



Binaakwii-Giizis
(Moon of the Falling Leaves)

TRIBAL OBSERVER

OCTOBER
2026

Working Together For Our Future

www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver

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Higher Learning Commission approves Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College's Bachelor of Arts in Anishinaabe and Indigenous studies

MARY PELCHER
Dean of Academics

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College is proud to announce the Higher Learning Commission's approval of the college's Bachelor of Arts in Anishinaabe and Indigenous Studies program. The addition of a bachelor's program marks a historic milestone in SCTC's growth and commitment to Anishinaabe and Indigenous higher education. The Anishinaabe and Indigenous Studies program is SCTC's first four-year degree.



In 1998, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council adopted a resolution establishing SCTC as a tribally controlled college and formed a governing Board of Regents.

The primary focus of SCTC is to build a bridge between tribal students and higher education. SCTC is chartered as a public institution for all people in the community. "In 2024, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College celebrated the opening of its new campus building," said Chief Luke Sprague, a SCTC alumnus. "Now, the college looks toward another exciting milestone – the launch of the Bachelor of Arts in Anishinaabe and Indigenous Studies. A bachelor's program will create new opportunities

for SCTC alumni, current students, and future students to continue their education; to earn a bachelor's degree after completing their associate degree." Chief Sprague continued, "The addition of a bachelor's program will strengthen SCTC's commitment to preserving and sharing Anishinaabe and Indigenous culture, history, language, traditions, and knowledge for generations to come. SCTC envisions becoming a destination in Michigan and throughout Indian Country for students

seeking an education enriched by Indigenous perspectives. "The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council extends a heartfelt chi-miigwetch to SCTC President Carla Sineway, the SCTC faculty, Board of Regents, staff, students, community members, and everyone who has helped bring this vision closer to reality." SCTC President Carla Sineway said the vision of the Tribal College is to "expand educational opportunities in a nurturing environment that

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Overdose Awareness and Remembrance Day recognized Aug. 31

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

International Overdose Awareness Day was recognized on Aug. 31. In observance, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe held an Overdose Awareness and Remembrance Day from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Broadway Park. The event, presented by Behavioral Health, Tribal Court, and American Indian Sobriety Month, featured speakers and a Q-and-A panel. Anna Winters was gifted an eagle feather for her work as a mentor to those in recovery.

Nadia Ashtari, health educator for the Central Michigan District Health Department, served as keynote speaker. Ashtari has worked in the substance use disorder field for the past eight years. She also teaches public health courses at Central Michigan University. Ashtari shared her personal experience with loving someone with a substance use disorder, and being there through his incarcerations and overdoses. Ashtari is committed to reducing stigma, addressing health disparities, and expanding education, prevention, and support for individuals and families.

"Behind every statistic is a person someone once loved and valued, and behind every loss is a ripple felt by families, friends, and communities everywhere," Ashtari said on lives lost to substance use. "Recovery reminds us that hope is always possible," Ashtari said. Panel speakers Jeremy Bennett and Kristen Lucy Cantu shared their recovery stories. Bennett described growing up in a "dysfunctional home" with alcoholic family members. Bennett said he began drinking

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Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Panelists (left to right) Jeremy Bennett, Kristen Lucy Cantu and Nadia Ashtari speak during the Overdose Awareness and Remembrance Day on Aug. 31, held at the Broadway Park pavilion.

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



Etta Elmira Ayling

March 20, 1941 – September 15, 2026

Etta Elmira Ayling, 85, of Mount Pleasant, Mich. passed away on Sept. 15, 2026, at MyMichigan Medical Center Alma, surrounded by family. She was born on March 20, 1941, to the late Percy Snyder and Mary Davis. Etta lived a life marked by strength, love, and unmistakable spirit.

Etta graduated from Caro High School with the Class of 1959. She then attended Lansing Community College, where she earned her LPN and graduated in 1960. After college, she began her nursing career at St. Lawrence Hospital in Lansing and later worked at Ingham Medical Center in Lansing for 15 years. Her work reflected the same caring and determination that shaped every part of her life.

She was also a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Mt. Pleasant; she loved her culture and her tribe.

On Aug. 7, 1964, in Lansing, she married Robert “Bob” Ayling. Together they built a life full of love and happiness only if Bob complied with the “war department,” which was Etta. They shared many years and raised their five children: Krissinda, Jonathan, Daniel, Nicole, and Angela. Her family remained her proudest accomplishment, and she took deep joy in her children and grandchildren.

She was sassy, full of life, loving, caring, giving, tough as nails, and wonderfully headstrong. As those who knew her would say, she liked what she liked. That strong sense of self, along with her warmth and generosity, made her unforgettable to her family and friends.

Etta found happiness in the things she loved most. She enjoyed gardening, shopping, and giving to others, and she was known for her generous heart. She was an old-school letter writer who cherished staying in touch in a personal way. She loved Christmas, cooking, and making every home beautiful. She delighted in decorating each house she owned, remodeling it, selling it, and then beginning again with another home. She also loved researching and became the keeper of the book in her family genealogy, preserving family history with care and dedication.

She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Robert Ayling of Mt. Pleasant; children, Krissinda Ayling of Mt. Pleasant, Jonathan (Lisa) Ayling of Mt. Pleasant, Daniel Ayling of Canadian Lakes, Nicole Ayling of Mt. Pleasant, and Angela Ayling of Mt. Pleasant; grandchildren, Zane (Emma) Zakora, Zachary (fiancee, Alexis) Zakora, and Xavier Zakora; Jaydn Ayling and Myah Ayling; Alyssa (Nicholas) Bozzo; and Brian McNamara and Brandon McNamara; great-grandchildren, Mya, Alice, Selena, Joseph, and Jersey, and by her brother, Frank (Bonnie) Snyder, of Cass City.

She was preceded in death by her father, Percy Snyder; her mother, Mary Davis; her brother, Percy Snyder, known as “Chocolate”; and her sister, Ann Briggs.

Etta will be remembered for her fierce love, her sharp personality, her generosity, and the deep pride she took in her family. Her life was full, vibrant, and distinctly her own, and her memory will continue to live on in the many lives she touched.

A funeral for Etta was held at 11 a.m., Friday, Sept. 18, at Charles R. Lux Family Funeral Home with Father Adam Maher presiding. She was laid to rest in Deepdale Cemetery in Lansing on Monday, Sept. 21 at 2 p.m. The family received friends on Thursday, Sept. 17 from 4-7 p.m. and on Friday, Sept. 18 one hour before the service.

Memorial contributions may be made to Crazy Horse Memorial in South Dakota.



Judith Ann Davis

February 16, 1940 – September 8, 2026

Judith Ann Davis, age 86, of Mount Pleasant, Mich. passed away Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2026, at Isabella County Medical Care Facility in Mount Pleasant.

Judy was born Feb. 16, 1940, in Wayne, Mich., the daughter of John and Flora (Reid) Mathews. She graduated from Torrance High School in California with the Class of 1958. Judy attended Central Michigan University and earned her master's degree in art and graphic design.

On June 22, 1963, Judy married Lee Howard Davis; they enjoyed 42 years married before his passing on Sept. 3, 2005.

Judy retired in 2020 after 25 years of service for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Nimkee Wellness Center as the program grants women's health coordinator. Prior to that, she worked as an administrative assistant for American Red Cross for many years.

Judy was active in Art Reach of Mid-Michigan, the Broadway Theatre, and Into The Light Cancer Awareness Walk. She was an avid bowler for many years up until a couple of years ago.

Judy loved painting, scrapbooking, knitting, crafting, and tap dancing. Above all, she always loved to spend time with her family.

Judy is survived by her children: Eric (Michelle) Davis of Grosse Pointe Woods, Jennifer (Michael) Cummings of Mount Pleasant, Natali (Dan) Covell of Tillamook, Ore.; grandchildren Nathan Davis, Hannah Davis, Nole Cummings, Hailee Cummings; sister Marian Lockwood of Lake Havasu, Ariz.; and many nieces and nephews.

Judy was preceded in death by her parents; husband Lee; grandson Jacob Davis; and sisters Flora Fredrickson and Jackie Hartman.

Funeral services took place on Saturday, Sept. 12, 2026, at 11 a.m. at Clark Family Funeral Chapel with Benjamin Evers officiating. Burial immediately followed at Riverside Cemetery. The family greeted friends on Friday, Sept. 11 from 5 until 8 p.m. and on Saturday beginning at 10 a.m. until the time of the service.

Memorial contributions may be made to The Jacob Michael Davis Foundation, dedicated to helping those touched by childhood cancer. Contributions may be mailed to: Jacob Michael Davis Foundation, P.O. Box 805905, St. Clair Shores, MI, 48080.



Elizabeth Rose Hughes

September 7, 1950– September 20, 2026

Elizabeth Rose Hughes, 76, passed away on Sept. 20, 2026, at MyMichigan Medical Center Alma, surrounded by family. She was born on Sept. 7, 1950, in Battle Creek, Mich., to Leonard and Stella (Bennett) Pamp.

Elizabeth was a 1970 graduate of Butler, Indiana. She continued her education at Glen Oaks, where she earned her associate degree, and later attended Western Michigan University, where she received her bachelor's degree. She built a career as a secretary; first working in pharmaceutical at UpJohn and later serving at the State Mental Hospital, from which she retired.

She was known for her spirited nature and her strong opinions; qualities that made her memorable to those who knew and loved her.

Elizabeth enjoyed playing pool, spending time at the casino, going to concerts with her sister, Colleen, but above all, she loved collecting anything Harley-Davidson. She was also part of a sewing group, though what she valued most there was the chance to be with people and enjoy their company. Among the greatest joys of her life were her children and grandchildren, and she always looked forward to receiving pictures from them.

Elizabeth is survived by her children; Gayle Ruhl of Mount Pleasant, Chad Ruhl of Coldwater, Ryan (Courtney) Ruhl of Coldwater; grandchildren, Arlan George, Cauy (girlfriend, Adrianna T-I) George, Lars George, Addalia Burkart, Ada Ruhl, and Tilly Ruhl; great-grandchild, Minori; sibling, Colleen Wagner of Mount Pleasant; and sister-in-law, Judy Pamp of Mount Pleasant.

Her family was her proudest accomplishment, and she treasured each connection, always taking delight in the lives and milestones of those she loved.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Leonard and Stella (Bennett) Pamp; sisters, Julie Snyder, Beverly (Dave) Pamp-Ettinger, and Betsy (Frank) Crooker; and brother, Matthew Pamp.

Elizabeth will be remembered for her lively spirit, her love of family, and the unmistakable presence she brought into every room. May her memory bring comfort to those who knew her and continue to be carried forward by the family she cherished so deeply.

A funeral service celebrating Elizabeth's life was held on Friday, Sept. 25 at 11 a.m. at the Charles R. Lux Family Funeral Home. Elizabeth was laid to rest at Woodland Cemetery. Family received friends one hour prior to the service.

Memorial contributions may be made to the wishes of the family.



Jacqueline Marie Jackson

August 29, 1982 – September 3, 2026

Jacqueline “Jackie” Marie Jackson, age 44, of Mount Pleasant, Mich. passed away on Thursday, Sept. 3, 2026 at the McLaren Flint Hospital.

Jackie was born on Aug. 29, 1982, in Alma, Mich., daughter of Orville Henry and Michelle Ann (West) Jackson.

Jackie was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and loved living on the Reservation.

Jackie loved playing online games, listening to music, coloring, and swore like a sailor. She enjoyed spending time around an open fire pit. Jackie loved spending time with all of her family, and her children were her life.

Jackie is survived by her significant other, Paul Shomin Jr.; nine children, Seray Jackson, Charlie Isham (Megan Kaniski), Josie Isham (Andrew Chivis), Jasmine Isham (Kiyenn Pilar), Mayson Jackson, Harley Jackson, Garner Shomin, Jozzlyn Shomin, and Myron Shomin; grandchildren, Marcel Magnell, Hazel Shomin, Ahmik Chivis, Logan Isham, and Jade Pilar; mother, Michelle Jackson; father, Orville Jackson; siblings, Melanie (Jamie) Burger, Nickena (Terry) VanHorn, Barry (Tahsheenah) Jackson, and Orville “Ozzie” (Jeska) Jackson; aunts and uncles, Mary Ellen (Tim) Prescott, Janet Barnhart, Guy Jackson, Bruce (Nan) West, and Christopher West; several cousins; and many nieces and nephews.

Jackie was preceded in death by her daughter, Onyx; grandparents, Larry and Barbara West, Josephine and Willis Jackson; aunt, Nancy West; uncles, Barry and Jeffrey “Gutt” Jackson; cousins, Rodney Jackson, Annie Barnhart, Sara Teft.

Funeral services were held at Clark Family Funeral Chapel on Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2026, at 12 p.m. with Michelle Sponseller officiating. Interment followed in the Chippewa Township Cemetery. The family received friends at the funeral chapel on Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2026 from 4 until 8 p.m. Visitation continued the day of the service from 11 a.m. until the time of the service.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



Rita Joyce Romer

May 21, 1957 – September 9, 2026

Rita Joyce Romer, age 69, of Mount Pleasant, Mich. passed away Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2026, at her home.

Rita was born May 21, 1957, in Mount Pleasant, the daughter of Ardene and Doris (Collins) Romer. She was a graduate of Elizabeth Ann Johnson High School in Mt. Morris with the Class of 1975. She attended University of Michigan, Flint campus for her college education.

Rita served as the director of Indian Education at Mt. Morris Public Schools for many years, retiring in 1998. She was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and loved to teach about her heritage.

Rita loved to gamble at the casino, read books, watch game shows, and play games on her phone. She treasured frequent small trips driving and talking with her daughter Allison.

Rita is survived by her children, Christopher (Holly) Romer, Allison (Richard) Green, and Zach (Deshanta) Colter, all of Mount Pleasant; grandchildren Rosemarie “Minnow” Green and Asher Green; brother Frank Romer of Clío; sister Yvonne Romer of Mount Pleasant; and several nieces and nephews.

Rita was preceded in death by her parents; grandson Christopher Romer; and brother Joey Romer.

Funeral services took place at Clark Family Funeral Chapel on Thursday, Sept. 17, 2026, at 12 p.m. Interment followed at Woodland Cemetery in Rosebush, Mich. The family greeted friends on Wednesday from 5 until 8 p.m. at the funeral chapel.

Memorial contributions may be made to Wiimaajikwad, “Where We Grow”, the Indian Education fund through Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.



Tom Allen Epps Jr.

June 28, 1991 – September 3, 2026

Tom Allen Epps Jr., age 35, passed away on Sept. 3, 2026.

Tom was born on June 28, 1991, in Lansing, Mich., to parents Tom and Kimberly (Compo) Epps.

Tom loved spending time with family and often enjoyed skateboarding, drawing and tattoo art.

Tom is survived by his mother Kimberly Stowell; brothers Chris Epps and Matt Epps, sister Veronica Epps and nephew Elijah Herr.

Tom was preceded in death by his father Tom Epps.

Funeral services for Tom were held at Clark Family Funeral Chapel on Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2026 at 11 A.M. with Benjamin Evers officiating. The family received friends from 10 A.M. until the time of service. Burial took place in Denver Township Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



DEATH NOTICES:

The family of Gaylene Karen Urban has notified the Tribal Clerk's Office of her passing on Sunday, Dec. 21, 2025.

The family of Philip Wayne Bergevin has notified the Tribal Clerk's Office of his passing on Feb. 15, 2026.

The family of Lawrence Collins has notified the Tribal Clerk's Office of his passing on Tuesday, March 17, 2026.

The family of Norman Stanley Davenport has notified the Tribal Clerk's Office of his passing on June 19, 2026.

The family of Jessica Lee Hensley has notified the Tribal Clerk's Office of her passing on Friday, July 10, 2026.

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



Attention Tribal Members
**Tribal Council Regular
Session Meetings**
are held at 9 a.m.

Regular Tribal Council Sessions

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

Regular Council Session Dates

• Oct. 6 • Nov. 3 • Dec. 1

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.

**Attention Tribal Members:
Notice of Public Hearing**

NOTICE: There will be a public hearing held on Tuesday, Oct. 27, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers at the Black Elk Building, 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. This hearing will address the application for a renewal of a Retail On-Premise General License and Retail Off-Premise General License presented to Tribal Council by Bonnie Sprague, general manager for the Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel. The application which will be reviewed and discussed at the hearing is as follows:

Renewal of the Tribal Liquor License for Retail On-Premise General Liquor License and Off-Premise General Liquor License for the Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel located at 5665 E. Pickard Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Such license, if approved, would cover Soaring Eagle RV Park, The Retreat at Soaring Eagle, Nbakade Restaurant, Wiisinidaa Food Court, and all other applicable areas of the Soring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel where beverage service is appropriate and allowed. This License, if issued, would authorize the sale of beer, wine, and liquor for consumption by buyers on-premise and off-premise for the duration of one full year commencing on Nov. 21, 2026 and expiring on Nov. 20, 2027 with hours of alcohol sales consistent with Section 10 of the Gaming Compact of Aug. 20, 1993, and the Tribe's Liquor Control Act, Chapter 8.7.

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



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

Nov. 9 & 10, 2026
SECR Entertainment Hall

Registration is now open

- ▶ **Please visit:**
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/7th-annual-opioid-summit-tickets-1991503007104>

- ▶ **Or scan QR code to the right**

Contact: 989.775.4805 or Carjackson@sagchip.org



DETROIT MERCY LAW

**PROJECT ACCESS:
FREE Expungement Clinic**

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

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

PLEASE NOTE THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

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

Registration is **REQUIRED**.
Clinic limited to 50 people.



Scan to register!

Pre-REGISTRATION CLOSES: Friday, Nov. 6, 2026 at 5 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOV. 13, 2026
10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. | SCIT Public Safety Building
6954 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
Detroit Mercy Law Clinical Program at 313.596.0262

Tribal Member
RÉSUMÉ
Development

Available
through
Human
Resources

Any Tribal Members needing assistance in creating or updating their resume are encouraged to set up an appointment by contacting:

Human Resources Training & Development at 989-775-5600



SCIT TRIBAL MEMBER
**DETROIT LIONS
TICKETS GIVEAWAY**

Get ready to experience the excitement
of Detroit Lions football live from the
lower bowl at Ford Field!

Every home game of the season, two lucky
winners will each receive a pair of tickets!

- ▶ Sunday, Oct. 25 vs. Green Bay Packers
- ▶ Sunday, Nov. 1 vs. Minnesota Vikings
- ▶ Sunday, Nov. 22 vs. Tampa Bay Buccaneers
- ▶ Thursday, Nov. 26 vs. Chicago Bears
- ▶ Sunday, Dec. 13 vs. Tennessee Titans
- ▶ Monday, Dec. 28 vs. New York Giants

TO ENTER:

- **Visit:** <https://www.sagchip.org/start.aspx>
- **Or Scan the QR Code** →

- Log in to the Tribal Members Only section.
- If you don't already have an account, follow the prompts to create one to access the registration form.



WINNERS: Chosen and notified
on the Tuesday before each game.

**PLEASE NOTE: Each Tribal Member may win only once during the entire season. Once selected, winners will not be eligible for any remaining game.*

Disclaimer – If you, as the chosen SCIT winner, are unable to use the tickets you must notify the Public Relations Department and the tickets will be offered to the next eligible individual. Tickets cannot be transferred or re-sold.

For more information, contact Public Relations:
989-775-4059 or publicrelations@sagchip.org

**Attention Tribal Members:
Notice of Public Hearing**

NOTICE: There will be a public hearing on Tuesday, October 27, 2026, at 8:30 a.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers at the Black Elk Building, 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. This hearing will address the liquor license application for renewal of a Retail On-Premise General Liquor License and Retail Off-Premise General License presented to Tribal Council by Toni Swalley, director of Hospitality of the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino and Hotel, or her representative. The application which will be reviewed and discussed at the hearing is as follows:

Renewal of the Tribal Liquor License for Retail On-Premise General Liquor License and Retail Off-Premise General Liquor License for the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino and Hotel located at 2690 Worth Rd., Standish, MI 48658. Such License, if approved, would cover all indoor areas, outdoor areas, Gaming Floor, Function Rooms, and all other applicable areas of the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino where beverage service is appropriate and allowed; including the Tribal Center and Saganing Powwow Grounds located at 2570 Worth Rd., Standish, MI 48658 and outdoor events area for services during events. Such license, if renewed would cover the sale of alcoholic beverages to be consumed by the buyer off premises. This License, if issued, would be for the duration of one full year from Nov. 30, 2026 through Nov. 29, 2027, with hours of alcohol service consistent with Section 10 of the Gaming Compact of Aug. 20, 1993, and also including hours of service for Sunday Alcohol Sales and Sales on Christmas Eve until midnight, Christmas day beginning at noon and New Year's Day until 4 a.m.



Check out the
Tribal Observer
ONLINE

www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver



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!



THE ZIIBIWING CENTER
WOULD LIKE TO GIVE

Special Recognition
TO
CRISTOBAL ARELLANO BORGES
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

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.

ZIIBIWING CENTER'S ANNUAL

Fall Equinox

SILENT AUCTION

IN PERSON AUCTION:

Ziibiwing Center
Front Grand Entrance Lobby

Weekdays: Oct. 1-9, 2026

► Oct. 1-2 ► Oct. 5-9

Time: 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.



ZIIBIWING CENTER

ONLINE AUCTION:

► **Visit:** www.32auctions.com/ziibiwing

► **Or scan QR code**

Online auction opens:

Oct. 1 at 8 a.m.

Online auction closes:

Oct. 9 at 8 p.m.

* Cash and check only. Must pick up at the Ziibiwing Center.

* All proceeds support the Ziibiwing Center



For more information, please contact:

ChRiley@sagchip.org | 989.775.4756

Breast Cancer Screening Event

Monday, October 19, 2026

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Screening Mammograms
Nimkee Tribal Health Center,
2591 S. Leaton Road, Mt. Pleasant

MyMichigan Health is partnering with the Nimkee Tribal Health Center in Mt. Pleasant to bring screening mammography to Nimkee patients.



*Registration is required and appointments are limited.**

To schedule a mammogram, call the MyMichigan Access Center (MAC) at
(989) 633-5252



** A provider's order is needed, insurance will be billed for your mammogram. Open only to Nimkee Tribal Health Center's patients.*

**Blood Pressure Check
and Flu Shots also available**

M MyMichigan Health
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN HEALTH

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





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



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 Tribe

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





Refreshing the Fun!

Soaring Eagle Waterpark will be closed for an extended maintenance project beginning Monday, September 21st.

The project is scheduled to run until late October.

Our water attractions will be fully renovated and given a brand-new glow.

We're refreshing the fun to make sure you have a great experience when you visit us.

Watch for details on our reopening!





Anishinabe Ogitchedaw 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



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
Ayling, Etta Elmira	09/15/2026
Bailey, Marilyn Ann	04/22/2026
Bergevin, Philip Wayne	02/15/2026
Black, Helen Marie	01/23/2026
Castaneda, Leona Ashquag	05/11/2025
Chapman, Wendy Sue	01/14/2026
Crandall, Kimberly Lou	04/03/2026
Cyr, Michael George	08/25/2025
Davenport, Norman Stanley	06/19/2026
Epps Jr., Tom Allen	09/03/2026
Garlick, Jamey Edward	08/08/2026
Henry-Shipman, Thelma Ida	07/14/2026
Hunt, Judith Anne	03/05/2026
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
Rodriguez Jr., Robert Eugene	09/13/2026
Romer, Rita Joyce	09/09/2026
Stone, Warren Enos	04/14/2025
Walker, Johnny Johnson	07/18/2026

DECEMBER 1, 2026

Tribal Child Welfare Affidavits or Child Mno Shkiziwin Applications

Forms available now

**You must fill out ONE form completely.*

Deadline: Friday, Oct. 30, 2026 by 5 p.m.

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

Notarization is required

- Forms are available by mail, email and at www.sagchip.org
- Post marked forms, email or faxed will not be accepted
- The Tribal Clerk's office must have the original form
- For questions regarding the TCWP, call the Tribal Clerk's Office at 989-775-4051

Parents/guardians have the option to participate in the Mno-Shkiziwin program

- For questions regarding the Mno-Shkiziwin Program call 989-775-4175



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

NOURISH & FLOURISH Workshops

Hungry for your next big career move?

Join us for one of the Nourish & Flourish Workshops, two free community opportunities designed to fill your plate and build your future. Whether you are starting fresh or leveling up, we will provide a complimentary lunch and the exact tools you need to land your dream job.

TWO SEPARATE WORKSHOPS

►Tuesday, Oct. 13 ►Tuesday, Nov. 17

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Black Elk Training Room
7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

REGISTRATION:

- Please register for one of the dates above.
- Use the Tribal website to register:
www.sagchip.org/hr/class-signup.aspx?t=2
- Or scan QR code➡



Free and open to the community!
LUNCH PROVIDED

For more information, please contact:
KMandoka@sagchip.org | 989-775-5247

Hydrant Flushing

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

Oct. 1 - Nov. 1, 2026

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

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

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



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



Monarch Butterfly Day Celebration held at Ziibiwing Center on Sept. 17

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

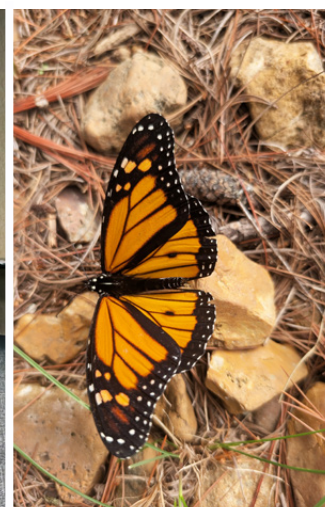
The Ziibiwing Center hosted the Monarch Butterfly Day Celebration on Thursday, Sept. 17.

The event featured door prizes, cookie decorating, face painting, and educational and craft activities.

An Anishinabe Butterfly Dance was performed by Samantha D'Artagnan and Nina Riley-Nahmabin.

More than 60 guests were also treated to the release of monarch butterflies. The butterflies grew in their chrysalis for six weeks before emerging. Chrysalis is the pupal stage in a butterfly's life cycle, where the caterpillar undergoes metamorphosis to transform into a butterfly.

The event was also made possible by contributions from the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, Aki Naakdowendigik (Caretakers of the Land) Environmental Department, Anishinaabe Language Revitalization Department, SECR Food & Beverage, Anishnaabeg Child & Family Services, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Libraries, Behavioral Health and Forest Hill Nature Area.



Photos courtesy of Katie Hagar, Autumn Baker and Tamara Lawson

Overdose Awareness

continued from front page

at age 11 to cope with the loss of two relatives.

"Eventually there becomes a point where there's not enough drugs or alcohol to numb," Bennett said about his experience in active addiction and using to cope with grief.

Cantu shared that she grew up in a drug-and-alcohol-free home but began using at a young age to try to cope with abandonment issues.

Cantu said she eventually realized how her addiction wasn't only affecting her, but it was taking a toll on her family members that she loves and respects so much.

"I think the hardest part was everything I did to my parents because they were there for everything," Cantu said, explaining this is what made her realize she needed to get help.

Both Bennett and Cantu received a round of applause for sharing their recovery stories and answered questions from audience members, alongside Ashtari.

Central Michigan District Health Department was onsite hosting a table to remember and honor lost loved ones.

Cathy Matthews, prevention manager for Behavioral Health, said several Nimkee staff newcomers were impressed by the event and plan to attend again next year.

"The work we do saves lives," Matthews said. "We will always have speakers from the community share their story of what did and didn't work for them. As always, everyone is different and what works for them may not work you... this event and similar events may be what a person with SUD (Substance Use Disorder) needs to decide to take that step to day one of sobriety."

Denise Cantu offered a blessing over the food provided. Informational booths and prizes were also available.

"Substance Use Disorder (SUD) is a health condition," said Jacqueline Bae, HHS administrator at Nimkee Health, in an email to Tribal employees on International Overdose Awareness Day. "People experiencing substance use challenges deserve dignity, respect, compassion, and access to appropriate care. We can all help by using respectful, non-stigmatizing language, avoiding blame or judgment, and supporting relatives and families affected by overdose."

Bae's message also included the following information:

Know the signs of a possible opioid overdose:

- Unable to wake or respond
- Slow, shallow, irregular, or stopped breathing
- Choking, snoring, or gurgling sounds

- Small, constricted "pin-point" pupils

- Pale, gray, blue, or discolored lips, nails, or skin

- Limp body

If you suspect an opioid overdose:

- Call 911 immediately.
- Give naloxone (Narcan) if available and follow its instructions.

- Follow the 911 dispatcher's instructions, including providing CPR or rescue breathing

when directed or if appropriately trained.

- If the person is breathing but unresponsive, place them on their side when appropriate to help reduce the risk of choking.

- Stay with the person until emergency assistance arrives.

For additional information and resources: CDC Overdose Prevention and SAMHSA Overdose Prevention and Response.

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



TRUNK OR TREAT

Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2026
6 p.m. | The Hill Campground
(7525 E. Tomah Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858)

- Candy donations are accepted (raffle ticket for every 50 pieces donated)

Best trunk contest

- Over \$100 in value for each of the top three finishers
- Raffle drawing for all trunks

Contact: Recreation staff at Recreation@sagchip.org



Anishinaabe Quill Art Exhibition Makes Final Tour Stop at MSU Museum

MSU MUSEUM

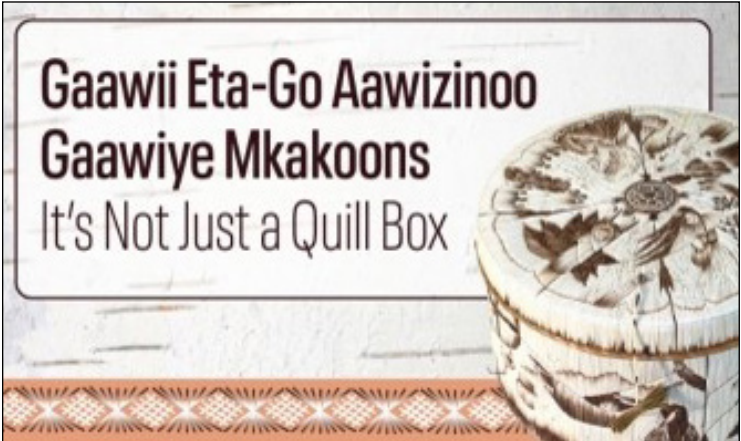
EAST LANSING, Mich. (Aug. 25, 2026) – The first major traveling exhibition dedicated to Anishinaabe porcupine quill art will end its tour at the Michigan State University Museum.

Titled “Gaawii Eta-Go Aawizinoo Gaawiye Mkakoons / It’s Not Just a Quill Box / Anishinaabe Gaak Gaawiiyikewin Zhichiganan / Anishinabek Porcupine Quill Art,” the exhibition features nearly 90 artworks drawn from both public and private collections, including the MSU Museum’s extensive holdings and archives built over 40 years of research and programming through the Michigan Traditional Arts Program.

This fully bilingual exhibition, which is presented in Anishinaabemowin and English, celebrates the creativity, skill, and cultural continuity of contemporary Anishinaabe artists from Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Manitoulin Island, Canada.

The exhibition honors the generations of elders and ancestors who have passed down this intricate art form and highlights the enduring relationships between teachers and learners, the connection to natural resources, and the resilience of Indigenous traditions in the modern era.

“Quillwork is more than just a beautiful art form – it’s a reflection of our identity, our teachings, and our deep relationship with the land,” said Minnie Wabanimkee, Anishinaabe tribal elder and photographer. “Every piece carries the voice of our



Courtesy photo

The exhibition “Gaawii Eta-Go Aawizinoo Gaawiye Mkakoons / It’s Not Just a Quill Box” remains on view through Nov. 25, 2026 at the MSU Museum.

ancestors and the care of those who continue this practice today. It’s powerful to see our traditions honored in this way.”

Co-managed by Wabanimkee and Dr. Marsha MacDowell, curator of Folk Arts at the MSU Museum and director of the Michigan Traditional Arts Program, the exhibition was developed through close collaboration among Native artists, archivists, language specialists, elders, MSU faculty, and curators.

A Native advisory committee ensured the cultural integrity and authenticity of the exhibition.

In addition to the artwork, visitors can explore videos and photographs documenting the harvesting of materials and the quill art-making process, as well as interactive panels, hands-on activities, and a recreation of a master artist’s workstation.



Courtesy photo

Installation view at the Ziibiwing Center features a cradle and quilled artifacts. The exhibition celebrates Anishinaabe artistry and tradition, highlighting intricate quillwork, and the intergenerational passing of cultural knowledge.

“This exhibition gives voice to generations of Anishinaabe artists who have sustained and enriched this art form,” MacDowell said. “It’s a testament to their creativity, persistence, and cultural leadership, and it highlights the importance of working in partnership with Native communities to honor and preserve these living traditions.”

The exhibition opened at the MSU Museum on Sept. 1 and will remain on view through Nov. 25, 2026.

This project was led by the collaborative efforts of the Ziibiwing Center for Anishinaabe Culture and Lifeways; the Michigan Traditional Arts Program and MSU Office of University Outreach and Engagement; and the Michigan State University Museum.

The project has been made possible through support from the Terra

Foundation for American Art, National Endowment for the Arts, Institute of Museum and Library Services, The Andrew W. Mellon/Less Commonly Taught Language Grant at Michigan State University, Michigan Traditional Arts Exhibition Fund/MSU.

The project received additional in-kind support from the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinaabe Culture and Lifeways, Michigan State University Museum, Eyaawing Museum and Cultural Center (Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians), Ojibwe Cultural Foundation (Manitoulin Island, Canada), Northwest Michigan Arts & Culture Network, Michigan Traditional Arts Program/MSU, Michigan State University Native American Institute, and the MSU University Outreach and Engagement.

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.





Seventh Generation hosts Bagodowe Engiitaading (lacrosse tournament)

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

Seventh Generation hosted its annual Bagodowe Engiitaading (lacrosse tournament) on Friday, Aug. 28.

The co-ed tournament kicked off the People's Powwow weekend near the Seventh Generation Powwow Grounds.

This year's tournament featured the best turnout yet, with more than 80 participants, and an equal number of spectators.

Teams were broken up into two age groups. The first games featured participants aged 14 and under.

Later that night a second group of games, featuring participants aged 15 and older was held.

Several food trucks were also open to serve participants and spectators.

This event was a collaborative effort between Seventh Generation and the Recreation Department.

Observer photos by Matthew Wright



🐾 Adopt a Pet 🐾



Eileen

Eileen is a young female Domestic Shorthair mix. Eileen has a gentle presence and a quiet kind of charm. She prefers to take her time getting to know her surroundings and the people in it. She may start off a bit reserved, but she has an affectionate side that shows itself in subtle ways. She would do best in a calm, low-stress home.



Pearl

Pearl is a 6-month-old female Jack Russell Terrier mix. She must be mixed with a larger breed because she is not your typical Jack Russell size! Pearl is an absolute sweetheart. She loves being around people and happily delivers kisses. She has already mastered the "sit" command. She's a smart puppy who is eager to learn.

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*



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Subject to Credit Approval



Alanis Morissette delivers nostalgic, powerful, raw alt-rock performance

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

It may not have been the ironic “rain on your wedding day,” but there was most definitely some misty weather occurring during the “Ironie” singer Alanis Morissette’s live outdoor show at Soaring Eagle.

The “Queen of Alt-Rock Angst” Alanis Morissette made her Mount Pleasant debut on Saturday, Sept. 19.

The 90-minute show displayed her powerhouse vocals,

emotional delivery, raw lyrics, guitar and harmonica playing and erratic movement.

Morissette performed nostalgic ‘90s anthems including those from her 1995 debut hit album “Jagged Little Pill.”

An influential woman who just seems so relatable to her fans, Morissette set the tone and began with “Hand in My Pocket,” “Right Through You” and “Reasons I Drink.”

The singer-songwriter uses musical transitions, or segues, during her tour to link tracks

between major numbers. A segue of “A Man” came before “Hands Clean,” followed by a segue of “Can’t Not” launching into “Lens.”

Morissette’s unfiltered stage presence persisted with “Sorry to Myself” (segue), “Head Over Feet,” “Everything” (segue) and “You Learn.”

Changing the vibe, Morissette performed “Rest,” “Mary Jane” and “Perfect” together during an intimate acoustic mini set.

Closing out the show, she performed some of the most memorable songs from that debut hit album: “Ironie,” “All I Really Want,” and what could be considered the most iconic breakup song of all time, “You Oughta Know.”

The encore included a haunting, high-energy rock delivery of “Uninvited” where Morissette was head banging, pacing, and continuously



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Alanis Morissette performs her sing-along hit “Hand in My Pocket” during her Saturday, Sept. 19 outdoor show at Soaring Eagle.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Morissette delivers a powerful, emotional, and raw live performance to bring the outdoor concert season to an end.

spinning around on stage. Her vocal control flourished during this performance.

The grand finale appropriately consisted of “Thank U,” a communally shared anthem.

Opening act and talented performer Sadie Jean

presented a 45-minute set. The pop artist has released one EP and one studio album.

Both artists showcased their inspiring talent, leaving the audience captivated. It was an epic night for women who rock.

R&B artists Ne-Yo, Keyshia Cole bring lively performance to Soaring Eagle outdoor stage

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

Two contemporary R&B artists. One evening. Ne-Yo brought his live tour to Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, with opening artist Keyshia Cole, on Friday, Sept. 11.

Keyshia Cole, contemporary R&B and hip-hop soul artist, opened the show just after 8:45 p.m. Her raspy, soprano vocals brought the heat to the outdoor concert stage that evening.

Cole began her show with the upbeat pop-rap track “Last Night,” which was recorded with Diddy and produced by Mario Winans.

Accompanied by dancers and a DJ on stage, Cole’s set also included “I Should’ve Cheated,” “Heaven Sent” and “Let It Go.”

Cole ended her portion of the show with her platinum-certified hit single “Love” (2005). The song has gained popularity all over again for being used in viral TikTok videos as young fans passionately belt

out the song’s catchy lyrics.

Singer-songwriter Ne-Yo began his show at 9:45 p.m. He kicked it off with “Closer,” “Because Of You,” “Stay” and “Champagne Life.”

On stage, he sported his signature fedora hat to complement his smooth vocals. The performance kept going strong with “One in a Million,” “She Got

Her Own,” “Miss Independent,” “Sexy Love,” “Ms. Tundra” and “She Knows.”

His 2006 debut album “In My Own Words” reached number one and featured his number-one single “So Sick.” He performed this hit towards the middle-end of his show.

Also included in his set was the song he first became

famous for writing: Mario’s “Let Me Love You” (2004).

His performance included a couple chart-topping songs that he co-wrote: Rihanna’s “Take a Bow” and Beyoncé’s “Irreplaceable.”

The evening ended with Ne-Yo’s memorable, energetic hit songs “Time of Our Lives” and “Give Me Everything.”

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Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Ne-Yo smiles to the audience during his Soaring Eagle outdoor performance on Friday, Sept. 11.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Contemporary R&B and hip-hop soul artist Keyshia Cole performs as the opening act that evening.



Tribal College hosts FAFSA Football Night



Photos courtesy of SCTC

SAGINAW CHIPPEWA
TRIBAL COLLEGE

Thank you to everyone who came out to our FAFSA Football Night!
We truly appreciate everyone who joined us, supported the event, and helped make

the night such a success. Your energy, participation, and support meant so much to us. From football and fellowship to learning more about FAFSA and college opportunities, it was a night to remember. Thank you for showing up and showing out. We can't wait to see you at the next one!



IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS

- **Oct. 2-3** | Manoomin (Wild Rice) Camp 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. | Seventh Generation
- **Oct. 10** | Open Mic Night | 1-4 p.m. Seventh Generation
- **Oct. 12, 26** | STEAM^{AG} | 12-1 p.m. LGO Conference Room
- **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

Success Is Within Reach



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



OPEN TO PUBLIC





**CREATE
= Your Own =
FUTURE**



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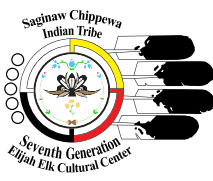
Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College is a tribally controlled land grant institution that reflects and promotes the unique culture of the Anishinaabek community, designed with educational excellence to empower learners to reach their educational goals.



If you would like to experience and learn about the importance of one of our sacred foods, join the SCTC Land Grant Office at camp to participate in processing maanoomin. We use the maanoomin for gifts, programs, our annual feast, and provide one-pound bags of manoomin to elders for the elders' traditional food box giveaway.

Oct. 2-3, 2026
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. | 7th Generation
(7957 E. Remus Rd. Mt. Pleasant, Mich.)

- **Manoomin presenter and instructor:** Roger LaBine
- **Manoomin tool making instructor:** Dwayne Jarman
- **Manoomin chef instructor:** Sam Anglin
- **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**



Working Together To
Protect Our Environment



To register, please contact:
KHart@sagchip.edu | 989.317.4827



BLOOD DRIVE
HALLOWEEN • DONATE & SAVE LIVES



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2026
TIME: 11 AM - 3:30 PM
LOCATION: TRIBAL COLLEGE
5805 E Pickard, Mount Pleasant, MI 48858

WHY DONATE THIS HALLOWEEN?

- Help local patients in need during the season
- Every donation can help save up to 3 lives!
- All donors receive a Halloween treat bag!



Stacy Mandoka joins Migizi Economic Development Company to lead Human Resources

FRITZ KUHLMAN
Marketing Manager,
Migizi EDC



Saginaw Chippewa Human Resources veteran Stacy Mandoka has been selected to lead the Human Resources Department at Migizi Economic Development Company. Mandoka brings more than 20 years of experience to Migizi; she previously held roles in both hospitality and gaming.

“Stacy Mandoka represents exactly the kind of leadership we want at Migizi,” said Migizi CEO Matt Felan. “With more than 20 years of service to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, she brings tremendous experience, dynamic talent, and a deep commitment to the people she serves. I am especially proud that Migizi recognizes and elevates the

exceptional talent within the Tribal community.”

Felan continued, “Stacy’s experience, dedication, and perspective as a tribal member will be invaluable as Migizi continues to grow, create opportunities, and build businesses that will benefit the Tribe for generations to come. We are incredibly fortunate to have her leading Human Resources at Migizi.”

In addition to her wealth of professional experience,

Mandoka is a graduate of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College and holds degrees in both business administration and liberal arts. Currently enrolled at Central Michigan University, Mandoka continues building a strong educational foundation that will allow her to expand her contributions to the Tribe for years to come.

Stacie and her three children are all proud members of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.



Courtesy photo

Stacy Mandoka

Tribal College

continued from front page

embraces and integrates the cultural uniqueness of the Anishinaabek.”

Sineway said earning this new degree meaningfully reflects that vision.

“This accomplishment demonstrates humility at its finest and reflects a genuine commitment to serving others rather than seeking

recognition,” Sineway said. “An undying commitment to the vision kept the momentum alive, even when the challenges seemed overwhelming. The SCTC staff and students, along with the broader community, have continually supported efforts to expand educational opportunities.”

Sineway continued, “This collective support has been

a key driver of the college’s growth and has helped turn a vision into meaningful opportunities for generations of learners. The Bachelor of Arts in Anishinaabe and Indigenous studies represents more than the addition of a new academic program. It represents perseverance, collaboration, and a continued commitment to creating educational opportunities that honor Anishinaabe

culture, strengthen the community, and carry the college’s vision forward.”

SCTC currently offers associate degrees in liberal arts, general science, Anishinaabe and Indigenous studies, and business.

The new bachelor’s degree is expected to create additional pathways for students seeking careers in education, tribal government, cultural preservation, language,

community development, public service, nonprofit leadership, and Indigenous advocacy while also preparing graduates for advance academic study.

The Bachelor of Arts in Anishinaabe and Indigenous Studies is planning to launch in Fall of 2027.

For more information, please contact Mary Pelcher, dean of academics, at mapelcher@sagchip.edu.

College Success Coaches - Joe Genia and Jayme Green

Joe Genia

Jayme Green

Schedule a check-in

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 Anishinaabek Community, designed with educational excellence to empower learners to reach their educational goals.

STEAM^{AG} Student Organization & Connected Community Coalition
This is a drug and alcohol free event

OPEN MIC 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 truck vendors:
\$10 per table

50/50 raffle

Donations are appreciated

CMU welcomes Blue House Singers at weekend events

Courtesy photo

The Blue House Singers proudly represented the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe throughout several events at Central Michigan University the week of Sept. 14, including Traditions Day at CMU Women’s Soccer on Thursday, Sept. 17; Forge the Future on Friday, Sept. 18; and the groundbreaking ceremony for CMU’s new golf facility on Saturday, Sept. 19.

Blue House Singers continue to share our culture, songs, and traditions throughout the local community.

Miigwetch to Central Michigan University for your continued support and for consistently recognizing and including the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe in the work you do. We truly value the continued relationship between CMU and SCIT.

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/

ORDER ONLINE!
sctcstore.itemorder.com



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

GRANT ASSISTANCE FOR TRIBAL ELDERS

There are grants available for tribal elders in the community. Depending on the grant qualifications, the tribal elder may need to gather documentation pertaining to grant eligibility. For example repair quotes, shut-off notice, etc. The following grants are available to tribal elders, as funding is available.

- **Emergency Minor Assistance Program (EMAP)**
- **Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP)**

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



SCIT ELDERS
Holiday Luncheon
Family style meal

Friday, Nov. 13, 2026

Lunch: 12 p.m. | Bavarian Inn (Frankenmuth, Mich.)

- **SCIT elders: \$20**
- **Non SCIT elders: \$35**

- Open to first 48 SCIT elders who register.
- Own transportation is suggested – Andahwod van seating is limited.
- Must register prior to event to ride in the Andahwod van.



Registration deadline:

Friday, Oct. 23, 2026

- Must pay at Andahwod front desk when registering.
- First come, first serve: We will not hold spaces.

For more information, contact:
Andahwod at 989-775-4300



Mindful Mondays
Oct. 5 & 12, 2026 at Andahwod

Andahwod and Michigan State University Extension present a wellness series:

- **Sleep Education for Everyone (SLEEP)**
Oct. 5 | 1 p.m. | Andahwod CGA
- **RELAX: Alternatives to Anger**
Oct. 12 | 1 p.m. | Andahwod CGA

Participant requirements:

- Participants should be 18 years of age or older

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

Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, or veteran status. Issued in furtherance of MSU Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Quentin Tyler, Director, MSU Extension, EastLansing, MI 48824. This information is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU Extension or bias against those not mentioned.



OCTOBER 2026 ANDAHWOD EVENTS

Coffee Break | **Daily** | 2:30-3:30 p.m.

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

Lost & Found Bingo

Oct. 2 | 1-3 p.m.

Saganing Bingo with Friends

Oct. 6 | Leaving Andahwod at 9 a.m.

*Must pre-register at 989-775-4300.

Elders Lunch

Oct. 7, 21 | 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Birthday Celebration

Oct. 8 | 2:30 p.m.

Mindful Mondays: Relaxation

Oct. 12 | 1 p.m.

Elders Breakfast

Oct. 14, 28 | 9-10 a.m.

Singer in the CGA

Oct. 16 | 4 p.m.

Bingo with Friends

Oct. 19 | 1-3 p.m.

Name that Tune

Oct. 20 | 2:30 p.m.

Mini Health Fair

Oct. 21 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Potluck & Birthday Bingo

Oct. 24 | 1-3 p.m.

Language Bingo

Oct. 27 | 1-3 p.m.

For more information, please call Andahwod at: 989.775.4300

Welcome TO THE TEAM!

MARISA SANDOVAL

Andahwod Elder Services
Title VI Certified Nursing Assistant/Transporter



Hello, my name is Marisa Sandoval. I recently just moved out of Saginaw to Beaverton and I absolutely love the country side! I have worked in assisted living and a skilled nursing facility. I just recently just got my C.N.A. but I have been in this field for three years and I absolutely love it! I will be the transport C.N.A for the Andahwod Elder Services program in our service area.

This is a grant funded position through the Older Americans Act Title VI Part C grant. This position allows me to assist the elders with supportive services such as:

- Medical transports
- Provide wellness checks
- Personal shopping
- Hygiene supplies
- Chore services
- Clarify doctor's orders/instructions
- Clean and set up medical equipment
- Coordinate medical care for tribal elders



I am very excited to be able to have this opportunity to help tribal elders in the community with their needs.

Please reach out to Marisa for any services at 989-775-4306.

ELDERS SNOWPLOWING APPLICATIONS OPEN: 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 must be paid when submitting application.
- Must reside in District One

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

October 2026 Andahwod CCC & ES Menu

Lunch: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. (Call by 10 a.m.)
Dinner: 4:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. (Call by 3 p.m.)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Kitchen phone number: 989-775-4314 *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		1 Polish Dog Beef Stew	2 Chicken Tenders Basket Pulled Pork Sandwich	3 Chef's Choice
4 Chef's Choice	5 Tuna Noodle Casserole Pork Chop & Red Potatoes	6 Soft Taco & Beans Ham & Sweet Potatoes	7 Elders Lunch Potato Soup Bacon Cheeseburger Casserole	8 Philly Steak Sandwich Chicken Quesadillas	9 Fish & Fries Beef Stir-Fry	10 Chef's Choice
11 Chef's Choice	12 Chicken Sandwich Pork Roast & Mashed Potatoes	13 Wet Burrito Herb Roasted Chicken & Baked Potatoes	14 Elders Breakfast Goulash Pizza Burgers	15 Popcorn Shrimp Sloppy Joes & Baked Beans	16 Blanket Dogs Steak & Baked Potatoes	17 Chef's Choice
18 Chef's Choice	19 Tuna Sandwich Hamburger & French Fries	20 Beef Fajitas Chicken Stew & Biscuits	21 Elders Lunch Chicken Wild Rice Soup Chili	22 BLT Sandwich Meatloaf	23 Beef Roast Lasagna	24 Chef's Choice
25 Chef's Choice	26 Chicken Bacon Wrap Meatballs & Noodles	27 Walking Tacos BLT Sandwich	28 Elders Breakfast Bean Soup Spaghetti	29 Bacon Cheeseburger Potato Soup	30 Pork Loin & Red Potatoes BBQ Ribs & Baked Beans	31 Chef's Choice



Saginaw Chippewa Health & Human Services (SHHS)

October 2026 – Health & Human Services Awareness

October — A Month of Health, Human Services, Harvest & Community

October is a meaningful time for SCIT Health & Human Services (SHHS) as we recognize the importance of caring for the whole person — our physical health, emotional wellbeing, families, elders, children, and our community.

October begins with an important reminder through Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This is an opportunity to increase awareness about breast health, encourage individuals to speak with their healthcare providers about appropriate preventive care and screening based on their individual needs and risk factors, and support family members, friends, and community members whose lives have been touched by breast cancer.

October also represents a time of harvest, preparation,

gratitude, and transition. As the seasons change and we prepare for the colder months ahead, it is a good time to reflect on the people, traditions, resources, and services that help keep our families and community healthy and strong.

At SCIT Health & Human Services, we recognize that health and wellbeing extend beyond medical care. They include prevention, behavioral health and wellness, nutrition, dental health, chronic disease prevention and management, and access to appropriate healthcare services. Human Services also plays an important role by supporting elders, children, youth, individuals, and families; connecting community members with available resources; and helping strengthen overall wellbeing.

Throughout October, we encourage our community to:

- Take care of your health and talk with your healthcare provider about preventive care and screenings appropriate for you.
- Check in on your emotional and behavioral wellbeing and seek support when needed.
- Enjoy the harvest season and the foods, traditions, activities, and gatherings that bring people together.
- Support our elders, children, youth, individuals, and families and stay connected with one another.
- Practice gratitude, kindness, and respect and recognize the many people who contribute to the wellbeing of our community.
- Prepare for the changing season by considering the health, safety, and support needs of yourself and your family.

October Health Awareness — Key Observances

1. Breast Cancer Awareness Month — Screening, mammography, early detection, survivorship, and reducing disparities in access to care.
2. Domestic Violence Awareness Month — Prevention, recognition of abuse, safety planning, trauma-informed support, and connection to community resources.
3. National Dental Hygiene Month — Oral hygiene, preventive dental care, fluoride, periodontal health, and routine visits.
4. National Substance Use Prevention Month — Prevention of alcohol and drug misuse, youth education, recovery supports, and community-based prevention.
5. ADHD Awareness Month — Education, early recognition, appropriate evaluation, treatment, and support.
6. Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Awareness Month — Safe infant sleep practices and caregiver education.
7. Health Literacy Month — Helping patients and families understand health information, medications, treatment plans, and how to navigate the healthcare system.
8. Eye Injury Prevention Month — Workplace and home eye safety, protective eyewear, and prompt treatment of injuries.
9. Liver Cancer Awareness Month — Hepatitis prevention and treatment, alcohol-related liver disease awareness, and appropriate surveillance for high-risk patients.
10. Down Syndrome Awareness Month — Inclusion, health promotion, access to services, and support for individuals and families.
11. Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month — Compassionate support and awareness of miscarriage, stillbirth, and infant loss.
12. National Physical Therapy Month — Mobility, fall prevention, rehabilitation, pain management, and maintaining independence, especially for elders.
13. National Bullying Prevention Month — Promoting safe schools and communities and supporting youth mental and emotional wellbeing.
14. Respiratory Health / Fall Illness Preparedness — October is also a good time to reinforce influenza and COVID-19 vaccination, RSV prevention where appropriate, hand hygiene, and early evaluation of respiratory illness.

SHHS October message

As we enter this beautiful harvest season, SHHS remains committed to working together across Health and Human Services to support health, wellness, prevention, access to services, and strong families throughout our Community.

May October be a month of awareness, gratitude, preparation, wellness, and Community connection.



"One SHHS. One Team. Working Together for Our Community."

Saginaw Chippewa Health & Human Services (SHHS)

CARES: Care • Accountability • Respect • Excellence • Stewardship

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

Please remember Elders Services can PICKUP YOUR NIMKEE PRESCRIPTIONS

*Must reside in Isabella County and excludes controlled substances.

For more information, contact: Andahwod at 989-775-4300



Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center

Immunization Clinics

- ▶ Tuesday, Oct. 6
8 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Nimkee Public Health
• Influenza vaccine
- ▶ Thursday, Oct. 15
9 a.m. - 3 p.m. | SECR Entertainment Hall
• COVID-19 & Influenza vaccines
- ▶ Monday, Oct. 19
8 a.m. - 5 p.m. | Nimkee Public Health
• Influenza vaccine
- ▶ Wednesday, Oct. 21
10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Andahwod CCC&ES
• COVID-19 & Influenza vaccine
- ▶ Thursday, Oct. 22
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. | Saganing Tribal Center
• COVID-19 & Influenza vaccines
- ▶ Thursday, Oct. 29
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. | SECR Entertainment Hall
• COVID-19 & Influenza vaccines
- ▶ Tuesday, Nov. 3
12-6 p.m. | Nimkee Public Health
• Influenza vaccine
- ▶ Monday, Nov. 9
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. | Saganing Tribal Center

*All vaccines are subject to availability. Please bring your ID, insurance cards and reading glasses with you.

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

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

For more information, please contact: SSowmick@sagchip.org or 989-775-4699

OCTOBER 2026 TRIBAL ELDER BIRTHDAYS

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



OCTOBER 2026 | Tribal Community Event Planner

Ziibiwing Fall Equinox Silent Auction
Weekdays, Oct. 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 | 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

- Ziibiwing Center (6650 E. Broadway)
- ChRiley@sagchip.org or 989-775-4756
- All proceeds support the Ziibiwing Center

Isabella County Tire Collection
Oct. 3 | 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

- Isabella County Fairgrounds (500 N. Mission Rd.)
- KChamberlain@sagchip.org or 989-775-5233

Recovery Beading Group
Oct. 4 | 12:30-2:30 p.m.

- Supportive Housing (6870 E. Broadway)
- TFoley@sagchip.org or 989-775-4881
- Open to Supportive Housing and RTC patrons

Immunization Clinics
Oct. 6 | Nimkee Public Health | 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Oct. 15 | SECR Entertainment Hall | 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Oct. 19 | Nimkee Public Health | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Oct. 21 | Andahwod | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Oct. 22 | Saganing Tribal Center | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Oct. 29 | SECR Entertainment Hall | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- SSowmick@sagchip.org or 989-775-4699

Toddler Time
Oct. 6 | 1-3 p.m.

- Wii Maajikwad/Recreation (2875 Gikendasso Way)
- Recreation@sagchip.org
- Open to infants and toddlers

Manoomin (Wild Rice) Camp
Oct. 2, 3 | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

- 7th Generation (7957 E. Remus Rd.)
- **Registration:** KHart@sagchip.edu or 989-317-4827
- Hosted by SCTC Land Grant Office

Youth Fitness Challenge
Oct. 5, 15 | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

- Nimkee Fitness Outdoor Fit Park (2591 S. Leaton Rd.)
- SPifer@sagchip.org or 989-775-4694
- Attend one of the days to score points for your team!
- Open to tribal youth (ages 12-17) from the following schools: Mt. Pleasant Middle and High School (including Odyssey and Oasis), Shepherd Middle and High School and Renaissance Public School Academy.
- Obstacle course/exercise challenges

Fall Feast
Oct. 14 | 6-8 p.m.

- 7th Generation (7957 E. Remus Rd.)
- TJackson@sagchip.org or 989-775-4780
- Feast bundles are encouraged, everyone welcome

World’s Indigenous Peoples Day Film Screening: “Aanikoobijigan”
Oct. 14 | 6-8 p.m.

- Ziibiwing Center (6650 E. Broadway.)
- WJohnson@sagchip.org or 989-775-4750
- “Aanikoobijigan” [ancestor/great-grandparent/great-grandchild] documents the emotional and vital work of MACPRA (Michigan Anishinaabek Cultural Preservation and Repatriation Alliance). This alliance, made up of repatriation specialists representing all Michigan tribes, fights to bring their ancestors and funerary objects home from settler colonial institutions like museums, libraries, and archives.
- The film’s producers, Adam and Zack Khalil, will be onsite as a part of the free community film screening.

TCG (Trading Card Game) Night
Oct. 20 | 5:30-8 p.m.

- 7th Generation (7957 E. Remus Rd.)
- DAJackson@sagchip.org or 989-775-4782

Trunk or Treat
Oct. 21 | 6 p.m.

- The Hill Campground (7525 E. Tomah Rd.)
- Recreation@sagchip.org
- Candy donations are accepted (raffle ticket for every 50 pieces donated)
- Top three best trunk contest
- Over \$100 in value for each of the top three finishers
- Raffle drawing for all trunks

Two-Spirit Talking Circle
Oct. 26, Nov. 23, Dec. 28, Jan. 25 | 6-8 p.m.

- 7th Generation (7957 E. Remus Rd.)
- LeRuffino@sagchip.org or kt@greatlakesbaypride.org
- Hosted by 7th Generation Elijah Elk Cultural Center and the Michigan Two Spirit Indigiqueer Coalition
- A safe, affirming space for Two Spirit and Native LGBTQ+ people and their allies to connect, share experiences, and find healing.

Wii Maajikwad Halloween Bake Sale
Oct. 30 | 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

- Black Elk building by Tribal Council Chambers (7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd.)
- ADudek@sagchip.org or 989-775-4453
- All proceeds will be used for school related activities at Wii Maajikwad K-5 Tribal School
- Lots of yummy Halloween themed treats
- Cash only
- 50/50 raffle

Ziibiwing Digitization Fundraiser Celebration
Nov. 3 | 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

- Ziibiwing Center (6650 E. Broadway)
- ChRiley@sagchip.org or 989-775-4756
- Celebrating the continuation of the digitization project and announcing new healthcare donors.

OCTOBER 2026 | Tribal Community Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat./Sun.
 ● SECR Payroll ● SCIT Per Capita ● SCIT Payroll ● Curbside Recycling			1 Sacred Fire Lunch 12-1 p.m. 7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health	2 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. B. Health	3 Fireside on the Rez 6-7:30 p.m. B. Health
5 Sewing in Saganing 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saganing Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	6 AOVWS Meeting 6 p.m. Ziibiwing Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Drums Out 7:30-9:30 p.m. 7th Gen	7 Elders Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Andahwod Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health Traditional Game Night 6-8 p.m. 7th Gen.	8 Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health	9 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. B. Health	10 Fireside on the Rez 6-7:30 p.m. B. Health
12 STEAM ^{AG} Meeting 12-1 p.m. SCTC LGO Room Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	13 Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Drums Out 7:30-9:30 p.m. 7th Gen	14 Elders Breakfast 9-10 a.m. Andahwod Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health	15 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	16 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. B. Health	17 Fireside on the Rez 6-7:30 p.m. B. Health
19 TRIBAL OBSERVER DEADLINE Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	20 Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom	21 Elders Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Andahwod Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health	22 Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health	23 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. B. Health	24 Fireside on the Rez 6-7:30 p.m. B. Health
26 STEAM ^{AG} Meeting 12-1 p.m. SCTC LGO Room Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	27 Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Drums Out 7:30-9:30 p.m. 7th Gen	28 Elders Breakfast 9-10 a.m. Andahwod Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health	29 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	30 DEC.1, 2026 TCWP DEADLINE 2027 ANNUAL REPORT DEADLINE Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. B. Health	31 Fireside on the Rez 6-7:30 p.m. B. Health



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

Tribal School Principal

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in education field. Five years teaching experience. Experience with development and implementation of cultural-based educational programming. Experience with budget administration and grant writing. Experience with current assessment requirements and state standards.

Fresh Water Operator I

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have one year verifiable 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. Must work a minimum of two years as an operator EGLE licensed F-4, S-4 minimum.

Fresh Water Operator III

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must have five years of water operator or related experience. Must have worked as a licensed EGLE F-3, S-3 for a minimum of two years.

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.

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 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.

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.

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. Plan Review and Building Inspector certification issued by State of Michigan.

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. Familiarity with federal Indian law desired.

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.

Certified Nursing Assistant

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

Dental Hygienist

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

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.

AWARE Community Project Manager

Open to the public. Grant funded through Sep. 30, 2028. Bachelor's degree in education, social work, counseling, or human services related field. Experience in project management, communications and working with school systems and community collaborations and partnerships.

Maintenance Worker PT

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

Applications Specialist I

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in information technology, computer science, or related field. One year experience in IT.

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.

Leadership Intern

Open to SCIT Members only. High school diploma or GED. Must have satisfactorily completed 12 credit hours or have successfully completed one year of the SCIT youth co-op program. Must provide documentation of acceptance at an accredited college/university in Michigan. Must currently have a cumulative 2.5 GPA.

Soaring Eagle

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.

Culinary Supervisor

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

Kitchen Equipment Tech

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. High school diploma or GED. Three years of experience in commercial food equipment repair.

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 Room Attendant PT

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

Line Cook

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

Saganing

Count Team Assistant

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

Security Officer PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be able to obtain and maintain first aid and CPR certification.

Guest Room Attendant

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

Line Cook

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

Maintenance Worker FT

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

Maintenance Worker 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.

Cage Cashier 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.

Beverage Waitstaff FT

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

Beverage Waitstaff PT

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

F&B Custodial 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:

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SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT NOTICES

PUBLICATION OF HEARING TO REBA ESTRADA (NAVEJAR) IN THE MATTER OF TWO MINOR CHILDREN AND CLAYTON NEDWASH JR. IN THE MATTER OF ONE MINOR CHILD:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court Children's Division. Publication of Hearing. Case No. 24-JCW-0006.

To: **REBA ESTRADA (NAVEJAR)**. In The Matter of: Two Minor Children. Dates of Birth: July 11, 2011, and Oct. 8, 2017.

To: **CLAYTON NEDWASH JR.** In The Matter of: One Minor Child. Date of Birth: July 11, 2011.

The Court has taken jurisdiction of the minors in reference to the case number listed above. A hearing for Petition to Terminate Parental Rights to a Minor will be conducted by the court on

Thursday, Oct. 8, 2026 at 9 a.m. in the courtroom at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 before the Honorable Michelle Horn.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that **REBA ESTRADA (NAVEJAR)** and **CLAYTON NEDWASH JR.** personally appear before the court at the time and place stated above. This hearing may result in the Court continuing its jurisdiction over the minors and the eventual termination of parental rights. Rights of parties as to counsel is set forth in Title II of the Children's Code, Chapter 2.3, Section 2.313(a).



People's Traditional Powwow celebrates 20th anniversary on Aug. 29-30

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

This summer saw an exciting milestone for Seventh Generation as it celebrated its 20th annual People's Traditional Powwow.

The powwow was held Aug. 29-30 on the Seventh Generation Powwow Grounds

off Remus Road in Mount Pleasant. Grand entries began at 1 and 7 p.m. on Saturday and 1 p.m. on Sunday.

This year's dignitaries included Emcee Jason Whitehouse, Arena Director RJ Smith, Head Veteran Walker Stonefish.

Head dancers were chosen each session and included: Raymond Cadotte and Jada

Diaz on Saturday afternoon, Michael Simms and Cicilee Chivis on Saturday evening, and Travis Schuyler and Jasmine Cabarruba on Sunday.

Red Willow and Bad River were the invited drums, and the sound system was provided by Rezonance Productions.

Special competitions included, but were not limited to, a bass drum contest, sponsored by Lenny Shomin; and a two-step special, sponsored by GG's Grub and Jackson's Food Stand.

On Sunday of the powwow, a tiny tot giveaway and

feed was held in honor of Blossom Buckanaga-Shinos. Goodie bags and food items were available to all tiny tot participants.

In addition to Seventh Generation, the powwow was also made possible by Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College.

Photos courtesy of Joseph Sowmick

