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TRIBAL OBSERVER

THE SAGINAW CHIPPEWA INDIAN TRIBE... *“Working Together for Our Future”*

CHECK THESE OUT

- 11 Fun and Games
- 16 Tribal Education
- 17 Tribal College
- 18 Big Entertainment
- 22 Tribal Health
- 24 Tribal Elders
- 26 Tribal Calendar
- 27 Tribal Classifieds



8
ZCS Sales Celebration
Ziibiwing Commercial Services business passes the million dollar sale mark.



15
Native artist Ty Defoe
Hoop dancer and artist visits programs and events in the community.



21
Feather Link Tea
Nimkee Women's Health hosts Oct. 11 breast cancer awareness event.



BACK
Paint the Rez Purple
Domestic violence awareness spread through the 1.5 mile color run/walk.

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Tribal Council hosts Gov. Snyder and 11 Michigan tribes

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Tribal delegates representing the 12 federally-recognized tribes of Michigan convened on Sept. 22 as the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe were hosts of the 2016 annual Governor's Summit.

Gov. Rick Snyder and 10 executive staff members came to the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Three Fires Ballroom to discuss a wide range of matters spanning economic development, environmental issues, education, gaming and tribal sovereignty.

Chief Frank Cloutier welcomed the delegates after a grand entry which included the SCIT eagle staff and the colors of all 12 Michigan tribes. The Mino Ode Singers provided a welcome and traveling song for the legislative gathering and United Tribes of Michigan Executive Director Frank Ettawageshik offered prayer.

“Gov. Snyder has done a difficult job with having to manage the Flint water crisis along with the aging infrastructure of the state,” Cloutier said. “To give credit where credit is due, we appreciate Gov. Snyder and his staff

giving all the Tribes an opportunity to voice our concern and to have a seat at the table with him. Our identity and protection comes from Tribal sovereignty and it's in forging partnerships that we can occasion such as this.”

Cloutier also shared some concern that drew much agreement amongst his fellow Tribal leaders.

“In everything you do in Native Country, I would hope you would be aware of those treaty rights made and those birth rights that come along with it,” Cloutier said. “Our hunting and fishing rights that represent our environmental interests and our economic development are directly tied to tribal sovereignty and the federal treaties we have with the United States. We are not like the State of Michigan or Indiana in that we don't have those tax dollars to divide up. All of the dollars we have for tribal programs goes to benefit the tribal memberships of our communities.”

Cloutier looked at the tribal leadership in the room and affirmed there is strength in numbers and tribes can move quicker when moving together.

Gov. Snyder welcomed Cloutier's candid remarks and



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Chief Frank Cloutier presents Gov. Rick Snyder with a strawberry basket on behalf of the Tribe as fellow Council members Kenneth Sprague and Tim J. Davis look on.

pledged to support a continued working relationship.

“I am signaling my commitment to building a strong relationship between the tribes and the state not only during my tenure as governor, but for many years in the future,” Snyder said. “The state has worked constructively with Michigan's tribes in many areas including transportation, human services and economic development, and I look forward to improving this relationship as we move toward a brighter future for all of Michigan.”

Gov. Snyder fielded several questions relating to the Michigan Indian Tuition

Program as tribal leaders can continue to see challenges poised to continue program funding on a yearly basis.

“I can tell you my intention is to increase funding for higher education and I can continue to express your tribal concerns on the importance of the issue,” Gov. Snyder said. “Several years ago, we did have to make several difficult cuts regarding higher education but we have been restoring that over the last few years. That increase has benefited a number of schools that your tribal students are attending.”

Summit | 10

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort welcomes new CEO Raymond Brenny

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The search is over and after three years, the Tribal Council has found a new CEO for the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

Interim Public Relations Director Erik Rodriguez said the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe welcomed Raymond Brenny on Oct. 5 as he accepted the position.

“Mr. Brenny brings with him more than 20 years of professional experience in gaming operations and is an enrolled member of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians,” Rodriguez said.

Brenny is a veteran of the United States Air Force where he served eight years before an honorable discharge.

“Mr. Brenny joins our organization adding value with his expertise in improving organizational performance and the ability to analyze existing operations while implementing strategies,” Rodriguez said.

Tribal Council did a national search and found Brenny who has a track record of success throughout his career.

“Ray has been acknowledged as a strong leader with an extensive business background that includes marketing, hospitality, accounting and human resources,” said Chief Frank Cloutier. “His experience in cost reduction and revenue building improvements in productivity will be an asset to our organization.”

Brenny said he has seen how the Midwest gaming market

changed in popularity and scope over the years.

“Indian Gaming was fairly new 20 years ago and the philosophy was ‘if you build it, they will come.’ In a sense, that was true as I was part of many organizations and involved with numerous construction projects that were highly successful once the doors opened so as gaming has evolved, many new challenges have developed such as additional competition as other casino enter the marketplace, the proximity to its competitors along with how that will affect market share within the same demographic markets,” Brenny said.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort CEO Raymond Brenny accepted the position on Oct. 5.

“In addition, other challenges are keeping up with the change in technology, recruitment of employees, training, which, all-in-all, is challenging as all of these components are needed to meet our casino guests' expectations,” he said.

Raymond Brenny | 4



James W. Dombkowski

Feb. 19, 1941 – Oct. 5, 2016

James W. Dombkowski "Kroger Jim", 75, of Lapeer, Mich., passed away peacefully on Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016 at his home following a brief illness.

He was born Feb. 19, 1941 in Bay City to the late Raymond and Lillian (Silas) Dombkowski.

He married the former Delores E. Lazar on Dec. 31, 1996 in Las Vegas, she survives him.

Jim was retired from the Lapeer Kroger store, a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, enjoyed golfing, trips to the casinos and was a Detroit Tigers fan.

He is survived by his wife of 20 years, his children Chris and Joni Dombkowski, Jeffery Dombkowski, Kimberly Lundmark and John Dombkowski; many grandchildren and great grandchildren; a sister Susan and Richard Smielewski and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his son Jimmy Dombkowski, his sister Nan Cole and his brother Jack Dombkowski.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Oct. 8, 2016 at the Rivertown Funeral Chapel with Deacon Michael Arnold presiding. Those wishing an expression of sympathy are asked to consider the wishes of the family.



Peter Anthony Compo Jr.

June 24, 1972 – Oct. 24, 2016

Peter Anthony Compo Jr., age 44, of Mt. Pleasant, Mich., passed away Monday, Oct. 24, 2016 at Mid Michigan Medical Center in Midland.

Pete was born on June 24, 1972 in Lansing, the son of Peter Anthony Compo Sr. and Catherine Louise Jackson.

Pete graduated from Mt. Pleasant High School in 1990. Pete was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, and worked as a security guard at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort for many years.

He enjoyed fishing and being outdoors. Most of all, Pete loved spending time with his kids and family.

Pete is survived by his longtime partner Kalli Stephens; four children Jena Compo, Naomi Compo, Anthony Greene, Monica Compo; granddaughter Anavey Compo-Alaniz; mother Catherine Jackson all of Mt. Pleasant; brothers Lawrence Compo of Oklahoma, Bradley Compo (Shannon Butzin) of Mt. Pleasant, Jordan Teeple (Angie) of Hannahville, Mich., and Michael Jackson of Mt. Pleasant; sisters Rachel (Louis) Cuff of Grand Rapids, Sasha Compo-Paz (Nathan) of Hannahville, Michelle Jackson of Mt. Pleasant; special cousin Bernice Henderickson of Mt. Pleasant; and many other extended family members.

Pete was preceded in death by his father, and niece Catherine Sprague.

Funeral services were held in the Tribal Gym on Friday, Oct. 28, 2016 at 2 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to a memorial fund for Pete's children.



Frances Veronica Fisher

Sept. 22, 1947 – Oct. 4, 2016

Frances Veronica Fisher, 69, of Mount Pleasant, Mich., passed away Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016 at Woodland Hospice.

Frances was born Sept. 22, 1947 in Pontiac, Mich., the daughter of Ora and Sarah (Jackson) Jones. On March 9, 1966 in Clare, she married Raymond Fisher. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this year.

Frances was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. She attended both the Faith Church of the Nazarene and the Chippewa Indian United Methodist Church.

She worked at the Mt. Pleasant Regional Center as a housekeeper for 13 years. Frances enjoyed crocheting, visiting with friends, traveling and Tigers baseball. She also enjoyed bingo, the casino and eating out. She especially enjoyed the time spent with her family.

Survivors include her husband, Raymond, three children: Marci S. (Paul) Magnell, Raymond (Allison) Fisher II, and Joseph (Amee) Fisher, all of Mt. Pleasant; 14 grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Also surviving is a sister Georgia (Robert) Shirey of Yucca Valley, Calif.

Frances was preceded in death by her parents, three sisters and three brothers.

A service celebrating Frances' life was held Friday, Oct. 7, 2016 from Rowley Funeral Home with Rev. Doyle Perry of Faith Nazarene Church officiating.

Donations in Frances' memory have been suggested to the Faith Church of the Nazarene.



Karen L. Clarchick

April 13, 1957 – Oct. 18, 2016

Karen L. Clarchick was born to Robert and Erma (Fansler) Abraham on April 13, 1957, in Wyandotte, Mich. She died Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2016.

Karen attended high school at Wyandotte Roosevelt where she graduated in 1975. After graduation, she got married and went on to raise three boys (Joey, Jonathan, and Joshua). All the boys were involved in sports, which ultimately led Karen to be involved in sports.

She worked in multiple ice arenas and concession stands, and was literally a "Team Mom" to all of her sons' teams. Her laugh was unmistakable (IE IE IE IE) and could be heard throughout arenas and sport's venues.

Later in life, she thoroughly enjoyed spending time with her family, and taking trips to her Tribe's own Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

She was loved by all her friends. She exuded generosity, as there was nothing she wouldn't do for family and friends. It didn't matter if she was helping pay her son's college tuition, or loaning money to one of her bar-mates, Karen never said no to a friend in need.

Karen is survived by her children Joseph (Bernadene), Jonathan, and Joshua; her brother Michael (Sandy) and Rob (deceased); her parents Abe and Erma; and her grandchildren Marcus, Marisa, Joey, and Kaitlyn; and nieces and nephews.

Karen leaves behind a legacy of generosity. It will truly be on her children to live up to and maintain this legacy, and ensure her death was not in vain.

She was a loving daughter and sister until her last breath.



Joel James Dennis

June 21, 1936 – Oct. 13, 2016

Joel "Joe" James Dennis, 80, went home to the Lord on Thursday, Oct. 13, 2016 at his home in Nevada surrounded by his loving family.

Joe was born in Bay City, Mich. to Wilson and Martha (James) Dennis on June 21, 1936.

He grew up in Pinconning, Mich. and on Oct. 11, 1958 he married Helen Richardson of Pinconning.

He later moved to Rochester, N.Y. and ultimately settled in northern Nevada.

He was a mechanic and a truck driver and enjoyed fishing and traveling (especially the back roads) and coffee and a meal with family and friends.

Joe was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and a member of Colony Christian Fellowship of Reno, Nev.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, his daughters, Diane (Tony) Jones of Carson City, Nev. and Janice Dennis of Reno, Nev., seven grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, nephews, nieces and cousins.

Joe was predeceased by his parents, his brother Theodore Dennis, his daughter, Donna Marie Dennis and son Daniel James Dennis.

Funeral services occurred Saturday, Oct. 29, 2016 at 11 a.m. from Lee-Ramsay Funeral Home-Pinconning Chapel with Pastor Devin Chisholm presiding with burial in Pinconning Township Cemetery.



David Lawrence Williams

Feb. 1, 1972 – Oct. 20, 2016

David Lawrence Williams, age 44, of Mt. Pleasant, Mich., passed away Thursday, Oct. 20, 2016 at his home with his loving family by his side.

David was born Feb. 1, 1972 in Oscoda, Mich., the son of Lee Williams and Mildred Nahgahgwon.

He graduated from Oscoda High School in the Class of 1990.

Dave married Karen Thomas on July 19, 1997 in Clare, Mich.

He was employed by Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort for 22.5 years, working in finance and the past 17 years as a compliance officer.

Dave was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. He was an avid Detroit Tigers fan and liked to travel and watch movies. Most of all, he loved his time with his son Tanner.

David is survived by his loving wife Karen Williams and loving son Tanner Williams, both of Mt. Pleasant; sister Marion Joseph (Dan Trevino) and special sister-in-law Janet Thomas, all of Mt. Pleasant; brother-in-law Wayne (Annette) Thomas of Ohio; and mother-in-law Bonnie Thomas of Mt. Pleasant.

David was preceded in death by his parents; and his father-in-law Arnold Thomas.

Funeral services were held at Clark Family Funeral Chapel on Monday, Oct. 24, 2016 at 1 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to a fund for his son Tanner.



Debra Susan Vidana (Moreno)

March 14, 1954 – Oct. 10, 2016

The family of Debra Susan Vidana (Moreno) wants to thank everyone for their thoughts, prayers and words of comfort. Chi-miigwech. And to all that showed up at the cemetery.

In memory of Debra Susan Vidana (Moreno) born on March 14, 1954 in Saginaw, Mich. to Joyce Hart (Collins) and Roman Moreno.

Debra went to be with our creator on Oct. 10, 2016.

On Feb. 9, 1985, she married Vicente Vidana, surviving children; Anthony Towns, Rae Lee John, siblings; Kathleen Hart, Paula Alexander, John Hart, grandchildren and great grandchildren, several nieces, nephews, uncles, aunts, and cousins.

She enjoyed traveling, attending powwows, playing pool, being by the lake, bowling, fishing, swimming, and her favorite band was Los Lonely Boys.

Preceding her in death are her dad and mom John and Joyce Hart, father Roman, son Alex, brother Paul and sister Angela.

Rest in peace Debra, you will be missed but will forever be in our hearts and you might be gone in human form but your spirit will live on in this tree of life.

Chi-miigwech. Gzhemanidoo continue to give life to this tree so it will bloom year after year. Miigwech. Miigwech. Miigwech. Miigwech.



Christopher Michael-Paul Hartwell

Jan. 5, 1986 – Sept. 30, 2016

Christopher Michael-Paul Hartwell, 30, of Mount Pleasant, Mich., passed away unexpectedly Friday, Sept. 30, 2016.

Chris was born Jan. 5, 1986, in Kalamazoo, Mich., the son of Kelly (Schramm) Hartwell.

He was a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and a descendant of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

The center of Chris' life was his daughter Olivia, and grandparents.

He loved passing on his traditions to his daughter and going to powwows with her. He loved listening to music and entertaining friends and family by playing guitar at bonfires. He enjoyed playing sports, being outdoors, photography, painting, sculpting, poetry, cooking, and reading.

He will ever be grateful for the support and companionship of his auntie Sue and Jill.

Chris is survived by his daughter, Olivia Hartwell and her mother, Kristen; mother, Kelly Hartwell; brothers, Justin and Alex Hartwell; grandmother, Linda Schramm; and many, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Chris was preceded in death by his beloved grandfather and best friend, Paul Schramm Sr.; and cousins, Melissa Bonnema and Timothy Schramm.

A private memorial service was held at the Clark Family Funeral Chapel. Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



Daniel James Rodriguez

Oct. 26, 1956 – Oct. 23, 2016

Daniel James Rodriguez, age 59, of Riverdale, Mich. passed away Sunday, Oct. 23, 2016, at his home under the care of Heartland Hospice.

Dan was born on Oct. 26, 1956, in Sparta, the son of Lupe and Shirley (Neyome) Rodriguez.

Dan was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. He was an avid Michigan football fan, Detroit Red Wings, and Detroit Tigers. Dan loved to bowl, doing crosswords and puzzles, and gambling.

Dan is survived by his children, Daniel James Rodriguez Jr. and Mara Lee Rodriguez; several grandchildren; siblings, Antonio (Andrea) Rodriguez, Lisa (Joseph) Snyder, and Trisha Trasky; several nieces and nephews, and cat, Morris.

Dan was preceded in death by his parents; grandmothers, Jennie Neyome and Angelita McIntyre; brothers, Kevin Rodriguez and Lupe Rodriguez Jr.; and nephew, Spencer Snyder.

Funeral services were held at Clark Family Funeral Chapel on Friday, Oct. 28 with Benjamin Evers officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to the Special Olympics.



Check out the
Tribal Observer
ONLINE

www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver

ATTENTION

Anishinabe Ogitchedaw

Veteran & Warrior Society Members

Now Recruiting New Members



Meetings Will be Held

The 1st Tuesday of the Month in Seniors Room
Time: 6 p.m. | For More Information: 775-4175



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1-800-784-8669
www.michigan.gov/tobacco

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TRIBAL MEMBERS

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

Powwow Committee One Vacancy

The Saginaw Chippewa Powwow Committee currently has one vacancy. Open until Filled.

Send letters of interest to:
Attention: Powwow Committee
7070 E Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant MI 48858

December 2016
Tribal Children's Welfare Affidavits

will be mailed out and made available on Monday, Oct. 3, 2016 and due Friday, Nov. 4, 2016 by 5 p.m.
(Postmarked will not be accepted)

Adult 2017 Annual Reports are available now

They are due May 4, 2017 by 5 p.m.
Sorry no post-marked mail excepted.

Active Native Youth

Send in a photo of your student to be placed in the December 2016 Tribal Observer.

Deadline: Nov. 15, 2016

Email your photo and informaton to: Observer@sagchip.org Subject: Native Athletes

Please include the following:

- Name • School
- Grade • Sport/Activity

Attention Families of Active Service Members

Send a picture of your beloved ones who are serving our country to be included in the December issue of the Tribal Observer. Include their name, branch of the military, rank/title and where they are stationed. Please submit to Observer@sagchip.org

Deadline: Nov. 15, 2016

Anishinabe Language Revitalization — Committee Vacancy —

Seeking two individuals who are committed to revitalizing Anishinaabemowin

- One Youth Representative: Between ages 18-25
- One Elder Representative: Between ages 50+

Candidates must be a SCIT Member and able to attend monthly meetings.

Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month at 9 a.m. in the East side of the break room (Old Seniors Room) at Tribal Operations.

Letters/emails of interest will be accepted and viewed as they are received.

Please send Letters/emails of interest to:

Mail to: Anishinabe Language Revitalization Committee Vacancy
7070 E. Broadway Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Email to: mispelcher@sagchip.org

For further information:
Please call the ALRD Office at 989.775.4026 or Sasiwaans School at 989.775.4470

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police

6954 E BROADWAY, MT PLEASANT, MI
TEL: 989-775-4700



OWN IT? RESPECT IT. SECURE IT.

Project ChildSafe is a nationwide program promoting safe firearm handling and storage practices through the distribution of free, cable-style locks. We are doing our part to promote safe storage, but we need your help! Call for details!

LOCKS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE TRIBAL POLICE DEPARTMENT WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.



ATTENTION

It was brought to the Nimkee Clinic's attention that a night light given away at the Employee Health & Wellness Fair became very hot and left smoke residue on a patron's wall.



Nimkee Clinic has the model number and the company will be contacted immediately. Nimkee has taken this very seriously and are recommending anyone who owns the night light, please dispose of it.

"We apologize for this inconvenience and thank the employee for contacting us," said Karmen Fox, director for the Nimkee Clinic.



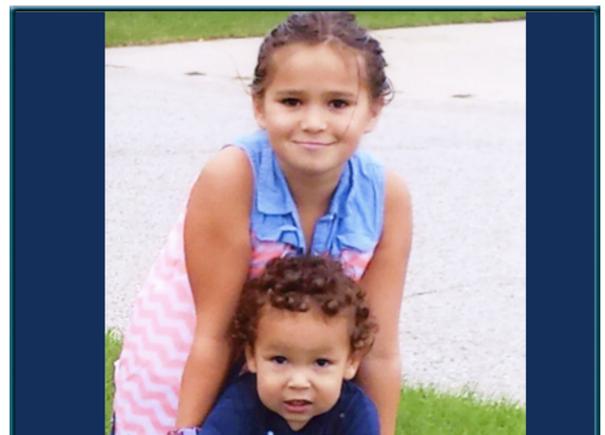
Happy 18th Birthday Abbie!
Love, Mom & Dad



Happy 10th Birthday Nevaeh!



Happy 7th Birthday Tahlia
Love, Mom



Happy 2nd Birthday lil Bro
Haideen James Chippeway
November 25th
Love, Big Sis Mya Elizabeth

Report Suspicious or Criminal Activity!

Do Your Part In Stopping Crime!

Assist Your Local Law Enforcement and Narcotics Enforcement Teams in Protecting the Future of Your Community!

Protecting your children, family, community and future should be a priority!



Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police
Dispatch: 989-775-4700
Tip Line: 989-775-4775

Bayanet (Narcotics Enforcement)
Tip Line: 989-779-9697
Anonymous and Confidential



Tribal Council

Chief

Frank J. Cloutier, District 3

Sub-Chief

Brent D. Jackson, District 1

Treasurer

Gayle Ruhl, District 1

Secretary

Michelle R. Colwell, District 1

Sergeant At-Arms

Ronald F. Ekdahl, District 1

Tribal Chaplain

Diana Quigno-Grundahl, District 1

Council Member

Candace B. Benzinger, District 1

Council Member

Tim J. Davis, District 1

Council Member

Lindy Hunt, District 1

Council Member

Amanda Oldman, District 1

Council Member

Kenneth Sprague, District 1

Council Member

Ron Nelson, District 2

Raymond Brenny

continued from front page

With his industry experience in the Midwest, Brenny sees similarities and differences with the other regional properties.

“Soaring Eagle has a good variety of games for our guests to choose from and food offerings far exceeds the industry norm from what I’ve experience so far,” Brenny said. “Entertainment along with better-than-average hotel offerings are also a big part of being a true destination location. With that being said, obvious differences from other Midwest gaming operations is that SECR is much more focused on the guest experience which creates a fun, exhilarating, and inviting place to visit.”

Brenny also said tribal recognition for veterans, including himself, has been overwhelming in support at Tribal events and ceremonies, along with supporting veterans after they have completed their tour of duty.

“Personally, I spent eight years in the U.S. Air Force stationed at many different locations, with

the longest tour in Anchorage, Alaska,” Brenny said. “The personal recognition received from the American Legion was overwhelming as they helped in numerous ways during my transition back to civilian life. Their support was by offering me to be the gaming manager at my local legion post along with putting me on the Legion’s Executive Committee. This was my start into the gaming industry back in the early ‘90s.”

Brenny knows gaming and has held positions of accounting manager at Grand Casino Mille Lacs, Minn.; chief financial officer at Ho-Chuck Casino, Wis.; general manager at Dakota Magic Casino, N.D.; CEO and partner of Strategic Gaming Service; and general manager of 7 Clans Casino – Hotel & Indoor Waterpark in Thief River Falls, Minn.

Brenny is a graduate from Texas Wayland Baptist University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in business administration with a minor in management in 1989, and he received his master’s degree in business administration from Capella University.

At Large/Member Services offering Health grants

At-Large/Member Services has Health Assistance grants available for all Tribal Members living outside of the five county Purchase Referred Care (PRC) area; which are Arenac, Clare, Isabella, Midland, and Missaukee counties.

If you live within the PRC, please refer to Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center about any Health Grants they may offer to you.

For the 2016-2017 fiscal year we have the following grants: Braces, vision/glasses, mental health, hearing aid and substance abuse.

If you would like more information or to request a copy of any of the above grants, please contact the At-Large /Member Services department:

- **In Person:** Please visit our office, located behind the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
- **Call:** 800.884.6271
- **Email:** mmarcotte@sagchip.org

Or visit the SCIT website link at:
www.sagchip.org/Member%20Services/index.aspx

Seven Grandfather Teachings

Nbookaawin ~ Wisdom

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

Zaagidowin ~ Love

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

Minaadendamoowin ~ Respect

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

Zoongide’ewin ~ Bravery

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

Gwekwadiziwin ~ Honesty

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

Dibaadendiziwin ~ Humility

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

Debwewin ~ Truth

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



Saganing Sagamok gas station receives 2016 "Best of Pinconning Award"

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

The Saganing Sagamok Gas and Convenience store in Standish, Mich. has been selected for the 2016 “Best of Pinconning Awards for Grocery Stores” by the Pinconning Business Recognition.

“We are extremely pleased to accept the 2016 Best of Pinconning Award for the Sagamok Gas and Convenience Store,” said CEO Robert Juckniess of the Migizi EDC. “Under the direction of the Migizi Board of Directors and the leadership of Chief Cloutier, we are delighted to have been recognized for our contributions to the community.”

Each year, the Pinconning award program chooses the best local businesses. According to its website, it “focuses on companies that have demonstrated their ability to use various marketing methods to grow their business in spite of difficult economic times.

The companies chosen exemplify the best of small business, often leading through customer service and community involvement.”

One winner is selected per category for each town. “We are proud of our accomplishments and thank our entire staff, including General Manager Jody Mielke for a job well done,” Juckniess said.

Various sources of information were gathered and analyzed to choose the winners in each category.

The 2016 Pinconning award program focuses on quality, not quantity, according to a press release. Winners are determined based on the information gathered both internally by the award program and the data provided by third parties.

The award program works exclusively with local business owners, trade groups, professional associations and other business advertising and marketing groups.

The program’s mission is to recognize the small business community’s contribution to the U.S. economy.

Tribal Observer

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



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

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

Subscription rates are \$30 per year.

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

The views expressed within the Tribal Observer do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tribal Observer, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council, The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort or its employees or any other enterprise of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. The Tribal Observer works to uphold the highest integrity in news reporting and supports the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968.

Tribal Observer Advertising

If you would like to advertise your business, please contact the Tribal Observer at 989-775-4010 for more information.

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

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

Tribal Observer Subscription Form

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Please mail form to:

Tribal Observer
Attn: Subscriptions
7070 E. Broadway Rd.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Contact Information:

Phone: 989-775-4010
Email: Observer@Sagchip.org
www.Sagchip.org/TribalObserver



Chief Cloutier joins Chamber of Commerce breakfast as guest panelist

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Chief Frank Cloutier has served as a business leader with a record of service on local, state, federal and tribal levels. Part of his legacy of service can be seen through his years of service as an executive board member for the Mount Pleasant Area Chamber of Commerce.

The Mount Pleasant Area Chamber of Commerce breakfast was a part of the Thursday, Oct. 6 Business and Community Expo festivities at the Comfort Inn Conference Center.

The distinguished panelists who joined Cloutier on the dais included City of Mt. Pleasant Manager Nancy Ridley; Union Charter Township Manager Mark Stuhldreher; Barrie J. Wilkes, vice president of Finance and Administrative Services at Central Michigan University; and Mid-Michigan Community College President Christine Hammond.

The event offered important updates from city leaders with



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Chief Frank Cloutier addresses a full room as a panelist at the Oct. 6 Chamber breakfast.

emphasis on detailing the city's economic, educational, and cultural developments.

The panelists also stressed what to look forward to from the City of Mt. Pleasant for 2017.

"One of the resources we use at the Tribe is to build our skill set from within our community and with that reason and opportunity to build our business, we value and retain our employees," Cloutier said. "If we invest in our talented workers, it will pay dividends to our organization. For some positions, we look into the marketplace to find the right people and place them in the right position to succeed."

In his closing remarks, Cloutier mentioned the support the Tribe receives from two special employees in attendance: SCIT Economic Development Director Brian Smith and CEO of the Migizi Economic Development Company Robert Juckniess.

"Chief Cloutier was very clear in his assessment that the gaming business has reached a saturation point in Michigan. To that end, Migizi... is uniquely positioned to further the interests of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe by providing valuable products and services to the community," Juckniess said. "Under the leadership of Chief Cloutier and the entire Migizi Board, we feel that the opportunity for economic expansion, job creation and enhanced customer experience in mid-Michigan is ours for the taking."

Chamber President Bret Hyble moderated the session.

"We need to hear what's going on with the Tribe along with our local government, business and leaders at CMU and MMCC," Hyble said. "A



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Migizi Marketing Manager Fredrick Kuhlman and Migizi Sales and Marketing Specialist Gina Borushko offer information and promotional items at the annual Business Expo, which followed the commerce breakfast

vibrant business community can only benefit when other business interests with the Tribe and our community succeed. Business expansion comes in many forms and when we see thousands come in for the summer concerts at Soaring Eagle, the whole community benefits."

Hammond is beginning her third year at the helm.

"We collaborate with the communities of Clare and Gladwin counties where MMCC originated and at our Mount Pleasant campus where many tribal

college students have come to take our courses. Those relationships with the Tribe and the business community grow stronger every year," Hammond said.

Hammond said the health programs remain "among our strongest in the state and our integrative manufacturing programs are successful."

"Like the Tribal college, many students will take classes at MMCC and continue on with their education and come back to work in our communities," she said.

Tribal Council announces Tribe awarded \$983,269 five-year SAMHSA grant

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The Tribal Council announced on Oct. 4 the Tribe has been awarded a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) five-year \$983,269 grant.

Chief Frank Cloutier cites the award as an example why the Tribe embraces partnership on local state, federal and tribal levels.

"The SAMHSA award is a highlight of what can be implemented for the benefit of Tribal youth and families," Cloutier said. "Much coordination and collaboration made this possible and I offer a chi-miigwetch to Sylvia (Murray) and (the) Grants and Contracts team for bringing this five-year grant to fruition."

Grants/Contracts Manager Sylvia Murray said the overall goal is to engage community knowledge and experience to assess and enhance the Tribe's ability to prevent, monitor and address the issues of suicide and substance abuse in the community.

"The grant focuses on youth aged 24 and under and their families, and a key component of the project is to address historical trauma and the intergenerational transfer of that trauma," Murray said. "The first year of the grant is dedicated entirely to community-based evaluation and planning. Using the five-step SAMHSA Strategic Prevention Framework tool, planning efforts will center on community participation in conducting a community needs assessment, community readiness interviews with focus groups and talking circles."

Murray said an analysis of service-delivery and service system asset mapping will occur.

"These efforts will lead to the selection, implementation and evaluation of an effective, culturally congruent, and sustainable prevention/intervention strategy to be implemented over the remaining four years of the grant," Murray said.

"The assistance and oversight of an advisory circle, Anishnaabe bimaadiziwin edbaamjigejik (the Native way of life-the ones who oversee), will be essential to these efforts," she said.

Strategic Grant Specialist Shannon Smith said the circle will include up to four Youth Council representatives, community members and employees representing multiple service sectors within the Tribe.

"Through this collaboration, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian

Tribe will increase its capacity to support youth and young adults as they transition to adulthood," Smith said. "This approach will embrace the traditions and culture of the Tribe while encouraging strategies that enhance access to and utilization of resources."

The Michigan State University Native American Institute will lead the evaluation team through the process, according to Grant Analyst Kehli Henry.

"(This) collaboration... will also develop a system to track and monitor data related to suicide, substance use, trauma and other important health and safety issues," Henry said. "A 'grow your own' approach will be utilized, where a Tribal Member will be employed as a data and evaluation technician, and will gain training and skill-building expertise."

Leadership Apprentice Marilee Fleming said this process will give the additional benefit of building the Tribe's capacity to conduct its own evaluations and research in the future.

A recent addition to the team, Strategic Grant Specialist Donna Patterson has experience in both primary and secondary education levels and has also worked in the substance abuse prevention and recovery fields.

"I have also spent many years in workforce development," Patterson said. "I'm very excited to be writing grants for the Tribe, and look forward to assisting in the team effort to bring funding in. I feel especially blessed to be working with the Grants and Contracts team. I find them to be an extremely talented, knowledgeable, and fun group of ladies to work with."

Ziibiwing Vendor Training

November 15th 2016, 6-8pm at Ziibiwing Center

During the training a ZCS team member will discuss:

- The required paperwork and tax forms needed to become a vendor.
- The types of items we are currently looking for.
- Product packaging and descriptions.

This training is designed for anyone making handmade & handcrafted items that they would like to sell in the Ziibiwing Commercial Services' gift shops which include:

Meshtoongewinoong - located at the Ziibiwing Center
Dawe-Wi-Gamigoonse - located just inside the main entrance of the SECR
Jeemon-Aince - located just inside the main entrance to the Slot Palace
Naanooshke Gallery - located by Isabella's & online at NativeDirect.com.

Please call (989)775-4745 to register. Registration will conclude Nov. 12th at 5pm.



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Planning for the Future: MIIBS Land & Buildings

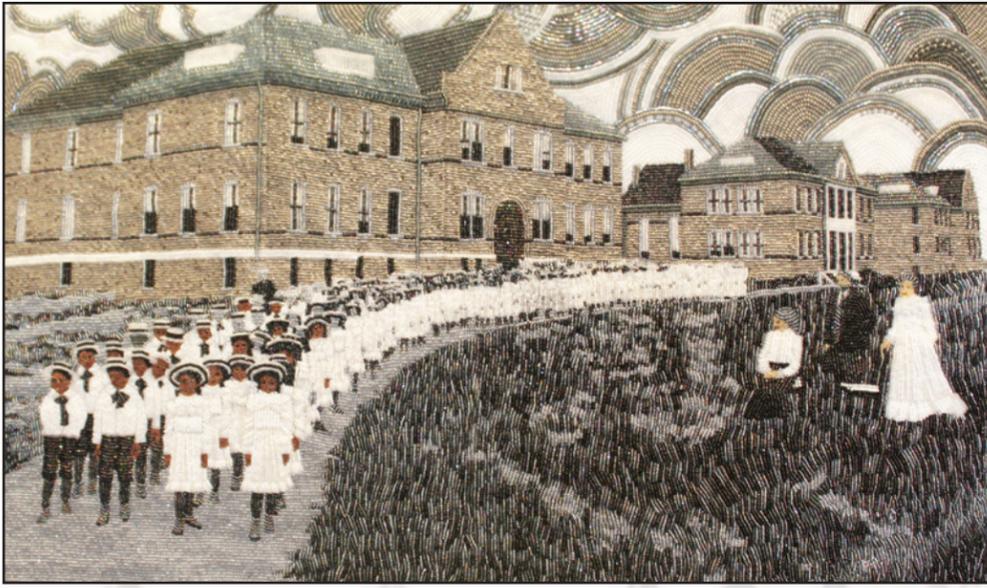


Photo of Beadwork by Summer Peters

SCIT Members who return a completed survey will be eligible for a random drawing of one of the following—a \$25 gift certificate from Ziibiwing, a \$50 Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort gift certificate, or a Pendleton blanket.

Decisions need to be made about the land and buildings associated with the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School (MIIBS). Your views are critical so that these decisions reflect the wishes and needs of community members. Your responses will remain confidential. The Center for Applied Research at CMU will be the only entity that will have access to all survey data. An edited summary of findings, with no information that could identify you, will be shared with the Tribal Council and community.

Please mail or drop off your completed survey to:

Ziibiwing Research Center
6650 East Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Surveys can now be completed online at:
Tribal Members area at www.sagchip.org

Additional surveys can be obtained at:
Tribal Clerk, Tribal Ops, SCTC, Ziibiwing and the CMU Native American Programs Office (*only one survey per person*).

1. How much thought have you given to future use of the buildings and land associated with the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School (MIIBS)? *(check one response)*

- A Great Deal Some A Little None

2. Did anyone in your family attend the MIIBS? *(check one)*

- No
 Yes → Relationship(s) to you: _____

3. The next questions ask you how much you support or oppose various suggestions for using the land and buildings associated with the MIIBS in the future.

(Check one box in each row for each suggestion.)

	Definitely Support	Probably Support	Neutral/No Opinion	Probably Oppose	Definitely Oppose
If buildings can be rehabilitated at an affordable cost, your views about using buildings for:					
Cultural preservation and language revitalization center	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Healing center as a remembrance of MIIBS students	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Indian Boarding School Museum	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Tribal College	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Grades 7-12 Charter School	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Skilled trades education center	<input type="checkbox"/>				
If buildings are removed, your views about using property for:					
Memorial wall with MIIBS students' names	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Green space (landscaped)	<input type="checkbox"/>				

4. Do you have any other suggestions about how the MIIBS buildings and land should be used in the future?

5. In what year were you born? _____

6. Please indicate your tribal membership to make sure that the views of all groups are understood. *(check one)*

- Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Members → Tribal ID # _____
 Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Descendant
 Other Tribal Member → Which Tribe? _____
 Community Member *(not a Tribal Member)*

7. For Tribal Members Only: In which district do you reside? *(check one)*

- District 1 District 2 District 3

8. Did you complete survey(s) administered in 2011 about the use and conveyance of the land and buildings to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe? *(check one)*

- Yes No Not Sure/Don't Remember

Optional Section

9. Would you like to discuss these issues regarding the MIIBS in greater detail in a small group setting?

- Yes No

10. Would you like more information on plans about the MIIBS as they develop?

- Yes No

11. If you answered YES to Questions 9 and/or 10, please provide contact information below.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Miigwetch for taking the time to complete this survey! We appreciate your time.



Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan
"Working Together for Our Future"

7070 E. Broadway
Mount Pleasant, MI 48858
989-775-4000
www.sagchip.org



Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School property survey: Deadline is Nov. 30

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Much discussion has been generated in informal talking circles throughout the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, and a survey has been developed that gives opportunity for Tribal Members to offer input on what should be done with the former Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School buildings and property.

Have you completed your MIIBS survey yet? The clock is ticking and the deadline is Nov. 30.

Mary Senter of Central Michigan University's Center for Applied Research has been diligently working with Tribal Consultant William Cross on disseminating the survey on a variety of platforms.

"The MIIBS Committee, working with Tribal Council, Public Relations, Information Technology and the Tribal Observer, has created a short survey that makes it easy for (Tribal Members) to share (their) views about the use of the MIIBS land and buildings," Senter said. "The survey is, of course, voluntary, and responses are confidential."

Survey copies are also available at the Tribal Operations reception desk, the Tribal Clerk's office, the Ziibiwing Center, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College and Native American Programs office at CMU.

A copy of the survey can also be found in the October and November issues of the Tribal Observer.

Please complete the survey one time only by Wednesday, Nov. 30 at 5 p.m.

Cross said SCIT Members who complete the survey will be eligible for a random drawing for one of the following: a \$25 gift certificate from

Ziibiwing, a \$50 Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort gift certificate and a Pendleton blanket.

"Tribal Member input is vital to this project and Council wanted to hear the voices of the people and for us to make a report of the findings," Cross said. "The survey is available to be filled out by hand in the Tribal Observer and the printouts at the specified locations. The survey is also available electronically on the Tribal website, the CMU website and links to those sites can also be found on the Tribal Facebook page."

For SCIT Tribal Members, please access the survey through

the website link for Tribal Members at www.sagchip.org.

For SCIT descendants, members from other tribes and interested community members, please access the following web link: <http://carrs.chsbs.cmich.edu/sw5/sswf.aspx?st=BoardingSchoolSurvey2016>

(CMU reports viewers may need to disable pop ups on the browser being used to complete this link to the survey.)

Please feel free to direct any questions to Cross at sagchip123@aol.com or Senter at carrs@cmich.edu.

Saganing Eagles Landing Casino held summer-long slot tournament

MICHELLE PFUND

Saganing Guest Services

The Saganing Eagles Landing Casino held a summer-long slot tournament where guests had to earn 200 points to participate in the tournament. This was the first time that Saganing held a slot tournament event of this magnitude.

Guests were allowed to participate until they won a spot as a semi-finalist. The top 11 guests that had the highest scores each day the slot

tournament was held were invited to the semi-finalist tournament on the Sept. 3.

The top session winner from the semi-final rounds proceeded to the grand finale tournament on Sept. 3.

The first place winner, Heather Helring, received \$5,000 from Saganing Eagles Landing and a trip to Las Vegas (package included round trip airfare, hotel room at the Encore, food allowance and two tickets to a show) and to play in a tournament for \$1 million dollars.



Courtesy of Michelle Pfund

Saganing Eagles Landing Casino staff show their support for Heather Helring before she headed to a Las Vegas tournament.

Second place winner Richard Kalosis received \$3,000 from Saganing Eagles Landing and a seven-day cruise of his choice.

On Helring's first night in Vegas, a practice slot tournament was held. On the second day, they started the elimination

rounds for the Million Dollar Slot tournament.

The competition was eliminated down to 50 contestants. The last day, the competition was eliminated down to 11 contestants and the 12th spot was held for a Wild Card Drawing Session.

Helring did not need the wild card drawing because she had made it through the elimination rounds.

Heather proceeded to the Million Dollar round and took sixth place overall which banked her another \$9,000

Editorial: November Migizi Economic Development Company update

FREDRICK KUHLMAN

Marketing Manager
Migizi EDC

Migizi Economic Development Company is happy to report a very successful season for three of the businesses that have ended their operations for the year. Eagle Bay Marina, Waabooz Run Golf Course and Soaring Eagle Hideaway RV Park have all closed for the winter.

The trio of properties made significant progress this year and the outlook for next season is very strong. Improvements and upgrades are scheduled for the three businesses in the coming year that should further improve the future for the organizations.

Migizi EDC would like to extend a sincere welcome to new Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort CEO Ray Brenny.

Although Ray has been with the resort only a short time, the strong relationship



Courtesy of Steven Norbury

Matt Schoensee of the Waabooz Run Pro Shop receives Migizi Employee of the Month award.

between the SECR and Migizi continues to be warm and mutually supportive.

Management looks forward to working with Ray and the entire staff on the many opportunities that exist between these two Tribal enterprises.

Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel has a full schedule of holiday activities ready to make this a memorable season for

everyone, beginning the weekend of Nov. 18 with the third annual "Lil' Deer Camp."

This year, events are planned for the kids as well as adults. While the kids are splashing in the park, the adults can enjoy a free massage and enjoy some leisure time.

On Friday, Nov. 24, the hotel will have a Black Friday pajama party and dance for the young guests and adults alike with prizes galore.

The waterpark is hosting the

first Festival of Trees throughout December.

Tribal departments, area businesses, organizations, and individuals will have the opportunity to decorate a Christmas tree and enter it into the competition.

At the conclusion of the judging, the trees will be auctioned off with all proceeds benefitting the Residential Treatment Center.

Trees can be picked up at no charge on Nov. 14 at the waterpark and must be decorated and returned by Dec. 1.

The trees will then be displayed at the hotel.

Please join us at 6 p.m. on Dec. 3 in the courtyard of the waterpark for the lighting of the trees ceremony presided by Chief Frank Cloutier.

The hotel will sparkle with the holiday spirit throughout the season.

Migizi would also like to offer acknowledgement to Employee of the Month Matt Schoensee. Congratulations, Matt, on a job well done.

Adopt a Pet

Horton



I am Horton, a 12-year-old Labrador Retriever/Beagle mix. I am an older gentleman and I was completely shocked when I wandered from home and my previous owners never came looking for me. It's their loss though, I cannot wait to share my companionship and love with my forever family. I don't require a whole lot and I do well with everyone I meet.

Chelsea



Hello, I'm Chelsea a 5-year-old Domestic Shorthair mix. I have been with HATS since June 2015. I am a big girl with a big personality. Because I'm so curvy, I had to be put on a diet. Although I don't love it, it's what's best for my health. I'm looking for a home where I'll be spoiled and the center of attention. I don't really enjoy other cats or dogs taking away my spotlight.

Available at: The Humane Animal Treatment Society
 1105 S. Isabella Rd. Mt. Pleasant ➔ Hatsweb.org ➔ 989.775.0830 ➔ Email: isabellahats@gmail.com
 Monday - Friday: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Saturday: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Puppies: \$175, Dogs: \$160, Senior Dogs: \$50, Kittens: \$85, Cats: \$55, Senior Cats: \$35



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Ziibiwing Commercial Services business passes the million dollar sales mark

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

A lot of business has happened since the Ziibiwing Commercial Service e-Commerce business had \$577.97 in sales for fiscal year 2009.

Tribal officials and administrators came together at the Oct. 13 cake cutting to celebrate the e-Commerce business as they passed the one million sales mark for the fiscal year 2016.

Commercial Services Manager Chris Tata said most of the sales are generated from Amazon.com.

"In an ever-changing retail marketplace, the Ziibiwing Commercial Services department has evolved by developing strategies that bring popular and competitively priced products to consumers," Tata said. "The ZCS department has built the e-commerce business by utilizing mostly existing resources to capture additional online sales."

Tata said the store will continue to grow the e-commerce third-party seller account on Amazon.com, under the name More Than Just Jewelry.

"With the necessary resources, we could easily see sales grow of four million dollars



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Smiles abound all around as Ziibiwing Commercial Services celebrate making more than one million dollars in sales.

annually, over the next three to four years," Tata said.

Assistant Manager Brenda Lehmkuhle provided an overview of their facility along with Tata and Web Store Administrator Pam Spurbeck.

"We want to thank Tribal Chief Frank Cloutier, Tribal Council Treasurer Gayle Ruhl, Tribal Administrator Tonia Leureaux, Ziibiwing Assistant Director Judy Pamp, Migizi CEO Robert Juckniess and SCIT Economic Development Director Brian Smith for stopping by to recognize our staff and the amazing fact that we went over one million dollars in sales this past fiscal year," Lehmkuhle said.

Spurbeck said Council gave the approval to build a larger

warehouse next to their current location and the new facility will have taller ceilings and will allow them to expand their product selection.

"More and more consumers are shopping and buying online," Spurbeck said. "We recently upgraded all of our software that streamlined the process from order to delivery. We will be able to grow the business utilizing the newly-implemented software allowing us to sell on more marketplaces and expand our online department."

On peak days, Ziibiwing Commercial Services ships out more than 750 packages.

This year alone they have sold more than 8,800 Ty products, 3,800 Pendleton products

warehouses to store and ship as it gets ordered."

Native American made products are sold on NativeDirect.com and more commercially-made items on Amazon.com, Spurbeck said.

Chief Frank Cloutier said just like any Fortune 500 company, the store will continue to expand its role in the marketplace.

"The Tribal Council remains driven on the expansion plans for our e-Commerce sales," Cloutier said. "We will be working with Ziibiwing as they look to build more storage space for the growing market needs. With the great support we have from our e-Commerce employees, we will remain engaged with this market and it will be a part of creating a positive vision for the future of our Tribe."



and 2,400 hand warmer mugs.

"We are one of the largest UPS shippers within the U.S. Department of Interior and most of our customers are not from Michigan (ZCS e-Commerce receives most sales from California, New York, Texas, and Florida)," Spurbeck said. "We ship about 70 percent of the merchandise we sell and 30 percent of our products are shipped to various Amazon

Attention Tribal Members

With the decrease in per capita income, now is the time to contact Housing for financial and budgeting assistance.



For more information, please contact:

Sherrill Kennedy at 989-775-4552 or SKennedy@sagchip.org



ZIBIWING CENTER

of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways
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6650 East Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI
989.775.4750 • www.sagchip.org/ziibiwing
OPEN MONDAY- SATURDAY • 10am-6pm

December Events

Annual Appreciation Dinner (By invitation)	December 8
Performance Circle Graduation	December 13
Community Cultural Teaching	December 17

NOVEMBER HOLIDAY HOURS:

November 11, 2016
Veteran's Day --
Ziibiwing will remain **OPEN**
during normal business hours

November 24, 2016
Thanksgiving Day--
Ziibiwing will be **CLOSED**

November 25, 2016
Day after Thanksgiving Day--
Ziibiwing will remain **OPEN**
during normal business hours

BUILDING A DREAM



COLLECTION SHOWING
Free & Open to the Public

Saturday, November 12, 2016
10am - 3pm

"It is with great excitement that we celebrate the opening of the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways. Our tribal members have been talking for decades about the need to have a special place from which to tell our story. For a long time, before our recent economic prosperity, having a place like this was only a dream. Through the efforts of our tribal community, we have made this special place a reality."
Bonnie Ekdahl, Inaugural Director of the Ziibiwing Center, Commemorative Book - May 2004

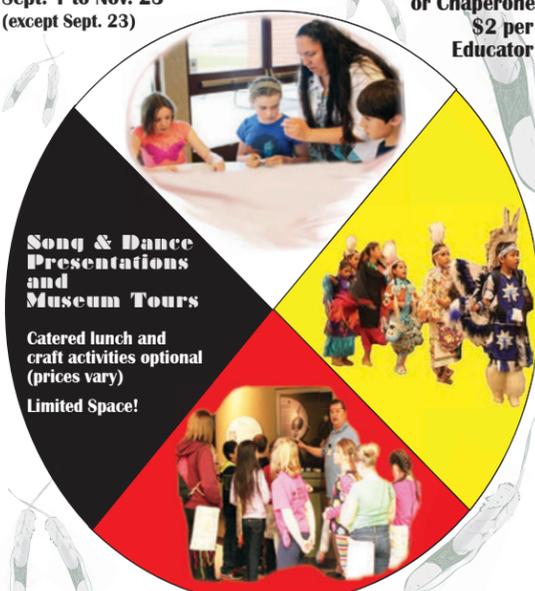
On display will be floorplans, memorabilia and photographs from the Ziibiwing Collection showing the planning, design and opening of the Ziibiwing Center. Anita Heard, Ziibiwing's Research Center Coordinator, will be on hand Saturday, November 12, 2016 from 10am to 3pm to discuss and answer questions about the Ziibiwing Center, an important and historical development of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan. Objects remain on display through November 19, 2016 • Monday thru Saturday • 10am-6pm

ATTENTION EDUCATORS!

AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE SPECIAL

Tuesday thru Friday
Sept. 1 to Nov. 23
(except Sept. 23)

\$4 Per Student
or Chaperone
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Song & Dance Presentations and Museum Tours

Catered lunch and craft activities optional (prices vary)
Limited Space!

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Honor a loved one who has walked on to the Spirit World by bringing to share the favorite food, stories and photos of that special someone who touched your life.

SPIRIT FEAST

November 4, 2016 • 6pm-8pm
Free & Open to the Public



MARKET & COMPETITION

CIRCLE OF INDIGENOUS ARTS



2015 People's Choice Winner
"Clan System" Paintings
by Dave Shananaquet

NOVEMBER 18 & 19, 2016 • 11am-6pm

Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways
6650 E. Broadway • Mt. Pleasant, Michigan

Host:  Fine Art • Music • Food • Dance
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Exclusive Sponsor: 

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For more information call 989.775.4750
www.sagchip.org/ziibiwing



Community comes together at 18th annual eagle feather cleansing, honoring and feast

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

On Oct. 19-21, the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways hosted another cultural event where the community came together for their 18th annual eagle feather cleansing, honoring and feast.

The more than 500 eagle feathers displayed are an example of honoring the life of the Anishinabe people, past and present, and an honoring of the life and the spirit of the eagle. This gives blessings and strength to Anishinabe people.

Anishinaabe kwe, Ziibiwing staff and community members participated in the annual eagle feather cleansing on Oct. 19.

Curator William Johnson said that Ziibiwing understands and accepts the physical and spiritual responsibility in maintaining the sacred and ceremonial collection.

“(The cleansing) is a lot of work that we take seriously, and we are highly honored to have the Saginaw Chippewa eagle staff with us for the first time,” Johnson said. “The Eagle feathers in the sacred and ceremonial collection are well cared for and it shows. Many community members and young people brought their Eagle feathers in for cleansing and for that we’re grateful.”

Kent Jackson, elder and weekaun (spiritual leader) of the Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veterans Warrior Society, was a part of the three-day

teaching and he shared some of what he has learned from his elders at the Oct. 21 feast.

“It was shared a long time ago that this bird saved Anishinaabe people when it found the Creator’s instruction and brought it back down to us,” Jackson said. “The eagle sees great distances and knows the struggles we have, shares our pain with Gitchi Manitou (Great Spirit) and carries the solution back through the spirit contained in the feathers. The eagle sees the smoke rising (and) sacred fires lit all across Indian Country and reports back to the Creator every day of what’s happening on Mother Earth and Anishinaabe people.”

Anishinabe people need to attend these ceremonies themselves, Jackson said. Until you actually come out and participate, that’s when you get the full power of what the teachings and feathers are about.

“Each one of these feathers has a story that needs to be told and shared,” Jackson said. Anishinaabe kwe Maria Colberg, whose spirit name is Angel Eyes, participated all three days.

“It was a great honor to bring these spiritual items out of the collection and I find these feathers want to be social and to do the work the Creator intended,” Colberg said. “In preserving, cleaning and honoring them, the whole ceremony has been beautifully peaceful.”

This year’s ceremony marked the first time the SCIT eagle staff came in for cleansing.

“One thing I tried to do while cleaning the feather for the SCIT Eagle Staff is to



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick
Potawatomi Anishinaabe kwe Victoria Voges applies cedar oil to a headdress that dates back more than 100 years.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick
The teachings of Anishinaabe kwe responsibilities can be seen as these women cleanse the SCIT eagle staff.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Cedar oil is used to cleanse the feathers yearly by applying medicine with smooth even brush strokes from the shaft outward to the feather tip.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Community members were encouraged to bring in their cedar boxes and containers to cleanse their personal Eagle feather collection.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Weather and sunlight can have an adverse effect on Eagle feather bustles and cedar oil keep feathers from becoming brittle.

remember the spirit that comes through and the comfort it gives in all the locations and ceremonies it is used in,” Colberg said. “Many people don’t get the blessing to be this close to such a spiritual gift for the people and I take reverence and extreme care in this responsibility. The honor to do this special cleansing is a high honor because of what the staff represents to all the people.”

Chief Frank Cloutier brought eagle feather plumes he donated that will be cleaned and incorporated into the staff, Colberg said.

Victoria Voges is a Potawatomi Anishinaabe kwe who traveled from Okemos to participate.

“The experience itself of just being in this room, and the history it represents, is beyond words,” Voges said. “Feathers that are taken out in the public or used in healing need a cleaning, just like any of the other spiritual items used in ceremony. These feathers are still alive because of the spirit that comes through them. If the feathers aren’t cleansed, the spirit within has a harder time coming through to provide the healing touch they offer us freely.”

Planning Department Curbside collection update

KIM OTTO MCCOY

Administrative Assistant II

In an effort to keep costs down for Curbside Collection, a tribally-funded program, the list is being updated.

The Planning Department has done a mass mailing to those currently on that list. Verification of Residence forms were mailed Thursday, Oct. 13. The letters are addressed to Curbside Collection recipient or by Tribal Member name.

Please fill out the form thoroughly, make sure your contact number and mailing address (if applicable) are filled out, in case we need to contact you. If the Verification

of Residence form is not received by Tuesday, Nov. 15, the service will be discontinued until it is received.

If you receive Curbside Collection service and have not received a mailing for this update, please call me to verify your address. You may have submitted your form recently so it is not necessary to reapply for service. There were addresses that are eligible for services but have not participated in this program, please fill out the form so you may receive this benefit.

When addresses have been changed at the Tribal Clerk’s office, the Planning Department was unable to track those address changes as

we did not have names associated with the list.

After the Verification of Residence forms are put in to the database, the Planning Department will be able to track address changes from the Tribal Clerk.

The Tribe is getting charged for collection at homes that have been vacated by Tribal Members who have not reported their address changes to the Planning Department. It has been reported that the trash bins are being used by non-Tribal Members. This update effort will alleviate these situations.

If you have any questions, please contact 989-775-4014 or stop in at 2451 Nish-na-be-anong.

WANTED

ATTORNEY AT LAW

William L. Antrobis

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Experience: Former Prosecuting Attorney Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, and Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Indian Reservation; Former Public Defender Assiniboine Sioux Tribe; Criminal Defense Attorney

Tribal Affiliation: Member of the Six Nations Tribe, Ontario Canada

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Summit

continued from front page

Ogema Larry Romanelli has been the leader of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians for more than 10 years and said “talking with the government face-to-face is the best way for our people to communicate and get your point across.”

“I have seen issues become more intense over my 10 years as Ogema,” Romanelli said. “I know much has been resolved and I appreciate that but I see Tribes becoming more educated and can see the things that need to be corrected on a state level. Thankfully, our Michigan tribes are getting more knowledgeable on the issues that we can help bring

our resources to bear and resolve these issues.”

Jamie Stuck, chair for the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi, said every Native American community is different.

Whether the tribes are dealing with similar issues, all tribes have things that affect them in different ways, Stuck said.

“Being (at the summit) to represent your individual community and for the governor to hear you directly is access that is important for our people,” Stuck said. “We stand in solidarity with our Standing Rock people and the environmental issues they’re dealing with. We have had pipeline issues in our area with an Enbridge oil spill... and today, many tribes

are concerned about the Straits of Mackinaw and a potential spill caused by Pipeline 5.”

The Pipeline 5 environmental concern was voiced by tribal leaders in unison and Stuck said as any other tribe: they would rather be proactive and address a problem before it happens.

Levi Carrick, president for Bay Mills Indian Community, commended Gov. Snyder on his outreach to the tribes during his tenure.

“Our tribe continues to talk to the governor about the pipeline concerns and the invasive species that affect our fishing industry,” Carrick said. “A recent attachment to a defense bill provided regulatory leniency in the ballast water for corporation

who use shipping lanes in the Great Lakes and that will affect the environmental controls on invasive species.”

Joining SCIT, the federally-recognized Michigan tribes in attendance included: Bay Mills Indian Community, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi (Gun Lake Tribe), Hannahville Potawatomi Indian Community, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians,



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal Council member Kenneth Sprague (left) shakes hands with Gov. Snyder (center) and poses with Chief Cloutier.

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

National initiative set to transform society perceptions of Native Americans

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

On Aug. 30, a national initiative to transform societal perceptions of Native Americans from the First Nations Development Institute and Echo Hawk Consulting is hoping to bring Native Americans out of the shadows of public consciousness.

The two year research project “Reclaiming Native Truth:

A Project to Dispel America’s Myths and Misconceptions” goal is to create a long-term national movement led by Native people that will positively transform the image of and narrative on Native Americans.

The project is funded by a \$2.5 million grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation.

Tlingit Native Michael Roberts is president and CEO of First Nations Development Institute and also serves as a

co-director with Pawnee Native Crystal Echo Hawk and is fully behind the initiative.

“Native Americans and their communities are blocked from reaching their full potential by harmful stereotypes, misperceptions, and lack of awareness,” Roberts said. “This cultural indifference and injustice pervades our entire country, from the media and entertainment industry to thought leaders and pop culture overall.”

Hawk explained the goals of Reclaiming Native Truth.

“Over the next two years, this project is focused on understanding the true extent of society’s negative and inaccurate perceptions of Native Americans and finding the best means of overcoming them,” Hawk said. “Only then will we have the knowledge we need to design a broad campaign to solve this problem.”

The project narrative said an advisory committee comprised of 20 Native leaders, influential stakeholders, and racial equity experts will provide oversight, expertise and leadership to guide the project.

It is hopeful the conclusion of the two-year project will be able develop a national campaign to improve awareness of and respect and equality for Native Americans.

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Nichols, John, D, & Nyholm, Earl. A Concise Dictionary of Minnesota Ojibwe. University of Minnesota Press. Minneapolis. 1995. Title by Isabelle Osawamick.

WIGWAM WISDOM

The Wigwam has sheltered our ancestors from storms and bad weather since the dawn of time. The wigwam has witnessed the hardships our people have had to endure not only through the hands of change and war, but upon our strongest enemies, ourselves. The spirit of the wigwam does not forget and keeps with it the wisdom to guide the souls that have strayed back to a peaceful life.



Comments or feedback can be sent to: wigwam_wisdom@yahoo.com

**(WW is intended entertainment purposes only. Please make sure to seek professional counseling when necessary.)*

Dear WW: I am newly sober and here comes the holidays! I love my family but the drinking is going to get the best of me if I go to family functions. I haven't told anyone that I quit drinking and no one probably really cares but me. I'm not in trouble with the law but stupid things just seem to happen when I drink. I fell down the stairs once and almost broke my neck. I drunk dialed an old girlfriend whose husband answered. Oops! I was also a no-show at work once because I didn't hear the alarm. I know better than to drive but I just don't feel like I can handle booze any more. What do I do to get through the holidays? **Sober Now**

Dear Sober: Congratulations on knowing your limits and wanting better for yourself. I'm glad you realized your limits before getting into trouble with the law. There are a couple things you can do. One, don't attend family functions until you are strong enough to be around drinking and not be tempted. Two, just make a short appearance and have plans for immediately afterwards like taking a date to the movies. If you do give in, don't beat yourself up too badly and don't stop trying!

Dear WW: Is there actually ever going to be a perfect match for me out there? He doesn't even have to be perfect, I'll settle for one with a job. My last boyfriend cheated and the one before that was a liar. Now, I've been dating for four months, everything is going good and last night he tells me he just wants to be friends. Well he didn't say that when we started sleeping together but now that things seem to be getting serious, he just wants to be friends. Seriously is something wrong with me? I am single, no children, good job, attractive - I don't get it. **Worst Luck**

Dear Worst: When men say this (or women), BELIEVE them and take it as a blessing. Don't hang on and think that he/she will change. This means you can keep your options open as well. It may or may not have anything to do with you. Not everyone can commit. I would recommend counseling if you would like to explore yourself and behavior more thoroughly. Take time to know exactly what it is that you do want and do NOT want in a relationship. Once you are clear on it, things will come in focus. In the meantime, step back and just be friends.

Dear WW: I was brought up in foster care and removed from my mother's care. I don't remember a lot about her but do remember that she slapped me in the face once. It hurt and I was shocked. Just recently, I have been contacted that she would like to meet me and come into my life. I know this woman is my biological mother but she did not raise me. "Why now and what do I have to gain" is what I keep asking myself. I have enough stress in my life as it is without adding more. Am I wrong to not want to do anything with her? **Foster Kid**

Dear Foster: It sounds like you have blocked her out and are comfortable with it. However, it's not so much what you have to gain as what you could lose. I would recommend at least sitting down for one meeting with her. She probably wants to apologize. You may not see the benefits right now; the bigger picture is that you will be able to heal a hole in your heart. You may not feel it but it is there. People don't live forever and I would not pass up this opportunity.

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Editorial: Michigan Indian Day Golf Tournament results

BERNARD SPRAGUE
 Contributing Writer

The 2017 Michigan Indian Day Golf Tournament was held at Waabooz Run, the home course of the Tribe and operated by Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel.

The tournament replaced the Golf Membership tournament which is usually held on this day. We had prizes donated by Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and its Marketing Department, Soaring Eagle Waterpark, and its Nbakade Restaurant provided an excellent meal of hamburgers, brats and baked beans for all of the players after the match.

The format was bringing two and drawing two for a four-player team. We had seniors, ladies, youth and men matched up to even the playing field.

We had 42 players total that resulted in 10 foursomes and one twosome.

Unfortunately, one group had six players and the pace was slower than the rest of the groups. The pace wasn't a factor as all of the teams turned in excellent scores.

With 42 players paying \$30 to the pot, we were able to pay two flights of equal amounts.

A flight top three all turned in identical scores of 50 or 11 under and the B Flight top three scores were 52, 52 and 53, 9 and 8 under respectively. There were no eagles and no one got wet. There were plenty of birds and a few bogeys.

A Flight results were first place: Steve Tooshkenig, Bill Durfee, Jim O'Neil and Derrick Sands.

Second place: Ryan Sprague, Kelly Chamberlain, Bernard Sprague and George Sprague.

Third place: Les Riley, Dave Williams, Brian Quigno and Rhonda Quigno.

B Flight results included first place: Bean Sprague, Steve Wassegijig, Bill Tooshkenig and Shirley Tooshkenig.

Second place: Bear Raphael, Gayle Ruhl, Sheila Leauteaux and Andre Leauteaux.

Third place: Lucas Sprague, Brad Bennett, D.K. Sprague and Frank Sprague.

As noted, six of the 10.5 teams received cash for finishing in the top six. All of the players received a door prize for participating and all of the players had an opportunity to win proximity markers and skins cash.

The committee of Bernard Sprague, Eric Rodriguez and Lucas Sprague would like to thank all of the players and sponsors for their support and participation.

Also, the Waabooz Run and Nbakade staff made the players feel welcome and special.

We hope to see you in 2017 in either the Membership tournament or Michigan Indian Day Open. Miigwetch.

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Native teachings and tradition shone brightly at Seventh Generation Fall Feast

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The autumn leaves may change colors but Native teachings, tradition and culture endure for generations.

The Seventh Generation Program celebrated its annual Fall Feast with the community at the Elijah Elk Cultural Building on Oct. 13 with elder and medicine pipe carrier Bucko Teeple and Anishinaabe kwe medicine woman Michelle Wellman-Teeple.

Bucko Teeple is of the Bear Clan who comes from the Bay Mills Indian Community and has been coming to the seasonal feast since the program began more than 20 years ago.

“Our people have always looked at the fall as the time of great change, much like the change from light to darkness,” Bucko Teeple said. “We go from the green leaves of the trees and move to the vibrant orange, red and yellow colors of the fall and changing to know leaves at all.”

Native people watch the ground turn from green to brown and yielding to white at the change of season, Bucko said.

“Those are significant changes like the change that comes from the west direction where we walk from life to the



Courtesy of Lee Ann Ruffino

Tribal drummers Jason Oldman (left) and Daniel Jackson offer a traveling song at the Oct. 13 Seventh Generation Fall Feast.

afterlife,” he said. “This is why it’s important to make our offerings and celebrate the change of seasons together with the harvest it brings.”

The gift of change can be a gift of awareness where Bucko said he believes the rich teachings shown to by Mother Earth should give a time to pause.

Bucko said tribes that make the continued financial contributions to traditional teachings demonstrate the true spirit of the Seven Grandfather Teachings.

“This is absolutely fundamental for tribal leaders to assert and claim who we are as a nation by funding cultural education and

embracing the ways we have learned from our ancestors about being Anishinaabe,” Bucko said. “We need to have a land base, that is one aspect of it, and we need to have a strong system of governance. In the old days, that was the clan system, and the two most important parts of that... our culture and our language.”

Bucko said he believes the staff at Seventh Generation is maintaining those aspects of being Anishinaabe and sovereign.

Michelle Wellman-Teeple is from the Little River Band of Odawa and Golden Eagle Clan.

She said much of the teachings she received growing up related to the responsibilities of Anishinaabe kwe during fall feast time.

“Our teachings show that Anishinaabe kwe did the planting, gathering, tending to the gardens and medicine and also harvesting. The other important connection Anishinaabe kwe have is biish (water),” Michelle said. “The water teachings are with us every season and every day of the year for the rest of our lives. That

water is a female force and like Anishinaabe kwe, it is very powerful and gives life itself.”

Michelle said generally when the feast gatherings are held, it is the women who offer prayer and prepare the spirit plate before the teachings and the feast.

“We feed those spirits first and at our traditional feast, we prepare to share the food with them before us. We don’t need to taste test the food because the ancestors know it will be good if we do it in a good way,” Michelle said. “We give that offering to that Grandfather Fire. Anishinaabe kwe also learn to pray, sing and speak for the water and I recently learned a water song and I share that gift given to me with the community tonight.”

Elder and Anishinaabe Outreach Specialist Isabelle Osawamick from the Anishinaabe Language Revitalization Program offered

a prayer in Anishinaabemowin for the gathering.

A veritable cornucopia of vegetables, fruits and traditional fare like wild rice, fry bread and strawberries was prepared for more than 100 community members and their families.

Seventh Generation Administrative Assistant Lee-Ann Ruffino said the feast was prepared in a good way by the Seventh Generation staffers Lacey Mandoka, Jose Gonzalez, Ben Hinmon, Stephanie Sprague, Amanda and Jayden Hunt, Trent Trepanier, and Clinton Pelcher.

“Community helpers Tracy and Cameron Cole donated their time in the kitchen and (helped set) up for the event and they were a great help that day,” Ruffino said. “We also like to say miigwetch to drummers Jason Oldman and Dan Jackson and our sacred fire keeper Bert Hunt.”



Courtesy of Lee Ann Ruffino

The community lines up for fresh, harvested crops at the 2016 Fall Feast.

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Chief Frank Cloutier speaks at CMU's Great Lakes Science in Action Symposium

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

On Oct. 14, Central Michigan University's Institute for Great Lakes Research held its third annual Great Lakes Science in Action Symposium on "Ensuring the Sustainability of the Great Lakes."

Chief Frank Cloutier shared a Tribal perspective on the topic with other panelists including Kevin O'Donnell, representative for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Great Lakes Program; State Rep. Charles Brunner (D-Bay City); Matthew Goddard, spill prevention specialist for the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality; Michigan DNR Fisheries Chief Jim Dexter; and Emily Finnell, chief strategist for the Michigan Office of the Great Lakes.

"We are very blessed to have 20 percent of the world's fresh water... We work with the partners around the table as we deal with aquatic invasive species," Finnell said. "This is an issue we all face and we are still looking at the science that shows the tremendous impacts it is having on our waterways."

Cloutier serves as chair and president of the Midwest Association of Sovereign Tribes

which represents 39 different tribal communities.

"Every one of us is respectful to the issues of the environment regarding water quality," Cloutier said.

Cloutier said with the commitment of the SCIT Environmental Team and the Public Works department that monitors water quality, the Tribe remains steadfast in its collaborative outreach with entities that have similar interests.

"At the end of the day, it's not your water or my water. It's our water," Cloutier said.

Brunner said there is a large watershed in his district that extends around the mouth of the Saginaw River.

"A lot of concern has to take in account some of the water quality issues that are happening up river," Brunner said. "The Flint and Tittabawassee rivers have both seen challenges with the industries that were basically up river for many years. We need to use our best resources to identify the problem, implement a plan for cleaning up the resource and investing in ways to assure the quality of water is maintained for the citizens of Michigan."

Cloutier made a point to say "it takes a multitude of agencies in collaboration to be able

to manage water quality and resources effectively."

Cloutier said by bringing agencies together like at that occasion, people who have experience on the front lines of water quality, and talking about what we can do to lessen our negative environmental footprint environment, is a beginning.

"The only way we are going to face these challenges and to make a measurable difference is by collaboration," Cloutier said. "One thing is clear; we use more water than we can ever give back so it should be considered a precious and highly valued resource. What we have done in the past is not sustainable and we need to put those mechanisms and procedures in place along with the collaborative effort on the table where we can come together."

Goddard represents the Water Division of the Michigan DEQ and said they have the delegated authority to implement to Clean Water Act regulations and State of Michigan environmental regulations.

"One of the programs we implemented is the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System that regulates discharges into the Great Lakes. We are the people who go out to the industries and the physical structures to look at their discharge,"

Goddard said. "We review their records and toxicology reports and determine if they are in compliance with their permits. The permits are processed, based and reviewed on water quality standards and environmental background information."

The EPA has a program that regulates the storage of oil, Goddard said. The SPCC (Spill, Prevention, Countermeasures and Controls) program is implemented throughout the U.S.

"The State of Michigan and

DEQ takes it one step further with a program called the Spillage of Oil and Polluting Materials," Goddard said. "It regulates the storage of polluting materials, like chemicals and solvents, and we have the authority to have a program that is more restrictive than the federal standards."

Michigan is one of the few U.S. states that have a program that regulates the storage of materials to make sure they don't release into the environment, Goddard said.

SCA receives school supplies from United Way's Stuff the Bus program



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

On Wednesday, Aug. 31, United Way dropped off a large collection of school supplies to the Saginaw Chippewa Academy as part of its Stuff the Bus program which benefits local schools.

United Way delivers the school supplies to Isabella and Gratiot county classrooms, for roughly 3,500 K-12 students.

The delivery occurred before school was in session, but the SCA staff was on the job to greet Tom Olver, president of United Way, and his volunteers, and to give a big miigwetch for the supply drop off.



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Soaring Eagle
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National Native artist and hoop dancer Ty Defoe dazzles SCIT community

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The heart that shines through a deep love for the people and community must come from the sky above. Wisconsin Ojibwe and Oneida national Native artist, educator and hoop dancer Ty Defoe is from the Eagle Clan and his Spirit name given by the Creator is Giizhig (Sky Above).

Defoe performed at several events and programs within the community.

Defoe shared an Oct. 10 Indigenous Peoples Day presentation on decolonizing through dance at Central Michigan University.

“In the teachings of the two-spirit, we learn to decolonize the dance by bringing all races and culture into the circle. We embrace the masculine and feminine traits with the love and respect given by the Creator,” Defoe said. “The art of storytelling through dance honors the gender equity that our Native people and as indigenous culture shifts, we walk in both worlds. In my evolving, my performance art opened doors to share the historical context of how two spirit people have always walked among us.”

Defoe said “social constructs are options and what we think



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Central Michigan University's Moore Hall held students and community members as Native hoop dancer Ty Defoe demonstrated the healing aspects of reaching for the sky.

of it” and finds that “gender identity is transcended through the indigenous lens of culture and traditions.”

Defoe is a Grammy Award winner for his work on “Come to Me Great Mystery: Native American Healing Songs.”

He showed his passion for cultural education at CMU by performing a variety of cedar flute songs with a historical representation of two spirit images on the screen.

Dan Staples, information technology manager for the Tribe, and his wife Jane attended and they both said they thoroughly enjoyed meeting and learning from Defoe.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Defoe explains to SCA students how circles of life are interconnected with the sacred fire.

“He is a very accomplished musician, playing several styles of wood flutes throughout his presentation,” Staples said. “I’ve been to a few powwows over the years, but now have a much greater understanding of the dances, the regalia and their meaning.”

Defoe had the entire group of approximately 25 people up on their feet dancing the grounded earth dance and soaring like an eagle.

“The most impressive dance was Ty’s hoop dance which combined skill, stamina, a bit of gymnastics, and about 28 hoops on his arms and body forming wings, the earth, a chain and the circle of life,” Staples said.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Crane project collaborators Defoe and Henson share a moment with clans represented at the entrance of Sasiwaans.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Defoe shares his cedar flute as he performs a lunchtime serenade for Andahwod residents.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Defoe shares a story with Saginaw Chippewa Academy students.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Defoe (front, left) and puppeteer Heather Henson (back, left) enjoy a moment with Sasiwaans Language Immersion School students and staff.

Staples said Defoe’s description of being “two-spirited was moving.”

One student said she felt the mood of the room was of love and comfort, and said Defoe had a really great message to share.

Defoe also shared his hoop and eagle dancing skills at the Saginaw Chippewa Academy teaching lodge, the Sasiwaans Language Immersion Program and the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways Performance Circle.

He joined the regalia building workshop at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College.

He also played flute and piano for residents and elders at Andahwod CCC and ES.

He performed a demonstration at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment Hall during the Employee Benefits and Wellness Fair on Oct. 17.

“Meeting with the Saginaw Chippewa elders and the Tribal students has been a highlight of my visit here. I plan to be back in February and will be offering a workshop on hoop dancing with the support of Ziibiwing,” Defoe said. “The Saginaw Chippewa people have been

warm and welcoming and the heartbeat of our Anishinabe way of life is beating strong in this community.”

Frequently, Defoe can be seen as an artist in residence at the Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. and New York City.

Most recently, he has been working at the Seattle Museum of Contemporary Art during the Indigenous Beauty exhibition – Heather Henson’s “Flight: A Crane’s Story.” Henson is the youngest of the five children of “The Muppets” creator Jim and Jane Henson.

Heather Henson serves on The Jim Henson Company, The Jim Henson Legacy, and The Jim Henson Foundation Boards of Directors.

“(Heather and I) are working on a puppetry project together and (she) came into town and attended the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College regalia-making workshop and it provided many ideas for us to consider,” Defoe said. “We sure enjoyed touring what you do in health, environmental education and keeping the teachings alive and accessible for everyone on the Reservation.”

Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel supports Indigenous Pink Day

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

In support of Indigenous Pink Day for breast cancer awareness, the Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel offered \$10 day passes on Friday, Oct. 21, with all proceeds benefiting Community Cancer Services of Isabella County.

SEWPH’s fundraiser raised \$980 for the Community Cancer Services.

“This is the first time we have worked with Community Cancer Services of Isabella County,” said Melinda Coffin, associate general manager for SEWPH. “We wanted to coordinate an event to recognize Indigenous Pink Day to promote breast cancer awareness

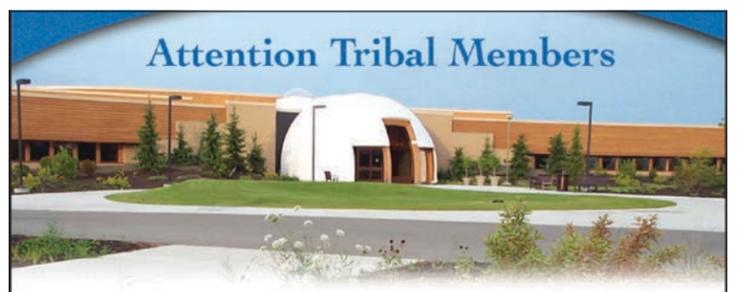


Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel raised \$980 for Community Cancer Services of Isabella County during its one-day fundraiser in support of Indigenous Pink Day. (Left to right) Garrison Smith, administrative assistant; Bonnie Sprague, general manager; Skip Steere, guest service manager; Chris Seyler, aquatics manager; Cindy Fugiel, housekeeping manager; Melinda Coffin, associate general manager; Megan Bair, vice president for the Community Cancer Services of Isabella County; and Barry Histed, director of facilities.

while giving back to our community. This is something we like to do every October

and the organization that we choose to partner with can change from year to year.”



The Ziibiwing Cultural Society Board of Directors needs to fill a 2-year term vacancy. Please submit a letter of interest and resume to:

Shannon Martin
6650 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858
or email smartin@sagchip.org



SCA School Bus Driver Gidget Rowland receives "Educator of the Month"

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Education Administration would like to take this opportunity to showcase the shining stars in the department! We are proud of each and every team member within our department and think the community should know about you!

Congratulations to Gidget Rowland, school bus driver for the Saginaw Chippewa Academy, for being selected as the October Educator of the Month. The following is a questionnaire completed by Rowland:

What is your favorite part of working in this department? All the great kids.

I am the first smile they see when they get on the bus. And the last when they get off the bus at night. The hugs too!

How long have you worked for the Education Department? More than 13 years.

Do you have any pets? One goldfish.

What are some activities that you love to do? Why? I love to read, it's relaxing. Spending time with my family. Camping, fishing, decorating my house and yard for the holidays. Making the schools popcorn on Fridays.

What is your favorite Disney movie? "Mickey's Christmas Carol."

What is your favorite candy/snack? Dark chocolate and nacho cheese snack crackers.

What is your favorite vacation spot and why? Mackinaw City (with a bridge view.)

What is one of your favorite quotes? "See, you can do it."



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

School Bus Driver Gidget Rowland receives her award. (Left to right: Administrative Assistant II Christina Sharp, Rowland, and Administrative Assistant II Kelly Woodworth.)

Thank you so much for being such an integral part of our education team!

"Bookface" program takes over the Tribal Library in October

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter accounts have experienced quite a buzz recently with the hash tag #bookface. It was only a matter of time for the popular meme to make its way to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Tribal Librarian Anne Heidemann said the concept behind "bookface" involves strategically lining up your face alongside a book cover that features a face so that there appears a melding of life and art.

"Many libraries have found bookface programs to be very popular and we

wanted to join in the fun. Everyone can get involved and it only takes a moment," Heidemann said. "Many librarians and other book lovers post these photos weekly on visual apps like Instagram and it's a creative way to blend the love of books and photography."

Library Assistant Lee-Anne Disel has seen the excitement carry through the students and employees and said the program is a big hit.

"Everyone (enjoys the program) and got a good laugh out of it – that is exactly what we wanted... we want people to have fun at the library," Disel said. "When people have fun, they're more likely to come back."

Library Assistant Kim Condon said the event allowed children and adults to also



Observer photos by Joseph Sowmick

Take the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Library "Bookface" challenge. Match the names of these bookface participants with the book they chose to be a part of.

Puzzle solutions: 1) Sandy Sprague 2) David Merrill 3) Kylie Wenigman 4) Alyssa Disel

dress up as a character featured on the cover of the book they chose.

"Dressing up is fun for Halloween, but we thought it would be a great idea to stretch it out for the entire month of October rather than reserving it for one day," Condon said. "We've had people dressing up as Martin

Luther King Jr., Babe Ruth, a gorilla, the Three Little Pigs, John Lennon, and a pug just to name a few."

Many employees and community members participated in the effort where their bookfaces were displayed on the Tribal Operations employee email system.

Pullen

The following students earned perfect attendance for September: Ella Altiman, Xavier A Iva-rez, Braeden Bennett, Logan Bird, Caleb Burger, Miles Davis, Adalayah Ekdahl, Jada Fallis, Zackary Flaughner, Xavier Freeman, Martin Garcia, Abraham Graveratte, Leticia Hawkins, Emma Hinmon, Trevor Isham, Heath Jackson-Hofer, Olivia Lerma, Caitlyn Loyd, Zhaawan Martell, Donovan Morrow, Gnaajwin Pego, Arilynn Peters, Tius Peters, Miikawadizi Prout, Armando Quiroz, Brock Reed, Isaiah Rodriguez, Helena Sargent, Hope Stevens, Alex Taylor, Isaiah Taylor, Jayden Taylor, A'Shanique Traver, Cruz Vaquera, Johnny Vertz, Lakiah Vertz, Micah Wagner and Amelia Whitt.

Vowles

The following students earned perfect attendance for September: Agustine Gibbs, Aviana Gomez, Metao Harris, Isabell Lerma, Zamiah Marshall, Mia McCreery, Ava Mena, Maisie Mena, Ringo Stevens and Cannon Thomason.

Renaissance

The following students earned perfect attendance for September: Gracie Flores, Allana VanOrden, Bryson Roth, Jacob Delacruz, Novaly Hinmon, Donovan Harris, Emma Henry, Erica Hinmon, Tyler Snyder, Isaiah Otto-Powers, Jayne Starkey, Nixie Snyder, Kyla Henry, Joselynn Shaw, Ricki Delacruz, Glendon Bennett, Bryson Chamberlain, Anoki Hawkins, Arianna Hawkins, Logan VanOrden and Anthony Hawkins.

Shepherd

The following Elementary students earned perfect attendance for September: Akharo Gibbs, Benjamin Sanchez-Hinmon, Kearnin Alexander, Chayton Chatfield, Johnathan Cogswell, Waaseya Lambertson, Samuel Cloud, Aubreyanna Stevens, Maya Ryan, Sandra Slater, Sadie Cogswell, Madalynn Sineway, Aanzhenii Starkey, Angelica Hinmon and Anjelina Smith. **Middle School:** Rumaulda Alanis, Aiyana Bross, Hunter Johnson, Brandon Seegraves, Olivia Sineway, Miingin Starkey, Jacob Williams, Miah Chatfield, Quincey Jackson, Olivia Lawson, Andee Raphael, Jacob Sineway, Sienna Chatfield, Jarrad Johnson Emma VanHorn and Chelsea White. **High School:** Aiyannah Borton, Okilani Alaniz, Uriah Main, Abbie Master, Calvin Parish, Tyler VanHorn, Cypi Escamilla, Adam Jewell, Dia Niezgodia, Alicia Raphael, Scott Sura and Leo Bennett.

Ganiard

The following students earned perfect attendance for September: Leia Black, Lilly Chamberlain, Gary Chippeway, Mya Chippeway, Hailey Cozzie, Asher Green, Rosemarie Green, Annebelle Hart, Aubree Hilleger, Konnor Hilleger, Isabella Jackson, Natasia Noe, Kage Ortiz, Mya Osawabine and Ethan Reed.

West Intermediate

The following students earned perfect attendance for September: Gloria Altiman, Christopher Bartow, Ava Belisle, Daniel Bennett, Phoebe Defeyer, Lars George, Aaron Graveratte, Damion Haggard, Binayshee Hendrickson, Thomas Henry, Elisha Hoormann, Matthew Jackson, Lauren Lindstrom, Chealsey Martin, Mnookmi Massey, Aysia Mena-Isham, Emmalee Morrow, Shenanrose Pontiac, Taliyah Poolaw, Destiny Shawano, Molly Smith-Rodriguez, John Stevens, Makayla Stevens, Thomas Trasky and Dawnseh Wilson.

Fancher

The following students earned perfect attendance for September: Dylan Bennett, Gabriela Escobedo, Tehya Flores, Foster Hoorman, Tiara Osawabine, Kaley Davis, Kaden Fair, Joaquin Jackson, Gavin McCreery, Meisha Raphael, Felicia Saunders, Areyu Sineway, Caedynce Bailey, Devyn Bennett, Kevyn Harrison and Trent McConnell.

McGuire

The following students earned perfect attendance for September: Jaydah Cook, Jasmine Davis Zaagidwin Isaac, Jonathan Martinez, Arianna Altiman, Jaylen Cook, JJ Hendrickson, Alexis Taylor, La'Anna Trudeau, Kyrah Bennett, Arianna Bird, Mackenzie Burger, Jonathan Davis, Tayden Davis, Adrianna Garcia, Julianna Garcia, Isaiah Harris, Maggi Martell, Kayden Weekley-Dean, Adrianna West and Gavin Wrightman.

Saginaw Chippewa Academy

The following students earned Student of the Month Honors for September: Sienna Pego, Amelia Cyr, Clara Begay, Liam Arbogast, Maiingan Miller-Hosler, Meadow David, Calijah Trepanier and Alberta Trepanier.

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SCTC Extension offers simple regalia and applique patterns workshop

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College provided the community with some tips and techniques on how to begin simple regalia and applique patterns during Oct. 17 and Oct. 20 workshops.

“Our instructor Lisa Kennedy is a self-taught seamstress. She brought along patterns and examples of her work with her to share,” said Shuna Stevens, extension coordinator for SCTC. “I find it inspiring that Lisa has gotten as good at sewing as she is by just teaching herself. Her willingness to share her knowledge with the community allows others to have support in their learning.”

With the support of a United States Department of Agriculture and National Institute of Food and Agriculture grant, the original intent for SCTC Extension



conducting community education workshops specifically on regalia making was to complement the Ziibiwing Center’s Performance Circle schedule and offer further instruction on regalia making in general.

Waabanoqua (Judy Pamp), assistant director for the Ziibiwing Center, said she looks at regalia making as a means for individuals to show pride in being Anishinaabe.

“It gives artists a unique canvas to share spiritual, tribal and family designs, sewing, beading, feather work and leather work skills, plus individual preferences and influences,” Waabanoqua said. “The Red Arrow family has many floral designs that have been handed down throughout the generations.”

“Each pattern comes with the story of who drew the design and beaded the flower or leaf, whose regalia it was beaded on, and why the design was important to our family members,” she said. “Some designs tell our family history where as others might be a clan design and sometimes family members will bead



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal artisan Lisa Kennedy of Niishode (two hearts) Anishinaabe Arts shows the SCTC Extension class different patterns of applique to choose from for regalia making.

or sew their personal animal helper on their regalia.”

Waabanoqua reflected on her childhood when her family sat and heard the stories and soon they came to learn about their ancestors and their family history.

“It is like our grandfathers, grandmothers, great aunts and uncles were still in the room with us,” she said. “We might be beading or sewing the same pattern used by our ancestors but when we are done, it might look totally different due to coloring and beading or sewing techniques. I find that amazing.”

Kennedy shared with the class that her desire to make regalia pieces began many years ago when her youngest daughter Madison expressed interest in joining the Performance Circle.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

SCTC-Extension Coordinator Shuna Stevens stands proudly with regalia making student Carol Paquette as she prepares a vest for her son, Andy.

“During that time, Judy Pamp encouraged and guided me in the beginning stages of my learning process,” Kennedy said. “During those early years I only sewed for my daughter, unsure of ability to share my gift with others that would meet their expectations. Since that time, I have spent countless hours researching, admiring and gaining inspiration from those who are in the circle, imagery captured in books, and of course the natural environment that surrounds us. I’m honored and truly appreciative that people enjoy my work.”

Kennedy said regalia and applique can be an intimidating process and it is an art form that takes more than just a couple classes to understand how detailed it is.

“I want to do all that I can to encourage and support those who want to learn and I appreciate SCTC Extension with

embracing traditional teachings and education,” Kennedy said. “The opportunity to share the smallest of tips, along with walking a person through the forming a pattern and design brings so much joy in my life.”

Stevens looks forward to continuing to foster knowledge and support for the community in different Anishnaabe Arts and Crafts forms through the USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture Special Emphasis grant.

On Nov. 9 and 10, SCTC Extension will host Traditional Skirt Teaching and Making, and a quill workshop on Nov. 28 and 29.

“There is not a regalia-related workshop scheduled for December yet, but I am working on it,” Stevens said.

Please send ideas for future community education workshops to Stevens at sstevens@sagchip.org or contact SCTC at 989-775-4123.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Workshop instructor Lisa Kennedy measures youth dancer Tahlia Alonzo for a fancy shawl applique.

Native American Heritage Month

November 2016



Office for Institutional Diversity
Native American Programs

Tuesday, Nov. 1	NAHM Kickoff with speaker Lee Sprague 12 - 2 p.m. Location: SCTC West Classroom 2
Thursday, Nov. 3	Documentary: Highway of Tears 2 - 3 p.m. Location: CMU Center for Inclusion and Diversity 108, Bovee UC
Monday, Nov. 7	Food Taster 5 - 7 p.m. Location: CMU Rotunda, Bovee UC
Wednesday, Nov. 9	*Traditional Skirt Teaching & Making with Judy Pamp 5 - 8 p.m. Location: SCTC East Building <i>*Registration required due to limited space</i>
Thursday, Nov. 10	Veterans Celebration and Luncheon 12 - 1:30 p.m. Location: SCTC West Building
Tuesday, Nov. 15	Ojibway Bingo 12 - 1:30 p.m. Location: SCTC West Building
Tuesday, Nov. 22	Family Movie Night 6 - 8 p.m. Location: SCTC West Building
Monday, Nov. 28 & Tuesday, Nov. 29	*Quill Workshop with Niishode 5:30 - 8 p.m. Location: SCTC East Building <i>*Registration required due to limited space</i>
Tuesday, Nov. 29	Traditional Foods with guest speaker Daisy Kostus 12 - 1:30 p.m. Location: SCTC West Building
Wednesday, Nov. 30	Sherwin Bitsui Keynote Speaker 12 - 1:30 p.m. Location: SCTC West Building



To register, or for more information, please contact:
Shuna Stevens at [sstevens@sagchip.org](mailto:ssstevens@sagchip.org) or 989.775.4123

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College Available Positions

SCTC is currently accepting applications for the Spring 2017 semester (Jan. 9 - May 5, 2017) for the following positions:

Adjunct Biology Instructor

Master’s degree or at least 18 credit hours in biology (at the master’s degree level) is required. Teaching experience in a higher educational setting preferred.

Adjunct Computer Science Instructor

Master’s degree or at least 18 credit hours in computer science (at the master’s degree level) is required. Teaching experience in a higher educational setting preferred.

To apply, please send a cover letter, resume, and a copy of your college transcripts to:

Cheryl Hassen-Swarthout

Dean of Instruction
989.775.4123
2274 Enterprise Drive
Mount Pleasant, MI 48858
chassen-swarthout@sagchip.org

For more information please go to www.sagchip.edu under the “Jobs” tab.

SCTC Board of Regents

One Vacancy

If you are interested in serving, please submit a resume and a letter of interest explaining how you meet the criteria to:

Ms. Colleen Green
SCTC Board Chair
2274 Enterprise Drive
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858

Deadline: Open Until Filled

Qualifications of Regents:

1. An enrolled member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan (SCIT) or another federally-recognized tribe, band or group. If a member of SCIT of Michigan must adhere to the tribal policy regarding committee membership.
2. Attainment of at least 25 years old.
3. Significant education or work experience related to the process of higher education or vocational training or the administration of education or vocational training institutions and programs.
4. Any specific requirements of organizations providing financial or other benefits to SCTC or providing accreditation of SCTC programs.



Flo Rida's 'good feeling' soars right into his Sept. 30 high-energy performance

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Cranking up the volume and increasing the energy in the entertainment hall, Flo Rida graced the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort stage for his Sept. 30 concert.

Dressed in jeans, a rhinestone-encrusted T-shirt and studded red sneakers with shades on, the rapper appeared on stage and "Good Feeling" blared across the audience.

No stranger to the spotlight, Flo Rida proved to be a natural performer. His stage presence and unexpected surprises kept the audience guessing.

He brought out vocalist Macy Kate throughout the night to sing the female vocal roles (some originally recorded by Ke\$ha, Sia) in many of his hits including "Right Round."

During "In the Ayer," Flo Rida and his dancers surprised and soaked the crowd as they shook champagne bottles and sprayed the crowd with the bubbly.

Flo Rida disappeared from the stage for a moment and



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

The rapper Flo Rida brought the energy level up in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort entertainment hall during his Sept. 30 concert.

then emerged with a bouquet of red roses to hand out one-by-one to audience members during "Where Them Girls At."

He didn't stop connecting with the audience there because during "Low," he brought a group of ladies on stage to dance with him. One lucky lady went home with his

gold chain and many had the opportunity to pose on stage with him for a selfie.

During numerous occasions, including throughout "Club Can't Handle Me," Flo Rida jumped on the shoulders of his security guard, who carried him up and down the aisles of the entertainment hall, to connect with the audience a little more.

Flo Rida not only had DJ KRONIK spinning behind him, but a guitarist, keyboard player and drummer. Four back-up dancers

also accompanied him during each song.

Other performances included "I Don't Like It, I Love It" and "Whistle."

Natalie La Rose's, who was signed by Flo Rida, "Somebody," was played and as the line "I wanna take shots with somebody" resounded,



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

For several songs, vocalist Macy Kate joined Flo Rida on stage to help perform his songs including "Right Round," originally recorded with Ke\$ha.

Flo Rida's staff poured vodka down the throats of fans in the front row, straight from the bottle.

The upbeat "G.D.F.R." (abbreviation for Goin' Down For Real) and "Wild Ones" were also performed.

Macy Kate began "My House" as a solo ballad, then the beat dropped, and Flo Rida joined in.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Starting the night off right and enthusiastically, Flo Rida performs his hit "Good Feeling."

After the performance, Flo Rida took off his flashy watch and requested his assistant give it away to one lucky audience member.

After his set, he remained on stage to take selfies and shake hands with his fans in the first few rows.

Rapper Diamond Jones from Lansing served as the opening act.

Gabriel Iglesias brings "Fluffy Breaks Even" tour to sold-out SECR crowd

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

The Soaring Casino & Resort hosted the larger-than-life comedic presence of Gabriel Iglesias on Friday, Oct. 14.

Also known as "Fluffy," the comedian has previously explained the origins of the nickname.

"One time I called myself fat around my mom," he said. "She was like, 'you're not fat, you're fluffy!'"

Since bursting onto the comedy scene in 2006 on Season 4 of the popular TV show "Last Comic Standing," his following has grown to make him one of the most popular comedians around.

According to Iglesias' website www.fluffyguy.com, his first two DVD specials "Hot &

Fluffy" and "I'm Not Fat...I'm Fluffy" have sold more than one million copies.

The comedian, actor, writer, producer and voice actor has appeared in a number of movies including "Magic Mike," "Magic Mike XXL" and "A Haunted House 2."



Observer photo Matthew Wright

Stand-up comedian Martin Moreno opened the night for Fluffy.

He also currently stars in his new reality show "Fluffy Breaks Even" on Fuse TV.

Fluffy's lighthearted comedic style is highlighted by mixture of storytelling, parodies, characterizations, hilarious facial expressions and impressive sound effects.

Making his fourth appearance at SECR, Iglesias highlighted one of the many reasons why he enjoys making the trip out to Michigan.

"I love the air quality here, you can feel the oxygen," he said, comparing it to the polluted air found back in Los Angeles. "You take a deep breath and say, 'I can do math.'"

As is often the case at his shows, Iglesias included the audience into his act. One group found out first hand, when after arriving late, they found themselves the

subjects of a tongue-in-cheek interrogation at the hands of the comedian.

Opening the night were comedians Martin Moreno and G Reilly.



Observer photo Matthew Wright

Gabriel "Fluffy" Iglesias gives the adoring audience a big smile after delivering a punchline at his sold-out Oct. 14 show.

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R&B music sensation Jason Derulo performs flurry of his top 10 hits

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

Multi-talented performing artist Jason Derulo thrilled fans with his lively dance moves and chart-topping hits at his Oct. 8 Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort concert.

Derulo's career began as a songwriter, composing tracks for artists like Lil Wayne, Pitbull and Birdman.

His music, combining R&B, pop and hip-hop styles, has seen a rise in popularity since his debut 2009 single "Whatcha Say."

His discography now includes four studio albums with his self-titled 2009 debut album and his most recent 2015 album "Everything Is 4."

Derulo also boasts 11 top 10 singles on the U.S. Billboard Hot 100 chart.

Flanked by his dance troupe, Derulo took to the Entertainment Hall stage to sing and dance his way through the hit singles "Trumpets," "Wiggle" and "Get Ugly."

Multiple times throughout the night, the accompanying dance crew were given solo dance sessions. The quartet's street inspired dancing pumped up the crowd with their energetic and tightly-choreographed dance routines.

Highlights of the night were the top 10 hits "Whatcha Say," "Ridin' Solo," "In My Head," and "Talk Dirty."

Derulo's strong falsetto voice shined during his performance of "Marry Me."



Observer photo Matthew Wright

Jason Derulo sings the lyrics to "Wiggle" during his Oct. 14 concert at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

During the song "It Girl," one ecstatic audience member was pulled on stage and serenaded by the artist.



Observer photo Matthew Wright

Jason Derulo looks out into the audience before beginning his performance of his hit song "Trumpets."

The set list also included the songs "Don't Wanna Go Home," "Kiss the Sky" and "The Other Side."

To close out the night, Derulo performed the slick pop and R&B infused single "Want To Want Me."

SECR hosts Seventh Annual Middle of the Mitt Music Festival

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

A daylong celebration of music thrilled rock 'n' roll fans on Sept. 10 at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

Starting at 2 p.m., the seventh annual Middle of the Mitt Music Festival had a total of eight bands playing until close to midnight on the Entertainment Hall stage.

Proceeds from the annual music festival went to the Saginaw Chippewa Youth Council and the Pardee Cancer Treatment Fund of Isabella County.

The event was presented by SECR, Everleaf Music and Mad Turtle Productions.



Observer photo Matthew Wright

The members of Riot V perform during the Seventh annual Middle of the Mitt Music Festival.

Well-known rockers and up-and-coming local bands performed a stellar show. The groups playing were Jackyl, Riot V, Reverence, Let There Be Rock, Everyday War, Force of Habit, Fifth Evolution and Tallon Weatherby.

Rock band Jackyl emerged from Georgia in 1990 with their wild, untamed approach to rock 'n' roll. The group released seven studio albums to date, including the self-titled "Jackyl" in 1992 and the most recent "Best in Show" in 2012.



Observer photo Matthew Wright

Jackyl members lead guitarist Jeff Worley (left), drummer Chris Worley and lead vocalist Jesse James Dupree (right).

The group played a multitude of their hits including the songs "Dirty Little Mind," "I Stand Alone," "Redneck Punk" and the "The Lumberjack."

For more information on upcoming SECR shows, visit www.soaringeaglecasino.com, "Like" its Facebook page or add the Twitter handle Soaringeagle777.

Country music superstar Vince Gill makes his "grand ole" return to Soaring Eagle

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The country music singer, songwriter and superstar Vince Gill has achieved commercial success and fame both as frontman of '70s country rock band Pure Prairie League and as a solo artist beginning in 1983.

Vince entered his seventh visit to the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Saturday, Oct. 22 in promotion of his

14th studio album "Down to My Last Bad Habit."

Vince is a part of the Grand Ole Opry tradition and celebrated his 25th year with the Nashville-based country music institution on Aug. 13.

Vince has sold more than 26 million albums and recorded more than 20 studio albums. Along with those impressive statistics, he has charted more than 40 singles on the Billboard charts and has been honored with 18 CMA Awards, including two CMA Entertainer of

the Year awards and five CMA Male Vocalist Awards.

He has also earned 20 Grammy Awards, more than any other male country music artist.

"Forty years into this, it's still as much fun as it's ever been to play music," Vince said. "At the end of the day, what I get excited about is doing something I haven't done before. When I record a song, I feel successful if I've accomplished something new."

Vince performed the Merle Haggard tribute cover of "The Bottle Let Me Down" and the Buck Owens and the Buckaroos cover song "Together Again."

Vince's daughter Corrina joined him on stage to perform. They have shared the spotlight on the ice at the 2016 NHL All-Star Game on Jan. 31 performing the National Anthem and blew hockey fans away at Nashville's Bridgestone Arena with their rendition.

Sheridan, Mich. fan club member Diane Osmer attended the show.

"The thing I like best about Vince is he seems so nice, he is very humble, and he seems like the kind of guy you could just sit down for hours and talk to him," Osmer said. "His sense of humor is great because he doesn't take anything so seriously except his music, of course. He tries to find the good in everything."

Fans in the sold-out crowd sang their appreciation as Vince jumped into "What the Cowgirls Do" and "Oklahoma Borderline."

Vince closed out the night with couples dancing to his



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Vince Gill showcases his talent as a country western guitar slinger.

encore of "Whenever You Come Around" and an up-tempo version of the toe-tapper "Liza Jane."

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Annual Feather Link Tea celebrates National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

As millions throughout the U.S. sported their pink attire during October for National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center's Women's Health also recognized the cause with its annual Feather Link Tea and Luncheon.

The tea occurred on Tuesday, Oct. 11 at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort ballroom.

A total of 110 guests attended; 11 of those were recognized as cancer survivors.

Judy Davis, clerk for BCCCP in Public Health Services and Jenna Wilcox, women's health coordinator for the Nimkee Clinic, organize this event each year.

Wilcox provided opening remarks and introduced each speaker.

This year, a panel of participants addressed the crowd which included Brandon Schultz, health educator for the Tribe's Public Health Services; Bill Sowle from the Community Cancer Services of Isabella County; and Dr. Barry Kissoondial, MD.

"My first experience with the word 'cancer' was when I



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Some of the cancer survivors who attended the annual Feather Link Tea pose for a photo in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort ballroom on Oct. 11. (Left to right: Marian Bixby, Sharon Peters, Robin Spencer, Margaret Steslicki and Helen Morgan.)

was 14 or 15 when my dad, who was a physician, found a lump on his neck," Kissoondial said. "He was diagnosed with cancer. He was given 10 years to live, but unfortunately within a year, he died."

Kissoondial discussed colorectal cancer statistics and risk factors.

"In Michigan, the colorectal cancer rate for American Indian and Alaska Natives is 359.1 per 100,000 people," Kissoondial said. "And this statistic is nearly 10 times higher than the State of Michigan rate."

He said colorectal risk factors include: Using commercial tobacco, Type 2 diabetes,

lack of physical activity and being overweight or obese.

Schultz went through breathing and upper body exercises and stretches with the attendees.

Sowle explained the role of the Community Cancer Services of Isabella County, and is run by individuals on a volunteer basis only.

"Ninety-seven percent of the money raised (within Community Cancer Services) goes to clients," Sowle said.

Sowle said anyone diagnosed with cancer that may need financial help is encouraged to reach out to the program.

A total of \$1,134 was raised for Community Cancer Services at the event.

"It was nice to see everyone getting involved during the presentations," Wilcox said. "The donations this year were amazing. I am over-the-top excited with the generous donations that the community offered."

After lunch, provided by the SECR Food & Beverage department, the silent auction closed at 1:30 p.m.

"The silent auction items received were amazing and we can't thank our generous donors enough for their contributions," Davis said.

Kissoondial reported some of the initiatives at Nimkee Clinic include: "Navigators tracking patients who are due for cancer screenings, providing educational material about colon cancer screenings, grants received allow for incentives for screenings, and working with the State

and National Coalition groups to meet the 80 percent screening by 2018."

Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center wished to thank the following "for their generous donations at the silent auction: Janice Wilcox, Nimkee Women's Health, Tribal Planning Department, Jenna Wilcox, Anishinabe Language Revitalization Department, Nettie White, Sandy Smith and the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort."

Nimkee Center also reported breast and cervical cancer screening guidelines: Ages 20 to 39 should do a self-breast exam every month, a clinical breast exam every year and a pap and/or pelvic exam per guidelines.

Individuals 40 years and older should do the same and add an annual mammogram.

Local Community Fitness Events

- Nov. 5: *Gaylord* | Treetops Trifecta
- Nov. 12: *Burton* | Veterans Honor Run
- Nov. 19: *Alma* | Alma Turkey Trot
- Nov. 19: *Grand Blanc* | Grand Blanc Chocolate 5K
- Nov. 19: *Lansing* | Silver Bells in the City Run/Walk
- Nov. 24: *Shepherd* | Deerfield Park 5K Turkey Trot
- Nov. 26: *Cadillac* | Toy Town Toy Trot 5K

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*Stove, cookware, utensils and dishware are not available.

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The health impact of making better beverage choices

(Editor's note: The following article was written by Carrie Dennett, MPH, RDN, CD and reprinted, with permission, originally from Environmental Nutrition July 2016. This article was submitted by Sally Van Cise, RDN, nutritionist for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.)



Courtesy of Environmental Nutrition

When it comes to quenching thirst, calories do count.

It's not much of a secret that drinking sugary beverages isn't the best thing for your waistline or your health. And, even though the use of sugar-sweetened beverages (SSBs) in the U.S. is declining, it's still high.

SSBs – which include soda, fruit drinks, and energy and vitamin water drinks – are the top source of added sugar and the single largest source of calories in the American diet. Half of U.S. adults drink at least one 12-ounce SSB per day, an amount linked to obesity, Type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

The main problem with these beverages is that they deliver a rapid flood of sugar and calories without making you feel full. Research shows that the body doesn't register calories from beverages in the same

way it does from food, which means you may not compensate for those liquid calories by eating less. That's one reason the 2015 Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommend that you get less than 10 percent of total calories from added sugars. For a 2,000 calorie diet, that's less than 200 calories or 50 grams (12 teaspoons).

In order to reduce SSBs, there are a number of alternatives, some more healthful than others. Here's what you need to know:

Diet sodas. These are better than regular soda from a calorie and sugar point of view, but some research suggests that their intense sweetness may enhance appetite and contribute to a preference for sweets.

100 percent fruit juices. Natural sugar isn't as much

10 Calorie and Sugar Beverage Shockers				
Beverage	Size (oz.)	Calories	Sat Fat (g)	Sugar (g)
Coca-Cola original	16	190	0	52
Starbucks Chai Latte	16	240	2	42
Naked Juice Double Berry	15.2	420	2	42
Jamba Juice Amazing Greens Smoothie	16	420	2	54
Wendy's Classic Chocolate Frosty	16	460	8	63
Starbucks White Chocolate Mocha	16	470	12	59
Starbucks Java Chip Frappuccino	16	470	12	66
Dunkin' Donuts Frozen Mocha Coolatta with Cream	16	490	15	62
McDonald's McCafe Chocolate Chip Frappe	16	520	14	66
In-N-Out Burger Chocolate Shake	15	590	19	65

Source: Food company websites; Note: oz=ounce, Sat fat = saturated fat, g=gram

**Note that one teaspoon of sugar equals 4.2 grams, so some of these added sugars are the equivalent of 10 to 16 teaspoons of sugar. Some of the sugar values represent natural sugars.*

of a concern as added sugar. However, there's a difference between eating a whole piece of fruit, which has its sugar wrapped in fiber, and drinking juice, which has the equivalent of drinking multiple pieces of fruit without the fiber. Some research suggests that higher juice intake increases risk of obesity and Type 2 diabetes. The 2015

Dietary Guidelines recommend no more than one cup of fruit juice per day as part of daily fruit intake.

Milk. Dairy and non-dairy milks are good sources of several nutrients, but be sure to choose unsweetened varieties.

Unsweetened coffee and tea (hot or iced). Rich in polyphenols, coffee and tea have been linked to reduced risk of Type 2

diabetes and cardiovascular risk in many studies.

Water. This is hands-down the best beverage, quenching your thirst and hydrating your body without unnecessary extras. Give water an added kick with a slice of citrus, cucumber or ginger, or a sprig of mint. Sparkling mineral water, club soda or seltzer are other healthful options.

Indigenous Pink Day brings Nimkee Public Health message on breast cancer awareness

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Employees from several different Tribal departments went pink on Friday, Oct. 21 in honor of Indigenous Pink Day.

Women's Health Coordinator Jenna Wilcox of Nimkee Public Health Services said the breast cancer awareness campaign is focused on bringing education to American Indian and Alaska Natives men and women.

"The goal of Indigenous Pink Day is to educate all indigenous people on the importance of early detection and remind men and women to keep up to date on their screenings," Wilcox said. "By wearing pink today, you are supporting your Tribal community in a positive way and reminding everyone that it is important to be proactive about your health and receive your yearly health screenings."



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Employees pose in pink for a photo at Nimkee Public Health in honor of Indigenous Pink Day on Oct. 21.

Tech-savvy employees could share pictures of themselves in their pink attire on the Tribal employee email system and social media using #indigenoupink.

Nimkee Health Administrator Karmen Fox joined the employees in the photo.

"We educate one person at a time and one family at a time. An event like this brings awareness on the importance

of early detection and breast cancer screenings," Fox said. "Nimkee is here to arrange those screening for Tribal Members within our service area and we look forward to bringing health education on breast cancer awareness."

For more information about Indigenous Pink Day, please contact Wilcox at 989-775-4604 or visit americanindiancancer.org/pink.

Purchased Referred Care Referral Policy & Guidelines

The Purchased Referred Care (PRC) Program is for medical/dental care provided away from an IHS or tribal health care facility. PRC is not an entitlement program, an IHS referral does not imply the care will be paid. If IHS is requested to pay, then a patient must meet the residency requirements, notification requirements, medical priority, and use of alternate resources (www.ihs.gov).

Referrals

1. If you are referred by Nimkee Medical or Dental to an outside provider you must take a referral every time.
2. If the outside provider cannot treat you and refers you to another provider, you must take a different referral to your appointment. Call PRC three days in advance to allow the paperwork to be prepared.
3. PRC will not pay for your doctor bills without a referral.
4. Durable Medical Equipment: nebulizer, crutches, etc. must have PRC approval.

Surgery

1. If you need surgery, you must give PRC at least two week notice prior to any surgery.
2. Must notify PRC within 72 hours (three days) if you have had emergency surgery.

After Hours

1. Please call the on-call provider at 989-772-8227 before going to any outside provider, unless it is an absolute emergency.
2. An Emergency Room visit must be reported to PRC within 72 hours (three days) after your visit. **Elders 50 years and older have 30 days to call in to PRC from the date of visit.**

Labs, X-ray & Ultrasounds

1. A referral is not required but you must call and notify the PRC department within 72 hours.
2. If your scheduled appointment changes you must notify the PRC department within 72 hours of any changes made.
3. Without proper notification, PRC will not pay for your bills.

Bills with a referral

1. When you receive any bill(s) after your appointment, they must be brought into the clinic to be dropped off at the front desk window.
2. Bills cannot be older than 18 months from service date for PRC to pay.
3. Credit bureau statements will not be accepted for a bill, the patient must have an itemized bill.

Purchased Referred Care: 989.775.4633, Shelly Bailey: 989.775.4635, Marge Elliott: 989.775.4634, Jean Robinson: 989.775.4636

Nimkee Fitness Center Group Exercise Schedule November 2016

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8 a.m.	Aqua Fit Sharon		Aqua Fit Sharon		Aqua Fit Sharon
12:10 p.m.	Muscle Makin' Monday - Jaden	Suspension Training - Jayme	Warrior Wednesday - Jaden	Fat Blast Jayme	
1:10 p.m.			Turbo Kick Beth		
5:30 p.m.		Yoga Tammy	Belly Dance Deanna	Yoga Tammy	



More than 100 competitors take off in the 2016 SCIT Run on the Rez

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

It was another successful year for the annual SCIT Run on the Rez, a 5K run or one-mile run or walk, hosted by the Nimkee Fitness Center on Saturday, Oct. 15.

A total of 105 participants lined up in the Tribal Operations parking lot for the 10 a.m. race start.

Also taking place this year was the kids' 30-meter dash for 2 to 5 year olds, beginning at 9:30 a.m.

All participants finishing the 5K and one-mile course

received a medal. The medals were made by Dave Salisbury, carpenter for the Maintenance department, and SCIT Woodshop.

T-shirts were also given away to the competitors.

After the course, participants enjoyed a chili and fry bread lunch in the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym as door prizes were awarded including Soaring Eagle Waterpark passes, golf packages, an overnight stay at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and various gift cards.



Children aged 2 to 5 years old also joined in on the fun during the kids' 30-meter dash at 9:30 a.m.



A total of 105 participants joined together to compete in either the 5K or the one-mile run or walk.



Competitors take off on Broadway Street during the annual SCIT Run on the Rez on Saturday, Oct. 15.

Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Observer photo by Matthew Wright

SCIT Employee Benefits & Wellness Fair offered three days of information and services

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Associates from Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and employees from several other Tribal departments attended the Employee Benefits & Wellness Fair on Oct. 17-19.

Wellness Coordinator Toni Smith wished to thank the associates who attended throughout the three days in both Mount Pleasant and Saganing.

"We appreciate the departments for volunteering their time and donating gifts for the drawings as well as for having giveaways at each SCIT vendor table," Smith said. "I feel that it was a huge success. I want to thank Tribal Administration for giving all of the TOPS employees two hours leave to attend the event."

Compensation/Benefits Manager Connie Sprague said she enjoyed meeting employees from Saganing Eagles Landing Casino and working in the Saganing Outreach Center building during the third day.

"I would like to thank Don Nelson and his staff for all of their hospitality while we worked with the associates over in those locations," Sprague said. "Even though the associates did not have as many vendors present as our two-day event in Mount Pleasant,



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Laura Coffee (left), marketing and owner services manager for GreenTree Cooperative Grocery, shares information and smiles with Seventh Generation's Jose Gonzalez (center) and Clinton Pelcher.

everyone seemed to have a wonderful time and really took the time to talk with the vendors at each of the booths."

Soaring Eagle Spa provided massages and Tribal Police Officer Derek Williams provided a K-9 demonstration with his German Shepherd Esko.

Training Instructor John Gerhard worked registration on Oct. 17 and 18 with fellow Human Resources employees Jordan Fallis, Leigh Chippewa

and May Roberts, and Nimkee Public Health employees Robyn Grinzinger and Judy Davis.

"The people I spoke with on departing considered their time well spent. There was an array of vendors that included Tribal departments, business and community information booths," Gerhard said. "As I perused the various booths, the vendors were friendly and knowledgeable about their products and services they offer. It is my hope

next year will have more vendors and greater attendance."

Charles Schwab & Co. representative Nick Ollinger traveled all the way from their Austin, Texas headquarters to deliver a series of retirement plan presentations at the three wellness fairs.

"Charles Schwab & Co. administers the Tribe's 401K Profit Sharing Plan and I was asked to offer a booth where I could explain the plan, answer questions about the plan, discuss the options of the plan and make updates to participant's account as asked," Ollinger said. "The first day, I had conversations with between 65 and 70 individuals, enrolling 10 to 15, and helping several with understanding what they would need to do when they moved into retirement..."

SELC Administrative

Assistant II Christy Fedak expressed her gratitude for bringing the event over to Saganing.

"The Health and Wellness Fair at the Saganing Tribal Center was well received by all the associates that were able to attend. We appreciate being included and it shows that we all work together," Fedak said. "We are very thankful to Toni and Connie for setting it up and inviting all the vendors to come out and meet with associates."

Some of the 30 plus vendors included Behavioral Health, Hot Yoga Studio, Morey Courts, Endurance Fitness, Mount Pleasant Optics, Runners World, Impact Medical Supply, Green Tree, Cigna, Delta Dental and Aflac.

The Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center will no longer be open late on Tuesdays.

The hours are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The new after-hours number for the clinic is 989.317.2088.

Two Members Needed

For the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Health Board.
Two Health Advisory Board Members are needed.

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

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

If you have any questions, please call Michelle at 989.775.4602

If interested:

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

Mail or bring to the Nimkee Clinic:

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

*Please include your phone number or a contact person.

*When the letters are received at the end of the time period, they are given to Tribal Council to make the final decision.

November is American Diabetes Month

Type 2 Diabetes is a problem in which your blood sugar levels rise to a higher-than-normal level in your body. Please complete the Type 2 Diabetes risk sheet to see if you are at risk.

ARE YOU AT RISK FOR TYPE 2 DIABETES?



Diabetes Risk Test

1. How old are you?
Less than 40 years (0 points)
40-49 years (1 point)
50-59 years (2 points)
60 years or older (3 points)
2. Are you a man or a woman?
Man (1 point) Woman (0 points)
3. If you are a woman, have you ever been diagnosed with gestational diabetes?
Yes (1 point) No (0 points)
4. Do you have a mother, father, sister, or brother with diabetes?
Yes (1 point) No (0 points)
5. Have you ever been diagnosed with high blood pressure?
Yes (1 point) No (0 points)
6. Are you physically active?
Yes (1 point) No (1 point)
7. What is your weight status? (see chart at right)

Write your score in the box.

Height	Weight (lbs.)		
4' 10"	119-142	143-190	191+
4' 11"	124-147	148-197	198+
5' 0"	128-152	153-203	204+
5' 1"	132-157	158-210	211+
5' 2"	136-163	164-217	218+
5' 3"	141-168	169-224	225+
5' 4"	145-173	174-231	232+
5' 5"	150-179	180-239	240+
5' 6"	155-185	186-246	247+
5' 7"	159-190	191-254	255+
5' 8"	164-196	197-261	262+
5' 9"	169-202	203-269	270+
5' 10"	174-208	209-277	278+
5' 11"	179-214	215-285	286+
6' 0"	184-220	221-293	294+
6' 1"	189-226	227-301	302+
6' 2"	194-232	233-310	311+
6' 3"	200-239	240-318	319+
6' 4"	205-245	246-327	328+
	(1 Point)	(2 Points)	(3 Points)

Adapted from Bang et al., Ann Intern Med 151:775-781, 2009. Original algorithm was validated without gestational diabetes as part of the model.

If you scored 5 or higher:
You are at increased risk for having type 2 diabetes. However, only your doctor can tell for sure if you do have type 2 diabetes or prediabetes (a condition that precedes type 2 diabetes in which blood glucose levels are higher than normal). Talk to your doctor to see if additional testing is needed.

Type 2 diabetes is more common in African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, American Indians, and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. Higher body weights increase diabetes risk for everyone. Asian Americans are at increased diabetes risk at lower body weights than the rest of the general public (about 15 pounds lower).

For more information, visit us at diabetes.org/alert or call 1-800-DIABETES (1-800-342-2383)

Lower Your Risk

The good news is that you can manage your risk for type 2 diabetes. Small steps make a big difference and can help you live a longer, healthier life.

If you are at high risk, your first step is to see your doctor to see if additional testing is needed.

Visit diabetes.org or call 1-800-DIABETES (1-800-342-2383) for information, tips on getting started, and ideas for simple, small steps you can take to help lower your risk.



Special Thanks to our National Sponsor





Andahwod residents embrace teachings of the ancient Chinese through tai chi

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Andahwod residents are embracing teachings of the ancient Chinese, known as tai chi.

Tai chi instructor and practitioner Judi Allen describes the movements as a noncompetitive martial art known for both its defense techniques and its health benefits.

Tai chi is an ancient Chinese tradition that has evolved throughout centuries to become a means of alleviating stress and anxiety, a form of “meditation in motion.”

“I have been practicing tai chi for nine years and teaching for five years as a certified tai chi for health instructor,” Allen said. “Andahwod provides a beautiful place to teach and everyone has been so welcoming, I really enjoy my students. I look forward to continuing the Wednesday Beginners Class and offering

various tai chi forms and workshop in the future.”

Rosalie Maloney, interim senior assisted living administrator, introduced Allen at an Aug. 24 Elders Advisory Board meeting.

“I love that tai chi can be done anywhere and by anyone, no matter your skill level. I realize it’s best to be outdoors and bare feet touching Mother Earth but with the seasons changing, the Andahwod wellness lodge will have to do,” Maloney said.

Tai chi requires no special equipment.

“All you need is your own body and a good teacher, and Judi is certainly a good example of that,” Maloney said.

Allen came into contact with the Tribe through members Marie and Vincent Kequom who took her course.

“Marie and Vincent were the ones who wanted me to consider coming to Andahwod to offer classes for Tribal Members,” Allen said. “Marie

contacted me about the Health Fair at Andahwod so my students and I did a presentation there and for the EAB.”

Tribal elder Terri Rueckert attended a class and said she wasn’t sure what to expect.

“It does provide a different way of looking at things and I think the mentality of tai chi is similar to our Native beliefs of spirituality,” Rueckert said. “The movements of tai chi remind me of hunting and walking through the woods while following tracks or trails. It does help with making you feel balanced and confident. And it is very relaxing too.”

Allen mentions there are several benefits of Tai chi for seniors:

- 1) Improves balance and helps with fall prevention
- 2) Lowers and helps manage blood sugar and blood pressure
- 3) Reduces pain and inflammation
- 4) Improves joint health,



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tai chi instructor Judi Allen walks several Tribal elders through a variety of movements at Andahwod.

muscle strength and cardio functioning

5) Enhances focus and mindfulness

6) Relieves stress by allowing a sense of well-being

“The movements of tai chi are done continuously and unbroken like the Native teachings of the circle and flows like water,” Allen said. “The Chinese reference to nature is called ‘The Tao’ which translates into ‘The Way.’ The teachings refer to the oneness that connects all

things and I hear it is similar to the beliefs of what Ojibwe people call Gitchi Manitou.”

Activity Assistant Elisa Schleder said three elder Andahwod residents and two elders from the community typically attend.

“(Tai chi) is such a calming experience and the exercises by movement that Judi does are easy on the joints,” Schleder said. “Andahwod resident Dolly (Rueckert) enjoys doing the moves as Judi modifies her sessions for those that cannot stand very long.”

EAB members and Andahwod staff take a visit to Stone Lodge facility

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The Andahwod Continuing Care Community & Elder Services program continues to look for innovative ways to provide a continuum of care.

An Elders Advisory Board field trip on Sept. 14 offered another avenue of Elder care.

The Stone Lodge facility located at 415 North Chippewa St. in Shepherd has a mission “to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those living with dementia and their families.”

Mary Jo Gibbons, program director and owner of Stone Lodge, has worked in senior care

for nearly 30 years and is driven by her personal experience with her loving father being diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease whom resided in a memory care assisted living facility she developed in Kalamazoo.

When Gibbons was asked if she could describe her business in three words, she offered a very simple and heartfelt response: “Passion, purpose, people.”

Rosalie Maloney, interim senior assisted living administrator for Andahwod, said from time to time, she receives inquiries from families looking for advances in dementia care.

“Andahwod currently doesn’t provide that level of (dementia) care but are working to develop that for our community,” Maloney said. “Meanwhile, we are reaching out to people like Mary Jo Gibbons who are willing to share ideas and information with us. I believe it’s important to build these relationships with other facilities in our area so we can broaden our access to these other resources on behalf of our elders.”

Gibbons is also an instructor in the Central Michigan University gerontology program, former nursing home administrator and a certified dementia practitioner trainer and consultant.

“My goal in developing Stone Lodge was to offer something quite different from the large, institutional settings. Stone Lodge is designed to offer the qualities a person with this disease wants and needs,” Gibbons said.

Much of Stone Lodge’s focus is promoting a sense of relaxation, rejuvenation, recreation, and reminiscent qualities similar to visiting a resort, cottage, or second home, Gibbons said.

“Just think of the positive emotions created for all of us when we experience such moments,” she said.

Michelle George, administrative assistant II for Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center, was recently appointed to the EAB and visited Stone Lodge.

“When I walked in, (Stone Lodge) was very beautiful and I really didn’t expect that,” George said. “The whole facility is

designed to look like a lodge or cabin. The interior design is all done in a nature setting. When you first step into the lodge, you immediately feel relaxed. It has a very large great room with a fireplace and each patient’s room has a comfy feeling.”

EAB Chairperson Terry Bonnau said he was impressed with the lodge’s technology investment.

“The state of the art sensory room (Esther’s Cove) was amazing and quite impressive,” Bonnau said. “With the soothing music and combined laser lighting and ambient sound, it provided a deep sense of relaxation for the patients and visitors alike.”

Gibbons said Alzheimer’s disease is on the rise with 5.4 million Americans affected and a person is diagnosed every 66 seconds, according to the Alzheimer’s Association.

Gibbons said she recognizes that demand and “looks forward to the community embracing Stone Lodge unique concept of meeting the patient needs in a small, secure, and pleasant living environment.”

She said Stone Lodge will accommodate initially 10 people as it grows to a capacity of 20, and rooms are expected to fill fast.

For more information, please contact Mary Jo Gibbons at (989) 828-LOVE (5683) or visit www.stonelodgeliving.com.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Members of the EAB Board join with Andahwod administrative staff as they tour the Stone Lodge facility.

Andahwod Elder Services & Elders Advisory Board

Splashtastic Family Fun Getaway!

Drawing: Nov. 9, 2016

Fundraising Raffle

Win a \$400 gift card to Zehnders Splash Village in Frankenmuth, Mich. and a \$250 VISA gift card.

1 for \$5 or 4 for \$10

2017-2019 Elder Parking Permits

Beginning Jan. 1, 2017 all current elder parking permits will be expired and new ones will need to be in place on the vehicle before using elder parking.

To receive your 2017-2019 permit, please request an application from any of the elder program offices to the right.

Elders can receive their permit:

- In person at any of the three locations.
- Call to request an application by mail.
- Or visit www.sagchip.org/Member%20Services/images/pdfs/ParkingPermitApplication.pdf

Remember: A copy of your vehicle registration is required to obtain a permit. Also, only two permits are allowed per elder. Elders are encouraged to obtain a new permit as soon as possible; using an expired permit or a permit that was issued to another vehicle can result in further action being taken by security. Security has requested that all new permits be placed in the front window on the driver’s side.

At-Large/Member Services

7070 E. Broadway
Mt. Pleasant MI, 48858
800-884-6271

Saganing Tribal Center

5447 Sturman Rd.
Standish MI, 48658
989-846-1539

Andahwod CCC & ES

2910 S. Leaton Rd
Mt. Pleasant MI, 48858
989-775-4330

Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday, Nov. 17 at Andahwod

Dinner Times: 4 p.m., 4:45 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.

Please call 989.775.4300 to reserve your dinner time.

• Elders: Free • 12 & older: \$9.50 • 12 & under \$4.50

Menu: Roast turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, whipped sweet potato, stuffing, green bean casserole, steamed broccoli, cran-broccoli salad, tossed salad, bread, pumpkin and pecan pie.



Tips from the Federal Trade Commission to help fight identity theft

(Editor's note: The following article was submitted by Deja Collins-Enchandia, social work intern at Andahwod CCC and ES, and comes from Federal Trade Commission.)

Identity theft can happen very easily and unexpectedly – someone could obtain an individual's Social Security number and/or other personal information to make big purchases, open accounts for themselves, or try a get tax refund.

Here are a few steps by the Federal Trade Commission on how individuals can protect themselves from identity theft and the steps to take when personal information is stolen.

Individuals may protect their identity by:

1. Keeping financial documents and records in a safe place at home and locking away purses or wallets in a safe place at work.

2. Reading credit card and bank statements often and carefully, know payment due dates and if a bill doesn't show when it's expected, look into it. Read health insurance statements to make sure the claims paid match the services provided.

3. Checking credit reports at least once a year, visit www.annualcreditreport.com to receive a free report.

4. When going out only take the identification, credit, and debit cards needed. Leave social security card at home. If needed to carry a copy of a Medicare card, black everything but the last four digits – when going to the doctor take the original copy.

5. Before sharing personal information in the workplace, with businesses, at children's school, or doctor's office, ask them what the information is being used for and how will it be protected, and the consequences of not sharing that information.

6. Shred address labels from junk mail and magazines, ATM receipts, bank statements, birth certificate copies, canceled and voided checks, credit card bills, credit report history, documents contain maiden name, documents containing names, addresses, and phone numbers or email addresses, documents containing password, driver's license or items with driver's license number, employee pay stubs, employment records, expired passports, legal documents, and many more. For the

full list, please visit www.fight-identitytheft.com/shred

7. Destroy the labels on prescription bottles before throwing them out and DO NOT share health information with anyone who offers free health services or products.

8. Take outgoing mail to the post office collection boxes or to the post office. Promptly remove mail that arrives in the mailbox. If someone will not be home when mail is arriving, request a vacation hold on mail.

9. When ordering new checks, unless an individual owns a secure mailbox don't have them mailed home.

Steps to take when suspecting identity theft:

1. Warning signs: Individuals may receive a notice from the IRS or find unfamiliar

accounts on credit report, strange withdrawals from bank accounts, receive bills with someone else's name, or receive calls about bills owed.

2. What to do right away: Call the companies where it is believed fraud has occurred, place a fraud alert on credit reports and obtain copies of it, report the identity theft to the Federal Trade Commission, file a report with local police department, and then begin to repair the damage that has been caused.

Visit [Identity Theft.gov](http://IdentityTheft.gov) for assistance with any identity theft situation.

For additional information on protection from identity theft, visit www.consumer.ftc.gov

(Sources: Federal Trade Commission)

Understanding the importance of intergenerational relationships

TOMARRAH GREEN

Family Studies Intern

Elders have traditionally played an important role in raising children. The relationship between elders and children was disrupted during the Boarding School era, and that disruption continues its effects.

Anthropologist Margaret Mead said, "Connections between generations are essential for the mental health and stability of a nation."

It is important for members of different generations to interact with one another, especially children and elders.

A study showed that children mentored by an older adult are 46 percent less likely to use illegal drugs, 27 percent less likely to use alcohol, and 52 percent less likely to skip school.

Parents and caregivers can facilitate interactions between children and elders. Some ideas

for intergenerational interaction are: Storytelling, becoming pen pals, learning skills together or from one another, reading to each other, discussing hobbies and talking about ethnic heritage.

Intergenerational relationships give both elders and the young the opportunity to learn new skills from each other as well as gain a sense of purpose as they help one another. They also are a benefit because:

- They help keep family, cultural stories and traditions alive
- They fill a void for children without grandparents
- Children become more comfortable with the aging process
- Elders can help socialize children
- Elders are teachers with a lifetime of wisdom
- They reduce the likelihood of depression and isolation in elders
- Children can be a source of joy for elders
- Elders report a higher degree

of life satisfaction, and more hope for the future

• They give elders the opportunity to leave a legacy and make a difference, to send a message to the future through a grandchild or young friend, fulfilling desire for immortality

• Helps elders as they seek to find meaning in their lives and make sense of the lives they have lived

Susan Bosak said, "Relationships between young and old make us feel connected. They make us feel not only connected to each other, but to something bigger, to the past and to the future, to the flow of life."

Andahwod CCC and ES is hosting an intergenerational story hour on Monday, Nov. 14 at 10:30 a.m.

Community elders will have the opportunity to interact with babies and children as they work

on developing their brains and motor skills through listening to story books, singing and participating in an activity.

Elders, babies and children up to age 5 are welcome (as long as they aren't skipping school.)

A parent or a guardian will need to remain present with the child for the hour.

Source: IFAS Extension, University of Florida & LegacyProject.org

Andahwod September Employee of the Month

ANDAHWOD STAFF

Congratulations to Mary Peacock, the September 2016 employee of the month for Andahwod Continuing Care and Elder Services.

Mary works in the kitchen. She was one of the first people to start working at Andahwod when it opened. She had worked at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort in the kitchens before transferring to Andahwod.



Courtesy of Andahwod

Mary Peacock

Mary is a mother of two boys, Dyalan (17) and Andrew (12).

She is married to her husband Jon. They live on a dairy farm where they spend most of their time milking the cows. Milking cows takes a lot of time so they do not have a lot of free time for other things but really enjoy their farm.

One of Mary's favorite memories is cooking with her mom, grandma, and sisters during Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays each year.

November 2016 | Andahwod CCC & ES Events

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| Euchre
Mondays 6 p.m. | Language Bingo
Nov. 3 1 p.m. | Elder/Infant Story Time
Nov. 14 10:30 a.m. |
| Open Crafts
Tuesdays 5 p.m. | Craft Fair
Nov. 5 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Saganing Bingo with Friends
Nov. 15 1 p.m. |
| Jewelry with Kay
Nov. 1 1 p.m. | Elders Breakfast
Nov. 9 & 23 9 a.m. | Bingo with Friends
Nov. 16 1 p.m. |
| For more information, please call: 989.775.4300 | Frankenmuth Daytrip
Nov. 10 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. | Thanksgiving Dinner
Nov. 17 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Call for dinner times |

NOVEMBER 2016 Tribal Elder Birthdays

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Maurice DeMeyere | 16 Kathy Barber, Randy Dutton, Michael Finney, Jody Wojcik |
| 2 Delores Drews, Robin Grippi, Robert Henry, Thomas Russell | 17 Phillip Peters Jr., Laurie Pease |
| 3 Barbara Chapoton, Joni DeLaCruz | 18 Terri Bonnema, Brenda Stanton, Mark Stigger |
| 4 Bernard Sprague, Rose Clouse, Minnie Periard, Valerie Zocher | 19 Faith Carmona-Pego, Beverly Vasquez, Christopher Williams, Bernice Nelson, Henrietta Malone |
| 5 David Detzler, Karen Sanford | 20 Jo Ann Bowen, Kathryn Moran |
| 6 David Anderson, Kathleen Hart, Richard Rodriguez, Lawrent Cabay, Esperanza Jaquez, Paul Johnson, Marcia Lewis, Susan Smielewski, Kenneth Watson III, Naomi Wayne | 21 Allen Pego Sr., Viola Nahgahgwon |
| 7 Donald Bordeau, Judith Ramirez, James Ritter | 22 Joseph Kulik Jr., Clayton Nedwash Sr. |
| 8 Clara Jackson | 23 Bertha Collins |
| 9 Karen Bonnau, Marshall Jackson, Lawrence Mena, Frank Snyder, Pamela Kropp | 24 Corrinna O'Leary |
| 10 Irving Graveratte | 25 Robert Burnham, Laura Meffert, Donald Miljure |
| 12 Marclay Crampton, Michael Cyr, Lenore Davis, Jack Ice, Kenneth Maloney | 26 Jo Kathleen Sprague, Barbara Fridline, Valorie Semmens, Sidney Stone |
| 13 Stuart Jackson, Barbara Johnson | 27 William Snowden Sr., Amanda Nahgahgwon, Stephen Randall |
| 14 Raymond Pelcher Sr., Delores Stillson | 28 Wayne Watson Sr., Norman Cyr Jr., Carolyn Fisher, Daniel Kirby |
| 15 Peggy Vliet, Robert Bates | 29 Valerie Querback |
| 16 Sherry Jackson | 30 Darlene Chippewa, Daisy Kendall, Chris Pego, William Cross, Barbara Garcia |



NOVEMBER 2016 EVENT PLANNER

Weight Room Workouts

Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 | 5:30 - 7 p.m.
 • Location: Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
 • Ages: 13 - 19

Youth & Elder Feast

Nov. 1 | 9 - 10 a.m.
 • Location: Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
 • Contact: 989-775-989-775-4787
 • In collaboration with Andahwod

Free Auricular (Ear) Acupuncture

Nov. 2 | 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 • Location: Saganing Tribal Center
 Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24 | 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 • Location: Behavioral Health
 • Contact: 989-775-4895
 • Treatment sessions last about a half hour.
 • Walk-ins welcome

K-12 Education Powwow

Nov. 2, 3 | 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 • Location: Eagles Nest Tribal Gym

Beading & Craft Class

Nov. 3, 10, 17, 24 | 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
 • Location: 7th Generation
 • Contact: 989-775-4818
 • All materials will be provided.

Teen Dance

Nov. 4 | 8 - 11 p.m.
 • Location: 7th Generation
 • Contact: 989-775-4880
 • For teens ages 13-19
 • Light refreshments
 • Door prizes and games

Jake & Mary Pine: Traditional Healers

Nov. 3, 4 | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 • Location: Seventh Generation
 • Contact: 989-775-4780

Andahwod Arts & Crafts Sale

Nov. 5 | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 • Location: Andahwod
 • To reserve tables: 989-775-4300
 • Crafting vendors that work in sewing arts, woodwork, jewelry, paper and more.

Basketball Tryouts

Nov. 8 | Girls start at 5:15 p.m., boys start at 6:30 p.m.
 • Location: Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
 • Contact: 989-775-4093
 • Open to sixth grade boys and eighth grade girls.
 • For Isabella County Basketball League.

Ghost Supper

Nov. 9 | 6 - 8 p.m.
 • Location: 7th Generation
 • Contact: 989-775-4787
 • Remembering, feasting and honoring loved ones who have passed on.
 • Bring a photo of your loved one who has passed.

Behavioral Health Family Dinner Night

Nov. 10 | 6 - 8 p.m.
 • Location: Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
 • Opiates: Prescription drug abuse and the progression to heroin addiction.

AOVWS Annual Veterans Feast

Nov. 12 | Grand Entry: 6 p.m., Dinner: 7 p.m.
 • Location: Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
 • Contact: 989-621-5444

Elder & Infant Story Hour

Nov. 14 | 10:30 a.m.
 • Location: Andahwod
 • Contact: 989-775-4300
 • Elders and infants up to age 5.

Financial Workshop

Nov. 17 | 12 p.m.
 • Location: Housing Conference Room
 • Contact: 989-775-4552

Drum Workshop

Nov. 29, 30 | 5 - 8 p.m.
 • Location: 7th Generation
 • Contact: 989-775-4787

Winter Feast

Dec. 8 | 5:30 - 8 p.m.
 • Location: 7th Generation
 • Contact: 989-775-4787

Public Law 93-638 Training

Feb. 22-24 | 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 • Location: Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort
 • Contact: 989.775.4003
 • Visit www.sagchip.org to register.
 • This course covers the intent and scope of the law, federal support and ongoing inherent federal responsibility and the standards, oversight, and administration of the model agreement.

ALRD Language Classes

M/W/TH | 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. | Drop-in sessions
 T/TH | 6 - 7 p.m.
 W | 12 - 1 p.m.
 • Location: ALRD Office, 7170 Ogemaw Dr.
 • Contact: 989.775.4110

TRIBAL COMMUNITY CALENDAR | NOVEMBER 2016

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT./SUN.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SECR Payroll ● SCIT Per Capita ● SCIT Payroll ● Waste Collection* <small>*Bins must be curbside by 6:30 a.m.</small> 	<p>1</p> <p>Ogitchedaw Meeting Seniors Room 6 p.m.</p> <p>Substance Abuse Meeting B. Health Lodge 7 p.m.</p> <p>Weight Room Workouts Tribal Gym 5:30 - 7 p.m.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.</p> <p>Traditional Teaching Saganing 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p> <p>Talking Circle Andahwod 7 p.m.</p> <p>SCA Parent Advisory Meeting SCA Cafeteria 5 p.m.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p> <p>Jake and Mary Pine 7th Generation 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.</p> <p>D. Dowd at Behavioral Health</p>	<p>4</p> <p>New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m.</p> <p>AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m.</p> <p>Jake and Mary Pine 7th Generation 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.</p> <p>D. Dowd at Behavioral Health</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Talking Circle Andahwod 10 a.m.</p> <p>6</p> <p>New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Substance Abuse Meeting B. Health Lodge 7 p.m.</p> <p>Weight Room Workouts Tribal Gym 5:30 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Active Parenting Now Classes ACFS 10 - 12 a.m.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Talking Circle Andahwod 7 p.m.</p> <p>Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.</p> <p>Youth Council Meeting Old Conference Room 5 p.m.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Anishinaabemowin Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p> <p>Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Parent Teacher Conferences SCA 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.</p> <p>Tribal Ops Closed Veterans Day</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Talking Circle Andahwod 10 a.m.</p> <p>13</p> <p>New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p>
<p>14</p> <p>Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Tribal Observer Deadline 5 p.m.</p> <p>Substance Abuse Meeting B. Health Lodge 7 p.m.</p> <p>Weight Room Workouts Tribal Gym 5:30 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Active Parenting Now Classes ACFS 10 - 12 a.m.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Tribal Education Advisory Meeting 9 a.m.</p> <p>Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.</p> <p>Talking Circle Andahwod 7 p.m.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m.</p> <p>AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Talking Circle Andahwod 10 a.m.</p> <p>20</p> <p>New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Substance Abuse Meeting B. Health Lodge 7 p.m.</p> <p>Weight Room Workouts Tribal Gym 5:30 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Active Parenting Now Classes ACFS 10 - 12 a.m.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.</p> <p>Home for the Holidays Tribal Gym</p> <p>Talking Circle Andahwod 7 p.m.</p> <p>Youth Council Meeting Old Conference Room 5 p.m.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Tribal Ops Closed Thanksgiving</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Tribal Ops Closed Day After Thanksgiving</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Talking Circle Andahwod 10 a.m.</p> <p>27</p> <p>New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Substance Abuse Meeting B. Health Lodge 7 p.m.</p> <p>Weight Room Workouts Tribal Gym 5:30 - 7 p.m.</p> <p>Active Parenting Now Classes ACFS 10 - 12 a.m.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.</p> <p>Talking Circle Andahwod 7 p.m.</p>	<p>Curbside Collection</p> <p>Curbside collection will be delayed one day during Thanksgiving week. The week of Thanksgiving will be on Saturday, Nov. 19 instead of Tuesday, Nov. 22.</p>		<p>Recycling</p> <p>Recycling for the week of Veterans Day will be on Monday, Nov. 7 instead of Tuesday, Nov. 8.</p>



Tribal Observer Classifieds

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

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

100 Employment

Tribal Operations

Anishinabe Language Revitalization Director
Minimum five years specific demonstrated experience developing and working with Anishinabemowin programs/projects. Knowledge and certification in Native language instruction or bachelor's degree or equivalent combination of education and Anishinabemowin-related experience.

Clerical Pool
Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent. Clerical experience is a plus.

Family Practice Physician
Open to the public. Must be a MD or a DO licensed by the State of Michigan or be eligible to become licensed. Must maintain Michigan Board of Pharmacy Controlled Substance License and Federal Controlled Substance Registration through the U.S. Dept. of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

General Labor Pool
Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent. Must be physically fit and be able to perform manual labor.

ACFS Director
Open to the public. Master's degree in social services or human services related field. Must have supervisory experience in social services or human services related field. The Anishnaabeg Child and Family Services director will establish, plan and coordinate all overall activities and segments included within ACFS.

Secondary Language Immersion Specialist
Open to the public. Must possess required specialized unique skills including demonstrated

fluency and knowledge of Anishinabe language acquisition, a clear understanding of immersion philosophy and two years experience teaching Anishinabemowin.

Police Officer FT
Open to the public. Must be a U.S. citizen. Must be at least 21 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Associates degree preferred. Must be able to pass departmental fitness evaluation. Must be MCOLES certified/certifiable or capable of meeting certifiable standards.

Special Education Teacher
Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in special education or education, valid Michigan Elementary Teaching Certificate with special education endorsement. Must be willing to attend training.

Senior Associate General Counsel
Open to the public. Licensed as active member in good standing by the State Bar of Michigan or must become licensed following the next available bar exam; zero to five years experience as a practicing attorney, familiarity with federal Indian law preferred.

Teacher
Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in education. Must possess a valid State of Michigan Teaching Certification. Prefer minimum of two years teaching experience and working experience with Native Americans.

Physical Education Teacher
Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in education with a valid Michigan Elementary Teaching Certificate; educational emphasis in physical education and two years' experience in teaching pre-K to sixth grade physical education classes.

Compensation Analyst
Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in business, human resources or related field with four years of compensation experience

specifically in job evaluation, market salary analysis and salary survey participation and interpretation.

Chief Financial Officer
Open to the public. Must have a bachelor's degree in accounting and CPA. MBA preferred. Must have 10 years experience in financial management with increasing responsibilities for multi-faceted direction and planning required.

Sexual Assault Counselor
Open to the public. Must have a master's degree in counseling or equivalent in Human Services. Must have a minimum of two years experience within counseling, one year in working with victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. Able to work with all ages.

Associate General Counsel
Open to the public. Licensed as active member in good standing by the State Bar of Michigan or must become licensed following the next available bar exam; zero to five years experience as a practicing attorney, familiarity with federal Indian law preferred.

Curriculum Instructional Coordinator
Open to the public. M.A. in educational administration with five years teaching experience or bachelor's degree in education field with seven years experience. Must possess a valid State of Michigan Teacher Certificate.

LPN-Assisted Living
Open to the public. Valid State of Michigan practical nurse license. One year of long-term care experience preferred. Must consent to a criminal background check. Will be required to work other shifts, weekends, holidays, and during emergency situations as necessary to meet program staffing needs.

Social Services Case Worker
Open to the public. Bach-

elor's degree in human service related field required. Master's degree preferred. Must submit to and pass a background check. Must be able to obtain and maintain a Tribal driver's license.

Operator Lab Tech #2
Open to the public. Maintain a high school diploma or equivalent. Must be willing to take classes in microbiology, advanced math and beginning algebra courses. Must have an aptitude for operating and maintaining mechanical equipment and be skilled in the operation, repair and maintenance of mechanical, lab equipment and electrical equipment.

Deputy Court Clerk
Open to the public. Must be at least 21 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent. Previous court clerk experience or equivalent education in subject area. Demonstrate computer proficiency and experience using Microsoft Word, Microsoft Access, and Microsoft Excel. Capacity to type letters and reports with minimum errors.

Automotive Master Technician
Open to the public. An employee in this class performs various skilled and semi-skilled tasks in the repair, diagnostics, and maintenance of vehicles and heavy equipment. Must be able to perform routine maintenance on all types of vehicles, cars, trucks, lawn equipment, loaders and dump trucks. Must possess a valid driver's license.

Regulations Clerk PT
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma (or equivalent). Must have an associates degree in business. Applicant must possess the ability to accurately and efficiently type reports and correspondence.

7th Generation Cultural Manager
Open to the public. Associates degree and one year of supervisory experience required. Three years demonstrated experience with various teachings and ceremonial events including but not limited to sweat lodges, fasting, traditional ways, semaa, drum, bundles, sacred medicines, feasts, etc. Experience with Tribal community educational programming preferred.

Comm Services Web Store Clerk PT
Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. High school diploma or GED required. Must have good communication skills,

basic computer skills, and the ability to handle tasks in a busy environment.

SECR

Alterations Clerk PT
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Needs to know the operations of equipment used in construction, alteration and repair of fabric articles.

Carpet/Upholstery Cleaner FT
Open to the public. Some carpet and upholstery cleaning experience required. Knowledge of truck mount system a plus. Must pass training test on truck mount operation within 90-day probation period.

Steward PT
Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent. Must have an organized and thorough work ethic and a strong desire to provide service. Exceptional people skills, high level of enthusiasm and professionalism.

Security Officer PT
Open to the public. Must be 18 years of age and have a high school diploma or equivalent. May be required to perform their duties during hazardous conditions that could include severe weather and fire.

Kitchen Equipment Worker
Open to the public. Must be 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent. One year of restaurant cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility, communication and teamwork skills.

Casino Finance Manager
Open to the public. Four year degree with a minimum of two years of experience as a finance supervisor cage or high school diploma or equivalent with five years combination of education and related experience in cage operations or banking operations to include two years supervisory experience.

Line Server PT
Open to the public. Must be 18 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Desire to work hard.

Inventory Control Warehouse PT
Open to the public. High school diploma or equivalent. Must be able to obtain/maintain a gaming license. Must be able to obtain and maintain a tribal driver's license and industrial truck

operator permit. One to three years experience in receiving or warehousing.

Server Assistant PT
Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent. Six months to one year prior related food experience and/or the ability to successfully pass in house training.

Cosmetologist PT
Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent. Must possess and maintain a Michigan state license in cosmetology. A total of 1600 training hours, followed by completion of state license with two year renewal required. One year experience preferred. Must be able to work days, nights, weekends, and holidays.

Guest Room Attendant PT
Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Requires three months housekeeping experience. Must be able to follow simple written and verbal instruction, and be willing to accomplish repetitive tasks. Must be able to lift up to 30 pounds.

Massage Therapist PT
Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years or older upon employment. High school diploma or equivalent required. Must have a valid Michigan massage certification. 600 total hours required for massage certification. One year experience preferred. Must be able to work days, nights, weekends, and holidays. KEY position - Must be able to obtain and maintain a gaming license.

SELC

Finance Cashier PT
Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age and have a high school diploma or equivalent with six months of heavy cash handling or hospitality experience in a fast paced, high pressure environment. Basic math skills with the ability to pass a written math test with 80 percent accuracy and ability to handle large amounts of currency.

Waitstaff (level 1)
Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must have accurate math skills. Needs to be able to deal with the public under stressful situations, be a team player, work flexible hours including weekends, holidays, and graveyard shifts.

Thank you for voting us

- Minor In Possession
- Retail Fraud
- Drunk Driving

#1

- Drunk & Disorderly
- Assault & Battery
- Open Intoxicants

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Attention: Tribal Clerk/Enrollment Hours

Tribal Clerk's/Enrollment office is closed on Fridays for walk-in/desk services for Administrative Office days, until further notice.

The Clerk's office will still be open Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. for regular business.



“Paint the Rez Purple” domestic violence color run celebrates third year with a splash

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Purple powder rained down from the skies once more as the Nami Migizi Nangwiihgan domestic violence department hosted its third annual “Paint the Rez Purple” color run.

Shelby McCliggott, clinical therapist for Behavioral Health and Debra Cicalo, domestic violence support technician, served as coordinators for the Oct. 22 event.

“As a domestic violence team three years ago, we brainstormed ideas as to new events to bring to the community and to incorporate domestic

violence awareness. From the great feedback we received from the community after the first year, we decided as a team, that it had to become an annual event,” McCliggott said.

The domestic violence department is small at this time, and was not able to commit to as many events this year as in the past.

“The community outreach to help support and promote domestic violence awareness has been encouraging and much appreciated,” McCliggott said.

Migizi EDC Marketing Manager Fredrick Kuhlman and the Migizi team reached out to assist the NMN team in bringing awareness to the cause.

“Migizi marketing and the Sagamok Express Mobil created the purple Gizi card, which they have been selling for one dollar all month long to not only bring awareness, but to raise funds for the domestic violence department on their own accord,” McCliggott said.

On Oct. 20, Tribal employees donned their colors to support the National Network to End Domestic Violence’s (NNEDV) #PurpleThursday. The purpose of Purple Thursday was to educate and bring awareness to domestic violence statistics as it effects on average one in



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

More than 100 participants went through the purple haze at the third annual purple color run for domestic violence awareness.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal elder Daisy Kostus offered a prayer in Anishnaabemowin along with good words about the community taking a stand against domestic violence.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

The third annual “Paint the Rez Purple” domestic violence color run begins at Behavioral Health.

four women (one in every two Native American women) and one in seven men.

Cicalo said West Intermediate middle school reached out through Youth Empowerment Aide Gail Huber and requested the opportunity to “paint West purple.”

“We appreciate the opportunity to go directly into the schools to help in bringing awareness to the youth,” Cicalo said.

The staff viewed the school’s purple décor on Thursday, Oct. 27 done by the Native students and community youth.

Behavioral Health Administrator David Garcia introduced Tribal elder Daisy Kostus as she spoke on the importance of the event and offered prayer in the presence of her eagle staff.

The staff also supplied signature purple sunglasses and “End Domestic Violence” T-shirts.

For more information on domestic violence resources in the area and community outreach materials, please contact Nami Migizi Nangwiihgan at 989-775-4400.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Dante Velazco hitches a ride on Guadalupe Gonzalez (right) while at the run with Cheryl Gonzalez (left).



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Reba Navejar holds her little one as they travel through a cloud of purple.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Behavioral Health Administrator David Garcia shares the importance behind the message to end domestic violence.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

A splash of purple rains down and covers a color runner.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Brother and sister team of Thomas and Emma Stevens race as Emma crosses the finish line ahead.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Chyann Haas and Jourdyn Bennett show their colors after the run.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

K-12 Youth Achievement Advisor Marta Escamilla makes her move across the finish line.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

SCTC students are prepared to “walk a mile in their shoes.” (Photographed are: Monica Pelcher, Deanna Campbell, Tony Gomez, Chyann Hass, Jourdyn Bennett, Marisa Knight, Nina Knight and Tino Medina.)



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Autumn leaves and paths turned unusually purple on the Reservation this time of year.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

The Central Michigan University Alpha Chi Omega Sorority have volunteered since the run started in 2014.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Domestic Violence Support Tech Debra Cicalo (left) joins Behavioral Health Clinical Therapist Shelby McCliggott (center) and Migizi Marketing Manager Fredrick Kuhlman as they display their “purple Gizi” cards.