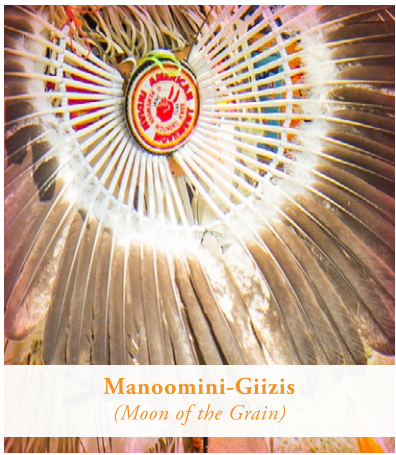




TRIBAL OBSERVER

AUGUST
2026

Working Together For Our Future

www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver

Volume 37 | Issue 8



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Homecoming community meeting 2026 agenda: Annual gathering held July 23

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

As Saginaw Chippewa Powwow week was in full force, the annual homecoming community meeting was held Thursday, July 23 in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment Hall at 10 a.m.

Grand entry began with introductions by Public Relations Director Erik Rodriguez, and Blue House Singers on the drum as Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veterans and Warriors Society carried in the flags.

Tribal Chaplain Jennifer Wasegijig provided the invocation and requested a moment of silence.



Courtesy of Marcella Hadden, Nibing Giizis Photography
Chief Luke Sprague speaks during the annual homecoming community meeting on Thursday, July 23, in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment Hall.

After breakfast, welcoming remarks were provided by Chief Luke Sprague, Sub-Chief Craig Graveratte and Sgt.-at-Arms Frank Cloutier.



Courtesy of Marcella Hadden, Nibing Giizis Photography
Sub-Chief Craig Graveratte

Next, Tribal Elder Joseph Sowmick provided a cultural teaching entitled “Wiji-daandiwag: We Live Together.” Youth Council representatives then shared their experience as they reflected on their Unity conference trip and provided updates.



Courtesy of Marcella Hadden, Nibing Giizis Photography
Soaring Eagle CEO Joe Nayquonabe Jr.

SCIT departmental updates were provided by: Tribal Clerk Shawn Kimewan discussing demographics and Tribal IDs, Soaring Eagle CEO Joe Nayquonabe Jr., Migizi CEO Matt Felan, Bakinaw Project Management Assistant Joseph Fisher II, and Tribal Council



Courtesy of Marcella Hadden, Nibing Giizis Photography
Migizi CEO Matt Felan

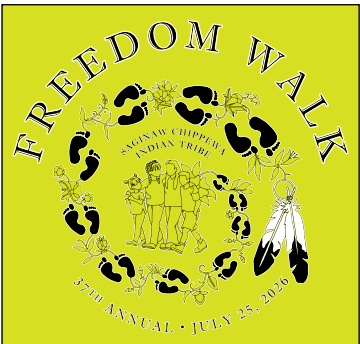
Treasurer Alice Jo Ricketts. The meeting concluded with 50/50 and raffle drawings, and a travel song provided by Blue House Singers. The video of the meeting is available in its entirety in the Tribal Members-only section of sagchip.org.

Freedom Walk celebrates recovery, sobriety during powwow weekend

MATTHEW WRIGHT
Staff Writer

The 37th annual Freedom Walk brought more than 300 community members together for a celebration of recovery and sobriety on Saturday, July 25. Held during the Saginaw Chippewa Powwow weekend, the annual event began with breakfast, served at 7:30 a.m. in the gym of Wii Maajikwad.

Tribal Elder Fred Cantu Jr. offered a prayer to open the event and bless the meal.



Courtesy photo
The 2026 Freedom Walk T-shirt logo, created by Derek D'Artagnan

Chief Luke Sprague provided opening remarks. “When we are walking today, we are not just celebrating those in recovery and praying for them; it’s also their families. Their children have

their parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles back, into their lives,” Sprague said. “Chimiigwetch to everyone, enjoy the powwow weekend.”

The event also featured speakers in recovery including: Brandon Leureaux, Stephanie Ecker and Wendy Peirce.

Anna Winters gave an overview of Peer360 Recovery Alliance. She serves as a certified peer recovery coach and the Isabella County tribal community coordinator of Peer 360. The group held a meeting following the end of the walk, and subsequent meetings throughout the weekend on the powwow grounds.

Tribal Elder Joseph Sowmick served as emcee for



Observer photo by Matthew Wright
Freedom Walk participants travel from Wii Maajikwad on Saturday, July 25.

the event, while also sharing sobriety guidelines.

“When we talk about walking about that Red Road of Recovery, the way that we do it is one step at a time, one day at a time,” Sowmick said.

Jeremy Bennett was honored with an eagle feather.

He was selected for being an individual in recovery who has embodied and demonstrated what it means to walk a life on the Red Road to wellbriety.

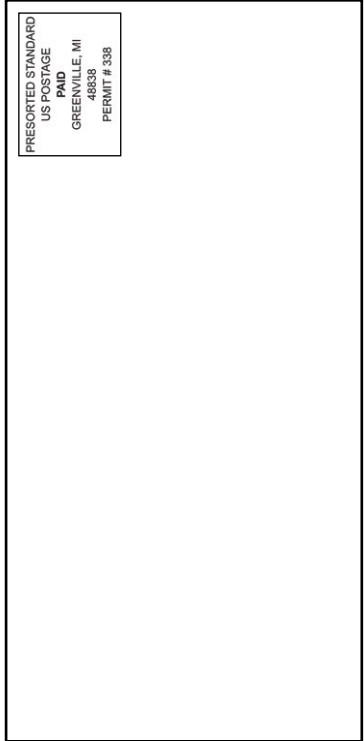
Freedom Walk | 7



Observer photo by Matthew Wright
Jeremy Bennett (front) expresses acknowledgment after receiving an eagle feather.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright
Freedom Walk participants stand in solidarity to support sober lifestyles on the Saginaw Chippewa Powwow grounds.





Paul Edward Schramm

May 30, 1956 – July 11, 2026

Paul Edward Schramm Jr. & Ishpeming Migizi (High Eagle), age 70, of Mount Pleasant, Mich. passed away peacefully on Saturday, July 11, 2026.

Paul was born May 30, 1956, in Flint, Mich., the son of Paul and Linda (Henry) Schramm Sr. He graduated from Portage Central High School with the Class of 1974.

On Feb. 4, 1978, Paul married Diane Konewko in Portage, Mich., his wife of 48 years. Paul worked as a machinist for General Motors and Union Pump Company for many years until his retirement in 2013. Paul served as the collective bargaining chairman and was a proud union member, serving his fellow employees under the International Association of Machinists.

Paul was an elder member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, where he served on the Health Board and the Conservation Committee. He previously chaired the Title IX Indian Education Committee for Kalamazoo County Public Schools and was the powwow chairman for the Kalamazoo Valley Indian Association.

He resided in Portage for many years, before moving to Mount Pleasant seven years ago. Being a proud grandpa and always there for his grandchildren; he never missed their activities.

In high school, Paul played baseball, football, and hockey. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and spending time with family and friends at his property.

Paul is survived by his wife Diane Schramm; sons David (Krystal) Schramm of Kalamazoo, Jeffrey Schramm of Mount Pleasant; grandchildren Emma Schramm, Private First Class Adam Schramm, Owen Schramm, and Timothy Schramm; brother Mike Schramm of Canadian Lakes; sisters Terri (Jim) Bonnema of Virginia, and Kelly Hartwell of Mount Pleasant.

Paul was preceded in death by his parents; son Timothy Schramm; and sister Susan Schramm.

The family met with friends and loved ones on Friday, July 17, 2026, at 3:30 p.m. at Clark Family Funeral Chapel, with a 4 p.m. service.



Thelma Ida Henry-Shipman

March 28, 1935 – July 14, 2026

Thelma Ida Henry-Shipman, age 91, of Mount Pleasant, passed away on Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at the Isabella County Medical Care Facility.

Thelma was born on March 28, 1935, in Saginaw, Mich., daughter of John Wesley and Ida Thelma (Krause) Henry.

Thelma worked for the State of Michigan as head of Indian Affairs for more than 20 years and proudly served on SCIT Tribal Council.

She was gifted in making porcelain Indian dolls. She was lovingly known as the "Hat Lady" and enjoyed spending time at the casino.

Thelma is survived by her children, Bunny (Al) Roth of Shorewood, Wis., and Kevin O'Brien of Mount Pleasant; daughter-in-law, Regina "Jeannie" Ferriss of Warren, Mich.; five grandchildren, Sarah (Justin) Spence of Skokie, Ill., Joe Ferriss of Warren, Mich., Nina Roth (Michael Harvel) of Morton Grove, Ill., Natalie (Ben) Black of Grafton, Wis., and Kevin O'Brien Jr. of Ohio; 11 great-grandchildren, Tyler, Jordan, and Lincoln Spence, Bailey and Violet Harvel, Lilly, Adam, and Miles Black, Sophia and Bentley O'Brien, and Brittney Ferriss; great-great-grandchild, Guinevere Spence; nieces, Dianne Henry, Suzanne "Sue" Boettcher; and numerous grandnieces and nephews.

Thelma was preceded in death by her son, Leonard Ferriss, parents John Wesley Henry and Ida Thelma Henry (Hill); siblings, Stanford Henry, John Henry, Ruth Henry, Jenette Francis, Phil Henry, and Barbara Miller.

In following with Thelma's wishes, cremation has taken place. A Celebration of Life Service was held at Clark Family Funeral Chapel on July 27, 2026 at 2 p.m. The family received friends from 1 P.M. until the time of service.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.



Amy Lynn Gemmil

September 7, 1978 – July 21, 2026

"Your wings were ready, but our hearts were not."

With profound sadness and hearts filled with love, we announce the passing of our beloved mother, daughter, sister, granddaughter, aunt, and friend. While our hearts are shattered by her loss, we are forever grateful for the love she gave so freely and the beautiful memories she leaves behind.

Our Beautiful Angel, Amy Lynn

Gemmil, age 47 – our dear daughter, mother, sister and aunt – passed away after a difficult illness on Tuesday, July 21, 2026 at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit.

She was born in Bay City, Mich. on Thursday, Sept. 7, 1978 and has resided here since. Amy was an active and proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. She had a great interest in Native American culture and its history.

She was a truly beautiful woman, both inside and out. Her strength, kindness, compassion, and unconditional love touched the lives of everyone who knew her. She had a heart that welcomed others without judgment and a smile that could light up any room. She found joy in life's simple blessings and treasured every moment spent with those she loved.

She loved listening to '90s music, especially songs that brought back cherished memories. She loved spending time at the beach, where the sound of the waves brought her peace. She also loved getting dressed up, doing her hair and makeup, and feeling beautiful. Her beauty radiated far beyond her appearance. It came from the kindness in her heart, the warmth in her spirit, and the love she gave to everyone around her.

Above everything else, her greatest joy was her family. She was a loving and devoted mother to her daughter, Destinee, and her son, Devawn, who were the center of her world. The love she gave them will remain with them forever and continue to guide them every day.

She is lovingly survived by her daughter, Destinee; her son, Devawn; her mother, Margaret Elizabeth Goulette; her father, Gerald Ice; her brother, Jeremy Keith Gemmil, and his wife, Lindsey Gemmil; her sister, Sondra Ice; her favorite aunt, Toni Timreck; her beloved nieces and nephews, Jaylah Gemmil, Jayden Gemmil, Jayce Gemmil and Moniqua Gemmil; along with many other cherished nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends whose lives were forever touched by her love.

She is reunited in Heaven with her beloved sister, Angela Ice, her father, Robert Goulette and her cherished grandmothers, Grandma Gemmil, and Grandma Ice whose loving embrace has welcomed her home.

Although our hearts are broken, we take comfort in knowing that her love will never leave us. Your laughter, your smile, your strength, and your love will continue to live on in each of us. Until we meet again, we will love you always and miss you beyond words. Rest in Paradise. Forever in our hearts.

"You left us beautiful memories. Your love is still our guide, and though we cannot see you, you're always by our side."

The funeral service was held at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, July 29, 2026 at Trahan Funeral Chapel with EJ Brown officiating. Visiting hours were from 12 to 3 p.m. that day.

Charitable contributions may be directed to the wishes of the family.



Ralph Claybourne Mays

February 23, 1953 – July 1, 2026

Ralph Claybourne Mays was born on Monday, Feb. 23, 1953 in Detroit. He was the sixth of nine children, the younger of two boys.

Ralph was an elder of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

He attended Detroit Public Schools (DPS), kindergarten through 12th grade, and graduated from Cooley High. He attended Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Mich. and worked construction in his early years. He later was assigned the position of public safety officer for DPS by the Detroit Police Department.

Ralph also served as program director of Detroit Indian Education and Cultural Center (DIECC).

Music filled the hearts and home where Ralph grew up. His passion and talent for the arts was well known amongst his closest friends and family.

He played several instruments but was well renowned as a bass guitarist. He formed his first band called the "Ghetto's Children" and often held practice in the basement of his childhood home. Ralph ascended in his professional career as a studio sessionist for notable Detroit jazz and Motown greats such as Eddie Kendricks, The Miracles, Enchantment and New Birth to name a few.

Ralph passed away on Wednesday, July 1, 2026 at the age of 73. Preceded in death are his parents Isaiah and Esther. Siblings Marion, Linda and Robert. Kelly, his daughter and Janice, his first wife and mother of his children. Niece and nephews Cree, Bill and Rodney.

To cherish his memory, Ralph leaves behind two children, Robert (Melissa) and Stacey (Angelena) and granddaughters Celeste and Cheyenne. His wife, Michelle and five sisters- Judith, Esther, Sharon, Cathy and Tracy. He also leaves a host of family and friends to celebrate his life.

Ralph was a devoted family man and a loyal Detroit Lions fan. He protected and served both his family and community. Ralph's love and laughter will be sorely missed but always remembered.



Tribal Membership Rotation Positions

These positions will be rotated around the following departments:

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

Open to SCIT Tribal Members:

- Applications online at: www.sagchip.org/careers
- Must obtain and maintain a gaming license
- Must have high school diploma or GED
- Wage: \$14 an hour, full-time

- Four spots available for this program
 - Learn line level skills in order to be a successful employee
 - Discover which department is the best fit

For more information, please contact:
Human Resources at 989.775.5600

Recreation Department

New extended hours

Normal Hours: M-F, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Tribal Member: Free Non-Tribal Member day pass: \$10 Basketball shooting maching available: • Non-Tribal Member fee: \$20 per hour *Payments are cash only*	• South gym available for community • Check in at the Recreation office • Weight room available • Youth in grades 5th and under need to be accompanied by an adult.
--	--

Extended Hours:

▶ **Wednesdays:** 5:30-7:30 p.m.

• Two basketball courts available: one 5-on-5, and one open court. • Open weight room	• Youth in grades 5th and under need to be accompanied by an adult.
--	---

Wii Maajiikwad/Recreation Center
2875 Gikendasso Way, Mt. Pleasant MI, 48858

Contact: Recreation@sagchip.org

Michigan Powwows Summer 2026

- ▶ **Aug. 8-9: Odawa Homecoming Pow Wow (Harbor Springs)**
- ▶ **Aug. 15: Blue Water Traditional Pow-Wow (Port Huron)**
- ▶ **Aug. 28-29: Rendezvous at the Straits Powwow (St. Ignace)**
- ▶ **Aug. 29: Nibiikaa Pow Wow (Escanaba)**

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

Next meeting: Saturday, Aug. 8 at 2 p.m. at the Ziibiwing Center

Date change: Starting in September, meetings will be held the first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Ziibiwing Center.

For more information, please contact:
Paul Walker at PWalker@sagchip.org





"WORKING TOGETHER FOR OUR FUTURE"

Attention Tribal Members

Tribal Council Regular Session Meetings

are held at 9 a.m.

Regular Tribal Council Sessions

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

Regular Council Session Dates

• Aug. 4 • Sept. 1 • Oct. 7

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

Visit to be entered into a WEEKLY GIVEAWAY!



NATIVE FARMERS MARKET

All Are Welcome!

Tuesdays: June 2 - Sept. 1, 2026

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Farmers Market Pavilion

Corner of Broadway and Leaton roads

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

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

- You do NOT have to be Native American to be a seller.
- You must be Native American to be an art vendor.

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

Mshkikiikaan
(The Place of Medicine)

Like us on Facebook!

For more information, contact:

- SAMACHippeway@sagchip.org | 989.775.4629
- BeAlonzo@sagchip.org | 989.775.4639



2027 Annual Reports

Forms available now

Deadline: Friday, Oct. 30, 2026

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

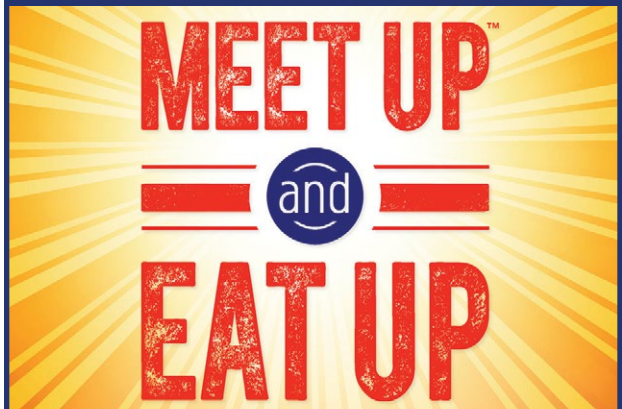
Notarization is required

- Forms available by mail, email and at www.sagchip.org
- No postdated forms, emails or faxes accepted

Your 2027 Annual Report MUST be filed before/ with submitting a Tribal Loan Application.

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

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



Monday - Friday: Until Aug. 21

Not available: July 3, 24 and Aug. 6

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

Wii Maajiikwad(2875 Gikendaaso Way)

**This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*



Well & Septic PROGRAM

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

If you are experiencing problems with your well or septic, please contact the Planning Department.

***You must own your home.**

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



Working Together To Protect Our Environment



EVENT PARKING

SUMMER CONCERT PAID PARKING FUNDRAISER

Cost: \$15 per vehicle

- Parking can be purchased starting two hours before the concert starts up until one hour after.
- Must remove vehicles from property by 5 p.m. the next day.
- Must place paid parking ticket visibly in front windshield.
- Free Premium Play will be given while supplies last.

- Proceeds will support our events and programming.
- To check for a shuttle ride to the casino, please call 989-775-0007.

Concert	Start Time	Purchase Timeframe
Aug. 5 – Jonas Brothers	8 p.m.	6-9 p.m.
Aug. 14 – Eric Church	8 p.m.	6-9 p.m.
Sept. 3 – Rod Stewart	8 p.m.	6-9 p.m.
Sept. 11 – NE-YO	8 p.m.	6-9 p.m.
Sept. 12 – Kane Brown	8 p.m.	6-9 p.m.



ZIIBIWING CENTER
of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways

THE MIDWEST'S PREMIER AMERICAN INDIAN MUSEUM
8650 EAST BROADWAY, MT. PLEASANT, MICHIGAN 48858
989.775.4750 • WWW.SAGCHIP.ORG/ZIIBIWING

20TH ANNUAL PEOPLE'S TRADITIONAL POWWOW



Aug. 29 & 30, 2026

Seventh Generation Powwow Grounds
7957 E. Remus Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Open to the public • Free admission

Grand Entries

Saturday, Aug. 29: 1 & 7 p.m.

- Dinner served at 5 p.m. for participants

Sunday, Aug. 30: 1 p.m.

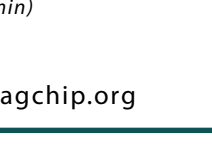
Dignitaries

- Emcee: Jason Whitehouse
- Arena Director: RJ Smith
- Head Veteran: Walker Stonefish
- Head Dancers: Chosen each session
- Invited Drums: Red Willow & Bad River
- Sound provided by: Rezonance Productions

Contests

▶ **Bass Drum:** (Sponsor: Lenny Shomin)

Vendor information:
989-775-4780 or TJackson@sagchip.org





RED SWAMP PRESENTS

Bagodowe Engiitaading

(Lacrosse Tournament)

Friday, Aug. 28, 2026

Seventh Generation Powwow Grounds
7957 E. Remus Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

- ▶ Youth game (ages 14 and under) starts at 5 p.m.
- ▶ Adult game (ages 15 and up) starts at 6:30 p.m.

Bagadowe co-ed tournament

- Seven-vs.-seven, double elimination
- Games will be 10 minutes each
- You may bring your own teams
- A draft will fill incomplete teams
- No shoes, bare feet only

Room block with special group rate available at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort:

- Rate available until Aug. 7
- Available for Friday, Aug. 28 and Saturday, Aug. 29

▶ **To book, visit:** www.soaringeaglecasino.com

- Choose "Book Now" tab and change Promo Code to Group Code and enter group code: TL082826

▶ **Or call:** 1.877.232.4532

Contact: 989-775-4782 or DAJackson@sagchip.org



Public notice of unclaimed per capita disbursements for deceased Tribal Members

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

Tribal Member Name	Date of Death
Anderson, Eric John	10/24/2024
Bailey, Marilyn Ann	04/22/2026
Bergevin, Philip Wayne	02/15/2026
Black, Helen Marie	01/23/2026
Brodie, Wanda Yvonne	06/03/2026
Castaneda, Leona Ashquab	05/11/2025
Chapman, Wendy Sue	01/14/2026
Crandall, Kimberly	04/03/2026
Cyr, Michael George	08/25/2025
Davenport, Norman Stanley	06/19/2026
Gage, Douglas Lorne	05/22/2026
Hunt, Judith Anne	03/05/2026
Kelsall, Marcia Sue	12/18/2024
Nahmabin, Trisha Lynn	12/03/2025
O'Neal, Phyllis Jane	04/07/2025
Randall, Stephen Wayne	04/16/2026
Ritter, Caden Zane	05/31/2025
Starkey, Lisa Faye	01/15/2026
Stone, Warren Enos	04/14/2025



Tribal Council

Chief

Luke Sprague | District One

Sub-Chief

Craig Graveratte | District One

Secretary

Christina Otto | District One

Treasurer

Alice Jo Ricketts | District One

Sergeant-at-Arms

Frank J. Cloutier | District Three

Chaplain

Jennifer L. Wassegijig | District One

Council Member

Brad Bennett | District One

Council Member

Tim J. Davis | District One

Council Member

Ronald F. Ekdahl | District One

Council Member

Shirley Houle | District Two

Council Member

Mary Quigno | District One

Council Member

Gayle Ruhl | District One



Nimkee

Memorial Wellness Center

Bringing Your Health Home: CHR Medication Delivery is Here!

Open to District 1 & 2 SCIT elders, ages 60 and older

Skip the trip to the clinic and let us come to you. The Nimkee Clinic Community Health Representative (CHR) team is now offering free medication delivery to our community members.

How it works:

- 1: Call the Nimkee Pharmacy to refill your prescription.
- 2: Request CHR Delivery through Public Health.
- 3: A trusted CHR will bring your meds right to your door!

- Delivery is subject to service area boundaries and medication eligibility.
- Exclusions apply to controlled substances and specialized prescriptions.
- Contact Nimkee Pharmacy for details.

Whether it's a busy schedule or a lack of transportation, we're here to make sure you never miss a dose.

Call 989-775-4695 to get started!

Let's Stay Connected The Right Way!

We love serving our community, and we want to make sure your medical questions get the attention they deserve via an approved and secure means of communication.

Why the change? We are experiencing higher volumes of communication that are coming into the clinic via emails and text messages that aren't encrypted. To keep your "PHI" (Protected Health Information) safe from prying eyes, Nimkee staff will only communicate anything PHI related through authorized, encrypted channels.

PLEASE USE THESE "GREEN LIGHT" METHODS:

- 1: **Patient Portal:**
Log in anytime to send a message.
2. **Clinic Phone: 989-775-4679.**
Call us during business hours.
Monday-Friday; 8:00 am – 5:00 pm.

Note: If you've sent a text or an email to a staff member's personal account and haven't heard back, it's because we are protecting your privacy! Please call the office or use the portal so we can assist you properly. If you need assistance setting up your portal, call our office and a staff can assist!

2591 S. Leaton Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Open: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Phone: 989.775.4600

www.sagchip.org/nimkee



New Youth Position: CO-OP YOUTH WORKER

The co-op youth worker position is designed to provide SCIT 11th and 12th grade youth with valuable work/school experience. This experience will introduce youth to the workplace, imparting them with valuable employment skills connected to their studies.

It is a unique opportunity for tribal youth to earn income while earning real high school credits through actual workplace experiences within a Tribal Operations department. This opportunity will assist youth in identifying individual potential career paths and opportunities of interest within the Tribe, as well as gain self-confidence, career awareness, financial literacy, and interpersonal competencies needed to succeed in high school, higher education, and workplace environments.

Minimum qualifications:

- ▶ Youth enrolled in school in 11th or 12th grade.
- ▶ Must be a SCIT tribal member.
- ▶ Must be eligible to earn high school credits.
- ▶ Must provide a letter from high school counselor or advisor recommending participation and placement.
- ▶ Must obtain work permit from high school, which is accredited by the state of Michigan.

If interested, apply online at:

www.sagchip.org/careers/

Or scan QR code ▶

Deadline: Aug. 10, 2026



For more information, contact:

Kamie Mandoka

HR Tribal Development Coordinator

989.775.5247 | KMandoka@sagchip.org

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.



**THE ZIIBIWING CENTER
WOULD LIKE TO GIVE**

Special Recognition
TO
RENEE ANDERSON
FOR BEING A
PREMIER LEVEL MEMBER!



ZIIBIWING CENTER
of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways

THE MIDWEST'S PREMIER AMERICAN INDIAN MUSEUM
6650 EAST BROADWAY, MT. PLEASANT, MICHIGAN 48858
989.775.4750 • WWW.SAGCHIP.ORG/ZIIBIWING

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



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





Youth (8th grade and under):
Monday, Aug. 17, 2026

High school and adult:
Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2026

- ▶ **Check in:** 9-10:30 a.m.
- ▶ **Games start:** 11 a.m.

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

Registration deadline:
Friday, Aug. 14 at 5 p.m.
**Registration required for all divisions.*
**No walk-in registration allowed.*

Divisions:

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

\$20 per player

- Four person max per team
- Ten team max per age group

- ▶ *First place trophies and second place medals*
- ▶ *Free lunch and T-shirt for players (while supplies last)*
- ▶ *Open to the public*

To register, please contact:
989-775-4093 or KShomin@sagchip.org



ZIIBIWING CENTER
of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways

Seeking Tribal Members/Descendants

Currently seeking individuals that can provide guided tours of the Ziibiwing Center's Permanent Exhibit

- **Audience:** mostly K-12 school groups
- **Stipends:** \$25 for one guided tour and \$40 for two guided tours daily.
- **Training:** We will provide free training and call a few days before the guided tour is needed.
- Scheduled on an as-needed basis.
- The guided tour includes two pre-recorded shows one about creation and the other is about tribal identity.

IF INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT:

- **William Johnson**, *Curator/Operations Manager*
WJohnson@sagchip.org | 989-775-4730
- **Raymond Cadotte**, *Visitor Services Representative*
RCadotte@sagchip.org | 989-775-4757



ZIIBIWING CENTER
of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways

50/50 RAFFLE
Fundraiser

Tickets sold: April 2, 2026 - Aug. 31, 2026
Drawing held: Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2026

Ticket cost: One for \$5 or five for \$10

Sold exclusively at Ziibiwing's Gift Shop:
9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., M-F (*except for holidays, closings*)

- Do not need to be present to win.
- *Half of the proceeds will go to the Ziibiwing Center towards programming, cultural activities, and facility needs of the Center.*

Contact: ChRiley@sagchip.org or 989-775-4756

NIMKEE DENTAL NOTICES:

Missed appointments:
Out of 102 days this year, Nimkee Dental has had:

- ▶ Three people per day not show up
- ▶ 306 appointment slots that have gone unused

** Every appointment is confirmed twice the day before via text/phone.*

We are working hard for you. Please work with us, too.



Nimkee
Memorial Wellness Center

AUGUST 6 IS NATIONAL FRESH BREATH DAY

Nimkee Dental will be giving away free Listerine mouth wash samples on Tuesday, Aug. 6.



Please stop by our front desk that day to receive your free sample.

****This is open to everyone, you do not need to be a Nimkee patient.****

For more information, please contact:
SZondlak@sagchip.org or 989-775-4611

PUBLIC SPEAKING



Six-Week Commitment Program

Ever thought public speaking was just too scary? Don't worry—you're not alone! Join us in a welcoming, safe space to practice your skills. We'll help you build presentations step by step, making each challenge a little more exciting as you grow.

This training course is a six-week commitment that will provide instruction and experience in preparing and delivering speeches.

Mark your calendar!
Our public speaking training kicks off on: Tuesday, Aug. 11 from 3-5 p.m.
In the Black Elk Training Room
7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

We will meet every Tuesday from 3-5 p.m. on the following dates:

• Week 1: Aug. 11	• Week 4: Sept. 1
• Week 2: Aug. 18	• Week 5: Sept 8
• Week 3: Aug. 25	• Week 6: Sept 15

Ready to jump in?

- **Use the Tribal website to register:**
www.sagchip.org/hr/class-signup.aspx?t=2
- **Or scan QR code**
**One sign-up covers all six classes!*



For more information, please contact:
CDavidson@sagchip.org | 989-775-5260



Saginaw Chippewa Health & Human Services (SHHS)

AUGUST 2026 – Health & Human Services Awareness

August Health & Human Services Focus Areas

August is a time to focus on prevention, wellness, healthy lifestyles, and strengthening our community. SHHS is committed to promoting the health and well-being of tribal members through quality healthcare, behavioral health, family services, elder support, prevention, and community engagement.

Family & Child Well-Being

Healthy families create healthy communities.

- Ensure children receive annual physicals and dental exams
- Complete school immunizations
- Encourage healthy nutrition and daily physical activity
- Support positive parenting and child safety

National Immunization Awareness Month

Vaccinations remain one of the safest and most effective ways to prevent serious illnesses for children, adults, and elders. Talk with your healthcare provider to ensure your immunizations are up to date before the school year begins.

National Wellness Month

Take time to care for your physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual wellbeing.

- Schedule preventive health screenings
- Stay physically active
- Get adequate sleep
- Practice stress management
- Reconnect with family, culture, and community

National Black Business Month

SHHS proudly supports tribal entrepreneurs and encourages community members to support local tribal and Native-owned businesses that contribute to healthier and stronger communities.

Behavioral Health & Recovery Awareness

Behavioral health is an essential part of overall wellness. SHHS encourages anyone experiencing stress, anxiety, depression, substance use concerns, or emotional challenges to seek help early. Recovery is possible, and support is available.

Healthy Aging & Elder Wellness

Our elders are the keepers of our culture, language, and traditions. August is an opportunity to:

- Check in on elders
- Encourage preventive medical visits
- Review medications
- Promote fall prevention
- Stay socially connected

Diabetes Prevention & Heart Health

Small lifestyle changes can make a big difference.

- Eat balanced meals
- Stay hydrated
- Walk daily
- Monitor blood pressure and blood sugar
- Keep regular appointments with your healthcare provider

Oral Health

Healthy smiles contribute to overall health.

- Brush twice daily
- Floss every day
- Schedule routine dental cleanings and examinations

Tobacco & Commercial Nicotine Prevention

Choosing to live tobacco-free supports healthier hearts and lungs. SHHS respects and honors the traditional ceremonial use of tobacco while encouraging the avoidance of commercial tobacco and vaping products.

Nutrition & Food Safety

As summer continues:

- Keep foods properly refrigerated
- Wash fresh fruits and vegetables thoroughly
- Stay hydrated during warm weather
- Practice safe food preparation to prevent foodborne illness

Summer Safety

Protect yourself and your family by:

- Drinking plenty of water
- Wearing sunscreen and protective clothing
- Using insect repellent when outdoors
- Practicing water safety
- Watching for signs of heat-related illness.

SHHS Community Wellness Reminder

Your health matters. Whether you need medical care, behavioral health services, family support, elder services, prevention resources, pharmacy services, dental care, or wellness education, SHHS is here to serve our tribal community with compassion, respect, and excellence.

Together, we build a healthier future by honoring our traditions, supporting one another, and promoting wellness for every

Saginaw Chippewa Health & Human Services (SHHS)
Serving Our Community • Promoting Wellness • Honoring Tradition
Phone: 989-775-4637 | **Email:** JBae@sagchip.org



Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort named official casino partner of the Detroit Lions, expanding fan experiences across Michigan

(Editor's note: The media, Soaring Eagle personnel and guests, Tribal Council members and community members gathered in front of Ascend Sportsbook & Lounge on Thursday, July 16 at 1 p.m. Chloe Laniado, corporate partnerships sales director, and mascot Roary the Lion, both of the Detroit Lions joined the press conference. As Blue House Singers took to the drum, Roary joined two dancers for an honor song. The following media release comes from Soaring Eagle.)



Tribal Council members and staff, and Soaring Eagle personnel pose for a photo with Roary the Lion, the mascot for the Detroit Lions, after Soaring Eagle announced its five-year partnership with the NFL team on July 16 in front of Ascend Sportsbook & Lounge.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Chloe Laniado, corporate partnerships sales director for the Detroit Lions, discusses what is ahead for the Lions and Soaring Eagle partnership.

MOUNT PLEASANT, Mich.

— **July 16, 2026** — Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, Michigan's premier gaming, entertainment and hospitality destination, announced a renewed multi-year partnership with the Detroit Lions, becoming the team's official casino partner and bringing unique fan experiences, community engagement initiatives and exclusive hospitality opportunities to Lions fans throughout the state.

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort will receive naming rights to the newly-branded Soaring Eagle Sports Bar at Ford Field. Located on the northwest upper concourse, the venue will feature prominent Soaring Eagle branding, interactive fan activations and exclusive promotions during Detroit Lions home games and major Ford Field events, creating a year-round destination where fans can gather to celebrate Lions football.

"This partnership brings together two iconic Michigan

brands that have spent decades bringing people together," said Joe Nayquonabe, CEO of Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort. "Soaring Eagle is proudly owned by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, and like the Lions, we've built our reputation by creating places where people come together to celebrate, connect and make memories. There's a real sense of pride in partnering with an organization that means so much to people across our state and together, we're building on what makes Michigan special."

The casino & resort will be integrated into several fan-focused Detroit Lions programs, including presenting sponsorships of the Lions' popular Power Hour game-day experience and the in-stadium Fantasy Stats Leaderboard contest.

The agreement also expands Soaring Eagle's ability to connect with fans beyond the resort through digital experiences and engagement opportunities across Michigan.

As a key pillar of the partnership, the mobile app enables ongoing, meaningful engagement with Lions fans, ensuring the brand remains highly visible, relevant, and top of mind across the fan base through a dedicated digital touchpoint. Unlike traditional partnership assets that are limited to game days, broadcasts, or specific events, the app provided a year-round platform to connect with fans throughout their daily interactions with the team.

Through consistent exposure alongside team news, exclusive content, schedules, scores, and fan experiences, the brand is seamlessly integrated into the fan journey.

The agreement further expands Soaring Eagle's ability to connect with fans beyond the resort through digital experiences and engagement opportunities across Michigan.

In addition, Soaring Eagle will be featured as the presenting partner of the Lions' weekly Four Downs digital editorial content series, providing consistent engagement with fans across the club's digital platforms.

The partnership will also include Extra Point brand integration during Detroit Lions regular season home games, with Soaring Eagle branding featured as both home and visiting teams attempt extra points, creating



a high-visibility in-game connection point with fans.

"The SCIT has a tremendous opportunity to look at supporting an NFL franchise and highlight a meaningful partnership between a globally recognized team and a tribal nation," said Chief Luke Sprague. "Diversifying our networks assists in bringing support, resources and benefits back to our community as a whole."

Chief Sprague continued, "The commitment the Lions organization has to community is unmatched, and we are excited on where we go with this relationship. The understanding by the Lions organization of the importance of community is at the core of our partnership."

Beyond game day, the two organizations share a commitment to strengthening communities across the state. Each year, Soaring Eagle and the Detroit Lions will collaborate on a signature community initiative designed to celebrate Michigan communities while

creating memorable experiences for fans and families.

"Taking care of people has always been at the heart of Soaring Eagle," Nayquonabe said. "Whether someone visits us in Mount Pleasant, walks into the Soaring Eagle Sports Bar at Ford Field, or connects with us online, our goal is to create experiences that bring people together. This partnership gives us new ways to reach fans across Michigan while staying true to who we've always been - a homegrown brand built by and for Michiganders."

That commitment reflects a shared belief that great experiences are about more than entertainment, they are about creating moments that people remember and share with the people who matter most.

"Both of our organizations exist to give people something to look forward to and a place to create memories with the people they care about," Nayquonabe said. "That's what makes this partnership such a natural fit."

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42ND ANNUAL

SAGINAW CHIPPEWA POWWOW

July 24, 25 & 26, 2026

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Migizi Economic Development Company, Central Michigan University Development Corporation launch tribal member business incubator

FREDRICK KUHLMAN

Marketing Manager,
Migizi EDC

Migizi Economic Development Company, a wholly owned enterprise of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, and Central Michigan University Research Corporation (CMURC), an entrepreneurial service organization with regional CoWork business hubs, have joined forces to grow tribal member-owned businesses.

The LIFT-ME business incubator program is a culturally responsive, milestone-driven incubator designed for enrolled members and affiliated entrepreneurs of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan. Both partners bring substantial expertise in helping entrepreneurs create and develop new ventures.

Migizi EDC brings the strength and vast resources of the Tribe. CMURC, a registered 501(c)(3), focuses on advancing economic development in the Great Lakes Bay Region by leveraging the resources of Central Michigan University, the Mount Pleasant SmartZone,

the MEDC Small Business Support Hub, and an impressive network of local, regional, and statewide leaders.

These two exceptional partners are focused on incubating Native-owned businesses to enhance the economic conditions of tribal members and the larger Great Lakes Bay Region.

The LIFT-ME initiative intends to support Tribal entrepreneurs in stabilizing, growing, and scaling sustainable businesses that retain wealth within the Tribal community.

“This partnership represents more than a business development initiative – it is an investment in the talent, ingenuity, and future of our tribal members,” said Migizi CEO Matthew Felan. “Through the LIFT-ME program, we are creating opportunities for entrepreneurs to transform their ideas into thriving enterprises, strengthen economic self-sufficiency, and build generational prosperity for our community. Together with CMURC, we are laying the foundation for a stronger, more resilient Tribal economy driven by the vision and determination of our people.”

While many tribal members aspire to achieve self-sufficiency through business ownership, transforming an idea into a successful enterprise often requires guidance and support. Access to experienced entrepreneurs and business professionals can provide the mentorship, structure, capital, and operational expertise needed to turn a concept into a viable reality.

CMURC and Migizi believe the LIFT-ME program will provide tribal members with the platform, resources, and support needed to successfully launch and grow sustainable businesses.

“Strong partnerships create stronger entrepreneurial ecosystems, and we’re incredibly proud to partner with Migizi Economic Development Company on the LIFT-ME program,” said Erin Strang, president and CEO of CMURC. “By helping level the playing field, increase representation, foster new networks, and turn up the financials, we’re creating more opportunities for entrepreneurs



to succeed. We look forward to sharing our experience, opening doors through our network, and supporting participants every step of the way as they build businesses that will benefit their families and communities for generations.”

The LIFT-ME collaboration, harnessing the strength of Migizi, Tribal entrepreneurs, and CMURC, will create an exciting new economic engine that powers Tribal sovereignty into the future.

“The LIFT-ME Tribal Incubator Program represents an investment in the ingenuity, determination, and entrepreneurial spirit of our tribal members,” said Chief Luke Sprague. “Through Migizi Economic Development Company, we are creating opportunities that empower our citizens to transform their ideas into successful businesses, strengthening both our families and our Tribal economy for generations to come.”

Chief Sprague continued, “We are proud to partner with (CMURC), whose proven experience helping entrepreneurs launch and grow successful businesses makes them an ideal collaborator. By combining Migizi’s commitment to our people with CMURC’s expertise in business development, we are providing Tribal entrepreneurs with the mentorship, education, and resources they need to build lasting success. This partnership reflects our belief that when we invest in our people, we invest in the future of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.”

The initial LIFT-ME cohort is forming now, with 12 available spots for enrolled tribal members.

Those interested in taking advantage of this opportunity can find more information at Migiziedc.com and CMURC.com or begin the LIFT-ME application process today at CMURC.com/liftme.

SCIT welcomes new Health & Human Services administrator

**PUBLIC RELATIONS
DEPARTMENT**

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Jacqueline J. Bae as the new SCIT Health & Human Services administrator. In her role, Bae will be responsible for managing the health and human services division which includes overseeing Nimkee, Behavioral Health, ACFS, and Andahwod.

Jacqueline J. Bae, MD, MHA, FACHE, is a highly respected healthcare executive and physician with more than 18 years of leadership experience in tribal health systems and

more than 12 years of clinical experience as a medical doctor.

She is widely recognized for her unwavering integrity, professionalism, and commitment to advancing equitable, culturally grounded healthcare for tribal communities.

Throughout her career, Bae has served in executive leadership roles including health director, CEO, COO, and director of health services. In these roles, she has successfully led complex healthcare systems encompassing primary care, behavioral health, public health, and social services. Her leadership is defined by

accountability, transparency, and a deep respect for tribal sovereignty.

Bae is known for building high-performing, compliant, and sustainable health systems. She has extensive expertise in tribal self-governance, including both Title I (638) and Title V (TSGP) frameworks, and has consistently aligned healthcare operations with federal regulations while preserving tribal autonomy.

Her work reflects a strong command of compliance standards, including 2 CFR Part 200, HIPAA, and accreditation bodies such as AAAHC, CARE, and PHAB.

Bae has secured and supported over \$100 million in federal and tribal grant funding, strengthening health infrastructure, expanding services, and improving access to care. She has led major initiatives in behavioral health, substance use disorder treatment, and integrated care models, including detoxification, medication-assisted treatment (MAT), and intensive outpatient programs.

Her expertise also extends to third-party revenue optimization, where she has improved financial sustainability through enhanced billing, coding, and payer strategies, including Medicaid, Medicare, and AIR rate utilization.

As a physician, her medical background strengthens her ability to guide patient-centered care, support clinical teams, and ensure that organizational decisions are grounded in quality and safety.

She is widely regarded for her ethical leadership, strong work ethic, and ability to build



Courtesy photo

**Dr. Jacqueline J. Bae,
SCIT Health & Human
Services administrator**

trust with tribal leadership, staff, and community members. She is committed to fostering collaborative environments that empower teams, respect cultural values, and deliver measurable health outcomes.

Born in Seoul, South Korea, she immigrated to the U.S. in the 1970s. She is married and has one son.

In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family, golf, music, and traveling back home to South Korea annually.

Adopt a Pet

Mr. Worldwide

Mr. Worldwide is a medium male Domestic Long Hair mix. This distinguished gentleman has logged plenty of miles and collected quite a few stories before making his way to HATS. His travels may have left him a little weary and rough around the edges, but with some love, patience and TLC, Mr. Worldwide is ready to shine brighter than ever.



Fatima

Fatima is a 5-year-old large female Cane Corso mix. Fatima has a gentle soul and heart full of love. She has a calm, affectionate personality and truly enjoys being around people. She is extremely adoptable; she settles in well and takes life’s changes in stride. She has a sweet nature that shines through in everything she does.



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*



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

The 42nd annual Saginaw Chippewa Powwow held July 24-26

MATTHEW WRIGHT
Staff Writer

Families, friends, community members, and spectators came together for the 42nd annual Saginaw Chippewa Powwow on July 24-26. The powwow grounds were filled with dancers, singers, vendors and onlookers.

Held at The Hill Campground, located at 7525 E. Tomah Rd. in Mount Pleasant, Mich., the three-day event featured perfect weather.

This year's theme was Skaming Ekwa-niizhwaaching Mshkode (Lighting the Seventh Fire). The theme and logo artwork were created by Tribal Member Allyssa Shawboose, and were selected in a contest.

The powwow weekend officially began with a 7 p.m. grand entry on Friday. Subsequent grand entries were held on Saturday at 1 p.m. and Sunday at 12 p.m.

The dignitaries included: Head Veteran Ken Funmaker, masters of ceremonies Keveon Kingbird and Anthony Monoessy, and arena directors Gabe Cleveland and Wayne Silas.

Serving as host drum was Under the Pines, with Harvey Dreaver as the head drum judge. For head dance judges, Michael Roberts judged the males and Rebecca Roberts judged the females.

Head dancers were selected daily. Friday's head dancers were Brando Jack and Ladybird Jack. On Saturday, Adam Nordwall and Stephanie Nordwall were selected, and Johnson Taylor and Katie Taylor on Sunday.

Many specials were held throughout the weekend including: Team Dance, Luck of the Draw, Chicken Dance, Grandmother/Granddaughter, Grandfather/Grandson, Two-Step and Head-to-Head specials.

A Drummer Relay Special was hosted by Tribal Council, which included \$5,000 in prize money.

Hosted specials included the Jackson Family Special, and a Healing Song for all Native American boarding school survivors.

Hand drum and fry bread contests were also held.

A chi-miigwetch (big thank you) was given for all sponsors of the 2026 powwow. This included Gift of Life Michigan, Standish Area Chamber of Commerce, MLive Media Group and ZITRO Games.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Head Veteran Ken Funmaker (right) and flag carriers begin the grand entry shortly after 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 25, at the 42nd annual Saginaw Chippewa Powwow.



Courtesy of Marcella Hadden, Niibing Giizis Photography

Friday's head dancers
Ladybird Jack (left) and
Brando Jack (right)



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Saturday's head dancers
Stephanie Nordwall (left) and
Adam Nordwall (right)



Courtesy of Marcella Hadden, Niibing Giizis Photography

Sunday's head dancers
Katie Taylor (left) and
Johnson Taylor (right)



Courtesy of Marcella Hadden, Niibing Giizis Photography



Observer photo by Matthew Wright



Courtesy of Marcella Hadden, Niibing Giizis Photography



Courtesy of Marcella Hadden, Niibing Giizis Photography



Observer photo by Matthew Wright



Courtesy of Marcella Hadden, Niibing Giizis Photography



Observer photo by Matthew Wright



Observer photo by Matthew Wright



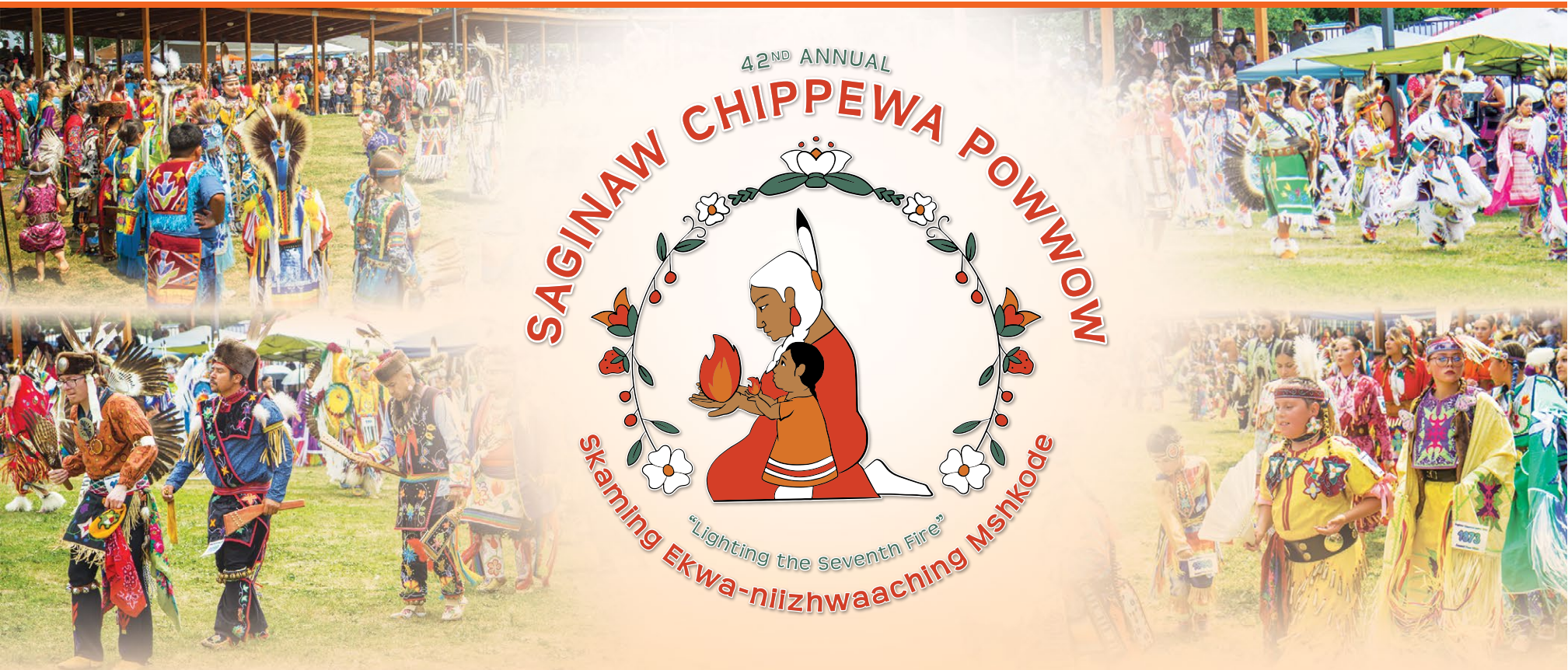
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Observer photo by Matthew Wright



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Courtesy of Marcella Hadden, Niibing Gilzis Photography



Observer photo by Matthew Wright



SAGINAW CHIPPEWA TRIBAL COLLEGE
2026 FALL SEMESTER CLASSES

FALL 2026 REGISTRATION OPEN UNTIL AUG. 21, 2026

Delivery	Code	S	Course Title	CR	Day	Room	Time	Instructor
O-A	ACC 115	1	Financial Accounting	3		ONLINE-Asynchronous		Long
F2F	ART 111\$	1	Beadwork I	3	T	ROOM 245	5:30 - 8:20 p.m.	Jackson
O-A	ART 115	1	Art Design	3		ONLINE-Asynchronous		Jackson
H	BIO 105*	1	Introduction to Biology	3		ONLINE- Lecture Class		Abbas
F2F	BIO 105A*	1	Introduction to Biology Lab	2	T	ROOM 232	3:30 - 5:20 p.m.	Abbas
F2F	BUS 110	1	Introduction to Business	3	T/R	ROOM 329	1:30 - 2:50 p.m.	Fowler
F2F	BUS 130	1	Business Ethics	3	M/W	ROOM 329	10:00 - 11:20 a.m.	Fowler
F2F	BUS 150	1	Business Law	3	T/R	ROOM 313	5:30 - 6:50 p.m.	Antrobius
F2F	BUS 170	1	Principles of Management	3	T/R	ROOM 249	9:00 - 10:20 a.m.	Fowler
F2F	BUS 200	1	Principles of Marketing	3	M/W	ROOM 249	5:30 - 6:50 p.m.	Wagner
F2F	BUS 201	1	Personal Finance	3	M/W	ROOM 329	1:00 - 2:20 p.m.	Fowler
O-A	BUS 215*	1	Business Communication	3		ONLINE-Asynchronous		Tyler
F2F	CPT 112*	1	Introduction to Computer Technology	3	M	ROOM 340	5:30 - 8:20 p.m.	Klopf
F2F	CPT 124*	1	Introduction to Spreadsheets	3	W	ROOM 340	5:30 - 8:20 p.m.	Long
O-A	ECO 202	1	Principles of Macroeconomics	3		ONLINE-Asynchronous		Wagner
F2F	ENG 101*	1	Composition I	3	M/W	ROOM 331	9:30 - 10:50 a.m.	Boleman
F2F	ENG 010*	1	Composition I Lab	2	M/W	ROOM 331	11:00 -11:50 a.m.	Boleman
F2F	ENG 110	1	Introduction to Communication	3	T/R	ROOM 331	1:00 - 2:20 p.m.	Boleman
F2F	ENG 150*	1	Introduction to Literature	3	M/W	ROOM 331	3:30 - 4:50 p.m.	Boleman
O-A	ENG 202*	1	Composition II - WI	3		ONLINE-Asynchronous		Boleman
F2F	EVS 120*	1	Environmental Science	3	M/W	ROOM 235	1:00 - 2:20 p.m.	Miller
F2F	EVS 120A*	1	Environmental Science Lab	2	W	ROOM 232	2:30 - 4:20 p.m.	Miller
F2F	GEL 100	1	Environmental Geology	3	M/W	ROOM 235	10:00 - 11:20 a.m.	Miller
F2F	GEO 201	1	Weather and Climate	5	T/R	ROOM 235	1:00 - 2:20 p.m.	Miller
					R	ROOM 232	2:30 - 4:20 p.m.	Miller
F2F	MTH 012*	1	Quantitative Reasoning Lab	2	T/R	ROOM 314	10:00 - 10:50 a.m.	Crosswait
F2F	MTH 105	1	Intermediate Algebra	4	T/R	ROOM 330	1:00 - 2:50 p.m.	Rich
F2F	MTH 120*	1	Quantitative Reasoning	3	M/W	ROOM 314	10:00 - 11:20 a.m.	Rich
F2F	MTH 140*	1	Pre-Calculus	4	T/R	ROOM 330	9:00 - 10:50 a.m.	Rich
F2F	MTH 150*	1	The Teaching of Counting and Whole Numbers	3	M/W	ROOM 330	5:00 - 6:20 p.m.	Rich
F2F	MTH 023*	1	Statistics Lab	2	T/R	ROOM 314	1:30 - 2:20 p.m.	Crosswait
F2F	MTH 230*	1	Introduction to Statistics	3	M/W	ROOM 314	1:30 - 2:50 p.m.	Crosswait
O-A	NAS 103	1	Survey of Native American Studies	3		ONLINE-Asynchronous		Haviland
F2F	NAS 242	1	Topics in Native American Literature	3	T/R	ROOM 214	10:00 - 11:20 a.m.	Peters
O-A	NAS 250	1	Anishinaabe Art	3		ONLINE-Asynchronous		Jackson
O-A	NAS 254	1	Contemporary Native American Art	3		ONLINE-Asynchronous		Jackson
F2F	NAS 259	1	Anishinaabe History: Beginnings to 1600	3	M	ROOM 214	5:00 - 7:50 p.m.	Haviland
F2F	NAS 261	1	Survey of Native American History	3	M/W	ROOM 214	1:00 - 2:20 p.m.	Haviland
F2F	NAS 263	1	Contemporary Native American Issues	3	T/R	ROOM 214	1:00 - 2:20 p.m.	Peters
F2F	NAS 271	1	Indigenous Storytelling	3	T/R	ROOM 214	5:30 - 6:50 p.m.	Gonzalez
F2F	NAS 275	1	Modern Native American Resistance Movements	3	M/W	ROOM 214	3:00 - 4:20 p.m.	Peters
F2F	OJB 101	1	Ojibwe I	3	M/W	ROOM 214	10:30 - 11:50 a.m.	Roy
F2F	OJB 102*	1	Ojibwe II	3	M/W	ROOM 243	1:30 - 2:50 p.m.	Roy
F2F	OJB 201*	1	Ojibwe III	3	T/R	ROOM 243	10:30 - 11:50 a.m.	Roy
F2F	OJB 202*	1	Ojibwe IV	3	T/R	ROOM 243	1:30 - 2:50 p.m.	Roy
F2F	PHY 101*	1	General Physics I	3	T/R	ROOM 232	5:30 - 6:50 p.m.	Majorski
F2F	PHY 101A* \$	1	General Physics Lab	2	T/R	ROOM 235	7:00 - 7:50 p.m.	Majorski
F2F	PSC 120	1	American Government	3	T/R	ROOM 331	5:00 - 6:20 p.m.	Knott
F2F	REL 180	1	Introduction to Religion	3	T	ROOM 329	5:30 - 8:20 p.m.	Landen
H	SDV 102	1	Foundations for Student Success	3	M	ROOM 314	5:00 - 6:20 p.m.	Green

Definitions:

F2F: A regular course that meets face to face as indicated on the semester schedule.

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.

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.

*: Check co-requisite or pre-requisite requirements

\$: Additional course fees apply

Day: M=Monday, T=Tuesday, W= Wednesday, R=Thursday

***Course delivery methods are subject to change at any time.

***All courses are scheduled in Eastern Standard Time (EST)

***Classes with an enrollment FEWER than 5 students may be canceled.



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 talk to Student Services.

Email: studentservices@sagchip.edu
Website: 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.

SCTC SUMMER EVENTS

- **Aug. 5** | Mshiikehn 5K | 5805 Pickard St.
Registration: 5-6:15 p.m.
Race starts: 6:30 p.m.
- **Aug. 13** | Big Campus Bash
- **Aug. 19** | Fall Orientation

SCTC FALL EVENTS

- **Aug. 14** | Admission deadline
- **Aug. 21** | Fall registration ends via Empower at 11:59 p.m.
- **Aug. 24** | Classes begin
- **Aug. 28** | Add/drop ends via Empower at 11:59 p.m.
- **Sept. 7** | Labor Day (campus closed)
- **Sept. 25** | Michigan Indian Day (campus closed)
- **Oct 10** | Open Mic Night | 1-4 p.m. Seventh Generation
- **Oct 30** | Last day to withdraw
- **Nov. 25** | Thanksgiving break (campus closes at 5 p.m.) *No night classes
- **Nov. 30** | Thanksgiving ends (campus opens at 8 a.m.) *Classes resume
- **Dec. 7-11** | Exam week
- **Dec. 11** | Semester ends
- **Dec. 14** | Final grades due to registrar



Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2026

Registration/packet pick-up: 5-6:15 p.m.

Race starts at: 6:30 p.m.

Fee: Free

Register: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MI/MountPleasant/SCTCMshiikehn5KRunWalk>

Course: 5805 Pickard St. - Grass trails on the old Waabooz Run Golf Course

Awards/gifts: Overall male and female awards, keychain, custom T-shirt to first 100 participants

For more information, please contact:

JaGreen@sagchip.org or 989.317.4760 ext. 241

College Success Coaches - Joe Genia and Jayme Green

Joe Genia

Jayme Green

Schedule a check-in

SCTC is excited to have TWO student success coaches this year! Each success coach will have a cohort of students that will focus on goals related to SCTC's Strategic Planning goals. The success coaches will be reaching out to you and your students this week.

If you have any questions, please contact:
Jayme Green or Joe Genia.



5805 E. Pickard St. Mount Pleasant



Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College is a tribally controlled land grant institution that reflects and promotes the unique culture of the Anishinaabe Community, designed with educational excellence to empower learners to reach their educational goals.

THE BIG CAMPUS BASH

CONNECT. DISCOVER. SUCCEED.



DATE:
Thursday,
August 13th



TIME:
2:30 PM - 6:30 PM



LOCATION:
Saginaw Chippewa
Tribal College
Campus

YOUR FUTURE STARTS HERE!

Are you looking to get involved, find your community, or jumpstart your career? The Big Campus Bash is the ultimate kick-off event designed to bring our students together.



MEET CAMPUS ORGANIZATIONS: Discover clubs and student groups that match your interests.



CAREER FAIR: Connect with local employers and explore future opportunities.



BUILD CONNECTIONS: Meet fellow students, faculty, and staff in a high-energy environment.

DON'T MISS OUT ON:



FREE FOOD



FREE SCTC T-SHIRTS
(While supplies last!)



BIG PRIZES & RAFFLES



For more info: Email Jayme at jagreen@sagchip.edu



Youth Council attend annual national UNITY conference in Oklahoma City

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

Youth Council attended the annual UNITY (United National Indian Tribal Youth) national conference at the Oklahoma City Convention Center from July 10-14. The conference consists

of “general sessions, regional caucuses, workshops career/education fair, and fun evening activities” providing “hands-on leadership development activities” (unityinc.org). This year, UNITY celebrated its 50 year anniversary. Check out the daily updates and photos posted on SCIT’s official Facebook page.

Observer photos by Alicia Raphael





Open Interviews

Thursday, Aug. 6, 2026 • 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 7, 2026 • 1-4 p.m.

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, Black River Ballroom
6800 Soaring Eagle Blvd. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

On the spot hiring for the following positions:

- ▶ **Entertainment Chauffeur PT** | \$14.83
- ▶ **Guest Room Attendant PT** | \$14.26
- ▶ **Line Cook FT** | \$14.45
- ▶ **Line Server PT** | \$14.10
- ▶ **Stewarding PT** | \$14.00
- ▶ **Custodian PT** | \$14.52
- ▶ **F&B Cashier PT** | \$14.45
- ▶ **Waitstaff-Banquets PT** | \$8.24 plus tips

* Wage increases after successful 90-day and 180-day probation periods.

Contact: Human Resources at 989.775.5600

SCAN HERE TO VIEW OPEN POSITIONS!





Keeping Anishinaabemowin thriving: Language camp held July 14-16



Observer photos by Natalie Shattuck

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

Keeping Anishinaabemowin thriving, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe presented a language camp July 14-16. July 14’s welcome dinner was held at Seventh Generation. With a heat advisory on July 15-16, the camp was moved indoors to Wii Maajivkwad. Leading workshops were: Barb Nolan,

Frances Kaboni, Mabel Lewis-Hill, Mary Lou Manitowabi, Isadore Toulouse, Alphonse Pitawanakwat, James Fox, Theodore Flamand and Brian Peltier. Community members were invited to bi-bzindan (come and listen) from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. that Wednesday and Thursday. Some of the workshop topics included: colors, numbers and shapes; Ojibwe syllables and sounds for beginners; a children’s class of storytelling; food making with a speaker; conversational phrases; and much more.

Tribal College Scavenger Hunt

Tuesday, Aug. 11, 2026
12-4 p.m.



5805 E. Pickard St., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

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.





Community authors featured at "Let's Celebrate 'Is this your book?'" event

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Libraries hosted the Mnaajtoodaa giin ina owe gimazina'igan: "Let's Celebrate 'Is this your book?'" event on Tuesday, July 14.

Community members were able to meet and celebrate a total of 34 books by new authors within the Tribal community. A limited supplies of the books were available for free, with a chance for guests

to have them signed.

The event was held inside the ballrooms of the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

The books were made in collaboration with the Tribal Libraries through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Enhancement Grant.

This grant allowed new authors to create their own books and have them published through the Tribal Libraries.

Copies of the books have been added to the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Libraries



The library is located with the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College at 5805 E. Pickard Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. For more information please visit <https://saginaw.ploud.net/>

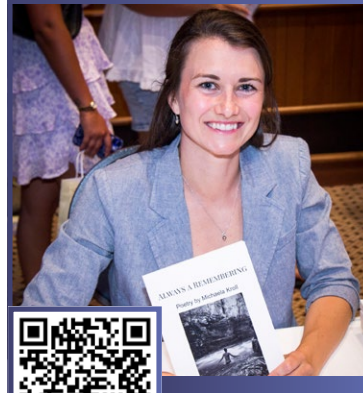
All books are listed in the following pages and are available for purchase by scanning the QR codes.

"60/40: The Perfect Fight Stance for MMA!"



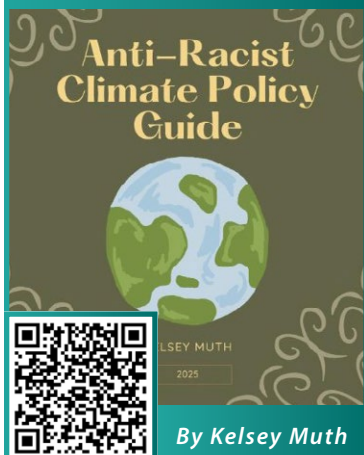
By Carl Deaton

"Always A Remembering"



By Michaela Kroll

"Anti-Racist Climate Policy Guide"



By Kelsey Muth

"Chronicles"



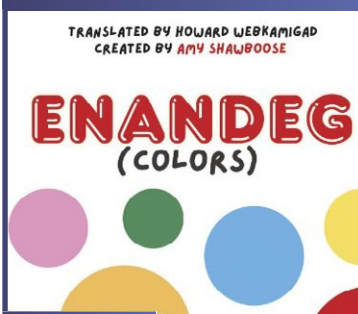
By Students of Morey FlexTech Spring 2026

"Dgwaagi Kidwin (Autumn Words)"



By Vanyork Shawboose & Barbara Shawboose

"Enandeg (Colors)"



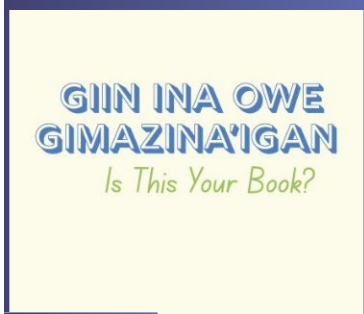
By Amy Shawboose & Allyssa Shawboose

"Fire Birch: A Family Tradition"



By Gilbert Williams

"Giin Ina Owe Gimazina'igan Is This Your Book?"



A collection of works by community members

"Grammy's Lessons in the Sugar Bush"



By Bonnie L. Ekdahl

"Maamwi Naakiyang (Working Together)"



By The Tribal Observer & Public Relations Staff

"Mzinaazod Bgojii (Be Drawn Wild)"



By Tristan Timothy Green

"Only in the Darkness Can You See the Stars"



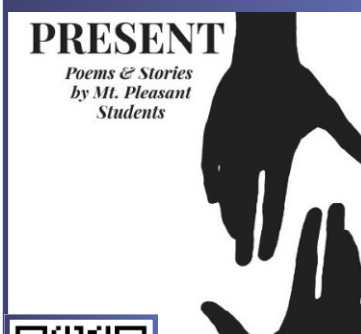
By Miranda Pelcher-Miley

"Portal"



By Debbie Squille-Peterson

"Present"



Poems & Stories By Mt. Pleasant Students

"Shiny Ribbon & Me"



By Allyssa Shawboose & Gwen Shawboose

"Sinful Quickies"



Willow Rose

"Somewhere on the Path"



By Jonathan Richard

"The Fox"



By Carla Bennett

"The Three Fires Coloring Book"



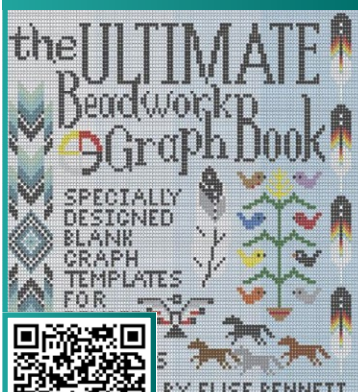
By Kelly Sowmick

"What Choice Do I Have But To Write"



By Ellie Marie

"The Ultimate Beadwork Graph Book"



By Elise Bennett

"Kina N'Dinwenmaaganak All My Relations"



By The Frank & Phyllis Kequom Collection



Freedom Walk
continued from front page

Tribal Chaplain Jennifer Wassegijig led a sobriety “count up.” Community members were recognized and stood up amongst the audience to applause. The count up began with those in five years or less in recovery, counting all the way up to 60 years.

A women’s hand drum group provided an honor song prior to the walk, which began at 9 a.m.

Participants were given specially designed 2026 Freedom Walk T-shirts. The logo on the shirt was created by Derek D’Artagnan.

Freedom Walkers left Wii Maajikwad, heading west on East Remus Road, then turned

south on Leaton Road. The route continued south until the walkers reached Tomah Road. From there, they proceeded east until reaching the powwow grounds at The Hill Campground.

Ogitchedaw Veterans and Warriors Society Members were joined by members of the Mt. Pleasant VFW Post 3033 in leading the walk.

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police worked to secure a safe route on the 1.8-mile journey.

The event was a collaboration between Behavioral Health Programs, Project Aware, Tribal Police, Tribal Fire, Saginaw

Chippewa Tribal College, Public Relations, Healing to Wellness and the PEER360 Recovery Alliance.

Observer photos by Matthew Wright



Editorial: Tribal Library’s Giin Ina Owe Gimazina’igan book launch was exciting, bittersweet

ROB PETERS
Tribal Elder

Returning to the reservation for the Tribal Library’s Giin Ina Owe Gimazina’igan book launch was both exciting and bittersweet. Being a man of a certain age (almost 70), it felt good to be back where I was born, yet I couldn’t help but feel a sense of sadness that many of my elders, cousins, and friends are no longer here.

My aunts Betty, Pat, Ann, Nicki, Uncle Julius, cousins Denise, Andre, Camille, plus friends Delores, Marlene, and Lisa are gone. I felt their presence while visiting Ziibiwing, staying at Soaring Eagle, and driving around Mount Pleasant. I have many memories of the Isabella Reservation, from the 1960s until today.

It was awesome seeing such a large turnout, the community members sharing their works, and running into tribal members I see on social media. I’m so proud of all the writers, now published authors, and honored to have been included in the anthology.

A big chi-miigwetch to our Tribal Librarian Anne Heidemann for pursuing the grant which made this project possible.

“Anxious Annie”



Written by Rita Lutes-Pulley
Illustrated By Gilbert Williams



“Bgoji-Ziibiinhs: Little Wild River of Life”



By Mark Pelcher



“Bzindan Anishinaabemowin: Listen to the Anishinaabe Language”



By Isabelle Osawamick



“Changing to Grow”



By Luella Storm Grossman



“Dangerous Lotus Flower”



By Rayne “Gimyo” Campbell



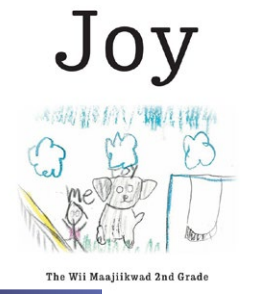
“Don’t Whistle at Night”



By Christian Jackson II



“Joy”



By The Wii Maajikwad 2nd Grade



“Pieces of Me”



By Tonia Jewell



“Whispers Spoken”



By Mary Moses Hough



“From the Botanical Basement”



By Robin Grupp



Jelly Roll, Mitchell Tenpenny help Soaring Eagle kick off holiday weekend

MATTHEW WRIGHT
Staff Writer

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort began the Independence Day weekend with a bang on Friday, July 3. The larger-than-life personality of Jelly Roll thrilled fans as part of the Outdoor Summer Concert Series.

Jelly Roll delivered a powerful live show while blending elements of country, rock, hip-hop, and gospel music into an emotional, high-energy atmosphere. The concert featured his signature heartfelt storytelling, themes of faith, redemption and resilience as well as a strong audience connection.

He began the night with the high-energy single “Hands Up.” His raspy, soulful voice was put on full display during the next song, “Hard Fought Hallelujah.” The Grammy Award-winning song is a collaboration between Jelly Roll and contemporary Christian artist, Brandon Lake.

Jelly Roll played many memorable hits that night including “Liar,” “Winning Streak,” “Son of a Sinner,”



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

The stage comes to life with flames and smoke during Jelly Roll’s outdoor concert at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on July 3.

and “Bottle and Mary Jane.” He also put his spin on covers of Brantley Gilbert’s “Son of the Dirty South,” Garth Brooks’ “Friends in Low Places” and Shaboozey’s “Amen.”

Several times throughout the night, Jelly Roll mixed it up by performing mashups of section of popular songs sang in rapid succession.

Jelly Roll closed out the night with the powerful lyrics of “I Am Not Okay,” “Need a Favor” and “Save Me.”

American country artist Mitchell Tenpenny took the stage before Jelly Roll. He performed many of his biggest hits including “Truth About You,” “We Got History,” “Bucket List” and “Alcohol You Later.”

To close out his set, Tenpenny performed his breakout 2018 song “Drunk Me.”

The show began with two short sets. Country musician Sunny Black opened, and was followed by Ethan Burdick.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Jelly Roll performs “Hard Fought Hallelujah.”



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Mitchell Tenpenny (right) is photographed with his guitarist.

Shinedown, Coheed and Cambria highlight July 11 Soaring Eagle show

MATTHEW WRIGHT
Staff Writer

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort continued its 2026 Outdoor Summer Concert Series with Shinedown and their “Dance, Kid, Dance Act II” tour. The sold-out concert also featured fellow rock bands Coheed and Cambria and From Ashes to New on Saturday, July 11.

The headliners, Shinedown, delivered an unforgettable performance combining their musical prowess with powerful vocals and incredible audience engagement. From the moment they took the stage, the band’s energy was electric, with lead singer Brent Smith commanding the crowd through his passionate vocals and charismatic presence.

The band electrified the atmosphere in the crowd right away, as they jumped into the hit songs “Safe and Sound,” “Dead Don’t Die” and “Diamond Eyes (Boom-Lay Boom-Lay Boom).”

Next up was the catchy,



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Shinedown lead singer Brent Smith (left) and drummer Barry Kerch (right) perform as pyrotechnic sparks fill the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort’s outdoor stage on July 11.

sentimental chorus of “If You Only Knew,” followed by “Three Six Five,” “Devil,” “Searchlight” and “Enemies.”

The band also played a range of music from their eight studio albums including the hit singles “Call Me,” “Amaryllis,” “Through the Ghost,” “Get Up,” “Bully,” “Young Again” and “A Symptom of Being Human.”

Smith’s larger-than-life

vocals impressed during the hit songs “Cut the Cord” and “Monsters.”

To close out the night, Shinedown performed a cover of the classic Lynyrd Skynyrd song “Simple Man,” followed by the powerful vocals of “Sound of Madness” and “Second Chance.”

Making their Soaring Eagle debut while taking to the stage prior to Shinedown was the rock



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Members of Shinedown perform “Diamond Eyes (Boom-Lay Boom-Lay Boom).”

band, Coheed and Cambria. Their set featured front man Claudio Sanchez’s distinctive vocals soaring over intricate lead guitar work and the driving beats of the rhythm section.

Their 10-piece set with the hit songs “The Running Free,” “Searching for Tomorrow” and “Ten Speed (Of God’s Blood and Burial).”

The hits continued with “Shoulders,” “Blind Side Sonny,” “Play the Poet” and

“Gravemakers & Gunslingers.”

Coheed and Cambria closed their set with “The Liars Club,” “A Favor House Atlantic” and “Welcome Home.”

American rock band From Ashes to New opened for both bands, taking to the stage first that night.

The band performed many of their biggest hits including “Nightmare,” “Heartache,” “Barely Breathing,” “Die for You” and “Panic.”



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

From Ashes to New opens the night’s festivities.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Coheed and Cambria make their Soaring Eagle debut.



Fans show ‘real love’ for Mary J. Blige as she graces outdoor Soaring Eagle stage

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

On a perfectly breezy summer evening, the Queen of Hip-Hop Soul, Mary J. Blige, graced the outdoor stage of the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

Mary J. Blige brought the nostalgic R&B hits and classic anthems during her Thursday, July 23 show, beginning just after 9:30 p.m.

In the midst of a Las Vegas residency at Park MGM, it was a treat Mary J. Blige could make her way to Mount Pleasant, Mich.

Her high-energy set began with “Love No Limit,” “Mary Jane (All Night Long)” and “You Remind Me,” where she danced around the stage and was joined by male back-up dancers.

The show continued on with: “Reminisce (remix),” “Real Love” (her first-ever top 10 hit), “Everyday It Rains,” “My Love,” “Love is All We Need,” “I’ll Be There for You”/“You’re All I Need to Get by,” “I Love You” and “Be Happy.”

According to her website, Mary J. has sold more than 50 million albums worldwide (maryjblige.com).



Mary J. Blige performs during her outdoor concert at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on July 23.

Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

In addition to “You Remind Me” and “Real Love,” she performed several of her other biggest chart-topping hits including: “Not Gon’ Cry,” Rose Royce cover “I’m Goin’ Down,” “Everything,” “Be Without You,” the Billboard

Hot 100 number-one single “Family Affair,” and the smash she closed the show with, “Just Fine.”

Opening for Mary J. Blige was singer-songwriter El DeBarge. He was the lead singer for the family group



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

El DeBarge (left) and his guitarist serve as opening acts that Thursday evening.

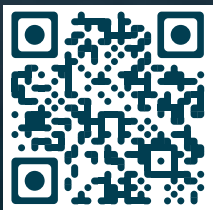
DeBarge, known for hits such as “Stay with Me,” “Who’s Holding Donna Now,” and “Rhythm of the Night.”

Cutting his set short, El DeBarge performed for about 30 minutes, beginning after 8:30 p.m. He began his show with a couple ballads; opening by sitting down at the keyboards.

It’s been an interesting outdoor concert season thus far, as hazardous air quality from wildfire smoke caused a couple show cancelations. Next on the concert schedule is Jonas Brothers, with special guests Boys Like Girls, on Wednesday, Aug. 5. General admission hill tickets are currently available for \$35 at soaringeaglecasino.com.

**FUTURE
ON YOU.
TUITION
ON US.**

Find the career you’ve always dreamed of with Michigan Reconnect. You can work toward an associate degree or skills certificate, **tuition-free!** It’s time to pursue the future you’ve always imagined, with tuition on us.



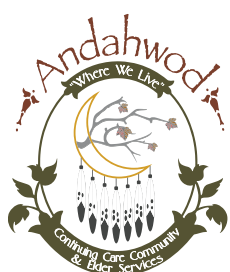
**MICHIGAN
RECONNECT**
Learn more at
Michigan.gov/Reconnect





Andahwod Continuing Care Community and Elder Services
Elders' August 2026 Newsletter

Boozhoo elders! We hope elders enjoyed their time at the Powwow and have been able to enjoy some summertime pleasures. It's been a hot summer. Don't forget Elders Lunch is the first and third Wednesday of the month. Offer your lunch suggestions!



COOLING STATION

Andahwod will serve as a cooling station during the summer months from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. SCIT elders are encouraged to come to Andahwod and visit, relax, or participate in a craft/activity.



AUGUST 2026 TRIBAL ELDER BIRTHDAYS

- 1) Eric Zocher
Jeffrey Braley
Mary Cargill
William Stevens

2) Jason Casner
Janet Chamberlain
Victoria Fisher

3) Carl Benz
Kelly Willis-Benally
David Bailey
Gary Harris
Laurie Newton

4) Kenneth Douglas
Joseph Anderson
Danny Russell
Toni Swalley
Jean Flamand

5) Carla Bennett
Brenda McMillin
Rosalie Stevens

6) Trisha Trasky
Marcella Hadden
Ricky Snyder
William Thibult
William Zocher

7) Michael Floyd Sr.
David Otto
Veronica Bos
Victoria Carini
Dawn Jackson
- 8) Fabian Cantu
Pamela Floyd
Mindy Durfee
N'Daunis Pego

9) Kevin Chamberlain
Sandra Stevens
Michael Hart
Cecelia Wieland
Leslie Klein

11) Debra DeFrens
Phillip Mena
Dorothy Shawano
Theresa White
Diane Jones

12) Rodney House
Rosalie Maloney
Michelle Otto
Ronald Nelson
Bruno Wemigwans
Edward Cross
Margaret Jackson
Kenneth Kendall
Beverly Morse
Mary Loonsfoot

13) Mark Bailey
James Falcon
Carol Brame
John Henry
Christina Keshick
Kelly Merrill
- 14) Varen Cleveland
Todd Darby
Eric Voorheis

15) Joni Heiss
Michael Barnes

16) Brian Quigno
Sharmaine Brooks
Lakeda McLemore
Sandra McCreery
Angela Miller
Michelle Niemberg

17) Kevin Fisher

18) Brenda Nolan
Michelle Pena

19) Ralph Ambs
Diane Garrett
Charles Sharon
Harold Goodwin II

20) Anthony Hart
Neal Wasson

22) Jacqueline Daniels
Michael Abraham
Ronald Collins Sr.
Carrie Wemigwans
Donnis Szydlowski

23) Roger Jackson
Maynard Kehgegab Sr.
Janice Dennis
- Lisa Gregurek-Clemens
Glenna Sehl

26) Rachel Mandoka
Sarah Silas
Bessie Velasquez
Scott Warren
Charles Ritter

27) Colleen Wagner
Michael Schramm
Dawn Morrow

28) Mary Jackson
Gregory Dean
Teresa Van Alstine
Tracey Klich

29) Anita Shawboose
John Velasquez
Kenneth Francis
Rhona Mays
Teresa Van Alstine

30) Thomas Bonnau
Luanna Finney
Constance Pashenece

31) Tracy Fallis
Jamey Garlick
Sherry Nickells
Sharon Skutt
William Snowden Jr.
Marc Williams
Shad Snowden

ELDERS MINOR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EMAP) GRANT

IS STILL AVAILABLE!

*Assistance for minor home and vehicle repairs.
*Must be a SCIT elder over 60

Contact: Lucinda Burr at 989-775-4307

TO REPORT FRAUD OR SCAMS, YOU CAN CALL:

1-877-382-4357 or visit
ReporFraud.ftc.gov

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

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) now available

The Elder Services Office is now assisting with the LIHEAP grants for heating, year-round crisis, and weatherization assistance.

Program eligibility: Determined by gross income, including wages, self-employment, contract income, and a payment from mortgages, SSA benefits retirement, and other types of

income. Minimum and maximum benefit amounts for assistance are based on household income and individuals residing in the home for qualifying tribal member households.

For more information, please contact: Lucinda Burr at 989-775-4307

AUGUST 2026 ANDAHWOD EVENTS

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

Walking Club | Wednesdays | 1 p.m.

Euchre | Thursdays | 5:30 p.m.

Lost & Found Bingo
Aug. 7 | 1-3 p.m.

Bible Study with Julie Pego
Aug. 10, 24 | 6-7 p.m.

Elders Lunch
Aug. 5, 19 | 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- Bingo with Friends
Aug. 10 | 1-3 p.m.

Saganing Bingo with Friends
Aug. 11 | Departing Andahwod at 9 a.m.
Please call 989-775-4300 to get on the list

Violinist, Amanda Armstrong
Aug. 13 | 2:30 p.m. in the CGA
- Elders Breakfast
Aug. 12, 26 | 9-10 a.m.

Name that Tune
Aug. 17 | 2:30 p.m.

Birthday Bingo/Potluck
Aug. 22 | 12-3 p.m.
- For more information, please call Andahwod at: 989.775.4300

**Activities and events are subject to change.

SOARING EAGLE CASINO & RESORT
TRIBAL ELDERS' BINGO

TUESDAY, AUG. 25, 2026

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Bingo Hall
Inside the Slot Palace (7566 Ogemaw Dr.)

- Begins at 1:30 p.m.**
- Open to all Tribal Elders (must provide Tribal ID)
 - 50 years of age and older
 - Cash only
 - 50/50 raffle and door prizes
 - Concessions will be available



For more information, please contact: Andahwod at 989.775.4300

August 2026 Andahwod CCC & ES Menu

Lunch: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Dinner: 4:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Chef's Choice	3 Goulash Chicken Wing Basket	4 Grilled Chicken Red Potato BLT Sandwich	5 Elders Lunch Chili Wet Beef Burritos	6 Hot Dog Basket Ribs Baked Potato	7 Tater-Tot Casserole Pizza	1/8 Chef's Choice
9 Chef's Choice	10 Hot Turkey Sandwich Tuna Casserole	11 Taco Beans Grilled Cheese w/Ham	12 Elders Breakfast Beans Soup BBQ Chicken	13 Spaghetti Pulled Pork Sandwich	14 BLT Sandwich Steak Potato	15 Chef's Choice
16 Chef's Choice	17 Chicken Bacon Wrap Hamburger Basket	18 Meatloaf Mashed Potato French Dip	19 Elders Lunch Veggie Beef Soup Pork Tenderloin	20 Beef Stir-fry Chicken and Dumplings	21 Fish French Fries Sloppy Joe	22 Chef's Choice
23 Chef's Choice	24 Sausage & Fried Potatoes Beef Roast w/Potatoes	25 Chicken Fried Rice Lasagna	26 Elders Breakfast Tomato Soup Grilled Cheese Enchilada Bake	27 Open Face Roast Beef Indian Taco	28 Shrimp Basket Cheesy Hamburger Casserole	29 Chef's Choice
30 Chef's Choice	31 BBQ Chicken Baked Bean Beef Strongenoff	*Menu subject to change* Sugar free available upon request		*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		



Soaring Eagle announces partnership with new pro basketball team, Great Lakes Royals

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

In an exciting new venture, the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort announced its partnership with a new men’s professional basketball team, the Great Lakes Royals, on Monday, July 13.

The Soaring Eagle will host the team’s approximately 14 to 16 home games in the ballrooms for the next five years. Seating options will include risers, court side seats and VIP areas for roughly 700 people.

Kelly Garety, owner of the Great Lakes Royals, said the team will compete in the Basketball Super League. This will be the sole Michigan team, and half of the competing teams are from Canada.

Garety announced Keno Davis, formerly the men’s basketball head coach for Central Michigan University, as the team’s head coach.

Davis said player recruitment begins now, and Garety added games will likely begin in March or April.

“For us and for me, this has never really been just about basketball,” Garety said. “It’s about creating experiences for families. It’s about giving some of these young athletes something to dream about... It’s about creating partnerships with local businesses and bringing people together. It’s about giving this region something



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Representatives from the new men’s professional basketball team, Great Lakes Royals, pose for a July 13 photo with Tribal representatives, after announcing the home games will be housed at Soaring Eagle.

to be proud of.”

Coach Davis said, “There is a great potential on what this can grow to. Both the Royals and Soaring Eagle continue to build and expand in their endeavors.”

Garety said it is the hope that the Royals will have its own dance team, along with local bands performing the national anthem at each game.

“When people walk into our games, I don’t want them to just be watching basketball; I want them to experience the event,” Garety said.

Soaring Eagle CEO Joe Nayquonabe said what this

announcement means for the casino is: Economic development and diversification, community investment, and becoming an even bigger destination.

Garety said the next priority for the ballroom transformation is the court’s flooring, which will be placed on top of the current carpet, and is on track be installed within the next couple of months.

The introduction of players, game schedules and tickets will be announced in the coming months.

Arenac County Event Center grand opening



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

The ribbon cutting ceremony for the Arenac County Event center is held on July 7.

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

The Arenac County Event Center held its grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday, July 7.

The project was a collaborative effort between numerous grants and contractors including 2 Percent funding through the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

The center offers rental opportunities for weddings, family celebrations, community events, fairs, concerts, and more. It is located at the

Arenac County Fairgrounds at 2392 Airpark Dr. in Standish, Mich.

Tribal Council District 2 Representative Shirley Houle and Interim Public Relations Director Erik Rodriguez were invited to speak during the grand opening ceremonies.

“We are thankful to be able to play a part in this,” Rodriguez said. “We are very thankful that we have great relationships with everyone here in Arenac County, and want to continue to strengthen and get to know all of those (relationships) so that we can support all the great work that is being done here within the region.”

For more information on the center, please visit the Arenac County Event Center Facebook page.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Interim Public Relations Director Erik Rodriguez (left) and Tribal Council District 2 Representative Shirley Houle (right)



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

The center is equipped to host a variety of events.



SCIT ELDERS DAY TRIP

Detroit Tigers vs. Pittsburgh Pirates

Game day: Sunday, Sept. 27, 2026

Game starts at 3:10 p.m. at Comerica Park
(2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI 48201)

REGISTRATION:

- Opens: Sept. 1
- Closes: Sept. 14

Includes:

- Round trip motorcoach transportation
- * **Elders must ride motorcoach to attend**
- Admission to game (52 tickets – section 116)

SCIT elders may sign up a non-SCIT elder spouse or caretaker:

- SCIT elder deposit: \$25 • Non-SCIT elder fee: \$25
- *Cash or money order only!

Contact: Andahwod at 989.775.4300



SCIT ELDER TRIBAL JACKETS

Available to order by SCIT elders

Deadline: Aug. 14

To order please contact:
Andahwod at 989-775-4300

Birthday celebrations

Every month, Andahwod hosts a birthday celebration for residents and employees. We are inviting community elders to join us during for these celebrations of cake (or other sweet treat) and socializing.



It does not need to be your birthday month to attend. Hope to see you there.

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

Upcoming Celebrations:

- Aug. 13 ► Sept. 10 ► Oct. 8

Region 9 Area Agency on Aging seeks advisory council members

The Region 9 Area Agency on Aging is seeking interested individuals to serve on its advisory council, the Northeast Michigan Regional Council on Aging.

Advisory council members help share ideas, discuss issues affecting older adults, support advocacy efforts, and provide feedback on programs and services for seniors throughout the region.

Region 9 serves the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Arenac, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle and

Roscommon. We are currently seeking representation from Arenac and Oscoda counties, as well as from minority groups, tribal, and healthcare organizations.

Individuals who are interested in joining the council, or who would like more information, are encouraged to contact Connie McQuarrie by email at mcquarriec@nemcsa.org.





AUGUST 2026 | Tribal Community Event Planner

Memorial Shadow Boxes

- Aug. 3 | 6-8 p.m.
- Behavioral Health (2800 S. Shepherd Rd.)
 - ArMejia@sagchip.org or 989-775-4898
 - No registration required
 - Open to first 20 participants (first come, first serve)
 - Create a memorial box to honor those who have walked on.

Toddler Time

- Aug. 4 | 1-3 p.m.
- Wii Maajikwad/Recreation (2875 Gikendasso Way)
 - Recreation@sagchip.org
 - Open to infants and toddlers

Recreation Youth Basketball Open Gym

- Aug. 5, 12, 19, 26 (Wednesdays) | 5-7 p.m.
- Wii Maajikwad (2875 Gikendasso Way)
 - Recreation@sagchip.org
 - Open to all middle and high school students

SECR Open Interviews

- Aug. 6 | 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- Aug. 7 | 1-4 p.m.
- SECR Black River Room (6800 Soaring Eagle Blvd.)
 - HumanResources@sagchip.org or 989.775.5600
 - On the spot hiring for the following positions:
Line cook, line server, stewarding, custodial, F&B cashier and wait staff – banquets.

Traditional Cooking Class

- Aug. 10 | 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Behavioral Health (2800 S. Shepherd Rd.)
 - FOTTO@sagchip.org or 989-775-4823
 - Open to first 20 who register
 - Learn to make traditional corn bread with Indigenous Chef Sam Anglin
 - Light meal provided

Memory Garden

- Aug. 11 | 6 p.m.
- Behavioral Health (2800 S. Shepherd Rd.)
 - Please email plaque name submissions to: ArMejia@sagchip.org or 989-775-4898
 - Deadline: Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2026
 - Please join Native Connections as we begin building a community memorial garden.

Mount Pleasant Back to School Event

- Aug. 11 | 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Wii Maajikwad (2875 Gikendasso Way)
 - DSmith@sagchip.org or 989-775-4071
 - School supplies giveaway
 - Open to DK-12 Services/SCIT members/descendants

Saganing Back to School Event

- Aug. 13 | 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- Saganing Tribal Center (5447 Sturman Rd., Standish, MI 48658)
 - DSmith@sagchip.org or 989-775-4071
 - School supplies giveaway
 - Open to DK-12 Services/SCIT members/descendants

Rez Ball: 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament

- Aug. 17 | Youth (8th grade and under)
- Aug. 18 | High school and adult
- Check in: 9-10:30 a.m.
 - Games start: 11 a.m.
 - Wii Maajikwad (2875 Gikendasso Way)
 - Recreation@sagchip.org or 989-775-4093
 - Registration deadline: Friday, Aug. 14 at 5 p.m.
 - Registration required for all divisions.
 - No walk-in registration allowed.
 - Divisions:
 - Grades 5 & under (co-ed)
 - Grades 6- 8 (co-ed)
 - Grades 9-12 (boy & girl divisions)
 - Adult (male & female divisions)

Sexual Assault Survivor Support Groups

- Aug. 18, Sept. 15 | 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Behavioral Health Lodge (2800 S. Shepherd Rd.)
 - SLloyd@sagchip.org or 989-775-4806
 - Join us for a safe space of support, connection, and outreach for survivors of sexual assault.

Retirement Celebration: Dr Eisenmann

- Aug. 21 | 3-5 p.m.
- Farmers Market Pavilion
 - (Corner of Broadway and Leaton roads)
 - JaWemigwans@sagchip.org or 989-775-4937
 - Join us for cake as we celebrate a life well worked and a future well earned!

Bagodowe Engiitaading (Lacrosse Tournament)

- Aug. 28 | Games start at 5 p.m.
- 7th Generation (7957 E. Remus Rd.)
 - DAJackson@sagchip.org or 989-775-4782
 - Co-ed tournament
 - Youth game (ages 14 and under) starts at 5 p.m.
 - Adult game (ages 15 and up) starts at 6:30 p.m.

People's Traditional Powwow

- Aug. 29 | Grand entries at 1 & 7 p.m.
- Aug. 30 | Grand entry at 1 p.m.
- 7th Generation (7957 E. Remus Rd.)
 - TJackson@sagchip.org or 989-775-4780

Overdose Awareness & Remembrance Day

- Aug. 31 | 1-3 p.m.
- Broadway Park (2451 Nish-Na-Be-Anong Dr.)
 - Prevention@sagchip.org
 - Honor your loved ones: Bring in pictures and memories to post on our display board.
 - Speaker panel will share their stories, insights and be available for Q&A session.
 - Food will be provided.

AUGUST 2026 | Tribal Community Calendar

Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Sat./Sun.	
3 Sewing in Saganing 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saganing Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health		4 Native Farmers Market 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Corner of Broadway and Leaton roads Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Drums Out 7:30-9:30 p.m. 7th Gen		5 Elders Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Andahwod Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health		6 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		7 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. B. Health		1/8 Fireside on the Rez 6-7:30 p.m. B. Health AOVWS Meeting (Aug. 8) 2 p.m. Ziibiwing	
10 Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health		11 Native Farmers Market 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Corner of Broadway and Leaton roads Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Drums Out 7:30-9:30 p.m. 7th Gen		12 Elders Breakfast 9-10 a.m. Andahwod Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health		13 Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health		14 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. B. Health		15 Fireside on the Rez 6-7:30 p.m. B. Health	
17 TRIBAL OBSERVER DEADLINE Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health		18 Native Farmers Market 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Corner of Broadway and Leaton roads Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom		19 Elders Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Andahwod Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health		20 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		21 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. B. Health		22 Fireside on the Rez 6-7:30 p.m. B. Health	
24 Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health		25 Native Farmers Market 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Corner of Broadway and Leaton roads Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Drums Out 7:30-9:30 p.m. 7th Gen		26 Elders Breakfast 9-10 a.m. Andahwod Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health		27 Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health		28 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. B. Health		29 Fireside on the Rez 6-7:30 p.m. B. Health	
31 Lunch & Learn: Changing Negative Self Talk 1-2:30 p.m. Saganing Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health Two-Spirit Talking Circle 6-8 p.m. 7th Gen		ZIIBIWING CENTER'S ANNUAL Fall Equinox SILENT AUCTION									
Ziibiwing Center Front grand entrance lobby Weekdays: Oct. 1-9, 2026 from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Accepting donations now through Sept. 14 Items can be dropped off at: Ziibiwing Center Gift Shop 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday Contact: ChRiley@sagchip.org or 989.775.4756											● SECR Payroll ● SCIT Per Capita ● SCIT Payroll ● Curbside Recycling



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

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

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

100 Employment

Tribal Operations

ACFS Supervisor

Open to the public. Bachelor’s degree in social work, human services, or related field. Four years of social services (working with children and families) experience. One year of experience in child welfare. One year of experience in a supervisory capacity.

Prosecutor

Open to the public. Juris doctor from an ABA accredited law school. Minimum of three years experience as a practicing attorney. Minimum of one year experience as a prosecuting attorney. Member of a State Bar Association and in good standing.

Fresh Water Operator II

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must have three years of water operator or related experience.

Fresh Water Operator III

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must have five years of water operator or related experience.

Waste Water Operator II

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must have three years’ experience in wastewater/water field or directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations.

Waste Water Operator III

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must have five years experience in wastewater/water field or directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations.

Tribal Code Compliance Officer

Open to the public. Associate degree in human services or related field. Five years’ relevant experience including building construction, inspection and ordinance enforcement.

Community Development Director

Open to the public. Bachelor’s degree in urban planning, public administration, or a related field. Five years of progressively responsible experience in public works admin-

istration or community development and planning. Three years in a managerial/supervisory capacity.

Police Officer

Open to the public. Must be a U.S. citizen and at least 21 years of age. Must be able to pass departmental fitness evaluation.

Registered Medical Assistant - Same Day

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Registered or Certified Medical Assistant license. Must be knowledgeable in CPT and ICD 10 codes and medical terminology.

LPN Assisted Living

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Licensed Practical Nurse. One-year long term care experience desired.

AWARE Project Coordinator

Open to the public. Bachelor’s degree in education, social work, counseling, or human services related field. Two years’ experience in project and personnel management, communications and working with school systems, and community collaborations and partnerships.

Assistant Prosecutor PT

Open to the public. Juris Doctor from an ABA accredited law school. Member in good standing with the State Bar of Michigan.

Pharmacy Technician

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

Youth Co-Op

Open to SCIT Members only. Youth enrolled in school in grads 11-12. Must be eligible to earn high school credits. Position is intended to expose youth to meaningful work activities through on-the-job learning experiences which may lead to future career opportunities.

AWARE Elementary Counselor/Family Outreach

Open to the public. Bachelor’s degree in social work or counseling from an accredited program. One year experience in mental health services working with children and families of children with severe emotional disturbances.

Community Data, Planning & Special Projects Manager

Open to the public. Bachelor’s degree in social science, social work, public policy, community planning or related field. One year in a supervisory capacity.

Internship

Unpaid internship within Tribal Operations or other tribal enterprises. Open to the public. Must be an enrolled student at a college or university, and provide SCIT with documentation of the university’s requirements/scope of work for the required internship.

Clerical Pool

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

General Labor Pool

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

Maintenance Worker PT

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

Community Engineer

Open to the public. Bachelor’s degree in civil engineering, public administration, or related field; and at least three years of progressively responsible experience in public works administration and/or municipal engineering.

Dental Hygienist

Open to the public. Registered dental hygienist. Two years working experience in dental hygiene desired.

Interim Transport CNA

Open to the public. Interim position. High school diploma or GED. Certified Nursing Assistant.

Interim Clinical Therapist

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

Soaring Eagle

Tribal Member Rotation

Open to SCIT Members only. Under the supervision of the Training & Development manager, work in a

supportive environment to gain experience and learn skills required to perform SECR line-level positions.

Sous Chef

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

Kitchen Equipment Tech

Open to the public. Three years of experience in commercial food equipment repair.

Call Center Agent

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

Pastry Sous Chef

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

Construction and Training Coordinator

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a minimum of 10 years’ experience in either a facilities or skilled trade work environment. Must have a current valid State of Michigan master electrician, master plumber or builders license.

Entertainment Chauffeur

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a current and valid Chauffer’s License.

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.

Guest Relations Rep PT

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED.

Culinary Supervisor

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Three years of restaurant or banquet cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility.

Guest Room Attendant PT

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

Laundry Mechanic Technician
Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must have at least five years experience in a building maintenance position with a high degree of equipment repair responsibilities or two years of repair experience in a laundry environment.

F&B Cashier PT

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

Maintenance Worker

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

Saganing

Culinary Supervisor

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Three years of restaurant or banquet cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility.

Casino Host

In-house, only SCIT Members or current SELC/SECR employees may apply. High school diploma or GED.

Cage Cashier FT

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.

Players Club Representative PT

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

Slot Attendant

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

F&B Cashier PT

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

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.

F&B Custodial Worker

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

Count Team Assistant

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

Line Cook

Open to the public. Six months of restaurant cooking experience.

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.

Maintenance Worker FT

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

Night Auditor

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED.

Security Officer PT

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

Bartender PT

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

Inventory Control Driver Warehouser

Open to the public. Must obtain fork lift certification within 90 days of hire/transfer. Must have a valid Michigan Chauffeurs License. One year experience in driving vehicles and rigs that require a CDL license. Experience operating warehouse equipment.

SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT NOTICES

NOTICE OF FINAL EXCLUSION ORDER – SAGINAW CHIPPEWA INDIAN TRIBE OF MICHIGAN EXCLUSION PROCEEDING:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Waabzhkiinangwegan “Giizhig” Osawamick (“Respondent”) was provided Notice of Exclusion Proceedings and Order of Immediate Exclusion pursuant to Ordinance 3 of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

The Respondent failed to confirm the scheduled hearing with the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan Legal Department within the time required and did not request a continuance. Accordingly, the Respondent was deemed to be in default and waived the right to a hearing.

Based upon the Respondent’s default and the record before it, the Tribal Council entered a Final Exclusion Order on July 15, 2026, permanently excluding the Respondent from Tribal lands under

the jurisdiction or control of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, in accordance with Ordinance No. 3. The decision of the Tribal Council is final for the Tribe and is not subject to appeal by any court of any jurisdiction.

The Final Exclusion Order became effective immediately upon entry on July 15, 2026, imposes a lifetime exclusion, and contains no exceptions. The Respondent is permanently prohibited from entering or remaining upon Tribal lands.

Any violation of the Final Exclusion Order may result in enforcement action and any other remedies available under Tribal law.

This Notice is published by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, pursuant to Ordinance 3.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF WANDA YVONNE BRODIE:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858, Phone: (989) 775-4800. In the Matter of the Estate of Wanda Yvonne Brodie. Date of Birth: March 5, 1937. Notice to creditors: The decedent, Wanda Yvonne Brodie, who resided at 1481 E. Hill Rd., Grand Blanc, MI 48439, died June 3, 2026. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims

against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to David P. Brodie, personal representative, or to both the 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: David P. Brodie of 12225 Margaret Dr., Fenton, MI 48430. Phone: 810-429-6841.



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

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

As the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe hosted events throughout the annual SCIT Powwow week, July 20-26, the Ziibiwing Center held exciting events of its own during the annual NativeFest – a celebration of North American Indian culture.

NativeFest featured Indian Car Bingo on July 21, and Kids’ Night on July 22.

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

This year saw 272 bingo players as they sat in or around the 137 parked cars or under tent seating. Players sitting in their cars honked their horns if they won a bingo.

On its Facebook page, the Ziibiwing Center wished to thank Bernie and Bonnie Sprague for their assistance throughout the years of Car



Courtesy of Ziibiwing Center

Wii Maajikwad Principal Simeon Blackbird waits for a student to dunk him in the tank during the July 22 NativeFest Kids’ Night at the Ziibiwing Center.

Bingo. Ziibiwing also wished to thank SueAnn and Ryan Dean for assisting and Youth Council for selling food both evenings.

On the Wednesday of powwow week, Ziibiwing hosted Kids’ Night from 6 to 9 p.m. with bounce houses, caricatures, activities and games for the whole family, and much more.



Courtesy of Ziibiwing Center

A caricature artist is one of the many fun activities held during Kid’s Night.

New and exciting this year was a dunk tank. Kids and community members got a chance to dunk members and employees of the community including: Tribal Council’s Brad Bennett and Gayle Ruhl, Soaring Eagle CEO Joe Nayquonabe, Wii Maajikwad Principal Simeon Blackbird, Probation’s Guadalupe Gonzalez, Recreation’s Kyle Shomin, Tribal Police’s David Merrill Jr. and more.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

The July 21 NativeFest Indian Car Bingo sees 137 cars and 272 people participating.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Youth Council members staff the concessions during Indian Car Bingo.

Native Fest was sponsored by the Ziibiwing Center, Mahoney Group, Michigan State University Native American Institute, Soaring Eagle Casino Bingo, Project Aware, Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel and Tribal Fire.

Photos by Matthew Wright and the Ziibiwing Center



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