



September 2020 | Volume 31 | Issue 9

Waaibagaa Giizis (Moon of the Leaves Turning Color)

# TRIBAL OBSERVER

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

## Saganing Eagles Landing Casino celebrates one-year anniversary of hotel's grand opening

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

Sept. 6 will be the one-year anniversary of the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino's hotel grand opening and casino expansion.

The \$68 million expansion project built the new six-story hotel with 148 rooms, containing eight suites including the executive suite with a kitchen; a larger casino with 1,200 gaming machines, a new restaurant, a new bar, an indoor pool and fitness center.

"It may be hard to believe, but one year ago we



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**The Saganing Eagles Landing Casino and Hotel celebrates the one-year anniversary of the hotel's grand opening on Sept. 6.**

welcomed our first guests to the new casino floor, Creekside Lounge, Landing Restaurant, hotel, and gift shop," said Bob VanWert, general manager of the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino and

Hotel. "On Aug. 19, we held a soft opening with little fanfare allowing all of us to adjust to our new areas, positions and tasks. Our official ribbon-cutting ceremony was held a few weeks later on Sept. 6."

VanWert continued, "No one could have predicted how this first year would go, and we definitely never guessed we would have to close our doors to our beautifully-expanded facility just seven months after opening them for the first time!"

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino and Hotel temporarily closed earlier this year until reopening in late May.

Since the reopening, proper safety precautions and health measures have been in effect to properly follow social distancing guidelines.

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"Our gaming floor is currently running with just over 700 slot machines of our 1,200 games in play," VanWert said. "The hotel has been running at nearly 95 percent occupancy since reopening at the end of May."

Anniversary | 13

## Council approves pay for essential government employees for portion of time worked during Tribal Operations closure

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

In a memo emailed to Tribal employees, Chief Tim J. Davis, on behalf of Tribal Council, announced non-exempt essential government employees who worked during the Tribal Operations closure would be

paid for a portion of their time on the clock.

Tribal Council approved Tribal Ops COVID-19 Pay on Monday, Aug. 3, 2020.

The appreciation pay was for \$9 per hour for a portion of the time the employee worked onsite during the closure. The employee must have worked at least 200

hours full time or 100 hours part time.

The pay was for the periods of April 6 to June 7, 2020, and was included on the employees' pay on Aug. 5, 2020.

The memo from Chief Davis stated, "Tribal Council understands that many have been off work and, in some

cases, have been receiving more unemployment compensation than what many of you who have been working, have earned during these times. This is our way of showing you how much we appreciate your efforts during these trying times and aligns you with similar compensation for gaming associates."

The memo continued, "We sincerely hope you and your families have been safe and well during these unprecedented times. Thank you to each one of you for your dedication as a smaller group who continually provided those essential services during this time period to our community and its members."

### Attention Tribal Members:

**Beginning Oct. 1, Tribal Members (under the age of 50) will need to purchase a \$30 annual subscription if they wish to continue receiving the mailed copy of the Tribal Observer.**

The monthly Tribal Observer will continue to be available online on the sagchip.org website, however any Tribal Member household (where an elder does not reside) wishing to continue receiving the mailed copy, must opt-in with a \$30 annual fee to cover the cost of postage and printing.

Head of household Tribal Elders will continue to receive the mailed paper. Elders do not need to make any updates; it will continue to be mailed directly to you.

The Tribal Observer will be working with the IT Department in the near future to make the online Tribal Observer more user-friendly and visually appealing for its audience.

For those Members under 50 who wish to keep receiving the mailed Tribal Observer, please send a \$30 check

or money order to: Tribal Observer 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. We unfortunately cannot take credit card information.

Please be aware, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, mailing your payment will be most convenient for you. In order to enter the Black Elk Building, you must schedule an appointment and have your temperature checked before entering the building, to keep the community's health and safety in mind.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. This is in effect to help save costs for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, due to departmental budget reductions and trying times COVID-19 has brought upon us all.

**In order for non-elder Tribal Members to receive the mailed October issue of the Tribal Observer, you will need to sign up for a subscription by Friday, Sept. 18, 2020.**

PRE-SORTED STANDARD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
GREENSBORO, MI  
PERMIT # 338



## Paula Kay Hart

Aug. 24, 1963 – Aug. 2, 2020

Paula Kay Hart, age 56, of Mount Pleasant, passed away surrounded by family, on Sunday, Aug. 2, 2020, at Andahwod.

Paula was born Aug. 24, 1963, in Mt. Clemens, the daughter of John and Joyce (Collins) Hart. She enjoyed playing bingo, being with her grandkids, and always had someone laughing.

Paula is survived by her daughter, Maria Hernandez of Phoenix, Ariz. Her son, Alejandro Hernandez of California, and her son Juan Hernandez of Mt. Pleasant; her 14 grandchildren; siblings: Kathy Hart and John Hart; nieces and nephews: Robert Hart, RaeLee John, Tommy and Johnny Wemigwans, Vanessa Hart, Larissa Gonzales, Michael Hart, Gary and Maureen Rueckert, Charles Hart, Staci Hart, Mary Hutchinson and Lisa Hart.

Paula was preceded in death by her parents; her son Antonio Hernandez, her infant son Nick Bush; her grandson Malahki; sisters: Debra and Angela; brother Paul Hart; and nephews Alex and Anthony Towns.

A graveside service took place at Woodland Cemetery on Thursday, Aug. 6, 2020 at 3 p.m. with Paul Jackson and Robert Hart officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to Andahwod.



## Doris Fay Romer

July 2, 1939 – Aug. 14, 2020

Doris Fay Romer, age 81, of Mount Pleasant passed away Friday, Aug. 14, 2020, at McLaren Hospital in Lansing.

Doris was born on July 2, 1939, in Mt. Pleasant, the daughter of Charles and Mary (Jackson) Collins. She married Ardene "Art" Romer in 1958.

Doris was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. She was an avid outdoors woman. She enjoyed fishing, hunting, and camping. She also enjoyed playing at the casino. Doris loved to listen to gospel music.

Doris is survived by her husband of 62 years, Art Romer; children, Joyce Thompson, Rita Romer, and Frank Romer; grandchildren, Christopher (Holly) Romer, Allison Green, Garrett Romer, Annie Romer, Todd Thompson, Randy Thompson, Jason Roebuck, and Zack Stambaugh; great-grandchildren, Rosemarie Green and Asher Green; and brothers, Ron Collins and Lyle (Francoise) Collins.

Doris was preceded in death by her parents; son, Joseph Romer; great-grandson, Christopher Romer; siblings, Charles Collins, Vivian Jackson, Steve Collins, and Joyce Hart.

A graveside service for Doris was held at Woodland Cemetery on Monday, Aug. 17, 2020, at 3 p.m. with Rev. Doyle Perry officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



## In Loving Memory of Natasha Marie House



4/14/1981 - 9/22/2017

Missing you every moment with every hour of each day "Natasha Marie House".

Love, Mom

## In Loving Memory of Lindsey Marie "Beebs" Sprague

We would like to thank everyone for their love, support, and expressions of sympathy during this difficult time. Your kind words, memories, and prayers brought us so much comfort. A special thanks to everyone who made the Celebration of Life for Lindsey "Beebs" special! The outpouring of love and support from the community has been amazing, and has truly shown us just how loved she was.



The family of Lindsey "Beebs" Sprague

## Tribal Child Welfare Affidavits

**Tribal Child Welfare Affidavits will be mailed out & made available on Sept. 28, 2020 and DUE by 5 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 30, 2020.**

**Tribal Clerk's Office is open by appointment only:**

- Monday – Thursday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Closed on Fridays except for deadline date

**\*\*Notarization of Clerk's Forms is NOT required at this time\*\***

**Forms are available:**

By mail, email and online at [www.sagchip.org](http://www.sagchip.org)

Post marked forms, email or faxed will not be accepted

**For more information, please contact:** The Tribal Clerk's Office at 989.775.4051

## Tribal Court Business Hours

Mandatory masks, health questionnaire and temperature scan will be taken at the door and all requirements must be met/passed before admittance into the Tribal Court Facility. Entry by appointment only.

### Tribal Court Clerk front window

Please call 989.775.4800 to schedule an appointment with the Tribal Court Clerks.

- **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday:** 8 a.m. - 12 p.m., 1 - 4:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday:** 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., 1 - 4:30 p.m. (closed from 8 a.m. - 9 a.m. for staff meeting)
- **Friday:** 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

### Probation

Please call 989.775.4827 989.775.4844 to schedule an appointment with probation

- **Monday - Friday:** 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### Healing to Wellness

Please call 989.775.5894 989.775.5811 or 989.775.4793 to schedule an appointment with Healing to Wellness.

- **Monday - Friday:** 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## Per Capita services are available by:

- **Phone or appointment:** call (989) 775-4040
- **Fax:** (989) 775-4075
- **Email:** [percapita@sagchip.org](mailto:percapita@sagchip.org) (please include an approved email when filing your Annual Report)
- **Mail:** Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe  
Attn: Per Capita Department  
7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
- **Hotline:** (989) 775-4037  
(to keep up to date on announcements)

**Per Capita Forms can be found at:**  
[www.sagchip.org](http://www.sagchip.org)

Click on Government\Per Capita Department\Frequently Requested Forms links.

## Tribal Loan Reminder from the Tribal Clerk's Office

To avoid delays in the processing of your Tribal Loan, you must first complete your 2021 Annual Report.

The 2021 Annual Report is now available online ([sagchip.org](http://sagchip.org)) from the Tribal Clerk's Office, under the frequently requested forms tab.

Also, please remember to include copies of two IDs, with one of them being your Tribal ID.

## 2021 ANNUAL REPORTS are now being accepted

**Deadline: May 4, 2021 by 5 p.m.**

**Tribal Clerk's Office is open by appointment only:**

- ▶ **Monday – Thursday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.**
- ▶ **Closed on Fridays** except for deadline date

**\*Notarization of Clerk's Forms is NOT required at this time\***

- Forms are available by mail, email and online at [www.sagchip.org](http://www.sagchip.org)
- Post marked forms, email or faxed will not be accepted

**For more information, please contact:**  
The Tribal Clerk's Office at 989.775.4051

## Well & Septic PROGRAM

**Free to Tribal Members who reside within the IHS service area:** Isabella, Clare, Midland, Arenac Missaukee counties

**If you are experiencing problems with your well or septic, please contact the Planning Department.**

*\*You must own your home.*

**To make an appointment:** Please call the Planning Department at (989) 775-4014.

## Attention Tribal Members

**The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Housing Department has been awarded funds under the March 27, 2020 CARES ACT.**

This is a unique and limited opportunity for the Tribe to acquire additional housing units. There is a cap on how much the Tribe can spend per unit. If you are a member of the SCIT who owns a home in Arenac or Isabella Counties and you are interested in selling it, you are invited to submit your property for consideration. In order to meet HUD's definition of "affordable housing" only units valued at or below the \$120,000 price point will be considered. Submission deadline is Aug. 30, 2020 at 5 p.m.

**To submit your property go to:**  
<http://www.sagchip.org/housing/PropertyForm/> and complete the on-line form.

The Tribal Council in conjunction with the Housing Department will review each submission before a final determination is made. The Tribe must obtain HUD's approval before the sale is final. You may call the Housing Department if you have any questions (989) 775-4595.



## Tribal Council Regular Session Meetings

The Regular Tribal Council Sessions occur at 9 a.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the Council Chambers in the Black Elk Government Complex, 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.

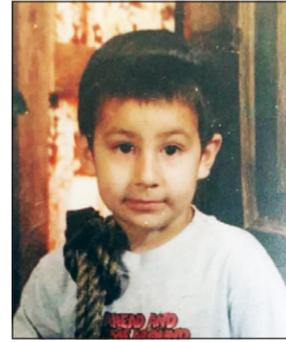
Administration's administrative assistant III compiles and prepares the agenda.

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

- Sept. 1
- Oct. 6
- Nov. 3



Happy 25<sup>th</sup>  
**Birthday Honey!**  
 September 25<sup>th</sup>  
*Joe Grizzly,  
 love your Family!*



Happy  
**Birthday Aubree!**  
 Love Dad, mom  
 and brother

## Business Regulations Hours

**Business Regulations is open from: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday to Friday**

**By appointment only. Contact staff at:**

- **Melissa Owl**  
989-775-4175 | mowl@sagchip.org
- **Chris Sineway**  
989-775-4105 | cdsineway@sagchip.org
- **Rosanna Keshick**  
989-775-4109 | rkeshick@sagchip.org

## ATTENTION

**When choosing an online school for the completion of your High School Diploma, GED (General Educational Development) or Equivalent, the online School **\*\*MUST BE ACCEPTED & ACCREDITED BY YOUR STATES BOARD OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT\*\*****

Please check with your Department of Education to ensure that all your hard work will result in you meeting the Tribe's Educational Requirement.

**For more information, please contact:**  
 The Tribal Clerk's Office at 989.775.4051

## Tribal Operations entry is currently by Appointment Only

Tribal Operations buildings are still on "lock down" mode, anyone coming in must make an appointment.

**If making an appointment, you must:**

- **Wear a mask** or be given one by the department they have an appointment with
- **Prescreen question:** You will be asking if you have a cough or shortness of breath. If the answer is "yes," you will have to reschedule at a later date.
- **Temperature check:** Community members will be met at the door by a Tribal employee.
  - **Temperature of 100.4 or below:** you may enter.
  - **100.4 or above:** you must reschedule and cannot enter the building.

## Community survey: Permanent supportive housing feasibility study

**Dear Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Community,**

We are announcing the opportunity to participate in an upcoming community survey. This survey will be made available online the week of Aug. 24 and will be posted within the Tribal Members only website. We wanted to inform you of this survey ahead of it coming out and ask for your participation.

Blue Stone Strategy Group has been brought on by the Saginaw Chippewa Housing Department and Tribal Council to perform a feasibility analysis for Permanent Supportive Housing. Permanent Supportive Housing is designated housing with access to support services such as case management, employment training, and mental health treatment for community-identified persons at risk for or experiencing homelessness.

### Definition of Homelessness:

- People who are living in a place not meant for human habitation emergency shelter, in transitional housing, or are exiting an institution where they temporarily resided
- People who are losing their primary nighttime residence, which may include a motel or hotel or a doubled up situation

- Families with children or unaccompanied youth who are unstably housed and likely to continue in that state.

- People who are fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening situations related to violence; have no other residence; and lack the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing.

Based on a previous community needs assessment, there was an identified need for Permanent Supportive Housing. Those with the most immediate needs were those with a Substance Use Disorder (SUD) who are seeking treatment and affordable housing. We would like to better understand who else has a need for Permanent Supportive Housing services.

We are conducting this survey to better understand the community's perspective about Permanent Supportive Housing needs. We believe that community input is critical when addressing services and support offering within the community.

The survey will take approximately five to 10 minutes of your time. Your input to this survey is an important step in guiding the direction of the research and recommendations. The survey will need to be completed by 9/5/2020. Thank you for your interest and participation.



## MIIBS Survey

Your input is being sought. Decisions need to be made about the use of the buildings associated with the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School (MIIBS) near Pickard Road. Your views are critical so that these decisions reflect the wishes and needs of community members.

All responses are anonymous. An edited summary of findings, with no information that could identify you, will be shared with the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council and Isabella County community.

**Please take a moment to complete the survey by following the link below:**

[https://cmich.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_6Pecx5eEk20WcQt](https://cmich.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6Pecx5eEk20WcQt)

## Notice: Tribal Members residing within Tribal Trust Land

The Tribal Fire Department offers, to Tribal Members, the opportunity to request pool fills by the utilization of Fire Department apparatus and equipment. The request must be a Tribal Member that resides within the Tribal Trust Land of the Fire Department jurisdiction. Once the request is made, the requester will be instructed to complete the necessary application process and payment for such services.

All payments will be submitted to the Tribe's Accounting Department where a receipt will be generated and must accompany the application. All requests for pool fills will be scheduled and will be based on availability of that piece of Apparatus and Equipment.

The Fire Department will not be responsible for any damage caused by the pool fill request and is not responsible for any damage that caused due to the Apparatus driving on the lawn; this is the responsibility of the Tribal Member.

The following rate applies to the Apparatus that will be used for this request and does not reflect the cost of any additional equipment that may be needed for each request.

**Water Tender (Tender 1) - \$85 per hour from the time the resource begins with travel to the request and ends at the estimated time of return.**



## Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort construction update

Work continues on Phase One of the hotel renovation with rooms having wall finishes installed and the new headboards and TV enclosures being installed. Bathrooms are being completed with new tile and shower enclosures.

The hotel lobby is scheduled to open in October with the new rooms coming on line in December.

Work in Phase Two is still focused primarily on the first floor area with new plumbing being installed and other ceiling related work. Fencing is being installed by the hotel employee entrance for the new construction elevator and dumpsters that will be needed once room demolition begins next week.



## Tribal Council

**Chief**

**Tim J. Davis** | District One

**Sub-Chief**

**Joe Kequom** | District Three

**Treasurer**

**Maia Spotted Tail** | District One

**Secretary**

**Jennifer L. Wassegijig** | District One

**Sergeant-at-Arms**

**Martha Wemigwans** | District One

**Chaplain**

**Alice Jo Ricketts** | District One

**Council Member**

**Ronald F. Ekdahl** | District One

**Council Member**

**Theresa Jackson** | District One

**Council Member**

**Chip Neyome** | District One

**Council Member**

**Carmen Otto** | District One

**Council Member**

**Gayle Ruhl** | District One

**Council Member**

**Ron Nelson** | District Two

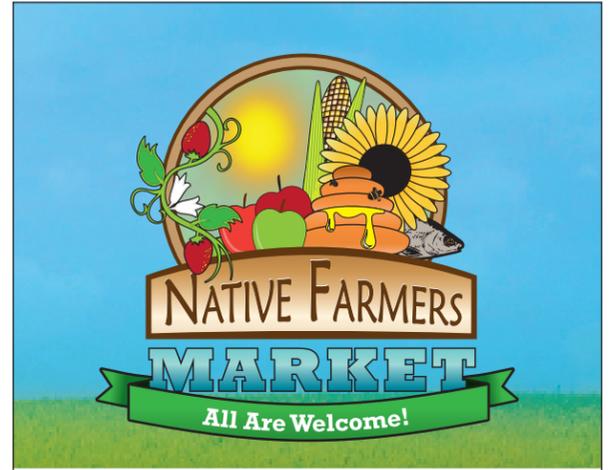
## The Clothesline Project



### For Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October

The Clothesline Project originated in Massachusetts in 1990 to address the issue of violence against women. The Clothesline is made up of T-shirts created by survivors or in honor of someone who has experienced incest, domestic violence or sexual assault. It is a vehicle for those affected to express their emotions and promote awareness.

- ▶ The Clothesline will be displayed throughout the month of October.
- ▶ Shirts and materials to decorate are available to the community, free of charge.
- ▶ Please contact Behavioral Health Programs at 989-775-4850 to arrange to pick up your T-shirt and materials.



**Tuesdays • Aug. 25 - Oct. 1**

**10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

**Farmers Market Pavilion**

Corner of Broadway and Leaton roads

**Items include:**

Seasonal produce, baked goods, beaded/sculpted/natural art and Indigenous foods.

**Welcoming NEW Healthy Food/Native Art Vendors:**

Maple syrup, eggs, honey, seeds, cottage foods, plants, organic protein and wild rice.

- You do **NOT** have to be Native American to sell produce/plants/other.
- You must be Native American to be an art vendor.

**Like us on Facebook!**

**For more information:**

**Samantha Chippeway**, Market Master

- Phone: 989.775.4629 or 989.330.6860
- Email: Samachippeway@sagchip.org

## 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.

### Conservation Committee Seats

The Planning Department is soliciting letters of interests for adult Tribal Members interested in serving on the Saginaw Chippewa Conservation Committee (SCCC) for a Tribal Council appointed two-year term beginning Nov. 15, 2020. Per Ordinance 11, section 102, subdivision 2 and the approved Ordinance 11 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 must be received no later than Friday, Oct. 23, 2020 at 3 p.m.**

## SECR Access Club and Box Office hour changes

**The Soaring Eagle Access Club's hours have changed from 24 hours per day to the following.**

**Sunday – Thursday**

- Resort Access Club 8 a.m. to 2 a.m.
- Slot Palace Access Club 8 a.m. to 12 a.m.

**Friday & Saturday**

- Resort Access Club 8 a.m. to 4 a.m.
- Slot Palace Access Club 8 a.m. to 12 a.m.

**Please keep in mind that the Box Office hours have changed as well. The Box Office hours are 12 to 8 p.m. seven days a week.**

## 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  
7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd.  
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 place an advertisement, please contact the Tribal Observer at 989-775-4010 for more information.**

**Announcements** - Including birthday, wedding, engagement, congratulations, etc., costs \$10 and is open to Tribal Members, community members and employees. Double-sized announcements are \$20.

**Political ads** - All political ads will be 1/4 page and have a red border stating as such. The cost is \$500. Political ads may include, but are not limited to, any opinion or advertisement that is political in nature and/or any Letter to the Editor that does not conform to guidelines.

### Tribal Observer Subscription Form

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail form to:**  
Tribal Observer  
7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

**Contact Information:**

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



## A moment in time: Chief Sowmick's letter to Gov. Blanchard in 1985

*(Editor's note: The following is a copy of a letter from Chief Arnold J. Sowmick Sr. addressed to Gov. James Blanchard on Oct. 1, 1985.)*

It has come to the attention of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council that efforts are under way to establish a memorial commemorating the achievements and contributions of the late Albert (Big Abe) LeBlanc. We believe that Mr. LeBlanc stood forthright for the historical rights of his Tribe and by his very burden he assisted in the improvement and understanding of other Indian rights.

While the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe was not a participant in the *U.S. v. Michigan* controversy, we certainly recognize the impact that this case had on all Tribal rights. Had it not been for Mr. LeBlanc's courage, the fishing tribes may never have had those rights that have been reestablished.

Certainly we are aware that opinions may differ as to whether or not Mr. LeBlanc's contributions were good or bad, but we feel that in America that individuals who have the courage of their convictions should be recognized. Mr. Albert (Big Abe) LeBlanc was certainly one of these individuals and the

contributions of his life should be well remembered.

We feel that nothing could be more commemorative to the lasting achievement of Albert (Big Abe) LeBlanc, then to have a memorial set aside for him at the Narrows, which is located west of the Bay Mills Indian Reservation. This site is representative historically, because it is where Indian fishermen used to land and it is the very site from where Mr. LeBlanc launched his boat that fateful day of his historic arrest. Further, the site has a natural beauty to it that would provide a scenic repass to those who would visit there.

Therefore, I would like to bring word to you that in

regular meeting of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council, held on Sept. 9, 1985, that we voted unanimously to support the establishment of a memorial to Albert (Big Abe) LeBlanc. Further, I respectfully urge that you give full consideration of this request and that you lend your support in the new spirit of cooperation between Tribes and

the State, in the establishment of this memorial.

Thank you for taking the time to review this issue, and please rest assured that your assistance in this matter will be deeply appreciated.

Sincerely yours,  
Arnold J. Sowmick Sr.  
Tribal Chairman

## Andahwod planning drawing, giveaway for elders on Grandparents Day

**PATTY KEQUOM**

Andahwod Activities Assistant

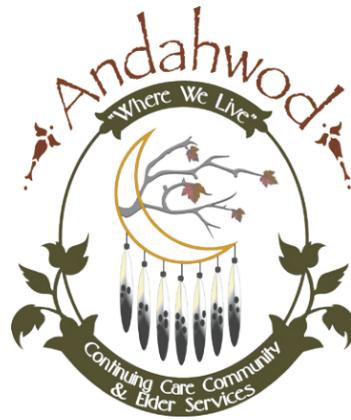
Greetings from Andahwod!

This year, in celebration of Grandparents Day, Sunday, Sept. 13, we are planning an elder's drawing and giveaway. If your name is drawn from the Tribal Clerk's Office's list of elders, Andahwod staff will contact you with the good news.

The week of we will call you to pick up the prize or arrange a delivery time.

The prizes include gift baskets, jewelry grab bags, gift certificates, or a craft kit for you and your young ones. Since there are limited prizes, names will be drawn until the items are given away.

Stay healthy, safe and enjoy the day.



## Throwback PHOTO of the MONTH



Observer photo by Marty Curry

The above photo was originally published in the September 2007 Tribal Observer, photographed after the annual Freedom Walk on Aug. 4, 2007. Taking a stand and making a circle of unity against drugs and alcohol on the Reservation, community members gather and join hands on the powwow grounds.

This photo was taken by Marty Curry, a Tribal Observer staff writer at the time. Curry captured the photo while standing on a Saginaw Chippewa Fire truck ladder.

## Onion Creek Drummers mentioned in City of Mt. Pleasant's 2019 annual report

*(Editor's note: Early last month, City of Mt. Pleasant Manager Nancy Ridley notified the Tribal Public Relations department that the Onion Creek Drummers are mentioned in the City's 2019 Annual Report about their performance during the Island Park Pavilion's opening last summer.)*



### Island Park Arts Pavilion

This pavilion is the culmination of Mt. Pleasant High School 2019 graduate, Taylor Idema's Girl Scout Gold Award Project and the generosity of many donors.

A Concert and Ribbon Cutting featured performances from the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Onion Creek Drummers, Jim McKeith (sponsored by the Mt. Pleasant Area Convention and Visitors Bureau) and the Central Michigan Area Concert Band. Angie Evans/WCFX served as master of ceremonies.



## Tribal Member Tim Nelson completes a 247-mile foot race

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

How many miles is it from the Tridge in Midland, Mich. to the Mackinac Bridge? Ask Tim Nelson. He will say it is exactly 247 miles. How does he know? He ran the entire distance in less than five days.

Tim Nelson, 50, tribal member and Saganing Tribal Center manager, completed the Tridge to Bridge 240.

Nelson was one of two racers to complete the 240-mile foot race.

His finishing time was four days, 23 hours, 39 minutes and 37 seconds.

According to Nelson, while many expressed interest and a dozen committed, only six racers showed up at the Tridge on Wednesday, Aug. 12 for the 7 a.m. start.

“The rules were simple: Follow the course and fend for yourself,” Nelson said. “There would be no crews allowed. Whatever you needed that wasn’t in your pack would have to be found on the road. Run as much as you can every day, and stop when and where you wanted to. I adjusted my daily miles to (somewhere) I could find a hotel.”

Matt Frazier, the other finisher and the admin for the Facebook group Tridge to Bridge 240, said “part of what



Courtesy of Tim Nelson

makes this event more difficult is the runners’ challenge of finding supplies as they go.”

“Without aid stations or crews to rely on, (the runners) must be constantly aware of their needs, and how to solve them,” Frazier said in the Facebook group. “How far is it to the next gas station? What if they’re closed when you finally get there? There is one exception to this rule, however: the Road Angel. These are people with no direct association to a runner, who live along the course (or otherwise of their own sole initiative) and decide to place something out on the road for anyone who comes by.”

During Nelson’s 247 miles, he said he came upon four coolers filled with water, Gatorade and various snacks.

“There was also an ‘Angel House’ set up in Tawas by a couple that caught wind of the race,” Nelson said. “They set up cots and air mattresses to go along with a mini fridge of drinks and food. I made a two-hour stop on my second day to eat and take a short nap. I was in the lead at this point.”

Nelson said each day the temperature was hot and each day found him with less miles completed than he had planned.

“I separated myself in the lead at mile 20 and kept the lead until mile 216. Between these miles, all but one other runner had dropped out,” Nelson said.

A foot injury slowed Nelson’s pace the last 100 miles, and he said his previous lead of 30 miles withered.

“On what should have been the last day (Sunday, Aug. 16), after 212 miles, my ankle had swelled up to a size that scared me, and my run had dropped to a hobbled limp,” Nelson said.

He then texted his wife to inform her he was done with the race.

“Defeated, I took my socks and shoes off and laid on the side of US-23, 30 miles from the finish, with my feet elevated on a fence and fell asleep,” Nelson said.

An hour later, he awoke and the swelling had reduced slightly. He made the decision to power through and finish the race at a slower pace due to his ankle, knowing he would not be in the lead for much longer.

“My friend (Matt Frazier) caught me at mile 214 and we did a few miles together before he left to finish his race,” Nelson said. “Losing to one of the best ultra-runners in Michigan was not hard to accept. He was younger and much faster. The only reason I was in front was because I was able to stay on my feet for more hours every day.”

At mile 225, Nelson made it to Cheboygan where he checked into a hotel to regroup, eat, shower and nap for a few hours.

“A little after 2 a.m., I set out to finish the last 17 miles under the stars,” Nelson said.

At the time of four days, 23 hours, 39 minutes and 37 seconds, he finished in the sand under the Mackinac Bridge where he was greeted by his wife, running buddy, and the first-place finisher Matt Frazier.

“I am proud of my first last-place finish,” Nelson said. “I love running distance and I love the places it allows me to go.”



Courtesy of Tim Nelson

**Tribal Member Tim Nelson holds up his award for completing the Tridge to Bridge 240, a 247-mile foot race from Midland, Mich. to the Mackinac Bridge. Nelson completed the race in four days, 23 hours, 39 minutes and 37 seconds.**

Nelson said he has completed many ultra-marathons in the five years he has been a runner, including two 100-mile races.

He said it might “be a while” before he attempts another 247-mile race, however.

“The toll was so much greater than a 100-mile race, in every way,” he said.

Nelson started preparing his long distance runs of this year by doing a 50-mile fun run on New Year’s Eve, in Bay City, Mich., to celebrate his 50th birthday a day early.

Prior to the Tridge to Bridge 240 race, his longest run this year was a 12-hour, 67-mile run from Bay City to St. Charles, Mich. and back that he ran “just because,” Nelson said.

“I also did a 43-mile run from Grand Marais to Munising along the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore,” he said.

Frazier completed the race in four days, 14 hours, four minutes and 51 seconds.

The Tridge to Bridge 240 is a private Facebook group which includes posts from the competitors and official photos.



### October Month of Activities for Domestic Violence Awareness

#### Office and Porch Decorating Challenge Oct. 1-9

- Deck out your Tribal Ops/SECR/Saganing office or your porch in Purple for Domestic Violence Awareness
- Send photos of your decorated office/porch to [Prevention@sagchip.org](mailto:Prevention@sagchip.org)
- 1st and 2nd place prizes for best offices and best porches
- Purple lightbulbs and yard signs will be available for pick-up more details to come!

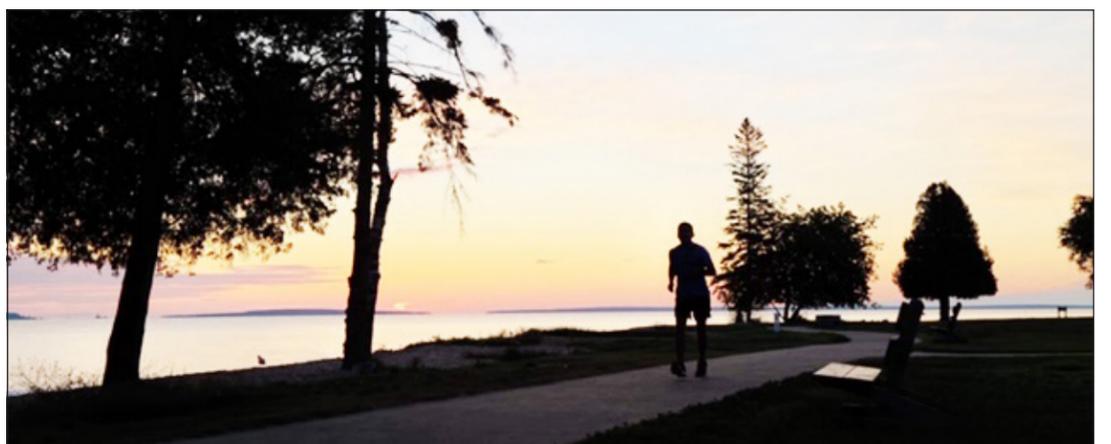
#### Domestic Violence Awareness Walk Completed throughout the month of October

- Sign-up for the walk on Eventbrite to receive a free T-shirt.
- You can choose the length of your walk and when you complete it, so please enjoy at your own pace! There will be signs and sidewalk markers directing participants
- T-shirt pick-up will be at the Farmer’s Market Pavilion from Oct. 6-8 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. for those who registered
- Take a photo of yourself completing the walk and email to [Prevention@sagchip.org](mailto:Prevention@sagchip.org)
- Participants who send their photos by Oct. 23 will be entered into a prize drawing.
- All prizes will be drawn on Oct. 26 at 5 p.m.

#### United Families Art Contest Oct. 1-14

- Artists can submit their creations of the theme “United Families”
- Artwork can include, but not limited to, paintings, beadings, drawings, crafts, sculptures, etc.
- Participants are encouraged to take a picture of their artwork and send to [Prevention@sagchip.org](mailto:Prevention@sagchip.org)
- **Prize Categories are as follows:**
  - Ages 12 and under (1st and 2nd winners)
  - Ages 13-17 (1st and 2nd winners)
  - Ages 18 and up (1st and 2nd winners)

**For more information, please contact:** Behavioral Health at [Prevention@sagchip.org](mailto:Prevention@sagchip.org)



Courtesy of Tim Nelson

**Nelson runs the route of the 247-mile race, photographed at a quarter of a mile away from the finish line.**



# Project Venture Tribal Youth Program reconnecting September 2020

**DOLORES WINN**

Youth Program Coordinator

During this time of uncertainty due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Project Venture Tribal Youth Program has taken a small break over the past several months. Youth Program Coordinator Dolores Winn has just recently returned back to work at the Tribe mid-July.

With many students having the option of virtual online schooling for this upcoming school year, Project Venture will offer virtual afterschool sessions starting in September.

We're planning a drive-thru Project Venture Open House on Sept. 1 at the Family Resource Center to give out more information to parents and Tribal youth about the program.

We've sent out parent surveys to families to gather more information on how parents would like their child to participate in Project Venture.

For the safety of staff, students and everyone involved, we have decided to host Project Venture Zoom sessions once a week with small lessons around culture, community



and outdoor education. Each Zoom session will be held Mondays from 3:45-4:45 p.m.

This summer, care packages were sent out to each Project Venture student with fun interactive things for the youth to work on at home, such as mindfulness coloring books, markers, colored pencils, watercolors, molding clay and small jewelry to make at home. We will continue to provide monthly care packages for each student registered in Project Venture with hands-on activities for them to complete at home.

Students will also be given fun weekly challenges such as creating something handmade at home using recycled materials, making up their own recipes at home, or doing some kind of physical activity during the week.

We have some very exciting things planned for the upcoming year including: tie-dying face masks, participating in the virtual cedar box class with Ben Hinmon from 7th Generation, virtual storytelling, making handmade Native American jewelry, making musical instruments, learning to make simple recipes at home, and participating in a soap making workshop.

Next Spring, there are plans for students to sew their own ribbon shirts and skirts, along with community service projects.

While this current pandemic has definitely brought some interesting challenges or roadblocks to certain aspects of our programming, it has also allowed us to find creative ways of getting our youth involved and keeping them healthy and active while we continue to social distance.

Although we are only doing virtual sessions to begin with, we hope to start in-person small group sessions with three-to-five students by the end of September. Our number one goal is to keep the health and safety of everyone at the forefront of our program.

If your teen is interested in joining Project Venture, please

**PROJECT VENTURE**  
*Back to School*  
**OPEN HOUSE**

YOUTH • FUN • FAMILY • CULTURE • LEADERSHIP • COMMUNITY • HEALTHY CHOICES • FRIENDSHIPS • EDUCATION • ADVENTURE • CONNECTION

**Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2020**  
**5:15 - 6:30 p.m. | ACFs Parking Lot**

- Families and youth can come drive through and pick up information for Project Venture Tribal youth program.
- Foster Care program and Prevention program will also be there to give away info for each program.
- All youth who attend will be given something fun to take home with them!

**For more information, please contact:**  
**Dolores Winn | 989.775.5804 | DWinn@sagchip.org**

contact Dolores Winn at 989-775-5408 or e-mail [dwinn@sagchip.org](mailto:dwinn@sagchip.org) for more information on student registration.

We are accepting new students into the program and this is a free program for all Tribal youth ages 12-17 years old.

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## Sowmick reappointed to State Advisory Council on Aging

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

Tribal Elder Joseph V. Sowmick was recently reappointed to the Michigan State Advisory Council on Aging on Aug. 20.

The Advisory Council is a 40-member advisory body to the Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA). Appointed by the commission, members of the advisory council study aging issues, advocate

for older adults, and recommend policies to the commission.

The Advisory Council membership reflects the cultural, demographic and geographic diversity of Michigan's elder population. Three-year term appointments are made by the commission.

The Advisory Council appointed four new members and reappointed two of its members, in addition to Sowmick.

New appointees include: Diane L. Bach (Adrian), Carl A.

Gibson, (Marshall), Adam D. Burck (Buchanan) and Kathy A. Kimmel (Cadillac).

Reappointments include: Sowmick (Mount Pleasant), Elizabeth Thompson (Ypsilanti) and Robyn E. Ford (Lansing).

The commission is appointed by the governor and works closely with the Aging and Adult Services Agency at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) to shape policy and address the concerns of Michigan's aging

and adult population, according to a media release.

"The State Advisory Committee to the Commission on Services to the Aging is a diverse group of individuals working together to improve the lives of older Michiganders," said Commissioner Kristie Zamora in a media release. "Each year, SAC members research a topic based on an issue pertinent to older adults. Workgroups are formed, and each SAC member

contributes to the researching, interviewing and writing to create a final report and propose recommended actions for MDHHS and the legislature."

According to the media release, "Council members meet year-round, participating in up to five meetings in Lansing and collaborate monthly by virtual meetings or conference calls. During the COVID-19 pandemic, all regular meetings are being held virtually."

## Information on submitting articles to the Tribal Observer

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

Tribal Members, employees, departments and community members are always welcome to submit articles or letters to the Tribal Observer.

The Tribal Observer staff suggests any submissions remain 600 words or less and must be appropriate for the publication and its audience.

The managing editor bears the right to refuse the publishing of any articles or letters that are irrelevant or inappropriate.

Feel free to send any submissions to [Observer@sagchip.org](mailto:Observer@sagchip.org). Any questions may

also be answered by calling **989-775-4010**.

Along with departmental and Members' articles, the Tribal Observer also accepts letters to the editor and guest columns.

**What is a letter to the editor?** Letters to the editor must be relevant to our coverage. They should be in response to an article that has already been published in a recent Tribal Observer. They must address subject matters that in some way affect the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, its members or local community. Letters can be authored by more than one person but must have a name attributed to them. They are subjected to be

edited into proper Associated Press (AP) Style of writing for newspaper print.

**What is a guest column?** Guest columns can be a topic of the author's choosing. They should be relevant to the Tribal Observer's audience. They are also subject to a thorough editing process. If the guest column is approved for publishing, authors are welcome to submit a headshot or stop in the Tribal Observer offices for a photograph.

**How long can article submissions be?** Articles submitted should be a maximum of 600 words. The editor has the right to shorten submissions. Articles that are longer than 600

words are dealt with on a case-by-case basis and published at the discretion of the editor.

**Does the Tribal Observer edit the submissions?** We reserve the right to edit all submissions for clarity and AP Style, as well as to fact-check or shorten them to fit available space for print.

**How does the Tribal Observer choose which submissions to publish?** We make our best effort to publish all submissions that come through before the deadline, sometimes even making arrangements to print those that have been received past the deadline. Any submission received does not guarantee its immediate publication.

**How do I make a submission to the Tribal Observer?** Again, any submissions may be sent to [Observer@sagchip.org](mailto:Observer@sagchip.org) and the staff is available to answer any questions at **989-775-4010**.

The deadline is typically around the 15th of each month, please turn in submissions around that day each month by 5 p.m.

If you are requesting a photo to be ran with your submission, please include a suggested caption for the photo which provides enough detail of what is occurring in the photo. (Names, job titles if applicable, location, the date the photo was taken, etc.)

*Indigenous Women Wear Red*

*We Are Still Here*

*#MMIW*

*Protect Me*

*Am I Next?*

# Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls

## New Exhibition at Ziibiwing Center

### September 25, 2020 - May 5, 2021

Virtual Grand Opening at 11am on Friday, September 25

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## Addressing invasive species in the Saginaw Bay

### CHASE STEVENS

Natural Resources Specialist,  
Planning Department

Invasive species have been creating issues in the Saginaw Bay for quite some time now. One of the most obvious invasive species in the region has been invasive phragmites.

As land managers have started to get a handle on the invasive phragmites that have been plaguing the bay, a new invasive species moved in to take its place. That new species is European frog-bit.

European frog-bit is a free-floating aquatic plant that comes from Eastern Europe and Northern Asia. It resembles a small lily pad with heart-shaped leaves that get approximately two inches in diameter.

European frog-bit has small white flowers that have three petals. It thrives in areas with

slow moving water with little wave action. This makes channels, canals, and drains that connect to Lake Huron perfect habitat for it. Once European frog-bit becomes established in an area, it forms dense, free-floating mats that crowd and shade out native vegetation and also create passage issues for wildlife (USGS, 2020).

For the last four years, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan has worked with local partners to address European frog-bit. The Tribe and partners such as the Saginaw Bay Cisma and Arenac Conservation District have conducted a series of frog-bit pulls over the last



Courtesy of Chase Stevens

**Volunteers Cecilia Stevens, Emma Henry, and Kyla Henry kayak in the Saginaw Bay to help remove European frog-bit that has been plaguing the bay.**



Courtesy of Chase Stevens

**Cecilia Stevens, Gunner Stevens, Hunter Stevens, and Thomas Henry volunteer in kayaks.**



Courtesy of Chase Stevens

**Robert Hart, natural resource technician for the SCIT Planning Department, is photographed volunteering to remove the European frog-bit by hand.**

few years and have removed approximately 5,000 pounds of frog-bit from the Saginaw Bay.

In some of the areas where the frog-bit pulls were conducted a reduction of approximately 70 percent of the frog-bit has been observed. Areas such as ditches and drains have been more of a challenge to keep the frog-bit out of.

A frog-bit pull consists of volunteers getting in the water with waders, swimsuits, or

using kayaks and hand removing the plants. This method, while tedious, has achieved some of the best results.

The first frog-bit pull that was conducted near the former Eagles Landing Marina resulted in more than 1,000 pounds being removed in one morning.

This year, the Tribe has continued these efforts and conducted a frog-bit pull with limited personnel to maintain good social distancing practices and

still were able to remove more than 500 pounds of frog-bit from the Saginaw Bay.

The Tribe looks forward to continuing to work with our partners from the Saginaw Bay area to address invasive species concerns.

*References: U.S. Geological Survey. (2020). Nonindigenous Aquatic Species Database. Gainesville, Florida. Accessed (7/21/2020).*

## Goes to ZOOM

**For the 2020-2021 school year the Zaagaate' Mentoring Program will utilize Zoom meetings until further notice.**

**The Zaagaate' Mentoring Program aims to pair college mentors with our Native American youth in grades 5-12 in a one-on-one mentorship afterschool over zoom.**

- ▶ Mentees will receive a wide array of knowledge to help enhance their mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual selves allowing them to grow and prosper.
- ▶ Grades will meet once a week depending on what works for their selected school schedule.
- ▶ Links for zoom meetings will be sent out weekly.
- ▶ Lessons/activities will be delivered weekly to students by mail.
- ▶ All zoom meetings will be password protected to ensure the safety of ZMP staff, mentors and students.

- Schools included:**
- Shepherd Elementary
  - Shepherd Middle School
  - Renaissance Elementary
  - Saginaw Chippewa Academy
  - Mt. Pleasant Middle School
  - Fancher Elementary
  - Mary McGuire Elementary
  - Mt. Pleasant High School
  - Shepherd High School

**Zaagaate' Mentoring Program is open to students who meet the following criteria:**

- Attend one of the schools listed above
- Be in grades 5-12
- Self-identify as Native American

**To sign up:**

- **Email:** Prevention@sagchip.org
- **Phone:** 989-775-4806

## Voting is power: Use your power

### THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

I'm just one person, my one vote doesn't affect anything. Does my vote really count? In a word, YES! In a democracy, everyone has a voice in how government works. Sometimes your voice may be indirect, expressed through elected officials. At other times, your voice is more direct, as when you vote for funding libraries and schools.

We have a big general election every four years. This year, 2020, the citizens of Michigan will vote for President, Senator, and Representative to the House of Representatives. Those elected will be our voice in determining national legislation and policy that affect such things as Social Security and Medicare.

We will also elect a Representative to the State House of Representatives; this person will be our voice in determining legislation and policy that affect our state, such as road repair and school funding.

Locally, we will elect County, Township, and City officers and commissioners as well as members of Boards of Education. Those elected will be our voice in determining local concerns, such as zoning, ordinances, and school policy.

- Prepare to vote**
- Are you registered to vote at your current address?
  - Do you want to request an absentee ballot?

You can find answers to all your voting questions and

### VOTING IS POWER USE YOUR POWER

- ▶ Are you registered to vote?
- ▶ Did your address change?
- ▶ Do you know where to vote?
- ▶ Want to vote absentee?
- ▶ What is on your ballot?

Make a plan. Be an informed voter.



### I VOTE BECAUSE OF:



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concerns, register to vote, check your registration status, request an absentee ballot at Michigan Voter Information Center, [mi.gov/vote](http://mi.gov/vote)

If you don't have access to the internet, call or visit your city or township clerk for assistance.

**Be an informed voter.** By now you know how important your vote is. You should also know how important it is to be an informed voter. Information about candidates and ballot initiatives should be obtained from an unbiased source.

The League of Women Voters (LWV) is a nonpartisan political organization

that encourages informed and active participation in government.

LWV publishes a non-partisan Voter Guide. The Michigan State League asked national and state candidates to respond to questions on pertinent issues.

LWV Mount Pleasant Area asked County, City, Union Township, and Mt. Pleasant Public Schools Board of Education candidates to respond to questions that reflect local concern. Paper Guides will be available mid-to-late September. The Voter Guides can be viewed online by visiting [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org).



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## Tribal Members living in Spirit Keeper Estates grow their own food source amid COVID-19

**NATHAN & MELISSA ISAAC**  
Contributing Writers

As Anishinaabek living through the age of COVID-19, many of us have rethought and changed the way we do things. Some of those changes were out of our control and some of those changes were made intentionally and within our control.

For a group of Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribal Members and their families living in Spirit Keepers Estates on the Isabella Reservation, reclaiming control of their food sources was a way to return to Anishinaabek ways of being and knowing.

Exercising food sovereignty was an intentional change made by Nathan and Melissa Isaac, Lisa Kennedy and Adam Avery, Dave and Olivia Meshkowzii, Summer Peters, Joe and Dawn Morrow, Maia and Buck SpottedTail, and Keeshta and Courtney Wemigwans. The effort, initiated by Nathan Isaac was intended to grow food that was safe to eat, take care of his neighbors and reconnect with Mother Earth.

Contacting neighbors, via Facebook, living in Spirit Keepers Estates, Nathan Isaac proposed the following:

"I would like to establish a group of families to commit to growing food that we can trade/share with all involved

in this group. The Isaac family will grow enough zucchini to share with eight other group members/families. I'm looking for other members/families to grow carrots, tomatoes, potatoes, cucumbers, squash, cabbage, onions and jalapeños. The idea is to choose one of the vegetables to grow and grow enough of them to share with this entire group. If this goes well, we will all have a nice batch of veggies come harvest time."

The group took to purchasing seeds and beginning their food growing experience in March.

A lot of lessons were learned through this process. Some of the lessons were positive and affirming. Some of the lessons were harsh.

Not all of the participants were successful in growing their gardens. One of the families planted beautiful seeds and grew beautiful seedlings only to transplant them too early and have them perish. Another family prepared a beautiful plot and successfully transplanted their seedlings only to see their garden flood and wash away.

In spite of the lessons, the original intent of the group stayed the same. The families that were successful porch dropped and left care packages for each other.

Kennedy shared how her partner Adam and mother Julia, "started establishing our garden with a focus on



Photos courtesy of Nathan and Melissa Isaac

**A group of Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribal Members and their families living in Spirit Keepers Estates on the Isabella Reservation begin exercising food sovereignty as a response to COVID-19. Initiated by Nathan Isaac, the effort is intended to grow safe-to-eat food, take care of his neighbors and reconnect with Mother Earth.**

perennial fruit trees, blueberry, raspberry, black berry, black raspberry bushes, rhubarb and asparagus. We are really enjoying this experience and the opportunity to

share fresh veggies with our neighbors and fellow gardeners group. I love the social distancing visits outside the fence from walkers, bike riders and golf cart drivers."

The experience of participating in food sovereignty, reconnecting with Mother Earth and reclaiming Indigenous ways of being and knowing was a beautiful result of COVID-19.

## September 2020 Tribal Elder Birthdays

- |                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) Timothy Walraven<br>Timothy Pete                                                                                                               | 8) Barbara Bennett-Fleming<br>Sharon Cole<br>Florence White<br>Amelia Hinton  | 16) Tonya Fallis<br>Karen Gibson<br>Evelyn Grills<br>Sharll Hudson<br>Richard Nahgahgwon<br>Joseph Smith Sr.                                                                  |
| 2) Jamie VanDerSteen                                                                                                                              | 9) Michelle Colwell<br>Dolly Rueckert Sr.<br>Wilma Bennett<br>David Chatfield | 17) Roger High<br>Jon Beaulieu Sr.<br>Clifford Collins<br>Darcy Crampton<br>Barbara Huffine<br>Kristine Smith<br>Lela Walker                                                  |
| 3) Deanna Campbell<br>Joyce Ervin<br>Diane Leksche<br>Mark Ojeda-Vasquez<br>Nancy Coleman<br>Bonnie Jackson<br>Michelle Yoder                     | 10) Dawn Briggs<br>Judith Hunt<br>Kimberly Lewis<br>Patricia Tarkowski        | 18) Delmar Jackson Sr.                                                                                                                                                        |
| 4) Garland Moses<br>Laura Schaad                                                                                                                  | 11) Darlene Watkins                                                           | 20) Raymond Fisher<br>Charles Jackson                                                                                                                                         |
| 5) Genevieve Chippeway<br>Camille Grice<br>Ronald Jackson<br>Arthur Steele<br>Jacqueline Baker<br>Sherry Obrecht<br>Tracey Olivier<br>Marion Roth | 12) Myria Carr<br>Wayne Dutton<br>Michael Chamberlain                         | 21) Perry Bailey Jr.<br>Michael Bearden<br>Brian Peters                                                                                                                       |
| 6) Andrew Naganashe<br>Christopher Fallis                                                                                                         | 13) Louanna Bruner<br>Shellie Pelcher<br>Darci Tucker<br>Loralee Werth        | 22) Melissa Chippeway<br>Lori Nahdee<br>Angela Peters                                                                                                                         |
| 7) Mark Chapoton,<br>Elizabeth Hughes<br>Salina Jackson<br>Dianna Goodwin<br>Forrest Jackson<br>Robert Waynee Jr.                                 | 14) Doreen Eggleston<br>Jeffrey Brown<br>Eugene Ives Jr.<br>Julie Treib       | 23) Judith Mays<br>Louise Smith                                                                                                                                               |
|                                                                                                                                                   | 15) Gary Rueckert Sr.<br>Andrew Byce Sr.<br>Rodney Dutton                     | 24) Jerry Douglas<br>Maurice Pego Jr.<br>Theodore Stevens Sr.<br>Garry Douglas<br>Jennifer Jones<br>Selene Moore<br>Cherin Rossbach<br>Sandra Rubin-Warner<br>Jeanette Shambo |

- |                                                                                                                      |                                                                        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 25) Cynthia Floyd<br>Kevin O'Brien<br>L. E. Reed Jr.<br>Rita Bills<br>Mark Godbey<br>Rose Raslich<br>Richard Starkey | 27) Sheridan Pelcher<br>David Wilson<br>Tonia Bliss                    |
| 26) Matthew Seger<br>Martin Curry<br>Keith Davis<br>Lucinda Graverette-Smith<br>Janet Kerns<br>Alexander Walraven    | 28) Theresa Rubin<br>Fitzgerald Stevens                                |
|                                                                                                                      | 29) Agnes Flynn<br>Dianne Nelson<br>Jerome Pigeon Jr.<br>Marcella Wing |
|                                                                                                                      | 30) Donald Chippewa Sr.<br>Sonja Sowmick<br>Thomas Kerns Jr.           |

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## Anishinaabemowin WORD SEARCH

<b>gagiikimaawasowin</b>	education
<b>biizikonaye</b>	dressed
<b>biidaaban</b>	daybreak
<b>nawapwaan</b>	lunch (taken along)
<b>gekinoo'amawind</b>	student
<b>gashki'ewizi</b>	succeed
<b>bami'</b>	support
<b>azhegiwe</b>	return
<b>minjimenim</b>	mind
<b>oshki</b>	new
<b>biizikiigan</b>	clothes
<b>aazhogan</b>	bridge
<b>baboomose</b>	walk (about)
<b>minwanjige</b>	eat well
<b>migizi</b>	eagle
<b>gwayakotam</b>	truth
<b>minogondaagan</b>	voice good
<b>nanaandawi</b>	heal
<b>bagidanaamo</b>	breathe
<b>noojimo</b>	recover

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

*A Concise Dictionary of Minnesota Ojibwe by John D. Nichols and Earl Nyholm*

## Anishinaabemowin CROSSWORD

### Word Bank

- zphi-ming-toon
- da-ba-zhish toon
- nii-gan toon
- ziing-kaak toon
- gwa-jiing
- biin-dik toon
- gaa-taa'iiing toon
- gwek-se-doon

### Down

- Put it all around (the perimeter)
- Put it up
- Put it in front
- Put it in the corner

### Across

- Put it straight up
- Put it inside (like a house/any dwelling)
- Put it outside (like a house/any dwelling)
- Put it below

**Answers**

**Down**

- Gaa-taa'iiing toon (Put it all around)
- Zphi-ming toon (Put it in front)
- Nii-gan toon (Put it up)
- Ziing-kaak toon (Put it in the corner)

**Across**

- Gwek-se-doon (Put it straight up)
- Biin-dik toon (Put it inside)
- Gwa-jiing (Put it outside)
- Da-ba-zhish toon (Put it below)

©2020, Anishinaabe Language Revitalization Department, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan



## “Wildhood,” an Indigenous feature film begins production in Nova Scotia

### ROUNDSTONE COMMUNICATIONS

TORONTO – One of the first film productions in Nova Scotia to start up post-COVID lockdown, the two-spirit odyssey, “Wildhood,” from writer/director Bretten Hannam, began principal photography on Aug. 12, 2020.

“Wildhood,” which will be filmed in English and Mi’kmaq, is written and directed by Hannam (“Deep End”) and produced by actor-turned-producer Gharrett Patrick Paon of Rebel Road Films (“The Killing”), with Julie Balassi (“Dim the Fluorescents”) as producing partner and Damon D’Oliveira (“The Grizzlies,” “Honey Bee,” “The Book of Negroes”) as executive producer.

Filming is taking place in Windsor, Nova Scotia and will run until Sept. 16. It will release in Spring 2021.

“Wildhood” stars Phillip Lewitski (“Vikings,” “Utopia Falls”), Joel Thomas Hynes (“Little Dog,” “Trickster,” “Frontier,” “Orphan Black”), Michael Greyeyes (“Blood Quantum,” “I Know This Much is True,” “True Detective,” “Fear the Walking Dead”), Joshua Odjick (“Unsettled,” “Coroner”), Steve Lund (“Schitt’s Creek,” “Frankie Drake Mysteries,” “Reign,” “Bitten”) and newcomer Avery Winters-Anthony.

A snarling dog backed into a corner, Link (16) is at odds with everyone around him. His Mi’kmaq mother is dead, and his connection to his heritage is lost. His white father, Arvin, is resentful of his existence and the racist boys in the trailer park are both dangerous and alluring. Link’s struggle comes to a head when he discovers his birth mother is still alive. In a desperate gamble to start a new life, he runs away with his half-brother Travis (10) to find her. Lost in their new-found freedom they’re

joined by Pasmay (18), a two-spirit teenager drawn to Link’s pain. Together they travel down back roads and through reservations, avoiding Arvin and tackling whatever the road throws at them.

Start of principal photography is the next important step on the long journey of this project. It began in 2018 with the short film “Wildfire,” which was one of five scripts in Canada selected for Whistler Film Festival’s 2017 Aboriginal Filmmaker Fellowship and has played at multiple film festivals internationally. The feature film script won Telefilm’s 2018 Pitch This! at the Toronto International Film Festival.

“I’ve carried this story with me for over a decade,” said writer-director Bretten Hannam. “It’s as much a part of me as my own heart. I’m excited to finally let it loose as we film among the forests, rivers, and all the land that we belong to.”



Courtesy of Riley Smith

The film “Wildhood” began production on Aug. 12, 2020.

“Having never met my own father, growing up I spent many dreamy nights imagining what it might be like to go on one of these quests. Little did I know that ours would be in a pandemic,” said producer Gharrett Paon. “I’m thankful to our whole team for pulling everything together and making it into production, despite an almost comedic number of roadblocks that could have

shut us down. Shout out to our funders who hustled right there along with us.”

“Wildhood” received financial support from Telefilm Canada, the Canada Media Fund, Nova Scotia Production Incentive Fund, the Shaw Rocket Fund, and CBC Films, which provided development support. The Indigenous Screen Office also provided COVID relief funding.

## Editorial: Results from the Soaring Eagle Open Golf Tournament

### BERNIE SPRAGUE

Contributing Writer

Results for the sixth annual Soaring Eagle Open Golf Tournament, held Aug. 14-16 at the Pohlcat Golf Course and the Mt. Pleasant Country Club are in.

We had 55 teams (165 players) participate in this year’s tournament. Due to unforeseen circumstances the play at the Tribe’s Waabooz Run course was shifted to the Country Club. We hope to be back at Waabooz in 2021.

The results include Seniors Division Friday, Aug. 14 at the Pohlcat Golf Course.

Miigwetch to the sponsors: Soaring Eagle Marketing, The Printer Inc., Granger Construction, Michigan CAT, DeWitt Lumber, Blarney Castle EZ Marts, Avalon & Tahoe Mfg Inc., S. Abraham & Sons, Konwinski Construction and C & C Enterprise.

### Seniors Division Championship Flight

- **1st:** Kim Tillotson, Dan Pohl, Mark Black
- **2nd:** Jay Phillion, Brad Phillion, Jon Sniegowski
- **3rd:** Richard Butler, Dale Jalovecky, John Flanagan
- **4th:** Ruben Moore, Dick Cooper, Frank Ross

### Seniors Division A-Flight

- **1st:** Rick Kewayosh, Les Riley, Bill Durfee
- **2nd:** Chip Solomon, John Smith, Dan Fronczak
- **3rd:** Bean Sprague, Larry Sprague, Howard Webkamigab
- **4th:** Steve Davis, Larry Jerred, Lonnie Lesinger

### Ladies Championship Flight

- **1st:** Darcy Crampton, Jill McIntyre, Lori Stinson
- **2nd:** Cheryl Mitchell, Reanna Mitchell, Gayle Ruhl
- **3rd:** Theresa Burtrum, Lisa Stewart, Monica Veit
- **4th:** Dianna Pearsall, Jessica Harrison, Irene Sauve

### Ladies A-Flight

- **1st:** Paula Quigno, Tamera Ortiz, Casey Johnson
- **2nd (tie):** Kristy Navarro, Maia Spotted Tail, Illiana Montoya.
- **2nd (tie):** Val Raphael, Sam Chippeway, Karen Naganashe

### Open Division Championship Flight

- **1st:** Chris Schultz, Ryan Clem, Richard Butler
- **2nd:** Dan Pohl, Doug Labelle, Jeff Roth
- **3rd:** Collin Ridley, Adam Frey, Jimmy McCarthy
- **4th:** Shane Kelly, Pat Jesse, Mike Miske
- **5th:** John Flanagan, Nick Stasil, Dale Jalovecky

### Open Division A-Flight

- **1st:** Ryan Sprague, Steve Chachulski, Nick Carlson
- **2nd:** Erik Rodriguez, Chase Owl, Ruben Moore
- **3rd:** Kashtin Owl, Mike Henkel, Steve Hoffman
- **4th:** Tyler McPherson, Alex Walters, Austin Charest

### Open Division A-Flight

- **1st:** Warren Gionet, Brad Bennett, Marc VanAlstine
- **2nd:** Lucas Sprague, Brian Chippeway, Stu Kruske
- **3rd:** Steve Lichon, Kevin Luchon, Kevin Kumas
- **4th:** Phil Peters, Phil Peters Jr., Ned Lamontagne
- **5th:** Andrew Raphael, Steve Wassegijig, Alex Leureaux

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## Adopt a Pet

**Bethany**  
Bethany is a 2-year-old female Pit Bull mix. She loves everyone she meets, which includes both humans and other dogs. She’s done well with children and enjoys running around with them. She is super active and energetic, so if you need an exercise buddy, she’s your gal! Once she gets tired, she likes to cuddle and give lots of kisses.

**Lewis**  
Lewis is a 4-year-old male Domestic Longhair mix. He is all talk – literally. He talks a lot! He is a bit on the small side but has a big fluffy tail that catches everyone’s eye. He loves snuggles and food. If you want a sweet, loving and talkative guy to keep you company, Lewis is the one.

**Humane Animal Treatment Society**  
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 Phone: 989.775.0830 Email: [hats.publicrelations@gmail.com](mailto:hats.publicrelations@gmail.com)



## Anniversary

*continued from front page*

VanWert said the Saganing Casino is also currently operating food and beverage outlets at 50 percent seating to allow social distancing.

“Through all of our challenges, one thing has

remained consistent – our team members have continued to amaze and impress every day,” VanWert said. “Many... have worked some extremely long shifts, extra shifts, or even worked from home. Some (employees) assisted with training

new staff or helped team members in other departments when (they) saw the need or contributed in many different ways...”

The development of the Saganing hotel had been in the works for more than a decade and took more than two years to construct.

“It’s hard to believe that it’s been a year since opening,” VanWert said. “All things considered, I feel the property as a whole is performing extremely well. I am very proud of the outstanding efforts of our team.”

Northern Michigan’s premier casino and hotel, the Saganing Eagles Landing



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**The 2017-2019 Tribal Council and other supporters stand by Chief Ronald F. Ekdahl as he cuts the ribbon to the Saganing Casino’s newly-constructed hotel on Sept. 6, 2019. Sept. 6, 2020 marks the one-year anniversary of the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino and Hotel’s grand opening of the hotel and ribbon cutting ceremony.**

Casino and Hotel, is located at 2690 Worth Rd. in Standish, Mich. For additional information and to book reservations, please call hotel **1-877-232-4532.**

## Art Reach’s Auction for the Arts moving to online platform

### ART REACH OF MID MICHIGAN

MOUNT PLEASANT, Mich. – Art Reach will be moving its annual Auction for the Arts to an online platform to ensure the safety of its patrons.

Last year, we hosted 220 attendees and raised more than \$65,000 to support local artists and community through 15 different art and cultural classes.

This event will consist of several different art pieces made by artisans throughout the state, family-fun experiences, travel opportunities, and many more.

Online viewing for items will begin at the start of September and bidding will be from Sept. 23-27. Some of the art items will be on display in the Morey Family Gallery starting Sept. 10.

Art Reach of Mid Michigan is dedicated to keeping arts alive and accessible to anyone in the community by offering several different art and cultural classes. Our mission is to promote, stimulate and encourage involvement and appreciation of the arts in mid-Michigan.

To support Art Reach, and participate in the auction, please visit our website, Facebook page or auction site [BiddingOwl.com/ArtReachOfMidMichigan](http://BiddingOwl.com/ArtReachOfMidMichigan)

For more information Art Reach Auction for the Arts visit [www.artreachcenter.org](http://www.artreachcenter.org) or call Art Reach at (989) 773-3689.

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

## Order Establishing Deer Season 2020

**Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 105 subdivision 6(B) the 2020 Deer Season shall begin Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2020, and will close on Monday, Feb. 1, 2021, unless ordered otherwise.**

### Further restrictions shall be as follows:

- Sept. 1, 2020 - Oct. 31, 2020 shall be bow only on all Tribal Trust and Tribal Fee Lands.
- Nov. 1, 2020 - Feb. 1, 2021 shall be gun or bow as per the official map located on the Tribal website or the Tribal Planning Department.

### The 2020 Deer Season will allow for the harvest of five deer as follows:

- Three antlerless\*  
*\*Antlerless gives the ability to take an antlerless deer or a deer with antlers less than three inches in length ( Ordinance 11, Section 103, Subdivision 2)*
- One restricted (restricted to four or more one inch minimum points on one side)
- One antlered (any size antlered)

**Licenses and harvest tags will be available starting Aug. 28, 2020, at the Tribal Planning Department office at \$10 per harvest tag. Only five tags are allowed.**

- “Other Indians” may not hunt on Tribal Trust or Tribal owned Fee Land.
- Other Indians as defined in Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 104 subdivision 52.

**Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 105, Subdivision 5(B). Animal harvest must be reported within 72 hours of take by phone, email or tribal online survey.**

- Please Refer to the Ordinance 11 on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe website for rules and regulations.
- Hunter orange is in accordance with Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 104 subdivision 5
- Tribal lands designated for hunting are approved by the map located at the Tribe’s Planning Department.

Tree stands/blinds are only permitted on Tribal property two weeks before the start of deer season as stated above and must be removed two weeks after deer season close date as stated above; remaining items will be confiscated. No screw-in tree steps, spikes, etc. are permitted except bow/gun hooks. Tree stands/blinds must have name and address affixed in a visible area, or they will be subject to confiscation.

## Order Establishing Fall Wild Turkey Season 2020

**Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 105 subdivision 6(B) the 2020 Fall Wild Turkey Season shall begin Tuesday, Sept.15, 2020, and will close on Saturday, Oct. 31, 2020, unless ordered otherwise. The 2020 Fall Wild Turkey Season will allow for the harvest of one turkey, either sex.**

Licenses and harvest tags are available starting Sept. 14, 2020, at the Tribal Planning Department office.

Only one tag allowed.

- “Other Indians” may not hunt on Tribal Trust or Tribal owned Fee Land.
- Other Indians as defined in Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 104 subdivision 52.

**Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 105 subdivision 5(B) animal harvest must be reported within 72 hours of take by phone, email or online.**

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

## Order Establishing Migratory Game Bird Season 2020/2021

**Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 109 subdivision 3 the 2019-2020 Migratory Game Bird Season shall begin upon the USFWS Final Rule Publication date and will close on Sunday, Jan. 31, 2021 unless ordered otherwise. The 2020/2021 Migratory Game Bird Season will allow for the bag limit as listed. Non toxic shot only.**

### Migratory game bird season daily bag limit:

- |                     |                           |                                |
|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Ducks - 20*       | • Canada Geese - 20**     | • Mergansers - 10***           |
| • Woodcock - 10     | • Common Snipe - 16       | • Sora and Virginia Rails - 20 |
| • Morning Dove - 25 | • Coots & Gallinules - 20 | • Sandhill Crane - 1           |

*\* Duck -20 per day, including no more than five each of the following species: hen mallard, wood duck, redhead, scaup, black duck, pintail and canvasback. Possession limit is not to exceed two times the bag limit.*

*\*\* 20 per day Canada Geese aggregate.*

**\*\*\*Reporting within 72 hours of harvest is mandatory per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 105 subdivision 5(B).**

**A small game license is required as per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 109 subdivision 2.**

**Licenses will be available starting upon the USFWS Final Rule Publication date at the Tribal Planning Department office. Fee is \$10 per license.**

- “Other Indians” may not hunt on Tribal Trust or Tribal owned Fee Land.
- Other Indians as defined in Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 104 subdivision 52.
- Please Refer to the Ordinance 11 on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe website for rules and regulations.



## Intertribal Open Golf Tournament results

### Championship flight

- **1st:** Bear Raphael, Steve Wassegijig, Ruben Moore. 59
- **2nd:** Aaron Chivis, Corey Jones, Ernie Matties. 61
- **3rd:** Erik Rodriguez, Chase Owl, Shane Kelly. 62

### 1st flight winners

- **1st:** Phillip Peters Jr., Phillip Peters III, Erick Pendred. 70
- **2nd:** Bean Sprague, Kenny Sprague, Sheila Leauteaux. 73
- **3rd:** Maia Spotted Tail, Buck Spotted Tail, Brad Bennett. 73

### Youth division

- **1st:** Aiden Raphael
- **2nd:** Angelo Leauteaux

### Chipping challenge

- **Men, tied for 1st:** Bean Sprague and Kelly chamberlain
- **Women, 1st:** Val Raphael
- **2nd:** Sheila Leauteaux



## P&G Company donates abundance of PPE, personal care items to SCA

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

At 9 a.m., an overloaded semi-trailer truck began unloading care bundles of PPE, cleaning products, and an abundance of items donated to the Saginaw Chippewa Academy from the Procter & Gamble Company on Thursday, July 30.

Through a connection between Tribal Education Director Melissa Isaac and an employee within P&G Company in Cincinnati who is an active participant in the company's Affinity Groups (specifically the Native American Indian Leadership Team), SCA was nominated to receive a donation of 40 pallets of PPE and personal care items.

"The Saginaw Chippewa Academy, Tribal Libraries and DK-12 Services will make use of the cleaning products and PPE for added cleanliness that increases staff and student protection," Isaac said.

Donated items included face masks, face shields, gloves, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, hand soap, dish soap, razor cartridges, shaving cream, beard conditioner, diapers, feminine products, laundry soap, deodorant, spic and span cleaner, hair nets and more.

Isaac said SCA donated "care bundles" of hygiene items during the backpack giveaway event on Aug. 20.



Photos by Melissa Isaac and Natalie Shattuck

**The Saginaw Chippewa Academy welcomes a large delivery of PPE, cleaning products and other items on Thursday, July 30, donated by the Procter & Gamble Company. Donated items include: face masks, face shields, gloves, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, hand soap, dish soap, razor cartridges, shaving cream, beard conditioner, diapers, feminine products, laundry soap, deodorant, spic and span cleaner, hair nets and more.**

"The PPE and most of the cleaning supplies will be kept for SCA use," Isaac said. "If there are any items leftover, we will offer it up to the Tribal community and then likely donate it to a local nonprofit."

There were so many donated boxes, the academy did not have room to store them all.

"After speaking with Tim Davis at the (Ziibiwing) Distribution Center, made arrangements for the storage of these pallets in the event we

were chosen for the donation," Isaac said.

The ZCS Warehouse on Shepherd Road had the available storage space and is stowing the items.

The donation was provided by the P&G Company's Native American Indian Leadership Team (NAILT). According to us.pg.com, "NAILT's mission is to enable P&G employees with a strong Native American Indian cultural identity to bring their whole selves to work, in a way that values and respects

the NAI diversity of our workplace and supports the communities in which we live."

The website also stated, "By strengthening the network across North America, NAILT aims to develop talent of North American Indian employees through mentoring, training, informal connections and talent career support. The group also volunteers in local communities where our employees live and work, aiming to improve the lives of people through education and community service."

"The SCIT Education Department would like to say 'miigwetch' to our friends from the P&G Native American Affinity Group and their partners Matthew 25 Ministries for nominating and selecting our Tribal School for their generous donation," Isaac said. "... The SCIT Education Department is grateful to be able to support our students and families with these valuable items as we navigate through this global pandemic."

## Drive-thru giveaway provides backpacks, school supplies and care items for more than 500 students

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

To follow COVID-19 safety measures, this year's annual Back to School event became a drive-thru Backpack Giveaway.

The free giveaway was held on Thursday, Aug. 20, at the Ziibiwing Warehouse on Shepherd Road, at noon until 3:30.

Traffic filed in one-by-one both northbound and southbound on Shepherd Road before noon.

All Tribal community K-12 Education families were invited to pick up a backpack and a COVID care package containing items including: hygiene products, various household cleaning and baby supplies, provided by the Procter & Gamble Company donation that the Saginaw Chippewa Academy received.

The event provided backpacks for more than 500 students, according to Tasha



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Vehicles line up on Shepherd Road for the Aug. 20 drive-thru backpack giveaway at noon, held at the Ziibiwing Processing Center.**

Jeffrey, administrative assistant II for Tribal Education.

Tim Nelson, outreach services manager for the Saginaw Tribal Center, picked up backpacks to distribute to the Saginaw area.

In addition to Tribal Education, several departments helped make the event possible or donated items: Project AWARE, SAMHSA Native Connections, Behavioral Health Programs,



Gaming Commission, Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center, the Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel and At-Large Member Services.



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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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## SCOTUS affirms Reservation — upholds jurisdiction to protect Native women

### STRONGHEARTS NATIVE HELPLINE STAFF

**Supreme Court of the Land.** Legal experts are calling *McGirt v. Oklahoma (McGirt)* the most significant Federal Indian Law case of the century. On July 9, the Supreme Court's McGirt decision upheld the treaty affirmed reservation borders of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The ruling upended previously held legal opinions that jurisdiction over major crimes transferred from federal courts to state courts. Further, that jurisdiction in fact belongs to a federal or tribal court.

"This ruling is critical in the prosecution of domestic violence crimes against Native women," said Lori Jump, director of the StrongHearts Native Helpline (Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians). "Jurisdiction or lack of jurisdiction is at the heart of why rates of violence are so high for Native Americans living on trust or reservation lands."

The reservation boundaries of the Muscogee Creek Nation were at stake, but the ruling has a significant impact on who has jurisdiction over major crimes as they relate to both Native and non-Native perpetrators on tribal land. And, if the Supreme Court had decided to judicially disestablish the

Creek Nation's reservation, the majority of those lands within the Nation's historical boundaries would no longer be considered "Indian Country."

**Violence Against Women Act.** Further, that disestablishment of an existing reservation would not only serve to diminish tribal land but also would eliminate the same tribal jurisdiction that Congress recently, and intentionally, reaffirmed with regard to crimes of domestic violence committed by non-Natives in the 2013 reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act. Fortunately, this was not the court ruling.

**Major Crimes Act.** Previous actions by the federal government, such as the Major Crimes Act of 1855, created a legal framework that resulted in jurisdictional confusion when responding to and prosecuting crimes in Indian Country.

Through the Major Crimes Act of 1855, the U.S. government assumed concurrent jurisdiction over "serious crimes" committed by a Native American in Indian Country. Even basic assistance such as officers responding to 911 calls, was impacted as it could be possible that the law enforcement responding to a call might not be the officer who had jurisdiction over that crime.



## STRONGHEARTS Native Helpline

case was hinged upon the outcome of McGirt.

In the landmark ruling, Gorsuch wrote the majority opinion, "Today we are asked whether the land these treaties promised remains an Indian reservation for purposes of federal criminal law. Because Congress has not said otherwise, we hold the government to its word."

**SCOTUS upends previously held legal opinions.** Although many experts agree that the SCOTUS opinion was accurate and reflected the original intent of the treaties in question, non-Native legislators argued that Native people left Indian territory of their own accord and as such forfeited title to the reservation. Further, that due to the lack of Native inhabitants, the reservation ceased to exist.

In reality, Native people were continuously forced out of Indian Territory by white settlers and the U.S. government. Regardless, the crux of it all as pointed out by SCOTUS was that only an act of Congress could disestablish a tribal reservation, see *Solem v. Bartlett* (1984).

**StrongHearts stands with survivors.** StrongHearts Native Helpline recognizes the importance of the McGirt decision for victims and survivors of violence. Tribal nations are one step closer to holding all perpetrators accountable for committing crimes against Native people on tribal lands.

StrongHearts' mission is to restore power to Native Americans impacted by domestic, dating and sexual violence by providing a system of safety, sovereignty and support with a vision to return to our traditional lifeways where our relatives are safe, violence is eradicated and sacredness is restored.

To explore your options for safety and healing, visit [strongheartshelpline.org](http://strongheartshelpline.org) for one-on-one chat advocacy or call **1-844-7NATIVE (1-844-762-8483)** daily 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. CT. As a collaborative effort of the National Domestic Violence Hotline (The Hotline) and the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center, after hours callers can connect with The Hotline by choosing option one.

**Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe**

## Behavioral Health Telehealth Survey

During this time of uncertainty due to Covid-19, and current government restriction, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe Behavioral Health Services (BH) transitioned to telehealth in order to continue to meet the needs of our clients. The BH Leadership Team is dedicated to making your experience the best it can be during this time. Your participation in this survey will help The BH Leadership Team make decisions for the future of Behavioral Health Services to ensure you are getting the best quality of care.

**Telehealth, for the purpose of this survey, includes:**

- ✓ Phone calls
- ✓ Zoom
- ✓ Google Talk
- ✓ Doxy or any other resource used during this time to connect with Behavioral Health Staff.

*These services could be for periodic checks during this crisis or to continue on-going appointments.*

**Please fill out this survey**

▶ Scan this QR code:



▶ Or visit: [www.surveylegend.com/s/2ctg](http://www.surveylegend.com/s/2ctg)




# #StickAround

## #WeNeedYouHere

**Who? Native Youth Ages 12-19**

**When? Live webcast:**

- ▶ Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2020 @ 4 p.m.
- ▶ Thursday, Sept. 10 @ 4 p.m.
- ▶ Wednesday, Sept. 16 @ 4 p.m.
- ▶ Wednesday, Sept. 23 @ 4 p.m.

*\* If you are unable to see the live broadcast, you have until Monday Sept 28th to access the sessions*

**Topics include:**

- Introducing the WE R NATIVE Website and resources.
- Difference between sadness and depression.
- How to handle depression and hopelessness.
- Our own community short videos/TikTok type videos of how they overcome unhealthy thoughts.

- Videos are due by Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2020.

**Receiving credit**

To receive credit for attending the sessions, please complete the very short survey after each session.

**Swag clothes**

On Wed. Sept 30th we will have a drop by curb pick up for your swag clothes. Jogging pants and t-shirts.

**You can participate! Please call:**

- Anna Hon: 989.775.4616
- Sam Chippeway: 989.775.4629











## Annual HIV/AIDS virtual 5k race receives Pure Michigan fitness endorsement

### CENTRAL MICHIGAN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MOUNT PLEASANT, Mich. – The Governor’s Council on Physical Fitness, Health and Sports and the Michigan Fitness Foundation have endorsed the Central Michigan District Health Department’s 11th annual Central Michigan HIV/AIDS Virtual 5k Rainbow Walk/Run event as a quality physical activity event through the Pure Michigan FITness Series endorsement program.

Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD)

is committed to the belief that all people have dignity and worth and are entitled to the highest quality of life by providing a voice, leadership, education, medical and basic need support services for those people affected and living with HIV/AIDS.

The annual 5k race is aimed to educate the community, reduce HIV/AIDS related stigma, and raise funds to help people who have been diagnosed and are living with HIV/AIDS within the state of Michigan.

Proceeds from this event will help provide comprehensive support including; medical care, case management, social service referrals to

address needs such as insurance, primary medical care, food, housing, transportation and counseling.

This year’s fundraiser is a virtual 5k event. The event will be held anywhere the participant wants to run/walk, starting on Saturday, Sept. 12 and ending on Sunday, Sept. 20. We encourage everyone from our local communities to participate in this event which is open to all ages and ability levels.

This family friendly event is a great opportunity to help give back and take part in our community. To register, please visit: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MI/MountPleasant/11thAnnualCentralMichiganHIVAIDS5kRainbowRunWalk>

Registration is \$25 to participate and race packs can be picked up at CMDHD’s Isabella County location starting Tuesday, Sept. 8 until Friday, Sept. 11 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Children 12 and under earn a free registration by bringing a donation for the Mt Pleasant Care Store to the CMDHD Isabella County location during the race pack pick up week.

Recording race results can be done by visiting the 11th annual HIV/AIDS Virtual 5k race webpage. More information is available by calling Anna Smith at 989-773-5921 ext. 1480.

The Pure Michigan FITness Series program endorses

local, regional, and statewide events that are consistent with the Governor’s Council and the Michigan Fitness Foundation’s mission to promote healthy choices while offering a physical activity event that is open to all participants, regardless of skill level or age.

The 11th annual Central Michigan HIV/AIDS Virtual 5k Rainbow Walk/Run leads by example in providing a safe and healthy physical activity event for Michigan residents.

For more information about the Governor’s Council’s endorsement program, please visit <https://michiganfitness.org/about/>

## CDC data show disproportionate COVID-19 impact in American Indian populations

CDC provides more than \$200 million to address COVID-19 health disparities in Indian Country

### THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a new study that specifically examines how COVID-19 is affecting American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/AN) – one of the racial and ethnic minority groups at highest risk from the disease.

CDC found that in 23 selected states, the cumulative incidence of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases among AI/AN was 3.5 times that of non-Hispanic whites.

These data also showed that AI/AN who tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 tended to be younger than white non-Hispanic individuals with COVID-19 infection.

Compared to whites, a higher percentage of cases among AI/AN individuals were in people under 18 years of age (12.9 percent AI/AN; 4.3 percent white), and a smaller percentage of cases were among AI/AN 65 years or older (12.6 percent AI/AN; 28.6 percent white).

Limited data were available to quantify the disparity in COVID-19 incidence, COVID-19 disease severity, and outcomes among AI/AN persons compared with those among other racial/ethnic groups, reinforcing the need to prioritize improved data collection as a key strategy to understand and improve health outcomes.

Recent CDC studies have shown that AI/AN are among the racial and ethnic minority groups at higher risk for

severe COVID-19 outcomes. Persisting racial inequity and historical trauma have contributed to disparities in health and socioeconomic factors between AI/AN and white populations that have adversely affected tribal communities. The elevated incidence within this population might also reflect differences in reliance on shared transportation, limited access to running water, household size, and other factors that might facilitate community transmission.

### Funding to address COVID-19 disparities

CDC, using a multifaceted approach, has provided more than \$200 million in COVID-19 funding to Indian Country, which will support tribes and tribal organizations in carrying out COVID-19 preparedness and response activities, including surveillance, epidemiology, laboratory capacity, infection control, and mitigation.

“American Indian and Alaska Native people have suffered a disproportionate burden of COVID-19 illness during the pandemic,” said CDC Director Robert R. Redfield, MD. “This funding approach will broaden access to COVID-19 resources across tribal communities.”

This CDC funding to date exceeds the \$165 million directed by Congress through the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriation Act, 2020, and the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act or the CARES Act.

\$142 million in funding that reaches more than 490 tribes and more than 39 million individuals

through a new noncompetitive grant, Supporting Tribal Public Health Capacity in Coronavirus Preparedness and Response.

- \$50.8 million to regional tribal organizations representing more than 500 tribes and more than 2 million AI/AN and four tribal nations serving populations of 40,000 or more through supplements to an existing CDC cooperative agreement, Tribal Public Health Capacity Building and Quality Improvement.

- \$12.9 million through supplements to an existing cooperative agreement, Strengthening Public Health Systems and Services Through National Partnerships to Improve and Protect the Nation’s Health to address COVID-19 among urban American Indians and Alaska Natives and to conduct national COVID-19 communication activities for tribes.

- \$750,000 through the Public Health Crisis Response cooperative agreement administered by CDC’s Center for Preparedness and Response to support COVID-19 incident management efforts in the Cherokee Nation (Oklahoma).

“Funding is only one step in addressing the impact of COVID-19 on tribal communities,” said José T. Montero, MD, director of CDC’s Center for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Support. “CDC is continuing to work on coordinated outreach to tribal nations through our Office of Tribal Affairs and Strategic Alliances and new Tribal Support Section to provide remote- and field-based support to our hardest hit tribal communities.”

To stop the spread of COVID-19 and move toward

greater health equity, CDC will continue to work with tribal nations to ensure resources are available to maintain and manage physical and mental health, including easy access to information, affordable

testing, and medical and mental health care. For more information and resources for tribal communities, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/tribal/index.html>.

## NF Nimkee Fitness

### September Outdoor Classes

\*All class sizes are limited to four people



**L.I.F.E. Strength & Conditioning**  
Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 12 p.m.  
• Attend class or drop in for the Workout of the Day



**M.E.L.T.**  
Monday: 4:10 p.m. Friday: 10 a.m.



**Family Focused Fitness**  
Tuesday & Thursday: 10 a.m.



**Core & Stretching**  
Tuesday & Thursday: 4:10 p.m.  
Wednesday: 10 a.m.

**Open outdoor only (weather permitting)**

**Temporary hours: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday - Friday**

- Equipment availability: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Bring own water and towel, limited equipment available
- A port-a-john will be available

► **Check-in:** Visitors must check-in outside

► **Temperature check:** Your temperature will be taken before any activity

**For more information, please contact:** Nimkee Fitness at 989.775.4690



## CMDHD issues public health emergency order restricting gatherings in Mount Pleasant

### Outdoor social gatherings or events now limited to no more than 25 people

#### CENTRAL MICHIGAN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MOUNT PLEASANT, MICH., Aug. 24, 2020 – Central Michigan District Health Department is issuing a public health emergency order to limit the size of social gatherings or events within Union Township and the City of Mt. Pleasant.

No more than 25 people may gather at outdoor events.

The local order enhances existing state orders and further restricts social gatherings in areas at increased risk for COVID-19 outbreaks since the student population returned to the local community.

The order took effect on Aug. 24, 2020 at 8 p.m. and will remain in effect until amended or rescinded.

“We have seen a large increase in cases since students returned to the Mt. Pleasant area. Our investigations have shown that the majority of these cases had attended large social gatherings. Restrictions on the size of outdoor gatherings, along with other preventive measures will help us

reduce the spread of this virus,” said Steve Hall, health officer for the Central Michigan District Health Department.

The local order reduces the size of allowable outdoor social gatherings from 100 down to 25. Indoor gatherings remain limited to 10 or fewer people not of the same household, as per Michigan Executive Order 2020-160.

At any gathering or event, inside or out, individuals not living in the same household should keep a minimum of 6 feet distance from one another.

Face coverings continue to be required in public indoor settings and any crowded outdoor settings under Executive Order 2020-153.

Isabella County has reported a total of 297 confirmed cases of COVID-19 to date.

County data shows that in the third week of August there was a 350 percent increase in the number of COVID-19 cases compared to the previous week. During that week, 92 percent of reported cases were among those 18 to 24 years old. This is compared to the first two weeks of August in which 39 percent of cases were among this age group.

With thousands of students returning to Central Michigan University in Isabella County, many from states with high rates of COVID-19, living in congregate settings, and traditionally disposed toward socializing in large groups, further restrictions need to be put in place to prevent outbreaks related to large social gatherings and organized events. Large social gatherings have demonstrated an increased public health risk with potential for further outbreak, including super-spreading events.

“We wholeheartedly support the Central Michigan District Health Officer’s order further limiting outdoor gatherings to protect our community from the spread of COVID 19,” said Nancy Ridley, Mt. Pleasant city manager. “These are not normal times and it takes all of us working together to mitigate the spread of this virus. This includes the consistent wearing of face masks and changes in how we interact and gather. Putting these safety measures in place increase the chances of our schools and businesses staying open, as well as protecting all

of our residents, our community’s visitors, and our valued frontline workers.”

“Union Township supports the Central Michigan District Health Department’s Health Officer’s social gathering limitation 100 percent and thank him for his leadership,” said Union Township Manager Mark Stuhldreher. “Whether permanent residents, students, or visitors to our community we all are the key to slowing the spread of COVID-19. If we all follow the guidance of our public health officials, we can keep ourselves, first responders, and our neighbors as safe as possible. It’s up to each of us to do our part.”

State law provides local health officers with the authority to issue orders to protect the public health under Section 2453 of the Public Health Code (MCL 333.2453). Those who disregard the order could be subject to a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than six months and/or a fine of up to \$200.

To reduce the spread of illness in our community, the Health Department recommends wearing a face covering, maintaining a minimum of



6 feet distance from others not in your household and washing your hands frequently. Testing is recommended for anyone reporting to work in person, with known exposure or with any mild or unusual symptoms. Symptoms may take up to 14 days after exposure to appear, and individuals are considered contagious two days before symptoms appear.

The number of local cases, guidance for employers, prevention information, testing options and more are available at <https://www.cmdhd.org/novel-coronavirus>. Health Department staff are also available to answer questions.

CMDHD has established a Coronavirus Message Center line at **989-773-5921 extension 1444**. Leave your name, phone number, county of residence, and a brief message. Staff will return calls as soon as possible.

## Editorial: ‘Together in Teal’ to raise awareness for ovarian cancer

JENNA WINCHEL  
RN, BSN, Women’s Health Coordinator

September is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month. Ovarian cancer is found inside, near or on the outer layer of the ovaries (female reproductive organ).

Symptoms of ovarian cancer can include, but are not limited to, bloating, trouble eating or the sensation of feeling full quickly, having abdominal or pelvic pain, feeling the need to urinate often and urgently, feeling fatigue, having an upset stomach and heartburn not related to food intake, having back pain, having pain

during intercourse, constipation and menstrual changes.

Risk factors for ovarian cancer can include a personal family history of breast, ovarian or colon cancer, increased age and infertility.

Know the facts: All women are at risk for developing ovarian cancer.

Symptoms exist, but can be very vague and increase over time. According to ovarian.org, when diagnosed and treated in the earliest stages, the five-year survival rate is over 90 percent; a pap smear DOES NOT detect ovarian cancer; and it is estimated that one in 78 women will be diagnosed with ovarian cancer during their lifetime.

Remember, having your yearly women’s health screening physical can help save your life. Please

contact your primary care physician today to schedule your yearly screenings.

For more information, please visit [www.ovarian.org](http://www.ovarian.org) or contact your medical provider today.

This September, be part of “Together in Teal” to raise awareness for ovarian cancer.

As women, we often do not take the time out of our busy day for ourselves, let alone remember to schedule our annual women’s health screenings. Nevertheless, you need to keep up on your health to make sure that your family stays healthy, happy and safe.



Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center

# DRIVE-THRU FLU SHOT CLINICS

Saturday Oct. 3, 2020 & Saturday Oct. 17, 2020

**10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**  
 ▶ Last registration at 1:45 p.m.  
**Nimkee front entrance**  
 ▶ Please follow signs, lineup will be from the direction of Nimkee Fitness  
 ▶ Please remain in your vehicle

- Ages 2 and up, if under 18 must have had an influenza vaccine in prior years
- Please do not come to the Flu clinic if you have any symptoms of COVID-19 or have been exposed to COVID-19 in the last two weeks.

For more information call: **989.775.4699**

# LIFE

Lifting • Intervals • Functionality • Endurance

## FITNESS TRAINING

At the Nimkee Fitness Center

**NEW “Workout of the Day”**  
**Monday, Wednesday & Friday**

- ▶ Each day there are workouts created for beginners and for competitive athletes.
- ▶ Bringing great variety and a fun challenge every day!

**LIFE Class Times:**

- ▶ Monday, Wednesday & Friday at noon
- ▶ Drop-in to be instructed by Jaden in the workouts

**Goal of LIFE Based Fitness Class:**

To build a healthier, fitter, stronger YOU! Ultimately we want to increase your ability to endure anything that may come at you in life. This can be done by performing a variety of functional movements at an intensity that challenges you to increase your fitness level.

**Follow and record your workout daily on the “LIFE Log”:**  
[www.sagchip.org/news.aspx?DepartmentName=L.I.F.E+log#.WjpvOVIU\\_OE](http://www.sagchip.org/news.aspx?DepartmentName=L.I.F.E+log#.WjpvOVIU_OE)

**For more information, please contact:**  
 Jaden Harman at 989.775.4694 or [JHarman@sagchip.org](mailto:JHarman@sagchip.org)



## SEPTEMBER 2020 | Tribal Community Event Planner

### Project Venture: Back to School Open House

September 1 | 5:15- 6:30 p.m.

- ACFS Parking Lot  
989.775.5804
- Families and youth can drive thru and pick up information for Project Venture Tribal Youth Program.
- Foster Care and Prevention programs will also be there to provide information
- All youth who attend will be given something fun to take home!

### Meditation for Beginners

September 9, 16, 23, 30

& October 7, 14, 21, 28 | 7:30 p.m.

- To register: 989.400.1838 or [gugonzalez@sagchip.org](mailto:gugonzalez@sagchip.org)
- Registration deadline: Sept. 9, 2020
- Creating a happier, stress-free life
- Presented by Dr. Ben Ramirez-shkwegnaabi
- Eight week workshop series for anyone who would like to learn more about meditation
- Each session will be 30 - 45 minutes
- No supplies or experience needed
- Join safely over Zoom link
- No cost to register

### Traditional Healer Keith Smith

September 7, 8 | 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

- Behavioral Health
- To make an appointment call: 989.775.4879

### SCIT Golf Membership Tour 2020

- For more information, please contact Bernard Sprague at: 989.400.1838
- Two person scramble, shotgun start
- \$20 per player, per course
- \$40 per team
- Three division champions: men's, senior's 60 and over and ladies
- Sign up at each course by the posted deadlines below

September 11 | 10 a.m. | Maple Creek Golf Club

- 989.828.6315
- Deadline: September 4

September 24 | 10 a.m. | Pohl Cat Golf Course

- 989.773.4221
- Deadline: September 17

### 2020 Hospitality Challenge

September 2 | Tee time: 10 a.m.

- Waabooz Run Golf Course
- 989.775.4879
- 18-hole scramble
- Format: Two-player teams
- Cost per player: \$10
- Departments involved: SECR and its Hospitality, and Migizi Enterprises.
- Teams will consist of players from their division and teams can be any mix. Team members must be on the payroll with that department/enterprise
- Lunch served from: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the turn
- Sponsored by Soaring Eagle Marketing/Promotions
- Events include: best dressed player, best dressed twosome, long drive contest, worst dressed player, worst dressed twosome, hole in one (bucket), most sevens on a scorecard, closest to the pin, highest team score, longest putt, lowest team score and closest chip
- Earn points for each event.
- First group to turn in their scorecard wins a prize.

### Native Farmers Market

September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

- Farmers Market Pavilion (corner of Leaton and Broadway roads)
- 989.775.4629
- Items include: Seasonal produce, baked goods, beaded/sculpted/natural art and Indigenous foods.
- Healthy food/Native art vendors: Maple syrup, eggs, honey, seeds, cottage foods, plants, organic protein and wild rice.
- You do NOT have to be Native American to sell produce/plants/other.
- You must be Native American to be an art vendor.
- Like us on Facebook!



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

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

## SEPTEMBER 2020 | Tribal Community Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat./Sun.
<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> <small>*Bins must be curbside by 6:30 a.m.</small>	1	2	3	4	5
					6
7	8	9	10	11	12
<b>Tribal Ops Closed</b> Labor Day			<b>Tire Recycling</b> <b>Collection</b> Isabella County Fairgrounds 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.		13
14	15	16	17	18	19
	<b>Tribal Observer</b> <b>Deadline</b>			<b>Tribal Observer</b> <b>Subscription Deadline</b> <b>October mailed edition</b> For non-elder Members	20
21	22	23	24	25	26
				<b>Tribal Ops Closed</b> Michigan Indian Day	27
28	29	30	<b>Listening Ear Services: For Clare, Isabella, and surrounding counties</b>  Are you feeling helpless or hopeless? Do you need someone to talk to or want to know where to find assistance? Listening Ear Crisis Center is where help begins! Their professional staff can listen, connect and support you with a variety of community resources. But most importantly, they value you, the caller, and the strengths you bring. Listening Ear is "always there." Their services are free and available 24 hours a day, every day. Through Listening Ear's youth programs, they provide prevention, counseling, emergency housing and crisis services for qualified youth through 21 years of age. If you are homeless, they can offer housing while you finish school, gain work experience, and learn to become self-sufficient. <b>Clare County: 989.386.2774 Isabella County: 989.772.2918</b>		



## Tribal Observer Classifieds

To place your ad, call the Tribal Observer at 989-775-4010, email [observer@sagchip.org](mailto:observer@sagchip.org), call to make an appointment in the Observer offices in the Black Elk Building or mail to Tribal Observer, Attn.: Classified, 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., 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.**

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

### 100 Employment

#### Tribal Operations

##### Dental Assistant

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Graduate of a dental assisting program or two years of dental assisting experience. An equivalent combination of education and directly related experience may be considered. Certification to expose dental radiographs. Ability to obtain HIPAA Certification, Blood Borne Pathogens Certification, BLS Certification and Safety Training within 30 days of hire. Under the supervision of chief dental officer and in accordance with rules defined by the State of Michigan, obtain patient from waiting room and perform chairside assisting, dental charting, dental laboratory procedures, equipment sterilization, maintenance, cleaning, and exposing radiographs for dental clinic.

##### Senior Associate General Counsel

Open to the public. Juris Doctor from an ABA accredited law school. Member of the Michigan State Bar Association and in good standing. Four years of experience as a practicing attorney; minimum of three years consecutive experience working full-time for an Indian tribe or Indian organization in the practice of law, including Indian Law and tribal court, and closely related fields dealing with tribal interests. Experience in managing complex legal issues. Licensed to practice law in the State of Michigan; or must be licensed in another state and become licensed in the State of Michigan following the next available bar exam; or by reciprocity no later than six months after date of hire.

##### Maintenance Worker

Open to the public. One year experience with basic maintenance and grounds keeping. Experience with operation, maintenance, and janitorial equipment preferred. Must possess good diagnostic skills. Under the supervision of Housing Maintenance Supervisor, perform janitorial and grounds keeping duties and some maintenance for Housing.

##### Resident Service Aide

Open to the public. Must be 18 years of age. Experience with older adults preferred. Under the supervision of Resident Care manager, provide assistance to residents with tasks such as:

transportation to and from medical appointments and assist resident during medical appointments, basic errands, light housekeeping and personal laundry. Assists and escorts residents with mobility limitations in transportation or ambulation to and from meals, activities, social events and during meals as necessary.

##### Waste Water Operator

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Three years' experience in wastewater/water field or directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations. Must be willing to take classes in microbiology, advanced math and beginning algebra courses. Must have an aptitude for operating and maintaining water treatment and waste water treatment mechanical equipment and be skilled in the operation, repair and maintenance of mechanical, lab equipment and electrical equipment.

##### ACFS Director

Open to the public. Master's degree in social services, human services or related field. Five years' social services experience. Two years' experience in a supervisory capacity. Experience working with tribal communities and outside social services. Experience with budget administration, operation, reports, contract management and development. Certified social worker and/or licensed clinical social worker preferred. Obtain HIPAA certification within five business days of hire. Under the supervision of Tribal Administration, direct, establish, plan and coordinate all activities and segments included within Anishnaabeg Child and Family Services (ACFS). This includes prevention and outreach services, protective services, ICWA and Licensing services.

##### Residential Treatment Coordinator

Open to the public. Master's degree level in counseling, social work, human services or related field. Four years' experience in residential treatment. One year in a supervisory capacity. Experience with substance abuse treatment protocols, the judicial and legal system. Experience with co-occurring therapy experience with adults, youth, and families preferred. Must have flexibility in daily routine and be available for after hour(s) and weekend consults with the resident program, various tribal agencies and local hospitals. Experience with Native American traditions and culture preferred.

##### General Labor Pool Worker

Open to the public. 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. Applicants must have a telephone contact number and be available on short notice for short term employment.

##### Dietary Lead Cook

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Two years cooking experience. Experience with quality food preparation and service in a large service kitchen. Lead experience preferred.

##### Certified Nursing Assistant

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. State of Michigan Certified Nursing Assistant. One year nursing experience preferred. Experience with older adults preferred. Under the supervision of resident care manager, provide assistance to residents with daily living activities. Assist residents with dressing/undressing, bath functions, bowel and bladder functions, oral care, hair care, and other direct personal care/services per resident service plan. Assist residents with mobility limitations in transportation to and from meals, activities, and social events; assist residents at meals as necessary.

##### 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. Knowledge of Native American traditions and culture preferred.

##### Leadership Apprentice

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be a Saginaw Chipewewa Tribal Member. Must have satisfactorily completed 12 credit hours. Must provide documentation of acceptance at an accredited college/university in Michigan. Must currently have a cumulative 2.5 GPA. Must submit an official transcript and class schedule during recruitment process. Must be a full-time college student. Applicants must submit a declared degree audit as requested throughout internship.

##### Occupational Health RN

Open to the public. Grant-funded position. Duration of one year. Associate degree in nursing. Licensed Registered Nurse. Three years' experience in nursing. Experience with OSHA regulations and recordkeeping. Proficient in Microsoft Office with 70 percent accuracy. 24/7 operation; must be able to work a flexible schedule.

##### Behavioral Health Director

Open to the public. Master's degree in social work, human services or related field. Five years' experience in the field of both clinical work and administrative work. Full licensure required. Three years supervisory experience, including goal setting, program and budget development and administration required. Experience in working with the tribal community and outside systems. Experience in working collaboratively across multiple organizations and community systems. Knowledge of Native American traditions and culture preferred. Must maintain any educational requirements needs such as Continuing Education Credits (CEU's) for state licensure and ongoing CARF accreditation requirements. Native American preferred.

##### 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.

### Soaring Eagle

##### Database Marketing Manager

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in marketing, communications, journalism or related field. Three years of experience in database marketing. Two years in a managerial role of people and processes. Experience with Direct Mail specifications, print production and postal regulations. Experience with managing multiple campaigns, channels and timelines in high pace environment. Experience in database structures and creating queries is preferred.

##### Cleaning Care Team Associate

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must pass a health screening before entering the facility for scheduled shift. Must complete a workplace safety orientation. Must wear employer provided personal protective equipment during scheduled shift such as a face mask, gloves, etc. Under the supervision of the Housekeeping supervisor, perform frequent cleaning, disinfection, and sanitation duties for the casino whereby results are achieved in accordance with the objectives, performance and quality standards established by the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and Saginaw Eagles Landing Casino and Hotel. This is a temporary position through Dec. 31, 2020.

##### Server Assistant PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be able to pass background check to meet the employment eligibility requirements as they pertain to the position.

##### Host/Hostess

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Six months food or hosting experience and/or the ability to successfully pass in-house training.

##### Bartender

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Bartending experience preferred. Must be able to successfully complete and maintain TIPS (Training for Intervention ProcedureS) Certification as part of SECR's commitment to responsible alcohol service.

##### 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.

##### Security Officer FT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Security or surveillance experience preferred. Must be able to work any shift assigned, included weekends and holidays.

##### Security Officer PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Security or surveillance experience preferred. Must be able to work any shift assigned, included weekends and holidays.

##### Waitstaff PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Restaurant server experience preferred. Frequent walking and standing in a smoking environment and contact with the general public.

### Sagining

#### Security Officer FT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Security or surveillance experience preferred. Must be able to work any shift assigned, included weekends and holidays.

#### Security Officer PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Security or surveillance experience preferred. Must be able to work any shift assigned, included weekends and holidays.

#### F&B Shift Supervisor

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Associate degree preferred. Three years food and beverage experience. Two years supervisory experience in the hospitality field. Point of Sale (POS) experience.

#### F&B Custodial Worker

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Kitchen cleaning experience preferred.

#### Casino Ambassador

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Six months of heavy cash handling or hospitality experience in a fast paced, high pressure environment. Must pass a math proficiency test with a minimum score of 70 percent.

#### Beverage Waitstaff

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Restaurant server experience preferred.

#### Players Club Representative PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be able to pass background check to meet the employment eligibility requirements as they pertain to the position.

#### 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 Sagining internal Culinary training.

#### Laundry Attendant

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be able to pass background check to meet the employment eligibility requirements as they pertain to the position.

#### F&B Attendant FT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Cash handling, banking, or accounting experience preferred.

#### Guestroom Attendant FT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Three months of housekeeping experience preferred.



# September 2020



## \$1,000,000 Summer Free Play Giveaway

Saturdays in September | 9AM - 11:30PM

Live large with your share of \$1,000,000 in Premium Play! Six drawings every half hour from 9AM - 11:30PM. Each winner receives \$500 in Premium Play!



TUESDAYS, SEPT. 1, 15 & 29 | 8AM-8PM

ACCESS card holders can earn 1 entry for every 1,000 points (max of 5 entries) for a chance to win a Premium Play prize of their choice.



WEDNESDAYS | 10AM-10PM

Get \$10 in Premium Play for every 800 points earned with your ACCESS card for a maximum of \$50 in Premium Play!



FRIDAYS | 6PM-11PM

Each half-hour one lucky winner playing slots will be drawn to win \$500 in Premium Play!



SUNDAYS | 5PM-10PM

Hourly hot seat drawings for a chance to win \$500 in Premium Play!



## Your Chance To Win \$500 in Premium Play!

Fridays & Saturdays | 5PM - 10PM

One lucky guest will be drawn each half hour from 5PM - 10PM for a chance to choose between \$500 cash, \$500 Premium Play or half & half (\$250 in cash & \$250 in Premium Play!)



MONDAYS | 8AM - 10PM

Guests who earn 1,200 points can claim their Scratcher Palooza ticket and reveal their prize! On September 28, there will be a Grand Prize drawing for \$5,000 in cash!



TUESDAY, SEPT. 1 | 8:30AM - 11PM

You could win a share of \$60,000 in cash! One winner every half hour from 8:30AM - 11PM will win \$2,000 cash!



WEDNESDAYS | 4AM - 11:59PM

Earn points and get Premium Play!

Points Earned	Reward Amount
300	= \$5
800	= \$10
1800	= \$25

Every hour from 9AM - 9PM we will be doing a drawing for up to \$100 in Premium Play.



SUNDAYS, SEPT. 6 & 13 | 3PM-9PM

Drawings every half-hour for your choice of \$100 in Premium Play or \$50 in cash!

SoaringEagleCasino.com | Mt. Pleasant, MI | 1.888.7.EAGLE.7

Must be 18 to game. Must be an ACCESS Loyalty Club Member to participate in promotions. Management reserves all rights.