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TRIBAL OBSERVER

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

CHECK THESE OUT

- 11 Fun and Games
- 17 Tribal College
- 18 Tribal Education
- 20 Entertainment
- 22 Health
- 25 Tribal Elders
- 26 Tribal Calendar
- 27 Tribal Classifieds

Tribal history made as seven new Council members sworn in



Courtesy of Marcella Hadden

The 2015-2017 Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council. (Pictured left to right: Tim J. Davis, Sergeant-at-Arms Ronald F. Ekdahl, Candace B. Benzinger, Kenneth Sprague, Treasurer Gayle Ruhl, Sub-Chief Brent D. Jackson, Chief Frank J. Cloutier, Secretary Michelle R. Colwell, Lindy Hunt, Amanda Oldman, Chaplain Diana Quigno-Grundahl and District Two Representative Ron Nelson.)



8
Shop with a Cop
Local children holiday shop with area law enforcement representatives.



10
Performance Circle
Anishinabe Performance Circle dancers are honored at class graduation.



19
SCA Winter Program
Saginaw Chippewa Academy students present the "Gchi Grinch".



BACK
RCH Dodgeball Tournament
RCH athletes, Tribal youth and members play dodgeball at SECR.

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Tribal history was made once more at the Dec. 1 general Council meeting as seven new Saginaw Chippewa Council members were sworn in at the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym.

It was the first time a Tribal Council took their office before a packed gymnasium as SCIT Tribal Court Judge Patrick Shannon administered the oath of office to each Tribal Council member and then opened the floor for nominations for chief.

Five Council members (Ron Nelson, Tim J. Davis, Frank J.

Cloutier, Kenneth Sprague and Diana Quigno-Grundahl) were nominated for chief during the 12 Council election votes.

Cloutier received five votes to serve as the newly-elected chief of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

It is the first time in Tribal history that an At-Large Tribal Council representative was elected as chief.

"It is truly an honor to be selected to serve as Tribal Chief for my Anishinaabe Tribal community," Cloutier said. "I will do everything in my power to ensure we all collectively work for what is in the best interest of the Tribe."

Cloutier presided over the rest of the Council electoral process as secret ballots were cast for the following executive Tribal Council positions: Sub-Chief Brent D. Jackson; Treasurer Gayle Ruhl and Secretary Michelle R. Colwell.

Ronald F. Ekdahl was elected as the sergeant-at-arms and Diana Quigno-Grundahl was elected as chaplain.

Candace B. Benzinger, Tim J. Davis, Lindy Hunt, Amanda Oldman, Ron Nelson (District II Representative) and Kenneth Sprague are the remaining Council members.

Interim Public Relations Director Erik Rodriguez said

this was also the first time a Tribal drum (Mino Ode Singers) was present to offer an honor song for the departing Council members and the newly-seated Council.

"It was also the first time in Tribal history where the Tribal Council entertained a motion right after the elections for office was completed," Rodriguez said. "The two motions that they did address focused on internal procedures of the Tribal Council governance."

Two motions were passed with an 11-0 unanimous vote.

Tribal Council | 3

Chief Cloutier slated for Jan. 23 State of the Tribe Address

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The 2016 State of the Tribe Address will be held Saturday, Jan. 23 in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment Hall.

Frank J. Cloutier, chief of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, will deliver his first address and will be introducing his fellow Council members who took their oath of office on Dec. 1, 2015.

"It will be a great honor for me to speak to the Tribal Membership as your chief and there will be a wealth of information that will be available," Cloutier said. "The government of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe supports 36 different departments with over 120 individual programs

all designed to enhance the quality of life for our Tribal Membership, while providing excellent services."

Cloutier is the first District Three Tribal Council representative elected as chief since the At-Large Council position was established in the 1986 amended Constitution to provide

representation for the largest segment of the Tribal Membership.

In the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Constitution, Article IV Governing Body Section 5 and Section 6 states: "The Tribal Council, so elected, shall elect from its number one Tribal chief, one sub-chief, one Tribal secretary, and one Tribal

treasurer. Said officers, when so elected by the Tribal Council, shall be known as the Executive Council. The Tribal Council shall appoint all necessary subordinate officers, boards, and committees. The Executive Council shall exercise the

State of the Tribe | 3

State of the Tribe

Annual Meeting

Saturday, Jan. 23, 2016 • SECR Entertainment Hall

Doors open at 9 a.m. • Breakfast served at 10 a.m.

** Tribal ID required, must be 14 years of age or older. ** Kids Quest at SECR will open at 9 a.m.*



Dorothy D. Dale

Dec. 24, 1924 - Nov. 24, 2015

It is with great sorrow that we announce Dorothy Dale's passing on Nov. 24, 2015.

Dorothy spent the last five years in the care of her daughter, Wanda Wallace and son-in-law, Kevin, in Bradenton, Fla. She marveled at the warm weather, interesting birds and loved all of the palm trees. She would sit for hours soaking up the sun.

Dorothy leaves behind her daughter, Wanda Wallace (Kevin), and son, Michael Poolaw (Renee), seven grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Dorothy enjoyed a very full life and was very proud of her Saginaw Chippewa Native heritage and for serving in the Marines as Corporal Dorothy Davis. She also contributed to her hometown newspaper, the Tribal Observer, as a columnist writing her "Nokomis Notes," an advice column which gave great insight on the love of her family and her home. She was a very loving, generous person and was everyone's favorite aunt. She will be greatly missed.

Delford Wheaton

Jan. 15, 1942 - Nov. 24, 2015

Delford "Del" Wheaton, age 73, of Mount Pleasant, Mich., passed away Tuesday, Nov. 24, 2015 at his home.

Del was born Jan. 15, 1942 in Lansing, Mich. to Thomas and Erma (Jackson) Wheaton. He married Melody Sebring on April 1, 2013 in Mount Pleasant. He was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. Del loved classic cars and playing euchre.

He is survived by his wife, Melody Wheaton of Mount Pleasant; five children, Timothy Hansen of Grand Rapids, Mich., Christopher and Linda Higgins of Greenville, Mich., Rhonda and Kurt Sisson of Sheridan, Mich., Michael Higgins of Fenwick, Mich., and Scott Barber of Ionia, Mich.; two grandchildren, Megan and Logan Higgins; brothers and sisters, Thomas and Doreen Wheaton of California, Kent Jackson of Mount Pleasant, Floyd and Julie Ruegesegger of Ironwood, Mich., Dave Ruegesegger of Florida, Sue Traver of Lowell, Mich., Robert and Virginia Smalley of Fenwick, Mich., Nancy and Thomas Sebring of Fenwick, Mich., Fred and Carol Smalley of Carson City, Mich., and Nadine and Leon Houseman of Stanton, Mich.

Del was preceded in death by his parents; son, Richard Hansen; and sister, Evelyn Brown. Funeral services were held Saturday, Nov. 28, 2015 at Clark Family Funeral Chapel in Mt. Pleasant.

Gladys Elsie Sawmick

Nov. 9, 1947 - Dec. 15, 2015

Gladys Elsie Sawmick, age 68, of Grand Rapids, Mich., passed away Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2015, at Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids.

Gladys was born Nov. 9, 1947, in Bay City, Mich., daughter of the late George and Elsie (Wasaquam) Sawmick.

Gladys is survived by the father of her children, Leroy Hall; children, Loretta Hall, Leroy Hall II, Leah Fernandez, Rena Hall, Larissa Hall; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; brothers, Daniel (Margo) Sawmick, Samson Sawmick, Jeremy (Shawn) Sawmick, and Zachary Sawmick; sisters, Yvonne (Bruce) Dyer, Michelle (Jose) Penna; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, George and Elsie (Wasaquam) Sawmick; siblings, Romona Rodreguiez, Ralph Sawmick, and Gregory Sawmick.

The funeral service was held Saturday, Dec. 19, 2015 at Charles R. Lux Family Funeral Home with Pastor Doyle Perry presiding and special guest Charles Nahwegahbo. Memorial contributions may be made to wishes of the family.



Arianne Cole Barnhart

Sept. 14, 1992 - Dec. 11, 2015

Arianne Cole Barnhart, age 23, of Mount Pleasant, Mich., passed away Friday, Dec. 11, 2015.

Arianne was born on Sept. 14, 1992 in Lansing, the daughter of Joseph and Janet (Jackson) Barnhart.

Arianne was a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. She loved to listen to music, go fishing, camping, spend time outdoors, movies, and spending time with family.

She will be remembered for her humor and deep love. Arianne is survived by her mother, Janet; sister, Breanna Barnhart; two nieces, Azrae Wemigwans and Brooklyn Jackson; three nephews, Kyle Shomin, Rodney Jackson Jr., and Edmund Jackson; soulmate, Gabe Salter; beloved dog, Mary; and several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Arianne was preceded in death by her father, Joseph; brother, Rodney Jackson Sr.; maternal grandparents, Willis and Josephine Jackson; paternal grandparents, Lloyd and Marilyn Barnhart; great-grandmother, Beatrice Peters; aunt, Peggy Strait; and uncles, Jeffery Jackson and Barry Jackson.

Funeral services for Arianne were held at Clark Family Funeral Chapel on Monday, Dec. 14 with Rev. Owen White-Pigeon officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Legion.



PLEASE REPORT ALL WILDLIFE VIOLATIONS

To the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Department



Dispatch: 989.775.4700
Tip Line: 989.775.4775

Public Notice

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police provide law enforcement services under 638 Contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). In compliance with said contract; The Bureau of Indian Affairs reserves 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:

Bureau of Indian Affairs | Albuquerque Office
Internal Affairs Division | 1.505.563.3880

Powwow Committee Vacancies

Attention Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Members

The Saginaw Chippewa Powwow Committee currently has six vacancies on the committee to fill. If you are interested in serving on this committee that will assist in the planning, coordination of activities, set up, and daily operations of the event, please submit a letter of interest to the Powwow Committee no later than Jan. 8, 2016.

SCIT Powwow Committee
7070 E. Broadway
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

All submissions will be recorded and then forwarded to Tribal Council for selection and notification purposes.

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Conservation Committee Seats

The Planning Department has been tasked by Tribal Council to solicit letters of interests for adult members to fill two vacant seats on the Conservation Committee for the remaining year of two year terms per Ordinance 11, section 102, subdivision 2 and the approved Ordinance 11 Committee By-Laws.

Please submit a letter of interest along with your qualification and experience to:

Donald Seal,
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Planning Department
7070 E. Broadway Rd.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

All letters of interests must be received no later than Friday Feb. 12, 2016 at 3 p.m.

Indian Child Welfare Committee Vacancy

The Indian Child Welfare Committee (ICWC) has been established to provide community input on the welfare of children of the Tribe. They make recommendations to the Tribal Court regarding termination of parental rights, guardianships, and/or adoptions, and the appropriate disposition of any minor in need of care. The ICWC also license foster homes and child care centers. The ICWC meets twice a month with special and/or emergency meetings occurring on occasion.

There is currently one vacancy

Letters of interest must be submitted to Anishnaabeg Child & Family Services by March 1, 2016. Please include your contact information and a brief statement about why you would like to be on the ICWC in your letter.

Please feel free to contact Felicia Bross at 989-775-4906 for more information.

Send letter of interest to:

Anishnaabeg Child & Family Services
7070 E Broadway Rd, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police

6954 E BROADWAY, MT PLEASANT, MI
TEL: 989-775-4700

OWN IT?
RESPECT IT. SECURE IT.

Project ChildSafe is a nationwide program promoting safe firearm handling and storage practices through the distribution of free, cable-style locks. We are doing our part to promote safe storage, but we need your help! Call for details!

LOCKS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE TRIBAL POLICE DEPARTMENT WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.



Check out the
Tribal Observer
ONLINE

www.sagchip.org/tribalobserver



NOTICE

Any adult Tribal Member in need of financial management and consultation services, please contact:

Charlene Kerby

Independent Contractor required to adhere to professional and ethical standards

At the Members Services Offices

Email: ckerby@sagchip.org

Phone: 989.775.4948



Tribal Council

continued from front page

One motion made by Colwell, and supported by Quigno-Grundahl, approved amending the new Tribal Council oath to read “I solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States and uphold the constitution, ordinances, titles and policies of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and will faithfully discharge the duties of my office, according to the best of my ability in the best interest of the Tribe and its members so help me God.”

The other motion made by Oldman, supported by Colwell, approved “directing the Tribal

Administration to draft a Code of Ethics for the Tribal Council with a deadline one year from today (Dec. 1, 2016).”

Marcella Hadden, SCIT public relations manager, welcomed the change of venue to the gym.

“We had so many people who wanted to be a part of the swearing in ceremony and it worked so well having it in the Tribal gym,” Hadden said. “I was not surprised that we were able to have a standing room only for the first swearing in held in the community gym. I have a feeling this will be something that we will consider doing again because everyone enjoyed it so much and commented about it on (social media).”

State of the Tribe

continued from front page

powers and duties delegated to it by the Tribal Council, which reserves the right of review over the actions of the Executive Council.”

“I believe that even though Tribal Council members are elected by their District One, Two or Three constituency, once the oath of office is taken, a Tribal Council member serves for the betterment of all the Membership,” Cloutier said. “Even though I was elected by the District Three membership, I pledge to do my best for all the members of our Nation and I will make this resolve clear in my State of the Tribe Address.”

In the Constitution, Article VII Duties of Officers, Section 1 states: “The Tribal chief shall preside at all meetings of the Tribal Council and perform the usual duties of a presiding office, and shall exercise any authority delegated to him by the Tribal Council. He shall countersign all checks drawn by the Tribal treasurer. He shall be an ex-officio member of all Boards and Committees. He shall vote only in case of a tie.”

“The Tribal Constitution is clear on what duties are established before me, and I realize from talking to many past Tribal chiefs, it is a tremendous responsibility,” Cloutier said. “Anytime I sign my name to a document or check, preside over a meeting or vote to break a tie for an important decision being made for the best interests of our Tribal Membership, I will treat these duties with the utmost reverence and respect.”

The scheduled 10 a.m. meeting will begin with the Anishinabe Ogitchedaw Veterans Warrior Society bringing in the eagle staffs and flags for grand entry with the Mino Ode Singers providing the heartbeat of our nation.

The invocation and blessing of the meal will be done by Tribal Council Chaplain Diana Quigno-Grundahl, followed by a breakfast where a community slide show will be playing on the big screens.

Cloutier is to speak at 11 a.m., followed by Tribal Council Treasurer Gayle Ruhl and her report.

Larry Rosenthal, from the Washington D.C.-based lobbying firm Ietan Consulting, will be in attendance to offer a legislative briefing on national affairs.

Scott Breslin, from the Lansing, Mich. firm Public Affairs Associates, will be on site to deliver a political update from the state-government level.

SECR CEO Bob VanWert is scheduled to provide a Soaring Eagle update along with Director of Marketing & Entertainment Raul Venegas.

Migizi CEO Lisa Darnell will be attending her second speech and will offer an update on Migizi businesses and properties.

Recently changed this fiscal year from the At-Large Program, Member Services Supervisor Craig Graveratte will provide an update on his department and will be available at his booth during the community meeting.

Newly-hired in November, Behavioral Health Administrator David Garcia will provide an update on services and a representative (to be announced) from Andahwod will be informing about their program services.

The last presentation of the meeting will be done by Karmen Fox, executive health director of the Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center.

The Snowbirds will be on hand at 1 p.m. to close the community meeting with a traveling song.

Erik Rodriguez, interim public relations director, said there will be department booths providing Membership information, along with the Tribal clerk accepting child welfare affidavits and annual reports.

The itinerary at press time may be subject to change prior to the event.



Happy Birthday
Babygirl!
Love Mom



Happy Anniversary!
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Cantu Jr.
January 23, 2003

Report Suspicious or Criminal Activity!

Do Your Part In Stopping Crime!

Assist Your Local Law Enforcement and Narcotics Enforcement Teams in Protecting the Future of Your Community!

Protecting your children, family, community and future should be a priority!



Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police
Dispatch: 989-775-4700
Tip Line: 989-775-4775

Bayanet (Narcotics Enforcement)
Tip Line: 989-779-9697
Anonymous and Confidential

Introducing the SCIT 2016-2018 Youth Council



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Congratulations to the newly-elected 2016-2018 Youth Council for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. On Thursday, Dec. 3 at 4 p.m. in the Tribal Operations Seniors Room, community members and Tribal Council watched the new Youth Council take over. (Pictured left to right, front row: Secretary Kendra Cyr, Co-President Jasmyne Jackson, Co-President Ethan Hunt, Treasurer Nodin Jackson and Social Media Director Kenson Taylor. Back row: Youth Council General Representatives Quincey Jackson, Zackary Jackson, Milan Quigno-Grundahl, Simon Quigno and Andre Leaux.)

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

Give that
Special
Someone



In the Tribal Observer
Email to: Observer@sagchip.org
Deadline: Jan. 15, 2016 - \$10 each



Tribal Council

Chief

Frank J. Cloutier, District 3

Sub-Chief

Brent D. Jackson, District 1

Treasurer

Gayle Ruhl, District 1

Secretary

Michelle R. Colwell, District 1

Sergeant At-Arms

Ronald F. Ekdahl, District 1

Tribal Chaplain

Diana Quigno-Grundahl, District 1

Council Member

Candace B. Benzinger, District 1

Council Member

Tim J. Davis, District 1

Council Member

Lindy Hunt, District 1

Council Member

Amanda Oldman, District 1

Council Member

Kenneth Sprague, District 1

Council Member

Ron Nelson, District 2

MIIBS Project Management: Request for proposal

On behalf of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, Tribal Council is preparing to receive all interested proposals for project management and oversight to an important community investment.

Tribal Members and/or Native Americans are strongly encouraged to apply.

The proposed project manager must include development and future plans for the Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School (MIIBS) including a community survey in which to assist with guidance.

The Council is seeking a project manager with experience and can demonstrate the key components necessary to complete this important project on time and within a developed budget.

Please include within your proposal: A cover letter outlining your educational background and key project experiences, an overview of your project approach (project scope of services) and proposed fee required to complete project phases (pre-design, design, construction, and closeout) and any reimbursable fee.

Tribal Council will evaluate proposals based on the following criteria:

- Tribal Member/Native American Preference
- Education Level
- Relevant Experience examples such as:
 - Management of construction documents (AIA)
 - Feasibility studies
 - Budget management
- Leadership Capability
- Past Performance (if applicable)
- Fee

This position is open until filled. Please forward your detailed proposals along with references to:

Marcella Hadden, MIIBS committee member
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
7070 East Broadway, Mount Pleasant, MI 48858

Scope of Services Project Management

For Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Board School (MIIBS) Project

- Initial Fact Finding - acquire and review all previous reports/studies, strategic plans, structural and environmental reports, community survey results, etc.
- Draft and implement MIIBS community needs survey per strategic plan.
- Prepare a report that offers direction and potential work plans to inform future property use and development.
- Continue to review and implement strategic planning goals and objectives.
- Provide quarterly updates to Tribal Council and Tribal Community.
- Design and implement a funding and development plan - such as establishing a foundation and/or permanent endowment.
- Identify, prepare and submit grants with the Grant Department including the administration of the award.
- Maintain open lines of communication with City of Mount Pleasant, State and Federal key officials in the maintenance and development of the former boarding school property.
- Identify and inventory items in MIIBS building that need to be retained or auctioned including storage space.
- Maintain relationships with Tribal Departments to secure and maintain MIIBS buildings/property.
- Continue to provide guidance and assistance throughout the process to help ensure responsibilities and expectations of committee members.
- Conceptualize future plans for what the MIIBS property will look like and its function – from survey results and/or community input.

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.



MIGIZI

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CO.

Attention Adult Tribal Members

Migizi EDC has one vacancy on its Board of Directors to fill a Community Member seat. Those interested should exhibit exemplary experience in business, be responsible and express integrity as well as good judgment. Each interested party should be sensitive to the unique goals and the culture of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. The ideal candidate would recognize the need for diversification within the Tribe's holdings as well as demonstrate expertise in and have an understanding of business management, administration, accounting, finance, law, advertisement, public relations and other related disciplines. Time requirements include all regularly scheduled meetings, including additional project meetings and special meetings. This appointment and its term will run concurrent with Tribal Council elections.

A Letter of Intent will be accepted until March 11, 2016 and should be mailed to:

Migizi Economic Development Company, c/o Melanie Burger, 7070 E. Broadway Rd., Mt. Pleasant MI 48858

Tribal Observer

Boozhu! The Tribal Observer, a monthly newspaper, is published on the first of each month. To contact Tribal Observer staff, please call 989-775-4010, or email: observer@sagchip.org. To change your mailing address, please contact the Tribal Clerk's office at 989-775-4055. Community advertisements will not be accepted over the phone.



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

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
c/o Tribal Observer
7070 E. Broadway Rd.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Subscription rates are \$30 per year.

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

The views expressed within the Tribal Observer do not necessarily reflect the views of the Tribal Observer, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council, 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.

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

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

Please send \$30 for the annual subscription. Checks may be made out to SCIT.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Please mail form to:

Tribal Observer
Attn: Subscriptions
7070 E. Broadway Rd.
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Contact Information:

Phone: 989-775-4010
Email: Observer@Sagchip.org
www.Sagchip.org/TribalObserver



Local leaders speak on fall 2015 two percent grants

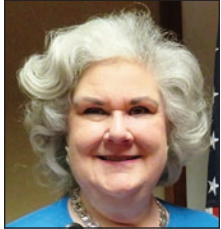
(Editor's note: The following contains quotes from local leaders speaking on behalf of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's two percent grants distributed on Nov. 20.)



Jim Holton
City of Mount Pleasant mayor

"When I go to the city conventions across the state, they are basically jealous because I can tell them about all the things we can do and have done with the funding given by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe. And that is an impact that is not only being felt in the City of Mount Pleasant, but in Isabella County and the central Michigan area. It is what makes this community a better place to live in and without the support of the Tribe, this community would look a lot different."

and the central Michigan area. It is what makes this community a better place to live in and without the support of the Tribe, this community would look a lot different."



Margaret McAvoy
Isabella County administrator

"This has been the first two years since hiring in as Isabella County administrator and receiving this kind of semi-annual distribution and this makes a huge difference to our community and county. These monies go directly to providing services to residents and people who come to Isabella County in a variety of ways. We appreciate the support the Tribe has given to our recycling program and it shows how much the Tribe cares about our environment."

in a variety of ways. We appreciate the support the Tribe has given to our recycling program and it shows how much the Tribe cares about our environment."



Brenda Upton
Isabella County Commission on Aging director

"Over the last 20 years, and I can't believe it's been 20 years, the first gift they gave us was in 1995 and since then they have given us over \$7 million and that had meant for hundreds of thousands of meals that has served tens of thousands of adult all over Isabella County. Our staff has driven millions of miles serving those meals and driving seniors to their medical appointments. Hours and hours of service all made possible by the commitment and generosity shown by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe."

millions of miles serving those meals and driving seniors to their medical appointments. Hours and hours of service all made possible by the commitment and generosity shown by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe."



Thomas Tober
City of Pinconning police chief

"Starting back in 2003, the state started cutting back on revenue sharing to municipalities and townships and with that we saw a reduction in our police force, both in personnel and monies available to buy equipment. Some of the equipment we've bought with support of the Tribe includes ballistic vests, side arms and rifles. We also were able to upgrade our computer systems and two different patrol cars have been purchased because of the Tribe. Without their help, I'm not sure what kind of shape our department would be in regarding equipment and the safety of the officers."

shape our department would be in regarding equipment and the safety of the officers."



Jan Amsterburg
Isabella/Gratiot RESD
& special education superintendent

"The monies and impact from the grants received from the Tribe have been fantastic. The grant has been traditionally used at our Forest Hill Nature Area and we have over 2,000 students a year that visit and our special education students enjoy that benefit immensely. We have a couple other grant opportunities that we expressed our gratitude to the Tribe for funding. One is our solar power display where students can study how that works and also our wind turbine and weather station and those are located at the Forest Hill Nature Area also."



Jeff Collier
Au Gres-Sims School superintendent

"These gifts are sustainable entities that allow us to develop Class A facilities and educational opportunities for our students. Also, several of you have tuned in to the weekly podcast on behalf of the AuGres-Sims school system and one of the guests was Frank Cloutier where we talked about the two percent's positive impact on our district. These are the gifts that you allow us to sustain to increase the quality of life of our students on a daily basis."



Jeff Trombley
Arenac County vice chairman

"Improvements on our senior center and our fire department have really helped and that wouldn't have happened without the support of the Tribe. The continued improvement and support of our Point AuGres Park, Lincoln drain and Sagatoo Road make the area better for all the citizens of Arenac County."



Robert North
Standish Township supervisor

"We appreciate everything you do for us and I'm just starting to figure this out. What is heartfelt and means a lot to our community, the Tribe is always there with us. What this means is... the Tribe has always provided flag holders in our cemeteries for our veterans. Unfortunately, they were made of brass and a lot of people made a lot of money by stealing them. What we have now is a nice plastic version of the flag holders, and we thank the Tribe for those. We have a couple of elderly women, who have served in the armed forces, and we present those at the township meeting, you can tell that goes right to their heart and how much they appreciate it."

Saginaw Chippewa Academy makes a slam dunk at CMU Hoops for Hunger event

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK
Photojournalist

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe eagles were flying high on Dec. 15 as the Saginaw Chippewa Academy received the honor of being crowned the 2015 Central Michigan University Hoops for Hunger food drive champions.

SCIT Education Director Melissa Montoya accepted the trophy on behalf of SCA with Tribal Council members Gayle Ruhl, Candace B. Benzinger, Diana Quigno-Grundahl, Kenneth

Sprague, Ronald F. Ekdahl and Amanda Oldman attending the halftime ceremonies.

Hoops for Hunger focuses on fighting hunger in Michigan. Participating schools help raise thousands of pounds of food with canned goods and monetary donations.

"Tribal Council became aware that our SCA students won the Hoops for Hunger food drive and were eager to provide support by attending today's halftime event that recognized their efforts," Oldman said.

Oldman said as a mother of three, and stepmother of three, it is important to teach the younger generation to have compassion for the less fortunate.

"I believe the Tribe has always supported these causes through the Angel Tree programs, jeans for a cause, and Hoops for Hunger to name a few," she said. "These efforts are also displayed Tribal-wide through our government and gaming establishments."

Benzinger said she was very proud of the Academy students and staff.

"It truly was an honor to witness our Tribal school being recognized for helping such a great cause and it wouldn't have been possible without our students, their families and the Academy staff," Benzinger said. "To see all the excitement and energy radiating from the stands was unbelievable. It was a fun event to be a part of and it's moments like this that make our Tribe proud."

More than 3,000 screaming elementary and middle school students joined SCA at McGuirk Arena to watch the CMU Chippewas Women's Basketball team drop a hard fought game to Memphis 64-61.

Other participating schools in the Hoops for Hunger event received a plaque including: Fancher Elementary, Sacred Heart Academy, Vowles Elementary, West Intermediate, Mary McGuire Elementary, Coleman Schools, Hillside Elementary and Harrison Middle School, Morey Charter Academy, Belding Schools, Vestaburg Schools, Beal City Middle

School, Winn Elementary, Ithaca North Elementary, Pine Avenue Elementary and Westwood Heights Middle School.

The annual event celebrated its eighth year and was an idea generated by CMU Women's Basketball Head Coach Sue Guevara and her staff.

The basketball team has embraced the concept and they look forward to giving back to the community seeing the students cheer them on.

"This is a great event, a great opportunity for those who have to help those who need," Guevara said. "This will help a lot of families and I congratulate the SCA students and the Tribe in winning the trophy and giving their all to Hoops for Hunger."

Hoops for Hunger continue to provide hundreds of thousands of pounds of food for families during the holiday season and the mid-Michigan area throughout the years have raised more than 50,000 pounds total since 2014.



SCA Teacher Assistant Scott Saboo hoists the 2015 Hoops for Hunger trophy towards an excited SCA student section.



Tribal Council and SCA teachers and administrators celebrate with the 2015 Hoops for Hunger trophy in front of the CMU and Ziibiwing Center gallery at McGuirk Arena.

Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick



Teen club hosts Drug Trend Forum for high school teenagers

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

On Monday, Nov. 23, the Drug-Free Teen Club hosted a Drug Trend Forum for all high school teenagers at Seventh Generation.

Local law enforcement officials partook in an engaging conversation with the youth regarding current drug trends, how they can say “no” and what they can do to help combat the issue.

As one of the first official teen club events, nine youth were in attendance, including TJ Black, Warren Ricketts, Noah Ingram, Zach Colores, Evelyn House, Kallena Ricketts, Jasmine Vandyke, Alivia Bui and Dajia Shinos.

Supervised by the Saginaw Chippewa Behavioral Health Prevention Team, the Drug-Free Teen Club, Enji-biin-ind Ji-chaak, is “where souls/spirits are cleaned/healed.”

Tribal Police Officers Shane Waskevich and Joe Maxey, Village of Shepherd Police Chief Michael Main, and Mount Pleasant City Public Information Officer Jeff Browne conversed with the youth.

“Instead of a forum, the event kind of took on the actions of a teen town hall meeting,” said “Coach” Kevin Ricketts, teen club coordinator and prevention



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police Officer Joe Maxey talks to Tribal youth about drug dangers on Nov. 23 at the Drug Trend Forum in Seventh Generation’s Elijah Elk Building.

specialist. “The officers were great as they gave the youth information about drugs in the community, but also gave them open-ended questions so that they would engage in conversations with one another.”

The officers warned the youth about dangers of experimenting with drugs and alcohol, and said they all need to work together to keep the community clean.

Main said when individuals get high off of marijuana for the first time, they cannot achieve that same high again. That’s

when they move to other drugs, looking for the same high.

“Marijuana is a gateway drug that has been around for ages,” Maxey said. “When you hear of street drugs, you may think of marijuana, crack cocaine... but there are also prescription drugs that people sell.”

Browne encouraged the teens to stay active and get involved in their communities.

“When I was your age, I thought nothing bad would ever happen to me and you may feel the same way,” Browne said to the youth. “I’m here to tell you bad things happen to folks your age... It’s easy to go with the flow, but long-term effects are huge.”

Main discussed some behaviors of addicts.

“When there is an overdose and (the user) dies, people seek out that heroin dealer because they believe ‘that’s the good stuff,’” Main said. “They believe (the one who overdosed) just ‘took too much’ and that’s the batch of heroin they want.”

Prevention Coordinator Jennifer Crawford and Prevention Specialist Alice Ricketts also attended to show support for the youth.

“Having events like that help break down barriers and allows positive relationships to be



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Officer Maxey and Village of Shepherd Police Chief Michael Main engage in conversation with local high school students.

formed between the youth and police officers,” Crawford said. “By the end of the night, the youth were actively engaging, sharing what they see and feel, and the officers did the same. It was fantastic to be a part of it.”

The teen club is fast growing and gaining support from businesses, schools and parents.

“The Soaring Eagle Waterpark (and Hotel) donated 25 free waterpark passes to the club, a big thanks to (General Manager) Bonnie Sprague,” Coach said. “Morey Courts and Celebration Cinema are getting involved as well, with generosity perks. Mt. Pleasant High School and Shepherd High School both have active drug-free teen officers.”

Coach said the club is hoping to also have teen officers in Beal City High School.

“I believe the youth now understand more than before that police officers are there to support them and want to see them be healthy and successful,” Crawford said. “After hearing the officers talk, I think we will see continued involvement from them in the Drug-Free Teen Club. Our plan is to help provide more education and awareness opportunities for the youth, and we will help support healthy, alternative activities allowing them to have fun, free of drugs and alcohol.”

To be in the club, students must be in high school, pass a drug screen and not smoke or use E-cigarettes.

Any teenager interested in becoming a club member may contact Coach at **989-775-4823** or **989-944-0495**.

Soaring Eagle Waterpark’s Barry Histed certified as aquatic facility operator

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Barry Histed, director of facilities for the Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel, was recently certified as an aquatic facility operator by the National Certification Board and National Recreation and Park Association in Palm Springs, Calif.

To become certified, Histed passed a nationally-administered examination, which tests knowledge on: Swimming pool mechanical concepts; familiarity with all systems, equipment and peripherals required to contain, circulate and filter and heat/treat swimming pool water; ability

to perform preventative maintenance and basic repairs; competence in water chemistry pertaining to pools; and knowledge of risk management practices.

“The training entailed one month of studying and self-testing, two 16-hour days of review and three hours of testing,” Histed said.

Histed joined the Waterpark in 2014, with a previous 30 years of managerial experience.

Histed received the certification in an effort to provide quality service to the hotel and waterpark guests.

“With the Tribe being new to the waterpark industry, I feel this is a great way to also be in



Courtesy of Barry Histed

SEWPH Director of Facilities Barry Histed recently received certification as an aquatic facility operator.

touch with others in the industry to network, as well as to stay on top of all the new technology and operation issues,” he said.

The certification examination was administered by the National Recreation and Park Association, the Aquatic Facility Operator Certification Committee and the National Certification Board.

“Barry’s recent certification provides him with a broader insight of pool operations, including pool chemistry, management, pool safety and risk education,” said Bonnie Sprague, SEWPH general manager.

The certification is valid for five years.

SEWPH employees Nick Poolaw, pool operator, and pool technicians John McCarthy and Gene Rhinehart are certified by the National Pool Foundation.

Histed said the certifications show SEWPH guests that the waterpark keeps the patrons’ safety in mind by having a qualified staff, and it benefits the Tribe to know their investments are being cared for by the accredited staff.

“I am very proud of Barry’s commitment to improving his knowledge and skills,” Sprague said. “Our guests and the public should know that our waterpark is operated in a safe and sanitary way. We, at Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel, are committed to the highest level of service to our guests and we are in compliance with state regulations and industry standards.”

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Requirements:

- 1.) Must be a member of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.
- 2.) Must be at least 18 years old.
- 3.) Must not be employed by the Saginaw Chippewa Education Department.



Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each Month at 9 a.m. in the TEAB Conference Room

Letters/emails of interest will be accepted until Jan. 4, 2016 at 12 p.m.

Please send letters of interest/e-mails to:
Tribal Education Administration
7070 E. Broadway, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Or E-mail letter to: MMontoya@sagchip.org

For further information call Christina Sharp at 989-775-4501



University of Michigan museum returns ancestral remains to Ziibiwing

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan and the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways repatriated the ancestral human remains of 31 Native American individuals and 15 associated funerary objects from the University of Michigan's Museum of Anthropological Archaeology in Ann Arbor, Mich. on Nov. 23-25, 2015.

The Ziibiwing Center has been working diligently in cooperation with the Michigan Anishinaabek Cultural Preservation & Repatriation Alliance (MACPRA), to bring home ancestors and their associated funerary objects from the numerous museums, universities, and institutions across the country since the passage of the 1990 Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).

Ziibiwing Director Shannon Martin said with each repatriation completed, the Tribe is progressively restoring basic human dignity while strengthening a multi-generational connection to our ancestors.

"I am proud of the diligence from (MACPRA) and the organization's second-term chairman William Johnson by accomplishing this very difficult work," Martin said. "Michigan tribes are now past the halfway point in repatriating all of the ancestors currently held at the University of Michigan's Museum of Anthropological Archaeology. Over 1,500 ancestors and

thousands of funerary objects were excavated from the state of Michigan from the 19th and 20th centuries. The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan expects to complete our NAGPRA work with the University of Michigan in 2017."

NAGPRA requires museums and federal agencies to inventory and identify Native American human remains and cultural items in their collections and to consult with federally-recognized Indian tribes, and Native Hawaiian organizations regarding the return of these objects to descendants or tribes and organizations.

SCIT, in partnership with the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish (Gun Lake) Band of Pottawatomi Indians, carried out the repatriation through a \$3,364 NAGPRA repatriation grant.

NAGPRA Collections Manager J. Amadeus Scott has been in her current position as NAGPRA staff member for the Museum since February 2011, and has been working with SCIT and Gun Lake on NAGPRA compliance efforts.

"To date, I have been fortunate to attend four 'Recommitment to the Earth' ceremonies associated with transfers of ancestors and their funerary objects previously held by the University of Michigan with the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, all supported by successful National NAGPRA grants written by the SCIT," Scott said. "This was the first I have attended associated with the transfer of ancestors previously held at the University of Michigan with

the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians."

Scott acknowledges the huge work put into the process by the Tribes in terms of time, resources, labor, emotional, and spiritual energy.

"I would like to express my sincere appreciation for their support, care, direction, and dedication to this work," Scott said. "Tribal NAGPRA designees, Tribal historic preservation officers (THPOs), Tribal elders, and Tribal community members from throughout the state of Michigan have been generous with their time, advice, and support to help the NAGPRA staff to develop policies, collections management, consultation, and transfer processes that we hope are careful and respectful. On a personal level, attending these recommitment ceremonies and participating in this important work is a profound experience that I have difficulty putting into words. But I am very thankful to be a minor part of this work."

MACPRA Chairman and Ziibiwing Curator William Johnson said SCIT began consulting on 25 sites preliminary classified as culturally unidentified on March 16, 2015.

These sites were from Bay, Clinton, Genesee, Ionia, Leelanau, Macomb, Missaukee, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Otsego, Saginaw, Saint Clair, Tuscola, Van Buren and unknown counties.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Community members preparing for the arrival of the ancestors at the Nibookan Ancestral Cemetery.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

The NAGPRA University of Michigan delegation on site at the Ziibiwing Center for the Nov. 24 Recommitment to the Earth ceremony. (Pictured left to right: Collections Manager J. Amadeus Scott, Project Manager Ben Secunda, intern Polly Washabaugh, Assistant Taylour Boboltz and intern Michelle Torby.)

"The (MACPRA) tribes authorized SCIT to take the lead with the repatriation and reburial for the Butterfield (Bay), Kantzler (Bay), Schmidt 2-4 (Bay), Steinbower (Clinton), Budd (Genesee), Verchave #2 (Macomb), GL-1279 (St. Clair), Mahoney Property (Saginaw), Ray Bradshaw Farm (Tuscola) and Hancock I (Tuscola) sites," Johnson said.

Johnson said the 10 sites represented 29 individuals and 15 associated funerary objects.

"The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians took the lead with the repatriation and reburial of the remaining individuals," he said.

Collectively, Johnson said MACPRA repatriated and


reburied 64 individuals and 194 associated funerary objects.

"I would like to say miigwetch to the University of Michigan and specifically to Dr. Ben Secunda, J. Amadeus Scott, Taylor Boboltz, Michelle Torby and Polly Washabaugh for representing the Museum... so professionally and for attending the ceremonies," Johnson said.

The interment took place on Tuesday, Nov. 24 at noon at the Nibookan Ancestral Cemetery.

The cemetery was established in 1995 for the explicit purpose of reburial of repatriated Native American ancestral human remains and associated funerary objects and is located on the Saginaw Chippewa's Isabella Indian Reservation, behind the Tribal Campground located at 7525 E. Tomah Rd. at Mount Pleasant, Mich.

The community who attended enjoyed a Journey Feast of traditional food at Ziibiwing Center after the ceremony.



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“Shop with a Cop” provides holiday gifts for children and their families

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

With Christmas lists in hand, local children grabbed shopping carts and partnered with area law enforcement representatives for the annual “Shop with a Cop” at the Mount Pleasant Wal-Mart on Dec. 8.

With \$200 for each child to spend, courtesy of Wal-Mart, the police officers jotted down the price of each selected item to keep track of the total.

Nearly 30 children – two students from each Isabella County elementary school – shopped with officers from Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Police, Mt. Pleasant Police Department, Michigan State Police, the Isabella County Sheriff’s Department and Central Michigan University Police.

In the Wal-Mart garden center, Mt. Pleasant Police Officer Nate Koutz kept the event organized by crossing children’s names off the list and pairing them with the officers.

Tribal Dispatcher and Corrections Officer Chris Beman shopped twice, both times with 10-year-old girls.

After shopping for her family members, the first young girl had a hard time deciding what to purchase for herself.

“I always enjoy giving to others, but I’m never sure of what to get for myself,” she said.

Beman said it was a great time getting to know the children.

“I like to hear their gift ideas,” Beman said. “This also gives me a chance to answer any of their questions about my job or the police department, and hopefully to make them more comfortable when they come in contact with us at any time.”



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Tribal Police Officer Benjamin Paul participates in the annual “Shop with a Cop” at Wal-Mart on Dec. 8.

Tribal Police Officer Benjamin Paul also participated. The program began 10 years ago as a partnership between Wal-Mart and the Youth Services Unit, said Jeff Browne, public information officer for the Mt. Pleasant Police Department.

“It’s a great opportunity to give back to the community,” Browne said. “There is a lot of negative press about police currently in the media. This event is an opportunity to highlight the great men and women who work hard every day to protect and serve the community.”

After the shopping sprees, the officers and children returned to the garden center to check out. Mt. Pleasant High School athletes and Tribal Drug-Free Teen Club volunteers helped wrap the gifts.

“The event is to offer an opportunity for positive interactions between the youth of our community and law enforcement while giving



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Tribal Dispatcher and Corrections Officer Chris Beman helps a 10-year-old local student pick out gifts for her family.

the children time to purchase Christmas gifts with money, graciously supplied by Wal-Mart,” Browne said.

In addition to holiday presents, each child received a boxed dinner to take home to their family.

That same evening, Tribal Dispatcher and Corrections Officer Renay Ehren and Tribal K9 Officer Derek Williams participated in “Shop with a Hero” at Meijer in Mount Pleasant.

Shop with a Hero is a partnership between Meijer, the United Way and 95.3 WCFX.

Children were paired with Tribal and Isabella County dispatchers, Mount Pleasant and Nottawa-Sherman Township firefighters, Tribal and Mount Pleasant police officers, Mount Pleasant and Isabella County state troopers, Marines and Mobile Medical Response dispatchers.

This is the fourth year Beman has participated in



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

“Shop with a Hero” also took place on Dec. 8 at the Meijer in Mount Pleasant, Mich. with local police officers, firefighters, dispatchers and troopers partaking.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Tribal Dispatcher and Corrections Officer Renay Ehren poses with her shopping buddy during the “Shop with a Hero” outing.

either Shop with a Cop or Shop with a Hero.

“It was a great experience to meet with the kids and help them feel special and in control of a special event in their life,” Beman said. “I have kids the same age. So, I think it makes it easier to relate to the kids we are partnered with.”

Each year, the Mt. Pleasant Police Department writes a grant to Wal-Mart for the Shop with a Cop funds.

The local schools assist with picking out which children will participate in the program.

On Dec. 16, Tribal Chief of Police Donielle Bannon also participated in a Shop with a Cop event with other Saginaw area law enforcement officials in Standish, Mich.

Joining Bannon for the event at Shopko were three other Tribal police officers including: Sergeant Luke Dixon, Officer Wade Spyker and Officer Ryan Dallas.

Road salt dangers: Identifying the environmental threat and alternatives

MICHAEL BERTLING

Central Michigan University, Planning Department Intern

Winter time driving can be brutal, especially in icy conditions. Winter not only causes danger and inconvenience for drivers, but it causes a lot of work.

As large plow and salting trucks tear through our streets, they are constantly dropping thousands of pounds of salt (Sodium Chloride). Most people who look to purchase a car can relate that salt makes it difficult to find a nice, rust-free vehicle and this can be irritating. But the thing that we ought to pay more attention to is not only how it impacts our vehicles and daily activities, but also how it impacts the quality of our water.

First, we need to understand why salt is a concern to our environment. The salt used on our roads is not the same salt we put on our tables. It is

modified with things such as ferrocyanide, phosphorus, and iron. While, these may only make up about five percent of the salt, they are not found in table salt.

Sodium is found to make up around 40 percent of salt and chloride, being our main focus, at 60 percent.

Chloride is the main ingredient in road salt and is in fact toxic to aquatic life, the aquatic environment entirely, and to the wildlife using the water.

Chloride destroys vegetation and causes illness in the wildlife that may eat the vegetation or drink the water.

It is proven that chlorides are not broken down, absorbed, or removed from the environment by natural processes and that makes them especially concerning. If they never break down or get removed in some way then the levels of chloride can just continue to increase and contaminate water resources until we abandon them for lack of quality.

It is not toxic to humans unless it is consumed in larger amounts, but it does lower the taste quality of water and can cause an odor. However, animals ingest road salt by eating it directly, or licking it off their paws, they also drink the runoff and melting snow which contain chlorides.

Chlorides cause vomiting, drooling, diarrhea, loss of appetite, vocalizing or crying, excessive thirst, depression, weakness, low blood pressure, disorientation, decreased muscle functions, and even cardiac abnormalities like seizures, coma, and in the worst case scenario death in pets and wildlife.

Finding alternatives to melting the snow and ice should be a priority when preparing for winter season, but unfortunately, issues like this are often overlooked because of the distribution of small impacts over a large area.

At home, you can use alternatives such as beet juice, dawn dish soap with rubbing alcohol and warm water, or sugar cane

molasses and cheese brine, all mixed with a little table salt, to be proactive in helping reduce the harm that may affect our water quality and most importantly the environment around us.

The Tribal Water Program staff in the Planning Department has started measuring the impact of chloride on the surface waters of the Tribe. Currently, the study is in its first year.

The water resource technician will measure the impact of salt to the Tribal community’s water

resources after salt applications during the colder months.

For more information on this article, please contact Aiman Shahpurwala, water resource technician, at **989-775-4081** or ashahpurwala@sagchip.org.

References:

des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/was/salt-reduction-initiative/impacts.htm

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Annual Report (October 2014 - September 2015)

The Board of Directors for the Ziibiwing Cultural Society/Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways is proud to recognize the organization's many accomplishments and its staff within this Annual Report.

From guided tours for school children, Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School archaeological Field Schools, Artist-in-Residence Programs and ancestral repatriations to fun family events like NativeFest, the Ziibiwing Cultural Society continues to be a vital and progressive organization for the Tribe.

On May 6, 2015, State of Michigan Governor Rick Snyder and State Historic Preservation Officer Brian D. Conway recognized the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe with a 2015 Governor's Award for Historic Preservation for the historic

preservation work accomplished through the efforts of the Ziibiwing Center and the Tribal Historic Preservation Office.

The Governor applauded the "great work that takes place across the state" and recognizes "the people who preserve these places for all Michiganders."

"The sites contribute to Michigan's uniqueness, teach us about the people who lived here in the past, and are important to a vibrant future."

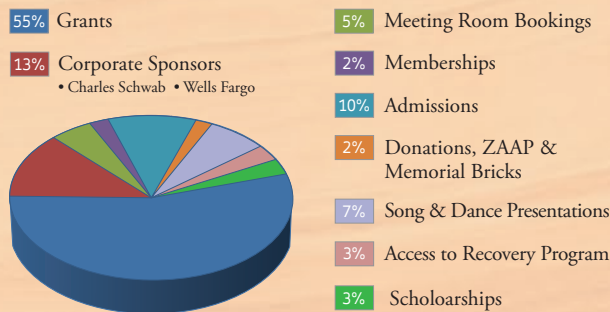
We hope that you find in this Annual Report a clear demonstration of the dedication and respect exemplified by our entire organization for the mission, work and growth of the Ziibiwing Cultural Society. We are extremely grateful for your continued support and trust in our very important work.

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- Shier, Quita
- Skene, Julie
- Slifco, Pamela & Daniel
- Sova, Marlene
- Spencer, Bernard
- Spencer, Robin
- Sprague, Jeff
- Squanda, Clarence
- Stevens, Paul
- Syndergaard, Larry
- Vasher, Dan & Colleen
- Wagner, Colleen
- Waies, Elizabeth
- Wayne, Craig
- Wickerham, Floyd & Sue
- Zocher, Virginia

Financials

External Revenue Total: \$246,786



Accomplishments

- 28,432 visitors experienced all the Center has to offer - an additional 10,250 were provided educational services offsite by the Ziibiwing Center staff.
- Implemented 159 special events and cultural programs for the Tribal community and general public.
- Research Center served 2,201 patrons.
- \$7,323,789 in total sales for Ziibiwing Commercial Services - up \$895,812 from fiscal year 2014.
- Maintained 8 Tribal cemeteries, in addition to the Ziibiwing Center's 3-acre lawn (14.41 acres per week).
- Provided 159 tours for 4,508 guests, 58 K-12 tours and 101 adult tours, including complimentary SCIT, Migizi, SECR and Retail Employees Orientation Tours.
- 9,698 individual contacts were logged by our team.
- NativeFest, our annual 3-day celebration of American Indian culture, attracted 705 people.
- Continued to provide cultural and educational services 2-3 times per week to clients of the Tribe's Residential Treatment Center and Access to Recovery Program.
- Awarded 4 of the 5 Federal grants submitted: Historic Preservation Fund, 2 NAGPRA Repatriation Grants and Institute of Museum and Library Services Grant for a total of \$134,641 awarded in Federal grant funding.
- ZC Commercial Services online sales for 2015 totaled \$690,145 - up \$59,396 from 2014.
- ZC Commercial Services implemented Merchant Fulfilled Prime for Amazon (online) customers and expanded Fulfilled by Amazon (FBA) merchandise by 15% - inventory is sent to Amazon to handle these orders and returns.
- ZC Commercial Services sold approximately 29,000 items on Amazon and our Native Direct website in 2015.
- ZC Commercial Services began selling on eBay in June.
- ZC Commercial Services added over 12,000 new products and product lines to the gift shops and the online businesses in 2015.
- ZC Commercial Services continued to operate at 100% self-sufficiency and is currently subsidizing the wages of 5 Ziibiwing Center staff positions.

Your Support

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

- Free admission to Ziibiwing Center exhibits for members of all North American Indian Tribes.
- Discounted admission to military personnel, school children, college students, and educators.
- Funding for outreach programs which take our teachings and collections into schools throughout Michigan.
- Preservation of our artifacts and collections, ensuring that our culture will be preserved for future generations.
- Maintenance and promotion of our exhibits so that our heritage and culture can be enjoyed by everyone.

- 85 items were accepted for our Permanent Collection in 2015 (books, photographs, postcards, historical documents, baskets, Boarding School items, newspaper clippings, 2 hand-crafted brooms).
- Partnered with Human Resources to offer 54 SCIT Summer Youth Workers orientation and career skills including Problem Solving with the Seven Grandfather Teachings and Dressing Professionally - the Ziibiwing Center hosted and mentored 5 Summer Youth Workers.
- Cultural Resource Management team completed 236 cultural resource reviews - these reviews are required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and protect the cultural resources/traditional cultural properties of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan.
- ZC Commercial Services contracted with Plante Moran to develop an E-commerce Business Plan - the positive findings were presented to Tribal Council in September 2015 regarding the potential success with online expansion.
- ZC Commercial Services updated the Native Direct website with new shopping cart and improved format/layout.
- Repatriated and reburied the physical remains of 11 Native American individuals and 191 associated funerary objects from the Kline family property in Romeo, Michigan on October 17, 2014, 94 Native American individuals and 812 associated funerary objects from the Younge Site at the University of Michigan on November 19, 2014, 1 Native American individual from Gratiot County, Bethany Township at the Michigan State Police Post #64 on December 18, 2014, and 43 Native American individuals from Bay, Saginaw, Lapeer (Younge Site) and Wayne Counties at the American Museum of Natural History, Toledo Zoological Society and Dearborn Historical Museum on May 22, 2015.
- Members of our team participated on 21 various Tribal and external boards/committees to support our strategic goal of Ensuring Organizational Sustainability.
- ZC Commercial Services worked on various software programs and upgrades to improve Amazon selling and enter into new selling channels - examples are Ship Gear, Channel Advisor
- ZC Commercial Services added four additional computer shipping stations to increase productivity.

2016 Event Calendar

January

- 7 | Walking With Our Sisters Community Conversation
- 26 | Vendor Workshop
- 30 | Lecture on the Cranbrook Institute of Science (CIS) Great Lakes Native American Collection

February

- 2 | Performance Circle Sign-Up & Class (Classes every Tuesday until May 3 except Spring Break)
- 6-13 | Collection Showing
- 19-20 | Sundance Institute Film Screenings and Workshop
- 20 | Wilderness Skills of Our Ancestors Workshop

March

- 10-12 | 2016 Native American Critical Issues Conference
- 29 | Performance Circle Spring Break: No Classes

April

- 9 | Atlatl Competition
- 9 | CIS Exhibit closes
- 23 | Walking With Our Sisters Exhibit Opens
- 25-29 | Mother Earth Week

May

- 3 | Performance Circle Graduation
- 5-6 | Ziibiwing's 12th Birthday Sale
- 7 | Walking With Our Sisters Exhibit Closes
- 14 | Bird Day Celebration
- 14-21 | Collection Showing

June

- 6 | MIIBS* "Honoring, Healing & Remembering" (at the MIIBS*)
- 25 | Community Cultural Teaching (at the Sanilac Petroglyphs)

July

- 2, 9, 16, 23 | American Indian Dances
- 26 | NativeFest • Car Bingo
- 27 | NativeFest • Music & Comedy Night
- 25-30 | NativeFest • Collection Showing

August

- 1-5 | Cradleboard Workshop
- 9 | World Indigenous People's Day
- 19 | Art Walk Central Begins
- 23 | Vendor Workshop

September

- 10 | Art Walk Central Ends
- 10 | Grandparent's Day
- 17 | Monarch Butterfly Celebration
- 20 | Performance Circle Sign-Up & Class (Classes every Tuesday until Dec. 13)
- 24 | Museum Day Live!
- September - November | Heritage Special (Call for Details)

October

- 12 | Indigenous People's Day
- 19 | Eagle Feather Cleansing
- 20-21 | Eagle Feather Honoring
- 21 | Eagle Feather Feast

November

- 4 | Spirit Feast
- 12-19 | Collection Showing
- 17-19 | Circle of Indigenous Arts

December

- 8 | Annual Appreciation Dinner (By invitation)
- 13 | Performance Circle Graduation
- 17 | Community Cultural Teaching
- **TBD | Two Artists-in-Residence 2016 Workshops

* Mt. Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School
 ** TBD (exact date will be provided soon).
 • All events subject to change or cancellation.
 • Visit www.sagchip.org/ziibiwing or call 989.775.4750

Ziibiwing Cultural Society Mission

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



Anishinabe Performance Circle honors dancing graduates in SECR ballroom

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways hosted their Anishinabe Performance Circle to promote the arts and culture of the Anishnaabek.

The occasion marked the 10 year anniversary of the Anishinabe Performance Circle, which brought both youth and adult dancers to the program.

The Circle fosters a greater understanding of cultural heritage through educational cultural presentations.

The mission of the Circle is aimed at promoting and enhancing positive self-images of Anishinabe children through the use of traditional Anishinabe arts (storytelling, dance, music, and language), and preparing the youth as Anishinabe leaders in a multicultural society.

Waabanoqua (Judy Pamp), assistant director of the Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifeways, said this year marked the first time Ziibiwing offered an adult and teen anishinabe class together on Wednesdays.

"We had 11 students sign up for the class with some traveling from Grand Rapids and Howell as well as from our local area," Waabanoqua said. "We still offered our youth class on Tuesday and had 17 students."

"We spend 14 weeks mentoring our students on public speaking, introducing themselves using our Anishinabemowin language, recognizing songs,



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Jingle Dress Dancer Zoi Crampton offers her prayers during the Strawberry Dance.

learning about the why and history of the different powwow style of dances and our historical dances from the Great Lakes," she said. "This year the community will get to view the Odemin Niimiwin (Strawberry Dance), the Zenibaanh Niimiwin (Ribbon Dance), and the Round Dance to name a few."

Waabanoqua served as the emcee and offered thanks to the numerous elders from the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe who took the time to mentor her and other youth about Anishinabe Cultural teachings including the cultural arts.

"We honor their resiliency and dedication to the next seven generations by helping to transfer our cultural knowledge with the next generation," Waabanoqua said.

Dancers who received a certificate of participation included William Leksche, Isabella

Leksche-Rosales, DaShawn Rueckert, Gaaskizi Mandoka (Whisper), Danlien Rueckert, Auriah Rueckert, Eyhana Feliciano, Jourdyn Bennett and Faith Houle.

Dancers who received a certificate of graduation were Wabagwonese Graveratte, Kimberly Crampton, Keefer Crampton, Zoi Crampton, Shirley Houle, Marina Hopcraft-Husbands, Lisa Passinault, Maria Colberg, Brielle Lauren Brown, Brook Victoria Brown, Angelo Leureaux, Samantha D'Artagnan, Charlotte Jane Ford, Tavia Agosto, Nadia Mills, Aiyana Sheahan, Leo Student, Jasmine Kopke and Isabelle Terrill-Leathers.

Performance helpers included Mount Pleasant High School Students and Jingle Dress Dancers Abbie Nahdee and Liberty Green.

Dance instructors included Waabanoqua, and Ziibiwing's Visitor Services Representative Raymond Cadotte, Visitor Services Youth Worker Zachary Jackson and Visitor Services Coordinator Renata Borton.

"To be a part of teaching a multi-generational class was so inspiring," Borton said. "The care that went into learning the songs and dances touched my heart. Our youth are eager to learn and our elders have youthful spirits, together they show the strength, love, and heart of our nation. We are never too old to learn and our adult and teen class participants modeled this for our younger students. I learn



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal youth Aiyana takes the microphone and introduces herself in Anishinabemowin. (Pictured left to right: Jasmine Kopke, Charlotte Ford, Daveigha Issa and Aiyana Sheahan.)

from our participants and continue to be inspired and hopeful for our future."

Waabanoqua said a historic 1971 recording from "Authentic Indian Dances and Folklore" of Chief Little Elk drumming and narrating different songs and dances served as the background music for the dancers.

"Chief Little Elk (Eli Thomas), Red Arrow (my father Don Stevens) and Ike Pelcher would often sing for me and my sister to perform the Strawberry Dance when I was a teenager in the '70s," Waabanoqua said. "Using his recording was like having those exceptional elders in the room with us."

This year's program was held in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Saginaw Ballroom and featured a grand entry with each dancer doing

their introduction to the community in Anishinabemowin.

The exhibition featured a Strawberry Dance followed by a Traditional Men's Song, Men's Grass & Fancy, Women's Jingle, Women's Fancy, Angelo's Song, Snake Dance, Ribbon Dance, and closed with an Inter-Tribal.

The Performance Circle was generously sponsored by the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Housing Department, Tribal Council and Ziibiwing Center.

The event also publically recognized SECR Food and Beverage Director Marc Forrest, Kevin Chamberlain of Sweetgrass Productions, Express Meeting Coordinator Michelle Reynolds and SECR Director of Catering/Conventions Sales Julie Oatman for helping Ziibiwing find a last minute venue to ensure our graduates and their guests would have a wonderful experience.

Tribal businesses, employees continue the holiday spirit of giving to Toys for Tots

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

The holiday spirit of giving took center stage as the employees of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort came together on Dec. 19 to support Toys for Tots.

Marc Forrest, SECR food and beverage director, said the Toys for Tots personnel collected the toy donations and food products at Isabella's restaurant, located near the hotel lobby.

Lucinda Clark serves as the 2015 Toys for Tots coordinator for Isabella and Clare Counties.

The SECR Food & Beverage aided in a large food donation

to feed hundreds of volunteers on Dec. 19 at Central Michigan University's Finch Fieldhouse.

SECR Food and Beverage Department Chef of Banquets Betty Riddle said her team completed all of the work involved for this very worthwhile event.

"We had our Lead Cook Henry Fellows along with Line Cooks Maria Esch, James Popielarz and Crystal Madison assist with the Toys for Tots event," Riddle said. "I have always been so proud to work for an organization that gives so freely back to the community and allows me to be a part of that. Marc Forrest has always been such a huge

supporter of these events and it is with his support that we are able to get involved."

Clark said it takes many people and businesses in the community to help to make the Toys for Tots program work year after year.

"We are going forward without my father (Staff Sgt. Richard Barz, U.S. Marine Corps) who passed in 2013," Clark said. "This program was truly his passion and he would get all excited to see all the parents who showed up to get toys for the thousands of needy children. He loved the Tribal community, and although he is not with us any longer, his spirit lives on in me and in the hearts of the volunteers who followed his direction. He thought that needy children having a toy at Christmas was one of the most important gifts that could be given."

In 1988, Toys for Tots distributed toys to 50 children. That number skyrocketed last year in 2014 as they distributed 7,400 toys to 2,400 needy children.

"When you see the empty toy collection boxes, please know that every box must be filled a couple times in order to meet our toy needs," Clark said. "It would be sad if we had to turn parents away who stood



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

With many volunteers who need to be fed, SECR stepped up to provide a food donation for the Toys for Tots program in Isabella County.

in line all night in the freezing cold to get toys for their children because we ran out."

Toys for Tots also accepts monetary donations by cash or check that are used to buy toys for age groups who don't get toys donated.

The program's generosity also extended to Saganing Eagles Landing Casino employees.

Christy Fedak, administrative assistant II for SELC, gladly took a photo on Dec. 9 of Toys for Tots Representative Jeff Jarvis receiving a \$3,300 check from the Saganing Eagles Landing Casino associates.

"We collected \$3,155 in toys from the associates and

\$145 was collected for the month from our Jeans Day," Fedak said. "We combined all the toys our associates and patrons donated in the barrel with the dollar amount of donations and presented them to Toys for Tots."

The Soaring Eagle Waterpark and Hotel also donated to Toys for Tots during its "Giving and Swimming" event on Dec. 16.

Patrons could bring an unwrapped toy (valued at a minimum of \$5) or a \$5 cash donation to donate to Toys for Tots to receive a day pass to swim on the same day.

All proceeds were donated to Toys for Tots.



Courtesy of Christy Fedak

Season of giving continues as Saganing Eagles Landing Casino employees gathered together for their annual Toys for Tots donation.



ANISHINAABEMOWIN WORD SEARCH

I N A A K O N I G E W I N F G D R F G O
 Q J I I B A Y A G N I I M I I D I W A G
 W Z G I I W E D I N Q N R B Y H N V F I
 R Q Q W S Z X R C F I W A V G B H Y N M
 T Z A G A S W E I W E A Z X C V B N I A
 Y X W D C F V W A R J F G H J K L M N A
 P E Q S T Y B A N I S D R T O Y I P G W
 M W H N J L K H M Z Y Q M S F N L E A I
 A T R G S O Y O H X M N K D E J G X A W
 D R W X O Y W I C O B A S N H I R I B I
 N H E B T I N V S V G Y D G N T Z Y I N
 E L N R N G B H C O W A F O Y I M N I E
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 A X G T Y H N M V B X C Z H A A W A N I
 M I N A A D E N D A M O O W I N C V B M

NMO NIM-KO-DAA-DING HAPPY NEW YEAR!

oshkaya'aa	new
oskagoojin	new moon
giiwedin	north
zhaawan	south
wendaabang	east
ningaabiian	west
jiibayagniimiidiwag	nothern lights
zhingwaak	white pine
dibaajimowin	story
gojiewizi	make an effort
onaakonige	court
inaakonigewin	law
ogimaawiwin	leadership
zagaswe'iwe	council
nbookaawin	wisdom
minaadendamoowin	respect
onaabanjigaade	chosen
inendaagozi	destiny
maaninonendam	consider
minochige	do well

Nichols, John, D. & Nyholm, Earl. A Concise Dictionary of Minnesota Ojibwe. University of Minnesota Press. Minneapolis. 1995. Title by Isabelle Osawamick.

WIGWAM WISDOM

The Wigwam has sheltered our ancestors from storms and bad weather since the dawn of time. The wigwam has witnessed the hardships our people have had to endure not only through the hands of change and war, but upon our strongest enemies, ourselves. The spirit of the wigwam does not forget and keeps with it the wisdom to guide the souls that have strayed back to a peaceful life.



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: Now that the holidays are over, I am terribly embarrassed to say that I spent way, way too much on Christmas and out did myself on New Years, living it up with friends I haven't seen in ages. It's so bad that I can't even charge on my charge cards anymore. That was the one thing I always fell back on. My only option is to ask my elderly parents for a loan. I know I will have to hear about it over and over until it is all paid back. Not to mention, they will be watching my every move and what I'm buying. **Broke & Busted**

Dear Broke & Busted: The holidays can do that to the best of us. However, in asking for a loan, (especially from your elderly parents) there are things that you will have to sacrifice. One is the freedom of privacy as now you have to tell them that you are broke and why. If you don't want them to say anything, don't ask them for a loan. They are reminding you they have certain expectations and are disappointed. However, this type of nagging can help you in the long run as you will hear their voices in your head the next time you want to over spend! Next year, make a budget and stick to it no matter what. As a matter of fact, attempt to pay bills in advance so you won't have to worry about them.

Dear WW: Every year for Christmas, birthdays, any gift giving occasion, I always buy the nicest gifts and make sure they are wrapped in the prettiest paper. I am blessed to be able to do this and know exactly what to buy months in advance. The problem is that the gifts I receive are yet to be desired! I can't believe one of the gifts I received this year. I thought it was a practical joke but wasn't. Do people really expect me to grow a Chia Pet? Or use an Ove' Glove? I'm tired of pretending that I love the gifts I secretly despise. I feel like not even giving gifts anymore! **Bah Humbug**

Dear Humbug: I believe the issue here is really your expectation of others. Just because you give out gorgeous gifts and can afford it, doesn't mean that it is something everyone else can do. I am not saying this in regards to money, but gift giving in general. Even the wealthiest of people can have a hard time with choosing the right gift. If you put more of your effort into giving and not so much in receiving, you may feel better about things. You can always re-gift them or simply donate them to the Goodwill. Better yet, auction them on eBay for fun!

Dear WW: Now that the holidays are over, I'm broke, gained more weight and am actually depressed! I was feeling so good right up until New Years and now I struggle to get out of bed every morning. I haven't seen the sun in days and have no energy to clean my dirty and dusty home. My children are all grown and my husband looks at me in disbelief because according to him, I have nothing to be depressed about as we have money and a beautiful home. So what is wrong with me? **Winter Blues**

Dear Blues: You may have the winter blues or you may be clinically depressed. Your husband obviously doesn't understand depression. Depression is a chemical make up in your brain that affects your moods, energy level and even appetite. You may need to be seen by a professional who can help you determine this. Medication can be a miracle. You mentioned all your children are grown so you may be feeling the "empty nest syndrome." Counseling can help you with a plan to fill in the "void."

WHERE ON THE REZ?



Do you know where this is?

Answer the puzzle correctly by Jan. 15 through e-mail or telephone. Your name will go into a drawing and one winner will receive two free announcements in the Tribal Observer.

Submit Answers To:
 dcantu@sagchip.org
 or call 989-775-4010

LAST MONTH:



Tribal Operations

Last Month's Winner:
 Kelly Willis

Tribal Observer

COMIC SUBMISSIONS

Email your submissions to observer@sagchip.org or turn them in to the Tribal Observer office located inside the Tribal Operations building.

Adopt a Pet

Frog Dog

Frog Dog is a 1-year-old American Blue Heeler mix who is just as goofy as his name suggests. He has a hard time containing his excitement with new people. Frog Dog is very friendly and high energy. He needs a responsible owner who can help him focus on tasks at hand. He requires a home without cats or small critters. He would like a home with children at least 12 years old, and fenced in backyard would be a bonus.



Roberta

Roberta is a 2-year-old Domestic Longhair mix. She is the best of both worlds: She can be quiet and unassuming or she can be sassy and playful, it really just depends on her mood. She is looking for a home with no small children. She can live with cats as long as they aren't too dominant, as being bossed around stresses her out. She has been at the shelter since October 2014 and she's hoping her forever home will come along soon.



Available at: The Humane Animal Treatment Society

1105 S. Isabella Rd. Mt. Pleasant ➔ Hatsweb.org ➔ 989.775.0830 ➔ Email: isabellahats@gmail.com
 Monday - Friday: 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Saturday: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Puppies: \$175, Dogs: \$160, Cats: \$85 Senior Dogs: \$100, Cats: \$85

what moves you?



*"For me it's my son.
I want to show him a better way.
I want to be here for him."*

get healthy

for the people that
depend on you.

Start with exercise.



Made possible with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Re-Member officials share courage of Oglala Lakota oyate with Tribal Council

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

On Nov. 23, Re-Member Founder and Ambassador-at-Large Rev. Keith Titus and Executive Director Ted Skantze shared stories of courage and resolve of the Oglala Lakota oyate (people) in Tribal Council chambers.

Former Tribal Chief Steven Pego shared his own stories of the Lakota oyate and the Tribal Council members spoke about efforts the Tribe has done for the oyate in Pine Ridge, including the Angel Tree Program and backpacks for South Dakota.

Titus informed Council of how he first met the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal members back in the '60s and mentioned as a Central Michigan University student, he had the honor of meeting Chief Willis Jackson.

"I offered the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council my sincere thanks for their courtesy and welcome Ted and I received on behalf of Re-Member," Titus said. "It is my hope that this will result in a continuing relationship for the mutual benefit of the Oglala Lakota and the Saginaw Chippewa. The visit brought back memories of my time in your neck of the woods and I wish the gift of peace to your people that comes from our loving Creator."

Tribal Chief Frank Cloutier, the public relations director at the time, introduced Re-Member the dignitaries from the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota.

Cloutier informed Council that Re-Member is an effort that started some 17 years ago bringing assistance and relief to so many deserving impoverished Native communities.

"These are the type of people who have inspired leaderships from long ago up to today to make a difference and bring hope to those in Indian Country who desperately need it," Cloutier said. "The meeting with Council was well received and renewed their commitment to helping others wherever possible. It is nice during the holiday season to be reminded of the good work we and others have done while considering what more we can do."

Ellen Harrington-Kane was a part of the 50th anniversary conference of the Michigan Department for Civil Rights when she first came to the Tribe.

Harrington-Kane has visited numerous times since to foster SCIT/Easter Seals collaborative efforts and attended a Grandmother Moon ceremony.

She currently serves as the Board president of the 501(c)(3) non-profit Re-Member organization.

"Touring the Reservation and the facilities that the

Tribe has invested in shows the deep respect for Elders that continues and the importance of families and family values," she said. "This wonderful introduction to Native American culture and spirit then led me to mission work through Re-Member on Pine Ridge Reservation with the Oglala Lakota. I feel privileged to work alongside my Native brothers and sisters and appreciate how the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe reaches out to help heal relationships and to bring some new hope and help to the people at Pine Ridge."

Behavioral Health Administrator David Garcia mentioned the Re-Member visitors were very impressed with the number of mental health and substance abuse services that are currently available to Tribal Members.

"During our brief discussion and tour of facilities, Ted pointed out that despite the Pine Ridge Reservation having 10 times the number of Tribal Members, they have to struggle to maintain programs similar to ours," Garcia said. "Ted liked how Behavioral Health has reached out and collaborated with law enforcement, the Tribal Court and the Nimkee Clinic. Our ability to incorporate the spiritual component of the Helping Healers and ceremonies such as the O'des Wahn



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council met with Rev. Keith Titus and Director Ted Skantze of Re-Member on Nov. 23.

Ning (sweat lodge) shows our commitment to meeting all the needs of the Tribal community.

Re-Member visitors also toured the Seventh Generation Program as Tribal Elder Ben Hinmon provided an overview of programs including the wood shop, stone sculpting studio, greenhouse and sugar bush.

Skantze's wife Kristen, who works in Rapid City as a nurse for Indian Health Services

was impressed during her tour of Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center with Public Health Director Walt Kennedy and Public Health Nurse Sue Sowmick.

The Skantze's then visited with Andahwod Continuing



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Public Health Director Walt Kennedy and Public Health Nurse Sue Sowmick take Ted and Kristen Skantze on a tour of the Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center facilities.

Care and Elder Services and its many programs.

To learn more about Re-Member and their exceptional work for the oyate of Pine Ridge, please visit www.re-member.org.

Suicide Myth Buster event brings awareness, discussion and truths

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Behavioral Health offered an opportunity for community members to learn about the truths and myths regarding the sensitive topic of suicide. The Suicide Myth Buster event took place on Wednesday, Dec. 16 from 6 to 8 p.m. in Seventh Generation's Elijah Elk Ceremonial Building.

Families could enjoy dinner, provided by Behavioral Health staff, and together, listen to suicide myths.

Karen Marshall, outreach and training coordinator for the American Indian Health and Family Services in Detroit, was the guest speaker.

Marshall is an ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training) trainer, and is currently on her 25th year of working in the suicide prevention/awareness field.

"She brings a wealth of knowledge regarding suicide including the facts, myths, how to identify, and how to intervene," said Jennifer Crawford, prevention coordinator of Behavioral Health.

The topic of suicide hits home to Marshall. She lost her father to suicide.

Even though it may be a difficult topic, Marshall encourages



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Karen Marshall of American Indian Health and Family Services discusses suicide myths during Behavioral Health's Dec. 16 event.

individuals to begin suicide discussions. Those discussions may help save a life.

A total of 41,000 people in the United States end their lives every year. That number is double the amount of homicides in the U.S., said Marshall.

Regardless of many myths, the most suicides do not occur during the holiday season. November and December are actually the months with the lowest number of suicides, Marshall said.

However, she encouraged those in attendance to "be aware and prepared every day."

"What age group has the most suicides in the U.S.?" Marshall asked the audience. "Out of the 41,000 who commit suicide per year, almost 30,000 are middle-aged individuals in the 29-to 64-year-old age group."

The group with the highest suicide rate is Native American youth.

Marshall wants individuals to know that thoughts of suicide can be healed.

"It can be diagnosed, treated and people can live," she said.

She encouraged the community to ask people directly if they are contemplating suicide.

"There are more suicide attempts in younger people than older people, and no one really knows why," Marshall said.

Individuals considering suicide will typically give off warning signs.

"One of the things to look for is when the act is very secretive," said Debbie Robb, outpatient clinic coordinator for Behavioral Health. "People that are thinking about suicide may be 'rehearsing' by partaking in self harm including cutting. There are many other things people rehearse before they go through with suicide."

A few nights before stopping at the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, Marshall hosted a three-hour training session.

She said during that training, three interventions occurred, and three lives were saved.

"Experiencing suicide in your community, family can even be a risk factor," Robb said.

The event was made possible by the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act, a nationwide state-tribal Youth Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention Program.

Garrett Lee Smith was the son of a U.S. Senator who ended his life. It became the first time a U.S. Senate approved grant money for suicide awareness.

The Act currently supports grants in 35 states and 16 tribes or tribal organizations, as well as funds programs at 38 high education institutions through the Campus Suicide Prevention Program, according to afsp.org.

There are future plans to work with Behavioral Health staff on Safe Talk trainings for youth and those working with youth to offer screenings, and converse with the 10-to 24-year-old age group for depression, suicide and substance abuse. Screenings are planned to be held on the Reservation.

"You can be a suicide-safer community and I invite you to be a part of it," she said.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is **1-800-273-8255**.

Text or chat services are also available.

Marshall said there are six accredited crisis centers that answer calls in Michigan, and 167 in the nation. Every state has at least one.

For more information, questions, comments or help, she may be contacted at kmarshall@aihfs.org.

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Ugly Sweater Family Christmas bowling tournament scores another winner

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

During “the most wonderful time of the year,” Christmas singing legend Andy Williams was known to wear his signature holiday sweater.

Beauty was in the eye of the beholder at the “Ugly Sweater Bowling Tournament” on Dec. 19 at Chippewa Lanes as bowlers “donned their gay apparel” to celebrate the season.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Lindsey Sprague, recreation department organizer, has a flair for the holiday season.

Lucas Sprague, recreation organized sports specialist and event coordinator, was joined by Lindsey Sprague, organized sports specialist, and David Merrill, youth and family recreation specialist, in oversight of the singles no tap tournament.

“(Chippewa Lanes owner) Carl Malish always puts out the welcome mat for the Tribe every time we host a tournament here,” said Lucas Sprague. “Carl, Dan and their staff do an excellent job for us and we basically get the run of the building while we are here for the afternoon. The action was very competitive with having many Tribal Members who bowl on local leagues, and some of them bowl right here at the Chippewa Lanes.”

In the adult high series 18 and older, Gary Bennett took first place honors while league bowler Valarie Raphael posted a 719-pin series to lead the tournament and scored a first place women’s trophy.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal youth Thomas Pelcher shows excellent form on the alley prior to rolling a strike.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Youth Council Advisors Tonya Jackson (left) and Jennifer Wasegijig joins Youth and Family Recreation Specialist “Baby Dave” Merrill during trophy presentations.

The high game in the 7 and younger youth boys’ category went to Angelo Leureaux followed closely by girls first place finisher Ziigwan Calloway.

In the 8- to 12-year-old division, youth bowler Andre Leureaux led the boys and Bird Starkey rolled the high series for the girls.

In the 13- to 17-year-old contest, SCIT Youth Council Members Milan Quignogundahl took first place

hardware with Kendra Cyr leading the women.

The Saginaw Chippewa Youth Council assisted with the door prize drawing and stepped up to be the judges for the ugly sweater contest.

Winners in the ugly sweater contest by division were: Bre and Jeff Sprague (7 and younger), Nevaeh Badger (8- to 12-year-old), Marina Delfel (13- to 17-year-old) and Ron “Mook” Pelcher taking the adult honors.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Youth Council Co-President Jasmyne Jackson gets a strike!

Anishinaabe Language Revitalization present a Merry Sasiwaans Christmas

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

One of the most charming and anticipated event of the holiday season comes from the Anishinaabe Language and Revitalization Department and its Sasiwaans Immersion School as they presented their annual Christmas program on Dec. 17 in a packed Eagles Nest Tribal Gym. ALRD Interim Director Misty Pelcher served as emcee and coordinated the event.

“You never know what you are going to get when you put a group of 2 year olds, 3 year olds, or 4-5 year olds on a stage and we were delighted with the performances of Sasiwaans students. Laughter, song, and dance filled the Sasiwaans classrooms Monday through Thursday and this month the focus has been on holiday cheer,” Pelcher said. “In addition to the students was a group of Outreach participants

that performed 4 songs. It was a fantastic night of performances, complete with a soup and sandwich meal.”

Isabelle Osawamick, tribal elder and Anishinaabe outreach specialist, blessed the food donated and prepared by Angela Peters and Tony Perry.

Sasiwaans provides a fun environment for children from 18 months to 5 years old.

Lead Instructor Edward Trudeau and Secondary Instructor Carrie Heron were also on stage encouraging the 4 and 5-year-old students.

“The Maangoosag (Little Loons) class sang ‘Jingle Bells’ and the ‘Head and Shoulders’ song in the Anishnaabemowin,” Trudeau said. “The students did a great job performing and the parents were delighted to see their child on stage and using the language. The staff at Sasiwaans would like to thank all the parents that came out to our performance... chi-miigwetch!”

Heron thought that her students did a wonderful job during their performance.

“They weren’t shy, and sang in Anishnabemowin,” Heron said. “I even had a grandparent come up to me and say how she was so surprised her grandson got up there and did it. He’s usually so shy. All the classes did great and I’m so proud of our students.”

Yvette Pitawanakwat, secondary language specialist, said

the 2-year-old Megisiisag students, the Little Eagles class, taught by Primary Language Specialist Patricia Osawamick, sang “Naangohns, Naangohns” (“Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star.”)

The Naanooshksag (Little Hummingbirds) toddlers, Pichiinsag (Little Robins) 3-year-olds and the Chijjaakoosag (Little Cranes) 4-and 5-year-olds also performed on the Eagles Nest stage.

At Sasiwaans, the primary language instructors and fluent speakers are Pat Osawamick, Margaret Flamand and Edward Trudeau.

The secondary language instructors are Heron, Pitawanakwat and Larry Kimewan.

The Anishnabemowin apprentices are Alicia Dudek, Jacqueline Ortiz and Carrie Wemigwans.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Sasiwaans students Waaskonye Pamp (left) and Malarie Cyr join Primary Language Instructor Pat Osawamick for a musical moment.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Primary Language Instructor Edward Trudeau holds the microphone as Trinity Jackson (middle) and Amelia Cyr sing “Jingle Bells” in Ojibwe.

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Nokomis Notes: Grandmotherly wisdom for all ages

Never say never

(Editor's note: The following article is a tribute to the late Dorothy Dale. Dale died Nov. 24, 2015. She used to write her "Nokomis Notes" columns for the Tribal Observer. The Observer would like to pay tribute to Dale. The following article was published in July 2001.)

Another ol' saying I've heard is, "What goes around, comes around."

It is very true, so be careful what you say, wish for or what

you do. It just might happen.

One summer day, I went to a little town in Kansas to visit my sister. She lives at a military camp for waiting wives and families. They waited for their father while he was in Vietnam fighting for our country.

When I got there, my mother and dad were visiting also. Boy! What a surprise, so we had a small reunion being we were all together.

While I was there, I sneezed and sneezed again many times. I told my family I'd never come to Kansas again. It must have been

pollen or something in the air.

Well, those were "famous last words."

Guess what? A few years later, my new husband and I moved back to Kansas, same town, same place.

I saw my sister and she said, "I thought you said you would never move to Kansas again."

We just laughed and laughed; we were so happy to see one another.

I lived in Kansas many years and never had another sneezing spell. Of course, the incident happened many year and years ago.

Speaking of incidents, here's another: One day, I innocently said I'm going to quit eating sweets. This is what happened next: Someone brought some sweet rolls into our office – my favorite. So, like a hog, I ate one.

Well, there goes my "never, never again." Doesn't pay to say "never."

Have you ever met a person that always criticizes things all the time?

This person didn't like people in wheelchairs.

"They take up too much room on the sidewalk, etc..."

Years later, he developed a disease which required his foot to be amputated, so now that person is sporting around in a wheelchair.

It doesn't pay to criticize as "what goes around, comes around."

I found out when a person says, "I never do this and that" – they usually do.

Well, I hope I've enlightened you a bit. Remember, be careful who you talk about, don't criticize and never say "never." Have compassion in your heart, and say your prayers.

Editorial: Dealing with the disease of depression?

CHARMAINE SHAWANA

Contributing Writer

Depression is a disease. It can cause serious limitations in one's life. Almost 35 million people in this country have been affected by depression. It can happen to any person regardless of race or ethnicity.

Many say it is at epidemic proportions in this country. For American Indians, it is very common. It can affect men and women, teenagers and the elderly. It may last days, weeks, months or even years.

Many may even neglect basic hygiene, or it can cause many to

neglect eating, or even over eating. Many may have feelings of anxiety, worthlessness or little or no motivation. Some may interpret this as being lazy, when in fact they may be unable to accomplish these simple daily functions.

In the winter there is a disorder called Seasonal Affective Disorder. Researchers say this is due to the lack of daylight in our daily routine. In the winter we are inside, away from the cold, and seldom get enough sun light. This can really wreak havoc with our bodies needing vitamin C and D.

Of course everyone knows about suicide. Major depression can lead to suicide. Some say

alcohol leads to depression.

The cycle is drink to have fun, or forget about your troubles, to forget about your cares or responsibilities; pretty soon you are drinking to forget everything and always want to be intoxicated or high on drugs.

Being sober takes work. Being responsible takes work, for some it is difficult but not impossible.

We all have someone in our families that drinks too much; the solution is not condemnation or exclusion. It takes forgiveness and compassion. When depression takes hold, it can be debilitating. It can cripple and crush people. But there are solutions.

For many, the holidays may be brutal. They remind us of our younger years, and the happiness of youth. Relatives that have passed on have made an impact on our lives are remembered.

Emotions are high and drinking and depression may add to the chaos and bring out sadness to make things worse.

For Anishinabek and others, there may be help. More and more people are turning to our traditional methods of healing for help, including counseling with elders, healing sweat lodges, and even herbal medicines.

The Medicine Wheel may also be included, where balance

is achieved through the four parts of wholeness – physical, mental, spiritual and emotional.

Working with someone knowledgeable about these things can help as well as non-traditional methods like counseling and group sessions with a well-known and trusted mental health professional.

There and many solutions for those seeking help. Going online to seek out answers or talking to an elder or mental health professional... or discuss with friends or colleagues...

I have been told that only people who want to be well seek mental health services. Take care...

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Doe

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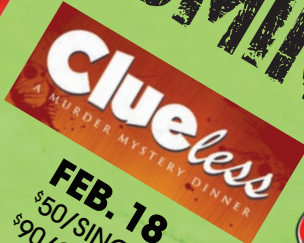
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Internationally-acclaimed Ojibwe novelist Joseph Boyden speaks at SCTC and CMU

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Joseph Boyden is an Anishinabe First Nations Canada novelist and author from Georgian Bay who embraced the opportunity to speak with students from the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College and Central Michigan University.

On Nov. 19, Boyden spoke to students on the SCTC campus in the afternoon and addressed the CMU students at Anspach Hall in the evening.

"I get an opportunity to do readings and speak with students in Canada quite frequently but I haven't had the chance to do that as much in the states," Boyden said. "My wife and I spend some time at our house in New Orleans and it's fascinating to share our similarities with First Nations people and Tribal Americans and the differences as well."

With his first novel "Three Day Road," a 2005 historical work centered around World War I, Boyden won the Amazon/Books in Canada First Novel Award and the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Ojibwe novelist and author Joseph Boyden shares some humorous personal experiences with SCTC.

His second novel, "Through Black Spruce," won the 2008 Scotiabank Giller Prize, and his third book, "The Orenda" was named the winner of the 2014 edition of Canada Reads.

Boyden was quick to explain to the SCTC students about the importance of having mentors and elders light the way into the pages of his novels.

"Basil Johnson was a dear friend and an amazing elder and writer and my older sister,

Angela, used to teach his kids so I've known him for a long time," Boyden said. "He tells and communicates some amazing stories and legends and, in particular, it was the real life stories he told that really shaped me as a writer. He told me legends I didn't know about and was able to transcribe them into a contemporary novel. That was an exciting thing for me to learn in my younger days of writing short stories."

SCTC STEM Recruiter Kathy Hart said several Native American speakers SCTC has hosted and students have seen at conferences are becoming famous in one way or another and that is giving students hope.

"The students hear (the speakers') stories and that they came from the same kind of background and have made something for themselves and their families," Hart said. "Having the speakers like Joseph Boyden come in shows there is so many opportunities out there for them, they just have to grab them and take advantage of them."

Boyden told the SCTC students the most important thing about

writing is all it takes is imagination and a pen and paper.

"That is something that I stress to aspiring writers is that you don't need to get real fancy at first," Boyden said. "It's about translating your ideas on a page and once you do that I find your world opens up then you can apply your technology in a way that makes sense to you."

Boyden shared a dialogue with the audience after his brief presentation and the inevitable question came up on how one can become a published writer.

"I think it's really important to fundamentally keep it simple and then to develop from there," Boyden said. "I believe that is a good message not just for writers, but it is an idea that would translate into different fields."

Michele Lussky, SCTC academic skills specialist in English, said the full classroom of students, professors and community members were enthralled by Boyden's insights and personal stories.

"He regaled us with stories of his childhood in the Georgian Bay area of Canada,

youth as punk rocker touring America, and college years at the University of New Orleans where he met his wife and began his life as a novelist," Lussky said.

"He also gave us a glimpse into his writing process: How his father, a decorated WWII medical officer inspired his trilogy of novels; how he consults historians and native elders, like Basil Johnson, for wisdom and accuracy in his writings; and how the novel he currently writing is a departure from the others as it is set in contemporary Northern Minnesota and geared toward young adults," Lussky said.

Boyden was personable in the question and answer session at SCTC in sharing how his characters have "minds of their own," encouraging SCTC students to become writers, and speaking of a new writing program that he created with Sherman Alexie and others.

Of Boyden's three novels, "Orenda" has been optioned by Robert Redford and the Sundance Institute to become an original FX network mini-series.

Editorial: Ideas for a new Tribal College campus and why it's needed

IRENE LOPEZ-CASILLAS

SCTC Student

(Editor's note: The following article is an example of an essay from Nina Knight's English 102 course at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College. Irene Lopez-Casillas wrote the article, submitted for the summer class in July 28, 2015. Lopez-Casillas used the following sources: "LEED to Recognize Living Building Challenge Energy & Water Requirements" by Marissa Long, and living-future.org.)

Why we need a new Tribal College campus.

It would put all educational classes under one roof. That would make it easier to take a science class, having to load up your vehicle and drive about a half a mile away and try to make it to class on time. It can be hazardous in inclement weather.

But to have a living building/campus that is the first of its kind would be amazing.

The very first of its kind, that no one else had in the world.

Would that not turn heads all over in Indian Country? Yes, the cost is high 30 to 34 million, but the return would be priceless.

To have a building that is alive and would use less energy... it would pay for itself in about 10 to 15 years.

A building with solar panels that we could sell electricity back to the grid and still keep the college running would make us be the entrepreneurs of the future.

To have hooped houses so that we could grow our own food for the college, the casino, and the farmers market.

We could use these ideas to help promote our business programs as well as the science programs to come in the near future. These programs can also be integrated into the Native American Studies. We are the stewards of this land, since coming to the place where the food grows on the water.

This new campus is an investment in the future, according to the seven grandfather teachings that we practice here on the Isabella Reservation.

Once, for young men and women, to count coup was a great honor.

Today, for our young men and women, to count coup is to be educated, to compete in a new modern world with new ideas and yet hold on to their traditional roots. Our traditions give us the teachings about how to care for Mother Earth in a good way.

This new campus would take modern ideas and implement them on our beliefs and teachings on how to take care of the land, water, air and environment in positive ways for the next seven generations and beyond.

By building a campus using the Living Building Challenge, their mission is, "To encourage the creation of living buildings, landscapes and communities in countries around the world while inspiring, educating and motivating a global audience about the need for fundamental and transformative change."(living-future.org)

"The Living Building Challenge is a philosophy, advocacy tool and certification program that addresses development at all scales. The purpose of the Living Building Challenge is straightforward – it defines the most advanced measure of sustainability

in the built environment possible today and acts to diminish the gap between current limits and ideal solutions." (living-future.org)

Imperative 11, Red List, within the Living Building Challenge requires that manufacturers disclose the ingredients in their products to ensure that they are free of Red List chemicals and materials.



Declare supports the Living Building Challenge by providing a transparent materials database that project teams can select from to meet Imperative 11.

Manufacturer and raw material location listed on the Declare label assist project teams in determining how best to source local products that support regional economies as required in Imperative 14.

A complete list of ingredients ensures that project teams are specifying materials that are Red List free or comply with a red list exception.

The Red List represents the "worst in class" materials, chemicals, and elements known to pose serious risks to human health and the greater ecosystem, we believe these materials should be phased out of production due to health/toxicity concerns.

While any material can be listed in the Declare database, a Living Building Project cannot contain any of the following materials or

compound: Asbestos, Cadmium, Chlorinated Polyethylene and Chlorosulfonated Polyethylene, Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), Chloroprene (Neoprene), Formaldehyde (added), Halogenated Flame Retardants, Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), Lead (added), Mercury, Petrochemical Fertilizers and Pesticides, Phthalates, Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC), wood treatments containing Creosote, Arsenic or Pentachlorophenol.

There are temporary exceptions for numerous Red List items due to current limitations in the materials economy. The Declare staff will review each product to determine if there is an existing exception and make a notation on in the material database and on the product label.

I was taught if you couldn't spell it or pronounce it; it was probably not good for you or the planet.

LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is another agency within this building process to acknowledge the Living Building Challenge in Energy and Water Requirements.

"LEED is the most widely-used green building rating system in the world. In the world of rating systems there is a sense of competition between systems, and what we're saying is that what matters is that people are doing good environmental work," said Marissa Long, author of "LEED to Recognize Living Building Challenge Energy & Water Requirements."

Net-Zero is another building code for residential or commercial building having to do with renewable energy technologies.

"A building that achieves a net-zero energy building (NZEB)

definition through a combination of on-site renewables and off-site purchases of renewable energy credits is placed at the lowest end of the NZEB classification. In encouraging NZEB owners and designers to use this classification to first use all possible cost-effective energy efficiency strategies, and then use renewable sources and technologies that are located on the building and at the site," according to living-future.org.

All of these agencies with their different codes have the same purpose in mind: To build a campus that is state of the art, green and a living building.

I like this idea, but I think that it would better serve this community to incorporate all of the educational buildings on the same property and be separate from each other. This way, the cost and convenience is shared within the community.

That would make it easier for parents and grandparents alike to have access to their children and grandchildren in cases of emergencies. Plus, having all schools on one property, we could start our children out with more STEM-related (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) classes at an earlier age, since that is where the jobs of the future are.

As an adult, I have learned just as much from a young child as I have taught them.

Our future is in our children, and grandchildren, as well as ourselves.

Please, don't just look at the cost, but at the future of the next seven generations to come. We have survived by being able to adapt in an ever changing world, and the educational needs of our community must come first.



Librarian Assistant Lee-Anne Disel receives "Educator of the Month"

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

Congratulations Lee-Anne Disel for being selected as the December Educator of the Month. The perks of this award include an induction into the Education Apple Orchard, educator's goody bag, a gift certificate and a traveling educator award.

The following is a questionnaire completed by Disel:

Which program do you work for? I work in the Tribal Library.

What is your title? Library Assistant.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Librarian Assistant Lee-Anne Disel (center) accepts her award from Tribal Chief Frank Cloutier and Education Administrative Assistant II Christina Sharp.

How long have you worked for the Education Department? I am coming up on my one year at the end of January.

What is your favorite part of working in this department? My favorite part is

being able to work with the people and the kids on a daily basis. Using my creativeness whenever possible and working side-by-side with my co-worker Kim.

Do you have any pets? No.

What is your favorite vacation spot and why? I love Florida – St. Augustine, Fla. to be exact. It's the oldest city in the United States. I love history.

What is your favorite Disney movie? All of the "Pirates of the Caribbean" movies.

What is the one thing that you love to do? Why? I love to cook! I enjoy trying new recipes and making old favorites and

teaching my children. I taught my daughter how to make my chili and she's gotten to the point where she can season it on her own and critique it when I make it. She tells me what it's missing or what it's needing, "Mom, it needs more chili powder!" I love being able to cook and bake with my kids. It's an adventure! I cooked for the elders at Andahwod for a bit, they love my frybread! I've been told it's the best.

What is one of your favorite quotes? "The greatest gift you can give someone is your time. It's like you're giving a portion of your life that you can never get back."

What is your favorite candy/snack? Anything with caramel.

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

What's happening at Delta College: Saginaw Chippewa Tribal student tour

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Tribal junior and senior high school students from Shepherd (Kylie Fisher, Sedona Mejia and Taylor Seegraves), Odyssey (George Cloud, Sabrina Ross and Maggie White) and Mount Pleasant (Simone Bigford, Marjorie Merrill, Alex Rautaner and Valentin Romero) got a unique chance to find out what's happening at the Delta College campus.

The Nov. 16 tour, planned to coincide with Delta's Native American Heritage Month activities, had the students visit numerous studios, simulators and even a birthing suite.

John Neal, multicultural and diversity coordinator for Delta College, said the college is a welcoming facility that embraces community and thrives because of the student diversity.

"I've learned that each of our students is special and that brings certain unique characteristics and gifts to our campus," Neal said. "The collection of these unique gifts makes us a unique college. My position

allows me the opportunity to help our diverse student population find resources to help them advance toward their academic and professional endeavors. From scholarships to cultural events that express what you believe, Multicultural Services at Delta College works hard to enhance the college experience for all our students."

Betsey Alonzo, college vocational recruiter and support specialist, said a lot of Tribal students begin with a two-year associate degree.

Her team encourages students to also look into vocational opportunities.

"Students have greater employment opportunities when they have learned and earned a certificate in a trade or craft," Alonzo said. "Many aspects of the Delta curriculum offer the opportunity for students to obtain associate degrees and professional certification and training. The best part is that Delta College has an articulation agreement with the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College and transferring credits with them is not a problem. Just like SCTC, Delta can be a springboard for a great career or for a student to

transition into a four year institution."

The Delta College Foundation sponsored a Native food taster that was open to all the students and was followed by a courtyard smudge ceremony done by Ogitchewaw Warriors David and Mike Perez.

"Delta students, faculty and staff treasure every opportunity to interact with and learn from the Anishanaabeg people of the Great Lakes Bay Region," said Julie Dorcey, foundation major gifts advisor. "It was a special pleasure and privilege to spend time with the students whose energy, enthusiasm and sharing were greatly appreciated by all. I treasure the teachings shared by the Ogitchewaw on respect, love, truth, bravery, wisdom, honesty and humility..."

James Proctor, assistant professor of welding engineering technology, said the students did a great job with the simulation activity.

"Too often, people are afraid of not getting a high enough score," Proctor said. "That's not what it's about. It's about experiencing new things that could lead them down a successful



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal students from Mt. Pleasant, Shepherd and Odyssey High School enjoyed exploring what Delta College has to offer.

career path. We have used the simulators at the beginning of class so that students learn at a faster pace."

Deb Smith, youth leadership manager, and Marta Escamilla, youth achievement advisor, accompanied Alonzo as chaperones, and plan to take freshman and sophomore students there during spring semester.

Escamilla said the team has a few more college tours set up during this school year.

"We went to Michigan State University in December, we go to Central Michigan University in January, and Ferris State University in March," Escamilla said. "We have also already had the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College and the Tribal Higher Education staff meets with our juniors and seniors."

Vowles

The following students earned Student of the Month for October: Adamina Bailey, Augustine Gibbs, Metao Harris, Zamiah Marshall, Mariana Mays, Ringo Stevens, Cannon Thomason and Nathan VanBuskirk.

Renaissance

The following students earned perfect attendance for November: Jadrian Jackson, Emma Henry, Nixie Snyder, Kyla Henry, Tyler Snyder, Kayana Pope, Elijah Otto-Powers, Cordelia McDaniel, Kathryn Dunn-Anderson, Anthony Hawkins and Makayla Jackson.

West Intermediate

The following students earned perfect attendance for the first trimester: Elijah Fosmore, Katie Green, Walker Jackson-Pelcher, James Montoya-Pego, Isaiah Teswood, Quinnlan Burger, Andrew Chivis, Thomas Henry, Gabriel Jackson, Jade Leaux, Javier Marin and Tyrone Rios. **The following students were recognized on the Honor Roll for the first trimester:** Quinnlan Burger, Andrew Chivis, Phoebe Defeyter, Lucas Dye, Azaryah Dye, Trever Fallis, Cory Gaskill, Dena Gibson, Nathaniel Houghton, Walker Jackson-Pelcher, Treasure Jones, Caleb Kequom, Lauren Lindstrom, James Montoya-Pego, Mason Peterson, Jenna Rios, Hazen Shinos, Isaiah Teswood and Kyra Trofater. **Honorable Mention:** Thomas Henry and Tyrone Rios.

Fancher

The following students earned Student of the Month for October: Caedynce Bailey, Kaitlyn Bartreau, Damion Haggard, Zoey Haggard, Lucas Jackson, Matthew Jackson, Trent McConnell, Nautica Mena-Strait, Collyn Morrow, Danny Parish, Raynee Richards, Zamil Rueckert, Dawnseh Wilson and Hudson Yager.

Mount Pleasant HS

The following students earned the attendance incentive for the first trimester: Caleb Alonzo-Vasquez, Esme Bailey, Chyna Bergevin, Simone Bigford, Tyler Chippeway, Allen Crockett, Joey Garcia, Molly Mandoka, Jordan Martin, Jaelyn Matthews, Calvin Parish, Kataya Peters, Joe Quintero, Noah Sawmick, Dajia Shinos, Shaylyn Sprague, Lexi Weekley-Dean and Destiny Wetherbee. **The following students earned a 3.0 GPA or higher for the first trimester:** Logan Adams, Esme Bailey, Kaylee Bigford, Simone Bigford*, Miles Bussler, Cheyenne Chamberlain, Kimberly Chamberlain, Allen Crockett, Kendra Cyr, Mileena Davidson, Kiara Denman, Peter Elizalde*, Hunter Genia, Jordan Heinrich, Evelyn House, Nodin Jackson, Madison Kennedy-Kequom, Hunter Kequom, Maya Madrigal, Killian Markovich-Peters, Cyle McClusky, McKenzie Morland*, Edgar Peters*, Aaron Schlegel, Gavin Seybert, Dajia Shinos, Callista Sowmick, Eli Starkey, Jeffrey Vasquez, Lindsay Watters, Alexandria Weekley-Dean, Destiny Wetherbee*, Carlee Williams and Tanner Williams. *Indicates a 4.0 GPA.

Saginaw Chippewa Academy

The following students earned Student of the Month for November: Jeydan Arbogast, Sadie Disel, Aaron Jaso, Zhaabwii Ettinger-Pamp, Jaycee Sheahan-Kahgegab, Liam Arbogast, Gizhep Miller-Hosler, Robbie Pamp-Ettinger, Landon Pelcher-Harless, Gracie David, Maiingan Miller-Hosler, Isabella Arbogast, Frederick Highley, Kerrina Miller-Hosler, Zoey Disel, Cameron Fleming, Adrianna West and Akiveo Gonzalez-Hawkins.

Pullen

The following students earned perfect attendance for November: Ella Altman, Adaliyah Ekdahl, Abraham Graverette, Emma Hinmon, Kyven Rose, Braeden Bennett, Alex Hinmon, Angelo Leaux, Donovan Morrow, Arilynn Peters, Remy Weldon, Logan Bird, Logan Bird, Trevor Isham, Miikawadizi Prout, Kanna Zuezada, Isaiah Rodriguez, Kaya Rose, Hope Stevens, Cruz Vaquera, Damey'n Weldon, Bailey Burger, Juan-Sergio Casas and Ryan Flaughter.

Ganiard

The following students earned Student of the Month for October: Dylan Bennett, Lilly Chameralain, Mya Chippeway, Kaden Fair, Tehya Florez, Rosemarie Green, Darien Haggard, Konner Hilleger, Isabella Jackson, Dehmin Kohgegab, Allison Lindstrom, Nadia Mills, Kage Ortiz, Ava Vogel, Brian Wemigwans and LahRae Wilson.

McGuire

The following students earned perfect attendance for November: Tavia Agosto, Arianna Altman, Jasmine Kopke, Kadenn Rose, Alexis Taylor, Mackena Porter, Mahayla Freeman, Emily Stevens, Mackenzie Burger, Kyrad Bennett, Arianna Bird, Jonathan Davis, Tayden Davis, Malakai Demonies, Isaiah Harris, Kayden Weekley-Dean, Floyd Sehl, Skylar Leaux, John Stevens, Mgiwi Wemigwans, Makayla Stevens, Bird Hendrickson, Taleah Pelcher, Jacob Pumford and Aaron Graveratte.



SCA Winter Program delights with the Boozhoos from Boozhooville

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

On Dec. 16, the Saginaw Chippewa Academy took a “Seussical” turn down to “Boozhooville” where that old Gchi Grinch was up to his old shenanigans on top of “Mt. Peezy.”

“Every Boozhoo down in Boozhooville liked this wintery season a lot, but Gchi Grinch who lived just north of Boozhooville did not! Gchi Grinch hated biboon (winter)! The whole biboon season!”

Now, please don't ask why. No one quite knows the reason. It could be, perhaps, that his moccasins were too tight. It could be his dib wasn't screwed on just right.

But I think that the most likely reason of all, may have been that his ode (heart) was two sizes too small. But, whatever the reason, his heart or his shoes, He stood there that biboon night, hating the Boozhoos.”

SCA Anishinaabe Bimaadziwin Teacher Nathan Isaac was a creative force behind the production, doing much of the screenwriting and working with the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment and Marketing staff.

“After last year’s winter program, I had an idea for this year’s program as a Grinch theme,” Isaac said. “The original



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

SCIT Education Director Melissa Montoya and new SCA Principal Sheila Chingwa get into the Boozhooville spirit.

vision was pretty deep with the spirit of the Grinch taking all our traditions, sacred items and language. In the end, the Grinch was actually the boarding school/residential school. But this idea was a little too real and deep for such a happy and joyful time of the year.”

So, the AB Team took the idea and created the story of ‘Gchi Grinch’ who misunderstands the life of the Boozhoos.

“The Boozhoos live a cultural life in Boozhooville much like Anishnaabeg,” Isaac said. “In fact, our language is identical. Gchi Grinch takes all the sacred items and feast items in hopes of destroying the Boozhoo’s winter wiikonge (feast). On the morning of their winter feast, the Boozhoos still wake and greet the day and honor creation by singing their morning song (the SCA Morning Song).”

Isaac also worked with his classes on their songs.

Other songs included: The pre-K song: “Jingle Bells” (Anishnaabemowin and English), kindergarten: “The Birth of Nanaboozhoo” (Anishnaabemowin set to the melody of “Away in a Manger”), fourth grade: Song was created by Joe Syrette in Anishnaabemowin.

Fifth grade: “Mean Mr. Grinch,” recreated by Aaron Chivis and the fifth grade class, and Cecelia Stevens worked with sixth grade on the finale song of “Fahoo Fores Dahoo Doores.” This was recreated and in Anishnaabemowin.

The SCA AB Team recreated the lyrics to be culturally relevant and culturally humorous and they also recorded and performed the songs.

The AB Team (Isaac, Joe Syrette, Aaron Chivis, James Day and Matthew J. Sprague) played roles on stage and built the sets with SCA staff, Ground Maintenance Worker Eric Sowmick and Anishinaabe Culture and Language Teacher Cecelia Stevens.

SCIT Education Director Melissa Montoya served as emcee and introduced the newly-hired SCA principal (Grand Traverse Band Elder Sheila Chingwa) to the community.

Day was in charge of the Ojibwe songs performed by the first and second graders.

“Both of the songs my classes performed were adaptations of Randall Paskemin’s songs,” Day said. “He is a very well-known recording artist and he currently has two Christmas-themed albums out as well as other various albums. The first grade sang ‘Santa Claus is Coming to Town,’ and with Mr. Paskemin’s permission I translated the song into Anishnaabemowin. The second grade sang ‘I’m Getting’ Nuttin’ for Christmas,’ and also with Mr. Paskemin’s permission, I modified it to include a verse in Anishnaabemowin.”

Kelli Cassaday, curriculum instructional coordinator, complimented both students and teachers “who” worked so hard to learn their songs and parts. “They were very excited to put on their ‘Boozhooville’ best and perform for their families,” Cassaday said. “I am so proud of their performance and was happy to see how many people were able to come out and support the students. It was a special night for everyone involved!”



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

In the end, the Grinches and Boozhoos came together in Boozhooville. (Pictured left to right: Grinch Aaron Chivis, Selese Syrette, Grinch James Day and Boozhoo Joe Syrette.)

Tribal parent Amanda Bennett attended with her dad Bert and her aunt Rhonda and beamed with pride at the performance.

“The Gchi Grinch was a great show and the kids did an excellent job speaking their Ojibwe language,” Bennett said. “I thought little Bert and Audrey Bennett did a great job of getting up on that stage and singing and acting in front of the community.”

SCA was very grateful for the community and parent volunteers (Jessica Isaac, Stormie Frees-Jacobs, Amanda Mandoka and Chase Stevens) who assisted in the production.

In a fitting end to the story, Montoya got the audience on their feet as they joined all of the “Boozhoos” from “Boozhooville” heart-to-heart and hand-to-hand in the classic final Dr. Seuss song of the Christmas season.

Twelve Tribal high school students journey to Michigan State University

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Twelve Saginaw Chippewa Tribal high school students, as part of the Tribal K-12/Higher Education Program, took a journey to Michigan State University visit on Dec. 10.

It marked the first field trip to MSU, and was coordinated by Betsey Alonzo, SCIT higher education college vocational recruitment/support specialist, and Ken W. Horne Jr., outreach coordinator for MSU’s Residence Education and Housing Services.

Students from Mount Pleasant High School who made the visit included Simone Bigford, Sadie Fuller, Ethan Hunt, Milan Quigno-Grundahl, Alexander Rautanen, Dajia Shinos and Grant Trepanier.

Shepherd High School students included Sedona Mejia, India Perez, Taylor Seegraves, Joseph Sineway and Abbey Sura.

The student entourage was accompanied by Alonzo and Marta Escamilla, SCIT youth achievement advisor for the Shepherd district.

“The campus tours familiarize the students with the registration process as well as the campus itself,” Alonzo said. “Students get the opportunity to actually walk the campus a truly see how huge and exciting campus life is. The

tours help get students excited and interested in applying for colleges around the state.”

Escamilla said the tours also help students weigh out their college options.

“Sometimes the kids need help with the steps of applying for colleges, knowing what needs to be done or knowing who to talk to,” Escamilla said. “The K-12 Department being able to set up visits with different colleges will help lead them in the right direction.”

The students arrived via bus at 9:45 a.m. for a 10 a.m. orientation at 108 Berkey Hall where they met Outreach Neighborhood Host Mariah Cantlin.

Cantlin informed the Tribal students there is a mobile application on Facebook that can help with their transition to campus life.

“RoomSync is a Facebook app that MSU uses as an option for students to meet roommates,” Cantlin said. “It functions similarly to an online dating app where students fill in a small preference profile and an ‘about me’ section and the app pairs students up with compatible roommates. After students have selected their roommate(s), they will follow the steps to picking their room like they would if they were going in blind, but with the addition of inputting their roommate’s

information (the room selection process is outlined on the MSU LiveOn website).”

Cantlin suggested that the students get involved at their school, no matter where they end up going.

“Be a part of the community during your time there, and make a lasting impact on your life and the lives of others,” she said.

Cantlin also referenced the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College articulation agreement if a student is planning on going to a community college prior to attending MSU, they should go to the transfer.msu.edu that their classes will transfer to MSU.

“(Students) can do this by visiting the site and selecting either ‘Search for an MSU course equivalency by an MSU course name and code’ which means students will input an MSU course and all courses that are equivalent to it at all community colleges will appear,” Cantlin said. “Or they can choose the ‘Search for an MSU course equivalency by an institution’ which will show all classes at a specific school that will transfer to MSU and what they will transfer as at MSU.”

Outreach Tour Guide Taiwo Bilesanmi led the students on an 11 a.m. walking tour of campus from Berkey Hall across the banks of the Red Cedar to Spartan Stadium.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Twelve Tribal high school students from Mount Pleasant and Shepherd gather together at the iconic statue on the campus of Michigan State University.

Bilesanmi entertained questions as the entourage went from the statue of Sparty past Jenison Fieldhouse and Kellogg Center to a noon lunch served the Brody Hall complex.

Ken Horne, outreach coordinator for campus housing, said the Outreach Office serves to further the university mission by advancing outreach and engagement.

“Michigan State is only as great the students we are able to admit into the university, and our program serves the purpose of exposing a variety of students from diverse backgrounds to what it means to be a Spartan,” Horne said. “These visits are about helping students to find the right fit, and we believe MSU has so much to offer.”

SCIT Youth Leadership Manager Deb Smith said Tribal students have toured Delta College and MSU and are scheduled for tours at Central Michigan University, Ferris State, Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, MidMichigan Community College, and an additional MSU tour in the spring.

“The information provided to the students during the tours helps students better recognize target goals that need to be attained in order to apply and be accepted into the institutions,” Smith said. “The students are able to gain a better understanding of the goals they need to set and obtain if they truly would like to attend a university or community college to pursue a two-year or four-year degree.”



Dynamic duo Donny & Marie brought holiday cheer to SECR

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Since the '70s, both Donny and Marie Osmond have been entertaining audiences with their solo careers and as the brother and sister duo.

Marie gained success as a solo country music artist in the '70s and '80s. Donny achieved fame as part of "The Osmond's" with his four older brothers in the mid-'60s.

Together, Donny and Marie hosted the popular TV variety show "Donny & Marie" from 1976 to 1979.

Since then, they hosted a daytime talk show and continue to entertain millions, including their Las Vegas show, which they've been headlining since 2008.

On Saturday, Dec. 12, Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort hosted "A Holiday Celebration with Donny & Marie."

With a cheerful holiday set, the SECR stage turned into a Christmas scene with festive decorations, and gifts around a Christmas tree.

With backup dancers on stage, Donny and Marie appeared on the top of stairs, slowly walking down to interact with the audience and dance along to the opening number "We Need a Little Christmas."

The Osmond's performed "A Beautiful Life," "Motown Christmas Medley," "Little Saint Nick," "That's What Christmas Means to Me" and "Little Drummer Boy."

In her sequined dresses, red lipstick and sky-high heels, Marie sashayed around the stage,



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

"A Holiday Celebration with Donny & Marie" featured the Osmond brother-sister duo at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort on Dec. 12.

and Donny didn't miss a beat either, as if he had hopped in a time capsule back to the '70s.

Donny said he had Marie's Christmas present, which he would gift her with after the show. Marie, along with the audience, insisted she get it "right now."

Instead, the upbeat "Jingle Bell Rock" was performed as Marie played her sparkly, silver electric guitar. Marie also sang "Honkey Tonk Christmas."

After the numbers, Marie needed to take a breather. After chugging a bottle of water, she said, "And you didn't think Mormons drank, did you?"

A little overheated, Marie said, "I need to say hi to my favorite fan." When she got on the floor and sat in front of a floor fan blowing cool air.

At 56 years old, Marie continues to not miss a beat on stage.

She took a moment out from performing to flirt with selected gentlemen in the crowd.

She conversed with a few men from the stage, but it was "Andy," from Grand Blanc, Mich., who she brought on stage with her to sing "Blue Christmas."

Marie insisted Andy wrap his arms around her. In the audience, his wife didn't seem to mind as she shouted "you can have him" to Marie.

Andy's in laws were also in attendance and Marie gave them all meet and greet passes for after the show.

Marie performed "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" before Donny surprised the audience as he walked in the crowd while singing "Puppy Love." The audience couldn't help themselves and were giving him hugs, high fives and kisses. He also sang "One Bad Apple."

Donny mentioned his involvement as "Joseph" in the Lloyd Webber musical "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" for six years. He did 2,000 shows.

With a montage of videos from their '70s show, the Osmond's performed "Winter Wonderland," followed by their hit "I'm A Little Bit Country," with "The Christmas Song," "Deck the Halls" and "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" next.

Donny had a contest during his portion of the show. One individual, who wrote on Donny's social media account why they would like a copy of his new CD, would be randomly selected to win a copy.

Nikki Wheeler from Midland, Mich., won the album. Donny also gave her backstage meet and greet passes.

"One-hundred percent of profits from my album are going to go to children... my children," Donny said.

Both impressive solos of Donny singing "The Gift of Love" and Marie performing "How Great Thou Art," earned standing ovations.

Donny and Marie acknowledged the many musical artists who have graced their lives. They showed musicians' photographs as they sang a tribute song.

During "Jingle Bells," they threw out candy canes to the audience.

After much anticipation for Marie, she could finally open Donny's gift. She unwrapped a trophy, resembling a smaller version of the mirror ball trophy Donny won on "Dancing with the Stars."

The two ended the festive show with a bow and "Most Wonderful Time of the Year" and "Let There Be Peace on Earth."

RCH Racing's Soaring Eagle return involves dodgeball, tattoos, poker

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

RCH Racing paid Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort another visit, and it was anything but uneventful.

Thursday, Dec. 3 through Saturday, Dec. 5, the RCH athletes joined Soaring Eagle employees and patrons for various activities.

The Hart & Huntington Tattoo & Clothing Company representatives were on property for patrons' tattoo needs.

Motocross athlete Carey Hart started the company and has built a loyal following

with an innovative tattoo concept, apparel line and motorsport teams, according to hartandhuntington.com.

Hart & Huntington opened the world's first casino tattoo parlor in Las Vegas in 2004, which became the location for A&E's top-rated reality show "Inked".

Along with Vegas, Hart & Huntington Tattoo shops are also located in Orlando, Fla. and Niagara Falls, Canada.

Friday, the RCH dodgeball tournament took place. See page 28 for the event feature.

Throughout that Saturday, the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort gave away RCH autographed racing goggles and premium

play from 3 to 5:30 p.m. to SECR Player's Club members.

SECR also gave away a Suzuki RMZ 450 motor bike at 11 p.m., won by Shirley Bennett from Mount Pleasant, Mich.

Also on Saturday night, 20 SECR Players Club members were eligible for a chance to win a seat in the 3rd annual RCH Semi Invitational Celebrity Poker Tournament to play with the motocross athletes.

The drawing took place at 6 p.m. and the tournament began at 7 p.m.

The chosen players received an autographed piece of memorabilia if they knocked out one of the racers in the game.

Renate Galloway, from Bay City, Mich., won the tournament and received an autographed racing helmet, signed by the athletes.

"We're excited to keep doing this poker tournament," said RCH Racing's Justyn Amstutz. "The main reason that RCH partnered with Soaring Eagle is because it's such an epic property. Not only from a gaming perspective, but with the spa, the golf course, and events we host here for Edge of Summer and (AMSOIL Championship) Snocross. You

couldn't have a better partnership than the RCH crew has with Soaring Eagle."

Tim McCullough, guest service performance development specialist for SECR, said it was great to have the RCH Racing representatives on property.

"It was fun having Ken Roczen the only member of the RCH Racing team stacked chip-deep at the final table this year," McCullough said. "It brought another level of excitement to our guests as Ken got knocked out right towards



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Motocross athlete Carey Hart, of RCH Racing, checks his hand at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort poker tournament.

the end of the tournament. We can't wait to have all the boys from RCH Racing back for another shot at the title."



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Twenty Soaring Eagle Players Club members were selected for a seat in the third annual Semi Invitational Celebrity Poker Tournament on Dec. 5.



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“Little Miss Dynamite” Brenda Lee is still rocking around the Christmas tree

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Many entertainers who have graced the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort stage have played a sold-out show.

Brenda Lee is a consummate performer who can command a stage for back-to-back shows, as she demonstrated on Dec. 6 and 7.

“Little Miss Dynamite,” her nickname since 1957 after recording the song “Dynamite,” is the only performer to be voted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, the Country Music Hall of Fame and the Rockabilly Hall of Fame.

She is also a recipient of a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award.

Lee continues to find the magic in what she delivers.

“No matter how you are feeling, and even if you start thinking ‘how am I going to get through this show’ or ‘my throat hurts,’ as a performer, once you’re on stage and that light hits you, you are ready to go and that’s when the magic starts,” Lee said. “When the light hits you, it’s like you’re in another world and it’s amazing. That’s when I know I am truly blessed to do what I do and God is good.”



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

The explosive “Little Miss Dynamite” Brenda Lee launches into a Christmas holiday medley that got the audience singing along.

Lee is approaching 71 years old and has been performing professionally since she was 6 years old, but said she wouldn’t be where she is without her fans.

“When I look back at the time (fans) have allowed me to have... all the success, the joy and the gifts, it’s still astounding to me because without them, and the jocks who play the records, none of this is possible without all those things behind the scenes coming together,” Lee said.

“I hate it when I see entertainers who don’t feel that way and realize how blessed we truly are,” she said. “For some of them, it’s easy to get caught

up in the fame and adulation and you have to remember there are always numbers under one. You can’t always be number one. You’re not going to be everyone’s darling, but if you can find your little place and remember it’s because of the fans that you have it, you are a blessed and lucky person.”

Lee engaged the audience with “Joy to the World,” Let It Snow,” Jingle Bells,” and “O, Come All Ye Faithful.”

Lee received critical acclaim for her 2007 Dove Award nomination for the album “Gospel Duets with Treasured Friends.”

Lee was informed each musician she worked with

on that album (Dolly Parton, George Jones, Vince Gill, Pam Tillis, Kix Brooks, Ronnie Dunn, Alison Krause, Martina McBride, Huey Lewis, Charlie Daniels and Emmylou Harris) have performed on the Soaring Eagle stage.

“I’m not surprised at all,” she said. “Soaring Eagle is regarded as one of the prime venues in the entertainment world and I feel very lucky to be a part of the acts that come here. It’s a wonderful place and it has one of the best sound systems in the industry.

“The lighting staff is absolutely fantastic and the staff as a whole, everyone that works here is just precious and so nice,” she said. “And trust me, as a performer you don’t always find that to be true. I’m not saying that anyone is ever

mean, but these people here at Soaring Eagle go out of their way to make your stay.”

Lee ended her show with “God Bless America,” followed by her signature classics “I’m Sorry” and “Rockin’ Around the Christmas Tree.”

She also offered some downhome country blessings for everyone.

“My wish for everyone this holiday season, and for the coming new year, is that they will be blessed, and for those who are searching for peace, I pray that they will find it,” Lee said. “I would hope everyone would be able to love their family... friends and to truly know what this big old world is all about. We are all a small little speck on this earth, and we should be kind to everyone.”

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SCIT joins National Native Network to advance efforts to improve health

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

On Nov. 17-18, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe joined with National Native Network to advance efforts to improve health of Indian Country.

National Native Network, under their initiative “Keep It Sacred”, held its annual meeting in Sacramento, Calif.

Representatives from American Indian and Alaska Native organizations across the U.S., along with government agencies, met to discuss collaborative efforts to reduce commercial tobacco use and cancer health disparities among native communities.

The REACH Journey to Wellness program is an initiative to prevent long-term diseases like diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease by encouraging exercise and healthy eating, as well as lowering commercial tobacco use, among Native Americans in Michigan.

SCIT REACH Coordinator Brandon Schultz said the Keep It Sacred tobacco policy and signage is more than a campaign to accommodate everyone’s right to clean air.

“It is also an effort to preserve the culture and foster a narrative about the traditional uses of tobacco, the abuse of commercial tobacco and its negative impact on an individual’s health,” Schultz said. “The negative tentacles of commercial tobacco abuse reach into the family home and filter into the Native community. It is certainly my belief that preservation of traditional tobacco and its sacred role within the culture is an effective strategy to combat the use and abuse of commercial tobacco products that has such far reaching negative consequences.”

Nimkee Executive Director Karmen Fox said the Nimkee Memorial Wellness Center has been a smoke-free environment by policy, and the efforts of REACH brought the concern back to the Tribal Health Board.

“The Tribal Health Board was very supportive of a policy change to have a smoke-free campus at Nimkee,” Fox said. “With their support, Nimkee administration was able to post a 50-foot perimeter with a traditional message around all entrances that ban tobacco products that included e-cigarettes.”

Nimkee Fitness Coordinator Jayme Green conducts cardio classes and said anyone doing any kind of exercise, like running, will do better without smoking.

“It is encouraging to see the ‘no smoking’ signs, especially in front of the Fitness Center,” Green said. “Smoking causes immediate and long-standing negative effects on exercise and physical activity.”

Noel Pingatore, principal investigator for the Network of ITC, works directly with SCIT REACH since the ITC received the five-year cooperative agreement from CDC in 2013.

The group discussed and planned goals for the current and future years’ work.

“This was a very productive meeting and we are grateful for the vast knowledge and expertise among our partner agencies,” Pingatore said. “Linda Burhansstippanov, a member of our cancer advisory committee, provided



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

SCIT REACH Coordinator Brandon Schultz points out where the “Keep It Sacred” program placed a sign at the Nimkee Fitness Center.

excellent information that will keep the tools and resources developed by the network in line with the professional detail and quality that we are working toward.”

Pingatore said it was great to share the status of their progress toward objectives.

“The Network continues to gain momentum and is right on track to meet our deliverables

which provide excellent tools and resources specific to tribes and tribal agencies working to address commercial tobacco and cancer prevention and control,” she said.

The Network’s resources include sample policies and toolkits designed to link clinic patients to community-based health prevention programs and services.

Editorial: The benefits of essential oil usage

KELLY WILLIS

Naturopathic Educator

(Editor’s note: The following article is provided by Kelly Willis, naturopathic educator, to share the benefits of using essential oils, typically by ingesting, aromatherapy or topically.)

Lemon oil (rutacease) has a history of being used to fight food poisoning, malaria, typhoid epidemics and scurvy. It has also been used to lower blood pressure, help liver problems, arthritis, and muscular aches and pains.

The French used lemon oil for air disinfectant, anemia, asthma, colds, fever reducer, gout, varicose veins and water purifier. Every day uses could involve removing gum, grease spots, and wood stains.

My own personal daily use of lemon oil is one drop in my water (one drop equals 30 lemons.) It is a great alkalizer.

Lemongrass oil (cymbopogon flexuosus) has been used for infectious illnesses and fever, as an insecticide, and as

a sedative to the central nervous system.

The French used lemongrass for bladder infections, connective tissue (regenerates) digestive system, edema, fluid retention, kidney disorders and strengthening vascular walls. My own personal use is on damaged tendons and ligaments, topically.

There are three ways to use essential oils: Topically, aromatic and ingested.

Topical is to apply directly to the skin. Since the skin is the largest organ of the body, it is a great way to use many oils.

Aromatherapy means to treat with aroma through inhalation. The response to aroma has been proven to be as quick as one second.

Ingesting oils such as lemon or peppermint is very beneficial. But not all oils can be ingested so be sure to do your

research as to which one can or cannot be taken internally.

Essential oils are the volatile liquids that are distilled from plants, flowers, shrubs, trees, seeds, bushes, and roots. When properly distilled they contain oxygenating molecules which transport the nutrients to the cells of the body. Without oxygen, nutrients cannot be assimilated by the body, creating nutritional deficiencies.

Essential oils have the ability in their chemical structure to penetrate cell walls in one to three seconds, transporting oxygen and nutrients inside the cell, thus increasing cellular oxygenation and giving greater support to the immune system.

Studies have shown that those who contract a cold or flu recover 70 percent faster when using oils.

..... Nimkee Fitness Center

FITNESS

Resolutions

Jan. 11, 2016 - Feb. 5, 2016

The purpose of this program is to encourage you to set a goal you can maintain during a four-week period. We have given you three categories to choose from according to your fitness level and desires.

- Good start: Between 60 and 179 minutes per week.
- Fitness maniac: Between 180 and 299 minutes per week.
- Over achiever: Over 300 minutes per week.

How do you win?

You must achieve your goal three out of four weeks to be placed in a drawing to win a Fitness Resolution prize. Prizes include:

- Three \$20 Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort gift cards
- Three Nimkee Fitness T-shirts
- Four water bottles and fitness bags

Bonus opportunities to obtain minutes of exercise also available!

Be eligible to win prizes for accomplishing your goal!

For more information, please contact: Jaden Harman at 989.775.4694

Nimkee Fitness Center Group Exercise Schedule January 2016					
Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8 a.m.	Aqua Fit Sharon		Aqua Fit Sharon		Aqua Fit Sharon
12:10 p.m.	Muscle Makin' Monday - Jaden	Suspension Training - Jayme	Warrior Wednesday - Jaden	Fat Blast Jayme	
1:10 p.m.					Turbo Kick Beth
5:10 p.m.	Running Jayme			Yoga Tammy	
5:30 p.m.			Belly Dance Deanna		

WANTED

ATTORNEY AT LAW

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Specializing in: Tribal Law, and Federal Indian Law;

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Experience: Former Prosecuting Attorney Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, and Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Indian Reservation; Former Public Defender Assiniboine Sioux Tribe; Criminal Defense Attorney

Tribal Affiliation: Member of the Six Nations Tribe, Ontario Canada

Contact: (989) 772-6277
113 W. Broadway, Suite 240
Mt. Pleasant MI 48858



Dieting myths debunked for successful weight loss

MARSHA MCCULLOCH

MS, RD

(Editor's note: The following article is provided by the Environmental Nutrition October 2015 edition, submitted by Sally Van Cise, nutritionist for Nimkee Public Health.)

When you're desperate to drop a dress size (or two), it's easy to latch onto inaccurate notions about what it takes to lose weight or to assume that what worked for your friend will work for you.

The reality is that there's no magic bullet for weight loss, and diets aren't one-size-fits-all.

Environmental Nutrition asked experts to clear up common myths.

Myth 1: You'll lose one pound for each 3,500 calories you cut.

If you've spent any time with your nose in diet books, you've likely encountered the "rule" that says cutting 500 calories a day will give a weight loss of one pound a week.

This oversimplified calculation is outdated.

"As you lose weight, your body needs fewer calories to run, for example, for your heart to beat

and for you to move around, so your weight loss will slow over time," said Diana Thomas, director of the Center for Quantitative Obesity Research at Montclair State University in New Jersey.

"The 3,500-calorie rule also fails to account for other factors that impact how quickly people lose weight, such as how much extra fat they have, how old they are, and their gender," Thomas said.

To get a more accurate prediction of your weight loss over time, use the easy calculator at weight-loss-predictor.appspot.com/weight, which Thomas helped develop.

Myth 2: Weight loss just requires eating less and moving more.

"It can be more challenging to lose weight than some people think, and environmental toxins called obesogens may be one reason why," said Sara Gottfried, author of *The Hormone Reset Diet*.

Many chemicals used in everyday items, such as BPA (bisphenol A) in plastic food containers and phthalates in fragrances may disrupt hormones that influence weight control.

"For example, BPA acts as a fake testosterone, which can contribute to polycystic ovary

syndrome (PCOS) and interfere with insulin signaling in women," Gottfried said.

PCOS is a hormonal disorder that affects at least 10 percent of women and can make weight loss and blood sugar control more challenging. More research is needed to confirm the link between environmental toxins and PCOS.

Although we can't avoid all man-made chemicals, Gottfried advises finding fixes for areas where you get the most chemical exposure or spend the most time.

Use glass containers instead of plastic to store food. Choose fragrance-free personal care and household products. Get more ideas at ewg.org.

Myth 3: Eat gluten-free to lose weight.

"Some people think eating gluten-free will help them lose weight, especially women with PCOS," said Angela Grassi, founder of the PCOS Nutrition Center in Bryn Mawr, Pa.

"Although some people do find they lose weight by avoiding gluten, it really could be due to cutting calories, such as passing up the bread basket at a restaurant. Or, they may actually have gluten sensitivity, so removing gluten from the diet reduces inflammation and fluid retention.

"But certainly not everyone who eats gluten-free will find it helps them lose weight," Grassi said. "It's more important to focus on eating fiber-rich fruits and vegetables, whole grains, and protein-rich foods to help balance blood sugar."

Myth 4: You should take a cheat day.

Some diet plans advise taking a "cheat day" to reward yourself for sticking to your regimen the rest of the week.

"Taking an entire day to splurge is a bit excessive and could derail your plan," said Jennifer McDaniel, owner of a private practice in St. Louis, and is a spokesperson for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

"Data from the National Weight Control Registry tells us that people who successfully maintain their weight loss have similar eating patterns seven days a week," McDaniel said. "However, that doesn't mean you can't budget for a cheat meal, such as a birthday party. It also can help to plan for something small every day that feels like a cheat, such as 100 calories-worth of dark chocolate, so you don't feel deprived. Planning your splurge also

gives you motivation to turn down other treats."

Myth 5: Exercise entitles you to eat more.

"Many people think they're burning an exorbitant number of calories with exercise. In reality, they may be burning only 120 calories in their strength-training regimen and haven't changed anything else in their sedentary lifestyle," McDaniel said.

"So, small increases in their food intake will undo the calorie deficit they aimed to create," she said. "Reducing calories is primarily what drives weight loss, while exercise really plays a bigger role in helping maintain weight loss."

Adding to misconceptions about exercise's impact are fitness machines and charts that tell you how many calories you burn with a certain activity.

"An elliptical machine or online exercise calculator often overestimates how many calories you've burned because it doesn't account for all of the individual factors, such as your percent muscle mass and heart rate, which are needed to provide an accurate count," McDaniel said.

Contact Nutritionist Sally Van Cise, RD, at Nimkee 989-775-4615 for more information and assistance.

DAYTONA 500 GIVEAWAY!

\$20
Purchase
Necessary
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ENTER
TO WIN!

2 TICKETS to DAYTONA 500

Race on Feb 21st

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Accepting entries January 1-28, 2016.

Register at all four locations to increase your chances to win!



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One Grand Prize to be awarded on January 29th. Must be claimed by February 5th or alternate winner will be selected. Prize has no cash value option. No alterations or substitutions. Prize must be used as awarded and is not transferable. Must be used by winning person. Employees of Migizi Economic Development Company are ineligible. Prescription sales at Cardinal Pharmacy are not eligible to meet minimum purchase requirement. One finalist from each Migizi retail operation will be entered into the final drawing for Grand Prize. Grand Prize consists of tickets to Daytona 500 for two, air travel for two, and overnight stay in one room with two queen beds. Migizi Economic Development Company is not responsible for taxes, fees, transportation to or from airport and race, or parking.



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There's no place like home – especially one that's paid off. January through March, we can help you pay off your mortgage faster! Hourly winners will get \$1,000 in Premium Play plus 1,000 bonus entries for our grand prize: \$100,000 to use toward a mortgage!

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EVERY SATURDAY 6PM-10PM**

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JANUARY 30, FEBRUARY 27 &
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CELEBRATE NATIONAL PIE DAY!

**SATURDAY JANUARY 23, 2016
1:30 PM SESSION**

First 70 guests to "BINGO" win an apple pie!
All guests receive a coupon for a free slice of
pizza pie from the Little Eagle Café!



Tribal elders get crafty during the holiday season at Andahwod

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

Creativity can take many forms, and when the Tribal elders get together at Andahwod, they can get pretty crafty.

On Saturday, Dec. 5 at the Andahwod Continuing Care and Elder Services facility, the seniors came together for some laughs and holiday cheer while making some special Christmas presents.

Elisa Schleder, elder community activities assistant for Andahwod, said elders

Carole Tally, Colleen Wagner, Raeann Maddox, Sara Martin, Valerie Zocher and Betty Pamp-Ettinger participated in the festivities.

“The elders all had a great time learning a new skill of ‘braided rug’ designing, with the help of my granddaughters Marian and Felicia,” Schleder said. “We enjoy being able to share some laughs and good times, and it’s a great activity for everyone to join in.”

The activity consisted of taking old T-shirts and making them into cloth strips to braid into other projects like throw rugs.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Elisa Schleder (standing), elder community activities assistant for Andahwod, and Tribal elder Valerie Zocher share one of many laughs.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

The elders are working like Santa’s elves to finish their homemade gifts just in time for Christmas.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal elder Sarah Martin adds a splash of color to her design.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal elder Betty Pamp-Ettinger is meticulous as she sorts through piles of material.



Observer photo by Joseph Sowmick

Tribal elder Colleen Wagner shows how learning to make sweetgrass braids helped her with her project.

Andahwod elders open their facility to wish everyone a Merry Christmas



Observer photos by Joseph Sowmick

JOSEPH V. SOWMICK

Photojournalist

On Dec. 14, the holiday season was in full swing as elders from all districts, along with Andahwod residents and several Elders Advisory Board Members, celebrated the reason for the season at Andahwod’s annual Christmas Party.

Tribal Member Sam Anglin, assisted

living support services manager, said the Andahwod Christmas party offered a variation of different dishes.

“There was also everyone’s favorite holiday treat... Christmas cookies,” Anglin said. “We did provide quite an offering, but we really appreciate it when elders bring a potluck dish to our events. Some of our elders brought in their favorite pies and cookies to round out the four table spread.”

JANUARY 2016 Tribal Elder Birthdays

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Wendy McGregor, William Smith Jr. | 18 Byron Bird, Audrey Falcon, Anthony Jackson, Richard Ritter, Iva Chimoski |
| 2 Meletta Trepanier, Robyn Henry, James Pashenee | 19 Sue Dufee, Sara Starkey, Scott Moses |
| 3 Angela Trofatter | 20 Robin Bonnau, Nicki Perez |
| 5 Lorne Jackson | 22 Barbara Arzola, Orin Fallis, Linda Schramm |
| 6 Alan Henry | 23 Michelle George, Vicki Brown, Joseph Kequom, Jack Wheaton, Michael Ziehmer |
| 7 Samuel Pego, Warren Stone | 24 Eva Jackson, Norma Rapp, Jacqueline Cyr, Christopher Johnson, Tweedie Van Cise |
| 8 Alstyn Peters, Barbara Vance | 25 Scott McLellan |
| 9 Charmaine Shawana | 26 Darlene Highley, Jeffery Reed, Goldie Stanton |
| 10 Susan Kequom, Barbara McMullen, Ronald Battice, Brenda Brouder, Martin Francis, Mary Green, Donald Slavik, Susan Sturock | 27 Renee Borgardt, Rick Shawano |
| 11 Philemon Bird, Esther Helms, Kathy Martin | 28 Gloria King, James Fowler, Alex Ritter Sr. |
| 12 Norman Davenport, Jose Gonzalez | 29 Vincent Gallegos, Robin High, Becky McLenon, Jacquelyne Meir Jr. |
| 13 Paul Hawk, Sandra Barron, Lyle Collins | 31 Nancy Funnell, Gerald Cloutier, Vicki Sandlin, Mary Walker, Delores Watson |
| 14 Lillian Olson, Zack Sawmick, Christine Theile | |
| 15 Jayne Keating, Lisa Slattery, Michael Zygmunt | |
| 16 Joann Clark | |
| 17 Terri Darling | |

Andahwod CCC & ES Events - January 2016

Euchre

Mondays | 6 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4302

Language Bingo

Jan. 7 | 1 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4302

Elvis' Birthday Celebration

Jan. 8 | 1 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4302

Jewelry with Kay

Jan. 5 | 1 p.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4302

Elders Breakfast

Jan. 13 & 27 | 9 a.m.
• Contact: 989.775.4300

**Activities and events are subject to change.



JANUARY 2016 EVENT PLANNER

Women's Tradition Society

January 4, 11, 18, 25 | 5 - 6:30 p.m.

- Location: Behavioral Health
- Contact: 989-775-4879

AI-Anon Family Group Meeting

January 5, 12, 19, 26 | 5 p.m.

- Location: Behavioral Health
- Contact: 989-775-3742
- Strength and hope for friends and families of problem drinkers.

Baby Celebration

January 6 | 5:30 p.m.

- Location: Seventh Generation
- Contact: 989-775-4780
- Celebrate the newest members of the community.
- Guest speaker: Kathy LeBlanc.
- Handmade blankets by Sandy Smith for all newborns.
- Meal provided.
- Free photo buttons of your newborn.

Walking with Our Sisters: First Community Conversation

January 7 | 6 p.m.

- Location: Ziibiwing Cultural Center
- Contact: 989-775-4750
- Free to attend, all are welcome.
- Dinner included.
- A commemorative art installation to honor the lives of missing and murdered Indigenous women of Canada and the United States; to acknowledge the grief and torment families of these women continue to suffer; and to raise awareness of this issue and create opportunity for broad community-based dialogue on the issue.

Kids and Culture

January 16 | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

- Location: University Gallery, Baber Room and Clarke Historical Library on the CMU campus.
- Contact: 989-775-3689
- Area families will have the opportunity to visit a highlighted cultural organization, free of charge, on the third Saturday of each month in 2016.
- Participating future venues include: Art Reach of Mid Michigan, CMU Museum of Cultural and Natural History, Mt. Pleasant Discovery Museum, University Art Gallery and CMU Libraries: Baber Room and Clarke Historical Library, Veterans Memorial Library, and Ziibiwing Cultural Center.

Women's Support Group

January 19 | 5:30 - 7 p.m.

- Location: Behavioral Health
- Contact: 989-775-4896

Winter Feast

January 20 | 5:30-8 p.m.

- Location: Seventh Generation
- Contact: 989-775-4787

SCTC Movie & Discussion: The Wolfpack

January 20 | 7:30 p.m.

- Location: SCTC West 1
- Contact: 989-775-4123
- Free popcorn and soda.

Housing Financial Workshop

January 21 | 12 p.m.

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

Human Trafficking Presentation

January 28 | Light dinner at 6 p.m., talk begins at 6:30 p.m.

- Location: Eagles Nest Tribal Gym
- Contact: 989-775-4810
- Please join us to hear how human trafficking has affected this very community and how to prevent it.



2016 SCIT Golf Memberships

Now available for purchase!

Memberships cost: \$300 each
**10% discount if purchased by Jan. 8, 2016*

Participating courses:

- Eagle Glen
- Hidden Oaks
- Maple Creek
- The Pines
- Pleasant Hills
- Waabooz Run

Available For Immediate Purchase By:
Tribal Members and Tribal Employees and their families

Purchase at Tribal Ops Accounting Department

Talking Circle

Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
Andahwod Maple Room

For more information, contact: Kim 989.289.3088, Roger 989.944.1937

TRIBAL COMMUNITY CALENDAR | JANUARY 2016

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> 				<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m. New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m. 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking Circle Andahwod 10 a.m. <p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Euchre Andahwod 6 - 8 p.m. Ogitchedaw Meeting Seniors Room 6 p.m. Sasiwaans Classes Tribal Library 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Love & Logic Parenting Class Nimkee Clinic 3 - 5 p.m. 	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traditional Teaching Saganing 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Youth Council Meeting Seniors Room 3:30 - 5 p.m. Parent Advisory Meeting SCA 5 - 6 p.m. 	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. 	<p>8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m. New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m. 	<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking Circle Andahwod 10 a.m. <p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. 	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Euchre Andahwod 6 - 8 p.m. Sasiwaans Classes Tribal Library 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Love & Logic Parenting Class Nimkee Clinic 3 - 5 p.m. 	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Youth Council Meeting Tribal Gym 3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m. 	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. 	<p>15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tribal Observer Deadline 3 p.m. AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m. New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m. 	<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking Circle Andahwod 10 a.m. <p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. 	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Euchre Andahwod 6 - 8 p.m. Sasiwaans Classes Tribal Library 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Love & Logic Parenting Class Nimkee Clinic 3 - 5 p.m. 	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Youth Council Meeting Seniors Room 3:30 - 5 p.m. Tribal Education Advisory Meeting Meeting 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. 	<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m. New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m. 	<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking Circle Andahwod 10 a.m. <p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's Traditions Society B. Health 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Euchre Andahwod 6 - 8 p.m. Sasiwaans Classes Tribal Library 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Love & Logic Parenting Class Nimkee Clinic 3 - 5 p.m. 	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Gym Tribal Gym 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Youth Council Meeting Seniors Room 3:30 - 5 p.m. 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sacred Fire Lunch 7th Generation 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Talking Circle 7th Generation 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. 	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AA/NA Spirit Bear Meeting Andahwod Maple Lodge 7 p.m. New Spirit Moon Andahwod Conference 1 p.m. 	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking Circle Andahwod 10 a.m. <p>31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Spirit Support Group B. Health 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.



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. * Job postings are subject to change daily.**

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105 Lost and Found	130 Services
110 For Rent	135 Events
115 For Sale	140 Giveaways
120 Announcements	145 Miscellaneous

100 Employment

Tribal Operations

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 social services setting. Must have knowledge of applicable tribal and federal law as they pertain to tribal children and families. Must be able to obtain and maintain a Tribal Driver's License. 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.

Police Officer FT

Open to the public. Must be a U.S. citizen. Must be at least 21 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Associates degree preferred. Must be able to pass departmental fitness evaluation. Must be MCOLES certified/certifiable or capable of meeting certifiable standards. Must be able to obtain and maintain a special law enforcement Commission through the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Must have a valid Michigan driver's license, insurable under the Tribe's policy.

General Labor Pool

Tribal Member posting. Must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent.

Sasiwaans Early Childhood Manager

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in education field required. Candidate must possess a valid state of Michigan Early Childhood Certification and/or ZS endorsement. Prefer two years of experience and/or combination of related experience and training in early childhood education.

Interim Senior Assisted Living Administrator

Open to the public. Must possess a master's degree in health or human services or similar degree. Must have a minimum of five years administrative experience and a history in personnel management. Experience working with tribal communities and outside systems is required. Knowledge of aging services, assisted living services, Medicare and long term care services required.

Dentist

Open to the public. Minimum requirements include DDS/DMD degree from an accredited school and a Michigan Dental License. Must complete a fingerprint/background check. Duties include the provision of dental services associated with a general dentistry clinic to patients served at the facility assigned, or to any other

facility or program where the Tribe provides services in accordance with privileges granted. The staff dentist will be responsible for daily activities under the supervision of the chief dental officer.

Case Manager

Open to the public. Master's degree in social work from a school accredited by the Council of Social Work Education is required. Must have current clinical license to practice social work in Michigan. Minimum of two years of experience in related field. Working knowledge of substance abuse treatment protocols, the judicial/legal system required. Experience related to the appropriate recipient population required. Knowledge of Native American traditions and culture preferred.

Primary Language Immersion Specialist

Open to the public. Must possess specialized unique skills which include a high level of demonstrated fluency, knowledge of age appropriate teaching techniques and a clear understanding of immersion philosophy and language acquisition, five years experience teaching Anishinabemowin. A Bachelor's degree in education and/or possession of a teaching certificate preferred. Must complete a criminal records check in accordance with the State of Michigan. Hiring in accordance with Indian Preference Laws.

Anishinabe Language Revitalization Director

Open to the public. Minimum five years specific demonstrated experience developing and working with Anishinabemowin programs/projects. Knowledge and certification in native language instruction or bachelor's degree or equivalent combination of education and Anishinabemowin-related experience. Applicant must demonstrate fluency and a strong working knowledge about Anishinabemowin. Person must possess experience developing new programs through research to successful implementation.

Social Services Support Tech

Open to the public. Must have an associates degree or two years of college. Experience in human services is helpful, but not required. Must have knowledge of or experience with Native American communities. Must have reliable transportation. Must successfully pass a criminal history background check. Hiring in accordance with Indian Preference Law.

Victims of Crime Advocate

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree or greater in counseling, social work, sociology, psychology, law enforcement, criminal justice, or law. Counseling experience within Native American communities, including victims of crime counseling

programs, social work, substance abuse, law enforcement, or family counseling desirable for successful applicant.

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 three phase high voltage experience with appropriate electrical license.

Extension Office Project Coordinator

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree required. Preference will be given to candidates with a degree in youth development or other educationally-related area. Volunteer administration experience as well as program development skills are needed. The successful candidate must be able to utilize a variety of teaching methods that include lecture, interactive discussion, and demonstration.

ZCS Retail Store Supervisor

Open to the public. Must be a minimum of 18 years of age. High school diploma or GED. Some college level courses a plus. Must possess past supervisory experience in a retail or business setting. Must possess strong verbal and written communication skills, with an emphasis on customer service skills. Must understand and support the mission of Ziibiwing and its purpose. Must be willing to learn about the culture and heritage of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

ZCS Warehouse Clerk PT

Open to the public. High school diploma or equivalent required. One year of warehouse experience preferred. Must be willing to learn to drive a fork truck unit and be able to become certified within probation period. Available to work any hours on any days if needed.

Clerical Pool

Tribal Member posting. Must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent.

SECR

Sous Chef

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. Must have ability to comprehend house training and pass by 65 percent standardized written

culinary competency test and by 70 percent product I.D. and cooking practical test.

Steward PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Desire to work hard. Must be organized and thorough in work ethic and have a strong desire to provide service. Exceptional "people" skills, high level of enthusiasm and professionalism.

Host/Hostess PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must have good guest service skills and work well with others. Six months to one year related food experience and/or the ability to successfully pass in house training.

Lead Cook

Open to the public. Must be 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.

Server Assistant PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age with a high school diploma or equivalent. Six months to one year prior related food experience and/or the ability to successfully pass in house training. Must be able to lift up to 50 pounds occasionally and 10-30 pounds regularly.

Line Server PT

Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must be able to work weekends, holidays, and graveyard shifts. Must have organized and thorough in work ethic and have a strong desire to provide service. Good physical ability for walking, standing, lifting, and bending. Must be able to lift 25-50 pounds regularly.

Inventory Control Warehouser PT

Open to the public. High school diploma or equivalent. Must be able to obtain and maintain a Tribal driver's and Industrial Truck Operator Permit. One to three years experience in receiving or warehousing.

Cosmetologist PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years or older upon employment. High school diploma or equivalent required. Must possess and maintain a Michigan state license in Cosmetology, with 1600 training hours, followed by completion

of state license with two year renewal required. One year experience preferred. Must be able to work days, nights, weekends, and holidays.

Accountant

Open to the public. Bachelor's degree in accounting or bachelor's degree in business with an accounting minor. Must have computer experience with spreadsheets and word processing. Working knowledge of GAAP principals. This position is an entry-level accounting position within the Resort's Accounting Department. During a period of two years, (less if job performance and evaluations dictate), this position will learn the department processes, IT systems and develop relationships with the directors, managers and supervisors to whom they service.

Grounds Supervisor-Bedding

Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must have a minimum of two year college degree in related field or three years experience in horticulture gardening or landscaping environment. Previous supervisory experience preferred but not required. Possession of a valid Michigan Commercial Pesticide Applications Certification - Ornamental (3B), prior to completion of applicable probation period is required.

Guest Relations Representative

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age. High school diploma or equivalent. Must have good customer relation's skills and possess strong communication skills. Must have understanding of keyboard and basic computer knowledge and excellent math skills. Must pass a pre-employment typing test with a minimum of 30 words per minute. Must be able to work weekends, holidays, emergency shifts, and rotating schedules.

Carpet/Upholstery Cleaner FT

Open to the public. Some carpet and upholstery cleaning experience required. Knowledge of truck mount system a plus. Must pass training test on truck mount operation within 90-day probation period. Knowledge in various chemicals pertaining to daily maintenance of furniture upholstery and carpet. Must have a valid Michigan drivers license, high school diploma or equivalent, be

able to obtain a Service License and Tribal drivers license and qualify for coverage by our insurance carrier.

Security Officer PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age and have a high school diploma or equivalent. Ability to handle irate, 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.

SELC

Transit Driver FT

Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must be at least 21 years old. Must have a valid CDL with passenger endorsements or a Chauffer's License.

Transit Driver PT

Open to the public. Must have a high school diploma or GED. Must be at least 21 years old. Must have a valid CDL with passenger endorsements or a Chauffer's License.

Security Officer FT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age and have a high school diploma or equivalent. Typing and computer skills a plus. Ability to handle irate, disorderly or intoxicated guests in a professional manner.

Security Officer PT

Open to the public. Must be at least 18 years of age and have a high school diploma or equivalent. Typing and computer skills a plus. Ability to handle irate, disorderly or intoxicated guests in a professional manner.

Casino Ambassador PT

Open to the public. To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

130 Services

Fox Home Builders

All types of home improvements. Kitchen and bath remodeling, additions. Experienced and local. 989-773-4665.

Summons and Complaint Notices

NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF STACY JO JOHNSON

The Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court 6954 East Broadway Rd. Mt. Pleasant MI 989-775-4800 Case no. 15-PC-0350 The estate of Stacy Jo Johnson: The decedent, Stacy Jo Johnson DOD 04-08-15 Personal representative: Jeanette Leauteaux 3291 Aagimaak Street Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858, Personal representative's attorney: James D. Veldhuis 108 S. University Avenue Suite 2 Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 (989) 772-5299 or both the probate court at Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Court 6954 East Broadway Road Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 989-775-4800. Notice to Creditors: Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.



RCH Racing celebrities join Tribal community for dodgeball tournament

NATALIE SHATTUCK

Editor

Any patron that stepped foot in the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort Entertainment Hall on Friday, Dec. 4 would notice individuals ducking from dodgeballs.

It was all in fun, though, as the Saginaw Chippewa Parks & Recreation department, SECR Marketing and Youth Council collaborated for the first dodgeball tournament with RCH Racing representatives.

The 54 players included motocross athletes, Tribal youth, Tribal employees and a few Tribal Council members.

“A really good idea turned into a fantastic evening at Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort,” said RCH Racing’s Justyn Amstutz. “The RCH crew came out, initially set up to play with the Tribal children and the Marketing team; it turned into an epic event. Carey Hart, Ken Roczen, Brock Tickle and Blake Savage played with a few Tribal Fire and Police Department employees. We were also super stoked to



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Professional motocross athlete Carey Hart, of RCH Racing, was all smiles the entire night.

have some of the new Tribal Council members out; day four into their new Council session.”

Lucas Sprague, youth organized sports specialist, said he was thrilled about the turnout. “I did not expect to see that many participants,” Sprague said. “If this continues to turn into an annual event, numbers are only going to grow.”

Amstutz said the RCH racers had a blast, and Hart could not wipe the smile off his face.

Hart gave the competition his all, his team earned the championship.

Hart, along with Tribal Council Sergeant-at-Arms Ronald F. Ekdahl, Noah Shout, Steve Oker, Mattea Merrill, Gabe Jackson, Christina Benz and Luciano Escamilla took first place.

Amstutz and Sprague both believe this could turn into an annual event, with ideas pending of a possible adult benefit next time.

“After seeing the positive response, we think it’s a two-prong approach: Bring the kids in and get local community involvement, and after the kids are good and tuckered out, then bring in the adults and maybe a DJ,” Amstutz said. “There could be a \$200 charge to raise funds for a charity during an adult dodgeball game.”

Amstutz said he, along with the RCH Racing athletes, hopes the event happens again in the near future.

“The dodgeball tournament was just another cool event that Soaring Eagle and RCH have partnered on,” Amstutz said. “This could grow into a large event, plus it’s great for the kids and community involvement.”

Sprague assisted in coordinating a youth dodgeball tournament in the Eagles Nest Tribal Gym the past year, so he knew how to direct the operations.

“My favorite part about this event is that anyone can play dodgeball,” Sprague said. “We had youth, teens, young adults, up to a few seniors. You don’t have to be super athletic; dodging a ball is a skill that I think anyone can harness.”



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

A portion of the 54 RCH Dodgeball tournament participants pose as a group.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Hart poses with his youthful fans and fierce competitors.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Tribal Council Member Amanda Oldman and her team strategize at their game's start.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Mattea Merrill laughs and wonders who to try to knock out of the competition next.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Sporting his Brock Tickle RCH Racing T-shirt, Andre Leureaux throws the ball.

The official 2016 Monster Energy AMA Supercross, a FIM World Championship, will return to Michigan on March 19 at Ford Field in Detroit.

The Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort will host the AMSOIL Championship Snocross on Feb. 26-27.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Tyrone Rios Jr. enjoys the friendly competition.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

AJ Leureaux collects a couple dodgeballs, waiting for the right time to throw.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

“Hollywood” (left), tattoo artist for Hart & Huntington, and Youth Council member Milan Quigno-Grundahl share a laugh.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Hart high fives his teammates on a great game.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

RCH Racer Brock Tickle (center) keeps his eyes on the ball.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Tribal Council Sergeant-at-Arms Ronald F. Ekdahl and Merrill were the last two standing for their team in one game.



Observer photo by Natalie Shattuck

Tribal Council Treasurer Gayle Ruhl (back) and Interim HR Director Louanna Bruner pitch together.