



Manoomini-Giizis  
(Moon of the Grain)

# TRIBAL OBSERVER

AUGUST  
2025

Working Together For Our Future

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

Volume 36 | Issue 8



**Michigan  
Indian Family  
Olympics**  
Pages 8-10



**Saginaw  
Chippewa  
Powwow**  
Pages 12-13



**NativeFest:  
Car Bingo &  
Kids' Night**  
Page 24

## FEATURES

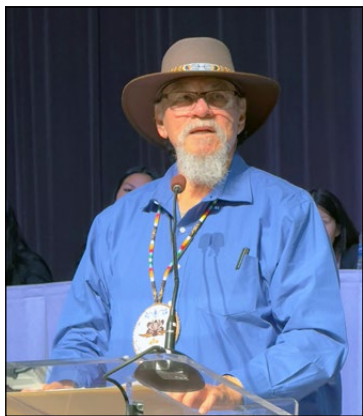
- 14 Entertainment
- 21 Elders
- 22 Calendar
- 23 Classifieds

## Annual SCIT community meeting draws in more than 500 attendees

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**  
Public Relations Manager

On July 24, more than 500 Tribal community members joined 30 departments and five tribal artisans inside the Soaring Eagle Entertainment Hall for the semi-annual community meeting.

The Anishinaabe Ogitchedaw Veteran Warrior Society led grand entry with Bill Leksche, Minnie Martin, Walker Stonefish and Sharmin Anderson carrying eagle staffs and flags with the Blue House Singers on hand to perform drum duties.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Chief Tim J. Davis**

The invocation, blessing of the food, and a heartfelt moment of silence was shared by Tribal Council Chaplain Alice Jo Ricketts.

Chief Tim J. Davis began the meeting by welcoming the membership and encouraging their continued involvement to be a part of the Tribe.

"I wanted to take the time to honor our past Council leadership as those Council, dating back to the thirties and forties have brought us down the path of where we are today," Davis said. "From our humble beginnings when we met in a tiny house back in the day, to this big hall where we are meeting now. I think we need to remember all the time and effort those leaders of the past gave to our Tribe before Council was a paid position. Be proud of your ancestors

who committed to the Tribe and let's continue to do our best and work for our people to keep our Tribe moving forward."

Sub-Chief Luke Sprague shared some statistics regarding graduation rates.

"This year we had 47 high school graduates and 19 higher education graduates. We also acknowledge our skilled trades and beauty school graduates," Sprague said. "As I get older, I see the new generation coming up through the ranks, and I see the future of our tribe is bright through them."

Tribal Council Secretary Jennifer Wassegijig said it is

"an honor and blessing" to serve the community.

"As we welcome you home, there's many great things happening, and I would like to thank our many departments and volunteers for their dedication in organizing and preparing all the events for our community," Wassegijig said. "These homecoming events take many months in planning, and on behalf of Council, we recognize the good work they do to bring our community together. Their commitment highlights the truly great community we have."

Homecoming | 7

## A cloudy morning was no match as recovery shines through annual Freedom Walk

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**  
Public Relations Manager

On July 26, a cloudy morning was no match as the stories of recovery shined through at the 36th annual Freedom Walk.

Michael McCreery, prevention specialist for Behavioral Health, offered the sage medicine as people arrived and Nicole Nedwash, prevention specialist, assisted with the volunteers.

The Prevention team estimated more than 325 came through the doors for the first Freedom Walk held at the new Wii Maajikwad School.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Freedom Walk participants support sober lifestyles at the Saginaw Chippewa Powwow grounds on Saturday, July 26.**

Tribal Council Chaplain Alice Jo Ricketts offered a prayer of comfort and blessed the food prepared by Chef

Sam Anglin. Other Council speakers included Sub-Chief Luke Sprague, Secretary Jennifer Wassegijig and

Sgt.-at-Arms Christina Otto.

"We have to find balance with the four aspects of self: physically, mentally,

emotionally and spiritually. I encourage all to sit with each

Freedom Walk | 7

## Tribal Library moves into Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College building

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**  
Editor

Take note book and library lovers: The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Libraries have officially moved from the former Tribal Operations building into the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, located at 5805 E. Pickard Road in Mount Pleasant.

The Tribal Library is available to anyone in the community and the staff hours remain Monday thru Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

As of July 15, the Library staff finished moving the last pieces of shelving from the old location and had some

unpacking to do. Now, the new location is up and running and operational for all library needs.

The Tribal Library staff – Librarian Anne Heidemann, and library assistants Lee-Anne Disel and Kimberly Condon – extended a heartfelt miigwetch to the loyal library patrons and SCIT community for all of the support throughout the years at the Tribal Operations location.

"The current library staff has been serving the Tribal community for over 10 years in the old Tribal Ops building and we know the library was here long before we started," stated the library staff in an email send to Tribal employees. "This place has always been more than just

books; it's a place that holds a lot of great memories.

"It has served as a place to gather, a place of learning and growth, friendship, and laughter. We've seen many of our library kids grow up, graduate and move up in the world and we're happy that this place was a part of their journey."

According to Heidemann, a grand opening celebration will occur in the near future; slated in early fall.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Library staff members – Kimberly Condon, library assistant; Anne Heidemann, librarian; and Lee-Anne Disel – pose for a photo at the library, located in the former Tribal Operations building, before making the move to the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College.**

The library may be reached at 989-317-4789 or online at <https://saginaw.ploud.net>.

PRESORTED STANDARD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
GREENVILLE, MI  
05030  
PERMIT # 338





## Alexander Mark Walraven

September 26, 1936 – July 19, 2025

Alexander Mark Walraven, 88, of Hampton Twp., our kind, generous, faithful, and friendly father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend, left us peacefully on Saturday, July 19, 2025 at Brian's House.

Alex was born on Sept. 26, 1936, in Essexville, Mich. to the late Ernest and Olivia (Issac) Walraven, Alex lived a full and vibrant life that brought joy to those around him.

Growing up, Alex enjoyed countless adventures with family and friends. Whether it was working on the family farm, setting pins at the local bowling alley, or spending quality time hunting and fishing with his dad and uncles, he embraced every moment.

He even left his mark as a Golden Gloves boxer – just one of many talents he showcased during his youth. A proud graduate of St. Johns High School, his early years were filled with fond memories that he cherished throughout his life.

In a true love story, Alex met Rose Pietruszewski at a teen dance. Their romance blossomed, leading to a beautiful marriage on July 7, 1956. Alex and Rose shared 55 unforgettable years together until her passing on April 11, 2012. Together, they raised a loving family, a proud accomplishment that Alex always valued, as he watched them grow into a family of over 30.

For many years, Alex was a dedicated farmer, but he also contributed to the community as a valued employee at Essroc Material Cement, where he worked his way up to plant manager before retiring. Throughout his life, he was deeply involved with his community as a member of St. Jude Thaddeus Parish, the Knights of Columbus, Short Horn Club, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, and the American Management Association.

A lover of the outdoors, Alex spent many days golfing, hunting, and fishing, nurturing his beautiful yard, and enjoying time at his hunting cabin in the Upper Peninsula.

Alex is survived by his children, Deborah Christie, Paige (Mike) Vanderlooven, and Tim (Christine) Walraven; grandchildren, Jennifer and Andrew Christie, Brianna and Russel Wildraven, Kara and Chris Hotchkiss, Samantha and Derek Noel, Cody and Sara Walraven, Mariah and Nicholas Rohde, Miles and Tyler Walraven, Sawyer Walraven, Daniel and Ashley Walraven, Ashley and James Hutchinson, Evan Korb, Ethan and Brittany Korb, and Noah Korb; great-grandchildren, Izabella and Yoshida, Elmer, Rosalie, Hadley, Mila, Cambrey, Carter, Dash, Aubrey, Easton, Lucas, Civana, Ashton, Taylor, Maverick, Malcolm, Gabriel, Mikayla, and Kaylon; sister, Barbara (Darrel) Walraven; sister-in-law, Geraldine Pietruszewski and several nieces, nephews, and friends.

In addition to his parents and wife, Alex was also preceded in death by his sons, Mark and Daniel Walraven; siblings, Eugene Walraven, Bill Walraven, Ernest Walraven, Janice Bennett, Judy McLellen, Gerald Walraven, and Patricia (Dan) Tarkowski; in-laws, Barney and Delores Pietruszewski and David Pietruszewski.

Alex's family received visitors on Friday, July 25, 2025 from 2 P.M. until Alex's 7 P.M. Life Celebration at Skorupski Family Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 821 N. Pine Rd. Fr. T.J. Fleming presided with interment held privately at St. Patrick Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be directed to Brian's House. Expressions of sympathy may be shared with the family online at [www.skorupskis.com](http://www.skorupskis.com)



**Wewebanaabiiwin**  
**Youth Fishing Tournament**  
**CATCH & RELEASE**

**Friday, Aug. 15, 2025**  
**9 a.m. - 1 p.m.** | Registration starts: 8 a.m.

**Soaring Eagle Hideaway RV Park**  
5514 E. Airport Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858  
**Free event, open to the public**

- Age groups: 5 to 9, 10-13, and 14 to 17
- Canoes are limited to a first-come, first-serve basis
- Adult must be in the canoe with any youth 13 & under
- Hot dogs, hamburgers and side dishes
- Trophies will be awarded for the first three places

**For more information, please contact:**  
989.944.0495 or [KeRicketts@sagchip.org](mailto:KeRicketts@sagchip.org)

**NEED HELP?**

**Need assistance in signing up for Medicaid?**

**Please contact:**  
Patient Registration at  
989-775-4670 and they will schedule you an appointment.

**Nimkee**  
Memorial Wellness Center

**Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veteran and Warrior Society is in need of VETERAN MEMBERS**

Meetings are held the second Saturday of each month at 2 p.m. at the Ziibiwing Center.

**For more information, please contact:**  
Paul Walker at [PWalker@sagchip.org](mailto:PWalker@sagchip.org)

**Well & Septic PROGRAM**

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

**If you are experiencing problems with your well or septic, please contact the Planning Department.** \*You must own your home.

**To make an appointment, please contact:**  
Planning Department  
at 989-775-4014.

## One Member Needed For the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Health Board

### Requirements:

1. Must be a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.
  2. Must be 18 years of age.
  3. Must have strong interests in the health services provided and the health problems within the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Community.
- **Meetings are held in person or virtual once a month and a stipend is given for each meeting attended (If eligible).**
- **Will need Tribal Council approval.**

### If interested:

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

### Mail or bring to the Nimkee Clinic:

Attention: Betsey Alonzo  
2591 S. Leaton Rd.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

\* Please include your phone number or a contact person.

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

**For more information, contact:**  
989-775-4639 or [bealonzo@sagchip.org](mailto:bealonzo@sagchip.org)



Tribal Member  
**RÉSUMÉ**  
Development

**Available through Human Resources**

**Any Tribal Members needing assistance in creating or updating their resume are encouraged to set up an appointment by contacting:**  
**Human Resources Training & Development at 989-775-5600**

## 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
Bonnau Sr., Stephen M.	04/17/2025
Castaneda, Leona Ashquab	05/11/2025
Funnell, Nancy Caroll	02/11/2024
Henry, Robert Nowgeeshig	01/04/2025
Kelsall, Marcia Sue	12/18/2024
Mcclain, Patrick Lane	07/07/2024
O'neal, Phyllis Jane	04/07/2025
Pallett, Constance Elaine	04/02/2025
Poulos, Barbara Jean	01/28/2024
Ritter, Caden Zane	05/31/2025
Sineway Jr., Stanley M.	05/04/2025
Stone, Warren Enos	04/14/2025
Tarkowski, Patricia Helen	01/03/2025
Tebo, Roger Shane	05/13/2025
Walraven, Mark Alex	04/09/2025
Whitepigeon Sr., Jerome G.	04/05/2025

## September 2025

### Tribal Child Welfare Affidavits or Child Mino Shkiziwin Applications

#### Forms are available now.

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

**Deadline: Friday, Aug. 1, 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**





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**

• Aug. 5 • Sept. 2 • Oct. 7

**Recovery Housing Program**

Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA), Recovery Housing Program (RHP) supports individuals in recovery onto a path to self-sufficiency by expanding the housing capacity within the local are.

**Eligibility criteria:**

You must meet ALL criteria listed below to be eligible for RHP funds.

- Must be a person in recovery from substance use who is “actively” engaged in recovery services
- Applicant has NOT received assistance with paying rent for recovery housing in the past two years or since Jan. 1, 2023
- Must be struggling with homelessness or are close to being homeless and could benefit from assistance with rent and/or utilities
- Has a current lease agreement in their own name signed and dated: Provide a copy of the lease agreement to grant staff.
- Rental cost cannot exceed the HUD approved rates
- Property must be inspected by RHP approved staff and meet all required area of inspection. This includes a lead-based paint provision for structures built before 1978.
- Provide proof of four weeks of income. If not employed, provide last year's proof of Federal Income Tax Return. Income is NOT considered a requirement in order to be eligible for assistance. The granting agency requires proof of income for tracking purposes.

**Applications:**

- An applicant must submit a fully completed application with all required documentation to be considered for rental assistance. Applications with missing documentation will not be accepted.
- Applications are located at Behavioral Health by calling 989-775-4850 or by stopping by the front office (2800 S. Shepherd Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858).
- Applications are accepted on Tuesdays and Thursdays ONLY at Behavioral Health



For more information, please contact:  
Behavioral Health at 989-775-7850

**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

**Election Timeline**  
2025 Primary & General Elections

**July 7 - Aug. 4** | Candidate Packets available at the Tribal Clerk's Office

**Aug. 5** | Petition Deadline for candidates to turn in petitions

**Aug. 8** | Last day to register to vote for the Primary Election

**Aug. 13** | Deadline for Candidates to meet all aspects of the qualifications to be placed on the final list of Candidates

**Aug. 14** | Final Candidate List Posted

**Aug. 21** | Absentee Ballots for Primary Election available in the Tribal Clerk's Office and mailing of Absentee Ballots for Primary Election begins for duly registered At-Large District voters. Mailing begins for duly registered, qualified voters from Districts 1 and 2 who submit an Absentee Ballot request to the Tribal Clerk's Office. All Absentee Ballots for Primary Election must be received by the Tribal Clerk's Office by Sept. 9 at 8 p.m. to be counted.

**Sept. 8** | 5:15 p.m. — Certification of Voting Machines

**Sept. 9** | Primary Election Day — Polls will be open from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m.

**Sept. 10** | Primary Election Results and Candidates List Posted

**Sept. 18** | Absentee Ballots for General Election available in the Tribal Clerk's Office and mailing of Absentee Ballots for General Election begins for duly registered At-Large District voters. Mailing begins for duly registered, qualified voters from Districts 1 and 2 who submit an Absentee Ballot request to the Tribal Clerk's Office. All Absentee Ballots for General Election must be received by the Tribal Clerk's Office by Nov. 4 at 8 p.m. to be counted.

**Oct. 3** | Last day to register to vote for the General Election

**Nov. 3** | 5:15 p.m. — Certification of Voting Machines

**Nov. 4** | General Election Day — Polls will be open from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m.

**Nov. 5** | General Election Results Posted

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

**SIXTH ANNUAL  
OPIOID SUMMIT**  
“Journey of Hope: Paths to Positive Change in the Opioid Crisis”

Presented by the Bureau of Indian Affairs  
and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe

**Save the Date! Nov. 5 & 6, 2025**

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment Hall

For more information, please contact:  
989.775.4805 or [Carjackson@sagchip.org](mailto:Carjackson@sagchip.org)

**Submissions Needed**

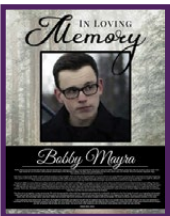
The Opioid Summit Committee is requesting the communities support for submittal of a picture and a written brief story of remembrance of their loved one who would like a chance to share with others due to opioid, alcohol substance misuse and suicide.

To fondly remember of the lives lost, to lend a voice to those who cannot speak, to bring families together to share their stories and to bring awareness through education. Let's also band together to stop the stigma and shame.

Please send a photo along with a brief description to share of your loved one to:

[carjackson@sagchip.org](mailto:carjackson@sagchip.org) or 989-775-4805

- A memory board will be created of your loved one to share with participants at the summit.
- More information regarding the 2025 Opioid Summit will be provided at: [www.Sagchip.org](http://www.Sagchip.org)



**Attention all Tribal Members:**

To be eligible to vote in the upcoming 2025 Tribal Elections you must register to vote 30 days prior to the election date.

- **Last day to register to vote for the Primary Election is Friday, Aug. 8, 2025.**
- **Last day to register to vote for the General Election is Friday, Oct. 3, 2025.**
- Voter Registration forms are available at the Tribal Clerk's Office and on the Tribe's website.
- If you've had a recent address change or name change you must also register to vote if you have not already.

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

**Qualification for  
Voter Registration:**

1. **Must be a SCIT Member**
2. **Must provide address verification by one of the following:**
  - State Issued Driver's License
  - State ID
  - Voter Registration ID
  - Tribal Membership ID

- **Primary Election: Tuesday, Sept. 9, 2025**
- **General Election: Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2025**

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

Registered Voter Members without an ID are able to get a free Voters Registration Card on the day of the Primary Election, Tuesday, Sept. 9, 2025 or on the day of the General Election, Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2025 from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. from the Clerk's Office.

Any questions, please contact:  
the Clerk's Office 989-775-4051



**Thursday, Aug. 14, 2025**

- **Check in:** 9-10:30 a.m.
- **8th grade and under:** 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- **High school and adult:** \*3-6 p.m.  
*\*Subject to changed depending on youth session)*

**Wii Maajikwad/Recreation Center**  
2875 Gikendasso Way, Mt. Pleasant, Mich.

**Registration deadline:**

**Tuesday, Aug. 12 at 5 p.m.**

*\*Registration required, no walk-in registration*

**Divisions:**

- 5th grade and under (co-ed)
- 6th-8th grade (co-ed)
- 9th-12th grade (boy & girl divisions)
- Adult (male & female divisions)



**\$20 per player**

- 4 person max per team
- 10 team max per age group
- First place trophies and second place medals
- Free lunch and T-shirt for players (while supplies last)
- Open to the public

To register, please contact:  
989.775.4093 or [KShomin@sagchip.org](mailto:KShomin@sagchip.org)





## 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

## REQUEST FOR QUOTES: Asphalt Pavement Replacement

**Project overview:** The Saginaw Chippewa Housing Department is requesting quotes for pavement reconstruction for nine residential homes, one pole barn, and the entire length of Cedar Trail road in Arenac County, Mich. The Department is seeking a reputable firm to provide the following services and products only: Work will include all steps necessary to demolish existing asphalt, prepare the base and install new asphalt, as well as any cleanup. Service areas will include ten separate addresses as listed below. Contractor must provide owner with the warranty information for asphalt.

**Project goals:**

- Demolish old asphalt and install new asphalt in a safe, timely, and professional manner.
- Removal of debris and clean up at each of the 10 sites.
- Communicate with the owner in a timely and professional manner.

**Project scope of work:** Scope of work will include all 10 locations as listed. Companies are encouraged to visit the locations to assess the areas to be covered. All required permits are the responsibility of the contractor. Permits can be obtained at the SCIT Planning Department 989-775-4014, <https://www.sagchip.org/Planning/Services.aspx/>. Please call Housing's front office reception at (989) 775-4595 to inform us when you plan to be on site.

**Ten locations in Standish, Mich. 48658:**

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. 4256 Cedar Trail | 6. 4283 Cedar Trail  |
| 2. 4259 Cedar Trail | 7. 4502 Cedar Trail  |
| 3. 4268 Cedar Trail | 8. 4522 Cedar Trail  |
| 4. 4271 Cedar Trail | 9. 4542 Cedar Trail  |
| 5. 4272 Cedar Trail | 10. 4545 Cedar Trail |

**Submission procedures:**

- Submit information on sheets no larger than an 8½ x 11, clear and legible lettering.
- Quotes should be legibly printed on company letterhead.
- Email the requested information to: [RoMaloney@sagchip.org](mailto:RoMaloney@sagchip.org) and [MiPelcher@sagchip.org](mailto:MiPelcher@sagchip.org) or
- Send via US Mail or in-person delivery to the Saginaw Chippewa Housing Department, 2451 Nishnabeang Drive, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Business hours are M-F, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Submissions must be received by the deadline listed below.
- Submissions received later than the deadline will not be considered.

**Provide the following information:**

- The principle address of the firm
- Contact information of key personnel, phone number(s), email
- An itemized cost estimate for all services and materials requested in this RFQ (Labor and Materials quoted separate)
- Copy of the firm's certificate of insurance (indicate level of professional and general liability coverage)
- Signed statement indicating the firm is not on the federal government's debarred list of entities debarred from doing business with the federal government of the United States. For more information visit the official website of the US Government - System for Award Management at <https://sam.gov/content/home>
- A copy of current business license
- Must use prevailing wages and fringe as determined by the U.S. Department of Labor ([www.SAM.gov](http://www.SAM.gov)). See General Decision Number: MI20250008 dated 3/14/2025

**Submission deadline:** Aug. 21 by 5 p.m.

**Drop off or mail proposals to:**

SCHD  
2451 Nish-Na-Be-Anong Dr.  
Mount Pleasant, MI 48858

**Or emailed to:**

- [RoMaloney@sagchip.org](mailto:RoMaloney@sagchip.org)
- [MiPelcher@sagchip.org](mailto:MiPelcher@sagchip.org)

**For more information:**

- **Rosalie Maloney:** [RoMaloney@sagchip.org](mailto:RoMaloney@sagchip.org) | 989.775.4581
- **Miranda Pelcher:** [MiPelcher@sagchip.org](mailto:MiPelcher@sagchip.org) | 989.775.4586



Michigan Department of Education Office of School Support Services Food Service Program

# MEET UP and EAT UP

**Monday - Friday: Until Aug. 15**

**Come in and have a seat and eat:**

**Breakfast: 7:30 - 9 a.m. • Lunch: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

**Wii Maajiikwad**

2875 Gikendaaso Way, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

*\*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

## 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.



**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 be a seller.*
- *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: 989.775.4629 | [JaGonzalez@sagchip.org](mailto:JaGonzalez@sagchip.org)

Public Relations: [PublicRelations@sagchip.org](mailto:PublicRelations@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)





# Public Notices



## ZIIBIWING CENTER

of Anishinaabe Culture & Lifeways

# EVENT PARKING

SUMMER CONCERT PAID PARKING FUNDRAISER

**Cost: \$15 per vehicle**

- Parking is offered two hours before the concert starts.
- Vehicles must be removed by 5 p.m. the next day.
- Must place paid parking ticket visibly in front windshield.
- Free Premium Play will be given while supplies last.
- Proceeds will support our events and programming.
- We are not responsible or liable for any damage, lost or stolen items.
- Pass is non-transferable, must park in existing spaces, no parking grass.
- Call 989-775-0007 for free shuttle ride service to and from SECR.

Concert Dates	Start Time	Parking Timeframe
Aug. 8	8 p.m.	6-8 p.m.
Aug. 10	7 p.m.	5-7 p.m.
Aug. 23	7 p.m.	5-7 p.m.
Sept. 26	8 p.m.	6-8 p.m.

## Anishinaabe Language Revitalization Committee VACANCIES

Seeking three individuals who are committed to revitalizing Anishinaabemowin.

**Vacant positions: Three community Tribal Member representatives ages 25 and over.**

- Candidates must be a SCIT Member and able to attend monthly meetings.
- Meetings held monthly with dates/times/location TBD.

**For more information, please contact:**  
Mary Perez at MAPerez@sagchip.org or 989-775-4026

**Send letter of interest to:**  
**Howard Webkamigad**, ALRD Program Manager

**By email:**  
HWebkamigad@sagchip.org

**By mail:**  
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe  
ATTN: Howard Webkamigad  
2875 Gikendaaso Way  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858



## Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

New changes start now!

**Trouble finding transportation to your appointments that maintain your recovery?**

**What's available:**

- **Transportation to any recovery-related appointments.**
- Gas cards, taxi services, direct transport by staff with 24-hour notice.
- Can include going to a job interview (not ongoing work), other appointments or meetings that help maintain recovery.
  - AA/NA meetings
  - Court dates
  - Medical
  - Counseling

**Call today to see if you qualify for assistance:**  
*\*Must be referred by an outside or internal agency as a recommendation.*

**Erin Sprague:** 989-775-4887 | ErSprague@Sagchip.org  
**Behavioral Health:** 2800 S. Shepherd Rd.

*\*MDHHS Substance Use Disorder Transportation Grant.\**



## Recovery Gas Cards Distribution Program



Must be in active recovery to qualify for service.  
►By referral only ►Opioid use currently or historically

**\$30 Gas cards distribution schedule:**  
Tuesdays & Thursdays | 2-4 p.m.  
Behavioral Health: 2800 S. Shepherd Rd.

**For more information, please contact:**  
Erin Sprague: 989-775-4887 | ErSprague@Sagchip.org



## ZIIBIWING CENTER

of Anishinaabe Culture & Lifeways

## Collections Committee Vacancies

**Attention Tribal Members**

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

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

**Interested members need to:**

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

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

**William Johnson**, Curator/Operations Manager

**Email:**  
WJohnson@sagchip.org

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

**Phone:**  
989.775.4730

## STOP VAPING



**Zhaawan Martell**  
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe



**Alexis Trepanier**  
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe

**www.sagchip.org/nimkee/StopVaping**

**Facebook:**  
www.facebook.com/people/Saginaw-Chippewa-Indian-Tribe/100063712745068/

**Youtube:**  
www.youtube.com/@TheRealSagchip



## Huron-Manistee National Forests

# Camping Available

Camping fees are waived

**Go to Rec.gov**

- Select Huron-Manistee National Forest

**Select your dates and campground**

**When checking in:**

- **Fill in your personal information**
- **Apply an eligible pass discount:**
  - \* Pass type: Tribal fee waiver
  - \* Tribal Name: Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
- **Check the box: Tribal ID Card**
  - \* Make sure to have your Tribal ID card when checking in at the campground

**For more information:**  
Kim Otto McCoy, Planning

**Phone:** 989-775-4014  
**Email:** KMcCoy@sagchip.org





## SOARING EAGLE CASINO & RESORT

# Tribal Membership Rotation Positions

**These positions will be rotated around the following departments:**

► Table Games	► Guest Experience	► F & B
► Bingo	► Inventory Control	► Marketing
► Finance	► Hotel	► Security
► Slots		
► EVS Facilities		

**Open to SCIT Tribal Members:**

- **Applications online at:** www.sagchip.org/careers
- **Must obtain and maintain a gaming license**
- **Must have high school diploma or GED**
- **Wage:** \$14 an hour, full-time
  - Four spots available for this program
  - Learn line level skills in order to be a successful employee
  - Discover which department is the best fit

**For more information, please contact:**  
Human Resources at 989.775.5600

## Office of Tribal Licensing & Regulations Announcement

## Mno Shkiziwin Open Enrollment Period is Aug. 1 - Nov. 1, 2025

- On the website, an informational video, program guide and all forms are available for review.
- You may also pick up a packet with all details at the Black Elk Building in Mount Pleasant.

**For more information, please contact:**

**Office of Tribal Licensing & Regulations**

- **Latasha, licensing specialist:** (989) 775-4175
- **Chris, director:** (989) 775-4105
- **Email:** OTLR@sagchip.org
- **Tribal Member only section of:** www.sagchip.org

## Elder Parking Permits

**Elder Parking Permits are available at the Office of Tribal Licensing and Regulations.** Please visit the office to complete an application and pick up new or replacement permits.

## License Plates

**Any Tribal Member who carries a SCIT License Plate on their vehicle:** Please stop by the office any time there is a change in your personal information since your last renewal, including: name, contact information or physical/ mailing address.






Shepherd Public Schools in association with Project Aware and the Shepherd United Methodist Church present:

# BLUEJAY Bash

**Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2025**  
**5-7 p.m. | Shepherd High School**  
321 S. Fourth St., Shepherd, MI 48883

**ALL AGES WELCOME!**  
School supplies • Free food  
Outdoor games • Community resources  
Face painting • And so much more!

**For more information, please contact:**  
**Teresa Van Alstine:**  
989-775-4509 | TVanAlstine@sagchip.org  
**Dave Gutierrez:**  
989-775-9473 | Dgutierrez@shepherdschools.net



*\*This event is partially sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Association.\**





## Pride Month recognized, events held throughout the month of June

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

As Pride Month wrapped up at the end of June, pride celebrations had been recognized not just throughout the nation, but in the Tribal community as well.

Mount Pleasant Pride Festival was held on June 7 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Broadway Park, located on the Reservation on Nish Na Be Anong Road, off of Broadway Road.

The festival, named Pop Up Pride in the Park, was held in an effort to celebrate, uplift and advocate for the regional 2SLGBTQIA+ community. A two-spirit presentation was held, along with local vendors, community resources and food trucks present.

The event was presented by Great Lakes Bay Pride and the Michigan Two-Spirit & Indigeneer Coalition.

Also during Pride Month, on Wednesday, June 18, members of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council adopted Resolution NO. 25-113, which places emphasis on a commitment to protecting the rights, safety, and wellbeing of all citizens and ensuring that all members of the Tribal community – regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender



Courtesy photo

expression – can live free from fear, exclusion and harm.

According to a media release sent by the SCIT Public Relations Department, “Tribal Council declares and affirms their support of the full equality and dignity of all Tribal persons in the interest of human rights and the principle of non-discrimination for all our members wherever they reside.”

The media release in its entirety states:

“The Anishinaabe culture has a long history of respect and inclusion for those in the community who may now be described as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, third and fourth gender or two spirit (LGBTQ+). All members of the Tribal community are born free and equal in dignity and many LGBTQ+ citizens continue to face disproportionate rates of discrimination, violence, health disparities and social stigma which result in cumulative outcomes that affect every area of life.

“The principles of sovereignty and self-determination dictate that the Tribal Council has full authority over issues that impact health, welfare, preservation of culture and the future for the Tribal community. By supporting two-spirit individuals, it assists in the contribution of the overall well-being, success, and cultural richness of the Tribe. SCIT is committed to promoting the principle of non-discrimination and to support and strengthen individuals, families, communities and the SCIT nation.

“SCIT is also committed to developing and promoting policies, programs, practices, and cultural teachings that uplift and protect the LGBTQ+ community members and ensure they are valued, visible and included. Education, intergenerational dialogue and celebration of diversity of our people are also encouraged as an essential part of healing, cultural strength and sovereignty.”

Statewide, Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and Lt. Gov. Garlin Gilchrist II issued a June 1 proclamation recognizing June as Pride Month in Michigan.



Courtesy of Zaltana Hinmon

**Pop Up Pride in the Park is held at the Broadway Park on the Reservation on June 7.**

“Pride Month is about celebrating identity, uplifting community, and standing in solidarity with LGBTQ+ Michiganders,” said Governor Whitmer in a statement. “We’ve made historic progress together, established the first-ever statewide LGBTQ+ commission, expanded

protections under the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, and banned conversion therapy for minors. But we know there’s more work to do. I will always stand up for LGBTQ+ Michiganders and fight to make Michigan a state where everyone can live with dignity and pride.”



Courtesy of Zaltana Hinmon

**(Left to right) Teri Anglin, Kate Pelcher and Zaltana Hinmon pose for a photo during the Pride Month event.**

### Native Connections, Tribal youth create rain garden at Seventh Generation



Courtesy of Michael McCreery



Courtesy of Michael McCreery

Native Connections worked with Tribal Member Michael McCreery and Tribal youth to complete a rain garden, located north of 7th Generation’s ceremonial building. The mishiiken (turtle) had its finishing touches completed on June 2 by RTC residents.

“The four eagle feathers, with pure white rocks representing our youth and innocence to the black broken mishomis (grandfathers), have been prayed over by our community members in the lodge,” McCreery said.

Youth chose the design of the flower inside the turtle shell and overlay of the mulch colors.

“This rain garden is an environmental sustainability project that gives back to our mother earth by cleansing our rain water so that we can sustain/heal our land,” said Felicia Otto of Native Connections. “I loved watching our youth come together to help break ground and build this turtle/medicine wheel/feather/grandfather teaching design with us adults. The teens make us laugh and are such good energy; they make these projects fun!”

**41<sup>st</sup> Annual  
Saginaw Chippewa Powwow**

**Chi-Miigwetch**  
*(big thank you)*

**TO OUR SPONSORS**







## Freedom Walk

continued from front page

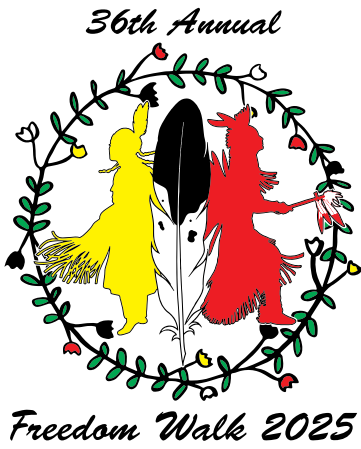
part and assess what we are doing well in each category and come up with ideas on we can improve in each area,” Otto said. “We all have gifts to offer in this world; I encourage you all to find those gifts and then share them with others.”

Anna Winters of Peer 360 Recovery Alliance introduced three people – Ronnie Taylor, Cheyenne Francis and Jeremy Bennett – who shared their journeys in recovery to the packed school gym.

“When a community comes together to celebrate people in recovery, it doesn’t just lift spirits, it saves lives,” Winters said. “When we gather like this, hope is rekindled, stigma is shattered, and the message is clear: No one walks this journey alone.”

Cathy Matthews, Behavioral Health prevention manager and event coordinator, said working in recovery “comes from the heart but not without sweat and tears.”

“A client in Healing to Wellness once asked me, ‘What do you know about addiction?’ I replied, ‘I may not know much but I have compassion and understanding,’” Matthews said. “I was blessed to have my son Garret, and granddaughters, Aria and Shanee, present while accepting an eagle feather as my family give me strength each and every day.”



Matthews said she will cherish this gift and realizes what a high honor it is to receive one. Wassegijig presented Matthews with the spiritual gift and did the beading with help from Ricketts. The feather was provided by McCreery.

Curtis Roberts, certified recovery coach, attending the event to provide information from his organization regarding living a healthy lifestyle.

“Bear River Health is grateful to be a part of an event that realizes the importance of staying connected to the recovery community like the Freedom Walk. What we can’t do alone we can do together,” Roberts said. “It was great to see all the different people supporting freedom from drugs and alcohol...”

Peer 360 staffer Sarina Brown said Freedom Walk is more than just a walk, it’s a public expression of healing, resilience, and unity.

“For the recovery communities, it’s a chance to stand



Observer photos by Joseph Sowmick

The 36th annual Freedom Walk, an event honoring sobriety, is held on July 26.

proudly in our truth, connect with others, and show that recovery is not only possible but thriving. Events like the freedom walk helps break down stigma by bringing recovery out into the open,” Brown said. “When we show up in culturally-meaningful spaces like the powwow... we’re making recovery visible, accessible, and inclusive. The Freedom Walk gives our peers the opportunity to be seen, heard, and supported,

especially in Indigenous and tribal communities where connections is vital.”

Peer 360 supporter Mike Wenzel said this was his first Freedom Walk but hopes to return to volunteer with his children.

“For (my children) to experience the culture and acceptance of outside members is so impactful to them and myself,” Wenzel said. “I’ve never felt such a deep profound connection and acceptance by a group of people.”

## Homecoming

continued from front page

Tribal Council Sgt.-at-Arms Christina Otto shared a message regarding the Language Committee being established by Tribal Council Resolution NO. 08-103.

“This committee was charged to identify and implement ways to produce fluent Anishinaabemowin speakers within the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe. As such, the (Committee) implemented the Anishinaabemowin Language Revitalization Department,”



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Grand entry during annual community meeting

Otto said. “... Using specific guiding principles the (Committee) provides program guidance and works on policies and procedures and staff issues, for the Sasiwaans and Language Outreach Programs.”

Tribal Councilman David Merrill Jr. shared a message regarding the importance of sovereignty and leadership.

“Your involvement helps guide our work, and for those who would like to review the meeting, it is available in the Tribal Members section at [www.sagchip.org](http://www.sagchip.org),” Merrill said. “We encourage you to explore it and reach out to any one of us with questions or comments regarding anything presented. As we shared



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Blue House Singers



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Sub-Chief Luke Sprague

during the meeting, tribal sovereignty comes from the people – it is inherent from time immemorial. This truth continues to guide our leadership as we advocate for your rights and priorities at both the state and national levels.”

Merrill concluded by stating he is thankful for the opportunity to carry the leadership bundle forward: “From our ancestors, to the next generation who will continue to uphold and protect our sovereignty and traditions.”

Public Relations Youth Co-Op Kyla Henry shared an introduction of social media TikTok videos made in cooperation with fellow intern Alicia Raphael on the big screens.

## Chi Miigwech from the 2025 Powwow Committee



Courtesy of Darcy Pilar

Saginaw Chippewa Powwow 2025 workers.

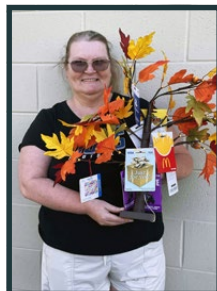
The Saginaw Chippewa Powwow Committee would like to extend a Chi Miigwech to all attendees and supporters for the 41st annual powwow. We couldn’t have done it without our workers, dignitaries, dancers, Rezonance Productions, and each of the drums.

Chi Miigwech to our sponsors: Tribal Council, Soaring Eagle Casino, Wood Stone, RedRum MC, Michigan Sports, Gift of Life, Riverbank, and O&O Advertising.

Chi Miigwech to Tribal Council, Maintenance, Housing Department, Tribal Court, and Migizi Campgrounds for your continuous support.

Congratulations to our raffle winners.

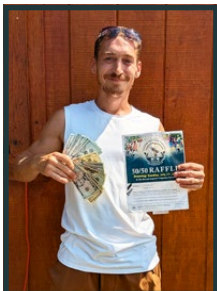
Miigwech from the 2025 Powwow Committee and workers. Until next year. We appreciate all of your support.



Courtesy of Darcy Pilar



Courtesy of Darcy Pilar



Courtesy of Darcy Pilar

The powwow raffle winners are photographed.





## Team SCIT takes first place at 37th annual Michigan Indian Family Olympics

**MATTHEW WRIGHT**

Staff Writer

The 37th annual Michigan Indian Family Olympics saw more than 970 participants from eight federally-recognized tribes and tribal organizations come together for friendly competition.

The Olympic competition kicked off with a golf event on Thursday, July 17 at The Pines Golf Course in Lake Isabella, Mich. Five age groups were able to compete in the two-person scramble tournament.

Track and field events were held the following day on Friday, July 18 at Central Michigan University's Bennett Track and Field.

Team SCIT finished in first place with a total of 634 points.

The Gun Lake Tribe of Pottawatomis Indians finished second with 371 points, followed by the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa at 301 points.



Team points were calculated from individual events, with gold (first place) earning 5 points, silver (second place) earning 3 points and bronze (third place) earning 1 point.

Team SCIT members took home a total of 74 gold, 62 silver and 78 bronze medals.

The opening ceremonies began at 9 a.m. with Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veterans leading participants from all tribes around the track. The drum during grand entry and the flag song was provided by The Blue House Singers.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Veterans and flag carriers lead the Friday, July 18 grand entry to commence the 37th annual Michigan Indian Family Olympics at Central Michigan University's Bennett Track & Field.**

The field portion of competition featured many events including the baby crawl, tot trot, archery, softball throw, long jump, free throw basketball shot, kid's obstacle course and lacrosse speed shot.

Track events included a one-mile run, 400-meter walk, 50-meter and 100-meter runs.

Events were broken into 14 different age groups, with

male and female categories.

The event was a collaboration of many different Tribal departments and businesses.

Event Coordinator Seth Pifer of Nimkee Fitness shared his appreciation for all involved.

"As the coordinator for the Michigan Indian Family Olympics 2025, I just wanted to thank everyone that volunteered for MIFO this year, we could not run this great event without the help of community members and employees that are willing to lend a hand," Pifer said. "Thank you very much for your assistance and thank you to all that came out and participated."

All participants and staff were treated to a healthy lunch provided by Nbakade Family Restaurant.

Competitors were able to track the individual and team event results live during the event, provided by the SCIT IT Department.

The Tribal Fire Department and Nimkee Medical staff members were onhand to provide first aid at the medical tent.

Final results are posted on [www.sagchip.org/mifo/Event](http://www.sagchip.org/mifo/Event). Click "My Scores" to enter participant name or number. Winners may stop by Nimkee Fitness to pick up their medals.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**The tot trot events open up to ages 1-4.**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Competitors take off from the starting line during the one-mile run.**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Blue House Singers and Tribal banner carriers are photographed on the track before the flag song.**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**The MIFO Golf Competition is held Thursday, July 17, at The Pines Golf Course in Lake Isabella, Mich.**

## 2025 Team Results

### First Place:

**Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe 634 points**

**2nd: Gun Lake Tribe of Pottawatomis Indians 371 points**

**3rd: Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians 301 points**

**4th: Nottawaseppi Huron Band Potawatomi 288 points**

**5th: Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians 95 points**

**6th: Pokagon Band of Potawatomi 95 points**

**7th: Grand River 54 points**

**8th: Little River Band of Ottawa Indians 18 points**

**9th: Other 14 points**

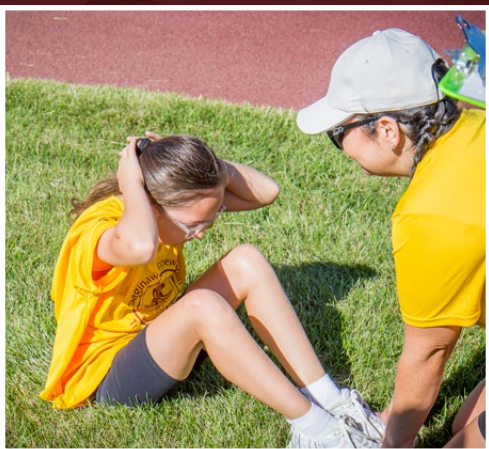
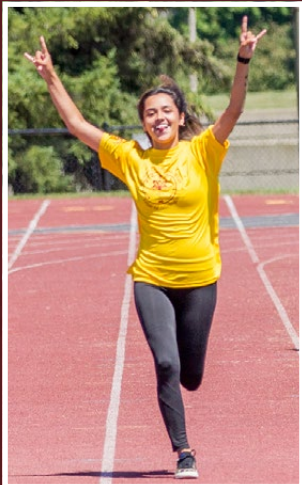
**10th: American Indian Health and Family Services 6 points**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Participants, led by veterans and flag carriers, complete the walk of the opening ceremonies.**









## 2025 Michigan Indian Family Olympics SCIT results

### 10-Meter Tot Trot

#### Female

- **1-2, Female:** Naganashe-Jackson, Alizah (Gold), Naganashe-Jackson, Aubrie (Silver)

### 20-Meter Tot Trot

- **3-4, Female:** F, Olivia (Gold)

### Baby Crawl

- **Male:** Acuna, Ngwes (Silver), Lewis, Mnowaadizi (Bronze)

### Pre/Post Natal Walk

- **Female:** Lada, Anastasia (Gold)

### Bean Bag Toss

#### Male

- **41-54:** Chamberlain, Markus (Gold)
- **55-64:** Henry, John (\*Gold)
- **65+: Sprague, Kenneth** (Gold), Jackson, Alvin (\*Bronze)

#### Female

- **41-54:** Pego, Ndaunis (\*Silver), Jackson, Sheligh (\*Bronze), Westcott, Amy (\*Bronze), Haught, Jacqueline (\*Bronze)
- **55-64:** Henry, Barb (\*Bronze)

### 50-Meter Run

#### Male

- **5-6:** Quigno-Ready, Niigaanii (Gold), Schocko, Ace (Bronze)
- **55-64:** Leksche, William (Bronze)
- **65+: Flory, Merton** (Bronze)

#### Female

- **5-6:** Ramirez, Avalina (Bronze)
- **7-9:** Haught, Amaris (Bronze)
- **10-12:** Quigno-Ready, Kyle (Gold), VanderMoore, Aderyan (Bronze)
- **55-64:** Bruner, Louanna (Silver)

### 100-Meter Run

#### Male

- **16-18:** Floroy, Mataeo (Gold)
- **19-24:** Flory, Kentae (Silver)
- **25-32:** Ready, Kyle (Bronze)
- **41-54:** McCreery, Michael (Silver), Chamberlain, Markus (Bronze)

#### Female

- **13-15:** Saboo, Isabella (Gold), Hernandez, Taleah (Bronze)
- **19-24:** Gonzalez, Mattea (Silver)
- **33-40:** Ekdahl, Rosemary (Gold)
- **41-54:** Otto, Christina (Gold), Haught, Jacqueline (Silver), Nedwash, Nicole (Bronze)

### 400-Meter Walk

#### Male

- **55-64:** Leksche, William (Bronze)
- **65+: Flory, Merton** (Bronze)

#### Female

- **55-64:** Bruner, Louanna (Silver)

### 400-Meter Run

#### Male

- **13-15:** Raphael, Aiden (Bronze)
- **16-18:** Cummings, Jack (Gold), Robinson, James (Bronze)
- **25-32:** Quino, Milan (Silver)
- **41-54:** Chamberlain, Markus (Gold)
- **55-64:** Leksche, William (Gold)
- **65+: Flory, Merton** (Bronze)

#### Female

- **13-15:** Saboo, Isabella (Gold)
- **19-24:** Hendrickson, Binayshee (Gold)
- **25-32:** Ricketts, Kallena (Silver)
- **33-40:** Ekdahl, Rosemary (Bronze)
- **41-54:** Otto, Christina (Silver)
- **55-64:** Bruner, Louanna (Gold)

### One-Mile Run

#### Male

- **5-6:** Quigno-Ready, Niigaanii (Gold)
- **7-9:** Saboo, Thomas (Gold), Janke, Gavin (Bronze)
- **10-12:** Quigno-Ready, Kyle (Gold)
- **13-15:** Haught, Ezekiel (Gold)
- **16-18:** Robinson, James (Silver)
- **25-32:** Hippensteel, Logan (Silver)
- **41-54:** Chamberlain, Markus (Gold)
- **55-64:** Leksche, William (Gold)
- **65+: Flory, Merton** (Bronze)

#### Female

- **5-6, :** Ekdhal, Autumn (Silver), Ekdhal, Alvia (Bronze)
- **7-9:** Haught, Amaris (Gold), Kingbird, Kyla (Silver)
- **10-12:** Quigno-Ready, Kyle (Gold), Cummings, Abby (Silver)
- **13-15:** Saboo, Leela (Silver)
- **19-24:** Gonzalez, Mattea (Silver)
- **41-54:** Kahgegab, Courtney (Gold)
- **55-64:** Bruner, Louanna (Gold)

### Lacrosse Speed Shot

#### Male

- **7-9:** Ekdahl, Ronnie (Gold), Allen, Braylon (Bronze)
- **10-12:** Haught, Isaiah (Silver)
- **13-15:** Cummings, Luke (Silver)
- **16-18:** Cummings, Jack (Gold), Cummings, Sam (Silver)
- **19-24:** Slater, Jackson (Silver)
- **25-32:** Slater, Jackson (Gold)
- **33-40:** Ekdahl, Ronald (Gold)
- **55-64:** Leksche, William (Silver)

#### Female

- **7-9:** Ekdahl, Lana (Gold), Saboo, Maleiya (\*Bronze)
- **10-12:** Owl, Kaya (Silver), Saboo, Mia (Bronze)
- **19-24:** Raphael, Andee (Silver)
- **25-32:** Garcia, Kapla (Silver), Reinsberg, Aleigha (Bronze)
- **33-40:** Ekdahl, Rosemary (Gold)
- **41-54:** Jackson, Sheligh (Silver)

### Fitness Circuit

#### Male

- **5-6:** Quigno-Ready, Niigaanii (Gold), Schocko, Ace (Bronze)
- **10-12:** Haught, Jeremiah (Gold)
- **13-15:** Haught, Ezekiel (Silver)

#### Female

- **5-6:** Ekdhal, Autumn (Gold), Ekdhal , Alvia (Bronze)
- **7-9:** Haught, Amaris (Gold)
- **10-12:** Cummings, Abby (Bronze)
- **13-15:** Quigno, Tru (Gold)

### Basketball Shot

#### Male

- **10-12:** Quigno-Ready, Kyle (\*Silver), Quigno, Elijah (\*Silver), Haught, Isaiah (Bronze)
- **13-15:** Ramirez, Andreas (Silver),

- Haught, Ezekiel (\*Bronze), Flory, Sean (\*Bronze)

- **16-18:** Cummings, Jack (Gold), Flory, Jimi-James (Bronze)
- **19-24:** Slater, Jackson (\*Gold), Flory, Julian (\*Gold), Jackson-Pelcher, Walker (Silver), Hendrickson, James (\*Bronze), Otto, Elijah (\*Bronze)
- **25-32:** Shomin, Joseph (\*Silver), Brown, Eli (\*Silver)
- **33-40:** Haught, Brandon (\*Gold), Ekdahl, Ronald (\*Gold), Sprague, Niibin (\*Gold)
- **41-54:** Chamberlain, Markus (Gold)
- **55-64:** Henry, John (\*Gold), Leksche, William (\*Gold), Judson, Ronald (\*Bronze), Ojeda-Vasquez, Mark (\*Bronze)
- **65+: Sowmick, Joseph** (Gold), Pego, Steven (Silver)

#### Female

- **10-12:** Wemigwans, Faye (Gold), Davis, Kingsley (\*Bronze)
- **13-15:** Saboo, Isabella (Gold), Hernandez, Taleah (Bronze)
- **19-24:** Lada, Anastasia (Gold), Raphael, Andee (\*Silver), Henry, Jodie (\*Bronze)
- **25-32:** Reinsberg, Aleigha (\*Bronze)
- **33-40:** Ekdahl, Rosemary (Gold), Stevens, Ambrosia (\*Bronze)
- **41-54:** Pollard, Melissa (\*Bronze), Pego, Ndaunis (\*Bronze)
- **55-64:** Flory, Evelyn (\*Gold), Henry, Barb (\*Gold), Bruner, Louanna (\*Silver)

### Archery

#### Male

- **16-18:** Cummings, Sam (Silver), Cummings, Jack (\*Bronze), Flory, Jimi-James (\*Bronze)
- **25-32:** Rueckert Jr., Gary (Bronze)
- **33-40:** Sprague, Luke (Gold), Bennett, Jeremy (Bronze)
- **41-54:** Bennett, Jeremy (\*Bronze)
- **55-64:** Leksche, William (Silver)
- **65+: Jackson, Alvin** (Silver)

#### Female

- **16-18:** Rose, Kaya (Bronze)
- **33-40:** Denhof, Leah (Bronze)
- **41-54:** Jackson, Sheligh (Gold)

### Long Jump

#### Male

- **5-6:** Schocko, Ace (Gold)
- **7-9:** Saboo, Thomas (Silver), Schocko Jr., Duke (Bronze)
- **10-12:** Sprague, Gage (Bronze)
- **16-18:** Floroy, Mataeo (Silver), Flory, Jimi-James (Bronze)
- **19-24:** Otto, Elijah (Gold), Slater, Jackson (Silver)
- **33-40:** Ekdahl, Ronald (Silver)
- **41-54:** Chamberlain, Markus (Gold)

#### Female

- **7-9:** Haught, Amaris (Silver)
- **10-12:** Cummings, Abby (Gold), Tree-Ruffino, Avianna (Silver), Roth, Lily (Bronze)
- **13-15:** Hernandez, Taleah (Gold), Saboo, Leela (Bronze)

- **19-24:** Hendrickson, Binayshee (Gold)
- **25-32:** Ramirez, Alicia (Bronze)
- **33-40:** Ekdahl, Rosemary (Silver), Gonzalez, Monica (Bronze)
- **41-54:** Otto, Christina (Silver)

### Softball Throws

#### Male

- **1-4:** Quigno-Ready, Ahki (Gold)
- **5-6:** Schocko, Ace (Gold), Flory, Oliver (Bronze)
- **7-9:** Schocko Jr., Duke (\*Bronze)
- **10-12:** Quigno-Ready, Kyle (Gold), Haught, Isaiah (Silver)
- **13-15:** Raphael, Aiden (Gold)
- **16-18:** Cummings, Sam (Gold), Cummings, Jack (Bronze)
- **19-24:** Flory, Julian (Gold), Opdycke, Bryce (Bronze)
- **25-32:** Shomin, Joseph (Silver), Neyome, Kobun (Bronze)
- **41-54:** Chamberlain, Markus (Gold)
- **55-64:** Judson, Ronald (Silver)

#### Female

- **1-4:** Opdycke, Izabelle (Silver)
- **10-12:** Owl, Kaya (Gold)
- **13-15:** Saboo, Leela (Gold), Saboo, Isabella (Bronze)
- **16-18:** Rose, Kaya (Bronze)
- **19-24:** Raphael, Andee (Gold), Benzing, Izabella (Silver), Hendrickson, Binayshee (Bronze)
- **25-32:** Reinsberg, Aleigha (Silver)
- **33-40:** Ekdahl, Rosemary (Gold)
- **41-54:** Otto, Christina (Silver), Otto, Felicia (Bronze)
- **55-64:** Flory, Evelyn (Bronze)

### Obstacle Course

#### Male

- **5-6:** Schocko, Ace (Gold), Jackson, Silas (Silver), Rueckert, Niigaanii (Bronze)
- **7-9:** Saboo, Thomas (Gold), Allen, Braylon (Bronze)
- **10-12:** Haught, Jeremiah (Gold), Janke, Anthony (Bronze)

#### Female

- **5-6:** Ramirez, Avalina (Bronze)
- **7-9:** Haught, Amaris (Gold), Ekdahl, Lana (Bronze)
- **10-12:** Rueckert, Aubree(Bronze)

### Golf

- **Men's:** Erik Rodriguez & Chase Owl (Gold), Noah Sawmick & Quincy Jackson (\*Silver), Shad Traver & Phil Peters (\*Silver), Daniel Saboo & Paul Cummings (Bronze)
- **Coed:** Luke Sprague & Kristy Navarro (Silver), Brad Bennett & Maia Montoya-Pego (Bronze)
- **Women's:** Gayle Ruhl & Paula Quigno (Gold), Rosemary Ekdahl & Jacqueline Haught (Silver), Sheila Sprague & Stephanie Peters (Bronze)
- **Seniors':** Bernard Sprague & Steve Zaleski (Gold)
- **Youth:** Jacoby Trepanier & Aiden Raphael (Gold), Evelyn Bennett/Zek Haught (Silver)

*\*Denotes a tied medal*

To view full results for every Tribe, please visit:  
<https://www.sagchip.org/mifo/Event>



# ENTERTAINMENT



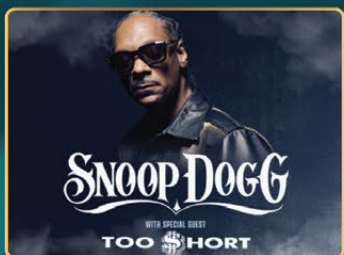
**Brooks & Dunn**  
With Special Guest  
**Bayker Blankenship**

Friday, August 8  
8PM  
Outdoor Concert  
Tickets: \$44, \$130, \$151, \$173



**Rascal Flatts**  
With Special Guest **Lauren Alaina**

Saturday, August 30  
8PM  
Outdoor Concert  
Tickets: \$46, \$136, \$160, \$180



**Snoop Dogg**  
With Special Guest **Too \$hort**

Sunday, August 10  
7PM  
Outdoor Concert  
Tickets: \$62, \$152, \$186, \$217



**Five Finger Death Punch**  
With Special Guests  
**Drowning Pool & Saliva**

Monday, September 1  
7PM  
Outdoor Concert  
Tickets: \$36, \$84, \$102, \$117



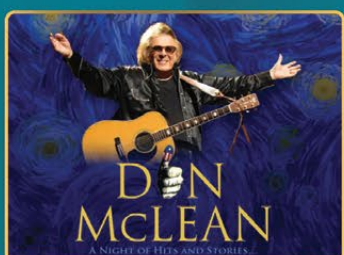
**Creed**  
With Special Guests  
**Mammoth WVH & Hinder**

Saturday, August 23  
7PM  
Outdoor Concert  
Tickets: \$56, \$146, \$180, \$211



**Tim McGraw**  
With Special Guest **Travis Tritt**

Friday, September 26  
8PM  
Outdoor Concert  
Tickets: \$58, \$148, \$182, \$213



**Don McLean**  
**A Night of Hits and Stories**

Monday, August 25  
4PM  
Entertainment Hall  
Tickets: \$28, \$38, \$48, \$55



**Brian McKnight & Ginuwine**

Saturday, October 4  
8PM  
Entertainment Hall  
Tickets: \$45, \$55, \$71, \$78

Visit [SoaringEagleCasino.com](http://SoaringEagleCasino.com) for our 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 their Member ID at the Box Office upon purchase.

**35**

# Back to School

**BINGO BASH**

Win a laptop, 65-inch TV, AirPods®, Free Bingo Play and more!

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 23**  
**MAIN SESSION AT 3PM**

Visit the bingo hall for complete details.

**RAFFLE PRIZES INCLUDE SPA PACKAGES, FREE SLOT PLAY, OVERNIGHT STAYS AND MORE!**

# \$320,000

**HIGH-STAKES BINGO BASH**

**Saturday, September 20**  
**12PM Start Time**

**TICKET INCLUDES:**

- Electronic bingo unit
  - 12 Warm-Up Cards Begins at 12PM
    - Specials pay \$5,000
    - Coverall pays \$5,000
  - 36 Early Bird Cards Begins at 1:30PM
    - Specials pay \$10,000
    - Coverall pays \$30,000
- 50 regular, 25 specials and six triangle cards for the main session Begins at 3PM
  - Specials pay \$25,000
  - Coverall pays \$100,000
- Free meal served during session
- Entry into a 90-prize raffle
- \$99 room rate for Friday or Saturday



The 41st annual Saginaw Chippewa Powwow Naakdoon Anishinaabe-aadziwin held July 25-27

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**  
Editor

It was another successful weekend for the 41st annual Saginaw Chippewa Powwow. The big weekend was finally here on July 25-27, and Naakdoon Anishinaabe-aadziwin (Following the Anishinaabe Way of Life) was the theme.

The powwow was held at The Hill Campground 7525 E. Tomah Rd. in Mount Pleasant.

The first grand entry kicked off at 7 p.m. that Friday.

There was a slight rain delay Saturday afternoon as grand entry moved to 2 p.m., but the weather was beautiful (and humid) throughout the weekend. The last grand entry was held that Sunday at noon.

This year's dignitaries included: Head Veteran Ray Cadotte, master of ceremonies Paul Raphael and Brian Moore, and arena directors Joe Syrette and Wayne Silas.

The Boyz served as host drum, Harvey Dreaver was the head judge for drums, and a change to the schedule included Michelle Reed and Gabe Cleveland as head dance judges.

Friday evening's grand entry kicked off with an overcast sky and a great amount of dancers entering the arena.

"One thing about coming into this community is they always



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**The 41st annual Saginaw Chippewa Powwow is underway Friday evening, July 25, as Head Veteran Ray Cadotte (right) and flag carriers begin the grand entry shortly after 7 p.m.**

do their best to make you feel welcome, and take care of each and every one of you," the emcee said just prior to Friday's grand entry.

Friday's head dancers were Mike King and Grace Hill.

Prior to the intertribal dances, fun, random competitions were held to win gift cards: The first one to find the arena director, someone with a hole in their moccasin and someone with a brown tattoo, for example.

Saturday's head dancers were Beedoskuh Stonefish and Walker Stonefish, and Josiah Tsatoke and Sharon Eagleman.

Female head dancer Sharon Eagleman is of the Fort Peck Assiniboiné Sioux Tribe of

Montana on her father's side and the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians on her mother's side.

"My family and I... we enjoy this powwow and we always made a point to come back because we live in Kansas," Eagleman said. "When we came back, it was always like a little family reunion for my family on my mother's side. And being head lady, it makes me think of my mother, and all of the women on her side of the family, my grandmother, and all of the things that they've taught us... how to carry ourselves and how to treat people."

Sunday's head dancers were Tyler and Nahmi Lasley.

Dance specials throughout the weekend included: random mystery spot dances (prize of gift cards in miscellaneous amounts), jingle side step, woodland men's, three generation team dance, women's fancy, two-step, luck-of-the-draw, tiny tots and more.

The Jackson Family hosted a special – a sweetheart special paying top five and five consolation places.

Additional competitions included: hand drum and fry bread contests.

The sound system was provided by Rezonance Productions.

*Public Relations Manager Joseph Sowmick contributed to this article.*



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Friday's head dancers Grace Hill (left) and Mike King**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Saturday's head female dancer Sharon Eagleman**



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck





Observer photos by Natalie Shattuck







## Def Leppard, Collective Soul make return to Soaring Eagle for outdoor show

**MATTHEW WRIGHT**

Staff Writer

The Soaring Casino & Resort welcomed Def Leppard and Collective Soul for a rock-filled night on Friday, July 18. Part of the Summer Outdoor Concert Series, the concert marked the 47th anniversary of Def Leppard's first show, which was held in Sheffield, UK in 1978.

Headlining the night was Rock & Roll Hall of Fame® inductees Def Leppard. The English rock band is known for their polished pop-rock choruses and catchy guitar licks. The group has sold more than 110 million albums worldwide during their four decade-long career.

After emerging onstage, the members of Def Leppard immediately raised the energy with the hit songs "Rock! Rock! (Till You Drop)," "Rocket" and "Let's Get Rocked."

Next up was "Foolin'", the third single from their breakthrough 1983 album "Pyromania," followed by "Armageddon It," "Animal" and "Love Bites."

Def Leppard covered all of their greatest hits that night.

This included performances of "This Guitar," "Two Steps Behind," "Let It Go," "Bringin' On the Heartbreak," "Rock of Ages" and "Photograph."

Saving the best for last, the band played a two-piece encore of fan favorites "Hysteria" and "Pour Some Sugar on Me."

Opening for Def Leppard was American rock band Collective Soul. Formed in 1992, the band's accolades include seven songs peaking at No. 1 on Billboards U.S. Mainstream Rock Chart.

Collective Soul began with "Mother's Love." The opening track to their 2024 album "Here to Eternity."

The band then transitioned to their smash hit singles "Heavy," "Shine" and "She Said."

The hits continues with "Keep It on Track," "The World I Know" and "December."



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Members of Def Leppard come together on the Soaring Eagle outdoor concert stage on July 18.

To close out the night, Collective Soul performed "Gel" and "Where the River Flows."

For more information on the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort website at [www.soaringeaglecasino.com](http://www.soaringeaglecasino.com).



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Collective Soul performs their smash hit song "Shine."



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

### Aug. 23 & 24, 2025

### Seventh Generation Powwow Grounds

7957 E. Remus Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

### Grand Entries

**Saturday, Aug. 23: 1 & 7 p.m.**

- Dinner served at 5 p.m. for participants

**Sunday, Aug. 24: 1 p.m.**

Open to the public • Free admission

### Dignitaries

- **Emcee:** Jason Whitehouse
- **Arena Director:** RJ Smith
- **Host Drum:** Warpaint
- **Co-Host Drum:** River Wild
- **Invited Drums:** Mountain Town & Eagle Flight
- **Head Dancers:** Chosen each session



Saginaw Chippewa  
Indian Tribe



SAGINAW CHIPPEWA  
TRIBAL COLLEGE



Saginaw Chippewa Indian  
Tribe of Michigan



Seventh Generation  
Ejoo Elk Cultural Center

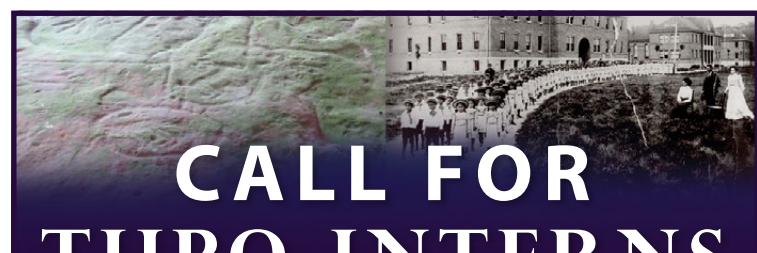


USDA



Working Together To  
Protect Our Environment

**For more information, please contact:**  
Tonya Jackson at 989-775-4780 or [TJackson@sagchip.org](mailto:TJackson@sagchip.org)



## CALL FOR THPO INTERNS

Tribal Historic Preservation Office

Earlier this year, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) with the assistance of the Ziibiwing Center and the Office of Grants and Contracts, applied for a National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers grant to hire two interns to assist the THPO with historic preservation.

Historic preservation can be achieved in many ways including preserving the buildings at the Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School, protecting cultural landscapes and sacred sites such as the Sanilac Petroglyphs, and by consulting with Federal agencies for undertakings on our Tribal and ancestral lands when Federal funds are used. This work would also involve supporting the Michigan Anishinaabek Cultural Preservation and Repatriation Alliance and Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

These intern positions are for a total of 20 hours a week, for 12 weeks, compensated at \$15 an hour, and paid by Service Agreement.

**If interested, please email:**  
[mLhadden@sagchip.org](mailto:mLhadden@sagchip.org)




- Please include a resume and explain your interest.

**Deadline: Friday, Aug. 15, 2025**

- This first-call is for two interns for September, October & November 2025.
- Future interns will be needed for December 2025, January & February and March, April & May 2026.

**Applications available online at:**  
[www.sagchip.org/careers](http://www.sagchip.org/careers)

**SCAN HERE TO VIEW  
OPEN POSITIONS!**

**For more information, please contact:**  
**Marcella Hadden**, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
**Email:** [MLHadden@sagchip.org](mailto:MLHadden@sagchip.org) | **Phone:** 989.775.4751





American rock band Chicago returns to Soaring Eagle’s Entertainment Hall

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**  
Editor

The funky grooves of the ultimate showmanship band, Chicago, returned to the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Wednesday, June 25, inside the Entertainment Hall.

The members of Chicago walked on stage and the perfected horns section was soon blasting and a groove was set as they launched right into “Introduction,” “(I’ve Been) Searchin’ So Long,” “Mongonucleosis,” “If You Leave Me Now” and “Ballet For a Girl in Buchannon.”



Observer photos by Natalie Shattuck

**Chicago band members James Pankow (left), trombone player, and Ray Herrmann (right), saxophone player, perform during the Wednesday, June 25 Soaring Eagle concert.**



Observer photos by Natalie Shattuck

**Chicago guitarist Tony Obrohta delivers an impressive solo.**

One of the longest-running and best-selling music groups of all time, Chicago formed in the city they were named after, in 1967.

The current 11 members include: Lee Loughnane (trumpet/flugelhorn/songwriter), James Pankow (trombone/horn

arranger/composer), Robert Lamm (keyboard/vocals/composer), Ray Herrmann (saxophones/flute/clarinet), Walfredo Reyes Jr. (drums), Neil Donell (vocals/guitar), Ramon “Ray” Yslas (percussion), Tony Obrohta (guitar/vocals), Loren Golden (keyboard, vocals), Eric

Baines (bass, vocals) and Carlos Murguía (keyboard/vocals).

Chicago performed an energetic 90-minute set.

The talented musicians continued shining during their performances of “Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?”, “Hard Habit to Break,” “You’re

the Inspiration,” “Beginnings,” the Jackie Wilson cover “(Your Love Keeps Lifting Me) Higher and Higher,” “I’m a Man” and “Percussion Duel.”

According to the band’s website, Chicago has recorded 38 albums, sold over 100 million records.

The music continued with “Just You ‘n’ Me,” and a mash up of “Hard to Say I’m Sorry” and “Get Away.” Followed by “Saturday in the Park” and “Feelin’ Stronger Every Day.”

The audience was on their feet for the encore, which included “Free” and “25 or 6 to 4.”

Bare Knuckle Ice Wars held June 14 at Soaring Eagle

**MATTHEW WRIGHT**  
Staff Writer

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort welcomed the combined spectacle of combat sports and ice hockey during the June 14 Bare Knuckle Ice Wars event.

Titled the “Battle of the Border: USA vs. Canada,” the

event saw ice warriors from both countries compete inside the Entertainment Hall.

The competition featured 12 intense bouts saw 24 fighters duking it out on the arena’s central sheet of ice. Each fight consisted of three-to-five rounds lasting 90 seconds.

Known as the “ice box,”

the arena is a 900-square-foot ice enclosure, which is specially designed for this style of fighting.

The inaugural event is operated by Bare Knuckle Fighting Championship (BKFC).

For more information on Ice Wars, please visit [www.BKFCIW.com](http://www.BKFCIW.com)



Observer photo by Matthew Wright



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Fighters took to the ice arena to fight for their country during the Bare Knuckle Ice Wars “Battle of the Border: USA vs. Canada,” at Soaring Eagle on June 14.**

Country music singer Lee Greenwood performs matinee show



Observer photos by Natalie Shattuck

American country music singer Lee Greenwood (right) poses for a backstage photo with Tribal Elder Joseph Sowmick. The photo was taken prior to Greenwood’s 4 p.m. matinee show on Monday, June 23, in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort’s Entertainment Hall.

Greenwood, 82, is a Grammy Award winner and has charted 22 singles on the Hot Country Songs chart.

Greenwood is best known for his song, “God Bless the U.S.A.,” a patriotic anthem.

He performed a 90-minute show.

# Auto Loans That Take the Summer Off

Learn More at [ICCUonline.com](http://ICCUonline.com)

**ICCU** Isabella Community Credit Union  
[ICCUonline.com](http://ICCUonline.com) • 989-773-5927

## 🐾 Adopt a Pet 🐾

**Granny**

Granny is a senior Beagle mix. She has stolen the hearts of the HATS staff. When she first arrived, she could hardly stand, and through it all, she remained gentle, loving, and full of grace. She walks well on a leash and enjoys the simple pleasures in life – a soft bed, kind words, and a peaceful stroll. She’s looking for a quiet, loving home where she can spend her golden years in comfort.

**Rosemary**

Rosemary is a young female Tabby (brown/chocolate) and Domestic Shorthair. Rosemary is medium in size. She is up-to-date on vaccinations, spayed, and ready to find her loving, forever home. HATS staff believe she would be good in a home with another feline companion and with children.

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



# Saginaw Chippewa Water Utility 2024 Consumer Confidence Report

## Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

## Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

## Where does my water come from?

Groundwater is pumped from four deep wells located on the Reservation. This water is then softened and disinfected at the treatment plant, then pumped to the water towers and distribution system. The tribe does not incorporate fluoride into its treatment process.

## Source water assessment and its availability

To protect source water, it's important to limit pollution from various sources. Dispose of hazardous waste properly: This includes used motor oil, paints, pesticides, and other chemicals. Do not pour them down drains or on the ground. Limit fertilizer and pesticide use: Use only what you need and follow label instructions. Check for leaks in water distribution pipes: Repair any leaks to prevent water waste. Use collected rainwater for gardening or washing: This can supplement your water supply and reduce consumption. Don't use the toilet as a wastebasket: Dispose of items like tissues, dead insects, and other non-flushable waste in a trash can instead. Avoid using wipes: They can clog pipes and end up in the environment. Source water assessment reports are available to the public. Contact the waterplant at 989-775-5141 for more information.

## Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). As water travels over the surface of the land it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, contaminates, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of agricultural runoff or from human activity: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## How can I get involved?

Nobody knows your community better than you do. We encourage you to take an active role in protecting the water resources in your community. The water quality standards for your community are designed to protect all waters for recreational use, wildlife, as well as growth and a balanced population of aquatic life. For any questions or concerns contact the waterplant at 989-775-5141. 7377 E. Tomah Rd. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

## Description of Water Treatment Process

Your water is treated by filtration and disinfection. Filtration removes particles suspended in the source water. Particles typically include clays and silts, natural organic matter, iron and manganese, and microorganisms. The water is also treated by disinfection. Disinfection involves the addition of chlorine or other disinfectants to kill bacteria and other microorganisms (viruses, cysts, etc.) that may be in the water. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the 20th century. Corrosion Control methods are implemented with the addition of Phosphate. Phosphate coats the interiors of pipes and prevents leaching of lead and copper from household plumbing and service line connections.

## Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference - try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Short showers: a five minute shower uses four-to-five gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for more information.

## Monitoring and reporting of compliance data violations

Our water system violated drinking water requirements in July 2024. Even though this was not an emergency, as our customer you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct the situation. During the month of July 2024 only six of the required 10 routine distribution samples were taken for total coliform and chlorine residual testing. There in nothing you need to do at this time. Future sampling will be done in advance of deadline dates to ensure that sampling results are available to be submitted to the EPA on time.

## Additional Information for Lead

The system inventory does not include lead service lines. In 2024 a CDMSI materials inventory was done. Using construction blueprints and visual inspections we found no lead service lines in the system.

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. SAGINAW CHIPPEWA UTILITY is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact SAGINAW CHIPPEWA UTILITY (Public Watersystem Id: MI0003437) by calling 989-775-5141 or emailing [mabell@sagchip.org](mailto:mabell@sagchip.org). Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>. Non-Lead Statement.

**Every service line owned by the Saginaw Chippewa Water Utility water system has been classified as non-lead. The methods used to make this determination:**

1. Construction records and plumbing codes, such as local ordinances, international/national model plumbing codes, permits for replacing lead service lines.
2. Water system records, such as capital improvement plans, standard operating procedures, engineering standards
3. Distribution system inspections and records, such as distribution system maps, tap cards, service line repair/replacement records, inspection records, meter installation records
4. Construction of the system is documented after a lead installation ban was in place
5. Visual Inspections at one or more locations, achieved by the following methods:
  - a. Potholing, or visual inspections at the meter pit
  - b. Inspection during meter repair, line replacement, or main repair
  - c. Customer identification

**Lead service line inventory reports can be accessed by the public.**

Please call 989-775-5141, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. for more information.

## For more information, please contact:

### SAGINAW CHIPPEWA WATERPLANT

**Address:** 7377 E. Tomah Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

**Phone:** 989-775-5141



Unit Descriptions	
Term	Description
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
mg/L	mg/L: Number of milligrams of substance in one liter of water
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
Unit Descriptions	
Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Description
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level
90th Percentile	Compliance with the lead and copper action levels is based on the 90th percentile lead and copper levels. This means that the concentration of lead and copper must be less than or equal to the action level in at least 90% of the samples collected.

## Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source	
				Low	High				
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products (There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)									
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	32	20	32	2024	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Inorganic Contaminants									
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0054	NA	NA	2024	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits	
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Range		# Samples Exceeding AL	Sample Date	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
				Low	High				
Inorganic Contaminants									
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.029	NA	0.029	1	2024	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits



# Saginaw Chippewa Water Utility 2024 Consumer Confidence Report

Undetected Contaminants					
The following contaminants were monitored for, but not detected, in your water.					
Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Violation	Typical Source
1,1,1-Trichloroethane (ppb)	200	200	ND	No	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
1,1,2-Trichloroethane (ppb)	3	5	ND	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene (ppb)	70	70	ND	No	Discharge from textile-finishing factories
1,2-Dichloroethane (ppb)	0	5	ND	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
1,2-Dichloropropane (ppb)	0	5	ND	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
4,8-dioxa-3H-per-fluorononanoic acid (ADONA) (ppb)	NA		ND	No	
Antimony (ppb)	6	6	ND	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder; test addition.
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	ND	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Benzene (ppb)	0	5	ND	No	Discharge from factories; Leaching from gas storage tanks and landfills
Beryllium (ppb)	4	4	ND	No	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; Discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
Cadmium (ppb)	5	5	ND	No	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Carbon Tetrachloride (ppb)	0	5	ND	No	Discharge from chemical plants and other industrial activities
Chlorobenzene (monochlorobenzene) (ppb)	100	100	ND	No	Discharge from chemical and agricultural chemical factories
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	ND	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper - source water (ppm)	NA		ND	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide (ppb)	200	200	ND	No	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories
Ethylbenzene (ppb)	700	700	ND	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	ND	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Lead - source water (ppm)	0		ND	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Mercury [Inorganic] (ppb)	2	2	ND	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland
N-ethyl perfluorooctane-sulfonamidoacetic acid (NEtFOSAA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
N-methyl perfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid (NMeFOSAA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	ND	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	ND	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Styrene (ppb)	100	100	ND	No	Discharge from rubber and plastic factories; Leaching from landfills
Thallium (ppb)	.5	2	ND	No	Discharge from electronics, glass, and Leaching from ore-processing sites; drug factories
Toluene (ppm)	1	1	ND	No	Discharge from petroleum factories
Vinyl Chloride (ppb)	0	2	ND	No	Leaching from PVC piping; Discharge from plastics factories
Xylenes (ppm)	10	10	ND	No	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories
hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO DA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
nonafluoro-3,6-dioxaheptanoic acid (NFDHA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluoro(2-ethoxyethane) sulfonic acid (PFEESA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluoro-3-methoxypropanoic acid (PFMPA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluoro-4-methoxybutanoic acid (PFMBA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluorodecanoic acid (PFDA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	

Undetected Contaminants					
The following contaminants were monitored for, but not detected, in your water.					
Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Violation	Typical Source
perfluorododecanoic acid (PFDoA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluoroheptanesulfonic acid (PFHpS) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluoropentanesulfonic acid (PFPeS) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluorotetradecanoic acid (PFTA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluorotridecanoic acid (PFTrDA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	
perfluoroundecanoic acid (PFUnA) (mg/L)	NA		ND	No	

Additional Monitoring			
As part of an on-going evaluation program the EPA has required us to monitor some additional contaminants/chemicals. Information collected through the monitoring of these contaminants/chemicals will help to ensure that future decisions on drinking water standards are based on sound science.			
Name	Reported Level	Range	
		Low	High
4,8-dioxa-3H-perfluorononanoic acid (ADONA) (ppb)	NA	NA	
N-ethyl perfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid (NEtFOSAA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	
N-methyl perfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid (NMeFOSAA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	
hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO DA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	
lithium (mg/L)	0.00929	0.00929	
nonafluoro-3,6-dioxaheptanoic acid (NFDHA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	
perfluoro(2-ethoxyethane)sulfonic acid (PFEESA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	
perfluoro-3-methoxypropanoic acid (PFMPA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	
perfluoro-4-methoxybutanoic acid (PFMBA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	
perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS) (mg/L)	NA	NA	
perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	
perfluorodecanoic acid (PFDA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	
perfluorododecanoic acid (PFDoA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	
perfluoroheptanesulfonic acid (PFHpS) (mg/L)	NA	NA	
perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	
perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS) (mg/L)	NA	NA	
perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	
perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) (mg/L)	NA	NA	
perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	
perfluoropentanesulfonic acid (PFPeS) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluorotetradecanoic acid (PFTA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluorotridecanoic acid (PFTrDA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA
perfluoroundecanoic acid (PFUnA) (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA

Special Notice for Availability of Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Data

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

**Availability of Monitoring Data for Unregulated Contaminants for The Saginaw Chippewa Water Utility:** Our water system has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by the EPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help the EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. As our customers, you have a right to know that these data are available. If you are interested in examining the results, please contact: Mark Bellat at 989-775-5141 or 7377 E. Tomah Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. This notice is being sent to you by The Saginaw Chippewa Water Utility. State Water System ID#: 5293201. Date: 6/22/2025

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Monitoring/Reporting Requirements Not Met for Saginaw Chippewa Tribe's Mt. Pleasant Community Water System

Our water system violated drinking water requirements in June 2024. Even though this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation. "We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether our drinking water meets health standards. During June 2024 we did not collect the correct number of samples. Ten samples are due to be collected every month and in June 2024 we only collected six samples.

**What should I do?** There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the contaminants we did not properly report in a timely manner, sampling frequency, and where samples should have been reported, and when samples were reported.

Contaminants	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples to be taken	Number of samples taken	When samples will be collected
Total Coliform <sup>1</sup>	Monthly	10	6	July 2024
Chlorine residual <sup>2</sup>	Monthly	10	6	July 2024

**What is being done?** Sampling will be conducted well in advance of deadline dates to ensure that sampling results are available to be submitted to EPA on time.

**For more information, please contact:** Joe J. Johnson at 989-775-5141, Saginaw Chippewa Tribe's Mt. Pleasant Community Water System.

***\*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.\****

This notice is being sent to you by the Mt. Pleasant Public Water System. PWSID# 055293201 Date:

<sup>1</sup> Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

<sup>2</sup> Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.



## Fifty-two summer youth workers join Tribal departments during 2025 season

**KYLA HENRY**  
Youth Co-Op  
Public Relations

During the summer months, youth workers have the opportunity to gain work experience by joining Tribal departments. This year, 52 summer youth workers had the option of choosing from 21 Tribal departments.

The Summer Youth Program took place throughout the months of June and July. This year’s crew leaders were Dawnseh Wilson and Tayden Davis.

“This summer we had good workers and they took great pride in their work,” Davis said. “Seeing them this involved makes me hopeful for the next set of future leaders.”

When asking Wilson about her favorite and proudest moment during the program, she said, “Honestly, just returning to the program after my first year of working last summer. It was a good feeling seeing familiar faces from last year and meeting more youth in our community.

“My proudest moment was the bake sale; it made me (proud) of the summer youth

workers because of their determination to raise the funding for our end-of-the-program banquet, and watching them work towards their goals together.”

Wilson said the youth workers continued to impress her, especially the first-year workers.

“I was very impressed with how our first workshop with Tribal Council went. I can’t wait to see what they do for our community as we grow older.”

In addition to the program, every Thursday, cultural, financial, and literacy workshops were presented to the youth.

During the literacy and cultural workshop, the youth visited the Tribal College and learned how to perfect their signature, and were taught words in Anishinaabemowin, the roles of each clan, and traditional foods with Chef Sam Anglin.

At the financial workshop, the youth were taught how to invest and how to prepare for college. Lastly, they learned how the Tribe operates and the roles of the departments.

The program ended in the last week of July with a banquet celebrating the youth workers.



Fifty-two summer youth workers for the 2025 season join Tribal departments and participate in community activities.

*This year’s summer youth workers include: Damien Hunter, Wayne Jackson, Gizhep Miller-Hosler, Keyana Hernandez, Jasmine Jackson, Trinty Perez, Nikodin Davis, Gnaajwi Pego, Charmaine Castillo, Xavier Freeman, Bryson Roth, Jeremiah Velasquez-Perez, Ahjinees Osawabine, Isabelle Terrill-Leathers, Erica Hinmon, Adaliyah Ekdahl, Rocky Shomin, Tahlia Alonzo-Villanova, Ashton Chivis, Eyhana Feliciano, Annabelle Hart, David Hosler, Zhaabwii Pamp-Ettinger, Gabriel Quigno, Aiyana Sheahan, Mayson Jackson-Isham, Kaleb Potter, Azhiyen Wemigwans, Kyla Henry, Leticia Hawkins, Darrion Rueckert, Dehmin Kahgegab, Juan Herndandez, Waaseya Lambertson, Aiden Raphael, Kannen Quezada, Jospeh Jackson Jr. Matthew Stewart, Michiikenh Sprague, Josclynn Shaw, Jaycee Sheahan-Kahgegab, Azrae Wemigwans, Dexter Henry, Wabigwan Shawnoo and Gary Shomin.*

## Tribal Police Department hosts youth academy, open to ages 12-18

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**  
Editor

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Department held its Tribal Youth Police Academy on July 22-23 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The academy was open to Tribal youth, ages 12-18.

Activities throughout the two days included a driving course using golf carts, shooting courses using non-lethal ammunition, K-9 demos and police equipment and tool displays.



The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police hosted the Tribal Youth Police Academy on July 22-23.



**MIGIZI**  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CO.

Positions Now Available!

Apply today at  
[www.migiziedc.com](http://www.migiziedc.com)

Representing Home Buyers & Sellers

TRIBAL MEMBER-FOCUSED REAL ESTATE

Connect with a Realtor® who honors your traditions and goals.

CALL TODAY!

NICK BONSTELLE

989-600-9806

TRIBALREALESTATESALES.COM

Brokered by Partners Real Estate Professionals, P.C. | 810.220.7653



Introducing Jessica White Pigeon as the new admissions and residential services occupancy specialist

Jessica White Pigeon, the new admissions and residential services occupancy specialist of the SCIT Housing Department, would like to take a moment to introduce herself to the Tribal community.

White Pigeon states:

“Aanii, my name is Jessica White Pigeon and my Ojibwe name is Waaboos Kwe, which means Rabbit Woman. I am a direct descendant of Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and a member of Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians. I was raised in both communities and I raise my own children in Mount Pleasant.

“I have studied graphic design and enjoy beadwork, oil painting, and sewing. Although my college courses were more art centered, my work experience has been in admin related fields.

“I look forward to assisting residents and future residents by serving our community to the best of my ability. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to reach out.”

White Pigeon may be reached by email at [JePigeon@sagchip.org](mailto:JePigeon@sagchip.org) or at her phone number 989-775-4532.



Courtesy photo  
**Jessica White Pigeon**



# AUGUST PROMOTIONS



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



**Win a share of over \$1,000,000 in Premium Play!**

**SATURDAYS IN AUGUST**

From 11AM-11PM, six guests will snag \$500 in Premium Play every 30 minutes!

ACCESS Club members will receive one (1) entry for every 600 points earned on their ACCESS Loyalty Card now until 10:55PM on August 31.



**FRIDAYS**  
**5PM-11PM**  
Bag it to win up to \$1,750 in Premium Play!

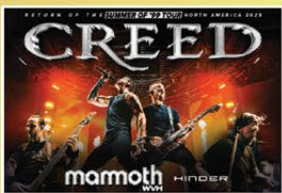
## ENTERTAINMENT



**BROOKS & DUNN**  
**WITH SPECIAL GUEST**  
**BAYKER BLANKENSHIP**  
**FRIDAY, AUGUST 8 | 8PM**  
**OUTDOOR CONCERT**  
Tickets: \$44, \$130, \$151, \$173



**SNOOP DOGG**  
**WITH SPECIAL GUEST TOO \$HORT**  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 10 | 7PM**  
**OUTDOOR CONCERT**  
Tickets: \$62, \$152, \$186, \$217



**CREED**  
**WITH SPECIAL GUESTS**  
**MAMMOTH WVH & HINDER**  
**SATURDAY, AUGUST 23 | 7PM**  
**OUTDOOR CONCERT**  
Tickets: \$56, \$146, \$180, \$211



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



**Haul in your share of over \$343,000 in Cash and Prizes!**

**SATURDAYS IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER**

From 2PM-10PM, play for the chance to win \$1,000 cash and 1,000 bonus entries into the Grand Prize Drawing!

On September 27 at 11PM, one lucky guest will win a brand-new truck, toy hauler trailer, UTV and \$5,000 gift card to Frank's Great Outdoors!

ACCESS Club members will receive one (1) entry for every 200 points earned now until 10:55 on September 27. Color, make and model may vary.



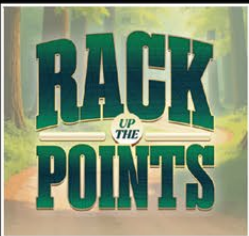
**MONDAYS**  
**11AM-9PM**  
One lucky winner will be drawn to play Spin Pong from 11AM-9AM every hour. Drop the ball, spin the wheel and score cash if it lands on a prize spot. Earned 1,500 points? You get a bonus ball for more chances to win!



**SUNDAY, AUGUST 10**  
**9AM-9PM**  
You're invited to spin and win up to \$500 in Premium Play! ACCESS Club members who earn 800 points from 7AM to 8:30PM on August 10 can participate in the slot tournament by swiping at a kiosk to print their entry ticket.



**THURSDAYS**  
**7AM-11:59PM**  
Earn 1,500 points on your ACCESS Loyalty Card every Thursday in August and swipe your card at any promotional kiosk to play the Hot Streak Spin game. You could win up to \$100 in Premium Play!



**SATURDAYS**  
**9AM-9PM**  
Earn 1,000 points from 9AM-9PM, swipe at a kiosk to print a receipt and pick up a Hunt & Haul t-shirt at the ACCESS Club booth. While supplies last.

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



## Seventh Generation’s dance shield workshop provides cultural teaching

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK  
Public Relations Manager

On June 10, Seventh Generation offered a first-ever workshop at the Elijah Elk Cultural Center as community members learned how to make their own dance shield. Like many cultural workshops offered at Seventh Generation recently, the available spots filled up quickly.

Eric Sowmick (Spirit Name Miizhadquad or Clear Sky, Amik Dodem or Beaver Clan), cultural representative for Seventh Generation, started a sacred fire in a good way and led off the workshop offering prayers to the Creator after smudging the participants and grounds.

In Ojibwe, the concept of a dance shield used in powwows and ceremonies is often referred to with terms related to dance, movement, or specific types of shields used in traditional dances.

“Dance shields are used as protection... in the powwow arena and they have been used for as long as I can remember in the traditional teachings,” Sowmick said. “When we put on our regalia and we are out there dancing with that shield, we put on different designs whether they be floral or your clan.

“When we dance with that shield, we honor those animals who have a part in the gifts the Creator has given us. Way back in the day, they were used as protection, and when we are out there, many use it in a way to protect themselves and you can see that in the dance styles they use.”

Sowmick said some shields use the otter or ermine while others may have good medicine like tobacco or sweetgrass that is a part of the shield, used as protection.

“Before we make any of the items we do at Seventh Gen – whether it’s shakers, drums, pouches or dance shields, we have our sacred fire going so we can offer our prayers with that first gift assema given by the Creator,” Sowmick said. “That way, we can be intentional and ask the spirit and medicine to guide us as we get ready to make these dance shields in a good way. We always make our offerings in a good way, and at Seventh Generation, we stay true to those four sacred medicines given to us.”

Sowmick said having a dance shield with regalia can tell a lot about who a person is in the community they live.

“Many Ojibwe shields have floral patterns and you can see the clan systems represented along with their spirit names and the spirit colors given to them by the Creator. Stars, moon, animals, floral designs honoring the plants and medicines and the good teachings they give us,” Sowmick said.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Eric Sowmick, cultural representative for 7th Generation, leads the dance shield workshop.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**Dezhik Pinnecoose shows off a dance shield.**

“Anytime we are out there in the arena – our eagle and hawk feathers, our floral designs – anytime we are out there dancing with those gifts from the animals, we are honoring them and their spirit. We think of them when we are out there and it’s not about who looks the best... the story and teaching is in the regalia itself and how it was created.”

Sowmick continued, “Those animals got together and asked what are we going to do for the people to help them, and it is good that we remember why we create these items and to honor them as they honor us. They were here first and they give us warmth through their skins and fir, food for our community and that’s why we honor them in ceremony.”

### Grandparents Day CELEBRATION

Save the date! Sept. 12, 2025

Food, games and prizes!

### Elders Minor Assistance Program (EMAP)

GRANT IS STILL AVAILABLE!

- \*Assistance for minor home and vehicle repairs.
- \*Must be a SCIT Elder over 60 years old.

### 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

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




### 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.

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

**Upcoming dates: Aug. 14 & Sept. 24**



### Title VI needs assessment survey

**Surveys have arrived at Andahwod!**

We are asking all District I and II elders to contact our office to schedule a time to complete this survey. For your time we will provide each elder completing the survey with a \$20 gift card. The Needs Assessment will help with the type of services provided to elders in District I and II. *The information is vital to fulfilling the grant application and letting the department understand what services are really needed by elder members.*

Please sign up to complete a survey and receive a \$20 SECR gift card! To schedule a time to complete this survey, contact the Elder Services Program at 989-775-4300.

### August 2025 Tribal Elder Birthdays

1) Eric Zocher	Dawn Jackson	Tonya Rosa	Janice Dennis
Jeffrey Braley			Lisa Gregurek-Clemens
2) Jason Casner	8) Fabian Cantu	14) Varen Cleveland	Glenna Sehl
Janet Chamberlain	Pamela Floyd	Todd Darby	
Victoria Fisher	Mindy Durfee	Eric Voorheis	26) Rachel Mandoka
3) Carl Benz	N'Daunis Pego		Sarah Silas
Kelly Willis-Benally		15) Joni Heiss	Bessie Velasquez
David Bailey	9) Kevin Chamberlain	16) Marilyn Bailey	Scott Warren
Gary Harris	Sandra Stevens	Sandra McCreery	Charles Ritter
Laurie Newton	Michael Hart	Brian Quigno	
4) Kenneth Douglas	Cecelia Wieland	Sharmaine Brooks	27) Colleen Wagner
Joseph Anderson	Leslie Klein	Lakeda McLemore	Michael Schramm
Danny Russell	11) Debra DeFrens	Angela Miller	28) Mary Jackson
Toni Swalley	Phillip Mena		Gregory Dean
Jean Flamand	Dorothy Shawano	17) Kevin Fisher	Brian Stevens
5) Carla Bennett	Theresa White	18) Brenda Nolan	Teresa Van Alstine
Brenda McMillin	Diane Jones	19) Benjamin Willis Sr.	Tracey Klich
Rosalie Stevens	12) Rosalie Maloney	Ralph Ambs	29) Anita Shawboose
6) Trisha Trasky	Michelle Otto	Diane Garrett	John Velasquez
Marcella Hadden	Ronald Nelson	Charles Sharon	Kenneth Francis
Ricky Snyder	Bruno Wemigwans	Harold Goodwin II	Rhona Mays
William Thibult	Edward Cross		30) Thomas Bonnau
William Zocher	Margaret Jackson	20) Theresa Jackson	Luanna Finney
7) Michael Floyd Sr.	Kenneth Kendall	Kimberly Crandall	Constance Pashenee
David Otto	Beverly Morse	Anthony Hart	
Veronica Bos	13) Mark Bailey	22) Jacqueline Daniels	31) Tracy Fallis
Victoria Carini	James Falcon	Michael Abraham	Jamey Garlick
	Carol Brame	Ronald Collins Sr.	Sherry Nickells
	John Henry	Carrie Wemigwans	Sharon Skutt
	Christina Keshick	Donnis Szydlowski	William Snowden Jr.
	Kelly Merrill	23) Roger Jackson	Marc Williams
		Maynard Kehgegab Sr.	Shad Snowden

### 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.

**Program Eligibility:** Determined 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 call Sheligh Jackson at 989-775-4307 for more information. This grant program runs until Sept. 30, 2025.





Andahwod Continuing Care Community and Elder Services  
Elders' August 2025 Newsletter

**Boozhoo!** We hope elders have enjoyed summertime pleasures and the heat has not been too extreme. Don't forget Elders Lunch is the first and third Wednesday of the month. Offer your lunch suggestions!

Andahwod CCC & ES is accepting letters of interest for a vacancy on the Elders Advisory Board. Open until filled. Meetings are twice a month at Andahwod.

Veterans Information Presentation by Ian Welch of Isabella County Veterans Affairs on Aug. 21 at 2 p.m.



Andahwod Phone Numbers

- Gayle Ruhl:** 989.775.4305  
*Administrator*

**Sandra Pelcher:** 989.775.4300  
*Administrative Assistant I*

**Dawn Chippewa:** 989.775.4308  
*Billing/Administrative Assistant II*
- Careena Meyers:** 989.775.4315  
*Support Services Manager*

**Galina Kolb:** 989.775.4301  
*Resident Care Manager*

**Sheligh Jackson:** 989.775.4307  
*Elders Advocate*
- Patty Kequom:** 989.775.4302  
*Activities Assistant*

**Denise Pelcher:** 989.775.4339  
*Activities Coordinator*

**Maintenance:** 989.775.4313

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.

VA BENEFITS  
PRESENTATION

Thursday, Aug. 21, 2025

2 p.m. | Andahwod CGA  
2910 S. Leaton Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

**Presenter: Ian Welch**  
Isabella County Veterans Affairs

**Topic:** Information on current veterans benefits and resources  
• Open to the public



**For more information, please contact:**  
Andahwod CCC&ES at 989.775.4300

August 2025 Andahwod events

**Coffee Break**  
Daily | 2:30 p.m.

**Sewing**  
Tuesdays | 10:30 a.m.

**Walking Club**  
Thursdays | 1 p.m.

**Euchre**  
Thursdays | 5:30 p.m.

**Language Bingo**  
Aug. 5 | 1-3 p.m.

**Elders Lunch**  
Aug. 6, 20 | 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**Bingo with Friends**  
Aug. 12  
Leaving for Saganing at 9 a.m.

**Elder Fishing at RV PARK**  
Aug. 12, 26 | 5:30 - 7 p.m.

**Elders Breakfast**  
Aug. 13, 27 | 9-10 a.m.

**Birthday Celebration with violinist Amanda Armstrong**  
Aug. 14 | 2:30 p.m.

**Bingo with Friends**  
Aug. 15 | 1-3 p.m.

**Name that Tune**  
Aug. 18 | 2:30 p.m.

**July & August Birthday Bingo & Potluck**  
Aug. 23 | 12 p.m.

*\*\*Activities and events are subject to change.*

For more information, please call Andahwod at: 989.775.4339



**Sales begin:** Thursday, July 24, 2025  
**End:** Wednesday, Aug. 27, 2025

**Drawing held during Elders Breakfast**

**Tickets:** One for \$5 or three for \$10

Tickets may be purchased from any EAB Member or at the Andahwod Front Office.

**One winner receives:**

- ▶ 650 bingo packet for High Stakes Bingo Bash
- ▶ \$150 SECR gift card



*All fund will support Elders activities.*

**For more information, please contact:**  
Andahwod at 989.775.4300



Report unwanted calls at  
**ReportFraud.ftc.gov**

How to stop unwanted calls  
ON A CELL PHONE

See what built-in features your phone has.

See what call-blocking and call-labeling services your carrier offers.

Download a call-blocking app.

- Some apps are **free**, but others charge a monthly **fee**.
- Some apps will **access your contacts**.
- Calls might be **stopped, ring silently, or go straight to voicemail**.

**TO REPORT FRAUDS OR SCAMS YOU CAN CALL:**  
**1-877-382-4357**

**OR VISIT: ReportFraud.ftc.gov**

Reporting the fraud or scam does not resolve your individual report, but reporting helps investigations and bring cases against fraud, scams, and bad business practices.

August 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
<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>			<b>Sugar free available upon request.</b> <b>Call kitchen for lunch and dinner at 989-775-4314.</b>		<b>1</b> Beef Tacos Meatballs w/ Egg Noodle	<b>2</b> Chef's Choice
<b>3</b> Chef's Choice	<b>4</b> Cheeseburger & Fries Ham Dinner	<b>5</b> Spaghetti w/ Garlic Bread Italian Chicken	<b>6</b> Chicken Noodle Soup Steak Fritters w/ Mashed Potato <b>Elders Lunch 11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>7</b> Brats & Potato Salad Stuffed Green Peppers	<b>8</b> Egg Salad Sandwich Hamburger Gravy over Toast w/ Veggies	<b>9</b> Chef's Choice
<b>10</b> Chef's Choice	<b>11</b> Veggie Soup Meatloaf	<b>12</b> Baked Chicken Shrimp Basket	<b>13</b> Tomato Soup Pork Roast w/ Potatoes <b>Elders Breakfast 9 a.m.</b>	<b>14</b> Chicken Alfredo & Garlic Bread Hot Dogs w/ Fries	<b>15</b> BLT & Macaroni Salad Salisbury Steak w/ Mashed Potatoes	<b>16</b> Chef's Choice
<b>17</b> Chef's Choice	<b>18</b> Cabbage Soup Grilled Ham & Cheese	<b>19</b> Hot Roast Beef Sandwich Chicken Stew	<b>20</b> Pizza Buffet BBQ Ribs w/ Baked Potato <b>Elders Lunch 11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>21</b> Italian Sub & Chips Fried Chicken w/ Mashed Potatoes	<b>22</b> Chicken Sandwich Native Tacos	<b>23</b> Chef's Choice
<b>24/31</b> Chef's Choice	<b>25</b> Sausage & Fried Potatoes Beef Roast w/ Potatoes	<b>26</b> Salmon w/ Rice Chili & Cornbread	<b>27</b> Beef & Barley Soup Chicken Parmesan <b>Elders Breakfast 9 a.m.</b>	<b>28</b> Meatball Subs Pork Roast	<b>29</b> Cabbage Rolls Turkey Dinner	<b>30</b> Chef's Choice





AUGUST 2025 | Tribal Community Event Planner

**Open Rec**  
Weekdays (\*except Wednesdays) | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
\*Wednesdays | 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
\*Closed Aug. 29

- Wii Maajikwad/Recreation Center
- 2875 Gikendasso Way, Mt. Pleasant Mich.
- **Recreation@sagchip.org**
- Free access to weight room and the south gym

**Memory Garden**  
Aug. 6 | 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

- Behavioral Health
- 2800 S. Shepherd Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
- **989-775-4823 or Fotto@sagchip.org**
- Please join as we begin building a community memory garden. A beautiful place that is used to remember and honor the life of a loved one who has passed away due to substance/suicide.

**Back to School at Saganing**  
Aug. 7 | 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

- Saganing Tribal Center
- 5447 Sturman Rd., Standish, MI 48658
- **989-775-4071 or dsmith@sagchip.org**
- School supplies
- Open to DK-12 Services/SCIT Members
- May only attend one back to school event

**Mt. Pleasant Back to School Event**  
Aug. 13 | 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

- Wii Maajikwad (2875 Gikendasso Way)
- **989-775-4071 or dsmith@sagchip.org**
- School supplies
- Open to DK-12 Services/SCIT Members
- May only attend one back to school event

**RezBall 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament**  
Aug. 14 | Check in: 9-10:30 a.m.

- 8th grade and under: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- High school and adult: \*3-6 p.m (\*subject to changed depending on youth session)
- Wii Maajikwad/Recreation Center
- 2875 Gikendasso Way, Mt. Pleasant Mich.
- **989-775-4093 or KShomin@sagchip.org**
- Registration deadline: Aug. 12 at 5 p.m.
- Registration required, no walk-in registration
- \$20 per player
- Four person max per team
- Divisions: 5th grade and under, 6th-8th grade, 9th-12th grade and adult.

**Wewebanaabiwin Youth Fishing Tournament**  
Aug. 15 | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., registration starts at 8 a.m.

- Soaring Eagle Hideaway RV Park
- 5514 E. Airport Rd., Mt. Pleasant Mich.
- **989-775-4522 or Recreation@sagchip.org**
- Catch and release
- Free event, open to the public
- Trophies for the first three places

**Shepherd Bluejay Bash**  
Aug. 19 | 5-7 p.m.

- Shepherd High School
- 321 S. Fourth St., Shepherd, Mich.
- **989-775-4509 or TVanAlstine@sagchip.org**
- Featuring school supplies, free food, outdoor games, community resources, face painting and so much more!
- All ages welcome

**Bagodowe Engiitaading (Lacrosse)**  
Aug. 22 | Games start at 5 p.m., meal served at 4 p.m.

- Seventh Generation (7957 E. Remus Rd.)
- **989-775-4522 or Recreation@sagchip.org**
- Ages 14 and under starts at 5 p.m.
- Ages 15 and up starts at 6 p.m.
- Equipment provided
- Please arrive by 4:30 p.m. for draft picks
- Co-ed tournament
- Any skill level welcome
- Spectators are welcomed and encouraged
- Bring your own chairs/shade
- Drinks provided, food vendors will be open

**19th annual People’s Traditional Powwow**  
Aug. 23 | Grand entries: 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.  
Aug. 24 | Grand entry: 1 p.m.

- Seventh Generation (7957 E. Remus Rd.)
- **989-775-4780 or TJackson@sagchip.org**
- Open to the public, free admission
- Dinner Saturday at 5 p.m. for participants
- Hand drum contest (sponsored by Jackson Family)
- Bike giveaways for ages 14 and under (Sponsored by Darryl and Theresa Jackson)

**Overdose Awareness & Remembrance Day**  
Aug. 31 | 1-3 p.m.

- Eagles Nest Tribal Gym (7070 E. Broadway)
- **Prevention@sagchip.org**
- Honor your loved ones: bring in pictures/memories to post on our display board during the event.
- Speaker panel: stories, insights and Q-and-A
- Food provided
- Supplies provided for honoring lost loved ones

AUGUST 2025 | Tribal Community Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat./Sun.
<div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● SECR Payroll</li><li>● SCIT Per Capita</li><li>● SCIT Payroll</li><li>● Curbside Recycling</li></ul></div>		<div><div>Check out the Tribal Observer <b>ONLINE</b></div><a href="http://www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver">www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver</a></div>		<div>1</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m.   B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m.   Andahwod</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health</div> <div>3</div>
<div>4</div> <div>Sewing in Saganing 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.   Saganing Recovery Group 1-2 p.m.   B. Health</div>	<div>5</div> <div>Candidate Petition DEADLINE Regular Council Session 9 a.m.   Council Chambers Native Farmers Market 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.   Market Pavilion Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m.   Zoom</div>	<div>6</div> <div>Recovery Talking Circle 9 a.m.   B. Health Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m.   B. Health</div>	<div>7</div> <div>Sacred Fire Lunch 12-1 p.m.   7th Gen Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m.   7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m.   B. Health</div>	<div>8</div> <div>Last Day to Register to Vote for Primary Election Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m.   B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m.   Andahwod</div>	<div>9</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health AOVWS Meeting 2 p.m.   Ziibiwing</div> <div>10</div>
<div>11</div> <div>Recovery Group 1-2 p.m.   B. Health</div>	<div>12</div> <div>Native Farmers Market 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.   Market Pavilion Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m.   Zoom Eagle Feather Teachings and Learning Time: TBD   7th Gen</div>	<div>13</div> <div>Recovery Talking Circle 9 a.m.   B. Health Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m.   B. Health</div>	<div>14</div> <div>Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m.   7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m.   B. Health</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m.   B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m.   Andahwod</div>	<div>16</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health</div> <div>17</div>
<div>18</div> <div>Tribal Observer DEADLINE Recovery Group 1-2 p.m.   B. Health</div>	<div>19</div> <div>Native Farmers Market 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.   Market Pavilion Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m.   Zoom</div>	<div>20</div> <div>Recovery Talking Circle 9 a.m.   B. Health Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m.   B. Health Drums Out 7-9 p.m.   7th Gen</div>	<div>21</div> <div>Sacred Fire Lunch 12-1 p.m.   7th Gen Movie Day 1-3 p.m.   Saganing Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m.   B. Health</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m.   B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m.   Andahwod</div>	<div>23</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health</div> <div>24</div>
<div>25</div> <div>Recovery Group 1-2 p.m.   B. Health</div>	<div>26</div> <div>Native Farmers Market 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.   Market Pavilion Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m.   Zoom</div>	<div>27</div> <div>Recovery Talking Circle 9 a.m.   B. Health Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m.   B. Health Drums Out 7-9 p.m.   7th Gen</div>	<div>28</div> <div>Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m.   7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m.   B. Health</div>	<div>29</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m.   B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m.   Andahwod</div>	<div>30</div> <div>Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health</div> <div>31</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

Waste Water Operator I

Open to the public. Three years’ experience in wastewater/water field or directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations. Must be willing to take classes in microbiology, advanced math and beginning algebra courses.

Waste Water Operator II

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

Water Operator I

Open to the public. Three years of water operator or related experience. Training in hydraulics, physics, biology, science, or related field will help in learning this field. Must have mechanical skills, not limited to automotive, such as pumps, or shaft-driven equipment.

Water Operator II

Open to the public. Training in hydraulics, physics, biology, science, or related field will help in learning this field. Must have mechanical skills, not limited to automotive, such as pumps, or shaft-driven equipment.

Water Operator III

Open to the public. 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.

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.

Clerical Pool

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

General Labor Pool

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

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.

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 Techni-

cian License. One year experience working in a pharmacy desired.

Physician - Nimkee

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

Victims Advocate

Open to the public. Associate degree in human services related field, or an equivalent combination of education, training, and experience.

Interim Clinical Therapist

Open to the public. Interim position. Licensed master’s degree in counseling, social work, human services or related field.

Assistant Prosecutor PT

Open to the public. Juris Doctor from an ABA accredited law school. Minimum of one year experience as a practicing attorney or equivalent work experience working in a legal capacity or with a licensed attorney.

Maintenance Worker

Open to the public. Must be 18 years of age. One-year experience with basic maintenance and grounds keeping.

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.

Residential Treatment Support Technician

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite.

Registered Medical Assistant

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

SCTC Supplemental Instructor

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

Student Financial Aid Officer

Open to the public. Bachelor’s degree in business administration, student services, educational administration, or related field.

Tribal Code Compliance Officer

Open to the public. Five years’ relevant experience including building construction, inspection and ordinance enforcement.

Dentist

Open to the public. DDS/DMD degree from an accredited school. Michigan licensed dentist. Must be able to pass background check.

SCTC Adjunct Instructor - History

Open to the public. Master’s degree required in identified discipline. Previous teaching experience preferred.

Dental Hygienist PT

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

Special Education Teacher

Open to the public. Bachelor’s degree in special education, education or related field. Teaching certificate with special education endorsement.

Manager Accounting

In-house (current SCIT Tribal Operations employees, SECR employees, SELCH employees,) and all SCIT Tribal Members are eligible to apply. Bachelor’s degree in accounting.

Registered Medical Assistant Andahwod

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

Certified Nursing Assistant

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. One year of direct care experience desired. Must be able to effectively communicate with residents and all members of the health care team and have good computer skills.

Anishinaabe Culture & Language Teacher

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Bachelor’s degree in related field. Must have knowledge and be willing to share original Anishinaabe cultural teachings.

Master Automotive Technician

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Four years’ computer diagnostic, automotive shop, and diagnostic and repair maintenance experience.

Anishinabe Language Apprentice

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Associate degree desired. Excellent communication and group leadership skills.

Data & Evaluation Analyst

Open to the public. Grant funded position. Associate degree in social sciences or related field. Six months of experience in data analysis. Experience in behavioral health research preferred. Experience with database design and best practice helpful.

Elementary Counselor/Family Outreach AWARE

Open to the public. Bachelor’s degree in social work or counseling from an accredited program. One year experience in mental health services working

with children and families of children with severe emotional disturbances.

Clinical Therapist Child and Family Services

Open to the public. Licensed master’s degree in counseling, social work, human services or related field.

Soaring Eagle

Rotation Program - Gaming

Must be SCIT Tribal Member. Must be at least 18 years of age. High school diploma or GED. Under the supervision of the training & development manager, work in a supportive environment to gain experience and learn skills required to perform SECR line-level positions.

Central Plant Operator

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Three years of experience in a central plant, mechanical equipment environment, or licensed HVAC.

Line Server PT

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

F&B Cashier 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 SECR internal culinary training.

Sous Chef - Banquet

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

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. Three years of experience in commercial food equipment repair.

Maintenance Worker

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

Guest Room Attendant PT

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

Bartender PT

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

Saganing

Guestroom Attendant

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

F&B Attendant FT

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.

Master Plumber

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Ten years of experience as a master plumber.

Bartender PT

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

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.

F&B Cashier

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

Inventory Control Driver Warehouse

Open to the public. One year experience in driving vehicles and rigs that require a CDL license.

SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT NOTICES

NOTICE TO SAMUEL FRANKLIN BEGAY IV IN THE MATTER OF TWO MINOR CHILDREN:

CASE NO. 25-AD-0009 IN THE MATTER OF: ONE MINOR CHILD, DOB 03-24-2010

CASE NO. 25-AD-0010 IN THE MATTER OF: ONE MINOR CHILD, DOB 12-03-2011

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court. Publication of Hearing. The Court has received a Petition to Terminate Parental Rights of the minors in reference to the case numbers listed above. A hearing will be conducted by the court on **Aug. 13, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.** in the courtroom at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 before the Honorable Michelle Horn. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that SAMUEL FRANKLIN BEGAY IV personally appear before the court at the time and place stated above. This hearing may result in the Court terminating parental rights. Rights of parties as to counsel is set forth in Title II of the Children’s Code, Chapter 2.3, Section 2.313(a).

NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN THE MATTER OF MARK ALEX WALRAVEN:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 East Broadway Road, Mount Pleasant, MI 48858 (989) 775-4800. Estate of Mark Alex Walraven. Date of Birth: July 17, 1958. Notice to creditors: The decedent, Mark Alex Walraven, who lived 1783 Carol Ct. 7, Essexville MI, 48732 died April 9, 2025. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to the Tribal Probate Court at 6954 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 within four months after the date of publication of this notice.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN THE MATTER OF CONSTANCE ELAINE PALLETT:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 East Broadway Road, Mount Pleasant, MI 48858 (989) 775-4800. Estate of Constance Elaine Pallett. Date of Birth: March 25, 1953. Notice to creditors: The decedent, Constance Elaine Pallett, who lived at 2510 E. Elm Rd., Claire, MI 48617, died April 2, 2025. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Samuel C. Anglin, personal representative, or 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: Samuel C. Anglin, 6388 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. 989-506-2691.



# Ziibiwing Center hosts annual NativeFest: A celebration of North American Indian culture

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**  
Editor

As exciting events occurred throughout the Reservation during the week of the annual Saginaw Chippewa Powwow, the Ziibiwing Center hosted some entertainment of its own during the annual NativeFest – a celebration of North American Indian culture.

NativeFest featured Indian Car Bingo on Tuesday, July 22, and Kids’ Night on Wednesday, July 23.

Car bingo was held on the Tuesday of powwow week from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Ziibiwing Center’s parking lot.

Bingo players sat in or around parked cars or under tent seating. Players sitting in their cars honked their horns if they won a bingo.

The event had 168 cars and 385 people. The Ziibiwing Center said it was its biggest car bingo crowd yet.

Kids’ Night was held the Wednesday of powwow week



Observer photo by Alicia Raphael

**Magician Anthony Grupido (back) performs during the July 23 Kids’ Night with the help from a volunteer from the audience.**



Observer photo by Alicia Raphael

**A petting zoo is one of many fun activities held during Kids’ Night.**

Grupido has opened for Jim Gaffigan, The Impractical Jokers, and the winner of “America’s Got Talent.”

In addition to performing as a comedian, Grupido is also a keynote speaker; he works with 200 school districts each year discussing mental health, resilience and suicide prevention.

NativeFest was sponsored by the Ziibiwing Center, Migizi



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**The July 22 NativeFest Indian Car Bingo saw 168 cars and 385 people participate.**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Youth Council members staff the concessions during Indian Car Bingo.**

Economic Development Waterpark and Hotel, Project Co., Soaring Eagle Casino Aware, Nbakade, and Soaring & Resort, Soaring Eagle Eagle Bingo.

Observer photos by Alicia Raphael and Matthew Wright

