaque, \$200 cash reward, room accommodations, and dinner on April 18 at the Pure Michigan Governor's Conference at the Lansing Center.

Tory always finds a way to go the extra mile to keep our picture-perfect golf course. Tory works endless hours six days a week during the season. His day begins at 6 a.m. and sometimes he can be seen on the course from dusk to dawn. Tory always delivers that extra touch that makes our golf course the talk of the town.

Part of my enjoyment in my

position has been working with our quality managers throughout the years. But Tory has amazed me in terms of performance, enthusiasm and results.

He has a true love for golf, along with the pride and joy of his work and the guests that he encounters during each season. Please join me in congratulating Tory for a job done well.

Editorial: Rain barrels help to "green" your home naturally

TAYLOR HOLLIS

Watershed Outreach Coordinator

According to the United States Geological Service, "Estimates vary, but each person uses about 80-100 gallons of water per day. Are you surprised that the largest use of household water is to flush the toilet, and after that, to take showers and baths?"

You can help reduce demands on local water systems by conserving water in your home. Turning off the water while you brush your teeth and taking shorter showers is surely a great start to decreasing demand on the water systems. However, these are only part of your opportunity to conserve water at home.

Water conservation in your home is simple to address and essential to implement. By

lessening demand on local aquifers and surface water withdrawals, we allow Mother Earth to have more control of her natural processes.

During periods of heavy rainfall, oil, pesticides, fertilizers, garbage, animal waste, and many other contaminants found in yards and on paved surfaces are washed into our waterways. By harvesting rainwater with a rain barrel, you can help reduce runoff and pollution to our waterways.

Rain barrels are a wonderful investment. The water saved in a rain barrel can be used to water gardens, lawns and plants. Natural rain water is beneficial to plants because it is free of harmful chemicals and salts. In addition, harvesting rainwater can also save you money on monthly water and energy bills.

A rain barrel is installed under the downspout on your homes gutter system. Sometimes a diverter is required for proper hook-up. Generally, the barrel needs to be raised on blocks or other material to reach the downspout. There is often a screen to prevent mosquitos from entering, but this is important to confirm when purchasing.

Near the bottom, there is a spigot where a hose can be attached. Although most rain barrels are fairly neutral in appearance, most being brown, green, or blue, some people paint and decorate their rain barrel in all kinds of creative ways.

If you are interested in purchasing a rain barrel for your home or business, Little Forks Conservancy is having a sale. Pre-orders are due by June 6

and pickup is in Midland, Mich. on June 11 from 9 a.m. until noon.

The cost is \$90 and proceeds benefit the Conservancy. To order your rain barrel, call 989-835-4886 or visit www.littleforks.org/2016/04/rain-barrel-sale/.

Rain barrels can also be purchased at your local home

improvement store. For more information about rain barrels or if you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at 989-775-4162, thollis@sagchip.org, or stop in the Planning Department.

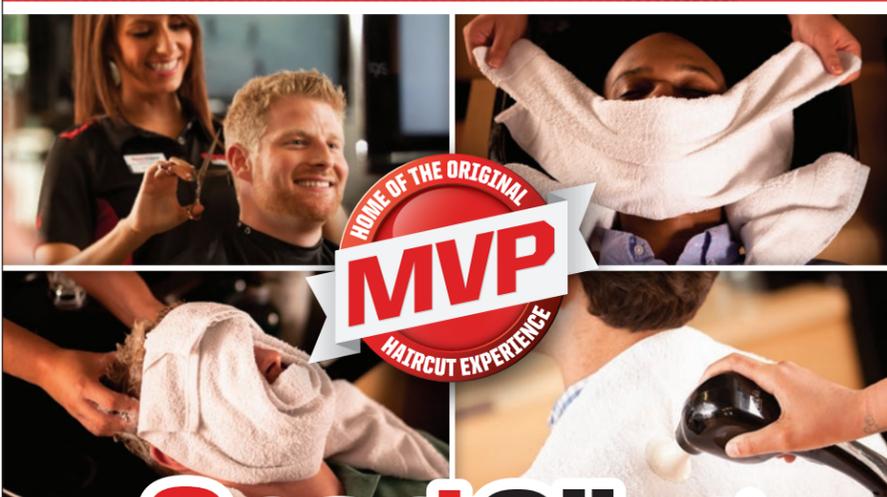
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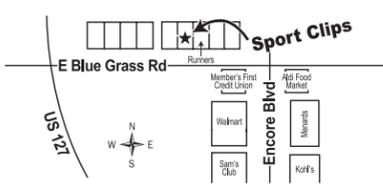
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| applique | agogwaajigan |
| ancestor | aanikoobijigan |
| powwow | jiingtamok |
| season | apaabowe |
| outdoors | agawjiing |
| dance | niimikaw |
| food | mijjim |
| visit | mawadish |
| festivities | baapinakamigad |
| Father | imbaabaa |
| bless | zhawenin |
| protect | gizhaawaso |
| wise | nibwaakaa |
| leader | eshpabid |
| accomplish | gashki'ewizi |

ANISHINAABEMOWIN WORD SEARCH

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

GII-KCHISHKI'ESWIM GAZHAABSHKAANG'GIK
 "CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES"

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 Wigwam: I don't know how to deal with a family member who constantly yells at her children in public. This behavior has even ruined family gatherings because of the awkwardness of it. The kids never really do anything wrong but their mother has very little patience. I don't know how to handle this because if you say anything, then she will go off on you, in front of everyone. No one really says anything as they accept she is that way but it's getting to the point where I'm afraid that it is ruining the kid's self-esteem. Not sure how to handle this. **Get a Grip**

Dear Get a Grip: It is difficult to deal with angry people and you never know when or if it will be directed towards you. If this behavior is displayed in public, can you imagine what happens behind closed doors? I suggest you take a risk and in a calm manner, state how it makes you feel to hear how the children are spoken to. Don't say it in an attempt to change her behavior but say it because the kids can't. Praise the children whenever you have a chance and if you feel it is to the point of verbal abuse, notify the authorities. She may not be aware of how she sounds or that it affects anyone.

Dear Wigwam: I've been married for three years now and although I love and adore my wife, I admit I have had thoughts of contacting a girl I knew in high school. I came across her name on Facebook and she looks great. I even dreamt of her the other night. She broke up with me for another guy and this had plagued me for years. I see she is single now and would like to ask her about it. **Dazed & Confused**

Dear Dazed: Unfortunately, she does not have the answer to your question. Only you do. Obviously, she was looking for something that you could not offer her. You do not win by figuring out other people, you win by figuring yourself out. In losing her, let yourself be found. Do not waste your time on what could have or should have been. Let it go and know that the Creator has you right where you should be.

Dear Wigwam: Could you please settle a dispute between me and my husband. Does the toilet paper go over the roll or under the roll? **On A Roll**

Dear On A Roll: If you are serious about this, then I would say that you have a much bigger problem to worry about. The real problem is you want to be right. Do you want to be right or do you want to be happy? Does the "right" person in your relationship have the upper hand and therefore continuously needs to prove their status? That doesn't sound too mutual and you need solid ground for a solid marriage. Pick your battles and this is not one worth winning. Ask the Creator to help you move on.

WHERE ON THE REZ?



Do you know where this is?
 Answer the puzzle correctly by June 16 through e-mail or telephone. Your name will go into a drawing and one winner will receive two free announcements in the Tribal Observer.

Submit Answers To:
 dcantu@sagchip.org
 or call 989-775-4010

LAST MONTH:



Behavioral Health

Last Month's Winner:
 No Winner



Tuesday Night Skins results at Waabooz Run



April 26 through Aug. 16, 2016

Team Earnings Leaders

- Tony/Mike 130
- Lonnie/Steve 128
- Doug/Aaron 98
- Bernie/Bill 82
- Brad/Illiana 70
- Doug/Rick 50
- Brad/Michael 50
- Bean/Ken 35
- Bean/Steve 32
- Ken/Larry 25

Team Skins Leaders

- Tony/Mike 4
- Lonnie/Steve 4
- Bernie/Bill 3
- Aaron/Doug 3
- Brad/Illiana 2
- Ken/Bean 1
- Ken/Larry 1
- Bean/Steve 1
- Jim O'Neil 0
- Jeff/Dana 0

Adopt a Pet

Feneris

Feneris "Finn" is a 4-year-old Labrador Retriever and Border Collie mix. He was surrendered to HATS because he didn't pass his therapy dog test. The training was a little overwhelming for him. He is a quiet, mild-mannered guy looking for an easygoing household.



Lyra

Lyra is a 3-year old Domestic medium hair mix. She is already spayed and ready for adoption. She is known to be quietly affectionate. She is no party animal so she would enjoy being with a human who enjoys reading or spending weekends watching old re-runs.



Available at: The Humane Animal Treatment Society

1105 S. Isabella Rd. Mt. Pleasant → Hatsweb.org → 989.775.0830 → Email: isabellahats@gmail.com
 Monday - Friday: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Saturday: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Puppies: \$175, Dogs: \$160, Senior Dogs: \$50, Kittens: \$85, Cats: \$55, Senior Cats: \$35

SAGINAW CHIPPEWA INDIAN TRIBE OF MICHIGAN
AT-LARGE PROGRAM PRESENTS:

HONORING SAGANING TRADITIONAL POWWOW

JUNE 18TH & 19TH, 2016

Powwow Grounds - 2750 Worth Rd. Standish, MI
Next to the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino & Saganing Tribal Center

Admission:

\$3 Daily/\$5 Weekend
\$1 for Children

***Under 12 must be accompanied by an adult*

Saturday, June 18

Dancer/Drum Registration 12-12:45 p.m.
Grand Entry 1 p.m.
Dancer/Drum Registration 3-3:45 p.m.
Grand Entry 4 p.m.
Retiring of Flags
Fireworks at Dusk

Sunday, June 19

Dancer/Drum Registration 12-12:45 p.m.
Grand Entry 1 p.m.
Hand Drum Contest 3 p.m.
**1st prize: \$300 2nd prize: \$200 3rd prize: \$100*
Blanket Giveaway
Retiring of Flags

Head Male Dancer: Jimmie Falcon
Head Female Dancer: Renata Borton
Head Veteran: TBA
Head Drum: TBA
Emcee: R.J. Smith
Arena Director: Ronnie Ekdahl

Please direct all questions to
1.800.884.6271



DRUG & ALCOHOL FREE EVENT - NO PETS ALLOWED / SERVICE PETS WELCOME



CONGRATULATIONS HIGH SCHOOL TRIBAL GRADUATES



Paige Nichole Ritter
Mount Pleasant



Kataya Peters
Mount Pleasant



Milan Quingo-Grundahl
Mount Pleasant



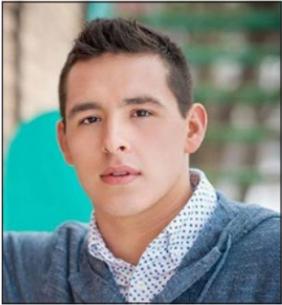
Isabelle Grace Brock
Standish-Sterling Central



Jaclyn C. Matthews
Mount Pleasant



Peter H. Elizalde III
Mount Pleasant



Skyler Phoenix Neyome
Shepherd High school



Isabella Smith
Shepherd



Alisha Lynne Shenoskey
Penn Foster High School



Stephani Starkey
Mount Pleasant



Spencer Wehner
Valley Lutheran



Nodin Kunst
Mount Pleasant



Warren Taylor Ricketts
Mount Pleasant



Erin Sowmick
Beal City



Taylyn Francis
Shepherd



Carlos Salas
Mount Pleasant



CONGRATULATIONS COLLEGE TRIBAL GRADUATES



Samantha R. Ekdahl
Grand Valley State University
Bachelor of Science (Psychology)



Shawna Neyome
Mid Michigan Community College
Associate in Applied Science (Medical Assistant)



Heather DeMoines
Central Michigan University
Bachelors of Science in Business Administration



Britney Lynn Goebel
Liberty University
Masters of Arts- Human Services Counseling



Jennifer Lindstrom
Mid Michigan Community College
Associate in Arts Business Studies Transfer



Robert Hart
Central Michigan University
BSBA in Business Information Systems



Donielle Bannon
Michigan State University
Master's in Criminal Justice



Kathy Hart
Central Michigan University
BSBA in Public Administration



Cody Yazzie
Michigan Technology University
Chemical Engineering



Maureen Reuckert
Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College
Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts



Rachel House
Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College
Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts

Attention Graduating Tribal Member Youth

G.E.D., H.S. Graduation Program/Pre-College Program

Amount of Aid: Total allocated per Tribal Member will not exceed \$250 per fiscal year.

Payment: Reimbursement will be made in one payment for all approved expenses with original receipts only.

How To Apply: Please contact Colleen Maki, youth coordinator, at 989.775.4933 (At Large/Member Services) with any questions you may have, or to request an application.

Qualifications:

1. Must be an enrolled member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.
2. Must provide proof of school being attended or curriculum completed.
3. Service will be covered for current fiscal year only.
(Oct. 1, 2015 - Sept. 30, 2016)
4. Must apply to the program for the following:
 - **G.E.D, H.S. Graduation Program**
 - a.) Graduation cap and gown expenses
 - b.) Graduation meal
 - c.) Senior pictures
 - d.) Class ring
 - **Pre-College Program**
 - a.) Application fee
 - b.) One campus visit trip



Memorial Walk honors victims and brings awareness to problems facing the community

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

More than 100 people took to Broadway Road for the Memorial Walk on Saturday, April 30.

Participants walked in honor of missing and murdered indigenous women of Canada and the United States. Also recognized were Crime Victims' Rights and Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Before the walk, the community members gathered under the Native Farmers Market Pavilion at the corner of Broadway and Leaton roads in Mount Pleasant, Mich.

Informational booths had free books and resources available, as well as snacks and refreshments.

Before the group embarked, The Wabanaisee "Snowbirds" sang an honor song. The walkers

started at the pavilion, heading east to Shepherd Road and back.

Walkers carried signs with names of the survivors or victims who they were marching for.

Domestic violence and sexual violence are widespread problems, affecting millions of women each year.

"Violence against women affects everyone as the victims are our sisters, mothers, daughters, partners, friends and co-workers," said Brooke Huber, lead for the Tribe's Sexual Assault Response Team. "Domestic and sexual violence most commonly affect women, but men can also be victims and children who witness violence are undoubtedly affected."

According to research from the U.S. Department of Justice, one in three Native American women will be raped during their lifetime. The problem also affects men, with one in six men

becoming sexually abused during their lifetime (National Sexual Violence Resource Center.)

"These issues frequently occur right here in our own community," Huber said. "Based on these statistics, approximately 278 women and 143 men in this community (District 1) have been sexually victimized."

The community, as a whole, can take measures to deal with these issues.

"The best thing you can do to help victims and raise awareness is speak out against violence when you are confronted with it in your daily life," Huber said. "When talking to someone who has experienced violence; be supportive, listen, and most importantly, tell them that you believe them."

The event was held in conjunction with the "Walking With Our Sisters" memorial held at the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways. The installment commemorates the missing and murdered indigenous women of North America.

Ziibiwing Assistant Director Judy Pamp spoke on the affects these issues have on the community.

"You could be standing next to a survivor, and not even know it,"



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Memorial Walk participants march east down Broadway Road.

Pamp said it. "We need to really go towards one another, with love and kindness. If we reach out and we encourage one another, you may be helping give someone the courage to survive another day; the courage to deal with, or overcome that pain."

Other speakers included Tribal elders Mae and Steve Pego, and Victims of Crime Advocate Mandy Wigren.

"The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe employs a lot of truly wonderful people in law enforcement, therapists and advocates," Wigren said. "That's why we are here today; to let you all know that we are here. If you need to tell your story, we have a team of people with over a 100 years of experience that will help you."

The Nami Migizi Nangwiigan staff including Huber, Deb Cicalo and Shelby McCliggott, were primarily responsible for planning and hosting the event.

The contributions of the Victims of Crime Program staff (Wigren and Cleopatra Kleppert) and other departments including the Tribal Police, Tribal Fire, Ziibiwing, and Nimkee Clinic also helped make the event a success.

The direct line for the NMN domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking services is 989-775-4400. NMN is dedicated to providing resources, safety and advocacy to ensure the physical, mental, spiritual and emotional wellbeing of families victimized by violence.

More information on the Victims of Crime Program can be found at www.sagchip.org/VictimsOfCrime. Advocates are trained professionals that support crime victims by providing victims with information, emotional support, and assistance finding resources and filling out paperwork.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

The Wabanaisee "Snowbirds" sing an honor song with the help of community members during the Memorial Walk.

36 Team Max

(4) \$250.00 Cash Draws

(5) \$100.00 Cash Draws

1st - \$250.00

2nd - \$150.00

3rd - \$100.00

Proximities Prizes

50/50 Drawing

\$20 Skins Game per Team

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per night

2 PERSON **SCRAMBLE**

6.18.16

10 AM SG Start

\$40 / Player

INCLUDES:

- 18 Holes With Cart
- Door Prize • Burgers & Brats After Golf
- Entry Into Cash Draw (Father's ONLY!)

TO ENTER, visit the Pro Shop or call WAABOOZ RUN @ 989.817.4802

*Includes one breakfast voucher. Waterpark passes not included.

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Walking With Our Sisters memorial for missing and murdered indigenous women hosted at Ziibiwing Center

ESTHER HELMS

Ziibiwing Cultural Art Design Specialist

“Walking With Our Sisters is a commemorative art installation for the missing and murdered indigenous women of Canada and the U.S.,” according to www.walkingwithoursisters.ca

While more than 1,200 women went missing or were murdered in the last 30 years, this number is woefully inadequate as it does not include the many women whose disappearances have gone unreported or uninvestigated.

The installation recognizes those whose deaths were not listed as homicide, those whose ethnicity was not known or found, those who identify as two-spirit, those whose lives were lost while within the child welfare and/or residential school systems, and those who lost their lives through domestic violence.

The commemorative art installation encompasses more than 2,000 pairs of women and children’s moccasin tops, called “vamps”.



Courtesy of Esther Helms

Ziibiwing Center hosted the Walking With Our Sisters commemorative art installation for the missing and murdered indigenous women of Canada and the U.S.

children’s vamps are dedicated to those who never returned home from residential schools.

The unfinished moccasins signify that those lives were unfinished as well. This art installation makes the statement that although these loved ones

are missing from our physical presence; they will forever remain present in our hearts and minds and will always be loved.

In 2012, a call was sent out on Facebook requesting vamps from those who wanted to take part in this project. While the initial goal was 600, more than 1,600 vamps were received.

The vamps, the funds to exhibit them, and all the needs of the project are achieved through donations and have been contributed to by thousands of people.

Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways saw the call for vamps on Facebook and wanted to be involved. Community members were given the opportunity to come to the Ziibiwing Center’s lobby and add beads to pre-designed and pre-sewn vamps or create their own vamp to add to the group.

In July 2013, the completed vamps were mailed to the Walking With Our Sisters initiative.

Discussions among the Ziibiwing staff about the impact violence has on the youth, women, men and the tribal nation led to a decision that this presentation needed to come to this community.

The request to have the memorial come to the Ziibiwing Center was made and accepted, and preparations to host the memorial began.

The art installation began touring in 2013 and is scheduled to tour through the spring of 2019. The Ziibiwing Center in Mount Pleasant, Mich. is the only location in the United States scheduled to have the proud honor of caring for and presenting this poignant and significant installation.

While in Mount Pleasant, the Tribal community put together several educational and ceremonial events to further honor and respect those whose lives were lost or tragically altered and to enhance the lives of the living. Among these events were



Courtesy of Esther Helms

Ziibiwing Center staff, Walking With Our Sisters volunteers and Saginaw Chippewa Academy staff pose together.



Courtesy of Esther Helms

It is estimated more than 1,200 indigenous women went missing or were murdered in the last 30 years, and that does not include the number of women whose disappearances have gone unreported or uninvestigated.



Courtesy of Esther Helms

The memorial included 200 pairs of children’s vamps, dedicated to those who never returned home from residential schools.



Courtesy of Esther Helms

Volunteers gather to install the WWOS memorial, which encompasses more than 2,000 pairs of women’s and children’s moccasin tops or “vamps.”



Courtesy of Esther Helms

The Ziibiwing Center was the only location in the U.S. scheduled to host the memorial.

the pipe and water ceremonies conducted by pipe carriers, Ogitchedaw, and community elders and leaders that were held every day that the installation was open.

A sacred fire was also reverently and patiently kept burning during each of those days.

Other community meetings, ceremonies, feasts, teachings, film screenings, a memorial walk and a dawn-to-dusk fasting by young women in the community combined to make for a busy and meaningful time with the sacred items, the breathtakingly lovely vamps and with one another.

Specially-created items were designed and sold along with community donated items to help fund the needs of this event.

Many mechanisms such as education, law, politics and prayer, can and should be utilized to halt the tragedies of the missing and murdered indigenous women and the serial heart-break of their families.

Art is not used here simply as a beautiful expression of ugly facts. It is a powerful tool

that can raise awareness and encourage action.

“My people will sleep for 100 years,” said Louis Riel, Metis leader hanged by the Canadian government in 1885. “But when they awaken, it will be the artists who give them back their spirit.”

The spirit is present, awake and strong in the Walking With Our Sisters Commemorative Art Installation but help is still needed. To see how you can help or to check the tour schedule, visit the website at www.walkingwithoursisters.ca

Miigwetch to the Walking With Our Sisters national collective members for your permission and assistance in bringing the installation to the Ziibiwing Center.

Miigwetch to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe’s Tribal Council and all its participating departments for your support.

Chi-miigwetch to the individuals who offered their time, energy and finances. Miigwetch to those who shared your positive and loving presence with the spirits of the sisters and with the community.

Mii ewe.



Courtesy of Esther Helms

Saginaw Chippewa community firekeepers and Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indian members pose near the teepee that was placed outside of Ziibiwing.



Courtesy of Esther Helms

Tribal Council representatives Chief Frank J. Cloutier, Candace B. Benzinger, Secretary Michelle R. Colwell, Treasurer Gayle Ruhl and Kenneth Sprague viewed the memorial.



Courtesy of Esther Helms

Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways staff and Walking With Our Sisters volunteers take a break to pose for a photograph.



SCTC Public Speaking class delivers speeches to elected officials regarding Mount Pleasant Center property

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

It is often said that a person's greatest fear in life is public speaking. The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College Public Speaking class faced their fears on Thursday, May 5 when they gave speeches for their final exam.

The students addressed Mount Pleasant Mayor Kathy Ling, Vice Mayor Allison Quast-Lents, SCTC President Carla Sineway, SCTC faculty and the Tribal Elders Advisory Board on what they believe should be done with the Mount Pleasant Center property.

Two parcels of the property are owned by the Tribe and are compromised of the former Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School buildings and a Native American cemetery.

Prior to and during each student's speech, attendees were treated to an elegant luncheon, provided by the Gingko Tree Inn in downtown Mount Pleasant.

The class instructor Nina Knight welcomed the guests and introduced each student.

The presenters included Maggie Jackson, Kyle Shomin, Joe Genia, Noelle Wells and Christian Jackson II.

Maggie Jackson was up first. She said her grandmother attended boarding school and would like to see an "area 12 memorial garden plan as a tourist destination, similar to Frederik Meijer Gardens in Grand Rapids, Mich."

Shomin is in his second semester at SCTC, and also said he would like to see a memorial on the property to "educate the uneducated."

"(The memorial) doesn't have to be huge or expensive; it should be something to remind people what happened," Shomin said. "The property should give the families honor and closure for loved ones who attended (the boarding school.)"

Genia, member of the Match-E-Benash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Gun Lake Tribe, also wishes for a dedication to those who attended MIIBS.

"A memorial site would restore the honor and respect to those (who were affected) and it would remind everyone they will not be forgotten," Genia said.

Wells believes the best thing to do at the property would be to build a "floral memorial as a reminder of history to not repeat itself."

When Christian Jackson II first learned there was a proposal of the property, he said he was upset. He thought it would be torn down.

"That moment in time should never be forgotten," Christian Jackson said of the boarding school era. "(The City and Tribe) should collaborate on a memorial and children's park... Photos of children (should be in view) close enough to Pickard (Road) so residents see it. I believe the land must have time to heal without genocide, mental, physical and emotional abuse (recollections) still prevalent."

Other ideas he presented were to host

a dog park or community pool at the location.

Knight's class has never previously had such a formal final exam; the previous class had to prepare a toast-like speech for a final grade.

Knight said she thought when the students first heard of what their final exam would be, they would head directly to the registrar's office and withdraw from the class.

She said the students weren't exactly thrilled when they learned what their final assignment would be.

"When I returned to inform them that some of our elders would be attending as well as the Tribal Observer, one student said they would rather take a F on their exam than have to speak before that many important people," Knight said. "They all felt unqualified to speak before city officials and elders, some who have lived in a boarding school. They felt they needed titles before their names or big degrees in order to do this."

Students also thought they may pass out or get sick during their speeches.

However, on speech day, every student showed up, no one got sick or fainted, and each student delivered their address.

"The mayor and vice mayor took notes and will be including the students' comments and ideas in their community flyer about the property," Knight said. "The student who was thinking about taking a F told fellow classmates that he was so glad he went and spoke."

"Considering all we worked on together to build up the confidence to do this, I watched in awe as I saw my students change before my very eyes," she said. "In the beginning, I had a group of college kids. When they stepped behind that podium, they became leaders; I always knew that about them, but that day, they knew it about themselves."

Knight said one of the goals in all of her courses is to train and develop tribal leaders.

"I have a section in my speech classes that teach formal dining etiquette under the new international dining rules," she said. "Students also learn how to give speeches during formal dinners, as often tribal leaders are asked to speak at such events."

As an elected official, Quast-Lents said she interacts with residents regularly who



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

A group of Mount Pleasant officials, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College students and faculty, and Elders Advisory Board representatives pose for a photo outside of the Gingko Tree Inn in downtown Mount Pleasant.

benefit from practicing public speaking, and said it is important for those who want to help make an impact on the community to be able to speak out.

"The students did an amazing job preparing and presenting ideas for a memorial to those who attended and those who lost their lives at the boarding schools," Quast-Lents said. "I loved the idea for a memorial healing garden, and would love to have an open line of communication with those on the committee overseeing the future of the boarding school site to see if there is a way the City and the Tribe can coordinate a memorial."

Knight said she was pleased the elected officials, SCTC representatives and Elders Advisory Board members were in attendance.

"This gave the student body what they wanted: An audience comprised of people who knew and understood the significance of the property up for bid, voices that represented their thoughts and desires, and the listening ear of city officials," Knight said.

The Mount Pleasant Center property is owned by the City, and initially consisted of 21 buildings (two buildings have since been demolished) totaling more than 500,000 square feet of space, according to mt-pleasant.org.

The land owned by the City totals nearly 300 acres. Also located along the west side of the property is the Mt. Pleasant Public Schools' Community Education building. The site contains the former Mt. Pleasant Regional Center.

"This lunch was my first interaction with a SCTC event, although I hope it isn't my last," Quast-Lents said. "It was a wonderful learning opportunity, and it was an honor to be in the company of so many influential people from the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe."

4th Annual SCTC Golf Outing

Thursday, June 09, 2016 - Bucks Run Golf Club

Check-in: 8:00am - Shotgun start: 9:00am

- Two person teams;
- **Two flights awarded** - more flights possible based on number of participants;
- Contests, prizes, and cash payouts;
- Contest holes for men, ladies and novice golfers;
- Optional skins game available, skins game will be **segmented by flight**.

Cost: pre-registration \$85 per person (deadline May 31st), on-site registration \$95 per person:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • 18 holes with cart | • box lunch at the turn | • 1 raffle ticket |
| • 2 non-alcoholic beverages | • \$15 Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort Premium Play | • SCTC Embroidered Polo shirt |

(if registered before May 31st, 2016)

- Proceeds will be used for student attendance at the AIHEC 2017 Student Conference -

Registration is complete only when SCTC has received your form and payment.
For registration forms or additional information contact:
Nathan Lambertson nlambertson@sagchip.org or call (989) 775-4123

2015 winners

Flight A: \$500 winners
Chase Owl and Erik Rodriguez
Score: 63 (-9)

Flight B: \$500 winners
Gary Reed and Jim Anderson
Score: 86 (+14)

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- Retail Fraud
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- Drunk & Disorderly
- Assault & Battery
- Open Intoxicants

Joseph Barberi

David Barberi

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SCTC commencement ceremony honors 11 Class of 2016 graduates

NATHANIEL LAMBERTSON

Dean of Students

On May 17, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College family, joined by Chief Frank J. Cloutier, commencement speaker Shirley Brauker, and members of the SCTC Board of Regents, officially recognized the accomplishments of 11 members of the Tribal community as it conferred degrees upon the Class of 2016.

Among those receiving an Associates of Arts degree from the Institution were:

SCIT Member Bethany Tarbell who has served as Great Lakes regional representative to the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) Student Congress. Bethany will be going to Haskell Indian Nations University in the upcoming fall. Bethany began her SCTC career as a dually-enrolled high school student. Bethany received the President's List award in each semester for which she was enrolled as a full-time student.

SCIT Member Rachel Bailey was named the American Indian College Fund SCTC Student of the Year, which she obtained by having six consecutive semesters on the President or Dean's List, three consecutive semesters with perfect attendance, all while being a single mother and



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Graduate Gilbert Franco is all smiles as he receives his diploma from SCTC President Carla Sineway.

discharging the duties of the SCTC institutional scholarship for scientific laboratory research. Rachel only missed out on having a perfect 4.0 cumulative GPA because her Dean of Students advised against retaking the sole course she did not receive an 'A' in in order to speed her toward the larger challenges in academia for which she is already well-prepared.

Little River Direct Descendant Shelby Dalgleish who was on either the Dean or President's List in all semesters in which she was enrolled at SCTC. Having given birth to a second child mid-way through this semester, Shelby will be taking a little time off as she makes a decision about either entering the workforce or continuing her education. Knowing Shelby, it will most likely be some combination of both. She will also return to SCTC to be a tutor in accounting and be a student ambassador in the newly-created Student Oshkabewis (helper) program.

SCIT Descendant Gilberto Franco who was a multi-time recipient of the Coca Cola Scholars scholarship, winner of a People's Choice and first place awards at the 2016 AIHEC Student Conference. Gilbert plans to return to SCTC in the fall as an oshkabewis as he prepares to transition to either Central Michigan University or Delta College.

SCIT Member Rachel House who earned several semesters on the Dean's List and was part of the Critical Inquiry team which placed fourth overall at the 2016 AIHEC Student Conference.

Irene Lopez-Castillas, a three-time President's List and three-time Dean's List recipient and recipient of a 2015 undergraduate research scholarship in Puerto Rico. Irene will attend Central Michigan University in the fall. Irene was the first student in SCTC history to be awarded two degrees in a single commencement. Irene was a captain on SCTC's Science Bowl team which placed third overall at the 2016 AIHEC Student Conference. Irene is pondering an internship with NASA this summer.

Nottawaseppi Huron Band Member Victoria Alvarez was a recipient of both the Dean's and President's List award. Victoria was a member of SCTC's first-ever competition archery team for the 2016 AIHEC Student Conference.

SCIT Member Leah Denhoff, who once thought she may have left higher education for good having decided to leave Kendall College of Art and Design some years ago, now graduates having been on both the Dean and President's List at SCTC. Leah is considering Central Michigan University in the fall. Her mother, Carla Bennett (a near-future SCTC graduate) won the first-ever first place award earned by an SCTC student in the AIHEC Fiction competition, administered with the Tribal College Journal.

SCIT Member Maureen Rueckert, who began with SCTC as a dually-enrolled student at SCTC while still in high school. She will attend Haskell



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

The 11 Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College 2016 graduates were honored during the ceremony. (Left to right) Carrie Carabell, Bethany Tarbell, Maureen Rueckert, Andrew Lecronier, Rachel House, Gilberto Franco, Rachel Bailey, Irene Lopez-Castillas, Shelby Dalgleish, Leah Denhof and Victoria Alvarez.

Indian Nations University in the fall. Maureen is the daughter of SCTC STEM Recruiter Kathy Hart (SCTC Class of 2007) who will be completing her bachelor's degree in organizational administration from Central Michigan University in December.

SCIT Member Carrie Carabell, who made the Dean's List every semester for which she enrolled as a full-time student. She is exploring Central Michigan University as a possible setting for her next educational goal.

Nottawaseppi Huron Band Member Andrew Lecronier, joins a long list within his own family of SCTC graduates: His sister Ashley Medina (Class of 2015) and father Phil Medina (Class of 2007). Phil Medina will soon receive his Ph.D. from Central Michigan University in material science. He is a national science foundation graduate fellow and spent the recent spring semester at SCTC as a math and science tutor.

SCTC President Carla Sineway also serves as SCTC Board of Regents officer.

"Graduation is always a bittersweet event for me. But for this class, it seemed more so because I had the opportunity to travel with many of these students over the course of the last year and got to know them at a more personal level," Sineway



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Commencement speaker and Little River Band of Ottawa Tribal Elder, Shirley Brauker, advised the students to see in "3D": Desire, Determination and Discipline.

said. "They are all so inspiring to me and make my work at the college so rewarding. I only wish the best for our students, I expect much from them."

On the accomplishments of the 2016 class alone, SCTC knows and take tremendous pride in seeing that through our students, that we are 'moving the needle' on education in this community.

Despite being in the bottom-five size wise among the 37 tribal colleges and universities that are represented by AIHEC, SCTC continues to shine as brightly as any institution in that system. These feats, along with the words of high praise and hope from Chief Cloutier during the commencement, made 2016 a banner year for the SCTC graduating class.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Youth dancers Jasmyne Jackson and Zack Jackson led the graduates, SCTC Board of Regents, faculty and staff in the procession.

Michigan Indian Elders Association 2016 scholarship notice

(Editor's Note: Kathy Hart of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College is a delegate on the Michigan Indian Elders Association representing the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's elders. The association has auctions at the quarterly meetings to raise money for the following scholarship.)

The Michigan Indian Elders Association (MIEA) is pleased to announce it is offering three \$1000 scholarships and six \$500 scholarships.

The scholarships will be awarded to at least nine qualified students with the \$1000 scholarships being awarded to top three qualified student, as determined by committee review and lottery, if necessary. Each student

must be currently enrolled in a course of study at, or have a letter of acceptance from, a public college or university or technical school and must meet the following qualifications:

- Must be an enrolled member (copy of tribal card needed) or be a direct descendant of an enrolled member of one of the MIEA constituent tribes/bands (must be verified in writing by your tribal Enrollment Department.)

- Must have successfully completed and passed all five General Education Development (GED) equivalency tests with a minimum score of 40 and an average score of 45, and must possess a GED certificate; or must have graduated from an accredited high school with a 3.00 GPA;

or if currently enrolled at a college, university or trade school, must have an accumulated GPA of 3.00.

- Must, except for special and extenuating circumstances, attend college, university or trade school on a full-time basis.

- Must complete the provided application form and submit it with required supporting documentation and the mailing must be received by the coordinator no later than June 15, 2016. (Please note: Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.)

The application may be obtained from the MIEA website at www.michiganindianelders.org/students.php



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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





Teacher Assistant Malessa Wing receives "Educator of the Month"

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

Congratulations to Malessa Wing for being selected as the April Educator of the Month! The following is a questionnaire completed by Wing:

Which program do you work for? The Saginaw Chippewa Academy.

What is your title? Teacher's Assistant.

How long have you worked for the Education Department? Seven months.

What is your favorite part of working in this department? Seeing the spark in a child's eye when they learn a skill they have been struggling to understand.

Do you have any pets? Yes, two dogs Harbor and Indie. We have three cats and several chickens.

What is one of your favorite quotes? Just "wing" it!

What is the one thing that you love to do? Why? Cuddle and read with my children.

We bond by going on many adventures together in a book.

What is your favorite Disney movie? "Lady and the Tramp"

What is your favorite vacation spot and why? Walt Disney World. My family and I love the magic of Disney.

What is your favorite candy/snack? Rocky road ice cream.

Thank you so much for being such an integral part of the education team!



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Teacher Assistant Malessa Wing receives her award. (Left to right: Curriculum Instructional Coordinator Kelli Cassaday, Wing and Administrative Assistant II Kelly Woodworth.)

SCA students offer their Design Day ideas for Mount Pleasant Playscape 2.0

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

On May 5 and 6, the Saginaw Chippewa Academy offered their own Design Day ideas with about 250 other local area students for the Mount Pleasant Playscape 2.0 project.

Other participating schools included Sacred Heart Academy, Renaissance Academy and five Mount Pleasant Public Schools.

Kelli Cassaday, curriculum instructional coordinator for the Academy, worked with Interim Public Relations Director Erik Rodriguez to bring the program to the school for Tribal input.

"Saginaw Chippewa Academy students were excited to be a part of this project. The students came up with some very creative ideas for their ideal playground," Cassaday said. "The design day was excellent and it was great and to see the Vice Mayor of Mount Pleasant (Allison Quast-Lents) along with other city officials attend. Our students were proud to have a voice in this process and did some great drawings on what they would like to see. I can't wait to see the end result."

Quast-Lents attended both the SCA Design Day presentation and the community design day evening event held at the Mount Pleasant Public Library.

"I feel that (Director of Parks and Open Spaces) Chris Bundy and (Director of



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Eager SCA students give their input to Game Time Playground owner Rich Sinclair as he provides instruction during the design day exercise.

Recreation and Sports City) Ryan Longoria did an excellent job scheduling and organizing design days to reflect what children of all ages would like to see in the playground," Quast-Lents said. "I am always grateful when the City of Mount Pleasant and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe are able to partner on a project."

Rodriguez serves on the Playscape 2.0 Committee and said he appreciates the City partnering with SCA to gain some insight as to what some of our Tribal youth would like to see developed.

"The park will be utilized by generations of youth and for our community to be able to have input and look at adding some culture aspects to the new design we would like to extend an extra special 'chi-miigwetch' for that opportunity," Rodriguez said.

Quast-Lents said "special thanks goes out to the teachers at each school who worked with the kids ahead of time, giving them time to discuss as a class what each student would like, and giving them artistic freedom to draw what they believe is the perfect playground."

Rich Sinclair and his company Sinclair Recreation have done more than 50 conversions of turning wooden structures to updated playground designs.

"The kids gave a unique perspective from their Native culture and it was clear from the creativity of their drawings they spent a lot of time and care in providing their ideas," Sinclair said. "The new design will be using updated construction materials and methods. The process of building will be very similar but design will include many new items for kids to play and interact. As with the original project this project is designed to bring together the community for a united purpose, a fun unique playground for kids!"

Sinclair and his firm have some extensive credentials locally in his participation in renovations to Potter and Yost parks in Mount Pleasant and working for various projects in Indian Country.

"We have worked with the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa and their Housing Division on six playground areas," Sinclair said. "We have also done a development for the Gun Lake Tribe and their Community Center Park. We have also been contacted by other Tribes outside Michigan and are currently working with the Laguna Tribe in Albuquerque New Mexico on their Pueblo Park project. We also have a development with the Crow Tribe in Montana on a community build project coming scheduled to begin in July."

Mount Pleasant resident Amanda Boyle has been working with business leader Rick Ervin as community effort co-coordinators on Playscape 2.0 where Ervin was a part of the previous construction.

"Living in Mount Pleasant, we are privileged to have so many unique cultures and populations that give such depth to our community," Boyle said. "Just like 22 years ago, with the original Timber Town build, the Island Park Playscape 2.0 project will be an excellent opportunity for the community to come together to combine efforts and imagination to create a unique, fun, and safe play structure for children of all abilities."

Boyle said Playscape 2.0 will advertise for volunteers to serve on committees and build the excitement for the community project on social media. The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe has links to Playscape 2.0 at www.sagchip.org and the week for construction is slated for Oct. 12-16.

Much like the construction of the Timber Town in Island Park, Playscape 2.0 will require thousands of volunteers and many opportunities for local area families, students and service agencies to be involved.

Pullen

The following students earned perfect attendance for April: Zachary Flaughter, Kindergarten, Mason Kerkau, Ava Mena, Owen Seybert, Madison Isham, Talon McClusky, Donovan Morrow, Arilynn Peters, Remy Weldon, Nikodin Davis, Trevor Isham, Zhaawan Martell, Maisie Mena, Javanni Perry, Isaiah Rodriguez, Kaya Rose, Hope Stevens, Bailey Burger, Juan-Sergio Casas, Ryan Flaughter and Andrew Kequom.

Renaissance

The following students earned perfect attendance for April: Jadrian Jackson, Emma Henry, Novaly Hinmon, Isaiah Otto, Erica Hinmon, Kyla Henry, Tyler Snyder, Brysen Chamberlain, Kayana Pope, Elijah Otto, Jonna Mejia, Anthony Hawkins and Makayla Jackson.

Mount Pleasant High

The following students earned perfect attendance for the fifth marking period: Esme Bailey, Kaylee Bigford, Miles Bussler, Bryan Chingman, Tyler Chippeway, Aleeya Peters, Shailyn Pontiac, Aaron Schlegel and Carlee Williams. The following students are being recognized for a 3.0 or higher GPA during the fifth marking period: Esme Bailey, Makayla Bailey, Chyna Bergevin, Kaylee Bigford, *Simone Bigford, *Miles Bussler, Cheyenne Chamberlain, Kimberly Chamberlain, Karen Chippewa, Meredith Conrad, Megan Cozzie, Allen Crockett, Kendra Cyr, Mileena Davidson, Kiara Denman, Peter Elizalde, Sadie Fuller, Hunter Genia, Evelyn House, Madison Kennedy-Kequom, Hunter Kequom, Nia Lewis, Maya Madrigal, Molly Mandoka, Justice Morland, McKenzie Morland, Wiingashk Pelcher, Aleeya Peters, Edgar Peters, *Kataya Peters, Shailyn Pontiac, Mastella Quanderer, Milan Quigno-Grundahl, Warren Ricketts, **Hailey Ritter, *Paige Ritter, Carina Romero, Sabrina Romero, Aaron Schlegel, Elissa Schlegel, *Dajia Shinos, Eli Starkey, Lindsay Watters, Alexandria Weekly-Dean, Destiny Wetherbee, and Carlee Williams. *Indicates a *4.0 GPA.*

McGuire

The following students earned perfect attendance for April: Emily Stevens, Kadenn Rose, MacKena Porter, Arianna Altiman, Kayden Weekley-Dean, Maggi Martell, Tayden Davis, Arianna Bird, Kyrh Bennett, Makayla Stevens, Bird Hendrickson, Aaron Graveratte and Riley Chamberlain.

Saginaw Chippewa Academy

The following students earned perfect attendance for April: Dannie Bennett, Gabriel Quigno, Bradley Woodworth, Joseph Jackson Jr., Syriana Smith, Andrea Hinmon, Matthew Stewart, John Wemigwans, Meadow David, Gus Hinmon, Robert Saunders, Brandon Wemigwans, Tawny Jackson, Felicia Saunders, Ahsiniis Smith, Foster Crampton and Akiveo Gonzalez-Hawkins. The following students earned Student of the Month Honors for April: Aiyana Sheahan, Sadie Disel, Kiley Nicholson, Mainingan Miller-Hosler, Raynah Perez, Calijah Trepanier, Aaron Montoya-Pego and Mana Pelcher.

Graduation Banquets

• High School Banquet

June 13 | 5:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Location: SECR Swan Creek Saginaw Room

- Grade Reports and Official Transcripts due by June 15

• Higher Education Banquet

July 13 | 12 - 2 p.m.

Location: SECR Banquet Hall (TBD)

For more information, please contact: Tasha Jeffrey at 989.775.4506



Nijikewehn Mentoring Program celebrates successful 2015-2016 school year

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Families and friends joined with students and mentors at Seventh Generation's Elijah Elk Cultural Center April 28 as the Nijikewehn Mentoring Program held its end-of-the-year celebration.

Nichole McLachlan has been the Nijikewehn Mentoring program coordinator since 2014, and works directly with Colleen Green, director of Native American Programs at Central Michigan University.

"Every year during the Nijikewehn year-end celebration, I am overjoyed by the response and attendance of the mentors, youth and their families, as well as the various active supporters of the program from the Tribe and University," McLachlan said. "I look forward to the applauses, hugs and high fives of the mentors and youth for their successes in the program. It makes me proud and pleased to know that I am blessed to be a part of something so great!



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Nijikewehn Mentoring Program Coordinator Nichole McLachlan (left) is recognized for her work by SCIT Public Relations Director Erik Rodriguez.

It is a bittersweet moment for me, as I know that we have to say baamaapii to our mentors that are graduating and moving on, but that is a goal of our program."

McLachlan said though CMU's semester ended May 6, the Nijikewehn Summer Program is underway.

David A. Kinney, Ph.D, works closely with McLachlan with the program's research and Development. Kinney also

works at CMU as youth studies program faculty advisor and a sociology professor.

Kinney said this year's Nijikewehn year-end celebration was the largest ever and reflects that the program has grown from 10 mentors and 10 children in 2013 to spring 2016 featuring almost 40 mentors and almost 60 children.

"It was great to see all the parents and grandparents in attendance along with their children," Kinney said of the celebration. "The support of Tribal Members is outstanding and their participation in the program is essential as they teach the CMU mentors about local cultural traditions."

Kinney has attended numerous Nijikewehn outings and knows firsthand how the children benefit from spending time together with their college student mentors.

"It's great to see the smiles when the mentors and students are participating in cultural and recreational activities together," Kinney said. "It is a win-win program that benefits both the Tribe and

the University. We hope to see even more children involved next year and will be expanding to include Saginaw Chippewa children attending Fancher Elementary."

Participating Nijikewehn Mentoring Program schools currently include the Saginaw Chippewa Academy, Mary McGuire Elementary, Renaissance Middle School, West Intermediate and Shepherd Middle School.

David Syckle II, environmental resource technician for the SCIT Planning Department and Ronald E. McNair scholar, embraced the opportunity Nijikewehn offered to work directly with Tribal students.

"I wish I had more time with my two nijiiwag at SCA because the year went by so fast, and I only hope I impacted them in a good way," Syckle said. "In reflection, I found they positively impacted my life more than I could have imagined when the year started. I wish them the best and hope they continue the program to become Nijikewehn mentors when they are older."

SCIT Afterschool Program youth step up to the Honey Bee Challenge

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways was abuzz on May 9 about the science of agriculture as 25 Afterschool Program Tribal youth stepped up to meet the Honey Bee Challenge.

Kristi Schreiber, extension 4-H Program coordinator for Isabella County, informed Ziibiwing Assistant Director Judy Pamp

and Organized Sports Specialist Lindsey Sprague about the 2016 Ag Innovators Experience (the Honey Bee Challenge.) The program teaches 4-H youth about the importance of honey bees in food production.

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe is the first tribe in Michigan to step up to the challenge and participate in this program. Other tribes in other states have already been participating in this event.

Sprague said the Isabella County MSU Extension 4-H Program reached out to the Tribal youth through Pamp.

"(Each youth attending) had the opportunity to build their very own battery-powered honey bee," Sprague said. "Everyone was sent home with new drawstring backpacks filled with some more useful information, along with a couple flower seeds for them to plant and help the honey bees continue to thrive. Also included was a stick of honey."

The 90-minute science and engineering activity was offered free to the youth. The youth gave the program two thumbs up as they learned about science, career education, leadership, robotics and civic engagement.

MSU Extension Instructor Betty Jo Krosnicki said the challenge is the 2016 activity for the 4-H Ag Innovators Experience, a project that is in its third year; supported by National 4-H Council and funding partner Monsanto.

"The 4-H Ag Innovators Experience allows youth a hands-on opportunity to explore science while learning about the real world connections between science and agriculture," Krosnicki said. "Youth are encouraged to explore career options in the science and agriculture field. The program brings awareness to the increasing world population and links the importance of



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal youth Damien Hunter receives some help from MSU Extension 4-H Program Coordinator Kristi Schreiber.

agriculture to increasing food production for the future."

4-H is the largest youth development organization in the nation, reaching more than 200,000 youth in Michigan each year and six million youth across the country.

4-H engages youth in experiential learning around a vast array of topics including educational programs stemming from the 4-H mission mandates: science, healthy living, citizenship, and mentoring.

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Heart: Sisters Ann and Nancy Wilson rock Soaring Eagle

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductees and siblings Ann and Nancy Wilson, also known as Heart, began topping the music charts in the '70s with numerous hits. Today, they continued to rock right into a sold-out crowd at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

The Wilson sisters not only lead the band, but play instruments and write their own songs, making them the first women in rock history to do so, according to heart-music.com.

Ann's greatest instrument, however, is her voice. With its vast range and power, she belts out tune after tune.

Nancy is respected as a gifted guitarist as well as vocalist. Gibson.com listed Nancy as No. 8 on the top 10 list of best female guitar players of all time.

The Seattle group has sold tens of millions of albums worldwide.

Heart began their May 14 set with "Magic Man," "Heartless" and "What About Love."

"Even It Up" was dedicated to the ladies in the audience, and Nancy said "These Dreams" is "a romantic love song that focuses on the concept of love."

Next, the band introduced a new song, "Two," written by R&B singer Ne-Yo, who wrote the song for the TV show "Empire." (Nancy's husband Geoff Bywater is a music executive for the show.)

"These Dreams" is about two very unlikely people... that get together," Nancy said.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Heart guitarist and vocalist Nancy Wilson plays along during "Heartless."

"Nobody understands it, but they're in love."

Nancy sounded powerful on the lead vocals, but the song really came to life when Ann provided backing vocals during the chorus.

"This next song is one of our favorites," Ann said of "Sand." "Even though it wasn't a hit, it



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Heart lead vocalist Ann Wilson belts out "What About Love" during the May 14 sold-out show.

was a hit in our hearts."

Heart then performed an acoustic rendition of "Alone," with Ann's vocals shining.

Heart emerged in the music industry about 40 years ago,

and they are still going strong. Ann said they have a new album coming out in about a month.

Ann said the new rock song, "Beautiful Broken" is "about a beautiful person who is a little crazy upstairs."

Exceptional performances of "Crazy On You" and "Barracuda" closed the set.

The band is often referred to as "the female Led Zeppelin." Their encore contained three Zeppelin songs including "Immigrant Song," "No Quarter" and "Misty Mountain Top."

Ann carried Robert Plant's already-outstanding vocal to new heights as Nancy shredded on guitar.

In 2012, Heart honored Led Zeppelin with a "Stairway to Heaven" performance at the 35th annual Kennedy Centre Honors in Washington, D.C., which moved Plant to tears.

Cinco de Mayo rocks with WAR, A.B. Quintanilla and the Kumbia Kings Allstarz

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The annual Cinco de Mayo bash rocked another sold-out crowd with WAR, A.B. Quintanilla and the Kumbia Kings Allstarz



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

WAR founder and frontman Leroy Jordan tells all friends about the "Low Rider."

at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on March 3.

The event has been running annually since 2002.

"We felt that it would be a great idea to support the Latino community with the holiday and broaden our diversity in music," said Raul Venegas, marketing and entertainment director.

Venegas brought in the Saginaw, Mich.-based Mas Tequila band to open the show.

"We enjoy having local and regional bands play as opening acts for some of our larger festival shows," he said. "With Jose Escamilla on accordion, Mas Tequila had the dance floor going right from the start."

Mark Ojeda-Vasquez, casino host, said it was nice catching up with his friends backstage including A.B. Quintanilla.

"The last time I talked with A.B. is when my family and I spent time in Corpus Christi with Abraham (his father),"

Vasquez said. "We were given the opportunity to tour his music studios and production room where many of their music videos are shot."

Tejano Music Awards winner Ricky Valenz announced he is joining the tour as vocalist with the Kumbia King All Starz.

"I had the vision and goal of one day being able to perform internationally, and also being able to work and record with the legendary producer A.B. Quintanilla who produced and wrote hits for his sister the reigning Queen, Selena Quintanilla-Perez," Valenz said.

WAR, with their chart-topping hits "Low Rider," "Cisco Kid" and "Why Can't We Be Friends," is considered the original afro Cuban jazz rock blues band. The multi-talented Leroy "Lonnie" Jordan is a founding member of WAR and led the group through a compendium of song

from the '70s and '80s. The infectious rhythms of "Cinco De Mayo" and "You



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Band leader A.B. Quintanilla (right) and singer Ricky Valenz lead the Kumbia Kings Allstarz through a blistering set of Latino dance music.

"Got the Power" from the 1982 "Outlaw" release had the dance floor jumping.

The "King of Rant" Lewis Black returns to bring "The Naked Truth" to Soaring Eagle

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Anger took center stage as the "King of Rant" Lewis Black made his sixth appearance at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on May 21.

Black took a summer hiatus from his "The Naked Truth" tour but he used the evening to highlight his comedic genius with topics that included current events, religion, social media and politics.

Black uses his trademark style of comedic yelling and animated finger-pointing to skewer anything and anyone that gets under his skin. His comedic brilliance lies in his ability to make people laugh at the absurdities of life.

He is a master of observational humor and shedding light on the hypocrisy he sees in the world. He criticized media outlets by throwing both Fox News and MSNBC networks under the bus.

"Remember CNN doesn't give you news either," Black said. "But at least with CNN,

you can watch CNN for six minutes a day and then know what it's going to be like when you have a stroke."

Receiving critical acclaim as a stand-up, actor and author, Black has performed for audiences throughout Europe, New Zealand, Canada and the U.S.

Black made a few jokes on the current election year candidates.

"With choices like Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, I think it's time that we had a third party candidate," Black said. "I would vote for the Pillsbury Doughboy. He may be the lesser of two evils and at least when he was finished, we would have muffins."

In 2009, Black filmed his first feature length concert film, "Stark Raving Black," at the Fillmore Theatre in Detroit.

In 2015, Black notably voiced the character "Anger" in the Pixar film and Academy Award winning film "Inside Out."

"I knew from the very beginning that this was going to be special," Black said. "I'll be remembered as this little



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

The "King of Rant" Lewis Black offered an eclectic mix of comedy and satire.

red guy who yells and his head goes on fire."

Black has been touring for many years with fellow actor and comedian John Bowman. Bowman has his roots in Michigan where he did several stage productions at the Lansing-based Boars Head Theatre and did numerous appearances at comedy clubs in Lansing, Detroit and Chicago.



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- \$20 DRINK CREDIT per room

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CDC cancer summit panel offers attendees a chance to look back and to look ahead

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 2016 summit titled “Looking Back and Looking Ahead: The State of Cancer Control in American Indian and Alaska Native Communities” was held for current CDC grantees April 26-28, 2016 at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City, Mich.

CDC grantees from five CDC regions across the country collaborated to discuss cancer health policy implementation in Indian Country.

Margaret Steslicki, medical director for the Nimkee Clinic, said she was “honored that SCIT had an opportunity to share at the closed summit for Tribes who were CDC grantees.”

“I was contacted by Brenda Manuelito from nDigiDreams and was asked to participate in the nDigiFest Film Festival at the Summit and to sit on a panel with Dr. Suzanne Cross, Daisy Kostus and Noel Pingatore from ITC

to tell the story about how the SCIT became involved in the digital stories,” Steslicki said. “We were honored to share our experience working with the nDigiDreams, creating the stories for the community and how we are beginning to disseminate them in the community.”

Daisy Kostus, elder of Cree First Nation of Waswanipi (Northern Quebec), said she enjoyed sharing her story.

“Each one of the stories came from the heart and was very moving,” Kostus said. “As a panel, the people were very thankful regarding our experiences as cancer survivors.”

Mike Willette, communications specialist for Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, said ITC was one of the many sponsors and the presentation was moderated by Manuelito and Dr. Carmella Rodriguez of nDigiDreams.

The event was opened with a prayer from Kostus and an eagle staff presentation that was conducted by Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians elder Linda Woods.

Willette said the summit goals examined the opportunities and barriers related to delivering quality colorectal cancer screening and follow-up care in health care settings serving American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

“The summit goals help Tribes to develop guidance that can be used to enhance delivery of effective and efficient cancer screening, integrating with existing structures, aligning resources in the public and private spheres, strengthening channels of communication and working across organizational goals and priorities,” Willette said. “Tribes also have the opportunity to examine the existing tools and resources that support cancer screening in practice and identify dissemination strategies and additional needs.”

The final event of the first day was an nDigi Fest, which was sponsored by the California Rural Indian Health Board and the National Native Network. The event was a cultural exchange through “digital storytelling,” which includes stories that cover many aspects of cancer prevention, education, care, and treatment.

The program celebrated and honored cancer-related, Native-focused digital stories in a “story” setting that was culturally unique and powerfully healing.

Some of the video stories included:

- “Gift of Another Day” by Cross.
- “Calling on the Great Spirit” by Kostus.
- “Zaagidiwin (Love)” by Punkin Shananaquet of the Lac Courte Oreilles/Matchebe-nash-she-wish (Gun Lake) Band of Potawatomi.
- “Stage 2... Stage 3” by Rita McDonald, cancer navigator for the Northern Cheyenne Tribe.
- “Lessons Learned” by tribal elder Donald Summers



Courtesy of Inter-Tribal Council

The Saginaw Chippewa delegation meets with other representatives at the CDC Cancer Summit in Traverse City. (Left to right: Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan’s Noel Pingatore, Dine’ elder and nDigiDreams Co-Founder Brenda Manuelito, Nimkee Medical Director Margaret Steslicki, SCIT elder Suzanne Cross, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians Elder Linda Woods and Tribal Court Administrative Assistant Daisy Kostus.)

of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians.

• “Yuuluaqucirkaq (Healthy Way of Living)” by Yupik tribal member Agnes Rowland.

• “My Mother Prayed Cancer Away” by Navajo Ophelia Spencer.

• “Nikaanag (My brothers, my friends)” by Erich Longie of the Spirit Lake Sioux.

“Ten cancer-related digital stories were screened and came from geographically diverse regions and covered many aspects of cancer prevention, education, care and treatment from the perspective of Native individuals and families,” Manuelito said.

The nDigiFest focused on the September 2015 digital storytelling workshop at the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Cross has been instrumental in Indian Country on bringing awareness to Native health issues, and shared her experience with ovarian cancer and also as a heart attack and bypass surgery survivor.

Cross said her video helped her put her life threatening events into perspective, and emphasized how fortunate she is.

“The experience of having cancer has changed my thoughts on my life and how I handle crises, needs and wants

differently, which are expressed in the video,” she said. “The video also highlights the importance of the love for a child, and wanting to do whatever it takes to stay alive in order to be able to contribute to his life for as long as possible. The sharing of the experience brought me an awareness of the empathy I had for the physician who told me I had ovarian cancer.”

Cross explained the experience provided a point of view on how patients impact a physician’s life.

“Both videos made me aware of how physicians’ diagnostics skills are guided by a set of statistics which may not fit,” Cross said.

Cross said with her heart disease diagnosis, she experienced symptoms common in men.

“In the situation with the ovarian cancer, I did not meet the criteria of being over 40, or Eastern European decedent, I had no other cancers; and I had an unclear family history due to short life span of family members; which is the case for many American Indians,” she said.

Cross said, “I think the nDigi Dreams professionals have mastered how to reduce an individual’s story so that a video emphasizes the prominent elements of each individual’s life experience.”

Editorial: What are the health benefits of walking?

JUDY DAVIS

Nimkee Public Health

What are the health benefits of walking? According to the Mayo Clinic, quite a lot.

Regular brisk walking can help you to:

- Maintain a healthy weight
- Prevent or manage various conditions including heart disease, high blood pressure, and Type 2 diabetes.
- Strengthen your bones
- Improve your mood
- Improve balance and coordination

The more you walk, the better your health! Find the

right shoes with proper arch support, a firm heel, and thick flexible soles. Plan your routine and ask a friend to come along.

If you are going to walk at night, include bright colors or reflective tape.

When first beginning, you may want to start with walking a little. Increase your time each day building a daily habit. You will begin to build strength and see weight loss.

Add a simple four-minute stretch routine after your walk to leave your muscles less prone to injury.

To keep a walking routine going during inclement weather, the 4x4 Public Health Grant is continuing to

fund-free walking at Morey Courts and our own Fitness Center is available to Nimkee patients and employees.

Reminder, if you signed up for the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Tribe to Tribe Challenge, be sure to record all your steps/miles on the website.

With the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe winning first place in the challenge last year, Nimkee Fitness plans to build a new outdoor fitness center, “Outdoor Fit Park,” which will be located on the east lawn side of Nimkee Fitness. The fit park will include outdoor fitness equipment and obstacle course materials. Happy Walking!

Search for the Lost ▶---x

Eagle Feather Scavenger Hunt

Wednesday, June 8

- Sign-up, and begin your scavenger hunt at 5:30 p.m.
- This event is in collaboration with the 25th annual Human Race.

Join family, friends, and neighbors in following the clues that bring you to the lost feather.

Stay for dinner after the Human Race, and enjoy being together on the evening of June 8.

Everyone will go home with a commemorative 25th anniversary cedar feather and will be entered into a drawing for the BIG PRIZE.

HUMAN RACE

Seventh Generation 2016

5K Run & 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk

Registration begins: 5:30 p.m. | Race begins: 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 8, 2016

Seventh Generation Elijah Elk Cultural Center
7957 E. Remus Road, Mt Pleasant, MI 48858
(Northwest side of the Shepherd and Remus roads intersection.)

NIMKEE FITNESS CENTER

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

Individual Fees

- \$15 post marked by June 3
- \$20 after June 3

Family Rate
(Three or more immediate family members)

- \$40 post marked by June 3, 2016
- \$45 after June 3, 2016

Awards
Hand-crafted Cedar Eagle Feather Awards for:

- Top three male and female finishers in 13 different age classifications in the 5K Run.
- Top three finishers in the 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk.

NEW Design T-shirts
Will be given to the first 175 registrants.

Full course post-race dinner served to all!

For more information, contact: Jaden Harman, at 989.775.4694 or JHarman@sagchip.org



New construction will make fitness at Nimkee “a walk in the park”

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The Nimkee Fitness Center and the Tribal Public Works Department are collaborating on a new construction project that will make staying fit “a walk in the park.”

Nimkee Fitness Coordinator Jaden Harman was excited as the construction began May 18 on the first phase of the Fit Park.

Harman said the concept came into fruition last July when the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe won the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Tribe to Tribe Walking Challenge.

“Through various suggestions from our fitness members, we decided to develop some ideas for an outdoor fit park that would go in the east

Nimkee lawn,” Harman said. “The vision of the Fit Park was that it would include fitness stations and an obstacle course. It was our goal to create innovative stations that help create a fun fitness experience and adherence to exercise. We also took into consideration to create stations for different fitness levels.”

Harman hopes the addition of the Fit Park will give Nimkee Fitness staff the opportunity to extend and improve fitness services through outdoor exercise for our community and fitness members.

“We are currently putting in a few stations at a time,” he said. “The multilevel pull-up bars and suspension station being the first two.”

He wished to thank health educators Judy Davis and



Courtesy of Nimkee Fitness

A diagram shows the planned layout of the fitness park.

Robyn Grinzinger from the Public Health Department.

“These two ladies organize, coordinate and encourage the SCIT team that participates in the BC/BS Tribe to Tribe Walking Challenge,” Harman said. “Without these ladies and the efforts of all the members of the SCIT team we would not be able to improve and

implement these projects for our community.”

Harman also extended a personal thank you to Director of Utilities Barry Skutt, Public Works Supervisor Tim Walraven and Public Works Maintenance worker Michael Vasquez for their expertise in developing and constructing this project.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Public Works Supervisor Tim Walraven (left) assists Nimkee Fitness Coordinator Jaden Harman with the fit park construction.

Editorial: Do you know what the the healthy start program is?

JUDY DAVIS

Nimkee Public Health

The first patients were enrolled in the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe’s Healthy Start program in 1997. Despite this longevity, many community members and employees are unaware of this essential program through Nimkee Public Health.

Funded through the government’s office of Health and Human Services, the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan has been able to receive Healthy Start grants.

Grant monies have then

been disbursed to various tribes throughout Michigan. The Saginaw Chippewa Tribe has been very fortunate to be one of them.

As coordinator of the program, I work with two very experienced and talented nurses, Anna Hon, RN, and Helen Williams, RN. They both have many additional hours and credentials. They both are certified lactation counselors.

Helen Williams holds certification as a child birth educator, growth and development screening and trainer for children aged 2 months to 5 years, neonatal resuscitation, and fetal

monitoring. She also holds numerous certifications in emergency planning.

Helen Williams’ nursing career spans 34 years and she has been with the Tribe for 10 years. She has five children and seven grandchildren with a great-grandchild on the way.

She and her husband have a small farm where they raise rabbits, ducks, chickens, and pigs; along with two dogs and four cats. Helen loves being a nurse and loves serving the Healthy Start Program moms and babies.

Anna Hon has had more than 22 years of nursing experience

including hospital nursing in an OB unit, labor and delivery, postpartum care, and newborn nursery nursing. She is a member of AWHONN Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses.

Anna Hon has earned three specialty certifications (Lactation Counselor Certificate, Parenting Class Moderator for the Love and Logic Curriculum, and FASD (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders) Training of Trainers Certificate; all of which have helped her in her 16 years with the Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center.

She has been married for 41 years, and she and her husband enjoy spending time traveling and visiting their seven grandchildren. Her hobbies include singing in her church choir, and playing in the community flute choir, (Flutique). She is so grateful for the welcome that she has received on the Isabella reservation and feels blessed to be part of this wonderful community.

In subsequent issues of the Tribal Observer, we will explore the program more and discuss the various classes and events that are held through the Healthy Start Program.

June is Back Care Month: The importance of taking care of your back

TONI SMITH

Wellness Coordinator

By taking care of your back thru regular exercise, you will not only strengthen your back, but you can prevent back injuries. You can also perform back exercises to help alleviate and manage back pain. If you already suffer from back pain, then you should see your physician to get a treatment plan that is right for you and start managing your pain.

By maintaining a healthy weight, you can also reduce back pain. If you are overweight, you can lose weight to help relieve back pain. You can start practicing and

using proper form when lifting heavy objects, this can also help you to avoid a potential back injury.

Exercise: You should do daily aerobic exercise, such as walking or swimming three to five times a week for a minimum of 20-60 minutes, or a minimum of 150 minutes/week of aerobic exercise.

If you already suffer from back pain, then see your physician to get recommended exercises that are right for you. If you do not suffer from back pain, then you can meet with a personal trainer to learn more about core strengthening exercises.

Maintain a healthy weight: You should maintain a healthy weight based on your

height. You can go to www.webmd.com and use a BMI calculator to determine your healthy weight range. By reducing excess pounds, you can alleviate back pain.

Lift objects with proper form: When you lift a heavy object, you should keep your back straight and only bend at the knees. You should hold the heavy object close to your body. If an object is too heavy, ask someone to help you move it.

Sit with proper form: If you sit for long periods of time, you should get up and move every 30 minutes throughout the day. You should consider using a seat with a lower back support, arm supports, and a swivel base.

Stand with proper form: If you stand for long periods of time, you should keep your back straight, do not slump your shoulders, and do move or shift feet often. By maintaining a neutral spine, this will

reduce stress on your back. See your physician if you experience back pain! For more info, contact Wellness Coordinator Toni Smith at tsmith@sagchip.org or 989-775-5624

Local Community Fitness Events

- **June 3:** Bay City, Mich. | Holy Trinity Walk on Water 5K Run
- **June 3:** Harrison, Mich. | Middle O’Mitten - 5K/10K
- **June 10:** Caro, Mich. | Child Advocacy Center Superhero Run
- **June 11:** Harrison, Mich. | MUTT Team Trail Race
- **June 18:** Lansing, Mich. | Get Healthy Now 5K
- **June 19:** Sanford, Mich. | Sanford Lake Triathlon
- **June 25:** Bay City, Mich. | Beach Wellness

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Merissa Cummins

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Email: merissa.artvan@gmail.com

Nimkee Fitness Center Group Exercise Schedule June 2016

| 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 | |
| 5:30 p.m. | | Yoga Tammy | Belly Dance Deanna | | |

TEE UP FOR THE SECOND ANNUAL SOARING EAGLE OPEN

AUGUST 19-21

THE PLAYERS TOURNAMENT

\$200/person (3-player team)

Shotgun start times

Saturday, 9AM (Waabooz & Pohlcat) | Sunday, 9AM (Pohlcat) & 11AM (Waabooz)

Award Banquet Dinner at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Sunday at 3PM

PRIZE POOL MINIMUM - \$34,500

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|-------------|-------------|
| 1st \$3,900 | 5th \$1,500 |
| 2nd \$2,400 | 6th \$1,200 |
| 3rd \$2,100 | 7th \$900 |
| 4th \$1,800 | 8th \$600 |

FRIDAY TOURNAMENTS

9am Shotgun Start

SENIORS 3-MAN SCRAMBLE

*\$100/person, 3-player team (age 50+)
at Waabooz Run Golf Course*

PRIZE POOL MINIMUM - \$3,300

9am Shotgun Start

WOMEN'S 3-PLAYER SCRAMBLE

*\$100/person, 3-player team
at the Pohlcat Golf Course*

PRIZE POOL MINIMUM - \$3,300

For room discounts at Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel or Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort call 877.2.EAGLE.2

RSVP NOW.

For tournament inquiries and to register, call Steve Norbury 989.817.4802.

**Same-day registration or after July 22 will be an additional \$20 per person.*



SoaringEagleCasino.com





EAB Board members and staff enjoy luncheon and tour of Behavioral Health facilities

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

As a standing committee appointed by Tribal Council, the Elders Advisory Board welcomes opportunities to interact with other Tribal departments and on April 27 a place at the table was set for them.

Several members of the EAB were accompanied by Rosalie Maloney, interim senior assisted living administrator, as they enjoyed a tour of Behavioral Health given by Administrator David Garcia and his staff.

“Behavioral Health was honored to host the Elders Advisory Board for a luncheon with the treatment center’s residents and tour of the building,” Garcia said. “The intent was to establish a bridge of communication and cooperation with the EAB. The hope is to utilize the wisdom, knowledge and experience of our elders to improve the quality of the services for the Tribal community.”

EAB Chairperson Terry L. Bonnau said the Board was first introduced to a few of the current Residential Treatment Center clients.

“During our lunch, we mingled with the residents who shared great reviews of the treatment facility,” Bonnau said. “It was very informative to learn about the many programs Mr. Garcia and his staff are currently working on. The staff seemed genuinely honored to have the EAB tour their facility.”



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

EAB Board members David Anderson, Terry Bonnau and Carole Tally shared some stories with Behavioral Health Helping Healer Steve Pego in his office during their visit.

Maloney said after lunch, the Behavioral Health staff provided a tour of both the Residential Treatment Center and the Supported Living Program.

“I had the honor of working at the RTC during that first year it was open in 2006,” Maloney said. “I am so impressed with the growth they have made in what they offer along with their Supportive Living Program.”

Brooke Huber, sexual assault response team lead for Behavioral Health, informed the Elders on programs Nami Migizi Nangwiihgan offers.

“I am always thankful for the opportunities that allow us to interact with others,” Huber said. “We are passionate about the work we do and it was nice to share that with the elders.”

Outpatient Clinical Coordinator Debbie Robb said during the visit, the Board was able to see how residential services are “designed to help people transition into progressively less intense levels of care and how treatment processes include culture and tradition.”

“The (treatment center) residents are exposed to the Ojibwe language, ceremonies, and native values throughout their treatment,” Robb said.

“I think some of the EAB members were not aware of the need for levels of care to treat and addressing recovery from addiction, the most intense level of care is the RTC placement, then as a person is ready they can remain in a safe, drug-free environment by transitioning into our Supportive Living Program to continue their treatment and recovery journey while getting back out into the routines of daily living,” she said.

Robb said clients may choose to go into the Intensive Outpatient Program to continue treatment and support but live on their own. Throughout the recovery process, they will be working with a case manager, an individual therapist, and can request to work with the helping healer.

Treatment center residents discover healthy ways to

spend time, and the prevention team has worked on teaching traditional crafts like beading and cooking.

The EAB also learned Behavioral Health offers domestic violence awareness programming, hosts a domestic violence support group for women, along with counseling, and case management services in Saganing began May 24, Robb said.

“The EAB visited the play therapy room and saw several of the counseling offices and

met several therapists who work with kids, adolescents, families and adults,” Robb said. “They were introduced to the school-based counseling program, the case management program; they saw the intensive outpatient room and taught about many of the supportive, recovery drop-in groups that are open to clients and community members.”

The EAB concluded the visit with a stop by Tribal Mide’ Elder and Helping Healer Steve Pego.

Chi-Miigwetch

to the following people who made a donation to the Andahwod Bird Aviary.

• **Charleen Sasse - Miigiziik level**
In honor of Dorothy Netmop

• **Sharon Sasse - Miigiziik level**
In honor of Dorothy Netmop

Your donation is greatly appreciated.

JUNE 2016 Tribal Elder Birthdays

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 David Bird, Karen Bond, Asuncion Castaneda, Carolyn Harris, Robert Neyome Jr., Martin Steele | 15 Lillian Hunter, Gloria Loveland |
| 2 Gloria Marshall, Ruth Hendrickson, Donna Moore, Tammy Nowicki, Kevin Phillips | 16 Donald Leaux Sr., Ernest Nahgahgwon, Delores Pepin, Geraldine Phillips |
| 3 Patricia Kequom, Loretta Castaneda, Robert McDonald, Sally Quiroga | 17 Donald Cabay, Thomas Wheaton Sr. |
| 4 Kayla Crampton, Betsy Crooker | 18 Linda Ritter, Douglas Jackson, Jill Meir, Connie Truett |
| 5 Alan Alma | 19 Charel Stevens |
| 6 Roberta Starkey, Tammi Craig, Kenneth Lown | 20 John Hart, Michael Childers, Lori Fuller, Richard Russell |
| 7 Philip Henry, Abraham Smith, Connie Sprague, Mark Jackson | 21 Mary Smith, Joel Dennis, Cheryl Dixon, Vaughn Schoen |
| 8 Kimberly Otto-McCoy, Anita Henry, Eugene Jackson | 22 Penny Elliott, Virgil James, Rudy Pontiac, Daniel Rossbach |
| 9 Gary Bird, Lillian Corbiere, Linda Haven, Kelli Buback, Morgan Pope | 23 Diana Robinson, Marlin Strong |
| 10 Robin Peters | 24 Christopher Moses |
| 11 Galen Bennett, Douglas Gage, Kelly Garlick | 25 Christine Reed, Annette Saboo-Rogers, Laura Shawboose |
| 13 Daniel Burnham, Anthony Dutton, Harold Isaac Jr., Elizabeth Kosla, Connie Rosenthal | 26 Sharon Blevins, Ronald Orvis, George Slater Jr. |
| 14 Betty Ashmun, Jeanette Leaux, Gregory Mandoka, Robert Bailey, Jodie Brown, Kristie Clemons, Richard Cloutier, John Quayle | 27 Richard Trepanier Sr., Rollin Bacon Jr., Lorraine Bergevin, Ricky Fowler, Debra Hull |
| 15 Earl Pelcher Sr. | 28 Robert Pego Sr., Vivian Carpenter, Rose Greenwald, Oval James, Ronald Stockel II, Angela Tabor |
| | 29 Lorena Finney, James Reynolds, Mac Schoen, Gaylene Urban |
| | 30 Rhonda Salazar, Carole Tally |

Elders Advisory Board Vacancies

Interested elders must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- 50 years and older
- Advocate for Tribal Elders
- District 1 SCIT member
- Attend meetings regularly

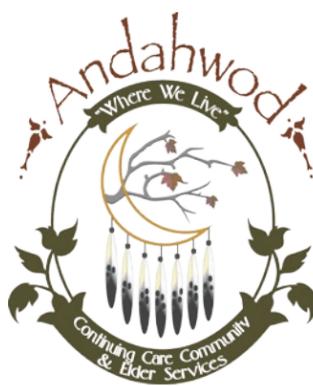
If you meet these requirements and would like to be a part of the EAB please submit a letter of interest with your name, address and phone number to:

Deadline:

June 10, 2016 @ 5 p.m.

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

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



Andahwod CCC & ES Events - June 2016

Euchre

Mondays | 6 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4300

Crafts with Elisa

Tuesdays | 5 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4300

Language Bingo

June 2 | 1 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4307

Mother's & Father's Day Cookout

June 4 | 12 - 3 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4307
• Bring a side dish or dessert to pass
• Games: Horseshoes, ladder ball, dance off and water balloon toss.

Jewelry with Kay

June 7 | 1 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4307

Elders Breakfast

June 8 & 22 | 9 a.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4300

Resident Yard Sale

June 11 | 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4307

Bingo with Friends

June 15 | 1 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4307

District One Elders Meeting

June 22 | 10 a.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4300
• After Elders Breakfast

Summer Bonfires

June 16 | 8 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4302
• Held at Andahwod during the SECR Summer Concert Series.

4th of July Parade

July 4 | 4 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4300
• Decorate your golf cart, ATV, or scooter.
• Parade will be around Andahwod
• Prize for best decorated

Bison Bed & Breakfast

July 9 | 11:30 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4300
• Sign-up deadline: June 24
• Cost is \$12 for lunch
• Bison burger, salad, chips and dessert.

**Activities and events are subject to change.



JUNE 2016 EVENT PLANNER

Monday Night Masters

May 2 - August (14 weeks) | Tee time: 5:30 - 6:15 p.m.
• Location: Maple Creek Golf Club (Shepherd, Mich.)
• Contact: 989-775-4149

Tuesday Night Giigohn Fishing

June 7 - Aug. 23 | Tuesday nights: 6 - 9 p.m.
All day outings: 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.
• Contact: 989-775-4115
• June 7: Budd Lake
• June 14: Long Lake
• June 24: Sanford (all day outing)
• June 28: Stevenson Lake
• \$15 per person, per night. Youth 16 and under fish free.

Survival Saganing: Youth Challenge

June 10 | 11 a.m.
• Location: Saganing Tribal Center
• Contact: 989-775-5810
• Prizes, lunch and survivor challenges.

Nimkee Health Fair

June 14 | 4 - 6 p.m.
• Location: Andahwod
• Contact: 989-775-4629
• Sponsored by Nimkee Women's Health
• Door prizes, food, and informational booths
• A health fair for all

KnockerBall

June 9 | 3 p.m.
• Location: Mount Pleasant High School football field
• Contact: 989-775-0495
• Free event
• Free hot dogs, beverages and music.
• www.KnockerBallGrandRapids.com

Black Ash Basket Making

June 15 | 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
• Location: 7th Generation
• Contact: 989-775-4780

Financial Workshop

June 16 | 12 p.m.
• Location: Housing Conference Room
• Contact: 989-775-4552

Father's Day Fishing Tournament

June 18 | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
• Location: Eagle Bay Marina
• Contact: 989-775-4506

Wellness Champions Meeting

June 21 | 1 p.m.
• Location: Human Resources
• Contact: 989-775-5624

Women's Support Group

June 21 | 5:30 - 7 p.m.
• Location: Behavioral Health
• Contact: 989-775-4896

Community Emergency Preparedness

June 23 | 5 - 8 p.m.
• Location: 7th Generation
• Contact: 989-775-4621
• Teaching lodge with Lee Ruffino and Helen Williams
• Kids competitions and BBQ cookout.
• Adult door prizes and gift blankets for children.

Free Community Wild Rice Courses

Fridays: 1-3 p.m. and 3-5 p.m. Saturdays: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
• Location: SCTC East Building
• Contact: 989-775-4123

Summer Fun Friday Challenge

June 24 July 1, 3, 15, 22 August 5, 12, 19, 26
• Contact: 989-775-4115
• Join the Recreation Department on Fridays for fun activities including: trips to Deerfield park and cookout, Saganing Nature Preserve, Pokagon Camping/fishing trip, Sanford Lake Park, overnight trip to Big Bend Park, and a canoe trip.
• Open to all Native youth in grades 7-12.

Baby Celebration

June 29 | 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
• Location: 7th Generation
• Contact: 989-775-4780



Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Recycling

Tire Collection

June 20-24, 2016
Open To All Tribal Members & SCIT Employees With Valid ID.

Drop Off Times:
Monday - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. *(By appointment only)*

Open Drop Off Times:
(Without an appointment)
Wednesday, June 22 & Friday, June 24: from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

- The drop-off trailer will be located behind the Nimkee Fitness Center by the recycling bins.
- Limit 20 tires per household.


Call For An Appointment Tonia Jewell 775-5231

TRIBAL COMMUNITY CALENDAR | JUNE 2016

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SAT./SUN. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Andahwod Elders Services with Elders Advisory Board</i></p> <h3 style="text-align: center;">Ride & Slide Summer Getaway!</h3> <p>1st Prize: Six Cedar Point Ride & Slide passes and a \$100 VISA Gift Card.</p> <p>Tickets: \$5 each, or 4 for \$10 <i>Tickets are available for purchase at Andahwod.</i></p> | <p style="text-align: center;">6</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SCA Powwow 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Open Gym Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Traditional Teaching Saganing 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Youth Council Meeting Tribal Gym 3:30 - 5 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Talking Circle Andahwod 7 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SCA Parent Advisory Meeting SCA 3:30 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">D. Dowd Tradition Healing B. Health 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lacrosse Practice 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Donnie Dowd Sweat Lodge B. Health 5 - 10 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Talking Circle Andahwod 10 a.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">6</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SCA Powwow 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lacrosse Practice 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Love & Logic Parenting Class Nimkee Kitchen 5-7 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ogitchedaw Meeting Seniors Room 6 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Substance Abuse Meeting B. Health Lodge 7 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">8</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Talking Circle Andahwod 7 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Youth Council Meeting Seniors Room 4 - 5 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">9</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Traditional Healers 7th Generation</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lacrosse Practice 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">10</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Traditional Healers 7th Generation</p> <p style="text-align: center;">New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Talking Circle Andahwod 10 a.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12</p> <p style="text-align: center;">New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">13</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Start of Summer Reading Program - Tribal Library</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">14</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lacrosse Practice 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Love & Logic Parenting Class Nimkee Kitchen 5-7 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Substance Abuse Meeting B. Health Lodge 7 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">15</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tribal Education Advisory Meeting 9 a.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Youth Council Meeting Seniors Room 3:30 - 5 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Talking Circle Andahwod 7 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">16</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tribal Observer Deadline 3 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lacrosse Practice 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">18</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Talking Circle Andahwod 10 a.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">19</p> <p style="text-align: center;">New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">20</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">21</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lacrosse Practice 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Love & Logic Parenting Class Nimkee Kitchen 5-7 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Housing Kickball Game Broadway Park 4 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Substance Abuse Meeting B. Health Lodge 7 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">22</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Youth Council Meeting Seniors Room 4 - 5 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Talking Circle Andahwod 7 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">23</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lacrosse Practice 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">24</p> <p style="text-align: center;">New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">25</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Talking Circle Andahwod 10 a.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">26</p> <p style="text-align: center;">New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">27</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">28</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lacrosse Practice 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Substance Abuse Meeting B. Health Lodge 7 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">29</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Youth Council Meeting Tribal Gym 3:30 - 5 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Talking Circle Andahwod 7 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lacrosse Practice 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Higher Education Tribal Scholarship Funding</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Deadline: June 15, 2016</p> | <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> |



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

100 Employment

Tribal Operations

Powwow Workers

Position open date: June 1-30, 2016. Dates that will be worked: July 28 - Aug. 1, 2016. Tribal Members only, preference will be placed on NON-employed Tribal members, temp workers and seasonal workers. Must be willing to commit to all five days. \$100 a day compensated.

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. Two years of experience and/or combination of related experience and training in early childhood education preferred.

Open to the public. Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Candidate must have a Journeyman License with lineman experience or must have successfully completed the journeyman examination requirements.

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in related field of study or equivalent experience. Three years experience in management and/or administration of federal grants and contracts.

Open to the public. Minimum requirements include DDS/DMD degree from an accredited school and a Michigan Dental License.

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in special education or valid Michigan Elementary Teaching Certificate with special education endorsement.

Open to the public. Licensed as active member in good standing by the State Bar of Michigan

or must become licensed following the next available bar exam; four or more years experience as a practicing attorney.

Energy Broker Buyer

Open to the public. Candidate must have a bachelor's degree in electrical technology, statistics, mathematics, or business. Master's degree preferred. A minimum of five years experience in the analysis, forecast, strategies, and/or purchasing of wholesale power through the de-regulated BES.

Anishinabe Language Revitalization Director

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.

Economic Development Analyst

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in business or related field required, with two years of economic development analytical experience.

Treasury Portfolio Manager

Open to the public. Five to seven years minimum of investment experience, specifically with discretionary managed money and/or asset management experience required. Bachelor's degree in finance, accounting, business administration or an equivalent relatable field required. MBA or MS in business, finance, economics or related field strongly preferred.

Child Welfare Prevention Specialist

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in social work from a CSWE accredited program or a related discipline.

Open to the public. Master's degree required in identified discipline. The qualifications for the instructor shall be in accordance with the applicable certification/credential requirements specified by the appropriate accrediting agency or organization.

Open to the public. Master's degree required in identified discipline. The qualifications for the instructor shall be in accordance with the applicable certification/credential requirements specified by the appropriate accrediting agency or organization.

Open to the public. Must have a master's degree in counseling, social work, or equivalent in human services related field. Full Licensure is preferred. Limited licensed individuals who can obtain licensure within two years from date of hire are encouraged to apply.

Open to the public. Must have a master's degree in counseling, social work, or equivalent in human services related field.

Open to the public. M.A. in educational administration, educational leadership or related field, with five years teaching experience or bachelor's degree in education field with eight years teaching experience.

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. High school diploma or G.E.D. required.

Open to the public. Must have an associates degree or two years of college. Must possess good oral and writing skills.

Open to the public. Bachelor of Science degree in accounting. Three years experience in general accounting, governmental accounting preferred outside the Tribal organization or one year of governmental accounting within Tribal Organization.

Open to the public. Master's degree in social services or human services related field. Must have supervisory experience in social services or human services related field.

Open to the public. Master's degree in student personnel administration or related field

Must have a minimum of five years administration experience in a higher educator setting in a leadership position. Successful experience working with Native Americans or a willingness to learn about Native American culture and educational issues.

Secondary Language Immersion Specialist

Open to the public. Must possess required specialized unique skills including 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.

SECR

Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED.

Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED.

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

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

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years or older upon employment. High school diploma or equivalent required.

Carpet/Upholstery Cleaner FT

Open to the public. Some carpet and upholstery cleaning experience required.

Server Assistant PT

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

Inventory Control Warehouse PT

Open to Tribal Members only. Must have a high school diploma or GED.

Lead Cook

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

Steward PT

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

Guest Room Attendant PT

Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Previous house-keeping experience preferred.

Entertainment Security Officer PT

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

Guest Relations Representative PT

Open to the public. Must be 18 years of age. High school diploma or equivalent.

Security Officer PT

Open to the public. Must be 18

years of age and have a high school diploma or equivalent.

Housekeeper PT

Open to the public. Must have high school diploma or equivalent. No previous experience required.

Waitstaff PT

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

Lead Cook - Pastry

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.

Host/Hostess PT

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

SELC

Open to the public. High school diploma or equivalent.

Open to the public. High school diploma or equivalent.

Open to the public. High school diploma or equivalent.

Open to the public. High school diploma or equivalent.

Open to the public. High school diploma or equivalent.

Summons and Complaint Notices

SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT IN THE MATTER OF CHARLES MERRILL:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court 6954 E. Broadway Rd. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 (989) 775-4800 Case no. 16-CI-0140 Plaintiff: Mobile Medical Response-Saginaw, Plaintiff's Attorney: Peter S. Shek (P32749) 803 N. Michigan Ave. Saginaw MI 48602 (989) 754-5252 Vs. Defendant: Charles Merrill 801 W. Broomfield Rd. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Notice to defendant: 1. You are being sued. 2. You have 21 days after receiving this summons to file an answer with the court and to serve a copy on the other party or take other lawful action. Please not 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 Aug. 19, 2016.**

SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT IN THE MATTER OF CHERISH ALLEN:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court 6954 E. Broadway Rd. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 (989) 775-4800 Case no. 16-CI-0141 Plaintiff: Mobile Medical Response-Saginaw, Plaintiff's Attorney: Peter S. Shek (P32749) 803 N. Michigan Ave. Saginaw MI 48602 (989) 754-5252 Vs. Defendant: Cherish Allen 5115 N. Eaglecrest Apt. 4 Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Notice to defendant: 1. You are being sued. 2. You have 21 days after receiving this summons to file an answer with the court and to serve a copy on the other party or take other lawful action. Please not 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 Aug. 19, 2016.**

SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT IN THE MATTER OF SAMUEL ARNOLD:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court 6954 E. Broadway Rd. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 (989) 775-4800 Case no. 16-CI-0142 Plaintiff: Mobile Medical Response-Saginaw, Plaintiff's Attorney: Peter S. Shek (P32749) 803 N. Michigan Ave. Saginaw MI 48602 (989) 754-5252 Vs. Defendant: Samuel Arnold 5110 E. Chip Cove Dr. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Notice to defendant: 1. You are being sued. 2. You have 21 days after receiving this summons to file an answer with the court and to serve a copy on the other party or take other lawful action. Please not 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 Aug. 19, 2016.**

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Mascot Dance Off and petting zoo entertain during Ziibiwing's Kid's Night

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The Ziibiwing Center hosted Kid's Night and the Mascot Dance Off on Friday, May 13.

Departments who ran contests and booths this year included Anishinabeg Child and Family Services, Nimkee Public Health, Andahwod, Migizi EDC, Kid's Quest, Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel and the Mount Pleasant Discovery Museum.

"This year we had our own Mshike from ZCS Native Direct, Ranger Beaver from Isabella County Parks and Recreation, Waabooz from the Waabooz Run Golf Course, Gizi from the Soaring Eagle Waterpark, Makwa from the Soaring Eagle Hideaway RV Park and Lou E. Loon from Midland's own minor league baseball team – the Great Lakes Loons," said Brenda Lehmkuhle, commercial services assistant manager.

The winner of the 2016 Mascot Dance Off was the crowd favorite Lou E. Loon.

"Lou E. Loon successfully defended his ZCS Mascot Dance Off trophy from last year but won again but only by one point, so next year... watch out," Lehmkuhle said.

The dance off has been going for five years now with Mshike winning the first three years in a row. The ZCS team and Native Direct issued a challenge for next year for a different mascot to take that winning spot and get their name on the traveling trophy.

"We are proud to report the Ziibiwing Birthday Sale posted



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Son Calvin Francis enjoys the May 13 Kid's Night with his dad Isaac.

record sales and attendees for this year," Lehmkuhle said. "The Kid's Night was a huge success and lots of fun for our community. We are so happy to be able to put this on each year and maintain it as a free event."

Former ZCS employee Ryan Hisler of Grand Rapids, Mich., was in the house and rocked the event as the resident DJ and emcee.

"I've had the opportunity to be a part of Kid's Night for a few years now and the mascot dance-off is always the highlight of the night," Hisler said. "I worked for the Ziibiwing Center as a gift shop clerk and team lead for three years. When they asked if I'd come back and be a part of Kid's Night again, I couldn't say no!"

The dance off theme song was the Bruno Mars and Mark Ronson chart-topper "Uptown Funk."

"The ZCS team requested that song be played for the dance-off..." Hisler said. "It was a perfect choice for a dance-off because it's a fun, upbeat song that just about everybody is familiar with and the kids joined in with the dancing mascots."

The Saginaw Chippewa Fire Department provided a fire truck, and the Ziibiwing staff and Maintenance crew assisted with the set up and tear down of tables and tents.

"Manager Chris Tata and I personally would like to thank all of the Ziibiwing Commercial Services team as they keep their regular jobs running as well as putting in extra hours to pull this off," Lehmkuhle said. "The planning starts about June for the following year and we can't wait to see you all for a bigger and better event next year!"

Saginaw Chippewa Youth Council served frybread along with blanket dogs and other items at the food booth.

Tina Skutt, Patrick Perez, and Joe Sowmick were the three mascot dance judges.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Neveah Badger (center) has some fun while Val Raphael (left) and Tonya Jackson make frybread.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Jaylah "Sugar Pie" Kequom gives Waabooz the high five as Grandfather Joe Kequom laughs.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Emcee and DJ Ryan Hisler explains the rules of the Mascot Dance Off.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Child Welfare Prevention Specialist Laura Ronk (left) has Aviana Gomez and her mustache visit the ACFS booth.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Alaina Starkey takes her turn feeding a cow at the Kid's Night petting zoo.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Madison Wing is all smiles as Mt. Pleasant Discovery Museum staffers Jerica Starr and Emily Jerome smile back.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

ZCS staffers Heather Bright and Jessica Bertalan chaperone the alpaca area.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Nimkee Nurse Anna Hon shows Gabriel Quigno the wonders of kinetic sand.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Meela Chaffee pets a goat during the May 13 event.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tiara Lawrence and Meyan Miller give out multicolored wristbands at the Kid's Quest booth.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Julianna Garcia prefers to watch the crowd on horseback.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Waaseya Lambertson shares a moment with Native Direct favorite mascot, Mshike.