

Mnidoo-Giizis
(Spirit Moon)

TRIBAL OBSERVER

JANUARY
2025

Working Together For Our Future

www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver

Volume 27 | Issue 1



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Tribal Operations will be closed Jan. 1-3, 2025 and reopening Monday, Jan. 6, 2025

**Excluding 24/7 departments. For more information, please see page 3.*

Biden-Harris administration releases 10-year National Plan on Native Language Revitalization

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

WASHINGTON — At the 2024 White House Tribal Nations Summit on Dec. 9, Departments of the Interior, Education and Health and Human Services released a 10-year National Plan on Native Language Revitalization, which outlines a comprehensive,

government-wide strategy to support the revitalization, protection, preservation and reclamation of Native languages. The plan, a joint effort of the agencies, charts a path to help address the United States government's role in the loss of Native languages across the continental U.S., Alaska and Hawai'i. The National Plan on Native Language Revitalization is part of the Biden-Harris

administration's work to confront the systematic and deliberate campaign by the U.S. to forcibly assimilate Indigenous peoples and eradicate Native languages and cultures—a campaign extensively documented by Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland's Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative, and formally acknowledged by President Biden in his October 2024 apology to Native communities.

“Indigenous languages are central to our cultures, our life ways, and who we are as people. They connect us to our ancestors, to our homelands, and to our place in the world,” said Secretary Haaland. “This ambitious plan represents the Biden-Harris administration's commitment to address the wrongs of the past and restore what has been taken from us.” “I always say: Multilingualism is a superpower – and that

includes Native American languages,” said Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. “During my time as secretary of education, I've been fortunate to travel through Indian Country and learn beautiful words in Oneida, Dakota, and Nakota languages. One thing was crystal clear: When young people reclaim their Native languages, they reconnect deeply with who

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The 2024-2025 Youth Council sworn in on Dec. 3 by Tribal Council

KYLA HENRY
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, Dec. 3 at 4 p.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers, a new Youth Council was sworn in by Chief Tim J. Davis, for the term of 2024-2025.

Before they were sworn in, advisors and Council members shared some words.

“It has been a pleasure watching these young people step outside of their comfort zones and watching them put in work for their community,” said Tonya Jackson, Youth Council advisor. “My hopes for them are to keep striving

for the best, even when things get tough. Realizing they are walking in our ancestors footsteps to pave the way for the next generations to come.”

Chief Tim J. Davis and Tribal Council members also welcomed the youth and provided remarks.

David Merrill Jr., District One Council representative, shared advise he learned at the annual youth conference, UNITY, while he was on Youth Council.

“I want to share some advice to you; you're going to learn this at UNITY,” Merrill said. “Not too long ago, I was in your spot, sat on Youth Council..., and I really learned a lot at UNITY, and one of those lessons is, a lot of the times our community will call you future leaders, but that's not really the case. You are leaders today. Not



Observer photo by Kyla Henry

The newly-elected Youth Council members pose for a photo after being sworn in on Dec. 3 in the Tribal Council chambers. Photographed left to right: Miah Perez, Jaycee Kahgegab, Tahlia Alonzo-Villanova, Azhiyen Wemigwans, Zhaawan Martell, Alexis Trepanier, Eyhanna Feliciano, Mya Chippeway, Syriaana Smith and Gnaajwi Pego.

tomorrow but today. I want you to walk out of here today feeling empowered and that you guys can really move mountains and you have support here.”

The following week on Tuesday, Dec. 10, Youth Council met again in the

Tribal Council chambers and elected their positions.

Elected positions included: Zhaawan Martell as male co-president and Alexis Trepanier as female co-president.

Eyhanna Feliciano is serving as secretary, Jaycee Kahgegab

as treasurer, and Azhiyen Wemigwans as social director.

Tahlia Alonzo-Villanova, Mya Chippeway, Gnaajwi Pego, Miah Perez, and Syriaana Smith are serving as general representatives.

Congratulations to the new 2024/2025 Youth Council.

PRESORTED STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
GREENLEAF, MI
48838
PERMIT # 338

State of the Tribe

Annual Meeting



Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment Hall

Doors open at 9 a.m. | Breakfast at 10 a.m.

- The 2025 State of the Tribe will also be live streamed on the SCIT Tribal Members-only section of sagchip.org. Please log in to view the meeting if you are unable to join in person.
- Open to SCIT Members of all ages. Tribal ID required.
- Kids Quest at SECR will open at 9 a.m.



Debra Kay Slater

October 15, 1960 — November 26, 2024

Debra Kay Slater, age 64, of Mount Pleasant, Mich., passed away peacefully on Nov. 26, 2024, at her home.

Debra was born Oct. 15, 1960, in Saginaw, Mich., the daughter of Franklin H. Williams Jr. and Shirley (Tappen) Williams.

Debra loved crafting, reading true story magazines, spending time with her family, and collecting rocks. If she saw a rock pile, there was a good chance she would be digging through them to pick out her favorites. She loved beading; if she dropped a bead, she would be on her knees searching for it!

She always tried to see the good in everyone and would often bring home people that needed help. Debra had a heart of gold and will be greatly missed by everyone.

Debra is survived by her husband of 29 years, George Allen Slater; children, Desteny King (Josh Segal), Jammie Morey (Francisco Morales), Ericka King (Gilbert Alaniz); her dog Tessa; grandchildren Eternity Native Welcome Page, Nathaniel (Katelyn), Willow, Gillian, Sway, River, Samara, Raistlin, Xavier, and Francisco; great-grandchildren Odin, Arlo, Ayla, Easton, Grace, Emerson, and Carlos; her mother Shirley Kelley; siblings Edward Williams, Yvonne Williams, Pam Williams, Ryyan Kelley; longtime friend Chris Layman; and many other family and friends.

Debra was preceded in death by her son Daniel; her father Franklin; stepfather Garrey; brother Michael; and dog Cub.

Funeral services took place at Clark Family Funeral Chapel on Friday, Dec. 6, 2024, at 1 p.m. with Fred Cantu officiating. The family greeted friends beginning at 11 a.m. until the time of the service. A luncheon immediately followed the funeral service at Seventh Generation.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



Richard Lee van Vugt

October 12, 1966 — December 5, 2024

Richard Lee van Vugt passed away Thursday, Dec. 5, 2024 at the age of 58.

Rich was born on Oct. 12, 1966. He was raised in Grand Rapids, Mich. by his parents Wim and Jo Ann, along with his brother, Daniel. He also had four more siblings: Penny, Larry, Rhonda, and Rob.

Rich lived his life on his own terms and was full of love and generosity for those close to him and those in need of help.

Rich was a uniquely bright mind in the Grand Rapids construction community. After spending years with Herman Miller in Grand Rapids and Atlanta, he opened and ran his own business, Odanah Construction, along with his wife, Amber. Despite all he was able to design and build throughout the years, his proudest achievements were his five children: Tony, Jackie, Corbin, Grace, Alyssa, and grandchild, Kai.

Along with his family and friends, Rich loved sports. He was a die-hard fan of the Detroit Lions and MSU Spartans. Rich also enjoyed raising chickens with his family, and spending time on the golf course. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Visitation took place on Saturday, Dec. 14, 2024, from 10 a.m. until noon at Cottonwood Church, 1101 Cypress Drive, Jenison, MI 49428.

To send a message of sympathy to the family, sign Rich's online guest book, or to share a favorite memory or photo, please visit: www.MichiganCremation.com



Donald James Slavik

January 10, 1958 — December 6, 2024

Donald James Slavik, age 66, of Iron Mountain, Mich. passed away on Friday, Dec. 6, 2024 at his home.

He was born Jan. 10, 1958 in Berrian, Mich., son of Walter and Mable (Stevens) Slavik.

Donald served in the U. S. Army. He worked as a mechanic and was a disabled veteran. While we have always known how smart Donny is, the Army at the mere age of 17 selected him for elite intelligence training at Fort Huachuca, Ariz. He then went on to use that intelligence training in Wiesbaden, Germany while protecting the boarder.

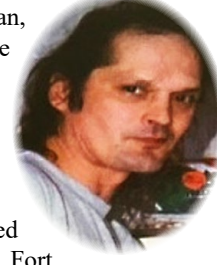
Donny was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.

Surviving are his son, Mike Slavik; siblings, Michael Slavik, Glenda Slavik, Karen Siminski, Julia Hay, Walter Slavik Jr., Sandra Barron, Joni Delacruz, Cynthia Cisneros; numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews.

Preceding him in death are his parents Walter and Mable; his son James Slavik; sister Connie Slavik Jackson, brother Richard Slavik.

A celebration of life gathering will take place in the spring at the Jacobson Funeral Home in L'Anse, Mich. He will be buried next to his son James in the Herman Cemetery with military rites at the graveside. Jacobson Funeral Home is assisting the family.

Friends can sign Donald's guest book or send condolences at www.jacobsonfuneralhome.com.



41st Annual Saginaw Chippewa POWWOW
Naakdoon Anishinaabe-aadziwin
"Follow the Anishinaabe Way of Life"

Save the Date!
July 25-27, 2025

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

- **Emcees:** Joel Syrette & Brian Moore
- **Drum Judge:** Harvey Dreaver
- **Host Drum:** The Boyz
- **Arena Directors:** Wayne Silas & Joe Syrette
- **Fire Keeper:** Steven Oldman
- **Head Veterans:** Ray Codotte
- **Head Dancers:** Picked daily
- **Male Judge:** Joe Bointy
- **Free Admission**
- **Female Judge:** Shelley Bointy
- ****Drug and Alcohol Free Event**

www.sagchip.org/pow-wow

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

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

HONORING SAGANING TRADITIONAL POWWOW

Save the Date!
June 14 & 15, 2025
Powwow Grounds — 2750 Worth Rd. Standish, MI

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

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: Jan. 20, 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

Or drop off:

- **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

Attention Tribal Members: Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE: There will be a public hearing held on **Monday, Jan. 13, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. in the Chambers at the Black Elk Building, 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.** This hearing will address the application for a renewal of a Retail Off-Premise Beer and Wine License presented to Tribal Council by Theresa Giorlando, area retail manager of the Migizi Economic Development Company. The application which will be reviewed and discussed at the hearing is as follows:

Renewal of Retail Off-Premise Beer and Wine License for the Isabella Sagamok, located at 2428 S. Leaton Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Such license if renewed, would cover the sale of packaged beer and wine to be consumed by buyers off premise for the duration of one full year from Jan. 27, 2025 to Jan. 26, 2026, with hours of alcohol service consistent with Chapter 8.7 Liquor Control Act and the license issued by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.

UMR UPDATE

Important changes to your UMR health coverage that will take effect on Jan. 1, 2025:

Dialysis Coverage

- ▶ No longer covering Out-of-Network Providers for inpatient/outpatient services.
- ▶ Patients currently effected will be notified to begin transition to an In-Network provider of choice.



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!





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

- Jan. 7 • Feb. 4 • March 4



HOLIDAY HOURS

Nimkee Medical, Dental, Optical & Public Health
WILL BE CLOSED: Jan. 1, 2025

- ▶ **Nimkee Medical, Dental & Optical will be open: Jan. 2-3, 2025**
 *A medical provider will be on-call (989-317-2088) after 5 pm and weekends.

- ▶ **Nimkee Public Health: By appointment only**
- ▶ **Nimkee Fitness: Open 24/7**
 *Must use employee badge or key fob for access.

- ▶ **Nimkee Pharmacy will be open: Jan. 2-3, 2025: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**
 Should you require prescriptions, please note that Nimkee pharmacy will have limited hours, if a patient requires medication when the pharmacy's closed; Meijer pharmacy (free of charge for eligible patients, the patient must let the Pharmacy know they are a Nimkee patient) or a pharmacy of their choice and they will be responsible for their co-pay.

- ▶ **Urgent Care:** If you need to utilize urgent care during the closure, please make sure to call the PRC Hotline at 989-775-4633.

Teledoc is available
 "General Medicine Only"

Free for UMR-registered patients, scan the QR Code to download app.



Teladoc prescriptions: Nimkee patients can fill Teladoc prescriptions received during open clinic hours at Nimkee Pharmacy if the patient is referred to Teladoc by Nimkee Medical.

We appreciate the continued support of our patients and employees who arrange their schedules to accommodate the community's needs.

TRIBAL OPERATIONS
Holiday & Administrative Closures

TRIBAL OPERATIONS WILL BE CLOSED:
Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025 – Friday, Jan. 3, 2025

**Excluding 24/7 departments and those below.*

- **ACFS:** Closed. On-call worker: **989-775-4700**
- **Andahwod:** Open 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. excluding holidays/weekends. 24/7 staff will operate as usual. **989-775-4300**
- **Behavioral Health Outpatient:** Closed. On-call therapists: **989-775-4850**
- **Behavioral Health RTC:** Open (fully staffed) **989-775-4850**
- **Fire Department:** Open 24/7 (fully staffed) **989-775-4866**
- **Gaming Commission:** Compliance open (fully staffed). One commissioner on-call daily.
- **Housing:** Closed. Mt. Pleasant 24/7 emergency line: **989-621-2669**
 Saganing: **989-330-8165**
- **Human Resources, SECR:** Open times below.
 ▶ Dec. 23: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. ▶ Dec. 30: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 ▶ Dec. 26: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. ▶ Jan. 2: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
 ▶ Dec. 27: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. ▶ Jan. 3: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- **Human Resources, Saganing:** Open times below.
 ▶ Dec. 23: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. ▶ Dec. 30: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 ▶ Dec. 26: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. ▶ Jan. 2: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 ▶ Dec. 27: 7 a.m. - 12 p.m. ▶ Jan. 3: 7 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- **Licensing and Regulations:** Closed, except for Dec. 27 & Jan. 3 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. **989-775-4175**
- **Mailroom:** Closed on holidays/weekends, otherwise open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. **989-775-0114**
- **Nimkee Fitness Center:** Open 24/7 (no staff)
- **Nimkee Medical, Dental, Optical:** Open on Dec. 23, 2024 & Jan. 2-3, 2025. Medical provider on-call after 5 p.m. and weekends: **989-317-2088**
- **Nimkee Public Health:** Closed. By appointment only. **989-775-4695**
- **Nimkee Pharmacy:** Open times below.
 ▶ Dec. 23: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. ▶ Dec. 30: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 ▶ Dec. 26-27: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. ▶ Jan. 2-3: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- **Per Capita:** Closed. All changes need to be in the office or emailed to percapita@sagchip.org by Dec. 20 at 5 p.m. **989-775-4040**
- **Police Department:** Open (24/7). Dispatch: **989-775-4700**
- **Prosecutor:** Closed holidays/weekends. Open Mondays (8 a.m. - 12 p.m.), Thursdays (9 a.m. - 1 p.m.) and Fridays (12 - 3 p.m.) **989-775-4808**. Victim Advocate on-call.
- **Recreation:** Closed. Open gym on Dec. 23, 26 & 30 and Jan. 2 from 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. each day. **989-775-4149**
- **Saganing Outreach:** Closed. Medication pick-up and deliveries on Thursdays. Maintenance on-call. **989-775-5820**
- **Seventh Generation:** Closed. Staff on-call: **989-775-4780**
- **Tribal Clerk/Enrollment:** Closed. Burial assistance: **989-775-4072**
- **Utilities:** TBD
- **Warehouse:** Open regular days. Closed on Dec. 25 & Jan. 1.

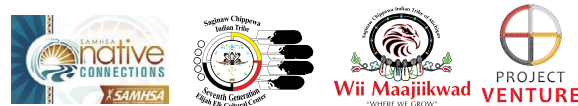
Most closed departments will be monitoring their emails and voicemails to provide services throughout the closure, be sure to leave a message.



Seeking artists to design and sew custom ribbon skirts and apparel for Tribal youth.

Tribal youth will be hosting an Indigenous Fashion Show and Round Dance in February 2025 at 6 p.m. at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

- ▶ Designer will receive recognition
- ▶ Materials can be provided
- ▶ Youth will be gifted the skirt or apparel for participating in the event
- ▶ Apparel items are due back to Behavioral Health by the end of January



For more information, please contact:
 Felicia Otto at 989.775.4823 or fotto@sagchip.org



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



Give that Special Someone
A Valentine
 In the Tribal Observer
 Email to Observer@sagchip.org
 Deadline: Jan. 17, 2025 - \$10 each



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



Nimkee
Memorial Wellness Center

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, you will receive the final reminder.

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:

- <https://caremessage.docsend.com/view/f7vxyxw3mz9hgj>
- <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.

SCAN QR CODE

ZIIBWING CENTER

of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways

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

- ▶ **Martin Luther King Jr. Day** — Monday, Jan. 20, 2025
- ▶ **Presidents Day** — Monday, Feb. 17, 2025
- ▶ **Easter** — Monday, April 21, 2025
- ▶ **Michigan Indian Day** — Friday, Sept. 26, 2025
- ▶ **Veterans Day** — Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2025



Ziibwing Center Community Digital Archive ASSISTANCE NEEDED

The Ziibwing 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: Ziibwing Center Community Digital Archive.



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

<https://cdsc-wsu.org/ziibwing-center/home>

For more information, please contact:

- **Email:** ZiibwingQuestions@sagchip.org
- **Phone:** 989-775-4733 or 989-775-4748

The Seven Grandfather TEACHINGS

Nbookaawin – Wisdom

To live with wisdom is to acquire and use experiences as guides for making equitable and mature decisions.

Zaagidowin – Love

To live our lives with love is to understand our capacity to realize, empathize, and nurture the needs of others.

Minaadendamooing – Respect

To live with respect is to give mutual consideration for shared and differing ideas as well as for the world around us.

Zoongide'ewin – Bravery

To be brave and have courage is to recognize our moral and mental strength and to do what is appropriate.

Gwekwadiziwin – Honesty

To be honest is to recognize that we have the ability to live our lives with honor and integrity.

Dibaadendiziwin – Humility

To live with humility is to recognize that we are all equal, we all make mistakes, we all like to have our success rewarded and to put others before ourselves.

Debwewin – Truth

To live in truth is to recognize the difference between right and wrong and to be faithful to ourselves as well as the world around us even when the right way is not the easiest way.

TRIBAL OBSERVER

Boozhu! The Tribal Observer, a monthly newspaper, is published on the first of each month.

- To contact Tribal Observer staff, please call 989-775-4096 or email observer@sagchip.org.
- To change your mailing address, please contact the Tribal Clerk's office at 989-775-4055.
- Community advertisements will not be accepted over the phone.

Submissions from the Tribal community are encouraged and can be sent to:

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
c/o Tribal Observer
7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858



Subscription rates are \$30 per year.

Story ideas, articles and photographs from the community are always welcome. The Tribal Observer reserves the right to edit and/or refuse any submissions or advertisements for publication. The Tribal Observer is published by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and is subject to an editorial review process.

The views expressed within the Tribal Observer do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tribal Observer, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council, Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort or its employees or any other enterprise of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. The Tribal Observer works to uphold the highest integrity in news reporting and supports the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968.

Tribal Observer Advertising

To place an advertisement, please contact the Tribal Observer at 989-775-4096 or Observer@sagchip.org for more information.

Announcements - Including birthday, wedding, engagement, congratulations, etc., costs \$10 and is open to Tribal Members, community members and employees. Double-sized announcements are \$20.

Political ads - All political ads will be 1/4 page and have a red border stating as such. The cost is \$250. Political ads may include, but are not limited to, any opinion or advertisement that is political in nature and/or any Letter to the Editor that does not conform to guidelines.

Tribal Observer Subscription Form

Please send \$30 for the annual subscription. Make checks out to SCIT.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please mail form to:

Tribal Observer
7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Contact Information:

- **Phone:** 989-775-4096
- **Email:** Observer@sagchip.org
- **www:** www.Sagchip.org/TribalObserver



Community Photo Submissions Needed

Nimkee Clinic is requesting family-friendly photos to display within the clinic.

Requested photo subjects include:

- ▶ Powwow dancers
- ▶ Active/healthy lifestyles
- ▶ Drummers
- ▶ Generational photos
- ▶ Sports
- ▶ Community events

Please email photo submissions to:

KAfox@sagchip.org



Nimkee
Memorial Wellness Center

*A photo release form will need to be completed if your submission is used by Nimkee Clinic.

NF Nimkee Fitness

STRONG

Personal Training Classes

Beginning Jan. 6, 2025

Two sessions: 2-3 p.m. & 3-4 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!

In Honor of WII MAAJIKWAD PLAQUE Fundraiser

Plaques will be placed on 18 benches around Wii Maajikwad

Plaques cost: \$500 each

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



Wii Maajikwad
"WHERE WE GROW"

Payments can be made at:
Accounting in the Black Elk Building

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



NEW HOURS

Johnny Rockets, located within the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, has updated its hours of operation.

Hours of operation include:

- ▶ **Sunday-Thursday:**
8 a.m. to 11 p.m.
10 to 11 p.m. to-go orders only
- ▶ **Friday-Saturday:**
8 to 2 a.m.
1 to 2 a.m. to-go orders only



*The last hour of the evening will be to-go orders only.

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



Working Together To Protect Our Environment

Tribal Member RÉSUMÉ Development

Available through Human Resources

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

Betsey M. Alonzo
Balonzo@sagchip.org | 989-775-5643

NF Nimkee Fitness 24/7 ACCESS

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.

Staff: Fitness staff will be available from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday to assist with the access paperwork.

NO YOGA CLASS IN JANUARY
Class will resume in February

For more information, please contact:
Nimkee Fitness at 989.775.4690

ZIIBIWING CENTER of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways

Collections Committee Vacancies

Attention Tribal Members

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

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

Interested members need to:

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

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

William Johnson, Curator/Operations Manager

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

Biboon STEAM^{AG} Raffle Fundraiser

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

Prizes:

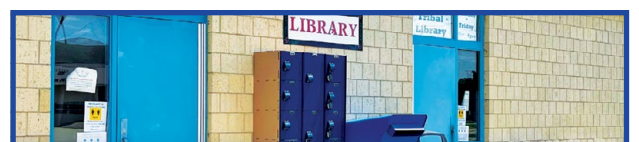
- **1st place:** Two concert tickets of choice (*Donated by SCIT Public Relations*) and SECR overnight stay with a \$50 dinner voucher (*Donated by Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort — valued at \$700*)
- **2nd place:** Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel overnight stay with passes and dinner voucher (*Donated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



Your Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Library IS STILL OPEN AT THE OLD TRIBAL OPS BUILDING

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

Hours:
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



Seventh Generation honors the traditional native art of Carl Roy Sanford-Pelcher

JOSEPH SOWMICK

Public Relations Manager

Seventh Generation Programs will honor traditional native art of Carl Roy Sanford-Pelcher on Feb. 2. Carl walked on in 2022 and was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Carl's husband, Mark Sanford-Pelcher, said Carl studied art at Central Michigan University as well as at the Institute of American Indian Art in Santa Fe, N.M.

"He will be remembered not only for his visual creations but also for the way he painted the hearts of the community with love and laughter," said Mark Sanford-Pelcher.

A Clark Funeral Chapel tribute noted "Carl Roy Sanford-Pelcher walked and played here with us for 68 years spreading joy and kindness. His bright light and thunderous sense of humor will continue to shape the

many lives he touched and influence future generations. He made beautiful art and loved to garden and travel."

Lee Ann Ruffino, cultural manager for Seventh Generation, said the themed exhibition is titled "Aanji-maadzeng - Busting through their boxes toward my human light."

"Art has helped me so much throughout life - where my words cannot express what is in my heart, my art can," Ruffino said. "My uncle Carl Pelcher-ba was a beautiful and inspiring light to me and many others. His art is a sweet reminder of the gentle spirit he shared with us while on earth. Creating art is healing and when you share it, it helps us strengthen and connect as a community."



Courtesy photo

Carl Roy Sanford-Pelcher's artwork shares traditional teachings in acrylic and watercolor mediums.

The art show will be held on Feb. 2 at the Elijah Elk Cultural Center (7957 E. Remus Rd. in Mount



Courtesy photo

Carl Roy Sanford-Pelcher

Pleasant) from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is open to the public. A sacred fire will be available for the community, along with a meal prepared by friends and family of Seventh Generation staff.

For more information, please call the Seventh Generation office at 989-775-4780.

Giin ina owe gimazina'igan? Tribal Libraries awarded two-year project grant

ALICIA RAPHAEL

Staff Writer

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Libraries are proud to announce that they have been awarded an Enhancement Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services for an upcoming two-year project titled "Giin ina owe gimazina'igan? (Is this your book?)"

This project builds upon the success of the 2023 project, "Kina gda gindaasomi, kina gda zhibiigemi (We All Read, We All Write)," which saw members of the SCIT community successfully publish their own books.

Previously published titles included in the 2023 project are "These Are Not the Stories" by Charmaine



Marjorie Benz-Ba, "Tribal Observing: Seasons in Time" by Joseph Sowmick, "Resurgence of the Mind's Eye" by Elisa Grossman, and the "Kina gda gindaasomi, kina gda zhibiigemi (We All Read, We All Write) Anthology," which features contributions from various community members.

This project "Giin ina owe gimazina'igan?" aims to improve educational programs by fostering a strong writing community, offering workshops,

self-publishing tools, mentorship opportunities, and much more. This initiative is significant as it works to meet the growing demand for books that celebrate and promote Anishinaabe culture, history, and language.

A big difference of this year's project is the shift in focus.

"During the first project, we received multiple request from the community for children's books and language books," said Tribal Librarian Anne Heidemann. "This project will target K-12 and post-secondary groups specifically, while still welcoming participation from the outside community."

Heidemann anticipates publishing an even greater number of titles

compared to the previous project, which will further expand opportunities for local writers and storytellers.

A key component of "Giin ina owe gimazina'igan?" is the involvement of published Indigenous writers, who will serve as mentors to participants by offering guidance and support for both large-scale personal projects, as well as smaller contributions.

Participants interested in shorter works will have the opportunity to feature their writing in the second installment of the "Kina Gda Gindaasomi, Kina Gda Zhibiigemi Anthology."

This project represents an exciting opportunity to preserve and share stories, strengthen cultural literacy, and empower aspiring authors within the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal community.

Anishinabe Santa offers up a "A-ho, Ho, Ho" for the holidays at Ziibiwing Center

JOSEPH SOWMICK

Public Relations Manager

On Dec. 12, Anishinabe Santa made his annual return to the Ziibiwing Center and offered a "A-ho, Ho, Ho" to families for the holidays.

William Johnson, curator and office manager for the Ziibiwing Center, said he is always thrilled to see the faces of the Tribal youth during the event.

"Their facial expressions are precious and it makes me

happy knowing that our families are making lasting memories," Johnson said. "The Anishinabe Santa annual event was reinstated after the COVID-19 pandemic and it's simply a joy for families and the community to behold."

Events Coordinator Glenna Halliwill said there were more than 100 people who came through the door to participate in craft activities and to take pictures with Santa.

According to Mindy Bailey, digitization specialist, the Ziibiwing Center wished to thank Bonnie Sprague of the Soaring Eagle Waterpark for providing Nbakade pizza for the event.

"We would also like to say miigwetch to Andrea Graham of the Chippewa River District Library for assisting with the Anishinabe Santa photo scene," Bailey said. "We received many wonderful

compliments on the beauty of the scenery used for the family photos."

Johnson said, Miigwetch to all the Ziibiwing staff and the student volunteers - Bailey Foley, Sydney Macejek, Kayla McVeigh and Nicole Clark - who assisted with making the holiday event special.

Tribal Member Rotation Program

New Year, New Opportunity!
Position opening soon

- ▶ **"The Secret Sauce"** If you have always wanted a career at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, this is your opportunity to find the right job for you. You'll experience every work area at the Casino & Resort. We let you in on the secret sauce of what goes on behind the scenes to take care of 10,000 guests each day.
- ▶ **"A Different World"** At Soaring Eagle there's a 10 a.m. world, and there's a 10 p.m. world. In this program, your work schedule could be 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. one week, and 6 p.m. - 2 a.m. the next week. One month you might be working with Security at the front door, the next month you're waiting tables at the Siniikaung Bistro.
- ▶ **"We Never Lock the Doors!"** With a 24-hour, seven days a week operation, coming to work each and every day is a huge part of your personal success. There's only one way to find your perfect job and that's to be there every day.
- ▶ **"This Journey has a Destination"** Join the team! When you find where you belong we need you on our winning team. The end goal of this program is to get you working at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.



Courtesy photo

The staff and volunteers of Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways pose for a photo with Anishinabe Santa.



Courtesy photo

One-month-old SCIT descendant Alora Gutierrez enjoys her first Christmas with Anishinabe Santa at Ziibiwing Center.



Revitalization

continued from front page

they are and where they come from. But Native peoples have suffered from shameful policies that aimed to eradicate these languages and cultures for too long.

“I am hopeful that this national plan is a start to the federal government’s remediation of its participation in those policies. And I am hopeful we can all choose to keep fighting for a future where Native communities have the tools and support to keep their languages alive and their cultures thriving.”

The plan addresses a chronic under-investment in Native language revitalization to date.

The Bureau of Indian Education funds 187 schools for American Indian and Alaska Native students and is tasked with providing Indigenous students with a culturally-relevant high-quality education – yet

it received no dedicated funding for language revitalization until 2017 and annual appropriations have not exceeded \$7.5 million for any one budget year in the years since.

The plan released last month calls for a \$16.7 billion investment for Native language revitalization programs for federally recognized tribes and the Native Hawaiian Community.

“We use language to write history, share knowledge, map the future, and pass down traditions,” said Secretary of Health and Human Services Xavier Becerra. “Investing in language revitalization strengthens communities and contributes to their resiliency. HHS is a proud and critical contributor to this coordinated effort and the benefits it will deliver.”

Developed in consultation with Tribal Nations, non-profit organizations, subject-matter experts, and key stakeholders, the plan calls for:

Expanding access to immersion language environments by:

- Supporting 100 language nests, educational programs, that provide childcare and instruction in a Native language for children under the age of seven.

- Funding 100 new K-12 Native language immersion schools, educational institutions where at least 50 percent of instruction is conducted in a Native language.

- Supporting 37 centers dedicated to language preservation, instruction and cultural studies to revitalize and support language and culture, including those at Tribal Colleges and Universities.

- Providing scholarships for families to support language and culture.

Bolstering community-led revitalization efforts by:

- Supporting 100 mentor-apprentice programs—initiatives pairing fluent speakers with adult learners for intensive language transmission.

- Restructuring the way federal funds are allocated to support tribal sovereignty and

self-determination through a flexible funding model that flows money directly to tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations.

- Funding community-based summer, supplemental and after-school programs to increase Native language learning opportunities outside of traditional classrooms.

Developing, growing and sustaining Native language support networks by:

- Recruiting and training 10,000 Native language teachers to meet the need for educators.

- Establishing a \$100 million innovation fund to encourage tribes, individuals and the private sector to develop new solutions for language revitalization through curriculum and technology.

- Supporting technical assistance providers to create schools and programs, including those with expertise in urban Indian settings and with the Native Hawaiian community.

Additionally, last month, the Interior Department announced a cooperative agreement with the National Fund for

Excellence in American Indian Education. This partnership will provide \$7.5 million in existing grant funding to BIE schools supporting the launch or expansion of immersion programs and create a network of educators and school leaders committed to Native language revitalization.

This funding will help build a network of BIE schools committed to integrating Native language immersion and cultural education into their curricula, offering students the tools to connect with their language and heritage. Together with the National Plan for Native Language Revitalization, these efforts create a comprehensive strategy to protect, preserve and reclaim Indigenous languages across the United States.

The White House Tribal Nations Summit provides an opportunity for the Biden-Harris administration and tribal leaders from the 574 federally recognized tribes to discuss ways the federal government can invest in and strengthen nation-to-nation relationships as well as ensure that progress in Indian Country endures for years to come.

JANUARY 2025

Tribal Elder Birthdays

<p>1) Wendy McGregor James Smith William Smith Jr.</p> <p>2) Meletta Trepanier Robyn Henry Robyn Quinn</p> <p>3) Tracie Gearhart-Pack</p> <p>5) Donald Wing Sr.</p> <p>6) Alan Henry</p> <p>7) Paula Chippewa Samuel Pego Warren Stone Kandy Ojeda</p> <p>8) Ronda Jones Alstyn Peters Michelle Shaw-Cyr</p> <p>9) Ronald Defoy Cary Nahgahgwon</p> <p>10) Susan Kequom Ronald Battice Brenda Yoder Mary Green Donald Slavik Susan Sturock Robin Waynee</p> <p>11) Esther Helms Kathy Martin Linze Ritter Philemon Bird</p> <p>12) Norman Davenport</p> <p>13) Sandra Barron Lyle Collins Pamela Slifco</p> <p>14) Lillian Olson Lucy Shawano Dennis Horton</p> <p>15) Jayne Keating Lisa Slattery Michael Zygmunt</p> <p>16) Jodi Friend Joann Clark</p> <p>17) Ramon Alaniz Terri Darling</p>	<p>18) Audrey Falcon Richard Ritter Iva Chimoski</p> <p>19) Sue Durfee Scott Moses Sr.</p> <p>20) Robin Bonneau</p> <p>21) Billy Starkey Della Brandel</p> <p>22) Barbara Arzola Traci Town</p> <p>23) Renee Peters Vicki Brown Michelle Deaton Joseph Kequom Michael Ziehmer</p> <p>24) Norma Rapp Tweedie Vancise Mark Chamberlain Jacqueline Cyr Christopher Johnson Brad Walraven</p> <p>25) Scott McLellan Tonia Town</p> <p>26) Darlene Highley James Trepanier Jeffery Reed</p> <p>27) Jeffrey Jackson Renee Anderson Paul Robinson Ricky Shawano</p> <p>28) David Merrill Sr. Alex Ritter Sr. Sheena Swanigan Gloria King</p> <p>29) Jacquelyne Meir Jr. Vincent Gallegos Becky McLennon</p> <p>30) Karen Naganashe</p> <p>31) Mary Walker Jessica Brannon Gerald Cloutier Vicki Sandlin</p>
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A year in review: SCIT Housing Department update

ROSALIE MALONEY
SCIT Housing Manager

With the New Year and the winter season comes the opportunity to reflect on the previous year and a time for taking stock. The Saginaw Chippewa Housing Department certainly had a very productive year in 2024.

The Housing Department is fully grant funded under the Native American Housing and Self Determination Act, of 1996, NAHASDA.

Every year the U.S. Congress authorizes an appropriation of funds for Native American housing activities, and those funds are dispersed to the Native American tribes through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. In 2024, the amount allocated to SCIT was \$2,534,404.

One major accomplishment in 2024 was the construction of the Supportive Housing building with 16 rental apartments, located at 6870 E. Broadway. With the support and encouragement of the construction manager, Accounting Department, Legal Services, Information Technology Department, and the Tribal Council, Housing was able to finish the project on time and no Tribal funds were needed in spite of the post-pandemic inflation economy.

During the past two years, Housing was able to assist 92 low-income SCIT households under the Homeowners Assistance Funds (HAF) Program. That program began

in January 2023 and was funded under the American Rescue Plan Act.

The main goal was to prevent homeowner mortgage foreclosures for those who were financially affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Home repairs necessary to keep homeowners in their homes was also an eligible use of the funding. Housing was able to utilize all of the funding of \$1,202,924.

Other community projects included utilizing NAHASDA grant funds in the amount of \$35,000 to upgrade the existing outdoor basketball court located behind Nimkee Fitness with safety fencing, outdoor lighting, and bench seating.

Housing also tried some new rental assistance programs: The College Rental Assistance Program and the Rental Attainment Program. Both programs were funded under the annual NAHASDA grant.

The Rental Attainment Program was designed to pay the security deposit and first month’s rent for eligible applicants. There were seven SCIT members benefitting from that program.

The College Rental Assistance Program was intended to assist enrolled Native American college students to pay a portion of their monthly rent during the school year. There was a total of three SCIT college students assisted under that program.

None of this work could be accomplished without a hard-working and reliable staff. In 2024, the Housing Department employed 10 full time, one part time and two temporary employees; nine of which are SCIT members.

I am very grateful for the people that work with me at the Housing Department to bring service and assistance to our community. It makes one feel good to be part of such an enthusiastic and solid team.

The Housing Department is looking forward to being helpful and serving the community in the New Year. In the months ahead readers can look for information in the Tribal Observer for Housing related programs, and under the Services/Housing Dept. tab of the SCIT website.

Happy New Year!

We Are Certified and Insured To Conduct:

- Residential Inspections
- Commercial Inspections
- Septic Inspections
- Thermal Imaging
- Well Inspections
- Time of Transfers

989-621-3895

Jason Benzinger
SCIT member
co-owned
Owner



Active Native Youth



Adrienne Pelcher
Shepherd Middle School | Grade: 7
Football



Sara Wemigwans
Mt. Pleasant Middle School | Grade: 6
Basketball



Connor Wrath
All Saints Catholic School | Grade: K
Hockey



Kaya Owl
Mt. Pleasant Middle School | Grade: 6
Softball, Basketball, Volleyball



Mishiikenh Sprague
Shepherd Middle School | Grade: 8
Football



Daniel Mena
Shepherd High School | Grade: 10
Football, Track & Field



Lukas Chapa
Mt. Pleasant Middle School | Grade: 7
Football, Baseball, Basketball



Corleone Castillo-Sprague
Mt. Pleasant Middle School | Grade: 8
Football



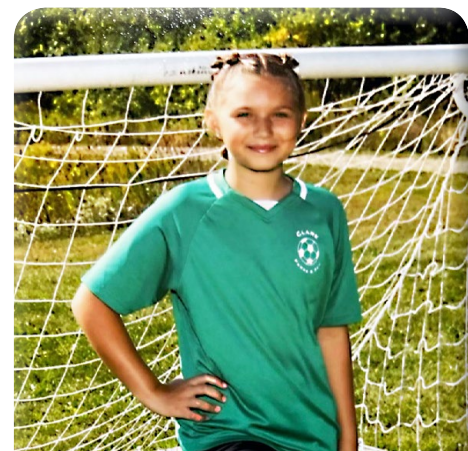
Wadaase Mcsauby-Fox
Union High School | Grade: 11
Football



Aakidewin Mcsauby-Fox
Union High School | Grade: 8
Football



Ellie and Abbie Wrath
Ages: 2 years old
Gymnastics



Aubrey Reno
Clare Middle School | Grade: 7
Soccer



Ace Schocko
Ganiard Elementary | Grade: K
Hockey, Football, Baseball



Duke Schocko
Fancher Elementary | Grade: 4
Baseball, Football, Basketball



Hayden Anton
Pullen Elementary | Grade: K
Cheerleading



Jon Bailey
Shepherd High School | Grade: 12
Football



Zhaawan Martell
Mt. Pleasant High School | Grade: 11
Football, Basketball, Youth Council



Gnaajwi
Mt. Pleasant High School | Grade: 9
Volleyball



Dash
Pullen Elementary | Grade: 2
Soccer



Waaskones
Mt. Pleasant Middle School | Grade: 7
Volleyball



Aiden Raphael
Shepherd Middle School | Grade: 8
Football, Basketball, Baseball



Allana Rain VanOrden
Renaissance Academy | Grade: 8
Track, Ballet



Dannie Bennett
Mt. Pleasant Middle School | Grade: 7
Taekwondo ATA



Daymien Bennett
Ganiard Elementary | Grade: 2
Taekwondo ATA



Waasnodel Davis
Kearsley High School | Grade: 11
Swim, Soccer, National Honors Society



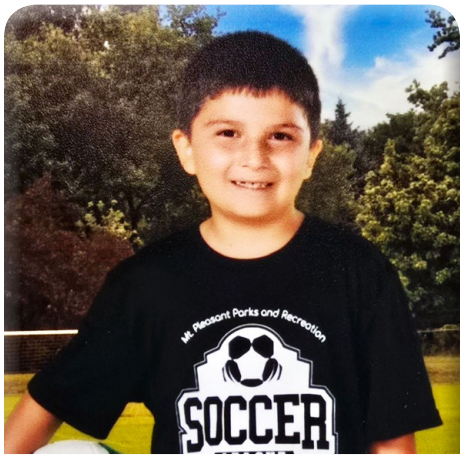
Jackson Flachs
Beal City | Grade: 9
Football, Basketball, Baseball



Rene' Walker
Frank E. Schall Elementary | Grade: 3
Taekwondo



Sakahar Spencer-Whiteside
Frank E. Schall Elementary | Grade: 4
Taekwondo



Isaiah Chippeway
Renaissance Academy | Grade: 3
Soccer, Basketball



Michael Cuellar Jr.
Renaissance Academy | Grade: 1
Soccer



Kingsley Davis
Mary McGuire Elementary | Grade: 5
Soccer, Volleyball



Abram Davis
Pullen Elementary | Grade: 2
Flag Football, Basketball



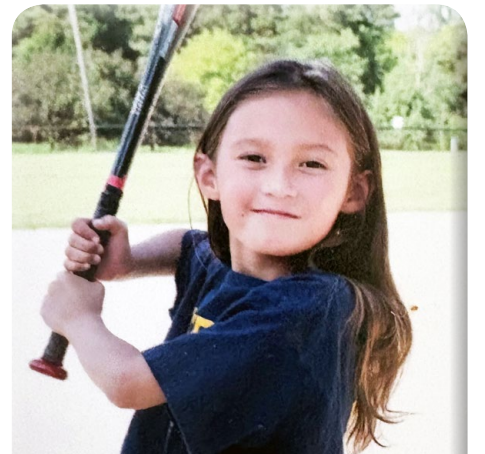
Sereniti Cole
Mt. Pleasant High School | Grade: 9
Volleyball



Genesis Kopke
Renaissance Academy | Grade: 5
Basketball



Kenson Kopke
Renaissance Academy | Grade: 3
Basketball



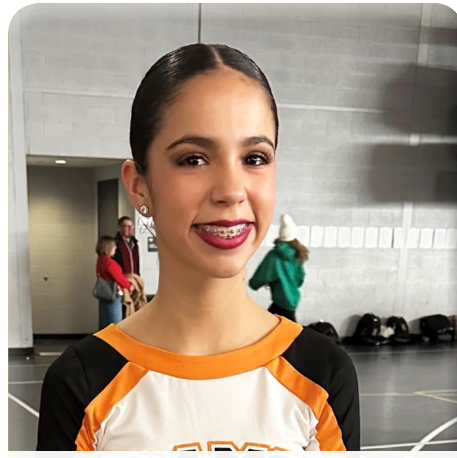
Hazel Bennett
Shepherd Elementary | Grade: 3
Softball



Leylahni Sandoval-Ritter
Shepherd Middle School | Grade: 8
Basketball



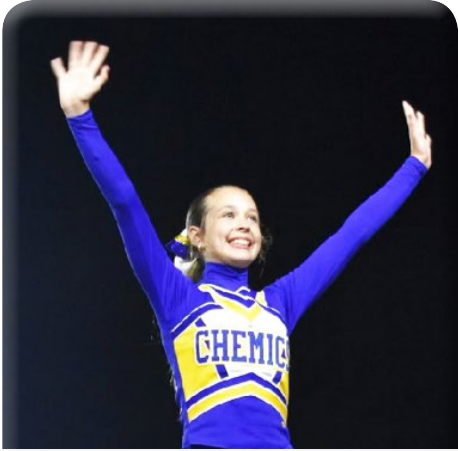
Wyatt Isham
Rockford
Basketball



Hayden Isham
Rockford
Dance



Harper Isham
Rockford
Volleyball



Zoey Jackson
Midland High School | Grade: 9
Cheerleading



Talan Heard
Clare High School | Grade: 11
Football, Track & Field



Kenqaiia Sprague-Jones
Shepherd Elementary | Grade: 4
Basketball



Zalaciah Sprague-Jones
Shepherd Elementary | Grade: 5
Basketball



Albert Julian Chingman-Tijerina
Dewitt Middle School | Grade: 8
Baseball, Football, Wrestling



Hailey Foley
Mt. Pleasant School of Dance
Dancer in The Nutcracker Reimagined



Lundynn Lynn Collins-Frazier
Mt. Pleasant Middle School | Grade: 8
Basketball



Sariah Farrell
Shepherd Middle School | Grade: 7
Volleyball



Nakai Davis
Fiedler Elementary | Grade: 5
Basketball



Kristy Palacios
Eastern High School | Grade: 11
Basketball, Volleyball, Softball



Leah Palacios
Eastern High School | Grade: 11
Basketball, Volleyball, Softball



Samuel Cloud
Shepherd High School | Grade: 10
Wrestling



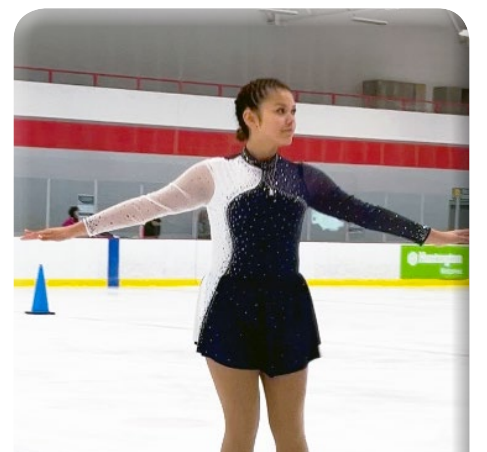
Gabriel Quigno
Shepherd Middle School | Grade: 8
Football



Elijah Quigno
Shepherd Middle School | Grade: 6
Football



Gage Sprague
Wii Maajikwad | Grade: 5
Soccer



Tahlia Alonzo-Villanova
Mt. Pleasant High School | Grade: 9
Figure Skating

ENTERTAINMENT



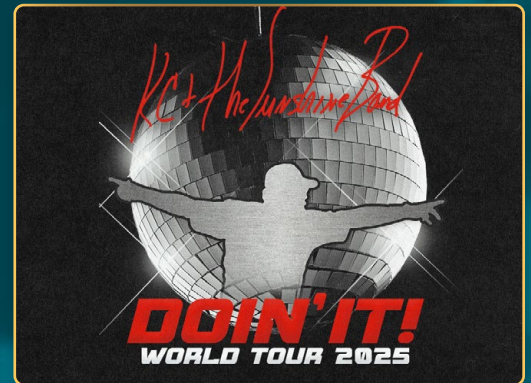
Tom Segura
Come Together

Sunday, January 19 | 7PM
Entertainment Hall
Tickets: **SOLD OUT**



Bret Michaels
Parti-Gras Tour 2025

Friday, January 24 | 8PM
Entertainment Hall
Tickets: \$59, \$68, \$80, \$86



KC & The Sunshine Band
Doin' IT! World Tour 2025

Sunday, January 26 | 6PM
Entertainment Hall
Tickets: \$39, \$51, \$65, \$71



Lee Brice
You, Me & My Guitar

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



**George Thorogood
And The Destroyers**
The Baddest Show on Earth

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



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.

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**Winter
FEST**
BINGO

JOIN US FOR THE
WINTERFEST
AND A FLURRY OF FANTASTIC PRIZES!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18
MAIN SESSION AT 3PM

Five guests will be selected to search through
suitcases to find the lucky travel voucher!

See bingo for complete details.



ZIIBIWING CENTER

of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways

6650 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 | Phone: 989.775.4750 | www.sagchip.org/ziibiwing

2024-2025 Calendar of Events

October 2024

- 10/1: Performance Circle Sign-Up & Class
- 10/14: Indigenous Peoples' Day Film Screening
- 10/17: Eagle Feather Cleansing
- 10/18: Eagle Feather Honoring
- 10/18: Eagle Feather Feast Oct. 18

November 2024

- 11/1: Changing Exhibition - Anishinabe Quillwork
- 11/4: Collection Showing
- 11/7: Spirit Feast
- 11/9: Make & Take Ribbon Skirt (Sponsored by SCIT THPO)
- 11/11: Veteran's Day (Free Admission for Veterans and Family)

December 2024

- 12/5 - 12/6: MIIBS Silent Auction (Sponsored by SCIT THPO)
- 12/5: Annual Appreciation & Membership Dinner
- 12/12: Anishinabe Santa
- 12/17: Performance Circle Graduation

January 2025

- 1/7: Performance Circle Sign-Up & Class
- 1/16: Readers Theater (Sponsored by SCIT THPO)

February 2025

- 2/3: Collection Showing
- 2/7: Senior Soup & Sew Social (Sponsored by SCIT THPO)

March 2025

- 3/3 - 3/7: Baby Star Quilts - Artist In Residence (Sponsored by SCIT THPO)
- 3/7: International Women's Day (Free Admission for all Women & Girls)

Apr. 2025

- 4/1: Performance Circle Graduation
- 4/5 - 4/6: Circle of Indigenous Arts

May 2025

- 5/5: Collection Showing

June 2025

- 6/6: Honoring, Healing & Remembering (At the Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School)
- 6/20: Community Cultural Teaching (At Sanilac Petroglyphs, Sponsored by SCIT THPO)

July 2025

- 7/10: American Indian Dance
- 7/21: Native Fest - Collection Showing
- 7/22: Native Fest - Car Bingo
- 7/23: Native Fest - Kid's Night

August 2025

- 8/8: World Indigenous Peoples Day (Film Screening)

September 2025

- 9/5: Grandparent's Day (Free Admission for all Grand-parents)
- 9/12: Monarch Butterfly Day
- 9/22: Community Cultural Teaching (At the Sanilac Petroglyphs, Sponsored by SCIT THPO)
- 9/26: MIIBS Youth Powwow (Sponsored by SCIT THPO)

Annual Report (October 2023 - September 2024)

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

Our Year

The Board of Directors for the Ziibiwing Cultural Society/ Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways is honored to present the accomplishments of our staff and organization within its Annual Report. We are committed to serving the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, the Great Lakes Anishinabek and the general public. Our commitment is demonstrated through our daily work and

our dedication is manifested through the advancement of our cultural identity for future generations. We are determined to represent the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and the Ziibiwing Center to the highest ideals of our Tribe and organization. We are truly blessed to be keepers of the culture in our time. The Ziibiwing Center would like to thank the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan's Tribal Council, Tribal Administration, Tribal Departments and our families and friends for the support that we're blessed with each and every day.

The Ziibiwing Staff

- **Mindy Bailey**, Digitization Specialist
- **Judy Brittain**, Retail Clerk
- **Raymond Cadotte**, Visitor Services Representative
- **Marcella Hadden**, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
- **Glenna Halliwill**, Sales & Events Coordinator

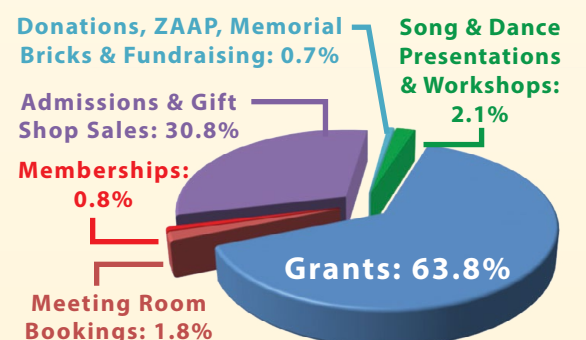
- **Anita Heard**, Research Center Coordinator
- **Charles Isham**, Maintenance Worker
- **William Johnson**, Curator & Operations Manager
- **Charla Riley**, Funding & Development Specialist
- **Leonard Shomin**, Retail Clerk
- **Noelle Wells**, Administrative Assistant II
- **Mason Wolfe**, Maintenance Worker

Accomplishments

- 10,509 visitors came to experience all the Center has to offer. An additional 2,776 people received educational services at 24 different offsite bookings by our staff. Onsite and offsite combined totals 13,285 visitors for FY2024.
- Ziibiwing hosted 117 tours totaling 3,505 people, 161 events with 4,456 people in attendance for combined special events, and cultural programs for the Tribal community and the general public.
- The ZCS maintains 7 Tribal Cemeteries, including Baseline Cemetery (Isabella & Union Townships, Isabella County), Flint Stone Street Cemetery (Flint Township, Genesee County), Mission Creek Cemetery (Union Township, Isabella County), Nibokaan Cemetery (Chippewa Township, Isabella County), Nippinsing Cemetery (Isabella Township, Isabella County), Nottawa Cemetery (Nottawa Township, Isabella County), Swartz Creek Cemetery (Gaines Township, Genesee County), in addition to the Ziibiwing Center's 3-acre lawn (14.41 acres per week).
- Repatriated and reburied one individual, two associated funerary objects from Kerr#3 in Bay County MI; one individual, two associated funerary objects from Warner School, Genesee County MI; one individual from Leeson, Oakland County MI; and three individuals, twenty-two associated funerary objects from Bugai, Saginaw County, MI from the State Historic Preservation Office and University of Michigan Museum of Anthropological Archaeology. The ancestors and their belongings were reburied in the Nibokaan Cemetery on November 3, 2023 by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan in partnership with the Michigan Anishinabek Cultural Preservation and Repatriation Alliance (MACPRA).
- Ziibiwing conducted NAGPRA consultations with the Castle Museum of Saginaw County History Inc., Kent State University, Mercyhurst University, Michigan History Center, Michigan State Historic Preservation Office, Michigan State Police- Lansing Post, Michigan State University, MSU Forensic Anthropology Laboratory, Northern Illinois University, Ohio History Connection, Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, Suny Broome Community College, University of Illinois, University of Michigan, University of Tennessee-Kentucky, University of Toledo, and Vassar College.
- Grant funding provided salary and fringe for Digitization Specialist, Mindy Bailey for part-time employment at the Ziibiwing Center.
- Ziibiwing secured a 50% 3rd Party In-Kind Match in the amount of \$50,000 by Michigan State University towards the Anishinabek Porcupine Quill Art Exhibit.
- The Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) completed 205 cultural resource reviews. These reviews are required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and protect the cultural resources/traditional cultural properties of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan. In addition, the THPO participated in 24 activities/events, 3 were out of state, 6 were hosted events at the Ziibiwing Center, 4 presentations about the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School (MIIBS), 3 at the MIIBS location, one repatriation, multiple conferences and updates to the ZC Board of Directors.
- Awarded 4 of 5 grants submitted in FY24:
 - 1) National Endowment for the Humanities-Chair's Grant
 - 2) Natural Resource Conservation Service/Partnership
 - 3) Tribal Historic Preservation Office
 - 4) The National Endowment for the Humanities in partnership with the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition for a total of \$193,026.00. Other available Grant funding in FY24 available to spend from previously funded grants was \$346,393.00, for a combined total of \$539,419.00.
- There were approximately 19,058 individual contacts made by our team, including physical visits, phone calls, and emails. Ziibiwing also maintains a social media presence on Facebook.
- The Research Center served 3,498 in-person visits for research related activity and/or guidance.
- Anita Heard (Research Center Coordinator) serves on the Saginaw Chippewa Data Governance Board and is a member of the Society of American Archivists.
- William Johnson (Curator and Operations Manager) serves on the Michigan Anishinabek Cultural Preservation & Repatriation Alliance (MACPRA), serving his fourth consecutive 4-year term as Chairman and the University of Michigan's Advisory Committee on Culturally Unidentifiable Human Remains under NAGPRA (since 2011).
- Nathaniel Lambertson (former Funding & Development Specialist) served on the Anishinabe Language Revitalization Committee.
- Noelle Wells (Administrative Assistant II) served on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan's Powwow Committee.
- ZC Gift Shop sales totaled \$232,449.00 for FY2024. The Gift Shop has been slowly liquidating old merchandise and increasing merchandise selections from Indigenous vendors and Indigenous artists.

Financials

External Revenue Total: \$539,419



Your Support

Your continued support is vital to us as it provides essential funding for:

- Discounted admission for military personnel, school children, college students, and educators
- Funding for outreach programs which take our teachings and collections into schools throughout Michigan
- Preservation of our artifacts and collections, ensuring that our culture will be preserved for future generations
- Maintenance and promotion of our exhibits so that our heritage and culture can be enjoyed by everyone
- Repatriation and reverential reinterment of Anishinabek ancestors and their belongings

Our Members

- Alm, David
- Anderson, Renee
- Anglin, Sam
- Begay, Memigwaans
- Blackburn, Leslie
- Branagan, Daniel
- Breidenstein, Beth
- Burke, Charlie & Peggy
- Burnham, Guy
- Chen, Lily
- Cleland-Host Family
- Chippewa River District Library
- Cross, Dr. Suzanne
- Francis-Hapner, Zachary
- Geddes-Carroll, Sarah
- Gilbert, Marke
- Grills, Gary
- Homminga, Josh
- Jackson Jr., Delmar
- Jackson, Brooklyn
- Jackson, Stephanie
- Kendall, Brandon & Maria
- King, Glenn
- Leureaux, Sheila
- Lincoln, Ron
- Lovejoy, William
- Martin, Minnie
- Mena, Frances
- Meskill, Deborah
- Paquin, Ronald
- Parish, Nurya
- Passinault, Lisa
- Peters, Alstyn
- Quinlan, Jolene
- Reinert, Gerald
- Roller, Norm
- Ruffino, Aryl
- Saab, Ann
- Senter, Mary
- Severson, Eric & Ellen
- Sheperdigian, Barbara
- Sinclair, Donna
- Slasinski, Michael
- Spencer, Bernard
- Sprague, Alexandria
- Stevens, Evonna
- Stiner, Lester
- Strickland, Wil & Michener, David
- Tchorzynski, Stacy
- Thurston, James & Patricia
- Tomson, Nathan
- Wayne, Craig & Marlene
- Whitepigeon, Jessica
- Wickerham, Floyd & Sue
- Wilson, Kara
- Young, Lisa



Celebrating Resilience: Tribal College hosts events throughout Native American Heritage Month

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Throughout Native American Heritage Month in November, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College hosted several events “Celebrating Resilience.”

One exciting event welcomed Tia Wood, a soulful Native singer, to SCTC on Nov. 13 during a noon Lunch & Learn event.

Becoming a social media influencer during the pandemic, Tia Wood has already gained major success in a short amount of time. She became the first Indigenous woman signed to Sony Music.

Wood caught Sony’s attention on social media after sharing cultural singing while showcasing her soulful vocals.

“People from all different backgrounds and all over the world were into it,” she said about becoming a content creator.

Wood moved from the dirt roads of Saddle Lake Cree Nation in central Alberta, Canada to Los Angeles.

Wood spoke about being the daughter of two residential school survivors, and said she is “thankful for her parents’ resilience.”



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Tia Wood, a soulful Native singer, visits the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College during a Nov. 13 Lunch & Learn event during Native American Heritage Month.

Derived from a musical family, Wood is no stranger to the love of music.

“All of my family have been the ones behind the microphone, other than me,” she said, discussing life before her musical career.

Her father, Earl Wood, is a member of the powwow drum group, Northern Cree (JUNO award-winning and Grammy-nominated). Her mother, Cynthia Jim, is in an all-women drum group. Her sister, Fawn Wood, is a JUNO Award-winning singer.

She spoke about her sister, Fawn, being the first female to win the hand drum contest at the Gathering of Nations Powwow.



Courtesy photo

The Nov. 26 SCTC Lunch & Learn speaker, Tribal Member Melissa Isaac, is photographed.

“The crowd roared,” Tia Wood said of her sister at the contest.

Prior to her LA move, Wood said she had written traditional music before but never contemporary. She gave it a shot.

She premiered her first single and music video “Dirt Roads” in June 2024. The lyrics speak on and the video displays Indigenous pride.

“I carry my reserve and my people on my back,” she said.

“When one of us wins, we all win,” she said of Indigenous excellence.

In addition to sharing her story in the SCTC community room, she also performed some traditional songs; some in which were composed by her father.

The event was in collaboration with Central Michigan University’s Office of Indigenous Affairs and College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences.

Wood also performed later that evening in CMU’s Plachta Auditorium.

Additional SCTC events throughout Native American Heritage Month included a Nov. 14 Lunch & Learn, focusing on spiritual health with Traditional Healer Joe Syrette (Rankin Reserve Batchewana First Nation, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada) at noon.

Syrette shared insights about traditional healing practices and their significance in the culture.

The Nov. 18 Lunch & Learn focused on “The Four Sacred Medicines – Chemistry/Science Benefits.”

STEAM students described how traditional knowledge is medicinal chemistry. The occasion also celebrated National Chemistry Day.

“Wear Red Week” to remember missing and murdered Indigenous people was held Monday, Nov. 18 through Friday, Nov. 22.

Anishinaabe Bingo, a STEAM+AG student group-led event, was held Tuesday,



Courtesy of Guadalupe Gonzalez

Traditional Healer Joe Syrette provides teachings focusing on spiritual health during the Nov. 14 Lunch & Learn.

Nov. 19 at noon in the LGO Community Room.

A family movie night, showing the Ojibwe version of “Star Wars: A New Hope,” was held at the Broadway Theatre in Mount Pleasant on Nov. 22 at 6 p.m.

“May the force be with you” translates to “Gi-ga-miinigoz Mamaandaawiziwin.”

A Nov. 26 Lunch & Learn focused on indigenizing education with Tribal Member Melissa Isaac. Isaac works for the Michigan Department of Education’s Indigenous Education initiative.

Lunch was provided by SCIT Member and Chef Sam Anglin.

SCTC also encouraged those to “Roc Your Mocs and Your Ribbon Skirts and Shirts” throughout the month.

Annual Splash Away Hunger food drive collects 1,800 food items for soup kitchen

GINA BORUSHKO

Marketing Analyst

Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel hosted its annual Splash Away Hunger food drive on Nov. 20-21, 2024.

With a donation of three non-perishable goods, guests were able to buy a discounted day pass to the Waterpark, with all food donations benefiting the Isabella Community Soup Kitchen.

In total, 609 guests participated in the event, with more than 1,800 food items being donated!

Staff from both SEWPH



Courtesy of Gina Borushko

Staff from Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel and the Isabella Community Soup Kitchen gather to load the donated items.

and the Isabella Community Soup Kitchen were on hand Nov. 22 to help load the donations for delivery.

Chi-miigwetch to all who help make Splash Away Hunger a continued success year after year.



Courtesy of Gina Borushko

More than 1,800 non-perishable goods were donated to the Isabella Community Soup Kitchen.

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Housing donates to Toys for Tots

Courtesy photo

Housing Department staff donates to Tribal Police’s Toys for Tots drive last month. Photographed left to right: Tribal Police Officer Nathaniel Blanton, Housing Department’s Aaron Gaveratte, Rosalie Maloney and Miranda Pelcher-Miley, and Officer Andrew Rabbage.



It Was A Good Day: Ice Cube brings sizzling hip-hop hits to live show

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Rapper Ice Cube made his return to the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Friday, Dec. 13.

This time he was the headliner in the Entertainment Hall. The last time Ice Cube was in town was in 2019 with Snoop Dogg and Warren G during the outdoor summer concert series.

O'Shea Jackson Sr., aka Ice Cube, was a member of one of the most influential acts in hip-hop music and gangsta rap subgenre, N.W.A. The group was active from 1987 to 1991.

"We get turned up around here, especially on a Friday night," Ice Cube said to the Soaring Eagle audience.

The high-energy performance got the audience

fired up with: "Ain't Got No Haters," "Friday," "No Vaseline," "You Know How We Do It," "Check Yo' Self," "Straight Outta Compton" and more.

The multi-talented rapper is also an actor, songwriter, and film producer. He has been in many popular films including "Boyz n the Hood," "Friday," "Next Friday," "Barbershop," "Are We There Yet?," "21 Jump Street" and much more.

Ice Cube frequently took time to speak to the crowd in between songs. He said he's been coming to Michigan since 1988.

He also discussed his musical history and his time in N.W.A.

"We're 17, 18, 19, in the world's most dangerous group and I was having the time of my life," he said of his time in N.W.A. "Aww man, it was so fun."

Then, as Ice Cube explained it, "The money got funny."

"No hard feelings though, just left the group. Went solo," he said. "I came to the East coast to do an album with Public Enemy called 'AmeriKKKa's Most Wanted'..."

Ice Cube and N.W.A. endured controversy for their explicit, political and controversial lyrics. The group was banned from many mainstream American radio stations.

Before performing "Rolling at Twilight," a song off of his new album," he said, "(It's) one of these grooves; I know you're going to like it."

For the first time in 14 years, Ice Cube has a solo album on Billboard's Top Rap Albums for his album "Man Down," which debuted at No. 8 on the Dec. 7 chart.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Rapper Ice Cube makes his return to the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Friday, Dec. 13.

"The next song... is strictly for all the pretty ladies in the house," he said, calling "You Can Do It" a "slow, love song" for the ladies.

Ice Cube appropriately ended the show with "It Was a Good Day," his highest-charting single on the Billboard Hot 100, which peaked at No. 15.

Tommy James and the Shondells performs plethora of hits in the Entertainment Hall

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

During their first-ever appearance at Soaring Eagle, Tommy James and the Shondells brought the familiar hits to the Entertainment Hall on Saturday, Nov. 30 at 8 p.m.

Tommy James rose to fame during the '60s and '70s and has generated a plethora of hits.

Tommy James and the Shondells began their show with "Draggin' the Line" and "Crystal Blue Persuasion."

Revealing it was his first time at Soaring Eagle, he noted how close it is to his hometown. Born in Dayton, Ohio, James later moved with his family to Niles, Mich.

For the first couple songs, James had a fan blowing on him on high on stage.

"Starting to look like a Mariah Carey video," James said, as his hair was blowing in the wind.

Luckily for James, the fan was turned off after the second song and the band continued to rock on with "Say I Am," "Gettin' Together," "Please Pull the Twine," an acoustic performance of "I Think We're Alone Now," "Ball of Fire" and "Tighter, Tighter."

According to his website tommyjames.com, James has had "23 gold singles, nine platinum albums, more than 100 million records sold worldwide and 32 Billboard Hot 100 Chart hits."

The show wasn't just a hit musically, but the entire

performance featured multi-colored, showy lighting.

Numerous artists have covered James' songs, including "Crimson & Clover," a 1982 Joan Jett and the Blackhearts hit; "I Think We're Alone Now," recorded by Tiffany; and "Mony Mony," recorded by Billy Idol. All of which were performed that evening.

The performances kept going strong with "Hanky Panky," "Do Something to Me," "Sweet Cherry Wine" and "Mirage."

During "I Feel So Good," the band played and sang while James walked through the audience; taking selfies with and signing autographs for audience members.

The encore included a reprise of "Mony Mony."



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Tommy James of the group Tommy James and The Shondells performs his hit songs in the Soaring Eagle Entertainment Hall on Saturday, Nov. 30.

For fans that want to hear more of Tommy James, he hosts a segment on Sirius XM

radio's 60s GOLD station (channel 73) every Sunday from 5 to 8 p.m.

The Oak Ridge Boys bring their American Made Farewell Tour to Soaring Eagle

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

The Oak Ridge Boys brought their timeless harmonies to the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2024. The indoor concert featured many of the group's country hits as well as a finale featuring classic Christmas tunes.

Founded in 1947, the Oak Ridge Boys have gone on to release 31 studio albums

spanning eight decades. The quartet currently features original members Duane Allen, William Lee Golden and Richard Sterban. Current tenor Ben James joined earlier this year, after the passing of Joe Bonsall in July 2024.

The Oak Ridge Boys began with "One In A Million," "American Made" and "Everyday."

The country hits continued with "Louisiana Red Dirt Highway," "Sail Away,"

"Gonna Take a Lot of River," "Dream On" and "Y'all Come Back Saloon."

The group's vocal harmonies were on point throughout the night. This was especially true during the performances of "Leaving Louisiana in the Broad Daylight," "Callin' Baton Rouge" and "Trying To Love Two Women."

Before transitioning to the Christmas portion of the concert, the group performed their hit songs "Beautiful You," "Come On Home" and "Elvira."

Although it was still November, the Oak Ridge Boys proved it's never too early to get in the holiday spirit.

They performed many timeless Christmas songs including "Jingle Bells," "Blue Christmas," "Do You Hear What I Hear?," "Jesus Is Born Today" and "Joy to The World."

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



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

The Oak Ridge Boys perform "American Made" during the Nov. 23 concert at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

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Cheap Trick, Blue Öyster Cult rock the night away at Soaring Eagle

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

Rock ‘n’ roll fans filled the Entertainment Hall of the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Friday, Dec. 6, 2024. Cheap Trick and Blue Öyster Cult rocked the night away, with all of their greatest hits.

Cheap Trick formed in Rockford, Ill. in 1973. The band’s career includes 20 studio albums, spanning over 44 years.

Their first album “Cheap Trick” was released in 1977, and the most recent album, “In Another World,” was released in 2021. Their legacy was cemented with an induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2016.

Cheap Trick began the night with “Dream Police” before moving seamlessly into “Hello There,” “Just Got Back” and “Big Eyes.”

The good times kept rolling with the hit singles “She’s Tight” and “Oh, Candy,” followed by a cover of cover of Fats Domino’s “Ain’t That a Shame.”

Other popular songs performed that night included “Need Your Love,” “Boys & Girls & Rock N Roll,” “Yeah



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Cheap Trick guitarist Rick Nielson (left) and lead vocalist Robin Zander perform “Hello There” during the Dec. 6 concert at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort.

Yeah,” “Stop This Game,” “I Know What I Want” and “Downed.”

The audience cheered with excitement to the opening verses of their most successful song, the power ballad “The Flame.” The song reached No.1 on Billboard’s Hot 100 list.

Following this was another one of their hits, “I Want You to Want Me,” which reached No. 7 on Billboard’s Hot 100 list.

To close out the concert, Cheap Trick performed a three-piece encore of “Surrender,”

“Auf Wiedersehen” and “Goodnight.”

Opening for Cheap Trick was American rock band Blue Öyster Cult.

The band formed in 1967 and has gone on to release 16 studio albums spanning five decades.

Blue Öyster Cult kicked off with “The Red & the Black” and “Golden Age of Leather,” followed by their No. 1 hit single “Burnin’ for You.”

Next up was performances of “That Was Me,” “Cagey Cretins,” “Harvest



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Blue Öyster Cult members come together center stage.

Moon,” “Hot Rails to Hell” and “E.T.I. (Extra Terrestrial Intelligence).”

A highlight of the set featured the beefy guitar riffs and catchy lyrics of their hit

song “Godzilla.”

Blue Öyster Cult concluded their portion of the show with the ominous vocals and haunting guitar riffs of “(Don’t Fear) The Reaper.”

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Darla

Darla is a large female Coonhound mix. If you’re searching for the sweetest, most gentle soul to welcome into your life, look no further than Darla. She is mild-mannered and laid back. She adores pets, belly rubs and snuggling. She has a calm and easygoing nature. She enjoys leisurely strolls where she can sniff and explore the world at her own pace. She’s a classic hound with a curious nose but once she’s done investigating, she’s all about snuggling up for a nap.

Twiggy

Twiggy is a female kitten, a beautiful dilute calico with the softest, fluffiest fur. Twiggy has a gentle and affectionate personality that will steal hearts. She loves to play with her favorite toys, chase features and explore cozy nooks where she can curl up for a nap. She’s a social butterfly who adores attention and will happily snuggle up in someone’s lap.

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Walk-in hours: M-F, 1-5 p.m. *Other times available by appointment*

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH Holiday Closure Resources

Behavioral Health (except RTC) will be closed: Jan. 1-3, 2025, reopening on Jan. 6, 2025 at 8 a.m.

Behavioral Health Crisis On-Call

On-call will be available by calling (989) 775-4850 and following the prompts to reach the on-call. Or Tribal Dispatch can also reach the BH on-call worker in case of phone outage or other technical issue.

Feather Teaching with Joseph Sowmick at the BH Teaching Lodge:

- **New Years Day:** Jan. 1 at 1:30 p.m.

Support Groups at BH will continue with normal schedule over the Holiday Closure:

- **Peer 360 Recovery on the Rez:** Thursdays at 6 p.m. (1/2/2025)
- **Peer 360 Fireside on the Rez:** Fridays at 11:30 a.m. (1/3/2025)
- **Peer 360 Fireside on the Rez:** Saturdays at 6 p.m. (1/4/2025)

Virtual Peer 360 Meetings include:

- **Peer 360 virtual group:** 2 p.m. on Tuesdays
Meeting ID: 829 1218 8791 Password: 123456
- **Peer 360 offers DAILY virtual groups four times per day**
 - 9 a.m. Meeting ID: 856 4133 4708 Password: 123456
 - 12 p.m. Meeting ID: 842 3325 5388 Password: 123456
 - 6 p.m. Meeting ID: 842 3325 5388 Password: 123456
 - 9 p.m. Meeting ID: 856 4133 4708 Password: 123456

More information on Peer 360, including events and links to the virtual meetings can be found at www.peer360recovery.org or by scanning the red QR code above to the right.

Additional non-BH Resources/Crisis Lines:

- **Peer 360 Recovery Alliance:** Text “ZOOM MEETINGS” to (989) 245-5324 for a list of direct links to all Peer 360’s Zoom meetings.
- **Virtual Recovery Groups:** Through www.intherooms.com has several virtual recovery groups including White Bison Wellbriety Groups.
- **Listening Ear Crisis:** 1.989.772.2918
- **Crisis Text Line:** Text “HOME” to 741741 to connect with a Crisis Counselor
- **Strong Hearts Native Helpline:** 1.844.762.8483
- **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:** 1.800.273.8255
- **National Teen Dating Abuse Hotline:** 1.866.331.9474
- **National Human Trafficking Hotline:** 1.888.373.7888
- **National Domestic Violence Hotline:** 1.800.799.7233

Scan the QR code to visit the BH website

Scan the QR code for more information on Peer360



Tribal Member Timothy Nelson, Saganing outreach manager, retires

JOSEPH SOWMICK

Public Relations Manager

Saganing Outreach Manager Timothy Nelson retired after serving the Saginaw Chippewa community for 13 years – six years at the Saganing water plant and seven years as outreach manager.

Nelson presided over a Dec. 10 Christmas community health and bingo event before passing his title over to the new Outreach Coordinator, Sandra Compau.

“The biggest change that has affected the Saganing area positively has been the gaming and hotel expansion of Soaring Eagles Landing Casino,” Nelson said. “It provided a lot of employment opportunities for the Tribal Membership and the surrounding community. We’ve had several members who received jobs and many who have moved up in advancing their careers. It has been a



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

As Saganing Outreach Manager Timothy Nelson (right) celebrates retirement, Sandra Compau (left) will be taking on Nelson’s job position.

bleasing for District Two members, that’s for sure.”

Nelson said his retirement will be all about family and helping out with his children and grandchildren.

“My wife will be retiring this year also and we have plans to do some traveling,” Nelson said. “I would like the Membership to know that although we are a District Two program, we are available for all

Tribal Members as a whole. If they need tribal paperwork done or help with the Mno Shkiziwin program or loan requests, we are there for them.”

His brother, Ron Nelson, District 2 Tribal Council member, attended the event and said he is proud of his brother’s accomplishments.

“Tim has been a great asset to Saganing, and our ancestors and our members that come to Saganing would agree. We thank him for sticking it out and giving so much back to the community all these years,” Ron Nelson said. “Tim made sure everyone who has visited the Tribal Center felt welcomed. Tim will do great on his next journey in life as he runs

for the sunset and the peace of retirement.”

Frank J. Cloutier, District Three Tribal Council member, said Tim Nelson is one of those individuals who only come around once in a lifetime.

“Tim is calm, assuring and compassionate,” Cloutier said. “He always listens and considers his response. And he is always ready to be of assistance and willing to find a way to make whatever it is happen. It has been an absolute privilege to work with someone who shares my passion for our Membership and Tribal community. As I’m sure we will cross paths once in a while, his absence from the Saganing Tribal Center will be noticeably absent.”

Ready to take over as the new outreach coordinator, Sandra Compau was hired at the Saganing Tribal Center in 2008.

“This is where I learned to multitask in multiple areas of the outreach program,”

Compau said. “I have always held the people of Saganing close to my heart as far back as I can remember and this has always been home to me. In 2019, I decided to leave my position here and begin my next journey at Saganing Eagles Landing Casino with position in the Culinary Department. In 2021, I opted to move once again to the hotel side of the business.”

Compau said she is “always up for a challenge” and “overwhelmed to be coming home with accepting this position.”

“I will have some pretty big shoes to step into with Tim’s departure... but without a doubt, I will continue to improve the program to the best of my ability,” Compau said. “I am very thankful to have Tim by my side during the transition period his guidance and inspiration pushes me to improve were he left off with the Tribal community and the program.”

Tribal Member Michael David receives 2024 Water Operator of the Year Award

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Public Relations Manager

The sacred gift of medicine personified in pure water is a trust responsibility of water operators everywhere. Tribal Member Michael David recently received the

international 2024 Tribal Water Operator of the Year Award.

David has been employed in the certified position of water operator I for three years.

David received the award through the Inter-Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. national tribal water systems programs on Sept. 13 in Phoenix.

“I think it’s a great honor and I am happy that our tribe is being looked at as international leaders in water quality,” David said. We are the only certified lab in Indian Country and in Michigan and this is a point of pride to our staff. It’s very important for our Tribal Members to step up into these skilled and certified positions so we are protecting our tribal entities and our sovereignty as well.

“With us being Tribal Members that are operating the water plant, the work we do is extremely important to all our people who live here. These are our aunts and uncles, our grandmothers and

grandfathers, our cousins, our nieces and nephews, everybody is involved. We are going to make sure this water is clean because we are passing this on to the next seven generations as well.”

David said that, to his knowledge, SCIT is the first to receive this distinction in Michigan.

“This is the first instance that I have heard of a federally-recognized Michigan tribe winning this kind of recognition,” David said. “I would like to thank the community and the Tribal leadership for their continued support of the work we do. We will continue as Tribal



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Water Operator Michael David holds his 2024 award for his outstanding service to tribal communities.

Members that this plant runs safely and this water remains safe for all our families.”

STEAMAG
Valentine's
FUNDRAISER

Jan. 13 - Feb. 3, 2025

Pick-up: Thursday, Feb. 13, 2025

- **Time:** 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. & 3:30 - 6:30 p.m.
- **Location:** SCTC (5805 E. Pickard Rd.)

Pre-order something sweet for someone special!

- ▶ 1/2 dozen - Chocolate Covered Strawberries
- ▶ 1/2 dozen - Carnations

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

NEED HELP?

Need assistance in signing up for Medicaid?

Please contact:
Patient Registration at
989-775-4670 and they will
schedule you an appointment.

Nimkee
Memorial Wellness Center

Order Establishing SCIT 2025 Fishing Season

Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 107 subdivision 2(B), the 2025 Fishing Season shall begin Jan. 1, 2025, and will close Dec. 31, 2025, unless ordered otherwise. Licenses and permits will be available at the Office of Tribal Licensing and Regulations as per their hours of operation. Fishing licenses will be \$15. *Please refer to Ordinance 11 on the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe website for rules and regulations.*

SCIT Ordinance 11 Fishing Seasons and Daily Bag Limits

Species	Seasons	Location	Limit	Min. Length
Trout	No closed	Inland streams and rivers	10 per day	10 inch
Salmon	No closed	Inland streams and rivers	10 per day	10 inch
Largemouth Bass	No closed	Inland streams and rivers	10 per day	12 inch
Smallmouth Bass	No closed	Inland streams and rivers	10 per day	12 inch
Northern Pike	No closed	Inland streams and rivers	10 per day	20 inch
Muskellunge	No closed	Inland streams and rivers	One per day	42 inch
Sauger	No closed	Inland streams and rivers	10 per day	14 inch
Tiger Muskellunge	No closed	Inland streams and rivers	One per day	42 inch
Walleye	No closed	Inland streams and rivers	20 per day	12 inch
Bluegill	No closed	Inland streams and rivers	50 per day	No min.
Sunfish	No closed	Inland streams and rivers	50 per day	No min.
Crappie	No closed	Inland streams and rivers	50 per day	No min.
Rock Bass	No closed	Inland streams and rivers	50 per day	No min.
Perch	No closed	Inland streams and rivers	100 per day	No min.
Lake Whitefish	No closed	Inland streams and rivers	10 per day	No min.
Menominee	No closed	Inland streams and rivers	10 per day	No min.
Catfish	No closed	Inland streams and rivers	10 per day	No min.
Stergeon	No open	Inland streams and rivers	Zero per day	N/A



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

Boozhoo! We hope everyone had joyous holidays and are looking forward to the new year. We would like to highlight Andahwod's upcoming major events and activities for 2025.

- ▶ **Elders Breakfast:** Second and fourth Wednesdays, 9-10 a.m. — *free for Tribal Elders*
 - ▶ **Elders Lunch:** First and third Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. — *free for Tribal Elders (In January Elders Lunch will be on Jan. 15 & 29)*
 - ▶ **February:** 2025 Elders Powwow Homecoming Trip mailing
 - ▶ **April:** MIEA Conference — *Hosted by TBD*
 - ▶ **May:** Mother's Day Tea
 - ▶ **June:** Father's Day Cookout
 - ▶ **July:** MIEA Conference — *Hosted by SCIT*
 - ▶ **July:** Elders Homecoming Powwow Trip
 - ▶ **September:** Grandparents Day Celebration
 - ▶ **October:** MIEA Conference — *Hosted by TBD*
- **Events and activities are subject to change.**

Other events and activities will take place throughout the year but it is important to keep Tribal Elders informed of big events for planning purposes. We hope to see more of our elders at these events. We will release flyers and information to the Tribal Observer, SCIT website, and SCIT Facebook as events near.

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.

Scams involving your Social Security number and benefits are on the rise!

Here are the facts:

- Government employees will not threaten to take away benefits or ask for money, gift cards, or personal information to protect your Social Security number or benefits.
- Scammers can fake your caller ID. So don't be fooled if the call seems to be from the SSA or the SSA Inspector General's Fraud Hotline Number.
- If a caller asks for your Social Security number, bank account number, or credit card information, hang up.

Report Social Security phone scams to the SSA Inspector General online at oig.ssa.gov
Visit identitytheft.gov/ssa for more tips.

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.

SCIT Elder Snowplowing - Spots still available

Applications open now. ****We still have availability on our snowplowing list****

- Limited spots available
 - Priority will be given to Elders 70 years and older.
 - Everyone must fill out an application for the service and have a medically documented disability if between 50-61 years old.
 - \$50 seasonal fee due when submitting application.
 - Must reside in District One.
- Applications can be picked up at Andahwod. For more info call 989-775-4307**

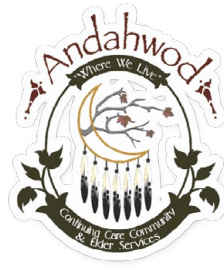
Grant Assistance for Tribal Elders

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)**

January 2025 Andahwod events

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>Daily Coffee Break
2:30 p.m.</p> <p>Sewing
Tuesdays 10 a.m.</p> <p>Euchre
Thursdays 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Otago Exercise Program
Thursdays 1 p.m.</p> | <p>Name that Tune
Jan. 6 2:30 p.m.</p> <p>Elders Breakfast
Jan. 8, 22 9-10 a.m.</p> <p>Elvis Birthday Party
Jan. 8 2:30 p.m.</p> <p>Language Bingo
Jan. 14 1-3 p.m.</p> | <p>Elders Lunch
Jan. 15 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.</p> <p>Painting and Storytelling
Jan. 15 5-7 p.m.</p> <p>BH Bingo with Friends
Jan. 17 1-3 p.m.</p> <p>Birthday Bingo & Potluck
Jan. 25 12-3 p.m.</p> |
|---|---|---|



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

2024 Thanksgiving Lunch



Courtesy photo
Alfreda Jenkins and Barb Sprague



Courtesy photo
Marion Williams

JANUARY 2025 Andahwod CCC & ES Menu

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sugar free available upon request <small>*Warning: Consuming under cooked foods or eggs could lead to a Food Borne Illness. **Warning: Please inform cashier/staff of any severe food allergies you may have prior to sitting down. Thank you</small>		*Menu subject to change*	1 Chef's Choice Elders Lunch moved to Wednesday, Jan. 29	2 Hamburger Gravy w/Mashed Potato Pulled Pork Sandwiches	3 Potato Soup w/1/2 Sandwich Swedish Meatballs	4 Chef's Choice
5 Chef's Choice	6 Split Pea Soup Meatloaf w/Mashed Potato	7 Fried Bologna w/ Fruit Chili & Fry Bread	8 Tater Tot Casserole Chicken Pot Pie over Biscuits Elders Breakfast	9 Ribs w/Red Potato Pot Roast	10 Polish Dog Spaghetti & Salad	11 Chef's Choice
12 Chef's Choice	13 Taco Salad w/Beans Creamed Chipped Beef on Toast	14 Chili Dog w/Fries Beef & Noodles, w/Veggie	15 Chicken Noodle Soup Chicken Tetrizzini Elders Lunch	16 Fish N Chips BBQ Ribs, w/Potato & Salad	17 Roast Beef w/Potato & Gravy Tomato Soup & Grilled Cheese	18 Chef's Choice
19 Chef's Choice	20 Shrimp Rice & Egg Roll BLT & Chips	21 Meat Loaf w/Baked Potato Beef Stew	22 Cranberry Pecan Salad w/ Chicken Herb Roasted Baked Chicken Elders Breakfast	23 Chicken Pot Pie Goulash	24 Tuna Noodle Casserole Chicken Sandwich w/Tater Tots	25 Chef's Choice
26 Chef's Choice	27 Cheeseburger w/Fried Potatoes Chicken & Rice Soup	28 Baked Chicken w/Green Bean Casserole Scalloped Potatoes w/ Ham	29 Pizza Buffet Steak w/ Baked Potato Elders Lunch	30 Meat Sub w Chips BBQ Pork Chop w/ Mashed Potato	31 Tostada w/Mexican Rice Wing Dings	Sugar free available upon request. Call kitchen for lunch and dinner at 989-775-4314.



JANUARY 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

SCIT Recreation Open Gym

Mondays - Fridays | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

- New Recreation Center (2875 Gikendasso Way)
- 989-775-4780 or Recreation@sagchip.org

SCTC Beginner Collegiate Archery Program

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

- Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
- 989-317-4827 or khart@sagchip.edu
- Beginning Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2025
- Join us for some fun and socialization, while learning about range safety and proper shooting techniques.

Drop In Beading Circle

Jan. 15, 22, 29 | 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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

Red Willow Dream Catcher Workshop

Jan. 8 | 5-7 p.m.

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

People's Powwow Lunch Fundraiser

Jan. 10 | 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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

Sweat Lodge with Joe Syrette

Jan. 13 | Arrive at 4 p.m., sweat begins at 5 p.m.

- Behavioral Health
- 989-775-4850
- Open to the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Community

State of the Tribe Annual Meeting

Jan. 18 | Doors open at 9 a.m., breakfast at 10 a.m.

- SECR Entertainment Hall
- 989-775-4000
- Open to SCIT Members of all ages.
- Tribal ID required.

Baby Celebration

Jan. 22 | 6-8 p.m.

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

SCTC STEAM^{AG} Meeting

Jan. 23 | 12-1 p.m.

- LGO Conference Room
- 989-317-4827 or khart@sagchip.edu

SCTC Anishinaabe Bingo

Jan. 21 | 12-1 p.m.

- LGO Conference Room
- 989-317-4827 or khart@sagchip.edu

Two Spirit Talking Circle

Jan. 27 | 6-8 p.m.

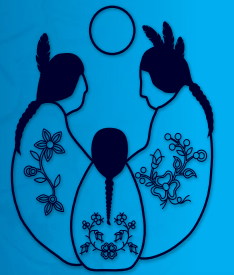
- SCTC Community Classroom
- GuGonzalez@sagchip.org or 989-317-4826
- All two spirit and allies welcome to attend

Lazy Stitch Beadwork

Jan. 30 | 5-8 p.m.

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

Is Foster Parenting for You?



Help us keep our children safe

There is a need for emergency foster care homes, respite care homes, and primary foster care homes.

Help us keep our people strong

A foster home can be a family, married or single parent, who agrees to provide quality care for children in foster care. This quality care includes sharing love, providing security, stability and understanding.



A foster parent applicant is:

- At least 21 years of age
- Have a stable and permanent home
- Of good moral character
- Of good physical, mental, and emotional health

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a foster parent, please call:

Anishnaabeg Child & Family Services at 989-775-4901

JANUARY 2025 | Tribal Community Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat./Sun.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SECR Payroll ● SCIT Per Capita ● SCIT Payroll ● Curbside Recycling 		1 ● Tribal Ops Closed New Year's Day Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health Drums Out 7-9 p.m. 7th Gen	2 ● Tribal Ops Closed Administrative Closure Recovery on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen	3 ● Tribal Ops Closed Administrative Closure Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m. Andahwod	4 ● Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health 5	
	6 Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	7 Regular Council Session 9 a.m. Council Chambers Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom	8 Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health Drums Out 7-9 p.m. 7th Gen	9 Saganing Breakfast 10:30-11:30 a.m. Saganing 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	10 ● Blood Drive 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Saganing Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health 12	11 ● Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health 12
	13 Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	14 Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom	15 ● Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health Drums Out 7-9 p.m. 7th Gen	16 Storytelling and Soup 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	17 ● Tribal Observer deadline Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health 19	18 ● Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health 19
	20 Tribal Ops Closed Martin Luther King Jr. Day Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	21 Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom	22 Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health Drums Out 7-9 p.m. 7th Gen	23 Movie Day 1-3 p.m. Saganing 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	24 ● Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health 26	25 ● Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health 26
	27 Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	28 Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom	29 ● Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health Drums Out 7-9 p.m. 7th Gen	30 Euchre and Dice 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	31 ● Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health	



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 Employment

105 Lost and Found

110 For Rent

115 For Sale

120 Announcements

125 Miigwetch

130 Services

135 Events

140 Giveaways

145 Miscellaneous

100 Employment

Tribal Operations

Chief Executive Officer

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.

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.

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.

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 domes-

tic violence, sexual assault or stalking. Experience with federal grant reporting, tracking, and evaluation desired.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Child Welfare Prevention Specialist

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in social services, human services or related field. Desired qualifications: Two years social services, families first worker, or family preservation experience. Certified social worker and/or licensed clinical social worker.

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.

Case Manager

Open to the public. Grant funded position through Dec. 31, 2024. Bachelor's degree in social work, psychology, or human services related field. One-year experience working with victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking. Experience with federal grant reporting, tracking, and evaluation.

Water Quality Specialist

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in environ-

mental science, biology, fisheries and wildlife, or a related field. Three years of independent or program management work experience.

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).

General Labor Pool

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

Interim Probation Officer

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in criminal justice, social sciences or related field. Two years court or court related experience.

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.

Pharmacy Technician

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

Certified Nursing Assistant PT - Andahwod

Open to the public. State of Michigan Certified Nursing Assistant. Desired qualifications: One year nursing experience. Experience with older adults.

Residential Treatment Support Technician

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. High school diploma or GED. Desired qualifications: Previous experience in the substance abuse field. Experience in a residential treatment center.

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.

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.

Cultural Healer

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

Cook SCA

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

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.

Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Open to the public. Psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner licensed in the State of Michigan Experience in working collaboratively across multiple organizations and community systems.

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.

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.

SCTC Registrar Admissions

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in administration, educational administration, or related. Demonstrated under-

standing of the application of technology to deliver admissions, records and registration.

SCTC Admissions Officer

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in administration, educational administration, or related. Understanding of the application of technology to deliver 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.

Call Center Agent PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. High school diploma or GED. One year of customer service work experience.

F&B Cashier PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be able to operate a POS.

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 Cook

Open to the public. Six months of restaurant cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility, or six months of Saganing internal culinary training.

Bartender FT

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

Bartender PT

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

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.

F&B Attendant FT

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

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.

Count Team

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

Laundry Attendant PT

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

Security Officer FT

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

Summons and Complaint Notices

PUBLICATION OF HEARING TO PUTATIVE FATHER IN THE MATTER OF ONE MINOR CHILD:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court Children's Division. Publication of Hearing. Case No. 23-JCW-0002. To: Putative Father. In The Matter of: One Minor Child. Date of Birth: June 22, 2012. The Court has taken jurisdiction of the minor in reference to the case number listed above. A Putative Father Hearing will be conducted by the court on **Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2025 at 10 a.m.** in the courtroom at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 before the Honorable Michelle Horn. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that he shall personally appear before the court at the time and place stated above. This hearing may result in the Court continuing its jurisdiction over the minor and the eventual termination of parental rights. Rights of parties as to counsel is set forth in Title II of the Children's Code, Chapter 2.3, Section 2.313(a)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES EMERY STARKEY:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 East Broadway Road, Mount Pleasant, MI 48858 (989) 775-4800. Estate of James Emery Starkey. Date of Birth: April 1, 1991. Notice to creditors: The decedent, James Emery Starkey, who lived at 2268 S. Chippewa Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858, died Dec. 19, 2023. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Tony Glen Starkey, personal representative, or to both the Tribal Probate Court at 6954 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 and the personal representative within four months after the date of publication of this notice. Personal Representative: to Tony Glen Starkey, at 2268 S. Chippewa Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858, 989-264-5708.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MICHEALA R. JACKSON:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 East Broadway Road, Mount Pleasant, MI 48858 (989) 775-4800. Estate of Micheala R. Jackson. Date of Birth: June 20, 1990. Notice to creditors: The decedent, Micheala R. Jackson, who lived at 3730 Moccasin, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858, died February 16, 2019. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Rachel Francis, personal representative, or to both the Tribal Probate Court at 6954 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 and the personal representative within four months after the date of publication of this notice. Personal Representative: Rachel Francis, 3730 Moccasin, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. 989-400-5521.

JANUARY PROMOTIONS



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Premium Play & Travel Vouchers!**

SATURDAYS IN JANUARY

From 5PM-10PM, every hour four lucky guests will win \$500 in Premium Play and 100 grand prize bonus entries! At 11PM, two lucky guests will win a \$10,000 Travel Voucher or \$5,000 in Cash!

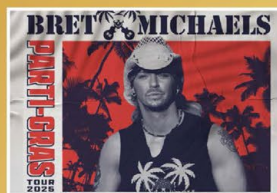
ACCESS Club members will receive one (1) entry for every 900 points. Guests can begin earning entries December 28, 2024 at 12AM until January 25, 2025 at 10:55PM.



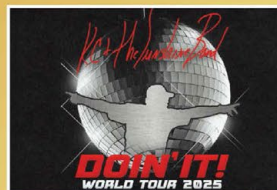
**FRIDAYS
5PM-10PM**

Pick, flip and trade your way to victory! The last card reveals your prize! Plus, a \$1,000 bonus for a 4 of a kind, with over \$73,000 in Premium Play up for grabs!

ENTERTAINMENT



**BRET MICHAELS
PARTI-GRAS TOUR 2025**
FRIDAY, JANUARY 24 | 8PM
\$59, \$68, \$80, \$86
ENTERTAINMENT HALL



**KC & THE SUNSHINE BAND
DOIN' IT! WORLD TOUR 2025**
SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 | 6PM
\$39, \$51, \$65, \$71
ENTERTAINMENT HALL



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



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Credit, Hotel Stays and more!**

SATURDAYS IN JANUARY

Every hour from 3PM-10PM, one lucky guest will be drawn to take a spin at matching the records correctly.

ACCESS Club Members will receive (1) entry for every 200 points. Guests can begin earning entries December 29, at 12AM until January 25 at 9:55PM.



**FRIDAYS
3PM-10PM**

Solve the 50's Puzzle for the chance to win a share of \$30,000 in Premium Play!



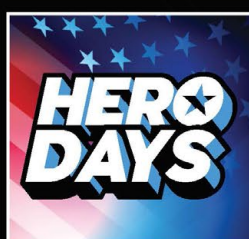
**MONDAYS
9AM-10PM**

First 500 players that earn 800 points can swipe at a kiosk to receive a ticket to claim a hat at the ACCESS Club!



EVERY LIONS HOME GAME

Place your bets on Lions' Home Games through January 5, 2025 to earn entries into the drawing. For every touchdown or field goal the lions score, three lucky winners will be drawn to spin the prize wheel for the chance to win Premium Play, an overnight stay and more!



**SUNDAYS
9AM-11:59PM**

Hero Cardholders can earn \$10 in Premium Play for every 800 points earned on slots.

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