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TRIBAL OBSERVER

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

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Opioid epidemic discussion involves documentary screening, panel

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

The Tribal and neighboring communities came together to discuss a heavy topic – the opioid epidemic that both the nation and local areas are tackling.

The Monday, March 19 evening consisted of a showing of the documentary "Chasing the Dragon: The Life of an Opioid Addict," followed by a panel discussion with representatives from various agencies.

Behavioral Health's Prevention Department and the U.S. Attorney's Office hosted the event in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment Hall, beginning just after 6 p.m.

The FBI and DEA originally unveiled the documentary in an effort to help educate students and young adults about the dangers of opioid addiction.

Host Catherine "Kt" Bouchard, prevention specialist for Behavioral Health, provided a welcome to the large audience.

The occasion was especially somber, given the topic and the fact that the community had

just learned of the passing of another young Tribal Member the previous evening.

Performing one song with a hand drum, Joe Syrette, culture and language teacher for the Saginaw Chippewa Academy, also reflected on the recent death and addiction in the community.

"We are living in a day and age where people lack understanding of who they are as Anishinabe," Syrette said. "Although times are changing, it doesn't mean we have to change who we are. My message is to do your best to learn and speak our language and learn where we come from – that is prevention in itself."

Syrette said the song he was to perform is typically only sung at funerals.

"I will be performing (this song) because there is a young Tribal Member who has passed on and (the song is in dedication) to those who lost their lives in addiction," Syrette said.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

A panel of professionals from various agencies answer the audience's questions during the March 19 opioid epidemic discussion in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort's Entertainment Hall.

Timothy Wiley, of the Detroit FBI field office, said he and fellow FBI representatives travel throughout the state and parts of the nation discussing the opioid issue.

"The film... shows how opioids affect addicts, their families and their relationships," Wiley said. "This film helps the audience understand the pathway to addiction and to what extent it is tearing apart communities."

After the graphic documentary, Wiley asked the audience what they liked and did not like. An audience member said they "wished it would have provided more information from medical doctors as to why they are overly prescribing opioids."

Tribal Senior Judge Patrick Shannon then facilitated the panel discussion.

The panel included the following: Chief Ronald F. Ekdahl; Wiley; Chief of Tribal Police Donielle Bannon; David Garcia, director for Behavioral Health; Michigan State Trooper Michael White; Isabella County Sheriff Michael Main; Sam Price, president/CEO of Ten16 Recovery Network; Richard Isaacson of the DEA/Detroit Division and additional FBI and DEA representatives.

Audience members asked a variety of questions, and the panel responded. The question, "Why are doctors overprescribing and poisoning with opioids?" arose.

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Town Hall highlights expansion, renovation plans of casino gaming

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Contributing Writer

A crowded Saganing Outreach Center received a bright glimpse of the future on March 10 as two presenters outlined expansion and renovation plans of casino gaming.

Chief Ronald F. Ekdahl was joined by Tribal Councilmen: Treasurer Craig Graveratte, Secretary Frank Cloutier and Saganing (District Two) member Ron Nelson, as well as fellow Council members Louanna Bruner, Lindy Hunt, Jennifer Wassegijig and Theresa Jackson.

Casino CEO Ray Brenny has worked in Indian gaming for more than 27 years and shared the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort renovation plans from I-5 Design and expansion plans from JCJ Architecture.

Brenny said Soaring Eagle renovations are slated to be done at the end of September, with the remodeled Entertainment



Courtesy of Joseph Sowmick

Chief Ronald F. Ekdahl speaks during the Standish Town Hall meeting in the Saganing Outreach Center on Saturday, March 10.

Hall expected to be completed by the Sept. 23 launch date.

"The (Soaring Eagle) Summer Concert series maintains its popularity, and we are planning 12 outdoor shows, with 39 indoor shows scheduled for 2018, and a possible extra nine shows expected to be announced at a later date," Brenny said. "With the combination of gaming, entertainment and our efforts

to be a destination resort, we have seen a steady net income growth of (Soaring Eagle) over the last three years."

Ekdahl praised Brenny for the presentation, stating the Tribe's effort and focus on updating technology is apparent.

"We want to maximize the assets we have with the hotel and casino along with all of our gaming and amenities we offer," Ekdahl said. "We want to make sure we are setting up Saganing and the planned expansion for maximum success."

Ekdahl commended the efforts of current and previous Council administrations for their vision and leadership that brought the projects forward.

"We want the Membership to be excited for the changes, and we are giving each one of our stakeholders a commemorative coin to mark this special moment in the history of our Tribal business expansion," Ekdahl said. "We realize these are huge undertakings, and these expansion projects are important for

our future, and we want the Membership with us every step of the way."

Ekdahl said no major updates have been completed in more than 20 years.

He also gave some perspective about current gaming trends and how fierce competition from other casinos/gaming operations is driving Soaring Eagle properties to stay progressively active.

"This will help solidify our stronghold on Indian gaming in the state, and we know other businesses want to be like us, and they are doing everything they can to catch up with us. By making these investments, as outlined by our presenters, and by pushing ourselves ahead of the competition, they will be scrambling trying to keep up with us, and we can be proud of that," Ekdahl said. "When you think of our competitors out of Detroit, those gaming operations are looking at every move we make, and we want to be

Town Hall | 21



Tamara Lou Leureaux

March 7, 1973 – Feb. 28, 2018

Tamara Lou Leureaux, age 44, of Rosebush passed away Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2018.

Tamara was born on March 7, 1973, in Grand Rapids, the daughter of Donald Sr. and Joanne (Smith) Leureaux. She was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Tamara loved spending time with her family and was always available to lend a helping hand when needed. She loved to plan family gatherings. She also enjoyed shopping and taking pictures; mainly selfies.

Tamara is survived by her children Brandon Leureaux of Rosebush, Jasmine (Rodney) Monroe of Grand Rapids, Casey Monroe of Mount Pleasant and Shannon Shananaquet of Wyoming, Mich.; grandchildren Mishiikenh Sprague, Journey Monroe, Rodney, Joshawn and Kaiden Kilgore, Janiyah, Aaliyah and Julianna Monroe, Darius, Daniel, Hope, Faith, Azriel and Xayvien Shananaquet; parents Joanne (Roger Martell) Fox of Rosebush and Donald (Lisa) Leureaux of Mt. Pleasant; siblings Terri (Paul Sr.) Rueckert of Mt. Pleasant, Donald Leureaux Jr. of Rosebush, Toni Leureaux of Grand Rapids and Danny Leureaux of Weidman; and several nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Tamara was preceded in death by her grandparents Melvin and Nancy Leureaux and Elizabeth and Bartlett Gibbs and several cousins, nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at Clark Family Funeral Chapel on Sunday, March 4 with Rev. Doyle Perry officiating. Burial will take place in the Denver Township Cemetery at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



Larissa Hall

Jan. 12, 1976 – March 9, 2018

Larissa Hall, 42, of Grand Rapids passed away Friday, March 9, 2018, at her home.

Larissa was born Jan. 12, 1976, in Grand Rapids, daughter of Leroy Joseph and Gladys Elsie (Sawmick) Hall.

Larissa is survived by sons Luis Hernandez and Jessie Hernandez, both of Grand Rapids; father Leroy Hall of Grawn; siblings Loretta Hall of Grand Rapids, Leroy Hall of Mount Pleasant, Leah (Pio) Fernandez of Grand Rapids and Rena Hall of Grand Rapids; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her mother Gladys Sawmick, paternal grandparents David and Mabel Hall and maternal grandparents George and Elsie Sawmick.

Her funeral was held Wednesday, March 14, at Charles R. Lux Family Funeral Home with Pastor Rocky Anaya officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



In Loving Memory

Stacy Jo Johnson

June 9, 1979 – April 8, 2015

Not a day goes by that we don't think about you. Miss and love you forever.

Your children, Adrianna and Hunter Letts and your family and friends



Lavern T. Pelcher

Oct. 3, 1938 – March 9, 2018

Lavern T. Pelcher, age 79, of Shipshewana, Ind., passed away unexpectedly Friday evening, March 9, 2018, at the Sturgis Hospital emergency room.

He was born Oct. 3, 1938, in Mount Pleasant, son of the late Toolie and Nellie (Peters) Pelcher.

Lavern resided in Shipshewana for the past 27 years.

On Nov. 24, 1990, he married Ruth Bailey in Mt. Pleasant.

Lavern retired from Mark Line Industries in Bristol, Ind., following more than 20 years of dedicated employment. He had also worked as a school bus driver for many years.

He was a member of the Christian Fellowship Center in Sturgis and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. Lavern enjoyed crossword puzzles, watching old western movies and his dogs, and he loved time spent with family.

He was proud to have served his country in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War, earning the rank of SP-4.

He is survived by his wife Ruth; step-daughter Brenda (Chuck) Miller of Bristol, Ind.; step-sons Robert (Dawn) Bates of Middlebury, Ind., and Thomas Bates of Bristol, Ind.; 12 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; sisters Susan (Steven) Bettistea, Cindy (Brian) Quigno, Lindy Hunt and Louise Hunt all of Mount Pleasant; brother Duane Pelcher of Mt. Pleasant and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held March 14 at the Christian Fellowship Center, 201 North St. in Sturgis with Rev. Glenn Middleton officiating.

Another service was held March 17 in Mt. Pleasant in the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym. Burial followed at the Woodland Cemetery in Mt. Pleasant where full military honors were conferred.

Memorial donations would be appreciated and can be sent to Middleton Ministries, 201 North St., Sturgis, MI 49091.



Robert "Bobbyduke" Neil Williams

March 12, 1967 – March 18, 2018

Robert "Bobbyduke" Neil Williams, age 51, of Mount Pleasant passed away Sunday, March 18, 2018.

Robert was born on March 12, 1967, in Alma, the son of John and Marylin (Chamberlain) Williams.

Robert proudly served his country in the United States Marine Corps.

He was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

He loved playing the guitar, chopping wood, working out and horticulture.

Robert is survived by his daughter Shyanne; sons John, Jacob and Thomas; sisters Marion Williams and Alice Jo (Kevin) Ricketts; lifelong friend Keri Williams; step-father Richard Sprague; and several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

Robert was preceded in death by his daughter, Rebekah Jo Rene Williams; parents; sister Meghann Rebekah Williams and nephew Nicholas Mena.

Funeral services were held at the Tribal Gym on Friday, March 23 with Fred Cantu officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



Theme: Culture is Prevention

Deadline: Friday, April 27

Age groups: ▶ K - 5th grade ▶ 6th - 8th grade
▶ High school ▶ Adult

Artwork may be turned in to:

- Behavioral Health
- Your school's Native American Office

Digital versions may be submitted to:

- kricketts@sagchip.org

Winners will be announced at the Annual Drug Drop-off in May.

- 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes
- Winning artwork will be used in awareness posters by Behavioral Health.

Artwork must be 8.5" x 11" or smaller.

For more information, please contact:

Kevin Ricketts at 989.775.4823 or kricketts@sagchip.org

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

2018 SCIT GOLF Membership

On sale Monday, Feb. 12

- 100 memberships available
- Open to Tribal Members, employees and their families
- Includes Green fees and discounts on apparel, range, food and drink at participating courses

Memberships cost \$250 each

- 10 percent discount for first 20 memberships purchased and paid in full
- Memberships and cart raffle tickets available for purchase at the Accounting Department in Tribal Operations
- Payment plans available

Participating courses:
Pleasant Hills Golf Club, The Pines Golf Course, Maple Creek Golf Club, Waabooz Run Golf Course and Riverwood Resort

Cart Membership Raffle (optional)
Drawing on Friday, April 6 in the Tribal Operations Seniors Room at 3 p.m.

- Win a cart at your favorite course
- One cart membership available at each course
- Tickets: one for \$5 or five for \$20

2018 Annual Report deadline

May 4, 2018 by 5 p.m.
(No postdates, faxes or emails accepted.)

Public Notice

Unclaimed per capita disbursements for deceased Tribal Members

The following is a list of unclaimed per capita disbursements for deceased Tribal Members. Any person who has been court appointed as the member's Personal Representative of the Estate can contact the Per Capita Office to claim the funds.

All monies must be claimed within two years from their date of death, or such monies will be forfeited and returned to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Per Capita Trust.

| Tribal Member Name | Date of Death |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Davis, William | 10/5/2017 |
| Dennis, Joel | 10/13/2016 |
| Folts, Carolyn | 8/13/2017 |
| Hendrickson, Ruth | 11/20/2017 |
| Jackson Sr, Garth | 10/5/2017 |
| Macgregor, Ruth Ann | 7/2/2017 |
| Pashenee, Glenn | 4/14/2016 |
| Primavera, Julia | 7/10/2017 |
| Schramm, Linda | 7/22/2017 |
| Sprague, Gary | 4/7/2017 |
| Zocher, Virginia | 8/23/2017 |
| Zocher, David | 9/9/2017 |



Soaring Eagle High Limits and VIP lounge renovation unveiling scheduled April 6

SOARING EAGLE PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort's phase one renovations are coming to fruition ahead of schedule.

On April 6, the new High Limit gaming and VIP lounge will be unveiled during a 3 p.m. ceremonial grand opening.

The first construction phase began Jan. 15 and was initially expected to be complete on April 22. This early April 6 grand opening will unveil the beautifully-reconstructed space designed to gratify high rollers and VIPs.

"This transformation is one of many more transformations yet to come," said Soaring Eagle CEO Ray Brenny. "I'm pleased with the results that I'm seeing from the steadfast efforts of I-5 Design Company and the construction teams. Tremendous progress was seen week after week, so I'm not surprised that it's two weeks ahead of schedule."

The grand opening will include a welcome address from Brenny and Chief Ronald F. Ekdahl.

Its new location is where the old 'poker room' was located. The current poker room is still temporarily in the Slot Palace through the next phase of construction scheduled for completion mid-June.

Additional construction phases are planned such as integrating a brand new sports bar and night club, updating the Entertainment Hall, enclosing a non-smoking area, re-designing Kid's Quest and Cyber Quest areas, a relocated poker room and re-branding the current sub shop.

The entire \$26.5 million renovation construction is expected to be complete by September 2018.

This major renovation project is one of the largest investments that Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort's guests have seen since the grand opening in 1997.

The last major renovation was in 2011 when the Firefly Buffet was re-branded to Aurora Buffet and remodeled to provide space for the 24-hour Legends Diner.

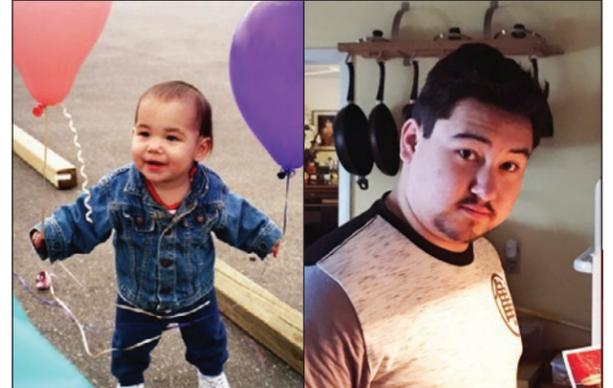
The design and construction is being performed by I-5 Design Build. The Washington-based



company has established a successful track record working with more than 75 Native American gaming properties throughout the country.

I-5's signature renovation process combines inspirational design, innovative planning, specialty in-house fabrication and seamless project implementation to produce impact-rich gaming, food and beverage and entertainment environments.

I-5's unique and innovative off-site construction methods allow for 50 to 70 percent of a project to be built offsite, using state-of-the-art digital manufacturing methods, leading to onsite project timeframes that are radically reduced and creating the maximum impact and benefit for each project.



LOOK Who's 21!!!!
Happy Birthday
Gage Colwell!
Love, Mom & Bre

Saginaw Chippewa/Isabella County



Monthly Forum
Every third Thursday of the month

Upcoming dates: April 19, May 17

7 - 8:30 p.m. | Ziibiwing Cultural Center
Monthly Forums are an educational awareness opportunity for our local community that will be hosted by our F.A.N. chapter.

Support Groups
Every first Thursday of the month

Upcoming dates: April 5, May 3

7 - 8:30 p.m. | Tribal Operations Senior's Room
Support Groups are open to anyone in recovery, grieving with a loss or have a loved one battling an addiction.

Notice of public hearing: Liquor license renewal

There will be a public hearing held Tuesday, April 24, at 8:30 a.m. in the Seniors Room at the Tribal Operations Building, 7070 E. Broadway, Mount Pleasant, MI 48858.

This hearing will address the liquor license application presented to Tribal Council by Marc Forrest, director of the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort's Food & Beverage department or his designated staff. The application to be reviewed and discussed at the hearing is as follows:

Renewal of Retail On-Sale General Liquor License for the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort located at 6800 Soaring Eagle Boulevard. Such license, if approved, would cover all indoor and outdoor Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort's premises, main casino floor including main floor bar 1, 2, 3, 4, SECR hot dog cart, Isabella's, Water Lily, room service, banquet spaces, portable bars

1-13, Aurora Buffet, Legends Diner, Siniikaung, Entertainment Hall, prime rib cart, hotel pool and spa areas, Mijjim C-Store, quick service cart services, casino beverage cart services, Slice Pizza, SECR Outdoor Concert venue, SECR concession trailer, SECR Slot Palace Bingo Hall, Slot Palace gaming spaces in rooms A, B and C, Slot Palace Pub, Little Eagle Café, Ascend Sports Bar (with anticipated opening of September 2018), any indoor service on premises under the auspices of the SECR and any outdoor service on premises under the auspices of the SECR.

This license, if issued, will be for the duration of one full year from May 24, 2018, to May 24, 2019, with hours of alcohol service consistent with section 10 of the Gaming Compact of August 20, 1993, and specifically including hours of service for Sunday alcohol sales.

Order Establishing Spring Wild Turkey Season 2018

Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 105 subdivision 6(B), the 2018 Spring Wild Turkey Season begins Sunday, April 1, 2018, and will close on Sunday, June 17, 2018, unless ordered otherwise.

The 2018 Spring Wild Turkey Season will allow the harvest of two bearded turkeys per season, per hunter.

- Licenses are available at the Tribal Planning Department office at \$15 per tag.
- Only two tags allowed per license.

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

Please refer to Ordinance 11 on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe website for rules and regulations.

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



Housing Services Offered



- Free and confidential financial assessment
- Setting up a budget
- Assistance in working out payment agreements with creditors
- Discuss financial/budgeting options
- Work with you to develop a plan
- Assess your current situation and work solely on your behalf
- Support with obtaining a mortgage



Sherrill Kennedy
Credit Homebuyer Counselor/Loan Specialist

- Phone: 989.775.4552
- Fax: 989.775.4030
- Email: SKennedy@sagchip.org
- Website: www.Sagchip.org/housing



Tribal Council

Chief

Ronald F. Ekdahl | District One

Sub-Chief

Julius S. Peters | District One

Treasurer

Craig Graveratte | District One

Secretary

Frank J. Cloutier | District Three

Sergeant-at-Arms

Kenny Sprague | District One

Chaplain

Diana Quigno-Grundahl | District One

Council Member

Louanna Bruner | District One

Council Member

Bill Federico | District One

Council Member

Lindy Hunt | District One

Council Member

Theresa Jackson | District One

Council Member

Jennifer L. Wassegijig | District One

Council Member

Ron Nelson | District Two

Editorial: Booklet sponsors needed for Saganing Powwow

DENISE PELCHER

Saganing Powwow Committee Member

Attention Tribal Members: As you know, the Saganing Powwow is a self-funded event that requires support from Tribal Membership.

This year is a very special year; it is the 10th anniversary of the Saganing Powwow.

This year, the powwow will be held on June 16 and 17 in Standish.

Have you ever thought about a family memorial to a loved one who has passed or to honor someone who is celebrating a milestone birthday or perhaps

to honor a graduate? You can purchase booklet space to do this.

Booklet spaces are \$25 for a quarter page, \$50 for a half page or \$60 for a half page with a picture; or you can become a booster and donate any amount that you choose. If you choose this option, please write in the amount that you are donating, and your name will be listed as a Powwow Booster in the booklet though the amount of your donation will not be included.

Below you will find an application form to fill out and return with a check/money order.

Please remember your support is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions regarding the booklet, please call **989-775-4944**.

2018 Saganing Powwow Booklet Application Form

Name: _____ Phone: (____) ____ - ____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

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

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

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

Deadline is May 18, 2018

Signature: _____

Wording: _____

Sponsorship Size: Check the desired size

- \$25 = 1/4 page
- \$50 = 1/2 page (no picture)
- \$60 = 1/2 page (with picture)
- \$? Booster only _____ (enter amount)

**2018 Saganing
Traditional Powwow**
June 16 & 17, 2018

The Seven Grandfather TEACHINGS

Nbookaawin – Wisdom

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

Zaagidowin – Love

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

Minaadendamooing – Respect

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

Zoongide'ewin – Bravery

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

Gwekwadiziwin – Honesty

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

Dibaadendiziwin – Humility

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

Debwewin – Truth

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

Tribal Council Regular Session Meetings

The Regular Council Sessions occur at 9 a.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the Seniors Room of Tribal Operations, in accordance to the Tribal Constitution.

Meetings are open to Tribal Members.

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

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

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

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

Regular Council Session Dates

- April 3
- May 1
- June 5

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, 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



Legislation ensures Michigan tribes have access to state child protection records

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

LANSING – Michigan’s federally-recognized tribes will now have access to certain state Children’s Protective Services records related to children within their tribe under legislation signed March 20 by Gov. Rick Snyder.

“I’m happy to sign legislation that furthers our partnership with tribal governments in Michigan by collaborating to protect the welfare and safety of children,” Snyder said in a statement.

Senate Bill 616, now the bill Public Act 56 of 2018, sponsored by state Sen. Judy Emmons, amends the Child Protection Law to allow representatives of those Michigan tribes to obtain confidential Children’s Protective Services records about young tribal members, specifically those

related to child abuse, the press release stated.

Whereas it was not permitted previously, the amendment allows the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to share information from American Indian Children’s Protective Services cases with tribal representatives.

American Indian children and families benefit when CPS can engage, involve and use the available resources of the extended family, the tribe, Indian social services agencies and individual Indian caregivers, the release stated.

“This new law will guarantee that tribes across Michigan are able to provide immediate, culturally appropriate interventions to families in situations where the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is also involved,” said Jason Luna, director of Anishnaabeg

Child & Family Services. “Ultimately, the goal is the protection of children and the prevention of family separations and Public Act 56 will help to safeguard that process.”

This legislation stemmed from conversations between tribal leaders, Gov. Snyder and legislative leaders at the annual State-Tribal Summit in September 2017.

Luna and Chief Ronald F. Ekdahl were welcomed by Sens. Emmons and Wayne Schmidt that Tuesday. “There has been a collaborative effort between the tribes and the State that assists in exercising our sovereignty and allows us the ability to work with state organizations to obtain information and records,” said Erik Rodriguez, public relations director. “We would like to thank all of those who helped make this a reality and for those who remained

committed in getting this legislation passed.”

Further Michigan tribes offered remarks.

“The Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi is grateful for the collaboration between the Michigan Legislature, Gov. Snyder and the 12 federally-recognized tribes in Michigan to protect the welfare, safety and security of Native American children,” said Jamie Stuck, chairperson for the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi, in the press release. “We especially want to recognize the initiative of Sen. Emmons and her sponsorship of this bill. We look forward to further partnership with Gov. Snyder and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services as we strive to preserve the culture, heritage and safety of our children.”

Legislation will assist staff from state and tribal governments

to work together to identify and provide services and supports to families involved with CPS.

“Michigan tribes were unified in calling for this amendment,” said Aaron Payment, chairperson for Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, in the press release. “On behalf of our tribal children, we are grateful that the Michigan Legislature saw the wisdom of passing Senate Bill 616 for full implementation of the Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act and to comport with the 1978 Indian Child Welfare Act. Further, I am heartened and sincerely appreciative of the role Gov. Snyder and his team played and the leadership of Sen. Emmons, Sen. Schmidt and Rep. Rendon for getting us across the finish line.”

Rodriguez is available to answer any questions about this bill at 989-775-4076 or at erodriguez@sagchip.org

Athena Film Festival panels feature Gloria Steinem, Ann Hornaday, and more

JESSE MARTINEZ-KRATZ

Contributing Writer

(Editor’s note: The following article, originally published in the Columbia Spectator, is a review of the documentary “MANKILLER.” The article was written by Jesse Martinez-Kratz, a sophomore at Columbia University and the son of Kent and Marina Martinez-Kratz of Chelsea, Mich. Martinez-Kratz is also a cousin of William Johnson, curator for the Ziibiwing Center.)



Jesse Martinez-Kratz (left), a sophomore at Columbia University, and his cousin William Johnson (right) pose for a photo during a New York City trip.

Throughout Feb. 22-25 in New York City, the Athena Film Festival focused on celebrating women in the film industry, not just with screenings but also with panels and talks that provided deep insight into the unique experiences and work of festival guests.

Following a screening of “MANKILLER” the weekend of Feb. 22-25 at the Athena Film Festival, activist and writer Gloria Steinem spoke with the film’s director Valerie Red-Horse and

executive producer Gale Anne Hurd about the life and ideals of the late Wilma Mankiller.

The documentary focuses on the life of Mankiller, the first female chief of the Cherokee Nation, and aired March 1 on PBS.

The panel was moderated by Ann Hornaday of the Washington Post.

Early in the conversation, Hornaday asked Red-Horse about her connection to Mankiller.

Like Mankiller, Red-Horse grew up in San Francisco through the same relocation program.

“When you’re an urban Indian, you do receive newsletters about happenings back in the Nation,” Red-Horse said. “So I knew who she was, of course, and I was a great fan but never had an opportunity to meet her. I knew she was a great leader, but I didn’t know a lot of details about her life.”

After receiving the offer to direct from PBS, Red-Horse said, “I would love to do that. And it wasn’t until we got into research and development that I felt this complete, almost spiritual connection.”

Both Red-Horse and Mankiller had Caucasian mothers and Native fathers, and both Red-Horse and Mankiller did work for the Cherokee Nation.

“I work in economic development with tribes and worked with things like gaming and infrastructure. So the connections just kept going over and over, and I learned so much from her that, at this point in

my life, I feel like I know her,” Red-Horse said.

Hurd also described how she came to document Mankiller’s life.

“I looked back in my career, and I realized that I do tell the same story again and again with different characters in different genres, but they’re generally stories of ordinary people like Sarah Connor in ‘The Terminator,’ or Ellen Ripley in ‘Aliens,’ who don’t realize the power, the strength and the leadership abilities they have within themselves. They’re often women characters. And that was very much, I think, Wilma,” Hurd said.

In response to a question from Hornaday concerning the impact of Mankiller’s leadership, Hurd said, “Her mandate was that the movie could not be about her alone. She wanted it to be the story of her people, and that was something that we really took to heart. And that is just an extension of leadership that serves the people.”

Throughout the actual film, Steinem remarked on her

friendship with Mankiller and the inspiration she drew from her.

“That was where the journey came to,” Steinem said during the panel. “I owe it to a sequence of events, as it always happens. The National Women’s Conference in Houston in the late ’70s—it was huge and representative of every state and territory and was a kind of constitutional convention for women because it was the single, only representative, meeting. There were hundreds of women from Indian Country there. And, that was the first time that I realized, ‘Wait a minute; they have a memory of what we’re looking for in the future.’”

Beyond the focus on Mankiller, the panel briefly touched upon issues of feminism, women in media and the dangers of the Trump Administration.

When asked by an audience member if she felt Mankiller could have been president, Steinem said, “She was president of her Nation.”

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Ziibiwing Center hosts Anishinabe Author's Gathering & Book Fair

ESTHER HELMS

Contributing Writer

The Ziibiwing Center held its second Anishinabe Author's Gathering & Book Fair on Saturday, Feb. 24. It was a well-attended, informative event.

This year's book fair brought distinguished authors Elizabeth Hoover, Ph.D., and "The Sioux Chef" Sean Sherman to share their insight and knowledge with the community.

Hoover is a gardener, bead worker and fancy shawl dancer of Mohawk and Micmac heritage. Her family was originally from Quebec, but more recently upstate New York.

She is an assistant professor of American and Ethnic Studies at Brown University in Rhode Island with a background that includes anthropology, science and technology, museum, indigenous farming and environmental studies, and subsistence revival movements.

Hoover is a talented author whose publications include "Indigenous Peoples of North America: Environmental Exposures and Reproductive Justice," a collaborative work. It focuses on the concepts of environmental justice, which is described by the U.S. EPA as the fair treatment of all people with respect to developing and enforcing environmental laws, and reproductive justice, which has to do with the right to have/not have children and parent children in a safe and healthy environment.

"The River Is in Us: Fighting Toxins in a Mohawk Community" by Hoover studies Akwesasne, a Mohawk community in upstate New York located near three Superfund sites. Hoover discusses the efforts of a Mohawk midwife, Katsi Cook, to preserve both Native culture and land while bringing attention to the health problems associated with those contaminated sites.

"From Garden Warriors' to Good Seeds: Indigenizing the Local Food Movement" explores Native American farming and gardening projects around the country. It looks at both the challenges and the achievements of these projects. It also examines the concepts of food sovereignty and the importance of heritage seeds. For more

information, visit <https://gardenwarriorsgoodseeds.com>

Hoover has researched and analyzed the effects of dietary changes seen in many tribal communities and reservations after they stopped eating, for example, free, fresh fish due to water contamination and, instead, consumed the cheap processed foods that are affordable to those in lower income brackets. These effects included not only health declines but cultural slides, such as weakened relationships and the reduction in shared stories caused by the lessened family time from fewer fishing trips.

Not eating the fish also interrupts the relationship between giigoon miinwaa ininiwag (fish and men) where giigoon offers himself in sacrifice as food and ininiwag accepts that sacrifice with manaadjitowaawin (respect). Maintaining this relationship keeps giigoon from just disappearing.

Hoover's presentation offered an explanation of food sovereignty as "the right of peoples to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods and their right to define their own food and agriculture systems" (Declaration of Nyeleni, 2007).

She said it can be impacted by environmental contamination.

Hoover is also associated with a variety of organizations that focus on issues concerning the well-being of indigenous physical and cultural health, including her position as a co-leader for the Community Engagement Core of Brown's Superfund Research Program and as a member of both the Native American Food Sovereignty Alliance (NAFSA) and the Slow Food Turtle Island Association project, which is focused toward motivating the Akwesasne community to grow good food.

Sherman is Oglala Lakota, born in Pine Ridge, S.D. He has been cooking in South Dakota, Minnesota and Montana for the last 30 years.



Courtesy of Esther Helms

Shannon Martin (center), director of the Ziibiwing Center, poses for a photo with authors Elizabeth Hoover (left) and "The Sioux Chef" Sean Sherman (right) during the Anishinabe author's gathering event on Feb. 24.

His website, <http://sioux-chef.com> states, "We are committed to revitalizing Native American cuisine, and, in the process, we are re-identifying North American cuisine and reclaiming an important culinary culture long buried and often inaccessible."

Sherman's book, "The Sioux Chef's Indigenous Kitchen," with Beth Dooley, was named one of the best cookbooks of 2017 by NPR and Smithsonian Magazine and is a 2018 James Beard Award nominee in the Restaurant and Chef, Media and Restaurant Design categories.

"There are cookbooks from which one simply cooks the recipes, and cookbooks from which one learns how and why to cook," said Eric Patterson, in a statement on the Foreword Reviews website. "Chef Sherman's book is the latter. It is a cookbook meant to be studied; one where the recipes are not its most important feature but rather a part of an overall call to reclaim the history and culture of indigenous peoples beginning with reclamation of their traditional foods. Chef Sherman observes that controlling food is a means of controlling power. With this cookbook, he is taking that power and giving it back to its rightful owners."

Sherman gave a presentation about the indigenous diet from various angles.

From the position of government supplying provisions to those with low incomes, he said those commodities are not focused on health.

From a contemporary standpoint, an Indian taco should not represent Indian culture. From a traditional viewpoint,

indigenous foods are healthy, and feeling good is an after-effect from eating them he said.

Enjoying indigenous food, he said, "should be a celebration of the diversity of foods available in different regions and in different seasons. It shouldn't be what is the cheapest, barely nutritious and most addictive. Food should look good as well as taste good. It should be fun and make you feel good."

Sherman discussed the social aspect of an indigenous food system, community and the physical aspect of indigenous food.

"Seventy percent of our healthcare costs are a direct result of our own diet choices," Sherman said.

Sherman spoke about indigenous knowledge that encompasses many ideas including seed saving, cooking techniques, indigenous traditional medicine, food preservation, hunting, fishing and much more.

"Plant knowledge is power," he said. "When you look outside the window and see the food that is there, think about making your food taste like where you are. There's food everywhere... tons of food, flavor and health all around us."

He said there could be more if we replace our lawn and landscape with purpose, and that, if we have the knowledge, food systems can make our families happy and healthy."

Sherman spoke about learning to identify plants and foraging, the concept of only taking what is needed and commented on how wasteful of food this society is, how much is thrown away that could be dried/dehydrated when getting over ripe.



Courtesy of Esther Helms

"The Sioux Chef" (center) poses for a photograph with and signs an autograph for Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort chefs Chris Nadobny (right) and Jared Miller (left).

Local chefs from the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort attended and met Sherman.

The comic novel, "Journeys to Complete the Work...and Changing the Way We Bring Native American Ancestors Home" by Atalay, Shannon and Swogger was free to all attendees of the event. This is NAGPRA comics tells stories about repatriation and features several Saginaw Chippewa Tribal community members.

Four of those in the publication are Ziibiwing Center personnel: Director Shannon Martin, Curator William Johnson and Board of Director members Thomasine MeShawboose and Joseph Sowmick.

Martin announced a second NAGPRA comic is in the works.

During a recent repatriation non-compliance meeting with the University of Michigan, the university was asked if there were seeds in the collection being held by them. In response to this question, a catalog was started, and seeds more than 100 years old, plus books and notes about medicines, were assembled and will hopefully be repatriated soon.

Hoover and Sherman stayed for a meeting the following Monday and Tuesday to further discuss ancestral foodways.

An upcoming event at Ziibiwing, Sacred Seeds Symposium - protecting ancestral seeds, will be held on Saturday, April 21 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be ceremonies, guest speakers, presentations, a seed exchange and a film screening of "SEED: The Untold Story."

The admission is free and open to the public.

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Community unites against sexual abuse by promoting April awareness events

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Healing to Wellness
Coordinator

In Indian Country, collaboration is essential, and, on March 6, Tribal departments united against sexual abuse by promoting April awareness events.

Angela Gonzalez, supervisor of Anishinaabeg Child and Family Services (ACFS), coordinated the efforts of the department in collaboration with various Tribal programs.

“(Sexual abuse) is a crime that happens more often than is reported within the community and within our very own families. It has been swept under the rug and hushed so much that some of us do not even realize it is a crime,” Gonzalez said. “We need to let our victims know they are not alone and that others have gone through the same thing. This is our way of showing emotional support by heightening sexual assault awareness through various activities during the month of April.”

Sandra Stevens, prevention specialist for ACFS, said one in four girls and one in six boys will have been sexually abused by their 18th birthday.

“Consider this (statistic) the next time you walk through the Saginaw Chippewa Academy, Eagles Nest Tribal Gym, round dance, SCIT powwow or children

playing in the park; when you enter a community event, look around and do the math,” Stevens said. “It is a sad reality... But it is one issue affecting our Tribe we can have a positive effect on.”

Far too many know a child who either has been or is being abused, Stevens said.

Stevens said predators who sexually abuse children are drawn to places where they have easy access to children such as sports or leagues, schools, youth groups, etc.

“We can minimize (predators’) window of opportunity if we can eliminate or reduce one adult/one child situations, because more community watching in public settings will decrease the risk of sexual abuse for young children,” Stevens said. “Make sure you are allowed to observe or enter places where your children have activities at any time.”

Stevens suggested checking organizations providing care or activities for children complete background checks on all workers and volunteers.

She also advocates teaching children about body safety and said the “Mama Bear” Facebook page has many teaching tools for children and parents.

“ACFS prevention programs plan to bring awareness and education to our Tribal community through annual events,

April 2018 Sexual Assault Awareness events

- **April 6** | Self Defense Class | 6 to 8 p.m. at Seventh Generation (*ages 10 and up*)
- **April 11** | “Highway of Tears” showing | 6 to 8 p.m. at Ziibiwing Center
- **April 12** | Lunch and Learn: “Promise Not to Tell” | at Seventh Generation
- **April 2** | Anti-Violence March | 3 to 5 p.m.
(*March starts at Saginaw Chippewa Academy and ends at Eagles Nest Tribal Gym.*)
- **April 25** | “What is Consent?” presentation | 12:30 p.m. at Mid Michigan Community College Community Room 186 (*Lunch included*)
- **April 25** | Women’s Empowerment Night | 6 to 8 p.m. in the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
(*Nami Migizi Nangwiibgan event*)

educational materials and programming that will empower our Membership to protect our children,” she said.

She said she hopes to “color the community blue” each April for Child Abuse Awareness by having all homeowners and Tribal departments change out their white outside lights for blue ones throughout the month to show support for protecting a child.

Marion Williams, ICWA specialist, said “sexual assault victims have been silenced for too long.”

“Once people who have sexual trauma begin to talk about it, we know that is where the healing begins,” Williams said. “We all need to come together and let those with trauma know that it is okay to heal... and start a fresh new life.”

Love Lewis, prevention specialist for ACFS, provided statistics.

“A study by the Department of Justice (2010) states that over 84.3 percent of Native American and Alaskan Native women have experienced violence in their lifetime... and that of the 2,473 women surveyed, there were 56.1 percent that have experienced sexual violence. This is alarming,” Lewis said.

Lewis said the upcoming events will “bring light” to the untold stories of victims that have experienced sexual assault.

“It should not be the norm for Native American people to experience these atrocities,” Lewis said.

An anti-violence march – from the Saginaw Chippewa Academy to the Tribal Gym – is scheduled for April 20.

“The march creates awareness, gives people a little exercise and is intended to unify individuals and the community, and to support victims of violence,” Lewis said. “It is a great opportunity to connect with others, break the silence, and offer support and a voice to those that have experienced abuse and assault.”

Awareness activities assist in facilitating a change by alerting people to listen to their internal warning systems of what is appropriate and to report offenders, Lewis said.

“Our youth shouldn’t be offered the silent treatment on the subject of sexual abuse and assault,” Lewis said.

Tribal departments and the National Sexual Assault Hotline at **800-656-HOPE** are available to help victims.

Tribal Judge delivers opioid epidemic lecture to university in Ireland

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Healing to Wellness
Coordinator

Tribal Court Senior Judge Patrick Shannon traveled to the Emerald Isle of Ireland to deliver a March 14 lecture at the University Of Limerick School Of Law (Scoil an Dli’).

The visit was facilitated by Kathryn O’Sullivan, director of International Education, and organized by John Lombard, a fellow lecturer in law and the Law Plus Course director.

Lombard said Shannon provided an outline of Federal Indian law, which included discussion of sources of tribal sovereignty, the meaning of sovereignty and tribal jurisdiction issues.

This was the university’s first cultural outreach with a tribal judge, Lombard said.

“It was hugely interesting and communicated the experience of American Indians in a way which I had not previously encountered,” Lombard said. “In particular, it provided insight into an area of law and cultural traditions which I was not familiar with. Judge Shannon was open to questions and was an excellent representative.”

At the event, Shannon delivered a presentation that provoked discussion about controlling opioids, prescribing practices and the impact of the opioid crisis on American Indians.

“My first interest was to learn of the drug misuse problems in Ireland and how they, as a nation, are reacting. Also, my intent was to garner, from the Irish, any suggestions as to how to better our treatment court at Saginaw Chippewa,” Shannon said. “I presented my lecture to a group of students and faculty members... My lecture was valuable to me because it opened access to knowledge that I did not have prior to my visit.”

The lecture matched the university’s mission “to provide a practical legal education, incorporating a multidisciplinary approach underpinned by high quality research of national and international importance, and to serve the broader community.”

Shannon said throughout the centuries the Irish have experienced several conquests by other countries.

“Prior to these conquests, the Irish had their own set of written laws (Brehon laws), Irish language, religion and society. The Brehon Laws were more restorative in remedy than the English Common Laws,” Shannon said. “The Brehon Laws recognized equality of the sexes, overall equality for all and the good of the community – whether we frame our treatment courts as peace-making, healing to wellness, or even Brehon-based – they are all restorative in concept.”

Shannon said he saw a parallel of the Anishinaabek culture that mirrored the experience of Irish traditions and history.

“As to the Irish language, I am of Irish descent and was told in Irish (that I cannot speak or understand) that one who loses his language loses his soul. Irish scholars... understand the dreadful effects of conquest and that American Native people have similar experiences: the loss of land, language, culture and identity,” Shannon said. “Both have and are working to restore all that was taken. Overall, I came away from my visit knowing of the similarities between the Irish and the Native Americans and their continuing struggles to maintain their cultures.”

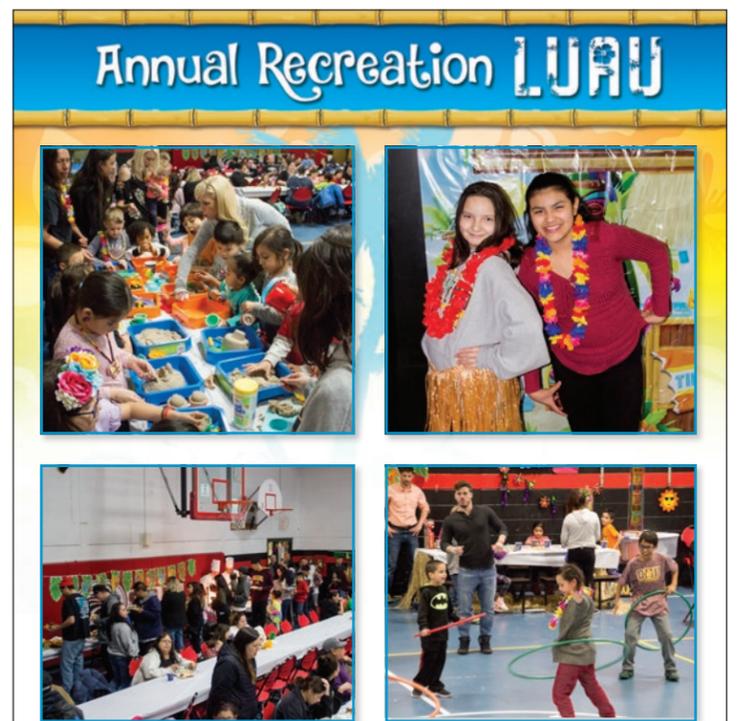
Lombard said he understood how tribal law respects Anishinaabek culture and traditions, and he found those values translated to the Celtic legal system.

“There is recognition of respect for culture and traditions across these legal systems, and Judge Shannon traced these similarities at several points,” Lombard said. “It should be noted that the visit of Judge Shannon coincided with the visit of our Taoiseach (Prime Minister) Leo Varadkar to the Choctaw Indians to give thanks for relief provided during the Irish famine. This is a connection Irish people are very much aware of.”

Shannon said Ireland is also experiencing the opioid addiction epidemic and they have one Dublin treatment court in operation.

“I had the opportunity to speak with one faculty member who is studying the effects of the Irish court. He outlined the Brehon Laws and

their restorative nature and the importance of such an approach for addicts and communities,” Shannon said. “...We have much to share in our attempt to address those afflicted by addictions... Both peoples (Saginaw Chippewa and Irish) are culturally resilient... and both have something to share.”



Observer photos by Matthew Wright

The annual Recreation Luau transformed the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym into a tropical paradise on March 13.

Community members were treated to a Hawaiian-themed feast featuring a whole roasted pig prepared by the Soaring Eagle Food & Beverage department.

Prizes were up for grabs for contestants playing a variety of games including both a hula hoop and a limbo contest.

Ziibiwing Center's Birthday Sale

May 3rd 8-10 Tribal Members Only
 May 3rd 10-6p Open to the public
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Editorial: New direction for Eagle Valley Outfitters in Standish

FREDRICK KUHLMAN

Migizi Marketing Manager

Responding to input from customers and suppliers, the Migizi Economic Development Company would like to share exciting news regarding the future vision for Eagle Valley Outfitters in Standish.

Several recent tragedies associated with gun use have impacted the risk profile and reputation of firearms retailers. These influences and trends have also affected Eagle Valley Outfitters.

At the same time, we are pleased to announce the store has seen an upward trend in sales of fishing equipment, bait and related items. Customers have repeatedly requested 24-hour access to those products, seven days per week.

As a result, the decision has been made by the Migizi



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Board of Directors to make some adjustments to the store's operation.

Beginning this summer, the operation of Eagle Valley Outfitters will be combined with Saganing Express Mobile, which will result in all-day access to products.

The store will focus on fishing and hunting basics, with less popular product lines being phased out. This will impact gun sales. Eagle Valley Outfitters, which will move forward as Eagle Valley Express, will slowly begin to phase out its firearms lines.

The costs associated with selling firearms have

increased to a level that makes it difficult for small retailers to compete.

Eagle Valley Express will continue with sales of its top-selling lines that include the following: fishing gear, bait, ammunition, DNR licenses and assorted camping products.

The inventory will be combined with the sales of Saganing Express Mobile, with all sales being processed through a single location. The customer will no longer have to walk through an entire store to find what they need.

Products will be more easily seen and purchased, which will address a concern of the

stores clientele. Additionally, bait will be available to fishermen at all hours, allowing them to more easily restock for a trip to the bay.

It is expected that the transition will be completed by July 1. More of the exciting news will be shared as the floor plan is finalized.

More positive news from Migizi comes from Cardinal Pharmacy.

Throughout the last year, Cardinal Pharmacy has experienced significant sales growth as the store has become more of an option compared to large retailers in town.

Since 2008, Cardinal Pharmacy has generated more than \$30 million for the Tribe and paid almost \$1 million in allocations. Serving as an alternate to the Nimkee Pharmacy, Members can go to Cardinal afterhours and during weekends when Nimkee is closed.

Cardinal Pharmacy also serves as the dispensary of choice for SCIT workman's compensation cases and, in most instances, offers lower co-pays than other area pharmacies.

Cardinal Pharmacy has streamlined its operation to focus on providing the most-needed elements to customers and constantly strives to incorporate the most-requested products and services into the store's offerings.

The pharmacy also listens to feedback from Members and clients; this will result in beer, wine and liquor being removed from the store in the near future.

Migizi Economic Development Company continues to develop and improve all of the Tribe's non-gaming businesses, and there are more changes coming in the near future that will improve the position of more Tribal enterprises.

A FAN-tastic breakfast helped raise money to support families

NIKI HENRY

Photographer Journalist

The Saginaw Chippewa/Isabella County chapter of Families Against Narcotics

hosted a 'FAN-tastic' breakfast and baked good fundraiser in the Eagles Nest Tribal Gymnasium kitchen on March 2.

A variety of donated home-baked goods were available for

purchase, as were plates of pancakes, eggs and sausage made fresh throughout the morning.

Contributors could also enter a 50/50 drawing or a raffle for a one-night stay in a

Jacuzzi room at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort or a two 25-minute massage package.

Bernie Sprague won the 50/50 drawing, while Vanessa Hart won the Soaring Eagle

stay and Carrie Huron won the massages.

A total of \$1131 was raised with the support of the community and the generous donations made by Soaring Eagle.



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protecting ancestral seeds



Artwork: B. Corbiere

APRIL 21, 2018
9AM - 5PM

- Opening Ceremonies [Water & Strawberry]
- Keynote Speakers
- Environmental Booths
- Presentations
- Hands-On Activities
- Film Screening
- Seed Exchange
- Breakfast & Lunch Provided

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

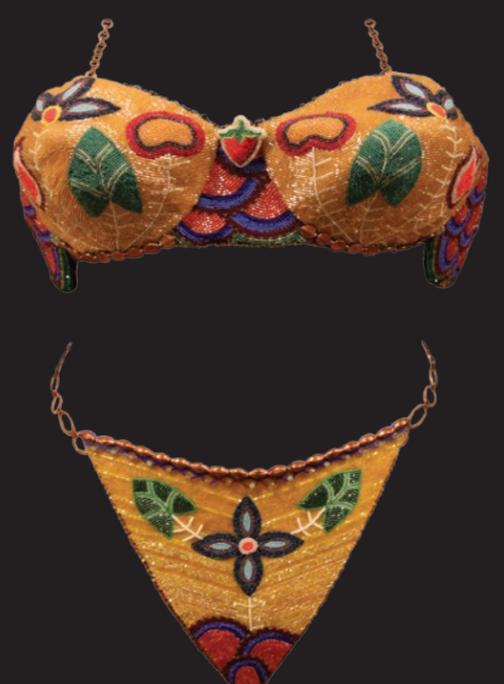
For more info contact Glenna Jenkins at 989.775.4744 or gjenkins@sagchip.org

Co-Sponsor:



Much discussion has been emerging from our community about heritage seeds, indigenous farming & food sovereignty. The intent of this symposium is to share, learn & discuss strategies for the protection of our seeds & revitalization of Anishinabe foodways.

MIIKAWAADENDAAGWAD (IT IS BEAUTIFUL)



ARTISTIC EXPRESSIONS OF THE SAGINAW CHIPPEWA
APRIL 28, 2018 - SEPTEMBER 29, 2018

ZIIBIWING CENTER OF ANISHINABE CULTURE & LIFEWAYS
ISABELLA INDIAN RESERVATION • MT. PLEASANT, MI

"Decolonize Your Gitch" by Summer Peters



| | |
|--------------|------------------|
| spring | ziigwan |
| water | nibi |
| sprout | zaagakii |
| bud | zaagibagaa |
| bulb | obikwaaj |
| blossom | baashkaabigwanii |
| sky | giizhig |
| blue | ozhaawashko |
| bird | bineshiinh |
| birth | ondaadiziike |
| maple sap | wiishkobaaboo |
| syrup | zhiywaagamizigan |
| sweet | wiishkobi |
| break | gibichiitaa |
| beach | ginoodaawangaa |
| warm weather | aabawaa |
| sunrise | mooka'am |
| sunny | waaseyaa |
| risen | giibishka |
| God | Gi-zheemanidoo |

Anishinaabemowin WORD SEARCH



WHERE on the REZ?



Do you know where this is?
Answer the puzzle correctly by April 16.

Your name will go into a drawing, and one winner will receive two free announcements in the Tribal Observer.

To submit your guess

Email Observer@sagchip.org or call 989.775.4010.



LAST MONTH:

Slot Palace

March winner:

Karl Johnson

Anishinaabe Environment and Culture Camp to be held July 30 to Aug. 5

TAYLOR BROOK
Watershed Outreach
Coordinator

A combined effort across the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and within the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College is bringing an exciting opportunity to community young people. The second annual Anishinaabe Environment and Culture Camp will be offered to Tribal youth ages 12 – 17.

The camp will be seven days and six nights at the Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center on Higgins Lake.

Youth can participate in archery, canoeing, hiking, swimming, forestry, water science, Anishinaabe arts and traditions and bonfires while socializing with other youth.

This exciting camp will focus on natural resources, conservation and environmental activities

focused on the protection of Mother Earth from an Anishinaabe perspective. It offers hands-on, engaging opportunities to help youth become acquainted with concepts based on environmental stewardship combined with Anishinaabe culture and arts.

The provided activities and games will give participants the knowledge and skills necessary to pursue STEAM careers and become protectors of Mother Earth.

This camp will be held July 30 to Aug. 5, with drop-off on July 30 at the Tribal Operations/Tribal Gym parking lot and pickup on Aug. 5 at Seventh Generation.

Scholarships will be available through the application process.



Courtesy of Kathy Hart

Youth campers pose for a group photo during the Aug. 14-18, 2017, Anishinaabe Environment and Culture camp at Higgins Lake.

Applications will be available May 1, but space is limited, so apply soon. The deadline is May 30.

For additional information or to request an application, please contact Kathy Hart at KHart@sagchip.org or 989-775-4123 or Taylor Brook at TBrook@sagchip.org or 989-775-4162.

Anishinaabe Environment & Culture SUMMER CAMP

July 30 - Aug. 5, 2018

Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center
(Higgins Lake)

- 7 days, 6 nights
- Pick-up at 7th Generation, drop-off at Tribal Operations

Open to ages 12 to 17 (during time of camp)

Camp will provide hands-on experiences and fun that will encourage campers to look at environmental stewardship with a cultural aspect.

- Archery
- Canoeing
- Anishinaabe arts and traditions
- Forestry
- Hiking
- Bonfires
- Swimming

Applications available May 1-30

- \$40 registration fee
- Scholarship awards available via application essays
- Limited space available

To obtain an application, please contact
Kathy Hart | SCTC STEM Recruiter

- Phone: 989.317.4760 ext. 228
- Fax: 989.775.4528
- E-mail: KHart@sagchip.org

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College
C/O: Kathy Hart
2270 Enterprise Dr.,
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Activities planned around the Medicine Wheel Teachings:
Earth, Fire, Water and Air

Create Your Own Space!

Ask Us How! **ICCU** Isabella Community Credit Union

2400 S. Isabella Rd • 989.773.5927 • ICCUonline.com

JOB FAIR

Summer Concert Series
SEASONAL STAFF

Wednesday, April 25, 2018
10 a.m. – 3 p.m. | Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort
Swan Creek Room

Seasonal Staff Needed
Summer Concert Series seasonal staff are needed for approximately 12 concerts throughout the summer, starting in June.

Same-day Offers and Hires
No pre-employment cost besides Gaming License requirements

For additional information, please call 989.775.5600

More than 200 open positions

Available Positions:

- Seasonal Entertainment Ushers
- Seasonal Security Officers
- Seasonal Waitstaff
- Seasonal Bartenders

Candidates should bring

- High school diploma
- Two forms of ID (One photo ID)



Round dance provides remembrance, restored spirits

NIKI HENRY

Photographer Journalist

Spirits were lifted on Friday, March 9 and Saturday, March 10 as the sound of hand drums, communion and laughter filled the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym.

This was the result of the 11th annual Saginaw Chippewa Round Dance featuring emcee Daryl Wright from Rocky Boy, Mont., and Stickman Joe Syrette from Batchewana, Ontario Canada.

The event began at 6:30 p.m. that Friday, with the first round dance taking place at 7 p.m. An hour later, students were honored.

"Each student was presented with a certificate of achievement as well as a Celebration Cinema voucher," said Nathan Isaac, culture and language teacher at SCA. "They were honored in the traditional form by standing them up before the people and speaking good words about them."

Isaac said Kara Hotchkiss, SCA principal, and Melissa Isaac, Tribal education director, publically read the tributes written about the students, submitted by teachers and advisors.

"The SCA staff and K-12 staff were present to greet the honorees with handshakes and hugs," Isaac said. "It was great to see so many parents, siblings and extended family of the honorees also."

Isaac was pleased with how many Tribal youth attended the event.

"We had supplied 200 wristbands for children at the sign-in check points. At the end of the night, we only had two wristbands left," he said.

Dancing and drumming recommenced after the students were honored and continued until midnight.

The doors opened again at 4 p.m. Saturday, with a pipe ceremony and feast beginning at 6 p.m.

Round dancing began again at 7 p.m. and was briefly interrupted for a memorial ceremony that occurred at 11:30 p.m. during which the lives of those who have passed on were celebrated, with participants setting photographs of deceased loved ones on the memorial table to be honored. Digital photographs were also displayed through a slide show during the memorial song.

The event was free and open to the public and featured food, raffles, drawings, dancing and drumming, with all participating singers acknowledged, including the following world-class singers from Turtle Island: Rocky Morin, Kenny Merrick Jr., John Syrette, Hunter Blassingame, Marcus Denny, Kino Pyawasit, Mike Sullivan, Cheevers Toppah, Jordan Mowat, Kyle BigCanoë and Brendon Harvey along with Fat N Furious from Regina, Saskatchewan, and TC Crew from Minnesota's Twin Cities.

The 2017 World Hand Drum Champion, Natah Rikishi Pelly from Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, was also present to add the sound of his drum to those of the locals.

The festivities ended at 3 a.m. on Sunday, March 11 with participants' spirits refreshed and restored through song and dance.

"There are so many people to thank," Isaac said. "Miigwetch Erik Rodriguez and the Public Relations Department for their contribution. Thank you, Ziibiwing, for the contribution of giveaway items and the midnight lunch food."

Isaac also expressed gratitude to the Tribal Education Department and



Observer photo by Niki Henry

On Saturday, March 10, emcee Daryl Wright from Rocky Boy, Mont. (holding microphone) announces evening events as the gymnasium is transitioned from feasting to drumming and dancing.

Education staff volunteers, whom he said were a tremendous help.

"Christina Sharp was the head cook and did a great job preparing the feast," said Isaac, who also thanked Seventh Generation for its hospitality and for housing some of the invited singers.

"Thank you, Iliana Montoya, for your personal contribution of time and funding," Isaac said, noting with gratitude that Lisa Kennedy and Angela Gonzalez set up and ran the concession stand with the help of Youth Council members.

"They did a great job all weekend," he said.

Isaac also thanked the following: Gayle Ruhl for donating candy, the Hinmon ladies for providing baked goods, Faith Carmona-Pego for donating feast food and security employees David Syckle and Regis Ferland.

"Chi-miigwetch to all the firekeepers who took shifts at the fire," Isaac



Observer photo by Niki Henry

Stickman Joe Syrette of the Batchewana First Nation smudges hand drums to prepare for the Saturday night round dance.



Observer photo by Niki Henry

World-class singer Rocky Morin of Enoch, Alberta, Canada adds his voice with local Tribal Members' to fill the gymnasium with song.

said. "Chi-miigwetch to the Saginaw Chippewa community for attending and making this another great year for the Round Dance. Chi-miigwetch Tribal Council for your support."



Observer photo by Niki Henry

Native youth of all ages enjoy the round dance.



Observer photo by Niki Henry

Several vendors sell hand-crafted wares such as these wooden bowls and earrings during the two-day long event.

Education Department sponsors creative, family fun at painting night event

NIKI HENRY

Photographer Journalist

Pre-registered parents and children packed the Eagles Nest Tribal Gymnasium for a family painting event that took place the evening of Wednesday, March 14.

Doors opened at 5:45 p.m. for the 6 p.m. event, with families entering and selecting an item to paint together. Choices included small plates, cereal bowls, small keepsake boxes, sea turtles, foxes, monsters and unicorns.

The event was sponsored by the Education Department, which generously provided both painting supplies and a pizza dinner.



Observer photo by Niki Henry

A young participant works diligently on her project at the family painting night event, hosted by SCIT Education Department on Wednesday, March 14 in the Tribal Gymnasium.

Fancher

The following students earned perfect attendance for February: Logan Bird, Andrea Hawkins, Konner Hilleger, Nadia Mills, Tehya Morales, Darrion Rueckert, Inara Curry, Aviana Gomez, Darien Haggard, Mateo Harris, Zamiah Marshall, Mariana Mays, Mia McCreery, Ringo Stevens and Elijah Teller.

Ganiard

The following students earned perfect attendance for February: Angela Peck, Hailey Cozzie, Jay Foster-Fleming, Aubree Hilleger, Caleb Sprague, Mya Osawabine, Jayden Pope, Ava Vogel, Brian Wemigwans, Leia Black, Dehmin Kahgegab, Ethan Reed and Niigani Rapheal.

Vowles

The following students earned perfect attendance for February: Aliana Lerma, Giovanni Pelcher, Kaden Kjolhede, Mingan Merrill, Isabell Lerma, Xavier Freeman and Augustine Gibbs.

Mary McGuire

The following students earned perfect attendance for February: Nikodin Davis, Nathalia Benavidez, Caleb Burger, Trevor Isham, Zhaawan Martell, Isaiah Rodriguez, Hope Stevens, Cruz Vaquera, Ogininhs Zerbe, Bailey Burger, Jonathan Martinez and Tasheenah Schwanke.

Beal City

The following students earned perfect attendance for February: Braden Chippewa, Dakarii Graveratte, Skylur Graveratte, Mattie Seger, Samantha Seger and Izabella Benzinger.

Shepherd

The following elementary students earned perfect attendance for February: Lyric Owl, Jayden Jackson-Taylor, Andreas Ramirez, Ben Sanchez-Hinmon, Kearnin Alexander, Johnathan Cogswell, Isaiah Taylor, Isaac Taylor, Dan Mena, Jayden Perez, Layla Pigeon, Lakota Jackson, Madalyn Sineway and Aanzhenii Starkey. **Middle school:** Sarah Osawabine, Angelica Hinmon, Angelina Smith, Alexis Taylor, LaAnna Trudeau, Rumaulda Alanis, Lily Dean, Hunter Johnson, Brandon Seegraves, Miingin Starkey, Olivia Lawson, Andee Raphael and Makayla Stevens. **High school:** Sienna Chatfield, Jarrad Johnson, Aiyannah Borton, Nathan Isaac, Matthew Smith, Uriah Main, Tyler VanHorn and Dia Niezgodia. **Odyssey:** Joseph Jackson and Ogemah Taylor.

Pullen

The following students earned perfect attendance for February: Adalayah Ekdahl, Zachary Flaughter, Emma Kendall, Abbie Patterson, Aubrey Pelcher-Bonstelle, Tru Quigno-Vaugh, Davonte Rogers, Tahlia Alonzo, Sereniti Cole, Gnaajwi Pego, Brock Reed, Braeden Bennett, Leticia Hawkins, Erius Mena, Donovan Morrow, Azhiyen Wemigwans and Isaiah Perrin-Hawkins.

Renaissance

The following students earned perfect attendance for February: Richard McClain, David McClain, Gracie Flores, Bryson Roth, Isaiah Otto-Powers, Elijah Otto-Powers, Jacob Wilson, Novaly Hinmon, Jadrian Jackson, Emma Henry, Tyler Linville, Syriana Smith, Oscar Smith, Nixie Snyder, Tyler Snyder and Brysen Chamberlain-Fish.



Gymnasium buzzes with competition during spelling bee

NIKI HENRY

Photographer Journalist

The afternoon of Thursday, March 15, the Eagles Nest Tribal gym was abuzz for a few hours during the Saginaw Chippewa Academy 2018 Spelling Bee.

Family members of the 19 competitors joined students and staff to support and witness the event that was judged by Karyn Spickerman, teacher assistant, and James Day, culture and language teacher.

Kara Hotchkiss, principal, opened the competition with a welcome followed by teacher Mike Ireland reviewing the rules of the spelling bee. He explained

participants needed to say the word, spell the word and then say the word again. He also mentioned students were allowed to ask the judges to repeat a word or use it in a sentence.

All the competitors made it to the fourth round during which the word “spurs” tricked several students. “Nodded” did the same in the sixth round, and “rinse” in the seventh.

By the beginning of the eighth round, only five students remained in the competition, with sixth grader Tawny Jackson, fifth grader Landen Rowlett and fourth grader Gracie David left standing at the end of the round.

David lasted two more rounds, but only Jackson and Rowlett were left to compete at the beginning of the 10th round.

After more than 30 additional rounds, Jackson achieved first place in the 41st round, with Rowlett earning second place.

The following students also competed in the bee: sixth graders Zoey Disel and Caden Pego; fifth graders Alexis Trepanier, Alayna Disel, Raynah Perez, Meadow David and Brandon Wemigwans; fourth graders Keaton Quintero, Maiingan Miller-Hosler, John Wemigwans and Quinn Pelcher; and third graders Eva



Observer photo by Niki Henry

Sixth grader Tawny Jackson fights long and hard to claim the title of SCA's 2018 Spelling Bee champion on March 15.



Observer photo by Niki Henry

Fifth grader Landen Rowlett goes head to head with Jackson for more than 30 rounds before earning second place in the spelling bee.

Reyes, Prentiss Jones, Liam Arbogast, Charmaine Castillo-Pelcher and Joseph Jackson.

All competitors were awarded a ribbon and certificate of participation.

Tribal libraries receive a \$55,244 grant to promote bimaadiziwin

NIKI HENRY

Photographer Journalist

In early March, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal libraries announced they received a \$55,244 enhancement grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the primary source of federal support for approximately 120,000 libraries and 35,000 museums and related organizations nationwide.

IMLS Director Kathryn K. Matthew said the contribution and the important role institutes like the Tribal libraries (one located in Tribal Operations, one located on the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College campus) play in the community in an announcement released by Erik Rodriguez, interim public relations director, on March 7.

“As centers of learning and catalysts of community change, libraries and museums connect people with programs, services, collections, information and new ideas in the arts, sciences and humanities. They serve as vital spaces where people can connect with each other,” Matthews said. “IMLS is proud to support their work through our grant making as they inform and inspire all in their communities.”

The press release stated the Tribal libraries will use the grant money to help them act as a catalyst for a series of multi-faceted, collaborative programs designed to encourage resilience through culture while empowering community members, promote

literacy and lifelong learning through home libraries and enhance collections to support and encourage connection with traditional culture and language.

“We are tremendously excited that the Tribal libraries will be able to work with other Tribal departments and organizations to offer great programs for the community,” said Tribal Librarian Anne Heidemann. “In receiving this grant, we can ensure that programs will be offered for nearly two years, and they will promote ‘bimaadiziwin’ (the good life).”

Heidemann said the incentive behind the project began with the desire to provide group activities followed by the realization that each Tribal library has limited space in which to do so. Additionally, she said, many Tribal entities share the same goals as the library, so it makes sense to collaborate.

“We will have many events,” Heidemann said. “We are pretty limited on space... so, what I wanted to do was to collaborate with other groups in the community so that we can do more.”

The collaboration, she said, will also allow funds from the grant to go further.

“This will give us the chance to both collaborate and to help those other departments meet their goals and objectives at the same time,” she said.

Areas of focus for the grant, according to Heidemann, include knowledge and embracing of traditional culture;

literacy and lifelong learning; substance abuse, recovery and prevention; physical well-being; the environment; and healing from historical trauma.

“As I understand it, the concept of ‘bimaadiziwin,’ the good life, is having all of those things in balance,” she said, therefore that became the grant theme.

“We’re also going to help promote literacy and lifelong learning through building home libraries,” Heidemann said. “That basically means we are going to give books away, and people are going to be able to keep them.”

She also said similar books will also be added to the Tribal Library circulating collection.

“We’re going to enhance our collections to support and encourage connection with traditional culture and language, so that means we can purchase materials that relate to the programs that we will have here in in the library, also at the college and/or the (Saginaw Chippewa) Academy—whatever’s appropriate for each program,” Heidemann said.

“We will hopefully be adding a satellite collection at Seventh Generation,” she said, explaining there are already collections at the Nimkee Clinic and Andahwod, with one also being added at the RV Park in the near future.

“We will also, in addition to the programs, create some finding tools,” she said. “By that, we mean book lists.”

These, Heidemann said, might be bookmarks printed with information about related resources, how to find information online and facts about that specific topic.

“That way we have something tangible that people can take with them, making it easy for people to find everything,” she said.

According to Heidemann, other programs funded with the grant include book and media discussions, presentations by guest speakers and performers and traditional teachings and workshops by members of the community.

Heidemann said the programs will also be based on ideas that come directly from the community, and feedback will be solicited from the community about the programs and events generated through the grant.

“We have various ideas that are already brewing, and we would be delighted to hear of any other suggestions that the community would like to contribute,” she said, noting the best way to submit ideas is via email to AHeidemann@sagchip.org.

To measure results to help show the granting agency what

was accomplished with the funding, Heidemann said, a measuring tool called “Project Outcome” will be used to conduct surveys.

“We’ll also be collecting verbal feedback,” she said.

The mission of IMLS is to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, lifelong learning and cultural and civic engagement. Its grant making, policy development and research help libraries and museums deliver valuable services that make it possible for communities and individuals to thrive. To learn more, visit www.imls.gov and follow it on Facebook and Twitter.

Heidemann was also excited to announce the Tribal Library was one of approximately 20 libraries in the country that received another IMLS grant through the Young Adult Library Services Association and the Association for Small and Rural Libraries called “Future Ready.”

This year-long grant, she said, focuses on college and career readiness for middle school youth and will allow the Tribal libraries to form local partnerships and develop programs for the young people in the community.

SCA hosts book fair, family night

NIKI HENRY

Photographer Journalist

To promote literacy and a book fair, the Saginaw Chippewa Academy celebrated March as National Reading Month by hosting a night of family-friendly reading-related fun and games the evening of Wednesday, March 7.

Kara Hotchkiss, principal, said the school set a goal for the fair, which was to sell \$1,200 worth of books.

“We actually made over \$1,800 in sales,” she said.

The event was well supported, with about 75 people participating throughout the evening.

Children who attended the event could listen to cultural storytelling, participate in craft activities like making bookmarks and journals and play games that included a book walk, which was similar to a cake walk with books as prizes.

A Boggle game and story cubes were also available.

Hotchkiss said prizes at the event were a “superhero prize pack” that included books, a princess-themed prize pack with books and a bug/outdoor-themed prize pack with books as well as two \$10 book fair gift certificates.

A light dinner of chips and hot dogs was also provided, and attendees could also peruse the books and items set up for sale in the cafeteria area of the building and visit an information booth provided by the Tribal Library.

Tribal Education Advisory Board (TEAB) Vacancy Announcement

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

Requirements:

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

Meetings: Held the third Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m. in the Education Conference Room

Letters/emails of interest deadline:

April 23 at 12 p.m.

Send letters/email of interest to:

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

or e-mail your letter to misaac@sagchip.org

For further information, call Christina Sharp at 989.775.4504





Rez Pets: It's Raining Cats and Dogs!



Owners: AmberRae Donovan & Kyle Bean
Suki Rai Bean (left): 2 years old
Yuki Mari (right): 3 years old
Breed: Bombay/Turkish Angora



Owner: Michelle Khoury
Name: Curtis
Age: 15 years old
Breed: Border Collie mix



Owner: Kim Howe
Name: Chipi
Age: 9 months old
Breed: Black Lab



Owner: Heather DeMoines
Name: Midas
Age: 5 months old
Breed: English Mastiff



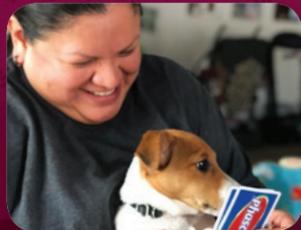
Owner: Janice & Duane Wilcox
Name: Bailey
Age: 4.5 years old
Breed: Husky/Schipperke/Shar Pei mix



Owner: Julie Valice
Name: Vito
Age: 9 years old
Breed: Mini Labradoodle



Owners: Brian Woodman & Vicki Munro
Brick: Jack Russell/Chihuahua
Scarlett: Pitbull mix
Dora: Newfoundland/Chow mix
Ages: 3.5, 7.5 & 16 years old



Owners: Guadalupe & Cheryl Gonzalez
Name: Hank
Age: 23 weeks old
Breed: Rat Terrier



Owner: Lee Brauher
Name: Big Cat
Age: 2 years old
Breed: Russian Blue



Owner: Vera Capriotti
Name: Abby
Age: 12 weeks old
Breed: French Bulldog



Owner: Natalie Shattuck
Name: Chester Bear
Age: Unknown (rescue)
Breed: Beagle



Owner: Rich & Barb McEnhill
Name: Murray
Age: 13 months old
Breed: Beagle



Owners: Misty & Mike Davis
Names: Chevy & Abby
Ages: 10 months old & 8 years old
Breeds: Tiger and Tabby



Owner: Teri Anglin
Name: Duncan
Age: 5 years old
Breed: Chihuahua mix



Owners: Connie & Ed Palette
Name: Abigail
Age: 8 years old
Breed: Pit bull



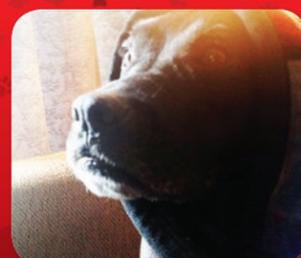
Owners: Craig & Marlene Waynee
Name: Lucy
Age: 7 years old
Breed: Golden Retriever



Owner: Norman Cyr Jr.
Names: Sampson & Dalilah
Age: 3.5 years old & 1 year old
Breeds: Staffordshire Terrier & Pit bull



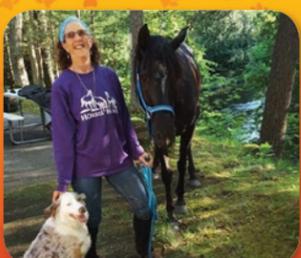
Owner: David & Pam James
Name: Dinky Doolittle
Age: 3.5 years old
Breed: Chiweenie/Yorkie



Owner: Shannon Martin
Name: Rhona Bologna
Age: 8 years old
Breed: Rescued Pit bull mix



Owner: Bernie Wright
Names: Lilly (black) & Cooper (red)
Ages: 4 years old
Breed: Dachshunds



Owner: Robin Keefer
Blu (dog): Border/Aussie mix
Sheba (horse): Arabian
Age: 2 years old & 13 years old



Owner: Eliza Owl
Name: Alexander the Great
Breed: Cat



Owner: Ursula Gibbons
Name: Archie
Age: 16 years old
Breed: Domestic long hair



Owners: Lisa & Richard Starkey
Name: Iddy Biddy
Age: 10 years old
Breed: Boston Terrier



Owner: Gracie, Alyssa, & Kiersten Flores
Name: Jackson
Age: 7 months old
Breed: Pomeranian Mix



Owners: Kristin & Tiffany Bennett
Scarlett: Silver Labrador, 2 years old
Ember: Silver Labrador, 1 year old
Mongo: English Bulldog, 10 months old



Owners: Giizhig, Jimaganish, & Zhaawan Martell
Names: Princess & Max
Ages: 7 years old & 2 years old
Breeds: Pomeranian/Shih Tzu mix & Pomeranian



Owner: Erin Gauthier
Name: Misty
Age: 7 months old
Breed: Siberian Husky



Owner: Monica Floyd
Name: Truman
Age: 8 years old
Breed: Pug mix



Owner: Carol Emmendorfer
Name: Rusty
Age: 13 years old
Breed: Brittany Spaniel



Owner: Karen Roy
Name: Buddy
Age: 16 years old
Breed: Black/Gray Tabby



Owner: Stephanie Ogg
Names: Daphnie & Paco
Age: 7 years old & 4 years old
Breed: Staffordshire Terrier & Chiweenie



Owner: Nicole Aasved
Name: Jagger
Age: 7 months old
Breed: Chocolate Lab



Owner: Michelle Colwell
Name: Maggie
Age: 6 years old
Breed: Chihuahua/Dachshund



Owner: Twila Schrot
Names: Papi & Gracie
Age: 9 years old & 10 years old
Breed: Jack Russell & Chihuahua



Owner: Zaltana Hinmon
Names: Smoke & Ham
Age: 4 years old & 6 years old
Breed: Mainecoon & Black Cat



Owner: Esther Helms
Name: Gracie
Age: 5 months old
Breed: Chinese Crested



Owners: Amy Rider & Sam Anglin
Name: Hugo
Age: 2 years old
Breed: English Bulldog



Owner: Karen Perry
Name: Buster
Age: 15 years old
Breed: Jack Russell Terrier



Owner: Lisa Tiger
Name: Jean Louise Tiger
Age: 2 years old
Breed: Turkish Van



Owner: Niki Henry
Name: Fyglia
Age: 3 years old
Breed: Rat-Chi



Owner: Denise Machuta
Name: Twinkie
Age: 6 weeks old
Breed: Cocker Spaniel



Owner: Jody Valley
Name: Franklin Allen
Age: 2 years old
Breed: Puggle



Owner: Marie Kequom
Name: Sonny
Age: 12 Years Old
Breed: Basset Hound



Owners: Damian (Fisher) & Amy
Name: Ellie & Warriner
Age: 1 year old & 2 years old
Breed: Cats



Owner: Julie Whitepigeon & Ray Cadotte
Name: Jimmy Gwetch
Age: 1 year old
Breed: ShihTzu



Owner: Vera Capriotti
Names: Gabby & Odin
Age: 6 years old & 2 years old
Breeds: Mini Pomeranian & Chorkie



Owner: Deborah Buckley
Name: Tank
Age: 8 months old
Breed: German Shepherd



Owner: Jayden Schout-Pelcher
Name: Arkie
Age: 9 weeks old
Breed: Standard Poodle



Owner: Nick & Wendi Bovear
Cabby: Shitzhu, 8 years old
Maggz: Shitzhu, 9 years old
Zoey: Shitzhu, 8 years old



Owner: Darlene Chippewa
Rudy: Boston Terrier, 11 years old
Sparkle: Boxer mix, 11 years old
Sophie: Mystery breed, 9 years old



Owner: Tammy Salas
Name: Majin Bū
Breed: Siberian Husky



Owner: Don Ridley
Name: Ziggy
Age: 3 years old
Breed: Key West rescue



Owner: Lucinda Wentworth
Name: Twixie Mae Williams
Age: 1 year old
Breed: Boxer mix



Owner: Riana Chippewa
Name: Phoebe Girl
Age: 2 years old
Breed: Chihuahua



Tribal Police assist local agencies following the shooting at Central Michigan University

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police department assisted several other law enforcement agencies during the events following a shooting at Central Michigan University on Friday, March 2.

A CMU college student accused of killing his parents in a residence hall was arrested the following day, March 3, and admitted to the hospital after a daylong manhunt.

The suspect remains in police custody.

The case is currently still under investigation.

Chief of Tribal Police Donielle Bannon said Tribal officers were sent out as a department to assist on



Photo courtesy of Steve Jessmore

Chief of Tribal Police Donielle Bannon (second from right) and Chief Ronald F. Ekdahl (far right) stand with numerous law enforcement, City of Mount Pleasant and Central Michigan University representatives during the March 3 final press conference about the shooting at CMU.

CMU's campus and in the surrounding area.

"We got any necessary information out to Tribal Council, Public Relations and Administration, as far as if there

were any essential threats near the Reservation at that time," Bannon said about the hours the alleged shooter was on the loose. "There was no immediate threat to our area or property."

Bannon said Tribal Police is always ready to assist other agencies when needed.

"The police departments in the area work very well together, and the Tribal Police assist other agencies in any way, shape or form they need and vice versa. The other agencies within the county are always available to assist us at any time," Bannon said.

During the duration of the incident, Tribal officers were split between locations. Some were left on the Reservation to cover the area for added protection, and several others were assisting CMU and Mount Pleasant City police efforts.

Representing the Tribe, Bannon, along with Tribal Chief Ronnie F. Ekdahl and

Public Relations Director Erik Rodriguez, attended the final March 3 press conference on CMU's campus.

Rodriguez also reflected on the alliance the many law enforcement agencies exhibited together.

"It was great to see the quick response and collaboration between our local law enforcement agencies. They maximized resources to ensure our community's well-being, and ensuring everyone's safety was the number one priority," Rodriguez said. "This incident showcases the relationships and open lines of communication we share in our community, and we are very proud to work with all of our surrounding emergency response agencies."

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Owner: Olivia Manitouwabi & David Merrill Jr.
Name: Lilly
Age: 2.5 years old
Breed: Unknown

Owner: Gegek Pamp
Name: Romeo
Age: 5 months old
Breed: Beagle

Owner: Ed & Nina Knight
Name: Joy & Holly
Age: 3 years old & 11 years old
Breed: "Mini" pig & Yellow Lab

Owner: Michael W. Quinlan
Name: Shadow
Age: 10 years old
Breed: Cat

Owners: Jolene Quinlan & Kathleen Quinlan Anderson
Name: Zena
Breed: Mixed breed

Owner: Rhyannon Quinlan
Name: Oscar
Age: 3 years old
Breed: Cat

Owner: Jolene Quinlan
Name: Tilt
Age: 12 years old
Breed: Handicapped cat

Owner: Joseph & Sue Sowmick
Name: Roxie
Age: 4 months old
Breed: Wheaton Terrier

Owner: Aaron Harry & Margaret Bennett
Name: Piglet
Age: 2 years old
Breed: Pit bull

Owners: John & Nancy Gerhard
Names: Furman & Nelli
Age: 3 years old & 2 years old
Breeds: Golden Retriever & Labrador Retriever

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Breed: Boxer

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History of pi is served with pie

NIKI HENRY

Photographer Journalist

Pie and pi were both celebrated during the STEAM Pi Day event on Wednesday, March 13 at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College.

The lunchtime event, sponsored by SCTC Student Senate, began with a meal of sub sandwiches, fruit and vegetables, chips and, of course, various types of pies.

After participants enjoyed lunch, Wesley Rich, SCTC math instructor, presented information about the history of pi and how it is calculated.

“What is pi?” he asked.

“Dessert!” said an event participant.



Observer photo by Niki Henry

Competitors in the pie-eating contest pose at the STEAM Pi Day event on March 13.

(Left to right) Jeannie Snyder, Antonio Gomez, Shane Graves and Jared Hovick

Someone else mentioned it had something to do with math, another said “3.14” and yet another suggested it is connected, in some way, to a circle.

After one attendee connected pi to circumference, Rich said it is the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter.

Rich then began an activity to help illustrate the relationship between the circumference and diameter by distributing circular items, string, pencils, paper and scissors. He instructed participants to use the circular items to trace a circle onto their paper and then to draw a straight line across its center. Next, he asked them to either wrap the string around the circular item and cut that length, or to cut several pieces of string the length of the diameter inside the circle.

Rich then asked how many diameters fit around the outside of the circle, and participants discovered it was slightly more than three (3.14).

He next asked the how many times the circumference fit across the diameter, and participants discovered it was slightly more than three (3.14).

Rich then explained when this measurement was first approximated, citing a Biblical passage that included the measurements of a circular vessel used as a wash basin.

He also said the ancient civilization of Babylonia estimated circumference at 3.125, while Egypt approximated it at 3.1605.

After explaining in detail Archimedes’ method of obtaining a more exact estimation of pi, he

noted that more precise approximations continue to be made.

“Nowadays we have computers,” he said, explaining even home computers can calculate pi to trillions of decimals.

“Ten trillion are known at this point,” he said, having previously noted that pi is an irrational number, which means it goes on forever and cannot be represented by a fraction.

A pie-eating competition followed Rich’s presentation and concluded the event, with four participants competing for 60 seconds, attempting to eat the most pie in that time without using their hands. Antonio Gomez took a messy first place, with Shane Graves earning second over Jared Hovick’s and Jeannie Snyder’s efforts.

The Sunrise Movement offers climate change presentation to SCTC classroom

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

The Sunrise Movement is building an army of young people to stop climate change and create millions of jobs in the process.

The 1-year-old non-partisan movement hopes to make climate change an urgent priority across America, end the corrupting influence of fossil fuel executives on politics and elect leaders who stand up for the health and wellbeing of all people (sunrisemovement.org).

Two full-time Sunrise Movement volunteers, Nicholas Jansen and Carolyn Pugh, presented information to a few Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College

students on Monday, March 12.

“We are ordinary young people who are scared about what the climate crisis means for the people and places we love,” the website reads. “We are gathering in classrooms, living rooms and worship halls across the country. Everyone has a role to play. Public opinion is already with us – if we unite by the millions, we can turn this into political power and reclaim our democracy.”

At 12:15 p.m., the interactive presentation began. Jansen and Pugh involved the audience by asking them to read statements aloud, discuss topics with a partner and share their opinions.

Jansen, a University of Michigan graduate, asked the

audience, “How have you seen climate change or the impacts of fossil fuel extraction in your own lives?”

Jansen used the example of California’s wild fire season typically occurring from July to August. First responders were still fighting the state’s fires through December this past year.

Pugh, a University of Virginia alumnus, said the media frequently covers stories about the wild fires, hurricanes, storms, etc. but fails to address the climate change connection and issue.

Pugh said solar options would help climate change, and the U.S. public is in support of them.

“If we expand solar, we can create more jobs,” Pugh said.

Pugh said Forbes reported solar companies employ more people in the U.S. electricity generation than oil, coal and gas combined.

“Forget coal, solar will soon be cheaper than natural gas power,” Pugh said. “By 2023, solar and onshore wind will be competitive with new U.S. gas plants.”

Pugh shared research, stating 91 percent of millennials support “transitioning America to 100 percent clean energy like wind and solar by 2050.” (Fifty-three percent strongly support, and 38 percent somewhat support.)

“What does the movement need to win? Political power – a critical mass of

enthusiastically supportive public officials and people power – a large, vocal, active base of public support,” Jansen said. “Throughout the next four to 10 years, we will work alongside other movements to build a force strong enough to actually govern this country.”

Pugh said 250 political candidates have taken the pledge in support of the movement, including Abdul El-Sayed (D), candidate for Michigan governor.

“We know there is a lot of anger and frustration of people not being heard... We can make a difference,” Jansen said.

More information on the Sunrise Movement is available at sunrisemovement.org.

Eating mindfully helps participants win big

NIKI HENRY

Photographer Journalist

As part of “The Biggest Winner” program, Sally Van Cise, nutritionist and certified wellness coach, offered a lunchtime presentation about mindful eating at noon on Tuesday, March 13 in one of the classrooms in the East Building of Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College.

Van Cise began the session with a lesson about how to eat.

“Eating for many people is really, really painful,” she said, explaining a negative attitude can develop when people feel guilt and fear about what they put into their bodies, a result of restricting what one eats by not giving oneself permission to eat certain foods.

“I just want to tell you, eating is fun. If it weren’t fun, the species would die out,” she said. “We are programmed to like eating.”

She then described eating as an adventure and said it engages senses. “It’s not just something you do to get it over with.”

Van Cise said eating has two components. “One is ‘I’m taking care of being hungry,’ and the other is ‘I’m taking care of my psychological appetite.’”

To meet both factors, Van Cise encouraged awareness. She said, “When you eat, take the time to focus, relax, savor.”

To help accomplish this mindfulness, Van Cise recommended turning off electronics. She said they are entertaining and emotionally satisfying in and of themselves, so the process of eating while using them does not register in the brain and is not fulfilling.

To help participants become more aware of how they are eating, Van Cise passed out bags of pretzels and some chips, had participants break the snacks into small pieces and then led them through different ways to experience eating.

For each method, Van Cise had attendees perform a relaxation exercise before placing food in their mouths. Then, she instructed them to ask two questions of themselves every time before eating and to answer in their minds using a scale from one to 10.

She said the first question, “Am I hungry?” addresses the need of the body. The second question, she said, “Do I want this food?” addresses psychological appetite.

Next, Van Cise led them through different ways of experiencing food.

First, she had them put the food on their tongue without chewing it. Next, she instructed them to chew it only on one side. The next bite was chewed on both sides of the mouth, and then she asked participants to perform the “conveyor belt” method, which requires placing pieces into the mouth, one after the other, without swallowing in between.

Finally, she had attendees put a handful of food into their mouths.

Van Cise said though she imposed rules about how to

eat during the session to help participants focus on the experience of eating, she does not recommend the imposition of rules about food and eating in general and encouraged everyone to give themselves permission to eat food they like.

“Put out food you want, and balance it with vegetables,” she said.

Van Cise also encouraged participants not to judge or restrict themselves.

“Permission is really, really important when you eat a food,” she said. “If you have permission to eat a food, you are much less likely to binge on it.”

During the presentation, Van Cise also reviewed information she offered in a previous session such as using the plate method and eating every three to four hours.

She also explained how to read nutrition labels and answered questions.

Van Cise and Jayme Green, Nimkee fitness coordinator and certified wellness coach, have both presented information about healthy lifestyles during these “Biggest Winner” program sessions that were made possible through a grant obtained by the SCTC Student Senate.

Henry sworn in to SCTC Board of Regents

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

On Tuesday, March 13, Gordon Henry Jr. was sworn in by Chief Ronald F. Ekdahl after being appointed to the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College Board of Regents.

Henry solemnly swore to “uphold the charter of SCTC,” to “commit himself to the goals set forth by the Board of Regents” and to “conduct all duties with respect to SCTC.”



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Gordon Henry Jr. (left) is sworn in by Chief Ronald F. Ekdahl (right) on March 13.



Soaring Eagle Snocross National thrills race fans during two-day event

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

For the fifth straight year, the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort hosted the action and excitement of the AMSOIL Championship Snocross series.

The National Tour consists of eight events, with the local event the sixth stop of the 2017-2018 circuit.

The Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel was also a sponsor.

The Snocross National was a two-day event, held on Friday, Feb. 23 and Saturday, Feb. 24.

The weather leading up to the event proved to be uncooperative, with heavy rainfall and warm temperatures in the mid-Michigan area. The subsequent wet and heavy snow led to challenging conditions for the racers, officials and grounds crew.

Fans were able to get an up-close look at the athletes who are regularly featured on CBS Sports and the ESPN Winter X Games.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Eventual Pro National champion Tucker Hibbert (right) takes his snowmobile airborne after crossing the finish line.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Evan Daudt climbs uphill on his #413 Polaris during a Pro Lite class race.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Snow flies as two racers take the final corner of the Soaring Eagle track.

Prohibitive favorite Tucker Hibbert won the Michigan National in the finals on Saturday night. The win helped him maintain his 2018 points lead in the Pro National class.

Second place was secured by Kody Kamm, with Tim Tremblay taking third.

Hibbert went on to win the Pro National Championship three weeks later at the Ram Trucks Snocross Grand Finale

on March 18 in Lake Geneva, Wis.

The Pro Lite final was won by Daniel Benham Jr., with Matt Pichner winning the Pro Am Plus 30 final. On the women's side, Malene Andersen took first in the Pro Am Women final.

For more information about upcoming shows, please visit the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort website at www.soaringeaglecasino.com.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Pro class racers prepare to take off from the start line during the second round of finals.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Pro Lite class racers bunch up during the first turn of a last chance qualifying race.



Courtesy of ISOC Racing

Tucker Hibbert celebrates his Michigan National victory in the Pro class.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Snowmobiles are airborne during the first lap of a Pro Lite class race. The Pro Light final was won by Daniel Benham Jr. on his #221 Artic Cat (front right).

Stone Clover Band brings Celtic rock in first Soaring Eagle appearance

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Contributing Writer

The annual St. Patrick's Day bash on March 17 marked the first appearance for the Stone Clover Band on the Soaring Eagle stage.

Stone Clover was founded by Detroit natives Pauly Brady and Taylor Izak in 2009.

Brady met Izak while working as a full-time brewer living above Detroit's landmark Irish pub Old Shillelagh. They began creating a style of music that borrowed from traditional Irish, punk rock, metal and folk – a genre they affectionately named "Paddy Slag."

Stone Clover has been consistently playing close to 100

shows a year, winning over friends and fans with their high-energy Celtic rock and infectious original music.

The band is currently touring in support of their first studio recording of entirely original material entitled "Proper Villains."

Brady commanded the stage, providing lead vocals along with six- and 12-string guitars as Izak added fiddle and backing vocals.

The multitasking Connor Payne layered in mandolin, accordion, banjo and backing vocals while Logan Hein brought in bass and vocals and James McCue offered percussion and drums.

The band launched into several numbers from their

latest release that included "One More Beer," "Whiskey in the Jar" and "Awesome."

Stone Clover's encore was a frenzied affair that won over many to "Paddy Slag" as they blasted out two closing anthems, Flogging Molly cover "Drunken Lullaby" and "The Burn What Makes Me Ill," written by songwriter Izak.

"Growing up in an Irish pub my grandfather built after emigrating here from Ireland, I find a heart and soul to Irish music that carries tradition, love and family... it's all there in the music," Brady said. "A lot of the Irish festivals we've played, we found we did it louder and faster, and we called it 'Paddy Slag.' That's where we took our heritage, vision and influence and mixed it into something you can tell has strong Irish roots, but it's not Irish-traditional. But it's got a lot of rock 'n' roll, punk and all sorts of fun things along the way!"

Brady and his bandmates keep the St. Patrick's Day spirit alive throughout the year.

"We find we have so much fun on-stage because of the high-energy nature of the music. It speaks to everyone, and you can feel the energy and vibe carry

right out to the Soaring Eagle crowd," Brady said. "If you're having fun and smiling while you're playing music on stage, it doesn't matter who you are; it lets us know we're doing it right."

Izak started playing the violin when she was nine and has toured and performed since age sixteen. She is also an accomplished songwriter and also wrote "The Patron Saint of Cider."

"I study hard and bring the culture into the music and absorb it into every cell, and I make sure I keep up-to-date on what is traditional and what is authentic," Izak said. "There is a sense of alchemy in music when you turn what is in your soul to music. I am extremely excited that our band will be included on the Vans Warped 2018 tour."



Courtesy of Joseph Sowmick

Members of the Stone Clover Band perform during their March 17 show at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS

APRIL 6, 2018

Please join Tribal Council on Friday, April 6, 2018, at 3 p.m. for a ribbon cutting ceremony and press conference celebrating the launch of the new High Limit Gaming Area and VIP Lounge at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

Tribal Members are invited to tour our new High Stakes and VIP Lounge and pick up a Special Edition Chip. Light appetizers will be provided.

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Medium Theresa Caputo 'speaks with' departed loved ones during two sold-out evenings

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

"I see dead people, sir. This could be an empty seat, for all I know."

It is likely that was the first time those words were ever muttered in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort's Entertainment Hall.

Theresa Caputo of "Long Island Medium," the TLC television show, proved to be genuinely funny and charming while also delivering a somber, spiritual experience.

Caputo said she began seeing spirits at age 4.

"In my 20's, I realized I wasn't only seeing my departed loved ones but everyone else's," she said.

Both of Caputo's sold-out shows on Thursday, March 1 and Friday, March 2 began with an announcer asking the audience to rise for the national anthem. A recorded version played over the sound system.

Erupting applause echoed throughout the venue as Caputo appeared on stage. She began by thanking veterans and asking them to stand.

Caputo stood on stage, explaining how her process works.

"I may tell you not what you want to hear but what you need to hear," Caputo said, adding that



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Medium Theresa Caputo stands backstage at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort prior to her sold-out Thursday, March 1 show.

many who are left here in the physical world experience guilt.

"I am the first one to say what I do is absolutely crazy," Caputo said.

"I feel the soul of your loved one. I also feel how they died," she said, also stating she may feel tightness in her chest, a headache or the sensation of not being able to breathe.

She said spirits also make her feel emotions.

With her big, teased blonde hair; exceptionally high stilettos;

slim-fitting dress; long, white nails; and distinctive New York accent, Caputo ventured into the audience to wherever the spirits called her to go.

To give the audience the best experience – even if Caputo never visited their section – cameras followed her around so all eyes could see her on the big screens at all times.

"I want to talk about the son who died. A sudden passing," Theresa said to a specific area. A few people raised their hands.

"You. How do you identify with this?" Caputo said, looking at one audience member. Each person she spoke to would stand to be on the camera and was handed a microphone.

"You have a memorial in honor of him?" "You have a tattoo of his face or his name?" "You have some of his artwork saved?"

"I want to talk about the drowning." "I have five souls standing over me, trying to save me." "I feel like I can swim, I can do anything – it does not make sense why I drowned." "Was the party where the drowning occurred originally supposed to be on another date?" "I feel like this never should have happened."

One of the many emotional moments Thursday evening was

when Caputo spoke to the lone survivor of a car accident.

The young woman she was speaking to threw her microphone down and said, "I can't do this," and began sobbing. Caputo told her crew to take the cameras off the young lady but continued to deliver the message from the survivor's loved ones that Caputo felt she needed to hear.

Caputo's Friday show was originally scheduled first. After that show sold out within a couple hours of tickets going on sale, the second Thursday evening show was scheduled.

Thursday evening Caputo offered some quick-witted jokes between readings, but Friday evening, between the audience's tears and gasps, Caputo became outright goofy—taking a beer out of someone's hand and having a sip, taking a bite of someone's pizza, obsessing over the holder in which patrons disposed of their empty beer

bottles, sitting on laps and playfully teasing willing candidates in the sections she approached.

On separate nights, Caputo claimed two young spirits came through whose individual tragedies both had a huge effect on the Tribal community; the spirit was discovered to be Carnel Chamberlain on Thursday evening when speaking to Chamberlain's father and also Kaylee Flachs on Friday evening when speaking to Flachs' mother.

"Your loved ones are still with you, loving you and guiding you from the other side," Caputo said to close her show. "Thank you so much for the honor and privilege of speaking with you and your loved ones this evening."

Was she actually talking to spirits? Did the audience buy it? Well, the experience itself cannot be put into words. You had to be there to believe it – or not believe it – for yourself.

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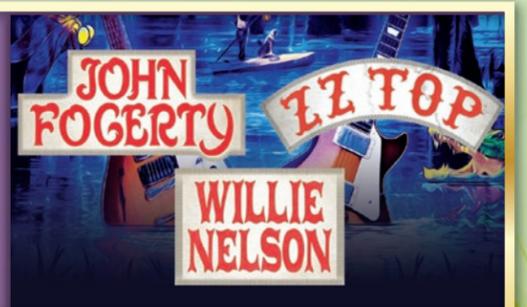
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Panel

continued from front page

Effective March 31, the amount of pain medications that can be prescribed by physicians will be restricted due to state law, Shannon said.

One question was raised about how the community and/or environment can change to positively impact Tribal Members and/or addicts in the future, in an effort to decrease their need to use opioids.

Ekdahl said everyone has different views about the quality of life, value systems, goals and beliefs.

“Building the quality of life needs to come from homes, parents... it is something individuals get from a young age,” Ekdahl said. “Building communities varies from generation to generation.”

The panel agreed community support is crucial. “A community can assist by making it acceptable for individuals to step forward and say they need help.”

One participant asked the panel if they personally believed decriminalizing marijuana would be a solution to help decrease opioid usage.

“People need to know the THC level in marijuana today is so much higher than back in the ‘60s,” White said. “I cannot see how our community will benefit from another mind-altering substance... When those people using cannot take care of themselves, who is that going to fall on? Us, as citizens.”

Isaacson said there is “currently no indication” the government is leaning

towards legalization in Michigan districts.

“The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe does not recognize the medical marijuana act,” Bannon said, stating its usage is illegal on the Reservation.

A question was asked about how society can de-attach that stigma from those who are using and, instead, express empathy and offer to aid individuals.

Main said the Isabella County Jail offers a one- to two-year program, with counseling sessions, which treats individuals more as “patients” than inmates.

“For the people in recovery, you cannot worry what other people think about you. It is none of your business what people think about you. It is every bit of your business what you think about yourself... fretting about the stigma is the least of your worries. You just keep fighting the good fight,” White said to a man in recovery.

Ekdahl said the stigma “can change by education and understanding.”

“A person’s challenges are not as easy as ‘just quit using and you will be okay,’” Ekdahl said. “Please don’t worry about what people say on Facebook, those people with their ‘keyboard courage’... move forward to help develop strength, knowledge and motivation to be successful.”

In order to fight the stigma, Bannon said, it also takes compassion.

Bannon mentioned the Hope Not Handcuffs program, is a Families Against Narcotics initiated program

Recovery on the Rez

- **Drop-in Meetings** | Mondays at 5:30 p.m. | Residential Treatment Center cafeteria
- **Narcotics Anonymous Meeting** | Tuesdays at 7 p.m. | RTC cafeteria
- **Talking Circle** | Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. | Seventh Generation
- **Drop-in Meetings** | Fridays at 11:30 a.m. | RTC cafeteria
- **FAN Support Group** | First Thursday of the Month at 7 p.m. | Tribal Operations Seniors Room
- **FAN Monthly Forum** | Third Thursday of the Month at 7 p.m. | Ziibiwing Center or Tribal Gym
- **Spirit Bear AA Meeting** | Fridays at 7 p.m. | Andahwod
- **New Spirit AA Meeting** | Sundays at 4 p.m. | RTC cafeteria

aimed at bringing law enforcement and community organizations together in an effort to find viable treatment options for individuals seeking help to reduce dependency on heroin, prescription drugs and alcohol (*familiesagainstnarcotics.org/hopenothandcuffs*).

Hope Not Handcuffs allows a person struggling with a drug addiction to come into any of the participating police agencies and ask for help. They will be greeted with support, compassion and respect, according to its website. The individual will be guided through a brief intake process to ensure proper treatment placement.

Bannon said she hopes the Tribal Police Department can be involved in that program in the future, but for now she encourages any community member struggling with addiction to stop in the Tribal Police Department.

“We do our best to help,” she said.

Isaacson said one sheriff’s deputy is hiring long-term

recovering addicts as first responders because they know how damaging addiction and overdoses can be and also empathize with addicts.

Tribal Member Consuelo Gonzalez told the panel the audience has so far heard about national and state-wide changes being made against opioids, yet she wants to know what is currently being done on the Reservation.

Tribal Council member Jennifer Wassegijig agreed.

“We can continue to sit and talk about the opioid issue, but we have to help our people. It’s been going on for too long,” Wassegijig said, inspiring applause. “What about the individuals who want to detox, but it takes two to three days for them to enroll because of the paperwork, etc. By then, we may lose them. They will be using again or not wanting treatment any longer.”

Shannon mentioned the positive work the Isabella County/Saginaw Chippewa FAN Chapter is continuing to do.

“Fortunately, this local community is ahead of the curve in many ways,” Shannon said, also mentioning the Isabella County sheriff is currently educated about Vivitrol – a medication that can help prevent relapses into alcohol or drug abuse – and his involvement with the treatment program at the jail.

Due to the intense discussion taking place, the event lasted until 9 p.m. though it was scheduled to end at 8 p.m.

Event participants could help themselves to refreshments and hors d’oeuvres, courtesy of the Soaring Eagle Food & Beverage department.

Ten16 Recovery Network will continue its efforts with a free screening of “Stigmatic: Our Opioid Crisis” and stories from individuals who have been impacted by the epidemic. Two separate showings will be held April 18 at Mid Michigan Community College at 9 a.m. in the community room and at Central Michigan University in the Bovee University Center Auditorium at 7 p.m.

Town Hall

continued from front page

on par with them also. What we are prepared to do will be a major accomplishment for the Tribe.”

Dominic Ortiz, chief financial officer, is an enrolled member of the Kansas Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. He described the Tribe’s progression as a “pathway of sustainability.”

“With other gaming expansions in Michigan, Soaring Eagle lost our mid-Michigan monopoly in 2009, and we need to protect our market and capture opportunities for future cash flows,” Ortiz said. “As we move forward on a pathway of sustainability, by refreshing our facilities and increasing operational efficiencies, we can get the right people through the door.”

Ortiz said the marketing re-investment plan is “paying off” and the Tribe has experienced “a net income increase of 3 percent in fiscal year 2018.”

Ortiz also focused on the revenue allocation plan and

gave a 10-year history of the financial gaming portfolio and the membership variable per capita plan.

“We are not going to get back 100 percent of the net income we had before, but we have the opportunity to protect our market share, and we can get back a portion of what impact happened when we lost that monopoly,” Ortiz said. “Most of you have been to those other operations and have seen the billboards that have come in trying to capture our market, specifically Firekeepers, Gun Lake and Four Winds casinos. These operations aren’t stopping, and they want your competitive landscape and to carve into your market share.”

Ortiz said the future is bright with the proposed expansion of Saganing.

“Now, more than ever, it’s important that these capital projects come into play, that your facilities are refreshed and this expansion is set to protect your market so we can take advantage of this unique location here in Saganing,” Ortiz said. “We are going to

find out how elastic this market is, and we know we are going to build the nicest hotel from here to Alpena, and we will realize mid-season traffic and a beautiful facility to capture more crowds. This will be the first step to see what this regional destination has to offer.”

Ortiz received applause when he said, “For the first time since 2007, the SCIT Nation will reach a per capita plan that does not require additional supplements from the futures’ trust.”

“This has been a decade in the making, and we had to make this call for fiscal responsibility,” he said. “We did it, and we got there with your support and sacrifice, and we saved the futures’ trust. Now we can continue to look forward toward the future and to find this pathway to sustainability together.”

Ekdahl commended Ortiz, the Finance Committee and his staff on their work. He also offered further remarks about financial sustainability.

“I am very excited for the financial future for the Tribe.

We are moving in a direction of sustainability, and we really haven’t been able to talk about moving forward for quite some time,” Ekdahl said. “This is not all work that this Council is doing, and it has surely been a process that many Councils have worked on to get this current state of financial sustainability to fruition.

Our Council is very fortunate for being able to carry this across the finish line and to be able to put ourselves in this position. We know it’s been tough work, and you have all been there as we have made these tough decisions together, and we know how they have had an effect on everyone’s lives within the Tribe,” Ekdahl said.

Lacrosse ball workshop



Observer photos by Niki Henry

NIKI HENRY

Photographer Journalist

Seventh Generation’s Elijah Elk Cultural Center hosted a lacrosse ball workshop Tuesday, March 20 and Wednesday, March 21.

In the property’s craft room, workshop participants hand stitched leather pieces around rubber balls with sinew after choosing from several template designs that included a Poke’ ball pattern.



Harm Reduction Michigan provides overdose prevention training, naloxone kit

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Question: What factor is strongest in someone surviving an opioid overdose?

Answer: Another human being in sight.

This and similar information focusing on naloxone – a medication designed to rapidly reverse opioid overdose – was shared during the March 6 overdose prevention and response training.

Naloxone is an antidote to opioid overdoses of prescription pain relievers or heroin.

Seventh Generation's Ceremonial Building on that Tuesday after 11 a.m. had a crowded parking lot from event attendees.

The training was open to law enforcement, social workers, professionals and all community members.

Harm Reduction Michigan, a health equity organization,



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Maya Doe-Simkins, director of Harm Reduction Michigan, describes the usage of naloxone – a medication designed to rapidly reverse opioid overdose – during the March 6 overdose prevention and response training at Seventh Generation.

was onsite to provide free training and overdose rescue kits containing naloxone.

With an office based in Traverse City, Maya Doe-Simkins, director of Harm

Reduction Michigan, said this was her third presentation in central Michigan.

“Nationally, American Indians/Alaskan Natives have extremely high rates of opioid overdose, and, in Michigan, the rate is almost double the next highest race/ethnicity category,” Doe-Simkins said. “Discussing naloxone and overdose prevention is a practical, tangible and effective way to prevent trauma, sorrow, regret and early death.”

Harm Reduction Michigan has been partnering with Tribal personnel and providing naloxone in the area informally for several years, Doe-Simkins said.

Naloxone is short acting; it lasts 30 to 90 minutes.

“Administer another naloxone within two to three minutes if (the individual who overdosed) does not respond,” Doe-Simkins said. “If they do not respond within another two to three minutes, give them another. If they do not respond to three doses, it is something else and they need medical attention or they have already died.”

The number of doses needed depends on how much time has elapsed after the overdose and the type of opioid the individual used, Doe-Simkins said.

“People will not get addicted to naloxone,” Doe-Simkins

said. “No one wants it in their bodies. It is uncomfortable.”

Shuna Stevens, prevention coordinator for Behavioral Health, said she was surprised to learn naloxone will not cause harm if given to someone who is not suffering an opioid overdose.

“I also learned the importance of staying with the person after they come out of the overdose state for a minimum of 90 minutes to ensure that they don't start to overdose again,” Stevens said. “Lastly – but not surprisingly – because naloxone can be purchased over-the-counter, it is just like any other over-the-counter medication; you will not get into legal trouble for having possession of it.”

Harm Reduction Michigan gave away nearly one million doses last year.

“Using naloxone is a painful, horrible, not fun event, but they are going to be alive,” said Kim Hinmon, residential support tech for Behavioral Health about someone who has overdosed.

Naloxone has a shelf life of 18 months to two years.

Prior to and during the presentation, attendees were treated to Pisanello's pizza and breadsticks, fruit, vegetables and desserts.

Doe-Simkins said she believes the “event was a success” and “looks forward to”

working with the Tribe again in the future.

“People stayed for nearly a half hour after the event was over to talk privately or ask follow-up questions,” Doe-Simkins said. “We hope to be able to have a smaller, more intimate conversation with community members who use drugs... about ways to stay safe.”

Stevens said Behavioral Health, which put on this event made possible by a grant provided by the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, received much positive feedback from those who attended.

“I had hoped for there to be more community members present because of the importance of a quick response to someone overdosing,” Stevens said. “Professionals should also have the information on this naloxone, but those who are more likely to encounter someone who is overdosing, such as family members or friends of opiate users, are the ones that can respond quickly.”

The non-profit Harm Reduction Michigan's mission is to decrease substance use-related harms in Michigan in a respectful manner in collaboration with people who use drugs and alcohol. It is dedicated to improving the community's health and wellbeing by supporting people in abstinence, moderation and safer use (harmreductionmi.org).



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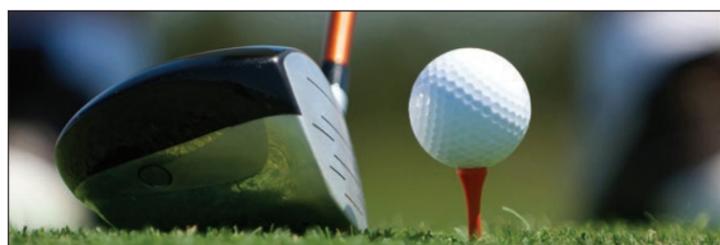
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The benefits of breastfeeding

JUDY DAVIS

Healthy Start Coordinator

Breastfeeding protects babies from a long list of illnesses. Numerous studies have shown that stomach viruses, lower respiratory illnesses, ear infections and meningitis occur less frequently in breastfed infants and are less severe when they do occur.

Breastfeeding can also protect babies from developing allergies, possibly protect from obesity, lower the risk of SIDS, boost intelligence and possibly reduce the risk of some types of cancer.

Other important benefits include reducing mothers' stress

levels and the risk of postpartum depression.

Breast milk is specifically tailored to individual babies. A mom's body responds to pathogens (viruses and bacteria) by making secretory IgA (secretory immunoglobulin A) specific to those pathogens. This protects the baby from anything to which mom is exposed.

First time breastfeeding can prove difficult to accomplish, but it is well worth the effort. Nimkee Public Health is here to help with its three certified lactation counselors: Anna Hon at **989-775-4616**, Sandi Chesebrough at **989-775-4654** and Sally Van Cise at **989-775-4615**.

A website to check out for additional information is the Baby Center at <https://www.babycenter.com>.

Check out one of the topics at the top or type in “Breastfeeding” for more information.

Information is also available about other topics such as what to do for morning sickness, what to eat during pregnancy, baby names, setting up a nursery, potty training and more.

A host of videos on various topics is also available through the website.

For maternal child/healthy start information or to sign up for Healthy Start, contact Anna Hon, RN, at ahon@sagchip.org or **989-775-4616**.

Nimkee Fitness Center Group Exercise Schedule April 2018

| Time | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 8 a.m. | Aqua Fit Sharon | | Aqua Fit Sharon | | Aqua Fit Sharon |
| 11 a.m. | L.I.F.E. Based Fitness - Jaden | | L.I.F.E. Based Fitness - Jaden | L.I.F.E. Based Fitness - Jaden | |
| 12:10 p.m. | | L.I.F.E. Based Fitness - Jaden | | Suspension Training - Jayme | L.I.F.E. Based Fitness - Jaden |
| 1:10 p.m. | M.E.L.T. Jayme | | Turbo Kick Beth | | |
| 5:10 p.m. | M.E.L.T. Jayme | Beginner's Running - Jayme | Beginner's Running - Jayme | | |
| 5:30 p.m. | | Yoga Tammy | | Yoga Tammy | |



Tribal Members, employees dress in blue for colorectal cancer awareness

NIKI HENRY

Photographer Journalist

In recognition of Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month in March, Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center encouraged Tribal Members and employees to wear blue on March 2.

In an effort to educate the community about colorectal cancer, Nimkee provided information from www.cancer.org, which included risk factors, symptoms and other helpful facts.



Observer photo by Niki Henry

Tribal Council members dress in blue on March 2 to recognize March as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

Individuals at greatest risk for colon cancer include those 50 years of age or older who have ulcerative colitis or Crohn's

disease or a personal or family history of polyps or cancer.

African Americans, Native Americans and Alaskan Natives are also more at risk than other ethnic groups.

Though sometimes individuals with colon cancer are asymptomatic, according to the information provided by Nimkee, symptoms may include: a change in bowel habits, rectal bleeding and blood in stools, persistent abdominal discomfort, nausea and vomiting, unintentional weight loss and chronic fatigue.

Nimkee encourages everyone between the ages of 50 and 75 to get screened for cancer, though this should be done earlier for those individuals at higher risk.

To avoid developing cancer, one should eat nutritiously, maintain a healthy weight and active lifestyle, avoid using tobacco products and limit alcohol consumption.

Those with questions about the screening program at Nimkee should call Twila at 989-775-4681 or Jamie at 989-775-4638.

Antioxidants are an antidote to disease

JUDITH C. THALHEIMER

RD, LDN

Maximize dietary intake of antioxidants to keep your cells—and yourself—healthy.

No doubt you have heard of antioxidants. They have been associated with everything from reduced cancer risk to slower aging. But, what exactly are these powerful disease fighters, and how can you ensure you are getting enough in your system?

Radical reactions: Atoms are constantly giving and receiving electrons during chemical reactions in the body.

If an atom releases an electron and cannot find one to take its place, it becomes a free radical, eager to scavenge electrons to fill the empty slot.

If free radicals steal electrons from important cellular components, like DNA or cell membranes, the resulting damage can increase cancer risk, accelerate aging and contribute to chronic diseases like cardiovascular disease and diabetes. Antioxidants offer spare electrons to satisfy and neutralize free radicals thereby protecting cells from damage.

These disease-preventing health-boosters are found naturally in foods—especially plant foods like fruits, vegetables, nuts, seeds and whole grains.

Vitamins C and E and the trace metal selenium are micronutrients that act as key antioxidants in the body. Many phytochemicals (bioactive plant compounds) also act as antioxidants or boost

antioxidant activity, especially polyphenols (like flavonoids) and carotenoids (like beta-carotene).

Supplements have not been shown to be effective, but antioxidant-rich diets are associated with lots of health benefits.

Try the following tips to fill your body with an army of free-radical-neutralizing, disease-preventing, damage-reducing antioxidants.

Vary your veggies (and other plants): Citrus, strawberries, bell peppers, carrots, sweet potatoes and dark leafy greens are some examples of produce rich in antioxidant vitamin C, vitamin E or beta-carotene—but mix it up.

Antioxidant phytochemicals give color to plants, so, the more colors you eat, the

more different types of antioxidants you are getting.

Also try pigmented grains such as black or red rice.

Go nuts: Brazil nuts are rich in selenium, and nuts and seeds like almonds and sunflower seeds are great sources of vitamin E. Sprinkle them on salads, or snack on a handful mixed with dried fruit.

Have fun with flavor: Herbs and spices such as ginger, rosemary and turmeric are packed with antioxidants. Even though we use them in small doses, they boost both flavor and free-radical-fighting potential.

Drink up: Black and green teas are rich in antioxidants and coffee is too.

Red wine contains the antioxidant resveratrol (so do peanuts

and berries); and cranberry, grape and cherry juices are antioxidant-rich choices as well.

Matcha, a type of green tea made from powdered tea leaves, is a particularly rich source. If you do not like the taste of it, try adding a little to yogurts or smoothies.

Avoid free-radical-forming foods: Along with eating foods rich in antioxidants, cut back on or eliminate foods that have been associated with the creation of free radicals such as refined carbohydrates, sugars, processed meats (like sausage, bacon and salami), red meat, deep-fried foods and too much alcohol.

It is also wise to avoid smoking.

(*Environmental Nutrition*, 2018)

Be WELL Challenge Group covers healthy topics bi-weekly

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

On Thursday, March 15, Nimkee Fitness began its first Be WELL Challenge Group session of the season.

The Be WELL (Be Willing, Energetic, Love your body, Linked to uplifting people) group occurs every other Thursday in the Nimkee Public Health kitchen from 12:10 to 1 p.m.

“The goal is to create a place filled with motivation, inspiration, love, knowledge and all of the support needed to reach goals you only dreamed of,” said Jayme Green, fitness coordinator.

A chicken taco lunch with pico de gallo was served, prepared by Nimkee Fitness Center’s Andrew “Bear”

Raphael and Vanessa Sprague.

“Wow, I was only expecting about five people,” Green said, as participants kept filing into the room while Nimkee personnel added more chairs.

Green provided a presentation about mindfulness during the opening class and how to incorporate it at work and home for a healthier, more fulfilling, less-stressful life.

The group is open to all employees, Tribal Members, descendants and anyone registered with the Nimkee Clinic.

The next classes are scheduled April 12 and 26.

Future topics include meal planning, positive thinking and self-defense.

The classes are made possible by Nimkee’s 4X4 Grant.

FINDING QUALITY TREATMENT FOR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

FOR A DRUG OR ALCOHOL USE EMERGENCY, CALL 911 OR GO TO THE NEAREST EMERGENCY ROOM

THREE STEPS TO ACCESSING CARE

- If you have insurance:** Contact your insurer. Ask about your coverage and whether they have a network of preferred providers for you to use.
If you don't have insurance: Each state has funding to provide treatment for people without insurance coverage. Find where to call for information about payment for services at: <https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/ssa-directory.pdf>
- Review the websites of the providers and see if they have the **five signs of quality treatment** detailed below.
- Call for an appointment. If they can't see you or your family member **within 48 hours**, find another provider. One indicator of quality is the ability to get an appointment quickly. Many programs offer walk-in services. Look for programs that can get you or a family member into treatment quickly.

Treatment Locators

Substance Use and Mental Health

Treatment Locator:

<https://findtreatment.samhsa.gov/>

1-800-662-HELP (4357)

1-800-487-4899 (TTY)

Alcohol Treatment Navigator:

<https://alcoholtreatment.niaaa.nih.gov/>

FIVE SIGNS OF QUALITY TREATMENT

You can use these questions to help decide about the quality of a treatment provider and the types of services offered. Quality programs should offer a full range of services accepted as effective in treatment and recovery from substance use disorders and should be matched to a person's needs.

- Accreditation:** Has the program been licensed or certified by the state? Is the program currently in good standing in the state? Are the staff qualified? Good quality programs will have a good inspection record and both the program and the staff should have received training in treatment of substance use and mental disorders and be licensed or registered in the state. Does the program conduct satisfaction surveys? Can they show you how people using their services have rated them?
- Medication:** Does the program offer FDA approved medication for recovery from alcohol and opioid use disorders? At this point in time, there are no FDA approved medications to help to prevent relapse from other problem substances.
- Evidence-Based Practices:** Does the program offer treatments that have been proven to be effective in treating substance use disorders including medication management therapies, such as motivational therapy, cognitive behavioral therapy, drug and alcohol counseling, education about the risks of drug and alcohol use, and peer support? Does the program either provide or help to obtain medical care for physical health issues?
- Families:** Does the program include family members in the treatment process? Family members have an important role in understanding the impact of addiction on families and providing support.
- Supports:** Does the program provide ongoing treatment and supports beyond just treating the substance issues? For many people addiction is a chronic condition and requires ongoing medication and supports. Quality programs provide treatment for the long term which may include ongoing counseling or recovery coaching and support, and helps in meeting other basic needs like sober housing, employment supports, and continued family involvement.

SAMHSA's mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities. 1-877-SAMHSA-7 (1-877-726-4272) • 1-800-487-4889 (TDD) • www.samhsa.gov



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Soaring Eagle
BINGO

SEE BINGO FOR DETAILS





'Adopted' elders enjoy pre-St. Patrick's Day party at Andahwod

NIKI HENRY

Photographer Journalist

The luck of the Irish brought Andahwod residents a party on Thursday, March 15.

Central Michigan University's Mary Ellen Brandell Volunteer Center's Adopt-a-Grandparent program hosted the event, with CMU 'grandchildren' visiting their adopted grandparents to play games and create artwork.

The social area was decorated in green, with shamrocks and streamers, while elders



Observer photo by Niki Henry

The afternoon of Thursday, March 15, Andahwod residents celebrate St. Patrick's Day with students from Central Michigan University's Mary Ellen Brandell Volunteer Center's Adopt-a-Grandparent program.

enjoyed an afternoon of fun during the St. Patrick's Day-themed party.

Elders enjoyed a snack of veggies and dip, crackers, cheese and spread, fruit and a

plate of various meats while creating dream catchers from dampened coffee filters they dabbed with paint.

Elders were also provided coloring pages and worksheets of mazes and word searches.

The event culminated with elders playing a game to win prizes. For the game, Jamie Price, Adopt-a-Grandparent site coordinator for Andahwod, placed a variety of small items in a bin and then filled the bin to the brim with shaving cream.

Elders laughed as they fished through the foam, searching for the gems hidden



Observer photo by Niki Henry

Jamie Price, Adopt-a-Grandparent site coordinator, and elder Anita Henry examine what was fished out of a bin of shaving cream to determine if Henry won a prize.

at the bottom that they needed to find to claim a prize.

Green receives February Andahwod Employee of the Month

ANDAHWOD STAFF

Tomarra Green was voted the February Employee of the Month by Andahwod residents.

Green is an activities assistant for Andahwod Elder Services.

Green has been in her current position since October 2017. However, she is not a new face at Andahwod. She was the activities assistant from January 2014 to January 2016, and she was a social work intern August 2016 to December 2016.

Prior to working at Andahwod, Green worked at the Ziibiwing Center for four years.

Green says she enjoys spending time with the elders and bringing joy and fun to their days through planning activities and events for them.

In her free time, she likes

to bring her 2-year-old son to the Elders Breakfast and to look at the bird aviary.

She and her son also spend a lot of time at the Discovery Museum and library.

She also enjoys photography. When asked about a favorite memory of an elder in her life she said, "braiding Guy's hair every day for him."

Congratulations, Green. You are appreciated for all you do.



Courtesy of Andahwod

Tomarra Green, activities assistant

Elders Advisory Board Vacancies

Four vacancies need to be filled.

Interested elders must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- ▶ 50 years and older
- ▶ District One SCIT Elder
- ▶ Advocate for SCIT Elders
- ▶ Ability to attend meetings regularly

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

Mail letters of interest to: Andahwod CCC & ES
2910 S. Leaton Rd.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Deadline: May 25, 2018, at 5 p.m.

For more information, please call: 989.775.4300 or ask at the Andahwod front office.

April Andahwod events

Euchre and Potluck
Mondays | 6 p.m.

Language Bingo
April 5 | 1 p.m.

Easter Egg Hunt
April 7 | 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

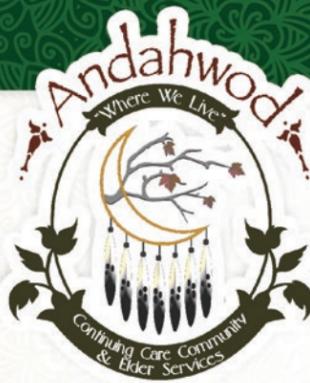
Bingo with Friends
April 9 | 1 p.m.

Budgeting Bingo
April 10 | 1 p.m.

Elders Breakfast
April 11 & 25 | 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Ziibiwing Photo Presentation
April 12 | 3 p.m.

For more information, please call: 989.775.4300



APRIL 2018 Tribal Elder Birthdays

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Willard Chapoton III, David James, Carla Sineway, Joseph Smith Jr. | 15 Marietta Stanley |
| 2 Mike Frank | 16 Debra House, Russell Stevens |
| 3 Peggy Harris, Sharon Matthews, Robert Sharon, Christine Bird, William Bouck, Mary North, Laura Yoder | 17 Jon Bennett Jr., Wanda Lautner |
| 4 Nathan Childers, Judy Jackson | 18 Zilda Jackson |
| 5 Kimi Alani, Barbara Poulos, Westbrook Shawboose, Domonic Stone | 19 Valerie Moore, Kermit Paul Jr., Craig Perez |
| 6 Shelly Rickert, Mary Russell | 20 Terry Davis, Joseph Collins, Kari Ellis |
| 8 Francis Douglas, Cathleen Matthews, Eleanore VanHorn, Mark Cyr | 21 Annette Buckner, Raymond Cloutier, Theron Fisher |
| 9 Edward Matthews, Lisa Snyder, Janice Wilcox | 22 David Bennett, Charles Benz, Ethel Lingford |
| 10 Sena Hutcheson, Wendy Chapman, Paul Moses | 23 Lawrence Nahgahgwon Jr., Diana Trepanier |
| 11 Barbara Sprague, Maury Francis | 24 Monica McQuarter |
| 12 Randolph Holy-Day | 25 Brenda Franco, Patrick Mena |
| 13 Vivian Jackson, Lawrence Collins | 26 Darlene Wilson, Gladys Hall, Ronald Jackson, Carolyn O'Neal, Teresa Reyes, Kari Sprague |
| 14 Rena Bird, William Quayle Jr., Michael Salgat | 27 Catherine Jackson, Marie Kequom, Alta Arroyo, Jovain Shawboose, Linda Smith |
| 15 Laurie Jackson, Paula Howlett, | 28 Stephen Bonnau, Glen Tolfree Jr. |
| | 29 Robin Dutton |
| | 30 Lou Ann Loiselle, Lawrence Zocher |

Attention all cooks!

- ★ Are you always asked to bring your salad to the family cookout?
- ★ Are your cookies gone immediately at functions?
- ★ Does your chili sell out at fundraisers?
- ★ What is your favorite recipe to make?

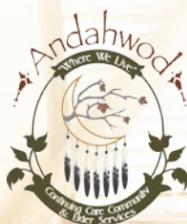
Here is your chance to showcase the recipe that everyone is always asking you to make or you just enjoy cooking and eating!

Elder Services is asking community members/employees to lend us recipes for a cookbook we are creating. This cookbook will also be sold as a fundraiser for elder activities and events. Sorry, no royalties for your recipes, just bragging rights!

Please help us create the SCIT Community Cookbook! Elder Services will have a drawing only for those who submit a recipe. Also a drawing will be held to name the cookbook.

To submit recipes, photos and cookbook name suggestions, please contact:

Sheligh Jackson • Phone: 989.775.4307
Assistant Elders Advocate • Email: shjackson@sagchip.org





APRIL 2018 | Tribal Community Event Planner

Corn Soup Teaching and Workshop

April 4 | 1 - 5 p.m.
 • Location: Seventh Generation
 • Contact: 989.775.4826

Community Sewing Night

April 5, 12, 19, 26 | 5 - 8 p.m.
 • Location: Seventh Generation
 • Contact: 989.775.4780

Families Against Narcotics Support Group

April 5 | 7 - 9 p.m.
 • Location: Tribal Operations Seniors Room
 • Contact: 989.775.4880

Love & Logic Parenting Class

April 5 | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
 • Location: Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center
 • Contact: 989.775.4616

Drums Out: Singing for Fun

April 5, 12, 19, 26 | 6 - 8 p.m.
 • Location: Seventh Generation Blue House
 • Contact: 989.775.4780

Spring Feast

April 5 | 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
 • Location: Seventh Generation
 • Contact: 989.775.4780

Free Auricular (Ear) Acupuncture

April 5, 12, 19, 26 | 4 - 6 p.m.
 • Location: Behavioral Health
 • Contact: 989.775.4895

April 4, 18 | 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

• Location: Saganing Tribal Center
 • Contact: 989.775.4895 or 989.775.5810

Tooth Fairy in Training

April 5 | 12 - 1:30 p.m.
 • Location: Nimkee Public Health Kitchen
 • Contact: 989.775.4616
 • An oral health boot camp for prenatal (moms-to-be) and for caregivers of small children

Donnie Dowd: Traditional Healer

April 5 | 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
 • Location: Behavioral Health
 • Call for an appointment: 989.775.4850

Traditional Sweat Lodge

April 6 | Teachings and fire lighting at 5 p.m.
 • Location: Behavioral Health
 • Contact: 989.775.4879

Self-Defense Class

April 6 | 6 - 8 p.m.
 • Location: Seventh Generation
 • Registration: 989.775.4901
 • Open to ages 10 and older
 • Instruction on self-defense techniques

Easter Egg Hunt

April 7 | 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 • Location: Andahwod
 • Contact: 989.775.4300
 • Egg hunts, prizes, music food and more

Lunch & Learn: Promise Not To Tell

April 12 | 12 - 1 p.m.
 • Location: Seventh Generation
 • Contact: 989.775.4915
 • Information about the 'grooming process' of offenders to draw a victim into a sexual relationship
 • Content/trigger warning for subject matter

Be W.E.L.L. Challenge Group

April 12, 26 | 12:10 - 1 p.m.
 • Location: Ziibiwing
 • Contact: 989.775.4696

Small Cedar Box Workshop

April 18 & 19 | 5 - 8 p.m.
 • Location: Seventh Generation
 • Contact: 989.775.4780

Anti-Violence March

April 20 | 3 - 5 p.m.
 • March route: from SCA to Tribal Gym
 • Contact: 989.775.4915
 • Informational booths in the Tribal Gym

Red Cross Blood Drive

April 24 | 10:15 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.
 • Location: Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
 • Contact: 989.775.4699

Job Fair: Summer Concert series staff

April 25 | 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 • Location: SECR Swan Creek Room
 • Contact: 989.775.5600

Consent Presentation

April 25 | 5 - 12:30 p.m.
 • Location: Mid-Michigan Community College Community Room 186 & 187
 • Contact: 989.775.4810
 • An informative presentation about consent

Behavioral Health Family Dinner

April 30 | 6 - 8 p.m.
 • Location: Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
 • Contact: 989.775.4823

APRIL 2018 | Tribal Community Calendar

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Sat./Sun. |
|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| 2 Tribal Ops Closed Easter Monday | 3 Ogitchedaw Meeting Seniors Room 6 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous B. Health 7 p.m. Rez Rock Jam Sessions Tribal Gym 5:30 - 7 p.m. | 4 Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 - 9 p.m. Traditional Teachings Saganing 11 a.m. Saganing Talking Circle Tribal Gym 5 - 6:30 p.m. | 5 Language Bingo Andahwod 1 - 3 p.m. Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 - 5 p.m. 12-Step Meditation Group B. Health 7 - 9 p.m. | 6 Drop-in Group B. Health 11:30 a.m. Spirit Bear AA Meeting Andahwod 7 p.m. | 7 Easter Egg Hunt Andahwod 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. 1/8 New Spirit AA Meeting B. Health 4 - 6 p.m. |
| 9 Bingo with Friends Andahwod 1 - 3 p.m. Drop-in Group B. Health 5:30 p.m. Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 - 6:30 p.m. Euchre and Potluck Andahwod 6 - 8 p.m. | 10 Budgeting Bingo Andahwod 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous B. Health 7 p.m. Rez Rock Jam Sessions Tribal Gym 5:30 - 7 p.m. | 11 Elders Breakfast Andahwod 9 a.m. Youth Council Meeting Tribal Ops 5 p.m. Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 - 9 p.m. | 12 Anishinaabemowin Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 12 - 1 p.m. Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 - 5 p.m. 12-Step Meditation Group B. Health 7 - 9 p.m. Workshop & Luncheon Saganing 12 p.m. | 13 Drop-in Group B. Health 11:30 a.m. Spirit Bear AA Meeting Andahwod 7 p.m. | 14 15 New Spirit AA Meeting B. Health 4 - 6 p.m. |
| 16 Tribal Observer Deadline 5 p.m. Drop-in Group B. Health 5:30 p.m. Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 - 6:30 p.m. Euchre and Potluck Andahwod 6 - 8 p.m. | 17 Name that Tune Andahwod 3 - 4 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous B. Health 7 p.m. Rez Rock Jam Sessions Tribal Gym 5:30 - 7 p.m. 5th & 6th Grade Parents' Night Tribal Gym 6 p.m. | 18 Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 - 9 p.m. Tribal Education Advisory Meeting 9 a.m. Saganing Talking Circle Tribal Gym 5 - 6:30 p.m. | 19 Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 - 5 p.m. 12-Step Meditation Group B. Health 7 - 9 p.m. School of Rock performance Tribal Gym 3 - 5 p.m. FAN Monthly Forum Ziibiwing 7 - 9 p.m. | 20 Drop-in Group B. Health 11:30 a.m. Spirit Bear AA Meeting Andahwod 7 p.m. Pancake Breakfast Saganing 10 a.m. | 21 22 New Spirit AA Meeting B. Health 4 - 6 p.m. |
| 23 Money Smart Week Storytime Tribal Library 4:30 p.m. Drop-in Group B. Health 5:30 p.m. Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 - 6:30 p.m. Euchre and Potluck Andahwod 6 - 8 p.m. | 24 Craft Class Saganing 11 a.m. Narcotics Anonymous B. Health 7 p.m. Rez Rock Jam Sessions Tribal Gym 5:30 - 7 p.m. | 25 Elders Breakfast Andahwod 9 a.m. Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 - 9 p.m. Youth Council Meeting Tribal Ops 5 p.m. | 26 Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 - 5 p.m. 12-Step Meditation Group B. Health 7 - 9 p.m. Anishinaabemowin Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 12 - 1 p.m. SCA Roundup SCA 5 - 7 p.m. | 27 Drop-in Group B. Health 11:30 a.m. Spirit Bear AA Meeting Andahwod 7 p.m. Luncheon Saganing 7 p.m. | 28 Birthday Bingo Andahwod 12 p.m. 29 New Spirit AA Meeting B. Health 4 - 6 p.m. |
| 30 Drop-in Group B. Health 5:30 p.m. Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 - 6:30 p.m. Euchre and Potluck Andahwod 6 - 8 p.m. | <h1>Sexual Assault Awareness Month</h1> <p>April 2018 • Empowering through knowledge</p> | | | <p>Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veteran and Warrior Society NOW RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS</p> <p>MEETINGS: First Tuesday of the Month 6 p.m. Contact: 989.775.4175</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SECR Payroll ● SCIT Per Capita ● SCIT Payroll ● Curbside Recycling ● Waste Collection* <p>*Bins must be curbside by 6:30 a.m.</p> |



Tribal Observer Classifieds

To place your ad, call the Tribal Observer at 989-775-4010, Email observer@sagchip.org, visit our office in Tribal Operations or mail to Tribal Observer, Attn.: Classified, 7070 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Please have all submissions and payment in by deadline. Classified rates are \$10 for 15 words or less and 75 cents per additional word. Any thumbnail image costs an additional \$15. Apply to job postings online at www.sagchip.org. * Job postings are subject to change daily.

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 100 Employment | 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

Clerical Pool
Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or GED.

General Labor Pool
Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or GED.

Primary Language Immersion Specialist

Open to the public. High School Diploma or GED. Bachelor's degree in education or related field preferred. Must be fluent in Anishinaabe. Five years teaching Anishinaabemowin, with one year in an early childhood setting.

Secondary Language Immersion Specialist

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Associate degree preferred. Must be fluent in Anishinaabe. Two years teaching Anishinaabemowin. Early childhood teaching experience preferred.

Dental Assistant

Open to the public. High school diploma or equivalent. Graduate of an accredited Dental Assisting Program or two years of dental assisting experience. Certification to expose dental radiographs.

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

Paraprofessional
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must pass a state or local exam or complete at least two years of study at an institution of higher education (60 semester hours) or associate degree.

Journeyman Lineman
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED and Michigan Journeyman Lineman license. Two years lineman experience preferred. Michigan Commercial Driver's License (CDL).

Elementary Teacher
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Bachelor's degree in education or related field. Master's degree preferred. Two years teaching experience preferred.

Certified Nursing Assistant
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. One year nursing experience. Experience with older adults preferred.

Accounts Specialist
Open to the public. Associate's degree in business administration or related field. One year experience with court procedures, data collection, statistical analysis and operations.

Deputy Court Clerk
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must be at least 21 years of age. Law-related experience or education in social sciences, business or criminal justice.

Resident Service Aide
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Experience with older adults preferred.

Mentoring Program Specialist
Open to the public. Associate's degree. Two years' experience in a human services related field.

Administrative Assistant II
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Four years administrative support experience or associate's

degree and two years administrative support experience.

Leadership Apprentice
SCIT Tribal Members only. Must have satisfactorily completed twelve credit hours. Must provide documentation of acceptance at an accredited college/university in Michigan.

Student Support Tutor
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. College level math. Must be able to pass math test with a score of 70 percent or better.

Maintenance Worker
Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. One year maintenance or grounds keeping experience.

Waste Water Operator
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. One year experience in water/wastewater field or directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations.

SECR

Inventory Control Warehouse PT
Tribal Members only. High school diploma or equivalent. One year receiving or warehouse experience working with warehouse equipment.

Floor/Upholstery Cleaner
Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Two years of carpet and upholstery cleaning experience.

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

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

Massage Therapist
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Michigan massage certification with 600 total hours.

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

Inventory Control Warehouse PT
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. One year receiving or warehouse experience working with warehouse equipment.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

age. One year of restaurant cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility or six months of SECR internal culinary training.

Finance Supervisor
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Three years cage or finance experience in a gaming enterprise or banking institution. One year in a supervisory capacity. Associate's degree preferred.

Culinary Supervisor
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Three years of restaurant or banquet cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility. Culinary degree from an American Culinary Federation accredited school preferred. Six months of lead or supervisory experience.

Cosmetologist PT
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. One year of experience preferred. State of Michigan license in cosmetology.

Line Cook - Pastry
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. One year of restaurant cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility, or six months of training.

SELC & Saganing

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

Line Cook PT
Open to the public. Must be 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent. One year of restaurant cooking experience.

Operator Lab Technician
Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. One year experience in wastewater field. Must take classes in microbiology, advanced math and beginning algebra.

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

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

F&B Shift Supervisor
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Associate's degree preferred.

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

Summons and Complaint Notices

SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT TO APPEAR IN THE MATTER OF JODI FRIEND:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court 6954 E. Broadway Rd., Mount Pleasant, MI 48858 989-775-4800 Case no: 17-CI-0694 Plaintiff: Members First Credit Union PO Box 2165, Midland, MI 48641 vs. Defendant: Jodi Friend 3235 Bauer Drive, Saginaw, MI 48604. Notice to defendant: 1. You are being sued in the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court. 2. You have 21 days after receiving this summons to file an answer with the court and to serve a copy on the other party or take other lawful action. Please note that if you were served by certified mail or served outside of the reservation land you have 28 days to answer attached complaint. 3. Failure to file an answer or take other action within the time allowed may result in a default Judgment being entered against you for the relief requested in Plaintiff's complaint. **This summons expires on May 1, 2018.**

SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT IN THE MATTER OF RAE LEE JOHN:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court 6954 E. Broadway Rd., Mount Pleasant, MI 48858 989-775-4800 17-CI-0591 Plaintiff: Clark Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services 114 S. Bradley St., Mount Pleasant, MI 48858. Plaintiff's attorney: Andrew W. Brockman: James & Backus PC 115 S. University Ave., Mount Pleasant, MI 48858 989-773-9941 vs. Defendants: Rae Lee John 4574 East Jordan Rd., Mount Pleasant, MI 48858. Notice to defendants: 1. You are being sued in the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court. This is a lawsuit claiming you have committed a civil wrong. 2. You have 21 days after receiving this summons to file an answer with the court and to serve a copy on the other party or to take other lawful action. Please note that if you were served by certified mail or served outside of the reservation land you have 28 days to answer to the attached company. 3. If the amount of damages requested by Plaintiff exceeds \$1,000.00, you may demand a jury trial in writing. 4. 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 the Plaintiff's complaint. **This summons expires Sept. 6, 2018.**

SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT IN THE MATTER OF ROBERT FRANCIS AND ROBIN FRANCIS:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court 6954 E. Broadway Rd., Mount Pleasant, MI 48858 989-775-4800 17-CI-0592 Plaintiff: Clark Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services 114 S. Bradley St., Mount Pleasant, MI 48858. Plaintiff's attorney: Andrew W. Brockman: James & Backus PC 115 S. University Ave., Mount Pleasant, MI 48858 989-773-9941 vs. Defendants: Robert Francis 8460 E. Broadway Rd., Mount Pleasant, MI 48858 and Robin Francis 8462 E. Broadway Rd., Mount Pleasant, MI 48858. Notice to defendants: 1. You are being sued in the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court. This is a lawsuit claiming you have committed a civil wrong. 2. You have 21 days after receiving this summons to file an answer with the court and to serve a copy on the other party or to take other lawful action. Please note that if you were served by certified mail or served outside of the reservation land you have 28 days to answer to the attached company. 3. If the amount of damages requested by Plaintiff exceeds \$1,000.00, you may demand a jury trial in writing. 4. 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 the Plaintiff's complaint. **This summons expires Sept. 6, 2018.**

Now Seeking

Tribal Preference Candidates

SCIT Human Resources Department
Office of Anishinabe Workforce Developer

Seeking Tribal preference candidates interested in short-term temporary employment opportunities.

Immediate placements available for Tribal preference candidates who complete and pass fingerprint and background checks.

- Cost:** The personal cost to applicants is \$65 for the fingerprint portion.
- Documentation:** Driver's license, certifications and Tribal identification are needed at time of application.
- Location of placement may include:** Andahwod, Behavioral Health, Nimkee, Education or Recreation.

* Other non-background check temporary positions do arise on occasion, and applicants for this type of work may apply at any time.

Please direct questions to:
Chip Neyome, Interim Anishinabe Workforce Developer
Phone: 989.775.0053 | Email: chneyome@sagchip.org



Central Michigan University hosts 29th annual "Celebrating Life" Powwow

NIKI HENRY

Photographer Journalist

The 29th annual "Celebrating Life" Powwow took place March 17 and 18 in the McGuirk Arena at Central Michigan University's John G. Kulhai Events Center.

Grand entries took place that Saturday at 1 and 7 p.m. and Sunday at noon. Julie Whitepigeon and Raymond Cadotte were the lead dancers during the first grand entry on Saturday, while Rowena Roberts and Dale Roberts led the evening grand entry. On Sunday, Ofelia Zapata and Floyd Silas III led the entry.

The drum contest, which had the largest payout of all competition categories, was dominated by Dusty Bear, which won the \$4,000 first prize. Crazy Spirit took second place, winning \$3,000. Eagle flight took third place and \$2,000, and Southern Straight earned \$1,000 and fourth place.

Goodfellas won first place and \$500 in the hand drum contest, with Floyd's & Desmond taking second and \$150, and Tree Amigos placing third and earning \$100.

In the Golden Age competitions for contestants 50 years of age and older, first place was awarded \$500, with \$400 going to second place and \$300 earned by third place winners.

Becky Miller ruled the women's category, followed by Maretta Jones in second place and Charlene Bombery in third.

Charles Belisle dominated the men's category, with Walker Stonefish earning second place and Pete Powless placing third.

The adult dance competition categories, for men and women ages 18 to 49, had the same prize payouts as the Golden Age category. Cassie Thomas triumphed in women's traditional followed



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Chief Ronald F. Ekdahl provides opening remarks on Saturday, March 17, at the 29th annual "Celebrating Life" Powwow.

by Jamie Awonohopay in second place and Kristol Able in third.

Rowena Roberts secured first place in the women's jingle competition, while Waskwane Stonefish followed in second place and Iliana Montoya taking third.

Women's fancy dancing was won by Star Whiteye. Beedokah Stonefish earned second place with Waasnode Lightning in third place.

In the men's categories, Shane Mitchell attained first place in traditional dancing followed by Will Hedgepath in second and Noodin Shawanda in third.

In the grass dance category, Desmond Madera achieved first place while Buck Spotted Tail secured second place and Miisheen Shawanda took third.

Wayne Silas Jr. prevailed at fancy dancing, taking first place, with Nigel Schuyler coming in second and Terrance Cleveland placing third.

The Committee Dance Specials category awarded first place winners in each competition \$500 for first place, \$300 for third and \$100 for third.

In the adult "old style" jingle special, Cassie Thomas triumphed in the women's competition, followed by Rowena Roberts in second and Iliana Montoya in third.

Miisheen Shawanda won the men's competition, with Buck Spotted Tail earning second and Desmond Madera placing third.

Becky Miller secured first place in the women's woodland special competition, followed by Jamie Awonohopay in second and Beedokah Stonefish in third.

Noodin Shawanda earned first place in the men's competition. Ningozis White took second place, and Matthew Issac placed third.

The following are the payouts for winning competitors in the teen dance category for dancers aged 12 to 17: first place earned \$300, second place took \$250 and third took \$200.

R. Prescott placed first in teen girls traditional dancing. She was followed by M. Douglas in second and O. Zapata in third.

In the boys traditional competition, F. King earned first place, followed by Z. Smith in second and G. Benton in third.

The teen girls jingle dancing category, A. Douglas secured first place, with K. Dreaver earning second and M. Bartol taking third.

In the teen boys grass category, M. Roberts gained first place, M. LaRose obtained second and Q. Antione-Jackson came in third.

Fancy dancing was dominated by J. Antione-Jackson in the girls' competition, with C. Benton placing second, and J. Rasmussen earning third place.

W. Silas III took the boys' competition, with J. Boivin in second and T. Dashner in third.

Winners in the junior youth category, for 6- to 11-year-old competitors, earned \$200 for first place, \$150 for second and \$100 for third.

The traditional competition was won by N. Robinson in the girls' category, with G.J. Able placing second and K. Pheasant taking third.

K. Awonohopay won the boys traditional dance competition. He was followed by K. Belisle in second place and S.S. Roberts in third.

The junior fancy category was taken by L. Castillo in the girls' competition. A. Anderson came in second, with A. Two Cow in third. W. Shawana earned first place in the boys competition, and A. Prout secured second place.

K. Silas attained first place in the junior girls jingle category.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Host drum Midnight Express performs as the Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veterans Warriors Society members enter the arena during the 1 p.m. Saturday grand entry.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Men's grass dancers

A. White gained second, and Y. Alfoneca came in third.

Boys grass dancing saw R. Rasmussen triumph in first place, followed by B. Boivin in second and X. White in third.

Many were involved in the success of the event including master of ceremonies Jason Whitehouse; arena director Dave Shananaquet; George Martin, head veteran; Midnight Express, host drum; Netawn Kiogima, head female dance judge; and Tyler White, head male dance judge.

The powwow was made possible through the sponsorship of the Saginaw Indian Chippewa Tribe as well as the following CMU organizations: Office of Native

American Programs, Auxiliary Services, Office of the President, Office for Institutional Diversity, Finance and Administrative Services, Vice Provost Academic Development, American Indian Science and Engineering Society, College of Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences, North American Indigenous Student Organization, Vice President for University Advancement Division, College of Education and Human Services, College of Communication and Fine Arts, Office of the Vice President and Provost, College of Science and Engineering, Enrollment and Student Services and CMU Athletics.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Drummers Dan Jackson, Bud Day and Little Man Quintero sit in with Dusty Bear drum.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Dancers take to the arena floor during an intertribal dance.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Dancers circle the floor of McGuirk Arena on the campus of Central Michigan University during a grand entry.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Anishinabe Kwe display beauty in action with their women's traditional regalia.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Julie Whitepigeon (left) and Raymond Cadotte (right) serve as head dancers during the Saturday 1 p.m. grand entry.