

Mnidoo-Giizisoons
(Little Spirit Moon)

TRIBAL OBSERVER

DECEMBER 2026

Working Together For Our Future | www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver | Volume 37 | Issue 12





Fall two percent distribution
Page 6



SCTC award
Page 11

FEATURES

8 Entertainment
10 SCTC
12 Elders
14 Calendar
15 Classifieds

TRIBAL OPERATIONS AND RELATED OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED:

Thursday, Dec. 24, 2026 through Friday, Jan. 1, 2027

Excluding 24/7 departments

For more information, please see the following pages:

Tribal Operations: Page 3 | Behavioral Health: Page 5 | Nimkee Memorial Medical Center: Page 7

Saginaw Spirit Indigenous Culture Night recognizes Native American Heritage Month

ALICIA RAPHAEL
Leadership Apprentice, Public Relations

In celebration of Native American Heritage Month, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe partnered with the ice hockey team, Saginaw Spirit, for a special evening of cultural recognition, bringing Anishinaabe traditions, songs, and dance to the ice on Thursday, Nov. 12.

Prior to the game, attendees experience a cultural dance demonstration accompanied by the Blue House Singers on the drum. The demonstration showcased a variety of dance styles, including men's and women's fancy, men's and women's traditional, men's woodland, men's grass, and women's jingle.



Courtesy of Saginaw Spirit

Tribal community members provide a cultural dance demonstration during the Nov. 12 Saginaw Spirit hockey game in Saginaw, Mich.

Throughout the demonstration, emcee Jason Whitehouse provided educational and cultural teachings on each dance style; sharing their origins, history, cultural significance, etc. This provided an opportunity for attendees to not only witness the traditions, but also to learn about the importance behind them.

The evening also featured several special moments of Tribal representation. Councilman Brad Bennett participated in the first puck drop, while members of the Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veterans Warriors Society were present to honor the flags during the pregame ceremonies.

Adding to the celebration, youth tribal members, Pax Owl and Miss Wii Maajiikwad - Joey Jimenez was recognized through the Saginaw Spirit's "Kid of the Game" experience, which included a fun ride on the Zamboni machine used to clean and smooth the ice.

The celebration continued during the first intermission, when the Blue House Singers returned to share another performance, this time featuring the hand drum.



Courtesy of Saginaw Spirit

Hand drummers provide the audience with a cultural song.



Courtesy of Saginaw Spirit

The Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veterans Warriors Society honor the flags during the pregame ceremonies.

Through opportunities such as this, SCIT continues to promote cultural awareness while celebrating the traditions that have been passed down through generations.



Courtesy of Saginaw Spirit

Miss Wii Maajiikwad Joey Jimenez is recognized during the "Kid of the Game" experience and rides on the Zamboni machine.

Chief Sprague receives the Mid Michigan 40 Under 40 award

Congratulations to Chief Luke Sprague for receiving the Mid Michigan 40 Under 40 award from the Middle Michigan Development Corporation and Greater Gratiot Development Inc. The award recognizes emerging leaders from local communities who are under the age of 40 years old.

"The initiative celebrates and recognizes young professionals who work in the communities of Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Isabella, and Osceola counties, and have demonstrated remarkable achievements and contributions" (epicentermt-pleasant.com).



Courtesy photo

The 2026 awards were held on Nov. 12 at the Mid Michigan Emerging Leaders Gala on Central Michigan University's campus.

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

Winona Jean "Wassenangoshka Anang Kwe" Hancock

March 3, 1931 – Nov 17, 2026



Winona Jean "Wassenangoshka Anang Kwe" (Shining Brightly Star Woman) Hancock, age 95, of Fenton, Mich. walked on peacefully at home with family on Nov. 17, 2026.

Winona was born on March 3, 1931 in Wahpeton, N.D. to Louis Henry and Emma (Gardner) Henry. Her father was Saginaw Chippewa of Michigan and her mother was Choctaw of Oklahoma. Both of her parents attended mandatory government Indian boarding schools in their home states and then met when they both attended Haskell Indian School in Kansas.

Winona was born while her parents were traveling around the country with her dad's Indian band. She was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe of Michigan.

Winona attended Flint Technical School and graduated from Central High School where she played the clarinet in the marching band. She then worked at AC and met Wayne, the love of her life.

Winona married Wayne D. Hancock on Nov. 4, 1950. They had four children, built their home on Lake Fenton, side by side, and spent almost 43 years together before Wayne passed away in 1993. She felt very blessed to live her life in the home they built together.

She enjoyed tending her flowers, traveling on tribal elder trips and going to powwow. She loved spending time with her family above all else. She will be greatly missed.

She is survived by their children, Karen (Greg) Gibson, Kathy (Jack) Shanks, Kevin (Denise) Hancock, and Kay (Glenn) Wert, eight grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild

Interment of Winona and Wayne Hancock at Great Lakes National Cemetery.

Dr. Benjamin Ramirez-Shkwegnaabi

June 25, 1950 – November 15, 2026



Dr. Benjamin Ramirez-Shkwegnaabi, age 76, emeritus professor (Central Michigan University), Mount Pleasant, Mich., passed peacefully in his sleep on Nov. 15, 2026.

He earned his BS and MA at the University of Michigan (Go Blue!), and MS and Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He lived with a passion for teaching and spreading knowledge about the Ojibwe language and Native American history and culture. He was also an Army veteran from 1969 to 1972.

Ben was proud of his Ojibwe heritage and spiritual practices. He was also a practitioner and teacher of Kri Yoga. He loved music and played the guitar and other instruments.

He was known and loved for his humor, infectious smile, and charismatic personality. From the Mexican restaurant to the grocery store, he was a friend to all. Ben was a proud and doting grandfather.

He was survived by his wife, Dr. Susan A. Schiller, his brother Daniel Ramirez and husband Jerome DuPont, his five children: Maryann (Mike), Ben W (Injeong), Alicia (Sam), Aric (Gillian), and Nikki (Luke), and his nine grandchildren: Autumn, Tommy, Roz, Huck, Summer, River, Zabriella, Dean, and Sage. The mother of his children, Marilyn, and sisters-in-law Deb, Marsha, Valorie, and Dr. Ann Connaghan, his chosen sister.

He was preceded in death by his brothers Paul, Steven, Wayne, and Mike, and his late wife, Carol.

He will live with great love in all hearts who knew and loved him. As he would say when departing from someone: "Baamaapii, nahaw".

Cremation has taken place, and there are no services planned at this time.



Love, Mom & Dad, Aunties and all ur Sisters & Brothers

Active Native Youth



Deadline: Dec. 14, 2026

Send in one photo of your Tribal Member, descendant student to be featured in the January 2027 issue of the Tribal Observer.

Email your photo and information to
Observer@sagchip.org

Please include the following:
• Name • School • Grade • Sports/activities

Tribal Member Loans HOLIDAY PAUSE

The last time to apply for a Tribal Member Loan in 2026 will be up until:
Thursday, Dec 17, 2026 at 3 p.m.

Checks should be ready for pick up on:
Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2026

Loans may be applied from:
Thursday, Dec. 17, 2026 after 3 p.m. until Thursday, Jan. 7, 2027 at 3 p.m.

Checks should be ready for pick up on:
Thursday, Jan. 14, 2027

No loan payments will be coming out for the month of December.

As a reminder: *No loans are guaranteed, and all guidelines must be followed for approvals.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
- **Email:** PerCapita@sagchip.org
- **Phone:** 989-775-4040

Attention Tribal Members: Notice of Public Hearing

TAKE NOTICE: There will be a public hearing held on Monday, Jan. 11, 2027 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 Matthew Felan, CEO 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, 2027 to Jan. 26, 2028, with hours of alcohol service consistent with Chapter 8.7 Liquor Control Act and the license issued by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.



NEW SCIT SECURE IDs
Starting: Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2026

IN OFFICE
- By appointment only, Monday-Friday.
- Must arrive 10 minutes prior to appointment for the verification process and completion of required intake form.
- Bring in Driver's License or State ID for consistency and comparability verification amongst different forms of IDs.

BY EMAIL
- **Email to:** enrollment@sagchip.org
- JPG format only, completed form, passport photo and picture of signature.
- Members 14 or older must provide a signature. Signature must be on plain white paper.
- Include a copy of your Driver's License or State ID, this is for consistency and comparability verification amongst different forms of IDs.

BY MAIL
- Mail back completed form, passport photo, your signature on plain white paper and a copy of your Driver's License or State Id (this is for consistency and comparability verification amongst different forms of IDs.)
- **Mail to:** Office of Tribal Clerk's, 7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

FORM MUST BE COMPLETELY FILLED OUT
- If you have an address change, you must also complete an Address Change Form to be submitted at the same time.
- In addition, if you wish to continue to be a Registered Voter, you must also fill out a Voter Registration Form.

ID FEES
- **First ID:** Free
- **Replacement IDs:** $25 fee
- **Address Change Replacement:** $25 fee if within a year of last card print, no fee if after one year of last card print.

All first time and replacement IDs will require a new photo and signature each time.

CONTACT: Tribal Clerk's Office at 989-775-4051

SCIT Powwow Committee Raffle

Drawing: Friday, Dec. 18, 2026
12 p.m. | Black Elk Building

Tickets: • One for $5 • Three for $10

TWO WINNERS:
- **First winner:** $400 Smith & Sons gift card and $300 Walmart gift card
- **Second winner:** $300 gas card and electric shovel

Please contact Powwow Committee members for tickets: Darcy Pilar, Elizabeth Chivis, Carla Bennett, Dabian Sprague, Seryna Acuna, Niibin Sprague, Elizabeth Smith, Naomi McCormack or Noelle Wells.

**All proceeds will benefit the Saginaw Chippewa and Saganing Powwows*

Contact: PowwowCommittee@sagchip.org

Helping Hands FUNDRAISER

Show your support for Wii Maajiikwad!

Purchase a hand cutout in December. hand cutouts will be proudly displayed inside the main lobby.

Sales end: Dec. 30, 2026

Purchase at: Wii Maajiikwad Front Office
2875 Gikendasso Way, Mt. Pleasant MI 48858

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

Two available sizes:
- **Small hand: $1**
- **Large hand: $10**

- Cash only
- Write your sponsors name and submit to the front office.

Contact: ADudek@sagchip.org or 989-775-4453

Public Notices



Attention Tribal Members

Tribal Council Regular Session Meetings

are held at 9 a.m.

Regular Tribal Council Sessions

- First Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m.
- Inside the Council chambers of the Black Elk Government Complex

- Meetings are open to Tribal Members
- Anyone wanting to be added can call 989-775-4004

Regular Council Session Dates

• Dec. 1 • Jan. 5 • Feb. 3

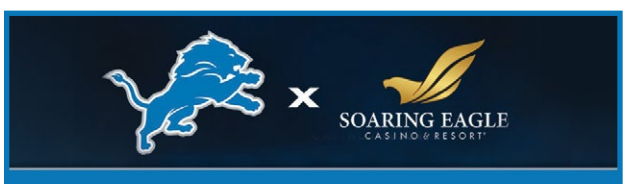
SCIT BURIAL BENEFIT

Eligibility: All SCIT Members

Process: The personal representative and/or the heirs of the deceased tribal member shall be responsible for promptly notifying the Tribe of the member's death by contacting the Tribal Clerk's Office at 989.775.4051

After initial contact with the Clerk's Office, a burial packet will be available for pick up or overnight mail for those residing outside Isabella County.

For more information regarding the breakdown of the Burial Assistant Program, please contact:
Tribal Clerk's office at 989-775-4051



SCIT TRIBAL MEMBER

DETROIT LIONS TICKETS GIVEAWAY

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

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

- **Sunday, Dec. 13** vs. Tennessee Titans
- **Monday, Dec. 28** vs. New York Giants

TO ENTER:

- **Visit:** https://www.sagchip.org/start.aspx
- **Or Scan the QR Code ➔**
  - Log in to the Tribal Members Only section.
  - If you don't already have an account, follow the prompts to create one to access the registration form.

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

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

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

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

TRIBAL OPERATIONS

Holiday & Administrative Closures

TRIBAL OPERATIONS WILL BE CLOSED:

Thursday, Dec. 24, 2026 – Friday, Jan. 1, 2027

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

- **ACFS |** Closed, on-call worker: ***989-775-4700***
- **Andahwod |** Administrative and Elder Services available hours:
  - Monday, Dec. 28 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
  - Tuesday, Dec. 29 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
  - Wednesday, Dec. 30 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- **Behavioral Health Outpatient |** Closed, on-call therapists: ***989-775-4850***
- **Behavioral Health RTC |** Open. ***989-775-4850***
- **Education |** Wii Maajiikwad front office, Higher Education office and Project AWARE office open Dec. 21-23, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. On call: ***989-774-4504.***
- **Facilities |** Coverage every other day.
- **Fire Department |** Open 24/7, fully staffed. ***989-775-4866***
- **Gaming Commission |** Compliance offices located at SECR & SELC will be available 24/7. All Gaming Commissioners will be on call at all times.
- **Housing |** Closed, emergency: ***989-621-2669***
- **Human Resources |** Closed, open for limited hours below on Dec 28, 29 & 30:
  - **SECR office:** 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
  - **SELC office:** 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
  - **Mail Room:** 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
  - **Risk Management:** 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- **Information Technology |** Open, with regular coverage.
- **Licensing and Regulations |** Closed, on call: ***989-775-4175***
- **Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center**
  - **Dental:** Open 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Dec. 28, 29 & 30. For emergency dental appointment scheduling, text ***989-444-5868*** (include first, last name).
  - **Pharmacy:** Open 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. on Dec. 28, 29 & 30.
  - **Nimkee Medical Provider:** On call 24/7 at ***989-317-2088***
  - **Public Health:** Open by appointment only
  - **Urgent Care:** If you go to urgent care during the closure, please call the PRC Hotline at ***989-775-4633***.
- **Nimkee Fitness Center |** Open 24/7, access with employee badge or key fob.
- **Per Capita |** Closed, staff available: ***PerCapita@sagchip.org***
- **Police Department |** Open 24/7. Dispatch available at: ***989-775-4700***
- **Public Works |** Emergency: ***989-450-4725***
- **Recreation |** Closed, after school programming and other program to resume on Monday, Jan. 4.
- **Seventh Generation |** Closed, staff on call: ***989-621-0887 or 989-621-9375***
- **Tribal Clerk/Enrollment |** Closed, for burial assistance: ***989-775-4072***
- **Tribal Court |** Closed, staff on call: ***989-775-4801***

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



This challenge is for diabetes patients at Nimkee Clinic and for any SCIT tribal members interested in joining!

Dec. 1, 2026 to Feb. 26, 2027

Participants must:

- Meet Seth Pifer, fitness coordinator, to have a personalized training program made.
- Workout either on their own or schedule a coaching session at least two times per week.
- Schedule and attend one coaching check-in per month.
- Must complete the entire length of challenge to be eligible for prizes.

Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center

Prizes may include: NF shaker cup, spa package, resistance band set, and Pendleton blanket

Contact: SPifer@sagchip.org or 989.775.4694



TOY DRIVE

Part of the Law Enforcement Challenge, help the Tribal Police Department bring home the win again this year!

Collection open now, and will end mid-December.

Drop off new, unwrapped toy donations.

Collection box locations:

- Tribal Police & Tribal Court lobbies (available 24/7)
- Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Employee break rooms
- More locations to come!

Contact: Tribal Dispatch at 989.775.4700

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*

The Seven Grandfather TEACHINGS

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

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

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

Zoongide'ewin – Bravery
To be brave and have courage is to recognize our moral and mental strength and to do what is appropriate.

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

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

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



ZIIBIWING CENTER

HOLIDAY Sale

PRICES —AS— MARKED

Wapiti Jewelry 20% OFF (silver and strung gems)

Open to the public:
Nov. 9 - Dec. 18, 2026

Ziibiwing Gift Shop hours:
Monday through Friday
9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

- 20 percent off Wapiti Jewelry (silver and strung gems)
- Hero Access Cards: Additional 25 percent off
- No additional discount on sale items
- Select items will be on sale

Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways

The Midwest's Premier American Indian Museum
6650 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant MI 48858
989.775.4750 | **www.sagchip.org/Ziibiwing**



39th Annual Freedom Walk ART DESIGN Contest

Contest will end:
Saturday, May 1, 2027 at 5 p.m.

Winner will receive: A $75 gift card to Nbakade Family Restaurant

Contest rules:

- Artists can submit art that signifies freedom, sobriety and recovery to them.
- **The design must include the following text:** "39th Annual Freedom Walk 2027"
- **Max of five colors only:** This includes black and white.
- **Solid colors only:** Any shading, shadows or textures will not be used.
- Hand drawn, painted or digital art is acceptable.
- Submit a high resolution scanned copy, NO PHOTOS.
- Also submit a short description of the artwork.

Behavioral Health Programs Nog-da-win-da-meg

Submit artwork to: Prevention@sagchip.org
Contact: Prevention@sagchip.org or 989-775-4824



BE ENTERED TO WIN PRIZES! Just for showing up for your appointments.

NIMKEE DENTAL Prize Giveaway

For all patients that show up to their appointments.

PRIZES DRAWN EACH QUARTER:

(3x) Oral B iO Electric Toothbrush Kits with two refill brush heads

(1x) Waterpik ION Professional Cordless Water Flosser for each quarter

Four winners drawn every quarter
- The first entry period will go from October to December.
- Winners will be notified by phone.
- One entry per quarter, per person.

Drawing: Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2026

How to enter:
- All patients have to do is show up to their dentist or cleaning appointment.
- Patients will have their name removed from the drawing if they fail to show up to any appointment in the quarter.

Appointment cancellations:
Any appointment can be canceled within 10 minutes of the appointment, just call or text 989-775-4657 to let us know.

Contact: SZondlak@sagchip.org or 989-775-4611

Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center



ACFS - Foster Care Program

Christmas BAZAAR

Sunday, Dec. 13, 2026

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Set up begins at 8 a.m.

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Ballroom
6800 E. Soaring Eagle Blvd.

- **Vendors:** 8'x6' space is available for $50 and includes two 6-foot tables and two chairs, if needed.
- All proceeds benefit ACFS Foster Care Program

Anishnaabeg Child & Family Services

For more information, or to purchase a vendor space, please contact:
ACFS at 989-491-1503

TRIBAL OBSERVER

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

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

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

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

Subscription rates are $30 per year.

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

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

Tribal Observer Advertising

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

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

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

Tribal Observer Subscription Form

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please mail form to:
Tribal Observer
7500 Soaring Eagle Blvd.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Contact Information:
- **Phone:** 989-775-4096
- **Email:** Observer@Sagchip.org

www.Sagchip.org/TribalObserver

Public Notices

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
Holiday closure resources

Behavioral Health (except RTC) will be closed:
Dec. 24, 2026 – Jan. 3, 2027, reopening on Jan. 4, 2027 at 8 a.m.

Crisis on-call

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

Support groups at Behavioral Health will continue with their normal schedule over the holiday closure:

- **Drop-in group:** Mondays at 1 p.m.
- **Peer 360 Recovery on the Rez:** Thursdays at 6 p.m.
- **Peer 360 Fireside on the Rez:** Fridays at 11:30 a.m.
- **Peer 360 Fireside on the Rez:** Saturdays at 6 p.m.

Scan the green QR code to visit the Behavioral Health website.

Additional 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:** 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

Virtual Peer 360 meetings include:

- **Peer 360 Recovery on the Rez virtual group:** Tuesdays at 2 p.m.
  Meeting ID: 829 1218 8791
  Password: 123456
- **Daily virtual groups** *(four times per day)*
  Password for all groups: 123456
  - 9 a.m. **Meeting ID:** 856 4133 4708
  - 12 p.m. **Meeting ID:** 842 3325 5388
  - 6 p.m. **Meeting ID:** 842 3325 5388
  - 9 p.m. **Meeting ID:** 856 4133 4708

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 to the left.

---

give kids a smile!®
ADA American Dental Association®

Monday, Feb. 18, 2027
8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. | Nimkee Dental Clinic
(2591 S. Leaton Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858)

- Open to children, under the age of 18, who are eligible to be seen at the Nimkee Dental Clinic.
- Kids may receive a dental exam, X-rays, sealants, fluoride treatment and/or fillings based on individual need and time available.
- A goodie bag for all participants!
- Make appiontments any time up to, and including on event day (8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

Appointments must be made by calling: 989-775-4657

NIMKEE MEMORIAL WELLNESS CENTER
2591 S. Leaton Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Dental Clinic reminder:
APPOINTMENTS FOR MINORS

All patients age 18 and under must be accompanied in the building by a parent or legal guardian to be seen for their dental appointment.

- If someone else such as a grandparent, aunt, uncle, older sibling, or family friend will be bringing your child, a parent or legal guardian must complete an authorization form in advance.
- Once signed, this form remains valid for one year.

Contact the Dental Clinic at 989-775-4657 for more information or stop in to pick up a form.



2027 SAGINAW CHIPPEWA ROUND DANCE

Saturday, March 13, 2027
Wii Maajiikwad Tribal School
2875 Gikendasso Way, Mt. Pleasant MI 48858
Doors open: 5:30 p.m.

SEEKING DONATIONS
FROM THE COMMUNITY

Items can be dropped off at:
Wii Maajiikwad Tribal School
2875 Gikendasso Way, Mt. Pleasant MI 48858

Now until March 9, 2027
Hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday- Friday

- Please attach a name to the donated item so we know who to thank!

Donations can be picked up, please call: 989.775.4453

Donation examples include:

- Ribbon skirts
- Beaded items
- Gift cards
- Swag bags
- Play sets (toys)
- Lanyards
- Gas cards
- Merchandise baskets

**Anything that you think would make a great gift is appreciated!*

All donations will be used as gifts, spot dance and raffle prizes

Contact: CSharp@sagchip.org or 989-775-4453



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

Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Ziibiwing Center.

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

Well & Septic PROGRAM

Free to tribal members who reside within the IHS service area: Isabella, Clare, Midland, Arenac, Missaukee counties

If you are experiencing problems with your well or septic, please contact the Planning Department.
**You must own your home.*

To make an appointment, please contact:
Planning Department at 989-775-4014.



New youth position:
CO-OP YOUTH WORKER

The co-op youth worker position is designed to provide a SCIT 11th and 12th grader with valuable work/school experience. This experience will introduce youth to the workplace, imparting them with valuable employment skills connected to their studies.

It is a unique opportunity for tribal youth to earn income while earning real high school credits through actual workplace experiences within a Tribal Operations department. This opportunity will assist youth in identifying individual potential career paths and opportunities of interest within the Tribe, as well as gain self-confidence, career awareness, financial literacy, and interpersonal competencies needed to succeed in high school, higher education, and workplace environments.

Minimum qualifications:

- Youth enrolled in school in 11th or 12th grade.
- Must be a SCIT tribal member.
- Must be eligible to earn high school credits.
- Must provide a letter from high school counselor or advisor recommending participation and placement.
- Must obtain work permit from high school, which is accredited by the state of Michigan.

If interested, apply online at:
www.sagchip.org/careers/

Or scan QR code ▸

OPEN UNTIL FILLED

Contact: KMandoka@sagchip.org or 989775-5247

SCIT distributes $3.5 million during Fall 2026 2 percent distribution

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPT.

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe hosted its semi-annual 2 percent distribution on Thursday, Nov. 19, in Isabella County, and on Friday, Nov. 20, in Arenac County for the Fall 2026 distribution.

The SCIT dispersed funds, to qualifying local units of government and public schools, derived from Class III gaming at its properties: Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort and Saganing Eagles Landing Casino & Hotel.

Since 1994, the Tribe has shared an excess of $300 million supporting many important projects throughout the region.

The SCIT distributed a combined $3,504,160.96 during this distribution.

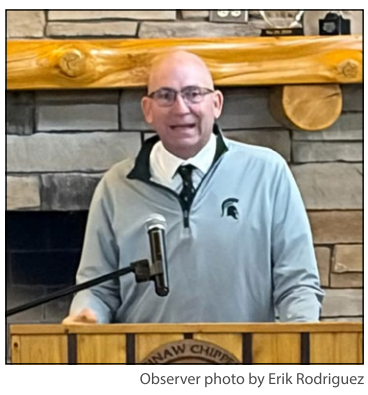
Local government officials in Isabella County accepted grants totaling $1,414,516.82 at the 10 a.m. distribution held in the Black Elk Building. The educational leaders in Isabella County received an additional $943,011.22.

On Nov. 20, $687,979.75 was distributed in Arenac County to local units of government, with the local school districts receiving $458,653.17. This distribution was held at 2 p.m. in the Saganing Tribal Center.



Observer photo by Sandy McCreery

Chief Luke Sprague provides opening comments during the Isabella County 2 percent held on Thursday, Nov. 19 in the Black Elk Building.



Observer photo by Erik Rodriguez

Andy Kowalczyk, superintendent for Pinconning Area Schools, speaks during the Saganing 2 percent, held on Friday, Nov. 20 in the Tribal Center in Standish, Mich.

Please see the breakdown of all amounts on the accompanying tables to the right.



Observer photo by Erik Rodriguez

Darren Kroczaleski (center, at podium), superintendent for Standish-Sterling Community Schools

Saganing Government

- Arenac Township **$7,718**
- Au Gres Sims Whitney Fire Authority **$21,726.34**
- Au Gres Township **$17,800**
- City of Au Gres **$16,265**
- City of Omer **$7,899**
- City of Pinconning **$20,000**
- City of Standish **$9,500**
- County of Arenac **$140,000**
- Deep River Township **$22,693**
- Lincoln Township **$50,000**
- Mason Township **$24,000**
- Pinconning Fraser Fire Dept. **$60,000**
- Pinconning Township **$19,986.97**
- Standish Area Fire Authority **$50,000**
- Standish Township **$45,816.44**
- Twining/Mason/Turner Fire Dept **100,000**
- Village of Twining **$62,500**
- Whitney Township **$12,075**

Total Government: $687,979.75

Saganing Education

- Au Gres-Sims School District **$108,281.59**
- Pinconning Area Schools **$145,904.38**
- Standish-Sterling Community Schools **$204,467.20**

Total Education: $458,653.17

Saganing Total: $1,146,632.92

Isabella Government

- Chippewa Township **$34,950**
- City of Mt. Pleasant **$459,800**
- Deerfield Township **$73,026.76**
- Denver Township **$25,000**
- Isabella County **$310,036.02**
- Isabella Township **$95,000**
- Nottawa Township **$43,865.80**
- Union Township **$75,000**
- Village of Shepherd **$106,551.84**
- Wise Township **$191,286.40**

Total Government: $1,414,516.82

Isabella Education

- Beal City Public Schools **$121,420.27**
- Chippewa Hills Public Schools **$53,000**
- Gratiot/Isabella RESD **$70,000**
- Mt. Pleasant Public Schools **$347,600.23**
- Renaissance Public School Academy **$125,600**
- Shepherd Public Schools **$225,390.72**

Total Education: $943,011.22

Isabella Total: $2,357,528.04

Grand Total: $3,504,160.96

New tribal police officer sworn in Nov. 23



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Officer Darin Doucette (left) has been appointed as police officer for the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Department. He was sworn into duty on Monday, Nov. 23 by Chief Luke Sprague (right), with Tribal Council members present, at 8:30 a.m. in Council chambers.

Soaring Eagle team members recognized during annual banquet held last month

KELLY BRYANT

Executive Assistant to the CEO, Casino Administration

Congratulations to the big winners of the 17th annual Star of Excellence Team Member of the Year that took place Nov. 12 in the Entertainment Hall!

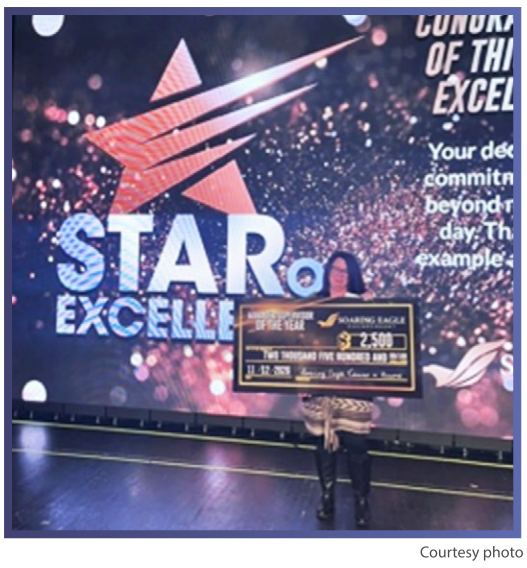
Thank you to the Food & Beverage team for the room set up and providing a great meal. A big shout out to Shannon Prill and Shad Snowden.

Thank you to Raul Venegas and Tanya Bardy for helping me emcee the event. Also, thank you to those Tribal Council members that were able to attend. Without the assistance of all our amazing teams, this event would not have been possible!

Star of Excellence winners:

- **Team Member of the Year:** Allen Wittbrodt, slot attendant - $2,500
- **Manager/Supervisor of the Year:** Kimberly Kitts, hotel housekeeping manager - $2,500
- **Team Member of the Year runner-up:** Jesse Brennen, security - $1,000
- **Manager/Supervisor of the Year runner-up:** Steven Murray, food & beverage manager - $1,000

SOARING EAGLE CASINO & RESORT®



Courtesy photo

Manager/Supervisor of the Year: Kimberly Kitts, hotel housekeeping manager



Courtesy photo

Team Member of the Year: Allen Wittbrodt, slot attendant

Nimkee welcomes three new healthcare providers in December

(Editor's note: The following was provided by Jacquiline Bae, Health & Human Services administrator. The Nimkee Clinic is taking new appointments for all three providers.)



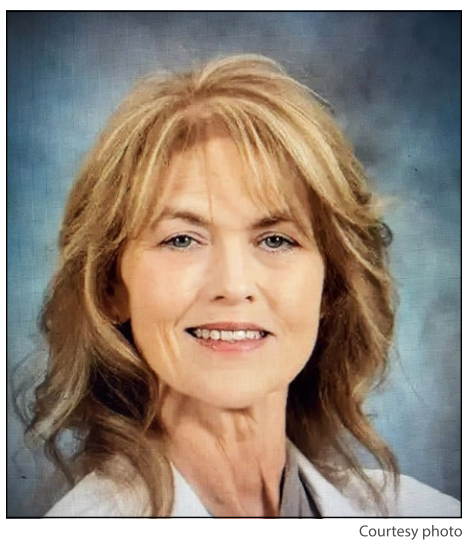
Courtesy photo

Dr. Abulseoud (Dr. Ab)



Courtesy photo

Dr. Selina Akbar



Courtesy photo

Angela Asa, PA-C

Welcome Dr. Abulseoud ("Dr. Ab") to the Nimkee Dental Team!

We are thrilled to announce that Dr. Abulseoud – who goes by Dr. Ab – will be joining the Nimkee Dental Team this month.

Dr. Ab earned his Doctor of Dental Medicine from the Rutgers School of Dental Medicine, following a Bachelor of Science in dentistry from The British University in Egypt, Faculty of Dentistry.

While at Rutgers, he was deeply involved in academic leadership and research, serving as a member of the RSDM Honor Council and working as a research assistant in the Department of Periodontics. In recognition of his dedication, he received the RSDM Leadership and Service Award.

Following dental school, Dr. Ab completed a residency at Stony Brook University Hospital, where he gained broad experience in restorative care, dentures, implants, and oral surgery. He is also skilled in treating patients with special needs, planning full-mouth care, and handling urgent dental emergencies in the hospital. Outside the clinic, he volunteered on a mobile dental van to provide basic dental care for schoolchildren and adults in homeless shelters.

Dr. Ab's diverse clinical background, leadership, and passion for accessible patient care make him a wonderful addition to our clinic. Please join us in giving him a warm welcome.

Welcome Dr. Selina Akbar to the Nimkee Medical Team!

Dr. Selina Akbar brings more than 37 years of experience of internal medicine practice to Nimkee Medical.

Dr. Akbar's recent affiliation with McLaren Bay Region has allowed her to see patients throughout mid-Michigan.

Dr. Akbar completed her medical degree at Sylhet M A G Osmani Medical College in 1989 and finished her residency at Wayne State University.

Welcome Angela Asa, PA-C to the Nimkee Medical Team!

"Dedicated to empowering, encouraging, and equipping patients to live their best lives."

Asa offers 18 years of clinical experience in primary care with an empathetic approach to managing chronic conditions, promoting wellness, and helping individuals achieve long-term health goals.

HOLIDAY HOURS:

Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center

WILL BE CLOSED:
DEC. 24, 2026 - JAN. 3, 2027

- **Nimkee Medical Provider:** On call 24/7 at 989-317-2088
  - Dec. 24, 2026 - Jan. 3, 2027
- **Nimkee Pharmacy:** Open for limited hours:
  - **Monday, Dec. 28, 2026:** 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
  - **Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2026:** 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
  - **Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2026:** 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- **Nimkee Dental:** For emergency appointment scheduling text 989-444-5868 (include first, last name)
  - **Monday, Dec. 28, 2026:** 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
  - **Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2026:** 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
  - **Wednesday, Dec. 30, 2026:** 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- **Public Health:** By appointment only
- **Nimkee Fitness Center:** Open 24/7
  - ** With employee badge or key fob access*
- **Urgent Care:** If you go to urgent care during the closure, please call the **PRC Hotline at 989-775-4633.**

TELEDOC IS AVAILABLE

General medicine only: Free for UMR-registered patients, scan the QR code above to download the app. **Teledoc prescriptions:** Nimkee patients can fill Teladoc prescriptions during open clinic hours at Nimkee Pharmacy.

If a patient requires medication when the Pharmacy is closed, Meijer Pharmacy is free of charge for eligible patients (patient must let Meijer pharmacy know they are a Nimkee patient) or a pharmacy of their choice can be used, patient will be responsible for the co-pay.

Local urgent care and emergency room information

- **MyMichigan: Emergency room**
  - 4851 E. Pickard St. Ste. 1000
  - 989-956-9069
  - Open 24 hours
- **MyMichigan: Medical Center**
  - 4851 E. Pickard St.
  - 989-775-1600
  - Open 24 hours
- **McLaren Central Michigan: Emergency room**
  - 1221 South Dr.
  - 800-671-1453
  - Open 24 hours
- **McLaren Central Michigan Emergency care service**
  - 1221 South Dr
  - 989-772-6777
- **McLaren Central Michigan: Emergency room**
  - 1221 South Dr.
  - 800-671-1453
  - Closes 4:30 PM
- **McLaren Central Michigan: Emergency medicine specialists Emergency care service**
  - 1523 S Mission St.
  - 989-773-1166
  - Closes 7 PM
- **Isabella Urgent Care Urgent care center**
  - 4950 E Blue Grass Rd
  - 989-317-0565
  - Closes 6 PM

Editorial: Let me introduce myself as the new wellness coordinator

MARY MOSES
Wellness Coordinator



Courtesy photo

Mary Moses

Boozhoo, I am deeply honored and excited to introduce myself as your new wellness coordinator. Step by step, my heart and dedication are fully committed to walking alongside our community, supporting one another, and fostering an environment where health, culture, and happiness thrive together.

Education has always been a powerful foundation for my journey in community connection and communication. I hold a Bachelor of Arts degree in creative writing and English, complemented by an earned concentration in psychology. To further deepen my ability to connect, teach, and guide others, I went on to earn a Master of Fine Arts in creative writing with a concentration in pedagogy.

These academic experiences have taught me the profound value of listening deeply, sharing stories, and designing supportive spaces for learning, healing, and growth.

I am also a published author of two books: My first book, "Whispers of a Small Town," and my second book, "Whispers Spoken," which was published through the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Libraries' program, Giin ina owe gimazina'igan? (Is this your book?).

Outside of my work with the Tribe, my world is centered around my wonderful family. I am blessed to share my life with my supportive husband, Johnny, and our two bright, energetic little ones, Finnegan and River Moon. They are my daily inspiration, reminding me why building a healthy, vibrant, and connected community for our future generations matters so deeply.

As I step into this role, my primary personal and professional goals are centered around bridging wellness across our Tribal community, our rich traditions, and our team members. Wellness is holistic – encompassing our physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing.

I am here to help, support, and work hand-in-hand with you to find meaningful ways to ensure that everyone in our community can lead a happy and healthy life.

Please feel free to reach out, say hello, or share your thoughts as we embark on this wellness journey together. Let's move together, learn together, and grow together! Miigwech!

American rock band Chicago makes their return to Soaring Eagle

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Tribal elders Bernie and Bonnie Sprague (third and fourth from front left) enjoy a backstage moment with American rock band Chicago, before the Nov. 18 concert at Soaring Eagle.

American rock band Chicago made their return to the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, once more showcasing their tight horn section and rhythm arrangements. The Wednesday, Nov. 18 show began at 8 p.m., and Chicago performed a 90-minute set.

Chicago's music consists of blends of rock, jazz fusion and R&B with horn arrangements.

Chicago came on stage with horns blazing and funky grooves as they launched right into "Introduction," "Old Days" and "Leave Me Now."

One of the longest-running and best-selling music groups of all time, Chicago formed in the city they were named after, in 1967.

Current members include: Robert Lamm (keyboard/vocals/remains founding member but on hiatus from touring due to health concerns), Lee Loughnane (trumpet/flugelhorn/vocals/founding member), James Pankow (trombone/horn arranger/founding member but on hiatus from touring due to health concerns), Ray Herrmann (saxophones/flute/clarinet), Walfredo Reyes Jr. (drums), Ramon "Ray" Yslas (percussion), Tony Obrohta (guitar), Eric Baines (bass, vocals), Carlos Murguia (keys, vocals), Justin Avery (keys, vocals), Rudy Cardenas (lead vocals), and Nick Lane (trombone).

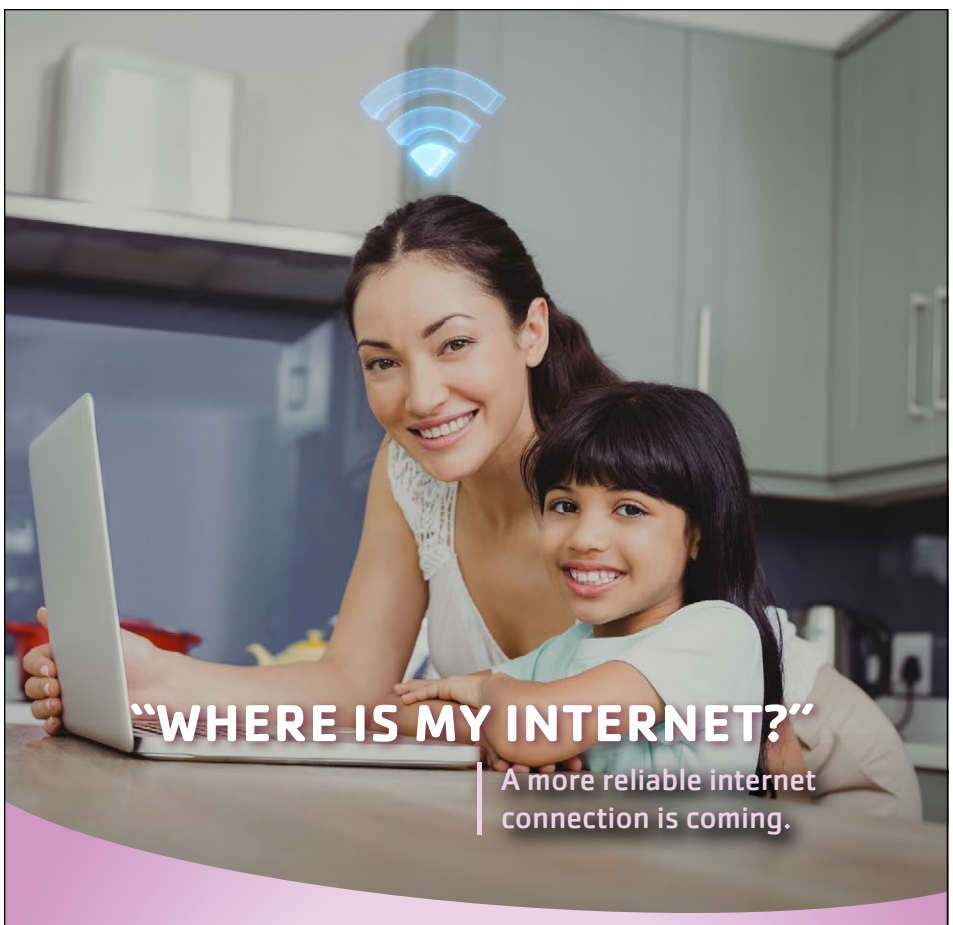
Chicago continued showcasing their talent with performances of "Ballet for a Girl in Buchannon," "Does Anybody Really Know What Time It Is?," "Hard Habit to Break," "You're the Inspiration," "Beginnings" and Jackie Wilson's "(Your Love Keeps Lifting Me) Higher and Higher."

According to the band's website, Chicago has recorded 38 albums, sold over 100 million records.

The funky music continued with "Just You 'n' Me," "Hard to Say I'm Sorry" and "Get Away," "Saturday in the Park" and "Feelin' Stronger Every Day."

The audience was on their feet for the encore, which included "Free" and "25 or 6 to 4."





SOON, NEARLY EVERYONE IN MICHIGAN WILL HAVE ACCESS TO HIGH-SPEED INTERNET.

Thanks to the largest federally funded internet expansion in Michigan's history, affordable and reliable internet is on its way. So, you can chase knowledge instead of signals. And have the technology to build a better future.

To learn more and view our MI Broadband map, visit Michigan.gov/**WhereIsMyInternet**

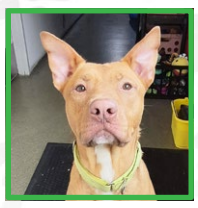
MI Connected FUTURE

Adopt a Pet



Nat

Nat is a medium female Domestic Shorthair mix. This playful girl is always up for a game of "chase the ball" or a friendly wrestling match. Nat is also a total cuddle bug. Once playtime is over, she's happiest soaking up all the love and attention. She has the perfect combination of playful energy and snuggle-loving sweetness.



Tony

Tony is a young male mixed breed. Tony is a sweet, goofy guy. He loves his fellow canines. He is still polishing up on his manners and would benefit from training classes. He can be playfully "mouthy," so HATS recommends a home with kids aged 12 or older, and a patient, dog-experienced home. He is funny, playful and full of personality!

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**



World-renowned saxophonist Kenny G brings his smooth, relaxing melodies to SECR

MATTHEW WRIGHT
Staff Writer

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort welcomed world-renowned saxophonist Kenny G on Friday, Nov. 13.

Kenny G is the greatest selling modern instrumental musician. His 50-year career includes more than 75 million record sales and a Grammy Award.

The musician enthralled audience members with his smooth, relaxing melodies. He was joined on stage by a full band.

The show began with Kenny G amongst the crowd performing "Loving You." Towards the end of the song, he showcased his superhuman lung capacity with an impressively long extended note. He held the note for several minutes as he walked through the audience and eventually returned to the stage.

The concert featured a full set of his most popular songs including, "Silhouette," "Sentimental," Forever in Love," "Going Home," and "Songbird."



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Kenny G plays his soprano saxophone during the Friday, Nov. 13 concert at the Soarng Eagle Casino & Resort.

Throughout the night, Kenny G engaged in playful banter and warm humor with the audience. He even paused the music to give away one of his saxophones to one lucky audience member.

To end the night, Kenny G performed an instrumental rendition of Céline Dion's "My Heart Will Go On."

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



Courtesy photo

No filter, no apologies: Comedian Matt Mathews delivers a hilarious night at Soaring Eagle

MATTHEW WRIGHT
Staff Writer

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort hosted comedian Matt Mathews for a comedy doubleheader on Saturday, Oct. 24. The comedian performed two shows – the first starting at 8 p.m., the second at 10:30 p.m.

His on-stage antics led to lots of laughter, with his outrageous stories and unfiltered edgy humor. He wasn't afraid to talk about awkward, inappropriate or embarrassing subjects.

Mathew's spontaneous conversations with audience members were a highlight of the night. His quick-witted improvisation skills were on full display, as he often roasted audience members playfully.

Opening for both shows was comedian Eunice Elliot.



SAGINAW CHIPPEWA TRIBAL COLLEGE
2027 SPRING SEMESTER CLASSES

SPRING 2027 REGISTRATION OPEN UNTIL JAN. 8, 2027

Delivery	Code	S	Course Title	CR	Day	Room	Time	Instructor
F2F	AIS 103	1	Survey of Anishinaabe and Indigenous Studies	3	T/R	214	9:00a-10:20a	Haviland
F2F	AIS 204	1	History of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe	3	T/R	214	10:30a-11:50a	Peters
F2F	AIS 242	1	Topics In Native American Literature	3	R	214	5:30p-8:20p	Gonzalez
O-A	AIS 252	1	Anishinaabe Art		ONLINE			Jackson-King
F2F	AIS 260	1	Anishinaabe History: 1600 - Present	3	W	214	5:30p-8:20p	Haviland
F2F	AIS 261	1	Survery of Native American History	3	M/W	214	1:30p-2:50p	Peters
F2F	AIS 262	1	Contemporary Native American Issues	3	T/R	214	1:30p-2:50p	Peters
O-A	AIS 264	1	Globalization and its Effects upon Indigenous Peoples	3	ONLINE			Haviland
F2F	AIS 265	1	Indigenous Storytelling	3	M	214	1:30p-4:20p	Gonzalez
F2F	AIS 266	1	Herbal Medicines	3	T/R	245	10:30a-11:50a	Kostus
O-A	ACC 216*	1	Managerial Accounting	3	ONLINE			Long
F2F	ART 120$	1	Painting I	3	W	245	5:30p-8:20p	Shea
F2F	ART 111$	1	Beadwork I	3	T	245	5:30p-8:20p	Ricketts
F2F	ART 211$*	1	Beadwork II	3	R	245	5:30p-8:20p	Ricketts
F2F	AST 120	1	Archeoastronomy	3	M/W	235	10:30a-11:50a	Miller
O-A	BIO 105*	1	Introduction to Biology	3	Online Lecture			Abbas
F2F	BIO 105A$*	1	Introduction to Biology Lab	2	T	232	3:30p-5:20p	Abbas
O-A	BUS 110	1	Introduction to Business	3	ONLINE			Fowler
F2F	BUS 150	1	Business Law	3	T/R	313	5:30p-6:50p	Antrobius
F2F	BUS 170	1	Principles of Management	3	T/R	249	10:00a-11:20a	Fowler
F2F	BUS 200	1	Principles of Marketing	3	M/W	249	5:30p-6:50p	Wagner
F2F	BUS 201	1	Personal Finance	3	M/W	249	10:00a-11:20a	Fowler
F2F	BUS 215*	1	Business Communication	3	T/R	249	1:30p-2:50p	Fowler
F2F	CHM 105*	1	Introduction to Chemistry	3	T/R	235	5:30p-6:50p	Majorski
F2F	CHM 105A$*	1	Chemistry Lab	2	T/R	235	7:00p-7:50p	Majorski
F2F	CPT 112*	1	Introduction to Computers	3	M	340	5:30p-8:20p	Klopf
F2F	CS 299	1	Graduate Seminar - Business	1	M	249	9:00a-10:00a	Fowler
F2F	CS 299	1	Graduate Seminar - Native American Studies	1	M	238	10:30a-11:30a	Haviland
O-A	ECO 201	1	Principles of Macroeconomics	3	ONLINE			Wagner
F2F	ENG 101*	1	Composition I	3	M/W	331	10:30a-11:50a	Boleman
F2F	ENG 010*	1	Composition I Lab	2	M/W	331	12:00p-12:50p	Boleman
F2F	ENG 110	1	Introduction to Communication	3	T/R	331	1:30p-2:50p	Boleman
O-A	ENG 125*	1	Children's Literature	3	ONLINE			Boleman
O-A	ENG 202*	1	Composition II	3	ONLINE			Boleman
O-A	GEL 101$	2	Introduction to Geology w/Lab	5	ONLINE			Miller
F2F	GEO 201$	1	Weather & Climate w/Lab	5	T/R R	235 232	10:30a-11:50a 1:00p-2:50p	Miller
F2F	MTH 105	1	Intermediate Algebra	4	T/R	330	9:00a-10:50a	Rich
Hyflex	MTH 012*	1	Quantitative Reasoning Lab: F2F Session Time	2	M/W	330	3:00p-3:50p	Crosswait
	MTH 120*	1	Quantitative Reasoning: F2F Session Time	3	M/W	330	1:30p - 2:50p	Rich
F2F	MTH 140*	1	Pre-Calculus	4	T/R	330	1:30p-3:20p	Rich
F2F	MTH 150	1	The Teaching of Counting and Whole Numbers	3	M/W	330	9:00a-10:20a	Rich
Hyflex	MTH 023*	1	Introduction to Statistics Lab: F2F Session Time	2	T/R	329	3:00p-3:50p	Crosswait
	MTH 230*	1	Introduction to Statistics: F2F Session Time	3	M/W	329	5:30p - 6:50p	Crosswait
F2F	OJB 101	1	Ojibwe I	3	M/W	214	10:30a-11:50a	Roy
F2F	OJB 102*	1	Ojibwe II	3	T/R	243	10:30a-11:50a	Roy
F2F	OJB 201*	1	Ojibwe III	3	M/W	243	1:30p-2:50p	Roy
F2F	OJB 202*	1	Ojibwe IV	3	T/R	243	1:30p-2:50p	Roy
F2F	PSC 120	1	American Government	3	T/R	314	5:00p-6:20p	Knott
F2F	PSY 2XX	1	Psychology of Trauma and Resilience	3	W	330	5:30p-8:20p	Landen
H	SDV 102	1	Foundations for Student Success	3	M	314	5:00p-6:20p	Green

Definitions:

F2F (Face to Face): A course that has regularly scheduled class times and meets in person.

ON-A (Online Asynchronous): A course that meets via web-based technologies without regularly scheduled meeting times.

H (Hybrid): There will be regularly scheduled face-to-face meeting times and online components within a hybrid course. The online components may be delivered synchronously or asynchronously. Both face-to-face meeting times and online delivery methods must be scheduled in the syllabus.

Hyflex: AA flexible course format that allows students to attend classes in person or asynchronously based on their needs while meeting the same learning outcomes.

*: Check co-requisite or pre-requisite requirements

$: Additional Course or Lab Fees Apply

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

****Course delivery methods are subject to change at any time.*
****All courses are scheduled in Eastern Standard Time (EST)*
****Classes with an enrollment FEWER than 5 students may be canceled.*

EVENT CALENDER

- **Dec. 8-12:** Exam Week
- **Dec. 12 :** Fall Semester ends
- **Dec. 15:** Final Grades due to Registrar
- **Jan. 8:** Spring registration closes
- **Jan. 11:** Spring Classes begin
- **Jan. 15:** Drop/Add Ends
- **Jan. 18:** MLK Jr. Day *(no classes)*
- **Feb. 15:** Presidents Day *(no classes)*
- **March 1-5:** Mid Term Week
- **March 8:** Mid Term Grades Due
- **March 19:** Last day to Withdraw
- **March 29-April 2:** SCTC Break *(no classes)*
- **May 3-7:** Exam Week
- **May 7:** Spring Semester ends
- **May 10:** Final Grades due to Registrar
- **May 19:** Graduation *(at SECR)*

ATTENTION NEW STUDENTS:

Students are advised to meet with a student success coach at least once per semester. The success coaches engage students in conversation to help them explore their passions, goals, and campus opportunities while empowering them to succeed at SCTC. During our meetings we co-create success plans, identify obstacles and support networks, help strategize solutions and next steps.

Please call 989- 317-4760 4760 4760 or contact student services by Email at: studentservices@sagchip.edu to schedule a meeting.

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.



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.

SCTC STEAM^{AG} Student Organization



Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2026

9:30 a.m. (until gone)

SCTC Community Room

(5805 E. Pickard Rd., Mt. Pleasant MI, 48858)

Cost:

One for $6 or two for $10

- Chorizo, potatoes, and eggs *(cheese optional)*
- Bacon, potatoes, and eggs *(cheese optional)*
- Spinach, black beans, potatoes, and eggs *(cheese optional)*

Pay via Cash App

Scan QR code below

Contact:

989.317.4827 or KHart@sagchip.edu



SCTC receives 'Momentum' in impact award from Michigan College Access Network

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College has been recognized by the Michigan College Access Network, or MCAN, as a recipient of a 2026 College Access Impact Award.

MCAN recognized nine individuals and organizations during a ceremony at its 15th annual conference, held Nov. 3-4 in Acme, Mich.

SCTC received the Master's in Momentum Award, sponsored by ReUp Education, which recognizes the commitment to helping students remain enrolled and making progress towards a postsecondary degree or certificate.

"At Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, we believe that every student deserves access to the support, resources, and encouragement needed to succeed," said Amanda Flaugher, dean of students of SCTC. "This recognition from Michigan College Access Network highlights the collective efforts of our students, faculty, staff, tribal leadership, and community partners who make that vision a reality. We are honored by this award and motivated to continue advancing educational opportunities for current and future generations."

To celebrate this achievement, SCTC hosted the award presentation on Wednesday, Nov. 18 in the community room.

The award was presented to SCTC President Carla Sineway by Ryan Fewins Bliss, executive director of MCAN.

"This award recognizes and validates the dedication, hard work, and continued commitment of SCTC staff to promoting student success," Sineway said. "At SCTC, we take pride in fostering a student-centered environment that empowers students, builds confidence, and reinforces their sense of self-worth and potential. We strive to create meaningful opportunities that encourage every student to believe in themselves and recognize that they can achieve their goals."

Sineway continued, "We believe that when one student succeeds, the entire community benefits. Student success extends beyond the individual and strengthens families, the Tribe, and future generations. As SCTC continues to grow and evolve, we remain committed to keeping students at the center of everything we do while staying firmly grounded in the values, traditions, and cultural teachings of the Anishinaabe people."

Bliss said this has been MCAN's 11th round of handing out the impact awards.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Ryan Fewins Bliss, executive director of Michigan College Access Network, speaks about the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College receiving the Master's in Momentum Award, during a Nov. 18 award presentation.



Courtesy photo

SCTC faculty pose for a photo with MCAN representatives after receiving its 2026 College Access Impact Award during the Network's annual conference, held Nov. 3-4 in Acme, Mich.

"We're really excited this year to present the Master's in Momentum Award to the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College," Bliss said on behalf of MCAN. "The Master's of Momentum Award recognizes an institutional organization that has gone above and beyond to ensure students stay enrolled and continue making progress towards a certificate or degree. The Tribal College understands that student success is inseparable from culture, from community, from relationships and belonging – all values that MCAN has as well – through support such as advising, financial aid, career development, student advocacy and transfer planning, your institution recognizes that students need more than academic support to succeed."

Bliss continued, "Your approaches demonstrate that student persistence is built through meaningful relationships, culturally-grounded support, and commitment to continuous improvement – something a lot of colleges tell us that is 'just too expensive to pull off,' but you're pulling it off here."

MCAN is a statewide nonprofit organization with a goal to improve college access and success for all students.

"We are committed to Michigan's 60 by 30 attainment goal – 60 percent of Michigan residents earning a postsecondary certificate or degree by the year 2030," Bliss said.

Tribal Council Treasurer Alice Jo Ricketts provided a blessing over the food – Qdoba-catered lunch, and SCTC Success Coach Joseph Genia performed a traditional hand drum song.

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College Board of Regents sworn in Nov. 10



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Chief Luke Sprague (far left) swears in the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College Board or Regents on Tuesday, Nov. 10 in Council chambers. The Board of Regents serves an important role in upholding the College's charter, providing leadership, and helping guide its future and continued success. (Board of Regents, photographed left to right: Kasey Perez, Alicia Raphael, Sydnee Kopke, Joseph Fisher II and Chris Sineway.)



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College Board of Regents pose for a photo with Tribal Council members after being sworn in.



Andahwod Continuing Care Community and Elder Services

ELDERS' NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2026

Boozhoo! Andahwod Continuing Care Community and Elder Services would like to wish everyone a joyous Christmas and a healthy, prosperous New Year.

ELDER SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

- Congregate Meal Program
- Medical Transports
- Home Health Aide
- Wellness Checks
- Nutrition Education and Counseling
- Hygiene Supplies
- Personal Care
- Medical Equipment
- Chore Service
- Meal Delivery Referrals - IsabellaCommission on Aging
- Personal Shopping
- Lawn Care
- Snow Plowing
- Grandchild Care Assistance
- Elder Minor Assistance Program



Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2026

11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Andahwod CCC & ES

(2910 S. Leaton Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858)

- **DINE IN COST:**
  - **SCIT Elder:** Free
  - **All other guests:** $10
- **TO GO COST:**
  - **SCIT Elder:** $2
  - **All other guests:** $12
- **OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY**
- **MENU:** Ham, Roast, Wild Rice, Mac and Cheese, Three Sister Veggie, Fruit, Rolls, and Cake.

Contact: Andahwod at 989.775.4300



Featuring Breanna Plumley from Nimkee Optical

FRIDAY, DEC. 11, 2026

5:30-6:30 p.m. | Andahwod CCC & ES

(2910 S. Leaton Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858)

- Come enjoy the evening and her beautiful voice!
- Light snacks provided
- Open to the community

Contact: DePelcher@sagchip.org 989-775-4339

ELDERS SNOWPLOWING

- Limited spots available.
- Priority will be given to our Eeders 70 years and older.
- Everyone must fill out an application for the service and have a medically documented disability, if between 50-69 years old.
- $50 seasonal fee must be paid when submitting application.
- Must reside in District One.

For more information, please contact:
Lucinda at LBurr@sagchip.org or 989-775-4307

TITLE VI GRANTS

Eligibility of services for those participating in grant funded or tribal support programs offered by Andahwod CCC & ES must meet certain criteria. Elders 50 years and older may be eligible for services.

TIPS TO HELP BEAT THE HOLIDAY *Winter Blues*

- Resolve to make the best of the holidays but adjust your expectations and adopt realistic goals.
- Eat healthy foods for your medical condition and indulge in holiday goodies in moderation.
- Surround yourself with supportive and caring people. Make new friends and keep seeing the old ones, too. It is vital to make new connections so the circle of friends doesn't dwindle.
- Participate in classes, social groups, and activities at Andahwod, Commission on Aging, and churches.
- Use social media - Facebook, etc. to chat and stay in touch with family and friends. Asking your children or grandchildren for help could be a great way to bond with them.
- Listen to music or do something creative that you enjoy, like crafts or telling stories about your family history to children and grandchildren.
- Get exercise, even if it is only taking a short walk. This is also a great way to get your daily dose of sunlight. You can safely walk at Morey Courts, 5.5 times around the track is one mile!

DECEMBER 2026 ANDAHWOD EVENTS

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

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

Christmas Craft | **Dec. 2** | *1-3 p.m.*

Celebration Cinema | **Dec. 3**

Lost & Found Bingo
Dec. 4 | *1-3 p.m.*

Saganing Bingo with Friends
Dec. 8 | *Leaving Andahwod at 9 a.m.*

Elders Breakfast | **Dec. 9** | *9-10 a.m.*

Name That Tune **Dec. 9, 22** | *2:30 p.m.*

Christmas Concert
Dec. 11 | *5:30-6:30 p.m.*

Community Christmas Lunch
Dec. 16 | *11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.*

Language Bingo
Dec. 17 | *1-3 p.m.*

Staff and Resident Christmas Party
Dec. 18 | *11:30 a.m.*

Potluck & Birthday Bingo | **Dec. 19** | *12-3 p.m.*

Detroit Lions Game
Dec. 28

New Years Eve Party
Dec. 31 | *6-8 p.m.*

For more information, please call: Andahwod at 989.775.4300

***Activities and events are subject to change.*

December 2026 Andahwod CCC & ES Menu

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Kitchen phone number: 989-775-4314 *Menu subject to change* Sugar free available upon request		1 Chicken Soft Shell Taco, BLT Sandwich	2 **Elders Lunch** Potato Soup, Baked Chicken	3 Ham n Cheese Sandwich, Pizza	4 Shrimp Basket, Chicken Dumpling	5 Chef's Choice
6 Chef's Choice	7 Spaghetti, Sausage w/Red Potato	8 Wet Burrito, Wing Basket	9 **Elders Breakfast** Tomato Soup, Philly Steak Sub	10 Loaded Potato Soup, Pot Roast	11 Tuna Salad Sandwich, Enchiladas	12 Chef's Choice
13 Chef's Choice	14 Lasagna, BBQ Chicken w/Baked Beans	15 Soft Shell Taco, Hamburger Basket	16 **Christmas Lunch** Pisanellos	17 Quiche, Bean Soup	18 Open Face Chicken, Meat Loaf	19 Chef's Choice
20 Chef's Choice	21 Tuna Noodle Casserole, Turkey Club Sandwich	22 Indian Taco, Meatballs w/Noodles	23 **No Elders Breakfast** Chicken Noodle Soup, Chimichunga	24 Tuna Melt, Cheeseburger Basket	25 Chicken Salad Sandwich, Sloppy Joes	26 Chef's Choice
27 Chef's Choice	28 Chicken Alfredo, Ground Bologna Sandwich	29 Nachos, Beef Stir Fry	30 Chili, Maple Bacon Chicken	26 Chli Dog Steak N Shrimp	**Warning: Consuming under cooked foods or eggs could lead to a Food Bourne Illness.**Warning: Please inform cashier/staff of any severe food allergies you may have prior to sitting down. Thank you*	

Tribal Community



Tickets sold: Nov. 2 - Dec. 16, 2026

Three drawings: Wednesday, Dec. 16, 2026
12:30 p.m. *(During Andahwod's Christmas Brunch)*

Tickets: One for $5 or three for $10

Three separate prize drawings:
- $1,000 VISA gift card
- $500 VISA gift card
- $250 Sagamok gift card

Purchase tickets at Andahwod, or from Elders Advisory Board members:
Joseph Sowmick, Kenny Sprague, Gilbert Hendrickson, Barb Sprague, Carole Tally, Clinton Pelcher Jr., Roger Rusch, Rose Wassegijig, Marie Kequom, and Flossie Sprague.

Contact: Andahwod at 989.775.4300

DECEMBER 2026 TRIBAL ELDER BIRTHDAYS

1) Juliane Hinmon, Maureen Acuna, William Leksche

3) James Bailey, Nancy Rossbach, Brenda Schlegel, Patricia Sprague

4) Saundra Charles, John Trepanier III, Cynthia Cisneros, Dawn Meredith

5) Julie King, Tony Stevens, Elarine Hunt

6) Teri Bennett, Lorraine Dumas, Margaret Worsham, Melanie Davis, Nyra Wiltse

7) Tracy Chamberlain, Cara Valdez, Tonya Priehs

8) Mary Floyd, Denise Cantu, Maynard Kahgegab Jr., Norman Snyder, Joseph Smith

10) Suzanne Cross, James Maki, Douglas Zocher

11) Paul Jackson

12) Bradford Mandoka, Ruth Moses, Kenneth Sprague, Albert Waynee, John Brown, Robin Drews, Tod Walraven

13) Randall Bennett, Timothy Stevens

14) Marlene Collins, Ronald Johansen, Ruth Mullins, Cheryl Roy, Lisa Nessen

15) Gilbert Dutton, Christina Cross, Sacha VanOrder

16) Ronald Douglas, Lanette Zaleski, Darlene Munro, Gilbert Williams, Sylvia Zelinski, Elizabeth Sparks, Roy Braley Jr.

17) Shirley Burch, Stephanie Peters, Deborah Colley, Donna DeLap, Sheila Guiney, Amanda George

18) Alfred Dennis, Eleanor Hawk, Cynthia Sprague, Miengun Pamp

19) Carol Jackson, Pamela Shawboose

20) Clinton Pelcher Jr., Rene Alaniz, Deborah Jackson, Patrick Collins, Jason Slater

21) David Bonnau, Faith Davis, Carrie Leaureaux, Jacqueline Roach, Sherri Vezina, Janice Walker, Shannon Riley

22) Lori Rickle, Amy Singer, Christina Pego-Murray

23) Jim Davis, Andrew Steele

24) Ronald Collins Jr., James Bennett, William Wing

25) Terry Bonnau, Steven Pelcher, Mary Rosebrock

26) Bernice Hendrickson, Patricia Wemigwans, Frank Cloutier, Timothy Smith Jr.

27) Yolanda Gonzalez, Carol White-Pigeon, Courtney Kahgegab

28) Timothy Stein

29) Thomas Kequom, James Stinson, Judy Bryant, Renee Abuja

30) Timothy Nelson, Galene Young, Steven Wassegijig

31) Marie Saboo, Daryan Stallcup, Diana Quigno-Grundahl



SCIT ELDERS
TRIP TO KEY WEST
Jan. 24 - 29, 2026 • 6 Days • 5 Nights

Trade Michigan winter for palm-lined streets, ocean breezes, and time to enjoy Key West at your own pace. Settle into Southernmost Beach Resort for five nights, discover the island by trolley, and enjoy a golf cart rental shared by two travelers.

REGISTRATION:
Friday, Dec. 11, 2026

Line up outside of Andahwod
(2910 S. Leaton Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858)

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.

* *Must bring driver's license, Real ID, Michigan ID, or passport on the day of registration.*
* *Caretaker must be over 21 years old.*
* *Must be paid at registration (cash only, with correct change)*

COST:
- **$200 for Tribal Elder**
- **$500 for non-SCIT Elder spouse/caretaker**

First-come, first-serve basis:
Space is limited to 29 people
- Elder trips are to promote tribal unity and socialization.
- Includes bus transportation and airfare.

Included in your stay:
- Five resort nights, including resort fees
- Four resort breakfasts
- Resort luggage handling
- Beyond Horizons Tour Director

Your Key West base:
Stay near the southern end of Duval Street, with time to enjoy the resort and explore Old Town. Unpack once and spend the week choosing your own balance of sightseeing and relaxation.

Andahwod
Continuing Care Community & Elder Services

For more information, contact: Denise Pelcher at 989-775-4331 or DEPelcher@sagchip.org

Saginaw Chippewa Health & Human Services

Saginaw Chippewa Health & Human Services (SHHS)

DECEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER
Preparing for a healthy, safe, and meaningful holiday season

A Season of Wellness, Compassion, and Community — Caring for Mind, Body, and Spirit

As we welcome December and the winter season, SCIT Health & Human Services (SHHS) extends warm wishes to our tribal community and families. This is a special time to celebrate togetherness, kindness, generosity, gratitude, and the traditions that bring us closer to one another.

Whether celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah, other December holidays, or simply enjoying time with loved ones, we encourage everyone to embrace the season with a healthy mind, body, and spirit.



A few friendly reminders for a healthy and safe holiday season:

Eat well, feel well:
Enjoy holiday meals and traditional foods while practicing balanced nutrition, moderation, and healthy choices.

Keep moving:
Stay active through walking, indoor exercise, winter sports, family activities, and our Nimkee Fitness programs.

Celebrate togetherness:
Enjoy meaningful gatherings, laughter, cultural traditions, and quality time with family, friends, and elders.

Travel safely:
Prepare for winter road conditions, allow extra travel time, wear seat belts, and never drive while impaired.

Protect our children:
Encourage safe play, age-appropriate gifts, healthy activities, and proper supervision during holiday celebrations.

Honor and care for our elders:
Check on their wellbeing, help prevent winter falls, and ensure they have warmth, companionship, and support.

Support emotional wellness:
The holidays can bring both joy and challenges. Take time for rest, connection, compassion, and seeking support when needed.

Stay healthy this winter:
Practice good hand hygiene, follow recommended vaccinations, and take precautions against seasonal respiratory illnesses.

From all of us at SCIT Health & Human Services, we wish our community a safe, healthy, joyful holiday season and a wonderful New Year!

Saginaw Chippewa Health & Human Services

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

Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center
Behavioral Health
Anishnaabeg Child & Family Services
SHHS: Andahwod CCC&ES

"One SHHS. One Team. Working Together for Our Community."
CARES: Care • Accountability • Respect • Excellence • Stewardship

Event Planner

DECEMBER 2026 | Tribal Community Event Planner

Nimkee Fitness New Year's Challenge
Dec. 1, 2026 – Feb. 26, 2027
- Nimkee Fitness Center *(2591 S. Leaton Rd.)*
- ***SPifer@sagchip.org or 989-775-4694***
- Open to all diabetes patients at Nimkee Clinic and for any SCIT tribal members interested in joining!
- Prizes include: NF shaker cup, spa package gift certificate, resistance band set and Pendleton blanket

Recreation Volleyball Open Gym
Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22 | **5:30-7:30 p.m.**
- Wii Maajiikwad/Recreation Center *(2875 Gikendasso Way)*
- ***KShomin@sagchip.org or 989-775-4149***

Gift Wrapping Station Fundraiser
Dec. 5 | **1-3 p.m.**
- Wii Maajiikwad lobby *(2875 Gikendasso Way)*
- ***JMuller@sagchip.org or 989-775-4453***
- Our elves will wrap your gifts for a donation

Recreation Hunting Camp
Dec. 4, 5, 6 | **5:30-7:30 p.m.**
- Tawas property/lodge *(1 Kunze Rd., Tawas, Mich.)*
- ***Registration: Recreation@sagchip.org***
- Tribal rifle and bow season
- Open to all licensed tribal member hunters
- Waivers and registration required.

Sweat Lodge with Traditional Healer Joe Syrette
Dec. 10 | **Arrive at 4 p.m., sweat begins at 5 p.m.**
- Behavioral Health *(2800 S. Shepherd Rd.)*
- ***SaKarras@sagchip.org or 989-775-4828***
- Sweat Lodge is offered as a culturally-grounded practice, supporting prevention, healing, recovery, and wellness, related to opioid use disorder.

Anishinabe Santa at Ziibiwing
Dec. 10 | **5-7 p.m.**
- Ziibiwing Center *(6650 E. Broadway)*
- ***NWells@sagchip.org or 989-775-4750***
- Photos with Santa, crafts and activites

Andahwod Christmas Concert
Dec. 11 | **5:30-6:30 p.m.**
- Andahwod *(2910 S. Leaton Rd.)*
- ***DePelcher@sagchip.org or 989-775-4339***
- Light snacks provided
- Open to the community
- Featuring Breanna Plumley from Nimkee Optical.
- Come enjoy the evening and her beautiful voice!

ACFS Foster Care Christmas Bazaar
Dec. 13 | **9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**
- SECR Ballrooms *(6800 E. Soaring Eagle Blvd.)*
- ***989-491-1503***
- All proceeds benefit ACFS Foster Care Program
- Set up begins at 8 a.m.
- Vendors: 8'x6' space is available for $50 and includes two six-foot tables and two chairs, if needed.

Andahwod Christmas Community Lunch
Dec. 16 | **11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.**
- Andahwod *(2910 S. Leaton Rd.)*
- ***DePelcher@sagchip.org or 989-775-4300***
- Dine in cost:
  - SCIT elder: Free
  - All other guests: $10
- To go cost:
  - SCIT elder: $2
  - All other guests: $12
- Open to the community
- Menu: Ham, roast, wild rice, mac and cheese, Three Sisters veggies, fruit, rolls, and cake.

Two-Spirit Talking Circle
Dec. 28, Jan. 25, Feb. 22, March 22 | **6-8 p.m.**
- 7th Generation *(7957 E. Remus Rd.)*
- ***LeRuffino@sagchip.org or kt@greatlakesbaypride.org***
- Hosted by 7th Generation Elijah Elk Cultural Center and the Michigan Two Spirit Indigiqueer Coalition
- A safe, affirming space for Two Spirit and Native LGBTQ+ people and their allies to connect, share experiences, and find healing.

Three Fires Indigenous Youth Fashion Show
Feb. 28 | **1-5 p.m., doors open at 12:45 p.m.**
- Wii Maajiikwad *(2875 Gikendasso Way)*
- ***FOtto@sagchip.org or 989-775-4823***
- Theme: De'bwen-dis'an (Trust in yourself)
- A teen awareness event
- Light refreshments
- A drum and dance social will follow.
- Door prize drawings
- Spectating youth under the age of 15, must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Saginaw Chippewa Round Dance
March 13 | **Doors open at 5:30 p.m.**
- Wii Maajiikwad *(2875 Gikendasso Way)*
- ***CSharp@sagchip.org or 989-775-4453***
- Save the date: More info to come.

Check out the **Tribal Observer ONLINE**
www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver

DECEMBER 2026 | Tribal Community Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat./Sun.
● SECR Payroll ● SCIT Per Capita ● SCIT Payroll ● Curbside Recycling	**1** **AOVWS Meeting** 6 p.m. | Ziibiwing **Recovery on the Rez** 2-3 p.m. | Zoom **Drums Out** 7:30-9:30 p.m. | 7th Gen	**2** ● **Elders Lunch** 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Andahwod **Eagle Feather Teachings** 1:30-2:30 p.m. | B. Health	**3** **Community Sewing Nights (Holiday Stockings)** 5-8 p.m. | 7th Gen **Peer 360 at BH Lodge** 6-7 p.m. | B. Health	**4** ● **Fireside on the Rez** 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | B. Health	**5** **Fireside on the Rez** 6-7:30 p.m. | B. Health **6**
7 **Sewing in Saganing** 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. | Saganing **Recovery Group** 1-2 p.m. | B. Health	**8** **Recovery on the Rez** 2-3 p.m. | Zoom **Drums Out** 7:30-9:30 p.m. | 7th Gen	**9** **Elders Breakfast** 9-10 a.m. | Andahwod **Eagle Feather Teachings** 1:30-2:30 p.m. | B. Health	**10** **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	**11** ● **Fireside on the Rez** 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | B. Health	**12** **Fireside on the Rez** 6-7:30 p.m. | B. Health **13**
14 **TRIBAL OBSERVER DEADLINE** **Recovery Group** 1-2 p.m. | B. Health	**15** **Recovery on the Rez** 2-3 p.m. | Zoom	**16** ● **Eagle Feather Teachings** 1:30-2:30 p.m. | B. Health **Game Night with Recreation and 7th Generation** 5:30-8 p.m. | Wii Maajiikwad	**17** **Community Sewing Nights** 5-8 p.m. | 7th Gen **Peer 360 at BH Lodge** 6-7 p.m. | B. Health	**18** ● **Fireside on the Rez** 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | B. Health	**19** **Fireside on the Rez** 6-7:30 p.m. | B. Health **20**
21 **Recovery Group** 1-2 p.m. | B. Health	**22** **Recovery on the Rez** 2-3 p.m. | Zoom **Drums Out** 7:30-9:30 p.m. | 7th Gen	**23** **Eagle Feather Teachings** 1:30-2:30 p.m. | B. Health	**24** **TRIBAL OPS CLOSED** Christmas Eve	**25** ● **TRIBAL OPS CLOSED** Christmas Day	**26** **Fireside on the Rez** 6-7:30 p.m. | B. Health **27**
28 **TRIBAL OPS CLOSED** Administrative Closure **Recovery Group** 1-2 p.m. | B. Health	**29** **TRIBAL OPS CLOSED** Administrative Closure **Recovery on the Rez** 2-3 p.m. | Zoom	**30** **TRIBAL OPS CLOSED** Administrative Closure	**31** **TRIBAL OPS CLOSED** New Year's Eve	**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS:** A 12-STEP RECOVERY PROGRAM *WE DO RECOVER: Real People • Real Stories • Lasting Hope* ***Join us!* Every Wednesday at 5 p.m.** **First United Methodist Church** *400 S. Main St., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858*	

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

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.

Assistant Prosecutor PT
Open to the public. Juris doctor from an ABA accredited law school. Member in good standing with the State Bar of Michigan. Minimum of one year experience as a practicing attorney or equivalent work experience working in a legal capacity or with a licensed attorney.

Associate General Counsel
Open to the public. Juris doctor from an ABA accredited law school. Experience as a practicing attorney. Familiarity with federal Indian law desired. Familiarity with federal Indian law desired. Licensed to practice law in the State of Michigan.

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

Certified Nursing Assistant
Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. State of Michigan Certified Nursing Assistant.

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

General Labor Pool Temporary
Open to Tribal members and community members. Must be at least 18 years of age.

Clinical Therapist ACFS
Open to the public. Master's degree in counseling, social work, human services or related field. One year demonstrated mental health and co-occurring therapy experience with youth, children and families.

Community Data, Planning & Special Projects Manager
Open to the public. Bachelor`s degree in social science, social work, public policy, community planning or related field. One year in a supervisory capacity.

Community Engineer
Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in civil engineering, public administration, or related field; and at least three years of progressively responsible experience in public works administration and/or municipal engineering.

Data & Evaluation Analyst
Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in social sciences or related field. Six months of experience in data analysis. Three years experience in administration of federal grants and contracts, and grant writing.

Dental Hygienist FT
Open to the public. Registered dental hygienist. Two years working experience in dental hygiene desired. Michigan Registered Dental Hygienist license.

Dental Hygienist PT
Open to the public. Registered dental hygienist. Two years working experience in dental hygiene desired. Michigan Registered Dental Hygienist license.

Fresh Water Operator II
Open to the public. Must have three years of water operator or related experience. Must work a minimum of two years as an operator EGLE licensed F-4, S-4 minimum.

Fresh Water Operator III
Open to the public. Must have five years of water operator or related experience. Must have worked as a licensed EGLE F-3, S-3 for a minimum of two years.

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

Internship
Unpaid internship within Tribal Operations or other tribal enterprises. Open to the public. Must be an enrolled student at a college or university, and provide SCIT with documentation of the university's requirements/scope of work for the required internship. Must currently have a cumulative 2.5 GPA. Must submit an official transcript and class schedule during recruitment process.

Liaison Family Spirit Home Visitor
Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in public health, health and human services, social services, behavioral health, or related field. Minimum three years of relevant experience in field of child protective services, behavioral health, criminal justice, community health, prenatal health care management, or social services.

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. Must not have criminal history that would prevent applicant from acquiring any certification or qualification required. Must be able to pass drug screening.

Registered Medical Assistant-Same Day
Open to the public. Registered or certified medical assistant license. Minimum of one year experience working as a medical assistant in an outpatient medical clinic (family medicine preferred).

Social Services Specialist
Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in social services or human services. Two years social services, families first worker, or family preservation experience desired.

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.

Tribal Code Compliance Officer
Open to the public. Five years' relevant experience including building construction, inspection and ordinance enforcement. Communication and interpersonal skills to deal effectively with property owners, State, local, and tribal governmental representatives, builders, contractors, other office staff and community-at-large.

Waste Water Operator II
Open to the public. Must have three years' experience in wastewater/water field or directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations. Must be willing to take classes in microbiology, advanced math and beginning algebra courses.

Waste Water Operator III
Open to the public. Must have five years experience in wastewater/water field or directly related experience in plumbing or mechanical plant operations. Must be willing to take classes in microbiology, advanced math and beginning algebra courses.

Soaring Eagle

Culinary Supervisor
Open to the public. High school diploma or GED. Three years of restaurant or banquet cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility. Culinary degree from an American Culinary Federation (ACF) accredited school desired.

F&B Cashier PT
Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must be able to operate a POS.

Kitchen Equipment Tech
Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. High school diploma or GED. Three years of experience in commercial food equipment repair. Must have a current and must be able to maintain a current Universal Refrigerant Certification.

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

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

Sous Chef
Open to the public. Three years kitchen experience in a quality operation specializing in food production.

Sports Book Ticket Writer PT
Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Six months cash handling or cashiering experience.

Saganing

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

F&B Cashier PT
Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age.

F&B Custodial Worker
Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Kitchen cleaning experience desired.

Line Cook
Open to the public. Six months of restaurant cooking experience. Six months of restaurant cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility.

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

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

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

110 FOR RENT

Apartment for Rent
Two-bedroom furnished apartment. Trash/snow removal. $975/month. Small pet ok. 1990 Airway Dr. 989-824-4416.

115 FOR SALE

Building for Lease or Sale
Commercial building for lease or sale. 2,500 sq ft. Parking for 15 cars. 5281 E. Pickard (across from the Holiday Inn). 989-824-4416.

Car for Sale
1980 Buick Regal, 383ci 350 Turbo High Stall Converter, Ford 9" 4:11 Gear. Street Driven. Asking $9500. Call John 989-482-7525.



SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT NOTICES

NOTICE TO APPEAR: ESTATE OF ELIZABETH ROSE HUGHES
Case No. 26-PC-0040. You are hereby noticed to appear in The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 for the following purpose:
INITIAL ESTATE HEARING: Jan. 6, 2027 at 3:00 p.m.

NOTICE TO APPEAR: ESTATE OF CORA ANN LEAUREAUX
Case No. 26-PC-0023. You are hereby noticed to appear in The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 for the following purpose:
INITIAL ESTATE HEARING: Jan. 6, 2027 at 2:30 p.m.

NOTICE TO APPEAR: ESTATE OF GERALD SLATER
Case No. 26-PC-0020. You are hereby noticed to appear in The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 for the following purpose:
INITIAL ESTATE HEARING: Jan. 6, 2027 at 2:00 p.m.

NOTICE TO APPEAR: ESTATE OF RICHARD QUIGNO
Case No. 26-PC-0021. You are hereby noticed to appear in The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 for the following purpose:
INITIAL ESTATE HEARING: Jan. 6, 2027 at 2:15 p.m.

NOTICE TO APPEAR: ESTATE OF ELIZA JANE PETERS-JACKSON
Case No. 26-PC-0039. You are hereby noticed to appear in The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 for the following purpose:
INITIAL ESTATE HEARING: Jan. 6, 2027 at 1:30 p.m.

NOTICE TO APPEAR: ESTATE OF ETTA ELMIRA AYLING
Case No. 26-PC-0037. You are hereby noticed to appear in The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court, 6954 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 for the following purpose:
INITIAL ESTATE HEARING: Jan. 6, 2027 at 3:30 p.m.

MIGIZI
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CO.
Positions Now Available!
Apply today at
www.migiziedc.com

Wii Maajiikwad fourth and fifth graders visit Council, learn about government operations

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Fourth and fifth grade Wii Maajiikwad students pose with Tribal Council during the Nov. 2 visit to Council chambers.

As the fourth and fifth grade classrooms at Wii Maajiikwad were taught the different branches of government (executive, legislative, and judicial), the students and teachers paid a visit to Tribal Council in chambers to see how the Tribe is operated on the government side of things.

The 9 a.m. visit on Nov. 2 became more of a friendly conversation rather than a presentation. Chief Luke Sprague had each student introduce themselves, state which grade they are in, and share one of their hobbies.

Public Relations Director Erik Rodriguez discussed many government-related specifics, such as how Tribal elections works and the different SCIT districts.

Students asked questions, including what each Council members' favorite part is about serving on Tribal Council.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

FUND YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE

WITH FREE MONEY FOR COLLEGE OR CAREER TRAINING!

MI Student Aid | MiLEAP

The Michigan Achievement Scholarship has funding for every grad, every path — **no matter their GPA.** Plus, the scholarship is less income-based than you might think. Odds are, your high school senior or recent grad will qualify for **free money** for:

- Community college
- Public or private university
- Career training

SCAN TO LEARN MORE OR VISIT
mi.gov/ACHIEVEMENT

