

May 1, 2014 VOLUME 25 ISSUE 5
Zaagibagaa-Giizis (Moon When Buds Come Out)

\$1.00

TRIBAL OBSERVER

THE SAGINAW CHIPPEWA INDIAN TRIBE... "Working Together for Our Future"

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The Tribal community united for spiritual worship on April 18.

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Tribal Judge Shannon expresses Membership's responsibility to appear for jury duty

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

The Tribal Court is a critical component of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribal government.

Throughout the past 35 years, an expansion on Tribal self-governance has occurred. There has been a growth in a tribe's ability to establish their own codes of conduct; criminal codes, civil codes within their Tribal codes to self-regulate and settle disputes that rise.

Within the constitution, the Tribal court exists, where those that have been reprimanded will seek the right, under the Tribal code, to have a jury trial.

"Part of this whole concept of self-regulation and being a citizen of a nation is the responsibility to serve on juries," Tribal Judge Patrick Shannon said. "Individuals not showing up for jury duty have been an issue. The code has been amended to reflect falls within the contempt power of the court to fine and potentially jail."

Listed within the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Law Title III, the Tribal Code states:

3.1001 Basis for Contempt: A Judge may punish for contempt persons guilty of the following acts:
(f) Failure to appear for jury duty when properly notified.

3.1004 Punishment: A Judge may punish for contempt by fine or imprisonment, or both. Such fine shall not exceed \$500, and such imprisonment shall not exceed 90 days, plus Court cost.

"The last time we had a jury, about 25 to 30 percent showed up," Judge Shannon said. "The Tribal Code does allow for contempt powers for non-appearance."

A Judge has the right to fine individuals \$500 and/or give them 90 days in jail, plus Court costs, if they fail to appear for jury duty.

"The Tribe only asks two things from Tribal Members; to fill out your affidavit and to serve jury duty," Tribal Magistrate Stephanie Peters said.

Jurors serve three months of jury duty, occurring on a quarterly basis. Jurors are randomly selected electronically via the computer.

"Not only is it the citizens' duty to show up for jury duty, but it is the whole basis of Tribal regulation and sovereignty," Judge Shannon said. "It goes to the very heart of Tribal sovereignty where Tribal members can make decisions on very important matters that confront their community."

Appearing for jury duty serves as a responsibility to the nation as a juror and the concept of Tribal self-governance.

"Not only is our Tribal Court system unique in its own way, it is also a right that our Tribal Member citizens have the opportunity to utilize," Tribal Chief Steven Pego said. "It has evolved over many years to what it is today. I hope all our Tribal Members realize what an honor it is to serve jury duty."

Public Relations Director Frank Cloutier said as a Tribal

Member, he has always felt a strong dedication of service to the Tribal community.

"My job gives me every opportunity to do so and I do with pride and dignity," Cloutier said. "I have and will continue to encourage our membership to serve their community at every opportunity... Serve when you can, it really makes a difference."

Tribal Council member Chip Neyome also shares the importance of serving.

"Individuals who fail to fulfill their jury duty responsibilities are in many ways giving up on our community and the justice system as a whole," Neyome said. "People within a community represent a set of society norms which are then reflected in the laws of our land; we, as members of this community, must recognize jury duty as a right, privilege, and a responsibility to our families and the community as a whole."

Tribal Council convenes over SECR liquor license renewal

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK
Photojournalist

More than 18 years ago when the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan forged into the profitable enterprise known as Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, the process began through the State of Michigan as listed in the Liquor Control Act to hold a public hearing on the liquor license application.

Tribal Council Sub-Chief Lorna Kahgegab Call presided over the April 22 public hearing in Tribal Operations. Sub-Chief Call was joined at the hearing by Tribal Council Treasurer Shelly Bailey and fellow Council Members Tim Davis and Lindy Hunt.

"I remember back in the day when we didn't have any Tribal business interests that sold liquor," Sub-Chief Call said. "Now we always have to have a public hearing when the liquor license renewals come forward. We give notice to the Tribal membership of the hearings through our Tribal media outlets and we adhere to the application process as specified in the Liquor Control Act."

Tribal staff present at the public hearing included Associate General Counsel for Legislative Affairs Rebecca Adams who provided the oversight of the process through the SCIT Legal department, SECR Food & Beverage Director Marc Forrest who requested the hearing for the liquor license renewal application in a

Feb. 17 memo to Tribal Council, SECR F&B Associate Kurt Sell and Tribal Council Administrative Assistant Misty Wolfgang.

Tribal Council Treasurer Shelly Bailey informs our gaming operation would not be able to hold our position in the competitive gaming industry without the sale of liquor.

"As I mentioned to the Tribal membership in my last Treasurer's report at the March 8 community meeting, beverage sales is a key revenue generator that can be seen across the board and is a part of every profitable gaming enterprise," Bailey said. "Just look at what we do in entertainment with so many sold-out shows and with the summer concert series coming

up. I don't believe we would have the success we enjoy without the sale of liquor."

Tribal Council Member Tim Davis, who is also a Tribal Police sergeant, has seen the challenges serving liquor on the reservation can bring and he believes there is much the Tribe can do to help with the negative aspects.

"A lot of the activity that I see in the field is when someone moves from having a couple of drinks to becoming intoxicated," Davis said. "That's where it is beneficial for people to know that the Tribal Police work with SECR Security, SECR Surveillance and with the F&B service personal to minimize these possible incidents. Every

SECR liquor license renewal continued on page 3

Attention Tribal Members

Due to the increasing postage cost, as of July 1, 2014, Tribal members (*excluding Elders) will no longer receive the Tribal Observer newspaper mailed free of charge.

However, the Tribal Observer is available online on the Tribal website at no cost. If you would like to continue to receive the Tribal Observer, you may subscribe at the reduced rate of **\$15 per year**.

Anyone that has not returned a subscription form by June 25, 2014 will not receive their mailed July edition.

*Tribal Elders will continue to receive their complimentary mailed Tribal Observer **but are still required to fill out a subscription form.**

These changes reflect management's responsibility to reduce cost and are in conjunction with our traditional beliefs by respecting Mother Earth. Thank you for your understanding as we make this transition.

We are requesting that all Tribal members who would like to continue receiving the Tribal Observer fill out the subscription form, available on the Tribal website at www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver/index.asp or email the Observer staff at Observer@sagchip.org.



Jacqueline Ann Ramirez

March 20, 1953 - April 1, 2014

Jacqueline Ann Ramirez of Mt. Pleasant, Mich. (formerly of Saginaw, Mich.) passed away Tuesday, April 1, 2014 at age 61. Jacqueline was born in Saginaw on March 20, 1953, the daughter of Bernadine (Gross) and the late Gonzalo Ramirez Sr. She was a 1973 graduate of Saginaw High School.



Jacqueline was a proud member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan. Jacqueline loved spending time with her grandkids, attending family gatherings, playing dominos, going for rides, especially to the casino and enjoying her diet Pepsi fountain pop.

In addition to her mother, Jacqueline is survived by three children, Christopher (Phyllis) Ramirez, Bernadine (Salvador) Garibay and Sandy Bludson; six grandchildren, Angelo, Ruben and Sabrina Garibay; Cheyenne, Christopher Jr. and Chase Ramirez; a great-granddaughter on the way; four sisters, Yolanda (Daniel), Frances, Jodi (Larry) and Tish (Roberto); a brother, Gonzalo Jr.; many nieces and nephews and her close friends, Mary Parham and Socorro "Cookie". She was predeceased by a grandson, Patrick; a nephew, Raymond Cuellar Jr., her aunts, Rena and Frances and her maternal grandmother, Elizabeth Gross.

The funeral service was held Friday, April 4, 2014 at W. L. Case & Company, 4480 Mackinaw Rd. Those planning an expression of sympathy may wish to consider a donation to the American Diabetes Association in Jacqueline's memory.

Rosemary Randall

April 1, 2014

Rosemary Randall of Saginaw, Mich. passed away April 1, 2014 at age 84.

Funeral services were held Thursday, April 3, 2014 at W. L. Case and Company, 4480 Mackinaw Rd. Fr. Joseph Schabel officiated, with burial at Roselawn Memorial Gardens.



Roy Carl Ritter

April 13, 1940 - April 8, 2014

Roy Carl Ritter, 73, passed away Tuesday April 8, 2014, in Mount Pleasant, Mich. Carl was born April 13, 1940 to and Lloyd Ritter and Iva (Collins) Ritter.

Carl was an Electronics Specialist. He married Nancy (Miller Ritter) Stewart (deceased) in 1960. They had four children.

Carl was a well-loved member of our community. He loved helping people and taking care of his children and grandchildren. He was also an active member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.



Carl is preceded in death by his parents and his brothers Charles Ritter and Gene Ritter.

Carl is survived by his brother Wayne Ritter and sister Dianna (Ritter) Goodwin; children James Ritter, Richard Ritter, Deanna (Ritter) Campbell and Nathan Ritter; and his grandchildren, Joseph Spagnuolo, Andrew Ritter, Jacob Ritter, Anna Ritter and Nathan Ritter. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Please share your thoughts and memories with the family at Andahwod or through www.rowleyfuneralhome.com.

Nicholas Ray Mena

April 21, 1984 - March 24, 2014

Nicholas Ray Mena, 29, of Mt. Pleasant, Mich. passed away Monday, March 24, 2014. Funeral Services for Nick were held at the Tribal Gym on Thursday, March 27, with Rev. Robert Pego officiating. The family received friends at Clark Family Funeral Chapel on Wednesday, March 26, 2014, with a prayer service at 7 p.m.



Nick was born on April 21, 1984 in Mt. Pleasant, the son of Patrick Mena and Marion Williams. Nick was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan. He enjoyed golfing and playing basketball.

Nick is survived by his parents; daughter, Aaliyah; siblings, Morgan (Tom) Mena and Lucas (Angelica) Martinez; grandparents, Marilyn and Richard Sprague; many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews, cousins; and many, many close friends.

Nick was preceded in death by his grandparents, Daniel and Francis Mena Sr. and John Michael Williams; aunts, Teresa Mena and Meghann R. Williams; and uncle, Daniel Mena Jr.

On behalf of Nicholas Mena

Our family wants to thank you all from the heart for helping us get through our loss of Nick. He will always be close to us and is truly dancing in heaven. The flowers and plants are so beautiful, the cards and monetary donations are very much appreciated. Right now, we are at a standstill with our loss and ask that more prayers are sent our way. We appreciate everything that everyone did, the sacred fire, food, the hugs and time spent with us; you will never know how much this community means to us while going through this time of grief. I am very proud of how you all came to us and shared your memories of my son and it is with much respect and honor to be a part of our Rez and Community while going through the loss of our Nicholas! Chi Miigwech!

Member Needed

For the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Health Board

Requirements:

- 1) Must be a SCIT member.
- 2) Must be at least 18 years of age.
- 3) Must have strong interests in the health services provided and the health problems within the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Community.

Meetings are held once a month and a stipend is given for each meeting attended (if eligible). Term of office is three years with three more years with Tribal Council approval.

If interested: Write a short letter stating why you feel you would make a good Health Board Member. Mail or bring to the clinic:

Attention: Michelle George
591 South Leaton Rd.
Mt. Pleasant, MI. 48858

Please include your phone number or a contact person. When the letters are received at the end of the time period the letters are given to the Tribal Council and they will make the final decision.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call:
Michelle 989-775-4602.

Power of Attorney (POA)

Attention Tribal Members
Cashing POA Checks at the Resort

If you have been named Power of Attorney and need to cash a check at the Resort, you must present a Power of Attorney document. A photocopy of this document will only be accepted with the **raised seal stamp** from the Tribal Clerks office. You must provide a valid picture ID. A valid government issued driver's license, state ID card, passport, tribal enrollment card or SCIT/SECR employee ID badge Gaming Service License with last name. If the check exceeds \$10,000, a driver's license or other picture of identification with an address and social security numbers is necessary from both individuals.

Tribal Historic Preservation Committee

The Tribal Historic Preservation Office is forming a seven-member Tribal Historic Preservation Committee.

The committee's responsibilities include addressing issues relating to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Section 106, NAGPRA and all other initiatives related to Tribal historic preservation, traditional properties and historic properties including cemeteries, the Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School and Sanilac Petroglyphs.

The THPC would also advise the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer.

Interested Tribal members may submit a letter of interest to Officer Charmaine Shawana.

For any questions,

Officer Shawana may be reached at 989-775-4751, or by email at CShawana@sagchip.org



Every Wednesday
Starting
June 4 - Oct. 8, 2014
Time: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Items For Sale
Seasonal Produce, Flowers, Fish, Wild Rice, Honey, & Maple Syrup

Native American
Handmade Arts, Crafts & Supplies

Our Vendors
Tribal/Community Members & Employees (Casino, Tribal, Migizi)

LOCATION:
North East Corner of Broadway and Leaton
For Questions and Registration Forms, Please Contact: Marcella Hadden, Interim Market Master at (989) 775-4059



Check out the
Tribal Observer
ONLINE


www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver

ATTENTION
Anishinabe Ogitchedaw
Veteran & Warrior Society Members

Now Recruiting New Members



Meetings Will be Held
The 1st Tuesday of the Month in Seniors Room
Time: 6 p.m. | For More Information: 775-4175



SUMMER GOLF EVENTS



APRIL 29 - JULY 15
Skins matches at Waabooz Run Golf Course. All players must be 40 years old or older, and all players will use the blue tee's. The cost is \$20 weekly, plus green fees and cart fees. Tee off is at 5:30 p.m. sharp.

JULY 22 - SEPT. 23
No age limit all players use the blue tee's. The cost is \$20 per player plus Green fees and Cart fees, tee off is at 5:30 p.m. sharp.

JULY 12 - B. SPRAGUE OPEN
10 a.m. shotgun, two person scramble mens/coed divisions \$120 per team includes skins, green fees, cart and lunch.

AUG. 2 - SUPER SKINS MATCH ON
Super Skins match on Aug. 2 at Waabooz Run. Cost is \$50 per player plus green/cart fees all three tee markers will be used by each player (example Hole #1 Blue Tee, hole #2 White tee, Hole #3 Red tee). Two players per team any mix, all teams off the first tee starting at 10 a.m.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
on these events, contact Bernard Sprague at (989) 400-1838 or (989) 772-4013

Public Notice

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police provide law enforcement services under 638 Contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). Included within said contract; The Bureau of Indian Affairs reserve the right for "First Right of Refusal" pertaining to any complaints against the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Department and/or its Officer's.

As result of this contractual procedure; All complaints against the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Department and/or its Officer's must first be directed to :

BIA Internal Affairs SSA Justin Wendland
justin.wendland@bia.gov | 701-250-4545



SECR liquor license renewal *continued from front page*

large Indian gaming operation in the country has these same concerns and we are proactive when we are able to listen to those concerns at public hearings like this.”

SECR F&B Associate Kurt Sell mentioned that all F&B associates that serve alcohol, or work with our guests, as well as Security Associates, are required to be verified in the Training for Intervention Procedures or TIPS program.

“TIPS is an internationally-recognized program and an industry standard that teaches the responsible service of alcohol including how to recognize and deal with minors attempting to purchase alcohol, how to moderate service to prevent intoxication, and how to recognize and intervene if a guest does become intoxicated,” Sell said. “As recognized as part of our policies and procedures, the Food & Beverage department administers and teaches this class which is open to all SECR, Saganing and Waterpark associates.”

Forrest signs the notarized liquor license renewal application and welcomes the input received from Tribal Council and community members.

“When we get an opportunity to hear directly from the Tribal membership and community, that process allows us to better serve the patrons at all of our operations,” Forrest said. “With our expansion of the catering and convention side of our operation and the upcoming summer events where the SECR F&B concession trailer

goes on the road across Michigan, all these aspects come under this important license renewal process.”

As listed in the public notice that appeared in the April 2014 issue of the Tribal Observer, the current liquor license renewal application includes the following venues staffed by SECR F&B associates: Renewal of Retail On-Sale General Liquor License for SECR located at 6800 Soaring Eagle Blvd.

Such License covers all indoor and outdoor SECR premises, Main Casino Floor (Bars 1-4 &, Floor Lounge) Isabella’s Italian Restaurant, Water Lily Lounge, Siniikaung Steak & Chop House, Room Service, Banquet & Conference Rooms & Spaces, Portable Bars #1-#13, Aurora Buffet, Legends Diner, Slot Palace & Slot Palace Pub, Entertainment Hall, Prime Rib Cart, Pizza Cart, Pool & Spa areas; Mijjim Convenience Store, Cart Services, and includes Indoor & Outdoor Bar Services, Beverage Service on the Gaming Floor, Special Event/Activity/Function Service and SECR Concession Trailer when on premises, and outdoor spaces under auspices of SECR.

This License, if issued, will be for the duration of one full year from May 24, 2014 through May 24, 2015, with hours of alcohol service consistent with section 10 of the Gaming Compact of Aug. 20, 1993, and specifically including hours of service for Sunday alcohol sales.

Tribal Court shares message of Tribal sovereignty with Delta College students

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Academic outreach comes to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan in many forms. However, when invited to share a March 26 message with criminal justice and sociology students, Tribal Court Judge Patrick Shannon embraced the opportunity.

“I was impressed with the number of students in attendance and with their questions,” Shannon said. “This session provided an opportunity to explain Tribal self-governance and the regulatory authority of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan along jurisdictional issues. It was a pleasure to address these students and it reminded me of when I taught criminal justice at Lake Superior State University for 20 years. It felt good to get back in the saddle.”

Judge Shannon shared his academic career with the Delta audience which included his Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration and Doctorate in Educational Administration from Central Michigan University, his Master’s degree in Public Health from the University of Michigan and his Juris Doctorate from the University Of Detroit School Of Law. Judge Shannon has served on the bench at the SCIT Court since 1999.

Tribal Deputy Court Clerk and Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Member Brian Wagner complimented Judge Shannon’s presentation by offering some practical examples of Tribal Court practices.

Wagner is one of five Deputy Court Clerks who have served for SCIT. Prior to joining the Court in 2012, he earned a Bachelor of Arts from Alma College in

2011 where he double majored in Political Science and History, with concentrations in International Law and Relations, and American Legal History.

While at Alma College, Brian traveled Europe studying International Law and Humans Rights, which led to the co-planning of, and his participation in the International Criminal Court Retreat Chicago. Wagner plans to pursue his Master’s degree this fall.

“This was definitely a unique experience; the presentation allowed the students to get a glimpse of Tribal sovereignty and the community,” Wagner said. “Their questions and reactions showed a genuine interest in the topic and they were impressed with the procedural aspects we adhere to in the Tribal Court process.”

Scottie Walls, associate professor of Criminal Justice offered several comments from her “Client Relations in Corrections” students.

“The guest speakers gave an overall talk about Tribal law and how it differs from state and Federal law,” Delta student Nathen said. “Some of the things they had to say really caught my interest. Although in previous criminal justice classes we have touched on Tribal law, I never quite understood it.”

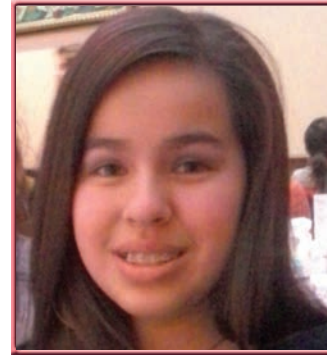
“All of the guest speakers did a good job, and seemed enthusiastic about Tribal law,” Delta student Whitney said. “The Honorable Patrick Shannon talked about a lot of really interesting things. He was a very good speaker and he gave us a basic overview of Indian law. The issue that stuck out to me was the fact that the Tribe has their own Tribal Family Services different from the state.”

Delta College Sociology Professor Colleen Wilson-Rood, Ph.D. said her Sociology of Minority Groups students were interested in various Criminal Justice opportunities that working with the Tribe may hold.

“They were taken by the concept of working with local Tribal communities and the complexities surrounding Tribal jurisdiction, including the Federal connections associated with law, public safety and courts,” Wilson-Rood said. “It was wonderful to see students take an interest in the details of Tribal law and criminal justice working across all levels of the legal-judicial system, while also expressing interest in the history behind the Tribe’s relationship with the Federal and State governments.”

“For me, it was wonderful to see the connections between important historical and current events that impact Indigenous and Tribal communities discussed in class ‘come to life’ with real, ground-level, everyday experiences of individuals who have made successful careers in the field of criminal justice within Tribal communities,” she said. “These types of experiences not only build awareness and knowledge but empathy among students who have not gained a lot of exposure to Tribal communities and their institutions.”

Judge Shannon concluded the speaking engagement with an invitation for students to learn more about Tribal Court processes and to consider visiting a Tribal Court to see the process first hand.



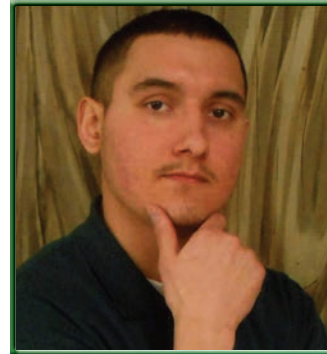
Happy Birthday
“Olivia Sprague”
Love, Mom



Happy Birthday! Son
Wow 10 already
Goldie River Stanton
May 3, 2004
Love,
Mom & Dad and Grandma



Happy 14th Birthday
Sydney!
Love,
Mom, Dad, Jordan & Walker



Happy 23rd Birthday
Byron
1 more birthday til you're home. Miss you, love you. Love your sista and family.



Happy Birthday
Sue!
On May 13th, you're still cruising after all these years!

2014 Graduate Photos

<i>High School</i>	<i>College</i>
Name of Graduate Name of School	Name of Graduate Field of Study

Submit Information to:
observer@sagchip.org
Due by May 16, 2014

Please be Advised

The Planning Department has changed the hours they will be selling Hunting and Fishing Licenses. They will now be sold from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please make a note of this change. Thank you, Planning Department

Eagle Spirit Award Banquet

June 24, 2014 • 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort
6800 Soaring Eagle Blvd Mt. Pleasant, Mich. 48858

Deadline to Submit Official Transcripts:
June 30, 2014. *Students that graduated in 2013/2014 please report to Higher Education*

Official transcripts can be mailed to:
Higher Education Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
7070 E. Broadway Rd Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858

Contact 989-775-4505 for further information

Tribal Administration has approved students anticipating receiving a 2014 academic incentive or graduation award to attend with supervisor approval.



Tribal Council

- Chief**
Steven Pego, District 1
- Sub-Chief**
Lorna Kahgegab Call, District 1
- Treasurer**
Shelly Bailey, District 1
- Secretary**
Sandy Sprague, District 1
- Sergeant At-Arms**
Ron Nelson, District 2
- Tribal Chaplain**
Jennifer Wassegijig, District 1
- Council Member**
Delmar Jackson Sr., District 1
- Council Member**
Lindy Hunt, District 1
- Council Member**
Julius Peters, District 1
- Council Member**
Chip Neyome, District 1
- Council Member**
Tim J. Davis, District 1
- Council Member**
Michele Stanley, District 3

Open house welcomes Shawana as SCIT's first Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

NATALIE SHATTUCK
Editor

On March 27, the Ziiibiwing Center hosted an open house to introduce the Tribal Historic Preservation Office, or THPO. Community members were invited to attend and welcome the first Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, Charmaine Shawana.

Shawana has lived in the Tribal community for more than 40 years. She has worked for the Tribe for more than 20 years, and served on Tribal Council intermittently for the past 10 years.

In cooperation with Federal and State agencies, private organizations and local governments, the THPO will conduct a Tribal lands-wide survey of historic properties, preserve inventories, and implement a Tribal lands-wide historic preservation plan.

"We want to make sure our historic properties are sacred sites," Shawana said. "To make sure all or anything that belongs to the Tribe is respected, honored, and aiding in taking care for the people of future generations."

The THPO will also join the Secretary of Interior and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to ensure historic properties are taken into consideration at all stages of planning and development. The

THPO plans to provide education, training and technical assistance in historic preservation.

"We have a lot of policies, procedures and laws that are coming about federally, as well as locally, for historic preservation," Shawana said. "We have a boarding school here we are trying to preserve. Whether it becomes a memorial site or a new facility, we are trying to renovate it. There's a lot of work that has to be done. We've never really comprehensively documented all of our sites; they are scattered here and there. We would like to create a more accurate database of what belongs to the Tribe and how to preserve and keep forever."

The THPO is located within the Ziiibiwing Center. The office hours are Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"There are a lot of dreams, hopes and visions I have for the program and what it means to the community," Shawana said. "For too long, (sacred) places have been forgotten about. Even our own cemeteries Ziiibiwing takes care of... at one time they were grown over and unrecognizable. We want to honor our ancestors by making sure they are taken care of."

On April 9, 2013, SCIT was approved by the U.S. Department of Interior to establish a THPO within its reservation and Michigan Tribal trust lands. This office now assumes the duties and responsibility the State previously held.

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.

Minaadendamoowin ~ 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.



SCA students help gather sap for Sugar Bush 2014

MELISSA MONTOYA
Education Director

The students of the Saginaw Chippewa Academy along with the Anishinabe Bimadiziwin Teachers have collected 90 gallons of sap so far.

On March 24, 2014, they began tapping maple trees. They hope to collect an additional 90 gallons before the sap stops flowing. Soon, they will begin the boiling process to produce maple syrup.

Our students are excited to participate in a process that their ancestors have handed down for generations.

If you happen to see any SCA students in the community, ask them about it. They can tell you the story and teaching behind the sugar bush as well as explain the scientific process.



Photos courtesy of Melissa Montoya

Saginaw Chippewa Academy students tap the maple trees. The students have already collected more than 90 gallons of sap.

Tribal Observer

Boozhu! The Tribal Observer, a monthly newspaper, is a free publication to enrolled Tribal Members and employees. Published on the 1st of the month, the Observer is sent to each head of household. Address changes can be made with the Tribal Clerk's office by calling toll free (800) 225-8172 or (989) 775-4055. Tribal Observer staff may be contacted at (989) 775-4010. 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
7070 East Broadway Road
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
You may also e-mail us at observer@sagchip.org.

Subscription rates are \$30 per year. Story ideas, articles and photographs from the community are always welcomed. 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, The 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

If you would like to advertise your business, please contact the Tribal Observer at (989) 775-4010 for more information.

For Announcements including Birthday, Wedding, Engagement, Congratulations, etc, cost is \$10 and is open to Tribal, Community members and Employees.

Political ads - All political ads will be 1/4 page and have a red border stating as such. The cost is \$500. 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

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: ____ Zip Code: _____
 E-mail: _____
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Annual District Powwow teaches Anishinabe culture and traditions

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

For many students, pre-K through high school, it may have been their first experience at a powwow. The colorful regalia, fancy footwork, drum beats, smell of Indian tacos and educational experience would all be difficult to ever forget.

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Youth LEAD Department hosted the annual District Powwow

on Tuesday, April 15 and Wednesday, April 16 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day in the Eagles Nest Tribal gym.

According to Youth Leadership Manager Deb Smith, this powwow has occurred for at least 15 years. This year was the first time the newly-formed Youth LEAD Department hosted.

Approximately 1,000 students visited each day from the Saginaw Chippewa Academy, Sasiwaans, Mount Pleasant Public Schools and Shepherd Public Schools.

"Throughout the two days, the schools bused their students here to take part in this fantastic, hands-on cultural experience," Youth LEAD Director Jennifer Crawford said. "Students had the opportunity to observe an

educational powwow, where they learned about traditional dances and types of regalia."

Students witnessed beautiful, colorful regalia and even joined in on the dancing during the last song.

"In addition to the powwow, (students) also took part in mini-workshops where they learned about storytelling, language, sacred medicines and many other valuable teachings," Crawford said.

Visitors were scattered throughout the Tribal Operations Senior's Room and Seventh Generation where they listened to stories about Native American traditions and culture. Students also made crafts with Seventh Generation staff.

"We had so many departments and community members who contributed time and resources to



All student eyes are on dancer Zachary Jackson and his colorful regalia.

this wonderful event," Crawford said. "Thank you all!"

Seventh Generation, Tribal Fire Department, Tribal Operations Maintenance, Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veterans Warriors Society, Tribal Chief Steven Pego, Saginaw Chippewa Academy Youth Drum and Anishinabe Bimadiziwin Staff and the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Food and Beverage department all assisted Youth LEAD in making this annual Powwow possible.



SCTC Financial Aid Officer Patricia Alonzo dances alongside the junior powwow dancers.



Youth Empowerment Aid Raymond Shenoskey shows Vowles and Kinney elementary school students his hoop dancing skills.

Summer excitement planned at Eagle Valley Outfitters and Eagle Bay Marina

GINA BORUSHKO

Sales & Marketing Specialist

Old Man Winter has finally left the Saganing area allowing Eagle Valley Outfitters and Eagle Bay Marina to get ready for an exciting spring and summer!

Throughout the past few months, many customers have noticed large inventory sales occurring at Eagle Valley Outfitters. These sales have been focused on spring cleaning – out with the old, in with the new – in order to make room for new products.

"I would like to say a big thank you to our customers for

their continued support as we make this transition," Eagle Valley Outfitters Manager Starli View said. "Without them and their support, none of this would be possible. I see Eagle Valley continuing to grow, which will bring more jobs and revenue to our local community."

As a thank you, Eagle Valley Outfitters is happy to announce their Customer Appreciation weekend June 13-15. Throughout the course of the weekend, there will be additional sales, prizes, hot dogs and more. Call Eagle Valley Outfitters today for more information at 989-846-1809.

Due to the harsh winter weather Michigan experienced, Eagle Bay Marina had to delay opening until later in the season. They are now pleased to announce they will be opening this month.

"We are looking forward to the 2014 season at Eagle Bay Marina," Interim CEO for the Migizi Economic Development Company Lisa Darnell said. "Water levels are expected to increase, allowing for easy access to the Saginaw Bay. There are many plans in the works, including a return visit from the Water Warriors to help benefit the Special



Olympics of Michigan. I encourage everyone to visit Eagle Bay Marina when they are in the Saganing area, even if it's just to enjoy a quiet afternoon by the water."

Seasonal and monthly docks are now available at Eagle Bay Marina. For more information, call 989-846-6065.

Both Eagle Valley Outfitters and Eagle Bay Marina encourage and support local community events, groups and fundraisers. For more information regarding events, or if you are interested in hosting an event at Eagle Bay Marina, please contact Migizi Marketing at 989-775-4155.

2014 HAWAIIAN LUAU

Observer photos by Joseph Sowmick

More than 125 community members saw the Eagles Nest transform into an island paradise at the March 20, 2014 Hawaiian Luau sponsored by the Youth LEAD Department. The event featured a frozen slushy "brain freeze" contest, a limbo stick contest and a hula hoop contest. Youth and Family Recreational Specialist Consuelo Gonzalez served as the contest MC and SECR Food and Beverage prepared carved ham for all the island natives... aloha! (Pictured left to right: Mattea Merrill and Taylor Burton.)

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Youth LEAD Diversion team takes street drug awareness to local schools

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Methylone, Benzylpiperazine and Molly... you may not have heard of them yet, but thanks to the Youth LEAD Diversion team, many students, teachers and parents are about to find out information on them and what they look like.

Law enforcement organizations and researchers in major metropolitan areas throughout the United States, Europe, Canada, Australia and elsewhere prepare reports with data on emerging trends and patterns in drug use and the 2014 Drug ID Guide is used by educators, professional law enforcement agencies, universities and hospitals.

Youth LEAD Diversion Manager Guadalupe Gonzalez shares educating the Tribal community about the dangers of drugs is a goal of the Youth LEAD Diversion team.

"Unfortunately, this is something we all (children included) deal with and see the effects of regularly," Gonzalez said. "We have been through much grief and loss in our community in recent years and the youth are looking for answers too. The goal of the 'Streetdrugs' ID guide is to help them understand the dangers and hopefully make better choices."

Methylone (hydrochloride) is a designer drug structurally similar to the illicit, psychotropic drug 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA). Methylone differs from MDMA by having a β -ketone group, found in cathinone (benzylethanamine), another illicit,



Youth Empowerment Aide Raymond Shenoskey (left) looks on as Coach Kevin Ricketts (right) shares drug ID info with Mount Pleasant High School students Grant Trepanier and Milan Quigno-Grundahl.

psychotropic drug. Methylone has been detected in products marketed as bath salts, plant food and tablets.

Youth LEAD Support Coach Kevin Ricketts said one of the reasons for the distribution of the "Streetdrugs" identification guide into the schools was to educate and make youth aware of what is available and how harmful it can be.

"With peer pressure to use drugs and youth wanting to experiment with drugs, the LEAD Diversion Department thought of placing drug information in the schools so the youth could read and hopefully understand the harm that drugs do," Ricketts said. "There will be a follow up with the schools for answers to any questions or concerns the youth have before the end of the school year.

This a national issue, not just something that is happening in Isabella County, and it will take a whole nation to solve. Educating all the youth, I believe, is a step in the right direction."

Benzylpiperazine (BZP) is a recreational drug with euphoria and stimulant properties. The effects produced by BZP are comparable to those produced by amphetamines. Adverse effects have been reported following its use including acute psychosis, renal toxicity and seizures.

Interim Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Lt. Kelly Babcock mentions a cornerstone of community policing is when all the citizens take a stand against drugs in Isabella County.

"We see the effects that drugs have first-hand and we welcome any effort on behalf of the schools and the Youth LEAD Department to bring this information out loud and clear," Lt. Babcock said. "For those who attempt to harm our community in this manner, rest assured, you will be arrested and

held accountable with the full weight of law as our disposal."

"Molly," the powder or crystal form of MDMA, the chemical used in Ecstasy, has been a popular drug at music festivals, according to CNN reports.

Molly, short for molecule, is considered to be pure MDMA, unlike ecstasy, which generally is laced with other ingredients, such as caffeine or methamphetamine. According to Pax Prentiss, co-founder and CEO of Passages rehabilitation centers in Southern California, molly users tend to be ages 16 to 24.

Youth LEAD Director Jennifer Crawford is fully supportive of her LEAD Diversion team efforts and mentions many of these drugs target the population their program serves.

"Our mission is to serve the Tribal youth from infants to 24 years of age and many of these designer drugs are looking to harm that same age group," Crawford said. "Our Youth LEAD team will remain vigilant and do our best to educate and protect the precious future that our youth represents."

To learn more on these and other street drugs, one can contact Publishers Group West, LLC at 763-473-0646 and access their website at www.streetdrugs.org.

SCA AB Teacher Joe Syrette wins 30th annual Powwow logo contest



Powwow Committee Chair Craig Graveratte awards 200 bashwabics (dollars) to Saginaw Chippewa Academy Anishinabe Bimaadziwin Teacher Joe Syrette for his winning logo. Syrette hails from Batchewana First Nations Canada and his logo was chosen among the 13 drawings submitted.

The theme for the 30th Annual Saginaw Chippewa Powwow is Gamaamwi Mnajanaanik Gda Binoojiinhminaanic "Together We Honor Our Children." This year's powwow is scheduled for July 25-27.

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Are you a Tribal Member interested in being a Fireworks Vendor this season?

Migizi EDC is accepting bids for land leases for the 2014 Fireworks season.

Bids are due by May 11th at 5:00pm.

For more information and to receive a bidding package, please contact 989.775.4225



Ten Social Security benefits you didn't know you had

BOB JENNINGS

Fox Business
Contributing Writer

(Editor's note: The following article is an informational opinion piece from the Fox Business website, written by Bob Jennings and published on July 5, 2011. At-Large Case Manager/Social Worker Mikki Marcotte submitted this article on social security information for Tribal members.)

In my 30-plus years as a certified public accountant, I have discussed taxes, Social Security and retirement planning with thousands of clients.

When addressing Social Security with clients, particularly those younger than 40, I am often told, "there will never be anything there for me." This statement has always bothered me because it illustrates a basic lack of understanding the American consumer (and often their financial adviser) on what benefits are provided by the Social Security System.

Let's look at a basic example: If average Joe earned \$4,480 or more during 2011, he received the maximum four credits in the Social Security system for the year 2011. This cost him \$343 if he was a W-2 employee (his employer matched his share) or \$686 if he was self-employed.

If Joe repeats this for nine more years during his life, he has earned complete, minimum coverage

under the system. In other words, for a minimum of \$3,430 (10 years at \$343 per year), average Joe has received total retirement and medical coverage.

But what does Joe really get for \$3,430? The Social Security System provides the following benefits to this average Joe for his 10 years of minimum, entry-level coverage:

- 1) A retirement income for Joe starting as early as age 62;
- 2) A retirement income for Joe's wife, as early as age 62, even if she has never had earned income;
- 3) A full medical system at age 65 (Medicare) for the remainder of his life;
- 4) A full medical system for his wife at age 65, even if she has never had earned income;
- 5) Disability benefits for Joe in the event of injury today;
- 6) Disability benefits for his wife even if she has never paid into the system;
- 7) Dependent benefits for a disabled, minor or dependent children, even after Joe's death;
- 8) Dependent benefits for his dependent parents;
- 9) Child care benefit for Joe's wife to care for any children at home age 16 or younger in the event of Joe's death, disability or drawing of his retirement benefit;
- 10) Death benefits for Joe's widow.

Joe gets all of this for \$3,430? Yes. Our Social Security System, possibly the greatest financial investment available

to every American, has been misunderstood, maligned and ignored by nearly everyone. The system is not meant to be just a retirement plan, it is more precisely a safety net for all Americans providing rudimentary retirement, disability and medical coverage at all ages to nearly all Americans.

What Joe, his wife and most Americans overlook is the tremendous safety net provided by this system. Let's look at a few examples.

What if Joe dies tomorrow? His widow still gets a retirement benefit, as early as age 60. If she is personally disabled, she could get benefits as early as age 50. She also still retains her full Medicare coverage at age 65, (as Joe's widow), even if she has never paid a dime into the system.

What if Joe is disabled by a car accident at age 50? Joe still qualifies for a full, unreduced Social Security disability check as if he had waited until his full retirement age to stop working, and Joe's wife does not lose a single benefit. If Joe is fully disabled, after two years, he also

will qualify for Medicare even though he is younger than 65.

What if Joe and his wife divorce? Once they have been married for at least 10 years, Joe's wife is covered under Social Security, even if she has never paid into the system. This means she retains her retirement, disability and Medicare coverage forever.

Finally, what if Joe decides to continue to work even after reaching his retirement age of 66? For each year that Joe postpones his retirement, his annual benefit goes up by roughly 8 percent. This 8 percent return is sure better than most Americans can do with their own investments, and Joe's delay does not hurt his wife's benefit or their Medicare coverage.

Most Americans are aware that Social Security provides them with a retirement benefit.

What they do not realize is that it also provides disability, medical and dependent coverage for themselves, their spouses, their parents and their children.

Are there funding problems with Social Security? Absolutely, but these problems can be easily overcome if Congress acts soon. Whether or not you agree with Congressman Ryans, (R-WI), Medicare and Social Security proposals, he appears to be the first congressman to arise with a proposal to fix some of Social Security's problems. Let's hope a few more join him in the urge to avoid this Congressional Frogger impasse.

Source: http://www.foxbusiness.com/personal-finance/2011/07/05/10-social-security-benefits-didnt-know-had/?intcmp=sem_outloud

Attention

The Saganing Powwow is looking for traders. If you or someone you know is a Native American Crafter, please contact our office at 1-800-884-6271 and ask for Mikki.

The 2014 Saganing Traditional Powwow needs your help

The Saganing Traditional Powwow is a self-funded, traditional, non-competition Powwow and cannot happen without your help and support. The money earned through memorial/announcement/booster sales and advertisements from local businesses is what makes this powwow possible. Not to mention the money earned from gate sales.

When you purchase a memorial/announcement spot in the powwow booklet, you are showing your support and making it possible for it to happen again next year. This year's powwow will be held June 14-15, 2014 at the Saganing Powwow grounds. We look forward to your continued support.

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Grand Entry	4 p.m.
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Sunday - June 15

Dancer/Drum Registration	12 - 12:45 a.m.
Grand Entry	1:00 p.m.
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Phone #: _____ *(please print clearly)*

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2008 Saturn Vue XE FWD

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Quad Cab, Auto, Red, 60k miles, #DT461A

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V6, Red Jewel Tintcoat, Auto, 45k miles, #ET071A

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Migizi Mentor Program formally named after Bonnie M. Sprague

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

The Niigaanii Migizi Leadership Program provides structured one-on-one relationships and leadership building programs that establish guidance and qualified development matters to employees, students and interns participating.

“Leadership and development really is a main component in an economic development company like ours,” Migizi Human Resource Manager Marian Blake said. “When organizations contribute a lot of their efforts to developing capability within an organizational structure, great things happen and we’ve already seen great things happening.”

Samantha Olson, higher education intern, was the first to complete the Debinan (Reach for it, Achieve it, Accomplish it) program. The program involved a 300-hour internship within Migizi.

Olson received an Eagle Feather award from Blake.

“We chose the circle Eagle mentality for Sam because we want to keep that cycle going within our organization,” Blake said. “Our families and community are counting on us to not only make our companies stronger, but to make



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

SEWPH General Manager Bonnie Sprague (left) graciously accepts the naming of the Bonnie M. Sprague Mentor Program and 30 years of service plaque by Associate General Manager Melinda Coffin.

each other strong and Sam exemplified that.”

Melinda Coffin, associate general manager for the Soaring Eagle Water Park and Hotel and leader of the Aanike-Ogimaa (Next in Line to Lead) Program also received an Eagle Feather award.

“We created an opportunity for one of our Tribal citizens to move into a position for leadership through a series of learning, development and collaboration with a Member already in a leadership position,” Blake said. “Melinda graciously accepted to be the guinea pig of that program and we’re very grateful.”

“When the water park was first being built, I was very anxious to get involved as a Tribal member,”

Coffin said. “When I got the job, I was so happy, but not prepared for what I was in for... A lot of long nights were spent here. Bonnie Sprague (SEWPH General Manager) and I would be here until 2 a.m. and back at 8 a.m.... I’m very honored to be able to work with Bonnie. I couldn’t have asked for a better mentor, I appreciate everything she’s done.”

Coffin is not the only one who looks to Sprague as a role model.

On April 11, the third program was officially named the Bonnie M. Sprague Mentor Program in her honor.

“Bonnie has been a wonderful mentor to many people,” Blake said. “We can say a lot of really great things about Bonnie’s

leadership, core values, poise and demeanor she always carries with her wherever she goes.”

Sprague received a framed plaque and a wisdom Eagle Feather award.

“I started working with Bonnie before the Water Park’s construction started,” Migizi Interim CEO Lisa Darnell said. “Her jumping in at ground level, with really no knowledge of waterparks, amazed me. Going from that to where we are today, Bonnie was always at every construction meeting and she made decisions confidently.”

Sprague was very surprised Migizi renamed the program after her.

“It’s an honor,” Sprague said. “Working many years for the Tribe and to get recognition means a lot.”

It was in 1978 Sprague began working for the Tribe as an administrative assistant. She then worked up to be the Tribe’s bookkeeper. From there, she went on to Gaming.

She was part of the six individuals that traveled to Hollywood, Fla. to visit the Seminole Tribe for bingo training. Shortly after, she became the Bingo manager.

Leadership roles were put into action for Sprague during the opening of the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort. The

Bingo operations had to be moved into the new casino in a short amount of time.

“We worked in the middle of the night,” Sprague said. “Waiting for the card room to close at 2 a.m. and moving that enterprise over, we had one hour to go home to shower and put on a clean suit, but we got it done.”

Sprague said she owes a lot of her mentor experience to her late aunt Josephine Jackson.

“She is the one who actually molded me to become who I am today,” Sprague said. “She always encouraged me to never let things get you down and encouraged me to further my education. She encouraged me to never be above the employees, but to always be at their level and to go through what they’re going through. So, I’m really close with my team here.”

The Bonnie M. Sprague Mentor Program consists of 20 internal employees at various levels in the organization. Each individual took a strength finder assessment test and was paired with someone based on the results, company structure and schedule availability.

The partners continue to meet to discuss leadership and performance development topics to further the success of the Migizi Economic Development Company.

Ziibiwing hosts Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School Readers Theater

ESTHER HELMS

Ziibiwing Cultural Art Design Specialist

The Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School Readers Theater was held at the Ziibiwing Center Tuesday, April 15. Ziibiwing Director Shannon Martin explained the information used in this presentation was compiled from history, research of the students and the MIIBS institution that existed from 1893 to 1934.

The intent was to raise awareness and inform interested

parties about what happened at MIIBS, and was not meant to make anyone feel bad, considering that these things happened in the past, Martin said.

“Where the Tribal community is concerned, there is also the hope that these types of events will help in the healing process and that they will encourage us to confront the situation in our own spirits and hearts and, if we can, move on,” Martin said.

Martin invited the viewing public to “take the journey” that still brings feelings of “sadness, anger, love and respect”

to many whose relatives were a part of the American Indian boarding school experience.

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Elder Thomasine “Ruby” Meshawboose researched and wrote the “Stories from Within the Walls of the MIIBS: 1893-1934” read that evening. Meshawboose came to Ziibiwing to spend one day helping with the repatriation effort in Flint, Mich. in 2009, and years later she still works closely with Ziibiwing; she is a member of the Board of Directors.

Meshawboose addressed the group explaining after the Flint project ended, in 2011 she joined in the effort of researching the deaths and personal lives of students attending the boarding schools.

“Research and writing are a part-time passion,” Meshawboose said; her first passion is her young great-grandson, Little D.

The 2014 Convening Great Lakes Culture Keepers performed the readings. Convening Culture Keepers is a series of networking and professional development opportunities for Tribal libraries, archives and museum staff “with the goal of supporting the delivery of culturally relevant information services in the American Indian communities of Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota.” For more information about them, visit their website at www.tlamproject.org/convening-culture-keepers/ The MIIBS Readers Theater

tells the stories of four boarding school students.

“Martha” is a student whose story revolves around her attempts to burn the school down, thinking this would allow her to go home. She succeeded in burning the school down, but it is uncertain whether or not she ever made it back home.

“Amelia’s” story was about her abuse and the cover up of that abuse. “Alice” was the youngest of the students, a 1-year-old, who died of arsenic poisoning under uncertain circumstances. The remaining story was of a boy, “Maubess,” whose life was spent almost entirely at the boarding school, first as a student, and later as an employee.

Research has uncovered 215 students deaths attributed to the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School



Photo courtesy of Esther Helms

Ziibiwing Director Shannon Martin and author Thomasine “Ruby” Meshawboose prepare for the Reader’s Theater.

when five deaths were officially reported. Martin stated the research will continue as we are “bracing for more.”

For more information about MIIBS, visit the Changing Exhibit at the Ziibiwing Center, DEBWEWIN/TRUTH: The Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School experience, which continues until Sept. 30, or visit the Ziibiwing website at www.sagchip.org/ziibiwing.

Niikeweh Mentoring Program



Photo courtesy of Kari Klouse

On Wednesday, April 9, fifth and sixth graders Simon Quigno, Guadalupe Pelcher-Arias, Carlos Sanders, Taylor Burton, Chloe Wemigwans, Trevor Fallis, Sam Hassen and Charles Hart went to Spinning Wheels for an outing with the Niikeweh Mentoring Program. All mentors in the program are Central Michigan University students. Their coordinator is Nichole McLachlan.



Photos courtesy of Esther Helms

Participants of the Convening Great Lakes Culture Keepers read their scripts.



Mshkakamikwe, our Mother Earth, is fully rested and ready to work

CHARMAINE SHAWANA

Contributing Writer

Now that most of the snow is gone, it's time for Mshkakamikwe (our Mother Earth) to do her real work. We know Mother Earth has covered herself with a blanket of white, and is fully rested. I have seen the flowers in my garden peeking out of the snow. I know she is anxious to get back to work creating all the beautiful finery she has to offer.

For the most part, all animals are waking up; the hibernating critters, the bugs, frogs start singing the first few weeks of April in my backyard. Most of the hibernating creatures will be famished, looking for a good meal. The grass will soon be back to its gorgeous green, I hear the birds and all the flying creatures are out now. I can hear them singing through my bedroom window, when the windows are open.

All the water creatures are starting to stir a bit as well. It will be time to catch some

healthy fish for supper soon. The turtles will wake from their mud holes and start to move around. This is the time when animals give birth and flourish during the greening season. Having mated last fall or early winter, Mshkakamikwe has it timed just right. All creatures, great and small, flourish in the best of times when things are green and warm.

A lot of our Elders can tell by looking at the clouds, what the weather will be... or they can feel it in their bones.

Aches and pains have a way of showing up when the weather is about to change. They say they can feel it in the air.

Springtime also brings the rain. The rain nourishes all of Mother Earth's creatures. It's almost overnight things turn color, flowers come up, the grass greens and all the leaves begin to show on the trees.

I've lived in Florida, the perpetual state of green. Things don't change much; it stays green all year around, and I really missed the beautiful fall

colors. The snow, I even missed the snow, it just doesn't seem right when everything is green and they have all the palm trees decorated with lights, bulbs and all the decorations at Christmas time. I guess when you don't have it, that's when you miss it. It's the season of cold.

I've heard them say that the diseases all die in the really cold weather. Things warm up and stay alive for a long time. Our seasons and even the cold weather keep us healthy, all the spirits come alive again.

SCIT member and wrestler Kenya Spencer declared national champion

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Not many high school sophomores can call themselves a five-time all-American champion; Caro resident and Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribal member Kenya Spencer can.

For the second year in a row, Spencer, 15, was declared champion in the Cadet and Junior divisions at the USA Wrestling Girl's Folkstyle National Championships on March 28 in Oklahoma City.

Last year, Spencer of Michigan Women's Wrestling, was just a high school freshman when she won the two divisions for the first time.

"It's a big deal for a freshman to win both divisions," Spencer said. "I was the first girl ever to win both, two years in a row. This year, I pinned all of my (28) opponents in the first period, except for two girls; one I pinned in the third period and in the Junior's match I won 8-1."

With slim chances of taking a double title again this year, Spencer was a bit hesitant to compete.



Photo courtesy of Mona Spencer

Kenya Spencer, 15, wears her medals won in both Cadet and Junior divisions at the USA Wrestling Girl's Folkstyle National Championships.

"I didn't want to go this year because no one ever really takes first in both Cadet's and Junior's," Spencer said. "I was afraid I wasn't going to do as well, but my mother convinced me to go and I was a nervous wreck."

This year, Spencer wrestled in a different weight class at 154 pounds, with last year at 139 pounds.

"Some of the girls intimidated me, I think because they were taller," Spencer said. "I was real glad to get my first match out of the way. Because I was ranked first, I had a 'bye' the first round."

If there are not enough wrestlers to fill a bracket in a weight class during the first round, a "bye" will be awarded to a wrestler. They end up not competing against a challenger in their pairing, skipping that round and automatically advancing.

"I hate (byes) because you have to wait longer and watch everyone wrestle before you," Spencer said. "It just makes you more nervous and I'm like, 'I just want to wrestle!'"

On May 15, Spencer departs for Dallas for her next competition. The matches focus on "freestyle" wrestling, when Spencer is an experienced "folkstyle" wrestler. Last year, she merely had three weeks to practice freestyle, never competing in it before.

"Freestyle involves a lot more thinking," Spencer said. "For freestyle, I go to my (Club OTA) coach Augie Facundo in Bay City."

Mark Rankin, Team Michigan assistant coach

and Bandy Berlin from Millington, Mich. will join Spencer in Dallas for training.

"I'm very lucky I have these coaches," Spencer said. "They are there for every match."

Spencer is a part of three wrestling teams; her Caro High School team, the OTA (Olson's Total Access) Wrestling Academy with Facundo and Team Michigan, which takes her to the national championship competitions.

Wrestling for 11 years beginning at age 4, Spencer hopes to make the World Team someday soon, known as the Junior Olympics. Although she's now a flourishing wrestler, it didn't always come easy for her.

"At first, it was bad," Mona Spencer, Kenya's mother said. "She lost all the time, but she liked it, so she did it for fun. At 8 years old, it finally clicked with her. One day she said, 'I'm going to win,' and she did. That day, she wrestled six times and pinned every boy she competed with. She ended up winning regionals that day."

It is because of SCIT's donations that Spencer has been able to compete nationally.

"The Tribe has really helped her," Mona said. "The

Tribe gave her a monetary donation, which is wonderful because had they not done that, she wouldn't have the extra funds she needs to get to these tournaments. Between registration fees, hotel stays and travel costs, it gets expensive. We are very thankful for the Tribe."

Throughout all of her victories, Spencer remains humble and grateful.

"You can lose to anyone at any time, don't let it get to your head," she said. "There is always someone out there that is better than you; you just haven't met them yet. Just because you have a national title, yes it's a big deal and I'm glad I took first, but there's no guaranteed win next year."

Spencer is currently raising funds to assist with tournament costs. She is selling \$10 raffle tickets, 75 percent of proceeds go to Spencer, and 25 percent go to her wrestling team, Team Michigan, to aid in national event expenses. Each raffle ticket purchased is eligible to win gift cards in a drawing held June 12. Checks may be made to Kenya Spencer, for those interested in donating to her thriving athletic achievements.

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skilful	wawiingezi
garden	gitigaan
Grandma	naan
gather	maamigin
baby	abinoojiyens
big (older) sister	nimisenh
little (younger) sister	nishiime
big (older) brother	nisayenh
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Father	imbaabaa

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Anishinaabe Language Revitalization Department of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe of Michigan

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Comments or feedback can be sent to: wigwam_wisdom@yahoo.com

**(WW is intended entertainment purposes only. Please make sure to seek professional counseling when necessary.)*

Dear WW: With Mother's Day right around the corner, I was thinking of inviting my dad's new girlfriend to Mother's Day brunch. This is something I do every year with my mother and two sisters. My parents have been separated for years and there is no fighting or bickering involved. Her children do not live close by and she would be all alone. I only met her twice and don't know if I know her well enough to invite her and don't want to give her any false hope if it doesn't work out with my dad. **Brunch Invite**

Dear Invite: Inviting your father's new girlfriend to brunch on Mother's Day could be beneficial to all. It would definitely allow you to get to know her on a personal level. You are not responsible for any "false hope" by having brunch with anyone. What happens between her and your father is their business. As I see it, you have nothing to lose and everything to gain. Without the invite, she might be home alone.

Dear WW: I usually vacation with my in-laws every Memorial weekend; however, I would like to sit it out this time. I know we don't get along and it's not really a vacation if I have to walk on egg shells trying to please everyone. They drink, I do not. They smoke, I do not. They swear like sailors, I do not. I try to eat healthy, they do not. I am at a point where I'd like to pack my family up and send them. However, in doing so, that will really give the in-laws something to talk about. Should I go as I always have or stay back and relax? **Older & Wiser**

Dear Wiser: Of course with age comes wisdom and what a wonderful thing to realize that the only person you can please is yourself. They don't like you now so what's the difference? Perhaps you could go for a day and take a day for yourself. If nothing changes, nothing changes. You don't owe anyone an explanation. You might even gain a little respect for standing up for yourself and inspire others to do the same.

Dear WW: I am engaged to a wonderful woman, but the closer it comes to our wedding date, the more I want to back out. There is lack of trust and I don't know if it's her or me. She tells me I am being paranoid and I'll admit, my past relationships have ended because of cheating but not on my part. She keeps her phone locked and says she doesn't want to be micro-managed. I have to wonder if it is me or if time will heal all wounds and move forward with the marriage? **Marry or Run**

Dear Run: People who have nothing to hide don't lock their phones. If she knows you have trust issues, she should be willing to do everything she can to establish trust with you. Trust is the foundation for any solid relationship. You need to sit down and have a serious one-on-one before the big day. If she is unwilling to live her life as an open book, you would be foolish to marry her.

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Gary Bennett receives March Employee of the Month honors

TORY FLETCHER

Waabooz Run
Superintendent/Director of Golf

I see Soaring Eagle Water Park and Hotel employee Gary Bennett quite a bit in the back of the house area performing various duties. From what I can see, it seems like he does a great job at doing the little

things that help make a department run more efficiently. Gary also helped me recently with the cleaning of all of our pro shop glassware that was covered in water spots and dust from winter storage.

It's always nice to have team members around that will assist other departments within a moment's notice. Congratulations, Gary!



Gary Bennett

Adopt a Pet

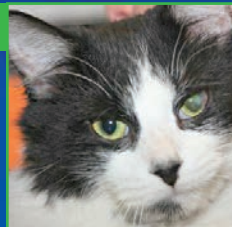
Frosty

I'm Frosty! I'm a 2-year-old shy guy seeking a quiet retirement home. I ended up with HATS when my owner passed away. I was sad at first, but the HATS staff really made me feel at home! I'm timid in new situations but once I get to know you I'm very outgoing. I love to play fetch and carrots are my treat of choice. I get along great with other dogs and I don't mind cats. If you are looking for a new forever friend, please consider meeting me. Great things come in small packages!



Gloria


My name is Gloria, I'm about 1 year old and I was born a queen! That's right, I'm royalty in the feline world and I deserve the very best! I am seeking a single animal household where I can share my love and good fortune with some very lucky humans. I would be more than happy to go to a home with large windows so that I can preside over my kingdom while bird watching and sun bathing. If you are looking for a one-of-a-kind companion, I am just the cat for you! I'm currently accepting appointments from potential adopters, just contact the shelter today!



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Tribal Council exchanges gifts with the Sister City Japanese Delegation from Okaya

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Many of our Native storytellers agree the best way to experience our Native culture is to come to the Reservation and visit our Tribe. Since 1965, our Japanese brothers and sisters from Okaya City, Japan having been visiting Mount Pleasant, Mich., and they have seen the changes and the growth of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe throughout the years.

SCIT Public Relations Director Frank Cloutier introduced Tribal Council Sub-Chief Lorna Call and fellow Council Member Chip Neyome through an Okaya International Exchange Association, or OIEA, interpreter to the Japanese Delegation at a Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort "intercontinental" breakfast held in their honor on April 14.

Tribal Chief Steven Pego and Tribal Council met with the Mayor of Okaya Ryugo Imai and the 18-member delegation in Tribal Council chambers on April 16 where they exchanged gifts of Seventh Generation maple syrup and Okaya silk.

"It was quite an honor having the delegation from Okaya, Japan here last week to visit with us," Chief Pego said. "Mayor Imai and our leadership exchanged differences and likenesses about

both our cultures during their time in Council chambers. One of the nicest things about being the Tribal Chief is the different experiences from time to time. We, as Native Americans, are not always given the opportunity to share our culture with our brothers and sisters from Japan. I look forward to meeting them again someday and maybe visiting them in their home land like they visited ours."

Mayor Imai smiled as Chief Pego shared a Mide' song on his shaker and Buddhist Monk Takao Kodama bowed his head in reverence after the song. Mount Pleasant City Mayor Sharon Tillman joined the delegation and International Relations Committee (IRC) members during the Council chamber gift exchange.

"I found it interesting interacting with the individuals from Okaya; witnessing their customs and behaviors gave me some insight into our own culture," Tribal Council member Chip Neyome said. "Through the experience, I was able to understand that our Grandfather Teachings are like golden truths that have been instilled in all people around the globe. I enjoyed the brief conversations and hope they enjoy their maple syrup, if they can get it through customs."

At the beginning of the 20th century, Okaya made a name

for itself as a center for silk production, and became known as "Silk Okaya," and later as the "Switzerland of the East."

Ziibiwing Assistant Director and IRC Sister City Task Force member Judy Pamp sent a "chimiigwetch" for all the Tribal assistance to the Mount Pleasant Sister City Taskforce in making a memorable experience for our Japanese delegates.

"The delegates were thrilled with their visit and the many experiences they had while in America and Mid-Michigan," Pamp said. "There were so many people and departments that contributed to the success of the delegation visit. I would personally like to thank Tribal Council and Public Relations for their generosity. The welcome reception and dinner was greatly appreciated by our Japanese delegates. They had been traveling for over 20 hours by the time they arrived at SECR. They deeply appreciated time to rejuvenate, relax over a good meal while learning about the week's activities. They loved the big cookies! They commented they were big like America!"

Mount Pleasant Vice-Mayor Kathy Ling was instrumental in working with the IRC and echoed Pamp's comments.

"The generosity and attention to detail provided by all those associated with Tribal Council,



Okaya City Japanese Elder Michiko Kamijo dances in her traditional kimono with fellow Native dancers in their regalia.



Tribal Council Member Julius Peters extends a traditional Japanese greeting to Okaya City Mayor Ryugo Imai.

Tribal Operations, the Soaring Eagle Resort and Ziibiwing museum were greatly appreciated by all and helped make the week very special," Ling said. "And Judy was a blessing to the Sister City Task Force as she and her family put much effort in coordinating such an important visit."

A highlight for the Japanese delegation occurred unexpectedly when they joined the dancers in

the arena during the Youth LEAD District Powwow in the Eagle's Nest Tribal Gym. Cameras flashed at the same speed as smiles as the visitors embraced the dancing, music and food of our Tribe.

The Sister City will be returning with the OIEA interpreters and a student delegation during our 30th Saginaw Chippewa Powwow weekend July 25-27.

CMU lecture series address the Trauma Experience of Boarding Schools

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

A capacity crowd gathered April 8 in the Central Michigan University Park Library auditorium to hear Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Elder and Michigan State University Associate Professor Emeritus Dr. Suzanne Cross share her lecture on "The Trauma Experience in Bureau of Indian Affairs Boarding Schools: Impact on Subsequent Generations".

Midewiwin Anishinaabe Kwe and Saginaw Chippewa Behavioral Health Helping Healer Beatrice Jackson shared a smudge medicine prayer with her Eagle Clan fan to begin the lecture in a good way.

"During this spring time of renewal, we offer these grieving prayers to the Creator as we are putting our hearts out there tonight," Jackson said. "We can honor the memory of our children and use the spiritual gifts given to us by Creator to help our families heal."

Dr. Cross shared her own heartfelt experiences of her family and how the boarding school trauma affected their lives. The key message Dr. Cross imparted to the audience was a personal challenge for people to increase their knowledge and assist others in learning about this part of history.

In order to change the current historical inaccuracies regarding boarding schools, Dr.



Midewiwin Elder and Eagle Clan Anishinaabe Kwe Beatrice Jackson shares a grieving prayer for healing as Dr. Suzanne Cross looks on.

Cross advised the students to 1) demand textbooks including the American Indian/Alaskan Native populations, 2) work with Tribal Nations and urban communities who are engaged in rectifying the impact of historical trauma, 3) attend guest lectures and conferences of boarding school survivors to learn their about their trauma and 4) read biographies of boarding school survivors.

Through her extensive research on the topic, Dr. Cross confirms there are 641,000 sites regarding American Indian boarding schools and more than 1.2 million sites have photos and images documenting the trauma experience.

Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Charmaine Shawana praised Dr. Cross for sharing her moving story and was visibly moved along with many in

attendance on the pain endured by the survivors.

"Dr. Cross gave a real life interpretation of what it was like for a boarding school survivor," Shawana said. "Her family is still healing from an event that happened to her mother years and years ago. It was so interesting to listen to her and I was fascinated by her gentle presence and strong assertion of a criminal act that was perpetrated on all of us as Anishinaabe people. Her family is heroes in my eyes, and what they have survived."

Michigan Industrial Indian Boarding School Communications Board Member and Tribal Public Relations Manager Marcella Hadden, states, "I was pleased to be able to help promote Dr. Cross's presentation. We need to have more presentations like hers to let people know that we are tired of hiding a dark part of American History. The truth prevails with education and awareness."

Dr. Cross commended the effort of the American Civil Liberties Union of CMU in bringing her lecture to campus and she has been offering her boarding school presentation since 2006.

"A great deal of the trauma focused on how boarding schools, since 1879, took away the one language God gave us," Dr. Cross said. "With all the trauma experienced through the boarding schools in the U.S.

and Canada, if every Native American was a social worker, we still wouldn't have enough."

"In 1877, the U.S. Congress began appropriation funds specifically for the purpose of Indian education," Dr. Cross said. "The purpose of these schools was to "civilize the uncivilized."

"The means to this goal included maltreatment and severe abuses of power over helpless children," Dr. Cross said. "It is important to develop a historical context to understand the significance of a policy that was developed, enacted, and resulted in

traumas which included isolation, physical, and the psychological abuse of children. The effects of these traumas continue to reverberate through families and Tribal Nations. It is important to increase awareness and understanding of how the past affects the present and the future."

Dr. Cross is slated to be a presenters at the Ziibiwing Center sponsored June 5 annual Honoring, Healing and Remembering ceremony held at the site of the Mount Pleasant Industrial Boarding School on Crawford Road in Mount Pleasant, Mich.

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World-renowned Tribal Elder Eddie Benton Banaise shares the "777" teachings

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

A lifetime of experience could not cover the importance of the rich spiritual teachings handed down by our ancestors. On April 11-12, the Ziibiwing Center, in conjunction with the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Historic Preservation Office, or THPO, and the Central Michigan University Denison Visiting Professorship of Native American Studies, sponsored two days of teaching and ceremony with world-renowned educator and spiritual leader Eddie Benton Banaise.

Elder Banaise of the Fish Clan is a full-blood Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe of Wisconsin and is the Bawdwaywidun, the grand chief of the Midewiwin Lodge, adjunct professor and spiritual advisor to Shingwauk Kinomage Gamig.

Banaise was the founder of Red School House, an Indian-controlled school with 150 kindergarten through 12th grade Indian students. He is a pioneer in culture-based curriculum and Indian alternative education who believes education should be built on identity, spirituality, music, heritage and pride.

"In 1988, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Chief Arnold Sowmick came to visit the Red School House and wanted to see a facility like this in Mount Pleasant," Banaise said. "In support of his vision, I worked for the Tribe for three years as the SCIT Education Director.

It is a tribute, the work that was done then, and see it continue with the commitment to keep our language and ceremonies alive here."

Banaise graciously recognized Tribal Chief Steven Pego, a third degree Midewiwin Lodge Elder, for his personal walk of keeping the good medicine teachings first and foremost through his leadership.

"Our Bawdwaywidun honors our community when he comes to share the Seven Grandfather Teachings, the seven prophecies and seven fires and the seven migration stopping places," Chief Pego said. "We learn by 'Diba Jimooyung' when our Elders tell our story and there is much to learn."

As an author of the widely regarded "The Mishomis Book", it is stated that the Aadizookaan (traditional story) or the teachings of the Seven Grandfathers were given to the Anishinaabeg early in their history. Banaise explains the teachings asked their messenger to take a survey of the human condition. At that time, the human condition was not very good. Eventually in his quest, the messenger came across a child.

After receiving approval from the Seven Grandfathers, tutored the child in the "Good way of Life." Before departing from the Seven Grandfathers, each Grandfather instructed the child with a principle. Banaise has made a lifelong

commitment to set down the oral history of the Ojibway nation and presented the story of his life within the family circle.

Banaise has a Master's degree in Education from the University of Minnesota and along with Dennis Banks, and Clyde Bellecourt, he founded the American Indian Movement, arguably the most influential movements that has led to self-identity, pride and revival of American Indian culture for the last generation of Anishinabe people. He was considered the American Indian Movement's spiritual leader.

"We must push through the curtain to find out our true story of Anishinabe way of being and all original people in this part of the world are Anishinabe," Banaise said. "Anishinabe is a word that comes from our Creation story and our people respect all Creation stories because they are all true. We have 64 songs that are vital to the understanding of the Creation story and the Mide' Lodge during ceremony is only place where you can hear all the songs of the story."

Banaise believes we are now experiencing the prophecies foretold and that we are in the time of the seventh fire. Part of the understanding the prophecy and the seventh fire is connected to our language.

"If you are ashamed of who you are, you are ashamed of the Creator... our language is

a sacred language," Banaise said. "Those who will take the time and do the research will find the policies of how they took our sacred teachings and our language from us. As long as we can protect the land and the water and to keep it sacred, we will continue."

Banaise mentions the Midewiwin Lodge continues to teach the language of the ancestors and that Anishinabe should learn how to speak to the creator using their Spirit name, Clan and Tribe.

"There is an order to life and we learn our Clan and who we are through our father's side," he said. "Our Spirit name and Clan gives us direction on who we are as Anishnabe and what we will do as a part in creation. Knowing our Spirit name and Clan and sharing that with others is a part of our creation story. It shows how we are a beautiful, strong people with powerful medicine when we realize who we truly are as Anishnabe."

After Banaise shared this beautiful teaching, each person in the standing room only ceremony spoke their name proudly... Elders, young men and women and our Tribal youth all in one accord through our language.

Ziibiwing Curator William Johnson was visibly moved



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Mide' Spiritual Teacher and Elder Eddie Benton Banaise shares the prophecy of the Seventh Fire.

and honored to be a part of the ceremonies where he brought out the birch bark scrolls and many other sacred items in the Ziibiwing private collection.

"The 777 event was very enlightening and uplifting," Johnson said. "My spirit was soaring for days after the ceremonies and teachings. Bawdwaywidun Banaise provided an educational opportunity for the Tribal community selflessly. His passion was evident throughout the two-day gathering. I was very impressed with the turnout and commitment of those in attendance. The respect that was shown was inspiring and I was often overcome with emotion. My happiness was overshadowed only by my love of who we are as Anishinabe."

Tribe's economic growth discussed during Area Chamber Legislative Breakfast

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The Mount Pleasant Area Chamber of Commerce recently received Tribal sponsorship for a legislative overview held at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort. On March 14, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council, Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort CEO Wendy Reeve and many senior administrative personnel packed the Three Fires Room for the annual Chamber Legislative Breakfast.

The event featured updates from 33rd District State Sen. Judy Emmons (R-Sheridan), 99th District State Rep. Kevin Cotter (R-Mt. Pleasant) and Tribal Public Relations Director Frank Cloutier.

Cloutier serves as a Tribal representative on the Chamber board and as a business leader himself, recognizes the importance to the Tribe's continued involvement.

"The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, through our business interests, stimulates the economy and continues to be a leading factor in the economic growth of the region," Cloutier said. "Tribal Council Administrations have valued

membership in the Chamber since Jan. 1, 1980 and we can show our continued support through the sponsorship of key Chamber events."

SCIT remains the largest employer in Isabella County with 3,556 associates ahead of Central Michigan University and the McLaren Health System.

Sen. Emmons has been a voice for economic growth and is working to make Michigan the "Comeback State."

"It has been a true privilege to serve the citizens of the 33rd district in the Michigan Senate and we still have much more work ahead of us ... jobs and more jobs remain a priority," Emmons said. "While serving on the Economic Development Committee, I aspired to develop and create opportunities for businesses

to grow and thrive in our great state, whether it is a current Michigan business or one looking to locate here. Agriculture is at the heart of our state and our district; diversity continues to grow in Michigan and contributes \$96 billion to our economy. I will continue to utilize my experience as a fifth generation farmer to enhance opportunities while maintaining a safe, abundant food supply."

Emmons also highlighted her work as Senate Committee Chair of the Families, Children, and Human Services and revealed the heinous criminal activity of human trafficking within Michigan.

"Because of the lack of awareness and consequences of this horrific crime that strikes every sector of society,

there is much unfinished work yet to do," Emmons said. "I have led this issue with 13 of my colleagues to pass laws making Michigan the lead state in the nation for eradicating this \$32 billion tax-free criminal industry."

Rep. Cotter serves on the House Appropriations Committee and is well aware of the economic challenges our state faces. He also serves as the Vice-Chair on the Judiciary Committee and the Higher Education Committee.

"Regulation poses a major problem for job creation in the state and we recently passed some legislation regarding microbreweries that will allow expansion and result in over 300 new jobs created," Cotter said. "Regulation tends to cause both state and Federal government to get in the way of economic growth and when companies like Shorts Brewing in Bellaire and Arcadia Brewing in Battle Creek see the walls of over regulation come down, they can expand and employ more Michigan workers."

Cotter also spoke of those who want increased gaming in the state, whether by ballot

initiative or through i-Lottery, and mentioned his opposition to both.

"It comes down to relationships and how we can work together for the benefit of all the citizens in Michigan," Cotter said. "We have built a level of trust in working with Tribal Council and Mr. Cloutier over the years and we share a lot of common ground that we can agree on."

Cloutier offered one example of how Tribal revenue impacts a local municipality and allows that relationship to be mutually beneficial.

"With the city of Omer, Mich. and residents of White's Beach in Standish Township looking to the Tribe for water and wastewater services, our Tribal community is becoming that utilities supplier within our market share," Cloutier said. "This is new for our Tribal community and a great opportunity to be that partner in utilities services within our reservation and aboriginal lands. I think it is the best thing since gaming for our Tribal community. This could be the model for yet another diversity effort within the Tribe's portfolio."





SCIT aids in Celebration! Cinema's "The Bully Project" sponsorship

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Throughout America, bullying is a growing prevalent problem. According to The Bully Project website, more than 13 million children will be bullied this year, making it the most common form of violence experienced by youth in the nation.

On Sunday, April 13, the community was welcomed to "The Bully Project" event to help increase bullying awareness. A free showing of "Bully" at Celebration! Cinema in Mt. Pleasant, Mich., was followed by a question and answering discussion with a group of panelists from the community.

"Bully" is a documentary filmed throughout the 2009-2010 school year exposing the lives of five young students across America. "Bully" shows the pain and often endangered lives of bullied children, revealing not only physical bullying, but emotional as well.

Jennifer Fields, educator at Mid-Michigan Community College and member of the Honey House Book Group, facilitated the panel discussion and helped make the event possible due to connections made at a similar past event.

"One year ago we read the book "Half the Sky"... we were so inspired by it, we decided to host a community showing to talk about human trafficking and maternal mortality rates throughout the developing world," Fields said. "We thought we'd put on a community showing and see who attends. Two-hundred and fifty people showed up and we had a great discussion."

This year, the Honey House Book Group read "Wonder" by R.J. Palacio, a book about a 10-year-old boy transitioning into middle school after being homeschooled. The child underwent multiple surgeries and was bullied due to his facial deformity caused by an anomaly in his DNA.

"We were so affected by the topic of bullying," Fields said. "I had seen the documentary 'Bully' and thought it might be a great conversation in our community. By building on the connections we made last year, we called again and received so much interest... Perhaps by having this viewing and subsequent conversation, we can offer hope to kids and families drastically affected by this sobering event."

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan sponsored the event. SCIT gave away two one-night passes for



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Jennifer Fields leads the anti-bullying discussion with panelists Officer Michael White, Michigan State Police youth advocate; Risa Scully, Isabella County prosecuting attorney; Jennifer Verleger, Mt. Pleasant Public School assistant superintendent; Shannon Jolliff-Dettore, director of CMU's LGBTQ program; Laura Gourlay, West Intermediate counselor and Hunter Genia, SCIT Behavioral Health director.

up to four people at the Soaring Eagle Water Park and Hotel, and also provided the sound system for the panel discussion.

The panelists included Hunter Genia, SCIT Behavioral Health director; Jennifer Verleger, Mt. Pleasant Public School assistant superintendent; Laura Gourlay, school counselor at West Intermediate middle school; Shannon Jolliff-Dettore, director of Central Michigan University's LGBTQ Program; Officer Michael White, Michigan State Police youth advocate and Risa Scully, Isabella County prosecuting attorney.

"This is not a day to shame bullies, this is not a day to giggle about violence," Fields said. "This is a day to recognize we

have a serious epidemic in our specifically adolescent communities where kids are committing suicide because they are experiencing trauma attached to this, and we, as a community, can hopefully come up with some solutions."

Questions were raised after "Bully" scenes showed physical and mental abuse between youth on school buses.

"In Mt. Pleasant specifically, our bus drivers go through training every year at the beginning of the school year," Verleger said. "They do all the training our school staff also does on bullying; how to recognize it, signs and symptoms, and this year we also did training on cyber bullying. Bus drivers are trained to keep their buses safe at all times. Our buses are filled with surveillance cameras... they give three different angles of the bus. You have the ability to zoom in and can hear what is happening."

At West Intermediate, Gourlay has victimized students confront their bully in her office. The victim talks directly to the bully, sitting tall and confidently with an open heart and asks the bully to please stop harassing them.

"My experience has been, in that kind of setting when the approach is very open, very love-oriented, very non-blaming and non-fear based, (the bully) is likely to cop to 'yes, I'm going to stop,'" Gourlay said. "The then-bully said this in front of (the victim) and in front of this third party; me, that's nice we've had

an honest exchange. It happened in a very open forum, and in my experience that has taken care of (bullying) in West Intermediate."

Genia shares how fortunate the SCIT reservation is to have the Saginaw Chippewa Academy.

"The Seven Grandfather Teachings including love, respect and humility are reinforced in that Tribal school setting," Genia said. "Students are able to participate in their culture, traditions and ceremonies which does not preach violence and/or bullying at all, it endorses the opposite of that."

According to research, the number one determining factor for bullying is adult presence, Fields said.

Anti-bullying actions and behavior begin at home, Genia said.

"We, as parents, have to set that bar at home, our first prevention is there," Genia said. "Our youth mimic behavior allowed by parents or older siblings. Take a look at what's going on at home and set expectations."

Proceeds raised during the event were split between the Chippewa River District Library to increase anti-bullying resources for families and schools, and to the non-profit movement "The Bully Project".

"Bully" is available for viewing on YouTube at no charge. Visit www.thebullyproject.com for more information and educational anti-bullying resources for individuals, communities and schools.

Michigan Tribal Education Directors meeting



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Tribal Education Director Melissa Montoya presents during the Michigan Tribal Education Directors meeting in the Ojibway Room of the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on March 16. The directors meet quarterly and share ideas and updates on every Michigan Tribe.

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Librarian Assistant Walker receives March "Educator of the Month"

CHRISTINA HALLIWILL

Contributing Writer

Education Administration would like to take this opportunity to showcase the shining stars in our department. We are proud of each and every team member within our department and think the community should know about you!

Congratulations Brenda Walker, for being selected as our Educator of the Month for March! The following is a questionnaire completed by Walker:

What program do you work for? Education/Tribal Library

What is your title? Librarian Assistant

How long have you worked for Education Department? Four years

What is your favorite part of working in this department? Being a positive mentor for the kids, watching them grow up within the community and the changes they make.

What is your funniest memory in working with our students? Watching the expression on their faces when they see me at the grocery store or somewhere outside of the library. Patrons suddenly need to tell me why they haven't returned their books or movies yet.

When you were younger, what did you want to be when you grew up? A

veterinarian because I was always taking in stray pets.

Something people may not know about you? I was adopted, went to a day/boarding school, and I come from a large family; seven sisters and three brothers.

What is your favorite movie? "Misery", and "Thelma and Louise".

Do you have any hobbies or special talents? Cultural hobbies; beadwork, making dreamcatchers, teaching and passing these onto my two kids.

What is your favorite food? I love all food! Except anchovies and tuna.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick
Librarian Assistant Walker (left), accepts her award from Tribal Education Administrative Assistant II Christina Halliwill.

Thank you so much for being such an integral part of our education team! We appreciate you!

Vowles

The following students earned perfect attendance for March: Arianna Altiman, Aolani Gibbs, Aviana Gomez, Mateo Harris, Hunter Johnson, Evelyn Kripa, Mariana Mays, Anissa Quiroga and Nathan Vanbuskirk.

Pullen

The following Kindergarten students earned perfect attendance for March: Hope Stevens, Kaya Rose and Caleb Burger. **First Grade:** Andrew Kequom, Zhaawan Martell, Leonard Pamp-Ettinger, Juan-Sergo Casas, Justin Ritter-Bollman, Bailey Burger; Ryan Flaughner, LahRae Wilson and Jasmine Davis. **Second Grade:** Kadenn Rose, Mahayla Freeman, Emily Stevens, Nevaeh Flory and Joaquin Jackson. **Third Grade:** Kyrath Bennett and Mackenzie Burger.

Saginaw Chippewa Academy

The following students turned in all homework for March: Angelica Hinmon-Sanchez, Tawny Jackson, Rodney Miller, Raymond Pelcher, Katie Pigeon, Madison Riggs, Felicia Saunders, Calijah Trepanier, Liberty Morland, Treasure Jones, Carissa Sanders, James Morland, Chelsea Pelcher, Red Arrow LaLonde, Alex Grice, Jayden Schout-Pelcher, Layla Paul, Ariel Hinmon, Annie Lada, Meadow David, Erica Hinmon, Bela Magnell, Karma Pelcher-Scarlott, Kyleigh Scarlott, Josclynn Shaw, Alexis Trepanier, Isabella Arbogast, Prentiss Jones, Angelo Leauteaux, Ariah Mandoka, Toby Pamp, Sara Saunders, Christopher Spencer-Ruiz, Gracie David, Maiingen Miller-Hosler, Rainah Hunt, Chebon Chupco, Julianna Garcia and Tavia Kahgegab. The following students earned perfect attendance for March: Madison Riggs, Quenten Rolfes, Joshua Wemigwans, Brandon Wemigwans, Robert Saunders, Lars George, Matthew Quaderer, Toby Pamp, Albert Shomin, Sara Saunders, Layla Paul, Lindsay Paul and Kenneth Wemigwans.

Fancher

The following students earned perfect attendance for March: Jamie Cross-George, Eli Marin, Emmalee Morrow, Madison Nahgahgwon, Isaiah Teswood, Thomas Trasky, Gabe Jackson, Makayla Jackson and Ty Rios.

McGuire

The following Fourth Grade students earned perfect attendance for March: Shenanrose Pontiac, Makayla Stevens, Dawnseh Wilson. **Fifth Grade:** Katie Green, Miingan Jackson, Caleb Kequom and Guadalupe Pelcher-Arias. **Sixth Grade:** Givonte Bergevin, Taylor Burton, Julian Flory, Cory Jo Gaskill, Jade Leauteaux, Katheryn Pierce and Aliana Seybert.

Mount Pleasant HS

The following students earned a 3.0 GPA or higher for the second trimester: Simone Bigford*, Jonathon Curtis, Rebecca Curtis, Cheyenne Fallis, Thomas Foster, Gilberto Franco jr, Jessica Harris, Alex Leauteaux, Miino Pelcher, Edgar Peters, Kataya Peters, Kristin Peters, Milan Quigno-Grundahl, Jacob Reed, Isaiah Ruffino, Elissa Schlegel, Scott Sheahan, Dajia Shinos, Ariel Stallcup, Eli Starkey, Elizabeth Trasky, Destiny Wetherbee, Tanner Williams and Taylor Williams. *Denotes a 4.0 GPA. The following students are being recognized for attendance: Simone Bigford, Tyler Chippewa, Jordan Heinrich, Ron Paul, Miino Pelcher, Warren Ricketts, Isaiah Ruffino, Elissa Schlegel, Sully Schlegel, Ariel Stallcup and Eli Starkey.

Ganiard

The following students earned perfect attendance for March: Isaiah Otto-Powers, Dairen Rueckert, Darien Mandoka-Haggard, Foster Hoorman, Darius Lopez, Paul Rueckert, Caedynce Bailey, Lucus Jackson, Trent McConnell, Elisha Hoorman, Matthew Jackson and Elijah Otto-Powers.

SCA afterschool mentoring program off to great start

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

The afterschool mentoring program the Anishinabe Bimadiziwin Teachers of the Saginaw Chippewa Academy have established is off to a great start.

"The philosophy of SCA is to establish a balanced system of high-quality academics, along with the cultural ways of our Anishinabe ancestors," Educator Director Melissa Montoya said. "This program directly reflects that philosophy."

Students are assigned a mentor from the Anishinabe Bimadiziwin staff. Together, they work on any homework that needs to be completed and then engage in a cultural lesson directed toward living an Anishinabe Bimadiziwin "Healthy Anishinabe Way of Life."

The Seven Grandfather Teachings are explored as well as ancestral teachings in their environment.

"It is always a great feeling to see the disappointment in the student's faces when the program is over," Montoya said. "They are always eager and look forward to the next meeting with their mentors."



Photos courtesy of Melissa Montoya



Students were outside SCA observing nature "waking up" from its winter rest and were lucky enough to be paid a visit by mishiikeh.

Higher Education DEADLINES



Official class schedules may be scan emailed to: roromero@sagchip.org

For further information call: (989) 775-4505

Summer 2014 Deadline
June 15, 2014

Official Transcript Deadline
June 30, 2014

Fall 2014 Funding Deadline
Oct. 15, 2014

Youth LEAD Graduation Banquet

The LEAD Department Graduation Banquet will be held Monday, May 19, 2014 for seniors graduating from Mt. Pleasant High School, the W.A.Y. Program and Shepherd High School.

Please contact Charisse at 775.2200 x 20125 for questions.

Attention Higher Education Students

When changing your contact information with the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, please contact the Youth LEAD main office so your student contact information is accurate.

Please be advised that if we do not have accurate contact information this may cause a delay in your Higher Education services.

If you have moved or would like to change your mailing address, please visit the following website to download and complete the "change of contact information" form: <http://www.sagchip.org/education/higher-ed/index.htm>.

The change of contact information form is a completely new form to the Higher Education Program that has been created for students who would like to keep their student contact information updated.

Please submit forms to:

Higher Education
Youth LEAD Department
7070 E. Broadway Road
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858

You may also request and submit forms via email to: roromero@sagchip.org.

All Higher Education applications are available online and have been converted into electronic format which gives students the ability to type in their information.

For questions, contact Youth LEAD at: (989) 775-4505



Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College presents 14th Commencement Ceremony

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College will be conducting its 14th Commencement Ceremony.

Ten graduates will be honored this year: Brad Bennett, Maria Illiana Bennett, Mark J. Vasquez Jr., Janelle Angela Jackson, Debbie Rosemarie McSawby, Kelly C. Perkins, Alicia M. Gonzalez, Brian

Loney, Russell L. Menefee Jr. and Mildred Pelcher.

SCTC is located in Mount Pleasant, Mich., with the Commencement Ceremony taking place at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment Hall at 6800 Soaring Eagle Blvd., in Mount Pleasant, Mich. on Thursday, May 15, 2014 at 6 p.m.

SCTC held its first graduation in 2000, working closely with Bay Mills Community College in Brimley, Mich.

This graduating class will add to our current 107 alumni, of which we are very proud.

It is with confidence SCTC can say 85 percent of the graduates have returned to the Tribal

community to garner additional work experience, and a high percentage remain as an active part of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's workforce.

SCTC is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association in Chicago.

The College offers

Associate degrees in Native American Studies, Business and Liberal Arts.

For additional information on how you can become a graduate of SCTC, contact Amanda Flaucher, admissions/registrar at 989-775-4123, flaucher.amanda@sagchip.edu, or visit our website at www.sagchip.edu

Tribal College continues its journey on new campus planning

MARCO ANGIOLINI & AMANDA GEORGE-DYE

Contributing Writers

Boozhu! This is an exciting time for the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College and for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe!

As Grants and Special Projects Coordinator for SCTC, one of Amanda George-Dye's main responsibilities when accepting the position in 2012 was to focus on funding opportunities for a new campus facility.

Now, in its 16th year of operation, SCTC has provided higher education opportunities on the Isabella Reservation and its neighboring community with 84 percent of its graduates working for or have worked for SCIT.

A permanent campus has always remained a priority for the institution since inception. Currently housed in two leased buildings at Petro Plaza, staffing and increased student enrollment have far exceeded SCTC's expectations and are at a point of having to limit

courses and possible staffing opportunities due to a lack of spacing needs. This also impacts program growth.

In June 2012, SCIT provided 295 acres of land to SCTC to investigate a new campus. The SCTC Board of Regents, administration, faculty and students began voicing their needs and focus groups were established on new facilities and future programming that will ultimately benefit the Isabella Reservation.

In July 2013, the SCTC Board of Regents acquired the services of Integrated Architecture from Grand Rapids, Mich. to begin a schematic design process as a result of prior focus group responses and current staff, faculty, student and community input. SCTC represents higher education opportunities on reservations and has always remained vocal in becoming a model institution to its Tribe, other Tribal Colleges and our neighboring communities in relation to becoming environmentally sustainable.

In December 2013, the SCTC

Board of Regents, with recommendation of staff, accepted the Living Building Challenge to be integrated in our direction of a new campus. The Living Building Challenge calls for the creation of building projects at all scales that operate as cleanly, beautifully and efficiently as nature's architecture.

To become Living Building certified by the International Living Building Institute, projects must undergo a series of rigorous performance testing for a period of 12 months of continuous occupancy, and must be built to meet a series of strict requirements that include: Net Zero Energy, water collection, storage and processing, forest and wetland restoration, agricultural production, composting, usage of non-toxic materials, natural lighting and fresh air for all areas, promoting car-free living, fair labor practices, etc.

On Monday, April 21 a team composed by SCTC and Integrated Architecture visited the Blandford Nature Center in Grand Rapids, Mich. and the Michigan



Photo courtesy of SCTC

Hoop Houses at the MSU Student Organic Farm in Holt, Mich. The houses harvest the energy of the sun to allow the growing of vegetables, even during the cold Michigan winters, without the use of supplemental heating systems.

State University Horticulture Teaching and Research Center in Holt, Mich. The purpose of this visit was to research on sustainable organic farming practices, which will be an integral part of the new SCTC Campus.

When completed and certified, the new SCTC Campus will be the first Living Building

certified Educational facility in the World! For more information on the Living Building Challenge, visit www.living-future.org/lbc.

The schematic design process will be completed in June 2013 and introduced to the Tribe and members, SCTC alumni and students.

SCTC partners with All About Learning to hold Lego Summer Camp

KATHY HART

SCTC STEM Recruiter

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College is partnering with All About Learning to hold a four-day LEGO Summer Camp for 12-14 year olds at SCTC in the Petro Plaza, 2274 Enterprise Dr., Mount Pleasant, Mich.

The Camp will be Aug. 4-7, 2014 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., with lunch provided.

The SCTC Equity Grant will cover the cost of \$94 per person. Only 22 spots will be available and will go to the first 22 to sign up.

Call 989-775-4123 for Kathy Hart or email at khart@sagchip.org or hart.kathy@sagchip.org

sagchip.edu. Please include the name and age of student and contact information.

If your student signs up, please make sure they attend all four days from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

The students will use customized LEGO kits, to learn engineering concepts and practice skills while they work with a partner to problem solve. They will also learn online video game making.

The Pullback Car Frenzy will occur in the morning. This is an enrichment course designed to stimulate problem solving and creativity using new and innovative ideas. This course is jam packed with science. Students will

build 10 cars using a design pamphlet for each vehicle.

Students become mini-engineers, challenged to design new vehicles utilizing pieces from supplied cars.

- Science and engineering concepts
- Gearing and gear ratios
- Potential and kinetic energy
- Friction, forces, motion and aerodynamics
- Problem solving
- Communication skills

Students get to keep each car they build!

The afternoon portion will be Video Game Making. This class will teach students how to design and modify their own arcade style video games. They'll learn how to control characters, objects and outcomes in their game, then increase the difficulty level and add more features. They will also learn how to design their own version of Pac-Man and several other games.

- Basic programming skills
- Creating avatars and assigning actions
- Building rooms and levels
- Scoring, high score tables and lives
- Timing events



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SCTC 2014 Summer Programs

- **The SCTC Summer Youth Experience***

Kindergarten - 6th grade: July 15, 16 and 17

7-8th grade: July 22, 23 and 24

- **Four day LEGO Summer Camp***

Ages 12-14: Aug. 4-7

- **Summer Classes**

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- **Credit Recovery* & GED Prep***

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*Indicate program is free.

For more information contact the SCTC:

989-775-4123 or at sctcinfo@sagchip.edu

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College Presents:

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- SCTC USDA Extension
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- Oakland University
- Michigan State University
- Ferris State University
- Central Michigan University

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West Intermediate Peace Mosaic a labor of love and art

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

A mosaic, as defined, is a picture or pattern produced by arranging together small colored pieces of hard material, such as stone, tile or glass. The March 21 completion of the West Intermediate Peace Mosaic fits that definition and more, as a labor of love and art.

West Intermediate At-Risk Counselor Laura Gourlay had a vision to have a large scale glass and ceramic tile mosaic adorn a wall at her school. Through a friend, she found the website of Boston-based artist Joshua Winer (joshuawiner.com) and knew she had found the person for the job. After talking with Winer, she started writing grants in hopes of getting funds to pay for the project.

As a supporter of the arts, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan graciously awarded the West Intermediate project a two percent grant for the cost of the art supplies.

The Esther A. Kraus Peacemaking Fund of The

Mt. Pleasant Area Community Foundation awarded the money to hire both Joshua Winer and local Native artist Lee Ruffino for an Artist in Residency experience. With these two grants, the vision Gourlay had was on its way of becoming a reality.

"Mr. Winer and Ms. Ruffino came to West Intermediate for two days in early September 2013 to work with all 500 students to create artistic images on the theme for the Peace Mosaic," Gourlay said. "Mr. Winer left Mount Pleasant with hundreds of student images which would eventually be compiled into the final pictorial story which would become the West Peace Mosaic. Mr. Winer and Ms. Ruffino, along with West Intermediate students, staff and parents worked for two weeks to create a large wall mosaic which hangs on the first floor of the school."

As an internationally acclaimed artist, Winer said, "I had a lot of warm and interesting contact with students from the Native community. They shared with me their Tribal culture, traditions and personal stories."

Winer studied painting at Yale, and then studied architecture at Harvard for graduate studies. He worked as an architect for about 10 years, all the while creating large painted murals. In 1991, Winer started working as a full-time artist and teacher.

His first large mosaic, commissioned by The Meadowbrook School of Weston, Mass., was a "Tree of Life" for the outside wall of the school's parking circle. With this project, Winer experienced for the first time the amazing value that the community mosaic process provides as a way of creating hands-on public art. Winer credits this effort as a powerful formative experience for the mosaic work he does now.

Ruffino helped in the very first stage of meeting with the students, talking with them and speaking to them.

"I went around and talked with as many students as I could, giving them ideas and helping channel their designs onto paper," Ruffino said. "I assisted kids in the Native American



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

West Intermediate middle school Tribal students Ben Quigno (left) and Shane Francis (kneeling) join fellow artist as they work on the Peace Mosaic.

room at West Intermediate during school. I would help them with some design ideas they had and help them draw it out. I worked a little on the actual cutting and applying the tile, but not as much as the kids. The only thing I did draw were the girls hugging, which was inspired by a student's photo of her and her cousin."

Ruffino humbly acknowledged she contributed only a very small part in this mural

and chose to give the students, Josh Winer and Laura Gourlay the credit as they invested several hours.

"It was an incredible honor to meet and work side-by-side with Mr. Josh Winer and watch the process of the mosaic mural... I learned so much," Ruffino said. "I also want to thank Laura Gourlay, who had a vision and made this beautiful mosaic mural a reality... she is a gem."

Lee Sprague demonstrates his passion for harvesting wild rice

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

With his hobby for harvesting mahnoomin (wild rice), Lee Sprague shared his knowledge with an audience in the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Housing Department conference room on April 15.

"If anything, I'm obsessed with this wild rice," Sprague said. "It's a great passion."

As a member of the Little River Band of Ottawa, with his Potawatomi-Ottawa/Ojibwe father and West Indian mother from Trinidad, Sprague grew up with Native American traditions that helped inspire his cooking.

"Our Indigenous people and their food: venison, salmon, duck, lobster, acorns, abalone, buffalo, shrimp, goose – what people may think of as gourmet

food but is natural to us," he said of his cooking influences.

Sprague believes mahnoomin is "tied deeply to who we are."

Mahnoomin is harvested using a canoe and "knockers" (sticks) to tap the rice kernels into the canoe.

"The knockers sound like rain on a tin roof," Sprague said.



Lee Sprague shows what a single grain of wild rice looks like after harvesting.

Sometimes the mahnoomin becomes so thick, that it grows taller than the canoe.

After it is knocked into the canoe, the mahnoomin must then dry in the sun for a couple days.

During the "hulling" process, a hole is dug into the ground and covered with deerskin or tarp and harvesters "dance" on the rice by stepping on it. Sprague displayed a large kettle with wild rice and brought moccasins for anyone who felt like dancing at any time during his presentation.

In the '80s, Sprague sold hand-harvested wild rice to restaurants and health-food stores.

"I made about \$60,000 per year in sales," Sprague said.

Harvesting has become a family tradition for Sprague. This is the sixth year his two youngest children have accompanied him in the rice bed.

I tell my children to be proud of what they just did, not everyone gets that opportunity, Sprague said.

On living the American dream, Sprague said, "My friend Phil Tingley says the American Dream first began with Native Americans but was rudely interrupted. I imagine what our Elders want for us, for our land, what it would be like if we'd made our own choices. If outer-space aliens had visited us 500 years ago then returned today, they'd wonder what happened to the Indigenous people who had so much to offer the world."

"Now we live in a land where we feel safer drinking tap water than from a creek," he said. "My dream is to live with as little negative impact on Earth as possible and to see the Indigenous (Indian) nations recognized as true nations."

Sprague continues to live his personal dreams by enduring his passion for mahnoomin flowering and harvesting.



Observer photos by Natalie Shattuck

With the assistance of Water Resources Technician Michael Fisher, Lee Sprague begins parching the rice.

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Boys II Men and Color Me Badd treat SECR to a cappella harmonies and powerful ballads

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

A cappella: It may not be the most popular musical style, but without a doubt, the members in both Boys II Men and Color Me Badd have made it well admired as they have mastered the form in their musical careers.

On Saturday, March 29, Color Me Badd and Boys II Men showed off their impressive a cappella skills, along with sweet-sounding

harmonies in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment Hall.

Color Me Badd kicked off the show with their number one hits "All 4 Love" and "I Adore Mi Amor", in which their harmonies demonstrated their gifted, soulful voices.

Original member Mark Calderon, along with Martin Kember and Kevin "KT" Thornton make Color Me Badd.

"Along with Boys II Men, we started back in the day and it is great to see each other

succeed, so we are about to show you how it was back in the day," Thornton said before they performed the gospel song "Hush" completely a cappella.

The group performed other cover songs including Alicia Keys' "How Come U Don't Call Me Anymore?" and Blackstreet's "No Diggity".

No strangers to the spotlight, Boys II Men graced the stage next. Known best for their emotional ballads, the trio Nathan Morris, Wanya Morris and Shawn Stockman gave the audience plenty of sentimental songs.

Boys II Men harmonized to their greatest hits "On Bended Knee", "Four Seasons of Loneliness", "Water Runs Dry", "I'll Make Love to You" and "A Song for Mama".

Morris said if it weren't for legends like The Temptations, Four Tops, Diana Ross, Michael Jackson, Marvin Gay, etc., who changed music, Boys II Men wouldn't exist.

Boys II Men then performed "Money (That's What I Want)" and "It's The Same Old Song/Reach Out I'll Be There" from



Nathan Morris, Shawn Stockman and Wanya Morris of Boys II Men flaunt their sweet-sounding harmonies.

their "Motown: A Journey Through Hitsville USA" album. Other covers included Journey's "Open Arms" and Lonestar's "Amazed".

"Just remember: We are all here for real music," Morris said. "The next song became a soundtrack to most of our lives. Remember where you were, what you were doing... when you first heard this next song."

"End of the Road" gained Boys II Men international success in 1992, when it became the number-one single. The

single set a new record for longevity, remaining at Number One on the Billboard Hot 100 for 13 weeks, breaking Elvis Presley's decades-old record.

Boys II Men closed their concert with their upbeat 1991 debut single "Motownphilly" on their introductory album "Cooleyhighharmony".

Color Me Badd and Boys II Men may have only been in town for one night, but the memories and talent they left at SECR will be remembered for years to come.



Observer photos by Natalie Shattuck

(From left to right) Martin Kember, Mark Calderon and Kevin "KT" Thornton of Color Me Badd perform their popular single "All 4 Love".

Styx invites sold-out SECR crowd to "Come Sail Away" with nostalgic performance

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

American rock band Styx brought their beloved music to the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Saturday, April 5. Their mixture of progressive rock, power rock and ballads melded to create a musical experience which brought the audience continually to their feet and singing out the lyrics.

From their beginnings in a suburban Chicago basement, Styx climbed into the spotlight in the late '70s into the early '80s. They have released 15 studio albums, spanning over three decades. This includes a span of four consecutive multi-platinum ratings, starting with the album "The Grand Illusion" in 1977 and ending with "Paradise Theater" in

1978. The band also charted 16 top 40 singles in the U.S.

To kick off the show, Styx played the hit songs "The Grand Illusion", "Fooling Yourself (The Angry Young Man)" and "Too Much Time on My Hands", which charted at No. 9 Billboard's Hot 100 Chart.

The band changed up the mood of the Entertainment Hall with their timeless rock ballad "Lady". The hit song was one of the band's first hits, and charted at No. 6 in 1973. "Light Up", "Man in the Wilderness" and "Miss America" followed.

Next up were "Mademoiselle", "I'm O.K.", "Crystal Ball" and "Superstars".

Following the No. 21 single "Blue Collar Man (Long Nights)", the band paused and left the spotlight on lead vocalist/keyboardist Lawrence Gowan. A

unique performance ensued as Gowan began playing a mixture of classic rock medleys including David Bowie's "Changes",

The Rolling Stones' "You Can't Always Get What You Want", Elton John's "Rocket Man" and Queen's "Bohemian Rhapsody".

As the rest of the band joined Gowan on stage, he began playing the opening piano phrase to the hit song "Come Sail Away". The crowd cheered and sang along to the lyrics of the hit song, which peaked at No. 8 on the U.S. charts in 1977.

The band wasn't ready to let the audience go home yet, as they emerged back on stage for an encore of the performance of the hit song "Rockin' the Paradise". During the middle of the section, confetti cannons shot off into the audience bringing them to their feet in excitement. To close out the night out right, Styx played their hit song "Renegade" as a second encore.

For more information on upcoming shows at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort, "Like" their Facebook page or add their Twitter handle Soaringeagle777.



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Bassist Ricky Phillips (left), and guitarists James Young (center) and Tommy Shaw (right), come together during the hit song "Too Much Time on My Hands".

Larry the Cable Guy and SECR "Get-R-Done" with hilarious comedy

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

Famed comedian Larry the Cable Guy brought his side-splitting act to the stage of the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort. Fans filled the Entertainment

Hall on Saturday, March 22, hoping to hear all of his one-liners and zingers in person.

Daniel Lawrence "Larry" Whitney, better known for his stage name "Larry the Cable Guy", began comedy on the radio in the early '90s. He

gained fame with the inception of the popular "Blue Collar Comedy Tour", while starring alongside fellow comedians Jeff Foxworthy, Bill Engvall and Ron White. The group later went on the star on the hit television series "Blue Collar TV".

Larry the Cable Guy has released seven comedy albums, three of which have been certified gold. He has also appeared in three live action movies including "Larry the Cable Guy: Health Inspector", "Delta Farce" and "Witless Protection", as well as voicing the character "Mater" in the Disney's "Cars" franchise.

In 2011, Larry signed on with the History Channel to host the

television series, "Only in America with Larry the Cable Guy".

Larry had the audience members rolling with laughter, as he delivered his perfectly-timed punch lines. He joked about many subjects including Wal-Mart, Twitter, Christmas, relationships, dollar stores, McDonald's and his family.

Part of his charm comes in the way he approaches the audience, bringing them in with his zany persona while often laughing at his own jokes on stage. It's this unique brand of comedy which kept



Observer photo by Matthew Wright

Larry the Cable Guy responds to the audience's laughter with one of his many catchphrases.

everyone in attendance carefully listening and grabbing their sides during the course of the performance.

SECR UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT
Saturday, May 3	Cinco De Mayo Celebration
Saturday, May 10	Vince Gill
Friday, May 16	Murder Mystery Dinner
May 23 & 24	Chippendales
Thursday, May 29	Staind wsg Sevendust
Friday, June 6	Queensryche and Great White



Jackyl and Loverboy meld two distinct musical styles into one unforgettable show

MATTHEW WRIGHT

Staff Writer

Hard rockers Jackyl and pop rock group Loverboy combined to put on a thrilling show at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Saturday, April 19. A sold-out audience gathered in the Entertainment Hall to see two bands, with two distinct styles.

The rock band Jackyl emerged from Georgia in 1990 with their wild, untamed approach to rock 'n' roll. The group released seven studio albums to date, including the self-titled "Jackyl" in 1992

and the most recent "Best in Show" in 2012.

The group has even set two separate Guinness World Records for number of concerts performed. The first is for playing 100 concerts in 50 days, and another for performing 21 concerts in only a 24-hour period.

Jackyl started the show with the hit songs "My Moonshine" and "Best in Show". During the chorus of the next song, "Screwdriver", lead guitarist Jeff Worley leaned over into and allowed an audience member to strum his guitar as he held the chords.



Observer photos by Matthew Wright

Guitarist Paul Dean (left), lead singer Mike Reno (center), bassist Ken Sinnaeve and drummer Matt Frenette (back) of Loverboy.



Lead guitarist Jeff Worley (left) and lead vocalist Jesse James Dupree of Jackyl.

After the hit song "Down on Me", which topped out at No. 10 on Billboard's Hot 100 Chart, lead singer James Dupree gave a shout out to the audience members who were singing along.

"You keep singing like that and I'll sign every one of you to a recording contract," Dupree said.

The band continued with "Secret of the Bottle" and "I Stand Alone". As they finished the song "When it Will Rain", Dupree revealed they had a special surprise in store. The crowd roared as Darryl McDaniels of Run DMC appeared on stage to join them for the hit Run DMC song "Tricky" and a cover of Aerosmith's "Walk this Way".

To finish the set, Jackyl performed "Redneck Punk"

and brought their set to a fitting end with a chainsaw fueled solo during the hit song "The Lumberjack".

The Canadian rock group Loverboy formed in 1979. Throughout the '80s, the band gained a following with their catchy arena/pop rock songs. The band has released nine studio albums, four of which received multi-platinum status.

The audience cheered as the band members took to the stage to perform "Notorious", "Lucky Ones" and "Queen of the Broken Hearts".

The show continued with "Take Me to the Top" and "It's Your Life". The hit song "This Could be the Night", which earned a No. 10 spot on Billboard's Hot 100 chart

earned a huge round of cheers as the chorus opening notes began to play.

The audience members sang along to the catchy chorus of the song "The Kid is Hot Tonight" and then Loverboy followed with "When It's Over" and "Hot Girls in Love" (No. 11). Saving the best for last, the band performed two of their biggest hits with "Turn Me Loose" and "Working for the Weekend".

To the delight of the crowd, the band emerged to play two encore songs with "Lovin' Every Minute of It" (No. 9) and "Jump".

Both Loverboy and Jackyl gave incredible performances at SECR, leaving fans of both genres astonished at the sheer musicianship on display that night.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Community Cradleboard Project Ongoing

Ziibiwing's 10th Birthday Sale
 May 1-2 • 10am-6pm

Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School (MIIBS) Honoring, Healing & Remembering (at the MIIBS site)
 June 6 • 7am-4pm

Cradleboard Workshop
 June 9-13 • 5pm-7pm

Community Cultural Teachings (at Sanilac Petroglyphs)
 June 21 • 11am-3pm



Nutritionist Sally Van Cise demonstrates healthy snacks with Afterschool Program

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

It isn't every day children shout "YAY!" when taste testing spinach and kale, but it happens frequently in Nutritionist Sally Van Cise's cooking classes.

Once every three weeks, Van Cise teaches cooking lessons to the Afterschool Program children in the Public Health kitchen. The kids learn about nutrition, fruits and vegetables and how to prepare simple snacks.

On Tuesday, March 25, Van Cise taught the children the history of kale, where it comes from and how to make delicious kale "Shamrock Smoothies". The kids loved the smoothies and wanted more. One batch was made with strawberries, and the other with banana.

Van Cise plans each healthy food cooking lesson accordingly.

"I choose a food that is healthy, like kale, and then look for a simple recipe, using ingredients that are easy to find, something that I think the kids will really like," Van Cise said. "Sometimes



Nutritionist Sally Van Cise educates the Afterschool Program children on the difference between spinach and kale.

they do – sometimes not – but it is a fun experiment!"

Teaching children healthy alternatives becomes an enjoyable activity, Van Cise said.

"I am also amazed to see kids like something that normally folks say "yuck" when I'm talking about it," Van Cise said. "Imagine kids loving canned chickpeas – but they did when the chickpeas were lightly coated with maple syrup and cinnamon and then roasted."

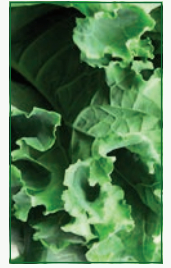
Leadership Intern Betsey Alonzo works directly with the children and hears their stories of creating the healthy snacks at home with their families.

"Parents have stated children are requesting more fruit and veggies when shopping for groceries, and also considering healthy snack recipes," Alonzo said. "Some of their favorites shared at home are the Ham Rollups, consisting of sliced ham, sliced apple and cheddar cheese. Also, smoothies, of course, and we here at the Afterschool Program serve the wheat English muffin pizzas Sally taught us and they are a hit."

The cooking demonstrations with Van Cise continue to instill healthy choices in Tribal youth. Both Van Cise and Alonzo agree it is great to see the children show excitement for spinach and kale.

Shamrock Smoothie

- 1 cup kale, cleaned and chopped (see #1)
- 8 oz skim or low fat milk (you may use lactose-free milk)
- 8 oz plain or vanilla yogurt
- 1 large ripe banana, frozen (remove peel first; then freeze as 3- or 4-inch pieces)
- 2-3 Tbs honey (optional)



Directions:

1. Wash the kale leaves and dry. Remove stem and center rib and discard (the center rib is edible but too stringy for this recipe). Chop the kale (or simply tear the leaves apart) and then measure.
2. Place the milk and the kale in a blender. Blend until smooth and the kale is almost not visible (very small particles).
3. Add the yogurt and blend.
4. Carefully add the frozen bananas, small pieces at a time (it's best to add while the blender is on, adding individual pieces and quickly replacing the lid; repeat until all the pieces are in).
5. Slowly add the honey while the blender is on: drizzle the honey in (I do so through the smaller opening in the lid).

Recipe submitted by Sally Van Cise RD Nutritionist with permission to reprint by author, Veggiecation. For more recipes visit www.veggiecation.com

Mino n'Bimaadziwin: It's a journey

DAMIAN FISHER

Contributing Writer

While living the good life, it gets easy to talk about successes, but anybody who is successful will readily share that one's failures and life's setbacks will teach you more about yourself than all the successes or all the accolades.

Character isn't something you are born with; it's something that you earn along the way. Like Rocky Balboa says, "it ain't about how hard you hit, it is about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward."

It's the same when you set goals for yourself, or when you put yourself out there, compete or perform and then fall short of those expectations.

First bit of advice? Don't beat yourself up—love yourself. You know how much work you did – or didn't – put into the effort. What's important

is that you fairly evaluate that effort and see it for what it is. Can you do better? If yes, then do better. If you can't do better, then you've reached your limit and knowing that is as important as succeeding. Be fair with yourself and pay attention to the results you can achieve.

I was set to compete in my first contest of the season in Flint, Mich. on April 12. I was ready, I felt good and I looked great. I had a lot of confidence and everything was going my way, physically.

However, I do have a day job. I am the lawyer for a Tribe up north. They treat me very well and I love the people, the work and the relationships I have formed throughout the years.

On the same weekend as the contest, there was a large Tribal event in which my co-workers and friends would have a lot to do, and would be putting themselves out there

in front of the membership on many tribal issues. So, I had a choice to make: compete in my body building contest or stand by my friends in their time of need. Well, that was a lot easier choice to make than I thought at the time—I choose to stand by my friends and I have not regretted that choice for a minute since.

So is Mino Bimaadziwin all about personal goals, achievements and success? Of course not, it's about friendship, sharing, setbacks and good times, too. It is not about getting knocked down, it is about getting up.

The good life is about getting solid with the people you love and who love you.

I will find another contest and there will be a time to compete. Something tells me that when I do, I will have a lot of friends there to stand with me and cheer me on. Baa maapii.

Nimkee Fitness Center Group Exercise Schedule May 2014

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8 a.m.	Aqua Fit Sharon		Aqua Fit Sharon		Aqua Fit Sharon
12:10 p.m.	Turbo Kick Beth	Mat Pilates Catherine <i>*Starts at 12:15 p.m.</i>	Lunch Crunch Go Jaden	Fat Blast Jayme	Boot Camp Jaden
4:15 p.m.					Fat Blast Jayme
5:10 p.m.	Zumba Jayme	Kick & Step Jeni	Kick & Step Jeni	World Fusion Belly Tawnya	
5:10 p.m.		Beginner's Running Class Jayme		Beginner's Running Class Jayme	

Decreasing the risk of computer vision syndrome

JENNA WILCOX

Women's Health Coordinator

Two-thirds of Americans spend up to seven hours a day using computers or other digital devices such as tablets and smartphones. This constant eye activity increases the risk for computer vision syndrome and can cause problems such as dry eye, eyestrain, neck and backache, headaches and fatigue.

The American Optometric Association recommends practicing the 20/20/20 rule; for every 20 minutes on computer, take a 20-second break, and look at something 20 feet away.

Yearly eye exams are extremely important for overall health. Nimkee eligible patients can contact Nimkee Public Health for more information in regard to eye care screenings at 989-775-4695.

Selected information taken from Health-e headlines™

Walking: A step in the right direction

JUDY DAVIS

Nimkee Public Health

We hope you have kept up your walking for the last month and now that the climate is finally breaking, perhaps we can begin to walk outside in nice weather.

Benefits of walking: Walking can trim your waistline and improve your health. It can help you maintain a healthy weight and prevent or manage heart disease, high blood pressure and Type 2 diabetes.

Walking can strengthen your bones, lift your mood and improve balance and coordination.

Try to walk daily. If you are

walking fewer than three times per week, give yourself more than two weeks before increasing the pace and frequency.

Step right this way: Walking with proper form is very important.

- Walk with your chin up and your shoulders slightly back.

- Let the heel of your foot touch the ground first, and then roll your weight forward.

- Walk with your toes pointed forward.

- Swing your arms naturally as you walk.

Reminder: We still have free walking at both the Tribal Gym and Morey Courts along with the Nimkee Fitness Center.

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Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center Indian Health Service: Improving Patient Care Initiative

MARGARET STESLICKI

Nimkee Medical Director

If you have been to the Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center Medical Clinic recently, or called for an appointment, you may have been asked who your Primary Care Provider, or PCP, is. Assigning patients to a PCP is one of Nimkee's first steps in becoming an Indian Health Service "Patient Centered Medical Home".

In January, the staff at Nimkee began participating in the National I.H.S. initiative called "Improving Patient Care," or IPC, a quality model that has been developed and is being implemented throughout Indian Country. As a result, this will help Nimkee improve their already great services!

The benefits of having a PCP is to promote continuity

in care, resulting in safe, efficient, patient-centered, effective, timely and equitable health care. If you do not have a PCP at Nimkee or would like to request a specific medical provider, please call the nurse's station and let them know who you would like to be assigned to.

At this time, you will have three physicians to choose from: Dr. Deborah Eisenmann, Dr. Barry Kissoondial and Dr. Jeff Striebel. We do want you to know choosing a PCP is your choice and you will always have the choice to change providers if you so choose.

There may be times that you are not able to be scheduled with your PCP. They may be on vacation, at a training, have a family illness or there may not be any appointment availability on a day you'd like to see

your doctor or medical provider. Even though you may need to see another medical provider, we will always let your PCP know that you were seen at the clinic so they will know your health status.

One of our newest IPC initiatives is to establish health care teams. Having health care teams will ensure our patients have the best quality of care through establishment of effective, positive relationships with their PCP and their health care team. Our hope is that each patient will get to know their health care team and become well informed and involved in their own health.

We have recently begun to divide the Medical Clinic and Public Health staff into two care teams. Through the assistance of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe Anishinaabe Language

Revitalization Department, two team names have been established: Enaadimaagejik Wiimnomaadseng (Helpers to a Healthy Life) and Naadimoshinaang Wiimnoyaa'aang (Help Us Be Well).

Each team will include two medical providers, the primary nurse assigned to each provider, a medical assistant, a diabetic team nurse and a maternal child health nurse. Additionally, teams will be sharing the women's health coordinator, the nutritionist and the health educator. As we continue to develop our plan and teams, we will be adding a medical records coder, a pharmacist and a social worker.

Some of the other projects the Nimkee staff is working on to improve services to the community include; updating the

SCIT Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center website; establishing a telephone task force to redesign our phone system, the Electronic Record Meaningful Use initiative and to become accredited through The Accreditation Association of Ambulatory Health Care. Please watch the Tribal website for future changes and updates.

The Nimkee staff wants you to have a pleasant health care experience and to receive the best quality of care.

We are looking for community members to be involved in the IPC initiative. If you are interested in assisting our staff with this initiative, or if you have any questions or concerns regarding the Medical Clinic, please feel free to contact Margaret at **989-775-4618**. Remember, "your good health is a gift of respect to you and to those you love."

Fitness Support Group shares secrets to making time for fitness

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Fitness is extremely important for one's health. With the day-to-day stresses and busy lives before, during and after work, how exactly does one make time for fitness?

Nimkee and Public Health collaborate for the Fitness Support Group gatherings. On April 9, Tribal employees met to discuss the secret to making time for fitness, with Fitness Coordinator Jayme Green leading the discussion. Each participant was handed a slip of paper that presented

a suggestion to aid in making time for fitness.

Recommendations were given for busy parents to include their children in their daily work out. Go for a walk or jog with them—even if they are still in strollers, ride bikes, play basketball or baseball, especially now that the weather is finally warming up.

When watching TV, perform quick workouts during commercials. Pushups, jumping jacks, squats and burpees are great ways to burn extra calories on commercial breaks during your favorite shows. They do not take up a lot of space, so they are great to do in front of the TV.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Nimkee Fitness Coordinator Jayme Green discusses nutritional meals with the Fitness Support Group.

How many times have you caught yourself "watching" TV even when there is nothing on? Try replacing 30 minutes of your normal television time for 30

minutes of fitness. Not ready or too busy for 30 minutes of fitness? Start with five minutes of exercise and add five minutes each day.

Many individuals are motivated to work out each day before work. It may be hard to set your alarm for 5 or 6 a.m. to go work out, but think about how great you will feel once your work out is complete – and all before work.

A lunch hour is also a great time to get in some fitness time. Remember, along with the Nimkee Fitness Center, the Tribal gym is usually open for walking on your 15-minute break as well.

The lesson was not only about making time for fitness,

but preparing healthy meals as well. A lunch was provided consisting of healthy veggie burgers or turkey and nutritious, homemade granola parfaits.

It is not too late to join the Fitness Support Group if you missed the first few. The next meeting is Wednesday, May 7 where "how movement fuels brain power" will be presented.

The Fitness Support Group meets in the Public Health Kitchen at noon every other Wednesday, with two sessions left, until May 21.

For more information, contact Jayme at jgreen@sagchip.org or **989-775-4696**.

We invite you to join the 2014 Tribe to Tribe Blues Community Challenge

ROBYN GRINZINGER

Health Educator and SCIT Challenge Team Coordinator

The Tribe to Tribe Challenge is back! Any exercise counts; at home, at the fitness center, walking around the building, basketball, etc.

We know that physical fitness is important, and we know

we should get some exercise every day, so why not make it a competition?

Nimkee Public Health Services, which includes Nimkee Fitness and Nimkee Public Health, invites Tribal members and employees to join a 10-week physical fitness activity competition.

Our goal is to see which Tribe can log the most activity

from May 1 to July 18. The Tribe with the most activity will be recognized at the Michigan Indian Family Olympics in Mt. Pleasant, Mich. in July.

1. May 1: Register on www.walkingworks.com

2. Register under Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe team (we need 20 or more registered to be eligible to be part of the competition)

3. Who: All SCIT members and employees

4. Track specific physical activity (self-reporting) – the web site will walk you thru the steps as to how/what to track (example: 30 minutes is equal to two miles)

5. Keep track for 10 weeks (May 1 – July 18)

6. You will be amazed how much exercise you are doing

when you are tracking. It is fun!

Thank you to Blue Cross Blue Shield as the coordinators of this program. Winning tribes are eligible for wellness grants to continue to provide and encourage physical fitness for our community.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Robyn, SCIT team coordinator, at **989-775-4649**.

Free Cooking Class

Grab your fork and spoon and join us for a fun and educational workshop! Nimkee Public Health, MSU Extension, and Meijer Corporation, are partnering to offer a FREE 'Dining with Diabetes' workshop to Tribal and community members.

'Dining with Diabetes' is not just for diabetics but for anyone who wants to learn more about healthy living. 'Dining with Diabetes' is also helpful for those at risk of Pre-Diabetes. You will learn more about diabetes, swap ideas, watch cooking demonstrations and sample food. You will also learn about Meijer's NuVal ranking system and power foods!

- **Series includes:** Five two-hour workshops
- **Dates:** June 3, 10, 17 and 24, with a follow up class on Aug. 26
- **Time:** 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.
- **All workshops are held at Nimkee Public Health education kitchen**

Please note: You must reserve your spot for this program - we cannot take drop-in attendees. We will take the first 25 people. RSVP is required. (It is strongly encouraged that you commit to attend all five sessions). For questions or to reserve your seat call before May 23, 2014.

Contact Pam Daniels, at MSUE 231.592.0792 or email danie270@anr.msu.edu or Sally Van Cise at 775-4615

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Families scramble at Andahwod/Youth LEAD Easter Egg Hunt

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

As the Saturday, April 19 afternoon temperatures peaked into the sunny 60 degrees, Andahwod once more hosted their third annual Easter Egg Hunt, co-sponsored by the Youth LEAD department. Elder Community Activity Assistant Tomarrah M-J Green confirmed more than 82 individuals participated, ranging from ages 0-96.

"We offered seven separate Easter egg hunts for different age groups," Green said. "There were four prizes for each age group. Inside each egg was a piece of candy. However, inside of select prize eggs was a slip of paper to be redeemed at the prize table for prizes such as: a beautiful basket

full of goodies handcrafted by the Elders at Andahwod, movie tickets donated by LEAD or \$5 gift certificates. Cardinal Pharmacy, the Soaring Eagle Water Park and Hotel and Sagamok Shell graciously donated these gift certificates and we couldn't do this community event without the support of our sponsors."

Andahwod staffers ran the registration table and provided fresh fruit and a drink station for those in attendance while the Youth LEAD team coordinated the seven scrambles for candy and prizes.

"This was teamwork at its best and our Youth LEAD team was able to coordinate all the afternoon events with the Andahwod staff in a seamless manner," Youth LEAD Director Jennifer Crawford

said. "Just seeing the smiles on the children and the Elders during the event made it all worth the effort."

The crowd roared their approval as the music of "Here Comes Peter Cottontail" welcomed the guest of honor... the Easter Bunny.

"It wouldn't be an Easter Egg Hunt without the Wabooz being there," Tribal Elder and Andahwod volunteer Sonja Sowmick said.

Michelle George won the grand prize raffle for pre-registering, a delicious butter cream frosted Easter cake.

In two separate contests, Luisa Green won a jar of jellybeans. There were 214, she guessed the closest at 213. Michael Ekdahl won a jar full of Hershey kisses as a door prize. There were 57, he guessed 58.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal community youth are ready to go on their hunt as the Easter Bunny cheers them on.

As the music of Sammy Davis Jr.'s song "The Candy Man" played, everyone who participated in the Easter Egg Hunt left with a goodie bag. The

Andahwod/Youth LEAD event concluded with the Elders picking out Easter eggs that contained prizes inside that left everyone leaving the event as a winner.

Proper prescription drug and medications disposal is crucial

(Editor's note: The following article is brought to you by Central Michigan District Health Department, which serves the counties of Arenac, Clare, Gladwin, Isabella, Osceola and Roscommon. Visit their website at www.cmdhd.org and "Like" Central Michigan District Health Department on Facebook.)

The proper disposal of prescription drugs and medications is crucial. Adolescents and the environment

are potentially at risk. Law enforcement and pharmacies have disposal programs for unused medications.

Proper disposal of unused or unwanted prescriptions and medicines is a key weapon in the battle against misuse and environmental contamination. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, emergency visit numbers due to misuse or abuse of prescription drugs has risen 98.4 percent since 2004.

The Office of National Drug Control Policy indicates more than three in five teens say prescription pain relievers are easy to get from parent's medicine cabinet. According to the website [awarerx.org](http://www.awarerx.org), among 12 to 13 year olds that abuse drugs, prescription drugs are the most commonly abused.

In consideration to the environment, a study by the United States Geological Survey concluded 80 percent of streams that were sampled contained compounds found in common medicines. Waste water treatment facilities are not equipped to remove or process many compounds found in medications, and they end up being discharged into our surface and ground water. Even if you live in a rural area and drink from a well, you may not be immune.

Drinking water may be affected as it has been determined many medications including antibiotics, can destroy beneficial bacteria necessary for a septic

system to operate properly. The Great Lakes contain more than 95 percent of all surface freshwater in the United States. In Michigan, we should be leading the fight to keep our water safe and drug-free.

In central Michigan, we have permanent prescription drug drop locations at participating law enforcement agencies for you to take your unused, unneeded and expired medicines to properly dispose of. To find out more about the efforts to take back medicines or to find your local disposal site, please visit www.DrugFreeNorthernMichigan.com.

You may also find a local Yellow Jug Old Drugs program with participating pharmacies. The program partners with pharmacies in many communities in Michigan to collect unused or unwanted and expired drugs. A list of participating pharmacies can be found at www.great-lakescleanwater.org. The Yellow Jug Old Drugs Program is now available state-wide in Michigan.

If you have medicine you need to dispose of and are unable to find a disposal site, please remember it is not environmentally friendly to flush your medicines, unless the directions say otherwise. Remove any personal, identifiable information from prescription bottles or packages before you throw them away. Mix medicines with something objectionable like used coffee grounds or kitty litter and put them in a waterproof container before putting them in the garbage.

If you would like an opportunity to get involved to improve our health and environment, consider joining Together We Can, a community project aimed at improving health status in the central Michigan area. For more information, "Like" Together We Can Health Improvement Council on Facebook, visit their website at www.together-we-can.org or email them at TogetherWeCan@cmdhd.org.

MAY 2014

Tribal Elder Birthdays

1 Steven Pego, Leo Bennett Sr., Phillip Peters Sr.	17 John Quigno, Paullette Pashenee, Gary Schneider
2 Robin Francis, Gerald Ice, Marlene Sovo	18 Dolores Hernandez, Virginia LaMere, Rose Sawyer
3 Jacqueline Wemigwans, Mary Fender, Phillip Shenoskey	19 Judith Banister, Helen Peters, Terrence Frank, Ella Powers, George Russell, Kay Wert
4 Brian Chippeway, William Federico, William Cloutier	20 Robert Bennett, Bonnie Cantu
6 Tony Starkey, Steve Collins, Darrell Coon, David Cyr, Debbie Gose, Kathryn Shanks	21 April Borton, Bobbie Brown, Rita Stambaugh, Damian Fisher, Rose Wassegijig, Julie Whitepigeon, Angel Jackson
7 Carol Shanks, Marie Wicks	22 James Walker, Yvonne Dyer
8 Susan Brooks, Marjorie Wehner	23 Larry Pelcher, Richard Smith Sr., Claudia Spalding, Linda Staples, Steven Wayne
9 Jean Ross, Steven Godbey, Shirley Powell	24 David Rhodes, Marlene Garlick
10 Lawrence Smith, Julie Allred, Judy Potter, Harvey Wright	25 Steven Martin, Shirley Houle, Gary Davis, James Sprague, Carolyn Stolz
11 Samuel DeFoy, Diane Pego, Kimberly Gerard, Richard Collins, Troy Hart	27 Frank Davis, Joseph Garlick, Lester Solomon
12 Elaine Shawnoo, Bonnie Glover	28 Gail George, Harold Gould, Elijah Jackson
13 Duane Pelcher Sr., Fredrick Bailey Sr., Gary Henry, MaryAnn Reis, Frank Romer	29 Anne Peters, Patricia Peters, Connie Freiburger, Rosalie Berry, Robert Fallis
15 Mildred Sepulveda, Deborah Grills	30 Richard Moggo, Paul Schramm Jr.
16 David Jackson, Orville Jackson, Linda Cook, Carolyn Estill, Allan Slater Jr., Lena Stempelk, Sheila Villarreal	31 Karen Siminski

Janelle Jackson Gives Back to Tribal Elders

SHELIGH JACKSON

Administrative Assistant II

Andahwod CCC & ES would like to say miigwetch to Janelle Jackson for her effort and contribution to our Tribal Elders.

For her liberal arts capstone project, Jackson wanted to help the Elders and Andahwod while giving back to the Tribe; she decided to make personal hygiene bags for the Andahwod Elders. The bags included a toothbrush, toothpaste, mouthwash, floss, soap and washcloths.

Jackson had to incorporate all of the classes she took at the Saginaw

Chippewa Tribal College and create a project based on the Seven Grandfather Teachings and make a connection between them.

She said her project helped increase her knowledge in teachings and personal growth in values and traditions.

"By taking care of ourselves, we have a better understanding of our physical world and are able to improve our Anishnabe culture," Jackson said.

She enjoyed going to Andahwod and listening to stories, learning values and wisdom from her Elders. Jackson hopes to continue her education at Central



Jackson holding the personal hygiene bags she made for Andahwod Elders.

Michigan University and spend more time at Andahwod.

Congratulations and best to you on your future endeavors!

Elders Advisory Board Vacancy

The Elder's Advisory Board (EAB) has six vacant seats to be filled in June. Applicants must be a Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Elder, at least 50 years of age and reside in District 1. Applicants must be willing to advocate for Tribal Elders and attend meetings regularly.

Letters of interest will be accepted until May 30, 2014.

Please submit letters to:

Elders Advisory Board, Andahwod CCC & ES 2910 S. Leaton Rd. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858.





Like us on Facebook to receive extra specials!



Mother's Day ~Brunch Buffet~

Sunday, May 11, 2014
Adults \$15.95 • Kids \$6.95 (ages 5-12)

9am-2pm
Call for reservations

989.817.4806

{Selections}

- Carved Prime Rib
- Omelet Station
- Biscuits & Gravy
- Orange Pecan French toast
- Bacon & Ham
- Scrambled Eggs
- Home Fries
- Roasted Chicken
- Asparagus W/Cheddar Béchamel
- Garlic Smashed Potatoes

- Chicken Nuggets
- Tater Tots
- Corn
- Waldorf Salad
- Tossed Salad
- Potato Salad
- Fruit Display
- Pastries
- Desserts
- Chocolate Fountain



SPLASH into Spring

\$79.99*

*Includes 4 waterpark passes!



*\$79.99 Monday-Thursday, per night, standard room and includes 4 waterpark passes. Tax, resort fee, room upgrades, or additional guests are not included. Management reserves the right to modify or cancel this promotion at any time. Some restrictions may apply. Promotion ends May 22, 2014.

Mother's Day 2014

April 14 - May 11



Post & Tag a photo of you & your Mother to our Facebook page, the photo with the most "Likes" will win an overnight stay at **Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel!** (\$190 Value) Photos will be compiled into a designated album.



Momma & Me 2014
Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel



Purchase an adult entrée at Nbakade from April 22 - May 11 & receive an entry to win a \$200 Gift Certificate to **Soaring Eagle Spa** at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort!



Make a craft for your Mom on Mother's Day Weekend! Friday, May 9, 7pm, Saturday, May 10, 9am, Sunday, May 11, 9am



Rounds Starting at \$12 - Walking

We look forward to seeing you out on the course!
989.817.4802

- Pro Shop Sale Items
- Memberships Available
- New Pro Shop Spring Apparel
- Just Arrived Brand New Golf Carts!



Golf for Life



Doug Temple, PGA



2014 Waabooz Run Junior Golf Program

Wed. June 18-Aug. 6th
9am-1:15pm

\$30 Registration Fee
Register online at active.com - Keyword Golf, Location Mount Pleasant, MI.
Deadline for registration is June 10, 2014.

\$120 for 8 weeks

Total \$150

Learn more about the program at:
www.DougTempleGolf.com



Friendly Mascot, Makwa!

Make Your Reservation Today!

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www.soaringeaglehideaway.com

LET'S CELEBRATE FEATURING Radio Disney TWO-YEAR-ANNIVERSARY

Join us for Our 2 Year Anniversary Party!



Radio Disney Road Crew on Site!

May 23, 2014 • Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel

Music, Games and Prizes!



Snacks Provided by Nbakade Restaurant (Available to purchase)

Monday, May 19

5pm (Waterpark Lobby)
Best Prince or Princess Contest
*Prize Awarded!

Tuesday, May 20

6pm (Waterpark Lobby)
Gizi Sticker/Coloring Activity

Wednesday, May 21

7pm (Waterpark Lobby)
Name that Disney Tune
*Prize Awarded!

Thursday, May 22

8:30pm (Meeting Room)
Movie Night - Frozen

Friday, May 23

- 4pm - 6pm
- Radio Disney Road Crew! Music, games, interactive activities and prizes
- Balloon Twisting
- Face Painters

6pm - 6:45pm

- Magic Show by Chris Linn
Magician, Chris Linn, will be performing an interactive magic show for the kids.



NOW APPEARING

5665 E. Pickard Rd. • Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
Reservations: 1.877.2EAGLE2 • Direct: 989.817.4800
www.soaringeaglewaterpark.com





MAY 2014 EVENT PLANNER



Thursday Night Buffet

May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 | 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

- Location: Andahwod CCC & ES
- Contact: 989-775-4300
- 5/1: Fried Fish, 5/8: Fried Chicken, 5/15: Country Style Ribs, 5/22: Herb Roasted Chicken, 5/29: Brats and Burgers.

Language Bingo

May 1 | 1 p.m.

- Location: Andahwod CCC & ES
- Contact: 989-775-4387

Sewing Club

May 5, 12, 19, 26 | 1 p.m.

- Location: Andahwod CCC & ES
- Contact: 989-775-4312

Elder Exercise

May 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29 | 10:30 a.m.

- Location: Andahwod CCC & ES
- Contact: 989-775-4312

Euchre

May 6, 13, 20, 27 | 6 p.m.

- Location: Andahwod CCC & ES
- Contact: 989-775-4300

Elder's Breakfast

May 14, 28 | 9 a.m.

- Location: Andahwod CCC & ES
- Contact: 989-775-4300

Rummage, Craft and Bake Sale

May 17 | 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

- Location: Andahwod CCC & ES
- Contact: 989-775-4312

Bingo with Friends in Saganing

May 20 | Leaving: 9 a.m., Returning: 5 p.m.

- Location: Andahwod CCC & ES
- Contact: 989-775-4312

Youth LEAD Sports Swap

May 2 | 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

- Location: Eagle's Nest Tribal Gym
- Contact: 989-775-4128
- Swap/sale/exchange with children's sports equipment.
- No cost for a table and all deals are between parents.

A Call to Courageous Manhood

May 3 | 10 a.m.

- Location: Eagle's Nest Tribal Gym
- Contact: 989-854-9690

Two Spirit/Straight Alliance Dinner Party

May 7 | 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

- Location: Ziibiwing Cultural Center
- Contact: 989-775-4386

Fitness Support Group

May 7, 21 | 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.

- Location: Nimkee Public Health Kitchen
- Contact: 989-775-4696

Archery Class

May 10 | 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

- Contact: 989-775-4522
- Pre-registration required.

Monday Night "Masters" Golf League

May 12, 19, 26 | Shotgun Start: 5:45 p.m.

- Location: Maple Creek Golf Club, Shepherd, Mich.
- Contact: 989-400-8454
- Player meeting will be held May 5 in the Eagle's Nest Tribal Gym lounge at 6 p.m.

Housing Financial Workshop

May 15 | 12 p.m.

- Location: Housing Conference Room
- Contact: 989-775-4552

Performance Circle Graduation

May 20 | 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

- Location: Ziibiwing Cultural Center
- Contact: 989-775-4750

New Parents Support Group

May 30 | 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

- Location: Nimkee Health
- Contact: 989-775-4600

SCTC Golf Outing

June 12 | Check-in: 8 a.m., Shotgun Start: 9 a.m.

- Location: Buck's Run Golf Course
- Contact: 989-775-4123
- Paid Registration deadline: May 12
- Cost: \$85 per person

2014 Michigan Energy Fair

2014 Michigan Energy Fair will be held June 27-28 at the Ingham County Fairgrounds in Mason, Mich. Sponsored by the Great Lakes Renewable Energy Assoc., the Fair is the longest running and largest energy event of its kind in Michigan. More than 100 exhibitors, a dozen workshops each day, alternative fuel vehicle showcase and kid's activities will make this an informative and fun event for the entire family. Details on the schedule, workshops and exhibitors can be found at www.glrea.org.



TRIBAL COMMUNITY CALENDAR | MAY 2014



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT./SUN.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SECR Payroll ● SCIT Per Capita ● SCIT Payroll ● Waste Collection* <small>*Bins must be curbside by 6:30 a.m.</small> 			1 Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. Hoop Dancing Class Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	2 Traditions 101 B. Health 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. AA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m. New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m.	3 Talking Circle Andahwod Maple Lodge 10 a.m. 4 New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
5 Women's Tradition Group B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Men's Society Meeting Behind SCA 6 p.m. Shidokan Martial Arts Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.	6 Ogitchedaw Meeting Senior's Room 6 p.m. Shidokan Martial Arts Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. Men & Women's Healing Circle B. Health 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	7 Traditional Healing B. Health 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Youth Council Meeting Tribal Gym 3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.	8 Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. Hoop Dancing Class Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	9 Traditions 101 B. Health 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. AA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m. New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m.	10 Talking Circle Andahwod Maple Lodge 10 a.m. 11 New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
12 Women's Tradition Group B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Men's Society Meeting Behind SCA 6 p.m. Shidokan Martial Arts Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.	13 Shidokan Martial Arts Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. Men & Women's Healing Circle B. Health 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	14 Youth Council Meeting Senior's Room 4 p.m. - 5 p.m. Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.	15 Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. Hoop Dancing Class Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	16 Tribal Observer Deadline - 3 p.m. Traditions 101 B. Health 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. AA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m. New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m.	17 Talking Circle Andahwod Maple Lodge 10 a.m. 18 New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
19 Women's Tradition Group B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Men's Society Meeting Behind SCA 6 p.m. Shidokan Martial Arts Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.	20 Shidokan Martial Arts Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. Men & Women's Healing Circle B. Health 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	21 Education Advisory Board Meeting 9 a.m. Youth Council Meeting Tribal Gym 3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.	22 Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. Hoop Dancing Class Tribal Gym 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	23 Traditions 101 B. Health 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. AA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m. New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m.	24 Talking Circle Andahwod Maple Lodge 10 a.m. 25 New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
26 Tribal Ops Closed Memorial Day Women's Tradition Group B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Men's Society Meeting Behind SCA 6 p.m. Shidokan Martial Arts Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.	27 Shidokan Martial Arts Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. Men & Women's Healing Circle B. Health 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	28 Youth Council Meeting Senior's Room 4 p.m. - 5 p.m. Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.	29 Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. Hoop Dancing Class Tribal Gym 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	30 Traditions 101 B. Health 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. AA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m. New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m.	31 Talking Circle Andahwod Maple Lodge 10 a.m.

Tribal Departments: Our primary source for information is the Shared Network Community Calendar. You may access the Community Calendar by going onto the Shared-Drive and clicking on the Tribal Community Calendar. This is a very useful tool that we suggest everyone explore. Start by creating a shortcut, then adding an event, enjoy!



Tribal Observer Classifieds

To place your ad, call the Tribal Observer at 989-775-4010, Email: observer@sagchip.org, visit our office in Tribal Operations or mail to Tribal Observer, Attn.: Classified, 7070 E. Broadway, 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**

- 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

Associate Judge

Open to the public. Licensed as active member in good standing by the State Bar of Michigan or other state bar. Ten or more years experience as a practicing attorney, considerable litigation experience preferred, excellent knowledge of criminal and civil procedure and federal Indian law and demonstrated interest in working with an Indian tribe.

Journeyman Lineman

Open to the public. Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Candidate must have a Journeyman License with Lineman experience or must have successfully completed the journeyman examination requirements as administered by an accredited Lineman Apprenticeship Training program or five years high voltage experience with appropriate electrical license. Candidate must have formal hot stick training and experience.

Wellness Coordinator

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree required in health education, public health, health counseling/behavior-related field, human resources/business administration. Two years related professional work experience required. Must have experience in implementing and managing projects. Demonstrated health insurance industry knowledge preferred.

Associate General Counsel

Licensed as active member in good standing by the State Bar of Michigan or must become licensed following the next available bar exam; five years experience as a practicing attorney, familiarity with federal Indian law preferred; excellent research, writing and oral skills and demonstrated interest in working with an Indian Tribe. The Associate General Counsel will provide general legal services to the Tribe and its enterprises in a broad variety of matters including: contract law, employment law, administrative law, real estate transactions, Indian gaming regulation, taxation, jurisdiction disputes, environmental law, cultural resource preservation, child welfare and drafting legislation.

Tribal Police Captain

Open to the public. Must possess a high school diploma or equivalent. Must be certified law enforcement officer. Requires 10 years experience in law enforcement field. Completion of any law enforcement or administrative training required for the position. Must possess knowledge of departmental policies and procedures as well as BIA Law Enforcement Manual.

Family Nurse Practitioner

Open to the public. Family Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants require State of Michigan licensure and Controlled Substance Registration Certificate through the Drug Enforcement Administration in the State of Michigan/or be eligible to become licensed

and certified. Master of Science Degree in Nursing is required.

Certified Aide Part-Time

Open to the public. Must possess a high school diploma or equivalent and must be at least 18 years of age. Must possess and maintain a current, valid Nurse Aide Certification required by the State of Michigan. Previous experience assisting older adults preferred. Basic computer literacy required. Knowledge of, or willingness to learn about, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Community required. Provide assistance to residents with activities of daily living.

Social Services Supervisor ICWA & Licensing

Open to the public. Bachelor's Degree in Social Work or related field required. Master's Degree preferred. At least one year experience in a Tribal social services setting. Must have knowledge of applicable tribal and Federal law as they pertain to Tribal children and families. The Social Services Supervisor's concentration will be in ICWA compliance and Licensing in the state of Michigan along with working in conjunction with the supervisor management team.

Clerical Pool (Temporary Employee)

Must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent. Clerical experience is a plus. Applicants must have a telephone contact number and be available on short notice for short-term employment. Please submit an application to the Temporary Clerical Pool if you are interested in

working temporarily in an office setting: working on computers, standard office equipment, and answering telephones.

T.O. Grounds Maintenance Temp

Only SCIT members may apply. Must have experience and show knowledge in landscaping, grounds maintenance or a maintenance related job environment as described in the essential job duties.

General Labor Pool (Temporary Worker)

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent. Must be physically fit and be able to perform manual labor. Applicants must have a telephone contact number and be available on short notice for short term employment. May also be required to have a valid Michigan Driver License. Please submit an application to the Temporary Labor Pool if you are interested in working temporarily in maintenance work, housekeeping, or painting.

Secondary Language Immersion Specialist

Open to the public. Must possess required specialized unique skills include demonstrated fluency and knowledge of Anishinabe language acquisition, a clear understanding of immersion philosophy and two years experience teaching Anishinabemowin with children in a school setting or community setting. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. The original spoken language of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian community is in a critical state of loss. If action is not taken immediately, the language that was spoken for hundreds of years will be lost forever. The position of the Secondary Language Immersion Specialist will be to supervise and assist students in the classroom setting speaking Anishinabe.

SECR

Director of Cage & Count

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must include a Bachelor's degree or above in business or accounting and five years of Casino cage and count managerial experience. Effective written and verbal communications skills required. Must have the ability to resolve problems/conflicts in a diplomatic and tactful manner. Must have the ability to deal effectively and interact well with customers and associates. Computer experience and good organizational skills are necessary. As a 24/7 operation, this position is expected to work a variety of shifts to maintain effective communication.

Comptroller

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in Accounting, or Bachelor's degree in Business with an Accounting Minor, or MBA in Accounting. CMA or CPA a plus. Minimum of 12 years accounting experience in casino and/or hospitality industry, of which four years experience in a senior accounting supervisory position.

Line Cook Pastry

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent. One year of restaurant cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility, communication and teamwork skills. Or six months of SECR internal Culinary training. Native American preferred. To produce high volumes of food without compromising quality.

Grounds Maintenance Worker Part-Time

Open to the public. High school diploma or equivalent is required. Must have at least one year experience in landscaping, grounds maintenance or a maintenance related job environment. Must be able to work with hands and to work in a mechanically oriented situation following supervisor instructions. Native American preferred. Performs all necessary job duties and responsibilities to maintain a 50 acre plus four diamond world class grounds.

Building Maintenance Worker Part-Time

Open to the public. High school diploma or equivalent is required. Must have at least one year experience in landscaping, grounds maintenance or a maintenance related job environment. Must be able to work with hands and to work in a mechanically oriented situation following supervisor instructions. Native American preferred. Performs all necessary job duties and responsibilities to maintain a 50 acre plus four diamond world class grounds.

Security Officer Part-Time

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age and have a high school diploma or equivalent. Ability to handle disorderly or intoxicated guests in a professional manner. May be required to perform their duties during hazardous conditions that could include severe weather and fire. Must be able to walk and/or stand for long periods of time, carry up to 30 lbs. and safely climb up and down several flights of stairs. To protect the assets of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe including patrons, employees, and structures.

Steward Part-Time

Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must be at least 18 years of age. Desire to work hard. Must have an organized and thorough work ethic and a strong desire to provide service. Exceptional people skills, high level of enthusiasm and professionalism. Native American preferred. Assure that the highest standards of cleanliness are maintained for our guests and associates.

Guest Room Attendant

Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Previous housekeeping experience preferred. Responsible for cleaning guestrooms and suites in accordance with the hotel policies and procedures. Works to ensure all guests needs are properly handled in a friendly and professional manner.

Gift Shop Retail Clerk Part-Time

Open to the public. Must possess a High School Diploma or GED. Retail experience a plus. Must demonstrate/show strong communication skills as it pertains to customer service. Must be willing to learn about the culture and heritage of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe as it relates to customer service.

Sous Chef-Aurora

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent. Culinary degree from an American Culinary Federation accredited school or must have five years direct experience in food production. Must have excellent supervisory, organizational and food production skills.

Lead Cook Water Lily

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent. Two years of restaurant cooking experience with increasing levels of responsibility, proven leadership, communication and teamwork skills. Formal education in the form of a culinary degree from an American Culinary Federation (ACF) accredited school may be accepted to satisfy part of the work experience requirement. Must be able to direct and lead staff. Must have ability to comprehend house training and pass by 60 percent standardized written culinary competency test. To ensure that all food that is prepared consistently without compromising quality.

Food & Beverage Cashier Part-Time

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Some cash handling, banking or accounting experience preferred. Must be able to deal with the public in a courteous and professional manner. Provide guests with quality customer service. Will use the MICROS system to close all sales and where appropriate register the sale. Will be responsible to accept all forms of payment register it correctly and return correct change.

Bartender Part-Time

Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must have accurate math skills.

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Summons and Complaint Notices

NOTICE OF SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT IN THE MATTER OF CANDICE ASHMUN:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court 6954 E Broadway Rd. Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 (989) 775-4800 Summons and Complaint Case No. 14-CI-0114 Plaintiff: Gateway Financial Services, Inc. P.O. Box 3257, Saginaw, MI 48605 (989) 791-2505 Plaintiff's Attorney: Schisler Law, Scott Schisler P48832, P.O. Box 3257 Saginaw, MI 48605 (989) 791-2505 vs. Defendant: Candice Ashmun 4091 Carmenwood Dr. Flint, MI 48507 Notice to Defendant: 1. You are being sued. 2. You have 21 days after receiving this summons to file an answer with the court and to serve a copy on the other party or take other lawful action. Please note that if you were served by certified mail or served outside of the reservation land you have 28 days to answer attached complaint. 3. Failure to file an answer or take other action within the time allowed may result in a default judgment being entered against you for the relief requested in plaintiff's complaint. **This summons expires Aug. 3, 2014.**

SUMMONS TO APPEAR IN THE MATTER OF SHERRY L. HAWKINS:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court 6954 E. Broadway Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 (989) 775-4800 Summons and Complaint Case No. 14-CI-0136 Plaintiff TNT Financial, Inc. P.O. Box 5767 Saginaw, MI 48603-0767 (989) 921-0406 Plaintiff's Attorney: James N. Meinecke (P40510) 4021 Isabella St. Midland, MI 48640-8313 (989) 486-9449 vs. Sherry L. Hawkins 402 Larry Place Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858. Notice to Defendant: 1. You are being sued in the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court. 2. You have 21 days after receiving this summons to file an answer with the court and to serve a copy on the other party or take other lawful action. Please note that if you were served by certified mail or served outside of the reservation land you have 28 days to answer attached complaint. 3. Failure to file an answer or take other action within the time allowed may result in a default Judgment being entered against you for the relief requested in Plaintiff's complaint. **This summons expires Aug. 10, 2014.**

SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT IN THE MATTER OF NICOLE LEA LIBERTY:

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court 6954 E. Broadway Rd. (989) 775-4800 Case no. 14-CI-0212 Plaintiff Rodney A. Miller 3794 Miigwan Lane Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 Plaintiff's attorney: Day-Winters, PLLC D. Marie Day-Winters (P56828) 306 E. Broadway, Ste. 4 Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 (989) 779-9991. You are being sued by the Plaintiff, Rodney A. Miller for a divorce from the bonds of matrimony. You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in this court on or before **June 10, 2014**. If you fail to do so a default judgment may be made entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint for Divorce filed in this case.



Fourteenth annual Good Friday Unity Service celebrates "Lily of the Valley"

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

The Tribal community united for spiritual worship and inspiration at the 14th annual Good Friday "Lily of the Valley" Unity Service on April 18 in the Eagles Nest Tribal gym.

Tribal Fire Chief Fred Cantu offered opening remarks.

"As I was preparing for this morning, I know that we are approaching Easter and we are all looking for time and fellowship with our families," Cantu said. "I truly believe we should really recognize the purpose of Easter and the reason why we are here; it is thru Christ's death that we have life... As Christ went to the cross, the last thing He mentioned, before He gave up his spirit was 'it is finished,' if you're going through something; a trial or any hardship, look to Christ."

Pastor Chuck Allen of Breaking Free Ministries performed the calling of the spirit and blew the shofar, the traditional Hebrew ram's horn.

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribal Chaplain Jennifer

Wassegijig proposed an opening prayer of blessing and asked God to watch over the community.

Four churches represent the Tribal community. All four of the church's Reverends bestowed a testimony to celebrate Good Friday including: Rev. Robert Pego of Saginaw Chippewa Community Church, Rev. Owen White-Pigeon of Chippewa Indian United Methodist Church, Rev. Doyle Perry of Faith Indian Church of the Nazarene and Rev. Devin Chisholm of Saganing Indian Community Church.

"I have to say this is one of the most beautiful outcomes at a Unity Service in all of the 14 years," Public Relations Administrative Assistant II Alice Jo Ricketts said. "I just want to remind all of us that we have one purpose and that's to love each other. There are four churches that represent our Tribal community and I heard a minister say that we are here to complete, not compete."

With the day's theme of hope and unity, that morning, community members also



Observer photos by Matthew Wright

Director Alfreda Moses and the Faith Indian Church Choir perform the service theme "Lily of the Valley".

joined one another to walk for prevalent issues in the community.

"We walked for the present drug problem in our community," Rev. Pego said. "We need to be more involved in our community as Christians... We appreciate everyone that participated in our walk this morning. We had Council representative Chip Neyome and our Police Officer Babcock participate with us."

"How many people here think it is a good idea to stand against drugs," Rev. Pego asked the audience ensuing applause.

Rev. Pego discussed the importance on standing together against drugs and supporting Tribal Council and the Tribal Police Department.

Lt. Babcock stepped up to the microphone asserting the importance of assisting the police department in uncovering drug cases.

"I've been working here through ups and downs for 16 years, and I've watched some of the youth struggle with drugs, Lt. Babcock said.

"It is very concerning and we try our best, but we can't do this just with the police department. It takes everybody;



The Saginaw Chippewa Community Church Choir performs.

parents, grandparents and the community," he said. "I ask you to help us... (the drug problem is) not going to be fixed overnight, but we will get there together... We can't fight each other on it. We have to hold hands and work together and we will get there."

Pray for our law enforcement and remember, they are not against us, but they are trying to help us, Ricketts said.

The Wabanaisee "Snowbird" Singers kicked off the Good Friday performances the right way. They performed a Hand Drum special.

"We are here as Anishinabe Kwe," Mae Pego said. "We sing for healing and for praise of our Creator; that kind, loving God and for seasons that pass through. I know we had a hard, long winter, but it was good, in a way, for our Mother because she was blanketed in that pure snow for a longer period of time this year."

Rev. Chisholm, who has been in the Saganing community for more than 30 years, presented the main sermon "Lily of the Valley".

"The Creator himself has designed everything so we will be able to know He exists," Rev. Chisholm said. "And through all time, people of every culture, tribe and language have been aware of the existence of God."



Rev. Robert Pego shares the experience of the morning's walk for community healing.

"He died for all of us, let us all live for Him," Host and Emcee Joseph Sowmick said.

The service was live on the Tribal website, for all to see and is still available for viewing at www.sagchip.org/publicrelations/2014/good-friday.aspx

Chisholm closed his testimony with the memorable words, "when we get our priorities in order is when God is most able to work in us and work through us, to bring us His Grace and beauty into our lives as He promised. In the Lord Jesus Christ, whose life, whose death, and the anticipation of our celebrations of His rising of the dead, and never to die again, offering that Grace to us, He will always be our Lily of the Valley."



Kevin Chamberlain performs the song, "Holes in the Floor of Heaven".



Rev. Doyle Perry of the Faith Indian Church of the Nazarene delivers a testimony.



The Wabanaisee "Snowbird" Singers use their hand drums and shakers to perform music in Ojibwe.



Andahwod employee Trent Disel performs "I Can Only Imagine".



Rev. Devin Chisholm of Saganing Indian Community Church delivers his message of the "Lily of the Valley".



Tribal Police Lt. Babcock and Tribal Chief Steven Pego speak on combating prevalent issues within the community.



Tribal Elder Barb "Little Fawn" Sprague shares a personal message.