

TRIBAL **FEBRUARY** 2025 OBSERVER

Working Together For Our Future

www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver

Volume 27 | Issue 2





Anishinabe Performance Circle graduation Page 8



Wii Maajiikwad annual winter program

Page 12

Features

- 10 Entertainment
- 13 Elders
- 14 Calendar
- 15 Classifieds

Annual **Tribe** meeting 2025 Saturday, held State the Jan. 18

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Public Relations Manager

On Jan. 18, almost 300 Tribal Members from all districts came to the Soaring Eagle Entertainment Hall for the 2025 State of the Tribe annual meeting.

Members heard presentations from many departments and browsed informational booths highlighting numerous Tribal services.

Chief Tim J. Davis began his remarks thanking the Youth Council for joining the Tribal Council at the meeting and delivered a heartfelt State of the Tribe address.

"Back in the day in the seventies, I was working with other Tribal Members on some of the half houses and remodeling them. That was a project we did during high school," Davis said. "Our next step was to start some construction companies that worked over at Dow and different Tribal programs. We learned quite a bit back then."

Davis reflected back when he was asked to become a Tribal police officer from former Chief Pete Otto and Sub-Chief Arnold Sowmick.

"I remember telling them I would give it a try and I ended up working there for three decades," Davis said. "My message today is we need



Chief Tim J. Davis delivers the State of the Tribe address during the annual meeting on Jan. 18 at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

Tribal Members, wherever you are, to come back home and help us. We need employees and we need ideas and we need you to come back home to Michigan ... to Isabella or Arenac County... There is a lot of opportunity here and we need you to start working for us and to keep our Tribe moving forward."

Davis said he has seen many instances of people who started working for the Tribe, and over the years, they moved into key positions of leadership within the business or government.

Sub-Chief Luke Sprague gave a detailed discussion and status surrounding the former

Tribal Operations Building located at 7070 E. Broadway.

"Tribal Council is currently exploring the option of working with an outside (Native owned) consulting firm that will assist in aiding our Tribe in the development of plan for a proposed community center," Sprague said. "They will be able to assist in the design, conceptual floor plans and the ability for renovation based upon opportunities utilizing the infrastructure currently in place or identifying the best alternative while being fiscally responsible."

Sprague continued, "They are also going to include assistance with other buildings that are in need of renovations

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

(AS OF JAN. 16, 2025)

3,419 **SCIT Members** Average age of membership 39 years old Average age of adults 46 years old Average age of death 56 years old 1,669 **SCIT Member access**

throughout our community. We understand that many members rely on important services that are dependent upon the ability to have safe space and functionality."

Sprague said as Council finalizes an agreement, they will be providing updates to the Membership and hope

to see work beginning later this year.

"We are excited for this opportunity and know that these changes will provide many great resources throughout of community for all of our membership to enjoy," Sprague said.

State of the Tribe | 8

FY 2024 SCIT MEMBERSHIP

Λ = 0	District	District 2	District 3	Out of country	
Age	1			Canada	Japan
0-17	451	2	193	2	3
18-49	907	22	641	15	1
50-74	419	21	643	9	0
75+	47	2	77	0	0
Total	1,818	47	1,554	26	4
Registered voters:	1,166	37	944	Total out of	country: 30

SCIT Treasury Department provides update during State of the Tribe meeting

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Public Relations Manager

On Jan. 18, the Treasury Department's Chief Investment Officer Adam Rogers and Portfolio Manager Todd Fridline provided the Tribal Membership an extensive update at the 2025 State of the Tribe meeting.

Their presentation marked the first time Rogers and Fridline were able to supplement some insight behind the scenes regarding their work for Treasury.

A graduate of Harvard School. Business Rogers received his executive MBA at **Quantic School of Business and** Technology and his Bachelor of Science degree from Eastern University. Rogers has worked for SCIT for more than eight portfolio manager.

"Our department focuses on three core roles: We oversee banking across all Tribal enterprises which includes the casino, Tribal Operations and grants by making sure the funds are protected across the organization," Rogers said. "Another integral thing we do is acquire loans and monitor them for the Tribe."

Rogers said the third role of the department focuses on the management of Tribal investment accounts.

"Many of you may remember about six years ago the Tribe took out an 85 million dollar loan for the hotel remodel which ended up being a great benefit for the Tribe," Rogers said during the meeting.

years with five years as chief "That 85 million dollars was of Michigan-Flint. He also investment officer and three allowed to stay in the market received a certificate in finanand allowed the Tribe to invest 10 percent of that instead of the 4 percent we would have paid."

Rogers and Fridline work under the support and supervision of Tribal Council Treasurer Maia Spotted Tail.

"We strive to maintain a financial portfolio that offers safety and will be durable through all market conditions," Spotted Tail said. "We also value the financial security of not putting all of our eggs in one basket while focusing on the long term financial goals of sustainability."

Fridline, a SCIT Tribal Member, is a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER (CFP®) professional and received a bachelor in business administration in finance from the University

cial planning from Grand Valley State University. He has been employed in his current position with the Tribe since May 2023.

"We have our SCIT mission with primary focus on our dayto-day operations. This mission includes the safety and security of Tribal assets along with assuring the long-term prosperity of the Tribe's financial assets," Fridline said. "The two other aspects of our mission highlight our continued effort in revenue diversification of the business portfolio and to concentrate our efforts toward sustaining member benefits."

Sustained member benefits include burial payments, member workers' longevity payouts,

Treasury | 7

Public **Notices**



David Joseph

March 3, 1965 - January 1, 2025

David A. Joseph, 59, of Interlochen, Mich. passed away Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025 at home.

Born March 3, 1965 to Joseph and Edna (Pasegoba) Joseph in Tawas City, Mich., he was raised in Hubbard Lake.

David was a skilled craftsman, and enjoyed lawn care. He was a member of the Indian Mission Church. David loved fishing, wood working, attending powwows and other Native functions. He loved spending time with his family, and was always available to help others.

David is survived by his siblings Amanda Nahgahgwon, Tim Stevens, and Kim Stevens, numerous nieces and nephews, Patricia Kidd, Raymond Chippewa, Edward Chippewa, Janice Bradford, Tosha Bannister, Greg Hill, Sheri Williams, Chris Williams, Samantha Nedwash, and Joel Nedwash.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his sisters, Geralding Boldery, Leatta Nedwash, and Pamela Stevens; and his brother, Richard Nahgahgwon Jr.

Visitation was held Friday, Jan. 17, 2025 from noon until the funeral service at 1 P.M. at the Indian Mission Church in Mikado. Burial will be in Sanborn Township Cemetery in the spring.





Requirements:

- 1. Must be Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe member.
- 2. Must be 18 years of age.
- 3. Submit a letter of interest

Please submit a letter of interest to:

SCIT Powwow Committee 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Email: PowwowCommittee@sagchip.org

For more information, please contact:

989.775.5600 | PowwowCommittee@sagchip.org



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

Balonzo@sagchip.org | 989-775-5643

Robert Nowgeeshig Henry

November 2, 1950 - January 4, 2025

Robert Nowgeeshig Henry, age 74, of Roseville, Mich., passed away on Jan. 4, 2025. He was born in Flint, Mich. to the late Robert and Faith Henry.

Robert was a veteran of the United States Army. He loved the Detroit Lions and was a Michigan fan. Robert also enjoyed watching "TV Court."

Robert was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

Beloved husband of Judy, together for 44 years. Loving father to Kailey (Josh) of Columbus, Ohio and Lance (Gabbie) Round Rock, Texas. Dearest brother of Nonda Lynn, Robyn Henry and John (Barb).

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Kaul Funeral Home of

Office of Tribal Licensing & Regulations Announcement

Mno Shkiziwin Open Enrollment Period is Aug. 1 - Nov. 1, 2025

- On the website, an informational video, program guide and all forms are available for review.
- You may also pick up a packet with all details at the Black Elk Building in Mt. Pleasant.

For more information, please contact:

Office of Tribal Licensing & Regulations

- Latasha, licensing specialist: (989) 775-4175
- Chris, director: (989) 775-4105
- Email: OTLR@sagchip.org
- Tribal Member only section of: www.sagchip.org

Elder Parking Permits

Elder Parking Permits are available at the Office of Tribal Licensing and Regulations. Please visit the office to complete an application and pick up new or replacement permits.

License Plates

Friendly reminder for any Tribal Member who carries a SCIT License Plate on their vehicle: Please stop by the office any time there is a change in your personal information since your last renewal, including: name, contact information or physical/ mailing address.

Sagamok Loyalty Cards

Sagamok Loyalty Cards for eligible Tribal Members are available at the Office of Tribal Licensing & Regulations. Pick yours up ASAP to continue receiving fuel and tobacco tax discounts at Sagamok!



SCIT POWWOW COMMITTEE A N N O U N C E M E N T S

Special requests during powwow

(Honor songs, specials, birthday announcements, etc.) Please email: powwowcommittee@sagchip.org

Deadline: March 21, 2025

Vendor applications

Vendor applications will close: March 21, 2025 Applications online: www.sagchip.org/pow-wow

Camping reservations

Email: powwowcommittee@sagchip.org Seryna Acuna will contact you for reservations.

Please note: Elders, vendors and participants will have priority to the limited water and electric hook-up site during powwow weekend. All others will have access to the remaining sites available.

PA system/sound and tabulator

The Powwow Committee is requesting bids for a PA system/sound and tabulator company for the SCIT Powwow on July 25-27, 2025.

Marcia Sue Kelsall

February 5, 1962 - December 18, 2024

Marcia Sue Kelsall, age 62, of Mount Pleasant, passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2024, at her home.

Marcia was born Feb. 5, 1962, in Lansing, Mich., the daughter of Elmer and Dolly (Bennett) Rueckert. She was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Marcia loved her cat Scrappy, sewing, and putting together miniature puzzles.

Marcia is survived by her siblings, Mark (Robynn) Rueckert, Paul (Terri) Rueckert, Gary Rueckert, Marlene (Gary) Gray, Terri Kay (Dave) Darling, Dolly (Robert) Barnes; and nine nieces and seven nephews, 26 great-nieces and nephews and four great-greatnieces and nephews.

Marcia was preceded in death by her parents; and two sisters Maxine Marie Rueckert and Mindy Lynn Rueckert.

Graveside services for Marcia will be held in Spring 2025 at Denver Township Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.

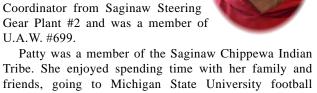
Patricia H. Tarkowski

September 10, 1954 - January 3, 2025

Patricia H. Tarkowski, age 70, passed away peacefully on Friday morning, Jan. 3, 2025 at her residence.

The daughter of the late Ernest F. and Olivia M. (Isaac) Walraven, she was born on Sept. 10, 1954 in Bay City, Mich.

Patty was raised in Essexville and was a graduate of Garber High School. She retired as a Training Coordinator from Saginaw Steering Gear Plant #2 and was a member of U.A.W. #699.



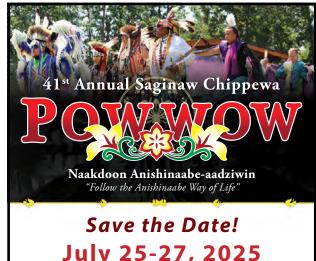
friends, going to Michigan State University football games, taking the occasional trip to the casino and loved visiting Mackinac Island. Patty is survived by her son, Adam Tarkowski of Essexville; a brother, Alex Walraven; a sister, Barb Walraven (Darryl Morgan); a sister-in-law, Lois Walraven;

her in-laws, John and Bonnie Bennett; her beloved dog, GiGi; and several nieces, nephews, cousins and dear In addition to her parents, Patty was also preceded in death by her daughter, Lily Tarkowski; her partner of 30 years, Dan Close; four brothers, Eugene (Tina) Walraven, Ernest "Buck" Walraven, Bill Walraven and Jerry

Walraven; two sisters, Janice Bennett and Judy McLellan;

and a sister-in-law, Rose Walraven. A Celebration of Patty's Life took place at 3 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 10, 2025 at Trahan Funeral Chapel. Visiting hours were held on that Friday from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

The family suggests donations in Patty's memory to the Lily Marie Tarkowski Memorial Scholarship Fund through the Bay Area Community Foundation.



July 25-27, 2025

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

• Drum Judge: Harvey Dreaver

- Joel Syrette & Brian Moore
- Arena Directors:
- Wayne Silas & Joe Syrette
- Head Veteran: Ray Cadotte • Male Judge: Joe Bointy
- Female Judge: Shelley Bointy

*Free Admission

**Drug and Alcohol Free Event

• Fire Keeper: Steven Oldman

• Head Dancers: Picked daily

• Host Drum: The Boyz

www.sagchip.org/pow-wow

For more information, contact: SCIT Powwow Committee at 989.775.4000 or PowwowCommittee@Sagchip.org

HR TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY

WORKSHOP SERIES

Learn, have fun, get connected!

(7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858)

989.775.5643 | Balonzo@sagchip.org

www.sagchip.org/hr/CareerDevelopment

www.sagchip.org/hr/class-signup.aspx

▶ Black Elk Building, HR Training Room

All materials provided along with a certificate of completion

> Scan QR code to the right:

For more information:

▶ Free

To sign up:

▶ Contact:

Public Notices



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

• Feb. 4 • March 4 • April 1



CIRCLE OF **Indigenous Arts**

Market & Juried Competition

April 5-6, 2025 | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Deadline to register: March 31, 2025 **IPAM Award deadline:** March 21, 2025

Awards and Prizes

▶ Best in Division Award ▶ Best in Show Award

Come support local Anishinabek artists

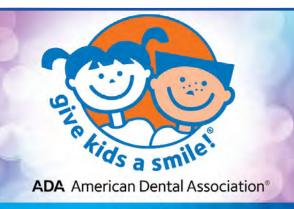
For more information, please contact: 989-775-4744 or GHalliwill@sagchip.org

ZIIBIWING CENTER THE MIGWEST'S PRES

all Anishinale Culture & Lifeways 989.775 4750 av

THE MIDWEST'S PREMIER AMERICAN INDIAN MUSEUM 5650 EAST BROADWAY, MT. PLEASANT, MICHIGAN 48658

Nimkee



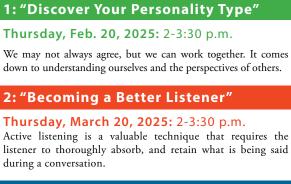
Save the Date: Feb. 13, 2025

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

• Children under the age of 18 who are eligible to be seen at the Nimkee Dental Clinic are invited to join us for our annual "Give Kids a Smile Day" on Thursday, Feb. 13, 2025.

• Kids may receive a dental exam, X-rays, sealants, fluoride treatment and/or fillings based on individual need and time available.

- Goodie bag will be provided to all participants!
- This year, appointments must be made by calling 989-775-4657 any time up to, and including the event day (8 a.m. 4:30 p.m.)
- The Nimkee Dental Clinic is located at 2591 S. Leaton Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858



Tuesday, April 8, 2025: 2-3:30 p.m.

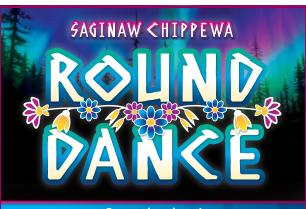
This workshop provides a framework to hold conversations when there are opposing viewpoints, and strong emotions are present.

3: "How to Have Difficult Conversations"

4: "Daily Success"

Thursday, May 22, 2025: 2-5 p.m.

Being a parent, spouse, or student is challenging to say the least. Finding ways to be more productive and organized within our daily lives can help us alleviate stress and be more successful in our lives.



Save the date!
Saturday, March 8, 2025

Wii Maajiikwad

Wii Maajiikwad Tribal School Gym

2875 Gikendasso Way, Mt. Pleasant Mich.

Doors Open: 5:30 p.m.

For more information: 989.775.4453



Paperwork required: Current and new members are to fill out new membership and liability forms, along with signing an access expectation sheet.

Access prohibited: It is prohibited to enter the facility after business hours without filling out the 24/7 access paperwork.

 $\begin{tabular}{lll} \textbf{Staff:} & Fitness staff will be available from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. \\ Monday through Friday to assist with the access paperwork. \\ \end{tabular}$

Yoga Class | Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

For more information, please contact: Nimkee Fitness at 989.775.4690

19TH ANNUAL People's Traditional POWWOW

Save the Date!

Aug. 23 & 24, 2025

Seventh Generation Powwow Grounds

7957 E. Remus Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Dignitaries: TBD at a later date









Working Together To Protect Our Environment ZIIBIWING CENTER

Biboon STEAM^{AG} Raffle Fundraiser

Drawing: March 18, 2025 at 1 p.m. Tickets: One for \$10 or three (5) for \$25

Prizes:

- **1st place:** Two concert tickets of choice (*Donated by SCIT Public Relations*) and SECR overnight stay with a \$50 dinner voucher (*donated by Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort valued at \$700*)
- •2nd place: Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel overnight stay with passes and dinner voucher (donated by Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel—valued at \$350)
- 3rd place: SECR overnight stay with a \$50 dinner voucher (donated by Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort — valued at \$300)



*Proceeds help pay for events, activities, youth camps, community donations and student travel to a conference.

For more information, please contact: Kathleen Hart 989.317.4827 at khart@sagchip.edu



Friday, June 13, 2025 Tee time: 10 a.m. shotgun start

Dina Divar Galf Club

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 the pin, and longest putt
- Mulligans: \$5 each, limit two per player
- Raffles

Cash prize with a gift

*All payouts are from donations and will determine the prize.

Pre-registration:

Email team name and players to: powwowcommittee@sagchip.org

Sponsors: Saganing Powwow Committee, Saganing Eagles Landing Marketing and Frank Cloutier Extraordinaire



Public **Notices**

Tribal Council

Chief

Tim J. Davis | District One

Sub-Chief

Luke Sprague | District One

Treasurer

Maia Spotted Tail | District One

Secretary

Jennifer L. Wassegijig | District One

Sergeant-at-Arms

Christina Otto | District One

Chaplain

Alice Jo Ricketts | District One

Council Member

Brad Bennett | District One

Council Member

David Merrill Jr. | District One

Council Member

Frank J. Cloutier | District Three

Council Member

Ron Nelson | District Two

Council Member

Samantha Chippeway | District One

Council Member

Theresa Peters-Jackson | District One

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.

Minaadendamoowing – 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.

Orchard Lab Services

Open for walk-ins, or skip the line and schedule an appointment 989-775-4687

Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Please remember to bring all outside lab orders with you or fax directly to Nimkee Clinic at 989-775-4680. *Lab will remain closed for all Federal Holidays*

For more information, please call: 989-775-4600

Pharmacy Services

Nimkee Pharmacy hours: Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Meijer Pharmacy hours:

Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. Saturday - Sunday from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Cardinal Pharmacy hours:

Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

For more information, please call: 989.775.4608

Same-day appointments

We want to ensure that all patients have a positive experience at Nimkee Clinic. If you have a same-day appointment, we kindly ask that you focus on addressing any urgent issues during your visit. To give your non-urgent concerns the attention they deserve, we may schedule a follow-up visit. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Same-day appointments are scheduled for 15-30 minutes

> To schedule your appointment, please call: 989.775.4600

New reminder system

Nimkee Medical, Dental and Public Health is excited to introduce our new user-friendly reminder system platform!

Here's what you need to know about the platform:

- 1. Initial reminder: You will receive your first reminder at the time of scheduling your appointment.
- 2. Second reminder: Five days before your appointment, you will receive a reminder. 3. Final reminder: A day before your appointment,
- It is important to respond, respond and respond! If you do not confirm your appointment, our automated system will continue to contact you. Rest assured, this is done with your best interest in mind. To avoid continual calls/texts, simple

reply "yes or no" with your appointment intentions! To learn more about our reminder system platform, check out the links below:

you will receive the final reminder.

- https://caremessage.docsend.com/view/f7vxyyuxw3mz9hgj
- https://caremessage.docsend.com/view/4xr8cwum29fz7838

Tribal Youth Suicide Prevention Survey

The Native Connections program at SCIT Behavioral Health is conducting a mental health survey for Tribal Members/descendants between the ages of 9 to 24.

Behavioral Health has incentives available for anyone who completes the surveys. Please call Sarah Jones, data analyst, at 989-775-4898 for the incentives or for more information.

The survey will assist in gathering information about our community to help prevent substance misuse and suicide among our Tribal youth.





ZIIBIWING

SCAN QR



The Ziibiwing Center will be open to the public during the following holidays:

- ▶ Presidents Day Monday, Feb. 17, 2025
- ▶ Easter Monday, April 21, 2025
- ▶ Michigan Indian Day Friday, Sept. 26, 2025
- ▶ Veterans Day Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2025
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day Monday, Jan. 19, 2026



Ziibiwing Center Community Digital Archive ASSISTANCE NEEDED

The Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways' Research Center needs your assistance. Would you be willing to assist once a month by virtual meeting and through additional email correspondence? Your support is needed to review draft processes and materials intended for use on the Saginaw Chippewa Mukurtu website currently under development and titled: Ziibiwing Center Community Digital Archive.

You can view the current development at this temporary web address:

https://cdsc-wsu.org/ziibiwing-center/home

For more information, please contact:

- Email: ZiibiwingQuestions@sagchip.org • Phone: 989-775-4733 or 989-775-4748

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	Subscrip	tion Form
Plasca can	d \$30 for the anni	ual cubscription	Make checks our

Please send \$30 for the annual subscript	ion. Make checks out to SCII.
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 **Notices**



Red Dress Day: May 5, 2025

National Day of Remembrance for Missing and Murdered Indigenous People

No More Stolen Sisters Event: Coming May 2025

A coalition of representatives from the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, the Zonta Club of Mt. Pleasant, RISE Advocacy, and McLaren Hospital are joining together to recognize the National Day of Remembrance for Missing and Murdered Indigenous People, also known as Red Dress Day.

In order to create several Red Dress Day displays in our community we need to collect over 150 red dresses.

- We are seeking clean, new or gently used, dresses.
- They can be any size, any length, and any design.
- They can be homemade or store purchases.
- If you, or someone you know, has a red dress that is no longer needed, or is willing to sew a simple dress, please consider donating it to this project.



• Donated dresses will not be returned, but kept and saved for use in future years.

Donations accepted until: March 21, 2025

Drop off donations in Mt. Pleasant to:

- SCIT Behavioral Health | 2800 S. Shepherd Rd.
- Anishnaabeg Child and Family Services 2585 S. Leaton Rd.
- Tribal Police Department | 6954 E. Broadway
- Trillium Fine Clothing | 125 E. Broadway St.
- ICDC Thrift Shop | 1008 W. High St.
- McLaren Central Michigan | 1221 South Dr.
- Commission on Aging | 2200 S. Lincoln Rd.

For more information, contact: **Behavioral Health Victim Services** 989.775.4400 BHVictimServices@sagchip.org



Monday - Friday:

- 11 a.m. 12 p.m. 12-1 p.m.
- 4-5 p.m. • 1-2 p.m.

Welcome to Nimkee Fitness' first ever small group personal training class!

- Don't miss out on this opportunity to workout with friends and get a personalized approach to your training program.
- All fitness levels are welcome. Don't be shy!
- Perfect for individuals who are trying to get more comfortable in the gym setting.
- This class will involve total-body strength training along with cardiovascular exercise to help achieve your goals.
- Programs are personalized to you and your individual goals, you do not have to be a professional in the gym to join!

To sign up, please contact:

Seth Pifer, Fitness Coordinator Phone: 989-775-4694 | Email: SPifer@sagchip.org

2591 S. Leaton Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 www.Sagchip.org/fitness Staffed: M-F, 8-5 p.m. | Open 24/7 to members! Payments can be made at: Accounting in the Black Elk Building

M'nadendan Wi

"Respect That!"

Indigenous Youth Fashion Show Theme: M'nadendan Wi - Respect That! To support Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2025

- Doors open at 5:30 p.m.
- ▶ Event held 6-9 p.m.
- ▶ Where: SECR Entertainment Hall
- More than fifty registered youth will be gifted the apparel for participating in the event.
- Light food and refreshments will be provided for youth and their families.
- After the show, a drum and dance social will be held.
- Door prize drawings will be held throughout the evening.

*Youth under the age of 15, must to be accompanied by a responsible adult.

For more information, contact:

Behavioral Health Victim Services 989-775-4400 | BHVictimServices@sagchip.org



IS STILL OPEN AT THE OLD

TRIBAL OPS BUILDING

Address:

7070 E. Broadway Rd. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858





Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Libraries

Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Public library open to everyone

Your Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Library and Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College Library WILL BE MERGING IN SUMMER 2025 More details forthcoming

For more information, please contact: 989-775-4519 or AHeidemann@sagchip.org

WII MAAJIIKWAD JAQU Fundraiser

Plaques will be placed on 18 benches around Wii Maajiikwad

Plaques cost: \$500 each

• Plaques will have the pre-engraved wording: "In Honor of"

Wii Maajiikwad

- Maximum letter count for customizable area: 50 letters
- Black plaques only: no colored plaques
- Plaque size: 2"x10"
- Must be a Tribal Member's name

For more information, please contact: ESchlegel@sagchip.org or 989.775.4453

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

POWWOW LOGO CONTESTS

The Powwow Committee is asking for community assistance in creating logos for: Honoring Saganing Traditional Powwow June 14-15, 2025

41st Annual Saginaw Chippewa Powwow July 25-27, 2025

Theme: Naakdoon Anishinaabe-aadziwin "Follow the Anishinaabe Way of Life"

One logo design will be selected for each powwow.

All entries must be submitted by: Feb. 28, 2025

- Please include your contact information with your entry.
- Logo should collate with the theme
- Can be in color (four color max)
- Design can be hand-drawn or created electronically

Please mail to:

Attn: Powwow Committee 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

- Black Elk Building, HR: c/o Seryna Acuna • Black Elk Building, Mail Room: c/o Carla Bennett
- Electronic version can be emailed to: powwowcommittee@sagchip.org

For more information, please contact: 989.775.5600 or 989.775.0114

People's Traditional

Golf Outing Fundraiser

Friday, May 30, 2025

Maple Creek Golf Course (Shepherd, Mich.) Shotgun start: 9 a.m.

Registration deadline

▶ \$80 prepaid by May 2 ▶ \$100 after May 2

Two person scramble

- CASH payouts for Skins and 50/50
- Prizes for winning teams Swag bags for every participant
- On course games and proxies to win gift cards · All registrants will be entered into door prize drawings
- · Participants are also eligible for a chance to receive their entry fee back. Two random people will be drawn at the conclusion of the event.
- All proceeds will benefit the annual People's Traditional Powwow in August 2025

For more information:

989-775-4780 | TJackson@sagchip.org

Elders Assistance Home Repair Program (EAHRP) and Elders ADA Accessibility Program (EAAP)

Tribal Member Elders, age 55 and older, or Tribal Members with a documented long-term disability

EAHRP guidelines, D. 3. and EAAP guidelines, D. 3 homeowners insurance requirement has changed. Homeowners insurance is no longer needed to qualify for:

- ▶ EAHRP once in a lifetime grant of \$5,000
- ▶ Or EAAP grant of \$5,000 every 10 years

Contact information:

Kim Otto McCoy • **Phone:** 989-775-4014

• Email: KMcCoy@sagchip.org





Ziibiwing's reader's theater presents "Stories Within the Walls" of boarding school

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

"Stories Within the Walls of the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School 1893-1934": A reader's theater, read by descendants of MIIBS, was held at the Ziibiwing Center on Thursday, Jan. 16 at noon.

reader's The theater came with a trigger warning, announced Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Marcella Hadden. The subject matter involved many forms of abuse occurring at the boarding school.

reader's The theater included dialogue from former students, superintendents, teachers and more.

Researched and written by Tribal Elder Thomasine "Ruby" MeShawboose, Hadden provided backinformation ground MeShawboose's findings.

2009, MeShawboose) began assisting on the Stone Street site project in Flint, Mich. to recover ancestral remains and funerary objects," Hadden said. "When that concluded, she began researching the lives and deaths of students who attended the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School.

"The research on this boarding school included researching other boarding schools during the



Danielle Collins reads the part of Mr. Cochran, former superintendent, during a reader's theater of Stories Within the Walls of the Mt. **Pleasant Indian Industrial** Boarding School, held at the Ziibiwing Center on Jan. 16.

assimilation era of the late 1800s and early 1900s," Hadden said. "She enjoyed the company of the staff at Ziibiwing Cultural Center, who continue to deal with her zealous ambition of researching and writing and participating in reburial and repatriation ceremonies."

Information provided by the Ziibiwing Center states: "During its 40 years of operation, the boarding school educated thousands of Native American children from Michigan and surrounding states; with annual enrollments ranging between 300 and 375 students. The institution provided eight years of education, with a strong emphasis on vocational training in areas such as agriculture, home economics, carpentry and various trades."



Charla Riley reads the part of Martha, a former student, during the reader's theater held at noon.



Fred Leksche reads the part of Mr. Tibbles, writer for Omaha Herald.



Felicia Otto reads the part of Alfred Livesley, former teacher at Chehallis Indian School.

READERS

Maubes, former student

Mr. Cochran, former superintendent

Martha, former student

Amelia, former student

Lucy, former student/Amelia's friend

Mrs. Ewbank, former school matron

Mr. Nardin, former superintendent

Mr. Chalcraft, former school supervisor and superintendent

Mr. Tibbles, writer for Omaha Herald

Old Choake, tribal elder of the Chehallis Tribe

Alfred Livesley, former teacher at Chehallis Indian School

Henry Sicade, Puyallup tribal member

Commissioner Valentine, Bureau of Indian Affairs 1909-1913

James Calhoun, father of James and Humphrey Calhoun

Joseph Sowmick **Danielle Collins** Charla Riley Alice Jo Ricketts Angel Jackson Mgizi Wemigwans

Suzanne Cross

Kevin Chamberlain

Fred Leksche **Suzanne Cross**

Felicia Otto

Mgizi Wemigwans

Felicia Otto

Mgizi Wemigwans

There will be another opportunity to attend the reader's theater at this year's Healing and Honoring, Remembering, which honors The MIIBS

the anniversary of the closing of MIIBS, on June 6, Hadden said.

Co-sponsors included: Committee,

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways and the Tribal Historic Preservation Office.

Tribal Elder Joseph Sowmick shares cultural teaching during Central Michigan University commencement

ALICIA RAPHAEL

Public Relations Leadership Apprentice

On Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024, two commencement ceremonies to honor this year's fall graduates at Central Michigan University. For the first time - since a concept that was originally held in the ceremonies by former Chief Ronald Ekdahl in 2019 - a smudging ceremony was placed on the agenda and shared with all in attendance.

The inaugural smudging teaching shared by Ekdahl

was included to showcase a strong partnership and help in outreach and awareness efforts for the community to better understand the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. In offering the medicine it allowed for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe to explain their commitment to the university and show the mutual respect that remains today.

This re-introduced portion commencement was desired by ceremony President former **CMU** Robert O. Davies and one that was endorsed currently by President Neil MacKinnon.

The goal is to include this

important and meaningful offering for all future commencements in hopes that the strong partnership between the two largest entities in Isabella County is highlighted.

This past December, Tribal Elder Joseph Sowmick, public relations manager, was able to continue the renewed tradition.

"The good medicine shared at the graduation ceremonies is from the western door and has a history of being in Native teachings to cleanse the area and ask the healing spirits to come join our people," Sowmick said. "In Anishinaabemowin, Ojibwe tribe refers the medicine 'Mash-kade-waske.'

"It is always an honor to be a part of the circle and to see the CMU students and their families along with administration and faculty giving the honor of sharing good medicine with them speaks volumes of the positive relationship that SCIT has with CMU," Sowmick said.

CMU prides itself on fostering diversity, equity, and

inclusion across all areas of the University. CMU actively works with SCIT to create an environment that celebrates the diverse backgrounds, cultures, and traditions of all students, faculty, and community partners.

"I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude for Joseph's presence at the fall 2024 commencement ceremonies," President MacKinnon "Thank you for sharing the sacred smudging ceremony with our graduates and guests."

"Its presence added profound significance to the ceremony, and we are truly grateful for it. We deeply appreciate our continued partnership with the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and look forward to your participation in future ceremonies as we continue to celebrate and honor our shared

values," MacKinnon said. CMU is committed to



Tribal Elder Joseph Sowmick, public relations manager, shares a smudging ceremony during Central Michigan University's fall commencement ceremony on Dec. 14.

continuing the smudging ceremony as it is a meaningful tradition that also reflects CMU's respect for the SCIT.

The next opportunity to embrace this cultural element will be at the spring commencement ceremonies taking place on Friday, May 9 and Saturday, May 10.



Tribal Community

Seventh Generation Baby Celebration welcomes eight binoojiinhs to community

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Public Relations Manager

On Jan. 22, the first Baby Celebration of 2025 took place at Seventh Generation Elijah Elk Cultural Center and welcomed eight binoojiinhs to the community. The weather was cold but the feeling of the warmth moved through the crowd of 60 who came out for the special occasion.

Daniel Jackson, cultural representative for Seventh Generation, was onsite with the Blue House Singers to offer opening, honor and traveling songs for the community.

Isabelle Osawamick, Wikwemikong First Nations elder and Anishinaabe outreach specialist, offered a traditional blessing for the gathering and food in Ojibwe language.

"It's awesome to see the response from babies when I talked to them in Anishinaabemowin. I offered the community simple words of encouragement for parents to use with their children at home," Osawamick said. "One of the phrases I shared in Anishinaabemowin with the baby celebration was 'gmamii-kwen-min.' It is the phrase we say to the little ones that means 'I am proud of you.'"

Osawamick also shared language handouts that featured words in a baby's vocabulary in Anishinaabemowin.

"In our language, we say 'mnaajaadaa gda binoojiinhsminaanik.' It means 'Let's celebrate our babies,'" Osawamick said.

Babies honored at the celebration included: Mnowaadizi Lewis, Blossom Buckanaga-Shinos, Charlie Kequom, Mateo Romero and Hendrix Bennett-Pelcher.

Babies who were also honored but not able to attend included Rylee Veen, Apolo Craven and Sedona Steinhaus.

Jasmine Gonzalez, Nimkee community health representative, assisted at the registration



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Binoojiinhs are honored at the first Baby Celebration of the year at Seventh Generation on Jan. 22.

table with support from Melissa Bailey, maternal child health nurse for Nimkee Public Health.

"Events like this are important for new parents and their babies and it's good to see them out and Seventh Generation provides a place where it's a loving environment to welcome them," Gonzalez said. "It helps with postpartum depression and knowing they have a healthy community to reach (out) to is very important for a family's mental health."

Gonzalez continued, "I believe 100 percent that seasonal affective disorder can affect children and their families if they aren't getting out. Children learn by what they see and if we can teach them, they can come to fun community events like tonight; they can draw closer to one another."

Bailey shared information regarding her program and encouraged the community to contact the office at Nimkee Clinic in Public Health for supplies and family support.

"The whole tradition of celebrating our babies is the closest thing to the Creator in ceremonies like this," Bailey said. "Seeing the babies, supporting their parents and knowing who the babies are makes this a special time for the community. We find the parents are the babies' best role model and we need to encourage them as they walk on this good path and to be as healthy as they can be together. The children will learn from how the parents live."

Kaine Andy, cultural representative for Seventh Generation, shared his artistic expertise and helped tribal families create a special keepsake for the event.

"For our craft this Baby Celebration, we used ink pads to stamp the babies' hands and feet onto canvases. While the process was a little messy, it created a sentimental gift for parents to hold onto," Andy said. "It's also nice to see families enjoy the craft and learn some Anishinaabemowin words and phrases."

Tonya Jackson, administrative assistant for Seventh Generation, and their staff prepared a feast featuring some traditional food, and a sacred fire was available for a spirit plate along with the smudge medicine.

Lee Ann Ruffino, cultural manager for Seventh Generation, offered special miigwetches to the Tribal Council, Anishinaabe Language Revitalization Department, Nimkee Healthy Start, Anishinaabeg Child and Family Services and Public Relations who helped with sponsorship and prizes to make this event happen.

Jackson and Ruffino assisted with the door prize drawings for the new binoojiinhs and the baby blanket giveaway.

FEBRUARY 2025Tribal Elder Birthdays

- 1) Todd Bergevin John Kampf Jr. Bonnie Sprague Gail Smith Cathy Floyd
- 2) Deborah Meskill Angela Jenkins Robert Shawboose Troy Chamberlain
- 3) Kelly Hartwell Mark Martin Martha Pudvay Tom Waynee Robin Martin
- 4) Wayne Ritter Roland Jackson Juanita Slater Melinda Coffin
- **5)** Mary Graveratte
- 6) Barbara Brodie Timothy Davis Mark Grischke Esther Bailey Virgil Munson Kirk Walraven
- **7)** Patrick Nahgahgwon
- 8) Linda Craig Debra Marler Linda Martin
- 9) Raymond Davis James Burnham Linda Powell Jackie Donovan
- **10)** Paul Rueckert Sr.
- 11) Mark Schafer Karen Cantlin Kyle Garlick Michael Pashenee Sharrie Moses Daniel McCreery
- **12)** Bonnie Ekdahl Sonny Jackson
- 13) Paul Bailey Evelyn Castaneda Sheri Lairson
- 15) Rachel Walker Frances McGraw Terry Vasquez Mark Steele

- 16) Kathy Dintaman Darryl Jackson Florence Sprague Jason Quigno
- 17) De Anna Baker Lori Mazur Luis Abella Jr. Nicole Hovey
- **18)** Timothy Jackson Richard Byce
- 19) Milton Pelcher Walter Slavik
- **20)** Ronald Bonnau Peggy Goebel Nancy Miller
- **21)** Greggory Dutton Savannah Morning Star-Rice
- 22) Tracy Mays Chester Cabay III Rebecca Rittmaier
- 23) Susan Bettistea
 Betty Brief
 Dorothy Brown
 Kevin Fallis
 Kelly Kendall
 Kathie Kozuch
 Ralph Mays
 Bunny Roth
- 24) Dianna Chamberlain David McConnell Sabrina Paulo Bernard Wright
- 25) Cynthia Quigno Shirley Robertson Deborah Guillen Nathan Ritter Frederick Harris Leah Carmody Anthony Hunt Sr.
- **26)** Willie Bailey Jr. Lorna McDonald Edward Phelps Leon Reed
- **27)** Dawn Chippewa Alvin Jackson
- **28)** Julie Chamberlain Willie Bailey III
- **29)** Evelyn Sharon

Treasury

continued from front page

member loans, elders home repair assistance, ADA accessibility, membership health-care, membership holiday payments, profit enhancing projects, long-term stability, elder birthday payments and reserves in time of need.

Fridline said the meeting was a great opportunity to provide an overview of the department's role, in particular, the investment management mandate of Treasury.

"In a concise manner, we wanted to communicate key details on who we are, what we

do, and how we invest," Fridline said. "Although we did not have enough time to discuss our investment strat-

egies in detail, we were able to provide high-level details of the investment principles that drive the decisions we make in all of the Tribe's investment accounts. These principles include diversification, durability, and focus on the long term. This investment philosophy allows us to navigate any economic and market environment to ultimately grow the Tribe's assets over time and continue to provide benefits to members, now and in the future."

Fridline said their team will work diligently to ensure the

Tribe's investments are managed to achieve the goals as outlined.

Rogers and Fridline highlighted how safety and security are of the utmost priority when managing the Tribe's financial assets.

They also mentioned how on a day-to-day basis they strive to ensure that Membership benefits are able to be maintained over the long term through prudently investing the Tribe's dollars.

"It is indeed an honor and privilege to serve the Tribe in this capacity," Rogers said. "Todd and I would like to thank Tribal Council and the Membership for this opportunity."

Two Wii Maajiikwad first graders earn national recognition for work with Happy Numbers

BAMBI HOWARD

First Grade Teacher, Wii Maajiikwad

Two Wii Maajiikwad first grade students earned national recognition for their work with Happy Numbers, a website-based math program that allows students to grow at their own pace, during the week of Jan. 6-10.

Jozzlyn Shomin completed 177 tasks in Happy Numbers and has mastered 22 math skills. She is in the top 7 percent in the nation!

Skyler Kahgegab has completed 936 minutes practicing his math facts and received national recognition from Happy Numbers.

Wii Maajiikwad began using Happy Numbers in the winter 2024 semester as supplement to its



Courtesy of Bambi Howa

Skyler Kahgegab (left) and Jozzlyn Shomin

paper math curriculum. Students have shown exceptional growth in their math abilities through the use of this product.

Congratulations to Jozzlyn and Skyler!



Seven graduates honored during Anishinabe Performance Circle fall graduation

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

The Ziibiwing Center hosted the fall Anishinabe Performance Circle graduation on Tuesday, Dec. 17.

Seven graduates received recognition and displayed their newly-learned skills, under the direction of Raymond Cadotte, visitor services representative.

The Anishinabe Performance Circle is a 12-week course.

According to the Ziibiwing Center, the mission of the Anishinabe Performance Circle



Levi Jimenez



Dancers show the audience what they have learned during the Dec. 17 Anishinabe Performance Circle Fall Graduation held at the Ziibiwing Center.

is aimed at promoting and enhancing positive self-image of Anishinabe children through the use of traditional Anishinabe

Arts (storytelling, dance, music and language) and preparing youth as Anishinabe leaders in a multicultural society.



Carolyn Sura (left) poses with **Visitor Services Representative** Raymond Cadotte.



Raegan Sizemore





Matteo Banzini



Milani Banzini



Joey Jimenez



Addy Sizemore

Seventh Generation dreamcatcher workshop brings art, cultural teaching together

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Public Relations Manager

On Jan. 8, Native traditional art and cultural teaching came together again at the Elijah Elk Cultural Center as community members learned how to make their own red willow dreamcatcher.

Eric Sowmick (Spirit Name Miizhadquad or Clear Sky, Amik Dodem or Beaver Clan), cultural representative Seventh Generation, started a sacred fire in a good way. Sowmick led off the workshop offering prayers to the Creator after smudging all the participants and the grounds.

"The red willow or 'mskabe-mis' is used to make dreamcatchers in a good way and is one of our traditional sacred medicines," Sowmick said. "It bends really easy without cracking and you can make a nice

circle out of it. There are several things a dreamcatcher can represent and our life goes in a circle so that cultural teaching is found there."

Sowmick also offered the 10 participants a teaching about other aspects regarding dreamcatchers.

"The web we have in the center of the circle is made of sinew and the beads found of the dreamcatchers represent the spider," he said. "The feathers that are a part of some dreamcatchers help the good dreams go through. The spider woman is called 'asabe-kish-e-kwe' and the dreams are called 'baawaa-je-gun.' We honor that spider like we honor other insects and animals and that's why we hang them in a window, above a door or even in our cars on the rear-view mirror."

Sowmick also said, in the morning when the bad dreams are caught in the spider web, the sunlight would help burn up the bad dreams.

"Over the past few years, dreamcatchers have been mass produced so traditionally making it in a good way with the red willow medicine makes it special and gives a personal significance to those who follow the teachings of the elders who gave it to us." Sowmick said. "That traditional medicine or 'kin-

nic-ki-nic' is a part of the teaching and it has healing properties to clean yourself out."

He continued, "I'm honored to share this teaching at Seventh Generation as a reminder there are many stories found in these traditional ways and winter time



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmicl

Eric Sowmick (right) leads a workshop for participants to make their own red willow dreamcatcher on Jan. 8 at Seventh Generation. Sowmick is photographed with workshop participants Mary Pelcher (front) and Mildred Thomas (back).

is a good time to share them."

He said he always puts the medicine first and offered his asemaa (tobacco) to the red willow before harvesting.

"There are definitely stories behind what we do in a traditional way and that's why it is



Four-year-old Mira Shomin-Jackson holds up a red willow dreamcatcher for a photo.

passed down through many generations," he said. "We place our energy into what we create and it gives the traditional meaning to it. It's much more meaningful than going out and purchasing a mass-produced dreamcatcher. It also gives it more meaning if you are making it for a loved one because you are sharing your energy and giving something you created to another."

State of the Tribe

continued from front page

Tribal Council Secretary Jennifer Wassegijig provided an update on the Permanent Supportive Housing property.

"I am pleased to announce that our new facility, 'Maawi Noojimang Gamik' meaning 'A Place of Healing Together,' is now officially open and accepting applications," Wassegijig said. "All applicants are expected to fill out the necessary forms and go through a background check.

"The building, located at 6870 East Broadway, offers two three-bedroom apartments,

eight two-bedroom apartments, and six one-bedroom apartments. This facility offers a home with support services onsite for those who have persistent, chronic substance abuse disorders and/or mental health challenges."

According to Wassegijig, the facility is expected to have a total of 10 employees. They currently have five Tribal members employed, with one direct descendant and one employee from another tribe.

Wassegijig welcomed the community to contact the facility at 989-775-4888 or the Housing Department at 989-775-4595 for more information, and visit their website for more employment opportunities.

Tribal Clerk Shawn Kimewan said her staff enjoyed the opportunity to engage with the Membership during the meeting. The membership was informed of the many services their office offers.

"Our department is much more than just annual reports, child affidavits or Tribal IDs; we provide verifying MI Indian tuition waivers, Eagle permit processing, Elder decade and half decade birthday program and the Burial Assistance Program to name a few," Kimewan said. "Our office is here to help, and if we can't, we will get you to the right department or employee who can assist you."

Benefits Manager Craig Graveratte was onsite with Benefits Specialist Lisa Ayling with a message for Tribal Member elders on Medicare.

"Remember that the Tribe provides you with creditable coverage and no other plans are needed. Just say 'no' to all the calls and DO NOT select any Humana plans, even if they are offering so called free groceries, toothpaste or vegetables," Graveratte said. "It will only complicate your Healthcare coverages and are hard to get removed. Just say no!"

Graveratte offered reminder that all copays and deductibles have reset to \$0; so Members will again begin to have out-of-pocket costs for services.

"The deductibles and copays will always reset at the beginning of each year," Graveratte said. "The Members on the buy-up plan will reset to \$500 deductible and a \$3,000 copay for the year. The Members on the no-cost plan will have a \$2,000 deductible and \$8,000 copay for the year."

The State of the Tribe meeting may be viewed in its entirety online at www.sagchip.org in the Tribal Member section.

ENTERTAINMENT



Lee Brice You, Me & My Guitar

Saturday, February 8 | 8PM Entertainment Hall Tickets: \$60, \$69, \$81, \$87



Mark Chestnutt and Lorrie Morgan

Friday, February 14 | 8PM Entertainment Hall

Tickets: \$32, \$44, \$54, \$61



George Thorogood and The Destroyers The Baddest Show on Earth

Saturday, February 15 | 8PM Entertainment Hall Tickets: \$40, \$52, \$66, \$72



Vodka Pasta

Saturday, March 1 | 6:45PM Entertainment Hall Tickets: \$60 GA



KANSAS

Live in Concert

Saturday, April 26 | 8PM Entertainment Hall

Tickets: \$47, \$57, \$76, \$82



Nikki Glaser

Alive & Unwell Tour

Saturday, May 24 | 8PM Entertainment Hall Tickets: \$62, \$76, \$89, \$96

Visit our website SoaringEagleCasino.com for complete entertainment lineup.

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.



Entertainment



R&B singer-songwriter Keith Sweat makes his return to Soaring Eagle

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

R&B crooner Keith Sweat made his return to the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort in Mount Pleasant, Mich. on Monday, Dec. 30.

Concertgoers experienced an evening of nostalgic R&B hits, passionate lyrics, and Keith Sweat's soulful, powerful vocals and engaging stage presence.

Sweat became an early figure in the "new jack swing" musical movement- a fusion of the rhythms of hip-hop and dance-pop and the contemporary sounds of R&B.

Sweat has released 13 solo albums, and two as part of the R&B group, LSG.

"Ya'll feeling alright tonight?" Sweat asked the crowd, mentioning he was told his show that evening was sold out.

"Thank you for allowing me to do what I love to do," he said, mentioning that without the fans, it wouldn't have been possible for him to be in the music business for more than 35 years thus far.

He paid tribute to his mother whom raised five kids

"So everything I do, I do for her," he said. "I know she looks down on me every day..."

Sweat and his band were not only on stage to put on a concert, but they made the evening an experience. They were joined on stage by several dancers that really added to the impressive, high-energy performance.

He is known for his hits "Make You Sweat," "Make It Last Forever, "I Want Her," "Twisted," "I'll Give All My Love to You" and "Nobody."

Sweat's performance was sizzling, and the crowd's energy throughout the entire 90-minute performance was infectious.



Midaaswi 10

R&B singer-songwriter Keith Sweat performs during his Dec. 30 show at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

Soaring Eagle welcomes Rodney Carrington for night of music, comedy



Rodney Carrington delivers another punch line during his Dec. 28 comedy show at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort welcomed Rodney Carrington on Saturday, Dec. 28. The comedian, actor and singer-songwriter brought all the laughs to the Entertainment Hall stage with his hilarious jokes and whimsical music.

Carrington is a force in comedy; remaining as one of the top 10 highest-grossing touring comedians for the past two decades. His career highlights include eight studio albums including his most recent, "Get Em Out," which released in 2019.

Carrington starred in his own sitcom "Rodney," which aired on ABC for two seasons, as well as appearing alongside Toby Keith in the feature film "Beer for My Horses."

During his routine, Carrington held back no punches. He routinely pushed the envelope with his hilarious and unapologetically crude humor. The audience members were often left balancing between laughing out loud and gasping in surprise from the

to

glitz

unabashed way the comedian approached his subject matter.

The comedy show also featured performances of more than a dozen fan-favorite

Carrington, acoustic guitar in hand, plucked his way through many outrageous hits including "Let Me In," "Baby I'm Gone," "Show Them To Me" and "Put Your Clothes Back On."

For more information on upcoming shows, please visit the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort website at www. soaringeaglecasino.com.

Pleasant

Wayne brings Newton

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

Mr. Las Vegas himself, Wayne Newton, graced the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Friday, Dec. 27. The singer and songwriter brought all of the glamour and glitz of the strip to the Entertainment Hall stage.

Newton first performed in Las Vegas as a teenager in the 1950s. He gained notoriety while rubbing elbows with musical legends such as Frank Sinatra and Elvis Presley.

Since then he has gone on to become the longest tenured

and most celebrated performer in the city's history.

Newton was in great spirits that night as he lovingly interacted with the audience members. While donning his signature tuxedo and infectious smile, he constantly shared personal anecdotes, stories and even took questions from audience members.

He began with a pair of Elvis Presley classics in "C.C. Rider" and "Viva Las Vegas."

Newton then picked up his steel guitar for a spirited solo performance before launching in to a cover of Kris Kristofferson's "Help Me Make It Through the Night."

Las

Vegas

He continued to honor his friend Elvis Presley, with another of the late artist's hit in "Can't Help Falling in Love."

Newton also performed many of his original songs. This included the fan favorites "Red Roses for a Blue Lady," "Danke Schoën" and "Summer Wind."

To close out the night, he performed "You're Nobody Till Somebody Loves You" followed by a cover of the beloved Frank Sinatra song "My Way."



Mount

Wayne Newton smiles out to the audience during his Dec. 27 concert at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

Singer-songwriter Aaron Lewis returns to acoustic show town



Singer-songwriter Aaron Lewis brings his acoustic country music show to the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Friday, Dec. 20.

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Singer-songwriter Aaron Lewis brought his "American Patriot Tour" to the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Friday, Dec. 20 at 8 p.m.

With only one other guitarist on stage with him, Lewis' acoustic performance was musically more subdued than his typical rock shows - specifically when performing as the lead singer of alternative metal band, Staind.

Lewis became a solo artist in 2010 when he pursued a career in country music with his EP "Town Line."

His remarks were politically charged, stirring responses from the audience.

Lewis' solo recordings

include "Am I the Only One," "Everybody Talks to God," "Country Boy," "Over the Hill" and more. His well-known hits with Staind include "It's Been Awhile" and "So Far Away."





Entertainment

Rock bands Fuel and Lit hit the road for "Ignited We Stand" tour

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Bringing their "Ignited We Stand" tour to Soaring Eagle, rock bands Fuel and Lit performed in the Entertainment Hall on Saturday, Dec. 21.

The show began at 8 p.m. with the American rock band, Lit, performing a 45-minute set. Lit formed in 1988 in Orange County, Calif.

Lit brought the energy! The band launched right into "Kicked Off the Plane," "Four," "Zip-Lock," "Over My Head" and "Everything's Cool."

"The Last Time Again" was performed just after a boisterous guitar solo and displayed a seamless transition into "Lipstick and Bruises."

During "Something to Someone," lead singer A. Jay Popoff decided it was time to get the audience involved; he walked around the first two



Fuel's lead singer performs during the "Ignited We Stand" tour at the Soaring Eagle on Dec. 21.

during the first chorus.

Lit ended their portion of the show with their signature and most popular song, "My Own Worst Enemy" (1999).

Fuel hopped on stage about 9:15 p.m. and also performed a 45-minute set.

Derived from Harrisburg, or three rows of the audience Penn., Fuel formed in 1993 as

an alternative rock, hard rock, post-grunge and alternative metal band.

Fuel began their show with "Last Time," "Won't Back Down," "Shimmer," "Innocent," "Bittersweet," and "Falls on Me."

The song "Empty Spaces" involved a smooth transition



Lit's lead singer A. Jay Popoff (front) plays air guitar as the drummer rocks on during that Saturday evening.

right into "Prove," which included a "Dazed and Confused" (Led Zeppelin) riff ending.

Fuel also paid homage to AC/DC by performing a cover of "Highway to Hell," sung by guitarist Mark Klotz.

Fuel ended their show with their biggest hit, "Hemorrhage

(In My Hands)." The song held the No. 1 spot on Billboard's Rock charts for more than three months in 2013.

The song was also recognized by Billboard's Alternative Chart during its 25th anniversary of the top 100 songs when it became the No. 6 Alternative Rock song of the past 25 years.

Stephen Pearcy, Ace Frehley help Soaring Eagle rock and roll all night

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort rocked the night away with a doubleheader of legends Stephen Pearcy and Ace Frehley on Sunday, Dec. 29.

Headlining the night was Stephen Pearcy, the founding member and lead singer of metal band Ratt. The group released seven studio albums spanning over three decades.

Pearcy performed all of his greatest hits from his time in Ratt. This began with "Wanted Man," followed by "Slip of the Lip" and "Way Cool Jr."

A highlight of the night featured the live debut of "Reach for the Sky." The song was unreleased after being recorded, but ultimately cut, from their debut 1982 album "Out of the Cellar."

The Ratt hits continued with



Stephen Pearcy, former lead singer of Ratt, performs during the Dec. 29 concert at Soaring Eagle Casino Resort.

in Love," "Lay It Down," "Lack of Communication" and "You Should Know by Now."

Next up was the catchy chorus of "Lovin' You's a Dirty Job" followed by "I'm Insane" and "Nobody Rides for Free."

To close out the night, "You're in Trouble," "You're Pearcy performed the hit Ratt songs "Back for More" and "Round and Round."

Taking to the stage before Pearcy was rock and roll legend Ace Frehley. The lead guitarist and founding member of rock band KISS thrilled fans with a full set of his and KISS's beloved songs.



Ace Frehley (center), is flanked by bandmates at center stage during the performance of "Shock Me."

Frehley began with a trio of classic KISS songs: "Shock Me," "Deuce" and "Cherry Medicine."

Next up was Frehley's own hit song "Rock Soldiers" followed by more hit KISS songs "Love Gun," "Rocket Ride" and "Parasite."

Other highlights from the set included "Detroit Rock City," "Rip It Out," "She" and "Cold Gin."

Frehley thrilled guests with a lengthy guitar solo before finishing the set with "Shout It Out Loud" and "Rock and Roll All Nite."

Adopt a Pet 🔆



Sampson

Sampson is a medium male Pit Bull Terrier mix. Sampson is an active and energetic pup that loves playing, hiking and running; he's always up for a new adventure! He has a fun-loving spirit. He's also smart and loves learning new tricks to impress his people. His loyalty knows no bounds and he will be by your side every step of the way.



Tater

Tater is a large male Domestic Short Hair. Tater has a heart of gold. He is a bit shy at first; he has so much potential to become a sweet and loving companion with a little time and patience. He's a laidback guy that may take a bit to warm up, but after he does, he is all about calm, comforting affection. He craves a quiet, relaxed environment.

Humane Animal Treatment Society • Hatsweb.org Address: 1105 S. Isabella Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 | Phone: 989.775.0830 Email: hats.caninesupervisor@gmail.com or hats.felinedepartment@gmail.com Walk-in hours: M-F, 1-5 p.m. *Other times available by appointment*







Wii Maajiikwad Biboon Waabanda'iwewin: Annual winter program performed

ALICIA RAPHAEL

Public Relations Leadership Apprentice

The Wii Maajiikwad Immersion's kindergarten through fifth grade students came together to perform their annual Winter Program in the Wii Maajiikwad Tribal Gym on Wednesday, Dec. 18.

Observer photos by Alicia Raphael

The evening celebrated Anishinaabe culture as students proudly showcased their language and teachings by performing holiday songs and stories about the Anishinaabeg Seven Grandfather Teachings in Anishinaabemowin.

Attendees were also treated to a surprise appearance by Anishinaabe Santa and Gingerbread Man, who added a cultural twist to the festive cheer.

















Leonard Peltier to leave prison after 50 Years as Biden grants commutation

BRIAN EDWARDS

Native News Online

(Editor's note: The following article is provided by Native News Online and was released on Jan. 20 during President's Biden's last day in office.)

President Biden announced on Jan. 20 he will commute Leonard Peltier's life sentence to home confinement, marking a major victory for tribal nations and advocates who have long fought for the Native American activist's release.

Peltier, 80, has spent nearly 50 years in federal prison after being convicted for the 1975 deaths of two FBI agents on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. He has maintained his innocence throughout his imprisonment.

A White House statement cited Peltier's advanced age, deteriorating health, and the extensive support for his release from tribal nations, Nobel Peace laureates, former law enforcement officials, and human rights organizations.

"This commutation will enable Mr. Peltier to spend his remaining days in home confinement but will not pardon him for his underlying crimes," according to the White House statement.

The decision comes after decades of campaigns by Native American leaders and organizations who have questioned

the fairness of Peltier's trial and conviction. Even the former U.S. Attorney whose office handled Peltier's prosecution and appeal supported granting clemency.

The White House noted Peltier's "close ties to and leadership in the Native American community" as a factor in the decision.

The commutation of Peltier's sentence comes after increased advocacy from tribal leaders, congressional members, human rights advocates and even former prosecutors who were involved in the case.

Last month, more than 120 tribal leaders, including National Congress of American Indians President Mark Macarro (chairman of the Pechanga Band of Indians) and Navajo Nation President Buu Nygren, signed a letter urging Biden to grant clemency.

In December, Macarro raised Peltier's case directly with Biden during a flight on Air Force One, highlighting that Peltier was among the oldest surviving Indian boarding school survivors.

Peltier, an enrolled citizen of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, spent three years at the Wahpeton Indian School in North Dakota as a child — a story he shared with Native News Online in 2022.

In a post on X (formerly Twitter), outgoing Interior Secretary Deb Haaland (Laguna

Pueblo) wrote: "I am beyond words about the commutation of Leonard Peltier. His release from prison signifies a measure of justice that has long evaded so many Native Americans for so many decades. I am grateful that Leonard can now go home to his family. I applaud President Biden for this action and understanding what this means to Indian Country."

In her Tweet, she linked to the Biden administration's release in White House press room, but the post had been removed during the presidential transition and was not included on the Biden White House archive.

Kevin Sharp, former chief U.S. District Court judge and Peltier's attorney, called Biden's decision "an enormous step toward healing and reconciliation with the Native American people in this country."

Sharp, who filed Peltier's original clemency petition in 2019, said Biden's "act of mercy" will allow Peltier to return to his reservation and live out his remaining days.

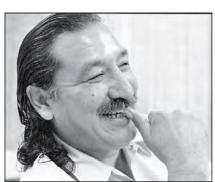
The case has drawn international attention over the decades, with supporters like Nelson Mandela, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Pope Francis advocating for Peltier's release. Sharp represented Peltier for five years before NDN Collective took the lead on clemency efforts.

"Leonard Peltier's freedom today is the result of 50 years

of intergenerational resistance, organizing, and advocacy," said Nick Tilsen, NDN Collective founder and CEO, in a statement. "Leonard Peltier's liberation is our liberation – we will honor him by bringing him back to his homelands to live out the rest of his days surrounded by loved ones, healing, and reconnecting with his land and culture."

"Today's decision shows the combined power of grassroots organizing and advocacy at the highest levels of government. We are grateful to President Biden and the leadership of Secretary Deb Haaland," said Holly Cook Macarro, government affairs or NDN Collective. "All of us here today stand on the shoulders of three generations of activists who have fought for justice for Leonard Peltier. Today is a monumental victory - the day that Leonard Peltier finally goes home."

Judith LeBlanc (Caddo), executive director of the Native Organizers Alliance released a statement as well, saying: "Our hearts are full for Leonard Peltier, his family, and all of Indian Country as he finally gets to go home after nearly 50 years behind bars. Leonard's incarceration came to symbolize the injustices Native peoples face in defending our lands and civil



Courtesy of AmnestyUS

Leonard Peltier, 80, a member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, will transition to home confinement after serving nearly 50 years of a life sentence.

and inherent rights. His resilience has stood as a testament to the enduring strength of Native peoples in the face of systemic racism and oppression."

U.S. Sen. Brian Schatz (D-Hawai'i), vice chair of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, released the following statement: "If there were ever a case that merited compassionate release, Leonard Peltier's was it," said Schatz. "President Biden did the right thing by showing this aging man in poor health mercy and allowing him to return home to spend whatever days he has remaining with his loved ones. I thank President Biden and the countless advocates who've worked tirelessly over the years to secure Peltier's release."

Neely Bardwell provided reporting on this story.



Andahwod Continuing Care Community and Elder Services District One Elders' February 2025 Newsletter

Boozhoo! The 2025 Elders Powwow Homecoming Trip information and registration will be mailed out this month. Please remember all registration forms and fees must be returned by mail through the US Postal Service. We will not accept walk-ins or interoffice registration forms and fees.

By adhering to these guidelines allows all SCIT Elders a fair chance to register for the trip. This also allows Andahwod staff adequate time and processing of who is attending to make sure we plan accordingly. It is Andahwod's goal to provide an exceptional experience for our trip participants.

After you receive your letter, please read over the information carefully as there are updates and new features for this year's trip.



Andahwod Phone Numbers

- **Gayle Ruhl:** 989.775.4305 Administrator
- **Sandra Pelcher:** 989.775.4300 Administrative Assistant I
- **Dawn Chippewa:** 989.775.4308 Billing/Administrative Assistant II
- Careena Meyers: 989.775.4315 Support Services Manager
- Galina Kolb: 989.775.4301 Resident Care Manager
- Sheligh Jackson: 989.775.4307 Elders Advocate
- Patty Kequom: 989.775.4302 Activities Assistant
- Denise Pelcher: 989.775.4339 **Activities Coordinator**
- Maintenance: 989.775.4313
 - Nurse's Station: 989.775.4319

Andahwod CCC & ES business hours are Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. After business hours, or if it is an urgent matter please call the Security Desk at 989-775-4317 or the Nurse's Station at 989-775-4319.

Steps to having a healthy heart

Be more active

- Be active for at least 30 minutes on most days of the week.
- Any activity or movement is good.
- If you cannot do 30 minutes all at once, try breaking your activity down to three sessions a day for 10 minutes at a time.
- Listen to your body. Some days you may feel like you can do more. Other days you may need to take it easy.
- Invite your family or friends to join you.

Make healthy food choices

- Eat a wide variety of fruits and vegetables every day. Choose fresh, frozen, dried, or canned.
- Grill or bake instead of frying foods.
- Avoid cooking with lard, butter, or shortening.
- If you eat meat, choose lean meat, fish, and wild game. Trim the fat off of meat before cooking.
- · Limit the amount of salt you eat. Try herbs and spices to season your food so you can use less salt.
- When shopping for food, compare labels. Choose foods with the lowest amount of sodium (salt). Look for "sodium free,"

"salt free," "low sodium," or "no salt added."

- Be careful when choosing foods that are pickled, brined, barbecued, cured, smoked, or are in any type of sauce. These tend to be high in sodium (salt).
- Eat meals together at home. It is a great way to help your family create good eating traditions.
- · Choose water instead of sugary drinks like fruit juices, soda pop, sweet tea, or sports drinks.

Know your numbers

- High blood pressure makes your heart work harder than it should. This may also damage blood vessels in your heart and kidneys.
- Get your blood pressure checked at every clinic visit.
- Ask what your target numbers should be for blood pressure
- Take your medicines as prescribed. If you have questions about your medicines, talk to your health care team.

Source: www.ihs.gov/forpatients/healthtopics/hearthealth

Nimkee Medication Pickup & Drop-off

Andahwod is able to pickup Tribal Elder medications from Nimkee Pharmacy and drop off at their home Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Call 989-775-4307 to schedule.

Grant assistance for Tribal Elders

There are grants available for Tribal Elders in the community. Depending on the grant qualifications, the Tribal Elder may need to gather documentation pertaining to grant eligibility. For example: Repair quotes, shut-off notice, etc. The following grants are available to Tribal Elders if funding is available and eligibility is met.

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

Birthday celebrations

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



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

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

Upcoming Celebrations:

Feb. 13 March 13

February 2025 Andahwod events

Coffee Break Daily / 2:30 p.m. Sewing

Tuesdays / 10 a.m. **Euchre**

Otago Exercise Thursdays / 1 p.m.

Thursdays / 5:30 p.m.

Name that Tune **Feb. 3** / 2:30 p.m. **Elders Lunch** Feb. 5, 19 / 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Super Bowl Party Feb. 9 / 6 p.m.

Elders Breakfast Feb. 12, 26 / 9-10 a.m.

Cheeseburger Basket

Valentine's Gift Basket **Silent Auction Feb. 12** / 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Birthday Celebration Feb. 13 / 2:30 p.m.

Elders Valentine's Party Feb. 14 / 2 p.m.

Language Bingo Feb. 18 / 1-3 p.m.

BH Bingo with Friends Feb. 21 / 1 p.m.

Birthday Bingo & Potluck Feb. 22 / 12-3 p.m.

For more information, please call Andahwod at: 989.775.4339 **Activities and events are subject to change.



Andahwod Valentine's Gift Basket Silent Auction

Valentine's Day gift baskets will be available for viewing and bidding on Wednesday, Feb. 12 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Andahwod. Bids will close at 4:30 p.m. sharp. The gift basket silent auction is a fundraiser and proceeds go towards elder events.

Gift basket winners will be notified by Andahwod and can pick up their winning basket on Thursday, Feb. 13 by 5 p.m.

Beef Sandwich

Lunch: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

February 2025 Andahwod CCC & ES Menu **Dinner:** 4:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. Sunday **Thursday Friday** Monday Tuesday Wednesday Saturday *Warning: Consuming under cooked foods or eggs could lead to a Sugar free available upon request. *Menu subject to change* Food Bourne Illness. **Warning: Please inform cashier/staff of any severe Chef's Choice Call kitchen for lunch and dinner at 989-775-4314. food allergies you may have prior to sitting down. Thank you Hungarian Meatballs 3 Fried Chicken w/Mashed 2 **5** Bean Soup w/Bread 6 8 Cabbage Soup Beef Brisket Potatoes & Green Beans Shrimp Scampi w/Polish Sausage w/Egg Noodles Sweet & Sour Pork Stir Fry Chef's Choice Chicken Sandwich Cheesy Ham Pot Roast w/Red Potatoes Taco Casserole Meat Pierogis w/Tator Tots Elders Lunch & Broccoli Pot Pie Roast Beef 9 Broccoli Bread Bowl Biscuits & Gravy 12 13 14 15 Mongolian Beef w/Mashed Potatoes Venison w/Wild Rice White Chicken Chili w/Sausage Patty Broccoli, Snap Peas & Carrots Surf & Turf w/Baked Potatoes Chef's Choice Baked Chicken Apple Pecan Salad Lemon Herb Baked Fish Meatball w/Egg Noodles and Asparagus Cheeseburger & Fries w/Mashed Potatoes w/Grilled Chicken Elders Breakfast 17 Cheesy BBQ Bacon 19 Beef & Barley Soup 21 16 20 22 Cobb Salad Indian Tacos Meat Pizza Smothered Chicken Breast Cold Turkey Sandwich Sweet & Sour Chicken w/Rice & Beans Chef's Choice Pesto Chicken Alfredo w/White Rice Chicken Noodle Soup Green Fried Tomato Pork Loin Italian Chicken Stew Tortellini Sandwich Elders Lunch Chili Dogs w/Baked 28 Baked BBQ Chicken 23 27 Split Pea Soup Egg Salad Sandwich Cheeseburger Casserole Goulash w/ Mashed Potatoes Macaroni Sloppy Joes w/Baked Beans Tomato Soup Wet Burrito Cod Sandwich Open-faced Hot

Elders Breakfast



Midaaswi-shi-niiwin 14

FEBRUARY 2025 | Tribal Community Event Planner

DK-12 Education Services Homework Lab

Monday - Thursday | 3-5 p.m.

- · Wii Maajiikwad
- 989-775-4071 or dsmith@sagchip.org

SCTC Archery Program for Beginners

Mondays | 3:30 - 5 p.m. Wednesdays | 3:30 - 5 p.m.

Fridays | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

- Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
- 989-317-4827 or khart@sagchip.edu
- Ends: Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Sweat Lodge with Joe Syrette

Feb. 3 | Arrive at 4 p.m., sweat begins at 5 p.m.

- · Behavioral Health
- 989-775-4850

Drop In Beading Circle

Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26 | **11 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

- SCTC Community Classroom
- TahsFoley@sagchip.org or 989-775-5804
- Beads, supplies and snacks provided

People's Powwow Breakfast Burrito Fundraisers

Feb. 5, 19 | 8-11 a.m.

- Pick up at 7th Generation
- 989-775-4796
- Breakfast burritos: \$5 each (cash only)
- Bacon, egg, potato and cheese
- Sausage, egg, potato and cheese
- Chorizo, egg, potato and cheese
- All proceeds benefit the 2025 People's Powwow

Drums Out

Feb. 5, 12, 19 | **7-9 p.m.**

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

SCTC STEAM^{AG} Meetings

Feb. 6 & 20 | **12-1 p.m.**

- SCTC LGO Conference Room (5805 E. Pickard Rd.)
- 989-317-4827 or khart@sagchip.edu

Traditional Game Night

Feb. 12 | 6-8 p.m.

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

HR Community Workshop Series

Feb. 20 | 2-3:30 p.m.

- HR Training Room, Black Elk Building
- 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
- To register: www.sagchip.org/hr/class-signup.aspx 989-775-5643 or Balonzo@sagchip.org
- Discover Your Personality Type: We may not always agree, but we can work together. It comes down to understanding ourselves and the perspectives of others.
- Free workshop
- All materiels provided along with a Certificate of Completion
- For more workshop information, dates and times: www.sagchip.org/hr/CareerDevelopment
- Future workshops:
 - March 20 "Becoming a Better Listener"
 - April 8 "How to Have Difficult Conversations"
 - May 22 "Daily Success"

Two Spirit Talking Circle

Feb. 24 | **6-8 p.m.**

- 7th Generation
- ECrosswait@sagchip.edu
- All two spirit people and allies welcome
- "Reconnecting is Recovery" with Chef Sam

Anishinabemowin Pictionary

Feb. 25 | 5-7 p.m.

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

SCTC Anishinaabe Bingo

Feb. 25 | 12-1 p.m.

- SCTC LGO Conference Room (5805 E. Pickard Rd.)
- 989-317-4827 or khart@sagchip.edu

M'nadendan Wi "Respect That!" Indigineous Youth Fashion Show

Feb. 26 | Doors open at 5:30 p.m., Event held 6-9 p.m.

- SECR Entertainment Hall 989-775-4400 or BHVictimServices@sagchip.org
- More than 50 registered youth will be gifted the apparel for participating in the event.
- Light food and refreshments will be provided for youth and their families.
- After the show, a drum and dance social will be held.

Saginaw Chippewa Round Dance

March 8 | Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

- Wii Maajiikwad Tribal School Gym
- 2875 Gikendasso Way, Mt. Pleasant MI 48858
- 989-775-4453

FEBRUARY 2025 Tribal Community Calendar							
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat./Sun.		
 SECR Payroll SCIT Per Capita SCIT Payroll Curbside Recycling 	Andahwod Anniversary Bingo Bonanza Fundraiser Feb. 25, 2025 - March 26, 2025 Drawing: 9:45 a.m. during Elders Breakfast Tickets: One for \$5 or three for \$10 Tickets can be purchased from any EAB Member or at Andahwod's front office. 1st place: \$650 bingo packet 2nd place: \$250 gift card 3rd place: \$100 gift card **All proceeds will support Elders activities **						
Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	Regular Council Session 9 a.m. Council Chambers Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom	Elders Lunch 11:30 a.m 1 p.m. Andahwod Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health Drums Out 7-9 p.m. 7th Gen	Sacred Fire Lunch 12-1 p.m. 7th Gen Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen Recovery on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health	Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m. Andahwod	Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health		
Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Bingo with Friends 10:30 a.m. Saganing	Elders Breakfast 9-10 a.m. Andahwod Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health Drums Out 7-9 p.m. 7th Gen	Valentine's Craft and Lunch 11 a.m 1 p.m. Saganing Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen Recovery on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health	Tribal Observer deadline Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m. Andahwod	Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health		
Tribal Ops Closed Presidents Day Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom	Elders Lunch 11:30 a.m 1 p.m. Andahwod Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health Drums Out 7-9 p.m. 7th Gen	Sacred Fire Lunch 12-1 p.m. 7th Gen Member Insurance Luncheon 12-2 p.m. Saganing Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen Recovery on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health	Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m. Andahwod	Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health		
Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom	Elders Breakfast 9-10 a.m. Andahwod Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health	Movie Day and Lunch 1-4 p.m. Saganing Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen Recovery on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health	Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m. Andahwod	Chippe _{No} Indiana Chippe _{No} In		



Classifieds

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

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

100 Employment105 Lost and Found110 For Rent115 For Sale

120 Announcements

130 Services135 Events140 Giveaways

125 Miigwetch

145 Miscellaneous

100 Employment

Tribal Operations

CEO

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in finance, business administration, hospitality or related field. Fifteen years of combined gaming/hotel/resort hospitality experience. Ten years in a managerial capacity. Three years senior management level at a destination resort/gaming property with over 1,000 employees with Class III gaming experience. Desired qualifications: Master's degree. Destination four diamond resort gaming property and Tribal gaming property experience. Tribal gaming experience.

Physician/Medical Director

Open to the public. MD or DO from an accredited medical school in the United States. Board certified in clinical specialty, preferably in family practice. Current State of Michigan medical license without exclusions or sanctions. Possess waiver, certifications, and appropriate training to prescribe FDA-approved medications for the treatment of addictions including alcohol and opiates or willingness to complete required trainings and applications within the first three months of hire. Current DEA licensure.

Water Operator III

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Sign on bonus: \$1,000 upon six month anniversary, \$2,000 upon one year anniversary. Must be at least 18 years of age. Five years of water operator or related experience.

Waste Water Operator II

Open to the public. Sign on bonus: \$1,000 upon six month anniversary, \$1,500 upon one year anniversary. High school diploma or GED. Three years' experience in wastewater/water field or directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations.

Waste Water Operator III

Open to the public. Sign on bonus: \$1,000 upon six month anniversary, \$2,000 upon one year anniversary. High school diploma or GED. Three years' experience in wastewater/water field or directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations.

AWARE SMHA Project Co-Coordinator

Open to the public. Grant funding through Sept. 30, 2028. Master's degree in counseling, social work, human services or related field. One year of experience in mental health services working with children and families of children with severe emotional disturbances.

Grants and Contracts Compliance Coordinator

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in business administration with an emphasis in accounting. Five years' experience in governmental fund accounting and grants and contracts management.

Clerical Pool

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

General Labor Pool

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

Dentist

Open to the public. DDS/DMD degree from an accredited school. Michigan licensed dentist. Must be able to pass background check to meet the employment eligibility requirements as they pertain to the position.

Victims Advocate

Open to the public. Associate degree in human services related field, or an equivalent combination of education, training, and experience. One-year experience working with victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking. Experience with federal grant reporting, tracking, and evaluation desired.

Victims of Crime Advocate

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in counseling, social work, sociology, psychology, law enforcement criminal justice, law or related field. Counseling experience within Native American communities, including victims of crime counseling programs, or social work. An equivalent combination of education and directly related experience may be considered.

Child Welfare Prevention Specialist

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in social services, human services or related field. An equivalent combination of education and directly related experience may be considered. Two years social services, families first worker, or family preservation experience desired.

Native American Language Coordinator

Open to the public. Grant-funded position through Sept. 30, 2028. Bachelor's degree in education, social work, counseling, or human services related field. Two years' experience in project management, communications, and working with school systems.

Elementary Teacher

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in education or related field or currently enrolled in a teacher certification program, including alternative route programs, and able to obtain teaching certificate within six months of hire.

Dental Hygienist PT

Open to the public. Two years working experience in dental hygiene desired. IHS & NHSC loan repayment eligible clinic.

Paraprofessional

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

Community Project Manager - AWARE

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

Clinical Therapist - RTC

Open to the public. Licensed master's degree in counseling, social work, human services or related field. Limited licensed individuals who can obtain full licensure within two years from date of hire. Experience with co-occurring diagnosis and treatment. Experience in working collaboratively across multiple organizations and community systems.

Interim Clinical Therapist - RTC

Open to the public. Interim position. Licensed master's degree in counseling, social work, human services or related field. Limited licensed individuals who can obtain full licensure within two years from date of hire. Experience with co-occurring diagnosis and treatment.

Special Education Teacher

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

Registered Medical Assistant - Andahwod

Open to the public. Registered or Certified Medical Assistant license. One year experience in long-term care or clinic setting desired.

Pharmacy Technician

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

Registered Medical Assistant - Nimkee

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Registered or certified medical assistant license. Minimum of one year experience working as a medical assistant in an outpatient medical clinic.

Clinical Therapist Family Resource

Open to the public. Licensed master's degree in counseling, social work, human services or related field. Limited licensed individuals who can obtain full licensure within two years from date of hire. Experience with co-occurring diagnosis and treatment.

Associate General Counsel

Open to the public. Juris Doctor from an ABA accredited law school. Experience as a practicing attorney. Licensed to practice law in the State of Michigan.

Cultural Healer

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Demonstrate knowledge and experience in the Anishinaabek culture, traditions, and history.

Cook PT - SCA

Open to the public. Successful completion of ServSafe certification within probationary period.

Supplemental Instructor - SCTC

Open to the public. At least 60 completed credits towards a college degree with an overall GPA of 3.0 or above.

Accountant

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in accounting. One year of experience in general accounting. Desired qualifications: Completed and passed a governmental accounting class as part of college curriculum. Tribal government accounting experience.

Bailiff

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. At least 18 years of age. Must be familiar with native community and have knowledge of contemporary and traditional native lifestyles.

Physician

Open to the public. Medical degree or doctor of osteopathic medicine. Current board certification in specialty. Medical license for MD or DO in the State of Michigan. Two years' experience working in an outpatient or clinic setting.

Tribal Code Compliance Officer

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Five years' relevant experience including building construction, inspection and ordinance enforcement.

Natural Resources Specialist - Wild Rice

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree with two years environmental experience or associates degree with four years of environmental experience. Must have or be pursuing a bachelor's degree in natural resources or related field.

Natural Resources Specialist II

Open to the public. Must have a bachelor's degree in the science field such as environmental science, environmental studies, biology, or related field with four years of relevant environmental experience. Must have two years of grant writing experience.

Telecom Technician I

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in information telecommunications technology or related field. One year of experience in telecommunications. An equivalent combination of education and directly related experience may be considered.

Residential Treatment Manager

Open to the public. Master's degree level in counseling, social work, human services or related field. Limited licensed individuals who can obtain licensure within two years from date of hire. Four years' experience in residential treatment.

SCTC Registrar

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in administration, educational administration, or related. Demonstrated understanding of the application of technology to deliver admissions, records and registration. Two years' work experience in registration or admissions.

Soaring Eagle

Kitchen Equipment Technician

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Three years of experience in commercial food equipment repair.

F&B Chef

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Four years of hotel kitchen experience, or similar restaurant experience. Two years supervisory experience. Culinary degree from an American Culinary Federation accredited school may be accepted.

Count Team Supervisor PT

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be 18 years of age. Two years count team or finance experience

Sous Chef-Banquet

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

F&B Custodial Worker-PT

Open to the public. Must be 18 years of age. Must be able to attend annual ServSafe Food Handler training classes.

Steward PT

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

Saganing

Beverage Waitstaff FT

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

Beverage Waitstaff PT

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

Line CookOpen to the public. Six months of

restaurant cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility, or six months of internal culinary training.

Bartender FT

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

to the public. Must least 18 years of age.

Master Plumber

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Ten years of experience as a master plumber.

Housekeeping Supervisor

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED, or four years of directly related work experience. Two years of hotel housekeeping experience.

Slot Attendant FT

Front Desk Agent FT Open to the public. High school diploma

or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age.

Front Desk Agent PT

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

Security Officer PT

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



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FEBRUARY PROMOTIONS



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Win a share of over \$162,000 in Premium Play and Prizes! SATURDAYS IN FEBRUARY

From 5PM–10PM, four guests will win \$500 in Premium Play and 100 bonus entries for the 11PM drawing. At 11PM, four winners will each take home \$1,000 in Premium Play and a key for the grand finale on February 22. At 2PM, the 12 key holders will compete to drive off in a brand-new Cadillac Escalade!

ACCESS Club Members will receive one (1) entry for every 900 points. Guests can begin earning entries January 25, 2025 at 12AM, until February 17, 2025 at 10:55PM.



FRIDAYS 5PM-11PM

Two lucky guests will compete in Scrabble and race to 70 points to win a share of \$42,000 in Premium Play!

ENTERTAINMENT



LEE BRICE YOU, ME & MY GUITAR SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8 | 8PM \$60, \$69, \$81, \$87



MARK CHESNUTT AND LORRIE MORGAN

ENTERTAINMENT HALL

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14 | 8PM \$32, \$44, \$54, \$61
ENTERTAINMENT HALL



GEORGE THOROGOOD AND THE DESTROYERS THE BADDEST SHOW ON EARTH SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15 | 8PM \$40, \$52, \$66, \$72

ENTERTAINMENT HALL



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Win a share of over \$75,000 Cash! SATURDAYS IN FEBRUARY

From 5PM-10PM, break the chocolate heart for a Cash surprise! Two special hearts will hold a \$5,000 or \$10.000 Cash Bonus!

ACCESS Club Members will receive one (1) entry for every 200 points. Guests can begin earning entries January 26, 2025 at 12AM, until February 22, 2025 at 9:55PM



FRIDAYS 3PM-10PM

Step into the Cash Cube for your chance to grab your share of over \$45,000 in Cash and Premium Play!
Snag the Queen of Hearts to win an additional \$500 in Premium Play!



MONDAYS 6AM-11:59PM

Earn points to win Premium Play! The more points you earn, the bigger the prize you can redeem! Choose a threshold and swipe at a kiosk by 11:59PM to win up to \$250 in Free Play!



WEDNESDAYS 4AM-11:59PM

Earn \$5 in Premium Play (up to \$50) for every 300 points earned using your ACCESS card from 4AM-11:59PM. Plus, we will be doing hot seat drawings for \$50 in Premium Play from 7AM-11PM. Also, earn 2,500 points on your ACCESS card from 7AM-11:59PM to play a promotional kiosk game and win up to \$50 in Premium Play!



FEBRUARY 1-28

Book your stay at Saganing Eagles Landing Hotel starting at \$249 during the week and \$279 on weekends! Plus, receive \$25 in Premium Play, Dining Credit and Gift Shop Credit.