



Mnidoo-Giizisoons
(Little Spirit Moon)

TRIBAL OBSERVER

DECEMBER
2025

Working Together For Our Future

www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver

Volume 36 | Issue 12



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percent
distribution
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FEATURES

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Tribal Operations will be closed Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2025 through Friday, Jan. 2, 2026 *Excluding 24/7 departments



In loving memory of

FORMER TRIBAL CHIEF

THERESA LYNN JACKSON

August 20, 1967 – November 3, 2025

Served as Tribal Chief from 2021-2023

The first Tribal Council with all female executive positions

New 2025-2027 Tribal Council selected from Nov. 4 General Election

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPT.

On Tuesday, Nov. 4, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe held its 2025 General Election. The Tribal community has elected its newest Tribal Council for the 2025-2027 two-year term.

District One members had the opportunity to select 10 representatives. District Two members selected one representative, and District Three members also selected one representative.

Voter participation for the 2025 General Election reached a combined 36.37 percent.

The Election Caucus Committee has reviewed and certified the results of the General Election for 2025.

SCIT is comprised of three districts that account for the total registered voting membership of 2,139. This accounts for 76.50 percent of the possible 2,796 members who had an ability to register to vote.

The District One voting boundaries encompass all of Isabella County. There are a total of 1,195 registered voters. District 1 had 1,395 members who were eligible to register to cast a ballot. Voter participation totaled 556 members and reflected a 46.53 percent turnout.

District Two voting boundaries are within the Saganing Reservation in Arenac County and had 43 registered voters. There are currently 54 members that were eligible to register to vote. Voter participation totaled 22 members and reflected a 51.16 percent turnout.

Finally, 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 901 registered voters. District

2025 SCIT General Election results

District 1

- Ricketts, Alice Jo 271
- Sprague, Lucas 267
- Davis, Tim J. 246
- Ekdahl, Ronald F 241
- Bennett, Brad 235
- Otto, Christina 233
- Quigno, Mary 228
- Wassegijig, Jennifer (Vasquez) 225
- Graveratte, Craig 211
- Ruhl, Gayle 211

District 2

- Houle, Shirley 22

District 3

- Cloutier, Frank J. 200

Three had a total of 1,347 members who were eligible to register to vote. Voter participation totaled 200 members and reflected a 22.20 percent turnout.

By ordinance, any candidate for office or voter in the election may protest the results, and only for the voting district in which such voter or candidate is registered, within three business days of the General Election. The election protest deadline was Nov. 7.

By ordinance, any Tribal Member voting in the election may contest a ballot count within seven calendar days of the General Election results. The deadline was Nov. 11.

The newly-elected Tribal Council will be sworn in during the Tuesday, Dec.

2 Regular Session meeting, beginning at 9 a.m. in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment Hall.

2025-2027 Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council

SWEARING IN

Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2025

9 a.m. | SECR Entertainment Hall

For more information, contact: Public Relations at 989.775.4059

PRESORTED STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
GREENVILLE, MI
05033
PERMIT # 338



Theresa Lynn Jackson

August 20, 1967 – November 3, 2025

Theresa Lynn Jackson, age 58, of Mount Pleasant, passed away peacefully on Monday, Nov. 3, 2025, at McLaren Central Michigan with her children by her side.

Theresa was born Aug. 20, 1967, in Mount Pleasant, the daughter of Julius and Helen (Pelcher) Peters. She graduated from Beal City High School with the Class of 1985 and later earned her associate degree from Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College.

Theresa married Darryl Clifford Jackson in Mount Pleasant on March 19, 1988.

She was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. She worked many years for her Tribe, from a summer youth worker to gaming to serving the elders. Theresa was also honored to serve her community as a Tribal Council member alongside her father as well as having served as the third female Tribal chief.

She attended the Faith Indian Church of the Nazarene.

Theresa will be remembered for her generosity; she loved helping others. She had a passion for music, especially a good rock concert. Spending time with her mother and sisters was special to her. Above all, she loved being the best grandma. Other hobbies she enjoyed include decorating for her favorite holidays, crocheting, beading, camping, bowling, watching soap operas, and putting together jigsaw puzzles.

Theresa is survived by her husband Darryl Jackson; children Joelle Peters (Kevin Shaw), Stephen, Robert, and Maggie Jackson; grandbabies Joselynn, Kenisynn, Anistynn, and Kamerynn Shaw, Leilani, Jace, and Amik Yahbay-Wooten; her mother Helen Jean (Pelcher) Peters; brother Lance (Kristen) Peters; sisters Renee (Bret) Yahbay, Juliane (Mitch) Hinmon; nephew Zack; nieces, Julia (Austin) Katatya, Aleeya, Teralyn, Erica and Novaly; great nephews Remi, Kash, Bronx and Max; mother-in-law Julia Jackson; sisters-in-law Angel, Salina Jackson and Tonya Antoine (Steven); brothers-in-law Delmer (Mary) Jackson, Jr, Daniel (Alex) Jackson; and many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Theresa had many friends and family members whom she loved and cared for, who adored her and will miss her dearly.

Theresa was preceded in death by her father, Julius Peters; maternal grandparents, Beatrice (Davis) Peters and Bemis Pelcher; paternal grandparents, Wilfred Peters Sr. and Julia (Otto) Peters; special aunts Bettylou and Beverly; parents-in-law Delmar Jackson Sr. and Karen Jackson, and other beloved family members.

A Celebration of Life for Theresa took place at the Tribal Gym on Friday, Nov. 14, at 2 p.m. with Sam McClellan officiating. Interment of cremains immediately followed at Woodland Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Faith Indian Church of the Nazarene.



Eliza Jane Jackson-Peters

June 13, 1973 – November 12, 2025

Eliza Jane Jackson-Peters, 52, passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 12, 2025, at her residence.

Born on June 13, 1973, in Mount Pleasant, she was the daughter of the late Delores Kay Jackson.

Eliza was a naturally fun-loving person who enjoyed spending time with her family and friends, visiting the casino, cooking, and trying new dishes at local restaurants.

Despite battling cancer for two years, she faced it courageously, always with a smile on her face. She was baptized into the Christian Faith two years ago at Family Church in Mount Pleasant. Eliza found her greatest joy in being with her family, especially her grandchildren.

She is survived by her children, Tyler Jackson, Kaylee Jackson, Kris (Alexandra) Peters, Louanne Peters, and Wyatt (Zoe) Peters; her bonus daughters, Heidi and Sarah; her grandchildren, Trenton, Lexie, Aiyana, Cole, Henry, Wesley, Corey, Sedwyn, and Makwa; her great-granddaughter, Phoenix; her siblings, Michael Jackson, Patricia Jackson, Lisa Marie Bennett, and Mikey Bennett; her uncle and aunt, Donald and Leigh Chippewa; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins, including special cousins: Candace Benzinger, Diana Quigno, Paula Quigno, and Amelia and Gabe Jackson.

She was predeceased by her mother, Delores Kay Jackson; son, Ridge Jackson; maternal grandparents, Homer and Irene (Chippewa) Jackson; and several aunts and uncles.

A service celebrating Eliza's life took place at 1 p.m. Monday, Nov. 24, in the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym with Felix Martinez officiating. The family received friends one hour before the service began. Committal was held in Riverside Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



Joshua Derrick Jackson

January 10, 1983 – November 6, 2025

Joshua Derrick Jackson (Kchekeno), member of the Bear and Turtle Clan, 42, of Wilson, Mich. passed away on Nov. 6, 2025.

Joshua was born on Jan. 10, 1983 in Marquette, Mich., son to Philemon "Bean" Sprague and Earlene Dawn Jackson.

Joshua enjoyed sports and spending time with his family.

Among survivors include: his father, Bean Sprague; children, Shanyce Shawano, Ceyenna (Nathen Wynos) Boychief, Serenity Jackson, Mequon Jackson, and Tthigwe Jackson; grandchildren, Shondreya, Ivory, and Iyarah; the mothers of his children, Regina Boychief and Samantha Greenlund; brothers and sisters, Jared Jackson, Justin Smith, Jeremy Jackson, Kyle Boda, Darren Matrious, Kelli Jackson, and Deanna Thunder; and nieces and nephews, Warren G III, Arias, Kchezhawno and Kailani, Kaylee, Alaura, Wyatt and Breanna, McKenna, Babi, Wase, Logan Jazlyn, Lilliann, Kayden, and Grayson.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Earlene; brother, Warren Jr.; sisters, Christina and Felicia; and Aunt Sharon.

Visitation was held on Wednesday, Nov. 12, 2025 at 4 p.m. at the Hannahville Community Center. The funeral service began at 10 a.m. on Nov. 13 with burial following in the Hannahville Cemetery.



Active Native Youth



Deadline: Dec. 11, 2025

Send in one photo of your Tribal Member, descendant students to be featured in the January 2026 issue of the Tribal Observer.

Email your photo and information to Observer@sagchip.org

Please include the following:

• Name • School • Grade • Sports/activities



ADA American Dental Association®

Save the Date: Feb. 26, 2026

8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Nimkee Clinic

- Children under the age of 18 who are eligible to be seen at the Nimkee Dental Clinic (2591 S. Leaton Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858) are invited to join us.
- Kids may receive a dental exam, X-rays, sealants, fluoride treatment and/or fillings based on individual need and time available.
- All participants will receive a goodie bag!
- Appointments must be made by calling (989) 775-4657 any time up to, and including the day of the event.



Tribal Member Loan Application Timeline:

Applications received by Dec. 11 have an anticipated loan check distribution date of Dec. 18.

Applications received between Dec. 12 and Jan. 8 have an anticipated loan check distribution of Jan. 15.

Attention Tribal Elders:

Current Elder Permits will expire JAN. 1, 2026

New permits for 2026-2028 are now available at the Office of Tribal Licensing & Regulations in the Black Elk Building.

These permits are available to all elders 50 years of age and older, and are valid for parking in designated elder parking spots at both casinos and some Tribal buildings.

Please stop in, call, or email the office to request an application for new permits:

Office of Tribal Licensing & Regulations
7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Phone: 989-775-4122 | Email: OTLR@sagchip.org



25% off select merchandise!

ZIIBIWING CENTER
HOLIDAY Sale

Open to the public:

Nov. 24 - Dec. 19

Ziibiwing Gift Shop hours:

Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

- 25% off select merchandise
- Hero Access Cards honored for an additional 25% off
- No additional discount on sale items
- Select items will be on sale

Attention Tribal Members: Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE: There will be a public hearing held on Monday, Jan. 12, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. in the Chambers at the Black Elk Building, 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. This hearing will address the application for a renewal of a Retail Off-Premise Beer and Wine License presented to Tribal Council by Theresa Giorlando, area retail manager of the Migizi Economic Development Company. The application which will be reviewed and discussed at the hearing is as follows:

Renewal of Retail Off-Premise Beer and Wine License for the Isabella Sagamok, located at 2428 S. Leaton Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Such license if renewed, would cover the sale of packaged beer and wine to be consumed by buyers off premise for the duration of one full year from Jan. 27, 2026 to Jan. 26, 2027, with hours of alcohol service consistent with Chapter 8.7 Liquor Control Act and the license issued by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.



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

• Dec. 2 • Jan. 6 • Feb. 3



HOLIDAY HOURS
Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center
WILL BE CLOSED:
DEC. 24, 2025 - JAN. 2, 2026

Nimkee Medical labs, Pharmacy, Dental and Public Health open from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.:

- Dec. 26, 2025 • Dec. 30, 2025
- Dec. 29, 2025 • Jan. 2, 2026

**Nimkee medical providers will be on call (989-317-2088) from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., after 5 p.m. and weekends.*

Nimkee Fitness Center Open 24/7

- *Access with employee badge or key fob.*
- *Staff on site from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.*

Nimkee Optical open:

- Dec. 23, 2025: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. & 1-3 p.m.

Urgent Care: If you need to utilize urgent care during the closure, please make sure to call the PRC Hotline at 989-775-4633.

Teledoc is available

General Medicine Only:
Free for UMR-registered patients, scan the QR Code below to download the app.



Prescriptions

Nimkee patients can fill Teladoc prescriptions during open clinic hours at Nimkee Pharmacy.

If a patient requires medication when Pharmacy is closed, Meijer Pharmacy is free of charge for eligible patients (patient must let Meijer pharmacy know they are a Nimkee patient) or a pharmacy of their choice can be used, patient will be responsible for the co-pay.

ATTENTION

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



TRIBAL OPERATIONS
Holiday & Administrative Closures

TRIBAL OPERATIONS WILL BE CLOSED:
Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2025 – Friday, Jan. 2, 2026

**Excluding 24/7 departments and those below.*

- **ACFS:** Closed, on-call worker: **989-775-4700**
- **Andahwod:** Open 24/7 including Elder Services Programs. Elder Services Programs will be open on the following dates and times:
 - Friday, Dec. 26: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 - Monday, Dec. 29: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 - Tuesday, Dec. 30: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 - Friday, Jan. 2: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- **Behavioral Health Outpatient:** Closed, on-call therapists: **989-775-4850**
- **Behavioral Health RTC:** Open, fully staffed. **989-775-4850**
- **Education:** Wii Maajikwad front office, Higher Ed office and Project AWARE office open Dec. 22-23.
- **Facilities:** Coverage every other day.
- **Fire Department:** Open 24/7, fully staffed. **989-775-4866**
- **Gaming Commission:** Compliance offices located at SECR & SELCH will be available 24/7. All Gaming commissioners will be on-call at all times.
- **Housing:** Closed. Mt. Pleasant 24/7 emergency line: **989-621-2669**
- **Information Technology:** Open, regular coverage.
- **Licensing and Regulations:** Closed, staff on-call: **989-775-4175**
- **Nimkee Dental, Medical Labs, Pharmacy, and Public Health:** Open from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Dec. 26, 29 & 30, 2025 & Jan. 2, 2026. Medical provider on-call after 5 p.m. and weekends: **989.317.2088**
- **Nimkee Fitness Center:** Open 24/7, access with employee badge or key fob.
- **Nimkee Optical:** Open Dec. 23, 2025 from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. & 1-3 p.m.
- **Per Capita:** Closed, staff available: percapita@sagchip.org
- **Police Department:** Open 24/7. Dispatch available at: **989-775-4700**
- **Prosecutor:** Prosecutor's and VOCA offices available Dec. 26, 29 & 30 and Jan. 2 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Prosecutor on call: **989-775-4809**
- **Public Works:** Snow removal: **989-533-8670**
- **Recreation:** Closed. After school programming and other program to resume on Monday, Jan. 5, 2026.
- **Saganing Outreach:** Closed. Tuesday Medication pick-up and deliveries: **989-980-4213**. Snow removal Dec. 23-30: **989-737-7337**. Snow removal Jan. 1-2: **989-313-2614**.
- **Seventh Generation:** Closed, staff on-call: **989-621-0887 or 989-621-9375**
- **Tribal Clerk/Enrollment:** Closed, for burial assistance: **989-775-4072**
- **Tribal College:** TBD
- **Tribal Court:** Closed, staff on-call: **989-775-4801**

Most closed departments will be monitoring their emails and voicemails to provide services throughout the closure, be sure to leave a message.



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

March 1, 2026

Tribal Child Welfare Affidavits or Child Mino Shkiziwin Applications

Forms available beginning Jan. 5, 2026.
**You must fill out ONE form completely.*

Deadline: Friday, Feb. 6, 2026 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



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

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



SCIT MEMBER VETERANS NEEDED

To participate in the
Mid-Michigan Honor Flight

We need your support. We can't fly without you!

Who we are

Mid-Michigan Honor Flight is a regional hub of the Honor Flight Network. Honor Flight Network is the national organization behind the massive effort to see that ALL veterans have opportunity to see their memorials FREE OF CHARGE.

Who is eligible to go on the flight?

We are currently taking applications for WWII, Korean War and Vietnam veterans or any terminally-ill veteran from any time, concentrating on our most elderly veterans.

Who else can go?

We take guardians on each flight to escort these heroes to Washington, D.C. Many guardians are needed as we are focused on the safety and comfort of our veterans. Guidelines for Guardians and applications can be found on our website: www.midmichiganhonorflight.org

To RSVP, please contact:**SCIT Public Relations**

Publicrelations@sagchip.org or 989-775-4059

Deadline: Monday, Dec. 15, 2025



Mid-Michigan Honor Flight

"It's never too late to thank a veteran"

www.midmichiganhonorflight.org

ACFS - Foster Care Program

Christmas BAZAAR

Sunday, Dec. 14, 2025

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Set up begins at 8 a.m.

Soaring Eagle Casino
& Resort Ballroom

6800 E. Soaring Eagle Blvd.

*All proceeds benefit ACFS Foster Care Program

For more information: 989.775.4914



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.



Annual Student Conference March 14-19, 2026



Where: Bismark, N.D.

Who: SCTC students

Eligibility requirements:

- Cumulative GPA of at least 2.5
- Be registered for at least nine credit hours during the spring '26 semester.
- Have completed at least nine credits at SCTC before applying.
- Participate in practices, meetings, preparations, etc.

****This is an alcohol and drug-free trip!**

Deadline: Dec. 13, 2025 by 5 p.m.

Students from Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCU) throughout the United States come together to compete in several different categories such as:

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Science Bowl | • Art | • Web Design |
| • Critical Inquiry | • Archery | • Scientific Poster Presentation |
| • Poetry Slam | • Chess | • Scientific Oral Presentation |
| • Business Bowl | • Speech | • Plus more |
| • Math Bowl | • Traditional Plants & Medicine | |
| • Knowledge Bowl | | |

Contact information:

Jonathon Miller

989-317-4969 | jmiller@sagchip.edu

Kathleen Hart

989-317-4827 | khart@sagchip.edu



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





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





SCIT Pendleton Blanket Raffle Fundraiser

On sale now
Drawing: Friday, Dec. 12

Tickets: • One for \$5 • Five for \$10
Tickets can be purchased at:
• Ziibiwing Gift Shop: Open M-F, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
• Or from Ziibiwing staff: Charla Riley, Glenna Halliwill, Noelle Wells or William Johnson
**All proceeds support Ziibiwing Center activities and programming.*



TOYS FOR TOTS TOY DRIVE

Part of the Law Enforcement Challenge, help the Tribal Police Department bring home the win again this year!

Drop off new, unwrapped toy donations

Collection box locations:

- ▶ Tribal Police & Tribal Court lobbies
- ▶ Andahwood
- ▶ Black Elk Building
- ▶ Housing
- ▶ Supportive Housing
- ▶ Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel

Collection ends second week of December

For more information, please contact:
Tribal Dispatch at 989.775.4700





Indigenous Youth Fashion Show
Feb. 22, 2026 | SECR Entertainment Hall

Call for Indigenous youth

Requirements:

- Must be middle school/high school age.
- Must attend at least one of the two practices held on Feb. 4 & 18.
- Must attend mandatory rehearsal prior to the show on Feb. 22.
- Spots are limited to the first 60 youth who submit signed slips.

Permission slips due back by Friday, Dec. 5.

Call for artists

Seeking artist to design and sew custom ribbon skirts and apparel for Tribal youth.

- Designer will receive recognition
- Materials can be provided
- Youth will be gifted the skirt or apparel for participating in the event

Artist sign up closes: Friday, Dec. 5, 2025
Apparel items are due back to: Behavioral Health by the end of January (2800 S. Shepherd Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858)

Material & ribbon drive

Accepting donations to help artists with supplies. Requested items include:

- Fabric and ribbon
- Sewing supplies: elastic, thread, sewing scissors, etc.
- Men's dress shirts: new, like-new or gently used

Donations will be accepted until: Dec. 12, 2025 at Behavioral Health (2800 S. Shepherd Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858)

For more information, please contact:
Felicia Otto, Native Connections Coordinator
Phone: 989-775-4823 | Email: fotto@sagchip.org



REQUEST FOR QUOTES

The SCIT Powwow Committee is looking for a Tribal preference caterer for the Honoring Saganing Traditional Powwow.

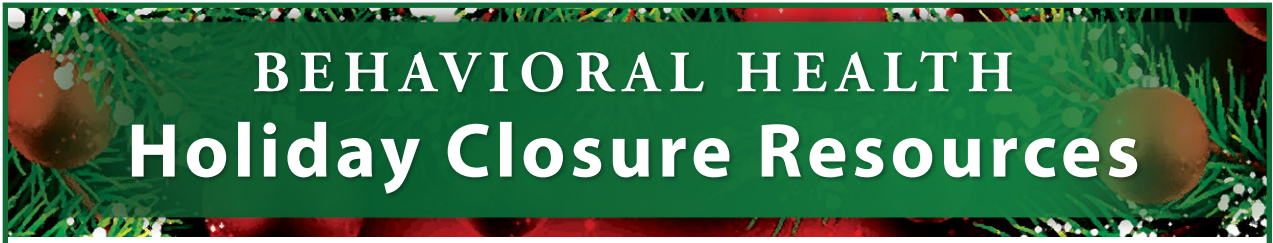
- **When:** Saturday, June 6, 2026
- **What:** Dinner feast for 200-400 people

Please submit your quote to:
Powwowcommittee@sagchip.org



Check out the Tribal Observer **ONLINE**

www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH Holiday Closure Resources

Behavioral Health (except RTC) will be closed: Dec. 24, 2025 – Jan. 2, 2026
Reopening on Jan. 5, 2026 at 8 a.m.

Behavioral Health Crisis On-Call
On-call will be available by calling (989) 775-4850 and following the prompts to reach the on-call. Or Tribal Dispatch can also reach the BH on-call worker in case of phone outage or other technical issue.

Support Groups at BH will continue with normal schedule over the holiday closure:

- **Drop-in Group:** Mondays at 1 p.m. (12/29/2025)
- **Peer 360 Recovery on the Rez:** Thursdays at 6 p.m. (12/25/2025 and 1/1/2026)
- **Peer 360 Fireside on the Rez:** Fridays at 11:30 a.m. (12/26/2025 and 1/2/2026)
- **Peer 360 Fireside on the Rez:** Saturdays at 6 p.m. (12/27/2025 and 1/3/2026)

Virtual Peer 360 Meetings include:

- **Peer 360 Recovery on the Rez virtual group:** 2 p.m. on Tuesdays
Meeting ID: 829 1218 8791 Password: 123456
- **Peer 360 offers DAILY virtual groups four times per day**
 - 9 a.m. Meeting ID: 856 4133 4708 Password: 123456
 - 12 p.m. Meeting ID: 842 3325 5388 Password: 123456
 - 6 p.m. Meeting ID: 842 3325 5388 Password: 123456
 - 9 p.m. Meeting ID: 856 4133 4708 Password: 123456

More information on Peer 360, including events and links to the virtual meetings can be found at www.peer360recovery.org or by scanning the red QR code above to the right.

Additional non-BH Resources/Crisis Lines:

- **Peer 360 Recovery Alliance:**
Text "ZOOM MEETINGS" to (989) 245-5324 for a list of direct links to all Peer 360's Zoom meetings.
- **Virtual Recovery Groups:**
Through www.intherooms.com has several virtual recovery groups including White Bison Wellbriety Groups.
- **Listening Ear Crisis:** 1.989.772.2918
- **Crisis Text Line:** Text "HOME" to 741741 to connect with a Crisis Counselor
- **Strong Hearts Native Helpline:** 1.844.762.8483
- **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:** 1.800.273.8255
- **National Teen Dating Abuse Hotline:** 1.866.331.9474
- **National Human Trafficking Hotline:** 1.888.373.7888
- **National Domestic Violence Hotline:** 1.800.799.7233



Scan the QR code to visit the BH website



Scan the QR code for more information on Peer360



SCIT POWWOW COMMITTEE Winter Package Raffle

TWO WINNERS:

FIRST PRIZE: Cordless Snow Shovel & \$600 Belle Tire gift card

SECOND PRIZE: Vissani Chest Freezer & \$400 Smith & Sons gift card

Drawing: Friday, Dec. 19, 2025
12 p.m. | Black Elk Building

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

Contact Powwow Committee members:
Darcy Pilar, Elizabeth Chivis, Carla Bennett, Dabian Sprague, Seryna Acuna, Niihin Sprague, Elizabeth Smith, Naomi McCormack, Noelle Wells or Brianna Yahbay.

**All proceeds will benefit the Saginaw Chippewa and Saganing Powwows*

For more information: Powwowcommittee@sagchip.org



SCIT distributes \$3.4 million during Fall 2025 2 percent distribution

PUBLIC RELATIONS
DEPT.

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe hosted its semi-annual 2 percent distribution on

Monday, Nov. 24 in Isabella County, and on Tuesday, Nov. 25 in Arenac County for the Fall 2025 Distribution. The SCIT dispersed funds, to qualifying local units of government and public schools,

derived from Class III gaming at its properties: Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and Saganing Eagles Landing Casino & Hotel. Since 1994, the Tribe has shared in excess of \$297 million supporting many important

projects throughout the region. The SCIT distributed a combined \$3,430,064.27 during this fall's distribution ceremonies. Local government officials in Isabella County accepted grants totaling \$1,033,597.90. The educational leaders in Isabella County received an additional \$1,303,397.39.

On Nov. 25, \$662,304.25 was distributed in Arenac County to local units of government, with the local school districts receiving \$430,764.73.

This distribution cycle saw more than 275 individual requests totaling over 10 million dollars.

The grants distributed this fall will assist in alleviating the burden and ensure that local leaders can supply and



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Miranda Ley, Union Township Board of Trustees At-large, shows her appreciation while attending and speaking at her first 2 percent distribution in Isabella County on Nov. 24.

support crucial initiatives throughout the region.

Please see the breakdown of all amounts on the accompanying tables.

Saganing Government

- Arenac County \$3,543.20
- Au Gres Township \$19,500
- City of Omer \$3,543.22
- City of Pinconning \$22,048
- City of Standish \$7,500
- County of Arenac \$250,000
- Deep River Township \$3,543.20
- Lincoln Township \$3,543.20
- Mason Township \$3,543.20
- Moffatt Township \$23,240
- Pinconning Fraser Fire Dept. \$175,000
- Pinconning Township \$3,543.20
- Sims Township \$3,543.20
- Standish Area Fire Authority \$50,000
- Standish Township \$28,127.43
- Turner Township \$3,543.20
- Twining/Mason/Turner Fire Dept. \$55,000
- Whitney Township \$3,543.20

Total Government: \$662,304.25

Saganing Education

- Au Gres-Sims School District \$118,075.47
- Pinconning School District \$105,524.26
- Standish-Sterling School District \$207,165

Total Education: \$430,764.73

Saganing Total: \$1,093,068.98

Isabella Government

- Chippewa Township \$26,519.87
- City of Mt. Pleasant \$165,988
- Coe Township \$39,541
- Deerfield Township \$164,125.52
- Denver Township \$26,519.87
- Isabella County \$306,300
- Isabella Township \$26,519.87
- Nottawa Township \$26,519.87
- Union Township \$133,329.35
- Village of Shepherd \$85,511.70
- Wise Township \$32,722.85

Total Government: \$1,033,597.90

Isabella Education

- Beal City Public Schools \$226,394.31
- Chippewa Hills Public Schools \$100,305.81
- Mt. Pleasant Public Schools \$514,434.77
- Renaissance Public Schools \$130,851
- Shepherd Public Schools \$331,411.50

Total Education: \$1,303,397.39

Isabella Total: \$2,336,995.29

Grand Total: \$3,430,064.27



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Chief Tim J. Davis (left) receives a crystal eagle award from Pinconning Fraser Fire Chief Dave Ramsey (center) and his son, Fire Fighter Peyton Ramsey (right), at the Saganing Outreach Center during the 2 percent distribution on Nov. 25.

SANTA'S WORKSHOP

1-877-2EAGLE2 • SoaringEagleWaterpark.com

TO-DO LIST

DATE	ACTIVITIES
FRIDAY, DEC. 5	4:00-5:00PM CRAFT: Gingerbread House
	7:00-10:00PM DJ DANCE PARTY
SATURDAY, DEC. 6	2:00-4:00PM SANTA
	4:00-5:00PM CRAFT: Decorate Your Stocking
	4:00-7:00PM BALLOON ARTIST/FACE PAINTING
SUNDAY, DEC. 7	9:30-11:30AM BREAKFAST WITH SANTA, COOKIE DECORATING
FRIDAY, DEC. 12	4:00-5:00PM CRAFT: Gingerbread House
	8:00-9:00PM BAFFLING BILL THE MAGICIAN
SATURDAY, DEC. 13	1:00-3:00PM SANTA
	4:00-5:00PM CRAFT: Decorate Your Stocking
	8:00-9:00PM BAFFLING BILL THE MAGICIAN
SUNDAY, DEC. 14	9:00-11:00AM BREAKFAST WITH SANTA, COOKIE DECORATING
FRIDAY, DEC. 19	4:00-7:00PM BALLOON ARTISTS/FACE PAINTING
	4:00-5:00PM CRAFT: Gingerbread House
	7:00-10:00PM DJ DANCE PARTY
SATURDAY, DEC. 20	2:00-4:00PM SANTA
	4:00-5:00PM CRAFT: Decorate Your Stocking
	7:00PM HOT CHOCOLATE EXTRAVAGANZA
SUNDAY, DEC. 21	9:00-11:00AM SANTA, COOKIE DECORATING
SATURDAY, DEC. 27	4:00-5:00PM CRAFT
	7:00-10:00PM DJ DANCE PARTY



New CEO Matthew Felan takes helm of Migizi Economic Development Co.

JOSEPH SOWMICK

Public Relations Manager

On Oct. 1, the Tribal Council, Migizi Chair Brad Bennett and the Migizi Board of Directors extended a warm welcome to new CEO Matthew Felan of Migizi Economic Development Company.

Felan brings an extensive background in working with businesses in the Great Lakes Bay Region and believes Migizi is in a unique position to capitalize on our extensive relationships throughout the region and beyond.

“When interviewing with the Migizi Board, I made the point very clear that the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe is very well regarded by businesses and communities across the region

and the state,” Felan said. “There is considerable opportunity for Migizi to invest in profitable businesses and partnerships in Mount Pleasant, Saginaw, Midland, Bay City, and beyond. I hope to utilize my extensive relationships to bring Migizi to the table for future opportunities. We have to aggressively pursue these opportunities and take a seat at the table to be in a position to invest in business and development.”

Felan encourages current employees to update their skills to focus on the changing business climate.

“Any organization or business depends on top tier talent and top tier talent never settles for status quo,” Felan said. “We should always be pushing our employees to look for

opportunities for continuing education, to garner additional credentials/licenses, and to pursue the next level of education. There are immediate opportunities in AI, realty, and business development that I plan to direct our employees to in the months and years ahead.”

Leadership starts at the top and Felan indicates he is personally willing to embrace the challenges ahead.

“Migizi represents both opportunity and necessity and we have the opportunity to make a meaningful impact on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and its people for the next seven generations,” Felan said. “I also very carefully used the word necessity because it’s not just something we’d like to do or ought to do for the nation.

“It’s necessary that Migizi operates with the utmost profitability and a vision to build and diversify non-gaming businesses. Just as bingo, slots, and gaming revolutionized the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe from the 1980s to today, so must Migizi in the years and decades ahead.”

Felan said he looks forward to evaluating the current marketing plan of Migizi properties, and will focus toward positive growth for all business interests connected under their brand.

“The reality is that we must reevaluate every aspect of Migizi along with our Board of Directors. There are industries where we can see immediate growth and prosperity,” Felan said. “There are other areas where change will be necessary



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Migizi CEO Matthew Felan

because the economy is always changing, often times on a daily basis. We must be an entity that is adaptable and visionary.”

In moving forward, Felan pledges to work with the Board to create short-term and long-term strategic plans that will create immediate stability and the opportunity for transformative prosperity for SCIT.

SEWPH General Manager Bonnie Sprague inducted into Waterpark Hall of Fame

FRITZ KUHLMAN

Migizi Marketing Manager

Tribal Elder Bonnie Sprague was inducted into the World Waterpark Hall of Fame while attending the industry’s annual symposium in Orlando, Fla. on Tuesday, Oct. 21.

Sprague was honored for her work as the general manager of Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel, having attained an outstanding reputation within the waterpark industry.

“The Hall of Fame exists to recognize and honor those individuals who have made noteworthy achievements in the development and advancement of the water attractions industry,” said The World Waterpark Association in a statement. “The WWA Hall of Fame celebrates those individuals who have reached a position of eminence through contributions that have provided outstanding service, innovation, or advanced the WWA and the waterpark industry.”



Courtesy photo

Bonnie Sprague (third from left), general manager of the Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel, is inducted into the World Waterpark Hall of Fame while attending the industry’s annual symposium in Orlando, Fla. on Tuesday, Oct. 21. Sprague poses for a photo with her family and SEWPH colleagues.

With her induction, Sprague joins the ranks of the industry’s best and brightest.

“I would like to congratulate Bonnie Sprague on this extraordinary recognition from her peers across the global waterpark industry,” said Matthew Felan, CEO of the Migizi Economic Development Co. “Bonnie is a consummate professional who works tirelessly every day to provide the best possible experience for our guests.”

Felan continued, “More importantly, Bonnie is a

remarkable member of our community; serving as a foster parent to more than 33 at-risk children, volunteering at countless tribal/community events, and always working to make our community better.”

Sprague traces her service to the Tribe back to her time as a summer youth worker and, later, as a government secretary.

Sprague was one of the initial group of members who first explored high-stakes bingo, which led to the Tribe’s entry into the gaming world. She

worked in gaming for many years, acting as accounting supervisor, bingo manager, and in other roles before changing direction in 2008 and becoming the general manager of Soaring Eagle Inn, which would eventually become Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel.

She helped lead the effort to build the waterpark and shepherded the project from concept to completion.

“I sincerely thank the WWA and its Board of Directors for this incredible recognition,” Sprague said. “I am humbled and honored to be named to the WWA Hall of Fame. I remember when I first started in the waterpark industry, I never would have imagined reaching this point. The journey has been marked by challenges, hard work, and moments of doubt, but also by incredible opportunities.”

Sprague continued, “There are a lot of people we meet as we walk through life, but the things that matter most are the friendships we make and take with us. I have met so many

friends at WWA who share the same core beliefs about the waterpark industry. I want to thank my team at Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel, and Migizi for their support. I couldn’t have reached this level of recognition without their perseverance and collaboration. None of this would have been possible without the support of so many great people. Thank you all once again from the bottom of my heart.”

Induction into the Hall of Fame is the pinnacle of recognition from the World Waterpark Association.

The WWA serves parks worldwide and has members across several continents. From North America, South America, and Asia to parks across Europe, the WWA is the backbone of the waterpark industry.

Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel is noted for its unblemished safety record, as a leader in Michigan’s waterpark industry and, now, the home to a member of the World Waterpark Association Hall of Fame.

Annual Ogitchedaw Veterans Feast highlights “Honoring Our Wounded Warriors”

JOSEPH SOWMICK

Public Relations Manager

On Nov. 10, the Soaring Eagle ballrooms were packed once more as the Anishinaabe Ogitchedaw Veterans Warrior Society celebrated its 28th annual Veterans Feast.

Okima and Honorary Ogitchedaw Paul Walker Jr. said this year’s theme focused on “Honoring Our Wounded Warriors.”

The event began with a grand entry with the Blue House Singers as eagle staffs led the way – U.S. Army Veteran Cathy Wendling carried the SCIT eagle staff, followed by U.S. Navy Veteran Johnathan Cabral with the Pontiac eagle

staff, and U.S. Army Veteran David Perez Sr. carrying the AOVWS healing staff.

Dr. Minnie Martin carried in the SCIT flag, and was followed by Michael McCreery with the U.S. flag, L.J. Vanickle with the State of Michigan flag. Alex Valenzuela led the procession of service flags with U.S. Army, Art Robertson with U.S. Marine Corps, Brandon One Feather with U.S. Navy, Sharmin Anderson with U.S. Air Force and Rob Gross carrying the POW flag.

Tribal Council Chaplain Alice Jo Ricketts offered an invocation to bless the gathering and the buffet dinner.

Chief Tim J. Davis offered welcoming remarks and introduced his fellow Council

members who attended. Davis also thanked VFW Post 3033 and American Legion 110 Honor Guard for their attendance.

Darrin Hafeli, a U.S. Army Veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan, gave a spirited presentation on the history of the Purple Heart.

“Only the wounded warriors or those who died in action received the Purple Heart medal,” Hafeli said. “After 9/11, all service members killed or wounded in the attack were awarded the Purple Heart, and then it expanded to include service members wounded or killed by foreign terrorists. The Purple Heart has a long and storied history. Since 1938, 1.1 million American men and



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Darrin Hafeli, a U.S. Army Veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan, gives a presentation on the history of the Purple Heart during the 28th annual Veterans Feast on Nov. 10 in the Soaring Eagle ballrooms.

women have fought and will continue to defend our country with honor and dignity.”



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Ogitchedaw member Alex Valenzuela receives a special honor of an eagle feather.

Ogitchedaw member Alex Valenzuela received a special honor of an eagle feather from Okima Walker and was deeply moved as his fellow warriors were flanked in formation as the Blue House Singers shared an honor song.



U.S. Rep. Haley Stevens visits Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, tours facilities

JOSEPH SOWMICK

Public Relations Manager

U.S. Rep. Haley Stevens, from Michigan's 11th congressional district, visited the Saginaw Chippewa Isabella Indian reservation to meet with Tribal Council members on Oct. 31.

Stevens' visit was to highlight efforts she has advocated for toward tribal sovereignty and education. Carla Sineway, president of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, and her staff, took the congresswoman on a tour of SCTC facilities.

SCTC faculty members Kathy Hart and Mary Pelcher shared the western medicine sage to purify the grounds and community members at the opening ceremony.

Tribal Council Chaplain Alice Jo Ricketts gave a special blessing to the Creator as SCTC Success Coach Joe Genia shared a welcome song on his hand drum.

Chief Tim J. Davis and Sub-Chief Luke Sprague both provided welcoming remarks, and spoke on the importance of tribal consultation.

"This is a great time for our Tribe as we are in the middle of our two percent distribution



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

U.S. Rep. Haley Stevens, from Michigan's 11th congressional district, speaks at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College during a visit on Oct. 31.

process of giving monies to local units of government and schools in Isabella and Arenac counties," said Chief Davis. "We like working with our neighbors and we believe in working together for our future."

Sprague said SCIT has "enjoyed much success" with its government and business operations, and with the continued support of Rep. Stevens, "our future is looking bright."

"The good work that Haley is doing in Congress is making an impact for all tribes in Indian Country on a federal level. Even with the United Tribes

of Michigan, at times, we are competitors, but when things happen that affect tribal college funding and health care, it's great that we have a friend like Haley that has our back," Sprague said.

SCTC President Carla Sineway said met Stevens last February at a legislative summit for tribal colleges in Washington, D.C. and was impressed with her energy.

"She really wanted to know who we were, where we were from and what we were doing. She was so genuine in her curiosity; I am not surprised to have her here today in person to show her what we do," Sineway said.

"So, on behalf of our board, administration, faculty and our students, it's an honor and privilege to welcome you to our campus and our home," Sineway said to Stevens during the campus tour. "Our Tribal College is a place where our education and culture come together."

Stevens brought her mother with her on this leg of her trip, and she said they were both looking forward to the SCTC tour.

"... I wanted to have your Tribal College representatives in my office because I sit on two committees in Congress that are tied to the school. One of them is the Education Committee and the other is the Science and Technology that I've led investments in science and mathematics and STEM education" Stevens said. "But more so, my relationship with Indian Country begins at a young age. My parents were hard-working business owners tied to the land through our landscape business. My dad, in particular, taught me my whole life to give respect to Indian Country."

Stevens recalled when she went off to college, she became educated in the American Indian Movement.

"I was astonished through my middle and high school years where we didn't learn about the AIM and what it meant. It was like tribal history stopped in the 1800s," Stevens said. "I had a friend in Indian Country and mentioned we should start a student organization to educate and inform. We started an awareness organization that brought in tribal members and policy makers for us to learn what it happening in

their communities and to collaborate."

When serving in the Obama Administration, Stevens was a part of policy discussions in Indian Country and matters affecting tribes.

"I served in the Obama Administration as chief of staff on the American Auto Rescue but I was housed in the Treasury Department, and you better believe the women that bring you into her office is no stranger to sitting down on issues of economics and tribal sovereignty," Stevens said. "I have had the privilege of visiting with tribes and tribal colleges all over this country. I am a member of the United States House of Representatives who has your back. What that means for you is the effective utilization of our federal dollars to assist tribal programs to meet your requests and your needs."

During the tour, Stevens spoke with both students and faculty alike as they shared research projects and impacts being made throughout the campus.

The tour concluded in the community room where Stevens and her staff shared in SCTC Indigenous Food Educator Sam Anglin's wild rice sweet treats.

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Bands .38 Special and Molly Hatchet perform an evening of rock music

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

As part of their 50 Year Legacy Tour, American rock band .38 Special performed at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, with opening act Molly Hatchet, on Saturday, Nov. 8.

Held in the Entertainment Hall, .38 Special performed an hour and a half set.

The band formed in Jacksonville, Fla. in 1974. The band’s website (38special.com) states they have sold 20 million albums and have released more than 15 albums of “guitar-driven Southern rock.”

.38 Special started their show with “Rockin’ into the Night,” “Wild-Eyed Southern Boys,” “Back Where You Belong” and “The Sound of Your Voice.”

The band has released several hits including: “Hold On Loosely,” “Caught Up in You,”



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

American rock band .38 Special performs at the Soaring Eagle as part of the band’s 50 Year Legacy Tour on Saturday, Nov. 8.

“If I’d Been The One” and “Second Chance.”

The live performance showcased the camaraderie between each of the musicians: guitarist/vocalist and founding member Don Barnes, keyboardist/vocalist Bobby Capps, drummer Gary Moffatt, bassist Barry Dunaway

and guitarist Jerry Riggs.

American rock band Molly Hatchet served as opening act for .38 Special. They performed a one-hour set beginning shortly after 8 p.m.

As of August 2020, all of Molly Hatchet’s original members are deceased but the legacy



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Opening band Molly Hatchet performs on the Entertainment Hall stage.

continues on with the current lineup. The Molly Hatchet trademark is owned by Bobby Ingram, the band’s guitarist since 1987.

In addition to Ingram, two other veteran musicians are also in the band, including keyboardist John Galvin and bassist Tim Lindsey. Other members include 26-year-old lead

vocalist Parker Lee and drummer Garrett Ramsden.

Molly Hatchet is best known for their songs “Flirtin’ with Disaster,” “Dreams I’ll Never See” and “Whiskey Man.” Additional well-known tracks include: “Gator Country,” “Bounty Hunter,” “Beatin’ the Odds” and “It’s All Over Now.”

Legendary vocalists, Patti LaBelle and Gladys Knight, now both 81, return to casino

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

The legendary, soulful vocalists Patti LaBelle and Gladys Knight returned to Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort together to split the bill on Saturday, Nov. 15.

The “Empress of Soul” and seven-time Grammy Award-winner Gladys Knight opened the show just after 8 p.m. with a one-hour performance.

The now 81-year-old performed at the casino with Patti Labelle just two years prior on Friday, Oct. 13, 2023.

Knight and her full band performed several songs including: “The Nitty Gritty” and “Shake Your Body Down to the Ground,” “Best Thing That Ever Happened to Me,” “I’ve Got to Use My Imagination,” “If I Were Your Woman,” “Neither One of Us (Wants to Be the First to Say Goodbye),” “I Heard It Through the Grapevine” and much more.

As a two-time Grammy winner in the gospel category, Knight and her talented backing vocalists performed a segment of contemporary gospel songs, including Donnie McClurkin’s “Stand” and Tamela Mann’s “Take Me to the King.”

The audience holered during Knight’s performances of “That’s What Friends are For” and “Midnight Train to Georgia.”

Like Knight, the now 81-year-old “Godmother of Soul,” Patti LaBelle, headlined the evening and presented a 75-minute show. Known for her vocal ability, “glitz and glam” fashion, and iconic long nails, which was all showcased that evening with her flashy attire and stiletto heels that adorned the grand piano on stage.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

The “Godmother of Soul” Patti LaBelle performs during the Saturday, Nov. 15 show at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

When performing her third song of the evening, “If You Asked Me To,” LaBelle mentioned Celine Dion also recorded the song. She said, “But don’t it twisted, I did it first.”

“New Attitude” featured an impressive solo from LaBelle’s lead guitarist.

“Gotta kick those pumps off. My feet are hurting,” LaBelle said, after the song’s performance, taking her stilettos off. She didn’t keep them off for long. As the famous quote states, “Beauty is pain.”

LaBelle performed several songs throughout her set

including “On My Own,” a cover of “Tennessee Whiskey” and much more.

Changing outfits for the anticipated performance of “Lady Marmalade,” LaBelle also brought lucky audience members on stage with her to help her sing the hit song.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Gladys Knight opens the show with a one-hour performance.

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Rapunzel

Rapunzel is a 2-year-old female Husky mix. Rapunzel has a bright personality and zest for life; she is ready to find her forever adventure partner. She enjoys walks and loves spending time outside in the play yard where she can show off her energetic personality. She thrives on plenty of physical activity and mental stimulation. Her ideal home would be with an active individual or family.

Sohma

Sohma is a 5-year-old male Domestic Short Hair. After working through food allergies and stress, Sohma is now thriving on a simple prescription diet – no medications needed. He loves being near his humans. He has a tender, affectionate personality that will shine in a calm, predictable home. He’s a sensitive guy and needs a quiet home where he can be the only pet to feel safe.

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*



SAGINAW CHIPPEWA TRIBAL COLLEGE
2026 SPRING SEMESTER CLASSES

Academic Year 2025-2026								
Spring 2026 Registration Open: Oct. 27, 2025 - Jan. 9, 2026								
✓	Code	S	Course Title	CR	Day	Room	Time	Instructor
F2F	AIS 2XX	1	History of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe	3	T/R	214	10:00-11:20 AM	Peters
O-A	ACC 216*	1	Managerial Accounting	3	ONLINE			Long
F2F	ART 120\$	1	Painting I	3	W	243	5:30-8:20 PM	Shea
F2F	ART 211\$*	1	Beadwork II	3	W	245	5:30-8:20 PM	Jackson
O-A	AST 110	1	Astronomy	3	ONLINE			Miller
O-A	AST 110A	1	Astronomy Lab	2	ONLINE			Miller
F2F	BIO 105*	1	Introduction to Biology	3	M/W	235	5:00 -6:20 PM	Weisendanger
F2F	BIO 105A\$*	1	Introduction to Biology Lab	2	W	232	6:30-8:20 PM	Weisendanger
O-A	BUS 110	1	Introduction to Business	3	ONLINE			Fowler
F2F	BUS 150	1	Business Law	3	T/R	313	5:30-6:50 PM	Antrobius
F2F	BUS 170	1	Principles of Management	3	T/R	249	10:00-11:20 AM	Fowler
F2F	BUS 200	1	Principles of Marketing	3	M/W	330	5:30-6:50 PM	Wagner
F2F	BUS 215*	1	Business Communication	3	M/W	340	10:30-11:50 AM	Fowler
F2F	BUS 270*	3	Small Business and Entrepreneurship Mgmt.	3	M/W	249	1:30-2:50 PM	Fowler
F2F	CHM 105*	1	Introduction to Chemistry	3	T/R	235	5:30-6:50 PM	Majorski
F2F	CHM 105A\$*	1	Chemistry Lab	2	T/R	235	7:00-7:50 PM	Majorski
F2F	CPT 112*	1	Introduction to Computers	3	M	340	5:30-8:20 PM	Klopf
F2F	CS 299	1	Graduate Seminar - Business	1	M	249	9:00-10:00 AM	Fowler
F2F	CS 299	1	Graduate Seminar - Liberal Arts	1	T	238	3:30-4:30 PM	Boleman
F2F	CS 299	1	Graduate Seminar - Native American Studies	1	M	238	10:30-11:30 AM	Haviland
O-A	ECO 202	1	Principles of Microeconomics	3	ONLINE			Wagner
F2F	ENG 101*	1	Composition I	3	M/W	331	10:30-11:50 AM	Boleman
F2F	ENG 010*	1	Composition I Lab	2	M/W	331	12:00-12:50 PM	Boleman
F2F	ENG 110	1	Introduction to Communication	3	T/R	331	1:30-2:50 PM	Boleman
O-A	ENG 125*	1	Children's Literature	3	ONLINE			Boleman
O-A	ENG 202*	1	Composition II	3	ONLINE			Boleman
O-A	GEL 101\$	2	Introduction to Geology w/Lab	5	ONLINE			Miller
F2F	GEO 100	1	Introduction to Geography	3	M/W	235	10:30-11:50 AM	Miller
F2F	GEO 201\$	1	Weather & Climate w/Lab	5	T/R	235	10:30-11:50 AM	Miller
					R	232	1:00-2:50 PM	
F2F	MTH 105	1	Intermediate Algebra	4	T/R	330	9:00-10:50 AM	Rich
O-A	MTH 012*	1	Quantitative Reasoning Lab	2	ONLINE			Crosswait
O-A	MTH 120*	1	Quantitative Reasoning	3	ONLINE			Rich
F2F	MTH 140*	1	Pre-Calculus	4	T/R	330	1:30-3:20 PM	Rich
O-A	MTH 023*	1	Introduction to Statistics Lab	2	ONLINE			Crosswait
O-A	MTH 230*	1	Introduction to Statistics	3	ONLINE			Crosswait
O-A	NAS 103	1	Survey of Native American Studies	3	ONLINE			Haviland
O-A	NAS 230	1	Reclaiming and Revitalizing Anishnaabemowin	3	ONLINE			Haviland
F2F	NAS 238	1	Native American Law and Policy	3	T/R	214	1:30-2:50 PM	Haviland
F2F	NAS 242	1	Topics in Native American Literature	3	M/W	214	1:30-2:50 PM	Peters
O-A	NAS 250	1	Anishinaabe Art	3	ONLINE			Jackson
O-A	NAS 254	1	Contemporary Native American Art	3	ONLINE			Jackson
F2F	NAS 260	1	Anishinaabe History: 1600 to Present	3	W	214	5:00-7:50 PM	Haviland
F2F	NAS 263	1	Contemporary Native American Issues	3	T/R	314	1:30-2:50 PM	Peters
F2F	NAS 271	1	Indigenous Storytelling	3	T/R	214	5:30-6:50 PM	Gonzalez
F2F	NAS 273\$	1	Herbal Medicines	3	T/R	243	10:30-11:50 AM	Kostus
F2F	NAS 286*	1	Anishinaabemowin Immersion	3	M/W	243	3:30-4:50 PM	Roy
F2F	OJB 101	1	Ojibwe I	3	M/W	243	10:30-11:50 AM	Roy
F2F	OJB 102*	1	Ojibwe II	3	M/W	243	1:30-2:50 PM	Roy
F2F	OJB 201*	1	Ojibwe III	3	T/R	243	10:30-11:50 AM	Roy
F2F	OJB 202*	1	Ojibwe IV	3	T/R	243	1:30-2:50 PM	Roy
F2F	PSC 120	1	American Government	3	T/R	314	5:00-6:20 PM	Knott
F2F	PSY 101	1	Intro to Psychology	3	T/R	330	5:30-6:50 PM	Landen
O-A	SDV 102	1	Foundations for Student Success	3	ONLINE			Green

M/W = Monday & Wednesday
T/R = Tuesday & Thursday
* = Check co-requisite or pre-requisite requirements
\$ = Additional Course or Lab Fees Apply
All courses are scheduled in Eastern Standard Time (EST).
Classes with an enrollment of fewer than 5 students may be canceled
Course Delivery Definitions:**
• **F2F (Face to Face):** A course that has regularly scheduled class times and meets in person.
• **ON-A (Online Asynchronous):** A course that meets via web-based technologies without regularly scheduled meeting times.ON-S (Online Synchronous): A course that meets via web-based technologies and has regularly scheduled class times.
• **H (Hybrid):** There will be regularly scheduled face-to-face meeting times and online components within a hybrid course. The online components may be delivered synchronously or asynchronously. Both face-to-face meeting times and online delivery methods must be scheduled in the syllabus.
****Course delivery methods are subject to change at any time.**

SPRING SEMESTER 2026

- **Jan. 9:** Spring registration closes at 11:59 p.m.
- **Jan. 12:** Spring classes begin
- **Jan. 16:** Drop/add ends at 11:59 p.m.
- **Jan. 19:** MLK Jr. Day - No classes campus closed
- **Feb. 16:** Presidents Day - No classes campus closed
- **March 2-6:** Mid Term week
- **March 9:** Mid Term grades due
- **March 20:** Last day to withdraw
- **March 30-April 3** SCTC break: No classes
- **April 6:** Easter Monday: No classes campus closed
- **May 4-8:** Exam week
- **May 8:** Spring semester ends
- **May 11:** Final grades due to registrar
- **May 21:** SCTC Graduation at SECR



ATTENTION NEW STUDENTS:

In order to register for classes you must take an Accuplacer® placement test and have at complete admission file.
Please call 989- 317-4760 to set up your Accuplacer® test or contact student services by email at studentservices@sagchip.edu or online: www.sagchip.edu

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College (SCTC) and its Board of Regents is committed to providing a non-discriminatory and harassment-free educational and working environment for all members of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College community, including students, faculty, administrators, staff, and visitors. It is the policy of SCTC that no person shall be discriminated against, excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination, including harassment, in employment and admissions, in education, or in any program or activity for which the College is responsible, on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender, gender identification, sexual orientation, disability, age, religion, medical condition, veteran status, marital status or any other characteristic protected by institutional policy or tribal or federal law. Contact: Mary Pelcher, Civil Rights Coordinator, mapelcher@sagchip.edu.



WELCOME
Register Now!

CREATE
=Your Own=
FUTURE

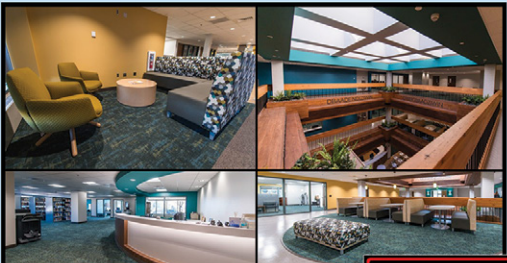


Register for Spring classes and get a pair of official SCTC socks — you also get a chance to win headphones, concert tickets and an invitation to a Winter Sock Party.

Tribal College Open House



Wednesday, Dec. 17
1-3 p.m.
Light Refreshments
For More Info Call: (989)317-4821



5805 E. Pickard St. Mount Pleasant

OPEN TO PUBLIC

Experience our Campus

Our team is excited to show off our Main campus during a general campus tour as well as sharing their personal experiences as to why tribal college is so special.



STEP UP, CLIMB HIGHER, and SOCK IT TO YOUR FUTURE

Help us reach our goal of **150** Students and we will throw a fun **WINTER PARTY.**

Register for Spring classes and get a pair of official SCTC socks.

REGISTER NOW!

The Student Success Center

Sharing our College Success
Secrets to Help You Accomplish your Dreams



Justin Knott - Success Center Lead
JKnott@sagchip.edu
Phone: (989) 317-4757

Writing is FUN
Change My Mind

Success Is Within Reach



GED
Adult Education Program
5805 E. Pickard St. Mount Pleasant

GED Meet and Greet
Wednesday December 17th
1:00 - 3:00 PM
Light Refreshments

OPEN TO PUBLIC

For more Info:
Lori Vincent
GED Program
Phone: (989) 317-4963



SCTC awarded nearly \$650,000 to expand student success services

AMANDA FLAUGHER
Dean of Student Services

Mount Pleasant, Mich. — The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College has been awarded a \$649,968 college success grant from the Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential (MiLEAP) to enhance academic support and improve student outcomes. Funded through a three-year grant from the MiLEAP Office of Higher Education, the College Success Grant initiative supports Michigan’s public and tribal colleges in strengthening policies and practices that reduce time

to credential, increase persistence, and close equity gaps in higher education. The grant will enable SCTC to transform its Writing Center into a comprehensive Student Success Center, providing academic support across math, science, and English, and establishing a holistic model for student achievement. The project will also expand the college’s Learning Assistant (LA) program and introduce a Summer Bridge program to help students transition successfully into college-level coursework. “This funding allows us to make a lasting investment in student success,” said Amanda Flaughner, dean of students,



who oversees the project at SCTC. “By creating a centralized Student Success Center and hiring full-time learning assistants, we can provide consistent, high-quality academic support in the courses that challenge students most.”

The grant will also support faculty participation in the Michigan College Access Network Gateway Course Redesign, beginning with a focus on science in the first year, followed by math and English in subsequent years. This initiative aims to improve instructional quality, equity, and engagement in gateway courses. Key goals of the project include:

- Increasing the average course completion rate from 78 percent to 85 percent by 2028
- Raising the average cumulative GPA from 3.05 to 3.25
- Reducing the number of students with a GPA below 2.0

• Expanding data-driven student support and engagement initiatives

By integrating these improvements into its strategic plan, SCTC is committed to sustaining these initiatives beyond the grant period. “We’re not just piloting a short-term project,” Flaughner said. “We’re building the foundation for systemic, long-term improvements that will support every student who walks through our doors.” SCTC joins other Michigan colleges in MiLEAP’s state-wide effort to advance educational equity, persistence, and completion through the College Success Grant program.

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College GED Program – You can do it

AMANDA FLAUGHER
Dean of Student Services

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College’s GED Program’s priority is to help students discover what success means to them and place them on a path to achieve it. Whether students value tradition, community, connection, family, adventure, creativity, or anything else, SCTC’s GED program’s goal is to provide all of its students with the support

that will help them with any challenge they encounter during their journey. The GED Program is a foundational pathway, often bridging the gap between a student dropping out of high school and pursuing high school equivalency (HSE) certification. The Program supports students in developing the literacy and problem-solving skills necessary to succeed on a GED test and continue on the pathway to college, meaningful

employment, and healthy lives. SCTC is an organization devoted to quality learning, and has an interest in convenient and accessible learning options suitable for students. The GED Program is an online program that allows students to work at their own pace through the use of the “Aztec” software. The Aztec software consists of three academic levels: Aztec’s foundations, Aztec’s pre-HSE series, and Aztec’s GED prep solution (in order

from lowest to highest). In order to move up in academic levels, an 80 percent satisfactory score must be achieved. Once the student reaches an 80 percent score on the practice tests within the Aztec software, they are given a final practice test to pass. It is after this final practice test when they will be given an official test at our state-certified testing facility. Contact me at aflaughner@sagchip.edu or call 989-317-4815 if you have any questions.



Amanda Flaughner

SAM ANGLIN’S Three Sister Manoomin Salad with a Maple Sage Dressing

- Salad ingredients:**
- 1 cup small, diced butternut squash and blanched
 - 1 ½ cup canned red kidney beans
 - 1 ½ cup canned black beans
 - 1 ½ cup cooked traditional corn
 - 2 cup cooked Manoomin
 - Salt and pepper
 - ½ teaspoon sumac seasoning
 - ½ teaspoon juniper
 - ¼ cup fresh parsley
 - ½ cup pumpkins seeds, toasted
- Dressing ingredients:**
- 4 to 6 fresh sage leaves
 - ¼ cup parsley
 - 2 tablespoons dijon mustard
 - 1 cup sunflower oil or olive oil
 - 1 tablespoon red onion
 - 3 tablespoons maple syrup
 - Salt and pepper to taste
 - 2 tablespoons apple cider vinegar

- Instructions:**
1. For the Manoomin: Combine 2 cups rice and 6 cups water in a small saucepan; season lightly with salt.
 2. Bring to a simmer. Reduce heat, cover, and cook until water is absorbed and rice is tender which about 20 minutes is. Remove from heat and let stand 10 minutes, then spread out on a large rimmed baking sheet band let cool.
 3. For both beans drain and rinse.
 4. Bring water and salt to boil and place diced squash in water and blanch for about 5 minutes. Drain and cool.
 5. Meanwhile, preheat oven to 350° F. Toast pumpkin seeds on a rimmed baking sheet, tossing halfway through, until golden brown, 8-10 minutes.
 6. Toss rice, pumpkin seeds, corn, squash, beans, onion, parsley, sumac seasoning in a medium bowl tocombine.
 7. Drizzle with dressing and toss to coat. Season with salt and pepper. Taste and adjust seasoning.

Happy Holidays from SCTC Students Services

SCTC STUDENT SERVICES

Dear Tribal community, as the fall semester ends and winter break begins, we have been reflecting on the last year and thinking about what is to come. Each one of you should take great pride in the impact you have made on this campus through your academic work, your interactions with your friends and professors, and the meaningful change you create for the SCTC. I am grateful for all that you bring to our Tribal community. On behalf of everyone at SCTC, I want to offer you our best wishes for the holiday season and for a happy and healthy 2026. I hope that over the break you will make space to do what



SCTC Student Services in Lansing, Mich. (left to right: Andrew Wagner, Joe Genia, Justin Knott, Amanda Flaughner, Carol McCoy and Jayme Green).

feels right to you to renew and recharge. I hope you have the opportunity to relax, reconnect with your friends and family, and enjoy this break in the academic calendar.

We look forward to seeing you back on campus in January.

Warmly,
SCTC Student Services



Cookie Crawl
Thursday, Dec. 11
Noon to 2 p.m.
Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College
5805 E. Pickard St. Mount Pleasant
Grab a tin from the front desk and fill it up with cookies
Open to the public.

Andahwod would also like to welcome Dana Neyome as the elder homemaker provider. Dana is able to assist Tribal elders with light cleaning, shopping, transports, and other in-home tasks. Please call Andahwod to schedule an appointment for in-home services 989-775-4300.

PRICE: Tribal Elders - free
Guests - \$10

This grant assistance is available for minor home and vehicle repairs that fall under program guidelines. SCIT elders 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.

For more information call: 989.775.4300

For more information, please call Andahwod at

Donna DeLap

Dinner: 4:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Menu subject to change	1 Tuna Casserole Meatball Sub	2 Beef Taco Chicken Strip Basket	3 Christmas Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Tomato Soup w/Grilled Cheese	4 BBQ Chicken Egg Salad Sandwich	5 Beef Roast w/Red Potato Sloppy Joe	6 Chef's Choice
	7 Chef's Choice	8 Breakfast Casserole Pork Loin	9 Chicken Taco Ham & Cheese Melt	10 Elders Breakfast Bean Soup Patty Melt	11 Lemon Pepper Chicken B.L.T.	12 Steak Sandwich White Chicken Chili
14 Chef's Choice	15 Chicken Broccoli Casserole Zuppa Soup	16 Steak Fajita Pork Chops	17 Beef & Barley Pancakes & Sausage Elder Lunch	18 Herb Roasted Chicken Egg Salad Sandwich	19 Open Face Roast Beef Chili	20 Chef's Choice
21 Chef's Choice	22 Tator Tot Casserole Ribbs w/Mashed Potato	23 Tostada Chicken Salad Wrap	24 Chef's Choice No Elders Breakfast	25 Chef's Choice	26 Chef's Choice	27 Chef's Choice
28 Chef's Choice	29 Cheesy Hamburger Casserole Potato Soup	30 Indian Taco	31 Chef's Choice	*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		
				Sugar free available upon request. Call kitchen for lunch and dinner at 989-775-4314.		



Sixth annual Statewide Tribal Opioid Summit takes participants on a “Journey of Hope”

JOSEPH SOWMICK
Public Relations Manager

On Nov. 5-6, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and Tribal Court officials hosted the sixth annual Statewide Tribal Opioid Summit as participants embraced the theme of “Journey of Hope: Paths to Positive Change in the Opioid Crises.”

The keynote addresses were held in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment Hall with breakout sessions taking place in the SECR ballrooms.

More than 250 participants registered for the summit, and vendors offered displays, give away items, and educational materials along with an impressive list of corporate sponsors.

The event opened with Tribal Council Chaplain Alice Jo Ricketts offering prayer, and opening remarks by Chief Tim J. Davis and Sgt.-at-Arms Christina Otto.

Conference keynote speakers included James Vukelich, Dan Griffin and Barb Smith and many others who offered breakout sessions on a variety of health related and cultural topics.

Carol Jackson, Summit chair and Tribal Court magistrate, has been working closely with April Osburn, executive director of Michigan Area Health Education Center, and the summit planning committee over the last year securing regional and national keynote speakers.

“This year’s presentations offered a wealth of information to assist with ideas to support our tribal and rural communities with solutions, and meaningful takeaways,” Jackson said. “With the increase in participants, the need has grown to bring in top experts to our community to share their knowledge,



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Dan Griffin, M.A. delivers a keynote address during the Opioid Summit held at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Nov. 5-6.

active efforts, and innovative approaches.”

Jackson continued, “Tribal culture is a forefront of the summit that includes drumming, prayer, the Ogitchedaw warriors, Ziibiwing cultural dancers, and cultural foods for healing. The expungement clinic continues to make important strides for tribal community members by opening doors to housing and employment opportunities that were previously out of reach.”

Jackson announced new this year was the implementation of the Mobile Medical Response (MMR) training and certification.

“We recognize their essential role as the boots on the ground in our communities. We were honored to offer this in our summit training,” Jackson said. “The opioid summit remains critically important, giving us the space to learn, collaborate, and network as we work to address the impacts of addiction and suicide. It provides the ability to unite around shared solutions and to support the efforts that ultimately saves lives.”



OPIOID SUMMIT

“Journey of Hope: Paths to Positive Change in the Opioid Crisis”

April Osburn of the Michigan Area Health Education Center said throughout the two days, attendees engaged in sessions focused on prevention, education, recovery, and workforce development.

“Several speakers underscored how collaborative strategies – among healthcare systems, public health agencies, treatment providers, and community organizations – are shaping more sustainable interventions,” Osburn said. “The summit concluded with expressions of appreciation for the many partners whose commitment continues to move the region forward. From regional coalitions to front-line educators and providers, the shared dedication was both acknowledged and celebrated.”

Always a somber reminder of the loved ones lost, the Tribal Court once again had memory boards that focused on the lives lost through addiction and suicide.

“We have lost family members and friends, and the effects of those losses will be felt for generations,” Jackson said. “We do this work in their honor as their lives mattered. We continue to feel their absence in the world we live in today.”

Osburn said the summit reinforced what many already knew: “Progress is possible when collaboration leads the way, and this region is steadfast in its resolve to keep moving forward side by side.”

Dr. Bernadette Atanga is an internist in Flint, Mich. and is affiliated with multiple hospitals in the area, including Hurley Medical Center and Veterans Affairs Ann Arbor Healthcare System.

Atanga delivered a well-received breakout session titled “From Suppression to Healing: How Unspoken Pain Fuels the Opioid Crisis and the Leadership Needed for Lasting Change.”

“I want to extend my deepest thanks for inviting me to speak at this year’s opioid summit. It was truly an honor to share space with committed leaders, thoughtful

providers, and courageous families; all united to bring change to how we see and treat the opioid crisis,” Atanga said.

Atanga continued, “The summit allowed me to see how people connected to the fact that emotional pain, when unspoken and unsupported, often becomes the hidden fuel behind addiction, especially in communities carrying deep generational trauma. So many participants approached me afterward with appreciation.”

Atanga said the summit fostered a spirit of heartfelt dialogue among the community.

“I noticed that people want more: More conversations around emotional suppression, more healing-centered care, more culturally grounded strategies that honor both science and spirit,” Atanga said. “I thank Magistrate Jackson and the summit planning committee for your vision, your trust, and your leadership in bringing this summit to life.”

Jackson wished to thank those involved that helped make the summit happen.

“We couldn’t do it without the support of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Tribal Council, Saginaw Chippewa tribal departments, Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, Area Health and Technical Center, University of Michigan, Mercy Law School-Expungement Clinic, the vendors, artisans, sponsors and the community,” Jackson said. “This support continues to make a meaningful difference, helping us strengthen our response, expand services and bring hope to our communities.”

Sponsors included: Compass Drug Screening, Michigan Center for Rural Health, Behavioral Health Connections, Michigan Region V Public Health Training Center, University of Michigan School of Public Health, Alma College, Bear River Health, Braeburn RX, Central Michigan University’s Rural Health Equity Institute, Home Confinement, Inc., OPEN Prevention, Treatment and Recovery, Sanford Behavioral Health and Skywood Recovery.

Students thank Tribal community for supporting Pine Ridge coat drive



Courtesy photo

(Editor’s note: The following is a thank you from two 5th grade students from Renaissance Public School Academy in Mount Pleasant, Mich. The students led a collaborative project that saw 50 coats donated to children on the Pine Ridge Reservation.)

Dear Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribal community,

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks – miigwetch – for your generous support of our Renaissance PSA Genius Hour project.

When we first began, we had no idea how much work it would take, but the journey was incredibly rewarding. We learned so much and truly enjoyed every step of the way. The most eye-opening aspect of our experience was the outpouring love and support from our Tribal community. We hope to continue building on this project next year.

Your kindness and encouragement meant the world to us. To help cover project costs, we organized a bake sale. Thanks to its success, and the additional donations received, we were able to meet our goal.

With those funds, we chose to purchase Walmart gift cards. Each of the three Head Start classrooms will receive a gift card to use in ways that best support their students’ needs.

Chii-Miigwetch again for walking alongside us in this journey.

With gratitude,
Lily Love Otto-Roth and Anistynn Shaw



MIGIZI
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CO.

Positions Now Available!

Apply today at
www.migiziedc.com

Andahwod Elders Halloween 2025



Kelly and Flossie



Mark



Courtesy photos

Patty



DECEMBER 2025 | Tribal Community Event Planner

Wii Maajikwad Afterschool Program

Monday-Friday | 3-5:30 p.m.

- Wii Maajikwad (2875 Gikendasso Way)
- ESchlegel@sagchip.org or 989-775-4453
- Open to grades 1-12
- Enrollment packets for the 2025/2026 school year: Can be picked up/dropped off at Wii Maajikwad administration office (school side).

2025-2027 SCIT Tribal Council Swearing In

Dec. 2 | 9 a.m.

- SECR Entertainment Hall
- 989-775-4059 or PublicRelations@sagchip.org

Wii Maajikwad Craft Nights

Dec. 5, 12, 16 | 5-8 p.m.

- Wii Maajikwad Lounge (Room A117)
- ESchlegel@sagchip.org or 989-775-4140
- Event is for immersion parents to complete ribbon shirts or skirts.
- All community members welcome
- Bring your own snacks/drinks and all craft items. A few sewing machines are available to use.

Youth Council Swearing In

Dec. 9 | 4-5 p.m.

- Council Chambers, Black Elk Building
- 989-775-4780 or TJackson@sagchip.org

SCTC Cookie Crawl

Dec. 11 | 12-2 p.m.

- SCTC (5805 E. Pickard Rd.)
- 989-317-4963
- Grab a tin from the front desk and fill it up with cookies.
- Open to the public

ACFS Foster Care Christmas Bazaar

Dec. 14 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

- SECR Ballrooms (6800 E. Soaring Eagle Blvd.)
- 989.775.4914
- All proceeds benefit ACFS Foster Care Program

Storytelling at Seventh Generation

Dec. 16 | 6-8 p.m. (7785 E. Remus Rd.)

- 7th Generation
- 989-775-4780 or TJackson@sagchip.org

SCTC GED Adult Education Program Meet and Greet

Dec. 17 | 1-3 p.m.

- SCTC (5805 E. Pickard Rd.)
- 989-317-4963
- Light refreshments
- Open to the public

SCTC Open House

Dec. 17 | 1-3 p.m.

- SCTC (5805 E. Pickard Rd.)
- 989-317-4821
- Experience our campus: Our team is excited to show off our main campus during a general campus tour as well as sharing their personal experiences as to why the Tribal College is so special.
- Open to the public

Two-Spirit Talking Circle

Dec. 22, Jan. 19, Feb. 23 | 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.

MIIBS

Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School

Winter Silent Auction

DECEMBER 1-5, 2025

Bids will be finalized on:
Friday, Dec. 5 at 5:30 p.m.

Ziibiwing Center lobby

- Many ribbon skirts available
- Funds will be used for securing MIIBS from vandals and weekend night security

For more information, please contact:
Marcella Hadden
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
mLhadden@sagchip.org | 989.775.4751

DECEMBER 2025 | Tribal Community Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat./Sun.
1 Sewing in Saganing 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saganing STEAM^{AG} Meeting 12-1 p.m. SCTC Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	2 Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Drums Out 7-9 p.m. 7th Gen	3 Recovery Talking Circle 9 a.m. B. Health Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health	4 Saganing Soup Day 12-1:30 p.m. Saganing Stocking Making 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health	5 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m. Andahwod	6 Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health 7
8 Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	9 Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Drums Out 7-9 p.m. 7th Gen	10 Tribal Observer DEADLINE Recovery Talking Circle 9 a.m. B. Health Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health	11 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	12 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m. Andahwod	13 Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health AOVWS Meeting 2 p.m. Ziibiwing 14
15 Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	16 Saganing Movie Day 1-3 p.m. Saganing Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Storytelling 6-8 p.m. 7th Gen Drums Out 7-9 p.m. 7th Gen	17 Recovery Talking Circle 9 a.m. B. Health Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health	18 Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health	19 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m. Andahwod	20 Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health 21
22 Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	23 Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Drums Out 7-9 p.m. 7th Gen	24 Tribal Ops Closed Christmas Eve Recovery Talking Circle 9 a.m. B. Health	25 Tribal Ops Closed Christmas Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health	26 Tribal Ops Closed Administrative Closure Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m. Andahwod	27 Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health 28
29 Tribal Ops Closed Administrative Closure Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	30 Tribal Ops Closed Administrative Closure Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom	31 Tribal Ops Closed New Year's Eve Recovery Talking Circle 9 a.m. B. Health	• SECR Payroll • SCIT Per Capita • SCIT Payroll • Curbside Recycling	Save the Date State of the Tribe Annual Meeting Saturday, Jan. 17, 2026 Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment Hall Doors open at 9 a.m. Breakfast at 10 a.m.	



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

105 Lost and Found

110 For Rent

115 For Sale

120 Announcements
- 125 Miigwetch

130 Services

135 Events

140 Giveaways

145 Miscellaneous

100 Employment

Tribal Operations

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.

Interim Clinical Therapist

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

Clinical Therapist Child and Family Services

Open to the public. Licensed master’s degree in counseling, social work, human services or related field. One year demonstrated mental health and co-occurring therapy experience with youth, children, and families.

Elementary Counselor/Family Outreach AWARE

Open to the public. Bachelor’s degree in social work or counsel-

ing from an accredited program. One year experience in mental health services working with children and families of children with severe emotional disturbances.

Special Education Teacher

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

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. 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.

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.

Police Officer

Open to the public. Arenac County. 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 Assistant

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Graduate of a dental assisting program or two years of dental assisting experience. Certification to expose dental radiographs. Certification to expose dental radiographs

Accountant

Open to the public. Bachelor’s degree in accounting. One year of experience in general accounting. Tribal government accounting experience desired.

Paraprofessional

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Pass a state or local exam (i.e. basic skills test of Michigan for teacher certification or ETS ParaPro Assessment); or complete at least two years of study at an institution of higher education (60 semester hours).

Maintenance Worker Education Building

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

Prevention Specialist

Open to the public. Associate degree in human services or related field. Experience with Native American traditions and cultural processes.

Data & Evaluation Analyst

Open to the public. Grant funded position. Associate degree in social sciences or related field. Experience with database design and best practice helpful. One year experience in administration of federal grants and contracts, and grant writing.

Tribal Code Compliance Officer

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. 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.

Juvenile Court Project Coordinator

Open to the public. Grant funded position through Sept. 30, 2027. Bachelor’s degree in social work, human services, criminal justice, public administration, business administration, education, or related field. Two years experience working in the human services or education environment.

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.

Soaring Eagle

Master Plumber

Open to the public. Ten years of experience as a licensed plumber which includes a combination of apprentice, journeyman and master plumber.

Guest Room Attendant PT

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

Sous Chef

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

F&B Chef

Open to the public. Four years of up-scale, high volume, hotel kitchen experience, or similar restaurant experience. Two years supervisory experience.

Line Cook

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

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.

Guest Relations Rep PT

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

Inventory Control Warehouser

Open to the public. Experience with operating warehouse equipment including forklifts and riding cleaning machines.

Guest Room Attendant PT

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

Saganing

Beverage Waitstaff FT

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

Beverage Waitstaff PT

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

F&B Attendant FT

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

F&B Attendant PT

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

Line Cook

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

Count Team Assistant

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

Players Club Rep FT

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

Players Club Rep PT

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

Cage Cashier PT

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

F&B Cashier

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

F&B Supervisor

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

Inventory Control Driver Warehouser

Open to the public. One year experience in driving vehicles and rigs that require a CDL license. Experience with operating warehouse equipment including forklifts and riding cleaning machines.

SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN THE MATTER OF BENJAMIN VICTOR WILLIS SR.:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. 989-775-4800. Estate of Benjamin Victor Willis Sr. Date of Birth: Aug. 19, 1941. Notice to creditors: The decedent, Benjamin Victor Willis Sr., who resided at the Medilodge of Mount Pleasant, 1524 Portabella Trail Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858, died Aug. 16, 2025. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Kelli Buback, or both the Tribal Probate Court at 6954 E. Broadway Rd. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858, and the personal representative within four months after the date of publication of this notice. Personal Representative: Kelli Buback 21200 22 Mile Rd., Macomb, MI 48044. 586-484-8873.

NOTICE TO RAVEN LEWIS IN THE MATTER OF ONE MINOR CHILD:

CASE NO. 24-JCW-0005, DATES OF BIRTH: 12-17-2024. The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court Children’s Division. The Court has taken jurisdiction of the minor in reference to the case number listed above. A hearing for Petition to Terminate Parental Rights to a Minor will be conducted by the court on Thursday, Dec. 11, 2025 at 10 a.m. in the courtroom at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 before the Honorable Michelle Horn. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Raven Lewis personally appear before the court at the time and place stated above. This hearing may result in the Court continuing its jurisdiction over the minor and the eventual termination of parental rights. Rights of parties as to counsel is set forth in Title II of the Children’s Code, Chapter 2.3, Section 2.313(a).

HUMAN RESOURCES:
Training/Certification Opportunities

Associate Degree Dental Hygiene Program

The Dental Hygiene degree program at Ferris State is the largest in the State of Michigan and one of the largest Dental Hygiene AAS degree programs in the nation.

Criminal Justice Law Enforcement

The Delta College Criminal Justice program is designed to give you specialized knowledge of the criminal justice field combined with a broad general educational.

Water & Wastewater Treatment Technology

Earn an associate degree in water and wastewater treatment technology. When you're done, you'll be able to take licensing exams.

Hotel Management

You will gain a solid understanding of the growing hospitality business — from historical context to the current trends.

Clinical Dental Assistant

This course will provide you with the essential skills and knowledge needed to become a dental assistant, including every aspect of professional dental assistance.

Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA)

You will learn the professional traits and responsibilities to become a vital part of the healthcare team in a medical office, clinic, hospital, and other healthcare settings.

Medical Billing & Coding Certification

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

Pharmacy Technician

This online certification course will prepare aspiring pharmacy technicians to effectively assist the pharmacist in the packing and distribution of medication.

For more information, please contact:

Kamie Mandoka
989-775-5247 | KMANDOKA@sagchip.org

Olivia Manitowabi-McCullough
989-775-4505 | OMANITOWABI@sagchip.org



Wii Maajikwad, Andahwod host trick or treating for students on Oct. 30

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

Andahwod residents and employees, Council members, and Tribal Operations and Soaring Eagle departments passed out treats to Wii Maajikwad students on Oct. 30.

The trick or treating was hosted in the morning at Andahwod, with Wii Maajikwad hosting an afternoon session.

Observer photos by Matthew Wright



Native author, speaker James Vukelich Kaagegaabaw takes Reservation tour

JOSEPH SOWMICK

Public Relations Manager

Turtle Mountain Band of Ojibwe Native James Vukelich Kaagegaabaw, a renowned international speaker, author and influencer, took a tour of the Isabella Indian Reservation in Mount Pleasant, Mich. on Nov. 6.

In town to serve as a keynote speaker during the Tribal Opioid Summit, Vukelich said he believes teaching Indigenous culture can assist health professionals in dealing with addiction among Native clients.

"I mentioned in my presentation the importance of promoting 'mino-bimaadiziwin' (the good life) and to model peace and harmony with all living beings," Vukelich said. "Culture is a well-known healing medicine and an excellent preventative medicine. Many of the health professionals probably have had very little, if any, exposure at all to Anishinaabe culture. I hope this was an excellent introduction to the culture, history and spirituality of some of their indigenous clients who are dealing with addiction."



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

James Vukelich (center), renowned author and influencer, poses for a photo with Tribal Council after touring the Reservation on Nov. 6.

Vukelich was able to meet personally with several Tribal Council members in chambers.

"It is encouraging to see you have support from the highest level of tribal government on events like the Opioid Summit taking place in Indian Country," Vukelich said. "It was a privilege to meet the Tribal Council and Tribal Chief Tim Davis. It is always inspiring to see leaders contributing and supporting their nation in healing education and language revitalization."

Vukelich also was given a tour by Tribal Education Director Christina Sharp of Wii Maajikwad. He witnessed firsthand how the community continues to promote and preserve Anishinaabemowin.

"As an educator, Wii-Maajikwad was awesome to see how you are keeping our language alive. It is exciting to see the excellent work taking place there," Vukelich said. "The school library was amazing and it was great to see an environment where students and youth are surrounded by language and culture. I also really love the school dog (support service animal, Joy)!"

The tour moved to Seventh Generation, where Cultural Representative Eric Sowmick spoke about making shakers, cedar boxes, stone sculpting, and maple syrup on site.

"Anishinaabeg have worked with wood, stone, made instruments, and harvested and processed traditional food for

millennia. It was an honor to see the many programs that you offer there," Vukelich said. "I think it's a magnificent idea and an example for other indigenous nations to create a center that can welcome community members to either begin learning about the culture or have a chance to make a contribution in helping others learn."

Vukelich also visited with Andahwod staff and residents.

"Our name for 'elder' in Ojibwe is Gichi-aya'aa, 'a great being'," Vukelich said. "I love seeing facilities like Andahwod that treat our elders like the great beings that they really are."

Vukelich got to see how overall wellness is addressed at Nimkee with the fitness center, optical, dental, medical, pharmacy, and programs delivered at the facility. He said he appreciated the signs in Ojibwe throughout Nimkee.

Vukelich was able to spend some time at the Ziibiwing Center, which he said is one of the "finest Indigenous centers

he has ever visited."

"The Ojibwe, language, art culture, history, and spirituality are displayed with outstanding talent," Vukelich said of the Ziibiwing Center. "I loved every minute of my tour and I admired the effort you have taken to highlight the Creation Story of the Ojibwe."

As a Native author and digital creator, Vukelich embraces many social media platforms (YouTube, Instagram, Facebook and TikTok) in sharing traditional storytelling.

"Social media is a platform that lends itself very well to the oral tradition. In using video, we have a chance to speak to one another using these various platforms," Vukelich said. "I think Indigenous people understood the assignment with social media and use it to share, communicate, educate and laugh. What an excellent way to introduce someone to Ojibwe culture or for Ojibwe people to have a more in depth look at Ojibwe culture and language."

MPHS Football, five Tribal Members to compete for state championship



Courtesy photo

Pictured left to right: Braeden Bennett (16), Zhaawan Martell (82), Prentice Jones (30), Isaiah Rodriguez (2) and Gracin Montoya (75).

The Mt. Pleasant Oilers high school football team is making history this season as they advance to the MHSAA State Championship after capturing the semi-finals, and the District and Regional Championships!

The Oilers defeated Lowell 41-21 on Saturday, Nov. 22 in Greenville, Mich., and earned a spot in the State Championship at Ford Field.

This year's playoff run is especially meaningful for the community as five Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Member student-athletes are playing key roles in driving the Oilers' success.

These young men have represented the Tribe with pride, resilience, and dedication throughout the season.

At Tribal Observer press time, the Oilers are scheduled to take on Dewitt on Sunday, Nov. 30 at 12:30 p.m. at Ford Field. Tickets to the game are available via Ticketmaster. It's the teams' first trip to Detroit since 2011. Go Oilers!

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