



TRIBAL OBSERVER

SEPTEMBER
2026

Working Together For Our Future www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver Volume 37 | Issue 9



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SCTC secures grant renewal to expand “Nanda-Gikendan” Adult Education Program with focus on cultural math modules and mentorship

SAGINAW CHIPPEWA TRIBAL COLLEGE

MOUNT PLEASANT, Mich. – Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College is honored to announce a \$45,000 grant renewal from the American Indian College Fund’s Native Students Stepping Forward: Dollar General Adult Education Program.

This vital funding, generously sustained by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, will allow SCTC to deepen and expand its community-centered adult education project, Nanda-Gikendan (Seek to Learn), for the 2026-2027 academic term.

Building directly upon the foundations laid in previous terms, this renewal shifts the program from a maintenance-focused approach to a dynamic model designed to measurably boost student retention and High School Equivalency (HSE) graduation rates.

Over the new grant term, which runs through June 30, 2027, SCTC will continue utilizing the Seven Grandfather Teachings as an active operational and evaluation framework to holistically nurture adult learners.



“This grant renewal empowers us to evolve our support systems and address the real-world obstacles our students face,” said Amanda Flaughner, dean of students. “By continuing to weave traditional Anishinaabe storytelling, local history, and Indigenous pedagogy into core subjects, we are breaking historical educational barriers and honoring our community’s worldview as a tool for contemporary academic mastery.”

Key initiatives funded under this renewed cycle include:

- Contextualized math learning: Partnering with SCTC faculty to co-design and deliver two distinct, culturally tailored mathematics tracks to reduce academic anxiety and accelerate student self-efficacy.
- “Teachings in Practice” mentorship: Expanding community-driven support by engaging five tribal leaders or local professionals to conduct monthly motivational circles, aiming to lower student drop-out rates by 15 percent year-over-year.
- Pre-college and workforce bridging: Launching a new six-week “pre-college” introductory module to introduce advanced learners to collegiate digital platforms, alongside formalized institutional



The interior of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College is photographed.

Courtesy photo

bridge policies with SCTC’s Student Services, Land Grant and Academic programs.

The Nanda-Gikendan project continues under the direction of Flaughner as the project administrator, with key support from HSE Program Tutor Lori Vincent and Student Services Assistant Millie Thomas.

Beyond core academic instruction, the renewed

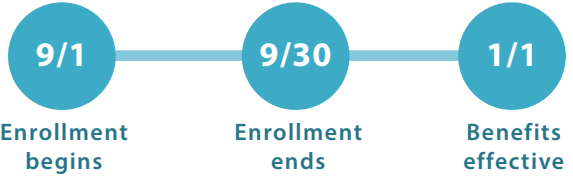
funding extends to community open houses, career transition fairs, and intensive test-preparation boot camps. Additionally, the program will provide essential student resources – including bus passes and daily nutritional support – to enhance classroom engagement, foster well-being, and alleviate common structural and transportation barriers.

Tribal Member health plan open enrollment: Sept. 1-30, 2026

Open enrollment is your once-a-year chance to adjust your health plan coverages. Upon electing benefits, you will not be able to make changes until the next open enrollment period, unless you experience a qualifying life event.

Please note: It is important for everyone to complete an enrollment to retain their coverage. If enrollment is not completed by Sept. 30, benefits for 2027 will not be available.

YOUR ENROLLMENT TIMELINE



Team Member health plan open enrollment: Oct. 1-31, 2026

Open enrollment is your once-a-year chance to adjust your health plan coverages. Upon electing benefits, you will not be able to make changes until the next open enrollment period, unless you experience a qualifying life event.

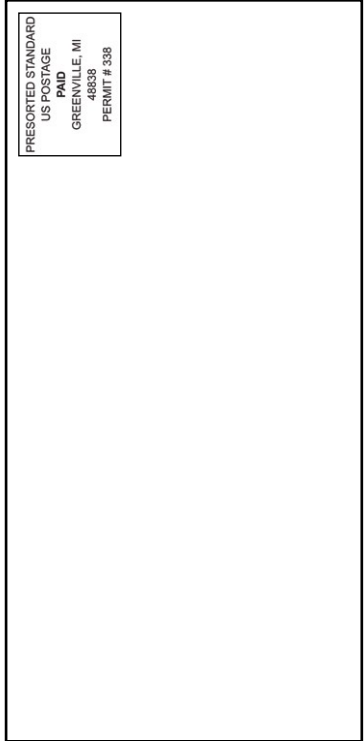
Please note: it is important for everyone to complete enrollment to retain their coverage. If enrollment is not completed by Oct. 31, benefits for 2027 will not be available.

YOUR ENROLLMENT TIMELINE



- Review benefit choices
- Share options with family
- Mark your calendar

Be on the lookout for more information about your benefit offerings and how to enroll.
For additional information, please contact the Benefits Hotline at 989-775-5770





Deborah L. Krupiczewicz

May 19, 1969 – May 12, 2026

Deborah L. Krupiczewicz, 56, passed away peacefully, on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at her home in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Deborah, the daughter of Stanley and the late Judith (Lammers) Buyze was born May 19, 1969, in Mount Pleasant, Mich. She graduated from Oostburg High School 1987 before attending Reformed Bible College and later earning an associate degree in writing from Grand Valley State University.

Debbie was an avid writer of many things, including fictional stories. She also enjoyed sharing her political insights on her YouTube channel. She had an amazing sense of humor, and was a lover of all things patriotic.

Debbie is survived by her daughter Taneshia Marie Krupiczewicz of Grand Rapids, Mich.; father Stan (Ann) Buyze of Hingham; brother Jonathan (Kim) Buyze of Gibberville and his children Markie-Lee and Nolan; step-sisters Nancy (Steve) DeJong, Jill (Doug) Rozendal and Stacy (Andy) Kerwin; dear friends Amanda Turner, Lisa Wrightsman and Debra Cole; other extended relatives and friends.

She is preceded in death by her mother Judith, and grandparents Alfred and Jeverna Lammers and Adrian and Marian Buyze.

A private family burial took place at Hingham Cemetery. A reception gathering was held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 6, 2026 at Hingham Church.

Memorials are suggested to Bethany Christian Services in (901 Eastern Ave NE., Grand Rapids, MI 49503).



Tyrone Edward Rios Jr.

Dec. 26, 2001 – Aug. 22, 2026

Tyrone Edward Rios Jr. of Mount Pleasant, Mich. passed away on Aug. 22, 2026, at the age of 24.

Ty was born in Mount Pleasant, Mich., on Dec. 26, 2001, the son of Tyrone Sr. and Louanna (Bruner) Rios. He took great pride in being from the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and was a proud member of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians.

Ty graduated from Mt. Pleasant High School, where he was a member of the varsity basketball and football team.

He was a huge sports enthusiast. Ty attended sporting events with the goal of getting on the jumbotron. He was also a loyal Detroit Lions fan, and all are encouraged to wear Lions apparel to his service.

Ty is survived by his parents, Tyrone (Mia) Rios Sr. and Louanna (Tim Mills) Bruner; siblings, Scott (Angie Brown) Sheahan, Jenna Rios, Alec Mills; grandmother, Paula Keith; aunts, Dorie Rios, Nickole Keith, Mariessa Keith; uncles, Derrick Day, Brian (Trish) Rios; special cousins, Josev (JoJo) Keith, Amber Day, Langston Day, Diop Harris II, Dyami Harris, Journi Wilson, Christopher J.R. Wilson, Avrian "Duke" Keith, Ameris Keith, Michael Corbin, Jaelen West, Jahsir Love, Preston Day.

A funeral service was held at 11 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 31, 2026, at the Charles R. Lux Family Funeral Home in Mount Pleasant. Visitation took place Sunday, Aug. 30, 2026, from 4 to 7 p.m., as well as one hour before Monday's service. A second service will be held at 1:30 pm on Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2026, at Pine Creek Community Center, 1488 Mno Bmadzwen Way in Fulton, Mich. Interment will immediately follow Tuesday's service at Indian Cemetery.

Arrangements were entrusted to the Mills Funeral Home, Shelly-Odell Chapel in Eaton Rapids.



Rindaldus Scicluna III

January 23, 1990 – August 4, 2026

Rindaldus Scicluna III, age 36 of Mount Pleasant, Mich., passed away unexpectedly at McLaren Central Michigan on Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2026.

Rinaldus was born in La Jolla, Calif. on Jan. 23, 1990, the only son of Rinaldus and Joane (Mercer) Scicluna. He graduated from Chippewa Hills High School with the Class of 2008.

Rinaldus was married to Shala Lynn Stevens at the Little Flower Barn in Lake Isabella on Oct. 30, 2022. Altogether, they had four children.

Rinaldus worked for Soaring Eagle Casino, beginning as an usher at the age of 18, then for the past 14 years as a security officer.

Rinaldus was big in the gaming community and loved to play tabletop games including Magic: The Gathering at the Gaming Cantina and Calico Games in Mount Pleasant. He was also known to many by the name "KronikViking" as a podcaster and streamer. He enjoyed painting in his spare time.

Rinaldus is survived by his loving wife, Shala, their children, Rinaldus Valentino "Tino", Aria Ann-Marie, Raylin Amore, and Ezran Rose, his parents Rinaldus (Melanie) Scicluna of Seagrove Beach, Fla., Joane Scicluna (Kim Alrich) of Lake Isabella and mother-in-law, April Stevens, of Mount Pleasant as well as extended family members and friends.

Rinaldus was preceded in death by his grandmother, Betty Mercer, Pamela Gaffner, Jeremy LaLone.

A funeral service was held at Clark Family Funeral Chapel at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2026 with Joshua Hagerman officiating. Visitation was held from 11 a.m. until the time of service.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family's wishes in care of Shala Scicluna.



ZIIBIWING CENTER
of Anishinaabe Culture & Lifeways

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
Sept. 11 – NE-YO	8 p.m.	6-9 p.m.
Sept. 12 – Kane Brown	8 p.m.	6-9 p.m.
Sept. 19 – Alanis Morissette	8 p.m.	6-9 p.m.

ZIIBIWING CENTER
of Anishinaabe Culture & Lifeways

THE MIDWEST'S PREMIER AMERICAN INDIAN MUSEUM
 6650 EAST BROADWAY, MT. PLEASANT, MICHIGAN 48858
 989-775-4750 • WWW.SAGCHIP.ORG / ZIIBIWING

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College

BOARD VACANCY

If you are interested in serving, please submit a resume and a letter of interest explaining how you meet the criteria to:

Dr. Gena Qualls
Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College
Dean of Institutional Advancement
5805 E. Pickard St.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Email: gequalls@sagchip.org

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTAL:
FRIDAY, OCT. 2, 2026

QUALIFICATIONS OF REGENTS:

1. An enrolled member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan (SCIT) or another federally-recognized tribe, band or group. If a member of SCIT of Michigan must adhere to the tribal policy regarding committee membership.
2. Attainment of at least twenty-five (25) years of age.
3. Significant education or work experience related to the process of higher education or vocational training or the administration of education or vocational training institutions and programs.
4. Any specific requirements of organizations providing financial or other benefits to SCTC or providing accreditation of SCTC programs.

SAGINAW CHIPPEWA TRIBAL LIBRARY

Gindaasoogamik MazinigaaNsan Boozibiigeng Giizis

(LIBRARY CARD SIGN UP MONTH)

Come in anytime during the month of September to sign up, update your account or use your card and be entered to win a prize!

SIGN UP FOR A LIBRARY CARD!

- Online at saginaw.ploud.net
- Or by scanning the QR code →

Inside the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College.

5805 E. Pickard, Mt. Pleasant, Mich.
Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
989.317.4789 | saginaw.ploud.net

Contact: 989.317.4770 or AHeidemann@sagchip.org

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 machine 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

Wii Maajiikwad/Recreation Center

2875 Gikendasso Way, Mt. Pleasant MI, 48858

Contact: Recreation@sagchip.org

RTM LOYALTY CARDS

Available at Office of Tribal Licensing & Regulations

RESIDENT TRIBAL MEMBERS (RTM):

To receive your fuel and tobacco discount you need to have your physical loyalty card.

IF YOU HAVE MISPLACED YOUR CARD:

You can replace it at the Office of Tribal Licensing & Regulations for a \$5 fee.

Office of Tribal Licensing & Regulations

7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

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

BE ENTERED TO WIN PRIZES!

Just for showing up for your appointments.

NIMKEE DENTAL

Prize Giveaway

For all patients that show up to their appointments starting Oct. 1, 2026.

PRIZES DRAWN EACH QUARTER:

(3x) Oral B iO Electric Toothbrush Kits with two refill brush heads

(1x) Waterpik ION Professional Cordless Water Flosser for each quarter

Four winners drawn every quarter

- The first entry period will go from October to December.
- Winners will be notified by phone.
- One entry per quarter, per person.

Drawing: Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2026

How to enter:

- All patients have to do is show up to their dentist or cleaning appointment.
- Patients will have their name removed from the drawing if they fail to show up to any appointment in the quarter.

Appointment cancellations:

Any appointment can be canceled within 10 minutes of the appointment, just call or text 989-775-4657 to let us know.

Contact: SZondlak@sagchip.org or 989-775-4611

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



- ▶ 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

• Sept. 1 • Oct. 6 • Nov. 3



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

- **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

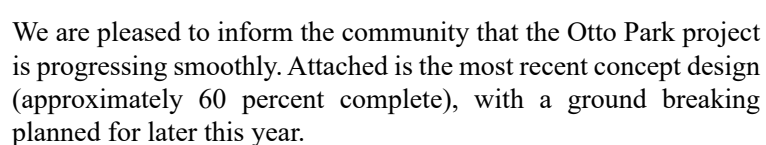
For more information, please contact:
Human Resources at 989.775.5600



Contact: 989.775.4805 or Carjackson@sagchip.org



SCIT HOUSING DEPARTMENT UPDATE



We look forward to sharing further project milestones as development advances.

- Dedicated public parking lot
- Upgraded basketball court
- Paved walking path
- Modern playground structure
- Outdoor pavilion



- **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.

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



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



ORANGE SHIRT FUNDRAISER

Sept. 21-25, 2026

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. | ACFS Lobby
(2585 S. Leaton Rd., Mt. Pleasant, Mich.)

- ▶ **Shirts: \$25**
*Choice of black or orange shirt
- ▶ **Large decal: \$9**
- ▶ **Small decal: \$5**

Contact: Nkahgegab@sagchip.org or 989-775-4901



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.



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.

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





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

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Ziibiwing Center.

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



2026-2027 YOUTH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Elections held: Nov. 19 & 20, 2026

Where: Native American Offices
**Only allowed to vote once*

Requirements

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

Packets available: Oct. 1, 2026

- Visit Native American Office or Tribal Clerk’s Office

Packets due: Nov. 2, 2026 by 5 p.m. ***NO EXCEPTIONS!***

- To the Tribal Clerk’s Office
- Must have five signatures

Swearing in: Dec. 8, 2026 at 4 p.m.

- Council Chambers, Black Elk Building

For more information, email: youthcouncil@sagchip.org
www.sagchip.org/youthcouncil



SCIT BURIAL BENEFIT

Eligibility: All SCIT Members

Process: The personal representative and/or the heirs of the deceased tribal member shall be responsible for promptly notifying the Tribe of the member’s death by contacting the Tribal Clerk’s Office at 989.775.4051

After initial contact with the Clerk’s Office, a burial packet will be available for pick up or overnight mail for those residing outside Isabella County.

For more information regarding the breakdown of the Burial Assistant Program, please contact:
Tribal Clerk’s office at 989-775-4051

Small Game Season 2026

Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 106 subdivision 3 the 2026 Small Game Season within the exterior boundaries of the Isabella Indian Reservation and on designated Tribal Trust Lands outside the exterior boundaries of the Isabella Indian Reservation shall begin Sept. 1, 2026, and will close on March 31, 2027, unless ordered otherwise. The 2026 Small Game Season will allow for the bag limits as listed:

- Pheasants shall be limited to male pheasants only with a limit of five per day.
- Badger, beaver, muskrat, mink, pine martin, fisher and otter are all closed to small game hunting.
- Badger, beaver, muskrat, mink, pine martin, fisher and otter will be open for Trapping Season. Bag limits per Trapping Season Order.
- Bobcat is limited to two tags only whether hunting, trapping or combination of seasons.

Small game species are defined in Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 103 subdivision 66.

Licenses are available now at the Office of Tribal Licensing & Regulations. \$10 per license.

- “Other Indians” may not hunt on Tribal Trust or Tribal owned Fee Land. Other Indians as defined in Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 104 subdivision 52.
- Please Refer to the Ordinance 11 on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe website for rules and regulations.

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Community Engineer Donald L. Seal, Planning Department

Fall Wild Turkey Season 2026

Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 105 subdivision 6(B), the 2026 Fall Wild Turkey Season within the exterior boundaries of the Isabella Indian Reservation and on designated Tribal Trust Lands outside the exterior boundaries of the Isabella Indian Reservation shall begin Sept. 15, 2026, and will close Oct. 31, 2026, unless ordered otherwise.

The 2026 Fall Wild Turkey Season will allow for the harvest of one Turkey, either sex.

Licenses and harvest tags are available now at the Office of Tribal Licensing & Regulations at \$10 per tag. Only one tag allowed.

- Other Indians” may not hunt on Tribal Trust or Tribal owned Fee Land. Other Indians as defined in Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 104 subdivision 52.

Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 105 subdivision 5(B) animal harvest must be reported within 72 hours of take by phone, email or online.

- Please refer to Ordinance 11 on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe website for rules and regulations.

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Community Engineer Donald L. Seal, Planning Department

Deer Season 2026

Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 105 subdivision 6(B) the 2026 Deer Season within the exterior boundaries of the Isabella Indian Reservation and on designated Tribal Trust Lands outside the exterior boundaries of the Isabella Indian Reservation shall begin Sept. 7, 2026, and will close on Feb. 1, 2027 unless ordered otherwise. Further restrictions shall be as follows:

- Sept. 7, 2026 - Oct. 31, 2026 shall be bow only
- Nov. 1, 2026 - Feb. 1, 2027 shall be bow or gun

The 2026 Deer Season will allow for the harvest of five deer as follows:

- **Three antlerless*** Antlerless gives the ability to take an antlerless deer or a deer with antlers less than three inches in length (Ordinance 11, Section 103, Subdivision 2.)
- **One restricted** (restricted to four or more one inch minimum points on one side)
- **One antlered** (any size antlered)

Licenses and harvest tags will be available starting Aug. 25, 2026 at the Office of Tribal Licensing & Regulations \$10 per harvest tag. Only five tags are allowed.

- “Other Indians” may not hunt on Tribal Trust or Tribal owned Fee Land. Other Indians as defined in Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 104 subdivision 52.

Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 105, Subdivision 5(B). Animal harvest must be reported within 72 hours of take by phone, email or online.

- Please refer to the Ordinance 11 on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe website for rules and regulations.
- Hunter orange is in accordance with Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 104 subdivision 5 and harvest reporting is to be in accordance with Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 105, Subdivision 5(B)
- Tribal lands designated for hunting are provided by the map located at the Tribe’s Planning Department or Office of Tribal Licensing and Regulations.

Tree stands/blinds are only permitted on Tribal property one week before the start of deer season as stated above and must be removed one week after deer season close date as stated above; remaining items will be confiscated. No screw-in tree steps, spikes, etc. are permitted except bow/gun hooks. Tree stands/blinds must have name and address affixed in a visible area, or they will be subject to confiscation.

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Community Engineer Donald L. Seal, Planning Department

Migratory Bird Season 2026/2027

Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 109 Subdivision 3 the 2026/2027 Migratory Bird Season within the exterior boundaries of the Isabella Indian Reservation and on designated Tribal Trust Lands outside the exterior boundaries of the Isabella Indian Reservation shall begin Sept. 1, 2026, and will close on Jan. 31, 2027 unless ordered otherwise. The 2026/2027 Migratory Bird Season will allow for the bag limit as listed. **NON TOXIC SHOT ONLY.**

Migratory bird season daily bag limit:

• Ducks: 20*	• Canada Geese: 20**
• Mergansers: 10***	• Woodcock: 10
• Common Snipe: 16	• Mourning Dove: 25
• Coots & Gallinules: 20	• Sandhill Cranes: one
• Sora and Virginia Rails: 20	

* Ducks 20 per day, including no more than five each of the following species: hen mallard, wood duck, redhead, scaup, black duck, pintail and canvasback. Possession limit is not to exceed two times the bag limit.

** 20 per day Canada Geese aggregate. Coot, gallinule, sora and Virginia rail is 20 in the aggregate.

***No more than five hooded mergansers in the aggregate.

A small game license is also required as per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 109, Subdivision 2.

Licenses are available now at the Office of Tribal Licensing & Regulations. Fee is \$10 per license.

- “Other Indians” may not hunt on Tribal Trust or Tribal owned Fee Land. Other Indians as defined in Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 104 subdivision 52.
- Please Refer to the Ordinance 11 on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe website for rules and regulations. **Hunters must observe all other basic Federal Migratory bird hunting regulations in 50 CRF part 20.**

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Community Engineer Donald L. Seal, Planning Department

Special Elder and Mentored Youth Deer Hunt 2026

Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 105 subdivision 6(B) the 2026 Special Elder and Mentored Youth Deer Hunt within the exterior boundaries of the Isabella Indian Reservation and on designated Tribal Trust Lands outside the exterior boundaries of the Isabella Indian Reservation shall begin Sept. 1, 2026 and will close on Sept. 6, 2026, unless ordered otherwise. Further restrictions shall be as follows:

- Tribal Member youth for the purpose of this hunt are defined as ages 10 to 17 years of age.
- Youth participants ages 14-17 must be accompanied by a tribally-licensed adult mentor, at least 21 years of age, under Tribal Ordinance 11.
- Youth participants ages 10-14 must be accompanied by a tribal licensed parent or guardian.

Pursuant to Ordinance 11, Section 105, Subdivision 2(B): under 14 years of age must be accompanied by a licensed parent or guardian.

- The mentor is not allowed to carry any hunting device (firearm, bow or crossbow) in the field while accompanying the youth hunter.
- Ages 10-14 years are only eligible to use a bow for this hunt.
- Ages 14-17 years are eligible to use a bow or firearm for this hunt.
- Tribal elders for the purposes of this hunt is defined as 50 years of age or older. The license for this hunt may not be assigned to a proxy hunter.

The 2026 Special Elder and Mentored Youth Hunt will allow for the harvest of one deer. Licenses and harvest tags are available now, at the Office of Tribal Licensing & Regulations at \$10 per harvest tag. Only one tag is allowed for this special hunt.

- All other portions of Tribal Ordinance 11 must still be followed.
- Please Refer to the Ordinance 11 on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe website for rules and regulations.
- Hunter orange is in accordance with Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 104 subdivision 5 and harvest reporting is to be in accordance with Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 105, Subdivision 5(B)

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Community Engineer Donald L. Seal, Planning Department

Trapping Season 2026

Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 108 subdivision 2, the 2026 Trapping Season within the exterior boundaries of the Isabella Indian Reservation and on designated Tribal Trust Lands outside the exterior boundaries of the Isabella Indian Reservation shall begin Oct. 15, 2026, and will close April 29, 2027, unless ordered otherwise.

- Badger and otter limit two per season (tag included with license).
- Bobcat¹ is limited to two tags only whether hunting, trapping or combination of seasons.
- Muskrat, mink, beaver, raccoon, fox¹, coyote¹, skunk, weasel and opossum will not have a bag limit for the trapping season.
- No conibare style traps larger than 220 size (7"x7" jaw) may be used on land unless made inaccessible to cats and dogs at ground level.

Licenses will be available starting Oct. 1, 2026 at the Office of Tribal Licensing & Regulations. Fee is \$10 per license.

**Other Indians” may not hunt on Tribal Trust or Tribal owned Fee Land.*
²Other Indians as defined in Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 104 subdivision 52.

Please refer to Tribal Ordinance 11 on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe website for rules and regulations.

¹Small Game License required to hunt bobcat, coyote and fox.

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Community Engineer Donald L. Seal, Planning Department

Two-day 12th annual Soaring Eagle Open held on two Mount Pleasant golf courses

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

It was the 12th annual year for the Soaring Eagle Open, a two-day golf tournament, played between the Mount Pleasant Country Club and PohlCat Golf Course in Mount Pleasant, on Aug. 15-16.

The overall champions this year were Beard, Butler and Caliguri with 114.

This year saw four flight winners.

There was a 9 a.m. shotgun start both days and lunch at the turn.

An awards banquet dinner was held in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort’s Black River and Swan Creek ballrooms at 4 p.m. that Sunday.

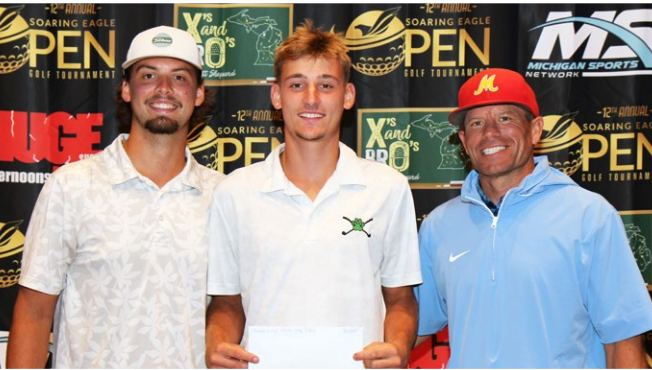
A portion of this year’s sponsorship proceeds went



towards the funding of \$1,000 scholarships for local high school and college students.

The scholarship recipients were: Tyson Faber, Alexx Leasureaux, Jackson Vance and Quinten Etcher.

Observer photos by Natalie Shattuck





MICHIGAN INDIAN DAY

ACT 30 OF 1974

“The fourth Friday in September of each year shall be known as Michigan Indian Day. This date is not to be construed as a legal holiday.”

Although Michigan Indian Day was enacted in 1974, it did not gain momentum until 2007 when the House of Representatives resolved the following:

Michigan Indian Day is an excellent opportunity for Michigan citizens to better understand and appreciate the many contributions that people of Native American descent have made to our state.

The State of Michigan has the ninth largest population of American Indians in the country – more than 125,000.

Native American people have made vast contributions to the landscape, culture, history, politics and economy of Michigan.

Today, Native American people significantly contribute to environmental protection by setting an example of good stewardship, intergovernmental and international accord to oppose diversion of Great Lakes Basin waters.

Michigan should designate a day to focus attention on the many cultural and historical contributions of Michigan’s Native American community.

As a sovereign nation the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan recognizes and celebrates this as an established Tribal Holiday.

Information provided by: Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways







SCIT HUMAN RESOURCES BENEFITS FAIR

PATHS TO PROSPERITY:
YOUR JOURNEY TO HEALTH & WEALTH

Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2026 • 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 10, 2026 • 7 a.m. - 12 p.m.

In preparation for open enrollment, which will be held from Oct. 1-31, 2026.

SECR Entertainment Hall

6800 Soaring Eagle Blvd. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Open to all team members
(TOPS/SECR/SELG/MIGIZI)

Win door prizes!

To qualify for the drawing, please visit at least 75 percent of the attending vendors. All eligible participants will be entered into a drawing for a variety of door prizes and gift cards.

- The Benefits Fair is designed with you in mind; to empower you to make informed decisions about your health and wellness.
- This is your opportunity to learn about the various benefits available to you and get your questions answered directly by our vendor partners.
- Take control of your health and financial future in one convenient event! We encourage you to take full advantage of this event.

Featured Vendors:

- **UMR:** Learn about your Medical TPA benefits and discover your medical network options.
- **RxBenefits:** Explore your Pharmacy Benefit Manager services.
- **Delta Dental:** Understand your dental coverage.
- **Symetra:** Find out about life, disability, and ancillary products offered at SCIT.
- **Delta Vision:** Find out more about the offered vision benefits.
- **Family Advantage Health Plan:** Learn more about the new offering FAHP.
- **HealthCheck360:** Engage with our wellness partner.
- **Saginaw Chippewa Benefits Team:** Stop by and visit with your very own Benefits team! Ask questions and prepare for open enrollment.
- **And many more attendees!**

For more information, please contact: Benefits Hotline at 989-775-5770



Nimkee, community celebrate retirement of Dr. Eisenmann after 34 years of service

MATTHEW WRIGHT
Staff Writer

The Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center hosted a retirement celebration for Dr. Deborah Eisenmann, M.D., on Friday Aug. 21.

Tribal Council members, Nimkee staff and community members came together to celebrate a life well worked and a future well earned from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Native Farmers Market Pavilion.

The celebration featured fellowship, music, and cake and cupcakes, along with an honor song provided by community drummers.

“It has been my pleasure to work at Nimkee for the last 34 years,” Eisenmann said. “The growth in size and services provided at Nimkee in that time have been an asset to the SCIT community, and I appreciate having been a part of that growth. Although I will miss our staff and patients, it is time



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Tribal Council members, Nimkee staff and community members come together to celebrate the retirement of Dr. Deborah Eisenmann (seventh from left, front) on Friday, Aug. 21 at the Native Farmers Market Pavilion.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

A cake for Eisenmann’s retirement.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

An honor song is performed during the celebration.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Dr. Eisenmann (center) is presented a pendleton blanket for her 34 years of service by Chief Luke Sprague (left) and Council Member Brad Bennett (right).

to move on to the next phase of my life with August 28 being my last day here.”

42ND ANNUAL

SAGINAW CHIPPEWA POWWOW

POWWOW RESULTS

Drum Contest	
1	Meskwaki Nation
2	Cinnamon Bear
3	ScuffleTown Society
4	Ribbon Town
5	Woodland Stream
6	The Platoon

Platinum Age		
Men	Women	
1	Albert King Sr.	LadyBird Jack
2	Reg Pettibone	Lorriane Shananaquet
3	Mike King	Edwina Tortalitta
4	Greg Morsaw	Katherine Rapheal

Golden Age Women		
Traditional	Combined	
1	Anne Marie Prue-White	Dolly Pucan
2	Lisa Passinault	Joyce Petoskey
3	Stephanie Antone	Donna Pinnance
4	Teresa R.	Dawn Shenoskey

Golden Age Men		
Traditional	Combined	
1	Johnson T.	Walker StoneFish
2	Jef Keeble	Kevin Kingbird
3	Jefferson Bellew IV	Russ Blackbird
4		Gary Gibson

Senior Adult Men			
Grass	Fancy	Traditional	
1	Adam Tsosie Nordwall	Nigel Schuyler	Brando Jack
2	Lee Jack Jr.	Wesley Cleland Sr.	LittleMan Quintero
3	Darryle Bolton	William M.	Cruz Perez
4	Loren Warner		Wesley Hale

Senior Adult Women			
Fancy	Jingle	Traditional	
1	Star Whiteeye	Sheena C.	Alexa Rae Day
2	Katy Isennock	Jovelle Schuyler	Wassay Pyawasit
3	Autumn Hart	Heather Syrette	Brenda Wabanimkee
4	Danielle Gibson	Stephanie Nordwall	Judy Robinson

Junior Adult Men			
Grass	Fancy	Traditional	
1	Chad Star	Chaske Hill	Nodin Aguash
2	Marshall Baker	Bubba C.	Darian Benmo
3	Adam Bodie Nordwall	Albert King Jr.	Giizhik Bressette
4	Payton Mingo	Dawson Grignon	Skyler Alsup

Junior Adult Women			
Fancy	Jingle	Traditional	
1	Lara Lasley	Raena Lasley	Nichole Nordwall
2	Tavian Star	Asalia Quigno	Liliana Mars
3	Maniyee Jack	Shay Hale	Dezirea Monoessy
4	Decora Monoessy	Kayla Dreaver	Kimora Okimosh

Teen Boy			
Grass	Fancy	Traditional	
1	Aydian Day	Dennis Whiteye	Dazer Pitawanakwat
2	Jarvis Bear Jr.	Wam Marshall	Anthony Monoessy Jr.
3	Aspen D.	Erich Lehman	Jesse Bear
4	Braden Locklear		Braycee Gibbs

Teen Girl			
Fancy	Jingle	Traditional	
1	Haliee Pinnance	Keshina Jack	Ne'Naya Jack
2	Kisay Dreaver	Niizh Wemigwans	Keya Taylor
3	July Hunter	Kathryn Avilies	Miskomin Wesaw
4	Kaliyah Sword	Faye Wemigwans	Marley Aisup

Junior Boys			
Grass	Fancy	Traditional	
1	Niigaanii Star	Lawarence Shock	Aziel Shananaquet
2	Jonas Miller	Albert King III	David Pitawanakwat
3	Kane Patterson	Dyami Whiteye	Holls Williams Perez
4	August Grant	Keaton Kingbird	Makai Dwyer

Junior Girls			
Fancy	Jingle	Traditional	
1	Jozzlyn Shomin	Hazel Hale	Cedar Gibbs
2	Lilyana Rapheal	Nyla Pyawasit	Camille Nordwall
3	Waashonenhs Recollet	Eyaska Taylor	Autumn Aviles
4	Joslyn Gervais	Joey Jimenez	Aliyah Velez



The Lumineers, Josiah and the Bonneville bring folk-rock hits to SECR

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort welcomed The Lumineers and Josiah and the Bonneville on Sunday, July 19, as part of the Outdoor Summer Concert Series.

The Lumineers delivered an emotional, warm, energetic and, overall, crowd-friendly performance. The band has a real talent for turning large concert venues into what feels like an intimate communal folk-rock sing-along.

Their set began with the hits “Same Old Song” and “Flowers in Your Hair.”

Next up was the soft acoustic guitar and piano-infused melody of “Angela,” followed by “A.M. RADIO” and “Gale Song.”

Lead vocalist Wesley Schultz encouraged the audience to sing along to the hit song “Ho Hey,” leading to one of the highlights of the night.

Next up was “Dead Sea,” followed by the fan favorites “Ophelia,” “Sleep on the Floor,” and “Gloria.”

The band performed all of their major favorites including “WHERE WE ARE,” “April” and “Salt and the Sea.”

The communal feeling was, again, on full display during the performance of “Big Parade.”



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

The Lumineers perform on the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort’s outdoor stage on Sunday, July 19.

Each band member took turns singing the verses of the song.

The Lumineers brought the night to an end with “Submarines,” “Cleopatra” and “Stubborn Love.”

Opening for The Lumineers was indie folk band Josiah and the Bonneville.

Lead singer Josiah Leming’s gravelly, bluesy vocals led the way alongside a full band accompaniment.

The band played many of their biggest songs including “Stolen Love,” “Good Boy,” “Carolina Heart,” “Ghost,” “Red Line,” “Blood Moon” and “Going Gone.”



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Josiah and the Bonneville lead singer Josiah Leming (left) is joined on stage by his bandmates.

Exclusive Tribal Member Opportunity



LIFT-ME is an exclusive business incubator program intended to nurture, support, and grow Tribal Member Entrepreneurship in the Great Lakes Bay Region. LIFT-ME is a cohort-based program hosting up to 12 participants and will last 5–7 months focusing on early-stage business development such as -

- Business Model Refinement
- Financial Planning
- Legal and Entity Structuring
- Branding and Marketing
- Accounting and Bookkeeping
- Website Development
- Certification, Licensing, and/or Compliance
- Strategic Planning, Implementation, and Support
- Networking events and personalized one-on-one guidance
- Connection to state and federal small business programs



Each cohort is limited to 12 enrolled Members of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan. For further information, visit Migiziedc.com or CMURC.com to review and begin your LIFT-ME application process today.

Apply Now!



Use Michigan’s Eat Safe Fish Guides.

Eating fish has great health benefits. But some fish may have high levels of chemicals in them that can build up in our bodies and cause health problems when we eat the fish. The Eat Safe Fish Guides can help you find fish lower in chemicals across Michigan. Follow the Eat Safe Fish Guides at Michigan.gov/EatSafeFish.





Jonas Brothers, Boys Like Girls perform hit songs that helped shape younger generation

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

Three musical brothers, one hometown tour, and one screaming crowd. The Jonas Brothers, with special guests Boys Like Girls, brought their “JONAS20: Greetings from Your Hometown Tour” to the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort’s outdoor stage.

The Wednesday, Aug. 5 Soaring Eagle show was featured as one of the tour’s encore performances. The tour celebrated Jonas Brothers’ 20th anniversary tour, and relived the nostalgic hits that shaped the younger generation.

The American pop-rock band performed a 75-minute set, beginning at about 9:15 p.m.

Brothers Kevin, Joe, and Nick Jonas confidently brought the dynamism and displayed solid stage presence.

Their concert kicked off with a greetings video intro, followed by “Love Me to Heaven,” “Shelf,” “Only Human,” “S.O.S.,” “Sucker,” “That’s Just the Way We Roll” and “Play My Music.”



Jonas Brothers (left to right: Nick, Joe and Kevin) perform on the Soaring Eagle outdoor stage during their “Greetings from Your Hometown Tour” stop on Wednesday, Aug. 5.

The brothers’ first record made its release on a Disney-owned record label which gained popularity on the Disney Channel. From there, Jonas Brothers were featured on their own shows on the channel.

Acoustic performances of “Gotta Find You,” “This Is Me” and “Introducing Me” were performed that lovely summer

evening. “Turn Right” and “Rollercoaster” were the acoustic fan requests performed.

Collectively, the brothers have produced many hits. In their musical careers, each of them have also launched solo careers.

Some of those songs produced from their solo careers were also performed including: DNCE’s “Cake by the Ocean,”



Michael Ekdahl (fourth from left) and his mother, Rosemary, share a backstage moment with Boys Like Girls.

Nick Jonas’ “Jealous,” and Kevin Jonas’ “Changing.”

Jonas Brothers ended their spectacular show with “Burnin’ Up,” “When You Look Me in the Eyes” and “Leave Before You Love Me.”

Prior to Jonas Brothers, Boys Like Girls performed a 60-minute set, beginning at about 7:45 p.m.

What a way to open the show – with anthemic hits, high

energy and screaming fans.

During the smash hit “Love Drunk!” specifically, the crowd was notably loud and appreciative. Boys Like Girls were the perfect band to set the tone for the liveliness that evening.

On Aug. 16, Jonas Brothers announced their nationwide “Burning Up Tour All Over Again,” which will begin soon – in the Fall 2026.

Eric Church, Ashley McBryde deliver high-energy country music performances

MATTHEW WRIGHT
Staff Writer

Country musicians Eric Church and Ashley McBryde brought their hits to the outdoor concert stage of the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort. The Friday, Aug. 14 event was part of the venue’s Summer Outdoor Concert Series.

Eric Church has gained a huge following with his gritty, often rebelliously-spirited blend of modern country rock. His music is driven by distorted guitars, southern swagger, anthemic choruses, and raspy vocals.

He began with the hit song “Cold One,” before

transitioning in to a cover of Queen’s “Fat Bottomed Girls.”

Church kept the good times rolling with “Pledge Allegiance to the Hag,” “Hell of a View,” “Stick That in Your Country Song” and “Bleed on Paper.”

The crowd buzzed with the rowdy, feel good hit “Drink in My Hand” followed by “Mr. Misunderstood,” “Round Here Buzz,” “Country Music Jesus” and “Desperate Man.”

Next up was the heartfelt single “Homeboy” followed by “Smoke a Little Smoke,” “Creepin’,” “Talladega” and “Some of It.”

Church changed it up with a cover of The Rolling Stone’s “Gimme Shelter” before

transitioning into his hit songs “Give Me Back My Hometown” and “Record Year.”

The set ended with the nostalgic hit song “Springsteen.”

Opening for Eric Church was GRAMMY®, CMA and ACM award-winning singer-songwriter Ashley McBryde. She thrilled audience members with her powerful, gritty voice.

Her set began with the hard-driving country rock hit “Arkansas Mud,” followed by “Water in the River,” “One Night Standards” and “Behind Bars.”

Next up was the gritty, southern-rock infused hits “Rattlesnake Preacher” and “Creosote.”



Eric Church (right) lifts his drink to the audience during his Friday, Aug. 14 Soaring Eagle concert.



Ashley McBryde (left) performs on the outdoor concert stage.

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If there's a will, you better believe there's an Ojibway

SCTC STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER

Say yes to college success - Gashi'ewiziwin: It is my great pleasure to welcome you to Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College. We are committed to providing an education that prepares students to think critically, creatively, and guided by our Seven Grandfather teachings. We provide opportunities

to obtain business, liberal arts, sciences associate, or Native studies degrees. We strive to provide all students with the support necessary to excel in college and life.

Life happens – Time for Oshkaabewis: Ever feel lost? Do you want to know the secrets to college success? Our success coaches are here for you. They know what it takes to be successful at the Tribal

College. Your coach will help you plan for the future and give you peace of mind.

Why success coaches - Nikanihk Nikanihkewin: Students are advised to meet with a student success coach at least once per semester. The success coaches engage students in conversation to help them explore their passions, goals, and campus opportunities while empowering them to succeed at SCTC.

During our meetings, we co-create success plans, identify obstacles and support networks, help strategize solutions and next steps. We use the Seven Grandfather Teachings as a basis for a success plan. Our evidence shows meeting with a success coach at least once during the semester - results in 86 percent retention rate.

For more information about the success coaches or success plan, contact Jayme Green jagreen@sagchip.edu and/or Joe Genia at jogenia@sagchip.edu or call 989-317-4821.

College Success Coaches - Joe Genia and Jayme Green

Joe Genia

Schedule a check-in

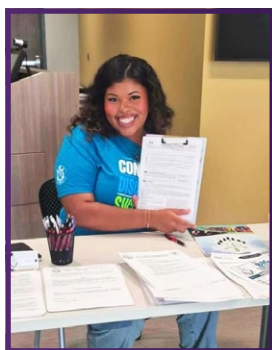
Jayme Green

5805 E. Pickard St. Mount Pleasant

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College

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.

Editorial: Tribal College hosts Big Campus Bash



Photos courtesy of SCTC

SAGINAW CHIPPEWA TRIBAL COLLEGE

What an incredible Big Campus Bash at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College last month!

We are so grateful for the amazing turnout and for every student, staff member, and community guest who joined us on campus. Your energy, presence, and support truly made this event something special for our SCTC family.

At SCTC, events like this remind us what community is all about—coming

together to connect, learn, celebrate, and support one another. Thank you for being part of that spirit.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to our dedicated SCTC team. Your hard work, teamwork, and commitment behind the scenes made this event possible, and we appreciate everything you do to uplift our campus community every day.

We are proud of what we accomplished together and even more proud of the strong, connected SCTC community we continue to build. Thank you for making this year's Big Campus Bash a success!

Welcome Back Students!



STEAM^{AG} Student Organization & Connected Community Coalition

This is a drug and alcohol free event



Saturday, Oct. 10, 2026

1-4 p.m. | Seventh Generation (7957 E. Remus Rd.)

- **Competition check in begins:** 12 p.m.
- **Competition portion:** 1-2 p.m.
- **Open mic:** 2:30-4 p.m.

RULES:

- Five-minute limit
- PG rating
- Participants have to sign a liability waiver and picture release forms

PRIZES:

- **Adult Category** (ages 18 and up): \$100
- **Youth Category** (ages 12-17): \$100
- **Audience Pick** (all contestants): \$50

WHAT TO EXPECT:

- A day of poetry, songs, recitals, instrumental, dance, etc.
- Bring your own lawn chair

TO REGISTER, CONTACT:

- Jonna@comm-works.org
- TLawson@sagchip.edu



Food Trucks Vendors:
\$10 per table

50/50 raffle

Donations are appreciated

Manoomin (wild rice) CAMP

Join the SCTC Land Grant Office for the annual Manoomin Camp to learn about the importance of one of our sacred foods. Participate in harvesting, parching, jigging, winnowing, cleaning, toolmaking and cooking Manoomin.

Harvest Manoomin: Sept. 21, 2026

7 a.m. - 7 p.m. | Tawas Lake

- Departing SCTC at 7 a.m. (5805 Pickard Rd., Mt. Pleasant, Mich.)
- Transportation provided for 12 people on a first come, first serve basis.
- If you have your own transportation and would like to follow, please meet at the Tribal College at 7 a.m.
- Snacks and lunch provided
- Water ceremony held before harvesting.
- Limited to first 20 people to sign up.
- Bring: push pole, knockers, cooper cup, and skirt if you have them.

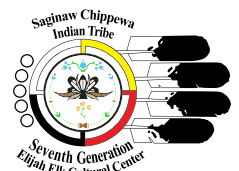


Working Together To Protect Our Environment

Manoomin Camp: Sept. 25 & 26, 2026

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. | 7th Generation (7957 E. Remus Rd. Mt. Pleasant, Mich.)

- **Presenter:** Roger LaBine
- Public welcome: If space and resources become limited, Tribal Member participation in hands-on activities will be prioritized.
- Breakfast and lunch by Indigenous Chef Sam Anglin
- Please bring your own feast bundle



Contact: 989.317.4827 or KHart@sagchip.edu

IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS

- **Sept. 7** | Labor Day (campus closed)
- **Sept. 14 & 28** | STEAM^{AG} Student Organization Meeting | 12-1 p.m.
- **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



SCTC hosts Mshiikenh 5K Run/Walk on Aug. 5

MATTHEW WRIGHT
Staff Writer

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College hosted its Mshiikenh 5K Run/Walk on Wednesday, Aug. 5. The annual event was held behind the college's new location at 5805 Pickard Rd. in Mount Pleasant.

The free event began at 6:30 p.m., with 69 participants running or walking on the former Waabooz Run golf course.

The top male finisher was Cooper Green (19:58).

The top female finisher was Rebekah Huber (23:46).

Participants received a custom event T-shirt, with the top finishers also receiving prizes.



Photos courtesy of SCTC

Top female finisher Rebekah Huber (left) and top male finisher Cooper Green (right) pose after running the SCTC Mshiikenh 5K on Aug. 5



Welcome
Register Now!

CREATE
=Your Own=
FUTURE

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

We're excited to announce the official launch of SCTC's online store!

Now you can shop your favorite SCTC apparel, accessories, and spirit gear anytime, anywhere. Whether you're a student, alumni, faculty member, or proud supporter, there's something for everyone to show off your SCTC pride!

- Convenient online shopping
- Exclusive SCTC merchandise
- Perfect gifts

Don't miss out — browse the collection today and represent SCTC in style! Visit the online store now and start shopping!

sctcstore.itemorder.com/

SAGINAW CHIPPEWA TRIBAL COLLEGE Merch Store

ORDER ONLINE!
sctcstore.itemorder.com

Adopt a Pet

Dixie
Dixie is a medium female Domestic Long Hair mix. Dixie enjoys a quiet environment where she can take things at her own pace. She would thrive with a family who understands that the best friendships are worth the wait. Whether she's relaxing in a cozy bed, watching the world from a sunny window, or accepting gentle pets, Dixie is happiest when she knows how much she is loved.

Frida
Frida is a large female Cane Corso mix. Frida has a sweet, affectionate personality and a loyal heart. She is a little more reserved when meeting new people, but once she warms up, she loves being close to her people. She has a wonderful balance of gentle affection and quiet confidence; making her a lovely companion for someone looking for a devoted best friend.

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*

You can bank on us
Open an Account at
ICCUonline.com

ICCU Isabella Community Credit Union
ICCUonline.com • 989-773-5927 Federally Insured by NCUA



Andahwod Continuing Care Community and Elder Services
ELDERS' SEPTEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2026 TRIBAL ELDER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| 1) Timothy Walraven
Timothy Pete | Sharon Cole
Florence White
Amelia Hinton | Joseph Smith Sr.
Christine Baird
Bonnie Nedwash | Selene Moore
Cherin Rossbach
Sandra Rubin-Warner |
| 2) Jamie VanDerSteen | | | Edison Pelcher
Richard Smith Jr. |
| 3) Deanna Campbell
Joyce Ervin
Diane Leksche
Mark Ojeda-Vasquez
Nancy Coleman
Bonnie Jackson
Michelle Yoder
Doyletta Good | 9) Michelle Colwell
Wilma Bennett
David Chatfield | 17) Jon Beaulieu Sr.
Clifford Collins
Darcy Crampton
Barbara Huffine
Kristine Smith
Lela Walker
Laura Perez | 25) L. E. Reed Jr.
Mark Godbey
Kevin O'Brien
Barry Skutt Jr. |
| 4) Laura Schaad
Michelle Stanton
David Buche | 10) Dawn Briggs
Kimberly Lewis | 19) Brenda Gardner
Paul Chamberlain | 26) Matthew Seger
Martin Curry
Lucinda Graverette-Smith
Janet Kerns
Lena Jackson |
| 5) Lance Peters
Arthur Steele
Jacqueline Baker
Sherry Obrecht
Tracey Olivier
Marion Roth
Kelly Chamberlain | 11) Darlene Watkins
Kimberly Stowell | 20) Charles Jackson | 27) Sheridan Pelcher
David Wilson
Tonia Bliss
Kristine DePeel |
| 6) Andrew Naganashe
Christopher Fallis
Stephanie Slater | 12) Myria Carr
Michael Chamberlain
Jeffrey Pigeon Jr.
David Stevens | 21) Perry Bailey Jr.
Michael Bearden
Brian Peters
Monique Dyer | 28) Fitzgerald Stevens |
| 7) Mark Chapoton
Salina Jackson
Forrest Jackson
Robert Waynee Jr.
Elizabeth Hughes | 13) Louanna Bruner
Shellie Pelcher
Darci Tucker
Loralee Werth
Sheligh Jackson | 22) Lori Nahdee
Angela Peters
Jacqueline Ortiz
Melissa Mays
Thomas Fallis
Jessica Chamberlain | 29) Agnes Flynn
Dianne Nelson
Jerome Pigeon Jr.
Marcella Wing
Anthony Davis |
| 8) Barbara Bennett-Fleming | 14) Doreen Eggleston
Jeffrey Brown
Eugene Ives Jr.
Julie Treib
Carla Cummins | 23) Judith Mays
Louise Smith
Rita Medina | 30) Donald Chippewa Sr.
Sonja Sowmick
Thomas Kerns Jr.
Glen Bennett
Matthew Robison |
| | 15) Gary Rueckert Sr.
Andrew Byce Sr.
Rodney Dutton | 24) Jerry Douglas
Maurice Pego Jr.
Garry Douglas
Jennifer Jones | |
| | 16) Tonya Fallis
Karen Gibson
Sharll Hudson | | |



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:

►Open: Sept. 1 ►Closes: Sept. 14
►52 spots available!

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



CAREGIVER
Support Group

Join us for our new Caregiver Support Group where people with common experiences, or concerns, can provide each other with encouragement, comfort and advice, while promoting emotional and moral support.

Thursday, Sept. 24, 2026

4-5 p.m. | Andahwod Craft Room
(2910 S Leaton Rd, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858)

Open to elder caregivers or those caring for elders.

- This group is confidential and a safe place to share those concerns, seek solutions to challenging situations, and offer support to each other.
- Light refreshments will be served

Registration: LBurr@sagchip.org or 989-775-4307



SEPTEMBER 2026 ANDAHWOD EVENTS

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| Coffee Break Daily 2:30 p.m. | Elders Breakfast
Sept. 9, 23 9-10 a.m. | Bracelet Making
Sept. 16 1:30 p.m. |
| Walking Club Thursdays 1 p.m. | Grandparents Day Celebration
Sept. 11 4-6 p.m. | Bible Study with Julie Pego
Sept. 21 6-7 p.m. |
| Euchre Thursdays 5:30 p.m. | Birthday Celebration
Sept. 11 2:30 p.m. | Language Bingo
Sept. 23 1-3 p.m. |
| Elders Lunch
Sept. 2, 16 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Tai Chi
Sept. 14 1 p.m. | Potluck & Birthday Bingo
Sept. 26 1-3 p.m. |
| Lost & Found Bingo
Sept. 4 1-3 p.m. | | |
| Name that Tune
Sept. 9 2:30 p.m. | | |

For more information, please call Andahwod at: 989.775.4300

Elders snowplowing applications
accepted beginning Oct. 1, 2026

- Twenty applications accepted. Priority will be given to elders, 70 years and older.
- Everyone must fill out an application for the service and have a medically documented disability if between 50-61 years old.
- \$50 seasonal fee.

Applications can be picked up at Andahwod or found at www.sagchip.org

September 2026 Andahwod CCC & ES Menu

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Menu subject to change Sugar free available upon request		1 Popcorn Shrimp Basket Cheeseburger	2 Elders Lunch Beef Stew w/biscuits Tuna Melt	3 Chicken Pot Pie Tater Tot Casserole	4 Pork Chops, Cheesy Scalloped Potatoes Spaghetti	5 Chef's Choice
6 Chef's Choice	7 Chicken Stir-fry Chipped Beef Sandwich	8 Com Beef Brisket Beef Stroganoff	9 Elders Breakfast Broccoli Cheddar Soup Indian Taco	10 Sloppy Joes Open Faced Turkey	11 Fish n' Chips BBQ Chicken	12 Chef's Choice
13 Chef's Choice	14 Chicken Bacon Ranch Sandwich Stuffed Peppers	15 Meatball Sub Chicken Alfredo	16 Elders Lunch Chili & Fry Bread Beef & Cheddar Sandwich	17 Chicken Sandwich Lasagna	18 Chicken Wing Basket Goulash	19 Chef's Choice
20 Chef's Choice	21 Sweet & Sour Chicken Fried Bologna Sandwich	22 Reuben Sandwich ~Soft Shell Tacos w/Beans	23 Elders Breakfast Wild Rice Soup Smothered Pork Chops	24 Tuna Casserole Meat Loaf	25 Fish n' Chips Cheeseburger	26 Chef's Choice
27 Chef's Choice	28 Herb Roasted Chicken Turkey Club Sandwich	29 Chili Dog Steak	30 Goulash Enchilada Bake	*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		



Generous hog donation provided for Andahwod's elders' lunch



(Left to right) Andahwod's Sheligh Jackson and Bill Hauck, Brock and Brock's dad are photographed after the hog donation.

Observer photo by Kyla Henry

KYLA HENRY

Leadership Apprentice,
Public Relations

Brock, a Shepherd Public School student, enjoys 4-H as a hobby, and this year is his second year raising pigs.

During the Isabella County Fair last month, Brock auctioned off his pig to Bill Hauck. The exchange didn't end there though... Hauck donated the pig to Andahwod for their elders' lunch!

The Soaring Eagle Food & Beverage team then made



Observer photo by Kyla Henry

Hauck, his team, and Brock and those who made the donation happen are photographed.

delicious pulled pork sandwiches and the food was enjoyed by all. Both Brock and Hauck were acknowledged for their generous donation.



Saginaw Chippewa Health & Human Services (SHHS)

SEPTEMBER 2026 – Health & Human Services Awareness

September provides many opportunities to promote prevention, wellness, recovery, safety, healthy aging, and support for our community. SHHS departments are encouraged to incorporate applicable observances into education, outreach, prevention activities, and community engagement.

September Awareness Observances

•**National Recovery Month:** Recognizes the strength of individuals and families in recovery and promotes awareness of evidence-based treatment, recovery supports, peer services, and pathways to long-term wellness.

•**Suicide Prevention Month:** Promotes awareness, prevention, early intervention, connection to appropriate services, and compassionate support for individuals and families.

•**National Suicide Prevention Week:** An opportunity to strengthen education regarding warning signs, protective factors, available resources, and culturally responsive prevention strategies.

•**World Suicide Prevention Day – Sept. 10:** Encourages communities to increase awareness and strengthen prevention, connection, hope, and support.

•**National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month:** Promotes healthy nutrition, physical activity, prevention, and family-centered approaches to lifelong wellness.

•**Healthy Aging Month:** Highlights preventive care, physical activity, nutrition, social connection, medication safety, fall prevention, and healthy aging for elders and older adults.

•**Food Safety Education Month:** Reinforces safe food handling, preparation, storage, sanitation, and prevention of foodborne illness.

•**Sepsis Awareness Month:** Promotes recognition of sepsis warning signs and the importance of timely medical evaluation and treatment.

•**Prostate Cancer Awareness Month:** Encourages education regarding prostate health, individual risk factors, and informed discussions with healthcare providers regarding appropriate screening.

•**Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month:** Promotes education regarding symptoms, risk factors, appropriate evaluation, and access to healthcare.

•**National Preparedness Month:** Encourages individuals, families, organizations, and communities to prepare for emergencies and disasters. This is an excellent opportunity for SHHS to reinforce emergency preparedness, continuity of operations, Incident Command System (ICS) readiness, and departmental emergency procedures.

•**Blood Cancer Awareness Month:** Raises awareness of leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma, and other blood cancers and the importance of appropriate evaluation and treatment.

•**Newborn Screening Awareness Month:** Highlights the importance of recommended newborn screening and timely follow-up for infants and families.

•**National Sickle Cell Awareness Month:** Promotes education regarding sickle cell disease, early diagnosis, appropriate treatment, and support for affected individuals and families.

•**National Falls Prevention Awareness Week:** Promotes fall-risk assessment, medication review, home and environmental safety, mobility, balance, and prevention strategies, particularly for elders.

•**World Alzheimer's Day – Sept. 21:** Promotes awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias and recognizes the importance of early identification, caregiver support, dignity, and culturally responsive services.

•**World Heart Day – Sept. 29:** Encourages cardiovascular health through prevention, physical activity, healthy nutrition, tobacco prevention/cessation, blood pressure management, and appropriate healthcare.

Suggested SHHS Department Focus

•**Behavioral Health / RTC:** Recovery Month, suicide prevention, substance use prevention and treatment, peer and recovery support, mental wellness, and reducing stigma.

•**ACFS:** Child and family wellness, prevention, family strengthening, nutrition, safety, and culturally responsive support for children and families.

•**Andahwod:** Healthy aging, Alzheimer's and dementia awareness, elder wellness, fall prevention, nutrition, social connection, and caregiver support.

•**Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center:** Preventive care, cardiovascular health, healthy aging, immunizations, sepsis education, cancer awareness, nutrition, dental wellness, and fall prevention.

•**SHHS Administration / Emergency Preparedness:** National Preparedness Month, ICS readiness, continuity of operations, emergency communication, staff preparedness, and organizational safety.

SHHS September Message

September reminds us that health and wellness encompass the whole person—physical, behavioral, emotional, social, cultural, and spiritual well-being. Through prevention, education, early intervention, quality healthcare, and culturally responsive services, SHHS remains committed to strengthening the health and wellbeing of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and the community we serve.

"Strong communities are built through prevention, connection, compassion, culture, and care."

Saginaw Chippewa Health & Human Services (SHHS)

Serving Our Community • Promoting Wellness • Honoring Tradition

Phone: 989-775-4637 | Email: JBae@sagchip.org





Courtesy of Andahwod

1st place cornhole tournament Dave Brodie & John Henry

Hooray for

GRANDPARENTS

RED CARPET

Celebration



Friday, Sept. 11, 2026

4-6 p.m. | Andahwod
(2910 S Leaton Rd, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858)

► **Food served: 4-5 p.m.**
Menu: Nachos, sloppy joes, hot dogs, potato salad, pasta salad, bags of chips, large pretzels, cupcakes, ice cream cups, and drinks.

► **Bingo: 5-6 p.m.**

► **Cake walk and prizes for kids!**

Contact: DePelcher@sagchip.org or 989-775-4339



ELDERS MINOR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EMAP)

This grant assistance is available for minor home and vehicle repairs under program guidelines.

SCIT elders over 60 years of age may be eligible.

Elders may stop by Andahwod front to pick up an application, call, or email for more information. Applications and guidelines are available in the Andahwod front lobby or you may call to have one email or sent to your home address.

For any questions, please contact Lucinda Burr at 989-775-4307 or Lburr@sagchip.org



SEPTEMBER 2026 | Tribal Community Event Planner

Native Farmers Market

- Sept. 1 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- Farmers Market Pavilion
(Corner of Broadway and Leaton roads)
 - SAMACHippeway@sagchip.org or 989-775-4629

Toddler Time

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

Maadizekwe Wiiiijii “s/he starts cooking”

- Sept. 2 | 5:30-8 p.m.
- Behavioral Health (2800 S. Shepherd Rd.)
 - **Registration:** TEscobar@sagchip.org
 - Open to first 20 who register
 - Learn how to make zucchini brownies

Labor Day Weekend Picnic

- Sept. 4 | 4-8 p.m., dinner served at 6 p.m.
- The Hill Campground (7525 E. Tomah Rd.)
 - Recreation@sagchip.org
 - Food, games and entertainment

SCIT Human Resources Benefits Fair

- Sept. 9 | 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Sept. 10 | 7 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- SECR Entertainment Hall (6800 Soaring Eagle Blvd.)
 - 989-775-5770
 - Open to all team members
(TOPS/SECR/SELC/MIGIZI)

Sexual Assault Survivor Support Group

- Sept. 15 | 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Behavioral Health Lodge (2800 S. Shepherd Rd.)
 - SLloyd@sagchip.org or 989-775-4806

SCIT Member Informational Seminar

- Sept. 17 | 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Saganing Tribal Center
(5447 Sturman Rd., Standish, MI 48658)
 - SCompau@sagchip.org or 989-775-5820
 - Topics: Mno-Shkiziwin, burial packets, and durable power of attorney designation

Monarch Butterfly Day Celebration

- Sept. 18 | 4-6 p.m.
- Ziibiwing Center (6650 E. Broadway)
 - WJohnson@sagchip.org or 989.775.4750
 - Door prizes, cookie decoration, face painting and children’s educational and craft activities

Who’s Your Caddy Golf Tournament

- Sept. 18 | 10 a.m., registration opens at 9 a.m.
- Pohlcot Golf Course (6595 E. Airport Rd.)
 - **Registration:** Recreation@sagchip.org or 989.775.4522
 - Registration deadline: Sept. 9 by 5 p.m.
 - Cost: \$110 per player, \$440 per team
 - Teams must have TWO of the following:
Any tribal member descendant of any recognized tribe or a SECR/Migizi/SELC/Tribal Ops employee

Community Cultural Teaching at ezhibiigaadek asin

- Sept. 19 | 10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- Sanilac Petroglyphs (near Cass City, Mich.)
 - GColwell@sagchip.org or 989-775-4751

Youth Day Trip to Eagle Village

- Sept. 19 | Drop off at 9 a.m., pickup at 6 p.m.
- Drop off and pickup at Behavioral Health
 - Eagle Village Inc. (175th Ave., Hersey, Mich.)
 - MSteelecypfert@sagchip.org or 989.775.4870
 - Open to the first 15 youth that register

ACFS Orange Shirt Fundraiser

- Sept. 21-25 | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- ACFS Lobby (2585 S. Leaton Rd.)
 - NKahgegab@sagchip.org or 989-775-4901
 - Shirts: \$25 *Choice of black or orange shirt
 - Large decal: \$9, small decal: \$5

Manoomin Wild Rice Camp Harvest

- Sept. 21 | 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.
- Tawas Lake (Tawas, Mich.)
 - **Registration:** KHart@sagchip.edu or 989-317-4827
 - Departing SCTC at 7 a.m. (5805 Pickard Rd.)
 - Limited to first 20 people to sign up
 - Transportation for 12 people (first come, first serve).
 - If driving yourself, you may meet at SCTC to follow

Manoomin Wild Rice Camp

- Sept. 25, 26 | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- 7th Generation (7957 E. Remus Rd.)
 - KHart@sagchip.edu or 989-317-4827
 - Public welcome

MIIBS Tribal Youth Powwow

- Sept. 25 | 1-4 p.m.
- Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School (1400 W. Pickard)
 - GColwell@sagchip.org or 989-775-4751

Youth GONA (Gathering of Native Americans)

- Sept. 25 | 5:30-8:30 p.m.
Sept. 26 | 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sept. 25 | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- 7th Generation (7957 E. Remus Rd.)
 - TEscobar@sagchip.org or 989-775-4870
 - Registration required: Open to the first 50 who register
 - Open to Tribal community members ages 11 and older

SEPTEMBER 2026 | Tribal Community Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat./Sun.
● SECR Payroll ● SCIT Per Capita ● SCIT Payroll ● Curbside Recycling	1 Library Card Sign Up Month Kickoff 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Tribal Library Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom AOVWS Meeting 6 p.m. Ziibiwing Drums Out 7:30-9:30 p.m. 7th Gen	2 Elders Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Andahwod Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health	3 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	4 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. B. Health	5 Fireside on the Rez 6-7:30 p.m. B. Health 6
7 TRIBAL OPS CLOSED Labor Day Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	8 Saganing Breakfast 10-11 a.m. Saganing Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Drums Out 7:30-9:30 p.m. 7th Gen	9 Elders Breakfast 9-10 a.m. Andahwod Grandparents Day 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Ziibiwing Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health	10 Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health	11 Saganing Blood Drive 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Saganing Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. B. Health	12 Fireside on the Rez 6-7:30 p.m. B. Health 13
14 TRIBAL OBSERVER DEADLINE STEAM^{AG} Meeting 12-1 p.m. SCTC LGO Room Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	15 Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Trading Card Game Night 5:30-9 p.m. 7th Gen	16 Elders Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Andahwod Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health	17 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	18 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. B. Health	19 Fireside on the Rez 6-7:30 p.m. B. Health 20
21 Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	22 Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Drums Out 7:30-9:30 p.m. 7th Gen	23 Elders Breakfast 9-10 a.m. Andahwod Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health	24 Saganing Fall Feast 1-2 p.m. Saganing Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health	25 TRIBAL OPS CLOSED Michigan Indian Day Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. B. Health	26 Fireside on the Rez 6-7:30 p.m. B. Health 27
28 CMDHD Vaccine Clinic 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saganing STEAM^{AG} Meeting 12-1 p.m. SCTC LGO Room Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	29 Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Drums Out 7:30-9:30 p.m. 7th Gen	30 ORANGE SHIRT DAY Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health	SPINNING WHEELS ROLLER RINK FUNDRAISER Sept. 26 2-4:30 p.m. & 5:30-8 p.m. Spinning Wheels Roller Rink (1241 N. Mission Rd.) All proceeds will benefit the Ziibiwing Center Come skate, have fun and support a great cause! Contact: WJohnson@sagchip.org or 989.775.4750		



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.

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.

Associate General Counsel

Open to the public. Juris Doctor from an ABA accredited law school. Experience as a practicing attorney. Familiarity with federal Indian law desired.

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.

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.

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.

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

RTC Support Technician

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. High school diploma or GED. Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite.

Pharmacy Technician

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

Prevention Specialist

Open to the public. Associate degree in human services or related field. Desired qualifications: Bachelor's degree in counseling, social work, human services, or related field.

Certified Nursing Assistant

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. State of Michigan Certified Nursing Assistant. One year nursing experience desired.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Dental Hygienist

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

Interim Clinical Therapist

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

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.

Soaring Eagle

Kitchen Equipment Tech

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

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.

Culinary Supervisor

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

Entertainment Chauffeur

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a current and valid chauffeur's license.

F&B Cashier PT

Open to the public. 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.

Guest Relations Rep PT

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED.

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.

Usher - Summer Concerts

Seasonal position. Must be at least 18 years of age.

F&B Custodial Worker PT

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

Sous Chef

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

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.

Saganing

Surveillance Supervisor

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Three years of experience in casino surveillance.

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 Attendant 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.

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.

Bartender FT

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.

F&B Cashier FT

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 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.

Maintenance Worker

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.

HUMAN RESOURCES: Training/Certification Opportunities

Associate Degree Dental Hygiene Program

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



Criminal Justice Law Enforcement

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

Water and Wastewater Treatment Technology

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



Hotel Management

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

Clinical Dental Assistant

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



Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA)

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

Medical Billing & Coding Certification

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



Pharmacy Technician

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

For more information, please contact:

Kamie Mandoka
989-775-5247 | KMandoka@sagchip.org
Olivia Maniowabi-Mccullough
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SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ERIC JOHN ANDERSON:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858, Phone: (989) 775-4800. In the Matter of the Estate of Eric John Anderson. Date of Birth: July 12, 1963. Notice to creditors: The decedent, Eric John Anderson, who resided at 3897 W. Herbison Rd., Dewitt, MI 48820, died October 24, 2024. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the

estate will be forever barred unless presented to Sheryl Anderson, 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: Sheryl Anderson of 4075 Holt Rd. Lot #177, Holt, MI 48842. Phone: 517-819-2872.



RezBall 2026 three-on-three basketball tournament held Aug. 17-18

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

The Recreation Department hosted RezBall 2026, a three-on-three basketball tournament, on Aug. 17-18.

The annual event, which was expanded to two days this

year, was held inside the Wii Maajikwad/Recreation Center.

Teams from four different divisions vied for the first-place trophies. Second-place finishers were also awarded medals.

Players received a free lunch and event T-shirt.

The results for the tournament are below.

RezBall 2026 results

Men's division:

- **First place:** Henry Wemigwans, Daniel Fuller, Kyle Shomin (*Old Skool*)
- **Second place:** Mason Wojtusik, Monti, Jaleil Holt, Isaiah Rodriguez (*Petey Pablos*)
- **Third place:** Kyle Ready, Ahsiniis Smith, Casey Smith, Quon (*Central Michigan Remodeling*)

High school division:

- **First place:** Hunter, Taz, Gabe, Nokota (*Obama Elite*)
- **Second place:** Aiden Raphael, Dre Ramirez, Zeke (*FBGM*)
- **Third place:** Braylon Shaw, Alex Evans, Grayson Duke, Camden Warner (*Neegy*)

Middle school boys division:

- **First place:** Tyrell Trepanier, Brayden Chivis, Kasin Simmons, Jalen Armstrong (*Three Piece*)
- **Second place:** Mayson Jackson, Alijah Chivis, Shad Traver, Douglas Smith (*Rez Runners*)
- **Third place:** Julius Velasquez-Perez, Miguel Chippeway, Elijah Quigno, Jace Sydmunds (*iyooo*)

Middle school girls division:

- **First place:** Bonnie Redstar, Brooklyn Redstar, Nellie Fowler, Ren Skinner (*All-Stars*)
- **Second place:** Velicia, Mno Pego, Faye Wemigwans, Ana Pelcher-Smith (*Majestic Goats*)

6th and under division:

- **First place:** Drayzen Cotton, Mike, Shiloe Smith (*Drayzens Soldiers*)
- **Second place:** Garner Shomin, Harley Jackson, Moises Shomin, Reggie Smith (*Dream Team*)
- **Third place:** Colby Plumber Jr., Kyle Ready Jr., Naagaani Ready, Colton Plumber (*D1*)

Observer photos by Natalie Shattuck and Matthew Wright

