Dejope Hall opens on the University of Wisconsin

Marlon WhiteEagle
Staff Writer
Dejope Hall is the newest coed residential hall on the University of Wisconsin campus in Madison, Wisconsin. Dejope Hall is located on the shore of Lake Mendota on the western side of campus near Phillips and Bradley Halls, and can house 408 residents. The hall features an outdoor fireplace, replica mounds, a green space roof, artworks, and the Four Lakes Market.

On August 22, 2012, the University of Wisconsin held a “celebration and dedication” of Dejope Hall prior to student moving on August 26. The University of Wisconsin’s University Housing website reads as follows:

The University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of University Housing is proud to announce that the new name for the Lakeshore Residence Hall will be Dejope Residence Hall. Dejope is the name of the Ho-Chunk and other American Indians who have used for the Madison area for thousands of years. The Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature passed a resolution allowing the Division of University Housing to use Dejope for their residence hall name on May 22, 2012. Part of the resolution stated; “it is in the best interest of the Nation to support and promote the education of its members and the education of others about the Ho-Chunk Nation... The Ho-Chunk Nation has not provided any funding for this project. They have only provided us with an opportunity to share with others their history and future. Officials and tribal members of the eleven tribes in Wisconsin, UW Housing Staff, professors, and select students came out to tour the hall and sample market goods. The dedication agenda included speeches from University Housing Director Paul Evans, Ho-Chunk Nation President Jon Greendeer, Tribal member and UW Alumni Christine Jendrisak, and UW School of Education Aaron Bird Bear. It truly was a historic moment for all involved.

University Housing Director, Paul Evans said, “We did it! The road to Dejope Hall was not an easy one. We ran into road blocks and potholes, and the road almost came to an end. In 2004, the UW’s Master Plan for Housing did not include plans for Dejope Hall. Dejope Hall is spectacular and historic in the place it occupies. We worked with the Ho-Chunk Nation on a name for this facility because this area has been the home to Marlon WhiteEagle
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Letter to the Editor

I went to the Federal Court Building in Madison to hear the summation and final arguments of the Tim Whiteagle bribery case. It was an evasion federal trial. I knew the broad outlines of what the case was about and had heard from Ho-Chunks for at least a decade that they suspected kickbacks were happening. I sat and listened to the federal prosecutors summarize for the jury the main points of the case. They flashed up on the monitor an email correspondence from Tim Whiteagle. In page after page, Tim lays out his strategy for what has to be done to ensure that a particular kickback payment happens. The emails said he received three million dollars in kickbacks. The emails went something like: “I can’t get this done because X stops me at every turn. Have to discredit him. Remove him.” He meant that a Ho-Chunk employee was doing their job and asking questions about a contract. There were numerous Ho-Chunks mentioned in the emails and referred to in this manner.

This went on and on. I felt sickened, physically ill. The emails meant that numerous Ho-Chunks over the years were targeted by Tim Whiteagle. He wanted them removed from their jobs, or removed from their positions of authority because they were stopping him from securing one of those couple hundred thousand dollar kickbacks. Unfortunately, as the mastermind he had his cohort get these people fired, discredited so they were out of the way. He was successful in his criminal plans.

As a result good Ho-Chunks had their lives upended, had their livelihoods taken away and then they had to struggle to put food on the table for their families. And it is possible that they had no idea why this happened to them. I believe these Ho-Chunks should be acknowledged for their pain and suffering and they should be recognized and honored in some way. Also I want to personally thank those Ho-Chunks and non-Ho-Chunks who brought this criminality to an end. I don’t know who you are and we may never know.

The HCN Department of Justice has secured the transcript of the trial and the emails that were displayed to the jurors. I think as many Ho-Chunks as possible should read these documents. You will shake your head in amazement and you will feel sick. Only when the tribe recognizes the full impact of what has happened to us will we be able to be vigilant and make sure such evil does not thrive again.

Christine Jendrisak
Madison

To the Editor;

Haho to all my Ho-Chunk people I sent forth my greeting!

My name is “Sacred Vision” I am a leader of the Hiž according to our religion and our way of life. No one tells our young people and we are the host”. Therefore, I send forth my deep respect and to thank all powwow committees that we have rules on our powwow grounds. In addition, I enjoy seeing my great people smiling and enjoying themselves, especially our young and future Ho-Chunk leaders dancing. Many years ago Reverend Mitchell Whitarabitt a buffalo clan member was our MC, our speaker. “hers’ka – hau lu shka”, means Ho-Chunk warriors unite and let their long hair down and put that best regalia on and dance. Today I am 72 yrs old Ho-Chunk warrior use to have long hair to unite and let my hair down during our powwows. Today I don’t have any hair left to unite and let my hair down (hurour).

With my utmost respect of my chief and to all my Ho-Chunk people and to the powwow committee, I am not trying to overstep my boundary I must say and express my opinion. Many years ago Andrew Blackhawk a WW1 Ho-Chunk warrior gave this land to our Ho-Chunk people to have our powwows. In addition, we put aside our religion and come in harmony together as in one Ho-Chunk Nation. “We are Ho-Chunk people and we are the host” and we welcome other tribes that comes here either traditional or contest dancing. Other tribes are not to be the speakers or the MC. In addition, they kept making mistakes, make our Ho-Chunk people look foolish it angered other Ho-Chunk tribal members, when they do not know our language, our customs and us. Even many of our Ho-Chunk people don’t even know who we are as Ho-Chunk people. Back in time only the Ho-Chunk Buffalo Clan members were the MC, and speakers. Alternatively, other Ho-Chunk members can be speakers or MC only when they pay and ask for permission from the Buffalo Clan leader this is our traditional way. Today we are not only losing our Ho-Chunk language we are also losing touch with our way of life within our Ho-Chunk “hau lu shka” powwow, and hurting our families that are having their children learn how to dance and their way of life. No one tells our young powwow committees that we have rules on the powwow grounds that must be followed. I send forth my deep respect and to thank all my great Ho-Chunk people for reading my thoughts and my opinion. “We are Ho-Chunk people and we are always the host”.

“Sacred Vision”
Owen Haga Mike

HO-CHUNK NATION DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
DIVISIONS:
Youth Services
Child and Family Services
Community Support Services
Tribal Aging
Child Support Enforcement

Hižkįšąnų hįńkarašgįnią.

On January 1, 2012, the Ho-Chunk Nation received a two-year grant from the Federal Office of Child Support Enforcement to develop our own child support program. These monies were made available as a result of the federal government’s realization that state operated child support systems did not always work for American Indian communities. For that reason the federal government gave American Indian Tribes an opportunity to develop and operate their own child support programs to meet their specific needs in accordance with their traditions and values.

Ho-Chunk Nation culture and tradition holds our children in highest regards with a desire to promote and maintain strong, healthy, and productive Ho-Chunk children. The belief within our culture and tradition is that both the mother and the father have a responsibility to care for the daily needs of their children emotionally, physically and spiritually. However, not all of our children have both of their parents under the same roof to work together on meeting these needs. In these situations it is very common to have Ho-Chunk families relying on state operated child support programs to assist them in receiving monies to help with the financial cost involved in raising healthy children.

Now that our community has received this grant we recognize the importance of your help in developing the program. The Ho-Chunk Nation Child Support Enforcement Agency would like your feedback as to how this program should operate. One of the attempts to accomplish this will be to ask you to take the time and effort to complete the attached questionnaire and return it to the Ho-Chunk Nation Child Support Enforcement Agency at the following address: P O Box 40, Black River Falls, WI 54615, or drop off the questionnaire at the Department of Social Services, attention Child Support Division.

Please remember that although you may not be in the position of needing or using child support services we would still like your feedback. You have the opportunity to have a voice in how you would like to see the Ho-Chunk Nation work for its tribal members.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Linda Moser-Buse
Child Support Director

PO Box 40, 808 Red Iron Rd., Black River Falls, WI 54615
Ph. 715-284-2622 Toll Free 1-888-343-8190
Child and Family Services Intake Number:
CFS Intake 715-284-7749 Toll Free 1-855-659-8820
www.ho-chunknation.com
Two teams from Ho-Chunk Nation complete the Great River Ragnar Relay

Kathleen Clemons and Susan Weber

To begin with, both teams would like to acknowledge and thank their very generous sponsors. Team “We Start Slow Then Taper Off” would like to thank the Ho-Chunk Department of Health, Ho-Chunk Tribal Members and Employees, Jackson Electric, Jackson County Bank, Chiropractor Jon Stowe, Sand Creek Brewery and K-9 Country Lodge. Team “Kessel Runners” would like to thank the Ho-Chunk Department of Health, Ho-Chunk Youth Services and Ho-Chunk Tribal Members and Employees.

After completing several Ragnar Relay races in 90 degree plus temperatures, the weather finally cooperated and was absolutely beautiful for the two teams who set out on foot for their 198.5 mile journey from Winona to Minneapolis. Each runner ran three times during the race and their total mileage ranged from 11.8 miles to 19 miles.

In 2010 when the first race was run (Great River), we could barely get 6 runners from HCN who would commit to doing the race. We teamed up with some of the teachers in Black River and formed the Black River Falls Radical Runners team. In addition to the 12 runners for this first race, we had 4 van drivers and 3 volunteers. We then completed the 2011 Madison to Chicago race with the teachers and had a blast with them at both races.

After a lot of convincing, harassing and good old fashioned talking people into it, we put together our first team all from Ho-Chunk Nation last year for the 2011 Great River race. From this, runners became Ragnar addicts and for the 2012 Great River race we had 24 runners, 6 van drivers and 7 volunteers. In addition, many participated in the Key West, Florida race in January and the Madison to Chicago race in June. It has truly been a great thing to see the interest that has spread in doing this race and to see many first timers get excited about doing another one.

Team Kessel Runners finished the race in 30:49:45.

Highlights from their experience include everyone being at or below their projected pace, willingness of all team members to chip in and be ready to run if someone would not have been able to and to the dedication that many runners have made to a new, healthier lifestyle (stopping smoking, losing weight, preventing diabetes).

Team members include:
- Van 1 – Susan Weber, Ciara Johnson, Running Horse Livingston, Joanie Theobold, Eli Younghunder and Henning Garvin. Drivers were Michael Youngthunder and Miranda Massey.

Team We Start Slow Then Taper Off finished the race in 34:45:13. Highlights included Dave Lambert doing a somersault down a hill during his night run (not intentionally), past van drivers running in this race, men running in saloon dresses (not ours!), working through aches and pains to complete legs, eagerness to do more races and a commitment to healthier lifestyles like the other team has made.

Team members include:
- Van 1 – Stuart and Diane Rave, Steve Garvin, Shelly Kagi, Nik Adams and Justin Westbrook. Support person was Jamie Walt.
- Van 2 – Kathleen Clemons, Dave Lambert, Dawn Killian, Patrick Hall, Winter and Othayun Smith. Van drivers were Hilary Green and Hina Smith. Volunteers were Lani Blackdeer, Courtney Hawley, Pam Kasper and Dawn Decorah.

Believe in your ability to succeed, allow plenty of time for training and you too can be a Ragnarrian! Will you be next?

Contact Information:
Rachel Montana
Program Recruiter
715-284-9851
Ext. 5039
Rachel.montana@ho-chunk.com

The Ho-Chunk Nation Diabetes Program is now offering diabetes BASIC’s classes!

Classes dedicated to the management of diabetes as opposed to our retired Lifestyle Balance program for prevention of diabetes.

We welcome all of those tribally enrolled with diabetes and pre-diabetes to come broaden their knowledge and get the tools needed to control their blood sugar and A1C levels.

Attention: The Next Deadline of the Hocak Worak will be Sept. 7th which will be published on Sept. 14th. Please contact Enrollment at ext. 1015 if you have a change of address or would like to be placed on the mailing list.
Cancer Closet provides comfort during times of stress

Ken Luchterhand
Staff Writer

There are times when we all need a helping hand. But when a person is experiencing health problems, such as cancer, a helping hand is even more needed and appreciated.

Help in getting through such a struggle is what the “Cancer Closet” is all about, a charity organization that provides essential, but often overlooked, items that make life a little more bearable. “The Cancer Closet provides cancer patients with minor support needs – things that insurance doesn’t cover,” said Louise Voss, Ho-Chunk community health educator and member of the Cancer Task Force. “We’ve helped about 10 to 15 people per year.

Still, there are many people who have cancer who haven’t contacted the Cancer Closet. The items the organization has purchased is varied and dependent on the needs of the patient. “We’ve purchased vitamins for those who need them or a fan for a patient who was having hot flashes,” she said. “One man had throat cancer and he couldn’t swallow very well, so we bought him a blender.”

Other items include gas cards so that patients can afford to go to their clinic appointments. The organization tries to provide as much as it can, but it can’t provide money for cancer treatment or prescription drugs. Those costs would deplete the funds in a very short time.

Besides offering items for the comfort of the patient, members of the Cancer Closet provide links to resources, such as contacts to the Hope Lodge and Ronald McDonald House for housing while needing to stay near a clinic or hospital for diagnosis and treatment.

The Cancer Task Force was formed about 12 years ago. It, in turn, formed the charity organization Cancer Closet in response to claims that small, basic needs were needed for cancer patients. Members of the Cancer Task Force include Voss, Linda DeLay, Joyce Rockman, Earl and Bernice Blackdeer, Holly Rodenberg and Maxine Kolner.

“Almost everything can be purchased,” Voss said. “Each year a “Night of Remembrance” Walk is held the Friday before Memorial Day weekend at the Ho-Chunk Pow Wow grounds in Black River Falls. At the event, luminaries are purchased in the name of someone who has cancer or who died from cancer. Other fundraisers are raffle sales and soup days, which are held twice a year. Then, there are the donations from individuals that come other than a fundraiser.

“We get donations from a certain family every year because we helped one of the family members,” Voss said. “Also, a Ho-Chunk member had a birthday party and she instructed the people attending the party to donate to the Cancer Closet rather than bringing her presents.”

Other people have made donations to the cause. Pendleton blankets have been donated and someone recently donated a star quilt.

To contact Cancer Closet to make donations or to obtain services, call Louise Voss at (715) 284-9851 Ext. 5053.

Ho-Chunk Nation unveils new Mobile Health Clinic

Submitted by Collin Price, Public Relations Officer

Providing the Ho-Chunk Nation tribal membership with quality health services has always been a driving force for the leaders of the Ho-Chunk Nation. Today marks a huge leap in that direction by unveiling the much anticipated 39 foot mobile health unit on wheels. This state of the art RV was designed with the tribal membership’s needs in mind and is a fully functional clinic that will offer comprehensive pediatric care and dental screening from two exam rooms built into this unit.

Dr. Alec Thundercloud explains, “With the unique land base of the Ho-Chunk Nation, this mobile clinic will be an asset to fulfilling our goal to service our rural tribal membership with quality health care.” The population targeted will range from newborns to adolescents and young adults with an array of services such as vision and hearing screenings, laboratory services, diabetes prevention, acute care services, primary health care, mental health services, and dental health.

This exciting new clinic came to the Ho-Chunk Nation through a partnership with Children’s Health Fund and ”Idol Gives Back,” the charity campaign of the television series, American Idol. Nearly two years ago, Children’s Health Fund approached the Ho-Chunk Nation as they were attempting to aim their focus on tribal communities, through this process, “Idol Gives Back” eagerly joined as an additional funding source for this project.

Children’s Health Fund currently has 24 of these types of mobile clinics under their belt but the Ho-Chunk Nation will not only be the 25th but also owns the title as first of its kind in Indian Country.

On Saturday September 1, 2012 at the Andrew Blackhawk Memorial Powwow grounds a special ribbon cutting ceremony will feature President Greendeer and Children’s Health Fund President and Co-founder Dr. Irwin Redliner. In addition, tours of the new unit will take place through the Labor Day weekend. Stop by and see this amazing new addition of services that will be coming to your community in the near future.

Clinic interior wait and exam room.

The clinic contains a dental facilities.
The new Children's Learning Village – Montessori Academy is open for business. In fact, enrollment at the center is growing by leaps and bounds.

When it first opened on Monday, Aug. 20, they had four children. That number, a week later, had risen to 14 children.

“We’re excited that things are picking up quickly,” said Director Ann Mortenson. The opening of the Children’s Learning Center is the culmination of many months of planning, construction of the facility and mounds of paperwork.

“It’s very exciting for me,” Mortenson said. “I’m excited about the Montessori philosophy and being able to offer it to this area.”

The Children’s Learning Village is east of the Ho-Chunk Health Care Center in Black River Falls. Its doors are open to all people, regardless of race or ethnic background.

Mortenson said they anticipate the center to have about 10 children by the end of the week, with numbers increasing drastically when school resumes in September.

“We have another one starting tomorrow and one starting next week,” Mortenson said. The center will be accepting children in phases, depending on their ages. The present phase is Phase One, with the center accepting youngsters from 6 weeks up to 3 years. Phase Two will include children ages 3 to 6 years. They hope to get to Phase Two within the next few months, Mortenson said, but it depends on hiring additional teachers.

Construction on the new facility by the year-end was complete in the fall. It has remained vacant until now, when all the planning has come to fruition. It has a number of rooms to facilitate the daytime housing and education of children.

Two sets of large classrooms are each divided by a bathroom and hand washing sinks. On one side is the infant room for children from 6 weeks to 18 months. The other classroom, on the other side of the bathrooms, is for children 18 months up to age 3.

“The other set of classrooms is for children ages 3 to 6 and the classroom on the other side for children ages 3 to 6,” Mortenson said. Between each set of classrooms is an observation room, a place where parents can observe their children without them being aware of their presence. A special one-way glass allows the parents to look into the classrooms, but the other side appears as a mirror to the children.

The facility has a kitchen, which means it also has its own cook to prepare meals for the children.

“It’s not a big kitchen, so we may have to feed the children in shifts,” Mortenson said.

One of the rooms will be equipped with a multitude of books, DVDs, ages, a computer, and other forms of media. This room will be called the “Parent and Staff Resource Room,” which will be open for any adult to obtain information on child rearing and education, especially on the Montessori methods.

Careful planning when designing the building will help suppress overhead costs. The building is equipped with geothermal heating, meaning a loop of tubing is buried in the ground through which heating and cooling liquid is pumped. The liquid helps to heat the building in winter and cool in summer, thereby lowering heating and cooling costs.

The basics of the Montessori educational philosophy promotes independence; encourages children to demonstrate mastery of an academic skill before they progress to the next level of difficulty; provide an atmosphere for children to work and learn at their own pace in a non-competitive environment; and when children are learning new concepts, children begin with the concrete and then move on to the abstract.

Another part of the Montessori philosophy is to have the children within the building, but to have no other means to confine them. The lone exception is the infant cribs, which is required by Wisconsin law. Another Montessori philosophy is for children to choose their own activities.

“The only group activity we have is ‘line time.’ We take about five to 10 minutes to walk on a line. They can use different body movements and to sing while doing this,” Mortenson said.

We always give feedback to them about what we saw and we praise them for doing good work.

One main emphasis is to teach the children the Ho-Chunk language, she said. Special time will be allotted for language, which may eventually include training for American Sign Language (ASL) and Spanish.

The center has been built and organized under the supervision of Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency (HCHDA), but the goal is for the center to become a stand-alone business, estimated to transition in about a year, Mortenson said.

The center currently employs two qualified teachers with plans to hire two additional teachers for children ages 3 through 6.

The rate is $178 per week for infants and $155 per week for children ages 2 and up. That rate is $46 per day for children ages 6 weeks to 1 year and $35 per day for children ages 2-6.

Children staying only one day per week are considered “drop-in,” and are charged $45 per day no matter their ages. There presently is an effort to make the center state licensed, which will allow state money to be allowed in payment through the Ho-Chunk Social Service Child Care Assistance Program or the Education Department Pre-K – 12 Program.

The playground area hasn’t been constructed yet, but plans are to make the play area a more natural setting, rather than the usual plastic slides, swings, tunnels and climbing structures, said Mortenson.

The Ho-Chunk Nation Child Support Enforcement Agency Department of Social Services Division of Child Support

1. Should the agency follow the same percentage (%) guidelines as the State? YES NO

The current State guidelines are as follows:

a. 17% for one child
b. 25% for two children
c. 30% for three children
d. 31% for four children
e. 34% for five or more children

If no, what guidelines should the Agency use?

2. When calculating the amount of child support, should the child support agency assign minimum wage or earning capacity, if the person ordered to pay is not currently employed, but is physically able to work? YES NO

3. What enforcement actions should the child support agency use when a person stops paying support? (the following actions are available, circle all that apply)

- Suspension of Driver License
- Suspension of professional license
- Contempt action with possible jail time
- Do nothing

4. Should the agency use traditional court and/or the clan mothers for non-custodial parents that stop paying the child support, before trial court? YES NO

5. Do you believe that if a non-custodial parent is unable to make cash payments or a very minimal cash payment for child support they should be allowed to provide goods or services for that family? YES NO

If you answered YES, what types of non-cash payment should be allowed: (circle one)

- Childcare
- Deer/Venison
- Groceries
- Snow Removal
- Clothing
- Deer/Venison
- Wood
- Car repairs
- Lawn Care

Any additional ideas:

Please provide the following information (not required)

Age: Number of children and their ages:
Your occupation:
Have you ever had to pay child support? YES NO
Have you ever received child support? YES NO
Dejope Hall
Continued from Page 1

the Ho-Chunk for thousands of years. Evans continued, “Dejope Hall will serve as a community center for the lake shore area. It will provide great living space away from the chaos of campus. There are move doors, where if the students are leaving their rooms at the same time, they’ll run into each other. We want them to get out of their rooms and into the hall, which will become their home away from home.” Evans concluded, “In the fall of 2010, I met with Anne Thun-dercloud, Buck Martin, and Janice Rice to continue talks about naming the hall.”

President Greendeer said, “This is not a dorm.” Greendeer jokingly reminisced about his college days at UW-Stevens Point, where he lived in town with his family. He said his family didn’t let him to have a dorm room. Greendeer commented on how the UW worked with the tribes and the state to make Dejope Hall happen and the hall’s artwork. He said, “I’m excited to be a part of this.”

Christine Jendrisak spoke as UW Alumni. She was the first Ho-Chunk to graduate from the UW-Madison in 1975. Jendrisak said, “I’m please the new hall was given the name, Dejope.” As a student, she was housed in triple room at Chadbourn Hall. She remembered, “When I came to school, I moved from Lyndon Station, Wisconsin, where my whole world was Ho-Chunk. I arrived to cam- pus in an Indian Car. When I stepped out of the car, I walked into a new world. After two days on campus, I wanted to go home.” By the time she graduated, she said, “I was transformed.” Jendrisak credits her college life for the lifelong friends she made. She said, “Forty-two years later, I have valued friends and friendships. My friend (It was too long ago when Wisconsin was experi- encing) ethnic cleansing of the Ho-Chunk and other tribes. Dejope Hall gives us a chance to remake a shared society. We have the capacity to do so. Just a few hundred feet from here is a burial mound that goes back 12,000 years.”

One of the special features of Dejope Hall is the fire circle outside, near the lake. It contains plaques for each of the eleven tribes of Wisconsin. Jeff Linz organized meeting with each tribe to get permission and layout mate- rial. Linz said, “We started by meeting with the tribal heritage preservation groups. Then we worked back and forth, eventually having Vendra Engraving completing the plaques. It was going to be a circle with one opening, but having an east and west en- trance was important. When you look at the plaque place- ment, you can notice each tribe is situation as they exist in the state. All the Chippewa tribes are on the northern side, Ho-Chunk is the southernmost tribe in Wisconsin, and the other tribes are placed ac- cordingly.” Surrounding the fireplace, are replica of mounds. Also inside on the first floor, embedded in the floor, are mounds that are found on campus: Observatory Hill, Eagle Heights, Willow Drive, and Picnic Point. The second floor features green space on the roof. When look out on the lake side, you see grass rather than a roof. Inside the Lake Mendota room, there is a layered acrylic art piece of Lake Mendota. All the Ho- Chunks present at the dedication are pictured in front of the artwork.

The Four Lakes Market fea- tures eight dining venues; you can get Italian, Asian, Mexi- can, and American style food on the first floor. The first floor also has a convenience store, coffee, coffee conference space, meeting rooms, student lounge, UW health services, a music practice room, and a technology learning center. Larry Nesper is a UW Professor for the Life Sciences and Communications. Nesper remembered she met groups of Ho-Chunk youth with Ada Deer, just a few step from Dejope Hall, near the burial mounds. She said, “Ada was so excited to have Ho-Chunk youth on campus to learn about the mounds. I also remember having out first journalism training in 1989. We were meeting and talk- ing about feeling invisible. We wanted to tell our own stories.” Reaves noticed how much things have changed since those times. The views from Dejope Hall are great. From the fifth floor lounge, you can see the top of the capitol building. Natural light is used through- out the building. The food venues in Four Lake Market are delicious. And when plan- ning a summer camp or con- ference, look into Dejope Hall as an option for your event.

Dejope Hall is located on the shore of Lake Mendota.

Green space roof of Dejope Hall.

Fire circle features plaques of 11 tribes of Wisconsin.

Observatory Hill mound shape embedded in the floor of Dejope Hall.
Youth find connection between Ho-Chunk Culture and horticulture

Ken Luchterhand  
Staff Writer

Children from the Black River Falls Youth Center summer school took to the garden and the wildflowers on Wednesday, Aug. 15, to learn more about horticulture and its connection with Ho-Chunk culture.

Woodrow White, Ho-Chunk Department of Education cultural and community education project manager, conducted two sessions for the youth that day, one in the community garden and the other at the Pow Wow grounds near Black River Falls.

White termed the education session Max-Hozu-ra Ho-Chunk horticulture “those who plant” class.

In the morning, the class gathered at the Tribal Office Building community garden. There, White began the lesson with story-telling time. Gathered in the “bean Hazatch,” the middle of the garden, White read “The Corn Spirit” story and reflected on the spiritual significance of corn to native people.

Corn is a special gift, White told the youth, and all food and the whole garden also is a gift.

White explained how to grow vegetables natural and organic and that it is the healthy way the Creator and Grandmother Earth taught people how to grow.

He explained how green and pinto beans were grown on the trellis in the garden and that it is part of Ho-Chunk culture to grow healthy food, respect it and give thanks for it.

The students split into three work duties. Some watered the plants, others weeded the garden and some planted new plants. They then rotated into each area.

Since it was a rather warm day, many of the students cooled off by dunking their heads in water-filled wheel barrows, much in the fashion of bird baths.

All the youth enjoyed the watermelons, of which they counted 15.

Later in the afternoon, the students gathered at the Pow Wow grounds to study medicinal and edible native plants. White explained the importance of knowledge of the plants and how these plants are still growing in the woodlands and wetland areas.

“The Wild Rose,” a wolf clan story, was read before the youth proceeded to walk the Pow Wow grounds and along the edges of the woods to collect wildflowers.

The students then created a mural of all the wildflowers that were collected and used the flowers they collected as models for their drawings.

“The Max Hozu lifestyle is essential for community and family resiliency,” White said. “Young people learn to do their part in the garden as they are told ‘hanigu gu’ and ‘hakikox re,’ which means ‘act quickly’ and ‘be industrious.’ They learn a work ethic and teamwork.

“The outcome reward for their hard work is to enjoy the exhilaration and celebration of the harvest and, most of all, their healthy food in their hands,” he said. “Afterwards, the young gardeners are told ‘rakik ac sana,’ which means ‘you earned it for yourself.’

In our native world view and environmental awareness, growing our own food and respecting the gifts of Grandmother Earth is ‘wa kan cak,’ which means ‘sacred.’ The garden is a cultural education classroom.”

Homebuyers Education Class

A Homebuyer Education Class was held in Black River Falls on August 20 and 21, 2012. The student learned the home buying process. They completed the eight hour course and received the completion certificate. Congratulations and good luck on their journey to homeownership!
This year’s version of the Happy Together Tour stopped by the Ho-Chunk Gaming in Black River Falls this Saturday August 25th bringing in The Grass Roots, the Buckinghams, Gary Puckett, Flo and Eddie from the Turtles and Mickey Dolenz of the Monkees. The sold out show is near the end of this two month, forty six city tour. With the first Happy Together Tour starting in 1985 the show has seen a variety of line-ups including The Association, and Mark Lindsay, former lead singer for Paul Revere and the Raiders. The concert was considered a success according to casino General Manager, Greg Garvin. Tris Harris, the entertainment director for the casino, said that they want to highlight some Native acts in the near future and next summer possibly bringing in larger shows similar to this one. This two and a half hour show was a look into the past with all of these bands performing the songs that have become classics.

Nick Fortuna, original member of the Buckinghams added that they are “very grateful to still be playing” and having an audience that still comes out to see them. The Buckinghams are in their 47th year and show no signs of slowing down. Fortuna and lead singer Carl Giammarese started the evenings’ show with hit after hit that got the crowd ready to be entertained with the sounds of the 60s. The evening was filled with memories as band after band played to the crowd of mostly older fans. “Every single night I get to play these classic songs. It never grows old for me...I still love those songs,” said Mark Dawson, bass player for the Grass Roots since 1978. The Grass Roots played hits like “Midnight Confession”, “Wait a Million Years” and “Temptation Eyes”, to name a few. When asked about today’s music he simply said, “if you’re a faking it, you will get exposed.”

Before the Turtles, featuring Flo (Mark Volman) and Eddie (Howard Kaylan) closed the evening’s performances they first came out wearing blonde wigs and capes comically imitating Lady Gaga’s song “Bad Romance” until stopping abruptly and shouting “what have they done to our music!” then throwing off the costumes and breaking into their hit “She’d rather be with me.” The crowd cheered and couldn’t have agreed with them more. In the end all the acts came out and did a medley of their hits saying goodbye to the crowd that gathered to possibly relive their younger days or just to enjoy the songs they could sing along to.
HCG-WD Summer Mentorship recognizes youth workers

Submitted by Calvin Whiteagle
Ho-Chunk Gaming – Wisconsin Dells celebrated ten youth workers at the 2012 Summer Mentorship in Professionalism Banquet in the Copper Oak Restaurant on August 23. In addition to their employment at HCG – WD, the youth (ages 14 – 17) participated in the Training & Development youth mentorship program geared specifically for them to provide mentoring and life skills classes. They completed relevant classes including: Tribal Governments, Resume Writing, Life Choices, and Professionalism with Dining Etiquette, and explored potential career options with three campus tours.

Training and Development Director Calvin Whiteagle and Training and Development’s new American Indian Recruiter Roberta Funmaker spearheaded the 2012 Summer Mentorship in Professionalism Program. A special thank you to the Hotel, Food & Beverage, and Maintenance departments for hosting these youth in your departments; we know their brief experiences working with our facility were very positive, constructive, and impactful.

Submitted by Jeanne Colwell
Sunday morning, August 19th, I drove into Neillsville to pick up breakfast for my husband and myself. I don’t know what made me decided to take the back roads home. But here I was driving on the back roads. I crested a small rise and I thought it looked like a black lab sitting in the middle of the road. As I got closer, I realize that it wasn’t a black lab but a juvenile Bald Eagle sitting smack dab in the middle of the road.

I crept up towards him and not once did he move. I saw the neighbor in the yard, I called him over. He said that they drove by him too. I put my hazards on, thinking that he is injured or stunned. Several cars drove by after we flagged them down to go slow. Still he did not move. I finally got a hold of the game warden and he was on his way. I just didn’t feel right driving off and letting someone else make sure he was safe.

Finally after about 15 minutes, I saw him start to hop. He hopped again, spreads his wings, settles down for a few seconds, hops again, spreads his wings, hops again and I can’t see him. All of a sudden I hear scratching on the top of my car roof. I guess he decided he was going to settle on top of my car for a spell.

Needless to say, all ends well, after about 15 to 20 minutes he decided to fly off. I called the game warden back to let him know he had flown away.

The eagle has landed

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Sunday morning, August 19th, I drove into Neillsville to pick up breakfast for my husband and myself. I don’t know what made me decided to take the back roads home. But here I was driving on the back roads. I crested a small rise and I thought it looked like a black lab sitting in the middle of the road. As I got closer, I realize that it wasn’t a black lab but a juvenile Bald Eagle sitting smack dab in the middle of the road.

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Juvenile bald eagle perched on Jeanne’s car.
Marlon WhiteEagle  
Staff Writer

Anne Thundercloud, and her business venture Thundercloud PR, have set sail nationally to help native and other minorities meet their public relation needs. Thundercloud believes “public relations” is about managing information in relationships. She said, “I always planned to do something on my own. I just thought I’d be doing it later on. One day my son said, Do it now. Don’t wait.”

Less than a year ago, Anne Thundercloud was the Public Relations Officer of the Ho-Chunk Nation. It was in this position she saw a need for more effective Public Relations within the state. She said, “I saw missed opportunities, where adding to and monitoring a message was needed. I wish I could have handled it myself. I really enjoyed my time with the Ho-Chunk Nation. I remember during that time television (ICTV), if he ever covered the State of the Tribes address. I offered him rooms to come down and cover it. He said he’d ask other tribes to contribute as well. After that year’s address, people were being questioned outside the chambers, and there were so many mixed messages. If people were more media savvy, composed, and experienced in addressing the media that would help get a clear message out there. That’s where I feel I can help.”

Thundercloud specializes in social media, government affairs, and event planning. She maintains a Facebook page, Twitter account, and a LinkedIn. In May 2012, Thundercloud started her Thundercloud PR, LLC. She had already had some independent projects on the national and regional scene. She said, “Things were kind of backwards. I wanted to start locally, but I was already doing national work prior to organizing Thundercloud PR. I served as a keynote speaker at the National Tribal Secretary Conference. I was consulting for a training organization. So I had paid contracts before I started.”

Before working with the Ho-Chunk Nation Public Relations, Thundercloud worked for the State of Wisconsin at the Division of Business Development as the Executive Administrative Assistant. Recently she attended the 25th Anniversary of the Wisconsin Women’s Business Initiative Corporation of the Wisconsin Business Development office where she ran into former co-workers. Thundercloud said, “With my LinkedIn activity, I’ve been able to get my name out there and network. My association with the Bureau of Minority Business Development has helped me to work on a contract with the Market-place, which is an organization of minority business. I like to work with minorities; I’d like to work with Ho-Chunks, other native tribes, and other minority groups (like women, and other ethnic groups). This group helped me learn how to be a certified business.”

Thundercloud said, “Things are taking off for Thundercloud PR. I try to be active on LinkedIn which is a professional networking site. I’m getting meetings and project partnerships offers.”

Thundercloud continues, “I did some free presentation. At the Wisconsin Indian Education Association conference, I did a presentation called Organizing an Event on a Shoestring Budget. I also did the Native American Tourism of Wisconsin conference where I did a presentation called Social Media for Destinations. I was glad to have hashtags on Twitter and gain followers after this presentation.”

Thundercloud has been developing a Thundercloud PR website that will go live within the month, which includes a bio, a blog, services, testimonials, and free tips. She said, “People can sign up for a half an hour of free consultation to evaluate your social media site or plan. I also plan to provide trainings. I want to have repeat customers.”

Thundercloud admitted, “I know my limitations. I will not accept a job I’m not qualified for. With my family name out there, I don’t want to do a lousy job. I asked my dad for permission to put the family name on my business. He said traditional and new media, I hold true to Ho-Chunk beliefs. It’s the old and the new.”

Thundercloud can provide area specific service. She said, “The people want information. Miscommunication happens when information is not shared. This is important in intergovernmental relations and internal relations where stakeholders need to be informed.”

Branching out on her own hasn’t been easy for Thundercloud. She spoke about having to do her professional photo will the Farmer’s Market was going on at the Capitol Square in Madison, Wisconsin. She said, “This was out of my comfort zone. I don’t like having my picture taken. And I don’t like putting myself out there (calling attention to myself). Starting a public relations business takes some self-confidence. You have to eliminate self-doubt. I find myself giving myself a pep talk; thanking them you need your help.”

Up next for Thundercloud PR, Anne will be presenting Social Media for Business, at the National Indian Gaming Association conference in Hollywood, Florida at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel on September 18-19. Then she will be conducting a two-day seminar on Communication Skills for Native Women in Albuquerque, New Mexico on September 25-27. Thundercloud was asked how she will know when she’s successful.

Her answer, “I know I’m successful when what I’m doing really helps people. I want to help Native Americans get their stories out and have them told in their own voice. I want their businesses to thrive and their communities to benefit. When I see happen then I know I’m successful.”

Ken Luchterhand  
Staff Writer

Soon the number of Ho-Chunk branch offices will be growing by one – from five to six. The branch office of a facility in Green Bay. The branch office, at 10401 Wedgewood Drive, is the facility director. It will serve as Ho-Chunk members the same as other branch offices in Milwaukee, Madison, St. Paul, Chicago and La Crosse. Pam Wilbur will be the interim manager of the Green Bay branch office.

At one time, the Nation had nine branch offices, but budgetary concerns made it necessary to shrink the number to that number, Martin said.

“The staff at the satellite offices serves as liaisons between the Ho-Chunk members and the services that are offered,” she said. “One thing that has really picked up is providing transportation for elders and the handicapped for medical appointments.”

The sites do provide more than just services to Ho-Chunk members, she said. They also provide as sites for governmental meetings and locations for workshops.

At each branch, Ho-Chunk members are able to connect with the services they need, but some offer more. For instance, the Milwaukee branch office offers Youth Services and the Language Program and the La Crosse branch office offers offices houses the Language Program, Health staff and Social Services staff, Martin said.

The Milwaukee Branch office located at 3501 S. Howell Avenue is temporarily closed due to an eight to 10 week renovation project. To continue providing services to tribal members, the branch office is renting an office directly across the street from the Milwaukee Branch Office parking lot. The address for this location is 128 E. Morgan Avenue, Martin said.

Tribal members can park toward the western side of the Milwaukee branch office parking lot and walk across the street to the temporary office. Members are asked to refrain from parking in the lot by 4pm due to service vehicles needing that space. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The temporary office has one phone line which is (414) 747-8680 and fax line (414) 747-8699.

The Sept. 13, 2012, Milwaukee district meeting will be held at Southeastern Oneida Tribal Social Services office located at 6820 W. Wedgewood Drive. This is also known as the corner of 68th and Morgan in the IT technical building. A parking lot is available and there is a door labeled “Oneida” facing the parking lot where members can enter. Members are asked not to call the Oneida office for information, but they can call the Milwaukee branch office for any information pertaining to the location of the Milwaukee
Tocabe, Native American dining in Denver

Sherman Funmaker
Interim Editor

Tocabe, a Native foods restaurant that is located in Denver Colorado, is owned by the Jacobs family. Tom and Jan Jacobs (Osage- Oklahoma) first moved to Denver in the late 80’s and opened Grayhorse, a small eatery in a downtown food court. Little did they know that twenty years later with the help of their son, Ben and his classmate, Matthew Chandra, that would become this very popular Native foods hot spot, the only one in the Denver area and one of the few known in the country. Together they have been working since 2006 to refine their recipes and develop the restaurants design concept and menu. They are also keenly aware of the importance of giving customers more than just a good meal. They feel they have been able to cultivate a uniquely appetizing dining experience. “It is not just a fry bread place” says manager Cody Tall Bull, a friend who was brought on by the Jacobs family, when Tocabe started taking shape. “Fry bread is a part of who we are” Jacobs says. “It is loved by the people and a part of our history.”

In 2010 the popular Foods Network show, “Diners, Drive-ins and Dives” was contacted by patrons of the cafe and soon after the host Guy Fieri and his crew showed up for a three day shoot of the now popular Native restaurant, Tall Bull, a member of the Northern Cheyenne tribe talked about the development and the future of the restaurant. “There are many opportunities that have opened up since the airing of the Food Network piece” he said. “We are looking to open more locations in other states, which may include California and Oklahoma…maybe even Wisconsin” he explained.

A cookbook and a television cooking show are possible options also for this fast growing, popular Osage recipe dining location.

Speaking of recipes, you will find traditional flavors layered with a modern twist of fresh and healthy ingredients. The signature dish would be the Bison American Indian Taco, made with Chile beans, onions, lettuce, tomatoes and cheese and topped with Osage Hominy salsa, all old family recipes. Jacobs says he is aware of serving a health-conscious community. His twist on fry bread is a simple substitution of a canola-corn oil blend for lard. His bread is flash fried, not deep fried. It’s made from scratch with flour, honey and milk. The restaurant has in mind the issue of diabetes and is working on more healthy minded items on their menu. “We also believe in giving back to the community and are involved in fund-raising projects and other causes that will benefit Native people” Tall Bull went on to say. When asked about the décor and the restaurant’s name he explained that the name Tocabe is an old Osage translation of the color “blue” which happens to be Ben’s moms favorite color and the three hands that decorate the walls and printed materials represent the three villages of the Osage Nation: Pawhuska, Hominy and Greyhorse. The Denver eatery has also been filmed by the Travel Channel where their Buffalo dishes were featured. Jacobs and the Tocabe family’s objective is to build American Indian business opportunity, perhaps by opening more restaurants and possibly one day offering licensing to other native peoples or tribes. “My ultimate goal is to become something big,” Jacobs says. “The young native kids who walk into our restaurant are so happy to be a part of it. In my mind we are more than a restaurant.”

Tocabe: 3536 W. 44th Ave, Denver Colo. 720 524-8282

Scrumptious Salmon Patties

15 ounces canned salmon (can substitute tuna) 1/3 cup Old Fashioned Oats (uncooked) 1/3 cup fat-free/low-fat milk 1 egg white 4 Tablespoons chopped onions/celery (optional) 1 Teaspoon dried dill (optional) 1 Tablespoon canola/olive oil

Directions:
1. Combine all ingredients except oil; mix well
2. Shape to form 6 oval patties about 1/4 inch thick
3. Pan fry patties in oil over medium heat for 3-4 minutes on each side or until golden brown and heated through
4. Season with lemon juice (optional) and serve hot

* Nutrition information/patty: 235 Calories, 20g Carbohydrate, 3g Fiber, 200mg Calcium, 600mg sodium
COMEDY

FRI. AUGUST 31 10:30PM
TITO YBARRA & MARC YAFFEE
$10 COVER GETS YOU $5 REWARDS PLAY

SAT. SEPTEMBER 1 10:30PM
SHISHONIA & JIM RUEL
$10 COVER GETS YOU $5 REWARDS PLAY

SEVEN RAVENS BAND
featuring JOE KEENAN
LIVE ON CASINO STAGE
9PM-MID SUNDAY SEPT. 2

WWW.HO-CHUNKGAMING.COM 1-800-657-4621
4 MILES EAST OF BLACK RIVER FALLS ON HWY 54
MUST BE 21 YEARS OR OLDER TO ATTEND. HO-CHUNK GAMING RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CANCEL OR ALTER EVENTS AT ANY TIME.
District 1 Community Center

3rd Annual “Whose Got Game?”
1 on 1 Basketball Tournament
Saturday, September 15th, 2012
Beginning at Noon

Who’s the best player in the Community?
Who’s the best player in Ho-Chunk Country??

Support your favorite players and watch the best solo native basketball players around! The Champion will get their name engraved on a trophy plaque to be kept at the District 1 Community Center, Forever……

This is a Double Elimination Tournament. $10.00 to entry fee will go towards a winner takes all pot!
Games will go to 21 points. Each player is allowed one timeout per game. Names for the tournament will be drawn at random. For more information or to sign up please contact Derris or Melissa at (715) 284-0905

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Tax School now enrolling.

Want to learn how to prepare Taxes and get paid?
Online and Traditional classes.
visit www.jacksonhewitt.com
call 855 304 1040
e-mail wacinque.bermende@jtax.com or stop by
1116 North Superior Avenue, Tomah WI 54660
to learn more.
Wacinque • 855 304-1040

House For Sale

Timber Run Site, Lot 9 Wisconsin Dells
Newly remodeled 4 bedroom, Ranch Style
House: 2 full baths, full basement. Appliances included on 4.2 acres of land. Located at 2430
Readel Lane, Lyndon Station, WI.
Wisconsin Dells School District.
Asking $115,000.00
“Tribal Members Only”
Contact Kevin Vasquez
608-844-3352

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When: M-Th 8.30a.m. – 2:30p.m., September 4, 2012.
Where: Bluewing Community Building
What: To provide a social, emotional, and cognitive curriculum that is based on the current curriculum the Tomah School District 4K programs currently uses.
Who: This program will utilize the professional experience of a DPI certified and licensed Birth – third grade teacher as well as a DPI certified Hoocąk I Language and Culture Instructor.
How: Through Hoocąk Culture and Language, while providing a safe and nurturing environment.
Milwaukee Branch Office Closed

The Milwaukee Branch office located at 3501 S. Howell Avenue is temporarily closed due to an eight to ten week renovation project. To continue providing services to Tesiski tribal members, the branch office is renting an office directly across the street from the Milwaukee Branch Office parking lot. The address for this location is 128 E. Morgan Avenue. Tribal members can park toward the western side of the Milwaukee branch office parking lot and walk across the street to the temporary office. Please refrain from parking in the lot by the branch office entrance due to service vehicles needing that space. Office hours are still 8:00 am to 4:30 pm. The temporary office has one phone line which is 414-747-8680 and fax line 414-747-8699. The September 13, 2012 Milwaukee district meeting will be held at Southeastern Oneida Tribal Social Services office located at 6820 W. Wedgewood Drive Milwaukee WI. This is also known as the corner of 68th and Morgan in the IT Technical building. There is a parking lot and a door labeled Oneida facing the parking lot where you can enter. Please do not call the Oneida office for information. Please contact the Milwaukee branch office for any information pertaining to the location of the Milwaukee district meeting. Any questions please contact Cherri Byrhe or Tracy Prescott at 414-747-8680.

2012 WIC Schedule

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Wisconsin Dells Area Location: House of Wellness
Nekoosa Area Location: Nekoosa Health Office in the Community Building

For an appointment in WI Dells or Nekoosa call Candice at (715) 886-5444 ext:8760

Black River Falls Area Location: Ho-Chunk Health Care Center

For an appointment in Black River Falls call Betty or Linda at (715) 284-9851

*In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 or (202) 720-6382 (TTY). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

15TH ANNUAL BERT FUNMAKER MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

DATE- September 15, 2012
WHERE- The Castle Course at Northern Bay (formerly Northern Bay at Arkdale)
COST- $70 Entry Fee Includes: greens fee, carts, skins and meal
REGISTRATION- Pre-registration is required, cutoff is September 13

For Course Details go to: www.northernbaycours.com
Phone: (608) 339-8500

Please complete this registration form and send with payment to: Castle Course at Northern Bay, 1144 20th Avenue Arkdale, WI 54613-5578 and reference Bert Funmaker Tournament.
2012 Indian Summer Festival Invitation
As you may or may not know the Mohican Nation is hosting the 2012 Indian Summer Festival this year in Milwaukee. The Mohican Nation would like to formally invite the Ho Chunk Nation to a jigging contest being held at the North Star Mohican Casino Resort Stage, Saturday, September 8th at 5:00 PM. The contest is going to be a battle between the tribes of Wisconsin. Each tribe must compose teams of their best jiggers to compete in an elimination competition for the title of Best Jiggers in Wisconsin Indian Country.
To sign up call Rainer Posselt at 715-350-9601

In Loving Memory of Gerald Lee Cleveland, Jr.

Native American Church Prayer Service
September 5 & 6, 2012
at the Residence of Gerald & Iris Cleveland
N5620 15th Ave. Mauston, WI
September 5, Wednesday
Supper @ 6:00 p.m.
Prayer Service to follow
September 6, Breakfast @ 9:00 a.m.
September 6, Dinner @ 1:00 p.m.
Prayer Leader: Lance Long

Welcome Aiden Leslie Decorah!

Born: August 16, 2012
Time: 5:02 am
Weight: 7 lbs 2 oz
Length: 19 inches
Parents:
Tye T. Decorah & Sarah N. Decorah

September Elders Birthdays

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Memorial Prayer Service
Howard Whitethunder
Wiipamakerega
September 28, 2012

Wisconsin Dells Native American Church
Prayer Leader: Gerald Cleveland
Supper at 5:00 p.m. Prayer Service to follow
All family and friends are invited for
dinner at noon on September 29, 2012
Sponsored by Carol Whitethunder
only Prayer Service in his Memory
A hero emerges from Immersion Camp

Marlon WhiteEagle
Staff Writer

Every other year, the Thundercloud family holds a week-long immersion camp. They teach the Ho-Chunk language to the kids and learn various arts and crafts. They learn arts and crafts from experts who make baskets, yarn belts, moccasins, and beadwork. Hattie Walker hosted this year’s camp at her house outside the Indian Mission.

The out-of-towners spent the week at the Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls hotel. The family had folks from Minnesota and from all over Wisconsin. The family prepared and shared meals through the week of the camp. This year, Priscilla Cleveland came in to help the group in making moccasins. Willa RedCloud also came in to make yarn belts.

Throughout the week, the group learns by doing. The experts go through step by step to teach how to complete each project. While the group was focused on getting their projects done, a few of the kids went outside to play. Danielle DeLong said, “I sent my kunu outside to get them. We were just talking about the bear and wolf sightings in the local area. He came in crying because they couldn’t find them, thinking they were in the woods with bear and wolves.”

The four kids, Jennifer, Asia, Dominic, and Kylie, went into the woods to explore on their own. This happened about 5 pm last night. “We aren’t too familiar with the woods on this side of Mission Road,” Francis Wentz, another camp participant, said. “We could hear whistling and screaming in the woods. I went to the end of the driveway and Justice Blackhawk was coming toward me on his bike. He asked if something was going on. I told him we lost some kids in the woods. He jumped off his bike and ran into the woods immediately.”

Danielle DeLong said, “It was like a scene from Twilight, where Jacob is running through the woods and you only see a blur. There are several “T”s out there on the trails. He ran and checked the trails in fifteen or twenty minutes, which would have taken me about an hour to do. When I got down to the first “T”, I could hear him say he found footprints. When he found the kids, they were just walking and picking sage. I was worried about them falling into the river, and that’s where they were headed.”

Hattie Walker said, “Justice is a hero. He found the kids and left.” DeLong said, “The kids really were scared out there.” Walker continued, “We are going to have a dinner with Justice and give him a Pendleton blanket and the sage the kids picked.”

Weaving was part of the crafts of the immersion camp.

‘Celebrity bartender’ donates his tips to Cancer Closet

Ken Luchterhand
Staff Writer

When it comes to giving, Dennis Rockman wants to do his best for the people who need help.

Rockman raised money for the “Cancer Closet” when he served as “Celebrity Bartender” for Cozy Corner Tavern, downtown Black River Falls, on Aug. 15. He collected more than $50 in tips which he donated to Cancer Closet, a charity organization that helps cancer victims with basic needs.

When word got out that Rockman was going to be celebrity bartender, many of his friends and acquaintances made a special trip to see him at Cozy Corner.

“When I started that night, some people were already there, waiting for me,” Rockman said. “They wanted to see me and to donate to the Cancer Closet.”

Rockman operates a disc jockey business, Rockman Entertainment, and he has always worked with the charity. He has provided music for the “Night of Remembrance Walk” every year for the last four years.

He enjoyed his moment in the spotlight as celebrity bartender and he’s happy he could, at the same time, help out his favorite charity.

But the experience wasn’t something totally foreign to him. He worked as a bartender during his time in the military and again when he attended University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire.

So, Rockman’s recent stint as a bartender at Cozy Corner came as a welcome reverie from his youth. “A good time was had by all,” he said.