

TRIBAL OBSERVER

APRIL 2026

Working Together For Our Future

www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver

Volume 37 | Issue 4



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Nine Saginaw Chippewa artists' work featured in Detroit Institute of Arts exhibit

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

It's been three decades since the Detroit Institute of Arts held a major Native American art exhibit. Not until recently, this has all changed.

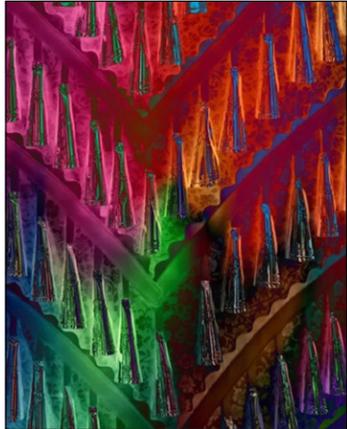
On Sept. 28, 2025, the exhibit "Contemporary Anishinaabe Art: A Continuation" opened, and features nearly 100 pieces of art by at least 60 Anishinaabe artists from the United States and Canada.

The Native American art showcased includes: basketry, beadwork, birchbark, clothing, photography, sculpture, and more.

According to the Detroit Institute of Arts' website, "Created by the guidance from advisory council of Ojibwe (Chippewa), Ottawa (Odawa), and Potawatomi (Pottawatomi) artists, the exhibition features a diverse scope of more than 90 works – basketry, beadwork, birchbark artistry, clothing, film, graphic designer, jewelry, painting, poetry, sculpture and woodwork – and highlights the unique histories and perspectives of the Anishinaabe people" (dia.org).

Art created by nine Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members and one first descendant is featured in the exhibit. The artists include:

Patrick Collins ("Healing Hands," 2024. Oil on canvas.)



Courtesy photo

SCIT Elder Marcella Hadden's "Jingle Dress" canvas photograph (2020) is one of the pieces featured in the Detroit Institute of Arts' "Contemporary Anishinaabe Art: A Continuation" exhibit.

Zoi Crampton ("Exsiccata," 2021. Pressed plants from the Pellston, Mich. area.)

Marcella Hadden ("Jingle Dress," 2020. Canvas photograph.) ("MMIW," 2019. Canvas photograph.)

Lisa Kennedy ("Binaakwe-giizis/Falling Leaves Moon Ensemble," 2024-2025.)

Lisa Passinault ("Woodland Baby Bonnet," 2023.) ("Woodland Strap Dress and Bandolier Bag," 2020.)

Jason Quigno ("Maawandoonan [Bring Them Together]," 2025. Black granite, sculpture.)

Jillian Waterman ("In Case of Emergency Bury Me and Watch Me Grow," 2024. Upcycled fabric, Bear Island flint corn.)

Robin Wayne ("Pearl Cosmos Cuff," 2023.) ("Warclubs," 2023.)

Summer Yahbay ("Nmamiikwendis: I Am Proud of Myself," 2024. Rabbit fur, deer hide, Czech and India seed beads.)

One SCIT first descendant also has work featured:

Joey Kennedy ("Baakaaniinaadizi: Their Actions Are Different," 2025. Coat, bag, hat, medallion, boots, pants, shirt.) ("Mashkiki Naabikawaaganag," 2025. Birchbark, glass seed beads, paint, brass, horse hair, porcupine quill.)

The exhibit's curator is Denene DeQuintal, Ph.D.



Courtesy photo

For the first time in 30 years, Detroit Institute of Arts is highlighting Native American Art. Pictured: "Every Picture Tells a Story" black ash basket by Kelly Church (Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Potawatomi, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians descent.)

In a 140-page catalogue created for the exhibit, DeQuintal states: "The DIA extended invitations to artists based on recommendations from the Anishinaabe advisory committee and artists I had encountered at regional exhibitions. Each artist was asked to submit two works from which the

advisors and I were to select the pieces for the exhibition. However, unbeknownst to the DIA, the call was forwarded and posted on social media, which greatly increased the number of submissions."

Due to the number of high-quality submissions, DeQuintal said, the process for selections was extensive.



Courtesy photo

"Woodland Strap Dress and Bandolier Bag" (2020), by SCIT member Lisa Passinault

"One of the factors used to determine inclusion in the exhibition was how the artwork fit into the spectrum of contemporary Anishinaabe art," DeQuintal said in a statement in the catalogue.

Artists | 13

Central Michigan University basketball halftime shows feature cultural dance demonstrations



Observer photos by Alicia Raphael

Central Michigan University again highlighted its partnership with the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe as cultural dance demonstrations were performed during halftime shows during two of the university's basketball games.

On Tuesday, March 3, during halftime at the men's basketball game, and on Wednesday, March 4, during halftime at the women's basketball game, drummers and dancers took to the court in CMU's McGuirk Arena to display different cultural dance styles.





Alex Floyd Ritter

January 28, 1966 – March 4, 2026

Alex Ritter, age 60, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at his home.

Alex was born on Jan. 28, 1966 in Mount Pleasant, Mich. to Lloyd and Linda (Strong) Ritter.

Alex was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe.

He enjoyed woodworking, cooking, and was known for his ability to fix or build just about anything – from cars to household appliances, and more. If something was broken, he was the person people called, always willing to lend a hand. He shared his legacy in his collection of music and knowledge through his family.

Alex is survived by his children and siblings: oldest son Joshua Wayne Ritter-Krentz, and daughter Miranda Shelby Ritter (Joshua Mills); brother Charles (Kari) Ritter; sisters Linze Ritter, Tracey Ritter and their children.

Alex was preceded in death by his parents; sons, Alex Ritter Jr. and Caden Ritter; and brother Doug Ritter.

Cremation has taken place. A celebration of Alex's life took place at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Gym on Saturday, March 21 at 3 P.M. with Benjamin Evers officiating. The family received friends at the gym from 1 P.M. until the time of service at 3 P.M.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family.



Judith Anne Hunt

September 10, 1941 – March 5, 2026

Judith Anne Hunt, age 84, of Jonesville, Mich., passed away on Thursday, March 5, 2026, at Henry Ford Jackson Hospital.

Judy was born on Sept. 10, 1941, in Detroit, to Lyle and Elizabeth (Pashence) Pidgeon. Judy married James Hunt on Jan. 14, 1960, and he preceded her in death on May 7, 2023.

Judy attended Lincoln Park Schools and went on to work retail sales for Maas Brothers in Florida. She enjoyed taking trips to the casino, and her job which allowed her to work with the public. Judy was also a talented artist, who especially enjoyed drawing.

Judy is survived by her family, LuAnn (William) Newman, Wally (Robin) Mayhew, and Justin Mayhew; close friends, Kevin (Cindy) Magda; and three daughters.

In addition to her husband of 63 years, Jim Hunt, Judy was preceded in death by her three siblings, Lynn Stewart, Lyle Pidgeon, and James Pidgeon.

At her request, cremation has taken place and there will be no services at this time. Arrangements have been entrusted to the VanHorn-Eagle Funeral Home in Hillsdale.

REQUEST FOR QUOTES: Asphalt Pavement Replacement

Project overview: The Saginaw Chippewa Housing Department is requesting quotes for pavement reconstruction for nine residential homes, one pole barn, and the entire length of Cedar Trail road in Arenac County, Mich. The Department is seeking a reputable firm to provide the following services and products only: Work will include all steps necessary to demolish existing asphalt, prepare the base and install new asphalt, as well as any cleanup. Service areas will include 10 separate addresses as listed below. Contractor must provide owner with the warranty information for asphalt.

Project goals:

- Demolish old asphalt and install new asphalt in a safe, timely, and professional manner.
- Removal of debris and clean up at each of the 10 sites.
- Communicate with the owner in a timely and professional manner.

Project scope of work: Scope of work will include all 10 locations as listed. Companies are encouraged to visit the locations to assess the areas to be covered. All required permits are the responsibility of the contractor. Permits can be obtained at the SCIT Planning Department 989-775-4014, <https://www.sagchip.org/Planning/Services.aspx>. Please call Housing's front office reception at 989-775-4595 to inform us when you plan to be on site.

Four locations in Standish, MI, 48658:

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. 4256 Cedar Trail | 5. 4272 Cedar Trail | 8. 4522 Cedar Trail |
| 2. 4259 Cedar Trail | 6. 4283 Cedar Trail | 9. 4542 Cedar Trail |
| 3. 4268 Cedar Trail | 7. 4502 Cedar Trail | 10. 4545 Cedar Trail |
| 4. 4271 Cedar Trail | | |

Submission procedures:

- Submit on sheets no larger than an 8½ x 11, clear and legible lettering.
- Quotes should be legibly printed on company letterhead.
- Email the requested information to: RoMaloney@sagchip.org and MiPelcher@sagchip.org or
- Send via U.S. mail or
- In-person delivery to the Saginaw Chippewa Housing Department, 2451 Nishnabeanong Dr., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Hours: M-F, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Submissions must be received by the deadline listed below.
- Submissions received later than the deadline will not be considered.

Provide the following information:

- The principal address of the firm
- Company profile (principals, years in business, key staff contact information)
- Copy of the firm's certificate of insurance (indicate level of professional and general liability coverage)
- Signed statement indicating the firm is not on the federal government's debarred list of entities debarred from doing business with the federal government of the United States. For more information visit the official website of the U.S. Government - System for Award Management at <https://sam.gov/content/home>
- An itemized cost estimate for all services requested in this RFQ and a schedule showing frequency of applications

Submission deadline: May 1, 2026 by 5 p.m.

Drop off or mail proposals to:

2451 Nish-Na-Be-Anong Dr.
Mount Pleasant, MI 48858

Or emailed to:

- RoMaloney@sagchip.org
- MiPelcher@sagchip.org

For more information: 989.775.4581 or 989.775.4538



PARTICIPATE IN A NEEDS ASSESSMENT STUDY

This project focuses on identifying health disparities among community members of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. We are looking to identify gaps in healthcare access and delivery to improve health outcomes and develop education programs.

Participants must be 18 years or older to participate.

Confidentiality

Participation is voluntary and will not affect your care. You will not be asked to provide your name or other identifying information.

What to expect

You will be invited to complete an online survey. This may be done on a computer or smart device. Participation time is approximately 10 minutes.

Interested?

Scan this QR code



For questions: email us at nguye9k@cmich.edu or varug1e@cmich.edu



Principal Investigator:
Dr. Neli Ragina, Ph.D.
Foust 117
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859

Request for quotes: Powwow caterer

The SCIT Powwow Committee is looking for a tribal-preference caterer for the Honoring Saganing Traditional Powwow.

- **When:** Saturday, June 6
- **What:** Dinner feast for 200-400 people

Submit quote to: Powwowcommittee@sagchip.org



THE ZIIBIWING CENTER
WOULD LIKE TO GIVE

Special Recognition
TO
**DAVID MICHENER &
WIL STRICKLAND**
FOR BEING
PREMIER LEVEL MEMBERS!



Tribal Member RÉSUMÉ Development

Available
through
Human
Resources

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

Human Resources Training & Development at 989-775-5600

JUNE 1, 2026 Tribal Child Welfare Affidavits or Child Mno Shkiziwin Applications

Forms available beginning March 30, 2026
**You must fill out ONE form completely.*

Deadline: Friday, May 1, 2026 by 5 p.m.

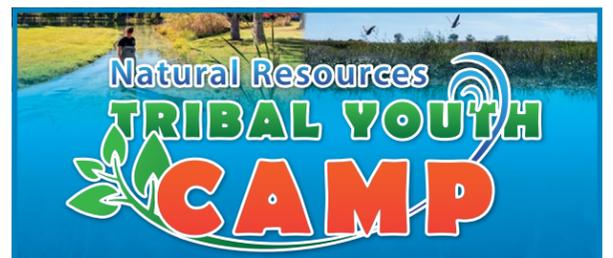
Tribal Clerk's Office hours:
Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Notarization is required

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

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

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



June 15-18, 2026 | 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Pick up and drop off: Broadway Park Pavilion
Inclement weather location: Eagles Nest Tribal Gym

- Lunch, light snacks, and water provided
- **Field trip locations include:** the Little Forks Conservancy Averill Preserve, Forest Hill Nature Area, Chippewa Nature Center, and Chippewa Watershed Conservancy Hall's Lake Natural Area

Open to ages 12-17 (during the time of camp)

Camp will provide place-based learning experiences and fun focusing on: Stream ecology, monitoring, and health; land management, biodiversity, and invasive species; outdoor skills and survival; and wetland ecology, types, and vernal pools.

Activities planned around:

Great Lakes ecosystems and natural resources

Application open:

- \$40 registration fee
- Limited space available
- Phone policy will be enforced



To receive application:

KHager@sagchip.org or 989.775.4585



**Program funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)*

Order Establishing Spring Wild Turkey Season 2026

Per Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 105 subdivision 6(B), the 2026 Spring Wild Turkey Season shall begin April 15, 2026, and will close June 15, 2026, unless ordered otherwise. The 2026 Spring Wild Turkey Season will allow for the harvest of two male turkeys.

Harvest tags will be available starting April 1, 2026 at the Tribal Licensing and Regulations office at \$10 per tag. Only two tags are allowed.

"Other Indians!" may not hunt on Tribal Trust or Tribal owned Fee Land.

¹ Other Indians as defined in Tribal Ordinance 11, Section 104 subdivision 52.

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

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

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Donald L. Seal

Community Engineer, Planning Department



"WORKING TOGETHER FOR OUR FUTURE"

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

Regular Tribal Council Sessions

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

Regular Council Session Dates

- April 7 • May 5 • June 2

Attention Tribal Members: Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE: There will be a public hearing held on **Monday, May 11, 2026 at 10 a.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers in the Black Elk Building, 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mount Pleasant, MI 48858.**

This hearing will address the liquor license application presented to Tribal Council by Christopher Nadobny, director of the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort's Food & Beverage Department or his designated staff. The application which will be reviewed and discussed at the hearing requests as follows:

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



2026 SCIT GOLF Membership

Memberships on sale now

Sales end: Friday, May 15, 2026 at 5 p.m.

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

Memberships cost \$300 each

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

Participating courses:

- Pleasant Hills Golf Club • Firefly Golf Links
- Hidden Oaks Golf Course • Eagle Glen Golf Club
- PohlCat Golf Course

Cart Membership Raffle (optional)

Drawing on Friday, April 10, 2026 at 12 p.m.

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

Attention Tribal Members: Notice of Public Hearing

NOTICE: There will be a public hearing on **Monday, May 11, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. in the Tribal Council Chambers at the Black Elk Building, 7500 Soaring Eagle Boulevard, Mount Pleasant, MI 48858.** This hearing will address the new liquor license application for a Retail Off-Premise General License presented to Tribal Council by Toni Swalley, director of Hospitality of the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino and Hotel, or her representative. The application which will be reviewed and discussed at the hearing is as follows:

Retail Off-Premise General Liquor License for the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino and Hotel located at 2690 Worth Rd., Standish, MI 48658. Such License, if approved, would cover the sale of alcoholic beverages to be consumed by the buyer off premises for one full year from May 15, 2026 to May 14, 2027, with hours of alcohol service consistent with Section 10 of the Gaming Compact of Aug. 20, 1993, and specifically including hours of service for 7 a.m. Sunday Alcohol Sales and Sales on Christmas Eve until 11:59 p.m., Christmas Day at 12 p.m. (noon) and New Year's Day until 4 a.m.

Tribal Observer

Graduate Photos

Please submit information to Observer@Sagchip.org

College

- Graduate's name
- School
- Field of Study

High School

- Graduate's name
- School

Deadline: May 16, 2026

Public notice of unclaimed per capita disbursements for deceased Tribal Members

The following is a list of unclaimed per capita disbursements for deceased Tribal Members. Any person who has been court appointed as the member's personal representative of the Estate can contact the Per Capita Office to claim the funds. All monies must be claimed within two years from their date of death, or such monies will be forfeited and returned to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Per Capita Trust.

Tribal Member Name	Date of Death
Adkisson, Chad Allen	08/12/2024
Anderson, Eric John	10/24/2024
Bergevin, Philip Wayne	02/15/2026
Black, Helen Marie	01/23/2026
Bonnau Sr., Stephen M	04/17/2025
Castaneda, Leona Ashquab	05/11/2025
Chapman, Wendy Sue	01/14/2026
Cyr, Michael George	08/25/2025
Goodwin, Dianna Lee	02/09/2026
Hunt, Judith Anne	03/05/2026
Jackson, Theresa Lynn	11/03/2025
Kelsall, Marcia Sue	12/18/2024
Nahmabin, Trisha Lynn	12/03/2025
O'neal, Phyllis Jane	04/07/2025
Ritter, Caden Zane	05/31/2025
Starkey, Lisa Faye	01/15/2026
Stone, Warren Enos	04/14/2025
Tarkowski, Patricia Helen	01/03/2025

Adopt a Pet



Marshmallow

Marshmallow is a senior male Domestic Shorthair mix. He is a sweet boy who loves nothing more than close companionship. The moment he starts getting pets, his little 'purr motor' goes full volume. At the shelter, Marshmallow can struggle with stress from the environment and tends to get upper respiratory symptoms or conjunctivitis more easily. When he spent time in a foster home, he was almost completely symptom-free. He is ready for a calm, loving home where he can relax and thrive.



Sadie

Sadie is a senior female mixed breed. She is a low-key girl who is just as sweet as she looks. Estimated to be about 8 years old, she brings a calm, gentle presence wherever she goes. She enjoys walks and displays lovely manners on a leash. She adores attention and is happiest being around people. If you're looking for a mellow, loving companion, Sadie might be your perfect match.

Humane Animal Treatment Society • Hatsweb.org

Address: 1105 S. Isabella Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 | **Phone:** 989.775.0830

Email: hats.caninesupervisor@gmail.com or hats.felinedepartment@gmail.com

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



HONORING SAGANING TRADITIONAL POWWOW

ARBOR HELPERS NEEDED

The SCIT Powwow Committee is looking to hire three helpers to build the arbor for the Saganing Powwow.

▶ **When:** June 1 - June 3, 2026

▶ **Wage:** \$150 per day *Lunch provided

If interested, email: Powwowcommittee@sagchip.org



Tribal Council

- Chief**
Luke Sprague | District One
- Sub-Chief**
Craig Graveratte | District One
- Secretary**
Christina Otto | District One
- Treasurer**
Alice Jo Ricketts | District One
- Sergeant-at-Arms**
Frank J. Cloutier | District Three
- Chaplain**
Jennifer L. Wassegijig | District One
- Council Member**
Brad Bennett | District One
- Council Member**
Tim J. Davis | District One
- Council Member**
Ronald F. Ekdahl | District One
- Council Member**
Shirley Houle | District Two
- Council Member**
Mary Quigno | District One
- Council Member**
Gayle Ruhl | District One

Ziibiwing Enji-mikwadaa'ying

"Where things/items are definitely sold at Ziibiwing"

VENDOR MARKET

May 29-30, 2026

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Ziibiwing Center



Welcoming vendors selling:

Arts, crafts, fashion, jewelry, gifts and more!

Vendor booth spaces available:

• 10'x10': \$20 • 10'x20': \$30 • 20'x20': \$40

Food truck vendors also welcome!

Open to: Artists and small business owners who are Indigenous or SCIT employees (Tribal Ops, SECR, SELC, Migizi)

Application deadline: May 22, 2026

- All sale items must be new.
- Vendors are responsible for set up and tear down.
- Must provide own canopy, tables, and chairs.

To apply for vendor space, please contact:

989-775-4744 or GHallwill@sagchip.org



ZIIBIWING CENTER
of Anishinaabe Culture & Lifeways

THE MIDWEST'S PREMIER AMERICAN INDIAN MUSEUM
6650 EAST BROADWAY, MT. PLEASANT, MICHIGAN 48858
989.775.4750 • WWW.SAGCHIP.ORG/ZIIBIWING

Anishinaabe Language Revitalization Committee TWO VACANCIES

Seeking two individuals who are committed to revitalizing Anishinaabemowin.

Vacant positions:

Two tribal member community representatives age 25 & over

- Candidates must be a SCIT member and able to attend monthly meetings
- Meetings held monthly with dates/times/location TBD.

For more information, please contact:

Mary Perez at MAPerez@sagchip.org or 989-775-4026

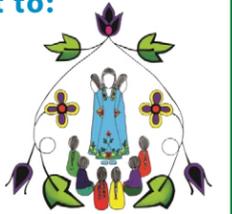
Send letter of interest to:

Howard Webkamigad
ALRD program manager

By email:
HWebkamigad@sagchip.org

By mail:

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
ATTN: Howard Webkamigad
2875 Gikendaaso Way
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858



The Seven Grandfather TEACHINGS

Nbookaawin – Wisdom

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

Zaagidowin – Love

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

Minaadendamooing – Respect

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

Zoongide'ewin – Bravery

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

Gwekwadiziwin – Honesty

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

Dibaadendiziwin – Humility

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

Debwewin – Truth

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

Child Abuse Prevention Blue Ribbon Week

April 6: "Step Up" Against Child Abuse:

▶ Wear your favorite shoes, or bold/mismatched socks!

April 7: "Speak Up" Day:

▶ Wear a shirt with a positive message on it, or get creative and make your own.

April 8: Be a "Hero" Against Child Abuse

▶ Wear your favorite superhero apparel!

April 9: "Stand Together" to protect kids:

▶ Match your outfit with a friend.

April 10: Go Blue Day

▶ Wear as much blue as possible!

Complete all five challenges to win a prize! Participants must bring photo proof of completion of all five challenges to ACFS to receive a prize.

For more information, please contact:

ACFS at 989.775.4901

PINWHEELS FOR PREVENTION

Plants with pinwheels giveaway for everyone that wears blue on:

Friday, April 10, 2026

- Location: ACFS (2585 S. Leaton Rd.)
- Time: 1 - 4 p.m.



Office of Tribal Licensing & Regulations Announcement

Elder Parking Permits

Elder Parking Permits for 2026-2028 are available at the Office of Tribal Licensing and Regulations.

Please be aware of the following changes:

- First replacement permit is free
- All replacements after will be \$5 each

Contact: 989-775-4105 or OTLR@sagchip.org

ZIIBIWING CENTER
of Anishinaabe Culture & Lifeways

50/50 RAFFLE Fundraiser

Tickets sold: April 2, 2026 - Aug. 31, 2026
Drawing held: Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2026

Ticket cost: One for \$5 or five for \$10

Sold exclusively at Ziibiwing's Gift Shop:

9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., M-F (except for: holidays, closings)
• Participants that enter this raffle do not need to be present to win.

* Half of the proceeds will go to the Ziibiwing Center towards programming, cultural activities, and facility needs of the Center.

Contact: ChRiley@sagchip.org or 989-775-4756

TRIBAL OBSERVER

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

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

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

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



Subscription rates are \$30 per year.

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

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

Tribal Observer Advertising

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

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

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

Tribal Observer Subscription Form

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please mail form to:

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

Contact Information:

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



Red Dress DONATIONS NEEDED

RED DRESS DAY: MAY 5, 2026
National Day of Remembrance for Missing and Murdered Indigenous People
No More Stolen Sisters Event: Coming TBD

A coalition of representatives from the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, the Zonta Club of Mt. Pleasant, RISE Advocacy, McLaren Hospital, Two-Spirit Coalition, Central Michigan University, and The U.S. Department of Justice, MMIP Task Force of Michigan are joining together to recognize the National Day of Remembrance for Missing and Murdered Indigenous People, also known as Red Dress Day.

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

- ▶ We are seeking clean, new or gently used, dresses.
- ▶ They can be any size, any length, and any design.
- ▶ They can be homemade or store purchases.
- ▶ If you, or someone you know, has a red dress that is no longer needed, or is willing to sew a simple dress, please consider donating it to this project.
- ▶ Donated dresses will not be returned, but kept and saved for use in future years.

Donations accepted until: Friday, April 17, 2026

Drop donations in Mt. Pleasant to:

- SCIT Behavioral Health (2800 S. Shepherd Rd.)
- ACFS (2585 S. Leaton Rd.)
- Tribal Police Department (6954 E. Broadway)
- Trillium Fine Clothing (125 E. Broadway St.)
- ICDC Thrift Shop (1008 W. High St.)
- Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College (5805 Pickard Rd.)
- McLaren Central Michigan (1221 South Dr.)
- Isabella County Commission on Aging (2200 S. Lincoln Rd.)
- Department of Health and Human Services (1919 Parkland Dr.)

For more information: QYurack@sagchip.org

Saganing Powwow Golf Outing Fundraiser

Friday, June 5, 2026
Tee time: 10 a.m. shotgun start
Pine River Golf Club
 2244 Pine River Rd., Standish, MI 48658

- Format: Four player scramble
- Entry: \$80 per player *Includes cart, green fee, skins, lunch and awards banquet

Hole-in-one prize: \$1,000
 • Other prizes: longest drive, closest to the pin, and longest putt

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

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

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

Meetings are held the second Saturday of each month at 2 p.m. at the Ziiwiwing Center.

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

SCTC Land Grant INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

POSITIONS AVAILABLE
 Provides SCTC students access to new experiences, research, and hands-on learning opportunities working with professionals in the field.

Application deadline: April 17, 2026 by 5 p.m.
May provide up to \$2,500.00 for the summer of 2026 for two qualified students.
 ▶ Start: May 11, 2026 ▶ End: Aug. 21, 2026

Criteria:

- Must be an enrolled SCTC student
- Stay a current student
- Must be able to do physical labor
- Commit to 12 hours per week
- Taking six credits or more per semester
- Must have and maintain a 3.0 GPA or higher
- Must be enrolled in at least one STEAM (Science, Technology, Art, Ag, Math) related course and/or be a member of the STEAM^{AG} Student Organization

If interested, please contact:
 989.317.4827 or KHart@sagchip.edu

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan HONORING SAGANING TRADITIONAL POWWOW

June 6 & 7, 2026
 Powwow Grounds — 2750 Worth Rd. Standish, MI
Next to the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino & Hotel and the Saganing Tribal Center

<p>Saturday, June 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dancer/Drum Registration: 11 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. • Grand Entry: 1 p.m. • Special • Re-Registration: 3-3:45 p.m. • Grand Entry: 4 p.m. • Special • Retiring of Flags: Dusk • Bingo at Tribal Center 	<p>Sunday, June 7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breakfast: 9 a.m. • Dancer/Drum Registration: 11 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. • Grand Entry: 1 p.m. • Special • Raffle Drawing: 3 p.m. • Hand Drum Contest: 3 p.m. • Blanket Giveaway • Retiring of Flags
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Admission:
 • \$3 Daily/\$5 Weekend
 • \$1 for Children
 *Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information, please contact:
 PowwowCommittee@sagchip.org or 989.775.5643

42nd Annual Saginaw Chippewa POWWOW

July 24, 25, & 26, 2026

Grand Entry:
 • Friday: 7 p.m. • Saturday: 1 p.m. • Sunday: 12 p.m.

The Hill Campground
 7525 E. Tomah Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Hotel Information:

- Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort | 1.888.732.4537
- Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel | 1.877.232.4532
- The Retreat at Soaring Eagle | 1.877.232.4532

www.sagchip.org/pow-wow
 *Free Admission **Drug and Alcohol Free Event

For more information, please contact:
 PowwowCommittee@sagchip.org or 989.775.5643



SUPPORT THE WORK OF MIIBS
Donate Today!

The Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School Committee is dedicated to documenting, preserving, and sharing the school's history.

Your contribution ensures that the stories of the children who attended are honored, protected, and never forgotten. Every gift strengthens the preservation of this history and supports ongoing truth-telling and healing.

- Your donation directly supports:**
- Renovation work to stabilize, protect, and preserve the school buildings
 - Promote healing from intergenerational trauma
 - Sustain annual events that helps to heal intergenerational trauma
 - Create a memorial in honor of the children who perished while attending the school
 - Incorporate language and art revitalization programming
 - Establish a museum that serves educational and historical purposes
-

Every tax deductible donation supports community healing, preservation, remembrance, truth and repurposing the center for healing.

DONATE TODAY!
Scan QR code ▶

For more information:
 MIIBS@sagchip.org

The Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School (MIIBS) Committee deeply appreciates the support of those who share our commitment to dedicating energy and focus to serve the students, families, and descendants of the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School as they learn, heal, and seek justice in the aftermath of federal industrial boarding school and genocidal policies.

2027 Annual Reports

Forms available now

Deadline: Friday, Oct. 30, 2026

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

Notarization is required

- Forms available by mail, email and at www.sagchip.org
- No postdated forms, emails or faxes accepted

Your 2027 Annual Report MUST be filed before/ with submitting a Tribal Loan Application.

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

Food Farmacy PROGRAM

A program to educate clients with diabetes at Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center to help manage their A1C by consuming healthier foods and increase consumption of fruits, vegetables, and lean meats.

12-week program
May 20 - July 22, 2026

- ▶ Participants must attend health education classes at Nimkee Public Health.
- ▶ Each participant receives \$40 per week in credit to buy groceries at: GreenTree Co-op Market (410 W. Broadway St., Mt. Pleasant)

Pre-registration is required. Space is limited.

To pre-register, please contact:

- Toni Smith: 989-775-4638 or ToSmith@sagchip.org
- Tamara House: at 989-775-4612 or THouse@sagchip.org



Saginaw Chippewa Round Dance brings community together

ALICIA RAPHAEL

Leadership Apprentice,
Public Relations

On Saturday, March 14, community members gathered at the Wii Maajikwad Tribal School Gym for an evening of culture, celebration, and connection during the annual Saginaw Chippewa Round Dance.

The round dance welcomed dancers, singers, families, and visitors from near and far.

The evening started with a pipe ceremony by Steve Pego as pipe carrier, followed by a community feast. As the drums began, the round dance filled the gym with loving energy, creating a strong sense of unity. People of all ages joined hands in the circle, honoring traditions and strengthening community bonds.

Invited singers were John T. Warren, Caden Pego, Littleman Quintero, Kwake Hale, Niizhik Quintero, Owyn Zapata, Zhaawan Smith, and Aaron Chivis who carried the songs into the evening. Emcee James 'Bud' Day, Stickman Jordan Mowat, and event staff ensured a welcoming and organized atmosphere.

Throughout the night, special moments included a



Observer photos by Alicia Raphael

dedicated memorial dance and student honoring. Additionally, attendees enjoyed a variety of specials including spot dances, youth and elder recognitions, and contests such as best ribbon skirt/shirt and best hand drum bag. Gift items, cash

prizes, and giveaways added to the excitement.

The round dance served as a meaningful reminder of the strength of culture and community within the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. Events like these provide a space for

cultural expression, healing, and togetherness that bring together people of all backgrounds.

Chi-miigwetch to all the organizers, singers, dancers, volunteers, and community members who made this event a success.

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Michigan.gov/Reconnect





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

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

- Convenient online shopping
- Exclusive SCTC merchandise
- Perfect gifts

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

sctcstore.itemorder.com/

SAGINAW CHIPPEWA TRIBAL COLLEGE Merch Store

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sctcstore.itemorder.com



CREATE
= Your Own =
FUTURE



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

SAGINAW CHIPPEWA TRIBAL COLLEGE 2026 SUMMER SEMESTER CLASSES

Academic Year 2025-2026

Summer 2026 registration open until May 8, 2026

EIGHT WEEK SESSION: MAY 11-JUL 3, 2026

✓	Code	S	Course Title	CR	Day	Room	Time	Instructor
Hybrid	BUS 260	1	Human Resource Management	3	T/R	Room 313	2-1:20 p.m.	Wagner
F2F	ENG 010	1	Composition I Lab	2	M/W	Community Room	12-12:50 p.m.	Boleman
Hybrid	ENG 101	1	Composition I	3	M/W	Room 314	10:30-11:50 a.m.	Boleman
F2F	MTH 140*	1	Pre-Calculus	4	M/W	Room 313	9 a.m. - 12:50 p.m.	Crosswait
Hybrid	MTH 230	1	Introduction to Statistics	3	M/W	Room 313	1:30-2:50 p.m.	Crosswait
Hybrid	NAS 103	1	Survey of Native American Studies	3	R	Room 214	5-7:50 p.m.	Haviland
Hybrid	SDV 102	1	Foundations for Student Success	3	M/W	Room 314v	1-2:20 p.m.	Green

TWELVE WEEK SESSION: MAY 11-JUL 31, 2026

✓	Code	S	Course Title	CR	Day	Room	Time	Instructor
Online	AST 110	1	Introduction to Astronomy	3	Online			Miller
Online	AST 110A	1	Introduction to Astronomy Lab	2	Online			Miller
Hybrid	BIO 105	1	Introduction to Biology Lecture	3	T	Room 235	8:30-11:30 a.m.	Abbas
F2F	BIO 105A	1	Introduction to Biology Lab	2	R	Room 232	8:30-11:30 a.m.	Abbas

Definitions:

F2F: A regular course that meets face to face as indicated on the semester schedule.

Online: AA course that meets asynchronously via web-based technologies.

Hybrid: A hybrid course will meet face to face for a minimum of 50% of the course, i.e. students must complete 22.5 hours of actual seat time on campus. Faculty may add a live synchronous, web-based component to the course (not more than 50% of the course). Both face to face components and web-based delivery methods must be scheduled on the syllabus. The day/time listed above is the REQUIRED seat time (face to face attendance). Students will be expected to complete the other 50% of course work asynchronously through Schoology.

*: Check co-requisite or pre-requisite requirements

\$: Additional course fees apply

Day: M=Monday, T=Tuesday, W= Wednesday, R=Thursday

Summer Semester 2026

- **March 23:** Registration opens
- **May 8:** Registration closes
- **May 11:** Classes begin
- **May 15:** Drop/add ends
- **July 2:** Last day of class for eight week session
- **July 31:** Last day of class for twelve week session

All courses are scheduled in Eastern Standard Time. Course delivery methods are subject to change at any time. Classes with an enrollment FEWER than five students may be canceled



ATTENTION NEW STUDENTS:

In order to register for classes you must take an Accuplacer® placement test and have a complete admission file. Please call 989- 317-4760 4760 to set up your Accuplacer® test or talk to Student Services. Email: studentservices@sagchip.edu | Website: www.sagchip.edu

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College (SCTC) and its Board of Regents is committed to providing a non-discriminatory and harassment-free educational and working environment for all members of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College community, including students, faculty, administrators, staff, and visitors. It is the policy of SCTC that no person shall be discriminated against, excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination, including harassment, in employment and admissions, in education, or in any program or activity for which the College is responsible, on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender, gender identification, sexual orientation, disability, age, religion, medical condition, veteran status, marital status or any other characteristic protected by institutional policy or tribal or federal law. Contact: Mary Pelcher, Civil Rights Coordinator, mapelcher@sagchip.edu.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **April 6** | Easter Monday: No classes, campus closed
- **May 4-8** | Exam week
- **May 8** | Spring semester ends
- **May 21** | SCTC Graduation at SECR

EVENTS

- **Traditional Teachings & Storytelling**
April 10 | 2-4 p.m. | SCTC Community Room
April 11 | 1-3 p.m. | Seventh Generation
- **STEAMAG Student Organization Meeting**
April 13 & 27 | 12-1 p.m. | LGO Conference Room
- **Beaded Grad Cap Workshop**
April 14, 21 | 3-7 p.m. | SCTC Room 245
- **Wellness Wednesdays**
April 15 | Tai Chi | 12-1 p.m. | SCTC Community Room 136
April 22 | Mindfulness for Better Living
11 a.m. - 12 p.m. | SCTC Room 314
April 29 | Sleep Education for Everyone
12-1 p.m. | SCTC Community Room

SCTC STEAM^{AG} Student Organization

SPRING STEAM^{AG} Raffle Fundraiser

Drawing: April 13 at 1 p.m.
Tickets: One for \$5 or three for \$10
For more information, contact:
989.317.4827 at khart@sagchip.edu

PRIZES:

- 1st place:** Two SECR concert tickets of choice with \$50 dining credit (valued at \$450-\$750) *Donated by SCIT Public Relations
- 2nd place:** SECR overnight stay with \$50 dining credit (valued at \$250) *Donated by SECR
- 3rd place:** SEWPH overnight stay with \$50 dining credit (valued at \$230) *Donated by SEWPH

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

College Success Coaches - Joe Genia and Jamie Green

Joe Genia
Jayne Green

Schedule a check-in

SCTC is excited to have TWO student success coaches this year! Each success coach will have a cohort of students that will focus on goals related to SCTC's Strategic Planning goals. The success coaches will be reaching out to you and your students this week.

If you have any questions, please contact:
Jayme Green or Joe Genia.

5805 E. Pickard St. Mount Pleasant

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College

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

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College
STEAMAG Summer Day Camp

Offering fun, hands-on, engaging activities in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics and Agriculture, incorporating traditional knowledge.

June 22-26, 2026

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College
(5805 E. Pickard Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858)

- ▶ Registration open to the first 20 to sign up
- ▶ Open to middle school students (entering sixth grade or leaving eighth grade)
- ▶ Schedule: Field trips and outdoor activities
- ▶ Snacks and lunch will be provided

To register, please contact:
Kathleen Hart at 989.317.4827 or khart@sagchip.org

Success Is Within Reach

GED Adult Education Program
GED Meet and Greet
Wednesday, April 15, 2026
3-5 p.m.
Ice Cream Social

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

OPEN TO PUBLIC



Rez Pets: It's Raining Cats and Dogs!



Names: Charlie, Remi, Riley, Oliver & Cooper
Owner: Serena Zondlak
Breeds: Rescues
Age: 2, 4, 6, 6, 12



Names: Peanut, Butter & Jelly
Owner: Niibin Sprague
Breeds: Domestic Long Hair and Norwegian Forest Cat Mixes
Ages: 5, 5, 8



Name: Sage
Owner: Kelly Willis
Breed: Doberman Pinscher
Age: 11 months



Name: Lucky
Owner: John Stevens
Breed: Domestic Shorthair
Age: Unknown



Name: Bernie
Owner: Minie & Andrea Stevens
Breed: Corgie
Age: 9



Name: Scotty
Owner: Charmaine Castillo
Breed: Domestic Shorthair
Age: 10 months



Name: Max & Mr. Jingles
Owner: Jenny Strong
Breed: Maine Coons
Age: 3, 6 months



Name: Tucker
Owners: Lindsay Drumm & Nicholas Ross
Breed: Rough Collie
Age: 2.5



Name: Alvin
Owner: Tammy Mansfield
Breed: Pomeranian
Age: 1.5



Name: Hit
Owner: Sgt. Dave Feger
Breed: Police K9 Belgian Malinois
Age: 7



Names: Lola, Riley & Lainey
Owners: Nick & Wendi Bovear
Breed: Shih Tzus
Age: 3, 4, 1



Name: Prince
Owner: Joe Genia
Breed: French Bulldog
Age: 3.5



Name: Zoey
Owner: Cory Polom
Breed: Chihuahua/Pug
Age: 2



Name: Luna
Owner: Jamie Fair
Breed: Siberian Husky
Age: 7



Name: Semaa Jamish Fox
Owner: Carmen Fox
Breed: Shiba Inu
Age: 1



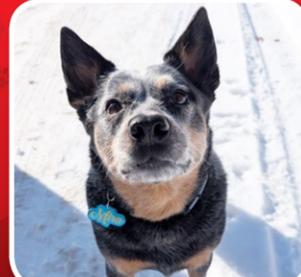
Name: Calypso Mae
Owner: Emily Lapan
Breed: Pit/Lab
Age: 2



Name: Piper Louise
Owner: Becky Bratten
Breed: Scottish Terrier
Age: 7



Name: Copper
Owners: Scott & Melissa Shuler
Breed: Basset Hound
Age: 2.5



Name: Mirabella
Owner: Katie Hager
Breed: Australian Cattle Dog
Age: 6



Name: Aahnii & Kora
Owner: Raven Wemigwans
Breed: Czechoslovakian Vlcsuks
Age: 7, 1



Names: Rex, Sadie & Arlo
Owners: Micheal Williams & Taylor Pettingill
Breeds: Pit/Sharpei, Boxer/Pit, Dalmation
Age: 11, 13, 6



Names: Koda, Maya, Bailey & Belvedere
Owners: Sabrina & Jim Karras
Breeds: Alaskan Malamutes and Tabby cats
Age: 7, 11, 12, 12



Names: Simon & Stitch
Owner: Lanette Gale
Breed: Long Hair Tuxedo cats
Age: 4, 4



Name: Dinky Dolittle
Owners: Dave & Pam James
Breed: Chiweenie/Yorkie
Age: 11



Name: Pepper
Owner: Teresa Van Alstine
Breed: Unknown
Age: 7



Name: Harley & Ella
Owner: Andi Carlson
Breed: Shih Tzus
Ages: 14, 10



Names: Luna & Bruno
Owner: Molly Burhans
Breed: Mini Bernedoodles
Ages: 4, 2



Name: Buddy
Owner: Dawn Chippewa
Breed: Labradoodle
Age: 1



Name: Keeto Bandito
Owner: Carl Benz
Breed: Toyger
Age: 2



Name: Tommy
Owner: Marilyn Bailey
Breed: Tabby
Age: 17



Name: BooBoo
Owner: Manajiwinn Chippewa
Breed: Labradoodle
Age: In Memory Of



Name: Rip
Owner: Danielle Kennedy
Breed: Pit mix
Age: 10



Names: Freida & Olive
Owners: David & Alicia Hooper
Breed: Dachshunds
Ages: 7, 13



Names: Precious & Nandor
Owner: Michelle Turpin
Breed: Domestic Shorthair
Ages: 4, 3



Name: Rose
Owner: Jim Kerr
Breed: Dachshund
Age: 9



Name: Waldo
Owner: Amanda VanHorn
Breed: English Spot
Age: 2.5



Name: Kaijah
Owner: Kim Aasved
Breed: Pug
Age: 12



Names: Jinx & Cashew
Owner: Seth Wladysiak
Breeds: Tortie, Tri-pod Tabby
Ages: 3, 1



Name: Jagger
Owner: Nicole Aasved
Breed: Chocolate Lab
Age: 9



Names: Rudy & Hawkeye
Owner: Tyler Tennison
Breeds: Tuxedo, Rescue
Ages: 1, 5



Name: Zoey
Owner: Jewelia (Julia) Wood
Breed: German Shepard/Husky
Age: 1



Names: Bazzel & Pippa
Owners: Theron & Paula Fisher
Breed: Pugs
Age: 8, 1.5



Name: Iris
Owners: Sue & Steve Duranczyk
Breed: Mixed breed
Age: 6



Names: Murray & McCoy
Owners: Rich & Barb McEnhill
Breed: Beagles
Ages: 9, 8



Names: Taz & Sammi
Owner: Karen Roy
Breed: Tabbys
Ages: 6, 4



Names: Gunner, Junior & Moose
Owners: The Bennetts
Breed: Beagles
Ages: 2, 4, 3



Names: Peppia & Angel
Owner: Noelle Peruski
Breeds: Pug, Brittany Spaniel
Ages: 2, 11



Names: Lemmy & Izzy
Owner: Gayle Ruhl
Breeds: Yellow Tabby, Calico
Ages: 8, 3



Name: Wanda
Owner: Collins Family
Breed: Chug
Age: 4



Name: Misty
Owner: Jennifer Goretcki
Breed: Calico
Age: 1



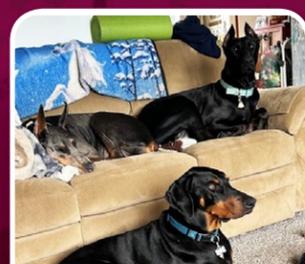
Names: Dude, Max, Bigz & Bo
Owners: Brooke Kequom Family
Breeds: Labradoodle, Aussie/Blue Heeler, Olde English Bulldogge & Australian Shepard
Ages: 2, 5, 5, 8



Name: Twixters
Owners: Emma & Zachary Morse
Breed: Beagle/Pitbull
Age: 7



Names: Owen, Bentley & Squirrely
Owner: Lucinda Burr
Breeds: Pitbull/Basset, Newfoundland/Poodle & Tabby
Age: 7, 4, 8 months



Names: Remi, Kyrie & Tyson
Owner: Tammy Pierce
Breed: Doberman Pinschers
Ages: 2, 8, 7



Name: Lionel
Owner: Baby Albert
Breed: Shih Tzu
Age: 2 months



Names: Phoebe Chippewa
Owner: Riana Chippewa
Breed: Taco Bell Dog (Chihuahua)
Age: 10



Names: Cara Bella, Reginald & Archibald Angus
Owners: Richard & Elizabeth Holbrook
Breed: Cheetos (Ocicat/Bangles mix), Ragdoll/ Scottish fold mix
Ages: 1, 1, 3



Names: Luna & Mooshkwe
Owner: Paul Shomin
Breed: Pitbulls
Age: 3, 2



Name: Longo
Owners: Nay & Cody Mena
Breed: Rescue
Age: 6



Name: River
Owners: Montana Hunt, Ivan Hunt & Tiffany Gilmore
Breed: Black Lab
Age: 3



Name: Miss Harlee J Benzinger
Owners: The Benzingers
Breed: Olde English Bulldogge
Age: 4



Name: Remi
Owner: Kelly Walworth
Breed: Labradoodle
Age: 4



Name: Bayla
Owner: Kelly Chamberlain
Breed: Australian Shephard
Age: 2.5



Names: Binx, Harley & Nalue
Owner: Helena Condon
Breeds: Black cat, Great Pyrenees & Pitbull
Ages: 9 months, 1, 2



Names: Mylo & Phoebe
Owner: Sam Anglin
Breeds: Toy Fox, Maltese/Chihuahua
Ages: 8 months, 6 months



Names: Whitey, Snowball, NillaVanilla, SugarCookie
Owner: Darlene Chippewa
Breed: Golden Doodles
Age: 5, 4, 4, 3



Name: Winston Wemigwans
Owner: Sara and Suzanne W



Names: Holly & Nikki
Owners: Jody & Sue Tater
Breed: Jack Russell Terriers
Ages: 9, 4

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Boy George and Culture Club bring the '80s party to Entertainment Hall

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

Boy George and Culture Club turned the Entertainment Hall in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort into a '80s nightclub party during their concert on Friday, March 6.

Boy George lives life authentically and shows fans "it's okay to be exactly who you are;" that message was loud and clear during the evening's performance.

The show began with a cover of The Clash's "London Calling," T-Rex's "Children

of the Revolution," followed by "Standing Tall in a City of Love" and a Wham (George's rival in the '80s as they were both British pop icons) mashup of "Church of the Poison Mind" and "I'm Your Man."

George's vocals were strong and the band was tight as they kept the performance going with "The Next Thing Will Be Amazing," "It's a Miracle," Prince's "Purple Rain," "King of Everything," "Letting Things Go," "Do You Really Want to Hurt Me," "Time (Clock of the Heart)" and "I'll Tumble 4 Ya."

According to the group's

website, Culture Club "racked up seven straight Top 10 hits in the U.K. and six Top 10 singles in the U.S." (boy-georgeandcultureclub.net).

Songs performed towards the second half of the show included "Lion & The Gemini," "Faster," "Miss Me Blind," "She's Lying," "Lotus Bleed," and a fun cover of David Bowie's "Let's Dance."

The energetic and entertaining evening came to a close with a cover of Rolling Stones' "Sympathy for the Devil," followed by "Skinhead Stomp" and the hit "Karma Chameleon."



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Tribal Member Guadalupe Gonzalez (left) shares a backstage moment with Boy George (right) before the March 6 performance in the Entertainment Hall.

Rise Against, Destroy Boys host high-energy punk rock rally at Soaring Eagle

MATTHEW WRIGHT
Staff Writer

All of the energetic, powerful melodies and thought-provoking, message-driven lyrics of punk rock were on full display at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort. The Saturday, March 14 concert featured Rise Against and Destroy Boys.

The headliners, Rise Against, began with a trio of hits in "The Good Left Undone," "Worth Dying For" and "Satellite."

Next up was the driving beats of "Prizefighter,"

followed by "Wait for Me" and "I Don't Want to Be Here Anymore."

The hits continued with "Audience of One," "Nowhere Generation" and "Re-Education (Through Labor)."

Front man Tim McIlrath grabbed an acoustic guitar for stripped-down renditions of "Hero of War" and "Swing Life Away."

The full band jumped back in; ramping the energy back up for performances of "From Heads Unworthy," "Savior" and "The Great Die-Off."

Rise Against ended with the fan favorites, "Far From Perfect" and "Prayer of the Refugee."

Opening for Rise Against was the punk rock band Destroy Boys. The band played all of their most-popular songs including "Drink," "Crybaby," "Muzzle," "You Hear Yes" and "Fences."

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



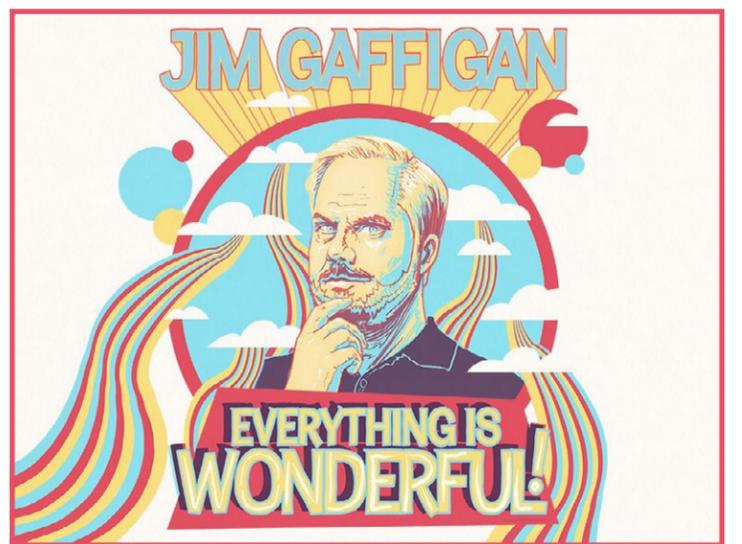
Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Zach Blair (left) and Tim McIlrath (right) of Rise Against perform during their March 14 Soaring Eagle concert.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Destroy Boys members Alexia Roditis (left) and Violet Mayugba (right)



Courtesy photo

Comedian Jim Gaffigan brings "Everything is Wonderful Tour" to SECR

MATTHEW WRIGHT
Staff Writer

Stand-up comedian Jim Gaffigan brought his "Everything is Wonderful Tour" to the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort's Entertainment Hall stage on Saturday, March 7.

The seven-time Grammy-nominated comedian actor, writer, and producer has also authored two New York Times best sellers and received three Emmy awards.

Gaffigan embraces his "every man persona," while making observations on a broad spectrum of topics. This ranges from his love affair with food, remarks on every day and family life, and his marriage.

One hilarious aspect of his style is the self-deprecating "inner voice," a high-pitched voice which often interjects to provide cheeky commentary about his act.

Gaffigan's clever, clean, and relatable humor had the audience in stitches for most of the night.

New York City-based comedian and writer Ted Alexandro opened the night for Gaffigan.

Don't Move Improve
With a Home Equity Loan from ICCU

ICCU Isabella Community Credit Union
ICCUonline.com • 989-773-5927
Subject to Credit Approval

New Program!

Region 9 Area Agency on Aging

Person-Centered Options Counseling

Program Benefits:

- Supports navigating complex care options.
- Provides reliable information and resources.
- Simplifies program services, eligibility, and paperwork.
- Offers unbiased guidance so you can make informed decisions.

Free one-on-one options counseling that provides interactive, unbiased choices about long-term services to adults aged 18 and over.

Services are available to any adult, their family members, and caregivers who support them, regardless of income, assets or disability status.

This project has been made possible through a grant awarded to NEMCSA Region 9 AAA by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

1-800-803-7174 989-358-4611



Andahwod Continuing Care Community and Elder Services Elders' April 2026 Newsletter

Elders Minor Assistance Program (EMAP)

This grant assistance is available for minor home and vehicle repairs under program guidelines. SCIT elders over 60 years of age may be eligible. To expedite the process, obtain three quotes for

the repair prior to submitting application. Elders may stop in, call, or email for more information. Applications and guidelines are available in the Andahwod front lobby.

ELDERS LAWN MOWING SERVICE

Andahwod Elder Services will be accepting applications for spring and summer lawn mowing in Isabella County.

There are guidelines, applications are available at Andahwod. After approval of the application, there will be a \$50 fee for those under 70 years of age.

We will also have a list of local mowing businesses and community members who provide this service for those who do not qualify. The program will begin accepting applications on April 1, 2025.

Limited spots available. Please call Lucinda at 989-775-4307 for any questions.

Foundations of Investing

Wednesday, April 25, 2026

1 p.m. | Andahwod CGA (2910 S. Leaton Rd.)

Open to tribal elders and the community

Building your investor IQ starts with understanding the basics. Whether you are new to investing or want a refresher, our Foundations of Investing presentation will help you learn about:

- The importance of developing a workable strategy
- Ideas for focusing on what you can control with your finances to achieve financial goals
- The impact of asset allocation

Seminar overview:

- Key steps to financial success
- EdwardJones process

Rules of investing:

- Strategy
- Quality
- Time
- Diversification
- Horizon
- Controllables

Facilitator: Brianna Bitzer
Financial Advisor, 989-772-0153



Edward Jones

For more information, contact:
Andahwod CCC&ES at 989.775.4300



Wednesday, April 1, 2026
Andahwod CCC & ES (2910 S. Leaton Rd.)

Brunch: 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Brunch open to the community (all ages)

- **SCIT elders:** Free (present Tribal Elder ID)
- **Non elders:** \$10
- **Menu:** Eggs, Bacon, Sausage, Potatoes, French Toast Sticks, Pork Loin, Ham, Mashed Potatoes, Veggies and Mac n' Cheese.

Elder Egg Hunt: 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Egg hunt is for ELDERS ONLY

- Five eggs per elder – will have cool prizes!

Contact: Andahwod at 989.775.4300

APRIL 2026 Tribal Elder Birthdays

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) Willard Chapoton III
David James
Carla Sineway
Joseph Smith Jr.
Thomas Walker
Christine Giovannone
Christina Flamand | 15) Raymond Fisher II
Laurie Jackson
Paula Howlett
Marietta Stanley
Michael McCreery |
| 2) Mike Frank | 16) Debra House
Russell Stevens
Leslie Bennett |
| 3) Peggy Harris
Sharon Matthews
Robert Sharon
Christine Bird
Mary North
Laura Yoder | 17) Jon Bennett Jr.
Wanda Lautner
Robert Mays |
| 4) Judy Jackson
Crystal Hodge
Jennifer Goodwin
Dennis Kequom III | 19) Valerie Moore
Kermit Paul Jr.
Craig Perez |
| 5) Kimi Alani
Westbrook Shawboose
William Fox | 20) Joseph Collins
Kari Ellis
Leo Bennett Jr. |
| 6) Jesse Helms
Gerry Leaux
Shelly Rickert
Mary Russell | 21) Annette Buckner
Raymond Cloutier
Theron Fisher |
| 8) Cathleen Matthews
Eleanore VanHorn
Mark Cyr
John Quinn | 22) Charles Benz
Ethel Lingford |
| 9) Edward Matthews
Lisa Snyder
Janice Wilcox | 24) Monica McQuarter
25) Brenda Franco
26) Darlene Wilson
Carolyn O'Neal
Teresa Reyes
Danny Leaux |
| 10) Sena Hutcheson
Paul Moses | 27) Marie Kequom
Alta Arroyo
Jovain Shawboose
Linda Smith
Mary Perez
Emma Cantu
Melanie Burger
Nina Francis |
| 11) Barbara Sprague
Maury Francis
Stephanie Sprague | 28) Glen Tolfree Jr.
Tracy Cousins |
| 12) Randolph Holy-Day
Ursula Gibbons | 29) Robin Dutton
Tonia Jewell |
| 13) Lawrence Collins | 30) Lou Loiselle
Lawrence Zoher |

Earth Awareness Community Cleanup Friday, April 10, 2026 | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Broadway Park (on the Reservation)
Mill Pond Park (607 S. Adams St., Mount Pleasant)

To honor the importance of protecting Mother Earth from the harmful effects of pollution, increasing community awareness, and collective stewardship actions caring for Aki.

April 2026 Andahwod events

Coffee Break | Daily | 2:30 p.m.

Sewing | Tuesdays | 10:30 a.m.

Exercise w/Patty | Wednesdays | 1 p.m.

Euchre | Thursdays | 5:30 p.m.

Easter Brunch

April 1 | 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Elders Lunch

April 1, 15 | 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Lost & Found Bingo

April 3 | 1-3 p.m.

Easter Sunday | April 5

Elders Breakfast

April 8, 22 | 9-10 a.m.

Recycling Info Presentation

April 8 | 9-10 a.m.

Poker | April 13, 30 | 2 p.m.

Saganing Bingo

with Friends

April 14 | Leaving at 9 a.m.

Earth Day Craft: Porch Pots

April 16 | 1-2:30 p.m.

BH Bingo with Friends

April 17 | 1-3 p.m.

Billiards | April 20 | 2 p.m.

Language Bingo

April 21 | 1-3 p.m.

Potluck & Birthday Bingo

April 25 | 1-3 p.m.

For more information, please call Andahwod at: 989.775.4339

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

The Elder Services Office is now assisting with the LIHEAP grants for heating, year-round crisis, and weatherization assistance.

Program Eligibility: Determined by household income, size and elder in the home. Applications can be picked up at Andahwod. Assistance is available at the Elder Services office with completing the application if needed.

April 2026 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
Menu subject to change Sugar free available upon request. Call kitchen for lunch and dinner at 989-775-4314.			1 Easter Brunch 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Egg Salad Sandwich	2 Patty Melt Tuna Noodle Casserole	3 Grilled Brat Herb Roasted Chicken	4 Chef's Choice
5 Chef's Choice	6 Sweet and Sour Chicken French Dip	7 Taco Tuesday BLT	8 Elders Breakfast Bean Soup Pork Chops	9 Chicken Casserole Sloppy Joe	10 Chili Dogs Chicken Fry	11 Chef's Choice
12 Chef's Choice	13 Philly Cheese Steak Chili	14 Taco Tuesday Turkey Dinner	15 Elder Lunch Build Your Own Sandwich Tomato Soup w/Grilled Cheese	16 Chicken Salad Wrap Ribs w/Baked Potato	17 Grilled Burgers BBQ Chicken	18 Chef's Choice
19 Chef's Choice	20 Blanket Dogs Turkey Bacon Ranch Wrap	21 Taco Tuesday Goulash	22 Elders Breakfast Tuna Fish Sandwich Lasagna	23 Tater Tot Casserole Fish sandwich	24 Fried Bologna Sandwich Chicken Fry	25 Chef's Choice
26 Chef's Choice	27 Chicken and Rice Beef Stew	28 Taco Tuesday Chicken Wing Basket	29 Pulled Pork Spaghetti w/Meatballs	30 Turkey Swiss Sandwich Surf n Turf	*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	



Earth Awareness Month: “Our power, our planet”

KATIE HAGER

Environmental Outreach Coordinator

Through everyday actions, environmental progress can be achieved to support clean air, safe water, and climate resiliency.

“Our power, our planet” is Earth Day 2026’s theme reflecting a fundamental truth: “Environmental progress does not depend on any single administration or election. It is sustained by daily actions

of communities, educators, workers, and families protecting where they live and work.” – Earthday.org.

For Earth Month, the Planning Department is asking the community to come together to raise awareness and encourage community actions to protect, support, and clean our planet.

By working together to protect Mother Earth, we keep her beautiful and healthy. In turn, she keeps us all healthy, both for our generation and the next seven generations to come.

CLEANUP ACTIONS/CHALLENGE:

- Keep your surroundings clean; clean up plastic or trash in your neighborhood or backyard.
- Always use care and best judgment when picking up litter.
- Wear close-toed shoes and protective gloves or use a trash grabber for items that may be sharp.
- Only pick up trash or garbage that is safe to handle and can be easily disposed of or recycled.
- Avoid touching litter directly and do not touch your face while cleaning up.
- Bring hand sanitizer if you are able and be sure to wash your hands as soon as you are finished.
- If you do not have a trash grabber a repurposed pair of BBQ or salad tongs can work as a pickup device.
- If it is not clean – it cannot be recycled, meaning if it is moldy or it is not relatively clean you can throw it in the trash bag.
- Leave hazardous items such as needles, syringes, batteries, oil drums, and canisters alone as these may not be safe and have specific waste instructions and regulations.

Editorial: Give Kids a Smile was a huge success and it’s all because of you

LISA WAKEFIELD

Dental Assistant

I would like to thank all of those that worked behind the scenes and in the spotlight to help bring dental care to children in our community.

Feb. 26 marked Nimkee Dental’s sixth year devoting a couple days to children’s dental education.

After spending a morning at the tribal school on Feb. 3, we had the pleasure of seeing 22 children between the ages

of 3 and 17 in the clinic for exams/X-rays, fluoride, sealants, cleanings and even some dental work. The children were given goodie bags to help them maintain that beautiful smile until they return to Nimkee Dental.

Next year we may shake things up a little bit and do something different, but no matter what we do, each year keeps getting better.

Thank you once again and with your help, next year will be just as amazing.



ADA American Dental Association®

Tribal Youth Summit returns in June 2026

INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF MICHIGAN, INC.

SAULT STE MARIE, Mich. – The 2026 Rooted in Wellness Tribal Youth Summit will take place at the Multicultural Center at Michigan State University in East Lansing on June 17-18, 2026.

The Tribal Youth Summit strives to empower tribal youth with knowledge, skills, network, and cultural support needed to make healthy choices and remain free from commercial tobacco.

“We hope that Native youth leave the summit feeling empowered, informed, and supported. The goal is for participants to gain knowledge, build skills,

develop connections with other youth, and strengthen cultural values that encourage healthy lifestyles and tobacco-free choices,” said Ashley Young, program manager at Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan.

The event is hosted in collaboration with the Bay Mills Community Health Department, Indigenise LLC, Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Lac Vieux

Desert Health Center, Michigan State University Multicultural Center, Michigan State University Native American Institute, and Sault Tribe Behavioral Health Department.

“The Tribal Youth Summit is designed for youth in grades 6 through 12, along with the parents, educators, and community members who support them,” said Chelby Archambeau,

program coordinator at Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan. “The event brings together young people and allies committed to promoting wellness, strengthening cultural connections, and empowering Native youth to live healthy, commercial tobacco-free lives.”

More information including registration details will be released in the coming weeks at www.itcmi.org.

Artists

continued from front page

The Exhibition Advisors includes one Saginaw Chippewa member, Jason Quigno, along with Kelly Church (Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomis, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians descent), Monica Rickert-Bolter (Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation), Jonathan

Thunder (Red Lake Nation), and Jodie Webster (Ho-Chunk Nation, Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation).

“The advisory panel consists of all Anishinaabe tribal members and working artists from across the Great Lakes region and beyond,” said the Exhibition Advisors in a statement. “Recognizing the need to uplift contemporary

Anishinaabe arts, we worked with the Detroit Institute of Arts curatorial and exhibition team to delve into the rich history, evolving cultural and artistic practices, and continuing stories of the Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and Odawa. Our collaborative efforts resulted in a diverse range of artistry, innovation, and craftsmanship to highlight the brilliance of Anishinaabe creatives.”

The exhibit is on display until April 5, 2026.

Visitors who show a tribal-issue ID will receive free admission.

Lead support of “Contemporary Anishinaabe Art: A Continuation” is provided by the Ford Foundation. Major support is provided by Teiger Foundation, Jennifer Adderley, and the Henry Luce Foundation.

Additional support is provided by the DTE Foundation, Richard Sonenklar and Gregory Haynes, Andra Rush and the Rush Group of Companies, Carlene and Rob Van Voorhies, and Peggy and Dave Meador.

The Tribal Observer will be reaching out to the Saginaw Chippewa artists whose work is featured in the upcoming months.

SCIT Golf Membership Raffle Fundraiser

THREE SEPARATE PRIZE DRAWINGS:

- ▶ **First prize: 2026 SCIT Golf Membership** (valued at \$300)
 - **Participating courses:** Pleasant Hills Golf Club, Hidden Oaks Golf Course, PohlCat Golf Course, Firefly Golf Links and Eagle Glen Golf Club.
 - **Membership includes:** Green fees and discounts on apparel, range, food and drink.
- ▶ **Second prize: \$500 Golf HQ gift card**
- ▶ **Third prize: \$250 VISA gift card**

Sales begin: Thursday, April 9, 2026
Drawing: Wednesday, May 6, 2026
Tickets: ▶ One for \$5 ▶ Three for \$10
Tickets may be purchased from any EAB Member or at the Andahwod Front Office.
**All proceeds benefit Elders activities.*
Contact: Andahwod at 989.775.4300

45TH ANNIVERSARY BINGO! PACKET Fundraiser

Sales begin: Wednesday, March 11, 2026
Drawing: Wednesday, April 8, 2026
 (During Elders Breakfast)

Tickets: ▶ One for \$5 ▶ Three for \$10
 Tickets may be purchased from any EAB Member or at the Andahwod Front Office.
 ▶ **First winner: \$600 bingo packet**
 ▶ **Second winner: \$200 VISA gift card**
**All proceeds benefit Elders activities.*
Contact: Andahwod at 989.775.4300

CRAFT SHOW & PURSE AUCTION

Saturday, May 2, 2026
 Craft Show: 1-4 p.m. | Purse Auction: 4-5 p.m.
 Andahwod CCC & ES (2910 S. Leaton Rd.)

Donate a slightly used designer purse, and receive a raffle ticket to win one of two new designer purses.

- Purses must be donated before the day of the show.
- Donated purses will then be auctioned off for fundraising.

▶ **Open to the public**
 ▶ **Mother’s Day-theme fundraising event**
 ▶ **Door prize drawings throughout the day**
 ▶ **Music by DJ Lupe**
** Half of proceeds will benefit Andahwod Elder Services, the other half will benefit the local women’s shelter.*
Contact: depelcher@sagchip.org or 989.775.4339



APRIL 2026 | Tribal Community Event Planner

MIFO Can and Bottle Drive

Donations accepted until April 10

- Drop off your empty cans and bottles at the Nimkee Fitness Center (2591 S. Leaton Rd.)
- SPifer@sagchip.org or 989.775.4690
- Proceeds benefit the Michigan Indian Family Olympics

Regalia Making Class

April 2, 9 | 5:30-8:30 p.m.

- 7th Generation (7785 E. Remus Rd.)
- FOtto@sagchip.org or 989-775-4823
- Limited supplies and sewing machines are available

Indigenous Food Sovereignty Summit

April 6, 7, 8

- Kellogg Hotel (East Lansing, Mich.)
- **Registration:** canr.msu.edu/IFSS2026
- **Contact:** Events@anr.msu.edu
- Join us for a powerful gathering that celebrates Indigenous food systems, cultural resilience, and community-driven solutions for food sovereignty.
- Workshops on traditional food, harvesting practices, seed saving, land stewardship, and policy advocacy

Toddler Time

April 7, May 5, June 9 | 1-3 p.m.

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

Pinwheels for Prevention

April 10 | 1-4 p.m.

- ACFS (2585 S. Leaton Rd.)
- 989.775.4901
- Plants with pinwheels giveaway for everyone that wears blue

Earth Awareness Community Cleanup

April 10 | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

- Event begins at Broadway Park Pavilion
- KHager@sagchip.org or 989.775.4585
- Two locations will be cleaned: Broadway Park and Mill Pond Park (607 S Adams St., Mt. Pleasant, Mich.)
- Hot dog lunch provided

Traditional Teachings & Storytelling

April 10 | 2-4 p.m.

- SCTC Community Room (5805 E. Pickard Rd.)

April 11 | 1-3 p.m.

- 7th Generation (7785 E. Remus Rd.)
- KWillis@sagchip.edu or 989-317-4760
- With Ogimaawab Joseph Sutherland

SCTC Grad Cap Beading Workshop

April 14, 21 | 3-7 p.m.

- SCTC (5805 E. Pickard Rd.)
- **Registration:** EGrossman@sagchip.edu
- Open to students or parents of 2026 graduates from the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College or Mt. Pleasant High School.

People's Powwow Breakfast Fundraiser

April 15 | 8-11 a.m. (or until gone)

- Pick up at: 7th Generation (7785 E. Remus Rd.)
- **To order:** 989-775-4796
- Breakfast burritos: \$6 each (bacon, sausage or chorizo)

SCTC Wellness Wednesdays

April 15, 22, 29

- SCTC (5805 E. Pickard Rd.)
- EGrossman@sagchip.edu
- Tai chi: April 15 | 12-1 p.m.
- Mindfulness for Better Living: April 22 | 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Sleep Education for Everyone: April 29 | 12-1 p.m.

STEAM^{AG} Breakfast Burrito Fundraiser

April 22 | Sales begin at 9:30 a.m. (until gone)

- SCTC Community Room (5805 E. Pickard Rd.)
- KHart@sagchip.edu or 989-317-4827
- Cost: One for \$6 or two for \$10

MIFO Fitness Competition Fundraiser

April 30 | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

- Nimkee Fitness Center (2591 S. Leaton Rd.)
- SPifer@sagchip.org or 989.775.4690
- Cost: \$5 per person
- Competitions include: Push-ups, recline rows, free throw shots and farmer's carry
- Win prizes: SCIT cinch bags, Nimkee Fitness T-shirts and gas gift cards
- Proceeds benefit the Michigan Indian Family Olympics

ACFS Dessert Cook-Off

May 6 | 12-2 p.m.

- ACFS Lobby (2585 S. Leaton Rd.)
- JCotter@sagchip.org or 989-430-0532
- Register in person at ACFS by Friday, May 1

ACFS Silent Auction and Bingo Night

May 8 | 5-8 p.m.

- Eagles Nest Tribal Gym (7070 E. Broadway)
- WFlowersMurch@sagchip.org or 989-775-4914
- Silent auction bids open at 5 p.m.
- Bingo held from 6-8 p.m.

Save the Date: Summer Safety Fair

June 13 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

- Public Safety Building
- SSowmick@sagchip.org or 989-775-4699
- Public Safety's 30th anniversary honoring our commitment to community safety

APRIL 2026 | 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 Elders Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Andahwod Recovery Talking Circle 9 a.m. B. Health Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health	2 Sacred Fire Lunch 12-1 p.m. 7th Gen Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health	3 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 Easter Sunday
	6 Tribal Ops closed Monday after Easter Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	7 Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Drums Out 7:30-9 p.m. 7th Gen	8 Elders Breakfast 9-10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Andahwod Recovery Talking Circle 9 a.m. B. Health Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health Aluminum Shaker Workshop 5-7 p.m. 7th Gen	9 Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health	10 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m. Andahwod
13 Sewing in Saganing 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saganing STEAM ^{AG} Meeting 12-1 p.m. SCTC Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	14 Bingo with Friends 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Saganing Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Drums Out 7:30-9 p.m. 7th Gen	15 Elders Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Andahwod Recovery Talking Circle 9 a.m. B. Health Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health	16 Tribal Observer DEADLINE Sacred Fire Lunch 12-1 p.m. 7th Gen Feast Bag Workshop 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health	17 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m. Andahwod	18 Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health 19
20 Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health	21 Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Trading Card Game Night 5:30-9 p.m. 7th Gen	22 Elders Breakfast 9-10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Andahwod Recovery Talking Circle 9 a.m. B. Health Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health	23 Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health	24 Fireside on the Rez 11:30 a.m. B. Health Spirit Bear Talking Circle 7 p.m. Andahwod	25 Fireside on the Rez 6 p.m. B. Health 26
27 STEAM ^{AG} Meeting 12-1 p.m. SCTC Recovery Group 1-2 p.m. B. Health Two-Spirit Talking Circle 6-8 p.m. 7th Gen	28 Recovery on the Rez 2-3 p.m. Zoom Drums Out 7:30-9 p.m. 7th Gen	29 Recovery Talking Circle 9 a.m. B. Health Eagle Feather Teachings 1:30-2:30 p.m. B. Health	30 Sacred Fire Lunch 12-1 p.m. 7th Gen Community Sewing Nights 5-8 p.m. 7th Gen Peer 360 at BH Lodge 6-7 p.m. B. Health	Women Owning and Appreciating Woodlands Join us for a day of learning! Get empowered to connect with nature and gain knowledge on ways to become a steward of your property. This is a fun and free event for everyone. May 2 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. & 1-4 p.m. Gladwin Conservation District (750 N. M-18, Gladwin MI 48624) Register by scanning QR code to right →	





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

Utilities Manager - Fresh Water Treatment Plant

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must have and maintain EGLE F-2 or Wastewater A. Certification for water treatment operations, testing and maintaining chemical additives.

Utilities Manager - Waste Water Treatment

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must have and maintain EGLE F-2 or Wastewater A. Certification for water treatment operations, testing and maintaining chemical additives.

Waste Water Operator I

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must have one year verifiable experience in wastewater/water field or directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations.

Waste Water Operator II

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must have three years' experience in wastewater/water field or directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations.

Waste Water Operator III

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must have five years experience in wastewater/water field or

directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations.

Waste Water Operator Intern

Open to SCIT members only. High school diploma or GED. Must be willing to take classes in microbiology, advanced math and beginning algebra courses.

Fresh Water Operator I

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must be able to pass a math test with 70 percent or higher.

Fresh Water Operator II

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must have three years of water operator or related experience.

Fresh Water Operator III

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Must have five years of water operator or related experience.

Fresh Water Operator Intern

Open to SCIT members only. High school diploma or GED. Math test will be required and administered prior to interview.

Maintenance Worker

Open to the public. One year of demonstrated experience in basic maintenance, grounds keeping, and verifiable experience in wastewater or water system operations.

Interim Clinical Therapist

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.

ACFS Supervisor

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in social work, human services, or related field. Four years of social services: working with children and families experience. One year of experience in child welfare. One year of experience in a supervisory capacity.

Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in archaeology, museum studies, library science or related field. Three years experience.

Tribal Code Compliance Officer

Open to the public. Five years' relevant experience including building construction, inspection and ordinance enforcement.

Health and Human Services Administrator

Open to the public. Master's degree in healthcare administration, public health administration, healthcare finance, or related field. Ten years' experience in healthcare administration or public health administration.

Pharmacy Technician

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Pharmacy Technician License. Basic computer skills and typing experience.

Prevention Specialist

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Associate degree in human services or related field. An equivalent combination of education and directly related experience may be considered.

Health Nurse - Diabetes

Open to the public. Grant funded. One year of public health or nursing experience. Program planning and coordination of prevention program experience.

Internship

Unpaid internship. Open to the public. Must be an enrolled student at a college or university, and provide SCIT with documentation of the university's requirements/scope of work for the required internship. Must currently have a cumulative 2.5 GPA.

Family Advocate Specialist

Open to the public. Associate degree in social services, human services or related field. Desired qualifications: Two years social services or human services experience. Experience with Native American communities.

Registered Medical Assistant FT

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 (family medicine preferred.)

Registered Medical Assistant PT

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.

Student Support Tutor

Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. College level math. Must be able to pass math test with a score of 70 percent or better.

Data & Evaluation Analyst

Open to the public. Grant-funded position. Associate degree in social sciences or related field. Six months of experience in data analysis. Experience with database design and best practice helpful. One year experience

in administration of federal grants and contracts, and grant writing.

Certified Nursing Assistant

Open to the public. Must be able to effectively communicate with residents and all members of the health care team and have good computer skills.

Case Manager

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in social work, human services, or related field. One-year case management experience.

SAMHSA Project AWARE Co-Coordinator

Open to the public. 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.

AWARE Elementary Counselor/Family Outreach

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in social work or counseling from an accredited program. One year experience in mental health services working with children and families of children with severe emotional disturbances.

Project AWARE Data Analyst PT

Open to the public. Master's degree in public health, epidemiology, community health, biostatistics, measurement and evaluation or related field. Experience in data compilation, data analysis, and working knowledge of evaluation methods.

RTC Support Technician FT

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

Police Officer

Open to the public. Must be a U.S. citizen and at least 21 years of age. Must be able to pass departmental fitness evaluation.

Clerical Pool

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

General Labor Pool

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

Soaring Eagle

Culinary Supervisor

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

Guest Room Attendant PT

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

Steward Banquets PT

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

Line Cook

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Six months of restaurant cooking experience with increasing

levels of responsibility, or six months of SECR internal culinary training.

Line Server PT

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

Sous Chef

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

Kitchen Equipment Tech

Open to the public. Three years of experience in commercial food equipment repair. Must have a current and must be able to maintain a current Universal Refrigerant Certification.

Bartender (Seasonal) PT

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

Waitstaff (Seasonal) PT

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

Crowd Control (Seasonal) PT

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

Usher (Seasonal) PT

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

F&B Cashier

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

Guest Relations Rep PT

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

F&B Cashier

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

Saganing

Line Cook FT

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

Line Cook PT

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

F&B Attendant FT

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

F&B Attendant PT

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

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.

Maintenance Worker PT

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

Front Desk Agent FT

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

2026 Summer Youth Worker Program

Crew leaders and summer youth workers needed

Program runs for six weeks: June 22-July 30
*Summer youth workers adhere to Tribal Operations policies and holidays.

- ▶ **Summer youth worker portal:** The summer youth worker calendar, program news and reminders, a call-in link, and other important documents will all be posted in June and updated regularly on the Summer Youth Worker Portal at www.sagchip.org/summeryouth
- ▶ **Job applications will be available April 1-31, 2026 at www.sagchip.org/careers**
*Paper applications will also be available at the Black Elk Building Human Resources front window.

Crew leaders:

- Must be SCIT member
- Must be 18-24 years old at time of application
- High school diploma or GED
- Must be able to pass background check
- Must have a valid Michigan driver's license and must be able to obtain and maintain a Tribal driver's license and qualify for coverage by SCIT auto liability insurance.

Youth workers:

- Must be SCIT member
- Must be 14-18 years old at time of application
- Must be able to attend parent/guardian and youth worker meeting

Applications open: May 1, 2026
Deadline: Positions open until filled

TO APPLY: Scan QR Code

Applications open: April 1, 2026
Deadline: Positions open until filled

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

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Central Michigan University hosts 37th annual "Celebrating Life" Powwow

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

The 37th annual "Celebrating Life" Powwow took place March 21-22 on the campus of Central Michigan University. The event was open to the public, and held within the John G. Kulhavi Events Center in the McGuirk Arena.

Grand entries were held on Saturday at 1 and 7 p.m., and on Sunday at noon.

A variety of vendors were set up throughout the weekend; selling food and traditional art and crafts.

Mike Medawis served as emcee, alongside arena director Little Man Quintero. Walker Stonefish led the grand entries as head veteran. Serving as host drum was Meskwaki Nation. The head dance judge position was held by Onyleen Zapata.

Observer photos by Matthew Wright



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Head Veteran Walker Stonefish (front right) and members of the Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veteran and Warrior Society enter the arena during the 1 p.m. Saturday grand entry.

Chief Luke Sprague and CMU President Dr. Neil MacKinnon were introduced and provided welcoming statements on Saturday afternoon.

MacKinnon acknowledged Kasey Perez, head of CMU's

Office of Indigenous Affairs, for her leadership, as well as her team of students and staff who volunteered in supporting this event.

After grand entry Saturday afternoon, three students were



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

The Native American Scholastic Award recipients (front, left to right): Kacie George, Shay Hale and Kwake Hale, are joined by family and friends in the arena for an honor song.

presented with The Native American Scholastic Awards. This year's recipients were Kacie George, Shay Hale and Kwake Hale.

Contests were held throughout the weekend, including: a drum contest, youth dance, teen dance, adult dance and golden age dance.

The annual event is hosted by CMU's Office of Indigenous Affairs, and organized by the student-run CMU Powwow Planning Committee. The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and North American Indigenous Student Organization (NAISO) partnered with CMU to make the event possible.

