



Binaakwii-Giizis
(Moon of the Falling Leaves)

TRIBAL OBSERVER

OCTOBER
2025

Working Together For Our Future

www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver

Volume 36 | Issue 10



2025 General Election Guide

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Mno-Shkiziwin: SCIT Supplemental Assistance Program — Informational Town Hall Meetings

Isabella Reservation: Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025 | 12 p.m., 3 p.m. & 5 p.m. | At the Ziibiwing Center

Saganing Reservation: Thursday, Oct. 16, 2025 | 12 p.m., 3 p.m. & 5 p.m. | At the Saganing Tribal Center

Tribal Members vote for the 20 District One candidates advancing to the general election

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe held its 2025 primary election on Tuesday, Sept. 9.

The election has identified those candidates who will advance to the general election scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 4. The general election will elect 12 candidates – ten in District One, one in District Two and one in District Three – to serve as representatives on the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council for a two-year term (2025-2027).

District One Tribal Members had the opportunity to select up to 20 candidates, from a list of 51, to move forward. There was no primary election held in District Two or Three in accordance with Ordinance 4 - Section 13, as there was a single candidate in both districts. Both of these candidates will move forward to the general election in their respective districts.

The Caucus Committee has reviewed and certified the results of the 2025 primary election.

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe is comprised of three districts that account for the total registered voting membership of

2,134. This accounts for 76.4 percent of the possible 2,793 members who had an ability to register to vote.

The District One voting boundaries encompass all of Isabella County. Of the eligible 1,394 members in District One, who had

the ability to register to cast a ballot, 1,183 registered to vote.

Voter participation in the primary election totaled 560 members and reflected a 47.34 percent turnout.

District Two voting boundaries are within the Saganing

Reservation in Arenac County and has 43 registered voters. There are currently 52 members that were eligible to register to vote in District Two.

District Three, or the At-Large district, are those members who are reflective of the remaining

Tribal membership that live outside either of the boundaries of District One or Two. These members account for the remaining 908 registered voters.

District Three has a total of 1,347 members who were eligible to register to vote.

SCIT General Election 2025 Candidate List

General Election: Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2025

Polling station open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym

(7070 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858)

District One (Vote for up to 10)

- Alonzo, Patricia (Trish)
- Bennett, Brad
- Davis, Tim J.
- Ekdahl, Ronald F.
- Gonzalez, Guadalupe (Lupe)
- Graveratte, Craig
- Hart, Kathy
- Jackson, Angel
- Jackson, Sheligh
- Leasureaux, Sheila
- Montoya-Pego, Maia (Spotted-Tail)
- Otto, Christina
- Otto McCoy, Kim
- Peters, Summer
- Quigno, Diana
- Quigno, Mary
- Ricketts, Alice Jo
- Ruhl, Gayle
- Sprague, Lucas
- Wassegijig, Jennifer (Vasquez)

District Two (Vote for one)

- Houle, Shirley

District Three (Vote for one)

- Cloutier, Frank J.

Tribal Member Health Plan Open Enrollment: Oct. 1-31, 2025

Open Enrollment is a once-a-year chance to adjust health plan coverages. Upon electing benefits, you will not be able to make changes until the next open enrollment period, unless you experience a qualifying life event. **Please note: All Members must complete their Annual Report noting any changes to their Health Plan by Nov. 1, 2025.**



Review benefit choices



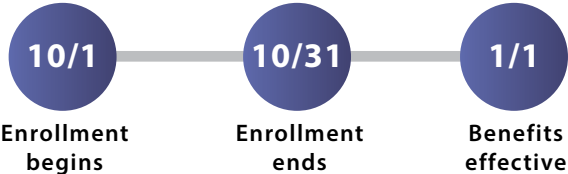
Share options with family



Mark your calendar



YOUR ENROLLMENT TIMELINE



For additional information, contact:

Lisa Ayling

989-775-4943

layling@sagchip.org

Craig Graveratte

989-775-4942

cgraveratte@sagchip.org



Douglas Ritter

July 26, 1968 – August 21, 2025

Douglas Chuck Ritter, 57, of Mount Pleasant, passed away at his home on Friday, Aug. 21, 2025.

Doug was born to Lloyd and Linda (Strong) Ritter on July 26, 1968 in Mount Pleasant.

He was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and was dedicated to supporting and advocating for the preservation of tribal treaty rights. He also had been a regular donor to the ASPCA for animals and other organizations. He spent a lot of time volunteering at the animal shelter in Mount Pleasant; walking and caring for animals when he was able to.

In his younger years, he worked as a mechanic and later enjoyed being a truck driver for a living. He had a gift for bringing humor and comic relief to even the most stressful moments, and was happiest when working alongside others.

Over the years, he cut and delivered wood with his father, worked for the carnival, served on the Soaring Eagle Casino Security team, and spent time working at Garden City Salvage. He also valued his work and friendships with the Walker family in Lake George.

A true car enthusiast, he loved putting together motors and models, and found joy in playing guitar. He shared a special bond with his cat, Soups, and treasured every moment spent with his family and friends. His laughter, stories, and generous spirit will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Doug is survived by children; Hunter (Amanda) Ritter, Tanner Ritter, Emily Ritter, Katrina Ritter and Aaron Ritter; grandchildren Myles and Maven; brothers, Chuck (Kari) Ritter and Alex Ritter; sisters Linze Ritter and Tracy Kole.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brother Tex Ritter.

Per Doug's wishes, cremation has taken place and a memorial was held at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Gym on Thursday Sept. 4, 2025 at 11 A.M. with Ben Evers officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



Michael George Cyr

November 12, 1958 – August 25, 2025

Michael George Cyr passed away on Aug. 25, 2025, at the age of 66.

Michael was born on Nov. 12, 1958 in Detroit. Son of Judith Carrol and Marvin Cyr, he was the second born of five siblings: Cheryl, Jaqueline, Mark, and Michelle.

Michael married his high school sweetheart, Mary, and had two daughters: Heather and Angela. He was a loving grandfather to five: Alysha, Javier, Katana, Letty, Zoey; and a great-grandfather (Papa Mike) to Massiah.

He had such a creative mind and could turn anything into something special! He worked as an ice cream man at Good Humor for many years and loved to build model cars. Most of all, he loved to do crafty things with his grandkids.

He will be missed dearly by his family and loved ones. Visitation was held Wednesday, Sept. 3 from 1 to 8 p.m. The funeral service was held Thursday, Sept. 4 at 11 a.m. All services were held at Howe-Peterson Funeral Home and Cremation Services in Taylor, Mich.



Roger Shane Tebo

October 10, 1967 – May 13, 2025

Roger Shane Tebo, age 57, of Oscoda, Mich. passed away May 13 at home.

Roger was born on Oct. 10, 1967 in Tawas city, Mich., to the late Roger William Tebo and Janette Jane Stevens.

Roger is survived by three siblings: Lori Fuller of Midland, Mich. Juanita Rogers of Jonesville, La. and Jay Thibault, Bossier City, La.

In addition to parents, he was preceded in death by three brothers: Kenny, Francis, and Steve Tebo; and one sister: Phyllis J. O'Neal.

Roger lived most of his life in Oscoda, Mich. He loved fishing and boating.



DETROIT MERCY LAW

PROJECT ACCESS: FREE Expungement Clinic

Thursday, Nov. 6, 2025 • 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Location: SCIT Public Safety Building
6954 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

University of Detroit Mercy School of Law students, along with volunteer attorneys, will be conducting a **FREE EXPUNGEMENT CLINIC**.

Individuals will have their ICHAT (Michigan criminal record) reviewed, be advised on eligibility for expungement, and if eligible, be provided with assistance preparing the Application to Set Aside Conviction, along with directions for filing and next steps.

Please note this important information:

1. A person with more than three felony convictions is NOT eligible for expungement under Michigan Law.
2. To be eligible for an expungement: Seven years must have passed for a person with more than one felony conviction; five years must have passed for a person with one felony or a serious misdemeanor; or three years must have passed for one or more misdemeanors, since the completion of probation, discharge from parole, or completion of incarceration, whichever is later.
3. Not all criminal convictions are eligible for expungement under Michigan Law.

► Registration is **REQUIRED**.

► Clinic limited to 50 people.

Pre-registration closes:
Friday, Oct. 31, 2025 at 5 p.m.

Scan to
REGISTER



COVID-19 & FLU Vaccination Clinics

Dates for the clinics this fall (tentative)

- **Oct. 6: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.** | Saganing Tribal Center
• With CMDHD & Nimkee • Flu and COVID-19 vaccines
- **Oct. 9: 7 a.m. - 1 p.m.** | Nimkee Public health
• Flu vaccine
- **Oct. 14: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.** | Nimkee Public Health
• Flu vaccine
- **Oct. 16: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.** | Andahwod Senior Center
• With CMDHD & Nimkee • Flu and COVID-19 vaccines
- **Oct. 24: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.** | Saganing Tribal Center
• With CMDHD & Nimkee • Flu and COVID-19 vaccines
- **Oct. 30: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.** | Nimkee Public Health
• Flu vaccine

Please bring your ID, insurance cards and reading glasses with you.

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



To look up vaccine history or download vaccination proof, please visit:

<https://mdhhs.mimmsportal.state.mi.us/>

For updated information about vaccines and COVID-19, please see: www.CDC.gov

Hydrant Flushing

The Tribal Fresh Water Department will begin the annual hydrant flush:

Oct. 1 - Nov. 1, 2025

Between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

During this time you may notice a slight brown or yellow tinge. This tinge is just from flushing the old sediment out of the system, and will pass. If you notice this tinge you may want to refrain from washing your white clothes until it passes. *Thank you for your understanding.*

If you have any further questions, contact:
SCIT Water Treatment Team at 989-775-5141



2025-2026 YOUTH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Elections held: Nov. 13 & 14, 2025

Where: Native American Offices

*Only allowed to vote once

Requirements

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



Packets available: Oct. 1, 2025

- Visit Native American Office

Packets due: Nov. 7, 2025 by 5 p.m. NO EXCEPTIONS!

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

Swearing in: TBD

- Council Chambers, Black Elk Building

For more information, email: youthcouncil@sagchip.org

www.sagchip.org/youthcouncil

Youth Council Advisors Needed

If interested, submit a letter of interest to:

YouthCouncil2@sagchip.org

For more information, email: youthcouncil@sagchip.org



Medical Billing & Coding Certification

Train for an in-demand healthcare career in medical billing and coding and prepare for industry certification in this course.

- **Prerequisites:** Must have a high school diploma or GED.
- Medical coding courses are self-paced and completed in 12 months or less
- You will then have the option to prepare and sit for one of the following national certifications:
 - 1) NHA's Certified Billing and Coding Specialist (CBCS)
 - 2) AAPC's Certified Professional Coder (CPC)
 - 3) AHIMA's Certified Coding Associate (CCA)

* *Doesn't qualify for Michigan Indian Tuition however could qualify for reimbursement from the Tribe as long as you are eligible through Higher Education Department.*

More information available online at:

<https://careertraining.cmich.edu/training-programs/medical-billing-coding-voucher-included/>

Or by scanning QR code →

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Olivia Manitowabi-McCullough

Post-Secondary Support Specialist

- Phone: 989-775-4505
- Email: OManitowabi@sagchip.org

Kamie Mandoka

Tribal Development Coordinator

- Phone: 989-775-5247
- Email: KMandoka@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

Publication on Notice of Hearing: Attention All SCIT Members

TAKE NOTICE: There will be a public hearing held on **Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers in the Black Elk Building, 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mount Pleasant, MI 48858.**

This hearing will address a Retail Off-Premise General liquor license application presented to Tribal Council by Christopher Nadobny, director of the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Food & Beverage Department, or his designated staff. The application which will be reviewed and discussed at the hearing requests as follows:

Retail Off-Premise General License for the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort located at 6800 Soaring Eagle Boulevard. Such license, if approved would cover the sale of alcoholic beverages to be consumed by the buyer off premises for one full year from Oct. 22, 2025 to Oct. 21, 2026, with hours of alcohol service consistent with section 10 of the Gaming Compact of Aug. 20, 1993, and specifically including hours of service for 7 a.m. Sunday Alcohol Sales and Sales on Christmas Eve until 11:59 p.m., Christmas Day at noon and New Year's Day until 4 a.m.





“WORKING TOGETHER FOR OUR FUTURE”

Attention Tribal Members

Tribal Council Regular Session Meetings

are held at 9 a.m.

Regular Tribal Council Sessions

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

Regular Council Session Dates

• Oct. 7 • Nov. 4 • Dec. 2

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
- 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

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
Cyr, Michael George	08/25/2025
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

DECEMBER 1, 2025

Tribal Child Welfare Affidavits or Child Mino Shkiziwin Applications

Forms are available now.

**You must fill out ONE form completely.*

Deadline: Friday, Oct. 31 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
- 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

Publication on Notice of Hearing:

Attention All SCIT Members

TAKE NOTICE: There will be a public hearing held on Monday, Oct. 10, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers at the Black Elk Building, 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mount Pleasant, MI 48858.

This hearing will address the application for a renewal of a Retail On-Premise General License and Retail Off-Premise General License presented to Tribal Council by Bonnie Sprague, general manager for the Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel. The application which will be reviewed and discussed at the hearing is as follows:

Renewal of the Tribal Liquor License for Retail On-Premise and Off-Premise General License for the Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel located at 5665 E. Pickard Rd., Mount Pleasant, MI 48858. Such license, if approved, would cover Soaring Eagle RV Park, The Retreat at Soaring Eagle, Nbakade Restaurant, Wiisinidaa Food Court, and all other applicable areas of the Soring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel where beverage service is appropriate and allowed. This License, if issued, would authorize the sale of beer, wine, and liquor for consumption by buyers on-premise and off-premise for the duration of one full year commencing on Nov. 21, 2025 and expiring on Nov. 20, 2026 with hours of alcohol sales consistent with Section 10 of the Gaming Compact of Aug. 20, 1993, and the Tribe’s Liquor Control Act, Chapter 8.7.

Publication on Notice of Hearing:

Attention All SCIT Members

TAKE NOTICE: There will be a public hearing on Monday, Oct. 10, 2025, at 8:45 a.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers at the Black Elk Building, 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mount Pleasant, MI 48858.

This hearing will address the liquor license application for renewal of a Retail On-Premise General License presented to Tribal Council by Toni Swalley, director of hospitality of the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino and Hotel, or her representative. The application which will be reviewed and discussed at the hearing is as follows:

Renewal of the Tribal Liquor License for Retail On-Premise General Liquor License for the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino and Hotel located at 2690 Worth Rd., Standish, MI 48658. Such License, if approved, would cover all indoor areas, outdoor areas, Gaming Floor, Function Rooms, and all other applicable areas of the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino where beverage service is appropriate and allowed; including the Tribal Center and Saganing Powwow Grounds located at 2570 Worth Rd., Standish, MI 48658 and outdoor events area for services during events. This License, if issued, would be for the duration of one full year from Nov. 30, 2025 through Nov. 29, 2026, with hours of alcohol service consistent with Section 10 of the Gaming Compact of Aug. 20, 1993, and also including hours of service for Sunday Alcohol Sales and Sales on Christmas Eve until midnight, Christmas day beginning at noon and New Year’s Day until 4 a.m.

Election Timeline

2025 General Election

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

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 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

▶ **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 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



Attention Adult Tribal Members

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

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

A letter of intent will be accepted until Nov. 14, 2025 and should be mailed to:

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



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**EXTENDED UNTIL OCT. 21, 2025****Every Tuesday | 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

Public Relations: PublicRelations@sagchip.org

Foster Parents NEEDED!

**Help us keep our children safe:**

We are in need of Primary Foster Care homes and Emergency and Respite Care homes to provide quality care for children in foster care. This quality includes sharing love and providing security, stability, and understanding.

**A foster parent applicant is:**

- ▶ 21 years of age or older
- ▶ Of good physical, mental, and emotional health
- ▶ Has a stable and permanent home
- ▶ Able to pass a background check
- ▶ Of good moral character

A foster home can be made up of a family, married couple, or single parent.

If interested, contact:

ACFS foster care licensing worker at 989.491.2077

SCAN QR FOR APPLICATION



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.

Calling: Tribal Members, Descendants

Are you looking for medical or behavioral health services in Detroit?

We offer the following services:

- ▶ **Medical Care:** Primary care, pediatrics, sick and well visits for all ages, diabetes management, physicals, referrals, immunizations and more!
- ▶ **Behavioral Health:** Family and individual counseling, psychiatric services, case management, outpatient substance abuse treatment and more!

**Now offering Telehealth and prescription delivery****CALL FOR MORE INFO: 313-846-6030****AMERICAN INDIAN Health & Family Services****4880 Lawndale
Detroit, MI 48210
www.aihfs.org**

ATTENTION

Soaring Eagle Waterpark will be closed on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, starting Oct. 1. We will return to normal business hours on Dec. 18.



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.



Working Together To Protect Our Environment

TRIBAL OBSERVER

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

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

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

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

**INDIGENOUS**
Journalists Association**Subscription rates are \$30 per year.**

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

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

Tribal Observer Advertising

To place an advertisement, please contact the Tribal Observer at 989-775-4096 or Observer@sagchip.org for more information.

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

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

Tribal Observer Subscription Form

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please mail form to:

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

Contact Information:

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



STEAM^{AG} Student Organization & Community Connection Catalyst



OPEN MIC Night

Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025
4-8 p.m. | SCTC parking lot (5805 E. Pickard Rd.)

- ▶ **Competition check in begins:** 3 p.m.
- ▶ **Competition portion:** 4-5:30 p.m.
- ▶ **Open mic:** 5:30-8 p.m.

PRIZES:

- ▶ **Adult** (18 and up): \$100
- ▶ **Youth** (12 to 17 years old): \$100
- ▶ **Audience Pick** (all ages): \$50

WHAT TO EXPECT:
An evening of poetry, songs, recitals, instrumental, dance, etc. Bring your own lawn chair.


REGISTRATION
To register for the Open Mic or volunteer to help before, during and after the event:

TALENT: Scan QR code



VOLUNTEER: Scan QR code

For more information, please email:
STEAM@sagchip.edu




SEEKING DONATIONS

From the community for the
2026 Saginaw Chippewa Round Dance

Drop off items at: Wii Maajikwad School
2875 Gikendasso Way, Mt. Pleasant MI 48858

- **Now until March 9, 2026**
Hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday- Friday
- Please attach a name to the donated item
- **Donations can be picked up. Call: 989.775.4453**
- **Donation examples include:** Ribbon skirts, beaded items, gift cards, swag bags, play sets (toys), lanyards, gas cards and merchandise baskets
- **Anything that you think would make a great gift is appreciated!**
- **Donations will be used as gifts, spot dance and prizes**



For more information, contact:
SBlackbird@sagchip.org | 989.775.4453



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



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

- Candidate 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



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



Office of Tribal Licensing & Regulations Announcement

Mno Shkiziwin Open Enrollment Until 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.

Giin ina owe gimazina'igan? (Is this your book?)

Now through April 2026 – Deadline to submit your completed and print-ready book draft is May 1, 2026

You asked and we listened.
Now you have the opportunity to write your own book and have it published through the Tribal Libraries!

Help is available!
Use the on-demand training available through your Tribal Library OR sit down with a supplemental instructor at the Tribal College to get assistance with writing, editing, proofreading, and more.


Choose what your book is and how it looks!
Paperback or hardcover? Novel, things you know to be true, art, photographs, something else? Color or black and white? Many options are available to make your book just right.

You retain all rights and copyright to your book.
Copies of your book will be added to the Tribal Libraries collection and you will receive at least one copy of your book.

Author and book celebration
All books created during this project and their authors will be celebrated in early summer 2026, more details to come!

This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and is subject to availability of grant funds.

For more information, please contact:
989.317.4470 | AHeidemann@sagchip.org



SIGN UP!

Stop by the Tribal Library to pick up your swag bag!

*Supplies limited, first come first served.
One per person, no holds.*

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College
5805 E. Pickard, Mt. Pleasant MI 48858
Hours: M-F, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. | Saginaw.ploud.net

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.

The grantor is NO LONGER ACCEPTING NEW APPLICATIONS.

Those who have communicated with Ame Edstrom prior to this notice are still being assisted through November.

Decembers payments, along with all future months, will not be allowable under this grant and will be the responsibility of the renter.



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

Attention Tribal Members: ARTWORK NEEDED

The Saganing Eagles Landing Casino & Hotel is looking to purchase artwork to display inside The Landing restaurant.

Requested artwork includes:
Paintings, baskets, smaller stone art, and beadwork

The Casino Gift Shop is also looking to partner with local artists to sell their artwork:

Requested small artwork for sale includes:
Jewelry, hair accessories, and lanyards

If interested or for more information, contact:
Toni Swalley, hospitality director
tswalley@sagchip.org | 989-775-5910



Tribal Library grand re-opening, ribbon cutting ceremony commemorates new location

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Exciting news for the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Library as it has moved into a brand new space and location.

Now located within the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College's building, the library's Manaadjitoodaa Aandji Nisaakonigaadek (grand re-opening) and ribbon cutting ceremony was held Wednesday, Sept. 24 at 3 p.m.

The location, 5805 E. Pickard in Mount Pleasant, Mich., brings a freshness to the library.

"With walls of windows letting in natural light and furnished in fresh, calming colors, the new Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Library is a welcoming space for everyone," said Tribal Librarian Anne Heidemann. "The new combined library is for all ages and has dedicated spaces for children, teens, and adults.

"The new Tribal Library features two study rooms available to

individuals or small groups on a first-come, first-served basis; computers with Microsoft Office and internet access in both the main library and the youth room; complimentary printing, copying, and scanning; laminating service; free Wi-Fi for devices; 24/7 curbside locker pickup for books and printing; online services including e-books, e-audiobooks, and informational databases; and much more."

The space also offers patrons easy access to other amenities in the building, Heidemann said, including: lounge spaces; food and drink vending; complimentary coffee; quick access to Tribal College student services, and more.

During the re-opening celebration, Sub-Chief Luke Sprague shared information Heidemann informed Tribal Council on during a regular session.

In 2016, the Tribal Library had 841 card holders. In 2025, the Tribal Library now has 1,658 card holders, Sprague said.

Tribal Education Director Christina Sharp was one of the event's featured speakers.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

A Sept. 24 ribbon cutting takes place for the grand re-opening of the Tribal Library, now located within the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College.

"Partnerships like this remind us that collaboration is more than just sharing space; it's about expanding opportunities, nurturing future leaders, and honoring our responsibility to strengthen our Tribal community," Sharp said.

Heidemann said precisely 20,000 books have been moved.

"The combined public and college library collections are organized

using 'Maawn Doobiigeng (Gather Together),' the new Anishinaabe system of organization created by and for this community, so books and other library items can be found on the shelf organized according to the seven original clans as outlined in 'The Mishomis Book,'" Heidemann said.

The Tribal Library is open Monday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Observer photos by Natalie Shattuck



Dietician provides healthy eating workshop to Tribal elders, Andahwod residents

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Public Relations Manager

On Sept. 22, residents of Andahwod were joined with community elders to hear a presentation of healthy eating from Registered Dietician Nutritionist Leia Hoyt of the Region VII Area Agency on Aging (AAA).

The presentation topics included embracing healthy food choices, home meal preparations and dietary recommendations.

Hoyt advocated for the State of Michigan "My Plate" program that encourages a balance of fruits, vegetables, grain, protein and dairy.

"The program offered is to encourage everyone to eat right, bite by bite. We can do this by making simple steps for a healthful lifestyle," Hoyt said. "We can look at making small changes and keep things simple. One way to do this is to eat a variety of nutritious foods each day."

Some food strategies that Hoyt suggested included focusing on whole fruits and to stay away from canned

fruit that contains heavy syrup. Hoyt also emphasized the importance of varying your vegetables to include variety and to look for food that are whole grains.

Hoyt encouraged attendees to vary their sources of protein and to move to low fat or fat free milk or yogurt. She also suggested to drink and eat less sodium, saturated fats and avoid sodas with added sugar.

"By developing these healthy eating patterns, one can experience reduced risks of heart disease, type 2 diabetes, some types of cancer and can help people who are susceptible to obesity," Hoyt said. "It does help to look closely at the nutritional facts label of containers. Pay attention to the amount of serving per container along with serving size and calories per serving."

Outreach Language Specialist Isabelle Osawamick attended and offered indigenous education materials as she distributed Anishinaabemowin handouts.

"The enji-zhing wiisining (healthy eating) language consisted of vocabulary

for fruit: maanwaang; vegetables: ne-taaw-geng; and healthy ways to eat the food: 'mijim,'" Osawamick said. "'Soup and baking is better' (translates to) nboop miinwaa biin-daab-kin-geng

noo'ooj nishin. Healthy food: enji-zhing mijim is good!"

Participants were able to take home fruit and vegetable baskets filled with blueberries, celery and carrots.

IndigiPitch

**FRIDAY, DEC. 5
ODAWA CASINO
PETOSKEY**

An energizing pitch competition exclusively featuring Native American entrepreneurs

There are two ways to showcase your business at IndigiPitch:

PRESENT ON STAGE
Make your pitch and compete for prizes.

VENDOR BOOTH
Get a table in the expo space.

APPLY BY OCT. 13!
20Fathoms.org/IndigiPitch



Brought to you by:

20 FATHOMS

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This project is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number [SLFRP0127] awarded to 20Fathoms by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.



Soaring Eagle Waterpark, Bakinaw Federal Contracting make moves

FRITZ KUHLMAN

Migizi Marketing Manager



MIGIZI
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CO

In response to the seasonality of the waterpark and amusement industry, Soaring Eagle Waterpark will be adjusting its hours of operation for the coming months.

As kids return to school and families participate in sports and school-related commitments, attendance at the waterpark declines. The families have less time and money to devote to leisure and entertainment. This situation is common to all waterparks and family entertainment locations throughout Michigan.

Soaring Eagle Waterpark will now close on Tuesdays and Wednesdays until the third week of December. This adjustment to the operating hours will allow for more efficient operation of the waterpark, as the operation is based on demand.

Both the hotel and The Retreat are unaffected by the change in waterpark hours. The hotel and The Retreat serve as secondary accommodations for

players and guests of Soaring Eagle Casino, and both properties will continue to welcome those guests.

Other parks in Michigan have recently made similar moves. A prominent location on the State's west side has ended its season more than a month early, leaving its season pass holders out in the cold.

Soaring Eagle Waterpark will return to full-time operation on Friday, Dec. 18.

Posting exciting progress on behalf of the Tribe, Bakinaw Federal Contracting has recently expanded its operating partnerships. Bakinaw Federal Contracting is the 8A-government contracting arm of the Tribe, with its sights set on securing potentially lucrative federal contracts.

After securing its first contract, Bakinaw has had animal husbandry operations in Maryland for roughly

the last two years. Recently, the company has identified and seized the opportunity to expand its partnerships and has begun a relationship with Georgia-based Karna, LLC. Karna operates within the realm of public health, including work for the Centers for Disease Control.

Bakinaw Federal Contracting and Karna are in advanced stages of formalizing a mentor-protegee agreement that will further enhance the capabilities of Bakinaw as it continues its path to growth.

The affiliation of Bakinaw Federal Contracting and Karna LLC is a significant step towards diversifying the Tribe's economic base and creating sustainable, non-gaming revenue streams that provide access to federal dollars and aim to bring high-skilled jobs to the Saginaw Chippewa community.

In comparison to other federal contracting entities of similar age, Bakinaw's growth is substantial. The majority of 8a contracting enterprises fail to ever secure a contract. Bakinaw is well-positioned to move ahead as it looks towards 2026 and the opportunities that may arise.

Tribal voting 500-foot radius, non-interference zone

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

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

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

(i) post, display or distribute any material that directly or indirectly makes reference to an election, a candidate or a ballot question (This subsection does not apply to official material that is required by law to be posted, displayed or distributed in a polling place on election day);

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

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

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

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

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



NIMKEE CLINIC
IS GOING EPIC!

On Oct. 1, 2025, Nimkee Clinic is upgrading to a new electronic medical record (EMR) system called Epic.

- ▶ This new system will improve how we manage your health information, making your care more seamless and connected.
- ▶ It will make it easier to access appointments and health information.

Sign up for the Patient Portal!

With Epic, every patient will have the option to sign up.



This secure online tool allows you to:

- ▶ View your medical records
- ▶ Manage your prescriptions
- ▶ See test results
- ▶ Communicate with your care team
- ▶ Request appointments

Registration

All patients at their first appointment on the new system, will need to complete registration.

Registration checklist:

- ▶ Bring ID card such as state license, passport or Tribal ID
- ▶ Update address, phone numbers and email
- ▶ Bring all insurance cards
- ▶ Option to sign up for patient portal
- ▶ Update release of information

Ask a staff member how you can sign up for the Patient Portal today!

What to expect

During this transition, we ask for your patience. Our staff is working hard to learn the new system to provide you with the best care possible.

Wait times:

- You may experience slightly longer wait times for appointments and at the pharmacy. We are doing everything we can to minimize these delays.
- We appreciate your understanding as we navigate this change.

Communication:

- Our team will communicate with you regularly about any changes or updates related to the new system.
- Please feel free to ask our staff any questions you have about the transition.

Your health information:

- All of your current health records will be safely and securely moved to the new Epic system.
- Your care team will continue to have access to your complete medical history.

Results:

- You may experience a slight delay in receiving lab results or other test results during the initial transition period.
- Once the new system is fully operational, you'll be able to view your results faster than ever.



Tribal youth, families join CMU football team on the field for Traditions Day

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Public Relations Manager

The tradition continued between a university and a nation as Tribal youth and families were on the field with Central Michigan University's football team on Sept. 20. This was part of the annual CMU Traditions Day, which focuses on the continued positive relationships the Tribe has with the university.

After the national anthem, Tribal youth and families lined the field and provided a fan tunnel as football players entered the stadium to meet in a circle on the field.

The fans in the stadium cheered while the announcement said: "The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Mount Pleasant is pleased to present the Onion Creek Singers who are sharing an honor song for creator, the athletes, and our community."

The traditional teaching was shared with the crowd that the tribal community drum is

significant in that it represents the never-ending circle of life.

"The sounds that resonate from the drum are the heart-beat of our ancestors sharing their wisdom and their prayers for strength, agility, mutual respect, and sportsmanship," the announcer said. "The tribal songs embody the spirit of the tribal community sharing respect for one another and celebrating the abilities the creator has woven into each and every one of us to be the best we can be for ourselves and one another."

The announcer also shared that SCIT plays a vital role in the mid-Michigan economy as the largest employer in both Isabella and Arenac counties..., and that SCIT continues to give back through the disbursement of 2 percent funds to local schools and municipalities, totaling over \$294 million since the spring of 1994.

Tribal Council members – Sub-Chief Luke Sprague, Treasurer Maia Spotted Tail, Sgt.-at-Arms Christina Otto, Samantha Chippeway, David



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

(Left to right) Central Michigan University Athletic Director Amy Folan; and Tribal Council members Sub-Chief Luke Sprague, Sgt.-at-Arms Christina Otto, David Merrill Jr., Samantha Chippeway, Treasurer Maia Spotted Tail and Brad Bennett; and CMU President Dr. Neil MacKinnon are recognized on the football field during the Sept. 20 Traditions Day game.

Merrill Jr. and Brad Bennett – joined CMU President Neil MacKinnon and CMU Athletic Director Amy Folan on the field after the first quarter.

While on the field, the announcer shared how CMU and SCIT have a long-standing progressive relationship built on mutual respect and admiration for one another, and both stand committed to supporting one another while striving to make a difference in the lives of others.

"The Tribe and the University are institutions within our community and enjoy many parallels with one another while celebrating our differences. The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe remains committed to supporting CMU and its commitment to being the school of choice for Native Americans and all minority students," the announcer said. "Knowing our differences is what makes us strong. knowing our past guarantees our future. The tradition continues between a university and a nation as we continue working together for our future."

The celebration continued after as the Chippewas won their home season opener against Wagner University 49-10.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Onion Creek Singers perform an honor song on the football field.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal youth and families line the field to provide a fan tunnel as CMU football players enter the stadium.



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

Submissions Needed

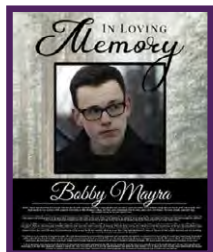
The Opioid Summit Committee is requesting the community's support for submittal of a picture and a written brief story of remembrance of their loved one who would like a chance to share with others due to opioid, alcohol substance misuse and suicide.

To fondly remember 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 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



Anishinabe Performance Circle Registration

Fall classes:

Sign up: Now through Oct. 7

Classes held: Sept. 30–Dec. 23 in person from 5–6 p.m.

For more information, contact:

RCadotte@sagchip.org or 989.775.4757

Or visit: www.sagchip.org/ziibiwing

Spring classes:

Sign up: Now through Jan. 13

Classes held: Jan. 6–March 24 in person from 5–6 p.m.

▶ \$30 fee

▶ 12-week course

▶ Professional dance instructors

▶ Class space is limited



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of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways

THE MIDWEST'S PREMIER AMERICAN INDIAN MUSEUM
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SCIT Recreation hosts Labor Day picnic with fun-filled family activities at Wii Maajikwad

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK
Public Relations Manager

The SCIT Recreation team was all hands on deck as they offered fun-filled, family-friendly activities during the Labor Day weekend picnic at Wii Maajikwad on Friday, Aug. 29.

The festivities included family bingo with plenty of door prizes; a picnic dinner featuring hamburgers, brats and hot dogs;

Observer photos by Joseph Sowmick

a cornhole tournament; egg toss and hula hoop contests; and music throughout the evening.

Cauy George from the school served as a bingo caller and participants completed for prizes as they spelled out EAGLES on their bingo cards.

Recreation Manager Ronnie Ekdahl served as grill master, and it was estimated that about 250 community members were present during the 4 to 9 p.m. activities.



Heartfelt memories shared during Aug. 31 Overdose Awareness & Remembrance Day

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK
Public Relations Manager

Community members came to share heartfelt memories of loved ones during the fourth annual Overdose Awareness & Remembrance Day event, held in the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym on Aug. 31.

The event was held during American Indian Sobriety Month, and was those in attendance were noticeably moved by the display boards, courtesy of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, of loved ones who have walked on.

One of those display boards honored Allan Wassegijig, the late husband to Tribal Council Secretary Jennifer Wassegijig. Wassegijig spoke at the event.

“Whether you’re here as a survivor, a loved one, a health-care provider, or an advocate, you are part of a powerful movement that refuses to let stigma silence truth,” Wassegijig said



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Display boards honor lost loved ones during the Aug. 31 Overdose Awareness & Remembrance Day event.

to the crowd. “Let this event be a reminder: every life matters. Every voice counts and, together, we can build a future where awareness leads to understanding and understanding leads to prevention. Miigwetch for being here and let’s make this day one of meaning, connection, and hope.”

In her opening remarks, Wassegijig shared Indian Health Services and recent CDC statistics both indicate since 2018, Native peoples have experienced the highest overdose death rates in the United States. In looking at

recent 2024 statistics, overdose deaths continue to increase in Indigenous and Black populations.

Featured speakers Anna Winters and KT Bouchard shared their stories and advice to the crowd.

Bouchard said she is in long-term recovery, and she currently serves as the prevention and education manager for Great Lakes Bay Pride organization. Her passion for advocacy and recovery drives her commitment to empower others to create meaningful change in their communities.

Winters is a certified peer recovery coach and the Isabella County/Tribal community coordinator for Peer 360 Recovery Alliance. She has been a part of the local recovery community for more than five years. A Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe tribal member, she is also a mother of four who shared the importance of providing peer support to people in recovery.

Cathy Matthews, prevention manager for Behavioral



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Anna Winters



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

KT Bouchard

Health, coordinated the event with her fellow team members: prevention specialists Michael McCreery and Nicole Nedwash.

Matthews wished to thank the speakers, RTC residents for their assistance in the set up, and Tribal Council for their support.

“... I hope someday we can turn this gathering into a grief support group that can meet regularly.”

Prevention Specialist Michael McCreery shared a reflection.

“We get a chance to share with each other by living a life centered in prayer with the Creator. This is a part of our culture passed down from our families where we help those that are struggling with past,” McCreery said. “We find these traditional ways are protective factors to urge, encourage and comfort one another is the gold we find in our lives. We bring out the good as we need to point out in each other to lighten their load of life so everyone can heal.”

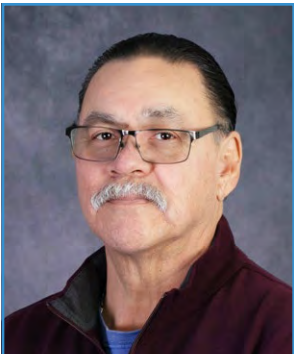
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GENERAL ELECTION
CANDIDATE PROFILES

The Tribal Observer is providing the Saginaw Chippewa community voters a feature of the candidates on the 2025 General Election ballot. All General Election candidate photos are included. Profiles are also included for candidates who provided them. All profiles are published as submitted. The Tribal Observer did not edit in any way.



Tim J. Davis



Patricia (Trish) Alonzo

My name is Patricia ‘Trish’ Alonzo, I would like to start by thanking you all for voting. I was overwhelmed with love and support. I have been employed with the Tribe for 15+ years. I am a detail-oriented administrative professional with a Master’s degree in Administrative Leadership and have extensive experience in administration, project management, and customer service. Currently an Administrative Assistant II within SCIT Education, assisting with project management efforts for the construction of Wii Maajikwad, overseeing departmental budgets and monitoring educational facilities. My commitment to student service and effective communication has facilitated strong relationships with internal teams and external stakeholders. With a diverse background that includes roles in banking, project management, and financial aid, I have honed my skills in customer relations, financial processes, and event coordination. My previous experience in Financial Aid has allowed me to navigate federal and state regulations, ensuring students received the necessary support.



Brad Bennett

Aaniin membership, my name is Brad Bennett, it has been my honor to serve you, as a district 1 representative, and the tribe as a whole. As your representative, I have worked attentively with Tribal Council, Tribal leaders/representatives, and state and federal officials to protect our sovereignty, secure resources, and create new opportunities for our people. I believe strength comes from unity! That’s why I am committed to ensuring your voice is always heard. I will continue to seek your input on critical decisions, and keep an open door policy. I am proud of our progress, but there is more work to do. I ask for your vote to continue building a prosperous and lively community, grounded in our traditions, for all our members. Thank you.



Ronald F. Ekdahl

My name is Ronald F. Ekdahl and I am asking for your vote in the 2025 Tribal Council Election. I have served previously on the Tribal Council for 6 years (2015-2021). In that time I gained an in-depth knowledge on how the Tribe operates internally. I was also able to see how important our businesses, the Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort and Saganing Eagles Landing, are to our way of life. Keeping our flagship businesses operating in an efficient and optimal level is a top priority of mine. I will do my best to support those employees and departments that play pivotal roles within the Tribe. I have a goal of working towards continued development of our business portfolios to create additional revenue streams. I would like to continue to support Migizi in their efforts. Miigwech, I hope to have your vote this election.



Guadalupe (Lupe) Gonzalez

Boozhoo! I’m thrilled to announce my candidacy for tribal council this year. With nearly 20 years of dedicated service to our tribe in areas such as education, culture, language, and substance abuse prevention, my commitment has always been to be of service to our people. I’ve lived on or near the Rez for almost my entire life and have witnessed the change in our community before and after gaming and all the pain and joy that has come with it. I am passionate about preserving our culture and language, addressing housing insecurity, promoting food sovereignty, and enhancing the well-being of our people. Anishinabe spirituality and culture are important to my life and work. I am running for council because I love our people and wish to continue serving them. With my education and professional background, I am ready and willing to represent our tribe in a good way.



Craig Graveratte

I have 29 years with SCIT in many different capacities including our Gaming operation. I’m a Real Candidate ready to face Real Problems to make a Real Difference. I’m dedicated, hard working, dependable and willing to move OUR Tribe well into the future. I will be a true voice that works to move us forward. I support Community Togetherness that include Programs, Education and Essential Services that will strengthen OUR Tribe and move us out of the past. With hard times upon us, we must not continue with failed ideas but make positive change and venture out to invest in the Stability of our future. Now is the time for a positive change that brightens the financial outlook of our Tribe’s success. Our Tribe’s sovereignty is our greatest asset. We need to use it to our advantage that will create greater growth and prosperity for all of our members.



Kathy Hart

My family is Francis/Hart & Collins. Thirty-five years ago, I moved back home. I’ve served on various committees, including the Parent Advisory, Powwow, Education, and Elders Boards, and I’m currently serving on the Michigan Indian Elders Association. My service to my community, my education (Bachelor of Science in Administration), and my professional experience have equipped me with the skills to make sound decisions and have prepared me to be a strong leader. My priorities are our children, elders, financial security, language, culture, education, and open, honest leadership. With your support, I will be your voice, act transparently and responsibly, and dedicate myself to our future. If elected to Tribal Council, I promise to always do my best to make decisions that serve the best interests of all our members. Let’s build a stronger future — for the next seven generations. Miigwech for considering me, Kathleen (Kathy) Hart, for Tribal Council.



Angel Jackson

My name is Angel Jackson. With over 35 years of experience working for the Tribe and with Tribal regulations, it has been my honor to help revise and modernize outdated laws—paving the way for progress and positive change. In recent years, I’ve observed that our Tribe has become stagnant in some areas. I believe one of the best ways to move forward is by updating our laws to reflect the current needs of our people. With a Business Administration degree and decades of service on various committees and boards, I’ve had the opportunity to shape policy and streamline processes that benefit both the Tribe and its Membership. I bring an open mind, a willingness to listen, and a strong desire to speak on the issues that matter. I am committed to working collaboratively and meaningfully with those elected to the Council, always with the Tribe’s best interests at heart.



Sheligh Jackson

Boozhoo! I have two decades of work experience within our Tribe, I have committed with integrity and service to our membership, especially with our tribal elders. I earned associate degrees in Liberal Arts and Native American Studies, a Bachelor of Science in Sociology, and will graduate in December 2025 with a Master of Science in Administration with a concentration in Health Services. As a proud member of our tribal community, I believe in leading with vision, compassion, strategy, and respect. My academic and professional journey reflects my dedication to community empowerment and equity. I am running for Tribal Council to advocate for prioritizing new business ventures, transparent governance, improved health access, and more opportunities for all tribal members. My continued commitment to our people is not just professional, it is personal. I aim to serve with dignity, fairness, accountability, and heart for positive change.



Sheila Leasureaux

Hello, my name is Sheila Leasureaux. I’ve worked for the Tribe for 21 years, I recently retired. I graduated from the tribal college with my associates in business. I would like to see transparency from our Tribal Council, more focus towards our tribal youth. We need to look at other business opportunities, and what’s best for the tribe and our community. I would like to wish everyone running, good luck!



Maia Montoya-Pego (Spotted-Tail)

Boozhu! My name is Maia Montoya-Pego (Spotted Tail). I am humbly asking for your support in my candidacy for Tribal Council. I bring a proven, excellent work ethic and strong financial background. I have lead and contributed to several key financially strategic actions in my time as a tribal councilor. I value listening, learning, and working together, even when opinions differ. I am committed to helping guide responsible decisions that support our Tribe today and for generations to come. On a personal level, I am a life-long jingle dress dancer. I also enjoy running and will be completing my third half-marathon this winter, a reflection of the discipline and perseverance I carry into all areas of life. I am grateful for the ability to live a healthy lifestyle while serving our community. I humbly ask for your support in representing your voice in a tribal council position. Miigwech!



District 1: Isabella



Christina Otto

Boozhoo my fellow tribal members, my name is Christina Otto. Chi Miigwetch for all the love and support this term. I remain grateful for the opportunity to serve you all and would be honored to continue in this role. Having gained a greater knowledge of the inner workings of our tribal government and enterprises; I remain hopeful for the next seven generations. As an alternate for NCAI (National Congress of American Indians) I have had the privilege of standing alongside other tribal leaders across Turtle Island, advocating for our membership and the collective fight for our sovereignty. With a Master of Social Work Degree from Michigan State University, I understand the social needs of the tribe and will continue to advocate and support current programs that serve our members. As I believe all are important to our general wellbeing (Physical, Mental, Emotional, and Spiritual). Miigwetch. Gmiikwetchwenmin (I appreciate you)



Kim Otto McCoy

In a past election I mentioned my parents-Mom, Lorna Kahgegab Call, and Father, Peter Otto. I failed to give the reason why I was referring to them. They were on Tribal Council for many years which led to Carmen, David, Michelle, and myself growing up in the back of Tribal Council meetings-some held at the old “Tribal Council Hall” (Methodist Church). I learned from my parent’s-dedication, protecting our sovereignty, and serving the Tribal community. If elected, I will work with Tribal Government and Operations, Gaming, and Economic Development in supporting innovative strategies that maximize our resources. I intend to make the best decisions possible for the Tribal Membership as a whole and not just for myself or my family. These are some of the things that I pray about since I became born again and if you’ve read this far, you have prayed with me. Matthew 18:20



Summer Peters

Boozhoo, I am Summer Peters, great-niece of Frank Peters, who served on our Tribe’s first council in 1934. I am running for Council because my life passion is to empower our people to thrive as leaders, changemakers, and visionaries for the future. My purpose has always been to fight for those who have unheard voices & build systems that uplift our people and honors our culture. My vision is to promote accessible housing initiatives, diversify our Tribe’s economic development, achieve energy independence, expand employment opportunities for our members, and stand up for those who often feel left with the short end of the stick. My higher education—a BA in Economics and an MBA—is not the full culmination of who I am but becomes enhanced when grounded in cultural knowledge and lived experience. I love my tribe & know I can be an impactful leader for our people.



Diana Quigno

My name is Diana Quigno. My service to our community spans over thirty years. Whether through my work at Nimkee or as your Tribal Sub-Chief and Chaplin, I have consistently dedicated my life to proudly serving our Tribe with the goal of building a strong and sustainable legacy. I will continue to work hard to provide leadership that is honest, cooperative, and committed to progress rooted in tradition. We live in unprecedented times where it is necessary for our leaders to protect our legacy. I promise to serve with the core values of wisdom, love, respect, bravery, honesty, humility and truth in my commitment to working for you. It would be an honor to serve as your Tribal Council District 1 representative again if trusted with your vote. Thank you for your consideration and good luck to everyone running. No matter what, we are in this together!



Mary Quigno

My name is Mary Quigno. I am a proud graduate of SCTC with an Associate’s Degree in Business and have also completed coursework toward a Bachelor’s Degree in Business with a focus in Human Resources. This year marks my 20th year of service with the Tribe, with the majority of that time dedicated to the Human Resources Department. As your representative, I will focus on diversifying our Tribal businesses while continuing to support both our youth and our elders—the foundation and the future of our Tribe. I am also committed to working toward making Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort a destination location that showcases our culture, strength, and growth. Thank you for your continued support in the upcoming election!



Alice Jo Ricketts

Aanii, Miigwetch to all my fellow Tribal Members for their continued support. I would love the opportunity to continue to serve you as a Tribal Council Woman. I truly love and respect my fellow tribal members and my greatest prayer is to see everyone Healthy, Happy and Prosperous. I will continue to represent you with the utmost Respect, Love, Humility, Courage, Truth, Honesty and Wisdom. Miigwetch and always know how valuable and important you are. Alice Jo Ricketts



Gayle Ruhl

Aanii, first thing, I will work to get things done because our members are the most important reason to run for council. I am dedicated to serve tribal members and do the best as a team member of council. There are challenges and it’s important to work on as many as possible in those two years. Listening to members, making improvement is what I try to do each day. I believe services, Tribal Operations buildings, and employees need the attention members deserve. Making the casino and businesses more profitable is another top priority. I have worked here 20 years, seeing what works and don’t, I always want to help make this tribe better. I got my Masters of Social Work to learn to service the tribe and members better. I value the community, my family, humility and good honest hard work. I would be honored for your vote. Miigwetch

District 2: Saganing



Shirley Houle

Boozhoo, I humbly extend my deepest gratitude to each of you for your continued support in allowing me the honor of representing and serving the Saganing community. As a Traditional Kwe I walk with love and respect for the Grandfather teachings that root me spiritually to our precious Earth, Medicines, Ceremonies, Language and Community. The past eight years I’ve had the privilege of serving as a Representative Advocate in Saganing a role that has been very fulfilling serving your needs. As I step forward I carry with me a strong voice and a clear vision. This journey will give me the opportunity and responsibility to lead for positive change, membership equality and sustainable growth. My future endeavors Include housing development for our elders and community members and a vigilant dedication to preserving our success as a tribe and seeing our community prosper. Chii Miigwetch for walking this path with me.



Lucas Sprague

Boozhoo, It has been an honor to serve the Tribal membership as Sub-Chief during the 2023–2025 term. This journey has come with many challenges, but with those challenges came growth—both personally and professionally. In the spring of 2023, I earned my Master of Science in Administration degree. That experience deepened my understanding of the value of education and how it plays a vital role in shaping students into professionals. I see that same drive and determination in our next generations, who are entering the workforce with passion, knowledge, and a strong desire to contribute to the community. The future of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe is very bright. Lastly, I would like to say chi-miigwetch for your continued support.

District 3: At Large



Frank J. Cloutier

With 25 years of service within the Tribe, I possess institutional knowledge of ordinances, policies and resolutions. Previous leadership experience provides consistent efforts. The At-Large district is an important part of our Tribal community. I have worked with leadership to bring equality and mutual benefit to our district. The Mno Shkiziwin (GWE) Act is a good example of those efforts. To turn our Per-Capita income into “Tax Free” expense money will relieve the income tax pressure for many families. I am also working with our team to include as many At-Large members as possible into the Tribal Tax agreement that would allow for tax free income/sales tax exemptions. It is less important who we vote for; however it is more essential that we as District Three members vote and have our voices heard. I am humbly asking for your support and your vote this November.



Jennifer Wasegijig (Vasquez)

Serving our community on Tribal Council has truly been an honor. Every step of the way, I’ve done my best to listen, learn, and represent the needs and hopes of our people with honesty and respect. I care deeply about our tribe and will continue to be a voice for our membership. Though I am only one vote, I carry my decisions with great care and responsibility, doing what I believe is right for the future of our Tribe. Thank you for your trust and continued support. Jennifer Vasquez Wasegijig



Seventh Generation hosts Bagodowe Engiitaading (lacrosse tournament)

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

Seventh Generation hosted its annual Bagodowe Engiitaading (lacrosse tournament) on Friday, Aug. 22.

The co-ed tournament kicked off the People's Powwow weekend.

Teams were broken up into two age groups. This started with the 14 and under participants at 5 p.m., and the 15 and up age group playing at 6 p.m.

This year's tournament featured the best turn out yet, with more than 70 participants.

Dan Jackson, event coordinator and cultural representative for Seventh Generation, said he was pleased with the turn out for the event.

"It really filled my heart; the number of people that came!" Jackson said.

RJ Smith of Bad River, Wis. shared a prayer, and the cultural history and significance of the game.

Observer photos by Matthew Wright

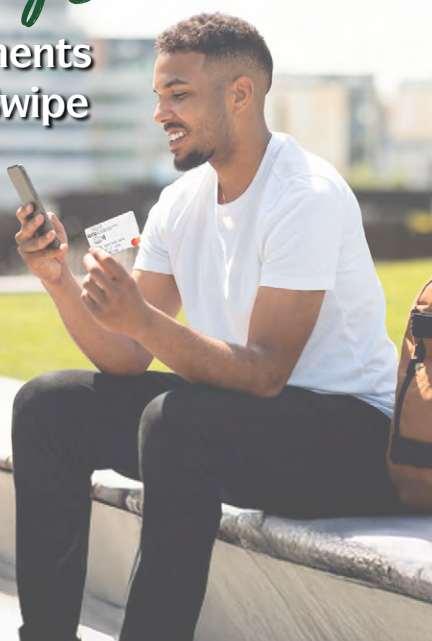


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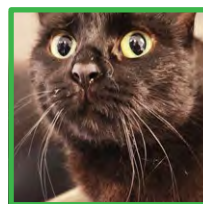
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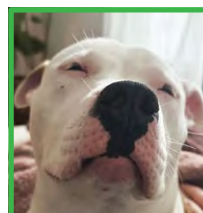


🐾 Adopt a Pet 🐾



Peek-A-Boo

Peek-A-Boo is a medium female Domestic Shorthair. She is all about calm vibes and quiet companionship. She was left behind with her friend Presto when her family moved away. Despite that, Peek-A-Boo still loves people with all of her heart. She thrives on attention and will happily soak up every cuddle. She will be happiest in a laid-back, peaceful home.



Pookie

Pookie is a female mixed breed. Pookie is an absolute sweetheart and loves everyone she meets. She may not understand personal space – she will crawl right into your lap to show you just how much she adores you. She is working on containing her excitement when meeting new people. If you're looking for a dog that will greet you with endless enthusiasm and love, Pookie is your girl.

Humane Animal Treatment Society • Hatsweb.org

Address: 1105 S. Isabella Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 | **Phone:** 989.775.0830

Email: hats.caninesupervisor@gmail.com or hats.felinedepartment@gmail.com

Walk-in hours: M-F, 1-5 p.m. *Other times available by appointment*



OCTOBER PROMOTIONS



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Win a 2025 GMC Hummer!

SATURDAYS IN OCTOBER

From 5PM–10PM, two lucky guests will win \$1,000 in Premium Play every hour! At 11PM, on October 11 and 25, one lucky guest will win keys to a 2025 GMC Hummer!

ACCESS Club Members will receive one (1) entry for every 900 points earned on their ACCESS Club card from 12AM on September 28, until 10:55PM on October 25.



FRIDAYS

5PM–11PM

Pick the perfect pumpkin and win up to \$1,500 in Premium Play!

ENTERTAINMENT

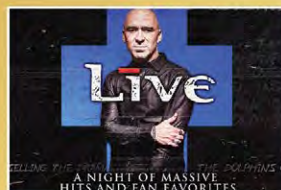


BRIAN MCKNIGHT & GINUWINE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4 | 8PM

ENTERTAINMENT HALL

Tickets: \$45, \$55, \$71, \$78



LIVE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10 | 8PM

ENTERTAINMENT HALL

Tickets: \$47, \$57, \$76, \$82



AARON LEWIS

& THE STATELINERS

AMERICAN AS IT GETS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 8PM

ENTERTAINMENT HALL

Tickets: \$43, \$53, \$69, \$77



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Win a share of over \$135,000 in Cash and Premium Play!

SATURDAYS IN OCTOBER

From 12PM–10PM, play for the chance to win up to \$1,000 Cash! Land the golden pumpkin to unleash random Hot Seat winners for an hour!

ACCESS Club Members will receive one (1) entry for every 200 points earned. Guests can began earning entries from 12AM on September 28, until 9:59PM on October 25.



FRIDAYS

12PM–10PM

Throw like a champ and win your share of \$38,000 in Premium Play!



MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS

9AM–9PM

Earn one entry for every 200 points from 9AM–9PM for hourly drawings where winners pick \$50 in Premium Play or a shot at the Mystery Grand Prize. Plus, play the Speedmedia game, earn 300 points in a day from 9AM–9PM and get \$10 in Premium Play (one time). During the finale on October 30, one lucky guest will take home the Mystery Grand Prize!



FRIDAYS

9AM–11PM

Earn 2,000 points from 9AM–11PM, swipe at a kiosk to print a receipt and pick up a Lions t-shirt at the ACCESS Club booth. A new design is featured each week, while supplies last.



NOW–JANUARY 4, 2026

Make your weekly Pro Football picks at the promotional kiosk for a shot at Premium Play, cash prizes and even \$1,000,000—if you correctly pick 190 or more out of the 236 season games! Top scores win weekly, and playing all 18 weeks boosts your chances to score big!

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Rascal Flatts celebrates 25 years of music during “Life is a Highway” tour

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

As the ‘Summer Nights’ were still in full force in central Michigan, country music trio Rascal Flatts made their return to the outdoor stage at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Saturday, Aug. 30.

Rascal Flatts stopped in Mount Pleasant as part of their “Life is a Highway” tour, celebrating 25 years of music.

The Grand Ole Opry members began their show with mesh up of “Here’s to You” and Thin Lizzy’s “The Boys Are Back in Town,” followed by “Yours If You Want It” and “Fast Cars and Freedom.”

The four-time Grammy nominated trio consists of lead vocalist Gary LeVox, bassist Jay DeMarcus, and lead guitarist Joe Don Rooney.

The evening consisted of lively performances of the group’s best known hits.

Hits performed included “Mayberry,” “My Wish,” “Bless the Broken Road,” “I Like the Sound of That,” “What Hurts the Most,” “Me and My Gang,” “Summer Nights” and more.

According to Rascal Flatts’ website, they have “racked up 17 Number One hits, over 23.4 million albums sold, 35 million digital downloads, and over 12 billion total lifetime streams” (rascalflatts.com).

Rascal Flatts ended the show with Tom Cochrane’s song, which they also recorded, “Life Is a Highway.”

Country singer-songwriter Lauren Alaina opened the show with a one-hour set.

Alaina was the runner-up on season 10 of “American Idol” in 2011, behind Scotty McCreery. She released her debut album that same year and has had a successful solo career.

Alaina achieved her first number one single on the



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

The members of Rascal Flatts (left to right: Jay DeMarcus, Gary LeVox and Joe Don Rooney) perform during the Saturday, Aug. 30 outdoor concert at Soaring Eagle.

Country Airplay chart in 2017 with “Road Less Traveled.” Her second number one also came later that year with her

friend and former Georgia classmate, Kane Brown, with their duet “What Ifs.”

She brought an entertaining

set to the outdoor stage; showing off her vocal abilities. She also brought her infant daughter with her, born June 2025.

Return of the Summer of ‘99 Tour features Creed, Mammoth and Hinder

MATTHEW WRIGHT
Staff Writer

Creed and their “Return of the Summer of ‘99 Tour” made a stop at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Saturday, Aug. 23. Joining them on the outdoor concert stage were fellow rock groups Mammoth and Hinder.

Touring for the first time in over a decade, Creed is thrilling fans with their return to the live stage.

The band took to the outdoor concert stage, launching straight in to a powerful quartet of hits in “Bullets,” “Ode,” “Torn” and “Are You Ready?”

Next up was a spirited performance of “Never Die,” which was dedicated to the late Brad Arnold of 3 Doors Down.

Lead singer Scott Stapp’s powerful, gravelly voice was on full display during the brooding hit “My Own Prison.”

This was followed by “Freedom Fighter,” “Say I,” “What If,” “One” and “What’s This Life For.”

A highlight of the night featured the Grammy Award-winning hit song “With Arms Wide Open,” followed by the fan favorite “Higher.”

Creed ended the night with a two-piece encore of the chart-topping songs “One Last Breath” and “My Sacrifice.”

Prior to Creed, American rock band Mammoth performed a 10-piece set. The band is led by Wolfgang Van Halen, the son of the late rock legend Eddie Van Halen.

Mammoth came out and instantly energized the crowd with “Another Celebration at the End of the World,” “The Spell” and “Epiphany.”

The hard-hitting riffs and melodic vibes of Mammoth were on full display throughout the show. This included the performances of “Like a Pastime,” “Stone,” “You’re to Blame,” “Distance,” “Take a Bow” and “Don’t Back Down.”

Mammoth fittingly ended with “The End,” the title track off their new album set to be released in October 2025.

American rock band Hinder served as the opening act. Known for their raucous, grunge-infused rock, the band gained immediate notoriety after the release of their 2005

album “Extreme Behavior.”

The music began with a trio of Hinder’s hit songs: “All American Nightmare,” “Homecoming Queen” and “What Ya Gonna Do.”

Many fan favorites were performed that night, including “Bring Me Back to Life,” “Lips of an Angel” and “Get Stoned.”

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



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Creed lead singer Scott Stapp (front left), guitarist Mark Tremonti (front right), and drummer Scott Phillips (back) perform during the Aug. 23 Soaring Eagle concert.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Mammoth frontman Wolfgang Van Halen, son of rock legend Eddie Van Halen



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

The Creed performance features thrilling pyrotechnics.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Members of Hinder perform their hit song “Homecoming Queen” on the outdoor concert stage.



Five Finger Death Punch, Drowning Pool, Saliva combine for Labor Day concert

MATTHEW WRIGHT
Staff Writer

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort celebrated the Labor Day holiday in style with a trio of rock bands in Five Finger Death Punch, Drowning Pool and Saliva. The Monday, Sept. 1 concert was part of the Summer Outdoor Concert Series.

Ivan Moody's (Five Finger Death Punch lead singer) powerful vocals and the riffing of guitarists, Zoltan Bathory and Andy James, combined to create an electric atmosphere.

The band began with the hit songs "Welcome to the Circus," "Lift Me Up," "Trouble" and "Wash it All Away."

Next up were the heavy, driving riffs of "Jekyll and Hyde" followed by the memorable chorus of "Sham Pain."

The band played two heavy metal-infused covers that night, including Bad Company's classic hit "Bad Company" and the traditional folk song "The House of the Rising Sun."

Fans were treated to many memorable hits that night including "No One Gets Left Behind," "Wrong Side of Heaven," "Got Your Six" and "Under and Over It."



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Five Finger Death Punch members Ivan Moody (front right) and Andy James (back left) perform during the Sept. 1 concert at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

A two-piece encore of "Never Enough" and "The Bleeding" closed out the night.

Performing before Five Finger Death Punch was the Dallas-based rock band Drowning Pool.

Drowning Pool began with "Sinner," "Feel Like I Do," "Step Up" and "Enemy."

Next up was a cover of Billy Idol's "Rebel Yell," followed by "Tear Away" and "Reminded."

Saving the best for last, the band ended their set with the heavy riffs and aggressive lyrics of their hit single "Bodies."

The concert began with American rock band Saliva taking the stage. The group played many of their greatest hits including "Ladies and Gentlemen," "Always" and "Time Bomb."

Saliva closed with the hard hitting hits "Your Disease" and "Click Click Boom."



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Ryan McCombs (left) and C. J. Pierce (right) of Drowning Pool play their hit song "Step Up."



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Saliva lead singer Bobby Amaru (left) joins guitarist Sebastoam LaBar (right) at center stage.

Three Days Grace, I Prevail, Return to Dust rock Soaring Eagle

MATTHEW WRIGHT
Staff Writer

The aggression, energy and spectacle of modern rock 'n' roll was on full display at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Friday, Sept. 19. Three Days Grace, I Prevail and Return to Dust brought all the hits to the outdoor concert stage.

Headlining the night was Toronto-based rockers Three Days Grace. Known for their dark, brooding lyrics and heavy guitar riffs, the band treated fans to a 17-song set of all their favorites.

Three Days Grace began with "Animal I Have Become," "So Called Life" and "Break."

Energetic lead singer Adam Gontier pumped the crowd up before the band transitioned into the opening riffs of "Home."

The hits continued with "The Mountain," "Mayday," "Pain" and "Kill Me Fast."

Going back to their roots, Three Days Grace next performed "I Hate Everything About You," the first single from the band's debut self-titled 2003 album.

This was followed by "I Am Machine," "Time of Dying" and "Apologies."

Next up was a cover of the classic Alice in Chains song "Rooster."

A trio of hits highlighted the night in "The Good Life," "Painkiller" and "Never Too Late."

To close their set, they performed the heavy-riffed single "Riot."

Performing before Three Days Grace was the Southfield, Mich.-based rock band, I Prevail.

I Prevail began with a trio of fan favorites in "Bow Down," "Body Bag" and "Self-Destruction."

The show marked a significant point in the group's career, as their fourth studio album "Violent Nature" was released that same day. To celebrate it, the band performed three songs off the new album. This included "Violent Nature," "Into Hell" and "Rain."

Other hits performed included "Choke," "Visceral," "Hurricane" and "Gasoline."

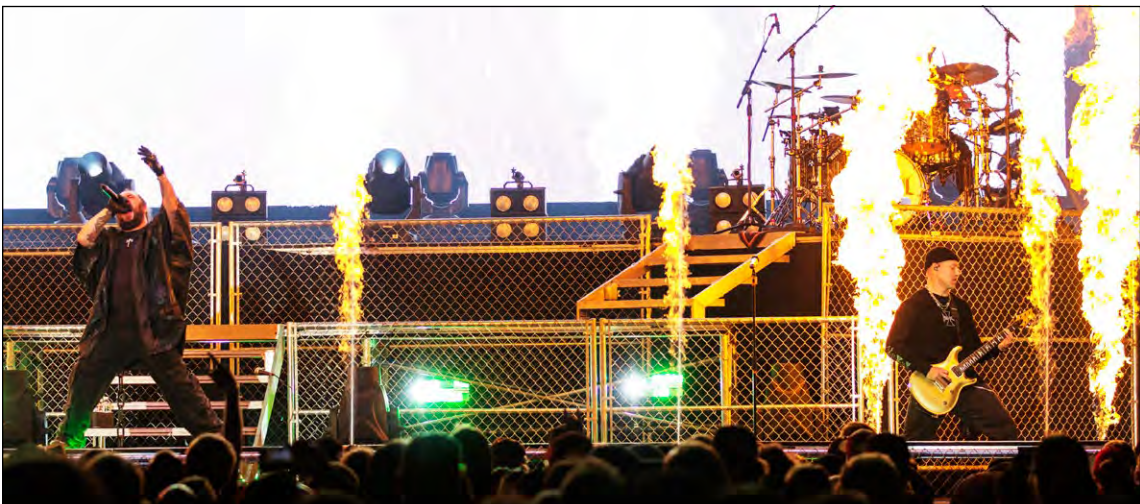
Opening the night was American rock band Return to Dust. The band performed a short set which included their hits "Black Road," "Bored" and "Belly Up."

The group featured London Hudson on drums, the son of legendary Guns N' Roses guitarist, Slash.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Three Days Grace members Barry Stock (left) and Adam Gontier (right) rock the Soaring Eagle on Sept. 19.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Flames erupt from the stage during I Prevail's performance.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Return to Dust features London Hudson (back left) on drums, the son of legendary Guns N' Roses guitarist, Slash.



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

Boozhoo elders! Fall is upon once again! It is time to start preparing for the colder weather and begin winterizing your home. Snowplowing applications will be accepted beginning Nov. 1 until all spots are filled. Everyone must fill out an application. Priority goes to elders over 70 years of age and living alone. Under 65 years old must have medical documentation and pay a \$50 fee for the season. Application and guidelines are available at Andahwod or on the website. The Family Caregiving Assistance Program is available for those who provide care to grandchildren, relatives, or immediate family members. Please call Elder Services for information 989-775-4307.



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.

COSTUME PARTY

Friday, Oct. 24
5-7 p.m. | Andahwod

►Community adults only ►Free event, no cost

• Food • Music • Costume contest • Games

**Drug and alcohol free event.*

For more information, please contact:
989-775-4339 or depelcher@sagchip.org

October 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.

Elders Lunch

Oct. 1, 15 / 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Cranberry Farm trip

Oct. 4 / Leaving at 10 a.m.

Understanding Alzheimer's & Dementia workshop

Oct. 7 / 1 p.m.

Elders Breakfast

Oct. 8, 22 / 9-10 a.m.

Bonfire & S'mores

Oct. 13 / 2:30 p.m.

Line Dancing

Oct. 14 / 6:30 p.m.

Saganing Bingo with Friends

Oct. 14 / Leaving at 9 a.m.

Flu/COVID clinic & Mno Shikiziwin information

Oct. 16 / 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Bingo with Friends

Oct. 17 / 1 p.m.

Name that Tune

Oct. 21 / 2:30 p.m.

Monster Bash

Oct. 24 / 5-7 p.m.

Birthday Bingo & Potluck

Oct. 25 / 12 p.m.

Language Bingo

Oct. 27 / 1-3 p.m.

Healthy living presentation

Oct. 28 / 1 p.m.

John's dogs visit

Oct. 28 / 2:30 p.m.

For more information, please call Andahwod at: 989.775.4339

***Activities and events*

Elders Minor Assistance Program (EMAP)

This grant assistance is available for minor home and vehicle repairs under program guidelines. SCIT elder over 60 years of age may be eligible.

Elders may stop in, call, or email for more information. Applications and guidelines are available in the Andahwod front lobby.

Flu & COVID Clinic & Mno Shkiziwin Presentation

Thursday, Oct. 16, 2025
10 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Andahwod CGA

- Sue Sowmick will be joined by the Isabella County Health Dept. to offer flu shots and COVID vaccinations.
- Chris Sineway and Erik Rodriguez will be onsite to discuss the updated Mno Shkiziwin Program.
- Open to all community members.

Request for Qualifications (RFQ):
SNOWPLOW SERVICES

Project overview: Andahwod CCC & Elder Services Responses will be received between:

Oct. 1, 2025 at 8 a.m. to Dec. 3, 2025 at 5 p.m.

***RFQ for snowplow services must be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope. **Submissions received after this date may not be considered.*

Purpose of the request for qualifications:

Andahwod Continuing Care Community and Elder Services are currently seeking two to three bonded and insured companies for a grant period of April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2026 to provide snowplow services for elder members of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe during the winter months. Hours vary from 16 to 20 hours per week until grant ends March 31, 2026. Service area is Isabella County to five to 10 elder-homes. Grant provided by Title VI: Older Americans Act.

Qualification Requirements:

- High school diploma or GED
- Must be 18 years of age
- Work experience with older adults
- Must be able to effectively communicate
- Must have a valid Michigan Driver's License
- Must provide proof of liability insurance
- Must be able to pass background check to meet the employment eligibility requirements as they pertain to the position
- Must be able to obtain HIPAA certification within seven days from date of hire
- Native American preference shall apply to all positions

Submission of Qualifications:

Interested parties are invited to submit three copied Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) to:

Andahwod CCC & ES
Attention: Sheligh Jackson, elder's advocate
SHJackson@sagchip.org
2910 S. Leaton Rd.
Mt Pleasant, MI 48858



The SOQ should include the following:

1. Individual profile and contact information
2. Relevant experience and qualifications
3. Copies of relevant certifications, accreditations, diploma and copy of driver's license
4. Available hours of work and minimum asking rate of pay

October 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
Menu subject to change <i>*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</i>			1 Potato Soup Scalloped Potatoes w/Ham Elders Lunch 11:30 a.m.	2 Ground Bologna Sandwich Turkey ala King	3 Chicken Wings Hamburger	4 Chef's Choice
5 Chef's Choice	6 Beef Stew Pork Chop w/Roasted Potato	7 Minestrone Soup Baked Chicken	8 Chicken Noodle Soup Shrimp w/Fries Elders Breakfast: 9 a.m.	9 Blanket Dog w/Fries Tuna Casserole	10 Ribs w/Mashed Potato Cobb Salad	11 Chef's Choice
12 Chef's Choice	13 Tomato Soup w/Grilled Cheese Chicken Burrito	14 Sweet and Sour Chicken BLT	15 Squash Soup Sloppy Joes Elders Lunch 11:30 a.m.	16 Turkey Bacon Ranch Wrap Spaghetti w/Meatballs	17 Chicken Stew Beef Taco	18 Chef's Choice
19 Chef's Choice	20 Goulash Fish Sandwich	21 Chicken Caesar Salad Lasagna	22 Veggie Burger Soup Sloppy Joe Elders Breakfast: 9 a.m.	23 Polish Sausage Salisbury Steak	24 Cabbage Rolls Steak Dinner	25 Chef's Choice
26 Chef's Choice	27 Stuffed Peppers Mashed Potato Bowl	28 BBQ Chicken Baked Ziti	29 Ham & Cheese Sub Chili w/Bread	30 Eggs Salad Sandwich Meatloaf	31 Pizza Fried Chicken Wing Basket	Sugar free available upon request. Call kitchen for lunch and dinner at 989-775-4314.



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

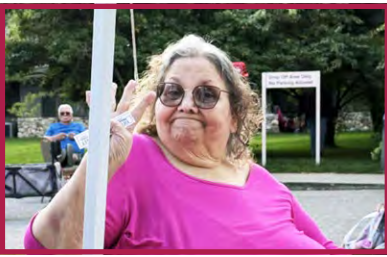
Andahwod CCC & ES
2910 S. Leaton Rd.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858



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

Grandparent's Day celebration held Sept. 10 at Andahwod

Photos courtesy of Andahwod



Marilyn Bailey



Sue Kequom, Kenny Sprague, and Davina Key



Wyman and Nancy Chippewa



Bean Sprague and Harry Pelcher

OCTOBER 2025
Tribal Elder Birthdays

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) Caroline Zocher
Joanne Butzin
Ross Francis
Sandra Johnson | Minnie Stevens
Cynthia Dalton
Marjorie Dubay
Mary Hobbs
Kris Peters
George Francis
Jody Clark |
| 2) Jamie Ritter
Oren Brown
Valerie Quinn | |
| 3) Marion Joseph
Trudy Ralston
Mark Rueckert
Sandra Compau
Aaron Camburn | 18) Terry Chamberlain
Robert Federico
Lindy Hunt
Trisha Nahmabin
Kelley Stevens |
| 4) Gonzalo Alaniz Jr.
Shane Neyome
Michelle Medina | 19) Paul Pego
Gordon Hart |
| 5) Elsie Sanders
Sandra Chappel
Claire Dunnigan
John Collins
Cheryl McKee | 20) Gilbert Hendrickson Jr.
Lawrence Sprague Sr.
Linda Willard
Chad Ruhl
Kevin Wray
Brock Isaac |
| 6) James Smith Sr.
Helen Huyser
Nonda Lynn
Daniel Sawmick
Kathleen Yacks
Theresa Carter | 21) Judy Pamp
Krystal Pelcher
Gypsy Angiano
Spencer Kirby |
| 7) David Sisco Jr.
Rebecca Bratten
Kathleen Koenig
Kelly Trombley
Shawn Kimewan
Tonia Leasureaux
William Pelcher | 22) Robert Rodriguez Jr.
Kimberely Stigger |
| 8) Ellen Kellogg-Bachert
Ronald Pelcher | 23) Jeffrey Smith
Rebecca Jackson
Scott Saboo
Ramona Walker
Samuel Arnold
Dean Waynee |
| 9) Phyllis Brodie
Sharon Sasse | 24) David Brodie |
| 10) David Perez Jr.
Terri Rueckert
Dale Stevens | 25) Sandra Rood
Philemon Sprague Jr.
Tom Bailey
Kenneth Jeffrey Jr. |
| 11) Jonie Abella
Howard Compo | 26) Audrey Nelson
Tracy Terrill-Leathers
Mariann Pelcher-Wright |
| 12) Kim Elliott
Barbara Krause
Tina Montoya | 27) Ruthie Pelcher
Gonzalo Ramirez Jr.
Mark Spencer
Kenneth Stevens |
| 13) John Graveratte Jr. | 28) Julia Hay
Michael Randall
Christina Salter
Jeanette Mandoka
Carpenter |
| 14) Daniel Bailey
Roger Rusch
Carrie Farr
Christina Cates
Theal Burch | 29) Kenneth Fallis |
| 15) Christopher Bailey
Theodore Cantu
Theodore Stevens Jr.
Sharon Avery
Allan Jacobs | 30) Dinah Griffus
Colleen Chippewa
LeAna Sams
Gloria Mulbrecht
Carl Jackson |
| 16) Charlene Chancellor
Marvin Davis Jr. | 31) Brenda Champlin
Antonio Rodriquez
Joseph Snyder
Stacey Fallis
Darrell Chippeway |
| 17) Lisa Bennett
Sarah Martin | |

INSTRUCTIONAL
LINE
Dancing

Four Tuesdays:

▶Oct. 14 ▶Oct. 28 ▶Nov. 4 ▶Nov. 18
6:30-7:30 p.m. | Andahwod CCC & ES

Come out and learn line dancing!

- All skill levels, including beginners welcome.
- If this event is well received, it will become a regular event on Tuesday evenings.
- Open to any community members, ages 18 and older.
*Please no children as this is a residential facility.
*This is a drug and alcohol free event and facility.
- No cost, free for everyone
*Donations are always welcome to help cover costs.

For information, call: Andahwod at 989-775-4300

Request for Qualifications (RFQ):
ELDER CHORE PROVIDER

Project overview: Andahwod CCC & Elder Services
Responses will be received between:

Oct. 1, 2025 at 8 a.m. to Nov. 3, 2025 at 5 p.m.
*“RFQ for elder chore provider” must be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope. **Submissions received after this date may not be considered.

Purpose of the request for qualifications:

Andahwod Continuing Care Community and Elder Services are currently seeking two to three qualified elder chore providers for a grant period of April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2026 to provide in-home care for elder members of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. Hours vary from 16 to 30 hours per week until grant ends March 31, 2026. Grant provided by Title VI: Older Americans Act.

Qualification requirements:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| • High school diploma or GED | Driver's License and must be able to obtain and maintain a Tribal Driver's license and qualify for coverage by SCIT auto liability insurance carrier |
| • Must be at least 18 years of age | • Must be able to obtain BLS certification within 30 days from date of hire |
| • Certified Nurse Aide | • Must be able to obtain HIPAA certification within seven days from date of hire |
| • Certificate highly desired | • Native American preference shall apply to all positions |
| • Work experience with older adults | |
| • Must be able to effectively communicate | |
| • Must pass background check to meet the employment eligibility requirements as they pertain to the position | |
| • Must have a valid Michigan | |

Submission of qualifications:

Interested parties are invited to submit three copied Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) to:

Andahwod CCC & ES
Attention: Sheli Jackson, elder's advocate
SHJackson@sagchip.org
2910 S. Leaton Rd.
Mt Pleasant, MI 48858

The SOQ should include the following:

1. Individual profile and contact information
2. Relevant experience and qualifications
3. Copies of relevant certifications, accreditations, diploma and copy of driver's license
4. Available hours of work and minimum asking rate of pay



Fall Education Series

Location: Andahwod CCC & ES

- ▶ Tuesday, Oct. 7 | 1-2 p.m.
Understanding Alzheimer's & dementia healthy living for your brain & body
- ▶ Tuesday Oct. 28 | 1-2 p.m.
Understanding dementia-related behaviors
- ▶ Tuesday Nov. 18 | 1-2 p.m.
Enjoying family celebrations

*Lunch is available:
1:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

*Cost is \$7 per person



Register with our 24/7 helpline at
800.272.3900 or helplinegmc@alz.org

For more information, contact:
Susan at 231.267.6119

24/7 Helpline: 800.272.3900
helplinegmc@alz.org | alz.org/gmc

Request for Qualifications (RFQ):
HOME HEALTH AIDE

Project overview: Andahwod CCC & Elder Services
Responses will be received between:

Oct. 1, 2025 at 8 a.m. to Nov. 3, 2025 at 5 p.m.
*“RFQ for elder chore provider” must be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope. **Submissions received after this date may not be considered.

Purpose of the request for qualifications:

Andahwod Continuing Care Community and Elder Services are currently seeking qualified one to three home health aides for a grant period of April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2026 to provide in-home care for elder members of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. Hours vary from 10 to 16 hours per week until grant ends March 31, 2026. Grant provided by Title VI: Older Americans Act.

Qualification requirements:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| • High school diploma or GED | • Must be able to pass background check to meet the employment eligibility requirements as they pertain to the position |
| • Must be 18 years of age | • Must be able to obtain BLS certification within 30 days from date of hire |
| • Work experience with older adults | • Must be able to obtain HIPAA certification within seven days from date of hire |
| • Must be able to effectively communicate | • Native American preference shall apply to all positions |
| • Must have a valid Michigan Driver's License and must be able to obtain and maintain a Tribal Driver's license and qualify for coverage by SCIT auto liability insurance carrier | |
| • Certified Nurse Aide | |

Submission of qualifications:

Interested parties are invited to submit three copied Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) to:

Andahwod CCC & ES
Attention: Sheli Jackson, elder's advocate
SHJackson@sagchip.org
2910 S. Leaton Rd.
Mt Pleasant, MI 48858

The SOQ should include the following:

1. Individual profile and contact information
2. Relevant experience and qualifications
3. Copies of relevant certifications, accreditations, diploma and copy of driver's license
4. Available hours of work and minimum asking rate of pay





OCTOBER 2025 | Tribal Community Event Planner

Fall Caregiver Training
Oct. 1 | Two sessions: 10-11:30 a.m. & 12:30-2 p.m.
• Commission on Aging (2200 S. Lincoln Rd.)
• 989-775-4400 or BHvictimservices@sagchip.org

Domestic Violence Awareness Yoga
Oct. 1 | 5:30-6:30 p.m.
• Behavioral Health (2800 S. Shephard Rd.)
• 989-775-4400 or BHvictimservices@sagchip.org

SCTC STEAM^{AG} Meetings
Oct. 3, 17 | 12-1 p.m.
• SCTC LGO Conference Room (5805 E. Pickard Rd.)
• 989-317-4827 or khart@sagchip.edu

Monarch Butterfly Day Celebration
Oct. 3 | 4-6 p.m.
• Ziibiwing Center (6650 E. Broadway)
• 989-775-4750
• Featuring door prizes, cookie decoration, face painting and kid's educational and craft activities

Native Farmers Market
Oct. 7, 14, 21 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
• Farmers Market Pavilion
• Corner of Broadway and Leaton roads
• PublicRelations@sagchip.org

SCTC Open Mic Night
Oct. 11 | Competition 4-5:30 p.m., open mic 5:30 - 8 p.m.
• SCTC Main Campus parking lot (5805 E. Pickard Rd.)
• STEAM@sagchip.edu
• Poetry, songs, recitals, instrumental, dance, etc.
• Prizes awarded for three categories
• Competition check in begins: 3 p.m.
• Competition portion: 4-5:30 p.m.
• Open mic: 5:30-8 p.m.

Mini Masters: Youth Golf Outing
Oct. 12 | Shotgun start at 10 a.m.
• Pleasant Hills Golf Club (Mt. Pleasant, Mich.)
• Register: 989.775.4121 or NSawmick@sagchip.org
• Ages 17 and under

Maandamin (Corn) Ashing Workshop
Oct. 14 | 3-7 p.m.
• Mshkikiikaan Ceremonial area (6900 E. Remus Rd.)
• 989.317.4827 or khart@sagchip.edu
• Learn how to shuck, ash, clean, dry, and cook the corn with Howard Kimewon while sharing stories, language and teachings.

Fall Feast
Oct. 15 | 6-8 p.m.
• 7th Generation (7785 E. Remus Rd.)
• 989-775-4780 or TJackson@sagchip.org

Trunk or Treat
Oct. 17 | 6 p.m.
• The Hill Campground (7525 E. Tomah Rd.)
• Recreation@sagchip.org
• Top three best trunk contest (over \$100 in value for each prize)
• Raffle drawing for all trunks
• Candy donations are accepted (raffle ticket for every 50 pieces donated)
• Food trucks will be on site

Andahwod Monster Bash
Oct. 24 | 5-7 p.m.
• Andahwod (2910 S Leaton Rd.)
• 989-775-4339 or depelcher@sagchip.org
• Food, music, costume contest and games
• Community adults only
• Free event, no cost

Haunted Hay Ride
Oct. 24, 25 | 7-10 p.m.
• 7th Generation (7785 E. Remus Rd.)
• 989-775-4780 or TJackson@sagchip.org
• Kids' hour: 7-8 p.m. (less scary, kid friendly)
• \$10 per person
• \$10 SECR Premium Play with every adult purchase (while supplies last).
• Food available for purchase
• Volunteers needed
• All proceeds will go towards the 2026 People's Traditional Powwow

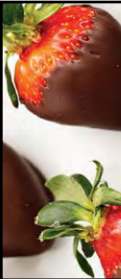
Two-Spirit Talking Circle
Oct. 27, Nov. 24, Dec. 22 | 6-8 p.m.
• 7th Generation (7785 E. Remus Rd.)
• LeRuffino@sagchip.org or kt@greatlakesbaypride.org
• A safe, affirming space for Two-Spirit and Native LGBTQ+ people and their allies to connect, share experiences, and find healing.

Author Talk Presentation: Joseph Lee
Nov. 5 | 2 p.m.
• Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Library (5805 E. Pickard)
• 989-317-4470 or AHeidemmann@sagchip.org
• Register: https://libraryc.org/crdl/99972/register

Author Talk Presentation: Amanda Peters
Nov. 13 | 7 p.m.
• Ziibiwing Center (6650 E. Broadway)
• 989-775-4750
• Register: https://libraryc.org/crdl/100577/register

Veteran's Feast
Nov. 10 | 6 p.m.
• Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Ballrooms
• PWalker@sagchip.org

OCTOBER 2025 | Tribal Community Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat./Sun.
<div><div>ACFS Sweetest Day Chocolate Covered Strawberry Fundriaser PRE-ORDER BY: OCT. 15 PICK-UP: OCT. 17 4-6 p.m. Eagles Nest Tribal Gym ►Half dozen: \$12 ►One dozen: \$24 *Pre-pay, CASH ONLY* TO PRE-ORDER, PLEASE CONTACT: 989.775.4901 or WFlowersMurch@sagchip.org</div></div>		<div>1<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>	<div>2<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>	<div>3<div>Last Day to Register for General Eletion Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health STEAM^{AG} Meeting 12-1 p.m. SCTC Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m. Andahwod</div></div>	<div>4<div>Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health</div><div>5</div></div>
<div>6<div>Sewing in Saganing 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saganing Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health</div></div>	<div>7<div>Native Farmers Market 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Market Pavilion Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Trading Card Game Night 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen</div></div>	<div>8<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>	<div>9<div>Ziibiwing Gift Shop Closed Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health</div></div>	<div>10<div>Ziibiwing Gift Shop Closed Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m. Andahwod</div></div>	<div>11<div>Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health AOVWS Meeting 2 p.m. Ziibiwing</div><div>12</div></div>
<div>13<div>Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health</div></div>	<div>14<div>Native Farmers Market 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Market Pavilion Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Aluminum Shaker Workshop 5-7 p.m. 7th Gen</div></div>	<div>15<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>	<div>16<div>Tribal Observer DEADLINE Sacred Fire Lunch 12-1 p.m. 7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health Aluminum Shaker Workshop 5-7 p.m. 7th Gen</div></div>	<div>17<div>Saganing Soup Day 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saganing Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health STEAM^{AG} Meeting 12-1 p.m. SCTC Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m. Andahwod</div></div>	<div>18<div>Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health</div><div>19</div></div>
<div>20<div>Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health</div></div>	<div>21<div>Native Farmers Market 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Market Pavilion Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Copper Bowl Workshop 1-4 p.m. Saganing</div></div>	<div>22<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>	<div>23<div>Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health</div></div>	<div>24<div>Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m. Andahwod</div></div>	<div>25<div>Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health</div><div>26</div></div>
<div>27<div>Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health</div></div>	<div>28<div>Saganing Fall Feast 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saganing Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom</div></div>	<div>29<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>	<div>30<div>Sacred Fire Lunch 12-1 p.m. 7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health</div></div>	<div>31<div>Annual Reports Due Tribal Clerk's Office Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m. Andahwod</div></div>	<div>● SECR Payroll ● SCIT Per Capita ● SCIT Payroll ● Curbside Recycling</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.

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

100 Employment

Tribal Operations

AWARE SMHA Project Co-Coordinator

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

Clerical Pool

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

General Labor Pool

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

Pharmacy Technician

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Pharmacy Technician License. One year experience working in a pharmacy desired. Eligible Employer for Public Student Loan Forgiveness as a nonprofit.

Physician - Nimkee

Open to the public. Medical degree or doctor of osteopathic medicine. Current board certification in specialty. Two years’ experience working in an outpatient or clinic setting desired. I.H.S. & N.H.S.C. loan repayment eligible clinic. Eligible employer for public student loan forgiveness as a nonprofit.

Interim Clinical Therapist - RTC

Open to the public. Interim position. Licensed master’s degree in counseling, social work, human services or related field. Limited licensed individuals who can obtain full licensure within two years from date of hire. Experience with co-occurring diagnosis and treatment.

Clinical Therapist Child and Family Services

Open to the public. Licensed master’s degree in counseling, social work, human services or related field. Limited licensed individuals who can obtain licensure within two years from date of hire. One year demonstrated mental health and co-occurring therapy experience with youth, children, and families.

Residential Treatment Support Technician

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite. Desired qualifications: Previous experience in the substance abuse field. Experience in a residential treatment center. Experience with Native American traditions and culture.

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.

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 chil-

dren and families of children with severe emotional disturbances.

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. Temporary employment, part-time shift and days based on departments needs. Under the supervision of the dean of students, Supplemental Instruction (SI) leaders offer one-on-one support to facilitate interactive study sessions to help identified students learn course concepts, prepare for exams, and learn effective study skills.

Tribal Code Compliance Officer

Open to the public. Five years’ relevant experience including building construction, inspection and ordinance enforcement. Communication and interpersonal skills to deal effectively with property owners, State, local, and Tribal governmental representatives, builders, contractors, other office staff and community-at-large.

Dentist

Open to the public. DDS/DMD degree from an accredited school. Michigan licensed dentist. Must be able to pass background check. Two years working dentist experience desired. Eligible employer for public student loan forgiveness as a nonprofit.

Dental Hygienist PT

Open to the public. Two years working experience in dental hygiene desired. IHS and NHSC loan repayment eligible clinic. Eligible Employer for public student loan forgiveness as a nonprofit. Michigan Registered Dental Hygienist license. Certification to expose dental radiographs.

Special Education Teacher

Open to the public. Bachelor’s degree in special education, education or related field. Teaching certificate with special education endorsement. Eligible Employer for public student loan forgiveness as a nonprofit.

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.

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. One year experience in administration of federal grants and contracts, and grant writing. An equivalent combination of education and directly related experience may be considered.

SCTC Adjunct Instructor - History

Open to the public. Master’s degree required in identified discipline.

Previous teaching experience preferred. Under the supervision of the dean of instruction, responsible for the preparation, presentation, and evaluation of classroom instruction and related activities during the day, evening, or weekend.

Residential Support Technician PT

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite. Desired qualifications: Previous experience in the substance abuse field. Experience in a residential treatment center. Experience with Native American traditions and culture.

Billing Account Clerk Behavioral Health

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be 18 years of age. Must possess an associate degree for medical billing and coding professional from either the American Academy of Professional Coders (AAPC) or the National Healthcare Association (NHA).

Student Support Tutor

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. College level math. Must be able to pass math test with a score of 70 percent or better. Desired qualifications: Experience working with youth. Experience with local school programming, requirements and policies. Experience working with native communities.

Leadership Intern

SCIT Tribal Members only. High school diploma or GED. Must have satisfactorily completed 12 credit hours. Must provide documentation of acceptance at an accredited college/university in Michigan. Must currently have a cumulative 2.5 GPA. Must submit an official transcript and class schedule during recruitment process. Must be a full-time college student. Under the supervision of youth leadership manager, work in a supportive environment to gain experience and learn skills required to perform tribal positions of leadership and responsibility.

Police Officer

Open to the public. Location: Arenac County. High school diploma or GED. Must be a U.S. citizen and at least 21 years of age. Must be able to pass departmental fitness evaluation. Must not have criminal history that would prevent applicant from acquiring any certification or qualification required. MCOLES certified or MCOLES certifiable. CPR and First Aid Certifications. Associate degree desired.

Dental Office Manager

Open to the public. Must be a registered dental assistant, or higher. Must be at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma, or equivalent. Must have one year experience working in an office management environment. Must have knowledge of dental terminology, understand procedures, and diagnosis.

Behavioral Health Assistant Director

SCIT Tribal Members only. Master’s degree in social work, human services, or related field. Two years experience in the field of both clinical work and administrative work. Full licensure required. Two years supervisory experience, including goal setting, program and budget development and administration required. Full licensure required. Two years supervisory experience, including goal setting, program and budget development and administration required. Experience in working with tribal communities or other diverse, minority or disenfranchised groups. Experience in working collaboratively across multiple organizations and community systems.

Cultural Representative

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Cultural experience, traditional cultural and spiritual way of life. Anishinaabe art skills desired. Under the supervision of the program manager, prepare cultural activities such as ceremonies, feasts, sweats, baby celebrations, and other seasonal activities.

Soaring Eagle

Kitchen Equipment Technician

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Three years of experience in commercial food equipment repair. Must have a current and must be able to maintain a current Universal Refrigerant Certification. Under the supervision of the central plant supervisor, repair and maintain all kitchen equipment for all food & beverage outlets.

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. Must be able to obtain a Certified Pool Operator license. Under the supervision of the central plant supervisor, maintain and operate electrical, mechanical and pneumatic equipment throughout Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, Migiizi and Tribal Operations buildings.

Guest Room Attendant PT

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

Master Plumber

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. High school diploma or GED. Ten years of experience as a licensed plumber which includes a combination of apprentice, journeyman and master plumber.

Building Maintenance Worker

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

Saganing

F&B Beverage Attendant

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

Master Plumber

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Ten years of experience as a master plumber. Must have a current and maintain a State of Michigan master plumbers license. Under the supervision of facilities supervisors, perform and oversee major repairs/new and old installations on plumbing systems. Provide direction to hotel maintenance workers, kitchen equipment technicians and central plant operators.

Beverage Waitstaff FT

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

Beverage Waitstaff PT

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

Line Cook

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

Inventory Control Driver Warehouser

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. One year experience in driving vehicles and rigs that require a CDL license. Experience with operating warehouse equipment including forklifts and riding cleaning machines. Experience on stand up or sit-down fork lifts or ability to be certified within 90 days of hire/transfer.

Cage Cashier PT

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

F&B Custodial Worker

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

Security Officer

In-house, only SCIT Members or current SELC/SECR employees may apply. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be able to work any shift assigned, included weekends and holidays.

Maintenance Worker PT

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

Laundry Attendant PT

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

NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN THE MATTER OF ROGER SHANE TEBO:

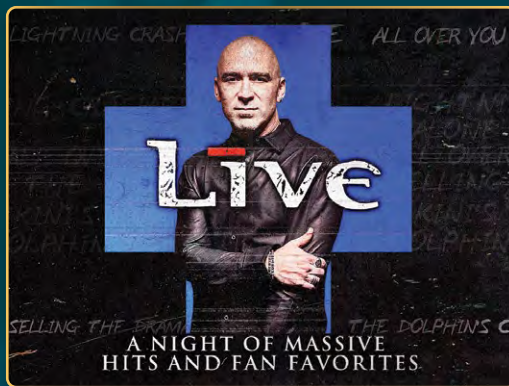
The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 East Broadway Road, Mount Pleasant, MI 48858 (989) 775-4800. Estate of Roger Shane Tebo. Date of Birth: October 10, 1967. Notice to creditors: The decedent, Roger Shane Tebo, who lived at 6679 Woodley Rd., Oscoda, MI 48750 died May 13, 2025. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Lori Fuller, 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: Lori Fuller, 2545 E. Baker Rd., Midland, MI 48642. 989-430-9166.

ENTERTAINMENT



Brian McKnight & Ginuwine

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



Live

Friday, October 10 | 8PM
Entertainment Hall
Tickets: \$47, \$57, \$76, \$82



Aaron Lewis and the Stateliners American as It Gets

Saturday, October 18 | 8PM
Entertainment Hall
Tickets: \$43, \$53, \$69, \$77



The Stray Cats

Saturday, October 25 | 8PM
Entertainment Hall
Tickets: \$62, \$76, \$89, \$96



38 Special

With Special Guest Molly Hatchet
Saturday, November 8 | 8PM
Entertainment Hall
Tickets: \$39, \$51, \$65, \$71



Sebastian Maniscalco It Ain't Right Tour 2025

Friday, November 21 | 7PM & 10PM
Entertainment Hall
Tickets: \$72, \$97, \$107, \$114

Visit our website SoaringEagleCasino.com for complete entertainment lineup.

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

\$40,000
BOO BASH
BINGO

Win \$250 Cash,
Gift Baskets, Free Bingo Play
and more!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18
MAIN SESSION AT 1:30PM

Visit the bingo hall for complete details.



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

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