

Binaakwii-Giizis (Moon of the Falling Leaves)

TRIBAL **OCTOBER** 2023 OBSERVER

Working Together For Our Future

www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver

Volume 25 | Issue 10



2023 Primary **Election Guide**

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Tribal Court officials announce fourth annual Statewide Tribal Opioid Summit

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Public Relations Manager

On Nov. 1-2, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and Tribal Court officials will host the fourth annual Statewide Tribal Opioid Summit at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment Hall.

Carol Jackson, magistrate for the Tribal Court, has been working closely with April Osburn, executive director of Michigan Area Health Education Center (AHEC), and the summit planning committee in developing an array of keynote speakers.

"The summit is not only for potential participants and sponsors, but our goal is to inform the community as they feel the tremendous traumatic effects and impacts of this epidemic. This year's theme of the summit is about 'Healing Our Families and Communities Together," Jackson said. "Training is key in the combat against overdoses, suicides and Murdered and Missing Indigenous People (MMIP). We hope to spread a message of helping our communities to heal and to reduce the stigma and shame associated with the pain of addiction."

Jackson said the summit will continue with a Friday, Nov. 3 expungement clinic to

with Rebecca Simkins Nowak.

"Nowak has been a licensed attorney in Michigan for more than 20 years and while in private practice, she appeared before numerous state and federal courts and agencies on a variety of matters," Jackson said. "Rebecca joined University of Detroit Mercy School of Law in 2016 and is currently the director of Clinical Operations and Outreach. She is also an

be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. adjunct professor responsible for the law school's externship program."

Osburn said AHEC is honored to be a part of this journey with the Tribe.

"In partnership with the CMU College of Medicine, the Central and Western AHEC is a non-profit organization," Osburn said. "For over 11 years, the AHEC has supported the college's mission of increasing medical student placements in medically

underserved areas. In addition, it provides healthcare education to the community. There is no doubt that the opioid epidemic has a devastating impact on the victims and their families."

Osburn said she believes there exists a compounding ripple effect the stigma of addiction causes throughout communities, affecting quality of life, economic opportunity, and the prosperity of rural areas.

Dr. Alex Elswick is a tireless advocate for people with substance use disorders and will serve as one of the keynote speakers.

"Dr. Elswick currently serves the University of Kentucky as an assistant professor and extension specialist for Substance Use Prevention and Recovery," Jackson said. "Alex is a trained researcher, recovery coach, and mental

Opioid Summit | 13

2023 SCIT Primary Election Candidate List

Primary Election: Tuesday, Oct. 10 | Polling station open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Tribal Gym

- · Alaniz, Rene
- Andy, Kaine
- Bennett, Brad
- Bennett, Daniel
- · Betts, Joshua
- Birchmeier, Jennifer
- Bonnau, Robin • Bonnau, Terry
- · Cantu, Denise
- Cantu, Federico, Jr.
- Carmona-Pego, Faith
- Chamberlain, Jessica (Mouse)
- Chippeway, Samantha
- Colwell (Jackson), Michelle
- Davis, Levi
- Davis, Timothy
- Deaton, Carmen
- Federico, Bill

• Nelson, Ronald

- Flamand, Jean
- · Graveratte, Craig
- Hadden, Marcella · Halliwill, Glenna
- Hart, Kathleen
- · Hawkins, Kelly
- Hendrickson, Gilbert Jr.
- · Hunt, Lindy
- · Jackson, Mitchell
- Jackson (Peters), Theresa
- Jewell, Tonia
- Kahgegab, Courtney
- Kahgegab, Maynard Jr.
- · Kennedy, Lisa
- Leaureaux, Sheila
- · Mandoka, Lacey
- · Mandoka, Stacy
- Matthews, Cathleen

- · McCreery, Michael
- · Merrill, Bethel
- · Merrill, David Jr.
- Miller, Rodney Sr.
- · Morrow, Dawn
- Otto, Carmen
- Otto, Christina
- Otto, David
- · Otto, Michelle
- Pelcher, Clinton Jr. · Pelcher, Milton
- Peters, Stephanie
- Peters, Summer
- Pilar (Sprague), Darcy
- Quigno, Mary
- · Quigno-Grundahl, Diana
- Raphael (Wassegijig), Valarie

- · Reihl, Shelly
- Ricketts, Alice Jo
- · Ruhl, Gayle
- Salas (Fallis), Tammy
- Shawboose, Vanyork
- Sineway, Christopher • Smith, Casey
- Smith, Toni
- Spotted Tail (Montoya-Pego), Maia
- Sprague, Lucas
- Sprague, Niibin G.
- Wassegijig (Vasquez), **Jennifer**
- Wells, Noelle
- Wemigwans, Martha
- Wright (Pelcher/Collins), Charles

District 2

· Cloutier, Frank J.

• Walker, Paul

District 3

There will be no Primary Election in District 2 or District 3 in accordance with Ordinance 4, Section 13. Please be mindful that this is only for the Primary Election and the General Election will proceed as scheduled.

Tribal Member Open Enrollment: Oct. 1-31, 2023

Exciting news: This is our second year with UMR! Open Enrollment is the time to adjust benefit coverages for you and your dependents. After Oct. 31, you will not be able to make changes until the next Open Enrollment period, unless you experience a qualifying life event.

To ensure all Tribal Members are covered appropriately, everyone is encouraged to take action during Open Enrollment. Complete enrollment through between

It is important to review your benefit choices, share options with your family, and enroll in benefits on time. Learn how to enroll below.

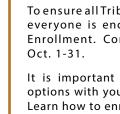
Enhanced Benefits Available! Benefits include:

- Medical Insurance
- Prescription Drugs
- Dental Insurance
- Telemedicine
- Vision Insurance • And More!



QR code below to view your benefit guide.







Camille Anne Grice

September 5, 1967 - September 2, 2023

Camille Grice, 55, of Mt. Pleasant, passed away Saturday, Sept. 2, 2023, at Hurley Medical Center in Flint, Mich.

Camille was born Sept. 5, 1967, in Mt. Pleasant, Mich., daughter of Maynard Kahgegab Sr. and Anne Peters. She graduated from Flandreau Boarding School (South Dakota) in 1986 and, on Sept. 9, 1991, married Nelson Grice in Mt. Pleasant.

In addition to raising her five children, Camille worked at the Soaring Eagle Casino as a blackjack dealer. She

loved music, especially rock n' roll, and enjoyed going to concerts, attending many outdoor concerts. In addition, she found joy in long car rides and visiting her family, especially her grandchildren.

Camille is survived by her husband of 32 years, Nelson Grice; five children, Alex (Angel) Grice of Mt. Pleasant, Aaron (Eric) Grice of Breckenridge, Brianna Yahbay (Jeff S.) of Mt. Pleasant, Nicholas (Mariah) Grice of Midland, and Jason Kahgegab of Mt. Pleasant; 15 grandchildren, Alex II, Ariana, Levi, Lucas, Analia, Abel, Hayden, Mila, Isabelle, Chanska, William, Liam, Elias, Halen, and Myeengun; her father, Maynard Kahgegab Sr.; siblings, Maynard Kahgegab Jr., Travis Kahgegab, Jessica Kahgegab, Courtney (Keesh) Kahgegab, Ryan Kahgegab, Emily Kahgegab, and Kaitlyn Kahgegab, all of Mt. Pleasant; and many beloved cousins, nieces, and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Anne Peters; maternal grandparents, Wilfred and Julia Peters; paternal grandparents, Nelson and Emily Kahgegab; and aunt, Patricia

Cremation has taken place and Camille's family held a celebration of life on Sept. 14 at 7th Generation Cultural Center.

Richard "Dicky" Andrew Nahgahgwon Jr.

January 22, 1967 - September 1, 2023

Richard "Dicky" Andrew Nahgahgwon Jr., age 56, of Hale, Mich., passed away Friday, Sept. 1, 2023, at Ascension St. Joseph Hospital in Tawas, Mich.

Dicky was born in Tawas, on Jan. 22, 1967, the son of Richard ad Mary (Stevens) Nahgahgwon, Sr.

Friends will always remember him for his passion of fishing and having a great sense of humor. Dicky had a love for music, Molly Hatchet, and Godzilla.

He also enjoyed playing drums and riding his bicycle.

Dicky is survived by his daughter Tosha Bannister; grandson River; father Richard Nahgahgwon Sr.; brothers Kim Stevens, Tim Stevens, Dave Joseph; sister Amanda Nahgahgwon; and nephew Greg.

He was preceded in death by his mother Mary, and siblings. A private service for Dicky will take place at a later date.

Attention Tribal Members: Notice of Public Hearing

TAKE NOTICE: There will be a public hearing on Monday, Nov. 6, 2023, at 9:15 a.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers at the Black Elk **Building, 7500 Soaring Eagle Boulevard, Mount** Pleasant, MI 48858. This hearing will address the liquor license application for renewal of a Retail On-Premise General License presented to Tribal Council by Bob VanWert, General Manager of the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino and Hotel, or his representative. The application which will be reviewed and discussed at the hearing is as follows:

Renewal of the Tribal Liquor License for Retail On-Premise General Liquor License for the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino and Hotel located at 2690 Worth Road, Standish, Michigan 48658. Such License, if approved, would cover all indoor areas, outdoor areas, Gaming Floor, Function Rooms, and all other applicable areas of the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino where beverage service is appropriate and allowed; including the Tribal Center and Saganing Powwow Grounds located at 2570 Worth Road, Standish, Michigan 48658 and outdoor events area for services during events. This License, if issued, would be for the duration of one full year from Nov. 30, 2023 through Nov. 29, 2024, with hours of alcohol service consistent with Section 10 of the Gaming Compact of Aug. 20, 1993, and also including hours of service for Sunday Alcohol Sales and Sales on Christmas Eve until midnight, Christmas day beginning at noon and New Year's Day until 4 a.m.

Leo Allen Bennett Sr.

May 1, 1955 - August 26, 2023

Leo Allen Bennett Sr., age 68, of Mount Pleasant, Mich., passed away Saturday, Aug. 26, 2023, at McLaren Bay Region Hospital.

Leo was born May 1, 1955, in Grand Rapids, Mich., the son of Robert and Esther (McDonald) Bennett. He was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

He was married to Eva (Neyome) on Feb. 15, 1974. Their marriage lasted 25 years, followed by divorce. Leo married Donna (Cooper) on Sept.

21, 2003; she preceded him in death on March 9, 2020.

Leo worked for the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort for many years in various jobs. He loved spoiling his grandkids, family gatherings, and Saturday night dice games. In his spare time, Leo liked golfing, slot tournaments, bingo, beading and fishing.

Leo is survived by his children Leo (Sheri) Bennett Jr. of Mt. Pleasant, James Bennett (Kylie) of Mt. Pleasant, Melanie (Brett) Bennett-Davis of Weidman, Mark (Jennifer) Bennett of Mt. Pleasant, Nina (Shad) Kline, Amy saucier, and Tammy Cooper, all of Grand Rapids; 22 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; brothers Robert (Genevieve) Bennett, Randy Bennett, Timothy Bennett, Rhonda Bennett (Mike), Lisa Bennett; family friends, Barb, Bean, Larry and Kenny Sprague, and many nieces and nephews.

Leo was preceded in death by his parents; son Robert Bennett; grandchildren McKinnley Bennett and Skylar Bennett; brother Michael Bennett; sister Roberta Joy Bennett; and grandparents Pete and Alice Bennett.

Funeral services took place at Clark Family Funeral Chapel on Thursday, Aug. 31, 2023, at 1 p.m. with Benjamen Evers officiating. A luncheon followed in the Reflections Reception Center. The family received friends on Thursday beginning at 11 a.m. until the time of the service.

Memorial contributions may be made to the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan.

December Tribal Child Welfare Affidavits

Deadline: Friday, Nov. 3, 2023 by 5 p.m.

Forms accepted beginning Monday, Oct. 2, 2023

Tribal Clerk's Office hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- ▶ Notarization is required
- · Forms are available by mail, email and online at www.sagchip.org
- · Post marked forms, email or faxed will not be accepted
- The Tribal Clerk's office must have the original form

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

Attention Tribal Members: Notice of Public Hearing

TAKE NOTICE: There will be a public hearing held on Monday, Nov. 6, 2023 at 9 a.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers at the Black Elk Building, 7500 Soaring Eagle Boulevard, Mount Pleasant, MI **48858.** This hearing will address the application for a renewal of a Retail On-Premise General License and Retail Off-Premise General License presented to Tribal Council by Robert Juckniess, CEO for the Migizi Economic Development Company. The application which will be reviewed and discussed at the hearing is as follows:

Renewal of the Tribal Liquor License for Retail On-Premise and Off-Premise General License for the Soaring Eagle Waterpark & Hotel located at 5665 East Pickard Road, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Such license, if approved, would cover Soaring Eagle RV Park, The Retreat at Soaring Eagle, Nbakade Restaurant, Wiisinidaa Food Court, and all other applicable areas of the Soring Eagle Waterpark & Hotel where beverage service is appropriate and allowed. This License, if issued, would authorize the sale of beer, wine, and liquor for consumption by buyers on-premise and offpremise for the duration of one full year commencing on Nov. 21, 2023 and expiring on Nov. 20, 2024 with hours of alcohol sales consistent with Section 10 of the Gaming Compact of Aug. 20, 1993, and the Tribe's Liquor Control Act, Chapter 8.7.

Josiah Wemigwans 10-04-05 – 8-16-22







Happy 18th Birthday Son

We miss you, may you guide us son, trying to reach you through prayer. I love you Happy Birthday Son until we meet again God be with you RIH Love Always, Mom

Suzanne

Happy 18th Birthday Siah

I love you an think of you always Your Sister, Sara W

Happy Heavenly 3rd Birthday Fonz! (October 1st) Love, ALL the **PELCHERS**





It has been 3 years since you've gone away and nothing has been the same. I miss you.

(October 10th)

Mariah Rae Pelcher

It has been 1 year since you have left us and we love and miss you so much!

(October 22nd)

Unk Carl





Happy Heavenly 58th Birthday Mama Bear, the girls and I love you and miss you

more than ever.

2024 Annual Reports

are now being accepted

Deadline: Friday, May 3, 2024 by 5 p.m.

Tribal Clerk's Office hours:

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

Notarization is required

- Forms available by mail, email and at www.sagchip.org
- No postdated forms, emails or faxes accepted

Your 2024 Annual Report MUST be filed before/ with submitting a Tribal Loan Application.

For more information, please contact:

The Tribal Clerk's Office at 989.775.4051



Attention all Tribal Members:

All Tribal Members residing in Isabella County must be registered to vote in the District 1 voting district in order to vote in the 2023 Primary or General Election.

- If you reside in Isabella County but are registered to vote in District 3, then you must
- You must be registered to vote no later than Sept. 8, for the 2023 Primary Election and by Oct. 6, for the 2023 General Election.

For more information, please contact:

Regular Tribal Council Sessions

Attention Tribal Members

Tribal Council Regular

Session Meetings

are held at 9 a.m.

- ▶ First Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m.
- ▶ Inside the Council Chambers of the Black Elk Government Complex
- Meetings are open to Tribal Members
- Anyone wanting to be added can call (989) 775-4004

Regular Council Session Dates

Oct. 3
 Nov. 7
 Dec. 5

Fourth Annual Statewide Tribal **OPIOID SUMMIT** "Healing Our Families and Communities Together"

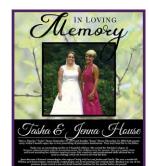
Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2023 & Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment Hall

For questions or more information, contact: Carol Jackson | 989.775.4805 | Carjackson@sagchip.org April Osburn | 989.774.7107 | midcentralahec@cmich.edu

Submissions needed

The fourth annual Statewide Tribal Opioid Summit Committee is requesting the community's support for submittal of a remembrance of their loved one who would like a chance to share their story with others due to opioid, alcohol substance age and suicide.



Submissions will be

featured on a memorial board

The Summit will pay a memorial tribute on Nov. 1 & 2, 2023 at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort's Entertainment Hall. It's important to remind us all of the light that grows dim throughout the loss of our loved ones. To lend a voice to those who cannot speak, to bring awareness through education, and to bring families together by sharing their stories.

Vendors needed

Calling all Tribal crafters and artists who would like an opportunity to sell their items at the fourth annual Statewide Tribal Opioid Summit free of charge. (This does not include any sponsorships or companies to promote or sell any business-related items. Please submit under sponsorships for the summit).

Vendor spaces are free for all Native crafters and artists

For questions or more information, contact:

Carol Jackson | 989.775.4805 | Carjackson@sagchip.org April Osburn | 989.774.7107 | midcentralahec@cmich.edu

register in District 1 to vote in the election. Voter registration forms are available at the

- Tribal Clerk's Office.

Tribal Clerk's Office at 989-775-4051

Qualification for **Voter Registration:**

- 1. Must be a SCIT Member
- 2. Must provide address verification by one of the following:
 - State Issued Driver's License
 - State ID
 - Voter Registration ID
 - Tribal Membership ID
- ▶ Primary Election: Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2023 ▶ General Election: Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2023

Members with faded and unreadable Tribal IDs can take their IDs and turn them in at the Clerk's Office for a free re-print.

Registered voter members without an ID are able to get a free voters registration card on the day of the Primary Election, Tuesday, Oct. 10, 2023 or on the day of the General Election, Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2023 from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. from the Clerk's Office.

For more information, please contact: Tribal Clerk's Office at 989-775-4051

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Scholarship

DEADLINES

Every Semester, students must turn in a Schedule and grade report for processing of funding. The deadlines are as follows: **If applicable

Fall - Oct. 15, 2023

▶ Summer grade report** ▶ Fall schedule

Spring/Winter - Feb. 15, 2024

► Fall grade report ► Winter/Spring schedule

Summer - June 15, 2024

▶ Winter/Spring grade report

▶ Summer schedules**

June 30, 20 24

For processing of yearly Academic Incentive Awards, official transcripts are due

Very important: Any and all deadlines issues must be resolved BEFORE the deadline

For more information, please contact:

Deb Smith. Youth Leadership Manager **Email:** dsmith@sagchip.org | **Phone:** 989-775-4071



Happy Birthday Mastella, we all love you so much!

Attention all Tribal Members:

To be eligible to vote in the upcoming 2023 Tribal elections, you must register to vote 30 days prior to the election date.

- ▶ Voter Registration forms are available at the Tribal Clerk's Office and on the Tribe's website.
- Due to the change in Ordinance 4, those living in Isabella County are now District 1 eligible voters and must fill out a Voter Registration form.
- ▶ If you've had a recent address or name change after Jan. 1, 2022 you must also register to vote if you have not already.

For more information, contact: The Tribal Clerk's Office 989-775-4051



Happy Birthday Aunt Teri (October 5th) I am so thankful for you and how great you are with my girls. We love you!



Happy Birthday Aanilaya, Love auntie Miranda & the girls. (October 18th)



Happy **Birthday** Aunt Jennifer, love Miranda & the girls.



Happy Birthday Raelene, you are one of a kind baby girl. Love always, Miranda, Aubrey & Phoenix



Happy Birthday **Auntie Frog Killa** (Krystal) :P

We love you so much!! (October 21st)



Happy Birthday Azh!!

You are a beautiful, bright, funny, and loved soul and I hope today is a great one. We love you xoxo (October 29th)



Tribal Council

Chief

Theresa Peters-Jackson | District One

Sub-Chief

Jennifer L. Wassegijig | District One

Treasurer

Gayle Ruhl | District One

Secretary

Martha Wemigwans | District One

Sergeant-at-Arms

David Merrill Jr. | District One

Chaplain

Alice Jo Ricketts | District One

Council Member

Diana Quigno-Grundahl | District One

Council Member

Frank J. Cloutier | District Three

Council Member

Luke Sprague | District One

Council Member

Mary Quigno | District One **Council Member**

Ron Nelson | District Two

Council Member

The Seven Grandfather

TEACHINGS

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

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

Minaadendamoowing – Respect

Zoongide'ewin – Bravery

Gwekwadiziwin – Honesty

to live our lives with honor and integrity.

Debwewin – Truth

Dibaadendiziwin – Humility

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

To be brave and have courage is to recognize our moral

and mental strength and to do what is appropriate.

To be honest is to recognize that we have the ability

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.

To live in truth is to recognize the difference between right

around us even when the right way is not the easiest way.

and wrong and to be faithful to ourselves as well as the world

Nbookaawin - Wisdom

Zaagidowin – Love

Samantha Chippeway | District One

Homeowners Assistance Funds program (HAF)

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Housing Department is now taking applications from eligible homeowners.
This application is for hardships occurring from 1/21/2020 to present.

Need assistance keeping your home?

- If the total household income is below 150 percent of the Area
- If the household has experienced financial hardship due to COVID-19
- If the household has incurred INCREASED costs due to COVID-19
- If the household is experiencing mortgage delinquency, foreclosure, escrow shortages, or property tax arrears
- · If the household is experiencing utility shut offs or account delinquencies
- If the household is located in one of the following counties: Arenac, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Mecosta, Midland, Osceola, and Montcalm.

Is a SCIT members anywhere in U.S.

SCIT-SCHD Housing can help with:

- Mortgage payments, property tax payments, homeowners insurance premiums, utility arrears, water/sewer, and trash removal, internet services
- New appliances and equipment necessary to maintain the habitability of the structure
- Lot rents, condo fees, or land contract payments
- · Home repairs to enable one to stay housed

Applications are available:

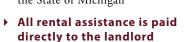
- Online: Application is available at $\underline{https://portal.laser fiche.com/k8554/forms/HAF}$ or by scanning the QR code to the right.
- **In person:** Call (989) 775-4538 to make appointment
- The SCIT Housing Office located at: 2451 NishNaBeAnong Drive, Mt. Pleasant, MI Monday – Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan Housing Department COVID-19
Homeowner Assistance Fund Policy (HAF Policy) is established by action of the Tribal
Council of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan on August, 24, 2022. This
HAF Policy shall govern the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribes' Housing Department
(SCHD) HAF Program and the administration and management of Homeowners
Assistance Funds received from the U.S. Department of Treasury pursuant to Section 3206 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. No. 117-2 (March 11, 2011)



The Saginaw Chippewa Housing Department is offering rental assistance to Native American college students that meet the following criteria:

- 18 or older and financially independent of their parents
- Must be a duly enrolled member of any Native tribe that has been identified on the most current Federal Register listing of "Indian Entities Recognized by and Eligible to Receive Services from the U.S. BIA (86 FR 7554 (Jan. 29, 2021)
- Household is low-income as determined by HUD's definition: https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il.html
- Enrolled in an accredited post-secondary college or university pursing a two year (or higher) degree or certificate
- The university or college and the rental unit must be located within the lower peninsula of the State of Michigan





For more information, please contact: Housing at 989-775-4538

Saginaw Chippewa Conservation Committee

Currently has two vacancies

The Planning Department is soliciting letters of interest for

adult Tribal Members interested in serving on the Saginaw

Chippewa Conservation Committee for a Tribal Council

appointed two-year term. Per Ordinance 11, section 102,

subdivision 2 and the approved Ordinance 11 Committee By-

Laws. The current two year term will end on Nov. 14, 2024.

Please submit a letter of interest along with



Ziibiwing Center Community Digital Archive ASSISTANCE NEEDED

The Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways' Research Center needs your assistance. Would you be willing to assist once a month by virtual meeting and through additional email correspondence? Your support is needed to review draft processes and materials intended for use on the Saginaw



ZIIBIWING CENTER

Chippewa Mukurtu website currently under development and titled: Ziibiwing Center Community Digital Archive.

You can view the current development at this temporary web address:

https://cdsc-wsu.org/ziibiwing-center/home

For more information, please contact:

- Email: ZiibiwingQuestions@sagchip.org
- **Phone:** 989-775-4733 or 989-775-4748



your qualification and experience to: Donald Seal

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan Planning Department 7500 Soaring Eagle Boulevard Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

dseal@sagchip.org



Letters of interests accepted until all vacancies are filled.

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.
- 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

To place an advertisement, please contact the Tribal Observer at 989-775-4096 or 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 \$250. 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. Make checks out to SCIT.			
Name:			
Address:			
City:	State:	Zip:	

Please mail form to:

Tribal Observer 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Contact Information:

- Phone: 989-775-4096
- Email: Observer@Sagchip.org
- www.Sagchip.org/TribalObserver





Attention Adult Tribal Members

Migizi EDC is seeking to fill two community member seat vacancies on its Board of Directors.

Those interested should exhibit exemplary experience in business, be responsible and express integrity as well as good judgment. Each interested party should be sensitive to the unique goals and the culture of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. The ideal candidate would recognize the need for diversification within the Tribe's holdings as well as demonstrate expertise in and have an understanding of business management, administration, accounting, finance, law, advertisement, public relation and other related disciplines. Time requirements include all regularly scheduled meetings, including additional project meetings and special meetings. This appointment and its term will run concurrent with Tribal Council elections.

A letter of intent will be accepted until Oct. 31, 2023 and should be mailed to:

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, c/o Tribal Council, 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant MI 48858

Star Tree Program

Anishnaabeg Child & Family Services

Applications accepted: Nov. 1-17, 2023

Community members are invited to help make the upcoming holiday better for those less fortunate children by participating in the Star Tee Program to make a child's Christmas happier. Tis the Season for gift-giving!

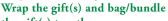
How to Help

Select a Star from the ACFS Star Tree in the lobby of ACFS between Nov. 11 to Dec. 10, 2023

- The Star will contain a number (ex: G2- for a girl or B7for a boy) and age for a child.
- · It will have a wish list provided by the child with clothing sizes and color preferences.

Purchase the gift(s) or appropriate substitutes listed on the Star

• Not all gift(s) need be purchased. The wish list is just a variety of preferences for gifts.



the gift(s) together

- With the star attached to the outside of the bag/bundle. • Please do not label the individual gift(s) with the
- number (ex. G2).
- Return the gift(s) with the stars to ACFS
- Anytime between 8 a.m. 5 p.m., Monday Friday. • Gifts due back to ACFS by Monday, Dec. 18
- Gifts will be distributed between Dec. 19, 20 & 21 • Applicants must pick up gifts by Dec. 21 at 5 p.m.

Interested in Sponsoring?

Please contact ACFS at 989.775.4901

Lead and Asbestos abatement being conducted on the wood shop at the former MIIBS site

PROJECT FUNDED BY

President Joe Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

INVESTING IN





PUBLIC NOTICE: The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe is conducting a cleanup of the carpentry shop at the MIIBS brownfield site beginning the first week of October. This project will remove lead and asbestos from the structure. This action is necessary to prepare the site for remediation and help prevent future exposure to these contaminants. An Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA) has been prepared and is open to public review and comment.

Written comments should be sent to: Phillip Jackson at pjackson@sagchip.org

National MEDICATION

October 28 is the DEA National Medication Take Back Day

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Department has a permanent prescription drug take back location inside our lobby that is available to the community 24/7/365.



Vaccination Clinics

Wednesday, Oct. 4

11 a.m.-1 p.m. | Andahwod CC&ES

• Flu vaccine • 18 years & up

Tuesday, Oct. 10

12-8 p.m. | Tribal Gym (Election Day)

• Flu vaccine • 18 years & up

Wednesday, Oct. 11* *With CMDHD

9 a.m.-5 p.m. | Saganing Community Center

• Flu and COVID-19 booster • 6 months & up

Thursday, Oct. 19* *With CMDHD

9 a.m.-3 p.m. | SECR Entertainment Hall • Flu and COVID-19 booster • 6 months & up

Nimkee

Wednesday, Oct. 25

12 p.m.-6 p.m. Nimkee Public Health

- Flu vaccine 6 months and up
- Please protect our community: If you currently have COVID-19 (under quarantine) or are feeling ill, please wait for your immunization until recovered.



Please watch for updated information about the COVID-19 booster and RSV vaccine.

2023-2024 **Youth Council Elections** Nov. 16-17, 2023

Where: Native American offices **Only allowed to vote once

Requirements

- SCIT Tribal Member
- Must be 12-20 years old
- Five signatures are required from youth of a federally recognized tribe

Petitions available: Oct. 6, 2023

• Visit Native American office

Packets due: Nov. 3, 2023 by 5 p.m.

- To the Tribal Clerk's Office
- · Must have five signatures

Sworn in: Dec. 11, 2023 at 4 p.m.

• Council Chambers, Black Elk Building

Contact: youthcouncil@sagchip.org www.sagchip.org/youthcouncil

40th Annual Powwow CONTEST 1000

The committee is asking for community assistance in creating this year's logo for the 40th annual Powwow.

Theme: Mnadendan Gdenwewninaa

"Honor our Language"

- The logo should collate with the theme
- The entries can be in color (four color max)
- Design can be hand-drawn or created electronically

All entries must be submitted by: Monday, Nov. 13, 2023

• Please include your contact information along with your entry.

Please mail to: Attn: Powwow Committee 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd. Mount Pleasant, MI 48858

Or drop off:

- · Ziibiwing Cultural Center: c/o Noelle Wells
- Black Elk Building, Mail Room: c/o Carla Bennett

Electronic version can be emailed to:

powwowcommittee@sagchip.org

For more information, please contact: Noelle Wells: 989.775.5600 | Carla Bennett: 989.775. 0114



Collections Committee Vacancies

Attention Tribal Members

The Ziibiwing Center is seeking interested individuals to serve on its Collections Committee.

The Ziibiwing Center is a distinctive treasure created to provide an enriched, diversified and culturally relevant educational experience. This promotes the society's belief that the culture, diversity and spirit of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and other Great Lakes Anishinabek must be recognized, perpetuated, communicated and supported.

Interested members need to:

- Meet every second Wednesday of the month from 1-2 p.m.
- Implement the ZCS's purpose to enlighten and educate tribal and community members and all other people of the world to the culture, heritage, history and goals of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

For more information, contact and send letters of interest to:

William Johnson, Curator/Operations Manager

· Email: WJohnson@sagchip.org

989.775.4730

- · Phone:
- · Mail: ZC Collections Committee c/o William Johnson 6650 E. Broadway Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858



Saturday, Oct. 7, 2023

9 a.m. - 4 p.m. │ Andahwod

- ▶ Open to the public
- ▶ \$20 per table, payable at Andahwod
- ▶ All proceeds will benefit Elder Services
- ▶ Vendors needed

Contact: 989-775-4339 or depelcher@sagchip.org



Ngodwaaswi | 6

Indian Child Welfare Committee Vacancy

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

There is currently one interim vacancy. *Open to SCIT Tribal Members only

Letters of interest must be submitted to: Anishnaabeg Child & Family Services by Friday, Oct. 13, 2023.

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

For more information, contact: Felicia Bross at 989-775-4906

Send letter of interest to: Anishnaabeg Child & Family Services 7500 E Broadway Rd Mount Pleasant, MI 48858



Pre-order by: Oct. 19, 2023

Pick-up: Oct. 20, 2023 4-6 p.m. | Eagles Nest Tribal Gym

▶ Half dozen: \$10

▶ One dozen: \$20

To pre-order, please contact: ACFS at 989.775.4901 or CHeron@sagchip.org



24/7 ACCESS

PAPERWORK REQUIRED: Current and new members are to fill out new membership and liability forms, along with signing an access expectation sheet.

ACCESS GIVEN BY: Employees will receive access through their employee badge and non-employee Nimkee eligible patients will be given a key fob.

ACCESS PROHIBITED: It is prohibited to enter the facility after business hours without filling out the 24/7 access paperwork. Those who give access or those who enter without going through the proper procedures of filling out the access paperwork will be subject to suspension or removal.

STAFF AVAILABLE: Fitness staff will be available from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday to assist with the access paperwork.

PLEASE NOTE: The Nimkee Fitness Center will be monitored 24/7 by surveillance to help ensure safety and proper use of the Fitness Center.

Yoga Class | Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

For more information, please contact: Nimkee Fitness at 989.775.4690



COSTUME PARTY

Friday the 13th of October

7-10 p.m. | Andahwod

Community adults only

Cost: ▶ \$3 with costume

▶ \$5 without costume

Featuring: Snacks, games, costume contest, fundraiser, mocktails and more.

Contact: 989-775-4339 or depelcher@sagchip.org



Sunday, Dec. 10, 2023

9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Set up begins at 8 a.m.

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Ballroom

▶ **Vendors:** 8′x8′ space is available for \$50 and includes two 8-foot tables and two chairs, if needed.

▶ All proceeds benefit ACFS Foster Care Program

For more information, or to purchase a vendor space, please contact: ACFS at 989.775.4991



The month of October

Explore, enjoy, and exercise through some of Isabella County's most beautiful parks and preserves.

Tour and find the picture provided by the Nimkee staff for the following locations:

- 1. Chipp-A-Waters Park
- **5.** Meridian Park 6. Halls Lake Natural Area
- 2. Deerfield Nature Park
- 3. Sylvan Solace Preserve 4. Bundy Hill Preserve
- 7. Florence Maxwell Audubon Woods Preserve
- Each ticket earned will go toward the drawing:
- 3 pictured destinations (minimum) = 1 ticket
- 4 pictured destinations = 2 tickets
- 5-7 pictured destinations = 3 tickets

Share your experience with the Nimkee staff by sending your pictured destination(s) to JHarman@sagchip.org for an additional ticket.

- Check off each location toured on your personal log that will be provided.
- We look forward to hearing about your fall walks!



PRIZES

• \$50 Mobile Gas Card • YETI Tumbler (x2) • Nimkee Fitness T-Shirt

For more information, please contact:

Jaden Harman at 989.775.4694 or JHarman@sagchip.org



Friday, Oct. 27, 2023

New Location! Eagles Nest Tribal Gym

Time: 6-9 p.m.

• All participants are asked to donate a large bag of candy. • A donation will get you entered into a prize raffle.

Costume Contest: 6 p.m.

- Three age groups: 5 and under, 6-11, 12-17
- Family costume contest

Trunk or Treat: 7 p.m.

- Registration begins at 5 p.m.
- Best trunk contest at 6 p.m.

For more information, please contact: Recreation staff at Recreation@sagchip.org



Take the vow to **End Domestic Violence** and Sexual Assault

Paint your nails purple or teal on Thursday, Oct. 19, 2023!



Prize: \$600 Belle Tire gift card

Drawing: Friday, Oct. 27, 2023

2 p.m. | At the Black Elk Building

Tickets: • 1 for \$5 • 3 for \$10

Contact Powwow Committee members for tickets:

Darcy Pilar, Elizabeth Chivis, Carla Bennett, Noelle Wells, Dabian Sprague, Seryna Acuna, Niibin Sprague, Elizabeth

Smith, Christina Cross and Reba Navajar.

*All proceeds will benefit the Saginaw Chippewa and Saganing Powwows

For more information, please email:

Powwowcommittee@sagchip.org



The Ziibiwing Center will be open to the public during the following holidays:

- ▶ Veterans Day Friday, Nov. 10, 2023
- ► Martin Luther King Jr. Day Monday, Jan. 15, 2024
- ▶ Presidents Day Monday, Feb. 19, 2024

Tribal Community

International Overdose Awareness Day recognized in Tribal community on Aug. 31

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Public Relations Manager

"Overdose Awareness Day" was recognized within the Tribal community at the Broadway Park in Mount Pleasant on Aug. 31.

International Overdose Awareness Day on Aug. 31 is the world's annual campaign to end overdose, remember those who have died (without stigma), and acknowledge the grief of the family and friends left behind.

"The campaign raises awareness of overdose, one of the world's worst public health crises, and stimulates action and discussion about evidence-based overdose prevention and drug policy," said Cathy Matthews, prevention manager for Behavioral Health. "It also acknowledges the intense grief of families and friends whose loved ones have died or suffered permanent injury or disability from a drug overdose. It is a day of reflection and remembrance and hopefully can catalyze change."

The goals of the Saginaw Chippewa "Overdose Awareness Day," Matthews said, are as follows:

- To allow people to mourn loved ones in a safe environment publicly, some for the first time, without feeling guilt or shame
- To include a great number of people and encourage non-denominational
- To give community members information about the issue of fatal and

non-fatal overdoses

- To send a strong message to current and former people who use drugs that they are valued
- To stimulate discussion about overdose prevention and drug policy
- To provide basic information on the range of available supportive services
- To prevent and reduce drug-related harm by supporting evidence-based policy and practice
- To inform people around the world about the risk of overdose

"Our Behavioral Health prevention team would like everyone to know today is about acknowledging people in our communities affected by overdose who might go unseen in the crisis," Matthews said.

After the Onion Creek drum shared an honor song, Dr. Cara Poland was introduced as the evening's keynote speaker. Poland is working on a three year contract with the Tribe and is a recognized expert in addiction medicine.

Poland is a faculty member at Michigan State University with her medical degree from Wayne State University.

"(Poland) was trained in internal medicine at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor, Mich. and in addiction medicine at Boston Medical Center in Boston," Matthews said. "She received her master's degree in education from Boston

> University. She has an interest in educating healthcare providers and providers-in-training to improve care for patients with substance use disorders particularly during pregnancy and early parenting."

Poland gave an example of how environmental tors were the primary cause of addiction. She mentioned



Onion Creek Drum offers an honor song for those who have lost loved ones to overdose.



Dr. Cara Poland discusses how addiction affects the community during the Aug. 31 Overdose Awareness Day.

fighting drug addiction should involve nurturing environments where people choose not to take addictive drugs rather than simply punishing those who deal them.

Poland explained the Rat Park study into drug addiction conducted in the late 1970s and published between 1978 and 1981 by Canadian psychologist Bruce K. Alexander.

"The researcher took rats in isolation and gave them a chance to use drugged water or not drugged water. The rats used the drugged water until they overdosed and died," Poland said. "One of the reason we use rats as a human analog is because rats are social creatures. If we take those rats and put them in



Tammy Chamberlain (left) takes information from the Behavioral Health prevention booth as Faith Osawabine (right) looks on.

a social community together with the best things a rat would want, the positive interaction helped their addiction."

The point Poland made was rats can die in a disease of isolation but can find recovery if they stay in a community environment that is healthy for them.

"That's the power I see that can happen within your tribe... you have the power to build your community. You already have the building blocks of a strong community with your culture and the program you offer your members," Poland said. "You have strong roots with families that have lots of love, caring and support to give each other. The key is in the question, 'How do we leverage those strengths as a tribe and a community to help each other?""

Tribal voting 500-foot radius, non-interference zone

The Tribal voting 500-foot radius, non-interference zone:

Ordinance 4, section 19. Prohibition against interference with Elections.

On Election Day for any Council election, including any Primary, General, Special, Run-Off or removal Election, a person, including any Tribal official, employee or representative, shall not:

(a) On any land owned by the Tribe or held in trust for the Tribe, excluding property leased for residential use:

(i) post, display or distribute any material that directly or indirectly makes reference to an election, a candidate or a ballot ques-



Courtesy image

tion (This subsection does not apply to official material that is required by law to be posted, displayed or distributed in a polling place on election day);

(ii) solicit, persuade or endeavor to persuade, intimidate or threaten a person to vote for or against any particular candidate or for or against any ballot question that is being voted on at the election; or

(iii) either directly or indirectly, for the person's own benefit or on behalf of any other person, receive, agree or contract for valuable consideration for voting or agreeing to vote, or inducing or attempting to induce another to vote, or for refraining or agreeing to refrain, or inducing or attempting to induce another to refrain, from voting; or

(iv) either directly or indirectly, give, lend or promise valuable consideration to or for any person as an inducement to influence the manner of voting by a person relative to a candidate or ballot question or as a reward for refraining from voting; or

(b) loiter within a building where a polling place is located or within 500 feet of any entrance to such building, including any parking areas adjacent or appurtenant to such building; or

(c) directly or indirectly utter or address any threat or intimidation to an election official or other person authorized to administer or enforce election laws or to conduct, oversee or monitor an election or to assist in the carrying out of such duties, with the intent to induce such person to do any act not authorized by law or to refrain or delay in the performance of any duty imposed by law.

Election Timeline

2023 Primary & General Elections

Oct. 6: Last day to register to vote for the General Election

Oct. 9: Certification of Voting Machines 5:15 p.m.

Oct. 10: Primary Election Day: Polls open from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Oct. 11: Primary Election Results and Candidates List Posted

Oct. 17: Absentee Ballots for General Election available in the office and mailed

Nov. 6: Certification of Voting Machines at 5:15 p.m.

Nov. 7: General Election Day: Polls open from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Nov. 8: General Election Results Posted

For additional information, please contact Tribal Clerk's Office at 989-775-4051

District 1: Isabella



Nshwaaswi | **8**



Rene Alaniz



Brad Bennett



Daniel Bennett



Joshua Betts



Robin Bonnau



Samantha Chippeway



Kaine Andy

Boozhoo (hello) my name is Kaine Andy & my Ojibwe name is Gichi Ogimaa Nimkee (Big Chief Thunder). I'm 27 years old, I grew up here in Mount Pleasant, MI and I currently work as a Cultural Representative at 7th Generation. I am a Honors student at CMU studying Advertising & also a student at SCTC studying liberal art and will be graduating from SCTC in December 2023. I help revise the youth council with my peers back in 2011 and held a position(s) until 2014. Why I am running for a seat on council is because I want to make a better future for the next generations of kids. I want to bring in new ideas to our casino(s) to not only help revenue but also make the casinos some of the best in Michigan and/or in the United States. I want to start the tribes own cannabis dispensary.



Jennifer Birchmeier

Boozhoo! My name is Jennifer Birchmeier. I hope to serve as a representative on our Tribal Council. I'm currently working for our Tribe as an Administrative Assistant, and I've been blessed to serve and gain experience in other tribal positions over the years as well. I am currently serving as Chairman for the Tribal Education Advisory Board. I graduated with a degree from Mid-Michigan Community College, and many of those courses were transfer courses from our very own Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College. Like many of you I had to juggle school while working and raising a family, so I will use that same work ethnic working for you. Our tribe is facing many headwinds. I hope to help steer the tribe working with the rest of the Tribal Council in ways that both serve our members and maintain income going forward that so many of us depend on.



Terry Bonnau

The Tribal Council is making decisions that will effect our Tribe's well being for generations to come. As a Tribal member I trace linearly from the Silas family, 1885 land allotment list, of Saginaw Chippewa Indians. I believe I can help our Tribe grow, and succeed in these trying economic times. We must look to the future, while continuing to hold on to the honored traditions of our past. If elected to a seat on the Tribal Council, I promise to serve my people to the best of my ability. I will always use an open and honest forum. I will never hide my actions, or my agenda from fellow Tribal members. I will always put the well-being and the best interest of my people, and my Tribe first, in all matters.



Denise Cantu

The Tribe is its people and should be protected at every level, the longevity of the nation is important as well as the current concerns. The treaties are important as it is foundation for our survival and we need to continue to build on that wisdom. It is my hope to secure a better future for our Tribal nation and its citizens. It's is critical that we diversify and make expanding a priority to maintain the way of life as we know it and further ourselves as a strong people. I have served the tribe in gaming and government for 22 plus years. My education is in Business/Economics. I support education, business diversification, the youth, family and elders. What concerns me is the death toll in our community and people being overlooked for much needed help. I will work to the best of my ability on your behalf.



Federico Cantu Jr.

My name is Federico (Fred) Cantu Jr., I am running for district 1 Tribal Council. I currently work for the Tribal Fire Department as Fire Chief and have been employed with the Tribe for over 27 years. Working for the Fire Department gives me the opportunity to serve my community knowing that what we do makes a difference. I also have experience in Gaming management as well as administrative duties. I have also served on Tribal Council in years past and assisted in the development of Migizi EDC, along with a number of different revenues opportunities. My goal is to continue to find ways to strengthen our Tribe and its position in the market place, to create opportunities for our members and a place for our members to work. I am married and have 8 children and 14 grandchildren. I ask for your consideration and vote for this upcoming election.



Faith Carmona-Pego

Boozhoo. My name is Faith Carmona-Pego. I descend from Maria Peters Pelcher and Moses Pelcher. My parents were James Buddy Pego and Grace Pego. I reside near Rosebush on allotted land. I am a candidate for Tribal Council, District 1. I am asking for your vote and support in the upcoming Primary and General Election 2023. I will abide by THE AMENDED CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE SAGINAW CHIPPEWA INDIAN TRIBE OF MICHIGAN APPROVED - NOVEMBER 4, 1986. I understand our Tribes Constitution, By-laws, Resolutions and Ordinances. I also understand that our Tribes Constitution takes precedence over any Resolution or Ordinance that is in conflict with our Tribes Constitution. I do not support favoritism. I believe in fairness to all Tribal Members. I humbly ask for your vote and support in the Primary Election October 10, 2023 and the General Election November 7, 2023. Miigwetch.



Jessica (Mouse) Chamberlain

Aanii, I am a lifelong resident of district 1 proud member of The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. I am also a high school graduate, mother of one and a loving wife. I have decided to run because I want to try to make a difference and work hard with the other candidates for our tribal community governmental enterprises. Most important and main concern for me is our childrens' safety and education. I feel we need more educational activities for them & their families so they can also be involved, we need to be focusing on helping & providing more for our young adult/adult members struggling with substance abuse. I also will push for more opportunities for us to develop more cash flow to help us all. We need to lead example provide peace & love to everyone, can't be a strong community without love. Chi Miigwetch.



Michelle (Jackson) Colwell

I'm not only asking you to vote for myself but to vote for likeminded individuals. Individuals that won't base decisions on re-election or on fear of criticism. Individuals that care more about our future as a whole than as individuals. Those that care about the history we are leaving every day for future generations. It's time to come together to strengthen our presence as Natives, as a tribe, and as a business. Two-year terms go by quickly, which is why it is so important to elect individuals that can navigate us to a better future. We need individuals that can compromise, debate respectfully, and more importantly, listen. Our future depends on it and our future generations deserve it. My top priorities, just to name a few, are balanced budgets, healthcare, and sovereignty issues (such as putting land into trust and maximizing the benefits of the General Welfare Exclusion Act).



Carmen Deaton

Hi, My name is Carmen Deaton (Mandoka). I see our tribe as a family business and I would like to work cohesively to ensure decisions are made with the intentions of our future success! I will utilize my professional expertise to make thoughtful and informed decisions with projects ongoing and those to come. I believe in protecting our elders and safeguarding the futures for our children. I value our strong and proud lineage. I have 24+ years of gaming experience working at SECR in Table Games, from a Dealer to a Manager. It has been an honor to represent and work for our Tribe on a daily basis. If you choose me as your Tribal Council representative, I will continue to be a leader for the good of our business and our tribe as a whole family. I am looking forward to our continued success! Thank you!



Jean Flamand

Aanii, boozhoo my name Jean Flamand, I have grown up on the reservation and raised my kids here as well. I am running for Tribal Council because I want our Tribe to continue to be successful and help bring new ideas for revenue and for our tribe. I have over 27 years of experience working for Tribal Op's and the casino. I started working at the casino as a cashier, moved on to an Administrative Assistant position for the Public Relations Dept. spent 2 years there and I spent 25 years working in Human Resource Dept. I feel my experience will help make better decisions for our tribe as a whole and for our future generations. I want to say Chi- Miigwetch in advance for the support.



District 1: Isabella



Levi Davis



Timothy Davis



Bill Federico



Craig Graveratte



Kelly Hawkins



Theresa (Peters) Jackson



Marcella Hadden

Boozhu! I am excited to share a few things about me and what I stand for as a District 1 Tribal Council candidate. I have an Associate's Degree in Business and own a professional photography studio. I am also the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and have worked for the Tribe for over 25 years. I have extensive experience in Gaming and Tribal Operations. I have witnessed many changes throughout the years. Changes that have only made us stronger as a Tribe. Our elders had to think many generations ahead when signing treaties and negotiating our gaming compacts. I am grateful for their knowledge and in keeping with our cultural traditions of honoring our elders, I will rank them high on my priority list along with the veterans & youth. I promise to be transparent and do everything in my power to unite us as Tribal citizens, and not divide us. Miigwetch.



Glenna Halliwill

Boozhoo, Chi Ankwaad Kwe ndizhinikaaz. Saginaw ndoonjibaa. Mishikii ndoodem. Ojibwe Anishinabe ndaaw. Hello, my spirit name is Big Cloud Woman given to me by my late grandmother. My birth name is Glenna Halliwill. I was born in Saginaw, Michigan. I am Turtle Clan and I am Ojibwe. I moved to Mt. Pleasant in 1995. I have held many positions over the years including Security, Maintenence, Human Resources, Education, and been at Ziibiwing since 2011. I obtained an Associates in Business Administration from the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College. I am also an entrepreneur and co-owner of a small business. I believe cultural preservation and teachings are important. I always advocate for our people and I am actively involved in the community, such as events, fundraisers, or helping a family in need. If elected, I will serve my term with the highest and most honest integrity as a humble person. Chi Miigwetch.



Kathleen Hart

Aanii, my name is Kathleen Hart, daughter of John Hart Sr. and Joyce (Collins) Hart. My spirit name is Niiwinbineshikwe. April 2024 will be my 20th year of sobriety. I have an Associate of Arts in Business, a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Administration, and I am working toward a Master of Arts in Education. 2011, I started working at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College. I am the Equity Program Coordinator. The advisor for the STEAM Student Organization and I oversee four student interns. If elected, I will do my absolute best and use my educational background to analyze potential opportunities for our tribe. I believe we need to think outside the box and explore new businesses. I believe we can build back up to being the most successful gaming operation in the state. I believe in you and us and hope you'll trust and believe in me. Miigwech.



Gilbert Hendrickson Jr.

Aanii, my name is Gilbert Hendrickson Jr., and I am seeking your vote and support in the upcoming tribal council elections. I would like to take this opportunity to tell you that I have been working for the tribe for 24 ½ years in various roles at Soaring Eagle Casino and Tribal Operations. I am currently Director of Cage and Count at the casino. I have served on the Tribal Health Board, and I am currently on the Elder's Advisory Board. During my employment, I was able to obtain my associate degree from the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, and a bachelor's degree from Central Michigan University. If elected, then I would use my experience and knowledge to ensure and create services for our elders, youth, and the community. I also support additional educational opportunities for our members, and better health insurance for all. Miigwetch, Gilbert Hendrickson Jr.



Lindy Hunt

Hello, my name is Lindy Hunt, a well-known individual in the community who served as a Tribal Council member for many terms. My knowledge of the Tribal Constitution and Ordinance, coupled with my patience and empathy, has earned me the respect of many. As a Tribal Elder who's lived on the Isabella Reservation my whole life while being a devoted mother, a doting grandmother, a loving great-grandmother, a caring sister, and an adoring friend, I take immense pride in inspiring unity among our membership. Especially the younger generation - it is my passion to keep them safe and honorable, I want our legacy to live on. My love for my family and community drives me to serve with dedication and excellence. So, with great pleasure, I intend to put my best foot forward to enhance the sanctity of our community through perseverance. Our Tribe is Our Family.



Mitchell Jackson

Hello, I am Leaning Tree. I have spent most of my life on the sidelines as a silent observer. I have been watching our tribe prosper in so many ways, while also noticing deep rooted problems holding us back from untapped potential. I believe the easiest way to measure the overall health of a community is to observe how frequently its members can act on inspiration. Being familiar with trauma, and the ways it impacts a person's ability to constructively engage, I understand that we need tools to overcome this dynamic that is impacting all of us to some degree. I work to shorten or even bridge the gap between inspiration and ones ability to act on it, because each of us are a resiliency factor for our community, it's strongest when all of us have our needs met, and we all take a hit when one of us falls.



Tonia Jewell

Hello, my name is Tonia Jewell. My parents are Milton "Beaver" Pelcher and Linda Hudak (Jackson). I have worked at the Tribal Water Plant for fifteen years and previously worked at Nimkee, Sagamok and at the little Casino when it first opened. I have witnessed a tremendous amount of changes over the last thirty years, with anticipation for more. I am the current Vice President for the Women's Auxiliary at the Mt Pleasant Eagles # 4463, I have held this position for the last two years and enjoy the experience it has given me. I enjoy camping, spending time with family/ friends and traveling. I believe that growth takes a ton of effort and goals in life at any age are necessary. I would like to see community input more inclusive with tribal concerns and projects. I would like to see advancements and equality for all of our Tribal Members.



Courtney Kahgegab

Aanii, my name is Courtney Kahgegab and I am running for a District One council seat. My education includes an Associate's degree in Business from the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, life experience and continuing my college education. I currently work as the Project Coordinator Assistant for the new school and recreation center, Wiimaajiikwad. This job has been great learning experience. I would like to see that we have the best possible education and resources for our children at the new school. Another priority is that we are placing our very well educated members within our many organizations. Currently, employment within our gaming enterprises is toxic and I would like to work on bringing the tribal membership's employment up to at least fifty eight percent on the gaming side. Additional priority is our Culture and Language and is on top of my list. Miigwetch, Courtney Kahgegab



Maynard Kahgegab Jr.

Aanii Boozhu, My name is Maynard Kahgegab Jr. I want the membership to know that I believe in our Tribe. I feel like as Tribal members—we have all been through a lot. Being shut out of our own businesses needs to stop! I've been Director of Finance for over 3 years. I have also served as Councilman, Treasurer and Chief. I will persevere and sacrifice my time to defend our Tribe on the local, state and federal levels of government proactively. I am here to serve you—my fellow tribal members who I love and respect. I want to improve the quality of life for us all. I will work towards improving Elder care, Health care, Education and the lives of our children. I promise to serve you with integrity, honor, gratitude and compassion. May the Creator continue to bless you and your families. Maynard Kahgegab Jr.



Lisa Kennedy

Aanii, my fellow Tribal members. My name is Lisa Kennedy. With your support, I will lead our community in shaping a vision that honors the relationship between Tribal sovereignty, family connections, and economic prosperity. My agenda will focus on efforts that honor our Tribal ancestors, connections, and families. Together, we can thrive with targeted economic development opportunities to preserve percapita and pursue meaningful investments for our future that support the needs of our membership. I look forward to sharing my story, connection, and commitment to our community, and utilizing my experience, knowledge, and Anishinaabe teachings to usher us into the next era as a Tribal Nation that is positioned to overcome barriers, build community, support healing, and achieve continued success. I have 21+ years of Tribal work experience, and a Master's degree in Public Administration, and I have been a successful Anishinaabe artist, Niishode (Two Hearts), since 2014. Miigwech!

District 1: Isabella



Midaaswi | **10**



Stacy Mandoka



Carmen Otto



Clinton Pelcher Jr.



Milton Pelcher



Diana Quigno-Grundahl



Shelly Reihl



Sheila Leaureaux

Hello, my name is Sheila Leaureaux. I believe a new direction is needed; we need to get out of our comfort zone in order for us to be successful. I would like to see more transparency between Tribal Council and the membership. The membership needs to be updated with current situations involving the tribe. I also believe the Youth should be a top priority, they are our future and we need strong leaders to continue to take the tribe in the right direction.



Lacey Mandoka

Aanii! My name is Lacey Biiwaabikobenais Mandoka. I'm grateful to be a Tribal Council candidate and would be honored to serve our people in that capacity. I'm thrilled to grow and learn more about the operations of our Tribe from a leadership standpoint. I'm confident that my years of service thus far, both professionally and personally, my education, and my demonstrated commitment to recovery and healing, serve as qualifications for this role. I fully understand that this opportunity is a privilege and a responsibility. Years ago, I began to walk towards a life that was more aligned with our culture. I've discovered that this is a lifelong journey, and that I have so much more to learn. Slowly implementing our teachings, practices and language into my daily life, has been the most rewarding experience. Please consider me when casting your vote, for those you want to represent our Nation. Miigwetch!



Cathleen Matthews

Aanii, for the past 22+ years I have worked in the capacity of SECR and Tribal Operations. I am currently employed as Behavioral Health Prevention Coordinator. I am committed and very passionate about our children, community, and future generations by serving on the Indian Child Welfare Committee for 9 years, Data Governance Board 2 years, and PSH Planning Committee 3 years. I am certified or trained in Energy Healing and Acupuncture. I am honored to have helped many of our people with walking the Red Road. I want to say thank you my sons David & Garret and my five beautiful grandchildren for your love and support. It is important to get back to where we come from in all aspects; financially, culturally, and respectfully. Thank you for taking the time to read my essay. Please vote for me in the primary, as I am willing to take a chance.



Michael McCreery

Aanii, my name is Michael McCreery and I am running for District One Tribal Council Representative. My mother Carole Tally has raised our family with a strong sense of Traditional Values. My wife and I are raising our family in the same manner. I have worked in Indian Country for over thirty years in such capacities as; Peace Keeper/ Conservation Officer, Natural Resource Specialist, Conservation Committee, and both the Tribal Education Advisory and Ziibwing Boards. Our identity as Anishinaabe is directly related to our Ancestral Teachings. Our Council must take a stronger role in all aspects of our community to ensure a Spiritual, Drug free, and financial future for all. If elected I will fight for our treaty rights and return to the Seven Grandfather Teachings and other ancestral teachings to create a strong future that will make our ancestors proud! Your servant, Mike



Bethel Merrill

Aanii! Ndizhnikaaz Bethel Merrill. I am a mother to four children and have five grandchildren. My mother is Gloria-baa Sue (Strong) Merrill. My family has been a part of the tribal community in Isabella County since before the land allotment distribution. Much of my education has primarily been focused on psychology, criminal justice, and sociology. I have 27 years of service with the Tribe with 15 years in gaming and 12 years in tribal government positions. I have been involved in gaming, education, cultural programs, human resources, and law enforcement. My experience has allowed me to establish business relationships with various departments. During my time with the Tribe, I always have the best interest of our people and businesses in mind and heart. I am also compassionate about our Tribe. I am goal and solution oriented. My aspirations are to work towards building a healthy, sustainable community. Representation matters!



David Merrill Jr.

Known as Baby Dave, committed to public service, I have served as a United States Marine Corps Sergeant, Tribal Police Officer, and currently Sergeant at Arms Council Member. Choosing to raise my growing family within our community, I deeply understand the issues and aspirations of our people. Together, we can foster a culture of transparency within the Tribal Council, promoting open communication, accountability, fostering unity, and prioritizing the health and wellness of all our tribal members. I continually seek to enhance my knowledge and acquire new skills that will benefit our tribe. By expanding my understanding, I can better serve your needs and challenges. Thankful for the opportunity to serve my community and work towards a Tribe that our children can be proud of for the next seven generations. I humbly ask for your support and vote. Miigwetch for considering me once again during this Election. Make your voice count



Rodney Miller Sr.

Boozhoo I'm Rodney Miller My goal is to fill a council seat with a voice of reason and logic. I would like to see an expansion in Tribal enterprises by seeking new market opportunities. I would like to reinforce our cultural traditions through supporting various programs including growing 7th generation, which will allow for more community involvement. Create additional opportunities for elders and youth and increase our health care services provided. I believe we all want what is best for our Tribe. I believe our community will thrive with expanded land Acquisition. To be successful, we must grow and educate our own tribal community. We need open - minded leaders; I would like to encourage our next council to work together for the tribe's future and remember that our purpose is to do what is best for our community. chi-miigwech



Dawn Morrow

Aanii, My name is Dawn Morrow (Pelcher). I have been employed by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe for 15 years. I graduated from the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College with my Associates in Business. I am currently a senior at Central Michigan University. I have a strong sense of community and what the communities' needs are including housing for members, development of non-gaming businesses that would bring income to the tribe, and employing our people; as well as keeping our main source of income a premier destination for people to visit. The Tribes mission statement is about preserving our culture, along with protecting the interest of the community; housing, jobs, sovereignty. I am that change so when you head to the polls, remember I will be that voice, fighting for our people, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, Keeping our Community Alive and Thriving.



Christina Otto

Aanii, My name is Christina Otto and I am running for Tribal Council, District 1. I was born on our reservation lands and I have been witness to both the negative and positive events within the tribe. My hope is that I can continue to be a part of positive change for our people. I would be honored to have a more active role. My pursuit of higher education resulted in a Masters Degree in Social Work from MSU. I have served our Tribe for several years. This has equipped me with the ability to work well with others, a necessary skill for serving our community as a leader. As a former recipient of a variety of services offered by our Tribe, geared toward health and wellness, I am committed to working collaboratively with our departments to uplift, sustain and expand those programs, to better suit our unique needs. Chi-Miigwetch.



David Otto

Hi my name is David Otto I have 24 years of gaming experience and people skills. I have sat on many committees and the Board of Directors. I held the Sub Chief, Treasurer and Sgt at Arms positions on tribal council.I received a national commendation from the National Indian Gaming Commission in Washington D.C for participating in the development of the Class 3 (MICS). I have traveling the Red Road for 28 years gathering knowledge and attending ceremonies in New Mexico, Mexico, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Michigan. I am willing to work and represent everyone! One of my goals is to increase per capita payments and maintain high standards in for Health care. Your vote will be greatly appreciated and it would be my Honor to represent you! Miigwetch!

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District 1: Isabella



Alice Jo Ricketts



Casey Smith



Toni Smith



Michelle Otto

Boozhu my fellow District 1 Tribal Member's! Just to give you a little background I have worked in Table Games, Compliance, Tribal Court (Court Clerk), 7th Generation, Tribal Clerk (Deputy Clerk) and various Temp Positions. I'm quite familiar with the Tribal Departments. I was appointed to the Caucus Committee on and off since I was 18 years old. My knowledge would be beneficial to help our Tribal Businesses Prosper! I currently own my own Food Business. There are always solutions, never give up! We have these financial resources, so we need to make sure they continue to work for our future Generations! I appreciate your time and remember your Vote counts so make sure you get out and Vote!!!



Stephanie Peters

My name is Stephanie Peters. I have lived in our community my entire life and worked for the Tribe for over 27 years with a wide range of experiences, from table games, pit boss, shift supervisor, probation officer, magistrate, crowd control and guest relations. I also served on the Tribal Council from 2011-2013. My vision for our future would include, but not limited to, recognizing the Boarding School with a monument site; inspire "restaurant row" outside of the casino to drive business into our community (i.e. Joe's Crab Shack, Cracker Barrel, Sonic, etc.); create a larger offsite venue like Van Andel or Dow Event centers; utilize solar power for the casino. These are just a few ideas that I feel could benefit our Tribe and its members for years to come. Thank you in advance for (again) considering me to represent you as part of our Tribal Council.



Summer Peters

Boozhoo, I am Summer Peters. I hold a bachelor's degree in law & economics and will graduate from my MBA program in May 2024. I value my degrees, but I also believe in real world knowledge (like culture) where we learn valuable knowledge that would never be taught in a structured school setting. There is space & respect held for both. I have two decades of casino work experience on three different reservations and currently work in our Casino Accounting department as an auditor. I am a beadwork artist that carries an expansive knowledge of business as a self-employed business owner. I am constantly learning and evolving, and I believe in kindness and empathy. I would like to work with a group of individuals who are hoping to alleviate many problems that face tribal members. My hope is to work together to help our tribe THRIVE and not just survive.



Darcy (Sprague) Pilar

Aanii, my name is Darcy (Sprague) Pilar, daughter of Lawrence Sprague Sr. & Florence Sprague (Paul) Great granddaughter of the late Chief Little Elk aka Eli Thomas. Born and raised in Mt Pleasant on "The rez". Mother to three children also born here. Being born and raised here allowed me to witness "The rez" before per-cap and the growth that this benefit brought to us as members of this tribe. Protecting the membership and keeping you informed will be one of my goals as a council member. A lot of change has taken place which has handcuffed us as a tribe and the ability to compete in the business world. Dramatic change needs to take place, change that will ultimately benefit our business & membership. Continuing the same thing with the same skills will only bring the same results. Change to protect us as members today tomorrow and forever.



Mary Quigno

My name is Mary Quigno. I currently have over 18 years of service with the Tribe, and have had the honor to serve on Tribal Council since December 2021. I have an associate's degree in Business, and have taken additional classes towards a Bachelors degree from CMU. My experience in Human Resources has prepared me for the many challenges of being on Council. Our elders have paved the way, and our children will walk that same path. I believe our children deserve a community with every resource available, I'm committed to helping obtain the resources necessary to provide a better future. Miigwetch for your support and for allowing me to serve on this term.



Valarie (Wassegijig) Raphael

Hello, I, Valarie (Wassegijig) Raphael, am running for a District 1 representative seat. The rez is home for my family and me. I started working for the Tribe at the casino in 1992, I am currently the Business Office Director at Nimkee Clinic and have been here since 1996. I take great pride in doing the best for our tribe. The leadership skills that I've acquired over the years will benefit my ability to make sound decisions for continued success for our tribal businesses and services for the membership. My heart is invested with our community and feel that our elders and children need to have the best support and services possible. I am asking for your support, together we can continue to prosper.



Gayle Ruhl

The tribe needs strong leadership willing to make difficult decisions to move the tribe forward back to dominance in gaming and sovereign issues. Currently, I serve as Tribal Treasurer, my responsibilities include reporting and monitoring tribal funds closely which leads to some of my decisions to not expend funds unnecessarily. I take the constitution, tribal laws and polices seriously and follow with integrity. I enjoy being involved in the community, supporting healthy active lifestyles for members. Continually, I advocate for elders, youth and those utilizing tribal services. I pride myself on excellent meeting attendance and asking questions on items brought to council. My curiosity has led to earning a Masters Degree in Social Work, I strive for continuous learning and improvement. Most importantly, I want to say Chii-migwetch to my three member children, family and friends who have supported me and been patient with my limited availability while serving. ger



Tammy (Fallis) Salas

Boohzoo! My name is Tammy Sioux Salas (Fallis). I'm a mother of three sons. Been married for 23 years. As well as, a long time employee at the Casino. I hold strong reverence for our community, while believing that we need to strengthen and expand programs that would continue to support members, especially our youth and elders. I'm committed to protecting, promoting and preserving Native rights, traditions, and our future as a tribe. I'm very blessed to be a member of the SCIT and would be proud and honored to be the representative voice for the SCIT community. Miigwetch, Tammy (Fallis) Salas



Vanyork Shawboose

All answers we seek for our future, lay in our past. I have been living in District One most of my life. I graduated from the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal college. I believe that my strong morals and being a family man would make me a strong candidate. Also I have worked for our people and in the service industry in various positions throughout my life. I can help our people by simply being myself, while also working well with others. We need a brighter tomorrow for our people, our community and our tribe. I humbly ask for your support via prayers and that you vote for me.



Christopher Sineway

I am a graduate from the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College where I received an AA in Business; I also received a BSBA in Hospitality Services Administration with a concentration in Gaming & Entertainment Management from Central Michigan University. I have worked for the Tribe for the past 20 years and during this time I have worked as a Softcount Worker, Table Games Floor person, Water Operator, Leadership Internship, Casino Administrator, Casino Analyst Manager and Business Regulations Director. I feel confident that my experience working for the varies departments and jobs during this time, coupled with my education, will help me fulfill the duties and responsibilities of serving on the Tribal Council and working with the government and business enterprises of the Tribe.



Maia Spotted Tail (Montoya-Pego)

Boozhu! My name is Maia Spotted Tail (Montoya-Pego). I am the granddaughter of Buddy and Grace Pego and I was born and raised on the Isabella reservation. Currently I am the Hospitality Accounting Manager at Soaring Eagle and am approaching my fifteenth year working for the tribe in various accounting positions; government and casino sides. I have earned a BSBA-double major in Business Administration and Accounting from CMU, an MBA-Accounting Concentration from the University of MI, and an MSA in Accounting from the University of MI. I served as the SCIT Treasurer from 2019-2021 during the COVID-19 pandemic during which time we had the largest true up, created the Healthcare Endowment, and finalized funding for the tribal school and recreation center; without using Futures Trust. The membership deserves to have an individual with a solid financial background and education, I humbly ask the membership to grant me that opportunity. Miigwetch!

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District 1: Isabella





Sprague

I am a proud Alumni of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College and CMU; I received my bachelor's degree in the summer of 2020 and earned my Master of Science in Administration in 2023. I have been working for the Tribe for 12 and a half years, eight of those years have been in a management capacity. I am a strong advocate for education, with a primary focus on supporting the assets and resources necessary for our tribal community to achieve their goals. The 2021-2023 term has been a humbling and enlightening experience in many ways, and I have learned that strong leadership and communication skills are required for the position. I prioritize community engagement in an effort to unify the membership and encourage coming together as a whole. In observing newer employee's they have demonstrated great potential that has reassured me that the future of the tribe is in good hands.



Niibin G. Sprague

Aanii, My name is Niibin Sprague and I would love a chance to serve my community in a manner that would be beneficial to our Tribe and Businesses. I currently work Full-time for our Casinos and, also a full-time college student at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, pursuing my degree in Business. I have also been serving on the Pow Wow Committee for the past 3 years. In my current position as a Guest Experience Specialist I have spent that last 2.5 years learning the ins and outs of each department and their management from top to bottom at both our Gaming properties. With a fresh perspective, a strong passion for improvement and hands on experience in Tribal Gaming, my knowledge and Intel would be beneficial as a member of our Council. I humbly ask for your support and consideration in the upcoming election. Chi-Miigwetch Niibin G. Sprague



Jennifer (Vasquez) Wassegijig

It has been an honor to serve our community. Tribal Council remains committed to putting the safety and well-being of our SCIT Members, associates and entire community first. I believe, I've done my best to benefit our tribe as a whole. I enjoy attending and supporting community events especially related to recovery. I will always be there to encourage them to walk the red road. If re-elected, I look forward once again, to being a voice for the membership. Thank you for your continued support.



Noelle Wells

Anii, My name is Noelle Wells and I have lived on the reservation for the majority of my life. My family (Kahgegab and Otto) has been involved in tribal affairs for decades. I have an Associate's degree in Native Studies from The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College and currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University in Public and Non-Profit Administration with a concertation in Tribal Administration. The well-being of the tribe is in my best interest and its endeavors. It is my goal serve the tribe with no personal motives, but to help our tribe succeed. Thank you and I appreciate your time and vote. Noelle Wells



Martha Wemigwans

Aanii my fellow Tribal Members! First and foremost, I would like to thank each and every one of you for allowing me to serve as your Tribal Council Secretary. As a Tribe we must focus more on our Youth as they are our future and Elders who paved the road for us to have what we have today. To ensure our future we need to prioritize increasing gaming profits (and responsible spending), along with maintaining our sovereignty, proper health care & insurance, continued Member services, education, treaty rights (and environmental protections), and local and national relations. I will continue to use my voice and make the best decisions possible for our Tribe as whole. Much love and respect to all. Miigwetch



Charles (Pelcher/Collins) Wright

Boozhoo(Aniin) As the people's candidate for tribal council, I am bound to preserving our heritage, empowering tribal members, the tribal community and building a brighter future. With dedication and integrity, I will listen to your voices, champion your concerns, and work tirelessly to ensure our tribes prosperity. Together let's honor our ancestors, traditions, embrace innovation, and forge a path of unity and progress. I humbly seek your support to lead our tribe into a new era of strength, resilience and shared success. Together we can shape a legacy that will inspire future generations.

District 2: Saganing



Ronald Nelson

Boozhoo, My focus will always be for the Saganing Reservation that I came from, together we are stronger as one people working together for the good of all as a blessed Tribe. We always have to stay humble to the creator, those we serve as Mother Earth has gifted us with the lives we have been given. Positivity will heal all with an open mind. Our future will be strong with a economic map to foresee the obstacles that slow us from growing for a brighter future. A vision we must always have. Judgement, Negativity will harm us as natives our people's pride must lead us. I Thank my ancestors that have passed on without them we would not have what we have today. I also Thank all my relatives who have had faith in me to serve. My heart beats for the good of our people. Chi-Miigwetch

District 3: At Large



Frank Cloutier

With 23 years of service within the Tribe, I possess institutional knowledge of ordinances, policies and resolutions. Previous leadership experience provides consistent efforts. The At-Large district is an important part of our Tribal community. I have worked with leadership to bring equality and mutual benefit to our district. The Mno Shkiziwin (GWE) Act is a good example of those efforts. To turn our Per-Capita income into "Tax Free" expense money will relieve the income tax pressure for many families. I am also working with our team to include as many At-Large members as possible into the Tribal Tax agreement that would allow for tax free income/sales tax exemptions. It is less important who we vote for; however it is more essential that we as District Three members vote and have our voices heard. I am humbly asking for your support and your vote this November.

There will be no Primary Election in District 2 or District 3 in accordance with Ordinance 4, Section 13.

The candidate in District 2 and both candidates in District 3 will be on the ballot for the November General Election.

Please be mindful that this is Only for the Primary Election and the General Election will proceed as scheduled.

SECTION 13. PRIMARY ELECTIONS.

- (b). SAGANING DISTRICT. In the event that the Saganing District shall have more than two candidates for the office of Tribal Council, a primary election will be held on the second Tuesday of October to determine two eligible candidates for the General Election.
- (c). AT LARGE DISTRICT. In the event that the at Large District shall have more than two candidates for the office of Tribal Council, a primary election will be held on the second Tuesday of October to determine two eligible candidates for the General Election.

For more information, please contact: the Clerk's Office at 989-775-4051



Aanii, my name is Paul Walker, and I am running for District 3 representative, I currently live in Freeland Mi and have over 26 years' experience with the tribe in various positions including Tribal Ops Director of Facilities. I have been involved in many committees i.e. Dress Code Policy, Evaluation Committee, MIIBS Committee, and formed the Emergency Planning Committee, which allows the tribe to apply for Federal Aide in the event of a disaster. During my tenure I have tried to keep the best interests of the tribe first and foremost, and having worked for both Casinos and Tribal Ops I have experience of how our organizations operate. I am looking for ways to cut wasteful spending, keep tribal member employee retention, providing for our elders and vets, and push for our treaty hunting and gathering rights. Miigwetch and thank you for considering me to be your District 3 representative.

Candidate Profiles

The Tribal Observer is providing the Saginaw Chippewa community voters a feature of the candidates on the 2023 Primary Election ballot.

All primary candidate photos are included. Profiles are also included for candidates who provided them. All profiles are published as submitted. The Tribal Observer did not edit in any way.

Tribal Community

Seventh Generation hosts 17th annual People's Traditional Powwow

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Seventh Generation consistently brings cultural and traditional teachings and events to the Tribal community. One of those favored annual events is the People's Traditional Powwow, which was held again this year Aug. 26-27.

This year marked the 17th annual People's Traditional Powwow. Grand entries began at 1 and 7 p.m. on that Saturday and 1 p.m. on Sunday.

Head Veteran Ray Cadotte and flag carriers led the way in the arena. RJ Smith served as emcee.

This year's host drum was Crazy Boy, with the co-host drum being Mission Hill.

Invited drums included: Brave Scout, Southern Straight and Onion Creek.

Joe Syrette was this year's arena director.

To kick off the powwow weekend, a lacrosse and bonfire night was held the prior evening on Friday, Aug. 25 at 4 p.m. on the Seventh Generation powwow grounds.

The bagadowe co-ed tournaments kicked off at 4 p.m.

A "Rez Jam" was also held that Friday at 6 p.m. The stage was open to all community members, bands and solo acts that wanted to share their talent.

Along with Seventh Housing Generation, Department and Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College also helped make the powwow possible.



The 17th annual People's Traditional Powwow is held at the Seventh Generation powwow grounds Aug. 26-27.



Seventh Generation offers a lacrosse exhibition on

Friday, Aug. 25.



Brothers In Music perform during the "Rez Jam" on Aug. 25 (left to right: Matt Ruffino, Delmar Jackson Jr. and Quinn Pelcher).



The band Nidaria plays during Rez Jam (left to right: Tanner Gibbs, Mason Peterson, Josiah Carson and Elijah Fosmore. Back row on the drums: Austin Spayd).



Chief Theresa Peters-Jackson (second from left) is photographed

with family during the bike giveaway at the powwow.



Linze Ritter does karaoke to Adam Sandler's "Lunchlady Land."



Intertribal dancing takes place at the People's Traditional Powwow.

Opioid Summit

continued from front page

health therapist, as well as the co-founder of Voices of Hope, a peer-driven recovery community organization. But most importantly, Alex is, himself, a person in long term recovery from the chronic disease of addiction."

The summit supporters include the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Central & Western Area Health Education Center Michigan

Area Health Education Center (AHEC), Region V Public Health Training University Center Michigan School of Public Health, Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, Soaring Eagle Marketing Department, Central Michigan University Rural Health Equity Institute and CMU College of Medicine.

The event will also feature space for exhibitors. All tribal departments are welcome. The summit will also see Compass Drug Screening, Skywood Recovery and the Northern Michigan Opioid Response Consortium.

Labor Day weekend picnic held Sept. 1

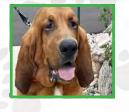






The Recreation Department hosted the annual Labor Day picnic on Sept. 1 at The Hill Campground. The event featured food, family bingo, sack races, egg toss contests, door prizes and more.

📸 Adopt a Pet 🔆



Hans

Hans is currently the heftiest HATS resident at 110 pounds. Hans is a 5-year-old Bloodhound. He is the sweetest boy and a gentle giant. He adores cuddles, pets and ear rubs. Hans is good with gentle kids that are aware of his size and he has lived with other dogs in his previous home.



Angela

Angela is a 2-year-old small Domestic Shorthair mix. She is a sweet kitty with the cutest markings; just look at her little milk mustache. Angela is very affectionate and really values quality time. She is available for adoption as a bonded pair with her mother, Phyllis. The two can be seen playing, cuddling and grooming each other in the HATS lobby catteries.

Humane Animal Treatment Society

1105 S. Isabella Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 Phone: 989.775.0830 Email: hats.publicrelations@gmail.com

*Building is currently closed to walk-in visitors. Adoption visits must be scheduled ahead.





Legendary singer-songwriter James Taylor and His All-Star Band perform at Soaring Eagle

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

The legendary singer-songwriter James Taylor and His All Star Band stopped at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort during their U.S. summer tour on Saturday, Aug. 26.

Recovering from a severe case of laryngitis, Taylor had to reschedule his initial date, June 23.

Taylor's debut album launched 55 years ago. Since then, has made quite the name for himself with endless hits and inspiring songwriting skills. No opening act was needed.

James Taylor and His All Star Band performed more than a two-hour set, which included a 20-minute intermission.

Taylor, a skillful guitarist himself, was backed with a large rhythm section and backing players that provided tight harmonies and strong melodies.

Set one began with "Something in the Way She Moves" from his 1968 debut

album "James Taylor." Taylor introduced the song as "the earliest song I'm willing to play in public."

Taylor said it was a great audition song for Apple Records; mentioning Paul McCartney and George Harrison signed him after he played it.

Set one continued with "Rainy Day Man," "Copperline," "Everybody Has the Blues" and "Mona," a story of his pet pig.

Between each song, Taylor showcased his wit and great sense of humor.

The band continued with The Chicks cover "Some Days You Gotta Dance," a song created during the campaign for John Kerry's presidential run, to which Taylor said, "That ended well."

A man in the audience shouted, "I love you James!" James responded with, "I love you too."

Taylor then said, "I don't really know how to explain that" to the audience, stirring laughter.

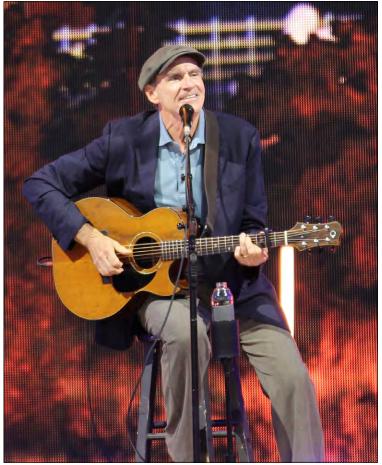
The band continued with songs "Sweet Baby James," "Mexico," "Country Road," "Steamroller," a bluesy crowd pleaser complete with guitar licks as Taylor switched from acoustic guitar to electric.

Each musician in his band is as talented as the next. Sharing the stage with him included his son, Henry Taylor, on backing

The 75-year-old seasoned musician is a six-time Grammy Award winner, and is one of the best-selling musical artists of all time. Taylor is quite the storyteller and that's apparent in his songs.

Set two featured several hits including: "Secret o' Life," "You Make It Easy," the Carole King cover "You've Got a Friend," "Carolina in My Mind," "Fire and Rain," "Shower the People," "Your Smiling Face" and "Shed a Little Light."

James Taylor left the crowd mesmerized. Several audience members reported to the Tribal Observer that it was the best concert they've ever seen.



Legendry singer-songwriter James Taylor and His All Star Band perform outdoors at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Saturday, Aug. 26.

Disturbed, Staind deliver heavy-hitting rock favorites to Soaring Eagle

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort welcomed heavyhitting rock bands Disturbed

and Staind on Monday, Sept. 4. The bands gave fans plenty of reasons to pump their fists and bang their heads during the summer outdoor concert series finale.



Disturbed lead singer David Draiman performs the hit song "Ten Thousand Fists" during the Sept. 4 outdoor concert at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.



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Disturbed began with the lively hit "Hey You." The first track off of their latest album "Divisive," which was released in 2022.

The music continued with the fan favorites and metalinfused hits "Stupify" and "Ten Thousand Fists."

Throughout the set, face melting pyrotechnics created a fiery backdrop behind the band. The lights and pyro moved in sync with the music. This high production level was on full display during the staccato opening riffs of "Prayer," followed by "Are You Ready," "Bad Man" and "A Reason to Fight."

A chest-thumping cover of the classic Genesis song "Land of Confusion" pumped up the crowd, with the songs "Droppin' Plates" and "The Game" performed afterwards.

A highlight of the night proved to be lead singer David Draiman's haunting vocals during a brooding cover of Simon & Garfunkel's "The Sound of Silence."

Next up was the driving beats of "Indestructible," followed by "The Light" and "Stricken."

A three-piece encore kicked off with the unrelenting beats and catchy chorus of "Unstoppable."

Fans were next treated to the quintessential Disturbed song, "Down with the Sickness;" the fan favorite released on their 1999 debut album "The Sickness."

Disturbed fittingly ended the night with "Inside the Fire."

Opening the night for Disturbed, was American rock band Staind. Led by front man

Aaron Lewis, the band set the tone for the rest of the night with their songs "Lowest in Me," "Not Again" and "Eyes Wide Open."

Lewis is known for his powerful, emotional singing voice. This was on full display during the hit songs "Fade," "Something to Remind You" and "Right Here."

The hits continued with "Outside," "Wannabe" and "So Far Away."

Next up were the chunky riffs of "For You," followed by the sentimental power ballad "It's Been Awhile."

Staind closed out their set with driving bass lines, and the angsty lyrics of "Mudshovel."

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



Staind front man Aaron Lewis sings the lyrics to "Lowest in Me."



Disturbed guitarist Dan Donegan pumps up the crowd.

ENTERTAINMENT



Patti LaBelle & Gladys Knight

Friday, October 13 8:00 p.m. Entertainment Hall Tickets: \$69, \$89, \$102, \$109



Chris Tucker

Friday, November 10 8:00 p.m. Entertainment Hall Tickets: \$44, \$54, \$72 & \$78



Foreigner Farewell Tour

Saturday, October 21 8:00 p.m. Entertainment Hall Tickets: \$59, \$69, \$81 & \$87



HUNKS The Show All Male Revue

Friday, November 17 8:00 p.m. Entertainment Hall Tickets: \$25



TruTV Impractical Jokers

Friday, October 27 7:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m. shows Entertainment Hall Tickets: \$59, \$72, \$85, \$92



Ken Jeong

Saturday, November 18 8:00 p.m. Entertainment Hall Tickets: \$44, \$54, \$72, \$78



Travis Tritt with Little Texas

per show time

Friday, November 3 8:00 p.m. Entertainment Hall

Tickets: SOLD OUT!



Wheel of Fortune LIVE

Friday, November 24 4:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m. shows Entertainment Hall

Ticket price for each show time: \$25 General Admission

Tickets can be purchased at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and Saganing Eagles Landing Box Offices from 9AM-10PM.

Tribal Members must present Member ID at the Box Office upon purchase.



YOU COULD WIN ONE OF TEN JACK-O-LANTERNS FULL OF CANDY &

\$500 CASH!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28 MAIN SESSION AT 3:00 P.M.

First 400 guests to purchase this session will receive a Halloween Bingo Dauber! All purchasers will receive FREE Cider and Donuts during the session.



SoaringEagleCasino.com | Mt. Pleasant, MI | 1.888.7.EAGLE.7 Must be 18 to game. Must be an ACCESS Loyalty Club Member to participate in promotions.Management reserves all rights.

Midaaswi-shi-ngodwaaswi | 16

Tribal Community

symbolizes **Fitness** obstacle steps event recovery process

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

In an effort to promote physical fitness and recognize the process of recovery, Obstacles to Recovery was held Saturday, Oct. 16 at the Broadway Park. The event was hosted by Nimkee Fitness, Behavioral Health Programs and Peer 360 Recovery Alliance.

In Obstacles to Recovery, each station symbolized the steps in the recovery process.

Fifteen various obstacles to overcome were presented around the Reservation beginning and ending at Broadway Park, and moving along Broadway and Leaton roads and around the Nimkee Fitness Center and Andahwod.

The obstacles were spread out throughout a two-mile course.

Obstacles included the "See the Light in Dark Times" tunnel crawl, "Letting Go of Heavy Burdens" bucket carry, "Take One Step at a Time" step ups, "Balance Life Amongst Distractions" with balance beams and dodge balls.

Nimkee Fit Park's obstacle station represented life's

difficulties to overcome, rowing stations at Nimkee Fitness emphasized the importance of exercise, hay bales were at hand to conquer barriers, a blind-folded partner walk represented receiving guidance from others.

Other activities included lacrosse shots, fire hose drags. wall climbs and much more.

"At the starting line, I shared with the participants that my favorite obstacle is the final one where it had us finish strong and climb the rope pyramid in Broadway Park to ring a 'victory bell,'" said Jaden Harman, event coordinator. "We encouraged (the participants) to consider an obstacle that related to them and claim victory over that obstacle."

The first wave began at 11 a.m. and continued every 15 minutes until 1:30 p.m.

"The original vision of this event was to offer the community an obstacle course-type event to replace our annual Run on the Rez," Harman said. "With the obstacles concept, I thought it would be a great connection with a recovery process, so we linked up our recovery teams."

Participants received an event shirt and lunch. Lucky winners received a door prize.















The Obstacles to Recovery event, held Oct. 16 throughout the Reservation beginning at the Broadway Park, promotes physical fitness and recognizes the process of recovery.

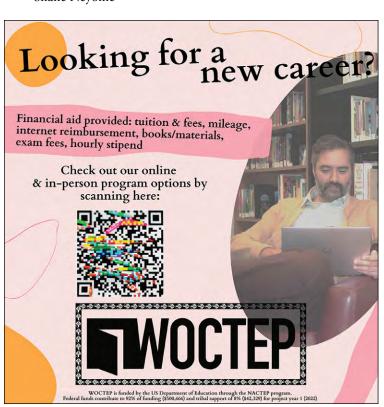
October 2023 Tribal Elder Birthdays

- Caroline Zocher Joanne Butzin Ross Francis Sandra Johnson
- Jamie Ritter Oren Brown Valerie Quinn
- Marion Joseph Trudy Ralston Mark Rueckert Sandra Compau Aaron Camburn
- Gonzalo Alaniz Jr. Shane Neyome
- Elsie Sanders Sandra Chappel Claire Dunnigan Joyce Moore John Collins Cheryl McKee
- James Smith Sr. Helen Huyser Nonda Lynn Daniel Sawmick Kathleen Yacks Theresa Carter
- David Sisco Jr. Rebecca Bratten

- Kathleen Koenig Colleen Sisco Kelly Trombley Shawn Kimewan Tonia Leaureaux William Pelcher
- Ellen Kellogg-Bachert Ronald Pelcher
- Phyllis Brodie Sharon Sasse
- 10) David Perez Jr. Terri Rueckert Roger Tebo
- 11) Kenneth Lee Dorothy Netmop Ionie Abella
- 12) Kim Elliott Barbara Krause Tina Montoya Richard Van Vugt
- **13)** Phyllis O'Neal John Graveratte Jr.
- 14) Daniel Bailey Dennis Kequom Roger Rusch Carrie Farr
- 15) Christopher Bailey Theodore Cantu Theodore Stevens Jr.
- Charlene Chancellor Marvin Davis Jr.
- 17) Lisa Bennett Sarah Martin Minnie Stevens Cynthia Dalton Marjorie Dubay Mary Hobbs Kris Peters George Francis

- Jody Clark
- **18)** Terry Chamberlain Robert Federico Lindy Hunt Trisha Nahmabin Kelley Stevens
- **19)** Paul Pego Gordon Hart
- Gilbert Hendrickson Jr. Lawrence Sprague Sr. Linda Willard Chad Ruhl Kevin Wray
- **21)** Judy Pamp Krystal Pelcher Gypsy Angiano Spencer Kirby
- 22) Robert Rodriguez Jr. Kimberely Stigger
- 23) Jeffrey Smith Rebecca Jackson Scott Saboo Ramona Walker Samuel Arnold Dean Waynee
- 24) David Brodie

- **25)** Sandra Rood Philemon Sprague Jr. Tom Bailey Kenneth Jeffrey Jr.
- **26)** Audrey Nelson Tracy Terrill-Leathers Mariann Pelcher-Wright
- 27) Ruthie Pelcher Gonzalo Ramirez Jr. Mark Spencer Kenneth Stevens
- Julia Hay Michael Randall Christina Salter Jeanette Mandoka Carpenter
- Kenneth Fallis
- 30) Dinah Griffus Colleen Chippewa LeAna Sams Gloria Mulbrecht Carl Jackson
- 31) Brenda Champlin Ronald Falcon Antonio Rodriquez Joseph Snyder Jr. Stacey Fallis





SCIT delegation attends Great Lakes "Circle of Hope - Circle of Healing" conference

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Public Relations Manager

On Sept. 12-13, a delegation of Saginaw Chippewa Court officials attended the 2023 Great Lakes "Circle of Hope – Circle of Healing" conference focusing on Native American issues and strengthening relationships with tribal communities across the region. The conference was held in New Buffalo, Mich.

Carol Jackson, magistrate of the Tribal Court, attended the conference regarding federal updates that included Federal Indian Law after Haaland vs. Brackeen.

"This landmark case affirms the tribal nations' sovereignty and the right for tribal nations to decide what's best for our Native children/families across the U.S. As it would have impacted the Indian Child Welfare Act also known as ICWA," Jackson said. "The future of the Indian Child Welfare Act's protections lies with the states. Last month, the Supreme Court issued a decision in Haaland v. Brackeen, delivering a landmark victory for tribal sovereignty, Native children, Native families, and the future of Native people."

Jackson said the conference also included topics and updates regarding the Indian boarding schools with Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Brian Newland, Department of Interior.

"I knew how the impact of these Native boarding schools have affected and infected our daily lives for generations to come," Jackson said. In 2021, U.S. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland launched the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative, a comprehensive effort to recognize the troubled legacy of federal Indian boarding school policies with the goal of addressing their intergenerational impact and shedding light on the traumas of the past.

Newland, who has led the initiative, used his remarks to address this important effort.

"For the first time, the federal government is examining its role in the federal Indian boarding school system and how that contributed to the forced assimilation of Indigenous peoples, resulting in the breakup of families and tribal nations and the loss of languages, cultural practices, and relatives," Newland said.

Newland continued, "The Federal Indian Boarding School system left lasting scars that continue to impact tribal communities. Today, the federal government is working to help heal these scars as we support tribes in their efforts to revitalize their economies, languages, and cultural practices and promote public safety and justice so that they can continue to exist as Indigenous peoples."

Tribal Prosecutor Tony Moses said the conference included speakers from the U.S. Attorney's Office, U.S. Indian Bureau of Affairs, Little River Tribe, Michigan State University Indian Law clinic, FBI, and breakout sessions from Menominee, Wis. law enforcement and other FBI detectives specializing in child abuse.

"It was an extremely informative twoday conference where information was exchanged as it relates to working with, and in, Indian Country and Supreme Court decisions that affect practices," Moses said. "There was also an informal meeting at the end of the second day with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Victim's Division, where information and contacts were exchanged to help further strengthen the services that can be provided to this population."

Rachel M. Levitt, associate general counsel of SCIT, said the conference was very impactful.

"Several times during the two days, the speakers said, 'Trigger warning...if you need to step out...'. That just shows how brutal and sensitive the information was that we were learning at the conference," Levitt said. "I believe it is necessary to be educated on the most difficult things in order to best serve the community and its members."

Levitt continued, "My biggest take-aways... were the importance of the American government taking responsibility in its role of the boarding schools so that it may lead to the healing of individuals directly impacted by generational trauma caused by the schools. Also, the need to actively educate schools and the community about online sextortion of kids and teens."

"Overall, the conference furthered or Murdered Indigenous I my education on the importance of Federal Indian law changes.

culture and the vital role it plays in healing victims," she said.

Jaide Cotter, judicial services victims of crime advocate, expressed her gratitude for attending with the SCIT delegation.

"Even for those topics I thought I was knowledgeable on, such as the boarding schools and the Supreme Court ruling, the conference provided a different perspective and there was still things to be learned," Cotter said. "I felt fortunate to receive such information and to pass it along to others. I'm also extremely grateful for the other victim advocates I got to meet and learn how they run their program and seeing what I can do to implement some similar things."

Gary Morseau, vice chair of Pokagon Band; Ogema Larry Romanelli of Little River Band of Ottawa Indians; Dr. Colleen Lane, MD, of Corewell Health; Dan Wicklund, DNPA, RN, of Corewell Health; and Katheryn E. Fort, director of the Indian Law Clinic at the Michigan State University College of Law also served as speakers at the conference.

Attendees included tribal members, tribal law enforcement, tribal governments, federal government partners, and other victim service providers that work with Indian Country victims.

Other topics covered include Sextortion: History, methods, and impact on victims; Drugs: Myths, Trends, and Opportunities to Intervene; Missing or Murdered Indigenous Persons; and Federal Indian law changes.

Tribal Observer interviews U. S. Department Interior Assistant Secretary Bryan Newland

(Editor's note: Bryan Newland, U.S. assistant secretary of the interior for Indian Affairs, served as keynote speaker at the Sept 12-13, 2023 Great Lakes Native American Conference "Circle of Hope – Circle of Healing" at Four Winds Casino in New Buffalo, Mich. He was interviewed by Public Relations Manager Joseph Sowmick.)

Tribal Observer: One of the projects we have been working with Michigan Indian Industrial Boarding School (MIIBS) Committee and the City of Mt. Pleasant is being able to use ground penetration radar to locate possible burial locations of Native children. In your presentation, you identified 53 unmarked burial sites across the United States. Do you see

more activity around Indian Country that tribes like the Saginaw Chippewa are engaged in?

Bryan Newland: Yes, there are a lot of places that are taking it up on a local level, from academic researchers with the assistance and guidance of tribes. That's something I firmly believe is important work that needs to be done and we expect the number of boarding school burial sites to grow as we continue to do our research and we are able to verify more.

T.O.: A lot of times with the political Washington, D.C. experience, it's when people get back to their districts and back to their tribes that government-to-government cooperation starts to take center

stage. What can you say about the work that U.S. Department Interior Secretary Deb Haaland and yourself been doing to make that bridge between tribal, local, state and federal governments?

Newland: I think Secretary Haaland herself before she was a congress-woman, she was a tribal administrator and she understands the practical importance of consultation and engagement with tribes. And through her leadership, she is prioritizing that in the B.I.A. on a national level and we can see the benefit in the work and results with our colleagues and the cabinet.

T.O.: You mentioned that trust responsibility between governments is

not just about fulfilling 638 contracts. Do you think we can get tied up in the minutia where we are looking at the government solutions of the past without looking at how our work is affecting families, especially in issues of intergenerational trauma?

Newland: I know that detailed work is important and I don't want to minimize that, but as a former tribal chairman of the Bay Mills Indian Community myself, I know how important those self determination contracts are and what those programs mean in our community. But I also want to make sure that we are not losing sight of the trust responsibility in what it means in the bigger picture and



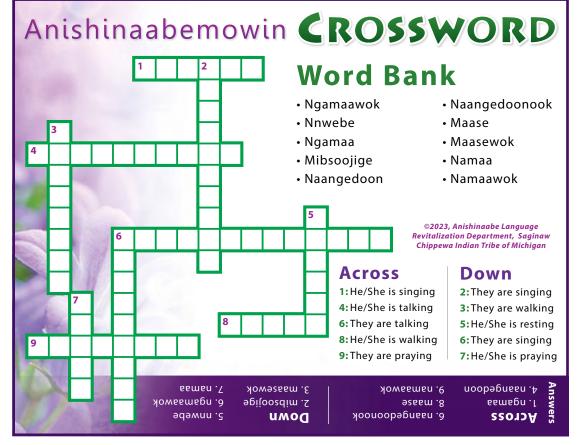
Observer photo by Joseph Sowm

U.S. Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs Bryan Newland

across the generations. That mean when the federal government is acting, we have to take on some of that thinking that tribal people have about the impact of our actions across generations. We got to make sure what we are doing is not doing harm but shows where we are partnering with tribes to make life better for Indian people and to protect their ability to exist as Tribal people.

T.O.: As you talk about the importance of seven generations, I'm reminded of that lodge teaching where you need to be a good ancestor. Do you think a lot of the work you are doing right now at the Secretary of the Interior Department and working with tribes where you are uncovering a wealth of information that impacts on all different levels of tribal governments, how does all that play into it?

Newland: Well, I can't tell you, Joe, if I'm going to be a good ancestor but what I do know is that this work is incredibly meaningful... not only to me as a federal official, but it is meaningful to me as an Indian person and it is meaningful for all the people on our team who are devoted to this work. We are just trying to do justice while shedding light and telling the truth.



Event Planner



OCTOBER 2023 | Tribal Community Event Planner

Fall Anishinabe Performance Circle

Every Tuesday, Oct. 3 - Jan. 2 | 5-6 p.m.

- Ziibiwing Center
- 989-775-4757 or readotte@sagchip.org
- Registration ends: Oct. 3
- \$30 fee

SCTC Beading Circle

Oct. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 | 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

- SCTC East Building, Room 6
- 989-317-4826 or GuGonzalez@sagchip.org

Native Farmers Market

Oct. 3 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

- Farmers Market Pavilion
- 989-775-4629 or JGonzalez@sagchip.org

Vaccination Clinics

Oct. 4 | 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

- Andahwod
- Flu vaccine, 18 years and up

Oct. 10 | 12 - 8 p.m.

- Eagles Nest Tribal Gym (Election Day)
- Flu vaccine, 18 years and up

Oct. 11 | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- Saganing Community Center
- Flu and COVID-19 booster, 6 months and up

Oct. 19 | 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

- SECR Entertainment Hall
- Flu and COVID-19 booster, 6 months and up

Oct. 25 | **12 p.m. - 6 p.m.**

- Nimkee Public Health
- Flu vaccine, 18 years and up

SCTC STEAM Student Organization

Oct. 4, 18 | **12-1 p.m.**

- SCTC East Building, Room 6
- 989-317-4827 or KHart@sagchip.edu

Elders' Aquatics Exercise Class

Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25 | **2 p.m.**

- Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel pool
- 989-775-4694 or JHarman@sagchip.org

Auricular Acupuncture

Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26 | **4-6 p.m.**

- Behavioral Health
- 989-775-4850

Andahwod Fall Craft Bazaar

Oct. 7 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

- Andahwod
- 989-775-4339 or depelcher@sagchip.org
- \$20 per table, payable at Andahwod
- Vendors needed, open to the public

Elders Breakfast

Oct. 11, 25 | 9 - 10 a.m.

Andahwod

Community Blood Drive

Oct. 12 | 12:30-6 p.m.

- Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment Hall
- Appointments: 866-642-5663

Monster Bash Costume Contest

Oct. 13 | **7-10 p.m.**

- Andahwod
- 989-775-4339 or depelcher@sagchip.org
- · Community adults only
- Cost: \$3 with costume, \$5 without costume

Glow Party

Oct. 14 | 6-8 p.m.

- Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
- 989-775-4850
- Featuring DJ Joe Sowmick, food, swag bags

Affirmations & Yoga

Oct. 17 | 5:30 p.m.

- 7th Generation
- Registration: bhvictimservices@sagchip.org
- Yoga mats will be provided
- Instructor: Felicia Otto, RYT 500, SCIT

Fall Feast

Oct. 25 | **6-9 p.m.**

- 7th Generation
- 989-775-4780

Halloween Haunt & Trunk or Treat

Oct. 27 | **6-9 p.m.**

- · Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
- Recreation@sagchip.org
- Costume contest: 6 p.m.
- Trunk or Treat: 7 p.m.

Scary-aokie

Oct. 28 | **6-9 p.m.**

- 7th Generation Powwow Grounds
- 989-775-4780
- · Halloween karaoke event
- Food trucks welcome

SCIT Elders Holiday Luncheon

Nov. 3 | Lunch at 12 p.m.

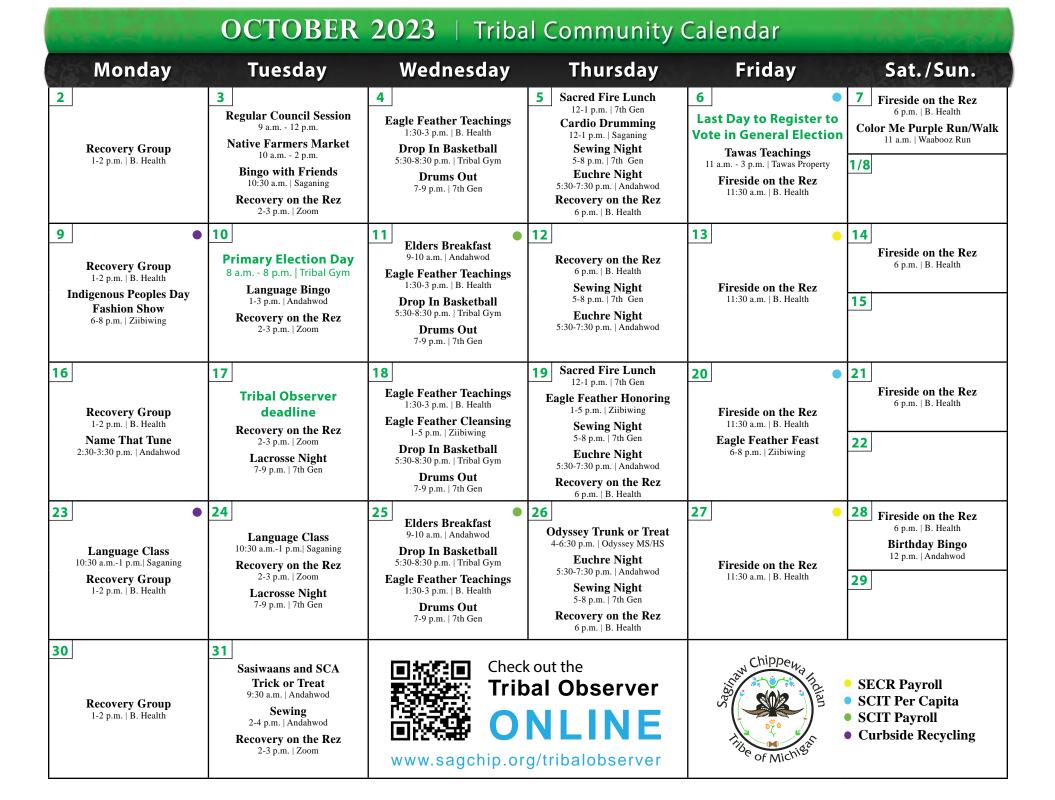
• Bavarian Inn (Frankenmuth, Mich.)

- Registration: 989.775.4300
- SCIT Elder: \$20, non SCIT elder: \$26
- 40 spots available
- Payment due: Oct. 13

DK-12 Education Homework Lab

Monday - Thursday | 3-5 p.m.

- Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
- 989-775-4071 or dsmith@sagchip.org





Classifieds

Observer Classifieds: To place your ad, call the Tribal Observer at 989-775-4096, email 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.

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135 Events 140 Giveaways

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100 Employment

Tribal Operations

Water Operator II

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Three years of water operator or related experience. Training in hydraulics, physics, biology, science, or related field will help in learning this field. Must have mechanical skills, not limited to automotive, such as pumps, or shaft driven equipment.

Water Operator III

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Five years of water operator or related experience. Training in hydraulics, physics, biology, science, or related field will help in learning this field. Must have mechanical skills, not limited to automotive, such as pumps, or shaft driven equipment.

Waste Water Operator II

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Three years' experience in wastewater/ water field or directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations. Must be willing to take classes in microbiology, advanced math and beginning algebra courses. Must be able to pass departmental fitness evaluation.

Waste Water Operator III

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Five years' experience in wastewater/water field or directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations.

Administrative Assistant II

In-house: Current SCIT Tribal Operations employees, SECR employees. SELC employees, and all SCIT Tribal members are eligible to apply. High school diploma or GED. Two years administrative support experience

Social Services Supervisor

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in social work, human services, or related field. Four years of social services; working with children and families experience. One year of experience in a supervisory capacity.

Tribal School Principal

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in education field. Five years teaching experience. Desired qualifications: Master's degree in education, administration, educational leadership or related field.

Psychiatrist

Open to the public. Medical degree. Licensed psychiatrist with a license in the State of Michigan and board certified. Three years' experience as a director of psychiatric services. Experience

in working collaboratively across multiple organizations and community systems.

Police Officer - Mt. Pleasant

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. High school diploma or GED. Must be a U.S. citizen and at least 21

Clinical Therapist - ITC

Open to the public. Master's degree in counseling, social work, human services or related field. Limited licensed individuals who can obtain licensure within two years for date of hire. Full licensure desired.

Victim Services Coordinator

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in social work, counseling, or human services related field. Four years of program related experience, two years experience in domestic violence. One year of supervisory experience.

Nurse Practitioner/ Physician Assistant

Open to the public. Grant funded I.H.S. funding. Family nurse practitioner or physician assistant license. Masters of Science degree in nursing for family nurse practitioner. Graduate of physician assistant program of study and successfully completed the physician assistant certification examination.

Physician

Open to the public. Medical degree or doctor of osteopathic medicine. Current board certification in specialty. Medical license for MD or DO in the State of Michigan. Desired qualifications: Two years' experience working in an outpatient or clinic setting. Medical License for MD or DO in the State of Michigan.

Registered Medical Assistant

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Registered or certified medical assistant license. Minimum of one year experience working as a medical assistant in an outpatient medical clinic (family medicine preferred). Must be knowledgeable in CPT and ICD 10 codes and medical terminology.

Certified Nursing Assistant

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Registered or certified medical assistant license. Minimum of one year experience working as a medical assistant in an outpatient medical clinic.

Special Education Teacher

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in special education, education or related field. Teaching certificate with special education endorsement. Experience with current assessment requirements and state standards.

Clinical Therapist-Family Resource Program

Open to the public. Master's degree in counseling, social work, human services or related field. Desired qualifications: One year demonstrated mental health and co-occurring therapy experience with adults, youth, children and families.

Accountant

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in accounting. One year of experience in general accounting. Desired qualifications: Completed and passed a governmental accounting class as part of college curriculum. Tribal government accounting experience. Must be able to complete and pass a typing test at 30 words per minute, with 70 percent accuracy.

Administrative Assistant II

Open to the public. High school eiploma or GED. Two years administrative support experience. Must be able to

complete and pass a typing test at 30 words per minute, with 70 percent accuracy.

Purchasing Agent

Open to the public. High school eiploma or GED. Four years experience in purchasing in large corporate environment.

Journeyman Electrician

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be a journeyman electrician. Six years of experience working as an electrician or completion of a formal electrical apprentice program.

Grants and Contracts Compliance Coordinator

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in business administration with an emphasis in accounting. Five years' experience in governmental fund accounting and grants and contracts management.

Strategic Grant Specialist

Open to the public. Grant-funded position. Bachelor's degree in business administration, communications, economics, or related field. Three years' experience in grant writing and grant administration. An equivalent combination of education and directly related experience may be considered.

General Labor Pool

Open to SCIT Members only. Must be at least 18 years of age. Evening, overnight, holiday and/or weekend work may be required.

Clerical Pool

Open to SCIT Members. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Clerical experience is a plus.

Soaring Eagle

F&B Chef

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Four years of upscale, high volume, hotel kitchen experience, or similar restaurant experience. Two years supervisory experience.

Culinary Supervisor

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Three years of restaurant or banquet cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility.

Line Cook

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Six months of restaurant cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility, or six months of SECR internal culinary training.

Saganing

Finance Cashier PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Six months cash handling cashiering experience.

Bartender PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Bartending experience desired.

Bartender FT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Barexperience desired. tending

Slot Attendant

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Six months of cash handling hospitality experience.

F&B Custodial Worker

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

Waitstaff PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Serving experience desired.

Waitstaff FT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Serving experience desired.

Line Cook

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Six months of restaurant cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility, or six months of Saganing internal culinary training.

Transit Driver PT

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.

F&B Attendant PT

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

Maintenance Worker

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

Complaint **Notices** Summons and

NOTICE OF HEARING TO ISAIAH THOMPSON. DESHONE EMBRY, JUSTINE COMPO IN THE MATTER OF THREE MINOR CHILDREN

State of Michigan Judicial Circuit- Family Division, Ingham County. To: Isaiah Thompson, Deshone Embry and Justine Compo in the matter of three minor children. A hearing regarding BENCH TRIAL ON AMD SUPP #1 PW PETITION will be conducted by the court on Oct. 30, 2023 at 8:30 a.m., Nov. 8, 2023 at 1:30 p.m., Nov. 15, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom #3, Veterans Memorial Courthouse, 313 W. Kalamazoo Street, 2nd Floor, Lansing, MI 48933 before JUDGE LISA MCCORMICK. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that ISAIAH THOMPSON, DESHONE EMBRY & JUSTINE COMPO personally appear before the court at the time and place stated above. This hearing may result in the termination of your parental rights.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JEREMY MICHAEL SAWMICK:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court 6954 East Broadway Road, Mount Pleasant, MI 48858 (989) 775-4800. Estate of Jeremy Michael Sawmick. Date of Birth: Feb. 27, 1965. Notice to creditors: The decedent, Jeremy Michael Sawmick, who lived at 5452 E. Aster Ln., Lot 25, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858, died Aug. 26, 2023. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Justene M. Pelcher-Sawmick, personal representative, or to both the tribal probate court at 6954 East Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice. Personal Representative: Justine M. Pelcher-Sawmick, 5452 E. Aster Ln., Lot 25, Mt. Pleasant MI, 48858. 989-513-4994.

THIS IS A PAID AD. THIS IS NON-TRIBAL GOVERNMENT AFFILIATED.

SAGINAW CHIPPEWA TRIBAL MEMBERS

PROPOSED TRIBAL **CONSTITUTION REVISION** MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

to preserve Saginaw, Swan Creek, and Black River bloodline

No disenrollment or open enrollment proposed

- District 1 meetings on Monday, October 9 and 23, 2023 from 6:30-8:00 pm at the Seventh Generation Ceremonial Building
- District 2 meetings on Wednesday, October 11 and 25, 2023 from 6:00-7:30 pm at the Saganing Community Center
- District 3 meetings on Sunday's in October 2023 Sunday, October 1, 2023 from 3:30-5:00 pm 311 State St., Grand Rapids, MI

*Looking for recommendations for locations within Detroit, Flint, and Lansing

Light refreshments to be served at the meetings

If you are interested in serving on the Tribal **Constitution Revision Committee-Membership** Criteria please send your inquires to:

- SCIT-Tribal Constitution Revision Committee P.O. Box 1542, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804-1542
- · or scit-tribalconstitutionrevision@spectrum.net

Visit www.scit-tribalconstitutionrevision.com for information and updates

Milgwetch for all those that have participated — your input is valuable

THIS IS A PAID AD. THIS IS NON-TRIBAL GOVERNMENT AFFILIATED.

OCTOBER PROMOTIONS



Win a share of over \$100,000 in cash & prizes!

Saturdays in October

Every hour from **5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.** one lucky ACCESS Club member will be drawn to win \$2,000 in cash! On **October 28th** we're giving away a 2 night, 3 day hunt for 1 plus a guest at Double D Ranch along with a 2023 Polaris Ranger XP 1000 NorthStar Edition from Recker Motorsports!

ACCESS Club members will receive one (1) entry for every 600 points earned on their ACCESS Club card from 12:00 a.m. September 30th, 2023 until 10:55 p.m. on October 28th, 2023.

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



EVERY FRIDAY 5:00 P.M. - 11:0<u>0 P.M.</u>

Two winners each hour will toss coins into a pumpkin for a chance to win up to \$3,000 in Premium Play!



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31 5:00 P.M. - 11:00 P.M.

Three lucky winners each hour from 5:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. will stomp through our pumpkin patch and win Premium Play, overnight stays, dining credit and more!



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10 & 24 7:00 A.M. - 9:30 P.M.

Receive a \$60 gas card for every 900 points earned with your ACCESS card. May earn up to 3 cards each promotion day. Earn from 7:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.



OCTOBER 1 - NOVEMBER 5 2:00 P.M. - 11:00 P.M.

You could win suite tickets to see Metallica at Ford Field. Get 1 entry for every 1,000 points earned with your ACCESS card beginning October 1. Hourly drawings November 5 from 5:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.



Saganing-EaglesLanding.com Standish, MI | 1.888.7.EAGLE.7



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3 & 31 10:00 A.M. - 10:00 P.M.

Earn 100 points while playing slots with your ACCESS card and receive a chocolate bar. Inside the wrapper could be a prize worth \$50 in Premium Play! Guests can earn points from 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. May participate up to 3 times each promotional date.



EVERY FRIDAY 5:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.

One winner each hour will be drawn to choose a ghostly ornament on our spooky Halloween tree that could be worth up to \$1,000 cash!



EVERY WEDNESDAY 4:00 A.M. - 11:59 P.M.

Earn 300 points on your ACCESS card from 4:00 a.m.- 11:59 p.m. and get \$5 in Premium Play! Earn 2,500 points from 7:00 a.m. - 11:59 p.m. and play a promotional kiosk game for a chance to win even more Premium Play!



NOW - JAN 7, 2024

Use the "Pick the Pro's" promotional kiosk each week for a chance to win up to \$250 in Premium Play. Participate each of the 18 weeks to qualify for a chance to win a share of \$9,250.00 in cash! Correctly pick 194 or more of the 239 NFL regular season games and win a cool \$1,000,000!



You could win a share of over \$60,000 in cash!

Saturdays in October

Hourly Drawings from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Saturdays for your chance to select ghoulish coffins containing cash prizes of up to \$1,000 in cash! Some coffins contain 3X multipliers that will multiply your prize! Every Saturday at 10:00 p.m. one lucky ACCESS Club member will win a cool \$5,000 cash!

ACCESS Club members will receive one (1) entry for every 200 points earned on their ACCESS Club card. Entries earned each week are only good for that week's drawings.

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