



Nimebine-Giizis  
(Sucker Moon)

# TRIBAL OBSERVER

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Working Together For Our Future

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## Judge Maldonado is first Tribal citizen on Michigan Court of Appeals

### JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Public Relations Manager

On March 13, Little Traverse Bay Band Judge Allie Greenleaf Maldonado was sworn in as first Tribal citizen on Michigan Court of Appeals at her investiture ceremony held at Lansing Center.

Judge Maldonado (Turtle Clan) served as chief judge of the LTBB Trial Court. Prior to that, she served as a pro tem judge for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Maldonado is a nationally-recognized expert on the Indian Child Welfare Act, the Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act, as well as Tribal "healing to wellness courts." She has worked extensively with the State Court Administrative Office to bring Michigan into compliance with ICWA, and has served on the Michigan Tribal State Federal Judicial Forum.

Maldonado is a graduate of the City University of New York and the University of Michigan Law School.

In a press release on Dec. 6, 2022, Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer announced the appointment of Maldonado to

the Michigan Court of Appeals District 4.

Maldonado is filling a partial term following the retirement of Judge Amy Ronayne Krause.

Her term will run until Jan. 1, 2025. If she wants to serve the rest of Krause's term, which ends Jan. 1, 2027, she will have to run for reelection in November 2024.

"I am humbled and honored to be trusted by Governor Whitmer for this appointment to the Michigan Court of Appeals," Maldonado said. "I look forward to taking all of my professional experience and diligently applying it to the work ahead of me. This is a moment of importance not just for me, but for all of Indian Country as the governor's wisdom in this appointment sends a message about the critical importance of the work of tribal courts. I am grateful to the governor and her team, and I look forward to giving all of Michigan my best."

According to a media release, Gov. Whitmer said, "The State of Michigan and sovereign tribal nations must continue working together on our shared priorities and maintain an open, productive dialogue to get things done on the kitchen-table issues. I am committed to working alongside tribal leaders to make a real difference in people's lives and continue growing our economies. Our fortunes are linked, and we must collaborate to move our nations forward."

Presiding over the event was Chief Justice Elizabeth T. Clement, Michigan Supreme Court Justice Megan K. Cavanagh, Michigan Supreme Court, Liaison to Tribal Courts and Chief Judge Elizabeth L. Gleicher, Michigan Court of Appeals.

A delegation of Tribal leadership and court officials representing the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe attended the investiture ceremony.

Chief Theresa Peters-Jackson led the delegation with Sub-Chief Jennifer Wassegijig and Council Secretary Martha Wemigwans joining.

"It was such an honor to witness this historical moment of Michigan's history,"

Peters-Jackson said. "Judge Maldonado is the first Native American appointed to the Michigan State Court of Appeals and serves as a true inspiration to our Native People, especially the young women. I thank Judge Allie for the invitation to be part of her special day. I wish her and her family many blessings. Lastly, I thank the Lord/Creator for all his wonderful works that we witnessed at the ceremony."

Sub-Chief Wassegijig appreciated the commitment shown by the ceremonies that recognized many Michigan tribes Judge Maldonado has impacted.

"We have been truly blessed to have Judge Allie serve our SCIT Tribal Court and our Healing to Wellness Program," Wassegijig said. "As a court official who worked in the Probation Department, I was able to see what the personal impact her support and compassion for Native families has meant for our tribe. We are so grateful to share the ceremony with her."

Robyn McCoy, president of the Black Women Lawyers Association of Michigan, served as emcee and introduced eagle staff carriers Joseph Van Alstine and Fred Harrington with flag bearers Russel McKenzie (U.S. Navy) and Casey Heath (U.S. Marine Corps.).

Don Lyons, Minnesota Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe tribal elder, offered a drum and honor song for the ceremony. Judge Frank Ettawageshik, executive director of United Tribes of Michigan and a member of



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

**A SCIT delegation shares a moment at the March 13 Investiture Ceremony with new Michigan Court of Appeals Judge Allie Greenleaf Maldonado (left to right: Associate Judge Kevin Hesselink, Tribal Council Secretary Martha Wemigwans, Judge Michelle Horn, Sub-Chief Jennifer Wassegijig, Maldonado, Chief Theresa Peters-Jackson and Magistrate Carol Jackson).**

the Little Traverse Bay Bands' appellate court, offered a pipe ceremony and prayer.

Ettawageshik has worked with Maldonado for years and nominated her for the position of Chief Judge. He commented on her appointment to the Michigan Court of Appeals as himself, not on behalf of the tribe.

"I was happy for her and sad for us," Ettawageshik said. "I think it's exciting for her, I think it's great for Indian Country. It's better for us, when we have people who understand our issues in the courts."

Chief Judge Michelle Horn led the SCIT Tribal Court with Associate Judge Kevin Hesselink and Magistrate Carol Jackson in attendance.

"Judge Maldonado has served the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe for over seven years and her decisions have shown her steadfast application of fair

and impartial jurisprudence," Judge Horn said. "Her work in both Tribal and State courts and the committees she has served on underscored why Gov. Whitmer made an excellent choice for her serving on the Michigan Court of Appeals."

Secretary Wemigwans praised the water ceremony from LTBB Tribal Court Cultural Advisor Migwaans Smith and her Anishinaabe Kwe helper Netawn Kiogima.

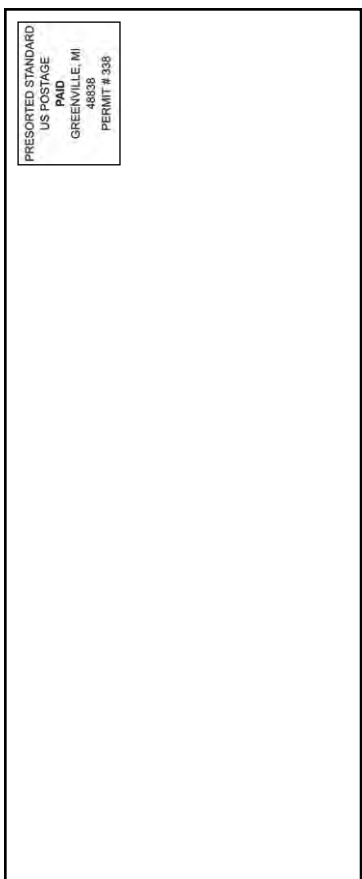
"I have been blessed to be a part of history, once again," Wemigwans said. "The water ceremony was wonderful and seeing all the women in their traditional regalia in honor of Judge Allie. It was amazing to see a beautiful Native woman reach her a goal/dream of hers and it is empowering to our young natives that your dreams are very possible."

## Two new appellate judges sworn in



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**After Chief Theresa Peters-Jackson swears in the two new appellate judges on Thursday, March 9, a group photo is taken in Tribal Council chambers (left to right: Mary Quigno, Luke Sprague, Treasurer Gayle Ruhl, Sub-Chief Jennifer L. Wassegijig, new Associate Appellate Judge Phil Brodeen, new Chief Appellate Judge Greg Paulson, Appellate Judge Carolyn Abeita, Chief Jackson, Secretary Martha Wemigwans, Chaplain Alice Jo Ricketts and Sgt.-at-Arms David Merrill Jr.).**





## Eugene Flamand

May 10, 1949 - March 5, 2023

Eugene Flamand, 73, of Mt. Pleasant passed away on Sunday, March 5, 2023, surrounded by his family, at MyMichigan in Alma.

Eugene was born on May 10, 1949, in Manitowaning, Ontario, Canada, son of the late Emerick and Julia (Jacko) Flamand. He came to the United States when he was 17 years old and went to work for General Motors shortly after. He continued working for GM on the line for 30 years. After retiring from GM, Eugene moved to New York and worked for the Ganienkeh Territory Indian Reservation.

He enjoyed cooking, fishing, native crafts, woodworking, playing hockey, going to the casino, attending powwows and watching his grandchildren's sporting events.

He also liked to visit family cabins in Point Grondine and Prairie Point. Eugene loved to travel with his lifelong love, Cora Leauteaux. He will be greatly missed by so many.

Eugene is survived by his children, Tanya Trudeau of Canada, David Flamand, Jean Flamand, and Christina Flamand, all of Mt. Pleasant; grandchildren, Trista Owl, Wallace Trudeau, Starr Trudeau, Alden Andy, Kaine Andy, Alyssa Andy, Tommy Wemigwans Jr., Daniel Wemigwans, Amber Flamand, and Andy Flamand; great-grandchildren, Mason, Ma-iingan, Ivy, Lavender, Kinsley, Keagan, Korey, Jackson, Rayden, Avery, and Lola; siblings, Helena Flamand, Beatrice (Ronnie) Peltier, Marjorie (Dennis) Flamand, John (Regina) Flamand, Harold (Gail) Flamand, Margaret Flamand, and Danita Mandamin; and sisters-in-law, Melvina Flamand, Rose Wassegijig, Jeanette Leauteaux, and Lilly Leauteaux; godmother, Selena Aiabens; and many nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by both parents; siblings, Stanley (Lorraine) Flamand, Gilbert Flamand, Loretta (Hubert) Flamand and Elizabeth (Leonard) Kimewon; great-grandson, Grayson Twocrow; special friend Cora Leauteaux; in-laws, Melvin and Nancy Leauteaux; brothers-in-law, William Manitowabi, Don Leauteaux, Ollie Leauteaux and Elijah Leauteaux; nephews, Kevin Manitowabi, Mathew Flamand, Ray Flamand, Blaine Kimewon, Makis Leauteaux, Merence Flamand, Ollie Leauteaux Jr., Kyle Trudeau and Allan Wassegijig; and nieces, Pamela Trudeau Stacy Johnson, and Tammy Leauteaux.

A funeral service was held at 1 p.m. Friday, March 10, 2023, at the Charles R. Lux Family Funeral Home (2300 S Lincoln Rd., Mt Pleasant, MI 48858) with Rev. Doyle Perry officiating. The family received friends at the funeral home on that Wednesday and Thursday from 4 to 8 p.m. Visitation continued that Friday one hour prior to service. Memorial contributions may be made to the wishes of family.



## Brenda Miller

December 24, 1959 - March 23, 2023

Brenda J. Miller, of Bristol, Ind. passed away on Thursday, March 23, 2023 at home, surrounded by family.

Brenda was born on Dec. 24, 1959 in Lansing, Mich. to Robert G. and Ruthie Bates. Brenda married the love of her life Charles N. "Chuck" Miller III on March 9, 1996 at Augustana Lutheran Church in Elkhart, Ind.

Brenda graduated from White Pigeon High School, Class of 1978. She was the owner of Sew Creative Threads in Elkhart where she enjoyed teaching sewing and quilting classes.

She and her husband are members of Augustana Lutheran Church. Brenda was a volunteer for Soup of Success with Church Community Services. Brenda volunteered at White Pigeon Elementary School.

She is a member of Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Brenda is survived by her husband of 27 years, Chuck Miller III; their children Amy Watson of White Pigeon, Mich., Amber (Zach) Miller of Toledo, Ohio., Julie (Mike) Knepper of Bristol, Ind. and Sarah (Brian) O'Connor of Elkhart, Ind.; her mom Ruthie (LaVern) Pelcher of Shipshewana; Brenda's grandchildren Chloe (Dakota) Ryall, Kain Watson, Sadie Knepper, Olivia Knepper, Kallen O'Connor, Jillian O'Conner, Braden Watson, Keldan, Koen, and Keaton Capp, Kady Miller, Derek Miller and Tabitha Miller; her brothers Robert (Dawn) A. Bates Allen of Middlebury, Ind. and Thomas R. Bates of Shipshewana, Ind.

Brenda was preceded in death by her dad, Robert "Bob" George Bates, on Oct. 1, 2022.

Visitation was held from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, March 31 at Stemm-Lawson-Peterson Funeral Home, 1531 Cobblestone Blvd, Elkhart, IN. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, April 1, 2023 at 11 a.m. at Augustana Lutheran Church, 1133 Kilbourn Street, Elkhart, IN 46514 where visitation will be one hour before funeral services at the church. Sister Nora Frost will officiate.

Memorial donations may be made to Augustana Lutheran Church or Church Community Services, 907 Oakland Ave., Elkhart, IN 46516. Online condolences may be made at [www.stemmlawsonpeterson.com](http://www.stemmlawsonpeterson.com)



## Robert George "Bo" Pego Sr.

June 28, 1959 - March 11, 2023

Rev. Robert George "Bo" Pego Sr., age 63, of Mount Pleasant passed away unexpectedly Saturday, March 11, 2023, with his faithful wife by his side.

Bo was born on June 28, 1959, in Mt. Pleasant, son of James "Buddy" and Grace (Rapp) Pego. He married the love of his life, June J. (Bowie) Pego in 1983.

Bo was a proud member, former sub-chief and chaplain of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and a proud Christian.

Bo received his bachelor's in theology at the Nazarene Indian Bible College in Albuquerque, N.M. He had a deep faith and passion for leading his flock in the path of Jesus. Bo spent his life serving his family, tribe and anyone who needed a listening ear, no matter what the circumstance. He was a minister, counselor, father, husband, leader in his community. Bo was full of knowledge and compassion and always made time for those who needed him.

Bo was an avid golfer and loved playing in the First Nation Golf Association Professional League.

Bo is survived by his wife of 41 years, June Pego; children, Jacqueline (Brandon) Haught, Robert (Bernice) Pego Jr., and Olivia Otter Robe; grandchildren, Sarah Shomin, Cory Gaskill, Gracie Davidson, Caden Pego, Wabigwan Pego, Sienna Pego, Ezekiel Haught, Isaiah Haught, Jeremiah Haught, Robert Pego III, Amaris Haught, and Daniel Otter Robe; brothers, Steve (Mae) Pego, Allen (Diane) Pego, Scott Pego, and Sam Pego; and sister, Faith (Tony Carmona) Carmona-Pego; right hand man, Greg Mandoka; and many nieces and nephews.

Bo was preceded in death by his cherished son, Isaac Pego in 2011; parents; son-in-law, Daniel Otter Robe; sister, Elaine Pego-Shawnoo; nephew, Allen "Mushie" Pego Jr.; and nieces, Terri Paul and Segwen Traver.

Funeral services were held at Clark Family Funeral Chapel on Wednesday, March 15, 2023, at 1 p.m. with Rev. Sam McClellan and Dr. Julian Gunn officiating. A luncheon followed in the Reflections Reception Center. Interment will take place at Woodland Cemetery in the spring. The family received friends at the funeral chapel the day of the service from 10 a.m. until the time of the service.

Memorial contributions may be made to family.



## LuAnn Phillips

December 26, 1955 - March 9, 2023

LuAnn Phillips, age 67, of Mount Pleasant, passed away Thursday, March 9, 2023.

LuAnn was born in Lansing, Mich. on Dec. 26, 1955, the daughter of Elmer and Ruby (Jackson) Phillips. She was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

LuAnn had a generous heart and loved her grandbabies. She liked making tie blankets, shopping, collecting porcelain figurines, and her tablet.

LuAnn is survived by her significant other of over 30 years, Russell McMullen; children Mandy Linville and special friend, Tony (April) Davis, Kristine (Matt) Depeel, Nicole Davis; step-daughters Heather (Adam) Stuller, Kandi (Luke) Shadix; Jessica (Andy), Marc, Sabashtion, Teirra, Tylor, Sierra (Devin), Lexi (Michael), Kaley, Cheyenne, Hunter, Jackson (Amanda), Jessee, Alyssa, Gage, Jasmine, Skye, Dillon, Jordan, Logan, and Nevaeh; 16 great-grandchildren; brother Terry (Koleen) Phillips; sisters Jody Clark and Kim Roth.

LuAnn was preceded in death by her parents Elmer and Geraldine Phillips, Ruby Wetherell; daughter Jennifer Cook; and grandmother Minnie Jackson.

The family received friends on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at Clark Family Funeral Chapel. At LuAnn's request, no formal funeral service was held. Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.



## Mason Ray Jackson

June 1, 1989 - March 4, 2023

Mason Ray Jackson, age 33, of Mount Pleasant, Mich., passed away Saturday, March 4, 2023.

Mason was born in Mt. Pleasant on June 1, 1989, the son of Michael Jackson and Rachel Francis. He was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Mason loved adventure; spending time outdoors hiking and fishing were some of his favorites. He loved his family and anytime spent with his kids more than anything.

Mason is survived by his children, David Ray Jackson, Alayna Ray Jackson, Mavrick "Giiwedini" William Austin-Jackson; mother Rachel Francis; father Michael Jackson; sister Rebecca Jackson; aunts LeAna Sams, Nina Francis, Reba Navejar; nieces and nephews Mark Jo Cantu, Rouvario Cantu, Manolo Sage Cantu, Violet Louise Jackson Green, Emile Joaquin Jackson and Billie Jo Jackson.

Mason was preceded in death by his sister Micheala Jackson; grandma Catherine Jackson; grandma Nelxine Avis Francis; grandparents Nelson and Emily Kahgegag; aunt Michelle Jackson; and Uncle Pete Compo.

Funeral services were held at Clark Family Funeral Chapel on Friday, March 10, 2023, at 1 p.m. A luncheon followed in the Reflections Reception Center. The family received friends on that Thursday from 5 to 8 p.m. at the funeral chapel. Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



## Aloma Leona Underwood

August 27, 1942 - March 8, 2023

Aloma Leona Underwood, age 80, loving wife, mother, grandmother, and sister was called to her heavenly home on Wednesday, March 8, 2023, with her loving family by her side.

Aloma was born on Aug. 27, 1942, in Pinconning, Mich. to the late Frank and Ethel (James) Cloutier. Aloma was a graduate from St. Michael's High School class of 1960. She retired from General Motors after 25 years of dedication.

She was a member of the Midland Baptist Church and the UAW Local 699. She married Lawrence Underwood on December 16, 1977, in Sterling, Mich.

Aloma will be remembered for having such a great passion for the Lord and her family, she was the most unselfish person you could have ever known. Her proudest accomplishment was being a mother and grandmother.

She enjoyed cooking, canning, gardening, working in her flower beds, trips with her sisters, camping with grandchildren and finding a good bargain. If anyone needed anything or had a family function; you could always count on her to help a little or she was willing to jump in and make it happen. She is a woman of strong faith, dedicated to serving the Lord in any capacity right down to cleaning the church and numerous Prayer Breakfasts she served. She has truly been a blessing to those that have known her.

Surviving besides her husband of 45 years are her children; Amanda (Gerald) Carney, Robert Heppner, Mary (Neil) Wilkinson, Daniel Heppner and Louanna (Tim) VanOchten, 17 grandchildren; Jessie Carney, Angela Corbin, Heather (Darryl) Baca, Brandon (Michelle) Heppner, Marissa Heppner, Brian (Elizabeth) Beauregard, Robert (Leya) Wilkinson, Nicole (Nicholas) Borowicz, Ashley (Kyle) Legel, Austin (fiancé Annalise) Wilkinson, Kendra Maida, Sarah (Cameron) Hoyt, Brianna Heppner, Barry (Shannon) Histed, Ryan (fiancé Paige) Histed, James (Jamie) VanOchten, and 19 great grandchildren, siblings; Pat Cloutier, Gerald (Vivian) Cloutier, Diane Morley, Elaine Kraska, Raymond (Faye) Cloutier, Cathy Bayless, Daniel (Cindy) Cloutier, William (Rose) Cloutier, Linda (Gary) Cook, Richard (Rita) Cloutier, Rosalie (Dan) Maloney, Marjorie (Donald) Dubay, Mary (Jerome) Bukowiec and Frank (James) Cloutier, two sisters-in-law Mary Lou Bryce and Joan Katzer, many nieces, nephews, cousins, her church family and her girls from work, all whom were very important to her.

She was predeceased by her siblings Myron Cloutier, Lena (John) Stemppek, Ivan Morley, David Kraska, Edward Cloutier, Theresa Cloutier, an infant sister Suzie, and a grandson Adam VanOchten.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Roweena Fenwick for her love and devotion in caring for our mother. Words cannot explain how much you mean to us all and our mother. A thank you to Promedica Hospice for the compassionate care given to Aloma and the support given to the family Jenn and Keith you both are truly amazing individuals.

Funeral services were held on Monday, March 13, 2023, at noon from the Midland Baptist Church 5009 Jefferson Avenue Midland, Michigan 48640 with Pastor Mark Simpson presiding, with burial in Mt. Forest Township Cemetery. Friends could visit at the church on that Monday, from 10 a.m. until time of service. Those wishing to share an expression of sympathy are asked to consider Promedica Hospice in Aloma's honor, to help other families in end-of-life needs.



## 2023 Annual Reports are now being accepted

**Deadline: Thursday, May 4, 2023 by 5 p.m.**

### 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](http://www.sagchip.org)
- No postdated forms, emails or faxes accepted

**Your 2023 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

## March 2023 Tribal Child Welfare Affidavits

**Deadline: Friday, May 5, 2023 by 5 p.m.**

**Forms accepted beginning Monday, April 3, 2023**

### Tribal Clerk's Office hours:

**Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

#### Notarization is required

- Forms are available by mail, email and online at [www.sagchip.org](http://www.sagchip.org)
- Post marked forms, email or faxed will not be accepted
- The Tribal Clerk's office must have the original form

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



Check out the  
**Tribal Observer**  
**ONLINE**

[www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver](http://www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver)



## 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

- April 4 • May 2 • June 6

## Reservation Household CLEAN UP

**Saturday, May 20, 2023**

**9 a.m. - 12 p.m.** | SCA parking lot

- **In case of rainout, event will be held May 21**
- **Accepting normal household items that do not pose a threat to Mother Earth.**
- **Items not accepted:** Tires, refrigerators/freezers, microwave ovens, computers/screens, televisions, oil, paint, chemicals, batteries, cell phones, fluorescent light bulbs, pesticides/herbicides.
- In case of rain, event will be held 5/21
- For Tribal Members only, Tribal ID required
- Tribal Police Department will offer a drug take back for unwanted, expired or unused medication
- If you have household electronic and hazardous waste, you can drop it off at the Isabella County Fairgrounds on May 20 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Contact the Isabella Conservation District at 989.772.9152 for more information.



**For more information, please contact:**  
Housing Department at 989.775.4595

### Attention SCIT Tribal Members: Notice of Public Hearing

There will be a public hearing held on **Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers in the Black Elk Building, 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mount Pleasant, MI 48858.** This hearing will address the liquor license application presented to Tribal Council by Christopher Nadobny, Director of the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Food & Beverage Department or his designated staff. The application which will be reviewed and discussed at the hearing requests as follows:

Renewal of Retail On-Premise General License for the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort located at 6800 Soaring Eagle Boulevard. Such license, if approved would cover Casino Beverage Main Floor Bar #1,2,3,4, High stakes VIP lounge, SECR Casino beverage cart services, Room Service, Banquet Spaces, Portable Bars #1-#13, Legends Diner, Siniikaung, Entertainment Hall, Hotel Pool and Spa areas, Mijjim C-Store, Quick Service Cart Services, SECR Outdoor Concert Venue, SECR Concession Trailer, SECR Slot Palace Bingo Hall, Slot Palace Gaming Spaces in Rooms 'A', 'B', and 'C', Slot Palace Pub, Little Eagle Cafe, Ascend Sports Bar, SECR Casino Gift Shop, SECR Slot Palace Gift Shop, any indoor service on premises under the auspices of the SECR, and any outdoor service on premises under the auspices of the SECR.

This License, if issued, will be for the duration of one full year from May 24, 2023 to May 23, 2024, with hours of alcohol service consistent with section 10 of the Gaming Compact of Aug. 20, 1993, and specifically including hours of service for 7 a.m. Sunday alcohol sales and sales on Christmas Eve until 11:59 p.m., Christmas Day at noon and New Year's Day until 4 a.m.

### SCIT Housing Department ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SCIT HD invites you to get involved if you are a leasehold home owner or a tenant of the SCIT Housing Program.

**This is your opportunity to have a voice in our program**

The Housing Department is currently accepting letters of interest from Leasehold Home Owners and HUD Residents for the Housing Advisory Committee SCHD AC.

**Please include the following:**

Name, address, phone number, photo, and a letter of interest

**Letters of interest will be accepted until:**

Friday, April 28 at 5 p.m.

**Mail letters of interest to:**

SCIT Housing Department  
2451 Nish Na Be Anong Rd.  
Mount Pleasant MI—48858



**For more information:**

- **Call:** 989-775-4595 • **Email:** housing@sagchip.org
- **Or check us out at:** www.sagchip.org/housing/index.htm



PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICES  
COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL • AGRICULTURAL

## INVITATION TO BID Farm Land Lease – Isabella County

Aking Holding Company is accepting bids for farming production on several parcels of land located in Isabella County through Friday, April 14, 2023 at 5 p.m.

**To receive a bid packet, please email:**

ToKequom@sagchip.org or call 989-775-4229

*Aking Holding Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, responsible for the management of several farm land parcels located in Arenac and Isabella counties.*

## Election Timeline

### 2023 Primary & General Elections

**Aug. 7 - Sept. 1 | Candidate Packets available** at the Tribal Clerk's Office

**Sept. 1 | Petition Deadline** for Candidates to turn in Petitions

**Sept. 8 | Last day to register** to vote for the Primary Election

**Sept. 12 | Deadline for Candidates to meet all aspects of the qualifications** to be placed on the final list of Candidates

**Sept. 13 | Final Candidate List Posted**

**Sept. 19 | Absentee Ballots** for Primary Election available in the office and mailed

**Oct. 6 | Last day to register** to vote for the General Election

**Oct. 9 | Certification of voting machines (5:15 p.m.)**

**Oct. 10 | Primary Election Day**  
Polls will be open from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m.

**Oct. 11 | Primary Election Results and Candidates List Posted**

**Oct. 17 | Absentee Ballots** for General Election available in the office and mailed

**Nov. 6 | Certification of voting machines (5:15 p.m.)**

**Nov. 7 | General Election Day**  
Polls will be open from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m.

**Nov. 8 | General Election Results Posted**

**For more information, please contact:**  
Tribal Clerk's Office at 989.775.4054

# NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

April 1, 2023

**The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan**  
7500 Soaring Eagle Boulevard  
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858  
(989) 775-4581

On or about April 8, 2023, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe will authorize the Saginaw Chippewa Housing Department to submit a request to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the release of Indian Housing Block Grant Funds under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, as amended, to undertake a project known as The Saginaw Chippewa Affordable Housing Program located on the Isabella and Saganing reservations, estimated cost is \$ 1,204,121.81.

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at 2451 Nishnabeanong Drive, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 and may be examined or copied weekdays 8 A.M to 5 P.M.

### Public Comments

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe Housing Department. All comments received by April 8, 2023 will be considered by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

### Environmental Certification


The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe certifies to HUD that Theresa Jackson, or Jennifer L. Wassegijig in her capacity as Tribal Chief or Sub Chief respectively consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Housing Department to use Program funds.

### Objections to release of funds

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the Saginaw Chippewa's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its ac-

tual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe; (b) the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Elton Jones, Acting Administrator, HUD Eastern Woodlands Office of Native American Programs, Ralph H. Metcalf Federal Building, Room 2404, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, CHICAGO, IL 60604-3507. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Theresa Jackson, Tribal Chief

## Tribal Council

**Chief**  
Theresa Peters-Jackson | District One

**Sub-Chief**  
Jennifer L. Wassegijig | District One

**Treasurer**  
Gayle Ruhl | District One

**Secretary**  
Martha Wemigwans | District One

**Sergeant-at-Arms**  
David Merrill Jr. | District One

**Chaplain**  
Alice Jo Ricketts | District One

**Council Member**  
Diana Quigno-Grundahl | District One

**Council Member**  
Frank J. Cloutier | District Three

**Council Member**  
Luke Sprague | District One

**Council Member**  
Mary Quigno | District One

**Council Member**  
Ron Nelson | District Two

**Council Member**  
Samantha Chippeway | District One



## June 19 - 23, 2023

**Location: Tawas Lake**  
(1 Kunze Road, East Tawas, MI 48730)

- Five days, four nights
- Pick up and drop off at Eagles Nest Tribal Gym

**Open to ages 12 to 17 (during time of camp)**  
Camp will provide hands-on experiences and fun that will encourage campers to look at environmental stewardship with a cultural aspect.

- Fishing
- Hikes
- Bonfires
- Canoeing
- Star gazing
- Crafts
- Traditional games
- Archery
- Traditional teachings

**Applications open: April 1 - June 1**

- \$40 registration fee
- Limited space available

**Activities planned around the Medicine Wheel Teachings:**  
Earth, Water, Fire, Air



**To obtain an application, contact:**  
**Kathleen Hart**  
SCTC Equity Program Coordinator

- Phone: 989.317.4827
- Fax: 989.317.4781
- Email: KHart@sagchip.org

**Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College**  
C/O: Kathy Hart  
2270 Enterprise Dr.,  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858





Working Together To Protect Our Environment



## ZIIBIWING CENTER

of Anishinaabe Culture & Lifeways

### Collections Committee Vacancies

#### Attention Tribal Members

The Ziibiwing Center is seeking interested individuals to serve on its Collections Committee.

The Ziibiwing Center is a distinctive treasure created to provide an enriched, diversified and culturally relevant educational experience. This promotes the society's belief that the culture, diversity and spirit of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and other Great Lakes Anishinabek must be recognized, perpetuated, communicated and supported.

**Interested members need to:**

- Meet every second Wednesday of the month from 1-2 p.m.
- Implement the ZCS's purpose to enlighten and educate tribal and community members and all other people of the world to the culture, heritage, history and goals of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

**For more information, contact and send letters of interest to:**

**William Johnson, Curator/Operations Manager**

- Email: WJohnson@sagchip.org
- Phone: 989.775.4730
- Mail: ZC Collections Committee c/o William Johnson 6650 E. Broadway Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

## 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.

## Human Resources Satellite Office Hours

**Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.**  
Closed for lunch from 12 - 1 p.m.

**Location:** Directly next door to Legends Diner on the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort gaming floor.

**For more information, please contact:**

- Frances Mena: 989.775.5648 or fmena@sagchip.org
- Humanresources@sagchip.org

## Order Establishing Spring Wild Turkey Season 2023

**Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 105 subdivision 6(B), the 2023 Spring Wild Turkey Season shall begin Saturday, April 1, 2023, and will close Thursday, June 15, 2023, unless ordered otherwise. The 2023 Spring Wild Turkey Season will allow for the harvest of two male turkeys.**

**Harvest tags will be available starting March 29, 2023 at the Tribal Planning Department office at \$10 per tag. Only two tags are allowed.**

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

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

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

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

# 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



## 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 2 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
Acuna, Alyssa Lynn	02/08/2023
Bailey, Robert Harold	01/13/2022
Burnham, William James	01/08/2023
Coleman, Lisa Renee	01/30/2022
Cyr Sr, Norman Joseph	10/26/2021
Davis Sr, Marvin Lee	12/05/2022
Davis, Tony	04/25/2022
Gordon, Marjorie Ann	08/22/2022
Hoon, Virginia Mae	11/07/2021
Jackson, Douglas Field	08/22/2022
Moggo, Richard William	08/04/2022
Nelson, Phillip Louis	01/27/2022
Pamp, Matthew John	10/15/2021
Pamp, Shane Leonard	10/10/2021
Pamp Crooker, Betsy Lynn	11/24/2021
Phillips, Lu Ann	03/09/2023
Roy, Barbara Ann	08/08/2022
Rubin, Ann Margaret	12/07/2021
Schramm, Susan Gayle	11/06/2022
Sheahan, Akiwaande	02/18/2023
Smith, Jesse Davis	02/25/2022
Stone, Domonic Ambrose	01/04/2022
Watson, Delores Katherine	11/10/2022
Weaver, Laura Beth	12/13/2021
Underwood, Aloma	03/08/2023

## Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

### HONORING SAGANING TRADITIONAL POWWOW

**June 10 & 11, 2023**

**Powwow Grounds** — 2750 Worth Rd. Standish, MI  
Next to the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino & Hotel,  
and the Saganing Tribal Center



Questions and special requests, please contact:  
**Saginaw Chippewa Powwow Committee**  
989.775.4000 | powwowcommittee@sagchip.org

## Saganing Powwow Golf Outing Fundraiser

**Friday, June 9, 2023**

**Tee time: 10 a.m. shotgun start**

### Pine River Golf Club

2244 Pine River Rd., Standish, MI 48658

- Format: four player scramble
- Entry: \$80 per player \*Includes cart, green fee, skins, lunch and awards banquet
- Prizes for: longest drive, closest to pin, and longest putt
- Mulligans: \$5 each, limit two per player
- Raffles

### Sponsors:

- Saganing Powwow Committee
- Saganing Eagles Landing Marketing
- Frank Cloutier Extraordinaire

### Pre-registration:

Please email your team name and players to:  
Powwowcommittee@sagchip.org

\*All proceeds benefit the 2023 Saganing Powwow

## Conservation Committee Seats

The Planning Department is soliciting letters of interests for adult Tribal Members interested in serving on the Saginaw Chippewa Conservation Committee for a Tribal Council appointed two year term. Per Ordinance 11, section 102, subdivision 2 and the approved Ordinance 11 Committee By-Laws

Please submit a letter of interest along with your qualification and experience to:

Donald Seal  
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan  
Planning Department  
7500 Soaring Eagle Boulevard  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858  
dseal@sagchip.org



Letters of interests will be received until all vacancies are filled.

## Estate Planning Clinic

SCIT Members & Community Members

Thursday, April 13, 2023 • 1 p.m.

### Andahwod

(2910 S. Leaton Road, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858)

**MILS will be offering FREE legal assistance for those who qualify!**

Last Will and Testament, Lady Bird Deeds, Funereal Representative Designation, General Durable Power of Attorney, Medical Durable Power of Attorney



## 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Saginaw Chippewa POWWOW

Mnadendamadaa Waanezhiwebak "Honoring our Future"

Save the date!

**July 28, 29 & 30, 2023**

**Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Campground**  
7525 E. Tomah Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

For more information, please contact:

SCIT Powwow Committee at 989.775.4000  
or PowwowCommittee@Sagchip.org

## Hazardous Tree Removal PROGRAM

**Purpose:** Provide financial assistance to members of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe to mitigate dangers or threats to their primary residence posed by hazard trees.

### Requirements:

- Must be a SCIT Member
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must be the homeowner residing at the affected property

Applications and guidelines are available online at:

- ▶ <http://www.sagchip.org/pdf/forms/Housing/Hazard-Tree-Application-10.13.22.pdf>
- ▶ [www.sagchip.org/forms.aspx](http://www.sagchip.org/forms.aspx)

For more information, please contact:  
Housing at 989-775-4595



## 2023 Summer Youth WORKER PROGRAM

Crew Leaders and Summer Youth Workers Needed

- **New six-week program:** Starts the week of June 19 - July 28  
\* Summer youth worker employees adhere to Tribal Operations policies and holidays.
- **New summer youth portal:** The summer youth calendar, interview scheduling, program policies, workshop sign-ups with the option to bring a friend, program news and reminders, a call-in option, and other important documents will all be posted and updated regularly on the new summer youth portal at [www.sagchip.org/summeryouth](http://www.sagchip.org/summeryouth)
- **Workshop days: No work in departments on workshop days!** Cultural, educational, career paving, and community outreach workshops available.
- **Applications will become available in April at [www.sagchip.org/careers](http://www.sagchip.org/careers)** \* Paper applications will also be available at the Black Elk Building Human Resources front window.

### Crew Leaders:

- Must be SCIT Member
- Must be 18-24 years old
- **Applications open:** April 1, 2023
- **Application deadline:** May 1, 2023

### Youth Workers:

- Must be SCIT Member
- Must be 14-18 years old
- **Applications open:** April 29, 2023
- **Application deadline:** May 29, 2023

### For more information:

Betsey Alonzo, Tribal Development Coordinator  
• Phone: 989.775.5643 • Email: [BAlonzo@sagchip.org](mailto:BAlonzo@sagchip.org)

## College Rental Assistance

The Saginaw Chippewa Housing Department is offering rental assistance to Native American college students that meet the following criteria:

- 18 years old or older and financially independent of their parents
- Must be a duly enrolled member of any Native Tribe that has been identified on the most current Federal Register listing of "Indian Entities Recognized by and Eligible to Receive Services from the U.S. BIA (86 FR 7554 (Jan. 29, 2021))"
- Household is low-income as determined by HUD's definition: <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il.html>
- Enrolled in an accredited post-secondary college or university pursuing a 2 year (or higher) degree or certificate
- The university or college and the rental unit must be located within the Lower Peninsula of the state of Michigan

▶ **All rental assistance is paid directly to the landlord**

▶ **Applications and more information can be found at:** <http://www.sagchip.org/housing/>

For more information, please contact:  
Housing at 989-775-4538



# APRIL PROMOTIONS



## Win up to \$100,000 in Cash Prizes!

### Saturdays in April

One winner each hour from **5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.** will be drawn to spin our lucky Money Wheel and win cash prizes! You'll get 3 wheel spins to accumulate cash winnings! Land on the eagle icon three times and you'll win the \$100,000 Grand Prize!

**ACCESS Club members will receive one (1) entry for every 300 points earned on their ACCESS Club card from 12:00 a.m. March 25th, 2023 until 10:55 p.m. on April 29th, 2023.**



### FRIDAYS

**9:00 A.M. - 11:59 P.M.**

Earn 800 points using your ACCESS Card while playing slots and you'll be awarded \$10 Premium Play! Get an additional \$10 for every 800 points earned. A maximum of \$60 in Premium Play can be earned for each promotional day.



### MONDAYS, TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

**7:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.**

Each week in April, ACCESS Club card holders can earn entries into exclusive drawings for a chance to spin our wheel of money and win Premium Play prizes! Two lucky winners will be drawn each hour from 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.



### SUNDAY, APRIL 30

**10:00 A.M. - 10:00 P.M.**

Qualifying ACCESS Club members will receive an exclusive email to come in and play a kiosk game for a chance to win up to \$1,000 in Premium Play!



### SUNDAY, APRIL 9

**10:00 A.M. - 10:00 P.M.**

ACCESS Club members playing slots with their club card will have a chance to win prizes during hot seat drawings.



## Win up to \$5,000 in Free Play & Cash!

### Saturdays in April

Hourly drawings from **5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.** for your chance to play "Hive Five" and punch your way up to \$500 in cash & Premium Play! At **10:00 p.m.** one lucky winner could find the Queen Bee and win \$5,000 in cash!

**ACCESS Club members will receive one (1) entry for every 200 points earned on their ACCESS Club card from March 27th at 12:00 a.m. - April 29th, 2023 at 9:55 p.m. Additional restrictions may apply.**



### MONDAYS

**4:00 A.M. - 11:59 P.M.**

ACCESS Club members that earn 800 points can earn up to \$50 in Premium Play by swiping their card at one of the kiosks.



### FRIDAYS

**5:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.**

Hourly drawings for your chance to win cash prizes playing "Sting Operation"!



### SUNDAYS, APRIL 2, 9, 16 & 23

**6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.**

Hot seat drawings for your chance to win cash and Premium Play prizes playing our "Show Me The Honey" game!



### APRIL 11 & 30

**10:00 A.M. - 11:59 P.M.**

Qualified ACCESS Club members may claim a VISA Gift Card on the dates above from 10:00 a.m.-11:59 p.m. Restrictions apply.

soaringeaglecasino.com Mt. Pleasant, MI | 1.888.7.EAGLE.7

Must be 18 to game. Must be an ACCESS Loyalty Club Member to participate in promotions. Management reserves all rights.



## Annual Saginaw Chippewa Round Dance held March 10

### MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

The annual Saginaw Chippewa Round Dance was held on Friday, March 10 in the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym.

The emcee was James “Bud” Day with Joe Syrette serving as the stickman.

Invited singers included Dion Syrette, Vito Buckanaga, Leroy Shenoksey, Dan Jackson, Lil Man Quintero, Aaron Chivis, Tommy Wemigwans Jr., Simon Jackson, Caden Pego and Kenson Taylor.

Observer photos by Matthew Wright



## April 2023 Tribal Elder Birthdays

<p>1) Willard Chapoton III David James Carla Sineway Joseph Smith Jr. Thomas Walker</p> <p>2) Mike Frank</p> <p>3) Peggy Harris Sharon Matthews Robert Sharon Christine Bird Mary North Laura Yoder</p> <p>4) Judy Jackson Crystal Hodge Jennifer Goodwin Crystal Hodge</p> <p>5) Kimi Alani Barbara Poulos Westbrook Shawboose</p> <p>6) Jesse Helms Gerry Leauteaux Shelly Rickert Mary Russell</p> <p>8) Cathleen Matthews Eleanore VanHorn Mark Cyr John Quinn</p> <p>9) Edward Matthews Lisa Snyder Janice Wilcox</p> <p>10) Sena Hutcheson Paul Moses Wendy Chapman</p> <p>11) Barbara Sprague Maury Francis</p> <p>12) Randolph Holy-Day</p> <p>13) Lawrence Collins</p> <p>14) Rena Bird</p>	<p>William Quayle Jr.</p> <p>15) Raymond Fisher II Laurie Jackson Paula Howlett Marietta Stanley Michael McCreery</p> <p>16) Debra House Russell Stevens Leslie Bennett</p> <p>17) Jon Bennett Jr. Wanda Lautner Robert Mays</p> <p>19) Valerie Moore Kermit Paul Jr. Craig Perez</p> <p>20) Joseph Collins Kari Ellis</p> <p>21) Annette Buckner</p>	<p>Raymond Cloutier Theron Fisher</p> <p>22) Charles Benz Ethel Lingford</p> <p>23) Diana Kahgegab</p> <p>24) Monica McQuarter</p> <p>25) Brenda Franco</p> <p>26) Darlene Wilson Gladys Hall Carolyn O’Neal Teresa Reyes</p> <p>27) Marie Kequom Alta Arroyo Jovain Shawboose Linda Smith Mary Perez</p> <p>28) Stephen Bonnau Glen Tolfree Jr. Tracy Cousins</p> <p>29) Robin Dutton Tonia Jewell</p> <p>30) Lou Loiselle Lawrence Zocher</p>
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## TRIBAL FOOD VENDORS

LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE FOR SOARING EAGLE & SAGANING’S OUTDOOR SUMMER CONCERT SERIES!

Must have Serve Safe Training/Certificate & be a SCIT Tribal Member. For complete details, please contact Consuelo Gonzalez at 989-775-0096 or email cgonzalez@sagchip.org. Deadline to register is May 1st, 2023.

## Request for Qualifications: Seller’s Agent

**Services overview:**  
The Saginaw Chippewa Housing Department (SCHD) is requesting the services of a Seller’s Agent to sell a house located on the Isabella Reservation, Mt. Pleasant, Mich.

**Company background:**  
The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan is a federally recognized tribal government. The SCHD is wholly owned and operated by the SCIT located on the Isabella Reservation in Isabella County, Michigan. SCHD owns a home located at 7401 E. Remus Rd., Mt. Pleasant and is seeking a seller’s agent to assist in the marketing, showing, sale of the property, and to provide a market analysis to determine price. Applicants must be willing to enter into a service agreement with the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and conform to tribal laws and regulations. Native preference applies to this procurement.

**Submission procedures:**

- Submit information on sheets no larger than an 8 1/2 x 11, clear and legible lettering.
- Email the requested information to:**  
LoNahdee@sagchip.org or romaloney@sagchip.org OR
- Send via US Mail or in person delivery to:**  
Saginaw Chippewa Housing Department  
2451 Nish-na-be-anong Drive, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.
- Submissions must be received by:** Monday, April 17, 2023 by 5 p.m.
- Submissions received after the deadline will not be considered.

**Submission requirements:**

- Your name, address and complete contact information including any dba
- Copy of a current State of Michigan Real Estate License
- Copy of a current SCIT Tribal ID
- Resume detailing real estate experience
- Two written references from previous clients
- Statement of availability
- Marketing Plan
- Statement of Duties to the Client
- Describe methodology for market analysis
- Your contract listing your terms and commission (fee)

**For more information, please contact:**

**Lori Nahdee** | SCIT Land Title & Realty Specialist  
• Email: LoNahdee@sagchip.org • Phone: 989.775.4583

**Rosalie Maloney** | SCIT Housing Manager  
• Email: romaloney@sagchip.org • Phone: 989-775-4581



## Central Michigan University hosts 34th annual "Celebrating Life" Powwow

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

The beauty that is Native American culture was showcased and celebrated once more at Central Michigan University's 34th annual "Celebrating Life" Powwow on March 18-19.

The powwow was held in the John G. Kulhavi Events Center in CMU's McGuirk Arena.

Grand entries began at 1 and 7 p.m. on that Saturday and noon on Sunday.

Various tribes came together to dance, drum, sing, celebrate and visit.

This year's master of ceremonies was Paul Syrette, from the Batchewana First Nation in Ontario.

The host drum was Crazy Spirit and Walker Stonefish served as head veteran.

SCIT Member Melissa Isaac was first-ever female arena director for this powwow.

Waskwane Stonefish served as head dance judge and Vito Buckanaga was head singing judge.

Each session featured different head dancers. The Tribal Observer was onsite for the Sunday afternoon grand entry

where teens Levi Wakemup and Aryana Robinson were head dancers.

Joe Syrette provided Sunday afternoon's invocation. He discussed traditions, teachings and said, "It's an honor to stand here with you today."

Each of the several drum groups present take turns drumming for each round of dancing.

While the powwow brings tribes and spectators together, there is also a competition to be had. Prizes were given in many categories of dance contests including: teen, golden age, youth and adult. The drum contest gave away \$4,000 for first place, \$3,000 for second and \$2,000 for third.

The CMU Powwow Committee put on the event with support from CMU's Native American Programs, Native American Student Alliance, faculty members, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal community members, and student volunteers.



Vendors were present selling art, food, clothing, beading and more.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Grand entry is underway on Sunday afternoon, March 19, at Central Michigan University's annual Celebrating Life Powwow as Head Veteran Walker Stonefish (far right), Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veterans and Warriors Society members, and flag carriers lead the arena.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Sunday afternoon's head dancers, teens Aryana Robinson (left) and Levi Wakemup (right), lead the dancers in the arena, with Junior Miss Odawa Nation (center) following.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

(Left to right) Chief Theresa Peters-Jackson, CMU President Robert Davies and Master of Ceremonies Paul Syrette attend Saturday's powwow.

Observer photos by Natalie Shattuck







## Sweet smells and smiling faces were plentiful at the 'making maple syrup' workshop

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Public Relations Manager

The sap was boiling and the wonderful smells were plentiful at the Seventh Generation Elijah Elk Cultural Center as the community came together in a time honoring traditional way on March 20.

Lee Ann Ruffino, cultural manager for Seventh Generation, said she believes those who attend the ziiwaakmide (maple syrup) are events are looking for that "connection to the land we all long for."

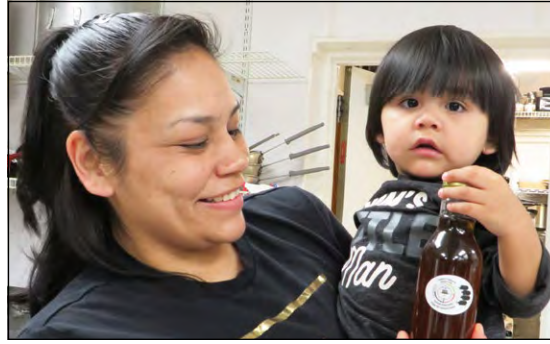
"The stories that we Anishinaabek share about our ziiwaakmide (maple syrup) remind us that hard work is always worth the sweet rewards," Ruffino said. "I am extremely happy to see our

community get so excited learning how to process maple tree sap to syrup to sugar."

During the workshop for Saginaw Chippewa Academy students and staff, Ruffino showcased commitment to the traditional ways, and that the gathering of the syrup is quite the process.

"From tapping the trees, harvesting the sap, boiling and processing... that is what stands out in the process for the Seventh Generation staff," Ruffino said. "The Seventh Gen staff worked hard this season, from sun up to sun down. We would like to say chi-miigwetch to the SCA students and staff who came to visit and learn all about maple syruping process."

Administrative Assistant Tonya Jackson helped placed the



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick  
**Josiah Hall (right) holds up a bottle of Seventh Generation maple syrup as his mother Alicia Paquin (left) smiles proudly.**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick  
**Cultural Manager Lee Ann Ruffino (right) offers a taste of granulated maple syrup to Navaeh Alaniz (left).**



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick  
**Maple Syrup Workshop students get a hands-on education of proper boiling techniques from Ruffino.**

final product of maple syrup in glass bottles.

"One of the other products made from the sugar bush are the maple sugar candies and the youth find those delicious," Jackson said. "Our Seventh Generation staff also utilize the maple syrup for feasts, such as seasoning for squash or wild rice dishes."

Jackson said the recent equipment purchased in the sugar shack has helped the staff in processing of maple syrup.

"The equipment purchased from the SCTC (Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College) Extension Program has helped us up the process of making more maple syrup, quicker than the wood burning evaporator," Jackson said. "We would burn seven to 10 hours

and only get a small pail and would usually only get maybe 80 bottles the short season.

"Now we can boil for three to four hours using the gas evaporator and produce at least 200 bottles. It has helped us to produce a better product in less time and effort."

Jackson observed personally how Native youth connect with nature and each other during the process of the sugar bush teachings.

"Blood memory comes from them internally and they start to get excited when they're in the kitchen and learning the process," Jackson said. Many of them did not know the maple syrup came from maple trees, as well as the maple sugar and how that is made from the trees."

Cultural Representative Daniel Jackson said he believes "maple syrup is medicine for our people."

"For me, the cultural values always lead back to the creation stories I have heard," Daniel Jackson said. "The medicine could be in the labor and the healthier version of sugar and syrup."

Daniel Jackson said a lot of the sugar bush teachings come from "how your family and tribe has honored those ancestor teachings in the years before."

"The process reminded me of another story about respecting the sugar bush and all tools used in the harvest," he said. "For some, there is a spiritual connection to this, and as we learn through our ceremonies, we are always starting with the offer of asemma.

## Winter months retire, rebirth comes at Seventh Generation Mnookmi (Spring) Feast

**JOSEPH V. SOWMICK**

Public Relations Manager

The winter months have retired and rebirth comes again as families converge at the Elijah Elk Cultural Center for the Mnookmi (Spring) Feast on March 22.

Lee Ann Ruffino, cultural manager for Seventh Generation, marveled over the large gatherings for cultural events and mentioned the process of how the staff prepares for the seasonal feasts.

"Most importantly, semaa (tobacco) is offered to our cultural representative to prep for lighting the sacred fire," Ruffino said. "The gitchitwaa ishkode (sacred fire) is for our community, so they may make offerings to acknowledge God/Creator, or ask for special prayers for family, friends, loved ones passed on, and for themselves.

"We may also make offerings of tobacco, cedar, sage and sweetgrass, water, and spirit plate for our ancestors, for our God/Creator, before we eat. These ways remind us that we are strong and resilient Anishinaabe with traditions that enrich our lives and help us to stay on a good path."

Ruffino said we honor ancestors and these ways are also meant to acknowledge and be thankful for all that we have.

"The drum, Onion Creek, is medicine for our community,"



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick  
**A large crowd packs the seasonal Spring Feast at Seventh Generation's Elijah Elk Cultural Center.**

Ruffino said. "These men that sit on that drum and help us to start our feasts in a good way are appreciated. The drum calls in good medicine for all of our hearts if we are in need. We feel it in our chest and it touches our spirits."

Isabelle Osawamick (Wikwemikong First Nations), Anishinaabe outreach specialist, gave a traditional blessing in Anishinaabemowin for the feast.

"We live in a time of global change on Shkakamikwe (Mother Earth). Indigenous people worldwide are celebrating this change in a positive way through ceremonies," Osawamick said. "Mnookmi (spring) is the beginning of a new year for us. Seventh Generation offers a Mnookmi Maamwi Wiisining (Spring Feast) every year to celebrate this new start. We share food. We eat together, listen to drumming and acknowledge the sacred fire."

Osawamick teaches this is a time for new beginnings in

whatever aspect of a person's life. "It could be a physical change, like daily walking or eating healthy. It could be a new way of looking at things or being more open minded, a new way of looking at life," Osawamick said. "It could mean leaving an "old you" and bringing out a "new you". This is a time for change, a positive change."

Osawamick explains the importance of change from the winter to spring

"This is when things start to blossom (bash-kaab-go-nii) on Mother Earth, a new start,"

Osawamick said. "Trees start to blossom. We get ready to plant. Natural medicines begin to show themselves to us. There are many of them that grow in the deep woods and natural surroundings. Ninaatik (maple tree) gives us sap to detoxify our bodies for a new beginning. Mother Earth starts to give us longer days so we can begin to enjoy the outside and give thanks to it by offering our acknowledgement in whatever way we choose to do it."

Osawamick stressed that mnookmi (spring) is for a new beginning in whatever and asked those in attendance, "What is your new beginning?"

The Onion Creek singers offered a welcome song and Cultural Representative Daniel Jackson shared about the Ojibwe Creation story of how we got the drum.

"There was a part in the story that when they sounded that drum's voice, an entire village was camouflaged from



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick  
**Tribal Elder Carole Tally (left) is all smiles with Andahwod Administrator Sheligh Jackson (right).**

soldiers," Jackson said. "The explanation given to me was, the drum called spirits, and they are what hid the village from those soldiers. Many people today believe the drum still does the same, we call spirits for help."

Ruffino shared at the conclusion of the Spring Feast, the drum closes out the event and leaves us with a good feeling in all of our hearts.

**Monday Night MASTERS**

**Monday nights: May 8 - Aug. 21**

- 14 weeks of league play
- Two-person scramble league

**Location: PohlCat Golf Course**

**Tee Times: 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.**

**For more information:**  
989.775.4121 | Recreation@Sagchip.org

**Team Information**

- Co-ed (can be any mix)
- Players must be ages 18+
- Max of 14 teams
- League will be handicapped

**One player must be one of the following:**  
SCIT Member, Tribal employee (SECR, Migizi, Tribal Ops, SELC), SCIT descendant or Member of another Tribe.

**Registration Deadline:** Friday, April 21 at noon

**League fees: \$360**

- ▶ \$300 for full season per player
- ▶ \$60 for cash payouts
- ▶ SCIT cart-course membership: \$450



# Rez Pets: It's Raining Cats and Dogs!



**Owner:** Jenny Newland  
**Name:** Samson  
**Age:** 10  
**Breed:** American Shorthair



**Owner:** Jessica Gelvin  
**Name:** Betty White  
**Age:** 13  
**Breed:** Calico



**Owners:** Arianna, Logan, Skylar and Niwin Bird  
**Names:** Sir Gidimus, Loki, Gypsy, Cloe  
**Ages:** 9 months, 4, 5 months, 13  
**Breeds:** Domestic Cat, Chihuahua, Pit Bull, Chihuahua



**Owner:** Carolina Gonzalez  
**Names:** Richie, Alpo, Baby  
**Age:** 2, 2, 1  
**Breeds:** Chihuahuas



**Owner:** Natalie Shattuck  
**Name:** Hendrix  
**(RIH: Dec. 23, 2018- March 2, 2023)**  
**Age:** 4  
**Breed:** Treeing Walker Coonhound mix



**Owner:** Nick and Wendi Bovear  
**Names:** Riley, Maggz, Cabby  
**Ages:** 11 months, 14, 13  
**Breeds:** Shih Tzu



**Owner:** Karen Roy  
**Name:** Taz  
**Age:** 3  
**Breed:** Tabby



**Owner:** Robert Juckniess  
**Name:** Hiro  
**Age:** 1  
**Breed:** Shiba Inu



**Owner:** Denise Pelcher  
**Name:** Daisy Doo  
**Age:** 9 months  
**Breed:** Cavipoo



**Owner:** Nicole Aasved  
**Name:** Jagger  
**Age:** 5  
**Breed:** Chocolate Lab



**Owner:** Frances Mena  
**Names:** Hannah Montana & Chompers  
**Ages:** 3, 1  
**Breeds:** Australian Cattle Dog/Mini Poodle, Peekapoo



**Owner:** Leah Carmody  
**Names:** Max & Lucy  
**Age:** 5, 10  
**Breeds:** Great Pyrenees, Shih Tzu



**Owner:** Ashley Hunt  
**Name:** Roscoe  
**Age:** 9 weeks  
**Breed:** Basset Hound



**Owners:** Kendall & Jeanette Beltrick  
**Name:** Maggie  
**Age:** 3  
**Breed:** Black Lab



**Owner:** Sharon & John Datzko  
**Name:** Lucy  
**Age:** 2  
**Breed:** Chiweenie, Maltese



**Owners:** Pam & David James  
**Name:** Dinky  
**Age:** 7  
**Breed:** Chiweenie, Yorkie



**Owner:** Jennifer Goretcki  
**Name:** Sabrina  
**Age:** 2  
**Breed:** Tiger cat



**Owners:** Rich & Barb McEnhill  
**Names:** Murry, McCoy  
**Age:** 6, 5  
**Breed:** Beagles



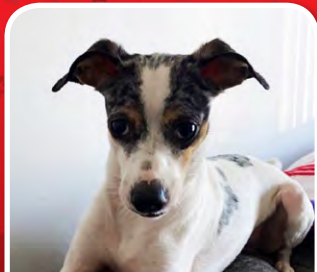
**Owner:** Samuel Cloud  
**Name:** Samson  
**Age:** 1  
**Breed:** Cane Corso



**Owner:** Michael McCreery Family  
**Names:** Bailey, Cooper, Titus  
**Age:** Unknown, 14, 8  
**Breed:** Unknown, Maine Coon mix, Mountain Sur



**Owner:** Raven Wemigwans  
**Names:** Brudder Bear, Aahnii, Maverick  
**Age:** 1, 6, 7 months  
**Breed:** Maremma Sheepdog, Czechoslovakian Vlcak, Australian Cattle Dog



**Owner:** Brooklyn Jackson  
**Name:** Odie  
**Age:** 3  
**Breed:** Whippet



**Owner:** Galina Kolb  
**Names:** Grisha, Milo  
**Age:** 9, 13  
**Breeds:** Mixed breed, Jack Russell



**Owner:** Samantha Alexander  
**Name:** Dooders  
**Age:** 2  
**Breed:** Unknown



**Owner:** Hunter Kequom  
**Name:** Leon  
**Age:** 6 months  
**Breed:** English Labrador Retriever



**Owner:** Clinton & Seryna Acuna  
**Name:** NueMae  
**Age:** 10 months  
**Breed:** American Shorthair



**Owner:** Carrie Heron  
**Name:** Princess, Max  
**Age:** 12, 6  
**Breed:** Shih Tzu/Pomeranian, Pomeranian



**Owner:** Dawn Chippewa  
**Name:** Buddy  
**(RIH: 10-5-2011 to 2-24-23)**  
**Breed:** Labradoodle



**Owner:** Pamela Murphy  
**Names:** Coconut, Brownie  
**Age:** 1, 9  
**Breeds:** Shepherd mix, Chocolate Lab mix



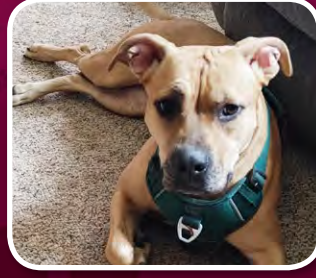
**Owner:** Craig & Marlene Wayne  
**Name:** Lucy  
**Age:** 13  
**Breed:** Golden Retriever



**Owner:** Darlene Chippewa  
**Names:** Nilla Vanilla, Snowball, Whitey, Murray  
**Age:** 1, 14, 2, 2  
**Breeds:** Golden Doodles, Terrier



**Owners:** Darryl & Theresa Jackson  
**Names:** Skywalker, Darth Vader  
**Age:** 3, 12  
**Breeds:** Husky mix, Chug



**Owners:** Maggie, Ben, Leilani, Yah-Bey Wooten  
**Name:** Amidala  
**Age:** 2  
**Breeds:** Boxer, Bull



**Owner:** Itsuko Baesl  
**Name:** Nara  
**Age:** 8 months  
**Breed:** Unknown



**Owner:** Bernice Nelson  
**Name:** Cat-Cat  
**Age:** 10  
**Breed:** Calico



**Owner:** Wayne & Kim Beatty  
**Name:** Dude  
**Age:** 1  
**Breed:** Fox Hound mix



**Owner:** Esther Chatfield  
**Name:** Houston  
**Age:** 2  
**Breed:** Unknown



**Owners:** David & Samantha Chatfield  
**Names:** Koda, Bleau, Sulley, Patch, Sugar, Ditto, Sunny, Alexis



**Owner:** Carmen & Carl Deaton  
**Name:** Rosie, Minnie, Wilbur  
**Age:** 2, 8, 8  
**Breed:** Boston Terriers



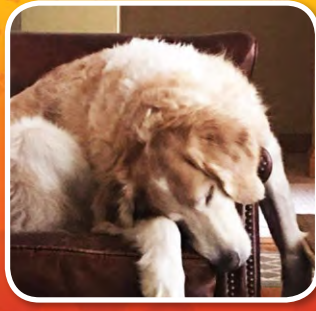
**Owner:** Aubrey Pelcher-Bonstelle  
**Name:** Armin, Eren  
**Age:** Unknown  
**Breed:** Unknown



**Owner:** Aysia Mena-Isham  
**Name:** Bandit  
**Age:** 2  
**Breed:** Mixed Breed



**Owner:** Anne Heidemann & Karl Roosa  
**Name:** Coraline  
**Age:** 12  
**Breed:** Boston Terrier



**Owner:** Scott Campbell  
**Name:** Winston  
**Age:** 5  
**Breed:** Golden Doodle



**Owner:** Kelly Walworth  
**Name:** Remi Doodle  
**Age:** 1  
**Breed:** Labradoodle



**Owner:** Shirley Houle  
**Name:** Willow  
**Age:** 11  
**Breed:** Mixed Breed



**Owner:** Sue Tater  
**Name:** Holly, Nikki  
**Age:** 6, 3  
**Breed:** Jack Russell Terriers



**Owner:** Jay Winchell  
**Name:** Carmella  
**Age:** 10  
**Breed:** American Shorthair



**Owner:** Brittany Johnson  
**Name:** Dutchess  
**Age:** 3  
**Breed:** Husky/Brittany Spaniel mix



**Owner:** Laura Lund  
**Name:** Oscar  
**Age:** 3  
**Breed:** Tabby



**Owners:** Katrina & Scott Jacques  
**Name:** Zeus  
**Age:** 6  
**Breed:** French Bulldog



**Owners:** Tammy Allbee Family  
**Names:** Thor, Jim  
**Age:** Mixed breeds  
**Breed:** 5, 4



**Owner:** Deb Janner  
**Names:** Max  
**Breed:** German Shepard



**Owners:** Devin & Cassidy Sprague  
**Names:** Yoda & Bagheera  
**Age:** 2, 1  
**Breeds:** Chihuahua/Wiener, Black Tiger



**Owner:** Ella B & Emerson Fox  
**Name:** Oliver Montgomery  
**Age:** 2  
**Breed:** Bernadoodle



**Owner:** April Stevens  
**Name:** Cookie, Dustin  
**Age:** 3, 3  
**Breed:** Chugs



## Tony Moses sworn in as new tribal prosecutor on March 14

### SCIT PUBLIC RELATIONS

(Editor's note: On March 14, the Public Relations Department, on behalf of Tribal Council, released a statement welcoming new Tribal Prosecutor Tony Moses.)

Tribal Prosecutor Tony Moses graduated from Michigan

State University Law School in 2000 and is an avid sports fan. He currently resides in Midland, Mich.

Prior to joining the Prosecutor's Office, Tony had a private legal practice for more than 20 years. He most recently served as the assistant prosecutor for Roscommon County.

When he was in private practice, Moses worked largely in Isabella and Gratiot counties, while also working

within the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribal Court.

He has practiced in various areas of the law before serving in a prosecutor role.

"I am excited to come back to this community that I am familiar with, and I am looking forward to working with everyone involved to help create the healthiest environment possible through services, compassion, respect, and by working together," Moses said.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal Chief Judge Michelle Horn (left) shares a courtroom moment with new Tribal Prosecutor Tony Moses (right).

## Welcome new ACFS Director Alexandria Mayo

Please join the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and the Anishinaabeg Child and Family Services Program in welcoming the new ACFS Director Alexandria Mayo.

Alexandria is a descendant of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community and is a former KBIC director of tribal social services.

Alexandria has also worked at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services as a social services specialist and has her Masters of Social Work degree from the University of Michigan and a bachelor of psychology from Yale University.

Alexandria can be reached at [AMayo@sagchip.org](mailto:AMayo@sagchip.org) or at 989-775-4932.



Courtesy photo

Alexandria Mayo

## SCA Third Grade Student of the Year

Saginaw Chippewa Academy is proud to announce that Bonnie RedStar has been named the Third Grade Student of the Year for 2022-2023.

Throughout the year, Bonnie has been a positive influence and a great presence to have in the class. She turns in her assignments on time and does her best to make the classroom a better place. Her positivity is infectious.

Bonnie loves sports and has even been playing basketball at a high level for over two years now. Her dribbling skills are almost as impressive as her math skills. She plays point guard and appears to have transferred her qualities of leadership and unique understanding of teamwork to her school experience.

The third grade class team wants to thank Bonnie for working hard and representing the Seven Grandfather teachings every day. Great job Bonnie!!!



Courtesy photo

Bonnie RedStar

## CALL FOR MMIW SPEAKERS, ARTISTS, DANCERS AND A DRUM GROUP.

MMIW EDUCATION AT ARTS BEATS AND EATS IN ROYAL OAK, MI  
LABOR DAY WEEKEND SEPT 1ST-4TH

We are looking for speakers and artists who have experience and knowledge on MMIW. There is a speaking opportunity and also an opportunity to paint a large mural on the side of a building of the Red handprint, which will have an official revealing ceremony. We would love for this to be revealed with drummers and dancers from our community. Hotel accommodations will be covered along with a gift certificate for Soaring Eagle Properties. Presentation length details will be given to the selected at a later date.

Send your email of interest to:

[GuestExperience@Sagchip.org](mailto:GuestExperience@Sagchip.org)

Along with what role you are interested in. Chi-Miigwetch!

## Homeowners Assistance Funds program (HAF)

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Housing Department is now taking applications from eligible homeowners. For hardships occurring from 1/21/2020 to present.

### Need assistance keeping your home?

- If the total household income is below 150 percent of the Area Median Income
- If the household has experienced financial hardship due to COVID-19
- If the household has incurred INCREASED costs due to COVID-19
- If the household is experiencing mortgage delinquency, foreclosure, escrow shortages, or property tax arrears
- If the household is experiencing utility shut offs or account delinquencies
- If the household is located in one of the following counties: Arenac, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, Mecosta, Midland, Osceola, and Montcalm.
- Is a SCIT member anywhere in U.S.

### SCIT-SCHD Housing can help with:

- Mortgage payments, property tax payments, homeowners insurance premiums, utility arrears, water/sewer, and trash removal, internet services
- New appliances and equipment necessary to maintain the habitability of the structure
- Lot rents, condo fees, or land contract payments
- Home repairs to enable one to stay housed



### Applications are available:

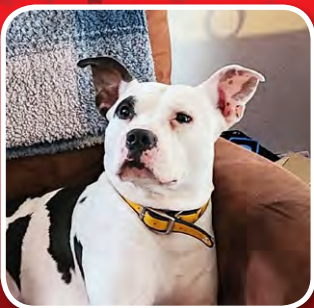
- **Online:** <https://portal.laserfiche.com/k8554/forms/HAF> or by scanning the QR code to the right.
- **In person:** Make an appointment by calling (989) 775-4538
- **The SCIT Housing Office located at:**  
2451 NishNaBeAnong Drive, Mount Pleasant, MI  
Monday – Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SCAN FOR APPLICATION



The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan Housing Department COVID-19 Homeowner Assistance Fund Policy (HAF Policy) is established by action of the Tribal Council of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan on August, 24, 2022. This HAF Policy shall govern the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Housing Department (SCHD) HAF Program and the administration and management of Homeowners Assistance Funds received from the U.S. Department of Treasury pursuant to Section 3206 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. No. 117-2 (March 11, 2021)

## Rez Pets:



Owners: Cheyanna & Cody Mena  
Name: Longo  
Age: 3  
Breed: American Bull Terrier



Owner: Gayle Ruhl  
Name: Lemmy  
Age: Tabby  
Breed: 5



Owner: Lars George  
Name: Izzy  
Age: 1  
Breed: Calico



Owner: Lindy Sowmick  
Name: Reddy  
Age: 10  
Breed: Wheaten Terrier



Owner: Louanna Bruner  
Name: Milo  
Age: 3  
Breed: Unknown



Owner: Emily Farrell  
Name: Ranger & Bentley  
Age: 3, 2  
Breed: Pit Bull/Boxers



## John Michael Montgomery, Rodney Atkins bring country music hits to Soaring Eagle

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

Country music fans were in for a treat with a night of '90s nostalgia country hits from John Michael Montgomery, and a set of 2000s and today's country from Rodney Atkins.

Rodney Atkins opened the show on Saturday, Feb. 25, performing a 75-minute set that began shortly after 8 p.m.

Atkins, an American country music singer-songwriter, began his show with "Caught Up in the Country," "He's Mine," "About the South," "Farmer's Daughter" and the Buffalo Springfield cover, "For What It's Worth."

"I know the only reason I do this is because of you. It's all because of you," Atkins said to his fans that evening, discussing his success in the country music industry.

He said his song "Cleaning This Gun (Come on in Boy)" became a No. 1 hit solely because of his fans. He shared his appreciation to the audience before performing the song.

Atkins and his band leapt right into "Friends With Tractors," "Watching You"

and "Take a Back Road." The encore included performances of his major hits: "These Are My People," "It's America" and "If You're Going Thru Hell (Before the Devil Even Knows)."

American country music singer John Michael Montgomery brought on the classic '90s country hits. The audience seemed to approve as several couples were spotted slow dancing in the aisles.

Montgomery performed a 90-minute set, which began shortly after 9:30 p.m.

His music career began with his brother Eddie (of Montgomery Gentry) before launching his successful solo career in 1992.

John Michael Montgomery has had more than 30 singles on the Billboard country charts.

Seven of those hits have reached number one, all of



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Country music artist Rodney Atkins opens the Saturday, Feb. 25 show and performs a 75-minute set.**

which he performed that evening: "I Love the Way You Love Me," "I Swear," "Be My Baby Tonight," "If You've Got Love," "I Can Love You Like That," "Sold (The Grundy County Auction Incident)" and "The Little Girl."



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**John Michael Montgomery brings on the nostalgia with endless '90s country hits.**

His set began with "Cowboy Love," "Beer and Bones" and "Life's a Dance."

In between songs near the start of his show, he mentioned just how "beautiful" Soaring Eagle is.

"The biggest country music fans are in Michigan," he said, causing roars from the audience.

Other songs performed that evening included: "Rope

the Moon," "Cover You in Kisses," "No Man's Land," "Kick It Up," "Friday at Five," "Home to You" and "Letters From Home."

The upbeat number-one hit

"Sold (The Grundy County Auction Incident)" was the encore that evening, in which Montgomery performs tongue-twisting lyrics in a speedy delivery.

## Larry the Cable Guy brings on the "redneck" comedy in his stand-up routine

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

Larry the Cable Guy made his return to the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort stage on Friday, March 10. He performed a 75-minute show that began at about 8:20 p.m.

"This is my 38th year in comedy," Larry the Cable Guy said. He mentioned the last time he was at Soaring Eagle was nine years ago, he thought.

He was sporting his typical look: a sleeveless "Battle of the Network Stars" shirt, jeans and a camouflage hat. He apologized he forgot his plaid flannel shirt.

Larry the Cable Guy may be his character, but he was born Daniel Lawrence Whitney in Pawnee, Neb.

He is an actor, producer and an original member of the Blue Collar Comedy Tour in which he rose to fame along with this stereotypical "redneck" character he created and his catchphrase, "Git'er done."

He discussed the famous catchphrase and admitted he had to say it towards the beginning of the show to get the evening started.

He said his wife worries about someone coming up on stage during one of his shows to harass him. He joked, "The only

people I make fun of is my family." He then said his family members are "too large and lazy" to make their way to the stage to harm him.

He kept the truly offensive jokes to a minimum. He mostly made fun of himself and his family with a few digs at audience members.

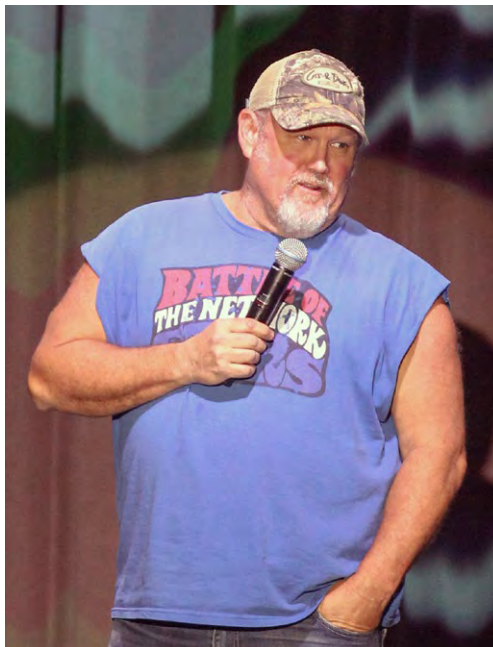
"You got good looking people in Michigan. Which raises the question, where are you from?" he said pointing at an audience member, stirring laughter.

"I got a wedding invitation in the mail the other day," he said. "Don't those suck? It's like getting a bill in the mail."

He asked the audience if they kept their New Year's resolutions.

"I broke my resolution today; I'm doing a show in Mount Pleasant," he said, chuckling.

National touring stand-up comedian Nick Hoff was the supporting act. Hoff gave a 20-minute performance, beginning shortly after 8 p.m.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Comedian Larry the Cable Guy presents his "redneck" character and humor during the March 10 Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort show.**

Hoff asked the crowd for marriage advice.

"Don't do it," one man shouted.

"She's always right," a female audience member yelled.

Hoff gave shameless plugs for self-promotion, asking the audience to buy his merchandise and follow his social media accounts.

"My wife and I have two beautiful children. We have three total," Hoff said.

**Open interviews: April 4 & 11, 2023**

2-6 p.m.

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Ballrooms

6800 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

**Seasonal positions available:**

- **Crowd Control:** \$20\* an hour  
\*Wage only good for concert nights
- **Usher:** \$20\* an hour  
\*Wage only good for concert nights
- **Bartender:** Up to \$15 an hour + tips  
\*\*Requires Gaming License
- **Waitstaff:** Up to \$15 an hour + tips

**Applications available online at:**  
<http://www.sagchip.org/careers>

**Same day hiring**

No pre-employment cost

**Must be 18 years of age or older**

**Candidates should bring:**

Two pieces of ID (one being a picture ID)

**For more information, please call:**  
Human Resources at 989.775.5600

Scan here to view open positions!





## Rock Resurrection Tour features Skillet, Theory Of A Deadman and Saint Asonia

### MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort was the latest stop of the Rock Resurrection tour on Saturday, March 4.

The sold-out show featured the heavy-hitting duo of Skillet and Theory Of A Deadman, who are co-headlining the tour. Hard rock band Saint Asonia served as the supporting act.

Canadian rock band Theory Of A Deadman was the first of the co-headliners to take to the stage.

They began the night with one of their newest singles, "Ambulance," off their most recent album "Dinosaur." The album was scheduled to be released later on March 17.

The thrills kept coming with the catchy, upbeat riffs of "B\*\*\*\* Came Back," followed by "Two of Us (Stuck)" and "Not Meant to Be."

Audience members cheered as the driving

baselines and drum beats of "Lowlife" rang out.

Next were the songs "History of Violence," "Hurricane" and a cover of Chris Isaak's "Wicked Game."

The band performed another new single, "Dinosaur" the title track off their upcoming album.

Fans couldn't resist the catchy lyrics while singing along during the choruses of "Angel" and "Hate My Life."

To close out their set, Theory performed a duo of fan favorites in "Rx (Medicate)" and "Bad Girlfriend."

American Christian rock band Skillet performed after Theory Of A Deadman. One of the best-selling rock bands of the 21st century, the bands accolades include being two-time GRAMMY® Award-nominated, Pandora Billionaires Club members, and multi-platinum certified.

Skillet came out of the gate swinging, with the high octane hit "Feel Invincible" followed by "Rise," "Surviving the Game" and "Legendary."



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Skillet bassist and lead singer John Cooper looks out at the crowd during the March 4 concert at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Korey Cooper, Skillet keyboardist, rhythm guitarist and backing vocalist**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Saint Asonia front man Adam Gontier.**

The hits continued with the catchy choruses of "Awake and Alive," "Hero" and "Not Gonna Die."

The band also gave spirited performances of "Whispers in the Dark," "Psycho In My Head," "Comatose," and "Finish Line."

As the end of the set approached, Skillet saved some of the best for last with the heavy-driving guitar riffs of "Monster" and the string and synth-infused "Rebirthing."

The night closed with the soaring energy of the hit song "The Resistance."

Opening the night for both co-headliners was the hard rock band Saint Asonia.

Saint Asonia performed many of their most popular songs including "Better Place," "Above It All," "The Hunted," "Devastate" and "Let Me Live My Life."



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Theory of a Deadman's Tyler Connolly sings the chorus of "Ambulance."**

The band notably features former Three Days Grace front man Adam Gontier. Fans were treated to covers of his former band's songs "Never Too Late" and "I Hate

Everything About You."

Saint Asonia also performed the hit single "I Don't Care." The song was released by Finnish rock band Apocalyptica, but featured Gontier on vocals.

## Kool & the Gang celebrate 60 years of music during Soaring Eagle show

### MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

After 60 years of funk, the beloved music of Kool & the Gang is still thrilling fans. This

was on full display during their Saturday, March 18 show at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

Formed in 1964, the American band gained notoriety for their masterful combination of R&B, soul and funk.

Their upcoming album "People Just Wanna Have Fun" is set to release on May 26.

The band's success includes two Grammy Awards, seven American Music Awards, 25 top 10 R&B hits, nine top 10

pop hits and 31 gold or platinum albums.

Kool & the Gang started fast with the hits "Fresh," "Too Hot" and "Joanna."

The good time continued with the songs "Take My Heart," "Let the Music Take Your Mind" and "Open Sesame."

The funk was dialed up to a new level during fan favorites "Funky Stuff," "Jungle Boogie" and "Hollywood Swingin'."

Next the group changed it up with the romantic ballad, "Cherish," before turning the funk back up with "Ladies' Night" and "Get Down on It."

The night ended emphatically, with the mega hit and No. 1 single "Celebration." The song was selected by the Library of Congress in 2020, for preservation in the National Recording Registry for being "culturally, historically and aesthetically significant."



**Members of Kool & the Gang perform the hit song "Too Hot" during their March 18 concert at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.**



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

**Kool & the Gang bassist and co-founder Robert "Kool" Bell speaks to the audience during a break.**

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# ENTERTAINMENT



**Jordan Davis**  
 Friday, April 7  
 8:00 p.m.  
 Entertainment Hall  
**SOLD OUT!**



**Bobby Pulido  
 with Gary Hobbs**  
 Saturday, May 6  
 8:00 p.m.  
 Entertainment Hall  
 Tickets: \$20, \$35, \$55



**Maxwell**  
 Friday, April 14  
 8:00 p.m.  
 Entertainment Hall  
 Tickets: \$69, \$89, \$102, \$109



**Tacos & Tequila**  
 Saturday, May 13  
 7:30 p.m.  
 Entertainment Hall  
 Tickets: \$75 General Admission



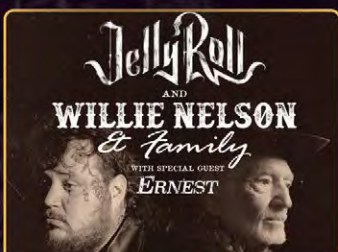
**Alice Cooper**  
 Friday, April 28  
 8:00 p.m.  
 Entertainment Hall  
 Tickets: \$44, \$54, \$72, \$78



**Godsmack  
 with Bullet for My  
 Valentine & Bad Wolves**  
 Friday, May 26  
 7:00 p.m.  
 Outdoor Concert  
 Tickets: \$28, \$48, \$72, \$83



**Chicago**  
 Friday, May 5  
 8:00 p.m.  
 Entertainment Hall  
**SOLD OUT!**



**Jelly Roll and Willie  
 Nelson & Family**  
 Saturday, May 27  
 7:00 p.m.  
 Entertainment Hall  
**SOLD OUT!**

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

# BINGO

YOU COULD WIN 1 OF  
**70 PRIZES**

INCLUDING \$500 CASH, \$100 PREMIUM  
 PLAY, \$100 BINGO BUCKS & 60" TV'S

SATURDAY, APRIL 22  
 MAIN SESSION AT 3:00PM

Pre-Purchase beginning March 22  
 and receive a FREE Hooded Sweatshirt!

Must purchase main session to receive a drawing entry  
 for a chance to win prizes.

**PLUS, FREE CUPCAKE!**

To all session purchasers.



**SOARING EAGLE**  
 CASINO & RESORT®

SoaringEagleCasino.com | Mt. Pleasant, MI | 1.888.7.EAGLE.7

Must be 18 to game. Must be an ACCESS Loyalty Club Member  
 to participate in promotions. Management reserves all rights.



## Cultural dancers showcased during CMU men's basketball halftime show

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

Cultural dance demonstrations were held during the halftime show at Central Michigan University's men's basketball game on Tuesday, Feb. 28.

After a grand entry, several different dance styles were individually showcased during the 7 p.m. performance in the McGuirk Arena.

Tribal Council members and CMU representatives sat court-side during the performance to show their support.

Dancers and Tribal community members were welcomed to the Upper Club Lounge prior to the performance at 5:30 p.m.

Dancers were also scheduled to be showcased during the women's basketball game on Wednesday, Feb. 22, but severe winter weather cancelled the game.

Observer photos by Natalie Shattuck



## Soaring Eagle 'Cash Out Ticket' donations raise more than \$4,000 to ACFS

**BETHANY HINMON**

Guest Experience Specialist  
Soaring Eagle Properties

The Soaring Eagle Guest Experience team is excited to

share that the COT (Cash Out Ticket) donations from Nov. 1, 2022 through Jan. 31, 2023 totaled \$4,183.33!

Donations were passed along to the Anishnaabeg Child & Family Services team

to help promote the safety and well-being of Tribal children, youth, elders and vulnerable adults and their families.

At Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, donation boxes can be found at the front of the casino floor near the redemption kiosks and next to the main cage. The Slot Palace also has a donation box next to the redemption kiosk near the Bingo Hall. Be sure to thank any guest you see donating to our tribal organizations.

Donations collected from Feb. 1, 2023 through April



Courtesy photo

30, 2023 will be donated to the Powwow Committee and the Honoring Saganing Traditional Powwow.

### COVID-19 & Flu Vaccination Clinics

**Wednesday, April 5, 2023**  
Nimkee Public Health  
**By appointment only**  
**To schedule an appointment call:**  
989-775-4695 or 989-775-4629

Stash Your Treasure in an ICCU Youth Savings Account

Learn More

Federally Insured by NCUA

## Adopt a Pet

**Belle**  
Belle is a 6-month-old female Pit Bull Terrier mix. Belle is very gentle and has the sweetest temperament. Look at that adorable 'Pittie' face. She just melts the hearts of the HATS staff members. She is now available for adoption and cannot wait to have a forever home where she can get all the love and treats she could ever ask for.

**Trix**  
Trix is a 3-year-old female Domestic Longhair mix. Trix is a spunky and sweet calico. She came to HATS in January with an eye injury that is healing well. Now she is looking for a lap to snuggle up to for forever. She would do best in a quiet home as she truly enjoys her beauty sleep.

**Humane Animal Treatment Society**  
1105 S. Isabella Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 [Hatsweb.org](http://Hatsweb.org)  
Phone: 989.775.0830 Email: hats.publicrelations@gmail.com

\*Building is currently closed to walk-in visitors. Adoption visits must be scheduled ahead.





## A tribal college agreement aims to increase dental assistants in northern Michigan

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. — Northwestern Michigan College has formally partnered with Bay Mills Community College in an effort to increase the number of dental assistants serving northern Michigan, and Native American patients in particular.

In February, NMC and Bay Mills, a tribally-controlled Upper Peninsula community college in Brimley, Mich., signed an articulation agreement that will allow Bay Mills students to transfer to NMC's dental assistant program after their first year.

NMC's yearlong dental assistant curriculum allows them to sit for the state exam to become a registered dental assistant (RDA). NMC Dental Assistant Director Beckie Wooters will make a recruiting visit to Bay Mills on April 17.

Ability to earn RDA licensure is a key advantage of NMC's program, the furthest north

among six accredited dental assistant programs in Michigan. NMC has an outstanding pass rate history, exceeding the State of Michigan's average in both the clinical and written portion of the exams. Since 2019, at least 96 percent of NMC graduates have passed the clinical portion.

"With a registered dental assistant, a dentist can see about 60 percent more patients. They can do more clinical procedures under the dentist's supervision," said Dr. Jessica Rickert, a now-retired Traverse City area dentist who hired NMC graduates in her practice.

Rickert is also the first female Native American dentist in the United States, and remains the only one in Michigan. She now consults with insurer Delta Dental of Michigan and leads Anishinaabe Dental Outreach, whose goal is to improve dental health in Native communities.

She saw an opportunity to connect NMC and Bay Mills to better serve the Upper Peninsula, where the shortage of dental professionals is especially acute.

"The scarcity of timely dental care is causing serious hardship," Rickert said of the U.P. "They have a wonderful program at NMC. Dental assisting is such a great career, and it's really fulfilling and it's necessary. Let's make this happen."

"Our communities need more dental professionals of any kind. This seems like a really good fit," said Diana McKenzie, dean of science and allied health at Bay Mills, which enrolls about 600 students.

About 62 percent are Native American. Among more than 315,000 dental assistants nationwide, Rickert said only 0.7 percent are American Indian or Alaska Native.

Natalia Chugunov, chair of the Bay Mills science department, said she hopes the partnership can benefit tribal health centers, too.

"We try to help both the community, our college and our students," she said.

Wooters said the agreement is another way to boost enrollment. NMC's dental assistant program currently has 13 students, and can accommodate 24. Need is great in the Lower Peninsula as well, she said.

"We're not filling the needs for all of the jobs," Wooters said.

NMC recently invested \$52,000 in new equipment for the dental assistant program. It has six fully-functioning patient rooms and some of the latest technology, including an intra-oral scanner.

"After earning their associate degree and passing the RDA exam, a dental assistant

can expect to begin their career making between \$18 and \$25 per hour," Wooters said. A typical work week is only four days, offering flexibility. Job settings include general practice dental offices, pediatric offices, oral surgery and other specialty offices, dental labs and more.

The program has been designed with student convenience in mind. Bay Mills students can take their first year of general education requirements entirely online. The second year of in-person dental assistant classes is scheduled in a Tuesday-Thursday block, allowing students to spend most of their week back home in the U.P., if necessary. On-campus housing is also available at NMC.

Rickert said the Michigan Dental Association, the American Dental Association and other sources offer scholarships to students of color.

## Build to Health Program: Take a step towards health with water

### JADEN HARMAN

Fitness Coordinator

This month's Build to Health topic is water! Looking for a simple way to start taking a step towards health? This can be a great starting point to focus on!

Tracking the amount of water we intake each day can establish a healthy foundation for the day. Here are some ideas on how we can implement it in our daily routines.

### Why is it important?

• **Functions of body:** Our body is made up of roughly 60 percent of water. Every cell relies on it – brain, blood, skin, muscles, etc. Dehydration can affect our everyday ability to function.

• **Weight management:** It can assist in appetite control and can help manage weight. Good hydration improves digestion and metabolism in your body.

• **Improved energy:** Staying hydrated keeps us feeling

good and maintaining energy throughout the day, which can help us stay alert, be more productive, and perform better.

• **Stay healthy:** Drinking enough water will assist in immunity and help flush out toxins.

### How can get more of it?

• **Listen to your body:** If you are thirsty, drink water. This is especially important if you are active during warmer days.

• **Opt for water:** Instead of soda or energy drinks, go with a tall glass of water. If you drink a few sugary drinks per day, make goals to reduce these in some way.

• **Drink water throughout the day:** Consume water with meals, as well as between meals. If you need to set an alarm as a reminder.

• **Carry a refillable water bottle:** Keep water handy, so it's there when you want to reach for a drink. Purchase a

fancy water bottle to feel cool when drinking water.

• **Add flavor enhancers:** For variety, squeeze some fresh lemon or lime juice into your water, toss in a couple of cucumber slices or add a few fresh basil leaves.

• **Make goals or routines:** Make a goal to have drank a certain amount of water before lunch and a certain amount before dinner.

• **Track it:** Use the "Build to Health" log sheet!

## Mental Wellness Services For SCIT Employees

### Employee Assistance & Wellness Support

**Whatever life throws at you, throw it our way**

- ▶ Employee Assistance Program
- ▶ Guidance Resources
- ▶ Well-Being Coaching
- ▶ Family Source

**NY Life**  
Employee Assistance & Wellness  
24/7 Support

- **Phone:** 800-344-9752
- **Website:** [guidanceresources.com](http://guidanceresources.com)
- **Web ID:** NYLGBS

**UMR**

- ▶ Counseling is also available through the primary Health Insurance UMR.
- ▶ To find a local mental health care provider go to [www.umar.com](http://www.umar.com) and click on "Find A Provider" search under the "UnitedHealthCare Choice Plus Network" and search Behavioral health directory.

**In-Network Providers:**

- \$30 co-pay until you reach out of pocket deductible.
- Covered 100 percent after deductible is met
- No limit on visits, but based on medical need.

**Out-Of-Network Providers:**

- 60 percent of maximum allowable expense after deductible is met.
- If you choose to use non-participating provider, you may be balance-billed and pay in excess of the maximum allowable expense and will not count towards your out-of-pocket maximum. Please reference your plan documents for further details and can be found on your online account with UMR.

**Teladoc**

- ▶ Must register with Teladoc under UMR.
- ▶ Download the Teladoc Mobile App, set up account or Log in.
- ▶ Complete a brief mental health questionnaire.
- ▶ Schedule an appointment with the therapist or psychiatrist of your choosing.

- **Talk to a therapist or psychiatrist seven days a week** (7 a.m. to 9 p.m. local time) from wherever you are.
- **Services offered:** Anxiety, depression, not feeling like yourself, marital issues, stress and more.
- In most cases the cost is waived, resulting in a \$0 charge for the covered person.
- **For more information visit:** [teladoc.com/therapy](http://teladoc.com/therapy)

**Talkspace**

**Counseling for people who don't have time for counseling.**

- ▶ A digital mental health service that connects members to thousands of dedicated providers from a secure, HIPAA-compliant platform.
- ▶ Using Talkspace you can send your therapist text, voice or video messages — anytime, anywhere — including from the comfort of your home.

**Sessions include**

- Unlimited Messaging
- One 30-minute live video session (via chat, audio, or video) each month.

**Website:** [www.talkspace.com/SCIT](http://www.talkspace.com/SCIT)

- There is no open enrollment period for Talkspace and registration can be done year-round.
- When registering please use "SCIT" as the organization name.

## BUILD TO HEALTH

**Purpose:** To help you be intentional about implementing some key foundations to your health in your daily life.

**Outlook:** For the next seven months you will have the opportunity to plug into "Build to Health." Each month you will get a fresh start to pursue key foundations in your health.

**Program Details:**

- Choose as many foundations as you want per month. Obtain one or all seven of the foundation in the month! Make your own goal! We encourage you to try to pick habits that that you aren't already doing.
- Fulfill the requirements of your chosen goal for three out four weeks in the month. Inquire with Jaden about personalizing your goal for any of the "health foundations."
- If you participate two months or more. You must pick at least one new "health foundation."
- Log sheets – Each month a new log sheet will be sent out. Turn your log sheet into Nimkee Fitness prior to the Wednesday of the next calendar month.

**"Build to Health" 7 Foundations**

- ▶ Sleep
- ▶ Steps/Cardio
- ▶ Strength Training
- ▶ Protein
- ▶ Fiber
- ▶ Water
- ▶ Relax/Self Care

**Prizes**

- **Each month two \$50 gift will be drawn from the finishers.** Choose from *Dicks, Amazon or Mobile*
- **Complete two months and win a "Build to Health" T-shirt**

**Nimkee Fitness**

**For more information, contact:**  
Jaden Harman at 989-775-4694 or [JHarman@sagchip.org](mailto:JHarman@sagchip.org)



## APRIL 2023 | Tribal Community Event Planner

### Spirit Bear Meeting AA Talking Circle

April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 | 3:30 - 6 p.m.  
 • Andahwod South Birch Lodge  
 • 989-944-1937

### Sewing Club at Andahwod

April 3, 10, 17, 24 | 3:30 - 6 p.m.  
 • Andahwod Craft Room  
 • DePelcher@sagchip.org or 989-775-4339  
 • Masks required in building

### SCTC STEAM Meeting

April 4, 18 | 12 - 1 p.m.  
 • SCTC East Building, Room 6  
 • 989-775-4827 or khart@sagchip.edu  
 • SCTC STEAM Student Organization invites you to join the team

### Summer Concert Series Open Interviews

April 4, 11 | 2 - 6 p.m.  
 • SECR Ballrooms  
 • 989-775-5600  
 • Seasonal positions available: Crowd control, usher, bartender and waitstaff

### Binoojinh's Kidwinan "Baby Talk"

April 4 | 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.  
 • Nimkee Fitness yoga room  
 • JaGonzalez@sagchip.org or 989-775-4629  
 • Connect with families with infants and young children

### COVID-19 & Flu Vaccination Clinics

April 5  
 • Nimkee Public Health  
 • By appointment only  
 • 989-775-4695 or 989-775-4629  
 • COVID-19 vaccine and boosters for 6 months and up  
 • Influenza vaccine for 6 months and up

### Living Skills Classes

April 6, 20 | 1 - 2 p.m.  
 • Seventh Generation  
 • Open to the public  
 • SJohnson@sagchip.org or 989-775-4852  
 • April 6: Healthy Relationships  
 • April 20: Making Decisions  
 • Community service for those in need of hours

### Auricular Acupuncture

April 6, 13, 20, 27 | 4 - 6 p.m.  
 • Behavioral Health  
 • 989-775-4850

### Euchre Nights at Andahwod

April 6, 13, 20, 27 | 5 - 7 p.m.  
 • Andahwod CCC & ES

### Isabella County History Day

April 8 | 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
 • Commission on Aging (2200 S. Lincoln Rd., Mt. Pleasant)

### Self Defense Classes

April 11 | 2 p.m.  
 April 13 | 6 p.m.  
 • Seventh Generation  
 • Registration: 989-775-4400 or BHVictimServices@Sagchip.org  
 • Open to first 20 participants for each class  
 • Must be 18 years of age or older

### Preparing for Homeownership: Credit & Homeownership Readiness 101

April 11 | 2 p.m.  
 • Housing  
 • 989-429-2043 or 989-775-8700  
 Amanda.Collins@AcademyMortgage.com

### Nenaandawe'iwijig Traditional Healing with Joe Syrette

April 12, 13 | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
 • Behavioral Health  
 • Schedule an appointment: 989-775-4850 or DePeterson@sagchip.org  
 • Teachings, spiritual guidance, traditional healing, Anishinaabe names, colors, clans and more.

### Ezhi Noodjimoying (How We Heal)

Wii Sookwiitaadiidaa (Let's Support/Help One Another)  
 April 12 | 6 - 8 p.m.  
 • Online at: https://cmich.webex.com/meet/smith262  
 • SDeaton@sagchip.org or 989.775.4846  
 • Registration: https://qfreeaccountssjc1.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\_5AemCK90EHkMAui  
 • Part four of a four part series  
 • Building Rapport while Reducing Bias & Prejudice While Working with Native Clients  
 • Presenter: Alexis Syrette

### Nimkee Fitness Taco Fundraiser

April 14 | 11 a.m. (until sold out)  
 • Eagles Nest Tribal Gym  
 • 989.775.4690  
 • Taco dinners: \$10 each  
 • Includes: Three tacos, rice, beans and water  
 • All proceeds will go towards new fitness equipment

### Maamwi Noojimaying (Healing Together)

April 17 | 5:30 p.m.  
 • Behavioral Health Lodge  
 • Registration: 989.775.4400 or BHVictimServices@Sagchip.org  
 • Giizhak Kinoomaadwinan (Cedar Teachings)  
 • Open to women only  
 • Limited to the first 15 who register

## APRIL 2023 | Tribal Community Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat./Sun.
		<b>Fundraiser ends April 7, 2023</b> ▶ \$10 an egg ▶ One golden egg winner ▶ Winner receives half of proceeds ▶ All proceeds support Elder Activities & Events <b>For more information, contact:</b> Andahwod at 989.775.4300		● SECR Payroll ● SCIT Per Capita ● SCIT Payroll ● Curbside Recycling	1 Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health 2
3 Recovery Group 1-2 p.m.   B. Health	4 Regular Council Session 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m.   Zoom Drums Out 7-9 p.m.   7th Gen	5 Elders Craft 1 p.m.   Andahwod Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-3 p.m.   7th Gen Drop In Basketball 5:30-8:30 p.m.   Tribal Gym Shaker Workshop 5 p.m.   7th Gen	6 Sacred Fire Lunch 12-1 p.m.   7th Gen Recovery on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health Sewing Night 5-8 p.m.   7th Gen	7 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m.   B. Health	8 Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health 9
10 Tribal Ops Closed Monday after Easter Recovery Group 1-2 p.m.   B. Health	11 Bingo with Friends 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.   Saganing Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m.   Zoom Drums Out Informational Night 7-9 p.m.   7th Gen	12 Elders Breakfast 9-10 a.m.   B. Health Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-3 p.m.   7th Gen Drop In Basketball 5:30-8:30 p.m.   Tribal Gym	13 Recovery on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health Estate Planning Clinic 1 p.m.   Andahwod Sewing Night 5-8 p.m.   7th Gen	14 Tribal Observer Deadline Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m.   B. Health	15 Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health 16
17 Recovery Group 1-2 p.m.   B. Health Language Bingo 1-3 p.m.   Andahwod	18 Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m.   Zoom Drums Out 7-9 p.m.   7th Gen	19 Elders Craft 1 p.m.   Andahwod Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-3 p.m.   7th Gen Drop In Basketball 5:30-8:30 p.m.   Tribal Gym	20 Elder Breakfast 10-11 a.m.   Saganing Sacred Fire Lunch 12-1 p.m.   7th Gen Recovery on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health Sewing Night 5-8 p.m.   7th Gen	21 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m.   B. Health People's Powwow Fundraiser 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.   7th Gen	22 Elders Birthday Bingo 12-3 p.m.   Andahwod Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health 23
24 Recovery Group 1-2 p.m.   B. Health	25 SAAM - Lunch & Learn 12-1 p.m.   SCTC Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m.   Zoom Drums Out 7-9 p.m.   7th Gen	26 Elders Breakfast 9-10 a.m.   B. Health Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-3 p.m.   7th Gen Drop In Basketball 5:30-8:30 p.m.   Tribal Gym	27 Journey Stick Making 1-5 p.m.   7th Gen Recovery on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health Sewing Night 5-8 p.m.   7th Gen	28 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m.   B. Health	29 Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m.   B. Health 30



**Observer Classifieds:** To place your ad, call the Tribal Observer at **989-775-4096**, email [observer@sagchip.org](mailto: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](http://www.sagchip.org). \* Job postings are subject to change daily.**

**100** Employment

**105** Lost and Found

**110** For Rent

**115** For Sale

**120** Announcements

**125** Miigwetch

**130** Services

**135** Events

**140** Giveaways

**145** Miscellaneous

### 100 Employment

#### Tribal Operations

##### Waste Water Operator II

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Three years' experience in wastewater/water field or directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations. Must be willing to take classes in microbiology, advanced math and beginning algebra courses. Must have an aptitude for operating and maintaining water treatment and waste water treatment mechanical equipment and be skilled in the operation, repair and maintenance of mechanical, lab equipment and electrical equipment.

##### Waste Water Operator III

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Five years' experience in wastewater/water field or directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations. Must be willing to take classes in microbiology, advanced math and beginning algebra courses. Must have an aptitude for operating and maintaining water treatment and waste water treatment mechanical equipment and be skilled in the operation, repair and maintenance of mechanical, lab equipment and electrical equipment.

##### Water Operator II

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Three years of water operator or related experience. A math test will be required and administered prior to interview. Training in hydraulics, physics, biology, science, or related field will help in learning this

field. Must have mechanical skills, not limited to automotive, such as pumps, or shaft driven equipment. Must possess good communication and diagnostic skills. Desired qualifications: Education and experience in advance mathematics, basic chemistry, laboratory and computer skills.

##### Water Operator III

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Five years of water operator or related experience. A math test will be required and administered prior to interview. Training in hydraulics, physics, biology, science, or related field will help in learning this field. Must have mechanical skills, not limited to automotive, such as pumps, or shaft driven equipment.

##### Business Systems

###### Purchasing Coordinator

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. One year experience with business requisition system program, table structure, and reporting tools. Desired qualifications: Associates degree and purchasing experience. Coordinate the operation of the Business Requisition System, vendor tracking, and assist in the departments continuous cost and quality improvement efforts.

##### Certified Nursing Assistant

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. One year nursing experience preferred. Experience with older adults preferred. State of Michigan Certified Nursing Assistant. Must be able to obtain HIPAA certification within five business days from date of hire. Must be able

to obtain BLS Certification within probationary period. Must have a valid Michigan Driver's License and must be able to obtain and maintain a Tribal Driver's License and qualify for coverage by SCIT auto liability insurance carrier.

##### Crew Leader

SCIT Members only. Must be between 18-24 years of age at the time of application. Seasonal position: 3/31/23-5/1/23. High school diploma or GED. Must be able to pass background check to meet the employment eligibility requirements as they pertain to the position. Desired qualifications: college student. License, certification, or special requirements: Must have a valid Michigan Driver's License and must be able to obtain and maintain a Tribal Driver's License and qualify for coverage by SCIT auto liability insurance carrier.

##### Case Manager - ITC

Open to the public. Grant funded position. Current funding ends 9/30/2024. Bachelor's Degree in social work, psychology, human services, or related field. One year case management experience. Must have CADC or demonstrated experience working with substance abuse and co-occurring treatment protocols.

##### Resident Care Manager

Open to the public. Registered Nurse. Bachelor's degree in nursing preferred. Three years long term care experience. One year in a supervisory capacity. Experience and knowledge of services to assisted living services, adult foster care services and homes for the elderly. Must be able to effectively communicate with residents and all members of the health care team.

##### Case Manager

Open to the public. Two year grant. The funds are released on a yearly basis. Grant funded through Sept. 30, 2023. Bachelor's degree in social work, human services, or related field. One-year case management experience. Experience in working collaboratively across multiple organizations and community systems.

##### SCTC Tutor

Open to the public. At least 60 completed credits towards a college degree with an overall GPA of 3.0 or above. Strong mathematics background/ability to demonstrate competence in SCTC MTH 230, MTH 120, or equivalent highly preferred.

##### General Labor Pool

Open to SCIT Members only. Must be at least 18 years of age. Evening, overnight, holiday and/or weekend work may be required.

##### Clerical Pool

Open to SCIT Members only. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Clerical experience is a plus.

### Soaring Eagle

#### Crowd Control Summer Concerts

Open to the public. Open interviews: April 4 & 11, 2023 in the SECR Ballrooms from 2-6 p.m. Must be at least 18 years of age. This is a seasonal/temporary position.

#### Usher - Summer Concerts

Open to the public. Open interviews: April 4 & 11, 2023 in the SECR Ballrooms from 2-6 p.m. Must be at least 18 years of age. Responsible for assisting guests to their seats and with any guests' special needs (handicap, hearing impairment).

#### Bartender PT Summer Concerts

Open to the public. Open interviews: April 4 & 11, 2023 in the SECR Ballrooms from 2-6 p.m. Must be at least 18 years of age. Provide guests a world class standard of excellence experience, while following all alcohol service standards, policies and procedures set by SECR. Prepare, deliver, and refill drink orders and respond to guest questions and requests.

#### Waitstaff PT Summer Concerts

Open to the public. Open interviews: April 4 & 11, 2023 in the SECR Ballrooms from 2-6 p.m. Must be at least 18 years of age. Serve guests in a prompt, professional, and courteous manner.

##### Massage Therapist PT

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Michigan massage certification with 600 total hours required for massage certification.

##### Steward FT

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

##### Sous Chef

Open to the public. Must be 18 years of age. High school diploma or GED. Culinary degree from an ACF accredited school preferred. Three years kitchen experience in a quality operation specializing in food production. One year in a supervisory capacity.

##### 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

#### Laundry Attendant PT

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

#### Guestroom Attendant

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

#### Beverage Waitstaff

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

#### Maintenance Worker

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

#### Waitstaff

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

#### Line Cook

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

#### Players Club Representative PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Customer service experience desired.

Tribal Member  
**RÉSUMÉ**  
*Development*

#### Available through Human Resources

Any Tribal Members needing assistance in creating or updating their resume are encouraged to contact **Betsey Alonzo** to set up an appointment at the following:

**Betsey M. Alonzo**, Tribal Development Coordinator  
Email: [Balonzo@sagchip.org](mailto:Balonzo@sagchip.org) | Phone: 989-775-5643

**TRIBAL PREVENTION NEEDS SURVEY**

Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan & Michigan Tribal Prevention Coalition  
**Needs your help!**

*This survey is designed to gain insight on perceptions of drug misuse, current prevention services, strengths & barriers to prevention services & identify training needs in our communities!*

Complete brief survey using provided link -or- QR code

Participant incentives included upon survey completion!

[www.surveymonkey.com/r/NYT722L](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NYT722L)

**ALL QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT:**  
[CJODOIN@ITCMI.ORG](mailto:CJODOIN@ITCMI.ORG)

**2023**

**SCIT GOLF**  
*Membership*

**Memberships on sale until:**  
**Monday, May 1, 2023**

- Open to Tribal Members, employees and their families.
- Includes green fees and discounts on apparel, range, food and drink at participating courses.

**Memberships cost \$250 each**

- Memberships and cart raffle tickets available for purchase at the Tribal Operations Accounting window in the Black Elk Complex.
- Payment plans available.

**Participating courses:**

- Pleasant Hills Golf Club
- Firefly Golf Links
- Maple Creek Golf Club
- Eagle Glen Golf Club
- PohlCat Golf Course

**Cart Membership Raffle (optional)**  
**Drawing: Monday, April 3, 2023 at 12 p.m.**

- Win a cart at your favorite course. (*Limit may only win once*)
- One cart membership available at each course.
- Tickets: One for \$5, or five for \$20

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## Nearly 30 youth walk the runway in ribbon skirts or shirts during the Teen Fashion Show

**NATALIE SHATTUCK**

Editor

In an effort to promote the theme of healthy relationships to a teenage audience, the idea of the Mno doodaadsadaa (“Let’s be good to ourselves”) Teen Fashion Show was created.

Teens from the Saginaw Chippewa community strutted their stuff on a catwalk constructed in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort ballrooms. The teens wore ribbon skirts or shirts, all of which were created specifically for them by an artist also tied to the SCIT community.

The Teen Fashion Show was held on Tuesday, March 14 from 6 to 9 p.m. Emcee Nathan Isaac started the evening with an introduction and Isabelle Osawamick provided the invocation.

Featured speaker included Tribal Elder Bonnie Ekdahl as she discussed healthy relationships.

Ekdahl shared moments from her parents’ relationship and her own relationship.

“One of the things that I think about in healthy relationships is love and being kind to each other; it goes a long way,” Ekdahl said. “You know, there’s all kind of love: puppy love, passionate love, middle-aged love, and then there’s elder love. I think that’s where I’m at.”

Ekdahl continued, “Long-term commitment; it’s a give and take, it’s hard work and it’s not always pretty.”



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**The youth models of the March 14 Teen Fashion Show participate in grand entry, circling the drum group, to kick off the dance and drum social for the remainder of the evening in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort ballrooms.**

“If you decide to make a big change in a relationship, how is that going to impact your circle, and who is your circle? Children, parents, your siblings? It’s all these people that surround you, and who love you and you love them,” Ekdahl said

The fashion show portion kicked off at precisely 6:30 p.m. Nearly 30 youth took to the runway. Emcee Isaac read a statement each of the youth provided answering “what healthy relationships look like or mean to me.”

Christina Osawabine, victim services case manager, said the idea for this event came to her after she attended the UNITY conference this past summer with tribal youth.

“One of the things that stuck out to me was the different events they had for the youth at the beginning of conference,” Osawabine said. “They had all the youth wear their ribbon skirts and shirts. I remember seeing them all smiling and having a great time. As each youth walked



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**The ballrooms are transformed into a runway and cat walk area with beautifully-decorated tables during the Tuesday evening event. Tribal Elder Bonnie Ekdahl speaks to the crowd about healthy relationships.**

on stage, there was a confidence in their walk, and being proud to be indigenous.”

Osawabine said she wanted to hold an event that was fun for the youth but also culture-focused.

“One of the best parts was seeing the youth see their skirts/shirts for their first time and being proud to wear their apparel that was made specifically for them,” Osawabine said. “I want to thank everyone who had played a key role in making this event successful.”

A dance and drum social was held for the remainder of the event. The teen models lined up for grand entry around the drum group. Inter-tribal dances were

later held for all to join throughout the evening.

Delicious pizza by Slice! and oversized cookies from the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort were available for dinner.

“The evening overall was better than we could have ever expected,” said Katelyn Pelcher, victim services coordinator. “The Teen Fashion Show was the first outreach event Behavioral Health Victim Services has hosted in quite some time and we are just so appreciative of all the community support we received by those who attended.”

Pelcher continued, “The goal of the event was to create a space and place for our



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

**Natalia Martin, wearing Alexis Syrette, walks the runway to help promote the theme of healthy relationships.**

youth, their families, and their loved ones to come together and engage in conversation about what defines a healthy relationship, how we can take care of ourselves and our relationships with one-another, and what a healthy relationship looks like to each individual teen that participated in the event.”

The event was made possible by Behavioral Health Programs and Victim Services with support from Youth Council, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, Public Relations and Project AWARE.

Observer photos by Natalie Shattuck

Teen models	Designers
Kylie Wemigwans	Lisa Kennedy
Azhiyen Wemigwans	Lisa Kennedy
Dexter Henry	Courtney Kahgegab
Lana Shigwadja	Courtney Kahgegab
Gnaajiwi Pego	Courtney Kahgegab
Sarah Osawabine	Kim Hinmon
Anjelica Hinmon- Sanchez	Kim Hinmon
Kyla Henry	Kim Hinmon
Natalia Martin	Alexis Syrette
Zhaabwii Pamp- Ettinger	Alexis Syrette
Troy Richardson Jr.	Alexis Syrette
Aiyanh Sheahan	Jillian Waterman
Jorge Martinez	Jillian Waterman
Leticia Hawkins	Bethel Merrill
Jaycee Sheahan- Kahgegab	Carole Tally
Dehmin Kahgegab	Carole Tally
Natalie Detzler	Carole Tally
Emma Kendall	Joslyn Gann
Sereniti Cole	Joslyn Gann
Ahjiness Osawabine	Joslyn Gann
Charmaine Castillo	Joslyn Gann
Ashani Pelcher	Glenna Halliwell
Angelita Martinez	Glenna Halliwell
Brittnee Campbell	Glenna Halliwell
Ragen Siamone	Tonya Jackson
Tayla Siamone	Tonya Jackson
Emma Maxon	Tahsheenah Foley

