



# TRIBAL OBSERVER

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

## Tribal Council presents live-streamed video for 2021 virtual State of the Tribe community meeting

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

Keeping in mind safety protocols during the pandemic, the Tribal Council hosted the 2021 annual State of the Tribe community meeting via a live-streamed video. The Tribal Council held the live web-cast for Membership only on Friday, Jan. 22 at 10 a.m.

The State of the Tribe video in its entirety is available on the Tribal Member page of [sagchip.org](http://sagchip.org).

Chief Tim J. Davis provided a welcome and each Tribal Council member introduced themselves.

Tribal Council member Gayle Ruhl provided the following words.

"Boozhoo. Wabanoungkwe n'dishnikas. Miishke d'odem. Mount Pleasant ndo njibaa. You may know me as Gayle Ruhl, I am a District I Tribal Council representative, I just want to say my heart goes out to the community during this time," Ruhl

said. "I, and the rest of Council, definitely have you and the community in our thoughts and prayers every day as we try to get through this. Hopefully things brighten up, I really hope our community comes together, works together tirelessly, even though we have our differences. That's what I promise to do, is work every day to promote our Tribe, to go into the future better than the day before. Please stay positive and connect with those you love, miigwetch."

Tribal Council District II Representative Ron Nelson offered the following statement.

"I wanted to thank each of my District II members for your support and commitment to our community," Nelson said in the video. "Together, we have been able to build a sustainable economic resource that, with the assistance of our Saganing gaming associates, supports over one-third of our income. Miigwetch for all that you do."

Prior to the live-streamed video, Tribal Members had the

opportunity submit questions for Council to answer. The subjects of the questions brought forth by the Membership included: the pandemic and COVID-19, loan payments, health care, teleworking and the Tribe's support of outside clubs or groups. *(The full Q-and-A session may be viewed on the Tribal Members section of [sagchip.org](http://sagchip.org))*

One Tribal Member asked, in an effort to make Tribal elders feel more connected to the community during the pandemic, if it would be possible to put out a call for Members to read articles from the Tribal Observer on video and post the videos to the Tribal website or social media pages. The Member stated that this could, "1. Engage community members and increase a sense of connectivity and 2. Make the Tribal Observer more accessible to those with visual impairments or reading struggles."

To this, Tribal Council answered, "We thought this was an excellent idea

and could be expanded on. We thought utilizing Youth Council to connect our elders with our youth via virtual visits and storytelling. Education, At-Large/Member Services and others could assist, creating a robust connection."

Sub-Chief Joe Kequom highlighted the accomplishment of Tribal Member David Merrill graduating the police academy and joining the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Department as a patrol officer. The sub-chief described Merrill as "an outstanding example within our community" (*see page 6 for the feature on Merrill*).

Also during the live stream, community singers and drummers performed welcome and honor songs.

Tribal Council Secretary Jennifer L. Wassegijig closed with the following statement:

"So many times we fail to mention how much we appreciate those who work tirelessly 24/7 to protect our community and its Members. Thank you

### Features

- 2 Public Notices
- 9 Fun and Games
- 13 Health
- 14 Calendar
- 15 Classifieds

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to our Fire Department, police force and Nimkee staff for your dedication and talent," Wassegijig said. "At this time, I would like to extend a thoughtful wish for health and prosperity to each of you. Don't forget to take advantage of the premium play and food voucher which can be redeemed beginning (Jan. 22) until Feb. 22, 2021. Be sure to check on your elders and let's be sure to take care of one another."

The live stream was made possible by the SCIT Information Technology department and organized by the Public Relations Department.

## Council member to become first Tribal representative on Mt. Pleasant School Board

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

On behalf of Tribal Council and the Saginaw Chippewa community, Chaplain Alice Jo Ricketts is joining the Mt. Pleasant Public Schools Board of Education as an ex officio representative.

Jennifer Verleger, superintendent for Mt. Pleasant Public Schools, reached out to the Tribal Public Relations Department after the Board unanimously approved of an ex officio representative from the Tribe during the Board's meeting on Monday, Jan. 4, 2021.

The idea came to the Board after Tribal Education Director Melissa Isaac gave a Nov. 16 presentation to the Board about the Tribal Education Department and, specifically, focused on the student support advisers and tutors.

"While there are lots of details to be worked out, we thought the first step would be to reach out and see if this is anything you think Tribal Council would be interested in doing," Verleger said in her initial email to Tribal PR, explaining no formal action about the idea was taken during the Jan. 4 meeting and thought it was best to reach out to Tribal Public Relations first.

Tribal PR responded and agreed to the idea, and Ricketts was chosen among the Tribal Council.

Ricketts said she is honored and hoping this helps accomplish and "provide strong advocacy, cultural awareness, bridge building between the Tribe, MPPS and community."

"In the past 30 plus years, I have worked for the Tribe, and mostly with our Tribal youth," Ricketts said. "And as many know, our children attend

public school outside of (the Saginaw Chippewa Academy). I am a huge supporter of education and I'm confident that I will have a strong presence for all of them. Doors will be open for cultural understanding and strong representation on their behalf."

As head of SCIT Tribal Education, Melissa Isaac believes this seat has the potential to serve many purposes and provide many opportunities for collaboration and discussion.

"As a neighboring Tribal Nation, we will be able to provide input on decisions that directly impact our learners and families. These topics range from curriculum selection to transportation," Isaac said. "The Board will benefit from an additional, yet necessary, perspective and way of being, knowing, understanding and doing. The Tribal



Courtesy of Marcella Hadden, Niibing Giizis

**Tribal Council Chaplain Alice Jo Ricketts is joining the Mt. Pleasant Public School Board as an ex officio representative on behalf of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.**

Education Department is on the ready to ensure our Tribal Chaplain Alice Jo Ricketts is supported and successful in her new role and anybody else that fills that seat going into the future. Their success is our

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## Dejay Elk

October 15, 1934 – December 24, 2020

Dejay Elk, age 86, of Grand Rapids, passed away Thursday, Dec. 24, 2020.

Dejay was born to Bemis Pelcher and Cecilia Elk on Oct. 15, 1934 in Mount Pleasant, Mich. He was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army.



Dejay loved fishing, spending time with family and friends and sharing the gospel word and his love for the Lord at Faith Gospel Church and the Glorious Church. Dejay, up until his death, attended the Resurrection Life Church.

Dejay is survived by his step-daughter, Patricia Kay of Grand Rapids; step-grandchildren Joshua Kay, Jude (April) Kay, Matthew Kay all of Grand Rapids, step-grandchildren Joshua Jr., Josiah, Max, Tori, and Jasmine all of Grand Rapids, set/great-granddaughter Marceline of Grand Rapids, Brothers Delmar (Julia) Jackson Sr., Larry (Vicky) Pelcher and Harry (Denise) Pelcher all of Mt. Pleasant, David Jackson of Grand Rapids, and Alvin (Teresa) Jackson of Mt. Pleasant; sisters, Catherine Jackson, and Helen Peters, both of Mt. Pleasant and many nieces, nephews and friends.

Dejay was preceded in death by his wife Irene Kay, his parents; sisters, Beverly Vasquez, Patricia Keshick, Lucille Jackson, Carolyn Pelcher, Elsie Compo and step-daughter Beverly Kay.

A private family service was held. Burial took place at the Woodland Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Resurrection Life Church, 5100 Ivanrest Ave SW, Grandville MI 49418 in memory of Dejay.

## Sharon Helen Peters (Cook)

February 11, 1943 – January 8, 2021

Sharon Helen Peters, age 77, of Mount Pleasant, Mich. passed away on Friday, Jan. 8, 2021 at her home peacefully, with her family at her side.



Sharon was born on February 11, 1943 in Remus, Mich., the daughter of Jay and Caroline (Norman) Cook. She married her estranged husband Robert V. Peters on May 19, 1965 who has not had any marital relationship with Sharon since 1974.

Sharon worked for Dana Corporation - TB Woods in Mount Pleasant, Mich. for 21 years. Additionally, she worked for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe as a Nimkee Fitness staff member for 21 years. As a Nimkee Fitness Staff member, Sharon developed a family relationship with everyone she met. She loved her Nimkee family dearly.

Sharon also achieved the honor of being Ms. Senior Michigan in 2016 an honor that truly identified the extraordinary woman she was.

Sharon especially enjoyed traveling to Woodland Park, Mich., which is the location of the family cottage built by her parents in the late '60s. Sharon loved to spend time with family and friends there; her favorite activity while at the cottage was bass fishing.

Sharon is survived by her estranged husband Robert V. Peters, Sharon is also survived by her three sons and daughter: Robert (Karen) Steib of Lake Orion, Mich., Renee (Steve) Peters-Read of Remus, Mich., Robert V. Peters II, and Shannon (Brenda) Peters of Mount Pleasant, Mich.. Sharon has 11 grandchildren: Marcus (Joy) Steib great-granddaughter Austyn of San Diego, Janelle (Dominique) Steib-Adkins great-grandson and granddaughter Landon and Alyvia of Inkster Mich., Allen (Krystal) Read great-granddaughter Amelia of Charlevoix, Mich., Shelby (Jake Moore) Read-Lay great granddaughter Harli Lay of Remus, Mich., Bryce (Kaylee) Read of Lake Isabella, Mich., Cody Peters, Killian Peters and Dakota Peters of Mount Pleasant, Mich., Alisha Peters great-granddaughter Alexandra Cuvelier of Mount Pleasant, Mich., Kristin (Richard) Peters of Raleigh, N.C., and Edgar (Meghan) Peters of Ann Arbor, Mich.

Sharon is also survived by her two nephews Lee (Jeanna) Fleming of Mount Pleasant, and Tyrone (Kristy) Fleming of Mount Pleasant.

Sharon is also survived by her brother-in-law Alvin Fleming of Mount Pleasant, and many cousins, family, and close friends.

Sharon was preceded in death by her parents, her sister Janice Fleming, and great-granddaughter Kenzlee Sophia Moore.

Funeral services were held at the Wheatland Church of Christ on Saturday, Jan. 23, 2021 at 1 p.m. for immediate family. Family members and friends were welcomed to visit the church from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Sharon was a dedicated member of this church her whole life additionally, she touched countless parishioners with her God given gift of music through the talented piano hymns she played for the past 46 years.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Wheatland Church of Christ: PO Box 188 Remus, MI 49340.

## Nicki Perez

January 20, 1939 – January 10, 2021

Nicki Perez (nee: Hazel Marie Peters), 81, of Mount Pleasant, Mich., returned to Christ's loving arms on Jan. 10, 2021.

Nicki was born on Jan. 20, 1939, in Sherman Township to Wilfred Sr. and Julia Otto Peters.

Nicki grew up in the Beal City, Mich. area. She worked for the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe for a number of years before retiring. She was the Tribe's first magistrate when the Tribal Court was created.

In her early years, you could find Nicki on the dance floor. She also loved Scrabble, bowling, traveling, bingo, slots, the Morning Sun puzzle, and her family.

Nicki is survived by her children David Perez Jr. of Mt. Pleasant, Dawn Chippewa of Mt. Pleasant, Craig (Corrina) Perez of Goodyear, Ariz., and Mary Perez (Ryan Kahgegab) of Mount Pleasant, Mich.; her grandchildren David Perez III, Cruz (Kasey) Perez, Mariah Perez, Chanise Perez, Shanelle Perez, Waabigonii Anderson, Zahgiidiwin Chippewa and Manajiwin Chippewa of Mount Pleasant; Tyana N. Perez, Tyson N. Perez and Tylia N. Perez of Goodyear, Ariz.; Guyan Kunst, Nodin Kunst, Leonard Shomin, Albert Shomin, Paul Shomin III, Gary Shomin, and Rocky Shomin of Mount Pleasant; great-grandchildren Trinity Perez, Bagaan Perez, Miah Perez, Malachi Ritter-Perez, Hollis Perez, Raynah Perez, Rayis Rose-Perez, Jeremiah Velasquez-Perez, Julius Velasquez-Perez, Caleb Hendrickson-Perez, Colson Hendrickson-Perez and Mira Shomin-Jackson all of Mount Pleasant; she is also survived by her twin sisters Anne and Patricia Peters, many nieces, nephews, relatives, friends and community members.

Nicki was preceded in death by both her parents, grandparents, brothers Wilfred Jr. and Julius Peters; her sister BettyLou Otto; granddaughter Tyraa N. Perez; her niece Denise L. Peters; her great-nephews Andre Peters, Matthew Crow (Paris Peters) and Tommy Kahgegab.

A private funeral service was held at Clark Family Funeral Chapel. Friends were invited to attend the services via a live broadcast on Saturday, Jan. 16, 2021 at 1 p.m. The family received friends at a public visitation on Friday, Jan. 15, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Clark Family Funeral Chapel.

Memorial contributions may be made to Nicki's family.



## Kara Lynn Franco

September 11, 1996 – December 12, 2020

Kara Lynn Franco, age 24, passed away December 12, 2020.

Kara was born to Gary Sprague and Lynette Franco on Sept. 11, 1996 in Mount Pleasant, Mich. She was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.



Kara loved bowling, playing all sports and was an avid Lions and Tigers fan. Kara loved to learn; she was a jack of all trades and loved to work on cars.

Most of all, she loved to take care of her family and especially close to her heart, Alicia Gonzalez.

Kara is survived by her mother, Lynette Franco; brothers, Ron Isham, Travis Kendall, Bobby Francis, and Michael Jackson; sisters, Raini Isham, Alisha Franco, Allison Franco; nephews, Brandon, Richie, Amare, Lawerance; nieces, Aysia, Madisen, Izabella, Jessica, Lilliana, Aiyana, Aaliyah, Janessa, Madiana and one more niece or nephew on the way.

Kara was preceded in death by her father, Gary Sprague; grandfather, Gilberto Franco; grandmother, Eleanor Sprague; aunt, JoKathy Sprague and cousin, Lindsey Sprague.

A private family service has been held.

Friends were invited to attend the services via a live broadcast on Saturday, Dec. 19 at 2 p.m. Kara's family received friends for a public visitation at Clark Family Funeral Chapel on Friday, Dec. 18 from 12 - 9 p.m. Burial took place at Memorial Gardens.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.

## Tribal Clerk's Office Update

The Clerk's Office now has Annual Report, Address Change and Child Welfare forms, including envelopes and pens available outside at the Drop Box located at the Black Elk Building main doors.

### Office hours:

- Monday – Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Closed: 12 - 1 p.m. (by appointment only)

For more information, please call: 989.775.4051

## From the Family of Nicki Perez

**Special thanks to:** Clark Funeral Chapel, N'Bakade, Sam McClellan, Karen Bond, Courtney Kahgegab & Family, Valora Weaselbear, Malissa "Kerbs" Kerby, Maggie Jackson, Sheligh Jackson, Leeann Peters, Jennifer Wassegijig and everyone who sent flowers, condolences, food and their love during our time of great grief and sorrow.

## Nathan Ray Childers

April 4, 1959 – January 8, 2021

Nathan Ray Childers, age 61, of Sterling, Mich. passed away unexpectedly Friday, Jan. 8, 2021 at his home.

Nathan was born April 4, 1959 in Au Gres, Mich. to the late Nathan and Lena Hazel (James) Childers. He attended and graduated Au Gres Sims, class of 1978 and then served for 10 years in the Michigan National Guard.

He was an active member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Nathan was a wild and crazy guy when he was younger, wasn't afraid to speak his mind when it came to certain things, a very funny outgoing man who was willing to help anyone out if needed. The most important thing to him was his family; he loved spoiling his kids and grandson.

When he wasn't found at home spending time with family and friends, Nathan enjoyed walking through the woods and looking at nature with his adoring wife Kimberly at their cabin up north.

He had a personality of gold and will be missed by all who loved him.

Nathan is survived by his loving wife of 22 years, Kimberly Jo (Tekson) Childers; children, Billie Jo Herrick, Cameron Herrick and Samantha Childers; brothers, Randy James and Michael Childers; sisters, Jean Farrow, Shirley Houle, Jackie Deverichs, Joyce Moore and Donna Moore; grandson, Bentley and granddaughter due in March, Addalynn; numerous nieces, nephews, and friends all of whom will miss him dearly.

Visitation was held from noon to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2021 at Buresh Funeral Home, 101 East Michigan Avenue, Au Gres, Michigan 48703. Graveside ceremony took place at Saganing Indian Cemetery in Standish, Mich. with Chaplain Yvette Chisholm officiating.

Memorial contributions may be directed to family wishes.

## Theresa Ann Rubin

September 28, 1940 – January 9, 2021

Theresa Ann Rubin, 80, of West Palm Beach, Fla. peacefully passed away on Jan. 9, 2021.

Theresa was born in Petoskey, Mich. on Sept. 28, 1940 to her parents James R. Walker Sr. and Lottie Johnson. She was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribal Nation and the last of the family of six siblings.

Theresa met the love of her life, Henry Rubin Jr., more than 56 years ago through her sister Gertrude and brother-in-law Charlie Phillips and they have been together ever since.

Henry survives in the home, residing in West Palm Beach, Fla. Also surviving are their three adult daughters: Jeanette (Louis Jr.) Shambo of Florida, Ann Rubin of Florida, and Sandy (Bob) Warner of Kansas; eight grandchildren: Jeanelle, Louis (Tanisha), Jessica and Leighton of Florida, and Nicole, Cameron, Elizabeth and Kenneth Warner of Kansas; and five great-grandchildren: Jolene, Genevieve, Louie, Micah and Luka.

Theresa was preceded in death by her son Henry Rubin III in April 2016. Also preceding her in death are her parents, two brothers and three sisters.

Theresa was a very generous woman with an infectious laugh. She was very proud of being Ojibwe and enjoyed traveling all over the country; going to powwows with her family. She will be greatly missed by family and the many friends that she and Henry made on the powwow trail over the years.

All those who wished to pay their respects were invited to a visitation on Friday, Jan. 15 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Ware-Smith-Woolever Funeral Home, 1200 W. Wheeler St., Midland, MI.

The funeral was held on Saturday, Jan. 16 at 11 a.m. at the Ware-Smith-Woolever Funeral Home, 1200 W. Wheeler St., Midland, MI. Burial was then held at New Calvary Cemetery, 2743 E Bombay Road in Midland.





## 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

- Feb. 2
- March 2



## New Airport Board

Tribal Members letters of interest are needed for representation on the new Airport Board.

- Must be a SCIT Member
- Members must commit to each meeting time
- Members must conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times while representing the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Please send letters of interest to:

Public Relations  
7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

or [PublicRelations@sagchip.org](mailto:PublicRelations@sagchip.org)

Please call 989-775-4096 if you have any questions.

### Dominick Shaffer

May 18, 1989 - January 21, 2021

Dominick "Dom" Shaffer, age 31, of Pompeii, formerly of Mount Pleasant, Mich., passed away unexpectedly Thursday, Jan. 21, 2021.

Dominick was born and raised in Mt. Pleasant by his parents, George Mandoka and Darcy Baldwin and his grandma Florence White.

Dominick was currently working for McConnell and Scully Oil. He had worked for Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribal Housing and Comfort Homes. Dominick was a certified hustler; he loved any income opportunity that allowed him to use his many skills.

He married Marcine Nashu on March 1, 2013 in Mt. Pleasant. Dominick was an amazing husband and father; he loved spending time with Marcine and his kids at the beach, cooking out, camping, hiking, and rock collecting. Dominick was a hard-working provider for his family and that brought him true happiness.

He enjoyed fishing, working on projects, playing cards, gambling, and was a collector of many things.

Dominick was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Dominick is survived by his wife Marcine; his children Sharon Bertrand, Miingen Bertrand, Aiden Shaffer, Charles Shaffer, Blaze Shaffer; father George Mandoka of Mt. Pleasant; mom Darcy (Brian) Baldwin of Mt. Pleasant; grandma Florence (Michael) White of Clare; brothers Jacob Tetzlaff of Ithaca, Dillian Mandoka of Mt. Pleasant, Aaron Bates of Stanton; sisters Briana (Shane) Mead, Jessee Mandoka, Nova Mandoka, all of Mt. Pleasant, Diamantina Sceales of Harrison; father-in-law Milton Pelcher of Mt. Pleasant; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles, and other extended family members.

Dominick was preceded in death by his grandpa Keith Mandoka; grandma Darlene Bates; cousins Tim Mandoka and Jeff Colwell; mother-in-law Vivian Pelcher; and sister-in-law Bianca Nieto.

Private funeral services for Dominick took place.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family for his children.



### Eddie Benally

January 14, 1958 - January 12, 2021

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – On Jan. 12, 2021, two days before his 62nd birthday, Eddie Benally died peacefully with his loving wife, Kelly Willis-Benally at his bedside and his daughters Andrea Marsh, Raelle Hamilton, and Cheyanne Benally via Zoom at Lovelace Hospital.

Given the current public health orders regarding gatherings in New Mexico, no physical memorial service will be held.

Eddie was born Jan. 14, 1958 in Rehoboth, New Mexico into the Todichinii (Bitter Water Clan), born for the Kinlichini (Red House Clan), the Tachii'ni (Red Running into the Water Clan) and Haltsooi (Meadow People).

Eddie devoted his life to the preservation, protection and conservation of wildlife. He was in law enforcement for 38 years as a police officer and a wildlife conservation officer. He was instrumental in bringing attention to wildlife crimes and getting successful prosecutions. He convinced the U.S. District Attorney to take a case for prosecuting eagle poaching which led to the first prosecution in the U.S. of eagle poaching, thanks to Eddie's investigatory work and persistence.

He worked closely with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service throughout the country and was known as "Boss" because he got things done - no matter how hard. Much of his work was done undercover. He also worked with the undercover narcotic task force in Gallup for 15 years.

Eddie was key in starting the Navajo Nation annual youth hunt after a Navajo boy in Sheep Springs approached him with questions about the Fish and Wildlife Seal on his vehicle. The boy then told Eddie he wanted to learn to hunt but no one in his family knew how. As a result, in 2005 the first mentored youth hunt was held which has been held every year since, except in 2020 due to the pandemic.

Eddie loved fly fishing and enjoyed traveling. He had his own style of loving and loved his family deeply. When he loved you, you knew it.

Eddie is survived by his wife, Kelly Willis-Benally; sons Tracey Benally and Myron Benally; daughters Andrea Marsh, Raelle Hamilton, and Cheyanne Benally; brothers Howard Benally, Albert Benally, and James Benally; sisters Annie Tom, Julie Carlton, and Judy Buffalohead, and six grandchildren.

Eddie is preceded in death by his parents, Mike Benally Sr., and Sadie Benally; and his brothers Mike Benally Jr. and Herbert Benally.

To keep as close to Navajo tradition as possible with COVID, Eddie's full memorial service was held in Michigan via Zoom on Wednesday, Jan. 20, 2021 at the Winchester Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes, 209 State St., Charlevoix, MI 49720.

Per Eddie's wishes, he will be laid to rest in Charlevoix, Mich., near his wife and children.

Donations for transportation and the memorial service are appreciated: <https://tinyurl.com/EddieBenally>

Arrangements are in the care of the Winchester Chapel of Mortensen Funeral Homes.



### Jessie Ray Tackett

November 24, 1977 – January 3, 2021

Jessie Ray Tackett, 43, walked on Sunday, Jan. 3, 2021 at McLaren Bay Regional Center.

Jessie was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and a descendant of Little Traverse Bay Band. He was a quiet reserved man who was humble and always approachable. His smile radiated love.

Jessie loved spending time with his family, playing video games, and going to the movies with his boys. He enjoyed playing poker and craps. He will fondly be remembered driving his Impala with his best friend Snoopy Dogg.

Jessie is survived by his love of many years, Luisa Green; his children Jessie James Jackson, Alicia Green, Tony Bonilla, Angelica Green, Anthony Green, Esperanza Dominguez; grandchildren Cella, Mila, Antonio, Martin, Zagiidown, Abel, Julian, Gabriel; sister Sue (Joey) Silva; brothers Roger (Liz) Lee Tackett Jr., Jacob (Stephanie) Wilson, Simon Jackson Jr.; and many special aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Jessie was preceded in death by his parents Simon Jackson, and Judy and Roger Tackett; infant sister Alicia Tackett; daughter Maricella Bonilla; granddaughter Olivia; grandparents Esther and Archie McMillan, Karen Jackson, and Fred and Laura Tackett.

A private memorial service was held at Clark Family Funeral Chapel. Friends were invited to attend the services via a live broadcast on Friday, Jan. 8, 2021 at 11 a.m.



## Input needed for Veterans Memorial Site

Tribal Council has recently approved for a Veterans Memorial Site. Input needed from Tribal Members, Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veterans and Warriors Society and veterans on suggestions for location and memorial ideas. The space will need to be large enough to hold events and several event attendees.

**For input, please contact the Public Relations Department at:**

[PublicRelations@sagchip.org](mailto:PublicRelations@sagchip.org) or 989-775-4096

## Rez Pets

"It's Raining Cats and Dogs!"



Attention Tribal Members and employees, please submit a photo of your pet(s) to show them off in the April 2021 Tribal Observer. Households with two or more pets, please submit one group photo!

Email your photos to [Observer@sagchip.org](mailto:Observer@sagchip.org) or turn them in to the Tribal Observer office located inside the Black Elk Government Complex.

**Please include:**

Owner's names, name of pet, age and breed

**Deadline: Wednesday, March 17**

## The First Gathering

By Ellie Mitchell  
(Saginaw Ojibwe; Eagle Clan)

The first gathering will be the sweetest of our lives.

The greetings at the first gathering will be from voices we've longed to hear.

The hugs at the first gathering will be the most loving.

The feast could be of tepid tea and low-sodium crackers, and it would still be the tastiest feast.

The songs and prayers at the first gathering will lift and carry away the weight of darkness.

The jingles in the dance at the first gathering will be the heaviest and yet the most relieving.

At the first gathering, we will get to see all the new babies and old friends.

But the saddest sight will be seeing who's not there.



## 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

## Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court Notice of Fee Schedule Modification Effective Jan. 1, 2021

### Intergovernmental

- Intergovernmental Service of Process: \$15

### Civil Matters

- Damages equal to or less than \$1,000: \$55
- Damages more than \$1,000 & less than \$5,000: \$105
- Damages \$5,000 or greater & less than \$25,000: \$160
- Damages \$25,000 and greater: \$210
- Petition for Judicial Review: \$65
- Real Property: \$30
- Landlord Tenant: \$65
- Enforcement of Foreign Judgement - order equal to or less than \$1,000: \$55
- Enforcement of Foreign Judgement - order \$1,000 or greater & less than \$5,000: \$105
- Enforcement of Foreign Judgement - order \$5,000 or greater & less than \$25,000: \$160
- Enforcement of Foreign Judgement - order \$25,000 or greater: \$210
- Civilcounter-claim: \$30
- Enrollment/Membership: \$65
- Civil Jury Fee (due at filing): \$525
- Writ of Garnishment: \$20
- Workers Compensation Appeal: \$30
- Child Support/Custody/Paternity Petition: \$65
- Divorce without children: \$125
- Divorce with children: \$160
- Divorce Judgement Fee: \$80
- Annulment: \$125
- Civil Restraining Order: \$30
- Civil Appeal: \$160

### Juvenile

- Emancipation: \$30

### Probate Matters

- Estate: \$65
- Adoption: \$105
- Guardianship for a Minor: \$65
- Guardianship for an Incapacitated Adult: \$65
- Marriage License: \$40
- Marriage Ceremony Fee by a Tribal Judge: \$40

### Motion Fees

- Adoption/Appellate/Civil/Domestic/Juvenile/Civil Restraining Order/Probate: \$55 *\*If court appointed, fee not applicable or from Guardian Ad Litem*

### Tribal Bar Admission

- Attorney Admission: \$150

### Miscellaneous

- Criminal Appeal: \$55
- Copies- court related/per page: \$3
- Copies- non-court related/per page: \$3  
\*plus \$4 per each 15 minutes: \$5
- History Check SCIT Agencies: \$11
- History Check Outside Agencies: \$27
- Certified Fee: \$11

### Transcripts (requests must be in writing)

- Original & one copy within 30 days: \$3
- Original & one copy within 7-10 days: \$6
- Additional copies: \$2

## Tribal Operations entry is 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.

## Unclaimed per capita disbursements for deceased Tribal Members

The following is a list of unclaimed per capita disbursements for deceased Tribal Members. Any person who has been court appointed as the member's Personal Representative of the Estate can contact the Per Capita Office to claim the funds. All monies must be claimed within 2 years from their date of death, or such monies will be forfeited and returned to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Per Capita Trust.

Tribal Member Name	Date of Death
Bailey Sr, Fredrick	12/8/2019
Chippeway Sr, Lester	2/7/2020
Collins, Steve	5/20/2020
David, Paul	8/26/2019
Douglas, Francis	6/2/2020
Falsetta, Stella	3/23/2019
Garlick, Joseph	10/16/2019
Hunt II, Bert	5/21/2020
Jackson, Matthew	9/19/2020
Jackson, Ronald	9/20/2019
Leaureaux Sr, Donald	6/13/2020
Leaureaux, Oliver	1/17/2020
Martinez, Lou Ella	2/24/2019
Miller, Ryan	2/3/2020
Moore, Steven	10/8/2019
Romer, Doris	8/14/2020
Sands, Sean	3/19/2020
Scharaswak, Leroy	3/2/2020
Sowmick, Kyle	5/27/2020
Squanda, Clarence	6/13/2020
Stempek, Lena	9/17/2019

## The Seven Grandfather TEACHINGS

### Nbookaawin – Wisdom

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

### Zaagidowin – Love

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

### Minaadendamooing – Respect

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

### Zoongide'ewin – Bravery

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

### Gwekwadiziwin – Honesty

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

### Dibaadendiziwin – Humility

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

### Debwewin – Truth

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

## Tribal Observer

Boozhu! The Tribal Observer, a monthly newspaper, is published on the first of each month. To contact Tribal Observer staff, please call 989-775-4096 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 989-775-4096 or [Observer@sagchip.org](mailto:Observer@sagchip.org) 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: 989-775-4096  
Email: [Observer@sagchip.org](mailto:Observer@sagchip.org)  
[www.Sagchip.org/TribalObserver](http://www.Sagchip.org/TribalObserver)



## Input needed on former Tribal Operations Building (On Broadway)

For input, please contact the Public Relations Department at:  
PublicRelations@sagchip.org or 989-775-4096

## 2021 Annual Reports are now being accepted

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

**\*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 Child Welfare Affidavit Deadline

**Friday, Feb. 5, 2021 by 5 p.m.**

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

- ▶ Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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

- Drop box available outside the Black Elk Building (brown with Tribal logo on the side).
- Forms are available by 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

## SECR Access Club Hours

**SECR Access Club hours of operation**

- Sunday - Thursday: 8 a.m. to 2 a.m.
- Friday & Saturday: 8 a.m. to 4 a.m.

**Slot Palace & Bingo Hall Access Club hours of operation**

- All days: 8 a.m. to 12 a.m.



## 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.

## Andahwod Prescription Pick-up

Andahwod Elder Services would like to assist local Tribal elders with prescription pick-up from Nimkee Pharmacy.

Elders Services can deliver prescriptions Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Elders must call in own prescription/refills. Elder Services will not pick up any controlled substances and/or narcotic medications.

**If you need your prescriptions picked up, please call:**

- Andahwod Front Office: 989-775-4300
- Elders Advocate: 989-775-4307
- For more information, please call: 989-775-4300



## Check cashing guidelines

Guidelines for check cashing with the Finance Department are: Any of the Finance cages can process check cashing for payroll checks, SCIT Tribal issued checks, and traveler's checks.

**All checks must be endorsed in front of the cashier! No exceptions!**

SCIT Tribal Members may use their red SCIT Tribal Member ID with expiration date or their green SCIT Tribal Member's Elder ID, to cash checks at the Cage or Satellite.

SECR associates may use their SECR work badge to pick up their paper check and cash it at the Cage/Satellite. Currently, there is a national coin shortage and Finance will not be selling coin during the national shortage.

## Andahwod Elder Services

# Candy Grams

- ▶ Due to COVID, we will not be delivering to schools.
- ▶ Order at Andahwod with exact amount (\$5) or check.
- ▶ Deliveries only to Tribal departments.
- ▶ Candy Grams may be picked up at Andahwod on Feb.12 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ▶ Please wear a mask when you come in to the building.

**Order forms available at:** Andahwod front entrance or <http://www.sagchip.org/senior/index.htm>

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

## New SCIT Education App

Boozhoo Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Community, the Tribal Education Department is thrilled to announce our new app for mobile phones! Stay up-to-date with access to SCIT Education programming, events, deadlines and other information: SCA, Sasiwaans, DK-12, Higher Education, Project AWARE and Education Administration.

You can view this short video that showcases the apps features and how you can easily navigate to find what you are looking for. <https://youtu.be/b5555ULzHFk>

**You can download the app for free on both Google Play or the Apple App Store.**

- Download for Android: <https://bit.ly/3eJHx5s>
- Download for iPhone: <https://apple.co/3dh6WDC>

Connect with SCIT Education, anytime, anywhere.

## Conservation Committee Seats

The Planning Department has been tasked by Tribal Council to solicit letters of interests for adult SCIT members to fill two vacant seats on the Conservation Committee for the two year terms (ending November 2022) per Ordinance 11, section 102, subdivision 2 and the approved Ordinance 11 Conservation Committee By-Laws.

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

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

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

## Attention SCIT Tribal Members:

The Ziibiwing Cultural Society's **Collection Committee** needs **Committee Members**

**For more information, please contact:**  
William Johnson at 989-775-4730 or [wjohnson@sagchip.org](mailto:wjohnson@sagchip.org)

## COVID positive employees

In an attempt to keep staff safe, this is a reminder that employees are only to return to work based upon the health providers return to work date. They are not to return earlier than the date written. If you have any question, please feel free to reach out to Kelly Sineway at [KSineway@sagchip.org](mailto:KSineway@sagchip.org) or 989-775-0058. Thank you for your cooperation.

## Soaring Eagle hotel construction update

Our first phase of the hotel renovation has been completed with opening up 144 newly-renovated rooms to our guests. In addition to the contractors, the Facilities and Hospitality team did a great job preparing these rooms for guests for the New Year's holiday.

The last phase of rooms were taken out of order the week of Jan. 18 and the demolition phase began the week of Jan. 25. This will impact Spa operations and the Miijim store.

Phase Two rooms will begin coming back into inventory in late February. The hotel has had some delays in the main hotel lobby phase which is now scheduled to open late February.

## Soaring Eagle Spa is currently closed

Due to Phase Three of Hotel renovations, the plumbing that is located in the Spa ceiling needs to be taken down and replaced. This is projected to take three to four months. Please stay tuned to our Spa website for any further updates.





## Tribal Member David Merrill joins Saginaw Chippewa Police Department

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

Ever since he was a little kid, Tribal Member David Merrill knew he wanted to be in law enforcement and serve his Tribe as a police officer in the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Department.

A lifelong goal became reality as Merrill completed the 17-week police academy through Delta College, graduated Dec. 18 and began working for the Tribal Police.

Chief Tim J. Davis swore in Merrill and three other new police officers joining the Tribal Police on Monday, Jan. 4 in Tribal Council chambers.

Merrill was originally on track to attend the police academy more than a year ago but was delayed due to an unexpected, yearlong

deployment with the United States Marine Corp.

When asked what being a police officer means to him, Merrill said, "To serve the community in general law enforcement needs. I am also learning it comes with helping people in their time of need."

In his youth, Merrill went through the Mt. Pleasant Police Department's youth police program for 5th and 6th graders. Merrill also worked in the Tribal Police Department as a summer youth worker.

Now, as an adult, Merrill not only graduated the Delta College Police Academy but received top honors. He received the Team Builder award during the ceremony and was recognized for the achievement of being top five academically.

"I've learned a little of everything and the basics of becoming



Courtesy photo

**David Merrill holds up his certification of completion for the Delta College Police Academy. Merrill graduated on Dec. 18 and began working for the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Department.**

a certified law enforcement officer in Michigan," Merrill said. "Some of the things that stood out the most were the firearms training, emergency vehicle operations, mental health, and first aid classes."

For a typical Delta College Police Academy graduation ceremony, the amphitheater room is packed to capacity. This year was different due to COVID-19 restrictions; families of the cadets joined the ceremony online via Zoom, a first in the program's history.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Merrill (far left) along with Joshua Blakely, Andrew Rabbage and Nathaniel Stanton were sworn in as officers of the Tribal Police Department on Monday, Jan. 4 by Chief Tim J. Davis in the Council Chambers.**

"I am grateful for the opportunity to serve my Tribe as a police officer," Merrill said. "I believe it is serving our Tribe in self-determination and exercising sovereignty."

Chief of Tribal Police Harry Ambs said he is "extremely proud of Dave's hard work within the academy and how he represented not only the Tribal Police Department but also our Tribe."

"Dave Merrill brings a lifelong knowledge of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and community relationships to the Tribal Police Department as well as a devotion of service to the country through his time in the United States Marine Corps," Ambs said. "The Tribal

Police Department is happy to have Officer Merrill serving within our community and we are excited to see all of his accomplishments over the years to come within his new career."

Merrill said he has a large support system and wished to thank them for their encouragement throughout every step of the way.

"I've had help and words of encouragement from everyone such as my family, friends, the road patrol, supervisors, Tribal Council, and even people seeing me at the Sagamok gas station," he said. "My biggest supporter was my wife; I could not have completed the police academy without the support from my wife."



Courtesy photo

**Merrill (back row, far right) poses for a photo with several other Dec. 18 Delta College Police Academy graduates.**

## Meet the Artist: "Boontak! (Stop It!): Stolen Daughters of Turtle Island" exhibit

(Editor's note: Shirley M. Brauker is the artist for the "Gone" ledger drawing featured in the exhibition "Boontak! (Stop It!): Stolen Daughters of Turtle Island." The exhibit is featured at the Ziibiwing Center to raise awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls [MMIWG]. Shirley Brauker answers questions provided by the Tribal Observer below.)

**Artist: Shirley M. Brauker**

**Art: "Gone" ledger drawing**

**Why did you feel it was important to create art that helps raise awareness for MMIWG?** I am very grateful that the Ziibiwing Center provided a venue for this important exhibit. Many

people I have talked to have never heard about these occurrences. This exhibit is instrumental in making people aware of this situation.

**What Tribe/community are you from?** I am a member of the Little River Band of Odawa Indians. The main area for the Tribe is centered in and around Manistee, Mich.

**Where do you currently reside?** I personally live in southern Michigan, south of Coldwater.

**How did you hear about the exhibit/requests for artists' work?** Shannon Martin, the director of Ziibiwing



Courtesy photo

**Shirley Brauker**

asked me if I would be interested in participating in this show. I designed my ledger drawing specially for this exhibit. It shows Native women ascending to the heavens. They wear red dresses as they rise. A braid of sweet grass represents the earth and all they leave behind.

**What inspired you to create your art and relate it to Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls?** Nearly 6,000 Native women and girls have been lost to these tragic occurrences. I was aware of the terrible acts that were associated with these happenings, women lost or bodies found.

I wanted to bring attention to it through my art. I was inspired by other Indigenous women who were also bringing attention to the situation. Red hands across Native faces, red dresses worn and moccasin vamps with no one



Courtesy of Marcella Hadden, Niibing Glizis

**"Gone" ledger drawing by Shirley Brauker**

to wear them. A movement was created and I wanted to be part of it. I wanted justice.

The red painted hands across faces signified the silence they endured, the silence and hush that floated over this storm. It seemed that little effort was put into publicizing these acts so stories were silenced. These events were not talked about by those in authority, not investigated to find the missing. The women were "just gone."

**Is there a personal story behind it?** I don't have a personal connection as far as actually knowing an individual lost. I do have a connection that these are "Indigenous" women living in a society that does not recognize their value. Their lack of significance to a

society that doesn't honor their existence is disheartening.

**What advice do you have to other Native women regarding MMIWG?** The advice I would give to other Native women would be to always be aware of your surroundings. Don't put yourself in situations where you are cornered or vulnerable, and don't hitchhike. I don't want to sound paranoid, but just be smart.

**Have you made any changes in your own life to help prevent MMIWG?** I have talked to all of my granddaughters to be watchful and careful when around strangers. Also, to be observant of their surroundings – if they see something that doesn't seem right, then take action to leave the situation.

### Gift Basket Donations

Andahwod-Elder Services is asking SCIT, SECR and Migizi departments to donate a Valentine's gift basket/box for the

**Residents' Valentine's Social on Sunday, Feb. 14, 2021**

- Drop off donations at Andahwod
- If you have any questions, please call Annette at 989.775.4307

*Miigwetch for supporting elder activities!*





## Greater Lansing Food Bank provides food for 500 families in Isabella County

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe once more partnered with the Greater Lansing Food Bank for a drive-thru mobile food distribution to provide food for 500 Isabella County families on Saturday, Jan. 23.

In the Black Elk Government Complex parking lot, registration began

at 10 a.m. and distribution began just before 11 a.m. By 11:20 a.m., volunteers were told the food items were running low and would run out before all of the cars in line received items.

The distribution was for Isabella County residents in financial hardship, senior citizens on fixed incomes and/or families or individuals who have recently lost their jobs.

The distribution provided free shelf stable, frozen and produce.

Individuals had to bring proof of residency and stay in vehicles for the food to be placed in trunks or hatchbacks.

Tribal and community members along with employees volunteered in 20-degree weather from about 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. to organize and distribute the food items, and help with traffic and registration.



Observer photos by Natalie Shattuck

The Greater Lansing Food Bank once more collaborates with the Tribe to host the Isabella County drive-thru food distribution in the Black Elk parking lot on Saturday, Jan. 23.

## School Board

*continued from front page*

success which directly benefits our most important investment, our students.”

This will be the first time a SCIT representative will be on the MPPS Board.

“There have been SCIT Tribal Members that have run for the Board but unfortunately fell short,” Isaac said. “This ex-officio seat is the first of its kind.”

According to Isaac, academic data shows Indigenous learners are one of the most underperforming subgroups in the nation.

“There is significant disproportionately in terms of Special Education referrals and eligibility,” Isaac

said. “Additionally, Indigenous learners are more likely to be suspended for behavior issues than their white peers. We see similar trends manifest themselves in our local public schools. There are many things that contribute to these issues. Until we begin to address these matters and engage in these complex conversations, decisions will continue to be made for and about us without us. My hope is once we start the dialogue together, we can begin to create positive change for our students that produce improved outcomes.”

For now, MPPS Board meetings will be held virtually on the first and third Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

At this time, Ricketts does not yet have the specifics on her role, or the goals and objectives, but said she is “excited to dive in.”

“I am honored to be a voice for our Tribal community and I want to fully commit my all to representing our Tribe with love and prayers for the amazing future of our children,” Ricketts said.

MPPS Superintendent Jennifer Verleger said she believes the representative will have a couple of different roles.

“First, the representative will be able to keep our Board and district informed on the priorities of the SCIT community. I see Alice Jo as a liaison to make sure we know what events are

happening, where the focus is and how we can support the Tribal community,” Verleger said. “Another role will be to provide insight and perspective as we work through our typical decision-making processes. Ranging from curriculum to budget, this representative will be asked to weigh in on our decisions. As a result, I believe there will be increased opportunities for collaboration and relationship building for both communities. I hope that this is another positive step in the process of bringing our communities together to support our children and families.”

Frank Cloutier, public relations director, said he was “thrilled” Verleger reached out to see if there was interest

in “having one of our elected leadership serve in this capacity.”

“It has been far too long without our voice and presence during educational board meetings,” Cloutier said.

Isaac said this Tribal representation will benefit not only today’s students but the students of the future.

“I am thankful to the Mt. Pleasant Public Schools Board of Education and district leadership for this historic accomplishment,” Isaac said. “I am proud of our Tribe for stepping into this space. We have all of the right people in place to be a national example to other tribal nations and school districts on what can be achieved when we work together in a truly collaborative way.”

### DEALING WITH GRIEF & MOURNING WITH ISAAC MURDOCH ... a Facebook Live event

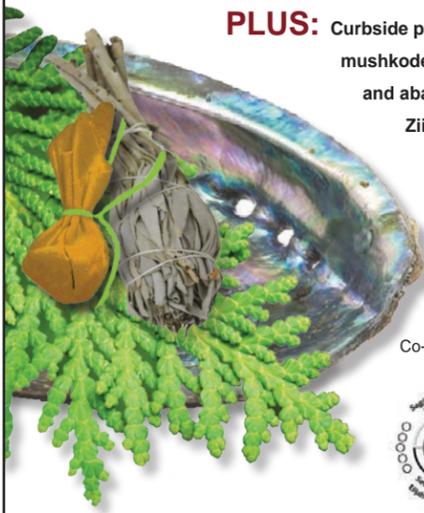


Artwork by Isaac Murdoch

A 2-part community cultural event at 7pm EST on Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, February 13, 2021

Check Ziibiwing's Facebook for link

**PLUS:** Curbside pickup of Anishinabe medicine bundle including mushkodewashk (sage), giizhik (cedar), semaa (tobacco) and abalone smudge shell to the first 40 in line behind Ziibiwing on Wednesday, FEBRUARY 10, 2021 from 10am-3pm ... while supplies last one per household



## Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women & Girls

**BOONTAK (Stop it!): Stolen Daughters of Turtle Island**  
 Changing exhibition open to the public  
 Tuesday - Saturday • 10am - 3pm  
 February 2 - May 5, 2021  
 All health protocols in effect. Free admission.

Over 5,700 American Indian and Alaska Native women and girls were reported missing as of 2016, according to the National Crime Information Center, but only 116 of those cases were logged with the Department of Justice. Eighty-four percent of Native women experience violence in their lifetime, according to the National Institute of Justice. A 2008 study found that women in some tribal communities are 10 times more likely to be murdered than the national average.

For more information, please contact: William Johnson, Ziibiwing Curator at 989.775.4730

**ZIIBIWING GIFT SHOP IS OPEN!**  
 Tuesdays - Saturdays • 10am-3pm  
 No appointment needed.  
 All health protocols are in effect.

**ZIIBIWING CENTER IS CLOSED ON CHIEF'S DAY**  
 MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2021

**ZIIBIWING CENTER STAFF CAN BE REACHED BY PHONE OR EMAIL**



**ZIIBIWING CENTER**  
*of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways*

THE MIDWEST'S PREMIER AMERICAN INDIAN MUSEUM  
 6650 EAST BROADWAY, MT. PLEASANT, MICHIGAN 48858  
 989.775.4750 • WWW.SAGCHIP.ORG/ZIIBIWING



## Casino CEO recognized as 25 People to Watch for 2021 by gaming magazine

(The following article was written by Dave Bontempo and comes from ggbmagazine.com.)

Global Gaming Business Magazine recognized Mike Bean, CEO for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe Gaming Enterprises, as 25 People to watch for 2021.

Global Gaming Business' 25 People to Watch for 2021 celebrates the diversity and talent of those individuals who are shaping the future of the casino industry.

The feature is reprinted in its entirety below:

It's fitting for Mike Bean to run a gaming entity named Soaring Eagle. His career has been one long ascent.

The Norwich, Conn. native and gaming veteran has served in senior management positions at the largest and most reputable gaming operations in the country, including Mohegan Sun, Foxwoods Resort Casino, Harrah's Entertainment, Boyd Gaming and currently as CEO of the Saginaw Chippewa



Courtesy photo

**Mike Bean, CEO of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe Gaming Enterprises**

Indian Tribe Gaming Enterprises' Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, Saganing Eagles Landing Casino & Hotel, and the Slot Palace & Bingo Hall in Michigan.

Bean displays pragmatic optimism, enhancing properties on the strength of core principles. One involves recruiting talent.

"You are really doing your best to find really good people to work with and hiring other people who are better than you

are in as many things as you possibly can," Bean said. "You want smart people, experienced people and those who have good social intelligence so that we all can work together. The high tide really does raise all the boats."

Bean spreads that intelligence across several fronts. They range from walking the casino floor to monitor the heartbeat of employees and customers to publishing his perspective in an internal newsletter, expanding the geographic radius from which to lure customers and being attuned to the thinking of a group.

"We always ask ourselves if we're getting the best use of existing brick and mortar with what we have right here," he said. "Do we have the right mix of gaming and non-gaming amenities, do we use the best brands? I believe brands are powerful. We want to drive visitation by providing so much that we avoid the veto vote in the group. If you just have slots and table games, that may not be enough for the entire group. But if you can satisfy everyone,

with restaurants, entertainment, etc., you compel a visit from the entire group."

Bean, who guides the direction of nearly 3,000 employees, grew steadily into this role.

Starting in 1992, Bean was part of the team that grew Foxwoods from its modest beginnings with 1,200 team members to more than 12,000 team members, including accelerated construction of the resort complex to meet the demands of the then-underserved gaming market in the Northeastern region of the United States.

At Harrah's Entertainment, he worked in Shreveport, La. as part of the team that integrated the acquired Louisiana Downs racetrack into the Harrah's Shreveport gaming operation, adding a new slots casino to the Harrah's Shreveport portfolio. Thereafter, as part of the acquisition of Caesars Entertainment by Harrah's, Mike was part of the team that integrated the two companies as one.

For more than a decade, Bean played an integral leadership role in the successful

opening, operation and development of Mohegan Sun Pocono, Pennsylvania's first casino and Mohegan Sun's first commercial casino.

As president of Mohegan Sun Pocono, Bean developed and executed an intricate company strategy, establishing a guest experience-centric organization while maintaining focus on financial performance, leadership and positive mentoring of team members. Originally an aged racetrack, Mohegan Sun Pocono became a dynamic casino and hotel operation including over 2,300 slot machines, 91 table games, 21 bars and restaurants, shopping, entertainment and conventions with more than 2,000 team members.

Bean grew up in the shadow of Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun, recalling that as a youth "I didn't even know what a casino was."

Ironically, Bean has spent much of his adult life running one. — Dave Bontempo

<https://ggbmagazine.com/article/people-to-watch-2021-part-ii/>

## Wood cut from trees on the Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School grounds

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

In a collaborative effort to cut wood from large, dangerous trees on the Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School grounds, the Wild Land Team of the Tribal Fire Department cut the trees down and SCIT's Heavy Equipment department helped transport the wood to the SCIT Campground (The Hill).

"The Wild Land Team assisted with the cutting of the wood as larger pieces required a large chainsaw blade – larger than the typical 18-inch blade," said Marcella Hadden, tribal historic preservation officer.

It took a few days for the team to cut all the wood and the

funding was provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

"I was glad that the Tribal Fire Department Wild Land crew was able to assist MIIBS Committee with the removal of those large trees and that we were able to coordinate the necessary resource to cut, load and relocate for the Tribal Membership to have access to these trees for fire wood," said Tribal Fire Chief Fred Cantu.

The crew members, photographed in the top left photo from left to right, include: Sgt. Brian Kelly, firefighter Jeremy Woods, Sgt. Ryan Chippewa and Brandon Kelly.

The community was invited to use the wood for personal use on a first come, first serve basis starting Jan. 18.



Photos courtesy of Marcella Hadden

**The Wild Land Team of the Tribal Fire Department and the SCIT Heavy Equipment operators help cut down and transport large and dangerous trees on the Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School grounds (top left photo, from left to right: Sgt. Brian Kelly, firefighter Jeremy Woods, Sgt. Ryan Chippewa and Brandon Kelly).**

## February 2021 Tribal Elder Birthdays

1) Todd Bergevin  
Eliza Owl  
John Kampf Jr.  
Bonnie Sprague  
Cathy Floyd  
Gail Smith

Roland Jackson  
Juanita Slater

2) Deborah Meskill  
Tammie Holbrook  
Carl Sanford Pelcher  
Robert Shawboose

5) Mary Graveratte  
Marcia Kelsall

6) Barbara Brodie  
Timothy Davis  
Mark Grischke  
Esther Bailey  
Virgil Munson  
Kirk Walraven

3) Kelly Hartwell  
Mike Martin  
Robin Martin  
Martha Pudvay  
Tom Wayne

7) Patrick Nahgahgwon  
Scott Pego

8) Linda Craig  
Debra Marler  
Linda Martin

9) Raymond Davis  
James Burnham  
Linda Powell

10) Paul Rueckert Sr.

11) Mark Schafer  
Karen Cantlin  
Kyle Garlick  
Michael Pashenee

12) Bonnie Ekdahl

13) Paul Bailey  
Evelyn Castaneda  
Sheri Lairson

15) Norman Cyr Sr.  
Frances McGraw  
Terry Vasquez  
Mark Steele

16) Kathy Dintaman  
Darryl Jackson  
Florence Sprague

17) De Anna Baker

Lori Mazur

18) Timothy Jackson  
Richard Byce

19) Joan Cline  
Milton Pelcher  
Walter Slavik

20) Ronald Bonnau  
Peggy Goebel  
Nancy Miller

21) Steven Sownick  
Greggory Dutton  
Savannah Star-Rice

22) Tracy Mays  
Chester Cabay III  
Rebecca Rittmaier

23) Susan Bettistea  
Betty Brief  
Dorothy Brown  
Kevin Fallis  
Kelly Kendall

Kathie Kozuch  
Ralph Mays  
Bunny Roth

24) Dianna Chamberlain  
David McConnell  
Sabrina Paulo  
Bernard Wright

25) Cynthia Quigno  
Shirley Robertson  
Deborah Guillen  
Nathan Ritter

26) Willie Bailey Jr.  
Lorna McDonald  
Edward Phelps  
Leon Reed

27) Dawn Chippewa  
Jeremy Sawmick  
Alvin Jackson

28) Julie Chamberlain

29) Evelyn Sharon



ninaabem	husband
oginii-waabigwan	rose
nanaandawi	heal
wiidigemaagan	wife
gikinjigwen	embrace
amikwayaan	beaver hide
zhakipon	snow falling
zaagi'	love
gimiwan	rain
ajidamoo	squirrel
waaginogaan	wigwam
nagamon	song
inde'	my heart
dewe'igan	drum
gaagige	forever
dakaagamin	cold
maamawi	together
wiidigendiwag	they marry each other
awan	foggy
wiijiwaagan	partner

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

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

### Word Bank

- Gzaa-gin
- Aab-too-jiin-shin
- Jiim-shin
- Nwii-j-kii-wenh
- Gme-si-ni-go
- Kaa-wii nji-da
- Gma-kwen-min
- Nba-zi-gim
- Gzaa-gi-go
- Gwa-naa-jii'iw

### Across

- 1: I love you
- 4: I'm thinking of you
- 5: You look pretty
- 6: Hug me
- 8: I'm sorry
- 9: We love you

### Down

- 1: We miss you
- 2: My sweetheart
- 3: My friend
- 7: Kiss me

Anishinaabe Language Revitalization Department, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

# Anishinaabemowin CROSSWORD

- Down**
- 1. I love you (Gzaa-gin)
  - 2. My sweetheart (Nba-zi-gim)
  - 3. My friend (Nwii-j-kii-wenh)
  - 7. Kiss me (Jiim-shin)

- Across**
- 4. I'm thinking of you (Gma-kwen-min)
  - 5. You look pretty (Gwa-naa-jii'iw)
  - 6. Hug me (Aab-too-jiin-shin)
  - 8. I'm sorry (Kaa-wii nji-da)
  - 9. We love you (Gzaa-gi-go)

Answers



## CARES Act funding provides Tribal Fire Department with new truck

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Fire Department received a new unit, delivered on Dec. 29, 2020, thanks to the United States Department of Treasury CARES Act funding.

“These funds were sent to us to help prevent, prepare for, and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Eric Skutt, fiscal compliance auditor for the Tribal Operations Accounting Department. “With that in mind, the purchase of this additional vehicle will enable our first responders to serve a greater number of members as the case load increases.”

According to Tribal Fire Chief Fred Cantu Jr., the new unit is an addition to the current fleet of apparatus that are housed

at Tribal Fire, not a replacement to one of the fire trucks.

The truck, a HME Ahrens-Fox 80’ Aerial on a custom four-door cab and chassis, has an 80-foot ladder which would assist Tribal Fire with reaching higher floors of the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel.

“This unit has the ability to operate the ladder from two different locations on the actual truck; on the platform itself and from a remote control device that can be utilized from the ground to maneuver from a safe location,” Cantu said.

Cantu said the unit will provide an additional resource to handle medical and fire calls within the Reservation and the surrounding community as well.

“With this unit, fire personnel are capable of ventilating a



Courtesy of Fred Cantu

**The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Fire Department receives a new unit on Dec. 29, 2020. The fire truck has an 80-foot ladder which will assist with reaching higher floors of the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel.**

structure’s roof safely instead of with the use of a ground ladder,” Fred Cantu said, explaining the department’s other trucks are ground ladders only.

Cantu said this unit is smaller than actual ladder trucks, but contains a single axil which will allow for

better maneuverability for tighter streets.

This unit also contains a foam system which will help reduce the amount of water being used on a fire.

“This (fire truck) will also serve as a mutual aid unit as well with our neighboring department that may need to

operate above the first floor of a given scene,” Cantu said. It also helps with insurance costs to the Members with home owners insurance, as well as the Tribal government operations and its enterprises by keeping our ISO (Insurance Services Office) rating at a 9/4 for our community,” Cantu said.

## Simple explanation on basic Anishinaabemowin thought process

**ISABELLE OSAWAMICK**

Anishinaabe Outreach Specialist

In the Anishinaabe language, everything is divided into the **animate** and **inanimate**. All words belong in either animate or inanimate.

\* **Animate** is the living. It is the movement of objects or living beings. Animate is movement.

In Anishinaabemowin, the “he” and “she” are categorized into the **animate/living**.

The words he and she belong in the animate

(living) category. They are not separated.

For example: when we say “wiisini”, it means “he’s eating” or “she’s eating”. Anishinaabemowin does not differentiate between “He” or “She”. They are in the same category. We know what is being talked about through our communication.

Since Anishinaabemowin is an oral language, we know what is being talked about through our conversation. It’s a given.

I call words like “the,” “is” and “a” givens, because they

are part of the word. It is a given that they are there and they are not written in. They are not a separate word.

\* **Inanimate** is the non-living. It is the non-moving objects. They have no movement (rely on you to make it move).

For example:

- Shoe **Mki-zin**
- Fork **Bdak-jii-gan**

In Anishinaabemowin, the word “it” is usually categorized into the inanimate/non-living. However at times when talking about certain animate objects (like a car), we say “it ...”

rather than “he/she...”. (this is an example of flexibility in our Oral Language)

**Flexibility:** Anishinaabe language has flexibility. Anishinaabemowin is an oral language and a word could mean different things depending on the situation. It’s not like in the English language where the words usually mean a specific thing.

For example: There is no word for “you’re welcome” in Anishinaabemowin. It is a given that everybody appreciates. However, there is a form of acknowledgement,

like a nod accompanied by a word. This word is **Aahaow** or **Nahaow** with a nod.

The word **Aahaow** or **Nahaow** could also mean “okay”, depending on the situation. Aahaow or nahaow could sometimes imply an affirmative reply of “yes.”

Anishinaabemowin is meant to be an oral language. We just started writing it recently by using the English alphabet. (For me, speaking Anishinaabemowin is more important than writing it with the borrowed English alphabet).

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## Gaming Commission featured in 2021 resource calendar of Michigan tribes

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

To represent the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, Gaming Commission is featured in the Uniting Three Fires Against Violence’s 2021 tribal resource calendar.

The calendar features photos from tribes throughout Michigan.

The photo of the Gaming Commission staff wearing purple after winning the domestic violence awareness decorating contest is photographed (left to right): Brian Chippeway, Emily Wiggins, Rick Hubble, Shellie Pelcher, Sheridan Pelcher and Jennifer Birchmeier).

“November is Native American Heritage Month!” the calendar’s November 2021 page states. “We recognize and honor the strength, resiliency and wisdom that exists within our heritage.”

The page also lists the phone numbers for the following SCIT services: Tribal Victim Advocacy Services, Tribal

**NOVEMBER 2021**  
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Tribal Police (989) 775-4700

Tribal Prosecutor (989) 775-4809

Tribal Court (989) 775-4800

Nimkee Clinic (989) 775-4600

www.sagchip.org

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan’s Gaming Commission staff won the tribes DVAM department decorating contest 2020!

Left to Right: Brian Chippeway, Emily Wiggins, Rick Hubble, Shellie Pelcher, Sheridan Pelcher, and Jennifer Birchmeier.

*November is Native American Heritage Month!*

We recognize and honor the strength, resiliency and wisdom that exists within our heritage.

**NOVEMBER 2021**

Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Gaming Commission is featured in the Uniting Three Fires Against Violence’s 2021 tribal resource calendar for the month of November for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.**

Police, Tribal Prosecutor, Tribal Court and Nimkee Clinic.

“Uniting Three Fires Against Violence would like to extend a chi-miigwetch to all who work tirelessly to make our tribal communities a safer

place full of healing, culture, tradition, and love,” the last page of the calendar states.

The project was funded by a grant awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice.

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## Winners of the Prevention Team's Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Competition

The Behavioral Health Prevention Team held their Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Competition during winter break.

The competition encouraged families to get creative together, and come up with ways to reuse/recycle cardboard.

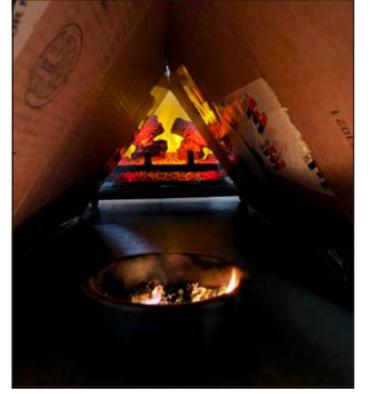
Prizes were awarded for four categories including: Most creative use of cardboard, best winter themed, best Anishinaabe themed and best in show.



Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo

**Best winter themed, winner:** Team Lady Birds consisting of Wennoah Bird (adult), Arianna Bird (age 15) and Miimiikwe Bird (age 5) made "New Moon," our transition from winter moons to spring moons. Made from cardboard, leftover tissue paper, paint, leather, glitter, quilt batting, candle, stones, brown sugar and a pool table box.

**Best Anishinaabe themed, runner up:** Monica Gonzalez (adult) and Ashley Gonzalez's (adult) mini lodge.



Courtesy photo

**Most creative use of cardboard, runner up:** Marcine (mother, adult) and Blaze (age 4)



Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo

**Most creative use of cardboard and best in show winner:** Aiden Schafer (age 13) made a Halo helmet AKIS



Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo

**Best Anishinaabe themed, winner:** Charla Cummins' (Adult) earrings made on bottle caps.

## Casino's Food and Beverage Dept. donates meals for local Toys for Tots volunteers

### NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

For the past several years, the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort's Food and Beverage Department has provided meals for volunteers of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Foundation.

Each year, volunteers pack in the Finch Fieldhouse in Mount Pleasant on the campus of Central Michigan University to wrap and distribute gifts for the Toys for Tots program during a large one-day event where the Food and Beverage provides an abundance of meals for those volunteers.

This year due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Finch

Fieldhouse could not be filled to capacity. Instead, smaller groups were present and the gift wrapping and distribution was held throughout a few days, from Dec. 14-19.

"In the past, we have provided buffet-style sandwich trays, fruit, crudité, cheese, brownies, cookies and beverages on the day that the group distributed toys," said Betty Riddle, department chef of Banquets for Soaring Eagle. "This year, however, they had to break up their distribution to smaller amounts to allow for proper social distancing."

The Food and Beverage team prepared 26 individual boxed lunches containing a sandwich, fresh fruit and salads with brownies from

the pastry team, as well as individual bags of chips, and bottled water and pop.

"We did different sandwiches daily in case any of those workers worked consecutive days," Riddle said. "Either myself or my culinary supervisor, Henry Fellows, would meet a member of their team each morning at 11 a.m., usually Lucinda Clark (head of the local Toys for Tots), at the employee doors to help them load up the items each day. I believe they also picked up toy donations made by our employees at that time as well."

Marc Forrest, director of the Food and Beverage Department, said he is proud

of his team for assisting a great cause.

"What more worthy of a cause can you assist than helping a child in need who may not have a Christmas without this program," Forrest said.

According to the website for the Mount Pleasant Toys for Tots, a total of 15,614 toys were distributed and 1,978 children were supported in Isabella and Clare counties during 2020.

"Our department is very grateful to get to play a small part of this event every year," Riddle said.

"We are honored to have the Toys For Tots leadership reach out to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and the SECR

Food and Beverage Team to assist the U.S. Marines and Santa's Helpers in their work to help ensure no child goes without a gift at Christmas," Forrest said. "The Tribal Council and our team at SECR have always demonstrated an outpouring of support for the annual Toys for Tots collection drives on property. We are humbled and grateful that Tribal Council and SCIT Public Relations Department continue to support our relationship with Toys for Tots; allowing us to help feed the volunteer 'elves' in their tireless work organizing and wrapping presents destined to be placed under the tree of children who may otherwise not have a Christmas."

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**Adopt a Pet**

**Breve**  
 Breve is a 1-year-old male Domestic Shorthair mix. He came into HATS with his brothers Espresso and Decafe. He would love to go to a home that has another cat, even better if he is adopted with one of his brothers. He is shy before he warms up. He likes to snuggle and sleep in cozy cave cat beds. He is easy going and laid back. If you are looking for a calm guy that never causes trouble, look no further.

**Onyx**  
 Onyx is a 3-year-old Pit Bull mix. He came in as a stray and then was surrendered by his owner. A young, large, goofball describes Onyx best. He has been in a home with small children as well as cats. This boy needs room to exercise, and lots of people to give kisses to. Since Onyx is young and large, he would do best in a home ready and willing to work on obedience training.

**Humane Animal Treatment Society**  
 1105 S. Isabella Rd., Mt. Pleasant **Hatsweb.org**  
**Phone:** 989.775.0830 **Email:** hats.publicrelations@gmail.com  
 \*Building is currently closed to walk-in visitors. Adoption visits must be scheduled ahead.



## American Indian College Fund statement on events at U.S. Capitol

*(The following statement is from Cheryl Crazy Bull, president and CEO of the American Indian College Fund, on the violence at the U.S. Capitol.)*

The attack last month on the U.S. Capitol was an attack on every peaceful citizen who believes in a representational democracy in which all races, genders, ethnicities, and creeds have a place at the table. I and others in my circle of relationships name the attack for what it is — an insurrection, fueled by white supremacy and fringe conspiracy theories.

Why am I, as president of the American Indian College Fund, weighing in on this? Because as an Indigenous person, I know that I and other Indigenous people owe our existence to the legacy of the incredible sacrifices our ancestors made so democracy and the United States could be built.

To see the many sacrifices indigenous Americans have made throughout our history disregarded is traumatic.

- It was Native land that was taken for America's founding.

- It was Native governance systems that served as the model for our Constitutional democracy.

- It was Native code talkers speaking our sacred Native languages — languages that had almost been destroyed at the hands of our own government — that saved democracy for the world from the threat of fascism during World War II.

- It was and is our young men and women that serve in the military to protect this nation in greater numbers per capita than any other racial or ethnic group that protect this nation.

- It was our people that traveled across this nation many years ago to the Capitol on the hill, to sign treaties that we still fight to have honored.

I feel the need to speak about this because our land, our forests, our rivers, our streams, our ancestors' blood, our children, our cultures, our way of life, paved and continue to pave the way to the very democracy that is under assault by internal strife.

I certainly do not agree with everything this democracy does. I certainly know about the deliberate, deadly actions that killed Native people and took away their means of prosperity. I certainly understand the role of individualism and capitalism in this democracy that has eroded the foundations of communities for

commercial enrichment. This does not mean that I do not value the safety, security, and well-being of all members of our society.

While my focus and that of fellow tribal educators is on the prosperity and self-determination of indigenous people, we also honor that in a representative democracy we must all live together in supportive and collaborative ways. We must build community.

Despite all that indigenous people have sacrificed, despite all that our ancestors and our families have suffered because of the legacy of racism throughout history, we believe in this country.

We believe because this is still our land and we believe it is our sacred duty to protect it. And although we must continually fight to be full participants in this democracy, we do not shy away from the call to protect all our rights as citizens.

Without an adequate education, we cannot be good citizens. As a lifelong educator, I know that without education, what we saw happen last week and in the last several months is inevitable.

Maintaining democracy, domestic peace, equity, and

rule of law are impossible when citizens do not have access to civics education and to the skills needed for discernment and good decision-making.

A formal education provides students with a foundation for carrying out the responsibilities we all share when living in a democracy: critical thinking skills and a grounding in facts, science, and democratic values. Our education does not end when we leave the classroom, and this foundation gives people the tools they need to discern lies from truth, science from unfounded theories, and facts from propaganda. It is education that is the foundation of a vibrant democracy, because education gives people the opportunity to learn how to engage as citizens in a democratic country.

It is the duty of continued inquiry, study, and knowledge that are the foundation of a vibrant democracy. For indigenous people, inquiry, study, and seeking knowledge is our way of life. We know that without a true understanding of our nation's history as well as an understanding of our inherent rights as people and our acquired rights as citizens, we will all continue to be vulnerable.

The College Fund's motto, Education is the Answer, could not be more meaningful at this moment in time.

We must harness our collective will as citizens and we must change. We are at a turning point. We are in a pandemic, economic and racial inequity eats away at our nation's stability, and climate change threatens our very existence.

I truly believe that education from infancy through adulthood is the foundation of good citizenship as indigenous people and for all Americans. It is only through education and the values of our ancestors that we can move forward. As the Lakota say, Mitakuye, we are all related.

I invite you to join me in our continued quest for all people to have equitable access to education to develop the critical thinking and inquiry skills that we all need to create peaceful dialogue and an engaged nation to live well upon Unci Maka, our grandmother earth.

As we seek a path of peace and prosperity please continue to support education, dialogue, and citizenship as we move forward to build a better nation.



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The Observer is available to Tribal Members of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe, reaching more than 3,000 members. The Observer is also distributed via break rooms of the Saginaw Chippewa Businesses and is available to 4,000 associates.

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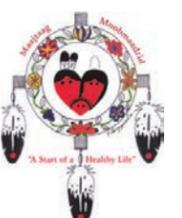


## ADA American Dental Association®

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- Kids may receive a dental exam, X-rays, sealants, fluoride treatment and/or fillings based on individual need and time available.
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- COVID protocols will be observed.
- This year, appointments must be made by calling (989) 775-4657 any time up to, and including, the day of the event (8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.)
- The Nimkee Dental Clinic is located at 2591 S. Leaton Rd. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858



# Editorial: Stress management with Nimkee's health educator

**ROBYN GRINZINGER**

Health Educator

We have all endured a challenging and stressful 2020. Blessings that everyone is sliding nicely into the second month of the new year, looking forward to new and exciting adventures. Have you learned any new ways to reduce your stress?

What is stress? Honestly, there are as many different responses to that question, as there are changes in life. Simply, that is exactly what stress is. It is the way our body reacts physically and emotionally to change.

Our body doesn't know if it is a good stress or a bad stress, it just knows you are feeling something.

Breaking news: We are always going to have stress. There is no escape from it. Some say it is the 'spice of life'. Without it life would be dull, boring and unexciting.

There would be no ups or downs. But, too much stress affects our physical and emotional well-being. Therefore, the challenge is to make stress work for us instead of against us.

Before we can do that, we need to understand how it affects our body.

There are two types of stress: eustress and distress. **Eustress** is called 'good stress' motivation, keeps you going, enhances longevity, life satisfaction, reason to get up in the morning. **Distress** on the other hand, is 'bad stress' that comes with worry, anger, fear, pressure, and negative feelings.

When distress becomes prolonged, it is very harmful. We can only handle this type of stress so long before it affects our body and health.

Imagine if every day I took my car out and drove it as far and fast as I could; but never did any maintenance, pretty soon it would wear

out. That is exactly the same that happens to our body. If I were to push on your shoulders every time you tried to stand up, pretty soon you would quit trying. Many people reach this burn out, "I don't care attitude."

Stress is a great contributor to 14 different health ailments including heart attack, stroke, high blood pressure, migraines, diabetes, diarrhea, lower immune system, etc.

We need to stop this cycle and turn negative to positive.

Choose a technique to help you reduce stress. Your choice needs to be fun, not done at the expense of others, non-critical, and can be done in a group or alone.

Life is a series of ups and downs. With good stress management, the highs and lows do not need to be so drastic. It takes 17 muscles to smile and 43 to frown, you can preserve your face value if you KEEP ON SMILING!

**Passive activity = relaxation**

- a. Choose something to calmly reduce stress
- b. Examples: walk, bath, massage, watch TV, fishing, observations, massage, deep breathing

**Active activity = get your body moving**

- a. After 20 minutes of exercise neurochemicals (catecholamine and endorphins) are released.
- b. When you are active you are focused on what you are doing, thus quieting the brain thoughts.

**Personal self-support = don't keep things bottled up inside**

- a. The situation always seems a thousand times worse when we keep replaying it in our mind.
- b. Write it down, you do not ever need to show anyone, but for some reason it gets clearer when we put it on paper. Tear it up afterward if you like.
- c. Call a friend

**Humor**

- a. A built-in tranquilizer and healer
- b. Has a relaxing effect on the body
- c. We take life too seriously.
- d. 4 year olds laugh every four minutes (400x a day). The average adult MAY laugh 10x a day. We need to repair our funny bone.

## Moderna COVID-19 vaccine update

*\*Subject to change\**

Nimkee has vaccinated Andahwod, elders 70 years and older, health care workers, first responders, police, ACFS, and educators with collaboration from the local health department. Nimkee has only received 200 doses of the Moderna vaccine and waiting on more to be delivered.

### Nimkee Clinic is moving to Phase 1B

**Phase 1B:** Persons 75 years of age or older and frontline essential workers in critical infrastructure.

- ▶ **Group A:** Persons 75 years of age or older not covered in Phase 1A. This includes those in a congregate setting that were not reached in Phase 1A.
- ▶ **Group B:** Prioritized frontline workers whose work role has frequent or intense exposure, and, due to the nature of the work, are not able to maintain social distance. For example, a first responder may have to physically touch other people in their response, and a child care provider cannot maintain social distance from children when caring for their physical needs.

**The specific prioritized categories are:**

- Pre-kindergarten through high school teachers, support staff and child care workers who usually have direct contact with children
- First responders not covered in Phase 1A (e.g., firefighters, police, conservation officers, inspectors)
- Corrections workers (e.g., staff in prisons, jails, juvenile justice facilities)
- Workers in homeless shelters, congregate child care institutions, and adult and child protective services

**We encourage the community to call the COVID-19 Vaccine Line at 989-775-4959**  
Leave your information and you will be called when you meet the phase requirement. We check the hotline daily.

### Other local sites

We encourage everyone to also register through other local sites that offer the vaccine. If they contact you before Nimkee Clinic receives more doses, please go to their vaccine clinic.

**Central Michigan Health Department:**

- **75 years of age and older; critical/essential workers:** <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6114732/Phase-1B-Survey-for-Individuals-75-years-of-age-and-older-critical-essential-workers>
- **Ages 65 - 74 and Persons ages 16 - 64 with underlying medical conditions:** <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6123073/Phase-1C-Survey-for-Individuals-Ages-65-74-and-Persons-ages-16-64-with-underlying-medical-conditions>

**McLaren Central Michigan (if you are a patient):**

- **Age 65+:** [https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2hsCgpGHtEGAev9bVldQ5hWquV2vg-VDMWQw\\_g0qziJUNFJHU0ILT0JERVRGTTRQRk83UEpCMFpRQS4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2hsCgpGHtEGAev9bVldQ5hWquV2vg-VDMWQw_g0qziJUNFJHU0ILT0JERVRGTTRQRk83UEpCMFpRQS4u)

**Mid-Michigan Health (if you are a patient):**

- **Age 65+:** <https://www.midmichigan.org/conditions-treatments/coronavirus/vaccine/>



## Nimkee Fitness

### Open Indoors

Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- Mask or shield required at all times (masks and face shields can be provided)
- Five Fitness Center members allowed at one time
- Locker rooms are available, showers are NOT available

**Must call to make a reservation: 989.775.4690**

- Only able to reserve one hour at a time, in half hour increments
- If there is availability you may walk up
- Reservations can be made as early as a week in advance



**Nimkee**  
Memorial Wellness Center

## Testing Center

(Located at the former At-Large offices)

**Open: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

**Closed for lunch: 12 – 1 p.m.**

**989.775.4637 or 989.775.4626**

- ▶ If you have signs or symptoms of COVID-19 or if you believe you require testing, please call the Nimkee Testing Center at 989.775.4637 to discuss your symptoms.
- ▶ If you are experiencing severe symptoms, such as difficulty breathing, call 911 for urgent medical help.

**Practice Social Distancing • Stay Home If You Can  
Wear Your Mask • Hand Hygiene**



## FEBRUARY 2021 | Tribal Community Event Planner

### Recovery on the Rez

February 2, 9, 16, 23 | 2 p.m.

- Online via ZOOM
- Non-judgmental mutual aide support group that welcomes all styles of recovery.
- Meeting ID: 829 1218 8791
- Passcode: 123456

### K'chi-twaa-Mshkod'e (Sacred Fire)

January 4, 11, 18, 25 | 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

- Seventh Generation
- TJackson@sagchip.org or 989.775.4780
- Social distancing/masks required
- Tobacco offering for those who need a safe place to offer prayers
- No appointments necessary, everyone welcome

### Anishinabe medicine bundle curbside pickup

February 10 | 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

- Bundle includes mushkodewashk (sage), giizhik (cedar), semaa (tobacco) and abalone smudge shell to the first 40 in line behind Ziibiwing Center.
- One per household, while supplies last

### Gaawye miinwaa Wiigwaasi-naabkowaagan (birch bark & quill medallion kit)

February 11

- Pick up at Seventh Generation
- Call 989.775.4786 to reserve your kit, no emails please
- Limited supply
- Cost: \$10 per kit
- Kit includes: Birch bark circle, porcupine quills, awl, tweezers, felt backing, template for your quill design, needle and sinew, sweet grass for embellishment, beads and bone for stringing necklace and written instructions

### Dealing with Grief & Mourning with Isaac Murdoch

February 12, 13 | 7 p.m.

- Two-part community Facebook live event
- Check Ziibiwing's Facebook page for link

### Mshkiki-mashkimod "Medicine Bag" Teachings and Guided Workshop

February 18 | 3 - 5 p.m.

- Online via ZOOM
- Registration: Prevention@Sagchip.org
- 20 spots available
- For more information: Christina Osawabine at 989.775.4818 or Kim Hinmon at 989.775.4880
- ZOOM link and supplies will be provided
- Create your own medicine bag from home
- Supply kit pickup: Feb. 16 from 2-4 p.m. in the Behavioral Health parking lot.

### Give Kids a Smile Day

February 19 | 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

- Nimkee Clinic
- Open to children under the age of 18 who are eligible to be seen at the Nimkee Dental Clinic
- Kids may receive a dental exam, X-rays, sealants, fluoride treatment and/or fillings based on individual need and time available.
- A goodie bag will be provided to all participants.
- COVID protocols will be observed.
- Appointment required, please call: 989-775-4657 any time up to, and including the day of the event

### Walk in My Mocs Artists Series

March 4 | 7 p.m.

- ZOOM link: <https://zoom.us/j/99832256072>
- Public reading featuring M. Carmen Lane

**THIS ISN'T Love**

If you or someone you know is in a relationship that doesn't feel right, it probably isn't.

For more information about teen dating violence or to speak with someone, please contact SCIT Victim Services Program at 989-775-4850.

February is TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

WEAR Orange DAY! February 19

## FEBRUARY 2021 | Tribal Community Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat./Sun.
1	2	3	4 Sacred Fire 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. 7th Generation	5	6
8	9	10	11 Sacred Fire 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. 7th Generation	12	13
15 Tribal Center Closed Presidents Day	16 Tribal Observer Deadline	17	18 Sacred Fire 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. 7th Generation	19	20
22	23	24	25 Sacred Fire 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. 7th Generation	26	27
					28



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

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

### Bi Zoosh Kwadwek (skating place) Seventh Generation | Open dawn to dusk

- Skating rink open to Tribal Members and their families
- Please observe safe social distancing protocols
- Everyone who skates, must first sign waiver (located in shed next to rink). Skate at own risk
- Please call 989-775-4780 for more information

- SECR Payroll
  - SCIT Per Capita
  - SCIT Payroll
  - Curbside Recycling
  - Waste Collection\*
- \*Bins must be curbside by 6:30 a.m.





## Tribal Observer Classifieds

To place your ad, call the Tribal Observer at 989-775-4096, 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.**

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

### 100 Employment

#### Tribal Operations

##### Prosecutor

Open to the public. Juris doctor from an ABA accredited law school. Minimum of three years experience as a practicing attorney, familiarity with federal Indian law preferred. Minimum of one year experience as a prosecuting attorney. Member of a State Bar Association and in good standing. Understanding of all codes and professional standards applicable to the conduct of prosecutors. Experience with juvenile welfare cases. Experience with Tribal Code, Federal Law, State Law and court procedure. Under the supervision of Tribal Council, work closely with Tribal law enforcement and judicial officials to effectively administer justice on the Isabella Indian Reservation on behalf of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan. Prosecute crimes under the jurisdiction of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe within the exterior boundaries of the Isabella Reservation. Act as Tribal presenter in child abuse and neglect cases. All staff in prosecutor's office must adhere to mandated reporting laws.

##### Clinical Services Coordinator

Open to the public. Master's degree in counseling, social work, human services or related field. Full licensure is required. CAADC experience and licensure. Five years' clinical experience with co-occurring disorders. Three years supervisory experience. Must meet state required supervisor credential and certification. Experience with Three Fires Anishinabek norms, values and culture preferred. Experience with Native American traditions and culture preferred.

##### Physician

Open to the public. Medical degree or doctor of osteopathic medicine. Current board certification in specialty. Two years' experience working in an outpatient or clinic setting preferred. Must be able to pass background check to meet the employment eligibility requirements as they pertain to the position. Under the supervision of Medical Clinic director, participate as an essential team member in the Medical Clinic following the Patient Centered Medical Home (PCMH) model of care. Provide high quality, comprehensive medical services to the population of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and all others eligible to receive services at Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center. All Nimkee staff must adhere to mandated reporting laws.

##### Certified Nursing Assistant

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. State of Michigan certified nursing assistant. Must be able to obtain HIPAA certification within five business days from date of hire. One year nursing experience preferred. Experience with older adults preferred. Must be able to effectively communicate with residents and all members of the health care team and have good computer skills.

##### Registered Medical Assistant

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Registered or certified Medical Assistant License. One year experience working in an outpatient or clinic setting. Successful completion of an accredited Medical Assistant program with certification as a registered/certified medical assistant.

##### Anishinaabe Culture and Language Teacher

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must have knowledge and be willing to share original Anishinaabe cultural teachings. Preference will be given to those with proficiency in speaking the Ojibwe language. Excellent oral and written communication skills. Under the supervision of Tribal School principal, provide

Anishinaabe Culture and Language instruction to students and staff and collaborate with academic teachers in all grade levels at the Tribal School. All education staff must adhere to mandated reporting laws.

##### ACFS Director

Open to the public. 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. Assure protective services investigations, prevention, child and family service cases and open-active cases including descendants as outlined in the ICWA agreement between the state DHS, and SCIT are responded to in a manner consistent with the department's overall goal: Mission Statement; fundamental values and beliefs; and practice principles; consistent with 25 C.F.R., Part 20, Subparts D-F; in compliance with the Tribal Code, Title II Children's Code; and in compliance with the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act. All ACFS staff must adhere to mandated reporting laws. Master's degree in social services, human services or related field. Must have and maintain a full Master's Social Worker License (LMSW). 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.

##### 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.

##### Clerical Pool

Open to Tribal Members. Must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent. Clerical experience is a plus. Applicants must have a telephone contact number and be available on short notice for short-term employment.

### Soaring Eagle

##### Table Games Dealer FT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be able to obtain certification from the SECR Table Games Department for each game associate deals. Applicants that do not possess these certifications but have prior casino dealing experience may earn their certification by successfully passing the

written and table testing requirements for the required games.

##### Table Games Dealer PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be able to obtain certification from the SECR Table Games Department for each game associate deals. Applicants that do not possess these certifications but have prior casino dealing experience may earn their certification by successfully passing the written and table testing requirements for the required games.

##### Director iGaming Sports Betting OPS

Open to the public. Under the supervision of the chief operations officer, accomplish the Sports Betting Department objectives at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and Saginaw Eagles Landing Casino and Hotel. High school diploma or GED. Ten years progressive gaming experience to include five years of sports betting experience. Five years in a supervisory capacity. Knowledge of sports wagering and online casino gaming. Planning, organizing and directing all functions required to ensure operations are executed in a cost effective and profitable manner at all facilities. Oversee and monitor all activities involving sports betting including all procedures and policies for employees and ensuring all sports betting games are in compliance with applicable Tribal, Federal, and state gaming regulations.

##### Massage Therapist PT

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Michigan massage certification with 600 total hours required for massage certification. One year of experience preferred.

### Saganing

##### 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.

##### Beverage Waitstaff PT

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

##### Cashier FT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Six months cashiering and/or hosting experience. Must be able to operate a POS.

##### F&B Shift Supervisor

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Associates degree preferred. Three years food and beverage experience. Two years supervisory experience in the hospitality

field. Point of sale (POS) experience. Experience with the proper service of liquor, beer, and wine. Under the supervision of the Saganing Food & Beverage Department manager, supervise line level employees in the execution of quality guest service, cash handling, and operational duties.

##### Cashier PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Six months cashiering and/or hosting experience. Must be able to operate a POS.

##### Guestroom Attendant FT

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

##### Guestroom Attendant PT

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

##### F&B Attendant

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

##### F&B Custodial Worker

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

##### Transit Driver FT

Open to the public. Must be at least 21 years of age. Must have good hearing and at least 20/40 vision in each eye with or without corrective lenses. Must be able to work all shifts including weekends and holidays. Must have a valid CDL with passenger endorsements or a Chauffer's License.

##### Inventory Control Driver Warehouse

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be 18 years of age. One year receiving or warehouse experience. One year experience in driving vehicles and rigs that require a Chauffeur's License. Experience with operating warehouse equipment including forklifts.

##### Maintenance Worker PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. One year custodial and maintenance experience. Experience with plumbing and carpentry.

##### 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 Saganing internal culinary training. Must be able to pass ServSafe Certification. Under the supervision of the Saganing culinary supervisor, produce high volumes of food without compromising quality.

## Get Vaccinated to Protect Yourself, Family, and Community

American Indians and Alaska Natives are disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic

**A vaccine helps people from catching a certain disease, like COVID-19. All vaccines are as safe as possible and are a simple way to prevent illness and community outbreaks. A vaccination is not a treatment for people who are already sick with COVID-19. Getting vaccinated helps everyone.**

- Know the facts and avoid sharing misinformation.
- Start by sharing information from trusted sources like CDC.gov and IHS.gov
- Encourage your loved ones to get vaccinated.
- The more people in your community that get vaccinated, the better everyone will be protected against COVID-19, especially those who are more vulnerable to serious illnesses, like elders and people in high-risk groups.
- A COVID-19 vaccine will help you from spreading the disease, and reduce your risk of getting sick, being hospitalized, or dying.
- COVID-19 vaccines are one of many important tools to help us stop this pandemic. It is important to use all the tools available to stop the pandemic; wear a mask, wash your hands, and watch your distance.

#### How to cope with anxiety related to vaccination

- Stay connected with family and friends while keeping a safe physical distance. Take care of yourself and each other, and know when to get help.
- Create a list of personal self-care activities you enjoy such as exercising, meditating, singing a traditional song, praying, or connecting with nature.
- Take deep breaths and stretch.
- Maintain a sense of hope and positive thinking and remember these strong feelings of stress and anxiety will fade.

#### We are all in this together. Show compassion for those most closely impacted.

- Stay connected with family and friends through social media and video chat.
- Connect with your community and others with drumming and dancing videos via social media.
- Attend a spiritual service through online streaming.

Ask your healthcare provider for more information.





**You could win a share of  
\$1,000,000 in Premium Play prizes!**

Saturdays in February | 4PM - 11:30PM

Every half hour from 4pm to 11:30pm, 5 lucky Access Loyalty Club members will each win \$1,200 in Premium Play! That's \$96,000 in Premium Play over Saturday in February, March & April!

**Access Card holders will receive one (1) entry for every 300 points earned playing (slots, tables, & bingo) on their Access Card from 12am January 31st 2021 – February 27th 2021 at 11:25pm.**



**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19  
10AM-10PM**

Get \$10 in Premium Play for every 800 points that you earn on your ACCESS card. Earn up to \$50 Premium Play total!



**EVERY TUESDAY  
5PM-10PM**

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



**WEDNESDAYS, FEB. 3, 10 & 24  
6PM-10PM**

Each hour, you could win cold hard cash starting with \$1,000 at 6PM and increasing up to \$3,000 at 10PM!



**THURSDAYS | 3PM-11:59PM**

Play your favorite slots for a chance to win \$25 in Premium Play! Ricochet Rewards will randomly award 50 players \$25 in Premium Play. These random rewards can ricochet multiple times between the hours of 3PM and midnight every Thursday!



**Win up to \$100,000 in cash!**

Fridays and Saturdays in February  
3PM-10PM

Every hour one lucky guest will have a chance to pull the handle on our big Cupid's Cash slot machine for Premium Play and cash! Get 5 Saganing Eagles Landing logos on the center line and win \$100,000 in cash!

**ACCESS Club members will receive one entry for every 200 points earned on their access club card from 12 AM January 31, 2020 until 9:25 PM on Saturday, February 27, 2021.**



**SUNDAYS, FEBRUARY 7 & 14  
12PM - 8PM**

One guest from 12pm - 8pm will be drawn every hour to win \$1,000 in cash!



**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2  
4AM-11:59PM**

Simply earn 1200 points on your ACCESS card and receive up to \$50 in Premium Play.



**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.



**MONDAYS IN FEBRUARY  
6AM-11:59PM**

Simply earn 1000 points on your ACCESS card, swipe at the kiosk to play a game for a chance to win up to \$50 in Premium Play

