



Zaagibagaa-Giizis  
(Moon When Buds Come Out)

# TRIBAL OBSERVER

MAY  
2025

Working Together For Our Future

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

Volume 36 | Issue 5



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and Saganing  
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Life" Powwow**

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## Chief Davis signs acquisition of land to begin restoration planning efforts

**JENNIFER STEVENS**

Environmental Manager

Natural resources downstream from Dow Chemical Company's Midland, Mich. plant have been damaged due to dioxins being released into the Tittabawassee River and its floodplain as far back as 1800s. Federal, state, and tribal governments have been acting on behalf of the public as trustees for natural resources and have conducted a Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA).

The purpose of an NRDA is to determine the amounts and types of restoration that can make the public whole

for losses to natural resources over time.

The trustees began planning for and conducting their assessment in 2005 and reached a settlement with Dow in 2019. There was a settlement reached on Nov. 8, 2019 for an estimated \$77 million in projects and funding that will restore fish, wildlife, and habitats injured following releases of hazardous substances in past decades from Dow's manufacturing facility, following many years of assessment and negotiations.

The settlement includes restoration projects to benefit natural resources and provide for public use and enjoyment of them. Sally Kniffen, environmental specialist for the

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe has been serving as a representative and trustee on the NRDA Trustee Council for 20 years.

The Tribe was a recipient of NRDA funds to purchase and restore up to 80 acres in the Saginaw Bay watershed as this Tribal Cultural Uses Restoration project.

The Tribe uses wetland areas for hunting, fishing, and gathering practices; important to sustaining cultural activities.

For the project, the Tribe identified potential wetland restoration locations that are expected to have a high probability of successful restoration based on soil type, hydrology, position in the watershed, and



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Chief Tim J. Davis (center) signs an acquisition of land on Wednesday, April 16 to begin restoration planning efforts, with support from Associate General Counsel Michael Fisher (left) and Environmental Specialist Sally Kniffen (right).**

tradition. The Tribe identified 80 acres of wetland to restore in Au Gres, Mich. on the Saginaw Bay to complete this project.

The acquisition of this land was completed, and signed by Chief Tim J. Davis, on Wednesday, April 16, and restoration planning efforts are set to begin.

## Tribal Council, HR welcomes new Chief Financial Officer Dawn McGrady

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Public Relations Manager

On March 20, Tribal Council and Human Resources Director Louanna Bruner extended a warm welcome to the new chief financial officer of Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino & Hotel.

"We are excited to introduce Dawn McGrady as the newest member of our organization. Dawn is a proud tribal member of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate

of the Lake Traverse Reservation in South Dakota," Bruner said. "She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience with 28 years in the gaming industry, having worked in various tribal casinos across North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, and currently, Michigan."

Much of McGrady's career has focused on the advancement of tribal sovereignty through financial independence and provides insight on why that is an important concern for Indian Country.

"It allows for independent decision making and ensures tribal nations are in control of leading their own future," McGrady said. "Building strong revenue generating tribal enterprises gives the tribes resources to further fund other tribal initiatives that serves their communities and provides for future generations."

McGrady was hired with her of proven success influencing industry peers and leadership in onboarding new technology and projects by garnering trust and having them see the importance in moving projects forward.

"Michigan is a very competitive gaming market and when having to compete with many other gaming properties and other attractions in Michigan, you must have other offerings to draw a broader audience," McGrady said. "It allows for

an introduction to the property and gives options while visiting. Having more entertainment offerings creates a better guest experience that allows for longer stays with more to do."

Renovation to an aging property is key to remain competitive in a market that is already highly competitive, she said.

"The look and feel of the property is important when guests have many choices of where they could visit," she said. "Keeping a property updated improves the guest experience and is essential to growing/maintaining market share. Just as important, keeping the concepts of the amenities updated allows for competitive advantages."

She said gaming operations across the country have seen the challenges that internet gaming brings to chip away at the existing marketplace. She does offer

a strategy to combat the threat of possible lost revenue to gaming globalization.

"Many operations have embraced omnichannel technology related to gaming. The metrics allows the guest to game online, visit the property to redeem their rewards and enjoy on-site entertainment offerings," McGrady said. "Marketing studies support the omnichannel approach because it provides excellent guest service and integration that makes for a memorable customer experience. This increases guest loyalty to both the online brand and on-site property."

She firmly asserts in a competitive employment market, the casino financial leadership team can continue the revenue streams of profitability by retaining valued employees.

"Leadership must focus on strategies that ensure team



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Dawn McGrady,  
chief financial officer**

members are feeling valued, appreciated and invested in," McGrady said. "Supporting team member growth and development plans that create clear succession, offering training, mentorship programs, and creating an engaging work culture for the betterment of the team members."



## Honoring, Healing & Remembering

**Save the date! Friday, June 6, 2025**

Join us on the 91st anniversary of the Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School closing. We recognize the suffering, strength and resilience of the children through a day of memoriam and fellowship.

**For more information, contact:**  
[MLHadden@sagchip.org](mailto:MLHadden@sagchip.org) | 989.775.4751

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## Jerome Gene Whitepigeon

December 30, 1949 – April 5, 2025

Jerome Gene Whitepigeon, age 75, of Shepherd, Mich., passed away Saturday, April 5, 2025, at My Michigan Hospital in Midland, Mich.

Jerome was born Dec. 30, 1949, in Holland, Mich., the son of Edward and Virginia (Gravette) Whitepigeon. He was a graduate of West Ottawa High School with the Class of 1968.

Jerome served his country in the U.S. Army from 1968-1970 in Vietnam. He served in the 25th infantry division based in Hawaii, and in that division, he was in a smaller unit of four men called a fire team. They called the patch the “electric strawberry” and their motto was “tropic lighting.” The unit was known as expert jungle fighters since World War II and it was a proud tradition to be in this unit.

Following his time in the military, he attended Grand Valley State University from 1973-1975 where he studied art education. Jerome worked for the Michigan Employment Security Commission as a job placement specialist from 1975-1990 when he retired.

He was very passionate about his Native American culture; he was founder of Ogitchedaw Veteran and Warrior Society for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and Brown Hawk Warriors Society.

He also served as a first degree priest for the Midewiwin Mide’ Widjig Ecclesiastical Organization that he founded and organized. There were many school presentations he held throughout the state teaching the Anishinaabe Potawatomi culture. He was a drummer for Red Eagle Singers and the Two Hawk Singers, as well as teaching drumming skills to the many youth at Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Jerome was an amazing painter and artist of all things. He was a Northern traditional dancer champion and a lifetime member of the VFW in Mount Pleasant and Shepherd.

Jerome is survived by his children Jerome (Leslie) Pigeon Jr. (Debbie McSawby) (Brooke Helms), Elizabeth (Jeff) Chivis of Middleville, Adam (Tracy) Pigeon of Shepherd, Mark (Shannon) Pigeon (Brandi Bellinger) of Shepherd, Tim (Connie) VanDam; grandchildren, Janelle Avery, Jessica Phillips, Christopher Osawabine, Kane Pigeon, Katherine Pigeon, Lisa Sommers, Eric Peters, Brandon Peters, Sarah Ballew, Skylar MacKay, Calvin Ballew, Jayne Byrne, Payne Alexander, Austin Steggerda, Addison Pigeon, Arianna Bird, Logan Bird, Owen Franco, Edward Phelps-Pigeon, Layla Pigeon, Ethan Pigeon, Alister Pigeon, Tristan Chivis, Isaac VanDam, Benjamin VanDam, Grace VanDam; 17 great-grandchildren; sisters, Julie Whitepigeon (Raymond Cadotte) of Mt. Pleasant and Shauna (Tim) Collins; and brother, William Whitepigeon.

Jerome was preceded in death by his parents; former wife and best friend Sarah Pigeon; brother Jeffrey Pigeon, Sr.; sister, Gayle Whitepigeon; and uncle, Calvin Whitepigeon.

Funeral services took place at 12 p.m. on Wednesday, April 9, 2025, at Clark Family Funeral Chapel with Ecclesial Officer Mide’ Widjig Benjamin Williams officiating. A luncheon followed in the Reflections Reception Center. The family greeted friends on April 9th beginning at 11 a.m. until the time of the service. Burial with military honors was held on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 12 p.m. at Chippewa Township Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



## Constance Elaine Pallett

March 25, 1953 – April 2, 2025

Constance Elaine Pallett, age 72, of Clare, Mich., passed away peacefully on Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at Andahwod Assisted Living in Mount Pleasant.

According to Connie’s wishes, cremation has taken place. A memorial service will take place on May 3, 2025, at 1 P.M. at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Gym with Rev. Doyle Perry officiating. The family will receive friends from 11 A.M. until the time of service at 1 P.M.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family. Envelopes will be available at the Gym.

Connie was born on March 25, 1953, in Mount Pleasant, the granddaughter of Peter and Adeline Collins-Pelcher, daughter of Charles Marion Wright and Mable (Pelcher) Wright. She attended and graduated from Clare High School with the class of 1971.

Connie married Leon Edwin Pallett on May 7, 1997, in Clare. She worked as a laundry attendant at the Emerald Isle Laundromat in Clare.

Connie was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and was a huge fan of her son Samuel’s Indigenous cooking adventures. She always enjoyed traveling with her daughter Teri and grandkids.

Connie was an incredibly loving wife, mother, aunt and grandmother. She will always be remembered for her generous and supportive nature.

Connie is survived by her husband of 28 years, Leon; children, Samuel (Amy) Anglin and Teri (Kassi) Anglin; brothers, Harvey/Mike (Mary Jo) Wright, and Bernie (Pam) Wright; sister, Mary Ann (Fred) Pelcher/Hegyi; grandchildren Dakota (Aaron) Anglin, Samuel Carl Anglin, Marcus Quintero, nieces and nephews, Sarah (Chris) Jones, Kimberly (Derek) Condon, Theresa (Derek) Carter, Josh (Roxanne) Hegyi; Karen Sinn and Shelly Birdsey.

Connie is preceded in death by her parents; first husband of 17 years, Samuel Lee Anglin; brother, Carl (Sandy) Pelcher.

You may view Connie’s obituary online and send a condolence to the family at [www.clarkfuneralchapel.com](http://www.clarkfuneralchapel.com)

We appreciate your thoughts and prayers during this time.



## William Andrew Snowden

November 27, 1942 – April 12, 2025

William Andrew Snowden Sr., age 82, of Mount Pleasant, Mich., passed away on Saturday, April 12, 2025, at North Woods Nursing Center in Farwell.

William was born on Nov. 27, 1942, in Port Huron, son of William and Mary Lee (Tipkey) Snowden. William was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and graduated from Lapeer White High School and received his bachelor’s degree from Central Michigan University.

William honorably served his country in the United States Army 82nd Airborne. After his time in the military, William worked for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe as an environmentalist for 15 years. He married Linnie Marie Sutphin on April 13, 1964, in Lapeer.

William enjoyed working on model semis and trailers, as well as playing guitar and listening to music.

William is survived by his two sons, Shad (Millisa) Snowden of Edmore and William Jr., (Diane) Snowden of Coldwater; 12 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and sister, Leanne Snowden of Suttons Bay.

William was preceded in death by his wife, Linnie; sons, JDW Snowden and Brett Henry; parents; and brother, Walter Snowden.

Visitation for William was held at Chippewa Township Cemetery on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, from 12 noon until 1 p.m. Graveside services immediately followed with Benjamin Evers officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Pardee Cancer Foundation.



## Stephen M. Bonnau Sr.

April 28, 1949 – April 17, 2025

Stephen M. Bonnau Sr., 75, of Montgomery, Mich. passed away Thursday, April 17, 2025 at home.

Stephen was born on April 28, 1949 in Bay City, Mich. to Ivan and Virginia (Silas) Bonnau. Stephen married Ruth Anne (Snyder) on Aug. 8, 1987 and she survives.

Stephen graduated from Pinconning High School. He was a member of the Camden Missionary Church and also the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

Stephen enjoyed hunting, fly fishing, gardening, billiards, shuffleboard and golf. He was a true artist and enjoyed making gun stocks and all of his own fishing flies.

Stephen and Ruth loved escaping the cold Michigan winters in southern Texas. Above all, Stephen loved his family and treasured every minute with them.

In addition to his wife, Ruth Anne, Stephen is survived by his father, Ivan (Mary Lou Bannister) Bonnau Sr.; three daughters, Dawn (Chris Pick) Bonnau of Parchment, Mona (Robin Mitchell) Will of Fort Wayne, April (Greg) Allen of Grand Haven; two sons, Stephen Bonnau Jr. of Niles, Richard (Erica) Bonnau Sr. of Plainwell; four sisters, Robin Bonnau, Cheryl (Jeff) Roy, Kelly Bell, Shelly Bonnau; two brothers, Terry (Jay) Bonnau, Ivan (Joanna) Bonnau Jr.; seven grandchildren, Derrick, Devon, Graham, Zachary, Celestia, Richard Jr., Jarl; and four great-grandchildren. Stephen was also survived by several Bonnau, Snyder and Kennedy extended family members that meant the world to him.

Stephen was preceded in death by his mother, Virginia Helt.

A visitation for Stephen was held on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 from 2 to 5 P.M. at the Eagle Funeral Home-George White Chapel in Reading.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the Camden Missionary Church.



37<sup>th</sup> Annual

## Michigan Indian Family Olympics

Friday, July 18, 2025

**Central Michigan University's**  
Bennett Track & Field

**Registration opens in May**  
[www.sagchip.org/mifo/](http://www.sagchip.org/mifo/)

**For more information, contact: 989.775.4694**

## 2025 Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Election

# CAUCUS COMMITTEE SIGN UP:

**May 7-29, 2025**

## SIGN UP LOCATION:

**Tribal Clerk's Office in the Black Elk Building**  
(7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858)

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

## Mark Alex Walraven

July 17, 1958 – April 9, 2025

Mark Alex Walraven, 66, of Hampton Twp. – our respectful, passionate, friendly, and witty son, brother, uncle, and friend – passed away peacefully on Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at Brian’s House.

Mark was born on July 17, 1958, in Essexville, Mich., to Alex and Rose Marie (Pietruszewski) Walraven, and he always held a special place in his heart for his family and friends.

Mark graduated from Garber High School in 1976, and he went on to build a solid career in the auto industry. He worked for General Motors, spent time at Eagle Claw in Colorado, and contributed to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, where he was proud of his heritage and connection to the community.

Known for his friendly nature, Mark was the kind of person who genuinely cared about everyone he met. He was a faithful member of St. Jude Thaddeus Parish, where he found joy and comfort in his faith and community.

Mark had a zest for life that was reflected in his love for fishing, his frequent trips to the casino, and his long drives through the countryside – affectionately referred to as “crop tours.” He found beauty and inspiration in the simple things around him.

Mark is survived by his father, Alex Walraven; sisters, Deborah Christie and Paige (Mike) Vanderlooven; brother, Tim (Christine Taylor) Walraven; special aunt, Barb (Darrell) Walraven; best friend, Brad Wiedyk; nieces and nephews, Jennifer Christie, Brianna Laberge, Kara (Kris) Hotchkiss, Samantha (Derek) Noel, Cody (Sara) Walraven, Mariah (Nick) Rohde, Miles (Tyler) Walraven, Sawyer Walraven, Daniel Walraven, Ashley Liskey, Evan Korbut, Ethan (Brittany) Korbut, and Noah Korbut; great nieces and nephews, Isabelle, Elmer, Rosalie, Hadley, Cambry, Carter, Dash, Aubrey, Easton, Lucas, Civana, Ashton, Taylor, Maverick, Malcom, Gabriel, Mikayla, Madden, Makenzie and Kyden.

Mark was preceded in death by his mother, Rose Marie Walraven; brother, Daniel Walraven and several aunts and uncles.

A Celebration of Life for Mark will be announced at a later date. Private arrangements have been entrusted to Skorupski Family Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 821 N. Pine Rd., between Ridge and Center.

Memorial contributions may be directed to Brian’s House.



## Richard Nahgagwon

September 16, 1932 – March 26, 2025

Richard Nahgagwon, age 92, of Hale, Mich., passed away peacefully on Wednesday, March 26, 2025.

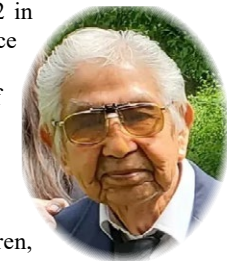
Richard was born on Sept. 16, 1932 in Mount Pleasant, Mich. to the late Lawrence and Clara (Bennett) Nahgagwon.

Richard worked at MichCon Gas of Tawas City, Mich. as a meter reader for over 30 years. He loved drawing and hunting, and proudly served in the United States Army during the Korean War.

Richard is survived by his children, Amanda Nahgagwon of Interlochen, Mich., Tim Stevens of Hale, Mich., and Kim Stevens of Bay City, Mich.; brothers, Ernie (Beverly) Nahgagwon of Oscoda, Mich., and Gerald (April) Nahgagwon of Bay City, Mich.; sisters, Ethel Lingford of Wisconsin, Viola Nahgagwon of Tawas City, Mich., and Laura Schaad of Washington; grandchildren, Sheri Nedwash, Chris Williams, Tosha Bannister, and Greg Hill; great-grandchildren, Joel Nedwash, Samantha Nedwash, and River Brumfield; nieces and nephews, Kandy Ojeda, Anita N., Marion Joseph, Gilbert Williams and many more.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Stevens (Nahgagwon); daughters, Leatta Nedwash and Pamela Stevens; sons, Richard Nahgagwon Jr. and David Joseph (Nahgagwon); brothers, Lawrence Nahgagwon Jr., Harold Nahgagwon, and Arnold Nahgagwon; sisters, Marlene Garlick, and Mildred Nahgagwon; and great-grandson, Daniel Nedwash.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, April 5, 2025 at 1 P.M. at the Oscoda Indian Mission Church, located at 7994 Alvin Rd. Mikado, MI 48745.







Phyllis J. O’Neal

October 13, 1949 – April 7, 2025

Phyllis J. O’Neal, age 75, of Harrisville, Mich., passed away on Monday, April 7, 2025 at her home.

Phyllis was born on Oct. 13, 1949 in Oscoda, Mich., to the late Calvin and Janette Tebo.

Phyllis grew up in Oscoda and later moved to West Virginia where she worked in restaurants for many years. She returned to northern Michigan in the 1990s and truly loved being back home.

Phyllis enjoyed visiting people and staying active. She loved being out and about the area to gather with friends and drive around on sight-seeing trips. Phyllis also enjoyed going out to eat and attending dinner clubs and festivals with friends.

She was proud of her Native American heritage and liked traveling to Mount Pleasant and Standish for powwows. Phyllis was gifted at crocheting and making afghans for family and friends.

Phyllis is survived by three siblings, Lori Fuller of Midland, Mich., Juanita Rogers of Jonesville, La. and Roger Tebo of Oscoda, Mich.; the love of her life and travel partner, William Umphrey of Harrisville, Mich. and his children, Kelly Umphrey of Hillman, Mich., Debbie (Ron Sweet) Senchuk of Alpena, Mich., Loretta (Chuck) Ohlrich of Lachine, Mich., William Fournier of Detroit and Samantha (Frank) Fournier of Alpena, Mich. Phyllis is also survived by seven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by three brothers, Kenny, Francis, and Steve Tebo.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. The place of interment was in the Indian Mission Cemetery in Mikado, Mich.



Warren Enos Stone

January 7, 1947 – April 15, 2025

Warren Enos Stone, age 78, passed away at home on Tuesday, April 15, 2025.

Warren was born Jan. 7, 1947, in Muskegon, Mich., to Peter and Lillian (Shawboose) Stone and graduated from Orchard View High School. He was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe in Mount Pleasant, Mich., and was very proud of his Indian heritage.

Warren was a devoted father and grandfather, cherished by all who knew him. Known for his warm and friendly nature, he brought joy to those around him. A passionate Detroit Lions fan, he followed his team with unwavering loyalty.

He will be deeply missed.

Warren is survived by three daughters: Jessica (Shawn) Bethers, Rebecca (Derrick) Miller, and Wendie (Erica) Stone; seven grandchildren: Malee, Isabell, Helea, Jerome, Zoie, Rubee, and Davey; brother, Sydney Stone; sister, Sharon Blevins; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers: Domic and Mike Stone; and sisters: Gloria Stone and Brenda Rubin.

A Celebration of Warren’s Life was held at 2 P.M. on Friday, April 25, 2025, at The Lee Chapel of Sytsema Funeral and Cremation Services, 6291 S. Harvey St., Norton Shores, MI 49444. Visitation with his family took place one hour prior to the service.

Memorials to the family will go towards his grandchildren’s college funds.





“WORKING TOGETHER FOR OUR FUTURE”

Attention Tribal Members

**Tribal Council Regular Session Meetings**

are held at 9 a.m.

**Regular Tribal Council Sessions**

- First Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m.
- Inside the Council Chambers of the Black Elk Government Complex

- Meetings are open to Tribal Members
- Anyone wanting to be added can call 989-775-4004

**Regular Council Session Dates**

• June 3 • July 1 • Aug. 5



**Tribal Observer**

**Graduate Photos**

Please submit information to [Observer@Sagchip.org](mailto:Observer@Sagchip.org)

**College**

- Graduate’s name
- School
- Field of Study

**High School**


- Graduate’s name
- School

**Deadline: May 16, 2025**

**Public notice of unclaimed per capita disbursements for deceased Tribal Members**

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

Tribal Member Name	Date of Death
Adkisson, Chad Allen	08/12/2024
Anderson, Eric John	10/24/2024
Bird, Kevin Lee	07/11/2023
Carpenter, Vivian Lanora	08/08/2023
Funnell, Nancy Caroll	02/11/2024
Glavas, Cree Summer	10/18/2023
Henry, Robert Nowgeeshig	01/04/2025
Kelsall, Marcia Sue	12/18/2024
Mcclain, Patrick Lane	07/07/2024
Meredith, Vivian June	07/19/2023
Poulos, Barbara Jean	01/28/2024
Quayle Jr, William H.	07/29/2023
Smielewski, Susan M.	07/11/2023
Tarkowski, Patricia Helen	01/03/2025



*Happy First Birthday*

*Ngwes,*

Love your Family!

*May 17th*



**2025 Summer Youth Worker Program**

Crew leaders and summer youth workers needed

**Program runs for six weeks: June 23 - July 31**

*\*Summer youth worker employees adhere to Tribal Operations policies and holidays.*

- **Summer youth worker portal:** The summer youth worker calendar, program news and reminders, a call-in link, and other important documents will all be posted in June and updated regularly on the Summer Youth Worker portal at [www.sagchip.org/summeryouth](http://www.sagchip.org/summeryouth)
- **Job applications will become available in April at [www.sagchip.org/careers](http://www.sagchip.org/careers)**

*\*Paper applications will also be available at the Black Elk Building Human Resources front window.*

**Crew leaders:**

- Must be SCIT Member
- Must be 18-24 years old
- High school diploma or GED
- Must be able to pass background check
- Valid Michigan driver’s license
- **Applications open:** April 1, 2025
- **Deadline:** Positions open until filled

**Youth workers:**

- Must be SCIT Member
- Must be 14 -18 years old age at the time of application
- Must be able to attend parent/guardian and youth worker meeting
- **Applications open:** April 1, 2025
- **Deadline:** Positions open until filled

**For more information, please contact:**  
989.775.5643 | [BAlonzo@sagchip.org](mailto:BAlonzo@sagchip.org)

**TO APPLY:**  
Scan QR Code Below



**June 2025 Tribal Child Welfare Affidavits or Child Mino Shkiziwin Applications**

**Forms are available now.**

*\*You must fill out ONE form completely.*

**Deadline: Friday, May 2, 2025 by 5 p.m.**

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


**Notarization is required**

- Forms are available by mail, email and at [www.sagchip.org](http://www.sagchip.org)
- Post marked forms, email or faxed will not be accepted
- The Tribal Clerk’s office must have the original form
- **For questions regarding the TCWP call the Tribal Clerk’s Office at 989-775-4051**


**Parents/guardians have the option to participate in the Mno-Shkiziwin program**

- **For questions regarding the Mno-Shkiziwin Program call 989-775-4175**

**Congratulations powwow logo contest winners!**



**Saginaw Chippewa Powwow:**  
**Allyssa Shawboose**



**Saganing Traditional Powwow:**  
**Reagan Sizemore**





## Tribal Council

### Chief

**Tim J. Davis** | District One

### Sub-Chief

**Luke Sprague** | District One

### Treasurer

**Maia Spotted Tail** | District One

### Secretary

**Jennifer L. Wassegijig** | District One

### Sergeant-at-Arms

**Christina Otto** | District One

### Chaplain

**Alice Jo Ricketts** | District One

### Council Member

**Brad Bennett** | District One

### Council Member

**David Merrill Jr.** | District One

### Council Member

**Frank J. Cloutier** | District Three

### Council Member

**Ron Nelson** | District Two

### Council Member

**Samantha Chippeway** | District One

### Council Member

**Theresa Peters-Jackson** | District One

## The Seven Grandfather TEACHINGS

### Nbookaawin – Wisdom

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

### Zaagidowin – Love

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

### Minaadendamooing – Respect

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

### Zoongide'ewin – Bravery

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

### Gwekwadiziwin – Honesty

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

### Dibaadendiziwin – Humility

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

### Debwewin – Truth

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

**Kina bi maad ziim gak Kchi pii tend da kwad**  
*"All life is sacred"*

**A Missing and Murdered Indigenous People event**  
**Monday, May 5, 2025**  
**5-6:30 p.m. | The Hill Campground**  
7525 E. Tomah Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

- Spread awareness to the Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP) movement
- Guest speakers
- Light refreshments

**Red Dress exhibits will be featured starting the beginning of April, until the middle of May to bring recognition to this powerful movement.**

**For more information, contact:**  
989-775-4400 | BHDVServices@sagchip.org

**Locations will include:**

- Art Reach Mid Michigan:** The Red Dress exhibit will run April 1-30, 2025, with a gallery reception and speaker on April 24 from 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- McLaren Central Michigan Hospital
- Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center
- Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College
- Tribal Operations - Black Elk Building
- Anishnaabeg Child and Family Services
- SCIT Public Safety Building
- Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort
- Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel
- SCIT Behavioral Health
- CMU Bovee Center
- CMU Libraries
- CMU Museum
- Ziibiwing Center
- Clarke Historical Library
- Veterans Memorial Library
- Mid Michigan College
- Cup of Joy
- R.I.S.E Advocacy, Inc.

**19<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**  
**People's Traditional**  
**POWWOW**

**Save the Date!**  
**Aug. 23 & 24, 2025**  
**Seventh Generation Powwow Grounds**  
7957 E. Remus Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858  
**Dignitaries:** TBD

**The winner selected will have their design painted as a 4-by-5 foot mural in an ACFS family visitation room, with all supplies provided.**

**Eligibility:**

- Indigenous youth
- Open to students ages 12-18 in grades 6-12

**Design requirements:**

- Submitted on an 8-by-10 inch or 16-by-20 inch canvas.
- Designs must reflect: "What family means to me."

**Submissions:**

- Submissions and registration forms must be turned in to ACFS by 5 p.m. on May 2.

**Prizes:**

- First place and People's Choice will receive: \$25 gift card and art supply gift basket.
- The contest winner will have the opportunity to paint their mural at ACFS between the hours 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. starting the week of June 9, 2025.

**Voting:**

- ACFS will vote and choose the winner.
- A People's Choice Award will be voted on at:**
  - Bingo Night:** May 9 at the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
  - ACFS Silent Auction:** Tuesday, May 20

**Display:**

- All designs submitted by the deadline will be displayed at ACFS Bingo Night and Silent Auction.

**For registration form and more information, please contact:**  
989-775-4914 | WFlowersMurch@sagchip.org

**SCIT POWWOW COMMITTEE**  
**SOARING EAGLE CASINO & RESORT**  
**Overnight Stay & Spa PACKAGE RAFFLE**

**Winner takes all. Package includes:**

- One night stay in a SECR Premium Suite
- One 50-minute signature massage and one deluxe pedicure at the Soaring Eagle Spa & Salon
- \$200 VISA gift card

**Drawing: Friday, May 16, 2025**  
**12 p.m. | Black Elk Building**

**Tickets:** • One for \$5 • Three for \$10

**Contact Powwow Committee members for tickets:**  
Darcy Pilar, Elizabeth Chivis, Carla Bennett, Dabian Sprague, Noelle Wells, Naomi McCormack, Brianna Yahbay, Seryna Acuna, Niibin Sprague and Elizabeth Smith.

*\*All proceeds benefit the SCIT and Saganing Powwows*

**For more information:** Powwowcommittee@sagchip.org

## TRIBAL OBSERVER

**Boozhu! The Tribal Observer, a monthly newspaper, is published on the first of each month.**

- To contact Tribal Observer staff, please call 989-775-4096 or email [observer@sagchip.org](mailto:observer@sagchip.org).
- To change your mailing address, please contact the Tribal Clerk's office at 989-775-4055.
- Community advertisements will not be accepted over the phone.

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

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



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

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

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

### Tribal Observer Advertising

To place an advertisement, please contact the Tribal Observer at 989-775-4096 or [Observer@sagchip.org](mailto:Observer@sagchip.org) for more information.

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

**Political ads** - All political ads will be 1/4 page and have a red border stating as such. The cost is \$250. Political ads may include, but are not limited to, any opinion or advertisement that is political in nature and/or any Letter to the Editor that does not conform to guidelines.

### Tribal Observer Subscription Form

Please send \$30 for the annual subscription. Make checks out to SCIT.

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

### Please mail form to:

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

### Contact Information:

• Phone: 989-775-4096  
• Email: [Observer@sagchip.org](mailto:Observer@sagchip.org)  
[www.Sagchip.org/TribalObserver](http://www.Sagchip.org/TribalObserver)





**41<sup>st</sup> annual Saginaw Chippewa POWWOW**

Naakdoon Anishinaabe-aadziwin  
"Follow the Anishinaabe Way of Life"

**Save the Date!**  
**July 25-27, 2025**

**Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Campground**  
7525 E. Tomah Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

• <b>Emcees:</b> Joel Syrette & Brian Moore	• <b>Drum Judge:</b> Harvey Dreaver
• <b>Arena Directors:</b> Wayne Silas & Joe Syrette	• <b>Host Drum:</b> The Boyz
• <b>Head Veteran:</b> Ray Cadotte	• <b>Fire Keeper:</b> Steven Oldman
• <b>Male Judge:</b> Joe Bointy	• <b>Head Dancers:</b> Picked daily
• <b>Female Judge:</b> Shelley Bointy	

**\*Free Admission**  
**\*\*Drug and Alcohol Free Event**

**www.sagchip.org/pow-wow**

**For more information, contact:** SCIT Powwow Committee  
at 989.775.4000 or PowwowCommittee@Sagchip.org

**HONORING SAGANING TRADITIONAL POWWOW**

**June 14 & 15, 2025**  
Powwow Grounds - 2750 Worth Rd. Standish, MI

**Emcee:** Mike Medawis  
**Arena Director:** Gabe Cleveland  
**Head dancers selected daily**

**Head Veteran:** Raymond Cadotte  
**Host Drum:** Ribbon Town

**For camping reservations or for more information:**  
989.775.5600 | powwowcommittee@sagchip.org

**Reservation Household CLEAN UP**

**Saturday, May 17, 2025**  
**9 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Former SCA parking lot**  
7498 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

**Housing tenants and SCIT Members only**

- **Accepting normal household items that do not pose a threat Mother Earth.**
- **Items not accepted:**  
Tires, refrigerators/freezers, microwave ovens, computers/screens, televisions, oil, paint, chemicals, batteries, cell phones, fluorescent light bulbs, pesticides/herbicides.
- Tribal Police Department will offer take back for unwanted, expired or unused medication

**For more information, please contact:**  
Housing Department at 989.775.4595

**Saganing Powwow Golf Outing Fundraiser**

**Friday, June 13, 2025**  
**Tee time: 10 a.m. shotgun start**

**Pine River Golf Club**  
2244 Pine River Rd., Standish, MI 48658

- Format: Four player scramble
- Entry: \$80 per player *\*Includes cart, green fee, skins, lunch and awards banquet*
- Prizes for: longest drive, closest to the pin, and longest putt
- Mulligans: \$5 each, limit two per player
- Raffles

**Cash prize with a gift**  
*\*All payouts are from donations and will determine the prize.*

**Pre-registration:**  
**Email team name and players to:**  
powwowcommittee@sagchip.org

**Publication on Notice of Hearing: Attention All SCIT Members**

**TAKE NOTICE:** There will be a public hearing held on **Monday, May 19, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers in the Black Elk Building, 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mount Pleasant, MI 48858.** This hearing will address the liquor license application presented to Tribal Council by Christopher Nadobny, director of the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Food & Beverage Department, or his designated staff. The application which will be reviewed and discussed at the hearing requests as follows:

Renewal of Retail On-Premise General License for the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort located at 6800 Soaring Eagle Blvd. Such license, if approved would cover Casino Beverage Main Floor Bar #1,2,3,4, High stakes VIP lounge, SECR Casino beverage cart services, Room Service, Banquet Spaces, Portable Bars #1-#13, Legends Diner, Siniikaung Bistro, Entertainment Hall, Hotel Pool and Spa areas, Miijim C-Store, Quick Service Cart Services, SECR Outdoor Concert Venue, SECR Concession Trailer, SECR Slot Palace Bingo Hall, Slot Palace Gaming Spaces in Rooms 'A', 'B', and 'C', Slot Palace Pub, Slot Palace A-side Bar, Little Eagle Café, Ascend Sports Bar, SECR Casino Gift Shop, SECR Slot Palace Gift Shop, any indoor service on premises under the auspices of the SECR, and any outdoor service on premises under the auspices of the SECR.

This license, if issued, will be for the duration of one full year from May 24, 2025 to May 23, 2026, with hours of alcohol service consistent with section 10 of the Gaming Compact of Aug. 20, 1993, and specifically including hours of service for 7 a.m. Sunday alcohol sales and sales on Christmas Eve until 11:59 p.m., Christmas Day at noon and New Year's Day until 4 a.m.

**2026 Annual Reports**  
**Forms available now**

**Deadline: Friday, Oct. 31, 2025**

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

**Notarization is required**

- Forms available by mail, email and at [www.sagchip.org](http://www.sagchip.org)
- No postdated forms, emails or faxes accepted

**Your 2026 Annual Report MUST be filed before/ with submitting a Tribal Loan Application.**

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

**2025 SCIT GOLF Membership**

**Memberships on sale until:**  
**Friday, May 16, 2025 at 5 p.m.**

- Open to Tribal Members, employees and their families.
- Includes green fees and discounts on apparel, range, food and drink at participating courses.

**Memberships cost \$300 each**

- Memberships and cart raffle tickets available for purchase at the Tribal Operations Accounting window in the Black Elk Building.
- Payment plans are also available.

**Participating courses:**

• Pleasant Hills Golf Club	• Firefly Golf Links
• Maple Creek Golf Club	• Eagle Glen Golf Club
• PohlCat Golf Course	

**NIIBING Program 2025**

**June 16 - July 24, 2025**  
*\*No program June 30 - July 3, 2025*

- **When:** Monday-Thursday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- **Who:** Students currently in grades K-5 and eligible for K-12 services
- **Where:** Wii Maajikwad
- **Cost:** \$75

**Registration packets/invoices:**

- **Available at Wii Maajikwad**
- **Registration opens:** Monday, April 1, 2025
- **Deadline:** Friday, May 30, 2025 or until filled
- **Ten student maximum per grade level**

**For more information, please contact:**  
989-775-4453 or ESchlegel@sagchip.org

**NATIVE FARMERS MARKET**  
**All Are Welcome!**

**Tuesdays • June 3 - Sept. 16**  
**10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Farmers Market Pavilion**  
Corner of Broadway and Leaton roads

**Items include:** Seasonal produce, baked goods, beaded/sculpted/natural art and Indigenous foods.

**Welcoming NEW Healthy Food/Native Art Vendors:** Maple syrup, eggs, honey, seeds, cottage foods, plants, organic protein and wild rice.

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

**Now featuring:** Produce grown on SCTC's Food Sovereignty Garden

**Mshkikiikaan**  
(The Place of Medicine)

**Like us on Facebook!**

**For more information, contact:**  
Jasmine Gonzalez, Market Master  
989.775.4629 | JaGonzalez@sagchip.org





# Tribal Councils

of the

## Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

### 1937 – 1939

- |   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| • Elijah Elk (Chief)                      | • Isaac Pelcher (Treasurer) |
| • Willis Jackson Sr. (Sub-Chief)          | • Solomon Fisher            |
| • Elmer B. Simonds (Secretary)            | • John Jackson              |
| • James Strong (Sgt.-at-Arms)             | • Charles Williams          |
| • Frank Peters (Chaplain/Temp. Treasurer) | • Franklin Williams         |

### 1939 – 1941

- |                                      |                                |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Willis Jackson Sr. (Chief)         | • Peter Bennett (Sgt.-at-Arms) |
| • Elijah Elk (Sub-Chief)             | • Frank Peters (Chaplain)      |
| • Isaac Pelcher (Treasurer)          | • Charles Chamberlain          |
| • Lewis Pontiac (Secretary)          | • John Jackson                 |
| • Elmer B. Simonds (Asst. Secretary) | • James Strong                 |

### 1941 – 1943

- |  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| • James Strong (Chief)                 | • Elijah Elk         |
| • Elmer B. Simonds (Sub-Chief)         | • Edmond Fisher      |
| • Isaac Pelcher (Treasurer)            | • John Jackson       |
| • James H. Peters (Secretary/Chaplain) | • Willis Jackson Sr. |
| • Charles Chamberlain (Sgt.-at-Arms)   |                      |

### 1944 – 1945

- |                                  |                 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| • Elmer B. Simonds (Chief)       | • John Jackson  |
| • Elijah Elk (Sub-Chief)         | • Simon Jackson |
| • Isaac Pelcher (Treasurer)      | • Lucy Pelcher  |
| • Willis Jackson Sr. (Secretary) | • James Strong  |
| • George Mandoka (Chaplain)      | • Elijah Thomas |

### 1945 – 1949

- |                                  |                         |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Willis Jackson Sr. (Chief)     | • Elijah Elk (Chaplain) |
| • James Strong (Sub-Chief)       | • Clarence Jackson      |
| • Isaac Pelcher (Treasurer)      | • George Mandoka        |
| • Elizabeth Jackson (Secretary)  | • Elmer B. Simonds      |
| • Lucy Pelcher (Asst. Secretary) | • Elijah Thomas         |

### 1949 – 1950

- James Strong (Chief)

*The Ziibiwing Archives of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan currently holds no information regarding who served on this council.*

### 1950 – 1956

- |                            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| • Elijah Elk (Chief)       | • George Mandoka |
| • James Strong (Sub-Chief) | • James Pego     |
| • Lucy Pelcher (Secretary) | • Isaac Pelcher  |
| • Peter Bennett            | • Elijah Thomas  |
| • Charles Chamberlain      | • Eli Westbrook  |

### 1956 – 1959

- |                               |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| • Willis Jackson Sr. (Chief)  | • Isaac Pelcher |
| • Eli Thomas (Sub-Chief)      | • Lucy Pelcher  |
| • Benedict Quigno (Secretary) | • James Peters  |
| • Clarence Jackson            | • Louis Pontiac |
| • Simon Otto                  | • Elijah Thomas |

### 1960 – 1961

- |                                 |                           |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Willis Jackson Sr. (Chief)    | • James Peters (Chaplain) |
| • Elijah Thomas (Sub-Chief)     | • Russell Bennett         |
| • Isaac Pelcher (Treasurer)     | • Lucy Pelcher            |
| • Benedict Quigno (Secretary)   | • Mary Quigno             |
| • Lennie Stevens (Sgt.-at-Arms) |                           |

### 1965 – 1967

- |                                  |                            |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Willis Jackson Sr. (Chief)     | • Elijah Thomas (Chaplain) |
| • Elijah Thomas (Sub-Chief)      | • Willis Jackson Jr.       |
| • Isaac Pelcher (Treasurer)      | • James Pego               |
| • Benedict Quigno (Secretary)    | • Lucy Pelcher             |
| • Russell Bennett (Sgt.-at-Arms) | • Mary Quigno              |

### 1967 – 1968

- |                                 |                      |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| • Willis Jackson Sr. (Chief)    | • Russell Bennett    |
| • Elijah Thomas (Sub-Chief)     | • Willis Jackson Jr. |
| • Isaac Pelcher (Treasurer)     | • Keith Mandoka      |
| • Benedict Quigno (Secretary)   | • Lucy Pelcher       |
| • Phillip Peters (Sgt.-at-Arms) | • Mary Quigno        |
| • Elijah Thomas (Chaplain)      |                      |

### 1968 – 1969

- |                                  |                            |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Willis Jackson Sr. (Chief)     | • Elijah Thomas (Chaplain) |
| • Willis Jackson Jr. (Sub-Chief) | • Shirley Chamberlain      |
| • Isaac Pelcher (Treasurer)      | • Joseph Jackson           |
| • Benedict Quigno (Secretary)    | • Lucy Pelcher             |
| • Phillip Peters (Sgt.-at-Arms)  | • Mary Quigno              |

### 1970 – 1973

- |                                   |                                 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Willis Jackson Jr. (Chief)      | • Walter Chamberlain (Chaplain) |
| • Elijah Thomas (Sub-Chief)       | • John Quigno (Co-Chaplain)     |
| • Peter Otto (Treasurer)          | • Josephine “JoAnne” Jackson    |
| • Shirley Chamberlain (Secretary) | • Arnold Sowmick                |
| • John Davis Jr. (Sgt.-at-Arms)   | • Eleanor Sprague               |

### 1973 – 1975

- |                                   |                   |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| • Willis Jackson Jr. (Chief)      | • Keith Mandoka   |
| • Elijah Thomas (Sub-Chief)       | • Alfreda Moses   |
| • Peter Otto (Treasurer)          | • Garland Moses   |
| • Shirley Chamberlain (Secretary) | • Arnold Sowmick  |
| • John Davis Jr. (Sgt.-at-Arms)   | • Eleanor Sprague |

### 1975 – 1977

- |                                     |                            |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Peter Otto (Chief)                | • Keith Mandoka (Chaplain) |
| • John Quigno (Sub-Chief)           | • Shirley Chamberlain      |
| • Julius S. Peters (Treasurer)      | • Loren Jackson            |
| • Benedict Quigno (Secretary)       | • Arnold Sowmick           |
| • Walter Chamberlain (Sgt.-at-Arms) | • Eleanor Sprague          |

### 1977 – 1979

- |                             |                       |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Peter Otto (Chief)        | • Lorna Kahgegab Call |
| • Arnold Sowmick, Sub-Chief | • Keith Mandoka       |
| • Shirley Chamberlain       | • Julius S. Peters    |
| • Walter Chamberlain        | • John Quigno         |
| • Loren Jackson             | • Eleanor Sprague     |

### 1979-1982

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| • Peter Otto (Chief)                            | • Yvonne Davis       |
| • John Quigno (Sub-Chief)                       | • Sue Durfee         |
| • Lorna Kahgegab Call (Secretary)               | • Delmar Jackson Sr. |
| • Josephine “JoAnne” Jackson (Acting Secretary) | • Arnold Sowmick     |
| • Alvin Chamberlain                             | • James Strong Jr.   |

### 1982 – 1984

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| • Arnold Sowmick (Chief)                 | • Gladys Bailey       |
| • Ruth Moses (Sub-Chief)                 | • Jeanette Johnson    |
| • Josephine “JoAnne” Jackson (Treasurer) | • Lorna Kahgegab Call |
| • Delmar Jackson Sr. (Sgt.-at-Arms)      | • Eleanor Sprague     |
| • Alvin Chamberlain (Chaplain)           | • James Strong        |

### 1984 – 1986

- |                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Arnold Sowmick (Chief)       | • Alvin Chamberlain (Chaplain) |
| • Ruth Moses (Sub-Chief)       | • Russell Bennett              |
| • Audrey Falcon (Treasurer)    | • Josephine “JoAnne” Jackson   |
| • Jeanette Johnson (Secretary) | • Lorna Kahgegab Call          |
| • Ralph Sawmick (Sgt.-at-Arms) | • Ronald Falcon                |

### 1986 – 1988

- |                          |                              |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| • Arnold Sowmick (Chief) | • Josephine “JoAnne” Jackson |
| • Ruth Moses (Sub-Chief) | • Lorna Kahgegab Call        |
| • Audrey Falcon          | • Ruth Moses                 |
| • Ronald Falcon          | • Richard “Moose” Quigno     |
| • William Federico       | • Connie Sprague             |
| • Foster Hall            |                              |

### 1988 – 1990

- |                                    |                          |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • Arnold Sowmick (Chief)           | • Emily Kahgegab         |
| • Tim J. Davis (Sub-Chief)         | • Jeanette Leaureaux     |
| • Lorna Kahgegab Call (Treasurer)  | • Ruth Moses             |
| • Mary Lynne Chippeway (Secretary) | • Richard “Moose” Quigno |
| • Ronald Falcon (Sgt.-at-Arms)     | • Ralph Sawmick          |
| • William Federico                 | • Connie Sprague         |
| • LeEtta Hansen                    |                          |



1990 – 1991

- Tim J. Davis (Chief)
  - Ruth Moses (Sub-Chief)
  - William Fred (Treasurer)
  - Mary Lynne Chippeway (Secretary)
  - Ronald Falcon (Sgt.-at-Arms)
  - Emily Kahgegab (Chaplain)
- Ralph Sawmick (Chaplain)
  - LeEtta Hansen
  - Lorna Kahgegab Call
  - Jeanette Leauteaux
  - Dorothy Scott

1991 – 1993

- Ronald Falcon (Chief)
  - Ruth Moses (Sub-Chief)
  - Gail George (Treasurer)
  - Gary Quigno (Secretary)
  - Alvin Chamberlain (Chaplain)
  - James Bailey
  - Tim J. Davis
- Delmar Jackson Sr.
  - Ronald Jackson
  - Lorna Kahgegab Call
  - Tom J. Kequom
  - Arlene Molina
  - Bernie Sprague

1993 – 1995

- Gail George (Chief)
  - Tim J. Davis (Sub-Chief)
  - Mary Lynne Chippeway (Treasurer)
  - Kim Sawmick (Treasurer)
  - Robert Pego (Secretary)
  - Gary Quigno (Secretary)
  - Gerald Slater (Sgt.-at-Arms)
  - Delmar Jackson Sr. (Chaplain)
  - Gary Sprague (Chaplain)
- Brenda Chamberlain
  - Beatrice Colwell
  - William Federico
  - John Hart
  - Ronald Jackson
  - Lorna Kahgegab Call
  - Arlene Molina
  - Julius Peters
  - Gary Quigno

1995 – 1996

- Phillip Peters Sr. (Chief)
  - Gary Quigno (Sub-Chief)
  - John Hart (Treasurer)
  - Jeanette Leauteaux (Secretary)
  - Tim J. Davis (Sgt.-at-Arms)
  - Delmar Jackson Sr. (Chaplain)
- Brenda Chamberlain
  - Shelly Foster
  - Ronald Jackson
  - Arlene Molina
  - Julius S. Peters
  - Rose Wassegijig

1996 – 1997

- Ronald Jackson (Chief)
- Arlene Molina (Sub-Chief)

1997 – 1999

- Kevin Chamberlain (Chief)
  - Tim J. Davis (Sub-Chief)
  - David Otto (Treasurer/Sgt.-At-Arms)
  - Gary Quigno (Treasurer)
  - Ben Hinmon (Secretary)
  - Tom J. Kequom (Sgt.-at-Arms)
  - Alvin Chamberlain (Chaplain)
  - Mary Lynne Chippeway
  - Shelly Foster
- LeEtta Hansen
  - Thelma Henry-Shipman
  - Josephine “JoAnne” Jackson
  - Ronald Jackson
  - Arlene Molina
  - Carol Shanks
  - William Snowden
  - Valerie Sprague

1999 – 2001

- Phillip Peters Sr. (Chief)
  - John Hart (Sub-Chief)
  - Ronald Jackson (Treasurer)
  - Maynard Kahgegab Jr. (Treasurer)
  - Jeanette Leauteaux (Secretary)
  - Bernie Sprague (Secretary)
  - Delmar Jackson Sr. (Sgt.-at-Arms)
- Ronald J. Jackson (Sgt.-at-Arms)
  - Sue Durfee (Chaplain)
  - William Federico
  - Arlene Molina
  - Ruth Moses
  - David Otto

2001 – 2003

- Maynard Kahgegab Jr. (Chief)
  - David Otto (Sub-Chief)
  - Robert Pego Sr. (Sub-Chief/Secretary)
  - Lindy Hunt (Treasurer)
  - Ronald Jackson (Treasurer)
  - Connie Freiburger (Secretary/Chaplain)
  - Gerald Slater (Sgt.-at-Arms)
  - Sue Durfee (Chaplain)
- Tim J. Davis
  - Delmar Jackson Sr.
  - Delores Jackson
  - Steven J. Pego
  - Milton “Beaver” Pelcher
  - Diana Quigno-Grundahl
  - Bernie Sprague

2003 – 2005

- Audrey Falcon (Chief)
  - Bernie Sprague (Sub-Chief)
  - Charmaine Benz (Treasurer)
  - Ruth Moses (Secretary)
  - Brent D. Jackson (Sgt.-at-Arms)
  - Federico Cantu Jr. (Chaplain)
  - Milton “Beaver” Pelcher (Chaplain)
  - Brenda Champlin
- Michael Floyd
  - LeEtta Hansen
  - Delmar Jackson Sr.
  - Delores Jackson
  - Maynard Kahgegab Jr.
  - Diana Quigno-Grundahl
  - Gerald Slater
  - Michele Stanley

2005 – 2007

- Fred Cantu Jr. (Chief)
  - Tim J. Davis (Sub-Chief)
  - Audrey Falcon (Treasurer)
  - Michele Stanley (Secretary)
  - Brent D. Jackson (Sgt.-at-Arms)
  - Lorna Kahgegab Call (Chaplain)
- Adelaide Davis
  - Delmar Jackson Sr.
  - Ruth Moses
  - Ronald Nelson
  - Diana Quigno-Grundahl
  - Bernie Sprague

2007 – 2009

- Fred Cantu Jr. (Chief)
  - Lorna Kahgegab Call (Sub-Chief)
  - Audrey Falcon (Treasurer)
  - Simon Jackson (Treasurer)
  - Jeanette Leauteaux (Secretary)
  - David Sowmick (Sgt.-at-Arms)
  - Gail George (Chaplain)
- Charmaine Benz
  - Delmar Jackson Sr.
  - Ruth Moses
  - Ronald Nelson
  - Milton “Beaver” Pelcher
  - Bernie Sprague
  - Michele Stanley

2009 – 2011

- Dennis V. Kequom Sr. (Chief)
  - Diana Quigno-Grundahl (Sub-Chief)
  - Sheila Leauteaux (Treasurer)
  - Lindy Hunt (Secretary)
  - Milton “Beaver” Pelcher (Sgt.-at-Arms)
  - Keith Mandoka (Chaplain)
- Charmaine Benz
  - Louanna Bruner
  - Delmar Jackson Sr.
  - Ronald Nelson
  - Julius S. Peters
  - Michele Stanley

2011 – 2013

- Dennis V. Kequom Sr. (Chief)
  - Julius S. Peters (Sub-Chief)
  - Louanna Bruner (Treasurer)
  - Lorna Kahgegab Call (Secretary)
  - Ronald Nelson (Sgt.-at-Arms)
  - Steven J. Pego (Chaplain)
  - Lindy Hunt
- Delmar Jackson Sr.
  - Milton “Beaver” Pelcher
  - Stephanie Peters
  - Charmaine Shawana
  - Michele Stanley
  - Courtney Wemigwans

2013 – 2015

- Steven J. Pego (Chief)
  - Lorna Kahgegab Call (Sub-Chief)
  - Shelly Bailey (Treasurer)
  - Sandy Sprague (Secretary)
  - Ronald Nelson (Sgt.-at-Arms)
  - Jennifer L. Wassegijig (Chaplain)
- Tim J. Davis
  - Lindy Hunt
  - Delmar Jackson Sr.
  - Chip Neyome
  - Julius S. Peters
  - Michele Stanley

2015 – 2017

- Frank J. Cloutier (Chief)
  - Brent D. Jackson (Sub-Chief)
  - Gayle Ruhl (Treasurer)
  - Michelle R. Colwell (Secretary)
  - Ronald F. Ekdahl (Sgt.-at-Arms)
  - Diana Quigno-Grundahl (Chaplain)
- Candace B. Benzinger
  - Tim J. Davis
  - Lindy Hunt
  - Ronald Nelson
  - Amanda Oldman
  - Kenny Sprague

2017 – 2019

- Ronald F. Ekdahl (Chief)
  - Julius S. Peters (Sub-Chief)
  - Diana Quigno-Grundahl (Sub-Chief/ Chaplain)
  - Craig Graveratte (Treasurer)
  - Frank J. Cloutier (Secretary)
  - Kenny Sprague (Sgt.-at-Arms)
- Jennifer L. Wassegijig (Chaplain)
  - Louanna Bruner
  - William Frederico
  - Lindy Hunt
  - Theresa Jackson
  - Ronald Nelson

2019 – 2021

- Tim J. Davis (Chief)
  - Joseph F. Kequom (Sub-Chief)
  - Maia Spotted Tail (Treasurer)
  - Jennifer L. Wassegijig (Secretary)
  - Martha Wemigwans (Sgt.-at-Arms)
  - Alice Jo Ricketts (Chaplain)
- Ronald F. Ekdahl
  - Theresa Jackson
  - Ronald Nelson
  - Chip Neyome
  - Carmen Otto
  - Gayle Ruhl

2021 – 2023

- Theresa Peters-Jackson (Chief)
  - Jennifer L. Wassegijig (Sub-Chief)
  - Gayle Ruhl (Treasurer)
  - Martha Wemigwans (Secretary)
  - David Merrill Jr. (Sgt.-at-Arms)
  - Alice Jo Ricketts (Chaplain)
- Samantha Chippeway
  - Frank J. Cloutier
  - Ronald Nelson
  - Mary Quigno
  - Diana Quigno-Grundahl
  - Luke Sprague

2023 – 2025

- Tim J. Davis (Chief)
  - Luke Sprague (Sub-Chief)
  - Maia Spotted Tail (Treasurer)
  - Jennifer L. Wassegijig (Secretary)
  - Christina Otto (Sgt.-at-Arms)
  - Alice Jo Ricketts (Chaplain)
- Brad Bennett
  - Samantha Chippeway
  - Frank J. Cloutier
  - David Merrill Jr.
  - Ronald Nelson
  - Theresa Peters-Jackson

This list was gathered in an effort to honor Tribal community leaders through information located in the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways archives. Ziibiwing welcomes any suggestions, corrections, or additional information from the Tribal community.

If you have information to share, please contact:

Anita Heard  
Research Center Coordinator  
Ziibiwing Cultural Center  
• Email: [ahheard@sagchip.org](mailto:ahheard@sagchip.org) • Phone: 989-775-4733



ZIIBIWING CENTER  
of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways





# Soaring Eagle, Saganing employees honored during Years of Service Banquet

**MATTHEW WRIGHT**  
Staff Writer

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino & Hotel hosted a combined Years of Service Banquet. Employees were honored on April 7 in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment Hall.

This year saw a total of 279 employees receiving recognition. This included awards for five years (108 recipients), 10 years (46 recipients), 15 years (20 recipients), 20 years (32 recipients), 25 years (58 recipients), and 31 years of service (15 recipients).



Observer photo by Matthew Wright  
**Joane Aldrich Scicluna**  
30 years of service



Observer photo by Matthew Wright  
**Thomas Ancel**  
30 years of service



Observer photo by Matthew Wright  
**Richard Bloom**  
30 years of service



Observer photo by Matthew Wright  
**Teri Cottrell**  
30 years of service



Observer photo by Matthew Wright  
**Virginia Fedewa**  
30 years of service



Observer photo by Matthew Wright  
**Randi Foster**  
30 years of service



Observer photo by Matthew Wright  
**Scott Glaza**  
30 years of service



Observer photo by Matthew Wright  
**Anthony Haupt**  
30 years of service



Observer photo by Matthew Wright  
**Cathleen Lentz**  
30 years of service



Observer photo by Matthew Wright  
**Amanda Mullet**  
30 years of service



Observer photo by Matthew Wright  
**Mary Qualls**  
30 years of service



Observer photo by Matthew Wright  
**Douglas Sineway**  
30 years of service



Observer photo by Matthew Wright  
**Todd Strack**  
30 years of service



Observer photo by Matthew Wright  
**Kirk Walraven**  
25 years of service



Observer photo by Matthew Wright  
**Shaunna Snyder**  
25 years of service



Observer photo by Matthew Wright  
**Jessica Gelvin**  
25 years of service

# Small moments make a big impact.

## Anytime. Anywhere.

Helping your child learn to read can happen anytime, anywhere! Every time you read, sing and talk with your child, it helps them build important skills. Parents: You have the power to turn a trip to the grocery store into a teachable moment.



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**MiLEAP**  
Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential





**Raquel Arvarez-Lorenzo**  
25 years of service



**Denise Vogel**  
25 years of service



**Lionel Anderson**  
25 years of service



**Jennifer Bragdon**  
25 years of service



**Carl Deaton**  
25 years of service



**Christopher Wilson**  
25 years of service



**David Heppner**  
25 years of service







## Central Michigan University announces new men's basketball head coach

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Public Relations Manager

Michigan native and national champion Andy Bronkema has been named the 22nd men's basketball head coach at Central Michigan University, announced CMU Athletic Director Amy Folan and CMU President Neil MacKinnon on April 14.

With 19 years of coaching basketball, Bronkema has spent the previous 12 years as the head coach at NCAA Division II Ferris State University.

Under Bronkema's leadership, Ferris won a national championship, claimed nine combined Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championships, and guided the Bulldogs to nine NCAA tournament appearances.

"Andy's ability to raise a program to excellence and sustain it at the highest level is impressive," Folan said. "He is a Michigan native who has built his whole career in this state and is well-respected in the coaching ranks at many levels. He is the perfect fit for what we need at Central Michigan and at this

time in intercollegiate athletics. Excellence and innovation are qualities that a coach needs to be successful in this current collegiate environment."

Having roots entrenched in winning at the division two level, Bronkema said he believes there is a wealth of experience he can cultivate into the MAC level.

"First of all, being in Division Two for 13 years, these are the names we know and a lot of athletes have moved up. There are good coaches at every single level and there's not television deals everywhere for those coaches," Bronkema said. "There is talent at Ferris State that could play at Central Michigan and there's talent all over division two that can play in our region. That's the climate that we are in but you need to evaluate it all as we are building a roster."

President MacKinnon and Folan presented Bronkema with a number 22 CMU jersey in front of a packed crowd assembled at the McGuirk atrium.

"Coach Bronkema clearly understands how to create and sustain a winning culture that prepares student-athletes for

tremendous success on the basketball court, in their educational careers and for life after the game," MacKinnon said. "We are fired up to welcome him and his family to our community as he continues pushing for success as a CMU Chippewa."

One of the first steps Bronkema highlighted was his need to meet with the current players directly to find where their aspirations are.

"If their goals and aspirations are lined up with ours for the program, we can look at keeping them here," Bronkema said. "We also want to continue to assist our student athletes if they want to move on to other opportunities also. We want them to have those fond memories of Central Michigan and continue to do what is best for them."

The type of player Bronkema is looking to recruit, he said, are "high efficiency disciplined players with skills that will carry them through as we develop them."

"We are going to look at spacing the floor and having some shooters and we want guys that have winning on the top of their priorities," Bronkema said. "I



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Andy Bronkema (center), the new men's basketball coach for Central Michigan University, shares a celebratory moment with CMU President Neil MacKinnon (left) and CMU Athletic Director Amy Folan (right).**

realize that is very seldom number one on the list, but it has to be high and you can tell that through the process. It takes a lot of sacrifice and teamwork to get a team in the position to win. Once we get the level of talent we need, our coaching staff can work on the other skills to get our players over the top."

Bronkema earned his bachelor's degree in education from Cornerstone University in 2007 and earned his master's degree in education at Ferris State in 2016.

While at FSU, he's also

served as an adjunct professor for the College of Education and Human Services.

Bronkema's father, Joel; sister, Emily Michalak; grandmother; and great-grandmother are all proud CMU graduates.

Bronkema will relocate to Mount Pleasant. He has three daughters: Eliana (15), Cambria (14) and Seneca (9).

Bronkema said he looks forward to meeting with Tribal Council and is excited on how his coaches can work with the SCIT Recreation Department and Tribal student athletes.

## Anishinabe Performance Circle showcases dance styles at spring graduation

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Public Relations Manager

The Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways welcomed the community to celebrate the spring Anishinabe Performance Circle graduating class on April 1.

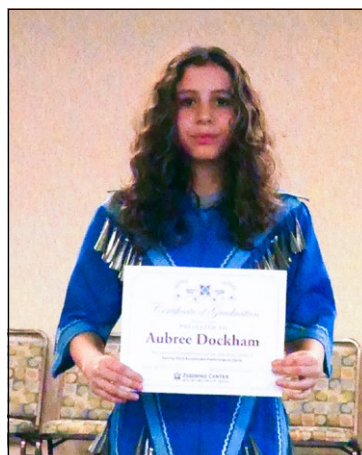
Raymond Cadotte, visitor service representative for Ziibwing, served as emcee for the event and was the primary instructor the five graduating dancers: Aubree Dockham, Vanzale Greene, Noriyah

Massey, Karma Pelcher and Sereniti Cole.

The Anishinabe Performance Circle embraces the Ojibwe teaching of "Gda abinoojiin-hag minanik niigan gawewok" meaning "our children are the future."

Cadotte said the mission of the performance circle is aimed at promoting and enhancing positive self-image of Anishinabe children through the use of traditional teachings.

"We use storytelling, dance, music and language in our class," Cadotte said. "We appreciate all



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Aubree Dockham**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Noriyah Massey**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Vanzale Greene**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Graduates and audience members come together for a round dance during the April 1 Anishinabe Performance Circle graduation held at the Ziibiwing Center.**

the support Ziibiwing Center receives from parents, grandparents and community members who assist with the performance circle over the last 12-week course. The dedication shown to an important cultural program like this helps keep our dances, history, language and traditions alive and makes our tribal nations strong."

The graduation ceremonies started with a traditional welcome and smudging, followed by a grand entry of dancers as

the students shared their introductions and dance styles in Anishinaabemowin.

The program also featured boys and girls dancing, a youth/teen hoop dance, intertribal dance and closed with a community round dance. Each student received a graduation

certificate and pizza was provided for the community.

Cadotte said the performance circle is accepting donations of used regalia that helps students with creating their individualized dance outfits. Please contact 989-775-4750 for more information on donations.

### Mrs. Spickerman's second grade class wins classroom door decorating contest



During National Reading Month in March, the Wii Maajikwad Kindergarten through fifth grade classes participated in a contest to decorate their classroom doors, with the theme relating to reading.

All designs and decorations were completed by the students.

Photos were taken of the decorated doors, and Tribal Operation employees were invited to vote for their favorite via email.

The winning classroom was Mrs. Spickerman's second grade class. The students won their choice of book.

### Order Establishing Spring Wild Turkey Season 2025

**Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 105 subdivision 6(B), the 2025 Spring Wild Turkey Season shall begin April 15, 2025, and will close June 15, 2025, unless ordered otherwise. The 2025 Spring Wild Turkey Season will allow for the harvest of two male turkeys.**

**Harvest tags will be available starting April 15, 2025 at the Tribal Licensing & Regulations office at \$10 per tag. Only two tags are allowed.**

"Other Indians!" may not hunt on Tribal Trust or Tribal owned Fee Land.<sup>1</sup> *Other Indians as defined in Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 104 subdivision 52.*

**Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 105 subdivision 5(B) animal harvest must be reported within 72 hours of take, by phone, email or online.** Please refer to Ordinance 11 on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe website for rules and regulations.

**Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe | Donald L. Seal, Planning Department**



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## Win a share of over \$1,000,000 in Cash and Premium Play!

### SATURDAYS IN MAY

Every hour from 5PM-10PM, one winner will be drawn to receive \$500 cash and 100 bonus entries into the Grand Prize Drawing, and then at 11PM, one lucky winner will receive \$50,000 cash! There's more to come during the Grand Prize Drawing on May 31, when one guest will walk away with \$100,000 cash!

ACCESS Club Members will receive one (1) entry for every 900 points earned on their ACCESS Loyalty Card from 12AM on April 27, 2025, until 10:55PM on May 31, 2025.



FRIDAYS  
5PM-11PM

Smash open the piñata and grab your share of over \$96,000 in Premium Play!

## ENTERTAINMENT



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**CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION**  
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**BENATAR & GIRALDO**  
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**ENTERTAINMENT HALL**  
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**ZAC BROWN BAND**  
**WITH SPECIAL GUEST COREY KENT**  
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**OUTDOOR CONCERT**  
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## Win a share of \$209,000 in Cash and Prizes!

### SATURDAYS IN MAY AND JUNE

From 5PM-10PM, play for the chance to win \$1,000 cash and 1,000 bonus entries into the Grand Prize Drawing! At the 10PM Grand Prize Drawing, one lucky player will win a New Truck, a Sea-Doo Switch, and \$1,000 in Gas Cards!

ACCESS Club Members will receive one (1) entry for every 200 points earned on their ACCESS Loyalty Card now, until 10:55PM on June 28, 2025. 10X entries earned on Mondays through June 23, 2025, are for the Grand Prize Drawing on June 28, 2025.



FRIDAYS  
12PM-9PM

Claw your way to a share of \$105,000 in cash and prizes!



MONDAY PICK-ME-UP  
8AM-11:59PM

Guests who earn 1,000 points can swipe at a kiosk to receive a gift from past promotions!



WEDNESDAYS  
4AM-11:59PM

Earn \$5 in Premium Play (up to \$50) for every 300 points earned using your ACCESS Loyalty Card from 4AM-11:59PM. Plus, we will be doing hot seat drawings for \$50 in Premium Play from 7AM-11PM. Also, earn 2,500 points on your ACCESS Loyalty Card from 7AM-11:59PM to play a promotional kiosk game and win up to \$50 in Premium Play!



SUNDAYS  
9AM-11:59PM

HERO card holders can earn up to \$10 in Premium Play on slots for every 800 points earned.

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





## Evergreen tree planting and the species, free tree giveaway information

### KATIE HAGER

Environmental Outreach Coordinator

The Environmental Team is working on a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and Bureau of Indian Affairs funded planting “Zhaaw’shko Mtigwaake,” or the Green Forest project, focused on evergreen tree planting to create future sustainability for acquiring species that are best used for traditional Manoomin harvesting push poles.

A total of 10,226 trees will be planted along with future seeding of understory species in following years and is located next to the Ziibiwing Center.

The Environmental Team will also be working on planting nearly 7000 trees through BIA funds on specified Tribal properties. Tree planting species information shown below:

**Wild Black Cherry (Ookwemizh):** Attracts: butterflies, pollinators, and songbirds. Food source/fruits are eaten by songbirds, mallards, ruffed grouse, pheasants, wild turkeys, quail, many woodpeckers, white-tailed deer, and small mammals.

**Red Maple (Zhiishiigimewanzh):** Attracts: bees, butterflies, moths, pollinators, small mammals, songbirds, and specialized bees. Seeds are enjoyed by birds. Fruits and buds are primary food sources for squirrels in late winter and early spring. Sprouts are favorite foods for white-tailed deer though the tree is moderately resistant to damage.

**Sugar Maple (Aninaatig):** Attracts: butterflies, moths, pollinators, small mammals, and songbirds. The seeds are eaten by birds and small mammals and the cavities are used by cavity-nesting birds. Deer and moose browse the stems and leaves. Porcupines consume the bark and can girdle the upper stem. Butterflies and other pollinating insects enjoy the nectar from the flowers.

**Bur Oak (Mitigomizh):** Attracts: butterflies, moths, and pollinators. Excellent food source for many wildlife species including white-tailed deer, turkeys, squirrels, rabbits, raccoons, and rodents. Once maturity is reached trees provide habitat protection and nesting for numerous species of birds.

**American Basswood (Wiigob):** Attracts: butterflies, bees, pollinators, small mammals, and songbirds. Seeds are eaten by birds, squirrels, and small mammals. Bees and other pollinating insects enjoy the nectar from the flowers.

**White Oak (Mitigomizh):** Attracts: butterflies, moths, pollinators, small mammals, and songbirds. The acorns are eaten by woodpeckers, blue jays, small mammals, turkeys, wood ducks, pheasants, grackles, nuthatches, thrushes, other birds, white-tailed deer, and black bear.

**Paper Birch (Wiigwas):** Attracts: butterflies, moths, and pollinators such as Lunar Moth and the Eastern Tiger Swallow, small mammals, and birds. Seeds are eaten by rabbits,

wood ducks, ruffed grouse, turkey, pheasants, blue heron, chickadees, and other birds. In the winter, birch bark is a primary food source for moose and white-tailed deer.

**White Spruce (Gaawaandag):** Attracts: butterflies, small mammals, squirrels, songbirds, woodpeckers, spruce grouse, pheasant, and other birds. Food source to birds, small mammals, and white-tailed deer. Provides wildlife cover and habitat.

**American Larch (Mashklig-waatic):** Attracts: butterflies, pollinators, and birds. Grouse will eat seeds and buds while small mammals and deer will use for protection and ground cover.

**White Cedar (Giizhik):** Attracts: songbirds and small mammals. Provides nesting sites for songbirds and cover for wildlife throughout the winter. Warblers, sparrows, and raptors will also use for nesting habitat. Birds, small mammals, and white-tailed deer will use feed on the branches in late winter and early spring. Cones are a food source for birds, small mammals, and white-tailed deer.

**Black Spruce (Zesegaandag):** Attracts: butterflies and songbirds. The twigs, leaves, and seeds serve as a food source for wildlife and the trees are often bird nesting sites. White-tail deer will eat; however, only when they do not have other options as it is not preferred. Mice, chipmunks, shrews, and other rodents eat seeds off of the ground. Spruce grouse feed only on spruce needles in the winter. Birds such as chickadees, nuthatches, and grosbeaks will extract seeds from open cones and the ground.

Join us Monday, May 19 for SCIT’s Tree Giveaway from

### FREE TREE GIVEAWAY

**Monday, May 19, 2025**  
**10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.** **SCTC Parking Lot**  
 (or until gone) 5805 E. Pickard St., Mt. Pleasant Mich.

**Tuesday, May 20, 2025**  
**10 a.m. - 1 p.m.** **Saganing Tribal Center Parking Lot**  
 (or until gone) 5447 Sturman Rd., Standish, MI 48658

### Benefits:

- **Improves** water quality
- **Contributes** to urban cooling through shade and reduced energy demands
- **Reduces** soil erosion
- **Blocks** pollutants and stormwater runoff
- **Removes** carbon dioxide from the atmosphere
- **Provides** habitat for wildlife
- **Promotes** community involvement

**For more information, please contact:**  
**Katie Hager**, Environmental Outreach Coordinator  
 • Email: KHager@sagchip.org • Phone: 989.775.4585

10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (or until trees are gone) in the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College’s parking lot (5805 E. Pickard St., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858).

As a community, we can work together to improve our Tribal lands and water health by providing habitat for wildlife, promoting community involvement and awareness, boosting property values, and removing harmful pollutants from the air and watershed which helps keep our

natural resources clean and sustainable.

The 2025 Tree Giveaway species include: Eastern Redbud, Sugar Maple, Tuliptree, Sycamore, White Paper Birch, Boxelder, and Red Oak.

### Sources:

- <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/>
- [www.coldstreamfarm.net/](http://www.coldstreamfarm.net/)
- [www.canr.msu.edu/natural\\_resources/uploads/files/E2332\\_IdentifyingTreesinMichigan\\_5.16\\_FinalAA.pdf](http://www.canr.msu.edu/natural_resources/uploads/files/E2332_IdentifyingTreesinMichigan_5.16_FinalAA.pdf)

**Save the Date!**  
**Summer SAFETY FAIR**  
**June 7, 2025**  
 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
 Public Safety Building

Tribal Member

## RÉSUMÉ Development

**Available through Human Resources**

Any Tribal Members needing assistance in creating or updating their resume are encouraged to contact Betsey Alonzo to set up an appointment at the following:

**Betsey M. Alonzo**, Tribal Development Coordinator  
 Email: Balonzo@sagchip.org | Phone: 989-775-5643

## Run Toward a Bright Future

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## Adopt a Pet

### Princess

Princess is a medium 6-year-old Chocolate Point Siamese mix. After a rough past, Princess now greets the HATS staff with gentle affection and she enjoys calm companionships and cozy naps. Princess is working on losing a little weight and is currently on a measured portion of over-the-counter urinary care food to help keep her healthy. She will need a home that will continue her wellness routine.

### Sparty

Sparty is a 1-year-old male Pit Bull Terrier mix whose mission in life is to smother you with love and affection! While Sparty’s enthusiasm for human companionship is off the charts, he’s particularly perfect for a family with older kids who can keep up with his zippy energy and zest for life. His former foster mom said he is really good in his kennel and in the car and he could use some leash training.

**Humane Animal Treatment Society • Hatsweb.org**  
**Address:** 1105 S. Isabella Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 | **Phone:** 989.775.0830  
**Email:** hats.caninesupervisor@gmail.com or hats.felinedepartment@gmail.com  
**Walk-in hours:** M-F, 1-5 p.m. \*Other times available by appointment\*





Spongy Moth: Ways to identify the invasive species, how to help at home

DUSTIN HAGER  
Natural Resources  
Specialist

Spongy Moth (*Lymantria dispar*) is an invasive species that was introduced to the United States in 1869. In its early stages, young caterpillars will eat large quantities of leaf cover eventually stressing and damaging the trees over time while also making them susceptible to other pests and diseases.

There is one native look-alike species, the white-marked tussock caterpillar; however this caterpillar if skin contact occurs it will form an uncomfortable rash and potentially other allergy issues dependent on the individual – if you are ever uncertain about a species identification you should always avoid touching.

If you are experiencing issues with Spongy Moth caterpillars, you can come into the Planning Department for banding kits available to members upon request.

Ways to identify Spongy Moths and their stages:

• Early emergence (mid-May to mid-July): 0.25 inches long black or brown and will be primarily be moving up the tree trunks towards their first food source.

• Late emergence (shown in image): 1 to 2 inches long characteristic traits emerge, five segments of paired blue dots followed by six pairs of red dots following the topside of the caterpillar. This is the period of most damage inflicted foliage from the species.

• Pre-pupation (mid-July to early August): Caterpillars reach

the desired amount of resources to pupate and begin looking for a dark, dry, secluded area to begin its transformation.

• Post pupation emergence: Female moths are 1.5 inches long white with a large black “V” on their forewings. Males are around 0.75 inches long and are a mottled brown grey, and they will appear similar to native moths but will have a clear distinction of being out before dusk looking for females. Native species almost exclusively appear at nighttime. Once the species has hit the adult moth stage, it has two weeks to live as the adults cannot feed, the stage is solely for reproduction.

• Egg masses/overwintering: Varying shades of brown from genetics and sunlight exposure and found in almost any crevice, crack, or any exposed area that would provide shelter from the elements and predators. Almost any structure or object will be used to lay egg masses.

What you can do at home to help?

• Homemade traps are effective at catching caterpillar stages from mid-May up to early August when the species has pupated. Upon request, the Planning Department had sticky band traps available for members to help deal with heavily-infested

trees on their property as supplies are available.

• Duct tape, silver side outward, to create a band 8-12 inches, about 4 feet above the base of the tree, ensure that the tape is pressed firmly into each gap to prevent caterpillars from circumnavigating your trap. Then apply a sticky substance like petroleum jelly or Tanglefoot a common insect trap adhesive you can buy at most gardening stores to the band of tape. Leave 2-4 inches at the bottom of the band uncoated for melt/downward flow as temperatures rise since the sticky substance can seriously harm the tree and even led to death of the individual tree. Caterpillars trying to escape predators during the day will attempt to climb the tree only to get stuck in the sticky material and eventually die on the trap. Clean and reapply sticky material as needed to maintain the traps for best results.

• Burlap band traps: Use a section of burlap 12-18 inches wide and long enough to reach around the tree completely (overlap is fine) about 4 feet above the base of the tree, then tie a string around the middle of the burlap allowing the top half to form a skirt with the string being the hinge/crease of the material. Monitor the burlap for caterpillars each day collecting



Courtesy of University of Madison Wisconsin

Invasive species, Spongy Moth

and leaving them in a bucket with soapy water for 48 hours.

• Scrap off egg masses: While unlikely to be effective at reducing the overall population removing egg masses carefully with a plastic knife or scraper can reduce the effects that directly relate around your home. Make sure you place egg masses in soapy water or they will hatch wherever you place them after removal.

• Report your findings to the Midwestern Invasive Species Information Network (MISIN) App or website so those managing the issue have the best possible information to base decision making.

• Do not use flame/torches or pesticides on the species this will damage your trees and do very little towards the problem.

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Michigan Department of Health & Human Services





## American singer-songwriter Daryl Hall joined by special guest Glenn Tilbrook

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**  
Editor

American singer-songwriter Daryl Hall helped make “dreams come true” as he performed live for fans at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Saturday, April 5 in the Entertainment Hall.

Hall was joined by special guest and opener, Squeeze’s Glenn Tilbrook.

Daryl Hall performed an hour and a half set, beginning at about 8:45 p.m.

Hall is best known as co-founder and lead vocalist of the duo, Hall & Oates, with John Oates. Hall has also released several solo albums.

For any audience member hoping he would play some

Hall & Oates hits, he did. For anyone hoping Hall would play his solo hits, he did that, too.

Hall was ready to get the show rocking with “The Whole World’s Better” from his latest release “D.” Hall began to the right of center stage to play the keyboards for this song.

Hall then moved to center stage, switching to guitar for the second song, “Maneater.” For “Dreamtime,” Hall went to the grand piano on stage right.

Performing several of his solo songs, Hall kept the show rolling with “Can’t Say No To You,” “Walking In Between Raindrops,” “I’m in a Philly Mood” and “Too Much Information.”

The Hall & Oates songs Hall and his band performed included: “Everytime You

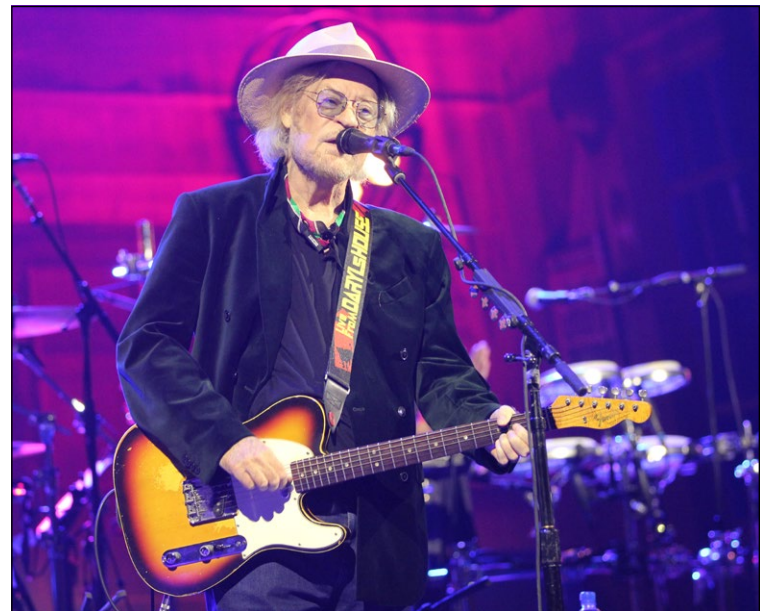
Go Away,” “Sara Smile,” “I Can’t Go for That (No Can Do),” “One on One,” “Kiss on My List,” “Private Eyes” and “Rich Girl.”

Glenn Tilbrook joined Hall on stage to perform the Squeeze cover “Pulling Mussels (From the Shell).”

The evening ended on a high note as Hall performed the well-known Hall & Oates song, “You Make My Dreams (Come True).”

As indoor Soaring Eagle shows usually begin at 8 p.m., English singer-songwriter and guitarist Glenn Tilbrook began this show at 7:30 p.m.

Tilbrook is known as the lead singer and guitarist of the English new wave band, Squeeze. The band formed in the mid-70s.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Daryl Hall performs live at the Soaring Eagle inside the Entertainment Hall on Saturday, April 5.**

Tilbrook performed a talented 45-minute set that warmed up the Entertainment Hall stage for Daryl Hall.

## Country music singer-songwriter Josh Turner returns to Soaring Eagle



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Country music singer-songwriter Josh Turner shares a smile with the audience during his Friday, March 28 return to Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.**

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**  
Editor

Country music singer-songwriter Josh Turner made his return to the Soaring Eagle Casino Resort’s Entertainment Hall on Friday, March 28 as part of his “This Country Music Thing” Tour.

Known for his distinctive bass-baritone vocals, Turner became a popular musician since releasing his debut album, “Long Black Train,” in 2003.

The lights dimmed and “Seminole Wild” by John Anderson blasted throughout

the Entertainment Hall.

The evening was filled with Josh Turner’s deep drawl and country twang, as well as a mix of newer songs and his popular hits.

Turner’s band appeared on stage, and he trailed behind to begin the show with “Whirlwind,” “Firecracker,” “Deep South,” “Unsung Hero” and “Time is Love.”

The performance featured several songs about family and faith including “Me and God.” Next up, was the Hank Williams With His Drifting Cowboys cover of “I Saw the Light,” which Turner also

recorded. Band introductions followed as the audience applauded each musician.

Turner saved his most well-known hits for last, including the now certified triple-platinum selling “Would You Go With Me.” Next up were “Why Don’t We Just Dance,” “Your Man” and “Long Black Train.”

According to Turner’s website, his album “Long Black Train” celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2023 and was certified platinum by the RIAA with nearly 1.5 million album sales, 1.3 million track downloads and almost 315 million streams (joshturner.com).

## Soaring Eagle hosts Brotherhood Tour featuring Los Lobos and Los Lonely Boys

**MATTHEW WRIGHT**  
Staff Writer

Los Lobos and Los Lonely Boys brought their Brotherhood Tour to the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Friday, April 4.

Headlining the concert was Los Lobos, a Mexican-American rock band from Los Angeles. Formed in 1973, the group has gained a following for their unique blend of folk, rock and roll, Tex-Mex, country, R&B, and blues styles.

The band still boasts four founding members in its lineup. This includes David Hidalgo, Louie Pérez, Cesar Rosas and Conrad Lozano. Steve Berlin joined the group in 1982.

Los Lobos began with the bouncy, melodic guitar riffs of “Will the Wolf Survive?,” followed by the upbeat “Evangeline.”

Next up was a trio of hits in “Chuco’s Cumbia,” “Angel Dance” and “Come On, Let’s Go.”

The music kept coming with the bluesy “That Train Don’t Stop Here,” followed by the “Kiko and the Lavender Moon,” “Runner” and “Volver, Volver.”

The band closed out the night with the R&B-infused rock single “Don’t Worry Baby” followed by “Más y más.”

Opening for Los Lobos was Texas-based American rock band, Los Lonely Boys. Much like their tour mates, the group’s musical style infuses



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Members of Los Lobos perform during their April 4 concert at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.**

rock and roll, Texas blues, country and Tejano music.

The Grammy Award-winning band features three brothers, Henry Garza (guitars), JoJo Garza (bass) and Ringo Garza (drums).

Los Lonely Boys began with “Rockpango” followed by a blues-infused cover of the classic Creedence Clearwater Revival song “Born on the Bayou.”

The hits continued with “Hooked on You,” “See Your Face,” “Can’t Get No Love,” “So Sensual” and “Friday Night.”

Saving the best for last, Los Lonely Boys ended the night with their No. 1 hit single “Heaven.” The song earned the group a Grammy award in 2005.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Los Lonely Boys members Henry Garza (left) and JoJo Garza come together on center stage.**



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# ENTERTAINMENT



**Grupo Siggno  
and Los Palominos  
Cinco De Mayo Celebration**

Saturday, May 3  
8PM  
Entertainment Hall  
Tickets: \$32, \$44, \$54, \$61



**Benatar & Giraldo  
With Special Guest The Vindys  
Spring Tour '25**

Saturday, May 10  
8PM  
Entertainment Hall  
Tickets: \$50, \$60, \$79, \$85



**Tacos & Tequila  
Live Music by Last Child & Sunset Blvd**

Saturday, May 17  
6:45PM  
Entertainment Hall  
Tickets: \$60 GA



**Zac Brown Band**

Sunday, May 25  
7PM  
Outdoor Concert  
Tickets: \$54, \$144, \$178, \$209



**Sumo Sushi Sake Experience**

Saturday, May 31  
7PM  
Entertainment Hall  
Tickets: \$59, \$99, \$199, \$250



**BKFC Ice Wars Presents:  
Battle of the Border**

Saturday, June 14  
7PM  
Entertainment Hall  
Tickets: \$50, \$75, \$100, \$150



**Chicago  
Live in Concert**

Wednesday, June 25  
8PM  
Entertainment Hall  
Tickets: \$63, \$77, \$90, \$97



**Def Leppard  
With Special Guest Collective Soul**

Friday, July 18  
8PM  
Outdoor Concert  
Tickets: \$58, \$148, \$182, \$213



**Foreigner  
With Special Guests Loverboy  
& Night Ranger**

Saturday, July 26  
7PM  
Outdoor Concert  
Tickets: \$32, \$65, \$90, \$104



**Join us for  
Outdoor Concerts  
All Summer Long!**

Visit our website [SoaringEagleCasino.com](https://www.SoaringEagleCasino.com) for complete entertainment lineup.

Tickets can be purchased at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and Saganing Eagles Landing Box Offices from 9AM-10PM.  
Tribal Members must present Member ID at the Box Office upon purchase.

**Mother's Day  
BINGO**

**Win assorted Gift Cards, Gift  
Baskets, Handbags and more!  
First 300 players also receive  
a Free Purse!**

**SUNDAY, MAY 11  
MAIN SESSION AT 1:30PM**

See bingo for complete details.





## Ziibiwing Center hosts two screenings during Central Michigan Film Festival

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**  
Public Relations Manager



**ZIIBIWING  
CENTER**

**CENTRAL MICHIGAN INTERNATIONAL  
FILM FESTIVAL**

Last month, the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways hosted two films during the 22nd annual Central Michigan International Film Festival.

William Johnson, curator for the Ziibiwing Center, said the two films featured were the April 9 viewing of “I Am

Gitxsan” and the April 10 film “Sugarcane.”

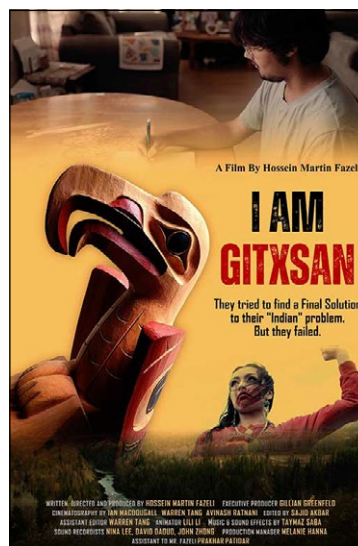
The documentary, “I Am Gitxsan,” follows Phoenix Apperloo, a recent high school graduate reconnecting with his Indigenous heritage in Hazelton, British Columbia, Canada.

The film is inspired by encounters with residential school survivors. The graduate writes a heartfelt letter to Prime Minister Trudeau about the injustices faced by his people.

The documentary highlights the impact of colonialism on the Gitxsan community, featuring insights from experts like Dr. Gabor Maté and showcasing their resilience through protests and legal actions.

It culminates with a moving message of hope and determination, emphasizing the power of the Gitxsan people’s enduring spirit, the beauties of their culture, and their commitment to future generations.

Written, directed, and produced by the multi-award-winning filmmaker Hossein Martin Fazeli, “I Am Gitxsan” is a testament to the resilience of



Courtesy image

**A screening of the film “I Am Gitxsan” was held April 9 at the Ziibiwing Center.**

**The screening was part of the Central Michigan International Film Festival.**

Indigenous communities in their battle to preserve and protect the best of our shared humanity.

“On the surface, ‘I Am Gitxsan’ is a film on the Gitxsan Nation’s struggle for justice and dignity. Set against the stunning backdrop of the Gitxsan ‘laxyip’ (territories),

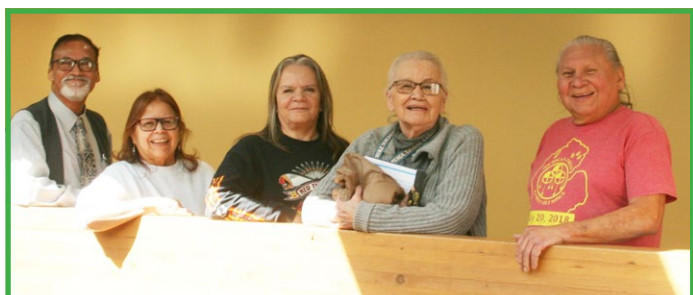


Courtesy image

**The film “Sugarcane” was shown April 10.**

the film tells the story of the Gitxsan Nation’s hard fight against neo-colonialism, with an emphasis on its messages of oneness and peaceful co-existence for humanity,” Fazeli said. “Beneath the surface, however, ‘I Am Gitxsan’ is more than just a documentary on an Indigenous nation; it is a hard-hitting moral parable about the power of good to overcome evil.”

## Elders Advisory Board tours new Tribal College building



Observer photo by Kyla Henry

**KYLA HENRY**

Summer Youth Worker

On Monday, April 7, the Elders Advisory Board took a tour of the new Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College for the first time, with Kathleen Hart leading the way.

On the tour, facts about SCTC were shared. The idea of the Tribal College started in 1990, and then was brought to life in 2002, residing in the Petro Plaza. In 2024, the SCTC was moved to its current location. The Tribal College went from leasing four buildings to owning their own building.

Enrollment has gone up from 208 to 270 within this past year.

SCTC offers four degrees – Native American studies, business, liberal arts, and science. There are hopes to expand into more programs as the years go on.

SCTC also offers a GED program. There are more than 90 people who have successfully passed their GED at the Tribal College. With the GED program, it is strongly recommended to start sooner rather than later.

There are also new, exciting projects to come for SCTC. For example, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Library is in the process of moving into the Tribal College. There will be a broader selection as books as well as a wide variety of children’s books.

## Nimkee medication pick up & drop-off

Andahwod is able to pick up Tribal elder medications from Nimkee Pharmacy and drop off at their home. Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. **Call 989-775-4307 to schedule.**

## May 2025 Tribal Elder Birthdays

- |                       |                        |                         |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1) Steven Pego        | Amada Alaniz           | 21) April Borton        |
| 2) Robin Francis      | 12) Craig Graveratte   | Damian Fisher           |
| Marci Magnell         | 13) Duane Pelcher Sr.  | Angel Jackson           |
| Gerald Ice            | Gary Henry             | Rita Romer              |
| 3) Federico Cantu Jr. | Mary Reis              | Rose Wassegijig         |
| Jacqueline Wemigwans  | Frank Romer            | Julie Whitepigeon       |
| Melvin Ehas Jr.       | Rose Henry             | Charles Wright          |
| Jason Voorheis        | 14) Leroy Hall II      | Bobbie Brown            |
| 4) Brian Chippeway    | 15) Deborah Grills     | 22) James Walker        |
| William Federico      | Sybil Hunter           | Yvonne Dyer             |
| Frederick Leksche     | 16) Joseph Fisher      | 23) Larry Pelcher       |
| Michael Wayne         | Orville Jackson        | Richard Smith Sr.       |
| William Cloutier      | Bobby Starkey          | Claudia Spalding        |
| Brenda Matuskey       | Linda Cook             | Linda Staples           |
| 5) Danny Wing Jr.     | Carolyn Estill         | Michael David Jr.       |
| Kurt Trepanier        | David Jackson          | 24) David Rhodes        |
| 6) Tony Starkey       | Allan Slater Jr.       | Amy Gearhart            |
| David Cyr             | Paula Quigno           | 25) Steven Martin       |
| Kathryn Shanks        | 17) David Flamand      | Shirley Houle           |
| Charles Slater Jr.    | John Quigno            | Jonathan Smith          |
| Debbie Phillips       | Vincent Cleveland      | James Sprague           |
| 7) Carol Shanks       | Paullette Pashenee     | Carolyn Stolz           |
| Frances Gonzales      | Cheryl Pontiac         | Johnny Walker           |
| Marie Wicks           | Gary Schneider         | 26) Amy Braley          |
| 8) Susan Brooks       | Stacey Scott           | Toni Leareaux           |
| Marjorie Wehner       | 18) Nathaniel George   | Noel Peters             |
| 9) Steven Godbey      | Travis Kahgegab        | Jennifer Fuller         |
| Carol Slater          | 19) Judith Banister    | Judy Youmans            |
| 10) Julie Allred      | Hans Hansen            | 27) Frank Davis         |
| Bonnie Klatt          | Helen Peters           | Norma Jackson           |
| Harvey Wright         | Terrence Frank         | Jason Ramirez           |
| Susan Yamry           | Deborah Krupiczewicz   | 28) James Smith         |
| Daniel Jacobs         | Ella Powers            | 29) Robert Fallis       |
| 11) Samuel DeFoy      | George Russell         | Warren Gionet           |
| Diane Pego            | Kay Wert               | 30) Paul Schramm Jr.    |
| Kimberly James        | 20) Robert Bennett Jr. | 31) Kristine Gonsorchik |
| Troy Hart             | Rachel Francis         | Karen Siminski          |
| Warren Pelcher        | Gregory Miller         |                         |
|                       | Michelle Pierce        |                         |

## Andahwod Elders' Easter Party



Courtesy of Andahwod

**Andahwod hosts an Easter Day party for the elders on April 17.**

## Birthday celebrations

Every month, Andahwod hosts a birthday celebration for residents and employees. We are inviting community elders to join us during for these celebrations of cake (or other sweet treat) and socializing. It does not need to be your birthday month to attend. Hope to see you there.

**Celebrations held:** The second Thursday of each month at 2:30 p.m.

**Upcoming dates:** ▶ May 8 ▶ June 12







Andahwod Continuing Care Community and Elder Services  
District One Elders' May 2025 Newsletter

**Boozhoo!** Spring is finally here! There are spots available for the lawn mowing chore service. Applications can be picked up at Andahwod. Mowing will begin the end of May.

Don't forget Andahwod offers a free lunch to all Tribal elders on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Elders Breakfast is the second and fourth Wednesday from 9 to 10 a.m. Check out the upcoming activities planned for May and the new walking club.



Andahwod Phone Numbers

- Gayle Ruhl:** 989.775.4305  
Administrator
- Careena Meyers:** 989.775.4315  
Support Services Manager
- Patty Kequom:** 989.775.4302  
Activities Assistant
- Sandra Pelcher:** 989.775.4300  
Administrative Assistant I
- Galina Kolb:** 989.775.4301  
Resident Care Manager
- Denise Pelcher:** 989.775.4339  
Activities Coordinator
- Dawn Chippewa:** 989.775.4308  
Billing/Administrative Assistant II
- Sheligh Jackson:** 989.775.4307  
Elders Advocate
- Maintenance:** 989.775.4313
- Nurse's Station:** 989.775.4319

Andahwod CCC & ES business hours are Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. After business hours, or if it is an urgent matter, please call the Security Desk at 989-775-4317 or the Nurse's Station at 989-775-4319.

**SOARING EAGLE**  
CASINO & RESORT®

**TRIBAL ELDERS' BINGO**

**MAY 6TH, 2025 | 6PM**  
PAPER | 3 FACES \$5  
COMPUTER | 6 FACES \$10

**Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Bingo Hall** (Inside the Slot Palace)

- Open to elders from all Michigan tribes (must provide Tribal ID)
- 50 years of age and older
- Each elder may bring one adult guest
- Bingo payouts are based on packet sales
- Cash only

**50/50 raffle sales available**

**To RSVP, contact:** Andahwod at 989.775.4300

**For overnight stay and group offers, please contact SECR Tour & Travel:**

**Melisa Colton**  
• MColton@sagchip.org  
• 989-775-5498

**Jessica Gelvin**  
• JGelvin@sagchip.org  
• 989-775-5497

### May 2025 Andahwod events

<b>Coffee Break</b> Daily   2:30 p.m.	<b>Walking Club</b> May 1   1 p.m.	<b>Birthday Celebration with guest violinist</b> May 8   2:30 p.m.	<b>Elders Breakfast</b> May 14, 28   9-10 a.m.
<b>Sewing</b> Tuesdays   10 a.m.	<b>Tribal Elder Bingo</b> May 6   1 p.m.	<b>Name that Tune</b> May 12   2:30 p.m.	<b>Bingo with Friends</b> May 16   1 p.m.
<b>Otago Exercise</b> Thursdays   1 p.m.	<b>Elders Lunch</b> May 7, 21   11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.	<b>Language Bingo</b> May 13   1 p.m.	<b>Birthday Bingo &amp; Potluck</b> May 24   12 p.m.
<b>Euchre</b> Thursdays   5:30 p.m.	<b>Memory Books</b> May 7, 14, 21, 28   1:30 p.m.		<b>Fishing at RV Park</b> May 24   12 p.m.

For more information, please call Andahwod at: 989.775.4339 \*\*Activities and events are subject to change.

### Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) now available

The Elder Services Office is now assisting with the LIHEAP grants for heating, year-round crisis, and weatherization assistance. This program determines eligibility by gross income, including wages, self-employment, contract income, and a payment from mortgages, SSA benefits retirement, and other types of income. Minimum and maximum benefit amounts for assistance are based on household income and individuals residing in the home for qualifying Tribal member households. Priority is given to older adults 60 years and older, individuals with disability or young children in the home. Applications can be picked up and assistance with completing the application with the Elder Services program. Please see Sheligh Jackson 989-775-4307 for more information. This grant program runs until Sept. 30, 2025.

### Walking Program for Better Health

More evidence is proving that walking is one of the best activities for long-term health benefits. Andahwod will begin a new healthy walking club with various incentives throughout the summer. Contact Denise Pelcher to sign up at 989-775-4339.

- Walking Club meets Thursdays from 1-2 p.m. beginning May 1 to July 17, 2025.
- Sign up for a Maaseng Waa'ji'ejik (Walking Club) T-shirt
- Incentives will be available based on distance milestones.

#### Nine benefits of walking for elders

• Improved cardiac health	• Slower memory decline	• Improved sleep
• Lower blood sugar levels	• Better overall mood	• More social interaction
• Stronger, bones, joints and muscles	• Reduction in aches and pains	• Improved immune system health

[www.seinorservicesofamerica.com/blog/health-benefits-of-walking-for-seniors](http://www.seinorservicesofamerica.com/blog/health-benefits-of-walking-for-seniors)

### Elders Advisory Board VACANCIES

Accepting submissions from interested SCIT Elders.

**Must meet the following requirements:**

- ▶ SCIT Elder
- ▶ Advocate for SCIT Elders
- ▶ Attend meetings regularly

If you meet these requirements and would like to submit a letter of interest please mail the letter of interest with your name, address, and phone number to the following address, drop off, or email to [shjackson@sagchip.org](mailto:shjackson@sagchip.org)

Andahwod CCC & ES  
2910 S. Leaton Rd.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

**DEADLINE:**  
Friday, May 30, 2025

**For more information, please call:**  
The Andahwod front office at 989.775.4300

### Services for Saganing Elders

Elders in Saganing are eligible for several of the grants offered to Members living in Isabella County and District II service area. Please see Shirley Houle or Sandra Compau how to qualify for the Elders Minor Assistance Program (EMAP) or Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Reminder: The grant services are available for eligible District One elders and Tribal Members.

May 2025 Andahwod CCC & ES Menu							Lunch: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Dinner: 4:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
Sugar free available upon request. Call kitchen for lunch and dinner at 989-775-4314.		<b>*Menu subject to change*</b> <small>*Warning: Consuming under cooked foods or eggs could lead to a Food Bourne Illness. **Warning: Please inform cashier/staff of any severe food allergies you may have prior to sitting down. Thank you</small>		1 Brats Creamy Polenta w/Baked Chicken	2 Tostadas Chicken Quesadilla w/Beans & Rice	3 Wings w/Fries Veggie Pizza	
4 Pork Chops w/Fried Potato Mashed Potato Bowl	5 Chef Salad Grilled Chicken w/Asparagus	6 Steak Fritters Taco	7 Egg Salad Sandwich Potato Soup w/Fry Bread	8 Grilled BBQ Ribs Hamburger Surprise	9 Goulash Pork Loin w/Red Potatoes	10 Meatballs Chicken Patty Sandwich	
11 Pulled Pork Sandwich Italian Wrap	12 Tater Tot Casserole Fish Sticks w/Fries	13 Chicken Fried Rice Chili Dog	14 Sloppy Joe Cabbage Soup	15 Chicken Souvlaki Spaghetti w/Bread	16 Lasagna w/Garlic Bread Baked Salmon w/Roasted Veggie	17 Turkey Club Sandwich Shrimp Basket	
18 Chicken Pot Pie Bologna Sandwich	19 Hot Turkey Sandwich Chicken Bacon Wrap	20 Tuna Noodle Casserole Zuppa	21 Beef Stew Chicken Caesar Salad	22 White Chicken Chili Meatloaf	23 French Toast w/Sausage Stir Fry	24 B.L.T Beef Stroganoff	
25 Chicken Pot Pie Taco Bowl	26 French Bread Pizza Cheeseburger	27 Chicken Alfredo Fish Sandwich	28 Grilled Cheese w/Soup Carne Asada	29 Turkey Breast Chicken Hibachi Wrap	30 Chili w/Cornbread Baked Ziti w/Side Salad	31 Chef's Choice	



Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Sat./Sun.	
<div><div></div><div>● SECR Payroll</div><div>● SCIT Per Capita</div><div>● SCIT Payroll</div><div>● Curbside Recycling</div></div>		<div><div><div>FREEDOM WALK</div><div>Save the date!</div><div>Saturday, July 26, 2025</div></div></div>						<div>1</div> <div>Sacred Fire Lunch 12-1 p.m.   7th Gen</div> <div>K-12 Educational Culture &amp; Curriculum Powwow 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.   Wii Maajikwad</div> <div>Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m.   7th Gen</div> <div>Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m.   B. Health</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Tribal Child Welfare Affidavit Deadline 5 p.m.   Tribal Clerk's Office</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m.   B. Health</div> <div>Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m.   Andahwod</div>	<div>3</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health</div>	
<div>5</div> <div>Sewing in Saganing 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.   Saganing</div> <div>Recovery Group 1-2 p.m.   B. Health</div>	<div>6</div> <div>Regular Council Session 9 a.m.   Council Chambers</div> <div>Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m.   Zoom</div> <div>Lacrosse Stick Making 2-8 p.m.   7th Gen</div>	<div>7</div> <div>Beading Circle 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.   SCTC</div> <div>Elder Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.   Andahwod</div> <div>Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m.   B. Health</div> <div>Drums Out 7-9 p.m.   7th Gen</div>	<div>8</div> <div>Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m.   7th Gen</div> <div>Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m.   B. Health</div>	<div>9</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m.   B. Health</div> <div>Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m.   Andahwod</div>	<div>10</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health</div>						
<div>12</div> <div>Recovery Group 1-2 p.m.   B. Health</div>	<div>13</div> <div>Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m.   Zoom</div> <div>Lacrosse Stick Making 2-8 p.m.   7th Gen</div> <div>Wiigwaas Bowl Workshop 5-7 p.m.   7th Gen</div>	<div>14</div> <div>Beading Circle 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.   SCTC</div> <div>Elder Breakfast 9-10 a.m.   Andahwod</div> <div>Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m.   B. Health</div> <div>Drums Out 7-9 p.m.   7th Gen</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Caregiver Event 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.   Saganing</div> <div>Sacred Fire Lunch 12-1 p.m.   7th Gen</div> <div>Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m.   7th Gen</div> <div>Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m.   B. Health</div>	<div>16</div> <div>Tribal Observer DEADLINE</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m.   B. Health</div> <div>Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m.   Andahwod</div> <div>Medallion Workshop 5-7 p.m.   7th Gen</div>	<div>17</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health</div> <div>Adult Fishing Tournament 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. Soaring Eagle Hideaway RV Park</div>						
<div>19</div> <div>Tribal Library Author Visit 12-1 p.m.   SCTC</div> <div>Recovery Group 1-2 p.m.   B. Health</div> <div>Two Spirit Talking Circle 6-8 p.m.   SCTC</div>	<div>20</div> <div>Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m.   Zoom</div> <div>Lacrosse Stick Making 2-8 p.m.   7th Gen</div>	<div>21</div> <div>Beading Circle 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.   SCTC</div> <div>Elder Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.   Andahwod</div> <div>Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m.   B. Health</div> <div>Drums Out 7-9 p.m.   7th Gen</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Cemetery Cleanup 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.   Saganing</div> <div>Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m.   7th Gen</div> <div>Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m.   B. Health</div>	<div>23</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m.   B. Health</div> <div>Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m.   Andahwod</div>	<div>24</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health</div>						
<div>26</div> <div>Tribal Ops Closed Memorial Day</div> <div>Recovery Group 1-2 p.m.   B. Health</div>	<div>27</div> <div>Wiigwas Bowl Workshop 1-3 p.m.   Saganing</div> <div>Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m.   Zoom</div> <div>Lacrosse Stick Making 2-8 p.m.   7th Gen</div>	<div>28</div> <div>Beading Circle 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.   SCTC</div> <div>Elder Breakfast 9-10 a.m.   Andahwod</div> <div>Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m.   B. Health</div> <div>Drums Out 7-9 p.m.   7th Gen</div>	<div>29</div> <div>Sacred Fire Lunch 12-1 p.m.   7th Gen</div> <div>Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m.   7th Gen</div> <div>Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m.   B. Health</div>	<div>30</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m.   B. Health</div> <div>Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m.   Andahwod</div>	<div>31</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health</div>						





**Observer Classifieds:** To place your ad, call the Tribal Observer at **989-775-4096**, email **observer@sagchip.org**, call to make an appointment in the Observer offices in the Black Elk Building or mail to Tribal Observer, Attn.: Classified, 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Please have all submissions and payment in by deadline. Classified rates are \$10 for 15 words or less and 75 cents per additional word. Any thumbnail image costs an additional \$15.

Apply to job postings online at **www.sagchip.org**. \* Job postings are subject to change daily.

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

100 Employment

Tribal Operations

Summer Youth Worker

Must be SCIT Tribal Member. Must be between 14 and 18 years of age at the time of application. Must attend parent/guardian and summer youth intern meeting.

Summer Youth Crew Leader

Must be SCIT Tribal Member. High school diploma or GED. Must be between 18 and 24 years of age at the time of application.

Water Operator III

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Sign-on bonus: \$1,000 upon six month anniversary, \$2,000 upon one year anniversary. Must be at least 18 years of age. Five years of water operator or related experience.

Waste Water Operator II

Open to the public. Sign-on bonus: \$1,000 upon six month anniversary, \$1,500 upon one year anniversary. High school diploma or GED. Three years' experience in wastewater/water field or directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations.

Waste Water Operator III

Open to the public. Sign-on bonus: \$1,000 upon six month anniversary, \$2,000 upon one year anniversary. High school diploma or GED. Three years' experience in wastewater/water field or directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations.

AWARE SMHA Project Co-Coordinator

Open to the public. Grant funding through Sept. 30, 2028. Master's degree in counseling, social work, human services or related field. One year of experience in mental health services working with children and families of children with severe emotional disturbances.

Grants and Contracts Compliance Coordinator

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

Clerical Pool

Open to SCIT Members only. Must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent. Clerical experience is a plus.

General Labor Pool

Open to Tribal Members and community members. Must be at least 18 years of age.

Dentist

Open to the public. DDS/DMD degree from an accredited school. Michigan licensed dentist. Must be able to pass background check to meet the employment eligibility requirements as they pertain to the position.

Child Welfare Prevention Specialist

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in social services, human services or related field. An equivalent combination of education and directly related experience may be considered. Two years social services, families first worker, or family preservation experience desired.

Native American Language Coordinator

Open to the public. Grant-funded position through Sept. 30, 2028. Bachelor's degree in education, social work, counseling, or human services related field.

Elementary Teacher

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in education or related field or currently enrolled in a teacher certification program, including alternative route programs, and able to obtain teaching certificate within six months of hire.

Paraprofessional

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Pass a state or local exam (i.e. Basic Skills Test of Michigan for teacher certification or ETS ParaPro Assessment).

Community Project Manager - AWARE

Open to the public. Grant funded position through Sept. 30, 2028. Bachelor's degree in education, social work, counseling, or human services related field. Experience in project management, communications and working with school systems and community collaborations and partnerships.

Clinical Therapist - RTC

Open to the public. Licensed master's degree in counseling, social work, human services or related field. Limited licensed individuals who can obtain full licensure within two years from date of hire.

Special Education Teacher

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

Victims of Crime Advocate

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in counseling, social work, sociology, psychology, law enforcement criminal justice, law or related field.

Pharmacy Technician

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Pharmacy Technician License. One year experience working in a pharmacy desired.

Physician/Medical Director

Open to the public. MD or DO from an accredited medical school in the United States. Board certified in clinical specialty, preferably in family practice. Current State of Michigan medical license without exclusions or sanctions.

Cook PT - SCA

Open to the public. Successful completion of ServSafe certification within probationary period.

Supplemental Instructor

Open to the public. At least 60 completed credits towards a college degree with an overall GPA of 3.0 or above.

Physician

Open to the public. Medical degree or doctor of osteopathic medicine. Current board certification in specialty.

Tribal Code Compliance Officer

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Five years' relevant experience including building construction, inspection and ordinance enforcement.

Registered Medical Assistant

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

Victims Advocate

Open to the public. Associate degree in human services related field, or an equivalent combination of education, training, and experience. One-year experience working with victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking.

Secondary Language Immersion Specialist

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must have basic Anishinaabe language skills. Excellent communication and group leadership skills. Desired qualifications: Associate degree. Fluent Anishinaabe speaker.

Associate General Counsel

Open to the public. Juris doctor from an ABA accredited law school. Experience as a practicing attorney. Licensed to practice law in the State of Michigan.

Associate Judge PT

Open to the public. Ten years' experience as a practicing attorney. Licensed as active member in good standing by the State Bar of Michigan or other state bar. Desired qualifications: Considerable litigation experience, and a demonstrated interest in working with a tribe.

Residential Treatment Support Technician

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. High school diploma or GED. Desired qualifications: Previous experience in the substance abuse field. Experience in a residential treatment center.

Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant

Open to the public. Family nurse practitioner or physician assistant license. Masters of science degree in nursing for family nurse practitioner.

Certified Nursing Assistant FT - Transport Grant

Open to the public. Grant funded position through March 31, 2026. High school diploma or GED. One year of direct care experience desired.

Permanent Supportive Housing Coordinator

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in human services field. One year experience in the areas of mentoring, client advocacy, legal or social services, mental illness and /or addiction treatment, or work with those at risk of homelessness.

Natural Resources Technician PT - Temporary

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years old. Must be able to swim and use a canoe.

Interim Clinical Therapist

Open to the public. Interim position. Licensed master's degree in counseling, social work, human services or related field. Limited licensed individuals who can obtain full licensure within two years from date of hire.

Assistant Health Director

Must be SCIT Tribal Member. Bachelor's degree in health administration or related field. Three years' experience in health care administration. Two years in a supervisor capacity.

Certified Nursing Assistant

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. One year nursing experience desired.

Assistant Housing Manager

Must be SCIT Tribal Member. Bachelor's degree in business administration, accounting or related field or five years demonstrated ability in relevant work experience may be considered.

Regulatory Compliance Specialist - Housing

Open to the public. Associate degree in business administration, accounting or a related field or two years demonstrated ability in relevant work experience may be considered.

Telecom Technician I

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in information telecommunications technology or related field. One year of experience in telecommunications.

Prevention Specialist

Open to the public. Associate degree in human services or related field. An equivalent combination of education and directly related experience may be considered.

Water Resource Technician

Open to the public. Must have an associate degree in environmental science, biology, chemistry, geology, or natural science and/or an equivalent while actively pursuing a BS/BA.

Dental Hygienist PT

Open to the public. Two years working experience in dental hygiene desired. IHS and NHSC loan repayment eligible clinic.

Soaring Eagle

Sous Chef - Banquet

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Three years kitchen experience in a quality operation specializing in food production. One year in a supervisory capacity.

Building Maintenance Worker

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. One year of experience in a building maintenance, technical, manufacturing or similar position.

Guest Room Attendant PT

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

F&B Chef

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Four years of hotel kitchen experience, or similar restaurant experience.

Kitchen Equipment Technician

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED.

Line Server PT

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

Laundry Mechanic Technician

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age.

Waitstaff Summer Concert PT

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

Bartender Summer Concert PT

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

Crowd Control Summer Concert PT

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

Steward - PT

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

Call Center Agent PT

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

Saganing

Saganing Police Officer

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

Master Plumber

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Ten years of experience as a master plumber.

F&B Supervisor

Open to the public. Associate degree. Two years supervisory experience in the hospitality field.

Beverage Waitstaff FT

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

Beverage Waitstaff PT

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

Line Cook

Open to the public. Six months of restaurant cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility, or six months of internal culinary training.

Bartender PT

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

F&B Attendant PT

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

Transit Driver PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 21 years of age.

Night Auditor

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age.

Cage Cashier

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

Count Team Assistant

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

SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CREE SUMMER GLAVAS:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 East Broadway Road, Mount Pleasant, MI 48858 (989) 775-4800. Estate of Cree Summer Glavas. Date of Birth: April 9, 1990. Notice to creditors: The decedent, Cree Summer Glavas, who lived at 1506 W. Broadway St., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858, died Oct. 18, 2023. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Tracy Mays, personal representative, or to both the Tribal Probate Court at 6954 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 and the personal representative within four months after the date of publication of this notice. Personal Representative: Tracy Mays, 15 Kensington Circle, Apt. B, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. 989-400-1702.





## Central Michigan University hosts 36th annual “Celebrating Life” Powwow

**MATTHEW WRIGHT**

Staff Writer

The 36th annual Celebrating Life Powwow took place March 29-30 on the campus of Central Michigan University. The event was open to the public and held within the John G. Kulhavi Events Center in the McGuirk Arena.

Grand entries were held on Saturday at 1 and 7 p.m., and on Sunday at noon.

A variety of vendors were set up throughout the weekend, selling food and traditional art and crafts.

Joel Syrette served as emcee, alongside arena director Beendigaygizhig Deleary. Walker Stonefish led the grand entries as head veteran. Smokeytown served as host drum.

Observer photos by Matthew Wright

The head dance judge position was held by Melissa Isaac with Kwake Hale serving as head drum judge.

Sub-Chief Luke Sprague was also introduced and provided a welcome on Saturday afternoon.

CMU President Dr. Neil MacKinnon shared a message on the significance behind the annual powwow.

“The Powwow is a chance to celebrate the culture and heritage of our Indigenous students, faculty, staff and partners,” MacKinnon said. “It is also an opportunity to enjoy friendly, vibrant competition and to strengthen the ties that unite us.”

MacKinnon acknowledged Kasey Perez, head of CMU’s Office of Indigenous Affairs, for her leadership as well as her



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Head Veteran Walker Stonefish (front center) and members of the Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veteran and Warrior Society enter the arena during the 1 p.m. Saturday grand entry.**

team of more than 40 students and staff who volunteered in supporting this event.

Contests were held throughout the weekend, including:

a drum contest, youth dance, teen dance, adult dance and golden age dance.

The annual event is hosted by CMU’s Office of Indigenous



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**CMU President Neil MacKinnon provides welcoming remarks.**

Affairs, and organized by the student-run CMU Powwow Planning Committee. The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and North American Indigenous Student Organization (NAISO) partnered with CMU to make the event possible.

