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# TRIBAL OBSERVER

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

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## Chief Ekdahl's State of the Tribe 2019 Address

*(Editor's note: Below is a review of Chief Ronald F. Ekdahl's Jan. 19 State of the Tribe speech. Some details were removed as they were proprietary to the Tribe. Please visit [www.sagchip.org](http://www.sagchip.org) in the 'Tribal Member Only' section to view the speech in full detail. You may also contact Public Relations for more information at 989-775-4076.)*



Courtesy of Joseph Sowmick

**Chief Ronald F. Ekdahl delivers the Jan. 19 State of the Tribe Address.**

"I would like to start out today's State of the Tribe Address by talking about some recent opportunities that the Tribal Council has supported.

Two police cadet positions were created and filled by Will Bailey III and Steffan Neyome, who are both SCIT members. These positions were created by Interim Police Chief Harry Ambs with direction and support from the Tribal Council.

The Council has supported getting more of our Tribal citizens on our police force. We want to support those who want to protect and serve our community by creating a seamless transition for them.

The Tribal Council has also removed the high school education requirement for all entry-level positions at Tribal Operations, Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, Saganing Eagles Landing Casino and Migizi Economic Development Co. We have many employment opportunities for our Tribal Members and their families.

With the Saganing expansion, we have a need to fill the workforce and we are

removing as many barriers as we can to do that.

Currently, the Federal Government shut down has not had an effect on the Tribe's services as of yet. We are fortunate to underwrite all of those funding streams until the government resumes operation. The major issue is that the longer the Federal Government is shutdown, the bigger the liability is for the Tribe.

All of our grants and our IHS funding are currently on hold. This could have additional impact on the government trust and is something we are monitoring very closely. During normal operation, grant funds are used before Tribal support dollars.

Currently, the Tribe is utilizing Tribal support dollars in hopes that when the government starts back up, we can be reimbursed for those costs incurred. When that does occur, we can remove that liability from the government

trust and draw down those grants as we have done in the past.

This Tribe's Grant Department is one of the strongest in all of Indian Country. We are very fortunate to have skilled grant writers who have a passion for our Tribe and for what they do. The Tribe has received multiple million dollar grant awards throughout the past few months.

The SAMHSA grant that funds our Healing to Wellness court for adults and juvenile drug courts is a tremendous resource in our efforts to combat opioid addiction. These grant dollars will go towards those seeking help for substance abuse issues on all levels, not just those who are dealing with addiction and facing jail time but also those seeking help and willing to seek treatment.

Project Aware will be a huge asset for youth in our community who are seeking mental health support. Through these grants we can be proactive in addressing issues facing our members suffering from addiction and, in addition, we can support their families through the process.

Addiction is a major problem that can have lasting affects felt not only by the person suffering but also their families, children, friends and community members.

I'm excited to say that we are a leader in Indian Country and we are on our way to be

the leaders in the State and the Nation. The resources we have and the time dedicated to these efforts is second-to-none and I commend all of our staff involved in this process for their hard work.

Now it's time to transition into discussing our casino business operations.

Saganing Eagles Landing Casino remains steady even with all of the construction taking place and the challenges with the weather.

If you have not taken the time to visit the SELC property, I would highly encourage you to do so. It is an impressive facility and the progress they are making is amazing.

The Council is diligent in our efforts to complete the project in a timely manner and to maintain the efficiencies established at SELC. There are a lot of unique challenges with this project including the substation and the opportunity to be our own energy broker. It is truly an expression of our Tribe's sovereignty and the strengths related to completing projects of this scope.

We look forward to getting the substation online and completing the SELC expansion so we can enjoy those projected revenues.

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort is doing well in the first quarter of the 2019 fiscal year. Our revenues have increased and we are looking to keep that going strong for the remainder of the year.

State of the Tribe | 5

## Tribe awarded Anishnaabeg Ogitigaaniwaa, a food sovereignty grant

**LISA TIGER**  
Strategic Grant Specialist

**KEHLI HENRY**  
Grant Analyst

A coalition of Tribal departments including Seventh Generation, Behavioral Health, Andahwod, the Ziibwing Center, Anishinabe Language Revitalization Department, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College and the Planning Department worked with the Office of

Grants and Contracts to create Anishnaabeg Ogitigaaniwaa (The People's Garden), a food sovereignty initiative.

The grant, in the amount of \$99,983, was awarded by the Seeds, Soil & Culture Fund of the New Field Foundation and will localize the Tribe's food system in a culturally meaningful way.

We are creating sister garden pathways to grow traditional foods and medicinal plants and provide Indigenous science teachings. We will reintroduce planting and harvesting songs

in our traditional language. Community members will learn to make and use traditional farming tools.

Harvested foods will be used in community feasts, our school lunch program, and a Seed-to-Table program for Andahwod, revitalizing the ways of our ancestors while we work together to grow, prepare and share foods.

The gardens will have signs in Anishnaabemowin and English and be available for sponsorship, and will be open to the entire Tribal community.

The two garden pathways, together called the Anishnaabeg Ogitigaaniwaa (The People's Garden) will make it easier for community members to travel between Tribal buildings and services.

One pathway will connect the Seventh Generation Program and Behavioral Health. This pathway will consist of six gardens including: the Sacred Medicines Garden with small copper fire pit for offerings of sacred medicines

Food sovereignty | 5



## Attention Tribal Members

On Dec. 12, the Tribal Council passed a motion to offer all Tribal Members one **free copy of their personal enrollment file**, upon request, in an effort to alleviate the cost to the Membership.

### Philip Nathaniel Henry

June 7, 1933 – Jan. 6, 2019

Philip Nathaniel Henry, age 85, of Mount Pleasant, passed away Sunday, Jan. 6, 2019 at Andahwod Continuing Care in Mt. Pleasant.

Philip was born in Saginaw on June 7, 1933, the son of John and Ida (Krause) Henry. He married Jean Herro in Algonac on March 11, 1978.

Philip resided in Algonac for more than 30 years, where he was named Citizen of the Year.

Philip was a social worker for the State of Michigan. He was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and the Fraternal Order of Eagles Club in Algonac.

He was a great man with a wonderful sense of humor and loved to make people laugh. He enjoyed gambling, golfing and traveling.

Philip is survived by his wife Jean Henry of Mt. Pleasant; sister Thelma Henry-Shipman of Mt. Pleasant; godson Edwin Uleski of Algonac; nephew Kevin O'Brien of Weidman; niece Diane Henry of Chesterfield; and many other nieces and nephews.

Philip was preceded in death by his parents; and siblings Stanford, John, Jeanette, Ruth and Barbara.

A memorial mass was held at Sacred Heart Catholic Church on Saturday, Jan. 12, 2019 at 10 a.m.

Memorial contributions may be made to Sacred Heart Parish or to the family.



### Simon James Jackson II

July 23, 1960 – Dec. 21, 2018

Simon James Jackson II, age 58, of Mount Pleasant passed away Friday, Dec. 21, at McLaren Bay Regional Hospital.

Simon was born on July 23, 1960, in Mt. Pleasant, the son of Delmar Sr. and Karen (Britton) Jackson.

Simon proudly served his country in the United States Army and was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. He worked as a pit boss at the Soaring Eagle Casino for many years. Simon also served on Tribal Council for one term.

Simon is survived by children, Jesse Tackett, Jacob (Stephanie) Wilson and Simon Jackson III; father, Delmar Jackson Sr.; step-mother, Julia Jackson; step-children, Roger Tackett and Sue Silva; four grandchildren; siblings, Delmar (Mary) Jackson Jr., Darryl (Theresa) Jackson, Jeff Rowland, Angel Jackson, Salina Jackson, Dan Jackson and Tonya Jackson; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and special friends.

Simon was preceded in death by his mother, Karen Jackson in 2012; grandmother, Maggie Jackson; maternal and paternal grandparents; nephew, Justin Bennett; great-nephew, Kyle Anthony; and special friend, Ruben Valejio.

Funeral services were held in the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym on Wednesday, Dec. 26, at 2 p.m. with Rev. Doyle Perry officiating. Interment followed in Woodland Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



### Jordon Charles Anthony Wilson

Dec. 14, 1988 – Dec. 19, 2018

Jordon Charles Anthony Wilson, age 30, of Twin Lake passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2018.

Jordon was born on Dec. 14, 1988, in Muskegon, the son of James and Jolene Faye (Trepanier) Wilson.

Jordan was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Jordon loved playing and watching basketball. He enjoyed listening to music, playing volleyball at family functions, watching the Detroit Lions, Pistons, and Michigan Wolverines. Family was the most important thing to Jordon.

Jordon is survived by his father, James Wilson; siblings, Trina (George) McClellan of Traverse City, James (Janelle) Trepanier of Whitehall, Cammi (Stephen) Salazar of Twin Lake, Jami-Anne (John) Underwood of Twin Lake, Leisha Wilson of Twin Lake, and Chas Wilson of Twin Lake; and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Jordon was preceded in death by his mother, Jolene Faye Wilson on July 4, 2012; uncles, Patrick Trepanier and Joe Sprague; aunt, Francine Trepanier; and cousins, Taylor Trepanier, Catherine Sprague and Donald Miller III.

Funeral services were held in the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym on Sunday, Dec. 23, at 1 p.m. with Pastor Jason Sliger officiating. Interment followed in Woodland Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family for funeral expenses.



### Wayne William Johnson

Dec. 8, 1947 – Dec. 31, 2018

Wayne William Johnson, "Kichi bimose aki'ing" age 71, of Rosebush, passed away Monday, Dec. 31, 2018 at Andahwod Continuing Care.

Wayne was born on Dec. 8, 1947, in Bay City, the son of William and Helen (Stevens) Johnson. He worked for many years as a program director for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, and for Bay City Schools and Delta College.

Wayne married Debra Brant on May 15, 1981. He was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and loved going to the casino. Wayne enjoyed golfing, classic cars and spending time with his grandchildren Kiley and Chelsea.

Wayne is survived by his wife Debra Johnson; daughter Casey Johnson of Mt. Pleasant; daughter Amy (Jeff) Hadd of Grand Blanc; daughter Kabawenind Johnson of Toronto; daughter Jodi (Joe) Stankula of Rockwood; son Jeffrey Braley of Grand Blanc; 10 grandchildren; brothers Paul (Val) Johnson of Haslett, Benjamin Ramirez-Shkwegnaabi of Mt. Pleasant, Daniel (Jerome) Ramirez of Rio Rancho, N.M., John Johnson of Mt. Pleasant, and Joe Johnson of Bay City.

Wayne was preceded in death by his parents; two sons Michael Johnson and Waubung Johnson; and two brothers Steven Johnson and Michael Ramirez.

A memorial service was held Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2019, at 1 p.m. in the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym with Ronald Komondy officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



### Bonnie Jean Cantu

May 20, 1949 – Jan. 22, 2019

Bonnie Jean Cantu, age 69, of Mount Pleasant passed away Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2019, at McLaren Bay Regional Hospital.

Bonnie was born on May 20, 1949, in Mt. Pleasant, the daughter of father George and Emma (Peters) Slater. She married Federico Cantu on July 27, 1968, in Kewadin, Mich.

Bonnie was a homemaker, devoted to her family and a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. She enjoyed bingo, especially Spanish bingo with her grandchildren. She loved to sew and looked forward to family gatherings. She had a big heart for family.

She was a generous, humble supporter of Special Olympics in which she and her husband received a Crystal award, acknowledging their support and contributions of the Mt. Pleasant Special Olympics.

Bonnie is survived by her husband of 50 years, Federico; children, Federico (Denise) Cantu Jr., Fabian (Jody) Cantu, Emma Cantu, Victoria Cantu, Lequan Cantu, Malina (James) Cantu, April (Jose) Lopez, and Summer Cantu; 22 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; and siblings, Sharon (Ralph) Matthews, Gerald Dean Slater, Colleen Sisco and George Allen (Deb) Slater.

Bonnie was preceded in death by her infant son, Jesus; parents; siblings, Lorraine Kennedy, Sandra Boyce, Helen Reed, Allen Slater, Kelly David, and infant sister; and brother-in-law, Dave Sisco.

Funeral services were held at Clark Family Funeral Chapel on Friday, Jan. 25, at 1 p.m. with Federico (Fred) Cantu Jr. officiating. Interment followed in Woodland Cemetery.



### Brandon Sir Lawrence "Sonnie" Jackson

Aug. 21, 1987 – Dec. 28, 2018

Brandon Sir Lawrence Jackson, "Sonnie", our loving son, brother, father and uncle, passed away unexpectedly Dec. 28, 2018.

Brandon was born Aug. 21, 1987, the son of Karen Lindsey and Randy Jackson. He was a 2005 graduate of Chippewa Hills high school, where he was a member of the wrestling team.

Sonnie enjoyed bowling, softball, golfing, riding his four-wheeler and dirt bike, and above all, spending time with his family and friends.

He touched the hearts of everyone he came into contact with. Always able to cheer people up, Sonnie had a wonderful sense of humor and was compassionate towards others. He was great at trivia, and even better at "slug-bug."

Sonnie was also known to love a good food fight, whether at home or in a restaurant. One thing is for sure, Sonnie knew how to have a good time.

His caring ways will be deeply missed by his parents, Karen Lindsey, and Randy (Ronda) Jackson; daughter, Ellie; grandfathers, Lorne Jackson, and Harold Lindsey Sr.; three sisters, Brandy Jackson, Mandy (Adam) Flachs, Wendy (Cody) Smith; one brother, Brett (Heather) Jackson, and many nephews, nieces, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Sadly, Sonnie was preceded in death by his sister, Kelli Jackson; niece, Kaylee Flachs; grandmothers, Charlene Jackson and Dorothy Lindsey, and two aunts, Lisa Jackson, and Laure Sprague.

A funeral service was held Friday, Jan. 11, 2019, at 11 a.m., at Janowicz Family Funeral Home in Remus, with Reverend Perry officiating. Burial followed in Rodney Cemetery. Those desiring may direct memorial contributions to Brandon's family.



## Thank you

My son Timothy Peter Mandoka was and has touched many hearts and lives. He was raised to be a kind, loving, caring and a wonderful son, who grew to be an amazing young man who lived out his life.

My son was raised in church he knew that Jesus loved him, that Jesus died on the cross for his sins. Just as Jesus died on the cross for you and I.

I would like to say that as I walked into the service for my son, the overwhelming amount of people who were there to pay their respects to him was so great, that for a moment I could not breathe. To know that so many cared about my son, Timmy. To know how much the community cared and was there for the family.

As so many people gave the family hugs, words of encouragement, and that we are in your prayers is just so amazing to me.

So I would like to thank the families who donated food and all the plants and flowers.

Thank you Pastor Robert and June Pego for all you did for the family. Thank you to those who prepared and served the food, thank you to the Maintenance department for all the hard work and time it took to have the gym ready for Timmy's funeral.

As you read this, just know Jesus is always there for you, all you have to do is call out his name. And, that I am praying for you, Jesus is coming soon, it's time to get ready.

Many blessings to you, Rachel Mandoka

### Timothy Peter Mandoka

Dec. 17, 1980 – Dec. 20, 2018

Timothy Peter Mandoka, age 38, of Mount Pleasant passed away Thursday, Dec. 20, 2018, at his home.

Timothy was born on Dec. 17, 1980 in Mt. Pleasant, the son of Timothy Bennett and Rachel Mandoka.

Timothy worked at the Soaring Eagle Casino as a stage hand for more than 10 years. He was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Timothy enjoyed hunting, fishing, golfing, camping and grilling. He was a member of the NRA, Black Creek Conservation Club and Mt. Pleasant Eagles Club.

Timothy is survived by Misty Pelcher of Mt. Pleasant, children, Miino Anung Ikwe Pelcher (Bryce Holten) of Mt. Pleasant and Gaaskizi Nodin Mandoka of Mt. Pleasant; grandson, Conner Angela Pelcher of Mt. Pleasant; parents, Rachel Mandoka (Matthew McClain) of Mt. Pleasant and Timothy (Dawn) Bennett of Mt. Pleasant; great-grandmother, Florence (Michael) White of Clare, brothers, Keith Bennett (Melissa Stanke) of Shepherd and Aaron Bennett of Lakeview; sisters, Erica Bennett of Georgia, Diamienta Scales of Mt. Pleasant and Jacqueline Graveratte (Aaron) of Clare, step-sister, Dalicia McClain of Mt. Pleasant, and many nieces, nephews, cousins and family and friends.

Timothy was preceded in death by his grandfather, Keith Mandoka, aunts, Beatrice Coldwell and Regina Sprague, uncles, Philomen Sprague and Philly Sprague, cousins, Jeffery Coldwell, Rebecca Sprague and Joshua Pelcher and great-nephews, Zane Mikal Jewel and Andres Pelcher.

Funeral services were held in the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym on Saturday, Dec. 22, 2018 at 4 p.m. with Rev. Robert Pego officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



### Galen "Ray" Bennett

June 11, 1950 – Dec. 21, 2018

Galen "Ray" Bennett, 68, of Port Huron, died Friday, Dec. 21, 2018. He was born June 11, 1950 in Sebawaing to the late Charles and Rose Bennett. He married Nedra "Kelly" Gilbert on June 26, 1968 in Grand Rapids. She died Dec. 9, 2017.

Mr. Bennett was employed with United Brass for 23 years. He was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. He enjoyed bowling, going to the casino, traveling and spending time with his family.

He is survived by three children, Galene (Jeff) Young, David Bennett and Michael Bennett; a son-in-law, Dave Jones; grandchildren, Deanna (Scott) Russell, Kristen Bennett, Kalene (Chris) Meadows, Fala and Gavin Young and Michael, Kaleb, Derek and Bronson Bennett; great grandchildren, Geovanni, Hannah, Wayne, Wyatt and Addysen; four siblings, Stella Pamp, Dolly Ruckert, Frederick Bennett and David Bennett; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Julie Jones; and six siblings, Donald Bennett, Charlene Jackson, Lawrence Bennett, Charles Bennett Jr., Josephine Arnold and Rose Brown.

Funeral services were held at noon on Friday, Dec. 28, 2018 in Pollock-Randall Funeral Home with Rev. Max Amstutz officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.





## Tribal Council Regular Session Meetings

The Regular Tribal 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

- Feb. 5
- March 5
- April 2

### William Alfred LeBlanc

Nov. 5, 1922 – Jan. 16, 2019

William Alfred LeBlanc, 96, of Brimley, Mich., passed away peacefully with his son Jim at his side on Jan. 16, 2019.

Born Nov. 5, 1922 in Sault Ste. Marie, William was delivered by medicine woman Ellen Marshal, who is said to have walked to the Soo from Brimley for the occasion.

William had a long life filled with adventure and opportunity. He studied at the Indian school – a one room school-house – because there were no Indians at the public school in Brimley.

William was an eager student, who quickly finished his lessons, then went on to work on the other classes' assignments. His teacher was impressed with him and recommended he travel to Kansas to attend the Indian school at Haskell. He loved going there because he hated the work on the farm.

He came back to Brimley when the school opened for Indian students and finished his senior year at Brimley High School, graduating in 1940.

He always wanted to be busy and to make a difference. He joined the Civilian Conservation Corps at Eckerman, where he tended the trees that had been planted. From there, he went to Cadillac Lumber in the Soo, where he was a tram mule, running cars full of lumber along an elevated track. He always said the job requirements were that you be fast and dumb.

He soon went to Detroit to look for work. He worked at a car plant, studying automotive body work at night. The call-to-arms came and he joined the United States Marine Corps in 1943. He served on the battleship New Mexico in the Pacific theater. He operated an anti-aircraft gun, and was at Iwo Jima before the battle.

When the War was over, he returned to Detroit, where he met and married Aimee Cote. They had three children, Elaine Schuster (James), James LeBlanc (Cathy) and Judith LeBlanc (Tony Ragusa).

He worked at Highland Nash, then for Glenn Pontiac in collision repair. In 1956, the family moved to the Soo, where Bill worked at Ted Caffey in collision repair. He became shop foreman. He later sold double wide homes and life insurance. He served as Chippewa County Republican chairman.

In 1964, the family moved back to Detroit, where Bill became a collision adjuster for Allstate. He also ran for GOP State Representative in 1966, but lost in the primary.

His service earned him some opportunities. He was appointed by Gov. Bill Milliken to the Michigan Commission on Indian Affairs, where he served for many years, from commissioner, to staff member to executive director.

He initiated studies into the education conditions for Indian students in Michigan, and into health conditions. His work resulted in the Michigan Tuition Waiver. He was one of many who worked on it, but he was a spearhead.

He worked for the Michigan Department of Public Health, where he obtained Michigan's advances on Community Health Representatives (CHRs). He brought that program to Bay Mills. He also worked on a similar program at the Michigan Department of Social Services. His goal was always to improve the quality of life for Native Americans.

Bill met and married Drusilla Burns and moved to Perry, Mich. She had three sons, Karl, Keith and Ken, who lived with them. Bill became their dad, and they are part of the family.

Bill was ordained a non-denominational Christian minister, and opened a church in Perry – My Father's House.

Bill also served at the Michigan Commission on Veteran's Affairs and returned to the Indian Commission where he served as executive director until the Commission closed. He retired at that time.

Bill and Dru moved to Brimley and built a house in the Bay Mills Indian Community, where he lived until he died, among his family and friends.

He was preceded by his parents, William and Lucy, wives Aimee and Dru, his brothers Alphonse, Lawrence and James, his sisters, Armella, Agnes and Audrey.

He is survived by his brother Walter George LeBlanc, six children, five grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

A traditional ceremony was held at Armella Parker Senior Center in Brimley, Mich. on Saturday, Jan. 19, 2019. A Christian service will be held in the spring for internment.



### Heather Lee Barnes

April 29, 1984 – Jan. 1, 2019

Heather Lee (Whitt) Barnes, of Mt. Pleasant, passed away Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2019 in Mount Pleasant.

Heather was born in Flint on April 29, 1984. Heather was a mama bear always looking after her cubs. She would do what she could to help people any way she could.

Heather was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and very proud of her Native American heritage.

Surviving Heather are: sons, Jaidyn and Lavontae; daughter, Asiianah; siblings, Judy (Tyler) Youmans, Gregory (Lisa) Miller, Rodney Miller, Lloyd Whitt, Joshua (Alicia) Whitt and Victor (Jessica) Whitt; many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews; dear friend and former husband, Jeffrey Barnes.

Heather is preceded in death by her mother, Rebecca Oller; father, Lloyd Whitt; brother, Nathan Whitt, and grandmother, Rose Davis Oller.

Funeral services were held at the Plumb-Smith Funeral Home at 1 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 11, 2019 with Rev. Bradley Lake officiating. Burial followed in Bendle Cemetery, Clayton Township.



## Happy 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Carter Allan Leureaux!

We love you.  
Feb 20<sup>th</sup>

### Noshenhik (my grandchildren)

Pane ga'zaaginim  
(I will always love you)

Mno zhoowesik  
(be kind)

Mno zaagidik  
(be loving to each other)

Naadmaadik  
(be helpful to each other)

Mjimindaamik  
wii aabiji baapiik  
(remember to always laugh)

Ga'mnomaadzim dash  
(then you will have good health)

Nokomis



## Happy Valentine's Day

To all of our sweethearts!

Love, Nana/Mom,  
Papa & Carli



## Attention Tribal Members

We have created a hotline as it relates to Tribal Member healthcare and we are looking for suggestions, recommendations or ideas.

**Please call 989-775-4404 to leave a message or share your thoughts.**

If you would like to discuss in further detail, please feel free to contact Public Relations at 989-775-4076. We look forward to hearing from you!

## New career opportunity

### Native American Pipe-Fitter Apprenticeship

- Five-year apprenticeship (Local 85 of Saginaw)
- Department of Labor Approved

A pipe-fitter: is a tradesperson who installs, assembles, fabricates, maintains and repairs mechanical piping systems. Journeyman pipe-fitters deal with industrial/commercial/marine piping and heating/cooling systems. Additional training in plumbing, welding, HVAC, rigging and safety will be offered as part of the apprenticeship.

#### Requirements/qualifications:

- 1: Native American from a federally-recognized tribe
- 2: Completed two college level math courses
- 3: Willing to work in Saginaw on the hotel expansion until completed. \*Note: This apprenticeship position will be with a private contractor.

**Interested Tribal Members may contact:**  
**Chip Neyome**, Interim Anishnabe Workforce Developer  
**Phone:** 989.775.0053 | **Email:** chneyome@sagchip.org

## Tribal Child Welfare Affidavits

**Due: Friday, Feb. 8, by 5 p.m.**

Tribal Clerk's Office will remain open Friday, Feb. 8 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Post-dated forms, mail or faxes will not be accepted).



## Happy Birthday

Wondering if you both remember this far back

January 19  
Scott Moses & Sue Durfee

## Conservation Committee Seats

The Planning Department has been tasked by Tribal Council to solicit letters of interests for adult SCIT members to fill three vacant seats on the Conservation Committee for the two year terms (ending November 2020) per Ordinance 11, section 102, subdivision 2 and the approved Ordinance 11 Conservation Committee By-Laws.

**Please submit a letter of interest along with your qualification and experience to:**

Donald Seal  
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan  
Planning Department  
7070 E. Broadway Rd.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858  
dseal@sagchip.org

**All letters of interests will be accepted until the seats are filled by Tribal Council.**



## 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

## 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 2 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
Bills Jr., John	10/8/2018
Bordeau, Tina	7/10/2018
Chamberlain, Alvin	7/12/2018
Chapoton, Ross	12/5/2018
Collins, Larry	11/25/2018
Drews, Delores	8/25/2018
Gould, Betty	11/15/2018
Jackson, Earlene	8/22/2018
Jackson, Garth	10/5/2017
Mcdonald, Eva	9/9/2018
Peters Sr., Phillip	12/8/2018
Quayle, Dennis	7/21/2018
Sanders, Madonna	8/15/2018
Smith, Loretta	1/5/2018
Sprague, Dary	4/7/2017
Stanton, Goldie	1/3/2018
Ziehmer, Ida	7/24/2018



## Seeking SCIT Members who are interested in acquiring their Residential Builders License

- ▶ Do you do home repairs?
- ▶ Are you interested in construction and skilled trade work?
- ▶ Do family members rely on you for home repairs?
- ▶ Have you ever considered starting a construction company?

Please call **Chip Neyome** at the **Human Resources Department: 989.775.0053**

For help navigating the requirements and process of acquiring a Residential Builders License.

## Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veteran and Warrior Society

### NOW RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS



**MEETINGS:** First Tuesday of the Month  
6 p.m. | Contact: 989.775.4175

## 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.

## Indian Child Welfare Committee Vacancy

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

### One vacancy only

Letters of interest must be submitted to **Anishnaabeg Child & Family Services.**

Please include your contact information and a brief statement about why you would like to be on the ICWC in your letter.

Please feel free to contact **Felicia Bross** at **989.775.4906** for more information.

### Send letter of interest to:

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

## Tribal Observer

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



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

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

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

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

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

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7070 E. Broadway Rd.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

### Contact Information:

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Email: [Observer@Sagchip.org](mailto:Observer@Sagchip.org)  
[www.Sagchip.org/TribalObserver](http://www.Sagchip.org/TribalObserver)



## State of the Tribe

*continued from front page*

Some exciting news at SECR is the continued renovations on the exterior of the building and the renovations of the hotel rooms; so exciting, in fact, that we have had visitors of all shapes and sizes, even a deer who wanted to see the new Kids Quest area.

There are two mock rooms completed in the hotel and they will be open for Tribal Member walkthroughs at the completion of this meeting. Comment cards will be available so we can gather your input and feedback. Please take the time to visit those rooms and see the exciting changes that are taking place. CEO, Ray Brenny will give you more details in his update about these exciting renovations.

The Council is working through the process of a remodel of the entire hotel property. This will include all aspects of our infrastructure from the pipes, electrical lines, fiber, furniture fixtures and equipment in the rooms. The renovations of the casino floor were necessary to maintain our market share.

In these initial months since the grand opening, we have seen positive numbers from our gaming revenues. We have also heard about the excitement from the players who frequent our property. Those great reviews and excitement make for increased visits and an increased head count.

The strategy is to continue to create the hype around our business with further renovations to the hotel. The Casino is

our main economic driver and we need to make sure that we take care of this asset so it can continue to support our way of life.

With the business doing well and the recent reductions to per capita, which are reflected in the RAP (Revenue Allocation Plan), we are seeing stability in per capita payments.

At the homecoming meeting, I was pleased to report that we were suspending cuts. To date, we are still able to uphold that statement. We have seen an increase in the net income of SECR and stability in SELC. Treasurer Craig Graveratte will go into further detail of what that means for the Membership and what we are projecting for the rest of the 2019 fiscal year.

I'm happy to acknowledge that we are in a good place with per capita due to the sacrifices the members have made.

Health care is a major issue facing this administration. We are fully self-funded which has allowed us to cover both members and employees.

The issue we are facing is the continuing rise in healthcare. As your Tribal leaders, we need to know how changes in health care affect you and what you can do to continue to remain supported by your Tribe.

There have been discussions at the Community Meeting and at the Town Hall meeting detailing the services that our Nimkee Clinic can provide. There are benefits of using those services for the Tribe and, in turn, we can highlight the cost savings that provides.



Mino Ode community drummers perform a song during the State of the Tribe meeting.

Every individual's reality is different. There are all-member families, members with non-member spouses, members with member children, and single members. All of those different situations have different needs. How can the Tribe best support you, as a Member, while doing what is financially responsible for all? Those are tough considerations that we need to address. At the upcoming Town Hall meeting we can discuss those topics.

The Council has worked to create a hotline for Members to call to ask questions, bring up concerns and give us topics to discuss about health care.

*(Editor's note: Chief Ekdahl also highlighted and discussed details about the Government Trust. Understanding how to best serve Tribal Members is the main concern. Ekdahl said, the Tribal government was created to serve its members and will make sure that it continues to do so.)*

The Tribe has had great success and continues to

be a leader for all Tribes in Michigan. Our resources are second-to-none.

Leaderships of the past identified needs and made it a priority to address those to the best of our abilities. The Tribe's reality has changed over the past 10-12 years. Those changes have brought us to a critical point where we need to make decisions that will determine the future of our Tribe.

We need to make sure that the future of this Tribe is strong and those future generations have assets that they can leverage to better their lives. The decisions we make today will have a direct effect on our future.

I am proud to say that this Council is doing all that we can to make sure that we are



Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veterans Warrior Society members and flag carriers participate in grand entry in the Soaring Eagle Entertainment Hall.

successful and we will take care of all of our Members first, no matter what. Without all of you, there would be no Tribe and there would be no opportunity to move forward.

Miigwetch for your attention and I look forward to your feedback and direction."

## Food sovereignty

*continued from front page*

in the center; the Butterfly Garden with a garden trail for plants used by butterflies to support pollination; a garden trail for harvesting and teaching about plants that are edible and part of the traditional Anishinaabe diet; the Medicine Trail Garden for harvesting and teaching about plants used to promote emotional well-being; an orchard for fruit trees; and an orchard for trees used for medicinal purposes.

The second pathway will connect the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways and Andahwod Continuing Care and Elders Services. This pathway will consist of seven gardens including the Sacred Medicines Garden with small copper fire pit for offerings of sacred medicines in the center, the Berry Garden, which will consist of a strawberry tower bed, blueberry raised bed, blackberry trellis bed, and raspberry trellis bed; the Grapes Arbor, with a shade pavilion with trellises for

vining Michigan wild grapes in raised beds; a wheelchair-height raised herb garden bed; a corn, beans and squash trellised pyramid garden bed that will be wheelchair accessible; wheelchair-height raised garden beds for potato, carrot, onion, cabbage, radish; and a wheelchair-height raised garden beds for tomato, pepper, lettuce and much more.

The departments involved in this exciting project are in the process of intensive planning needed to rollout the project, and expect to bless the ground this summer.

### Tax Made Easy

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## 2019

# SCIT GOLF

## Membership

### On sale Tuesday, Jan. 22

- 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 Pohlcat Golf Course.

### Cart Membership Raffle (optional)

Drawing on Friday, April 12 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



## Tribe receives grant to establish Anishinaabemowin Language Immersion House

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

The Anishinaabe Language Revitalization Department (ALRD) has been awarded a grant to renovate the Tribally-owned property at 7785 E. Remus Rd. in Mount Pleasant to create an Anishinaabemowin Language Immersion House.

The grant, in the amount of \$39,570, is funded by the MICA Group's Cultural Resource Fund and will support the Tribe's commitment to revitalizing the Anishinaabemowin language.

Tribal Resolution #18-116 (June 13, 2018) recognizes the importance of Anishinaabemowin in preserving and promoting traditional culture and lifeways and providing the Tribal community with contextualized

language learning experiences in a family home setting that will allow for the teaching, retention and daily use of the language.

The future Immersion House, currently located next to Seventh Generation (known as "the Blue House"), will serve as a place for families and community members to stay overnight or on weekends. A fluent speaker will visit during the day to conduct in-home, family-centered learning opportunities in the language.

"A fluent speaker will spend time with the family and engage in an array of language immersion experiences that focus on normal family routines," said Howard Webkamigad, director of ALRD. "The speaker may work with the family to make a meal, create an art project, do laundry, play with children

or have a movie night. All of these activities will focus on family members learning Anishinaabemowin words and phrases so that they may carry our beautiful language back into their own homes."

Everyday items in the Immersion House will be labeled in Anishinaabemowin to support language learning and transitioning to using the words and phrases in everyday life.

ALRD will provide cultural supplies and language development resources for community members accessing the House. Families will be able to enjoy cultural and language learning opportunities with grant partners Seventh Generation (including the greenhouse and gardens) and the Ziiibwing Center.

The grant will repair the Immersion House to ensure Housing Code Compliance,

including repairs to the vinyl siding and rear deck, new furnace, water heater, air conditioning, renovations to the restroom and a security system.

Fun elements to be included such as a swing set, patio furnishings and a grill for barbequing will provide opportunities for families to learn words they can use in everyday living.

With the support of Tribal Council, the Office of Grants and Contracts worked with Webkamigad, project director for the House and fluent speaker; Isabelle Osawamick of ALRD and fluent speaker; Lee Ann Ruffino, cultural manager for Seventh Generation; Shannon Martin, director for the Ziiibwing Center; Don Seal, community engineer for the Planning Department; and Ed Howard, Tribal code

compliance officer; to develop the application and plan for the renovation of this Tribal asset.

The Immersion House will bring a fresh approach to language immersion and support families on their journey to language fluency.

This summer, the ALRD, Seventh Generation and the Ziiibwing Center will officially begin programming at the Immersion House with a carnival-themed open house event, with games and prizes for the Tribal community.

The Cultural Resource Fund supports Tribal and State cultural and historic preservation projects (culturalresourcefund.org). Since the CRF was initially funded in 2015, MICA has awarded and distributed 366 grants totaling \$6.7 million to 235 Tribes and State Historic Preservation Officers, according to its website.

## Art Reach taking design submissions for 2019 Festival of Banners

**ART REACH OF MID MICHIGAN**

Art Reach of Mid Michigan is taking design submissions for the 11th annual Festival of Banners community-wide event.

Each year, the Festival of Banners brings residents, local schools and businesses the opportunity to paint banners to display on street poles

throughout Isabella County from May to late November 2019.

This year's theme is "Art Inspires!"

Approximately 300 colorful banners will be placed in downtown Mount Pleasant, the Emergency Department at McLaren Central Michigan, Pickard Street in Union Township and in the Village of Shepherd.

Banners may be purchased for \$25 for adult artists.

Organizations and businesses can choose to display their name and logo for \$125 as a banner sponsor. Youth artists between ages 8 and 18 years old and senior artists over 65 years old may participate free of charge.

Participants of all skills are eligible to participate.

The deadline for submission is Feb. 15.

Community paint days will

be held at Jameson Hall throughout March for artists to complete their banner. Paint is provided.

The design submission form can be downloaded online at [www.artreachcenter.org/festival-of-banners/](http://www.artreachcenter.org/festival-of-banners/) or picked up at Art Reach at 111 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI.

Participants may keep their banner once the event concludes.

For more information or questions about the

Festival of Banners, email [artreachcenterintern@gmail.com](mailto:artreachcenterintern@gmail.com) or call at 989-773-3689.

Founded in 1981, Art Reach of Mid Michigan is dedicated to fostering the arts and bringing better understanding and enjoyment of them to the mid-Michigan community.

Art Reach on Broadway Gallery and Gift Shop is located at 111 East Broadway.

**Attention Tribal Members**

**The Ziiibwing Center is seeking interested individuals to serve on its:**

1. Board of Directors (two vacancies)
2. Collections Committee (two vacancies)

**For more information, please contact:**  
**Shannon Martin**, Ziiibwing Cultural Center Director  
 • 6650 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858  
 • Email: [smartin@sagchip.org](mailto:smartin@sagchip.org)

**Wanted: Ziiibwing needs your help!**

- SCIT Community Members needed to help give tours, teach how to make bone bracelets and clan medallions, and give cultural presentations to groups of all ages. Once trained, your name will be added to our list of experts to call for assistance.
- Dancers and drummers needed to assist with dance presentations to school groups on site (in our community) and offsite. We need to update our list of dancers, singers and drummers. We need help when we have large groups or song and dance presentations.

**For more information, please contact:**

- **Judy Pamp** at 989.775.4735 or [JPamp@sagchip.org](mailto:JPamp@sagchip.org)
- **Tera Green** at 989.775.4750 [TeGreen2@sagchip.org](mailto:TeGreen2@sagchip.org)

**New Youth Council members sworn in**

Observer photos by Natalie Shattuck

**On Thursday, Jan. 17, the new members were sworn in to the Youth Council. After 4 p.m., Thomas Henry, Paul Shomin III, Mgizi Wemigwans, Aaliyah Montoya-Pego and Tara Hunt were sworn in by Chief Ronald F. Ekdahl in the Seniors Room of Tribal Operations.**



## Council representatives, community members travel to Washington, D.C. to witness inauguration of first Native American women elected to Congress

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

On Jan. 2, several Tribal Council members departed to Washington, D.C. to witness history in the making.

Jennifer L. Wassegijig, Louanna Bruner, Theresa Jackson and Lindy Hunt met with the first Native American women elected to Congress: Democratic Rep. Deb Haaland of New Mexico and Democratic Rep. Sharice Davids of Kansas.

Wassegijig, Bruner, Jackson and Hunt attended a Jan. 2 dinner with Rep. Haaland and Congressman Dan Kildee.

“We were honored to be invited to her family dinner,” Jackson said of the invite to attend Haaland’s dinner.

Also during the dinner, Wassegijig provided the prayer and said she was “very honored” to do so.

On Jan. 3, the four Council members also received and accepted a special invitation to join Haaland and her family for her inauguration/swearing in to Congress. This occurred in Haaland’s office on the Hill.

That same day, the Council members greeted and congratulated Dan Kildee on his re-election. They had the opportunity to visit with Kildee in his office.

They then attended the 6 p.m. reception for Haaland,



Courtesy of Susan Hornyak Photography

**Tribal Council members Jennifer L. Wassegijig and Louanna Bruner are photographed with several other Tribal representatives during their Washington, D.C. trip to witness history in the making of the first Native American women getting sworn in to Congress.**

and had their photos taken with Haaland and Davids prior to.

Several other Tribal community members also attended: Tribal elder Faith Carmona Pego; Melissa Isaac, director for Tribal education, and her daughters; Iliana Montoya and her daughter Evelyn; Maggie Jackson; Monica Leureaux and Jenna Rios.

The group returned home on Jan. 4.

“We were very honored and blessed to be a part of this very historical event,” Theresa Jackson said. “Deb Haaland and Sharice Davids were extremely welcoming and friendly.”



Courtesy of Susan Hornyak Photography

**Strong ladies of all ages including Tribal Education Director Melissa Isaac and Gimiwan Traver pose for a photo before attending the Representatives’ banquet.**



Courtesy of Susan Hornyak Photography

**Tribal community members have their photograph taken with Rep. Debra Haaland and Rep. Sharice Davids after 5:30 p.m. during a Jan. 3 reception for the congresswomen.**



Courtesy of Susan Hornyak Photography

**Tribal Council members Bruner and Wassegijig join several other Tribal Nation representatives as they gather around the drum.**



Courtesy of Susan Hornyak Photography

**Rep. Haaland (left) and Rep. Davids (right) celebrate being elected into Congress during the reception several Tribal community members were in attendance for.**



Courtesy of Susan Hornyak Photography

**Rep. Haaland addresses the crowd.**



Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School

## Committee Vacancies

*Would you like to be a voice for those who can no longer speak for themselves? Now is your chance!*

### Committee Meetings

10 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Ziibiwing

Meetings are held every other Wednesday.



**Mail, email or drop off letters by Feb. 28, 2019:**

**Mail:** MIIBS Committee  
c/o Sarah Jones (Tribal Historic Preservation Officer)  
6650 E Broadway Rd  
Mt Pleasant, MI 48858

**Email:** SJones@sagchip.org

**Phone:** 989-359-9797 (cell) OR 989-775-4751 (office)

The MIIBS Committee is dedicated to SCIT’s efforts to transform, preserve and finance the development of the Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School to become a place for healing, education, wellness and empowerment at a local, national and global level.

### Interested committee members need to

- Meet every other week on Wednesdays at 10 a.m.
- Implement strategic plan and vision of Tribal Council.
- Ensure properties are managed safely and effectively.
- Work collaboratively with Project Manager to accomplish goals.
- Share information with community and partners on project.

## VALENTINE’S CHALLENGE

### Attention all SCIT/SECR departments:

Enter the Valentine’s Challenge by putting together a Valentine’s gift basket and donating it to the Elders Valentine’s Social.

- Gift baskets will be auctioned off at the Valentine’s Social on Saturday, Feb. 9, 2019 between 1-3 p.m. at Andahwod.
- The department basket that receives the highest bid, will win a pizza lunch!
- Donations can be dropped off at Andahwod. Pick up arrangements can also be made.

*Miigwetch for supporting Elder activities!*

**For more information, please contact:** Sheligh at 989.775.4307



FEB  
1&2

## SNOCCROSS NATIONAL

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Tickets start at \$25



MAR  
8

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APR  
20

## JOSH TURNER & SCOTTY MCCREERY

Entertainment Hall | 8PM  
Tickets start at \$49



MAY  
4

## GEORGE LOPEZ

Entertainment Hall | 8PM  
Tickets start at \$49




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## Healing to Wellness Program celebrates six Class of 2018 members

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Healing to Wellness Family Court Project Director

On Dec. 20, nearly 70 family members and friends attended the 2018 Healing to Wellness Program celebration at the Ziibiwing Center to honor six clients who successfully completed the Tribal Court's 18-to-24-month diversion program.

The six recipients received custom-made cedar feathers, designed by Dan Ryckman and David Salisbury of the Soaring Eagle Woodshop.

The Class of 2018 also received a beaded lanyard, medallion and a certificate signed by Tribal Court Senior Judge Patrick Shannon; Aubree Gross, coordinator for Healing to Wellness; and Joseph Sowmick, project director for Healing to Wellness Family Court.

The Class of 2018 included the following Tribal Members: Vanessa Hart, Jacqueline Wemigwans, James Springer, Leo Bennett, Kashtin Reinsberg and Cameron Kole.

Shannon said their success not only results in a release from court-ordered probation but a start to a healthy life, free from the effects of substance abuse.

"In all of my years, I have not seen other communities provide the high level of support and positive energy provided by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe for our Healing to Wellness clients," Shannon said. "These HTW graduations are but a small example of the efforts of this community, families and Tribal leadership has taken to assure health of its citizens. Don't get me wrong, this is hard work both for our clients and the dedicated Tribal servants who work with them; but the payoff is seeing our HTW graduates at these functions."

Shannon added, "Working with our HTW clients continues to be the most rewarding time in my 40-plus years as an attorney and I am appreciative beyond words."



Courtesy of Joseph Sowmick

**Tribal Court Magistrate Carol Jackson addresses the crowd at the Dec. 20 Healing to Wellness celebration at the Ziibiwing Center.**

Shannon also shared some of the experiences he has seen during his State of Michigan Opioid Commission appointment by former Gov. Rick Snyder.

"Treatment courts are one method of dealing with the opioid crisis in this state. However, one must first commit a crime to access the opportunities available," he said. "The vast majority of those suffering from prescription and illicit opioid misuse never find their way into the courtroom."

Shannon continued, "Prevention, intervention and treatment are integral to the courts providing an access point with our Healing to Wellness programs to assist to stem the tide of death resulting from opioid abuse as result of drug overdoses. This plague of addiction has not only killed thousands yearly (last estimate was 65,000 people nationally), it is devastating families, including the very young and the unborn."

During the celebration, Shannon said the "cost to human life is astounding," and "much of the blame is attributable to the pharmaceutical industry" that manufactured and marketed these highly addictive drugs.

"Some states and cities are suing the pharmaceuticals, similar to the tobacco litigation of the 1990s. We cannot sue because Michigan's legislature eliminated drug company product liability years ago," he said. "The result is a shift of cost and responsibility to state and local law enforcement, health providers and citizens."

Tribal Council member Jennifer L. Wassegijig, Healing to Wellness team member, opened the night with a prayer, and was joined by fellow Council members Louanna Bruner, Theresa Jackson, Kenny Sprague and Chief Ronald F. Ekdahl and his family.

"Our Tribal Council have been supportive of the efforts being made by the Healing to Wellness programs and are pleased to see the addition of the family court and juvenile component to get Members the resources they can use within the Tribe to help their families," Ekdahl said. "Many tribes are starting to recognize the devastation caused by addiction and that is why our Tribe joined in with the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes resolution in March 2018, and signed on to be a partner in a nationwide tribal lawsuit against the pharmaceutical industry."

Tribal Court Magistrate Carol Jackson, Healing to Wellness team member, spoke about how the pain and suffering that comes from addiction affects relatives and community members.

"This is very traumatic: watching a loved one suffering and standing in the shadows, unable to help or not knowing what to do. It affects us all; the family, friends, and community. This has changed the generational landscape," Jackson said. "The graduation ceremony is our way to celebrate this journey with (the Class of 2018). Their accomplishments, in completing



Courtesy of Joseph Sowmick

**(Left to right) Tribal Court Senior Judge Patrick Shannon shares a moment with Healing to Wellness graduate Vanessa Hart as Healing to Wellness Coordinator Aubree Gross and Judicial Intern Breanna Colwell support her.**

the program, are a lifelong milestone and should be celebrated. Fighting addiction is no easy task, but with the love, guidance, compassion and the necessary tools they can be successful."

Jackson encouraged others and said "there is hope on the horizon and please remember; the members who completed the program are choosing to live."

"We will continue to support them well after they have left the program any day or night," Jackson said. "Over the several months we spend together with our clients, they have become part of our court family. We certainly miss all of them after they complete the program, and we are always here if they ever need us again, or even to stop by to say hello. Congratulations graduates for a job well done!"

The Snowbird Singers were represented by Daisy Kostus and Beatrice Jackson as they

offered an honor song to the award recipients and shared a traveling song.

Tribal Prosecutor Damian Fisher, Healing to Wellness team member and member of the Anishinabe Ogichedaw Veterans Warrior Society brought the eagle staff and U.S. flag.

"I was honored to bring our Tribal eagle staff to witness this moment in our healing, so that migizi could share in this celebration with so many diverse community members along this healing pathway," Fisher said.

Healing to Wellness client Terrance Jackson offered smudge medicine for the celebration.

Healing to Wellness adult, family and juvenile court are now accepting clients. Members do not have to be a part of the court system to ask for assistance. Please contact Healing to Wellness at 989-775-4800 or 989-775-811 for help.



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## A note of thanks and appreciation to SECR, SELC associates

**RAYMOND BRENNY**  
CEO

On behalf of the Tribal Council and the Board of Directors from the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and Saganing Eagles Landing Casino, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you

for demonstrating such resilience and boundless dedication to service over the past week. (*Editor's note: Brenny's email was sent to associates Jan. 31.*)

Thanks to the combined efforts of our SECR and SELC team, you have exceeded the expectations of our guests; providing extraordinary levels

of service despite the historically brutal weather.

Your willingness to persevere in delivering on our mission to champion service excellence, despite these challenges, is deeply appreciated and keeps the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and Saganing Eagles Landing Casino ahead of the competition.

Additionally, I recognize the burdens faced by our team in their efforts put forth to go the extra mile during these past four days and want to show our gratitude for your commitment to SECR and SELC.

As a token of our thanks, I will be providing each associate a voucher good for three meals in Associate

Dining (maximum value of \$3 per meal). I will have these vouchers printed off and delivered to each department in the coming week.

Please accept this gesture as my thanks to you for your commitment to the organization despite the weather.

Again, I genuinely appreciate your efforts on our behalf.

## Native American group reaches out to Covington Catholic High School to offer workshops and talks

### AWAKE MEDIA PROJECT

NEW YORK—The leaders of the AWAKE Media Project, a collective of filmmakers and community leaders helping young Native American journalists and filmmakers, has conveyed a letter to Covington Catholic High School to offer what it called “a learning opportunity” in the wake of the national firestorm over Covington students taunting a Native American elder last month.

“As administrators of a Native youth media program, we often have to find ways to facilitate healthy discussion around racism, culture, and understanding,” said the letter, signed by

filmmakers who collaborated on the 2017 film “AWAKE: A Dream from Standing Rock,” Doug Good Feather, Floris White Bull, Myron Dewey, Teena Pugliese and Josh Fox.

The letter continued, “While we know that this is a divisive time, we are coming to you with a hope to build understanding. We appreciate the official release from the school administrators that did not condone the actions of their students and we know that there is an opportunity here to learn from what happened. We would like to hold a workshop or a series of talks guided by our program leaders and community elders to help your school staff, administration, and students learn about our lives, our beliefs,

and how to treat people of different backgrounds with thoughtfulness and care.”

The letter was conveyed to Covington High School on Jan. 24. At press time, the issuers are still awaiting the school’s response.

On Jan. 18, 2019, Omaha elder Nathan Phillips was attending the Indigenous Peoples March at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. After the rally, there was a confrontation where high school students from Covington Catholic High School taunted Phillips as he sang a unity song meant to deescalate the situation. Chaperones did not intervene and the incident was documented by videos shared on social media.

Phillips has offered to go to Covington Catholic High School to talk with students, and the Lakota People’s Law Project

and the Indigenous Peoples Movement have undertaken an initiative to make that happen.

The AWAKE Media Project has reached out to those groups to coordinate approaches.

The signers of the AWAKE Media Project letter say the taunting incident demonstrates deep disrespect, a misunderstanding of Native people, lack of leadership among school staff, and miseducation of the students that permitted them to so dehumanize Phillips. But, they hope, it is also an opportunity for learning and growth.

“This is a teachable moment,” said Floris White Bull. “It’s a prime example of how detrimental out-of-date history books are to entire nations, and how dangerous it is to continue to perpetuate stereotypical images of indigenous people. Throughout the Capital, you’ll find imagery used to justify

the genocide of nations that no longer walk this earth, and the near-genocide of tribes that remain. Yet we have contributed to ‘U.S.’ history throughout -- in medicine, agriculture, and much else. The U.S. system of government is itself an indigenous concept, modeled on the east coast tribe of Haudenosaunee. Now is the time to update the history books.”

“The taunting incident was a clear act of bigotry and bullying,” said Josh Fox, “but we want to answer it with constructive dialogue and teaching.”

The AWAKE Media Project launched in 2017, with the understanding that Native people, too often, have been unable to control the narratives created about them. In these uncertain and divisive times, it is incredibly important to return to truth and allow indigenous people to tell their own stories.

**VOLUNTEERS Needed!**

- ✓ Get involved
- ✓ Make a positive impact
- ✓ Empower Native Youth
- ✓ Give back to your community
- ✓ Be a part of something that changes the world

**PROJECT VENTURE**  
*Indigenous youth embracing their potential through outdoor adventure & service*

**Volunteers will:**

- Be a part of a year-long Tribal Youth development program based on outdoor wilderness adventure, experiential learning and Anishinaabe cultural traditions.
- Assist in 1-2 hour afterschool sessions at the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, beginning in January 2019. Sessions focus on Cultural skill building, experiential learning, team building and outdoor adventure exercises.
- Help set up and break down all afterschool programming sessions with the help of Youth Program Coordinator.
- Attend weekend adventure outings with Project Venture students and staff. Assist students with activities.
- Learn how to facilitate Project Venture afterschool sessions with the Youth Program Coordinator.
- Work on special events and service projects with Tribal Youth.
- Set up events that promote Project Venture – help educate the community.

**Who can be a Project Venture volunteer?**

- Anyone 16 years or older can apply.
- Must pass a background check.
- Must be willing to work with Tribal Youth – engaging, communicating, being actively involved in cultural activities, games and all skill building exercises.
- Must be able to play, move and be in good physical health.

**To apply please contact Dolores Winn.**

- Phone: 989.775.4920
- Email: DWinn@sagchip.org

## Call for Artists!

**Are you the one?**

**We are looking for artist submissions to recreate a new logo for ITC of Michigan's Anishnaabek Healing Circle**

Artist can mail or email their submissions to the contacts below. All mailed submission will be returned.

Meredith Kennedy mkennedy@itcmi.org  
or  
Sheila Hammock shammock@itcmi.org

**Anishnaabek**  
Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan  
2956 Ashmun Street, Suite A  
Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan 49783

Submissions must be received by Friday, February 15, 2019 and must include contact information of the artist.

- All styles of art will be accepted
- All submissions must reflect an Anishnaabek way of life
- Artists of all ages are welcome to submit

The new logo will be featured on all AHC media

MEK 1-2-2019



# Anishinaabemowin WORD SEARCH

agadendaagozi	embarrassed
waabigwan	flower
zaagitoon	love
miikawaadad	handsome
miikawaadizi	beautiful
naawakwe wiisini	dinner
inde	heart
gikinjigwen	hug
mashkawadin	freeze
manisaadan	(cut) firewood
wiigiwaam	lodge
wiigwaasigamig	birch bark lodge
mitigo waakaa'igan	log cabin
waabooyan	blanket
zhawenim	bless
biimaadizi	live
ishpeming	heaven
gagwejii	strength
migizi	eagle
bagidenjige	funeral



Words by Aconcise Dictionary of Minnesota Ojibwe John D. Nichols and Earl Nyholm

# Anishinaabemowin CROSSWORD

## Word Bank

- Gdo ba-zi-gim
- Gma - kwen-min
- Gzaa-gi-go
- Nba-zi-gim
- Gme-si-ni-go
- Nwii-kiinh-wenh
- Gba-shi-gen-a-min
- Gaa-jii-min
- G'zaa-gin
- Gaa-aab-too-jii-nin

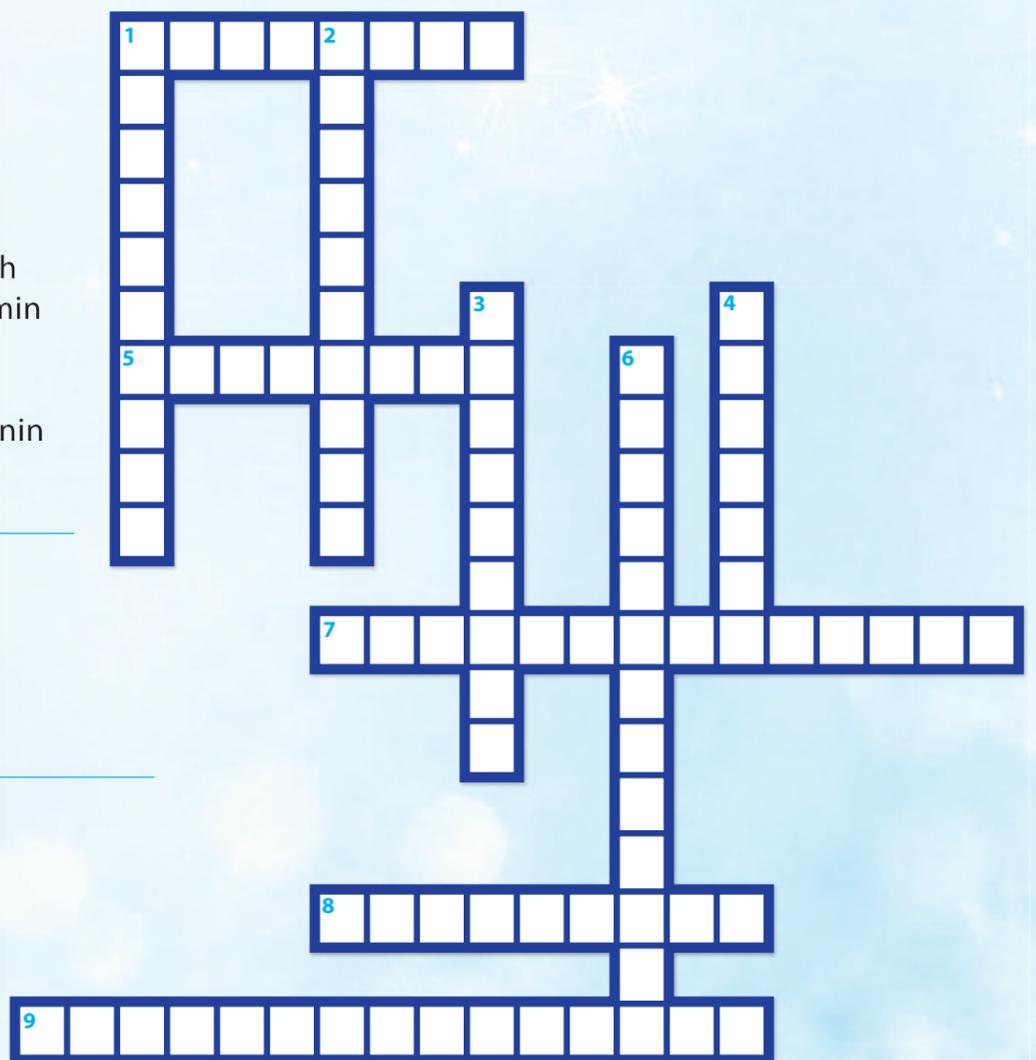
Words by Isabelle Osawamick, outreach language specialist, titled "Gwiwinan Clothing"

## Across

- 1. "We love you"
- 5. "My sweetheart"
- 7. "My friend"
- 8. "I will kiss you"
- 9. "I will hug you"

## Down

- 1. "I'm thinking of you"
- 2. "Your sweetheart"
- 3. "We miss you"
- 4. "I love you"
- 6. "I like you"



### Down

- 1. Gma - kwen-min ("I'm thinking of you")
- 2. Gdo ba-zi-gim ("Your sweetheart")
- 3. Gme-si-ni-go ("We miss you")

### Across

- 4. G'zaa-gin ("I love you")
- 5. Nba-zi-gim ("My sweetheart")
- 6. Gzaa-gi-go ("I like you")
- 7. Nwii-kiinh-wenh ("My friend")
- 8. Gaa-jii-min ("I will kiss you")
- 9. Gaa-aab-too-jii-nin ("I will hug you")

## Answer Key



## Tribe receives \$200,000 check from Consumers Energy for project protecting manoomin

**ERIK RODRIGUEZ**

Public Relations Director

Wild rice (manoomin) protection, restoration, and management have become a focus for many tribes in Michigan. The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan has purchased a 902-acre property on Tawas Lake.

Tribal Members are experiencing revitalization in the ricing culture as more people are harvesting with their families.

The protection, management and restoration of wild rice beds is important for tribal communities, wildlife, hunters, anglers, bird watchers, as well as, water quality and sediment control.

On Jan. 22, 2019, the Tribal Council met with representatives from Consumers Energy

to receive a \$200,000 grant from the Consumers Energy Foundation. This money will be used – starting spring 2019 – to kick start the project by protecting the manoomin at Tawas Lake.

The grant will also provide funding for Invasive Species Coordinator Chase Stevens and Environmental Resource Technician Jennifer Seibt to focus on land management and control invasive species.

A highlight of the project will involve the Environmental Team and Wild Rice Team working with the State of Michigan to obtain a wetland permit to remove wild rice by boat docks and transplant on the Tribe's property; in hopes of providing a model for all the lakes in Michigan and offer an



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Representatives from Consumers Energy present a \$200,000 check to Tribal Council on Jan. 22. The grant money will be used to kick start the project to protect the manoomin at Tawas Lake.**

alternate management in lieu of chemical treatment.

The Environmental Team will also continue to work with all Michigan tribes as well as the State of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to

develop a co-management strategy for protecting manoomin throughout Michigan.

Through the generous donation from our partners at the Consumers Energy Foundation, the Tribal community and

departments hope to collaborate with conservation groups, as well as, Consumers Energy employee volunteers to develop citizen science, education and outreach to protect wild rice throughout Michigan.

## Gii-taaw'igaang, Ninjii-daamnawinan ring in the New Year

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

Ring in the New Year with tradition: The New Year's Eve Waasnoode "Northern Lights" Gii-taaw'igaang and Ninjii-daamnawinan (Round Dance and Hand Games) welcomed 2019.

In the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym, a potluck began after 6 p.m., prizes were awarded for the best dish.

Hand games began after 7 p.m. The game participants brought in several traditional items to bet.

The round dance began at about 8 p.m. and lasted until early the next morning. A celebratory meal was held at midnight.

Emcee RJ Smith and Stickman Joe Syrette both played major roles throughout evening.

Singers included Harvey Dreaver (Canada), John Syrette (Canada), Cheevers Toppah (Oklahoma), Jermaine Bell (Nevada), Jermiah Churchill (Minnesota), Skip Churchill (Minnesota), Jason Kingbird (Iowa) and Don Kingbird (Minnesota).

Unique dance specials included the best ribbon skirt/shirt and clan dance – during which dancers wore something from their clan.

During the feast, entertainment was provided by Titto Ybarra, a member of the Red Lake Band of Ojibwe.



Courtesy of Guadalupe Gonzalez



Courtesy of Lori Colwell-Nahdee

**Community members rung in the New Year with tradition: the New Year's Eve Waasnoode "Northern Lights" Gii-taaw'igaang and Ninjii-daamnawinan (Round Dance and Hand Games) welcomed 2019, held in the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym.**

Ybarra spent years traveling the powwow trail as a champion singer and started stand-up and sketch comedy in 2010. Besides comedy, he resides in Red Lake and works for the sanitation department and also provides

taxi services in Bemidji.

The evening also featured craft vendors, a countdown to the New Year in Anishinaabemowin, door prizes, glow dancing, a 50/50 raffle and clan teachings by Dylan Jennings and Jason Schlender.

Several Tribal departments made this event possible including Seventh Generation, Tribal K-12 Education, SAMHSA Native Connections, the Ziibiwing Center and the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College.



## Celebrating Families™ Group

**Tuesday Nights, 6-8 p.m.  
Starting Feb. 12, 2019**

**Location:** Saginaw Chippewa Academy

**What is Celebrating Families!™**

It's an **evidence based** cognitive behavioral, support group model written for families in which one or both parents have a serious problem with alcohol or other drugs and in which there is a high risk for domestic violence, child abuse, or neglect.

**16 week curriculum** that addresses the needs of children and parents in families that have serious problems with alcohol and other drugs.

Works with **every member of the family**, from ages 3 through adult, to **strengthen recovery** from alcohol and/or other drugs, break the cycle of addiction and increase successful family reunification.

Integrates traditional Native teachings and cultural practices, including the **Healing Forest Model**, as a framework allowing each community to include traditional practices.

Utilizes materials developed for **Children of Alcoholics** with the teaching and reinforcing of life skills.

### Session Agenda:

- Family Meal - about 30 minutes
- Small groups (by age group) - about 60-80 minutes
- Family Activity - about 20-30 minutes



*\*This program is brought to you by Behavioral Health through funding from the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan.*

## Schedule for Winter/Spring 2019

- **Feb. 12 - Session 1:** Orientation and Getting Started
- **Feb. 19 - Session 2:** Healthy Living
- **Feb. 26 - Session 3:** Nutrition
- **March 5 - Session 4:** Communication
- **March 12 - Session 5:** Feelings and Defenses
- **March 19 - Session 6:** Anger Management
- **March 26 - No Session this week, spring break!**
- **April 2 - Session 7:** Facts About Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs
- **April 9 - Session 8:** Chemical Dependency Is a Disease
- **April 16 - Session 9:** Chemical Dependency Affects the Whole Family
- **April 23 - Session 10:** Goal Setting
- **April 30 - Session 11:** Making Healthy Choices
- **May 7 - Session 12:** Healthy Boundaries
- **May 14 - Session 13:** Healthy Friendships and Relationships
- **May 21 - Session 14:** How We Learn
- **May 28 - Session 15:** Our Uniqueness
- **June 4 - Session 16:** Celebration!

### Intake and Registration Required.

Contact Shuna Stevens, prevention coordinator at Behavioral Health, for more information, **989.775.4850 or shstevens@sagchip.org.**



## February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

### KAYLEEN TONER

Victim Support Tech,  
Nami Migizi Nangwiihgan



**989-775-4400**

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, a national effort to raise awareness about abuse in teen relationships and promote programs that prevent it.

Dating violence is more common than many people think. One in three teens in the U.S. will experience physical, emotional or sexual abuse by someone they are in a relationship with before they become adults.

Dating abuse is a pattern of behaviors one person uses to gain and maintain power and control over their partner.

Many people assume abuse means that physical violence is happening, but that's not always the case. Abuse comes in many forms.

A few common types of abuse are: physical abuse which includes any intentional and unwanted contact with you or something close to your body. Examples would include: grabbing, pushing, pulling, forcing sexual acts, scratching, biting, punching, etc.

**Emotional abuse** is verbal abuse that may not cause physical damage, but it does cause emotional pain and scarring.

Sometimes emotional abuse is so bad you actually start believing what your partner says. You agree that nobody else would want to be in a relationship with you.

Constantly being criticized and told you aren't good enough causes you to lose confidence and lowers self-esteem. As a result, you may start to blame yourself for your partner's abusive behavior.

**Sexual abuse** refers to any action that pressures or coerces someone to do something sexually they don't want to do.

Some examples of sexual abuse include: unwanted kissing or touching, sexual contact with someone who is drunk, drugged, unconscious or otherwise unable to give a clear and informed "yes" or "no," rape or attempted rape,

pressuring someone to have sex or perform sexual acts.

**Financial abuse** can be very subtle. It can include telling you what you can or cannot buy or requiring you to share control of bank accounts.

At no point does someone you are dating have the right to use money or how you spend it to control you.

Here are some examples of financially abusive behavior: giving an allowance, forbidding or preventing one from going to work, using money to hold power over you.

**Digital dating abuse** is the use of technologies such as texting and social networking to bully, harass, stalk or intimidate a partner.

You may be experiencing digital abuse if your partner: tells you who you can and cannot be friends with on social media, uses social media to keep tabs on you, insists on being given your passwords, puts you down on social media, looks through your phone frequently checking on pictures, texts and calls.

**Young dating violence is a big problem, affecting youth in every community across the nation. Learn the facts:**

- Nearly 1.5 million high school students nationwide

experience physical abuse from a dating partner in a single year.

- One in three adolescents in the U.S. is a victim of physical, sexual, emotional or verbal abuse from a dating partner.

- One in 10 high school students has been purposefully hit or physically hurt by a boyfriend or girlfriend.

- Girls and young women between the ages of 16 and 24 experience the highest rate of intimate partner violence.

- Violent relationships in adolescence can have serious ramifications by putting the victims at higher risk for substance abuse, eating disorders, risky sexual behavior and further domestic violence.

- Half of youth who have been victims of both dating violence and rape, attempt suicide.

- Only 33 percent of teens who were in a violent relationship ever told anyone about the abuse.

- Eighty-one percent of parents believe that teen dating violence is not an issue or admit they don't know if it is an issue.

- Though 82 percent of parents feel confident that they could recognize the signs if

their child was experiencing dating abuse, 58 percent could not correctly identify the warning signs of abuse.

Whether you are casually hooking up or have been going out for a while, setting boundaries is an important part of any relationship.

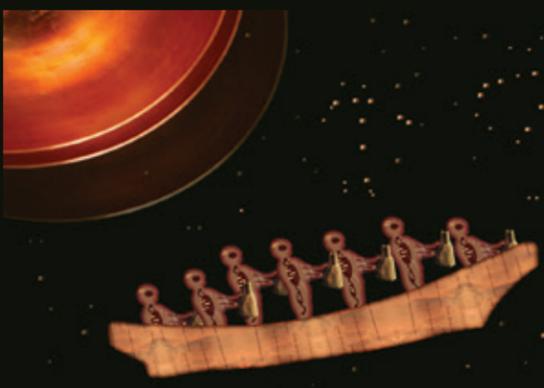
To have the healthiest relationship, both partners should know each other's wants, goals, fears and limits.

You should feel comfortable honestly communicating your needs to your partner without being afraid of what they might do in response. If your partner tells you that your needs are stupid, gets angry with you or goes against what you are comfortable with, then your partner is not showing you the respect you deserve.

In a healthy relationship, communication is key. When you communicate effectively, you understand your partner better and make your relationship stronger. When you can resolve conflicts successfully, you are developing a healthy, mature relationship.

Remember, the abuse is never your fault, and asking for help is nothing to be ashamed of.

*Source: www.loveisrespect.org*

 <p><b>ZIIBIWING CENTER</b> <i>of Anishinabe Culture &amp; Lifeways</i> THE MIDWEST'S PREMIER AMERICAN INDIAN MUSEUM</p> <p><b>OPEN: MONDAY-SATURDAY 10am-6pm</b></p> <p>6650 East Broadway Mt. Pleasant, MI 989.775.4750 • www.sagchip.org/ziibiwing</p>	<p>ZIIBIWING HOLIDAY HOURS: <b>Chief's Day, Monday, February 18, 2019 • OPEN</b></p> <p>MARCH EVENTS:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>International Women's Day</td> <td>March 8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Baby Swing &amp; Moss Bag Workshop</td> <td>March 11-15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Spring Feast at 7th Generation</td> <td>March 14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Spring Break Cultural Day Camp</td> <td>March 26-28</td> </tr> </table>	International Women's Day	March 8	Baby Swing & Moss Bag Workshop	March 11-15	Spring Feast at 7th Generation	March 14	Spring Break Cultural Day Camp	March 26-28
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 <p>Collection Showing Free &amp; Open to the Public</p> <p><b>Al Wayne Wood Sculptures</b> Saturday, February 2, 2019 • 10am - 3pm Artwork will remain on display through Saturday, February 16, 2019</p> <p>Mr. Al Wayne is a Member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan. He started carving in 2008 when a friend in Florida asked him if he wanted a hobby - and he has been carving ever since!</p> <p>He enjoys transforming an ordinary piece of wood into something fun and different. Mr. Wayne continues to improve, learning new techniques and ways to paint his creations. His family and friends are the lucky recipients of his art. Mr. Wayne has experimented with other carving mediums, including stone, but wood is his medium of choice.</p> <p>This collection of sculptures is on short term loan from Mr. Wayne. It showcases his extraordinary woodcarving and painting skills, as well as the artistic expression he has developed and his obvious love for this hobby.</p>  <p>Al Wayne</p> <p><b>On Saturday, February 2, 2019 from 10am to 3pm, meet the artist, Al Wayne, who will join William Johnson, Ziibiwing Center's Curator, as he hosts the opening of this very special Collection Showing.</b></p>	<p><b>Mark Your Calendars!</b> <b>Sacred Mother Earth Symposium</b> April 20, 2019</p> <p><b>Anishinabe Authors' Gathering &amp; Book Fair</b> AUTHOR LECTURES • BOOK SIGNING • DINNER <b>FEBRUARY 23, 2019 • 1pm - 5pm</b></p>  <p><b>INVITED AUTHORS:</b> <b>Gordon Henry • Elizabeth LaPensee • Margaret Noodin</b></p> <p><b>FREE ADMISSION • OPEN TO THE PUBLIC</b> <b>(Free books to first 60 attendees)</b></p> <p><small>Artwork by Elizabeth LaPensee "On Scrolls Carried by Canoe"</small></p> <p><b>ZIIBIWING CENTER</b> <i>of Anishinabe Culture &amp; Lifeways</i></p> <p>THE MIDWEST'S PREMIER AMERICAN INDIAN MUSEUM 6650 East Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 49656 489.775.4750 • www.sagchip.org/ziibiwing</p> <p>Co-sponsors:</p> 								



## Twenty-five pets vaccinated against rabies during HATS clinic held in Tribal Gym

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

There are many guidelines for being a responsible pet owner. One responsibility is making sure all pets are up to date on their vaccinations not only to protect that pet, but the humans and other pets it comes in contact with, as well.

In an effort to protect the health of dogs and cats, the Humane Animal Treatment Society provided a rabies vaccination clinic, held in the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym.

From 4 to 6 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 21, a total of 25 animals – five cats and 20 dogs – got vaccinated.

Rabies is a preventable viral disease of mammals most often transmitted through the bite of a rabid animal, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The vast majority of rabies cases reported to the CDC each year

occur in wild animals including raccoons, skunks, bats and foxes (cdc.gov).

“(The vaccination) is good for one year unless (at the event) you brought proof of prior vaccination, then it is good for three years,” said Sue Sowmick, RN, public health nurse at the Nimkee Clinic.

The vaccine clinic was open to the public and the vaccinations cost \$20 per animal. Walk-ins were welcome.

HATS, of Isabella County, also provided information about its programs such as its newly-opened Health Clinic, spaying and neutering procedures, flea treatments and more.

Typically, all services provided by the HATS Health Clinic are by appointment only. Many services are offered at a discount rate, compared to veterinarian offices.

“In addition, to get a dog license, you take the proof of rabies vaccination to the

animal shelter to register the dog,” Sowmick said.

“HATS would like to thank the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe for the use of the gym and the public for coming out to the event,” said a HATS Health Clinic staff member in an email to the Tribal Observer.

Since 2008, HATS has been able to find homes for more than 12,000 previously homeless animals, built an outstanding network of volunteers and professionals willing to assist with day-to-day needs, and gained the lifesaving support of the community through event attendance and donations, according to its website [hatsweb.org](http://hatsweb.org).



Courtesy of Sue Sowmick



Courtesy of Sue Sowmick

**On Jan. 21, the Humane Animal Treatment Society offers a \$20 rabies vaccination clinic for cats and dogs held in the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym. From 4 to 6 p.m., 25 pets – five cats and 20 dogs – receive vaccinations.**

In 2018 alone, HATS found forever homes for more than 550 animals (hatsweb.org).

The organization’s website, hatsweb.org, has a link that makes it one simple click to make a one-time donation or set up a monthly donation.

The website also includes a wish list link on Amazon.com, which will help animals

in need with just a few clicks and deliver right to the steps of the animal shelter.

HATS’ complete list of wish list items are listed on hatsweb.org. The organization can always use the following: non-clumping cat litter, any canned dog or cat food, small paper plates, paper towels and disinfectant wipes.

**Zaagaate'**  
Mentoring Program

NATIVE YOUTH COMMUNITY PROJECTS  
STATE TRIBAL EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS

Behavioral Health Programs  
Noo-da-win-da-meg

## Schools celebrating culture, traditions through education

**RENATA BORTON**

Student Support Advocate

The Tribal K-12 Education Department staff members at Beal City, Fancher, Ganiard and Vowles schools celebrate cultural connections through education.

Celebrating culture through daily contact and monthly meetings are strengthening the students’ unity.

For Native American

Heritage Month in November, students helped with storytelling and making shakers for their school.

In December, students listened to Christmas songs translated into Anishinabemowin.

In January, the students and staff recognized the historical impact of Native people.

This month, the students will be making Valentine’s Day cards with Anishinabemowin phrases on them.

The staff enjoys the time spent with the students, and



looks forward to continuing to build the cultural and educational unity throughout the school year.

### Mentoring Program Information

The Zaagaate' Mentoring Program aims to pair college mentors with our Native American youth in grades 5-8 in a 1-on-1 mentorship in a group setting within the local public schools. Mentees will receive a wide array of knowledge to help enhance their mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual selves allowing them to grow and prosper.

**Schools included:**

- Shepherd Elementary & Middle School
- Renaissance Elementary
- Mt. Pleasant Middle School
- Saginaw Chippewa Academy
- Fancher Elementary
- Mary McGuire Elementary

**Mentors and Mentees will meet afterschool once a week for 1.5 hours in a group setting**

- Light snack provided

**Weekly activities designed to enhance:**

- Healthy decisions and lifestyle choices
- Help with academics
- Healthy relationship development with peers & adults
- Support systems & exposure to resources available to Native American youth
- Community service experience & involvement
- Exposure to the college experience

**Contact Information**

- Sarah Deaton** | Zaagaate' Mentoring Specialist, Behavioral Health  
Phone: (989) 775-4806 • Email: SDeaton@sagchip.org
- Winnay Wemigwase** | Zaagaate' Mentoring Specialist, Behavioral Health  
Phone: (989) 775-4881 • Email: WiWemigwase@sagchip.org

## Adopt a Pet

**Potts**

Potts is a 1-year-old female Domestic Shorthair mix who has been with HATS since May 2018. Until the end of this month, HATS is running a ‘surprise’ adoption special for cats and kittens. The adopter will get to pick a card out of a basket that has a cost written on it that varies \$0 to \$60.

**Puddles**

Puddles is dreaming of warmer weather! He believes that a positive state of mind and ‘vacation mentality’ is the best way to escape the winter blues. Gentle Puddles, 13, a Beagle mix, has stolen the hearts of the all of the staff at HATS. He could live in a home with cats and other dogs.

**Available at the Humane Animal Treatment**  
1105 S. Isabella Rd. Mt. Pleasant ⇄ Hatsweb.org ⇄ 989.775.0830 ⇄ isabellahats@gmail.com

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. | Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Closed for lunch, weekdays: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Saturday: 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Sunday: closed

**SOARING EAGLE CASINO & RESORT**

**FEBRUARY**



**\$86,000**  
**VIP**  
*experience*  
GIVEAWAY

**SATURDAYS IN FEBRUARY**  
**7PM - 10PM**

Hourly Drawings  
\$500 Premium Play  
500 Bonus Entries

WIN A  
**\$10,000**  
**TRAVEL EXPERIENCE**  
*plus*  
**\$10,000**  
**IN CASH WEEKLY**



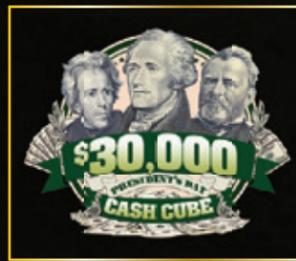
**WORLD CANCER DAY  
HOT SEAT DRAWINGS**

**Monday, February 4 | 12PM - 10PM**  
We're having hourly hot seat drawings for \$500 in Premium Play and will be matching the giveaway with a \$5,500 donation to the American Cancer Society.



**VALENTINE'S DAY EARN & WIN**

**Thursday, February 14 | 8AM - 11:59PM**  
Earn 600 points on your ACCESS card playing slots or bingo to play a Kiosk game and win up to \$500 Premium Play!



**\$30,000 PRESIDENT'S DAY  
CASH CUBE**

**Monday, February 18 | 10AM - 10PM**  
Celebrate President's Day by grabbing Benjamins for yourself! We're having hourly drawings for a minute inside the cash cube filled with \$30,000 worth of \$100 bills.

**SAGANING EAGLES LANDING CASINO**

**FEBRUARY**



**LICENSED TO**  
**CHILL**

**SATURDAYS IN FEBRUARY | 6PM - 10PM**

Win a **Margaritaville Resort Vacation Getaway** plus \$500 cash & a luggage set, a Margarita machine or other Margaritaville merchandise.



**LUCKY SNOWFLAKES**

**Fridays in February | 12PM - 9PM**  
Every half hour, one lucky guest will be selected to pick a snowflake worth up to \$100 in Premium Play.



**VALENTINE'S DAY HOT SEATS**

**Thursday, February 14 | 12PM - 9PM**  
Warm your heart on Valentine's Day with hot seat drawings every hour. Winners will receive \$100 CASH, a teddy bear and a box of chocolates.



**HATS OFF TO YOU**

**Thursday, February 21 | 8AM - 11:59PM**  
The first 1,000 guests to earn 400 points on their ACCESS Loyalty Club Card will receive a Love Michigan hat.  
\*While Supplies Last



## Application open for the AICF Full Circle Scholarship

### AMERICAN INDIAN COLLEGE FUND

DENVER – As the American Indian College Fund celebrates its 30th year, the application for its signature scholarship program – The Full Circle Scholarship – has opened to support Native American college students during the 2019-2020 school year.

Every year, the College Fund distributes millions of dollars to thousands of Native students seeking degrees in higher education.

Students who are members or descendants of federally and state recognized tribes can apply for support until the application deadline of May 31, 2019.

There are no financial need requirements, and students can learn more about the application guidelines and apply at [www.collegefund.org/scholarships](http://www.collegefund.org/scholarships).

Only one percent of college students are American Indian, and they attain bachelor's degrees at less than half the rate of the general population. However, they experience poverty at almost double the rate of the same group.

Full Circle Scholarship funds, and other student support programs, are crucial components in helping Native students attain a college degree and achieve their education and career goals.

Founded in 1989, the American Indian College Fund has been the nation's largest charity supporting Native higher education for more than 29 years.

The College Fund believes "Education is the answer" and provided 5,896 scholarships last year totaling \$7.65 million to American Indian students, with more than 125,000 scholarships totaling over \$126 million since its inception.

The College Fund also supports a variety of academic and support programs at the nation's 35 accredited tribal colleges and universities, which are located on or near Indian reservations, ensuring students have the tools to graduate and succeed in their careers.

The College Fund consistently receives top ratings from independent charity evaluators and is one of the nation's top 100 charities named to the Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance.

### Mt. Pleasant High School

The following students earned perfect attendance for December: Christopher Bartow, Joshua Bartow, Connor Champlin, Sabashtion Davis, Kentae Flory, Sam Hassan, James Montoya-Pego, Emmalee Morrow, Paul Pablito, Shenanrose Pontiac, John Stevens and Courtney Swink.

### Pullen

The following elementary students earned perfect attendance for December: Miguel Chippeway, Darius Kahgegab-Raphael, Charles MacKay, Aanilaya Pelcher, Isaiah Perrin-Hawkins, Leah Garber, Gage Sprague, Giovanni Pelcher, Aakodewin Prout, Aria Drain, Zachary Flaughter, Abbie Patterson, Tru Quigno-Vaughn, Inez Christy, Lex Frost, Selena Garber and Evan Patterson.

### Renaissance

The following students earned perfect attendance for December: Alyssa Flores, Roman Hart, Michael Ekdahl, Richard McClain, David McClain, Kenisynn Shaw, Josclynn Shaw, Allana VanOrden, Logan VanOrden, Jacob Wilson, Jadrian Jackson, Emma Henry, Kyla Henry, Aiyana Jackson, Syriana Smith, Nixie Snyder, Tyler Snyder, Landen Rowlett, JJ Hendrickson Jr, Coryn Chatelain and Anissa Quiroga.

### Mary McGuire

The following elementary students earned perfect attendance for December: Clara Begay, Heath Jackson-Hofer, Caitlyn Loyd, Natalia Martin, Gnaajwi Pego, Brock Reed, Lindsey Reed, Owen Seybert, A'Shanique Traver, Micah Wagner, Gracin Montoya, Donovan Morrow, Shilyanna Negrete-Ledesma, Armando Quiroz, Ethan Reed, Josua Velasquez, Remy Weldon, Natalia Benavidez, Caleb Burger, Nikodin Davis, Andrea Hawkins, Trevor Isham, Zhaawan Martell, Elle Patterson, Miikawadizi Prout, Isaiah Rodriguez, Hope Stevens, Cruz Vaquera and Ogininhs Zerbe.

### Shepherd

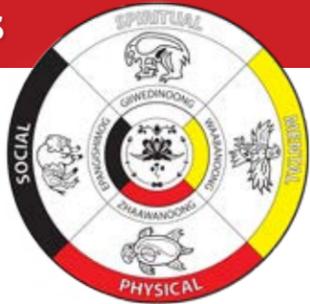
The following students earned perfect attendance for December: Aubree Dockham, Naomi Farrell, Benjamin Tatro, Liam DeFeyer, Ellery Lawson, Jayden Jackson-Taylor, Andreas Ramirez, Chayton Chatfield, Waaseya Lambertson, Lillian Loonsfoot, Isaiah Taylor, Levi Wakemup, Samuel Cloud, Daniel Mena, Jayden Perez, Dayton Bross, Sandra Slater, Mason Sprague, Alex Taylor and Kerra Whitepigeon. **Middle School:** Sadie Cogswell, Alayna Disel, Ashani Pelcher, Madalynn Sineway, Zoey Disel, Sarah Osawabine, Angelica Hinmon, Angelina Smith, Alexis Taylor, LaAnna Trudeau, Rumaulda Alanis, Lily Dean, Brandon Seegraves and Miingin Starkey. **High School:** Miah Chatfield, Olivia Lawson, Andee Raphael, Adam Saboo, Christopher Spencer-Ruiz, Makayla Stevens, Sienna Chatfield, Emma VanHorn, Christina Benz, Nathan Isaac, Damien Martinez and Uriah Main. **Odyssey:** Layla Paul and Lindsey Paul.

## Higher Education Dates

Students must meet the following deadlines for submission of required documents to be eligible for a Tribal Scholarship:

- Fall Semester: Oct. 15
- Winter/Spring Semester: Feb. 15
- Summer Semester: June 15

\*Documents must be post marked by the above date in order to be eligible for funding.



# Concessions - 50/50 - Raffles - Dancing & World Class Singing

# SAGINAW CHIPPEWA ROUND DANCE

## March 8th & 9th 2019

*Emcee*  
**Gabriel Whiteduck**  
Kitigan Zibi, Quebec

*Stickman*  
**Joe Syrette**  
Batchewana, Ontario

*Invited Women Singers*  
**The Bearhead Sisters**  
Alberta

**Fawn Wood**  
Alberta

*Invited Singers*  
**Harvey Dreaver**  
Saskatchewan

**Dallas Waskahat**  
Alberta

**Nelson Baker**  
North Dakota

**Kino Pyawasit**  
Wisconsin

**Cheevers Toppah**  
Oklahoma

**Marlon Deschamps**  
Alberta

**Jordan Mowat**  
Ontario

*Agenda*

**Friday**  
6:30pm - Doors Open  
7:00pm - Round Dance  
8:00pm - Student Honoring  
12:00am - Closing

**Saturday**  
4:30pm - Doors Open  
5:00pm - Pipe Ceremony & Feast  
7:00pm - Round Dance  
9:30pm - Giveaway Ceremony  
11:00pm - Songs for MMIW  
11:30pm - Memorial  
12:00am - Midnight Lunch & Teachings by Harvey  
1:30am - Raffles & Drawings  
3:00am - Closing

**Saturday Night LIVE Webcast**  
[www.sagchip.org/rounddance/](http://www.sagchip.org/rounddance/)

**Everyone Welcome FREE Admission All Singers Acknowledged Craft Vendors**  
Call: (989)775-4453

**All youth must be signed in & accompanied by an adult**

*Location*  
Sag. Chip. Tribal Gym  
7070 E. Broadway  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

*More Information*  
Saginaw Chippewa Academy  
(989)775-4453  
Call Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm

All children must be accompanied by an adult/ Unsupervised children will be reported to the proper authorities. No drugs or alcohols. No politics. Not responsible for injury, lost/damaged items or short funded travelers.





# The SCTC, Andahwod MLK Day of Service crafts donations for HATS

## NINA KNIGHT

English Faculty

Legislation signed in 1983 marked the birthday of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as a federal holiday. In 1994, Congress designated the Martin Luther King Jr. Federal Holiday as a national day of service and charged the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), the federal agency that leads service and volunteering, with leading this effort.

Each year, on the third Monday in January, the MLK Day of Service is observed as a “day on, not a day off.”

MLK Day of Service is intended to empower individuals, strengthen communities, bridge barriers, create solutions to social problems, and move us closer to Dr. King’s vision of a “Beloved Community.”

This year, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College students and staff participated in their first MLK Day of Service with the hopes of starting their own traditions.

SCTC partnered with the Humane Animal Treatment Society of Isabella County and Andahwod Continuing Care and Elders Services in organizing this event.

Mandy Risch, HATS director of operations, and Amanda Tillotson, director of donor relations, met with SCTC staff to discuss their needs and what students could do to help. They said HATS is always in need of fleece blankets for the kennels and toys to keep the animals occupied while they await adoption, so it was decided that SCTC would make as many blankets and interactive toys as they could.

Once the project was set, SCTC joined with Andahwod staff to make this event a true success. Andahwod’s Gayle



Photos courtesy of Nina Knight

Ruhl, assisted living administrator, and Tomarrah Green, elders’ activities assistant, made preparations to host SCTC and also arranged for the students to serve the afternoon coffee to the elders.

The event was a huge success with 53 volunteers in attendance, which is the largest volunteer event SCTC has ever organized. Volunteers included: SCTC students, faculty, staff, elders and community members.

“I was there from start to finish. It was amazing to see so many people come in from the community and help make toys and blankets for animals in the shelter,” said SCTC student Chyann Hass. “All ages came and had a blast!”

During the event, volunteers were working so hard on making blankets, they ran out of material. However, thanks to the generous donation of Earle Crosswait, SCTC math specialist, and Jeffery Steffens, spouse, they returned to the event with seven additional bolts of material.

In total, the volunteers used nine bolts of material and made 67 tie blankets, 48 cat wands, 20 scratching posts, and more than 200 cork toys.

“It is so helpful to the health, happiness and wellbeing of the animals in our care when kind people come together to work on projects, build enrichment activities and raise funds for our organization,” Risch, HATS director of operations said. “We rely on the help and funding of the community to both financially and physically provide the best we can for the homeless dogs and cats in our care as they await forever homes.”

Risch continued, “Huge donations of blankets, toys, scratchers and other items that are put together by service groups, coming together to support the quality care we provide, really have a tremendous impact on every animal and staff member here. Thank you for your support, time and love!”

Ruhl agreed the event was “very successful.”

“Many of the residents participated the whole time. They really enjoyed working with the students and helping out a good cause for

the HATS program,” Ruhl said.

The MLK Day of Service was a success and SCTC hopes to see everyone next year.

## SCTC teacher Nina Knight awarded fellowship to attend four-day conference in Pittsburgh

### NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Looking into the classrooms at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, English faculty member Nina Knight is often seen encouraging her students and educating them in new and exciting ways.

The Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) has awarded Knight the 2019 CCCC Tribal College Faculty Fellowship, a \$1,250 financial aid to selected faculty members currently working at tribally-controlled colleges to attend the annual conference.

The conference, held March 13-16 in Pittsburgh, features more than 500 sessions focusing on teaching practices, writing and literacy programs, language research, history, theory and much more ([cccc.ncte.org](http://cccc.ncte.org)).

The annual CCCC meeting provides a forum for thinking, learning, networking and presenting research on the teaching and learning of writing, according to its website.

Knight is one of two tribal college faculty members throughout the nation receiving the honor, and will be announced as a recipient of the fellowship on the Friday, March 15 portion of the convention.

A selection committee including American Indian Caucus members reviewed applications and selected the fellowship recipients.

Knight also previously received the fellowship in 2016. In 2014, Sarah Prielipp, SCTC faculty member at the time and a current assistant professor at Michigan State University, also received the recognition.

The CCCC is a constituent

organization within the National Council of Teachers of English, which has more than 25,000 individual and institutional members worldwide, and is dedicated to improving the teaching and learning of English and language arts at all levels of education.

With this fellowship, CCCC hopes to create new opportunities for Tribal College Faculty members to become involved in CCCC and for CCCC to carry out its mission of serving as a representative national advocate for language and literacy education.

With more than 4,500 members and subscribers, the CCCC supports and promotes the teaching and study of composition, rhetoric, and communication skills at the college level, both in undergraduate and graduate programs.

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College STEAM Student Organization

## SPRING STEAM RAFFLE Fundraiser

Drawing: Tuesday, Feb. 26

at the Movie Night Event

5:30 p.m. | SCTC West Building, Rooms 1 & 2

Tickets: 1 for \$3 or 3 for \$5

Raffle prizes:

- 1st prize: Overnight stay at the Soaring Eagle Resort with dinner for four donated by Soaring Eagle Resort
- 2nd prize: Two concert tickets of your choice donated by SCIT Public Relations
- 3rd prize: A Painting donated by Antonio Gomez

\*Proceeds help fund activities, events, travel, and donations.

For more information, please contact:  
Kathleen J. Hart  
• Phone: 989.317.4760 ext. 228  
• Email: [khart@sagchip.org](mailto:khart@sagchip.org)

SCTC STEAM Student Organization

## SOUP & SALAD LUNCH Fundraiser

Friday, Feb. 15, 2019

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Eagles Nest Tribal Gym Kitchen

\$7 lunch includes: Soup, salad, dessert and drink

- Soup options: Chicken noodle, chili and vegetarian
- Garden Salad
- Drink
- Dessert



## STYX's Soaring Eagle return fills Entertainment Hall with sweet sounds of classic rock

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

Sweet sounds of classic rock filled the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort's Entertainment Hall on Thursday, Dec. 27, 2018. The band STYX returned to

Soaring Eagle for an unforgettable evening featuring their greatest hit songs and more.

Unique this reappearance, STYX members showcased their always solid stage presence even more than usual. The bassist and guitarists ran up and down the dual

staircases on the stage and onto the riser above drummer Todd Sucherman.

Guitar legend Tommy Shaw and the always entertaining keyboardist – again bringing his spinning piano – Lawrence Gowan traded lead vocals on classics including “Gone, Gone, Gone,” “Blue Collar Man,” “Grand Illusion” and “Lady.”

“We’re only three songs in and this is already the best show we’ve played since Halloween,” Gowan said, and the audience approved with applause and roars.

Shaw introduced “Radio Silence” as one song from their “newest album - a concept album about a future mission to Mars.”

The band continued with “Light Up,” “Crystal Ball” and “Miss America,” during which guitarist James “J.Y.” Young took the lead vocals.

In his black sparkling jacket, original STYX member

Chuck Panozzo joined the band mates on stage to perform “Fooling Yourself” and “Too Much Time On My Hands.”

The audience would have welcomed Panozzo with a standing ovation, but they were already on their feet, appreciating the show. Instead, Panozzo was welcomed with thunderous applause.

Looking good, playing good and looking like he was feeling good, Panozzo appeared

to be winning his battle with HIV.

Next, Gowan performed a solo snippet of “Bohemian Rhapsody” before launching into “Come Sail Away” as his fellow band mates



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Guitar legend Tommy Shaw of STYX performs in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort's Entertainment Hall shortly after 8 p.m.**

reentered the stage the join him once more.

To the audience's approval, STYX ended their concert with hit songs “Mr. Roboto” (1982) and “Renegade” (1978).



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**STYX bassist Ricky Phillips (left) and guitarist Tommy Shaw (right) run to meet each other on the riser on the Soaring Eagle stage during the Thursday, Dec. 27 show.**

## Renowned comedian Bill Engvall brings blue collar style to Soaring Eagle

**MATTHEW WRIGHT**

Staff Writer

Stand-up comedian, actor and author Bill Engvall made his third laugh-filled appearance at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Jan. 18.

Engvall gained notoriety while starring on the highly-successful Blue Collar Comedy Tour. Teaming up with fellow comedians Jeff Foxworthy, Larry the Cable Guy and Ron White, the films from the tour went on to reach more than 9 million units sold.

The album “Blue Collar Comedy Tour, One For The Road” would also be nominated for a Grammy Award.

Engvall has gone on to release 10 albums, four of

which reached No. 1 on Billboard's Comedy Chart.

This includes his certified platinum debut album “Here's Your Sign,” which was released in 1996.

His other career exploits included starring in the hit TV series “Blue Collar TV” on the WB Network and “The Bill Engvall Show” on TBS.

Engvall has served as host for “Lingo” on the Game Show Network, and “Country Fried Home Videos” for CMT as well as appearing on the 17th season of “Dancing with the Stars.”

Drawing upon his observations of everyday situations, Engvall has a knack for turning his experiences into hilarious comedy bits. He covers a wide-range of subjects, including

his upbringing, career, family life and marriage.

“It's great to be actually on the road again. I just spent three weeks, 24/7 with my wife,” he said. “We've been married for 36 years. Now the reason we have been married for 36 years, is that I go away.”

He talked about his relationship with his wife Gail Engvall, describing what it was like for her to be married to someone in his profession.

“She's got a weird gig, ya'll. She's married to a comedian, and that is not easy. When you're married to a comedian; it's like being married to someone from another planet...,” he said. “Basically, what happens at our house is I create all these tornadoes, and then Gail has to make

sure that the farmhouse doesn't blow away.”

Engvall shared a few hilarious examples of hijinks his wife endures, including the time his snacking habits got the best of him.

“I got up one night to get an ice cream bar, but there was no ice cream. So I walked in to the pantry... and there is a bag of 10 vanilla double-stuffed Oreos... I sat down with a glass of milk and ate all 10 of them,” he said. “Next morning, I'm getting a cup of coffee, and Gail is in the pantry and is like, ‘where are those dog cookies that the vet gave us?’”



Courtesy photo

**Comedian Bill Engvall made his third ever appearance at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Jan. 18.**

Engvall shared many funny stories throughout the evening, highlighted by his recounting of a lengthy “vacation” in Africa and the time he was invited to fly in a fighter jet.

## Comedians D. L. Hughley, Eddie Griffin headline Soaring Eagle show

**MATTHEW WRIGHT**

Staff Writer

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort hosted D. L. Hughley and Eddie Griffin on Sunday, Dec. 30.

The charismatic duo of funnymen came together for a hilarious good time inside the newly-renovated Entertainment Hall.

Hughley has made a name for himself on the standup circuit as well as in television, film and radio.

In 2000 he starred alongside comedy legends, Steve Harvey, Cedric the Entertainer and the late Bernie Mac in the hit stand-up comedy documentary “The Original Kings of Comedy.”

He served as the host of his own late night talk show “D.

L. Hughley Breaks the News” on CNN, as well as currently hosting the nationally-syndicated radio show “The D. L. Hughley Show.”

His ninth and most recent stand-up special “Clear” is currently airing on Showtime.

Eddie Griffin took to the stage first that evening.

The comedian and actor has appeared in more than 40 films, including the comedies “Undercover Brother,” “Scary Movie 3” and as T.J. Hicks in both the Deuce Bigelow movies.

He is also known for his role as Eddie Sherman on the UPN sitcom “Malcolm & Eddie.”

Both comedians held no punches while covering a variety of topics including African American culture, race

relations, religion, family life and current politics.

With their raw, edgy, in-your-face comedy style, the duo proved that everyone was fair game. While taking shots at the current president, family members and celebrities, they even found themselves the butt-end of a few jokes.

The jokes could be crude, some could find offense in the subject matter, but mostly the duo proved to be just downright funny.

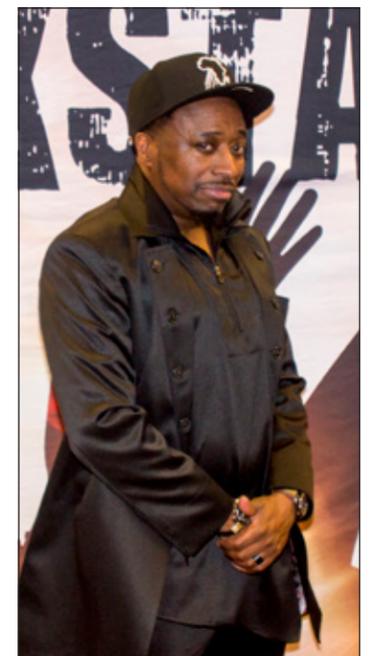
For more information on upcoming shows at the



Courtesy photo

**Comedian D. L. Hughley had plenty of jokes to go around during the Dec. 30 show at the Soaring Eagle.**

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, please visit its website at [www.soaringeaglecasino.com/shows.html](http://www.soaringeaglecasino.com/shows.html)



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Eddie Griffin poses backstage at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.**



## The evening heats up with hot hip-hop hits from Nelly, Chingy and Murphy Lee

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

It was getting hot in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort's Entertainment Hall as rappers Nelly, Chingy and Murphy Lee were in town to deliver an evening of hip-hop on Friday, Dec. 28, 2018.

Headliner Cornell Iral Haynes Jr., better known as Nelly, brought one gigantic party to Mount Pleasant. Nelly drew in a lively crowd, and his years of performance experience were apparent as he showcased his natural love for the spotlight.

Showing much appreciation almost immediately, Nelly said he was thankful for his fans for "always sticking by his side" and gave a "shout out to the Lunatics and the DJ" performing alongside him.

It was a party-seeking audience and that became clear by their response as the rapper performed his upbeat and catchy hit songs including "Country Grammar," "E.I.," "Ride Wit Me" and even "Cruise (Remix)," the reproduction of the country music duo Florida Georgia Line's breakthrough single.

"It is an honor and pleasure for you to allow me being here tonight," Nelly said,



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**The evening's headliner, rapper Nelly, proved his performance was one big party during his Friday, Dec. 28 Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort show.**

repetitively thanking the audience for attending.

Along with the "Cruise" performance, a couple more country songs were featured throughout the mostly hip-hop evening. Nelly performed "Over and Over," a slow ballad and duet he recorded with country music star Tim McGraw and "Die a Happy Man," after giving the song's

artist, Thomas Rhett, a special shout out.

The DJ took a moment to blast more rap music as audience members danced along. "All I Do Is Win," "Get Low" and "Topsy" blared throughout the speakers.

Nelly continued his performance with "Air Force Ones," "Hot in Herre," "Dilemma" and "Just a Dream."

"Thank each and every one of you," Nelly said, again, showing appreciation to his fans before exiting the stage.

Rapper Chingy also delivered a high-energy, entertaining concert.

After performing "Dem Jeans," one of the first words Chingy spoke to the audience was a loud, enthusiastic, "Mooount Pleasaaaaasant!"

"I came all the way from St. Louis to party with ya'll," Chingy said.

Chingy has a history with Nelly: he toured as the rapper's opening act in the summer of 2002. Chingy then became a

protégé of rapper Ludacris, who signed him to his newly-formed, at the time, Disturbing Tha Peace record label.

Chingy had the audience hollering and singing along to "Holidae In" and "Pullin' Me Back."

After "One Call Away," Chingy said, "I dedicate that to all of the beautiful ladies in the house tonight."

Chingy ended his portion of the show with "Right Thurr," his 2003 summer debut hit single.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Murphy Lee kicked off the evening of hip-hop music with his 20-minute set.**



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Rapper Chingy holds out the microphone for his fans to sing along to his song "Dem Jeans."**

## Two-in-one country music show brings Sammy Kershaw, Aaron Tippin to the stage

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

It was a country music two-in-one special as both Sammy Kershaw and Aaron Tippin, together, graced the Soaring Eagle stage during their Saturday, Dec. 29 show in the Entertainment Hall.

Sammy Kershaw, 60, an American country music artist, has released 16 studio albums and more than 25 of his singles have entered the Top 40 on the Billboard Hot Country Songs charts.

Country music artist and record producer Aaron Tippin, 60, has released nine studio albums, and has charted more than 30 singles on the Billboard Hot Country Songs charts – three have been number one hits.

The two artists were introduced on stage by Tim "Fun Gov" McCullough, senior executive casino host for Soaring Eagle.

Both Kershaw and Tippin each took turns performing one of their most popular hit songs. The other artist often played along on guitar and/or provided harmonies.

Tippin performed first with his song "You've Got To Stand For Something."

"Thank you for remembering that old country song,"



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Together on stage, American country musicians Sammy Kershaw (left) and Aaron Tippin (right) take turns performing each of their most well-known hit songs while the other strums along on guitar and/or provides harmonies during their Saturday, Dec. 29 show in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort's Entertainment Hall.**

Kershaw said of "Yard Sale" after the applause from the audience and noticing audience members who were singing along.

Next, Tippin performed "My Blue Angel," and impulsively asked Kershaw to sing the entire second verse, catching Kershaw off guard, but luckily, he knew the lyrics.

"The cool thing about (performing together)... and we do this often... is we switch up our parts, do the harmony on it... but that's the first time I

told Sammy to take the second verse," Tippin said.

Other songs of Tippin's, performed that evening include "I Got It Honest," "Working Man's Ph.D.," "Big Boy Toys," "Honky-Tonk Superman," "There Ain't Nothin' Wrong with the Radio," "Where The Stars And Stripes And Eagle Fly," "He Believed" and "Kiss This."

"The cool thing about country music; the songs you hear, almost anybody in country could sing it and they would

get a hit song... I'm a country singer and I'm going to die a country singer," Kershaw said about today's hit songs on the radio that he does not believe are true country tunes.

Kershaw's songs performed that evening included "Vidalia," "Haunted Heart," "National Working Woman's Holiday," "Third Rate Romance," "Cadillac Style," "The Snow White Rows of Arlington," "She Don't Know She's Beautiful" and "Queen of My Double Wide Trailer."

With a little back-and-forth banter, Kershaw teased about how Tippin achieved several number one hits, while Kershaw had never achieved a number one, he said.

"Sorry Sammy, you're a slow learner," Tippin said, laughing.

The two musicians also performed a couple cover songs: George Jones' "He Stopped Loving Her Today" and Waylon Jennings' "Are You Sure Hank Done It This Way," which concluded the show.

Soaring Eagle  
**BINGO**



**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2**

**SUPER SATURDAY**

**BINGO**

**BINGO MILLIONS**

Warm Ups - 12PM | Early Bird - 1:30PM  
Main Session - 3PM | Late Owl - 7:30PM

**MAIN SESSION PAYS OUT OVER \$30,000!**

With our new Bingo Millions Add-on you could win **\$1,000,000!**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14** 1:30PM & 7:00PM SESSIONS

**2 BINGO PLAYERS EACH SESSION WILL WIN AN OVERNIGHT STAY AND \$200 SPA CREDIT & \$100 STEAKHOUSE CREDIT!**

**PLUS, FREE VALENTINE'S DAUBER!**  
\*While supplies last



**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

Winterfest  
**BINGO**

PAYING OUT OVER  
**\$60,000**  
IN CASH &  
PRIZES!

**BINGO MILLIONS**

With our new Bingo Millions Add-on you could win **\$1,000,000!**

**3:00PM MAIN SESSION BINGO PLAYERS COULD WIN 1 of 25 Harry & David Gifts OR Native Grind Pie Vouchers**

**Plus, session purchasers will receive a complimentary Prime Rib Sandwich!**



BRING ON THE  
**bliss**



## Michiganders urged to take precautions against norovirus

### MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LANSING, Mich. – Norovirus illness often peaks in winter. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has identified increases in norovirus activity recently and is urging Michigan residents to take precautions to stay healthy.

Although several viruses can cause vomiting and diarrhea, norovirus is the most common. These viruses are easily spread through food, by person-to-person contact or

through contaminated surfaces. Take caution if someone in your household is ill.

Norovirus infection is sometimes described as a stomach flu but it is not related to influenza (flu), a respiratory viral illness that can cause fever, cough, chills, headache, muscle aches, runny nose and sore throat.

Norovirus often causes nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and stomach cramping, but infected people may also have a low-grade fever, headache, weakness and muscle aches.

Symptoms can begin as early as 12 hours after exposure to the virus or as late as 72 hours.

The symptoms of norovirus usually last one to three days. In most cases, ill individuals fully recover without medical attention.

However, norovirus infection may result in hospitalization due to dehydration, especially in the very young and elderly. Individuals with severe diarrhea should drink lots of liquids.

Symptoms that are not seen with norovirus infection are bloody diarrhea or high fever. If these symptoms develop, contact your medical provider.

The best way to limit the spread of these viruses is frequent hand washing for at least

20 seconds using soap and warm running water, being sure to completely clean all areas of hands and under fingernails. This is especially important after using the bathroom or before preparing or eating food.

Preventing contamination of food, drinks, water and ice is also very important. People who have been sick with vomiting and diarrhea should not prepare or serve food to others for at least three days after their symptoms are gone.

One-third cup of bleach diluted with one gallon of water is the most effective way to disinfect surfaces. Bleach should

be used in well-ventilated areas.

Hand sanitizers are ineffective against the virus.

Norovirus can remain on a variety of surfaces for extended periods of time. Doorknobs, faucets, sinks, toilets, bath rails, phones, counters, chairs, tables, hand rails, light switches, keyboards and other high-touch surfaces should be disinfected more frequently, but especially within a 25-foot radius after a vomiting incident.

Steam clean carpets and upholstery and launder clothes or linens contaminated with vomit or feces on the hottest setting.

## Following the storytelling tradition: A message of wellness

### INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF MICHIGAN

HANNAHVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY – Mia Smith, a Hannahville Indian Community family member, shared her family health story about the importance of knowing family health history, the importance of early screening and the tools she and her family use to cope and care for her mother who is suffering from multiple forms of cancer, including breast and colorectal cancer.

Mia shared her story for a statewide campaign distributed by the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan to encourage Native Americans to share their family health history with their family and doctors so they can be

assessed for their individual cancer screening needs.

“Knowing your health history is huge. We talk a lot about our family history. We just happen to know that. Knowing I’m at risk, I watch for everything,” Mia said in her story.

“Traditional story telling is a Native American tradition used to educate children about cultural norms and values, and integrating family health history into these discussions will inform family members what diseases run in their family. This information is key to cancer prevention, and delaying onset and heart disease,” said Beth Sieloff, program manager at Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan.

Cancer, diabetes and heart disease don’t have to be a death sentence in Native American

communities. Some diseases like cancer are preventable and curable with early screening.

Native Americans have a higher risk of developing colorectal cancer prior to reaching the age 50, the recommended U.S. Preventative Services Task Force screening age for colorectal cancer. Additionally, Native Americans in Michigan are more likely to develop colorectal cancer at a younger age than non-Hispanic whites.

Colorectal cancer is one cancer that is often preventable when individuals notify their physicians that they have family history of colorectal cancer.

It is important that Native Americans continue their cultural traditions and integrate family health history and

wellness traditions into the stories of their family history.

Mia’s story will be distributed as a three-minute digital story for airing in tribal health clinics, at health presentations, and available online. The Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan is distributing a shortened 30-second version of her story to air as a PSA throughout Michigan.

There is also a 60 second radio PSA that will be distributed, along with a Family Health History education card funded by MDHHS that is culturally specific to American Indians and the importance of knowing and sharing family health history.

The stories were filmed and edited by a Northern Michigan Company, Lamphere Visuals of Gaylord, Mich.



Mia Smith resides in the Hannahville Indian Community and tells her story about the importance of talking about family health history and scheduling regular cancer screenings with a doctor. Her story is told as a digital story, TV and radio PSAs, and distributed by the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan.

To see Mia’s full story and to learn more, visit: [www.itcmi.org/FamilyHealthHistory](http://www.itcmi.org/FamilyHealthHistory)

## Wear Red Day held on Feb. 1 for National Heart Health Awareness Month

### JENNA WINCHEL

Women’s Health Coordinator

February is always full of red hearts, candy and roses for Valentine’s Day, of course; however, did you know that February is National Heart Health Awareness Month?

Each year, the American Heart Association: Go Red for Women campaign pushes for heart health awareness by hosting a Wear Red Day. This year it was held on Friday, Feb. 1.

Did you know that heart disease is also known as the ‘silent killer’?

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), heart disease is the leading cause of death for people of most ethnicities in the United States, including African Americans, Hispanics, and whites.

For American Indians or Alaska Natives and Asians or Pacific Islanders, heart disease is second only to cancer.

So, do you think you know the signs of a heart attack?

The signs/symptoms may slightly vary between individuals but remember to contact help with any unusual symptoms you are having.

Here are some of the common signs/symptoms of a heart attack: lightheadedness; nausea and vomiting; jaw, neck or back pain; discomfort or pain in arm or shoulder; pain and discomfort in chest; cold sweats; inability to sleep; increase in fatigue and shortness of breath.

If you are experiencing any signs or symptoms of a heart

attack, it is best to get help right away, don’t delay because time is muscle! It is also important

to follow up with your primary health care provider yearly or as recommended.

Nimkee Fitness Center Group Exercise Schedule February 2019					
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		
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		
5:30 p.m.		Yoga Tammy		Yoga Tammy	



## Nurse charged with assault of disabled Native woman, raising questions about how to keep patients safe

**AMANDA SAKUMA**

Freelance Journalist

*(Editor's note: The following article is a reprint from Rewire. News, published on Jan. 31 in the Health Systems section.)*

The case poses difficult questions about the level of oversight and accountability afforded to patients in long-term care facilities.

Last December, an incapacitated Native woman in Arizona gave birth unexpectedly at a long-term care facility in a case that's drawn national outcry.

Phoenix police arrested 36-year-old Nathan Sutherland last Tuesday and charged him with one count of sexual assault and one count of vulnerable adult abuse after police linked his DNA to the newborn baby boy.

The case in Arizona raises a specter no one wants to believe: that the very people who tend to the needs of others, around-the-clock and seven days a week, may ultimately be responsible for victims' harm. In turn, it poses difficult questions about the level of oversight and accountability afforded to patients in long-term care facilities.

At the center of the recent scrutiny is Hacienda HealthCare, a privately-run facility based in Arizona that specializes in care for chronically ill and developmentally disabled patients. The company's longtime CEO abruptly resigned once news of the

victim's apparent assault came to light. Two doctors subsequently stepped down. Other staffers at the facility were also seemingly unaware that the patient was pregnant until she went into labor.

A panicked 911 call from a nurse, just as the baby was being born, shows the extent to which staffers at Hacienda were taken off guard by the pregnancy.

The victim, a 29-year-old member of the San Carlos Apache Tribe, had been a patient at the facility since the age of 3 following a near-drowning accident that left her incapacitated.

Contrary to previous reports that she was comatose or in a persistent vegetative state, the woman's family says she has some mobility in her limbs, head, and neck, and can make facial gestures and respond to sounds.

According to court records, her last physical was in April—about 37 weeks prior to her giving birth—when physicians noted her “firm belly,” but gave no indication that she might be pregnant.

Sutherland's employment was terminated “the moment our leadership team learned of his arrest,” a spokesperson for Hacienda said in a statement to the press last Tuesday. Still, many unanswered questions surround the case: Has Sutherland assaulted other patients in the past? Were his colleagues aware of his behavior?

Compounding the chain of alleged missteps at Hacienda are chronic issues that have dogged the long-term care

industry for decades. High turnover rates and low staffing levels have strained facilities nationwide, making it difficult for administrators to ensure that training is adequate and employee standards are met.

“It's a huge problem,” said Lori Smetanka, executive director of the National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care, an advocacy organization that champions oversight and accountability. “The wages are low, the conditions are difficult, and the facilities are choosing to put their resources elsewhere—not only does that impact quality care, it also raises the potential for abuse to occur.”

Indeed, staff retention has long been an issue for long-term care facilities.

The Federal government does not specify a minimum ratio of staffers required on-duty relative to the number of patients, meaning it is up to individual facilities to determine how many nurses and supervisors should be available during nights and weekends to do hands-on, around-the-clock care.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the median wage for licensed practical nurses is \$45,000 per year. Smetanka noted that the relatively low wages, paired with the frequent difficulties of the job, give few incentives for quality nurses to stick around long.

Studies show that for decades, the average annual turnover rates for licensed practical nurses in long-term care facilities have ranged between 55 percent and 75 percent.

Retention is especially difficult with nurses' aides. At their worst, annual turnover rates for those positions were found approaching 100 percent nationally.

The squeeze on staffing is likely to get worse over time. As the Baby Boomer population ages, the Department of Labor expects the need for qualified nurses at residential care facilities to rise dramatically. Whether those facilities will have the means to recruit top talent to those positions, however, is another question entirely.

Research consistently shows that high turnover rates at long-term care facilities can adversely affect care.

One study found that high turnover among certified nurses' assistants was associated with “significantly higher odds of pressure ulcers, pain, and urinary tract infections” among patients.

While residents and their families have long-complained that staffing deficiencies were having a negative

impact on the quality of care, Smetanka said, little has been done to fully address the underlying causes of the staffing shortages.

“This has always been a problem—you can go back decades and it still is the number one complaint,” Smetanka said.

The vetting process for staffers who are constantly in and out the door gets difficult for providers, opening up the possibility that potential perpetrators may sometimes slip through the cracks.

Hacienda has already had problems in the past with employee behavior. As recently as 2013, administrators fielded complaints that a male employee made sexually explicit remarks about patients—in one instance, the employee reportedly crossed the line, with verbal remarks while giving a patient a bath.

All long-term care facilities, like Hacienda, are required by federal law to carry out full background checks on prospective employees. But advocates say the system often fails to root out bad apples.

Prior to being arrested Tuesday, Sutherland had no criminal record and passed his background check without raising any red flags.

“A lot of perpetrators don't have criminal records for committing sexual harm because most people don't report their sexual assaults. Or when they do, it doesn't always lead to a conviction,” Tasha Menaker, a spokeswoman for the Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence, told Rewire.News.

And just because a prospective employee's background may appear clean at first glance, that doesn't mean they have nothing to hide.

As Smetanka notes, the vetting process for long-term care facilities varies from state to state. Some just look into criminal records within their own state, even though suspected offenders may move around to hide their criminal past, or jump from facility to facility to obscure intense scrutiny.

Advocates have long considered these types of perpetrators to be opportunistic in targeting particularly vulnerable populations. In recent years, we've seen a number of cases involving long-term care providers who've abused their power, and facility administrators who've excused their behavior.

The case in Arizona highlights exactly such a problem. The woman has not been identified. But local activists say given the extent of her disabilities, and her around-the-clock

dependence on others day-in and day-out, they were expecting that the perpetrator worked closely around her.

“We weren't surprised it was an employee, because an employee has significant access, while the survivor couldn't speak, she couldn't fight back,” Menaker said.

Since news first came to light, Hacienda has agreed to increase its security and staffing levels to ensure that male employees be accompanied by another person whenever treating female patients. State agencies have ordered Hacienda to install security cameras at its facilities and bring a third-party manager on the payroll to oversee care.

And now, Arizona lawmakers are raising alarms that Hacienda hasn't been licensed by the state in more than 20 years. Thanks to an obscure 1997 law, immediate-care facilities like Hacienda are exempt from state licensing requirements.

An investigation by the Arizona Republic found that a separate state law gave Hacienda a remarkable amount of power to charge high rates—Hacienda effectively held a monopoly on the market of privately owned, immediate-care facilities until that law was changed in 2015.

Arizona lawmakers say they plan to introduce legislation to change the 1997 law, which would add an extra layer of state-level oversight to compel compliance from facilities.

Gov. Doug Ducey (R) has indicated he would support such a bill if it made it to his desk. But as the state moves forward with proposals to regulate the industry, the Federal government is scaling back: In December 2017, the Trump Administration changed its regulatory policies to discourage the use of fines against nursing homes cited for wrongdoing.

In the meantime, advocates are urging families who have loved ones in long-term care to remain vigilant toward signs of abuse or changes in behavior. Each state has an ombudsman program to help facilitate oversight and investigate complaints filed by individuals. But in many cases, the buck stops with facility administrators and regulators to ensure that enough nurses are available for around-the-clock care and that supervisors are available to manage and oversee staff.

“The fact that they have not really addressed the short staffing issue has been problematic,” Smetanka said. “I think there is more they can do to protect the residents in their care.”

### Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center Emergency Room Policy

All bills from the Emergency Room (ER) must be deemed a true emergency. If insurance does not deem it an emergency based on diagnosis code, Purchased Referred Care (PRC) will not process the bill for payment. PRC is the payer of last resort; it is not guaranteed. The patient will be responsible for the amount of the ER visit.

#### Listed below are the IHS guidelines:

**Priority 1A:** All medical emergencies, eye (acute, painful or visually threat conditions), dental (control bleeding, airway compromise, severe pain, fractures), mental health (immediate danger to self or others, regardless of “voluntary or involuntary status,” includes physical neglect/abuse, sexual assault).

**Priority 1B:** Acute illness, pre-natal/obstetrics, diagnostic and screening testing (contract lab, bone marrow biopsy, EEG, endoscopy, colonoscopy/sigmoidoscopy, radiologic testing (MRI, CT, ultrasound), health promotion/disease prevention, immunizations, mammography (diagnostic), pap smears, GYN-colonoscopy, area of program specific objectives, non-emergency surgery for “high risk categories”, tubal ligation (post-partum and high risk), vasectomy (high risk).

#### Procedure

1. The claim will be reviewed by PRC Clerk.
2. The PRC Clerk will verify the patient is eligible and followed policy.
3. If Insurance paid based on the diagnosis code the bill will be submitted for payment.
4. If the Insurance did not pay due to the diagnosis code:
  - The bill will be denied.
  - The PRC Clerk will send a denial in the mail.
  - The patient will be able to appeal the decision to the Managed Care team, Health Board and Tribal Council.



## Status of public assistance benefits, Medicaid during government shutdown

### STATE OF MICHIGAN

Department of Health and Human Services

*(Editor's note: The following is the current status on public assistance benefits during Tribal Observer press time.)*

LANSING, Mich. – Michigan residents still can apply for and receive Medicaid and public assistance benefits such as food and cash assistance; Women, Infants and Children (WIC); State Emergency Relief and child care reimbursement despite the partial federal government shutdown.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services is clarifying the status of the programs, which receive federal dollars but are administered by MDHHS.

The state has determined there will be no impact to the availability of benefits through these programs in February even if the shutdown continues. There has been no official determination made on March benefits.

“The partial federal government shutdown has understandably created concerns from families that rely on federal safety net assistance administered by MDHHS,” said Terrence Beurer, deputy director of Field Operations Administration for MDHHS. “Programs that feed Michigan residents are a primary concern of the State of Michigan, and we have heard misinformation being spread about the immediate impact of the shutdown.”

Beurer continued, “We want people to know that MDHHS is prepared to continue to provide

this assistance and that funding remains in place through the end of February.”

Below are updates on the status of various federally-funded programs administered by MDHHS:

- Food Assistance Program: MDHHS issued February food assistance payments early beginning on Jan. 17. The federal government asked states to issue the assistance early to ensure that February funding would be available to be issued. Recipients do not need to redeem their benefits in January and MDHHS is urging them to budget their food assistance benefits so they can meet their food needs through the entire month of February.

- WIC: Benefits, which include nutritious food for pregnant and postpartum women, infants and children up to age 5, are funded

for the month of February and are being distributed according to the normal schedule.

- Medical assistance, including Medicaid and Healthy Michigan Plan: Programs are funded through Sept. 30, 2019, the end of the current fiscal year.

- Cash assistance: Funding is in place for January and February.

- State Emergency Relief: Funding for energy-related services such as heating assistance is in place to provide benefits through Sept. 30, 2019. Funding for non-energy-related services – such as home repairs and burials – is in place for January and February.

- Child Development and Care (child care assistance): Funding is in place through the end of April.

Clients who use Bridge

Cards to redeem their food and cash assistance and WIC benefits are still able to do so in January and February.

State government generally can operate seamlessly for about 45 days after a federal shutdown begins. With the shutdown now beyond 30 days, the State Budget Office, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's office and MDHHS are assessing the impact beyond 45 days and into March.

Further information will be released as it becomes available.

Anyone who has questions about all programs above other than WIC can find contact information for their local MDHHS office by going to [www.michigan.gov/contactmdhhs](http://www.michigan.gov/contactmdhhs).

Anyone with questions about WIC can find contact information for their local WIC agency by going to [www.michigan.gov/wic](http://www.michigan.gov/wic).

## Turn to dark chocolate for a heart-healthy treat

### MATTHEW KADEY

MS, RD

*(The following article was provided by the January 2019 Environmental Nutrition edition.)*

The mighty Mayans touted it as the “Food of the Gods,” and ever since millions of palates have been held hostage to the seductive, silky ways of chocolate.

Beyond chocolate's feel-good factor – partly in thanks to a mix of naturally-occurring stimulants, including caffeine and theobromine – modern research has wonderful news for chocoholics: this not-so-guilty pleasure may have some health benefits.

**Deep chocolate health benefits.** Habitual chocolate intake might be one weapon against heart disease and stroke, according to a British study involving nearly 21,000 adults. Chocolate intake appears to help improve artery functioning and reduce blood pressure levels.

A 2016 study in the journal *Appetite* found a link between frequent chocolate consumption and improved brain functioning, including memory. This could make chocolate an ally for fighting cognitive diseases, such as Alzheimer's.



What's more, a 2015 American Journal of Clinical Nutrition investigation discovered that indulging in chocolate at least twice per week may help lessen the risk for Type 2 diabetes.

**What's so special about chocolate?** Chocolate is made from cocoa beans, including a paste containing cocoa solids and cocoa butter (indicated on labels as chocolate liquor or cocoa mass). Those cocoa beans are a source of antioxidants, including flavonoids and polyphenols, according to nutrition consultant Alissa Rumsey, MS, RD.

“These antioxidants help our body fight off free radicals and repair damage,” Rumsey said.

An ounce of dark chocolate (70 to 85 percent cacao) also supplies a range of nutrients, including fiber, iron, magnesium, copper, and manganese. While chocolate is a source of the saturated fat stearic acid, Rumsey said, unlike some other saturated fats, it appears to have a neutral impact on cholesterol numbers.

**Real chocolate you can feel good about.** So feel

free to luxuriate in a piece of dark chocolate each day, but just keep a few facts in mind before you embrace your inner Willy Wonka.

**Look for Dark Chocolate.** Not all dark chocolate is that dark, thus won't pack much of a health punch. The problem is that there is no regulation over the term “dark chocolate,” so chocolate products listing sugar before cocoa in their ingredients list can still tout themselves as being dark.

“Choose chocolate that is at least 70 percent cocoa,” Rumsey said.

This should be clearly stated on the package. Generally speaking, the higher the percentage the more cocoa-derived antioxidants you should get. However, a ConsumerLab.com investigation found the exact amount of flavonoids can vary from bar to bar, depending on factors such as cocoa bean variety and processing methods like fermentation, alkali exposure, and roasting.

One thing that's clear: milk chocolate bars, which can have as little as 10 percent cocoa, are not a good source of antioxidants.

### Dark Chocolate Delights

These richly-flavored dark bars are a great way to get your chocolate fix.

- Alter Eco Dark Blackout (85 percent cocoa)
- Dagoba Rich Dark (74 percent cocoa)
- Endangered Species Dark Chocolate with Cacao Nibs (72 percent cocoa)
- Ghirardelli Intense Dark Twilight Delight (72 percent cocoa)
- Green & Black's Pure Dark Chocolate Sea Salt (70 percent cocoa)
- Lindt Excellence Ecuador (70 percent cocoa)
- Newman's Own Organic Dark Chocolate (70 percent cocoa)
- Traders Joe's The Dark Chocolate Lover's Chocolate Bar (85 percent cocoa)

**Train your taste buds for bitter.** While antioxidants in dark chocolate make it a better-for-you treat, they do lend it a bitter flavor. So you may need to train your taste buds by starting off with bars that provide a lower cocoa percentage, say around 50 percent, and then gradually working your way up from there.

Soon, you may find yourself craving a bar with upwards of 80 percent cocoa. Baking or unsweetened chocolate is pure cocoa, making it chockablock with antioxidants but crazy bitter, which is why it's most often added to recipes that also contain sugar.

Cocoa powder is the unsweetened substance left from pressed, ground cocoa

beans; if not treated with alkali (Dutch-processed to make it milder in flavor) it's likely a great source of antioxidants.

**Remember portion control.** For all that is good about dark chocolate, it's still prudent to practice portion control to keep your daily calorie intake in check and lessen the risk for unwanted weight gain.

A good rule of thumb is to limit yourself to about one ounce daily, which is roughly 150 calories. Eat too much and any potential health perks will be outweighed by chocolate's potential harm to the waistline.

And a daily chocolate treat still doesn't negate the need to load up on vegetables and fruits as other sources of disease-fighting antioxidants.

## One Member Needed

For the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Health Board

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

Meetings are held once a month and a stipend is given for each meeting attended (if eligible). Will need Tribal Council approval.

**Deadline: Feb. 28, 2019**

If you have any questions, please call Michelle at 989.775.4602

### If interested:

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

### Mail or bring to the Nimkee Clinic:

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

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

### Chocolate Nut and Fruit Clusters

**Servings:** Makes 12 servings

#### Ingredients:

- 6 oz dark chocolate bars, chopped
- 1/2 tsp cayenne (optional)
- 1/2 tsp cinnamon
- 1/2 c shelled unsalted pistachios
- 1/2 tsp ginger powder
- 1/2 c dried cherries
- Coarse salt (optional)

**Nutrition Information Per Serving:** 124 calories, 7 grams (g) fat, 4 g saturated fat, 13 g carbohydrate, 9 g sugar, 2 g protein, 2 g dietary fiber, 3 milligrams sodium.



## Andahwod elders, staff celebrate what would have been Elvis' 84th birthday

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

On Jan. 8, Andahwod residents and elders celebrate the day that would have been Elvis Presley's 84th birthday, in the community room of Andahwod Continuing Care and Elders Services.

The afternoon also included an Elvis-inspired game of "Name That Tune," led by John

Gerhard, training instructor for HR. Game participants earned points for knowing the song title, artist, singing and dancing.

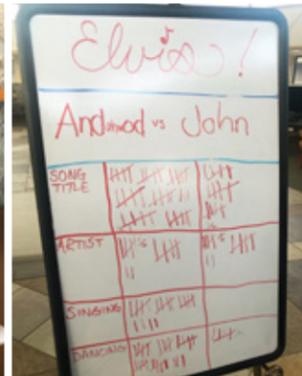
Along with the free entertainment, participants were served appetizers and refreshments.

All competitors, regardless of their knowledge of the King of Rock 'n' Roll trivia, enjoyed the friendly competition, storytelling and laughs.



Photos courtesy of Tomarrah Green

Photo courtesy of Joseph Sowmick





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The Tribal Observer is the monthly publication of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

The Observer is available to Tribal Members of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe, reaching approximately 3,000 members. The Observer is also distributed via break rooms of the Saginaw Chippewa Businesses and is available to 4,000 associates. The Observer is distributed in each of the hotel rooms in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort. Display boxes are located at Sagamok Shell (Mount Pleasant and Saganing), Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Saganing Eagles, Landing Casino and the Ziibiwing Center Gift shops.

The Observer can also be viewed exclusively online at [www.sagchip.org/TribalObserver](http://www.sagchip.org/TribalObserver).

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## Festival of Trees collects \$965 donation for Andahwod Elder Services

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

The Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel's third annual Festival of Trees charity event raised \$965 for Andahwod Continuing Care and Elders Services.

On Nov. 29, participants returned their decorated trees to the Waterpark. From Dec. 1-14, bids were accepted for the decorated trees.

On Thursday, Jan. 24, Waterpark and Migizi Economic Development Co. representatives delivered the check to Andahwod.

The funds will go towards the rebuilding of Andahwod's

craft area and will help create a new elder lounge.

"With more residents living at Andahwod, the space for crafts has become tight so we are working on turning the pool natatorium into a large all-purpose craft area and the old craft room converted to an elder lounge," said Gayle Ruhl, assisted living administrator for Andahwod. "These funds will help with this project for elders in the community."

(Photographed left to right in the photo are: Ruhl; Terry Bonnau, chairman for the Elder's Advisory Board; Nicole Falk, promotions lead for the Waterpark; Cindy Fugiel, housekeeping manager



Courtesy of Gina Borushko

**A total of \$965 was donated to Andahwod Continuing Care and Elders Services. The funds were raised through the Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel's third annual Festival of Trees charity event.**

for the Waterpark; Cynthia Floyd, member of the Elder's Advisor Board; Nan Katzinger,

housekeeping supervisor for the Waterpark; Bonnie Sprague, general manager

for the Waterpark; and Kassy Heard, administrative assistant II for the Waterpark.)

## Agency on aging provided more than one million meals during fiscal year 2018

**REGION VII AREA  
AGENCY ON AGING**

BAY CITY, Mich. – Region VII Area Agency on Aging and the local units on aging in Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Isabella, Midland, Saginaw, Sanilac and Tuscola counties have provided 1,006,454 meals in fiscal year 2018 using Older Americans' Act, Older Michiganians' Act, local funds and program donations from recipients and family members.

Meals provided are the equivalent of one-third of the recommended daily allowances of protein, carbohydrates, fruits and vegetables for a person age 60 or older.

The social aspect of meeting at a congregate dining site

has positive implications, while the face-to-face contact made between the delivery driver and the home-bound elder adult receiving hot, noon time meal serves as a brief and informal well check.

Inconsistencies are reported back to the office so that an emergency contact may be notified if a person who is expected to be home is not answering the door.

Commonly referred to as Meals on Wheels, this program exists throughout America and was launched by the 1965 Older Americans Act. Region VII AAA covers 11 percent of Michigan.

To inquire about home-delivered meals, contact a local unit on aging or call Region VII AAA at **1-800-858-1637** for additional information.

**Andahwod Elder Services**

### Candy Grams

**On sale Jan. 28th - Feb. 8th**

**\$5.00 each**

**Delivery to local SCIT, SECR departments and area schools.**

**For more info call 775-4300.**

## Elders Advisory Board Vacancies

**Two vacancies need to be filled.**

**Interested elders must meet the following eligibility requirements:**

- ▶ 50 years or 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

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

## February Andahwod events

**Euchre & Potluck**  
Mondays | 6 p.m.

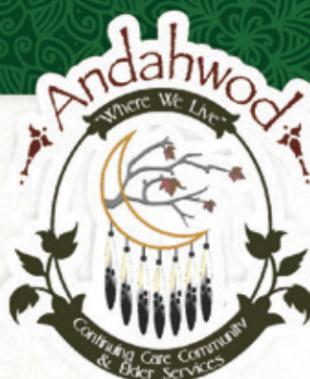
**Language Bingo**  
Feb. 7 | 1-3 p.m.

**Bingo with Friends**  
Feb. 11 | 1 p.m.

**Valentine's Social & Auction**  
Feb. 9 | 1-3 p.m.

**Elders Breakfast**  
Feb. 13 & 27 | 9-10 a.m.

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



**For more information, please call: 989.775.4300**

## February 2019 Tribal Elder Birthdays

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>1</b> Todd Bergevin<br/>Cathy Floyd<br/>John Kampf Jr.<br/>Eliza Owl<br/>Bonnie Sprague<br/>Gail Smith</p> | <p><b>15</b> Mark Steele</p>  |
| <p><b>2</b> Deborah Meskill<br/>Tammy Holbrook<br/>Carl Sandford Pelcher<br/>Robert Shawboose</p>                | <p><b>16</b> Kathy Dintaman<br/>Darryl Jackson<br/>Florence Sprague</p>   |
| <p><b>3</b> Kelly Hartwell<br/>Mark Martin<br/>Robin Martin<br/>Martha Pudvay<br/>Donna Trapp<br/>Tom Waynee</p> | <p><b>17</b> DeAnna Baker<br/>Lori Mazur</p>  |
| <p><b>4</b> Wayne Ritter<br/>Juanita Slater<br/>Roland Jackson</p>   | <p><b>18</b> Richard Byce</p>   |
| <p><b>5</b> Mary Graveratte<br/>Marcia Kelsall</p>   | <p><b>19</b> Joan Cline<br/>Milton Pelcher<br/>James McDonald<br/>Walter Slavik</p>   |
| <p><b>6</b> Barbara Brodie<br/>Timothy Davis<br/>Mark Grischke<br/>Esther Bailey<br/>Kirk Walraven</p>           | <p><b>20</b> Ronald Bonnau<br/>Peggy Goebel<br/>Nancy Miller</p>  |
| <p><b>7</b> Patrick Nahgahgwon<br/>Scott Pego</p>  | <p><b>21</b> Steven Sowmick<br/>Greggory Dutton<br/>Savannah Star-Rice</p>  |
| <p><b>8</b> Linda Craig<br/>Debra Marler<br/>Linda Martin</p>  | <p><b>22</b> Tracy Mays<br/>Chester Cabay III<br/>Rebecca Rittmaier</p>   |
| <p><b>9</b> Raymond Davis<br/>James Burnham<br/>Linda Powell-Champagne</p>                                       | <p><b>23</b> Susan Bettistea<br/>Betty Brief<br/>Dorothy Brown<br/>Kevin Fallis<br/>Kelly Kendall<br/>Kathie Kozuch<br/>Ralph Mays<br/>Bunny Roth</p> |
| <p><b>10</b> Paul Rueckert Sr.<br/>LeRoy Scharaswak</p>  | <p><b>24</b> Dianna Chamberlain<br/>Judith McLellan<br/>Mark Starkey<br/>David McConnell<br/>Bernard Wright</p>                                       |
| <p><b>11</b> Mark Schafer<br/>Karen Cantlin<br/>Kyle Garlick<br/>Michael Pashence</p>                            | <p><b>25</b> Cynthia Quigno<br/>Shirley Robertson</p>   |
| <p><b>12</b> Bonnie Ekdahl</p>   | <p><b>26</b> Leon Reed<br/>Willie Bailey Jr.<br/>Lorna McDonald<br/>Edward Phelps</p>   |
| <p><b>13</b> Paul Bailey<br/>Evelyn Castaneda<br/>Sheri Lairson</p>  | <p><b>27</b> Frederick Bennett<br/>Dawn Chippewa<br/>Jeremy Sawmick<br/>Alvin Jackson</p>   |
| <p><b>15</b> Norman Cyr Sr.<br/>Terry Vasquez<br/>Jeffrey Sprague</p>  | <p><b>28</b> Adelaide Davis<br/>Evelyn Sharon</p>   |
|  | <p><b>29</b> Julie Chamberlain</p>  |



## FEBRUARY 2019 | Tribal Community Event Planner

### Sober Super Bowl Tailgating Party

Feb. 3 | 3 - 5 p.m.  
 • Eagles Nest Tribal Gym  
 • 989.775.4649

### Parenting the Love and Logic Way®

Feb. 4, 11, 18 | 4 - 6 p.m.  
 • Location: Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center  
 • Contact: 989.775.4616

### Storytelling in the Lodge

Feb. 5 | 3 - 5 p.m.  
 • Location: Seventh Generation  
 • Contact: 989.775.4780

### Ishkode Teachings with Don Syrette

Feb. 6 | 3 - 6 p.m.  
 • Seventh Generation  
 • 989.775.4780

### Saganing Talking Circle

Feb. 6, 20 | 5 - 6:30 p.m.  
 • Saganing Tribal Center  
 • 989.775.4879

### Anishinaabemowin and Sacred Fire lunches

Feb. 7, 21 | 12 - 1 p.m.  
 • Seventh Generation  
 • 989.775.4780

### Free Auricular (Ear) Acupuncture

Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28 | 4 - 6 p.m.  
 • Behavioral Health  
 • 989.775.4895  
 Feb. 6, 20 | 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
 • Saganing Tribal Center  
 • 989.775.4895 or 989.775.5850

### Community Sewing Night

Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28 | 5 - 8 p.m.  
 • Seventh Generation

### Drums Out: Singing for Fun

Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28 | 6 - 8 p.m.  
 • Seventh Generation Blue House

### Project Venture Family Night

Feb. 7 | 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
 • Eagles Nest Tribal Gym  
 • 989.775.4920  
 • Project Venture registration, games, food, prizes, giveaways and more!

### Menopause and Beyond

Feb. 8 | 12 - 3 p.m.  
 • Nimkee Public Health Kitchen  
 • 989.775.4649

### Snow Shoe Workshop

Feb. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 | 5 - 8 p.m.  
 • Seventh Generation  
 • 989.775.4780

### Healing to Wellness Ribbon Cutting

Feb. 12 | 3:30 p.m.  
 • Tribal Court Lobby  
 • Please join us for cake and refreshments.

### Healthy Heart Breakfast

Feb. 14 | 8 - 10 a.m.  
 • Nimkee Public Health Kitchen  
 • Start your day with a delicious Egg McNimkee!  
 • Learn Anishinaabemowin  
 • Blood sugar and blood pressure screenings  
 • Join us for bingo while you enjoy breakfast

### Project Venture Adventure Seminar

Feb. 16 | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
 • CMU Rock Climbing Wall  
 • Open to first 25 students who register  
 • **Registration: 989.775.4920 or DWinn@sagchip.org**  
 • Free to Project Venture students  
 • Teambuilding, rock climbing and high ropes course

### Recreation Ski Trip to Caberfae Peaks

Feb. 18 | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
 • Caberfae Peaks Ski Resort in Cadillac, Mich.  
 • **Registration:** Friday, Feb. 8, at the main entrance of the Tribal Operations building  
 • You MUST register on Feb. 6, in order to get the \$20 per person group rate.  
 • 989.775.4121  
 • Lift tickets and rental equipment: \$25 per person  
 • Open to Tribal Members and their families.  
 • \$20 deposit required, no refunds.

### Traditional Shaker Workshop

Feb. 20, 21 | 5 - 8 p.m.  
 • Seventh Generation  
 • **Registration: 989.775.4780**  
 • Cost: \$15, (must be paid by Feb. 15 to guarantee spot)  
 • 15 spots available

### SCTC STEAM: Movie Night

Feb. 26 | 5:30 - 8 p.m.  
 • SCTC West Building, Rooms 1 & 2  
 • Open to first 25 students who register  
 • Featured movie: "Rumble"

### Free Blood Sugar Screenings

March 14 | 7 - 9 a.m., 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., 3 - 5 p.m.  
 • 989.775.5624  
 • Soaring Eagle main employee entrance hallway

## FEBRUARY 2019 | Tribal Community Calendar

Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Sat./Sun.

<h3>Save the date: CMU Women's Basketball</h3> <p>McGuirk Arena on Saturday, March 9</p> <p><b>The community is invited to come check out Chippewa Basketball in the McGuirk Lounge at 1 p.m.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food and beverages are included and this is a free event.</li> <li>• Tickets are limited, contact Public Relations to reserve your spot.</li> </ul>				<p>1</p> <p>Drop-in Group B. Health   11:30 a.m.</p> <p>Spirit Bear AA Meeting Andahwod   7 p.m.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>3</p> <p>New Spirit AA Meeting B. Health   4 - 5 p.m.</p>
<p>4</p> <p>Drop-in Group B. Health   5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Women's Traditions Society B. Health   5 - 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Euchre and Potluck Andahwod   6 - 8 p.m.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Open Gym Tribal Gym   5 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Tobacco Ceremony B. Health   8 a.m.</p> <p>Narcotics Anonymous B. Health   7 p.m.</p> <p>Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veterans Society Seniors Room   6 - 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Traditional Teachings Saganing   11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Talking Circle 7<sup>th</sup> Generation   3 - 5 p.m.</p> <p>12-Step Meditation Group B. Health   7 - 9 p.m.</p> <p>Language Bingo Andahwod   1 - 3 p.m.</p> <p>FAN Support Group Seniors Room   7 - 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Drop-in Group B. Health   11:30 a.m.</p> <p>Spirit Bear AA Meeting Andahwod   7 p.m.</p> <p>Storytelling &amp; Soup Saganing   12 - 1:30 p.m.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Peer 360 Recovery Meet &amp; Greet Saganing   12 - 3 p.m.</p> <p>10</p> <p>New Spirit AA Meeting B. Health   4 - 5 p.m.</p>
<p>11</p> <p>Drop-in Group B. Health   5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Women's Traditions Society B. Health   5 - 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Euchre and Potluck Andahwod   6 - 8 p.m.</p> <p>Bingo with Friends Andahwod   1 - 3 p.m.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Open Gym Tribal Gym   5 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Tobacco Ceremony B. Health   8 a.m.</p> <p>Narcotics Anonymous B. Health   7 p.m.</p> <p>Energy Healing Circle B. Health   4 - 5 p.m.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Youth Council Meeting Tribal Ops   5 p.m.</p> <p>Elders Breakfast Andahwod   9 - 10 a.m.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Talking Circle 7<sup>th</sup> Generation   3 - 5 p.m.</p> <p>12-Step Meditation Group B. Health   7 - 9 p.m.</p> <p>Women Supporting Women B. Health   5:30 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Heart Healthy Lunch Saganing   12 - 1 p.m.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Tribal Observer Deadline</p> <p>Drop-in Group B. Health   11:30 a.m.</p> <p>Spirit Bear AA Meeting Andahwod   7 p.m.</p> <p>SCTC STEAM Fundraiser Tribal Gym Kitchen   11a.m. - 2 p.m.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>New Spirit AA Meeting B. Health   4 - 5 p.m.</p>
<p>18</p> <p>Tribal Ops Closed Presidents Day</p> <p>Drop-in Group B. Health   5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Women's Traditions Society B. Health   5 - 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Euchre and Potluck Andahwod   6 - 8 p.m.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Open Gym Tribal Gym   5 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Tobacco Ceremony B. Health   8 a.m.</p> <p>Narcotics Anonymous B. Health   7 p.m.</p> <p>Tax Preparation Andahwod   10 a.m. - 4 p.m.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Tribal Education Advisory Meeting   9 a.m.</p> <p>Rescheduled: Feast Plate Workshop 7<sup>th</sup> Generation   3 - 5 p.m.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Talking Circle 7<sup>th</sup> Generation   3 - 5 p.m.</p> <p>12-Step Meditation Group B. Health   7 - 9 p.m.</p> <p>Rescheduled: Feast Plate Workshop 7<sup>th</sup> Generation   3 - 5 p.m.</p> <p>FAN Monthly Forum Ziibwing   7 - 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Drop-in Group B. Health   11:30 a.m.</p> <p>Spirit Bear AA Meeting Andahwod   7 p.m.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Birthday Bingo Andahwod   12 - 3 p.m.</p> <p>Anishinabe Book Fair Ziibwing   2 - 6 p.m.</p> <p>24</p> <p>New Spirit AA Meeting B. Health   4 - 5 p.m.</p>
<p>25</p> <p>Drop-in Group B. Health   5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Women's Traditions Society B. Health   5 - 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Euchre and Potluck Andahwod   6 - 8 p.m.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Open Gym Tribal Gym   5 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Tobacco Ceremony B. Health   8 a.m.</p> <p>Narcotics Anonymous B. Health   7 p.m.</p> <p>Energy Healing Circle B. Health   1 - 3 p.m.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Elders Breakfast Andahwod   9 - 10 a.m.</p> <p>Youth Council Meeting Tribal Ops   5 p.m.</p> <p>Meritain Insurance Luncheon Saganing   12 - 1:30 p.m.</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Talking Circle 7<sup>th</sup> Generation   3 - 5 p.m.</p> <p>12-Step Meditation Group B. Health   7 - 9 p.m.</p> <p>Women Supporting Women B. Health   5:30 - 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Blind Date with a Book</p> <p>Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Library January 28th thru February 14th, 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SECR Payroll</li> <li>• SCIT Per Capita</li> <li>• SCIT Payroll</li> <li>• Curbside Recycling</li> <li>• Waste Collection*</li> </ul> <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](mailto:observer@sagchip.org), visit our office in Tribal Operations or mail to Tribal Observer, Attn.: Classified, 7070 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Please have all submissions and payment in by deadline. Classified rates are \$10 for 15 words or less and 75 cents per additional word. Any thumbnail image costs an additional \$15. **Apply to job postings online at [www.sagchip.org](http://www.sagchip.org). \* Job postings are subject to change daily.**

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>100</b> Employment     | <b>125</b> Miigwetch     |
| <b>105</b> Lost and Found | <b>130</b> Services      |
| <b>110</b> For Rent       | <b>135</b> Events        |
| <b>115</b> For Sale       | <b>140</b> Giveaways     |
| <b>120</b> Announcements  | <b>145</b> Miscellaneous |

### 100 Employment

#### Tribal Operations

##### Clerical Pool

Must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent. Clerical experience is preferred. Applicants must have a telephone contact number and be available on short notice for short-term employment. Level of knowledge and skills required varies by placement.

##### General Labor Pool

Must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent. Must be physically fit and be able to perform manual labor.

##### Elementary Teacher

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in education or related field. Master's degree preferred. Experience with current assessment requirements, Federal and State standards. Two years teaching experience preferred. Preference will be given to those with proficiency in speaking Ojibwe. Experience working with Native students and communities preferred.

##### Support Home Tech

Open to the public. Associate degree in social services, human services or related field. Two years social services or human services experience preferred. Experience with Native American communities preferred. Must be able to effectively communicate and have good computer skills. Must be able to pass background check to meet the employment eligibility requirements as they pertain to the position.

##### Court Case Manager

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in social work, human services, administration or re-

lated field. CADC certification preferred or must obtain within two years. Two years case management experience. Experience with substance abuse treatment protocols, the judicial and legal system. Experience related to the appropriate recipient population required. Experience with and knowledge of Native American traditions and culture preferred. Experience in working collaboratively across multiple organizations and community systems. Grant writing experience preferred.

##### Clinical Therapist

Open to the public. Master's degree in social work or counseling with focus on mental health. State of Michigan licensed counselor or social worker. Will consider limited license. Two years' experience in counseling. Must have knowledge of, or experience with, Native American communities. Must have reliable transportation.

##### Wildlife Biologist

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in biology. Master's degree in biology preferred. Three years' experience in wildlife biology. Grants management, grant writing and reporting experience. Experience in wildlife, natural resources policy, knowledge of GPS equipment, wildlife management practices, zoology, forestry, ecology, and grants management preferred. Technical writing, accurate verbal and non-verbal communication skills necessary. Program management experience preferred. Must be able to pass background check to meet the employment eligibility requirements as they pertain to the position.

##### Manager of College Advancement

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree. Demonstrated experience with a comprehensive

capital campaign. Eight years of development experience in a leadership or managerial role with increasing responsibility. Ability to successfully lead and motivate professional staff. Ability to create fund raising strategies tied to the broader institutional vision and educational objectives. Knowledge of strategies employed in all major development functions. Proven record of fund-raising success. Demonstrated record of major gift cultivation. Familiarity and/or experience with alumni relations programs.

##### Police Officer

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be a U.S. citizen and at least 21 years of age. Associate degree preferred. MCOLES certified or MCOLES certifiable. Must be able to pass departmental fitness evaluation. Current Special Law Enforcement Commission through the Bureau of Indian Affairs or ability to obtain and maintain. Must not have criminal history that would prevent applicant from acquiring any certification or qualification required. Must have proven integrity and reputation above reproach. Must be able to pass background check to meet the employment eligibility requirements as they pertain to the position.

##### Community Data, Planning & Special Projects Coordinator

Open to the public. Master's degree in social science, social work, public policy, community planning or related field. Minimum of five years' experience working within a Tribal community. Minimum one year experience pursuing grant funding. Experience identifying, compiling and analyzing data to develop reports and make recommendations. Demonstrated analytical skills. Excellent communication, writing, and presentation skills. Excellent organizational skills. Must be able to pass background check to meet the employment eligibility requirements as they pertain to the position.

##### Case Manager - ITC

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in social work, psychology, human services, or related field. One year case management experience. Must have CADC or demonstrated experience working with substance abuse and co-occurring treatment protocols. Experience in working collaboratively across multiple disciplines, organizations, community systems, and a diverse population. Under the supervision of clinical services coordinator, responsible for providing an array of case management and supportive services for clients identified with acute or long-term mental illness, high risk of psychiatric hospitalization or out-of-home placement, and/or substance use disorders.

##### Community Project Manager

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in education, social work, counseling or human ser-

vices related field. Experience in project management, communications and working with school systems and community collaborations and partnerships.

##### AWARE Project Coordinator/SCIT Community Project Manager

Open to the public. Under the supervision of the Education director, responsible for the overall coordination and completion of activities to meet the goals of Project AWARE and duties of the SCIT community project manager. Bachelor's degree in education, social work, counseling, or human services related field. Two years' experience in project and personnel management, communications and working with school systems, and community collaborations and partnerships. Grant administration experience including work plan development and implementation.

##### SCTC Tutor

Open to the public. At least 60 completed credits towards a college degree with an overall GPA of 3.0 or above. Strong mathematics and/or English background ability to demonstrate competence in SCTC's MTH 230, MTH 120, ENG 101, ENG 102, and ENG 130 or equivalent is higher preferred.

##### Elementary Counselor - AWARE

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in social work or counseling from an accredited program. One year experience in mental health services working with children and families of children with severe emotional disturbances. Under the supervision of the Education director, serve as a strong critical link between students, parents and teachers to provide individual and group counseling services to students.

##### School Based Consulting Clinician - AWARE

Open to the public. Under supervision of AWARE Project coordinator/SCIT community project manager, responsible for overall implementation of Behavioral Health school-based consulting program. Master's degree in counseling, social work, human services, or related field. One year of experience in mental health services working with children and families of children with severe emotional disturbances. Experience in working collaboratively across multiple organizations and community systems.

### Soaring Eagle

#### Inventory Control Warehouse PT

Tribal Members only. High school diploma or GED. One year receiving or warehouse experience working with warehouse equipment. Experience with operating warehouse equipment including forklifts and riding cleaning machines. Must have good computer skills with Microsoft Office and the ability to handle tasks in a busy environment. Must be able to obtain and maintain a gaming license to meet the employment eligibility requirements as they pertain to the position.

#### Database Marketing Manager

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in marketing, communications, journalism or related field. Three years of experience in database marketing. Experience with direct mail specifications, print production and postal regulations. Experience with managing multiple campaigns, channels and timelines in high pace environment.

#### Digital Marketing Strategist

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in marketing, communications, journalism or related field. Three years of experience in database. Bachelor's degree in marketing, communications, journalism or related field. Three years of digital marketing communications experience including search marketing. Hands-on experience in managing and tracking Google AdWords, Bing, and Facebook campaigns. Proficient in Google Analytics monitoring and goal-tracking.

#### Call Center Agent PT

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. One year of customer service work experience. Previous reservation experience with hotel, car rental, airline, cruise ship or travel agency preferred. Must be able to pass a typing test of at least 30 WPM.

#### Line Server FT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be able to work weekends, holidays, and graveyard shifts.

#### Cashier PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be able to operate a

POS. Must have basic math skills and pass a written math/MICROS test with 80 percent accuracy or better.

#### Concierge PT

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. One year experience in front office operations. Three years customer service experience and cash handling experience. Must be able to pass a typing test of at least 30 WPM.

#### Line Cook

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. One year of restaurant cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility, or six months of SECR internal culinary training.

#### Bartender PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Bartending experience preferred.

#### Steward PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Kitchen cleaning experience preferred. Must have an organized and thorough work ethic and a strong desire to provide service.

#### Guest Room Attendant PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Three months of housekeeping experience preferred.

### Saganing

#### Beverage Waitstaff PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Serving experience preferred.

#### Technical Services Technician I

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in information technology, computer science or related field. Two years help desk experience. An equivalent combination of education and directly related experience may be considered. Experience with Windows Server and Desktop OS and Microsoft Office Suite. Strong communication skills. Must pass IT related competency exam.

### 130 Services

#### Fox Home Builders

All types of home improvements. Kitchen and bath remodeling, additions. Experienced and local. 989-506-2360.

### Saginaw Chippewa/Isabella County



### Monthly Forum

Every third Thursday of the month

Upcoming dates: Feb. 21, March 21

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: Feb. 7, March 7

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.

## Summons and Complaint Notices

### SUMMONS TO APPEAR IN THE MATTER OF JAMES A. CHIPPEWA AND PAULA M. CHIPPEWA:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court 6954 E. Broadway Rd. Mt. Pleasant MI 48858 (989) 775-4800 Case no. 18-CI-0407 Plaintiff: TNT Financial, Inc. PO Box 5767 Saginaw, MI 48603-0767 Plaintiff's attorney: James N. Meinecke (P40510) PO Box 5767 Saginaw, MI 48603-0767 (989) 921-0406 vs. James A. Chippewa and Paula M. Chippewa 5965 W. Jordan Rd. Weidman, MI 48893 Notice to the defendants: 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 to 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 March 20, 2019.**



## Employees recognized during annual appreciation banquet

### MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

The hard work and dedication of Tribal Operations and Migizi Economic Development Co. employees was honored during the annual Employee Appreciation Banquet held in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort ballrooms on Friday, Jan. 25.

The Mino Ode' drummers began the event with a welcome song, and later performed an honor song.

Chief Ronald F. Ekdahl welcomed the attendees with an opening statement.

"We are here to honor you, we are here to honor all of your dedication and all of your service to our Tribal Membership," Ekdahl said.

Chief Ekdahl spoke of something he realized, while signing all of the longevity certificates given out that night.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Mino Ode' provides a welcome song to open the Employee Appreciation Banquet, held on Jan. 25 in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort ballrooms.**

"I see the longevity that our employees have here," Ekdahl said. "I appreciate all of your dedication. I appreciate your dedication to our community. I appreciate your time spent away from families, spent away from friends to be in our community, and to be with our people and service our Tribal Membership. I want to thank you personally, for doing that."

Tribal Council Chaplain Diana Quigno-Grundahl provided a prayer before attendees began dinner. The meal, which included chicken, pork, salads and dessert pies; was catered by the Soaring Eagle Food & Beverage department.

Sergeant-at-Arms Kenny Sprague served as emcee throughout the night, with Sweetgrass Productions providing DJ services and music.

The event also included many generous prize giveaways, including gift cards, gift bundles and cash prizes. Prizes were also donated from Soaring Eagle Casino's Marketing, CEO's office

and Spa, and the Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel, Sagamok, Migizi EDC., and the Ziibiwing Center.

Seven employees were recognized for reaching 30 years of service with the Tribe. Tribal Council Member Louanna Bruner shared stories and congratulations from each of the seven recipients' co-workers and family members.

Plaques, created by the Soaring Eagle Woodshop, were given to all of the employees recognized for 25 and 30 years of service.

**The following employees were recognized for 30 years of service:** Shelly Reihl (Bailey), Federico Cantu Jr., Esther Chatfield, Lindy Hunt, Kimberly Otto-McCoy, Sheridan Pelcher and George Slater.

**The following employees were recognized for 25 years of service:** Sandra Chesebrough; Michelle Colwell, Christopher Couch, Sharon Geroux, Kerri Henry, Michael LaLande, Sandra McCreery, Valarie Raphael, Mary Roberts, Deborah Schafer, David Sisco, Debra Smith, Scott Sober, Minnie Stevens, Michelle Turpin and Barbara Warner.

**The following employees were recognized for 20 years of service:** Kelly Babcock, Christina Beman, Denise Cantu, Wendy Drowley, Marilyn Gross, Richard Hamilton, Gilbert Hendrickson, Tamara House, John Johnson, William Johnson, Carol Kamm, LuAnn Louch, Frank Meyers, Judy Pamp, Jennifer Parker, Mary Peacock, Julie Pego, Karen



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Lindy Hunt is honored for 30 years of service.**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Kimberly Otto-McCoy is honored for 30 years of service.**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Esther Chatfield is honored for 30 years of service.**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Shelly Reihl is honored for 30 years of service.**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Valarie Raphael is honored for 25 years of service.**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Minnie Stevens is honored for 25 years of service.**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Scott Sober is honored for 25 years of service.**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Michael LaLande is honored for 25 years of service.**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Christopher Couch is honored for 25 years of service.**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Deborah Schafer is honored for 25 years of service.**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Michelle Turpin is honored for 25 years of service.**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Sandra McCreery is honored for 25 years of service.**

Perry, Jeffrey Rayburn, Karen Roy, Robert Scholp, Nora Shively, Stacie Stanton, Daniel Staples, Ruth Straus, Sharon Tait and Randy Tucker.

**The following employees were recognized for 15 years of service:** Samuel Anglin, Amber Brooks, Ryan Chippewa, Karmen Fox, Janice Greening, Anita Hall, Andrew Henning, Barry Histed, Brandy Judkins, Michael Karcher, Lacie Kelly, Sheila Leauteaux, Aimee Lehmkuhle, Amanda Lewis, Peggy Moore, Karen Naganashe, Ronald Nelson, Denise Pelcher, Yvette Pitawanakwat, Mark Reynolds, Lee Ann Ruffino, Deanna Scott-Hicks and Thad Sherwood.

**The following employees were recognized for 10 years of service:** Patricia Alonzo, Kerry Byberg, Ryan Dallas, Christina Delacruz, Luke Dixon, Steve Eggerd, Kevin Fisher, Jayme Green, Sandra

Hartman, Nathan Hersey, Carol Jackson, William Lyndrup, Carey Pauquette, George Roy, Neil Schiefer, Debra Showalter, Eric Skutt, Kevin Skutt, Maia Spotted Tail, Matthew Sprague, Wade Spyker, Robert Storrer and Jamie Wheeler.

**The following employees were recognized for five years of service:** Jonathan Ayling, Samantha Chippeway, Ashley Edgar, Sarah Compeau, Damian Fisher, Jerome Flebbe, Shelley Frantz, Anne Heidemann, Jesse Helms, Tonya Jackson, Aaron Jewell, Justin Keatts, Larry Kimewan, Barry Kissoondial, Brenden Lennon, Kathleen Lett, Jackie Mannie, Debra Meacham, Jonathan Miller, Melissa Mullard, Ryan Nau, Pamela Porter, Kaine Purdey, Lacy Robison, Jason Roebuck, Kimberly Saboo, Tabatha VanOrden, Bruno Wemigwans and Kelly Woodworth.