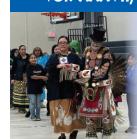
Vol. XXXVII, Issue 23

Ca He Waksu wira

Deer Antler Shedding Moon

December 8, 2023



Ho-Chunk Day 2023 at District 1 Community Center

Pages 12 & 13



Forestry Notes - November 2023

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Newsletter Deadline and Publication Dates for 2024

Page 2

Ho-Chunk Wins Joint Emmy with 'Discover Wisconsin'

"Discover Wisconsin," the nation's longest-running travel and tourism TV series, and longtime partner Ho-Chunk Nation have won an Emmy Award at the 65th Chicago/Midwest Emmy Awards.

Under the category for Outstanding Achievement for Arts/Entertainment Short Form Content, the partners were recognized for their digital short. In the video, "Discover Wisconsin" features Ho-Chunk native artist Truman Lowe and some of his most significant works. Some of his former students and colleagues share their insights and personal experiences working with Lowe. Through their stories, viewers gain a deeper understanding of the profound impact Lowe had on the lives of so many.

"I am happy and excited for Discover Mediaworks and the Emmy Award they received for 'Exploring the Artistic Process of Truman Lowe,'" said Robert Reider, senior marketing director for the Ho-Chunk Nation. "I am extremely satisfied with the partnership the Ho-Chunk Nation and 'Discover Wisconsin' have forged over the last couple of years and am looking forward to the many years that will come. It is through their knowledge and talent we have been able to share some of our stories and culture — not only from the past, but who we are today and who we are in our communities."

The partnership between the Ho-Chunk and "Discover Wisconsin" started when tribal members wanted to share the captivating stories of their people and preserve their culture. For four years, "Discover Wisconsin" has been able to tell these cherished stories about the Ho-Chunk's history, heritage and culture, which has had a profound impact on the entire state of Wisconsin.







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Chief Justice Todd R. Matha Publishes Article in Scholarly Law Journal

Chief Justice Todd
R. Matha authored "An
Unexpected Challenge: The
Consequence of a Limited
Appellate Caseload"
which was published in
The Journal of Appellate
Practice and Process Winter
2023 issue (Volume 22,
Issue 1).

This special issue focuses on appellate issues in and around Indian Country. Chief Justice Matha's scholarly article examines the limited opportunity to correct missteps by earlier appellate courts due to lack of similar subsequent appeals and explores this reality faced by tribal courts through illustration of relevant Ho-Chunk jurisprudence from 1997-2020. It also emphasizes

the necessity of precision and accuracy when attempting to analogize legal doctrines from a foreign jurisdiction when a court is confronted with a case of first impression. The article is available for review at: https://journals.librarypublishing.arizona.edu/appellate/article/id/5580/

Chief Justice Matha has served as a jurist for the Ho-Chunk Nation for the past twenty-three years, including as Ho-Chunk Supreme Court Chief Justice since 2015 and as Associate Justice from 2011-2015; prior to that, he served on the Ho-Chunk Trial Court first as Associate Judge, then as Chief Judge.



INSIDE SCOOP...

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Want something special placed in the Hocak Worak?
Limited space is available so send your request in early.
Submissions will be handled on a first come first serve basis.

In support of our Indigenous students and educators

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction leadership releases statement in support of current legislation

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction released the following statements today in support of bipartisan legislation currently being considered in the Assembly Committee on Education.

David J. O'Connor, Wisconsin **DPI American Indian Studies** Consultant

"Many other states across the United States have enacted laws protecting Indigenous students' right to wear items of religious and cultural significance at graduation ceremonies and other school events, and I look forward to Wisconsin being added to that growing list of states. We know denying a young person's identity and culture is an act of harm; in contrast, embracing and celebrating that very culture creates great benefit to all students. I want to say Miigwech* to our Indigenous leaders, students, families, communities, and nations for lifting this area of concern and other issues to support Indigenous education in Wisconsin."

Demetri Beekman, Wisconsin DPI

Executive Director of Equity and Inclusion

The time to listen and take decisive action in collaboration with our Tribal Nation leaders is long overdue. Indigenous students, educators, and leaders in Wisconsin have resoundingly endorsed legislation protecting the decision of graduates to wear traditional tribal regalia, as well as the bills regarding collection of data and lifetime licensure for teaching American Indian language. For years, State Superintendents, including Dr. Tony Evers, Carolyn Stanford Taylor, and now Dr. Jill Underly, have called on districts to work with Tribal Nations to develop policies that recognize the cultural and religious significance of tribal practices. It is with an unwavering sense of pride and deep humility that I emphatically add my voice alongside their voices of support."

NOTE: * Miigwech means "thank you" in the Ojibwe and Anishinaabe language.



Advertising Rates 2024

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Full-page page (1): 10 x 15.625

\$85.00 per issue or \$320.00 if published in 4 consecutive issues

All submissions must be received to the Hocak Worak by 4:30 p.m. on the deadline date to be published in the subsequent issue. Late submissions will not be published unless notified.

Electronic submissions are preferred. Please email your advertisement to the email address listed above.

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WI Residents: 1yr-\$25, 2yr-\$40 Out of State: 1 yr-\$30, 2yr-\$55 Tribal Members: Free





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Newsletter@ho-chunk.com

Newsletter Deadline and Publication Dates for 2024

Issue	Deadline for Submissions	Publication
1	Jan. 5	Jan. 12
2	Jan. 19	Jan. 26
3	Feb. 2	Feb. 9
4	Feb. 16	Feb. 23
5	Mar. 1	Mar. 8
6	Mar. 15	Mar. 22
7	Apr. 5	Apr. 12
8	Apr. 19	Apr. 26
9	May 3	May 10
10	May 17	May 24
11	Jun. 7	Jun. 14
12	Jun. 21	Jun. 28
13	Jul. 5	Jul. 12
14	Jul. 19	Jul. 26
15	Aug. 2	Aug. 9
16	Aug. 16	Aug. 23
17	Sept. 6	Sept. 13
18	Sept. 20	Sept. 27
19	Oct. 4	Oct. 11
20	Oct. 18	Oct. 25
21	Nov. 1	Nov. 8
22	Nov. 15	Nov. 22
23	Dec. 6	Dec. 13
24	Dec. 20*	Dec. 27

* = absolute deadline due to holiday

NOTE: Submission deadlines are due by 4:30 PM. Please submit electronically to the email above. We cannot guarantee the publication of submissions meeting these deadlines if the space is not available. If you have any questions regarding this material or it is not received in its entirety, please contact us at the telephone number listed above. Thank you for your business.

2023 Holiday Tea Raises over \$5,800 for BRMH's Foundation, Gifts of Gratitude

November 27, 2023 - The spirit of giving was alive and thriving at the 2023 Holiday Tea, where the community came together to raise over \$5,800 for Black River Memorial Hospital's (BRMH) foundation, Gifts of Gratitude, specific to the Volunteer Enrichment Fund.

Featuring a diverse array of offerings, the 2023 Holiday Tea hosted 11 vendors, several of whom generously gave a percentage of their sales back to the volunteers. This collaborative effort exemplifies the community's unity and shared commitment to giving back.

In addition to the charitable contributions, the event also featured a 50/50 raffle, with Heather Rogers emerging as the lucky winner of \$767.50.

Continued on Page 10



Chelsey Gile, Sarah Osegard, Dori Kuhnle, Patricia Franks, Carolyne Hensel, and Cassie Utke stand together to show gratitude for the success of the 2023 Holiday Tea.

Forestry Notes - November 2023

at the old wayside site

in Wittenberg clearing

pine, white pine, alder,

four acres of lilac, Scotch

Alliant Energy Planting

In the spring of 2023 Alliant Energy, awarded the Ho-Chunk Nation DNR (HCN DNR) \$12,300 in funding for reforestation. The HCN DNR was able to diversify this money using it to fund a few different projects.

The staff started off by establishing a food forest at Whirling Thunder, where 150 black chokeberry (*Aronia melanocarpa*) and 50 American elderberry (*Sambucus Canadensis*)



HCN summer youth worker Jaeleigh Blackdeer provides liquid relief to newly planted chokeberry bushes at Whirling Thunder.

seedlings were planted. HCN DNR staff returned repeatedly over our droughty summer to water this crop through its critical first year.

Staff also began the reforestation of former pastureland at the Parmenter property with the planting of 150 red oak seedlings (*Quercus rubra*).

A future crop of tamarack (culturally used for ciiporoke frames and tee-pee poles) was established in three different locations. HCN DNR staff spent two days



HCN Wildlife Tech James Swenson bears the heavy burden of red oak being planted in the Parmenter property near Melrose.

and invasive grasses in preparation for planting 800 tamarack.

The planting and tubing was completed in Wittenberg in October of 2023. Also, approximately 150 tamarack were planted behind James Greendeer's property near Tomah, and another 50 on the William Sam property near Black River Falls

Black River Falls. 92 container trees of various species were planted or distributed to different HCN public facilities and tribal members throughout the spring and summer. Eight trees were planted at the Siga Center (Thanks Joey Whitewing for watering them through the summer!). Chakh Ha Chee saw trees planted at the TAU, Youth Center, Health Center and Community Center. Trees were planted at the House



A Kentucky coffee tree paid for by Alliant Energy planted at the Siga Center this spring.

of Wellness in Baraboo, and at the child care center in Christmas Mountain. Kids at the Wittenberg Headstart helped plant a tree this fall. We hope to build on these early steps going forward. About 50 trees were planted

at tribal members homes.
Planning is under way
with Alliant for an even
more extensive planting
program for the 2024 season.
We are always looking for
good sites for reforestation



HCN DNR employees Jamie Goodbear and Patrick Houghton take a lunch break after clearing the way for planting in Wittenberg.



Kjetil Garvin planting Tamarack in a dying black ash bog in Wittenberg



Some of the 800 Tamarack planted in the Wittenberg area this fall.



Prior to site preparation, the Lutheran Social Services in Wittenberg was a thicket of invasive and undesirable plant species.



Attention: The Next Deadline of the Hocak Worak will be December 15th which will be published on December 22nd. Please contact Hocak Worak at ext. 11004 if you have a change of address or would like to be placed on the mailing list.



The Hocak Worak is a periodical published twice monthly by the Ho-Chunk Nation. Editorials and articles appearing in the Hocak Worak are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the Hocak Worak staff or the Ho-Chunk Nation.

The Hocak Worak encourages the submission of letters to the Editor. All letters must include the signature, address and telephone number of the author. Letters are subject to editing for grammar, length, malicious and libelous content. The Hocak Worak reserves the right to reject any advertising, material, or letters submitted for publication. The submission of articles, poetry, artwork and photos is encouraged. The Editor makes the sole decision of what is

published in the Hocak Worak. The Hocak Worak will not assume any responsibility for unsolicited material.

Submissions deadlines for the Hocak Worak are by 4:30 PM. We cannot guarantee the publication of submissions meeting these deadlines if the space is not available. No part of this publication may be produced without express written consent from the Editor.

EDITOR Ardith Van Riper Administrative Assistant Anna Reichenbach Reporter Kaili Berg

The Hocak Worak is a member of:

The Native American
Journalists Association



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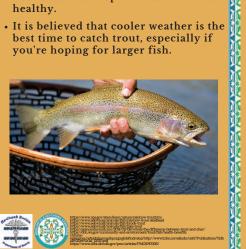
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CAA HEE WAKŠŲ WIIRA onber: Deer Antler Shedding Moon HARVEST OF THE MONTH

ABOUT TROUT

- · Common types of trout which are native to the rivers and lakes of North America include rainbow trout, lake trout, and brook trout. In fact, brook trout is the only native stream trout in
- Trout is a low-fat high quality protein. It contains omega-3 fatty acids, vitamin D and riboflavin.
- · Trout also contains calcium, phosphorus, iron, zinc, iodine, magnesium, and potassium.
- Eating fish provides us with essential nutrients that keep our heart and brain







SUNFLOWER-CRUSTED TROUT

From Indigenous Chef Vern DeFoe

Ingredients:

- 4-6 trout fillets
- ullet 1/2 cup ground untoasted sunflower seeds
- 1-2 tablespoons ground sumac
- · Pinch smoked salt
- 2-3 tablespoons sunflower oil

- Rinse the fillets, remove any pin bones, and pat dry.
- On a flat plate, mix together the sunflower seeds, sumac, and smoked salt. Dredge both sides of the fillets in the seasoned mixture to thoroughly coat.
- Heat the oil in a large skillet over a high flame. Without crowding the pan, fry one or two of the fillets in the oil for about 2 to 4 minutes per side, until nicely crisped and cooked through.
- Drain on paper towels and serve



For more Information Contact a HCN Registered Dietitian/ Nutritionist:

BRF, TOMAH, WITTENBERG AREAS: (888) 685-4422, EXT. 35335 BRF, LA CROSSE AREAS: (888) 685-4422, EXT. 35340 DELLS, NEKOOSA, MADISON AREAS: (888) 552-7889, EXT. 35554/35511

Updated II/23 HJ HCN HEALTH & WELLNESS DIV http://health.ho-chunk.com/



OVER-THE-COUNTER(OTC) MEDICATION CHANGES **COMING SOON FOR** TRIBAL MEMBERS

Please contact your doctor for a prescription or purchase OTC at an outside pharmacy.

LIMITED OTC ITEMS

MAILING OTC **ITEMS**

OTC items requested will only be

Why the change?

Compliance with 340b federal regulations



Open House

Join HHCDA in our open house for our newly developed rental units at Winnebago Heights Village.

HHCDA recently completed the construction of two new rental units in Winnebago Heights (Christmas Mountain) near Wisconsin Dells. HHCDA obtained a grant from HUD that was able to construct new rental units in early 2022.

HHCDA staff will be on site on Tuesday December 27th, from 10 am until 2 pm to give tours and answer questions about the rental units. Please stop by and have a look.





2023

HO-CHUNK NATION FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

OFFICE HOURS: 8:00AM - 11:45PM

1:00PM - 3:45 PM



SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

PHONE: 715-284-7461 EXT. 35038

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				OPEN BRF
OPEN BRF	OPEN BRF	6 WITTENBERG DISTRIBUTION 10:30AM-12:30PM	7 OPEN BRF	OPEN BRF
OPEN BRF	OPEN BRF	13 WIS DELLS DISTRIBUTION NUTRITION FOOD DEMOS WITH ALEX RICHESON 10AM-130PM	OPEN BRF	WIS DELLS DELIVERIES OPEN BRF
OPEN BRF	OPEN BRF	TOMAH DISTRIBUTION 12N-1:00 PM	OPEN BRF	LAST COMMOD DAY BRF LACROSSE PICK UP NUTRITION FOOD DEMOS WITH KATHY BRAATEN
CLOSED HRISTMAS HOLIDAY	CLOSED CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY	NEKOOSA DISTRIBUTION 12N-1:00 PM	28 BRF CLOSED SHIPMENT	BRF CLOSED INVENTORY

CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY FOR TAILGATE DAYS

LEGAL / NOTICES / SHOUT OUTS

HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT,		For Official Use
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF	Amended	FILED IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL / SUPPLEME COURT
Janet Dittmes	Notice to Creditors	NOV 0 3 2023
	Case No. PR 23-04	Clerk of Court / Assistant
Notice to Newspaper and Personal Representate The personal representative is responsible for providing		decedent's estate to
all known or reasonably ascertainable creditors.		
This notice shall be published for three (3) consecutive in the date underneath the Clerk of Court's signature.	ssues; the first publication date must be	within 15 days from
Here is the language that should be published in th	e newspaper:	
	0 -11 \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	7
NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF THE ESTATE OF: A Petition for Probate was filed in the Ho-Chunk N the date of the first publication of this notice to representative. Black River Falls, WI 54615. The deadline for filin Only those claims so presented may be paid from	lation Trial Court. You have 90 days from to present your claims to the personal or the Clerk of Court at P.O. Box 70, ag claims is	
	Max Quen	- O
	Clerk of Cour	. 0.
	Name Printed or Ty	ped v
Form completed by: (Name)	11/3/2 Date	023
Address 7954 COUVE Ct.	-	
Centennial, CO 80112		
Telephone 729-9993-4728 Bar Number (If any)		
	1	
PR14, 04/18 Notice to Creditors This form shall not be modified. It ma	§8 HCC 13, HO-CHUNK NATION PF y be supplemented with additional material.	COBATE CODE

TOMAH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Tomah High School Tomah, WI 54660 (608) 374-7961

NOTICE OF TITLE VI PUBLIC HEARING TOMAH AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Tomah Area School District will hold two public hearings during one meeting time scheduled for Wednesday, December 20, 2023, at the Tomah Perkins Meeting Room, 1015 E. Blvd., Tomah, Wisconsin. The Title VI meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. with the JOM/IEC meeting to follow.

The first part of the meeting will allow parents/guardians of Native American children the opportunity to provide input concerning Public Law 81-874. The second part of the meeting will inform parents of the Needs Assessment process for the district's 2024-25 Title VI Application of the Indian Education Act. In addition, parents will participate in a discussion of the application's provisions and given the opportunity to provide suggestions regarding the application.

Bonnie Bird Title VI Indian Education Coordinator-Teacher Tomah Area School District

HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT,		For Official Use
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF SOME PROBLEM CASE	Notice of Hearing on Petition for Probate	IN THE HO-CHINIK NATION TRULL' STREEME COURT NOV 0 3 2023 Cherk of Dourt Assistable
The names or addresses of the following interest of the following inte	Vace Riad, Cle ested person are not known or reas: 4609, Del 19 N.T. AV 4589, Del 19 N.T. AV N9598 Hwy 54 E. Black River Falls,	enue, Tomah WI
You do not need to appear unless you object. The If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 715-284-2722 at least 10 working days prior to the scheduled court date. Please note that the court does not provide transportation.	e petition may be granted if there Way Dune Pinto of Co. Name Printed 3 23 Date	On Duri



Ho-Chunk Nation

Monday, December 4, Facebook Post
On November 30, 2023, the Dairyland Power Cooperative of La
Crosse, WI hosted the Whitehouse "Internet for All" Rural Roundtable
Event. Secretary Tom Perez, Senior Advisor & Assistant of the President/White House Director of Intergovernmental Affairs; and Deputy Secretary of Commerce Don Graves were both present to celebrate the nearly \$15 million Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure

A youth leader of the Ho-Chunk Nation was also asked to be in attendance. Mia Falcon was selected and did a wonderful job speaking on why internet is important for all students. Mia Falcon is an 18 year old student who attends Black River Falls High School. Mia is a proud member of the Ho-Chunk Tribe of Wisconsin and Tohono Odham of Arizona. She is a very active student who participates in basketball, volleyball, band, and is the President of the Waksik Wacek club at school. In her free time, she helps with cultural doings or spends time with family. Mia plans to follow in her late Dad's footsteps and attend Kansas University in the Spring of 2024.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL UPDATE DECEMBER 5, 2023

Failed attempts to gain a General Council full-time Attorney -

- 1. Request to the Department of Justice on October 31,
- 2. Response from Attorney General Gardner was in the form of a DENIAL on November 7, 2023.
- Budget Modification/True Increase to obtain a Full-Time Attorney, proposed to the Legislative Finance Commission.
- December 1, 2023 Legislative Finance Commission passes a Motion to Deny the proposed Budget Modification/True Increase for a Full-Time Attorney.

December 4, 2023 notification was sent to the Legislature, the Legislative Finance Commission, and HCN Attorney General, William Gardner for a possible appropriations and budget act violation. -1. Ho-Chunk Nation Appropriations and Budget Process Act

2 HCC § 4:

6. Budget Modifications

f. General Council.

(1) The Office of General Council may perform budget modifications as a means to control spending and preserve the appropriated budget. Any budget modifications will be detailed as to line item and subject to periodic review from the Legislative Finance Commission. Any proposed budget modification for the General Council Branch shall be approved by the Finance Commission.



Continued from Page 3
projects and for spots to plant shade trees in more "built environments." In addition, we will be purchasing about 50 fruit trees to continue the orchards which have been established at many of the TAUs and other community buildings, and to begin new ones. There will also be opportunities for Ho Chunk tribal member to have trees for their homes come next spring and fall.

Please contact HCN Forest Manager Greg Blick (greg. blick@ho-chunk.com) if you have any planting sites or ideas for next year.

Timber Stand Improvement on Darst and William Sam properties in BRF

HCN staff, led by Land Management Crew Leader, Jamie Goodbear, and assisted by BIA wildland firefighters from throughout the state, put on two, three-day chainsaw safety classes attended by many HCN employees from different departments. Students had the opportunity to learn proper tree felling and processing techniques while earning certification as Wild Land Firefighter sawyers. Students practiced their skills by cutting nonoak species, opening up the areas into savannahlike conditions. This will



HCN Staff assist the Wittenberg Headstart students install their new black walnut tree.

encourage more growth of grasses and other ground level plants which are the preferred food of elk. HCN Crew also spent a week cleaning and expanding the existing trail systems on the Darst property. This will assist hunting access and help us in future forest management, especially in invasive buckthorn control. It also opens access to the beautiful ox-bow pond and beaver-dam filled creek at the south end of the property. Check it out!

Seed Collection and Propagation

The HCN DNR regularly collaborates with the HCN Cultural Resources division to preserve and propagate (sprout and grow) seed from rare and endangered tree species which are culturally significant. In early October they teamed up to lead a black ash (Fraxinus nigra) seed gathering trip hosted by the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. Many HCN members made the long trek as well. HCN DNR was also able to procure large amounts of black ash seed from the folks at the Medford unit of the Chequamegon-Nicolet forest. These seeds are being kept safe for planting in a future world in which the emerald ash borer is no longer such a severe

In addition, northern pin oak (Quercus ellipsoidalis) and white oak (Quercus alba) acorns were collected from the Nine Eagles property near Wisconsin Dells. Some of these acorns were saved and others are being sprouted for future planting. Seeds for the very rare bladdernut tree were collected from Silver Mound in Clark County and are also being grown for future planting. Likewise, endangered Butternut (Juglans cinerea) seeds were collected and planted.

Stand Exams for BIA and Ho-Chunk Fee Lands

The HCN DNR has been contracted by the BIA to do the stand exams of HCN

trust lands. This work has been spearheaded by HCN tribal member and HCN DNR Forestry Tech, Kjetil Garvin. All trust lands are broken into "forest stands." Each stand is made up of trees of roughly the same age and species composition. At least three "forest plots" are taken for each stand, more for larger stands. At each plot, trees are selected for measurement based on their size and distance from the plot center. Tree species, height, and diameter are taken for each selected tree. This allows us to record forest density, species mix, and timber volume for each stand. Insect and disease concerns are also noted, as are the number of baby trees (seedlings and saplings) which are coming in under the canopy. Occasionally tree cores are taken to estimate the age of the tree stand. This information helps the BIA keep track of timber value and allows us to make management decisions which benefit forest health and noneconomic benefits such as foraging, hunting and other recreation. If you see Kjetil on trust land, this is what she is doing. Say "hi" and ask her any questions you might have. She is an experienced forest ecologist with loads of traditional knowledge.

HCN DNR has also been doing stand exams on fee lands owned by the Nation. The goals are the same. This year the Parmenter, Darst, Whirling Thunder, Nueske, Lutheran Social Services, and Plum Creek-Jackson County 20 had detailed stands exams performed.

Urban Forestry Consulting

The HCN DNR has onstaff a certified arborist with experience in the tree care industry. We have helped both HHCDA and HCN Housing departments assess tree risk at tribal members' properties and on HCN owned housing. HCN DNR has also helped Continued on Page 15



Practicing freeing hung-up trees at William Sam while creating Oak Savannah.



Seeds of endangered and rare culturally significant trees collected by HCN DNR staff. Clockwise from upper right: black ash; butternut; Kentucky coffee tree; bladdernut.



Rep. Danielle DeLong and Rep. Rodney Rave help harvest ash seeds on the Red Cliff reservation.



HCN Forestry employee Kjetil Garvin performing stand exam duties. Don't be surprised to find her wandering on HCN trust land woods parcel near you!



Ho-Chunk and Oneida Forestry departments wondering how bad their backs are going to hurt after they try to load a 14" diameter, 9+' long shagbark hickory log by hand. (They decided to bring in a skid loader.)



property outside of BRF.

2023 Gun Deer Hunt License Sales **And Harvest Totals Now Available**

MADISON, Wis. – The 2023 gun deer hunt in Wisconsin kicked off the holiday season with plenty of opportunities to enjoy the great outdoors, put delicious, wild-harvested protein on the table and make memories with family and friends. Preliminary license sales, harvest registration and hunting incident numbers are now available.

Preliminary License Sales Data

As of 11:59 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 26, sales for gun, bow, crossbow, sports and conservation patron licenses reached 788,697. Of that total, 434,817 were for gun privileges only. Year-to-date sales for all deer licenses are down 0.8% compared to last year.

This year, hunters from all 50 states and 27 countries purchased a Wisconsin

hunting license.

Of the licenses sold to date, 66% were purchased online. The remaining 34% were sold in person through transactions at DNR license sale locations. Deer hunting license and harvest authorization sales will continue through the remaining deer hunting seasons.

Preliminary Harvest Totals

Preliminary figures show hunters registered 173,942 deer during the 2023 gun deer season, including 85,390 antlered and 88,552 antlerless deer. Compared to 2022, the total firearm deer harvest was down 17.6% statewide, with the antlered harvest down 14.7% and the antlerless harvest down 20.3%.

Since the opening of the bow and crossbow seasons, hunters have registered 266,132 statewide so far this year.

Adams County in the Central Farmland Zone led the state with 9.7 deer registered per square mile. Adams County also led the Central Forest Zone with 3.5 deer per square mile. Vernon County led the Southern Farmland Zone with 6.7 deer registered per square mile. Taylor County registered the most deer per square mile, 2.7, in the Northern Forest Zone.

For the 2023 gun deer season, the regional harvest breakdown by deer management zone as compared to the 5-year average was as follows:

Preliminary 2023 Gun Deer Season Harvest Totals			
Deer Management Zone	2023 Gun Deer Harvested	5 Year Average Comparison	
Northern Forest Zone	Antlered: 17,715	-14.7%	
140/11/01/01/17/01/01/20/10	Antlerless: 10,305	-27.2%	
Central Forest Zone	Antlered: 3,587	-3.6%	
Central i Grest Zone	Antlerless: 2,703	-2.1%	
Central Farmland Zone	Antlered: 44,587	-5.2%	
Central Familiana Zone	Antlerless: 53,696	-14.7%	
Southern Farmland Zone	Antlered: 19,501	-0.9%	
Southern Farmand Zone	Antlerless: 21,848	-11.1%	
	Antlered: 85,390	-6.4%	
Total Preliminary Harvest Registrations	Antlerless: 88,552	-15.2%	
Ü	Total: 173,942	-11.1%	

The DNR's Wisconsin Deer Harvest Summary webpage has more information regarding preliminary harvest registration totals, including county-level

The regular gun deer season ran from Nov. 18 through Nov. 26 and is followed by the statewide muzzleloader season (Nov. 27-Dec. 6), the statewide antlerless-only four-day hunt (Dec. 7-Dec. 10) and the antlerless-only holiday hunt in select farmland zone counties (Dec. 24-Jan. 1, 2024).

First Harvest Certificates Available

Hunters of all ages who harvested their first deer are encouraged to highlight this significant occasion with a first harvest certificate.

2023 Gun Deer Season Hunting Incidents

At the publication time of this news release, the DNR reports three firearm-

involved hunting incidents during the 2023 gun deer season.

• Forest County, Argonne Township: On Nov. 18, 2023, in the morning hours, a 53-year-old male suffered a self-inflicted gunshot to the foot. The victim was walking to his tree stand on public property and adjusted his rifle sling when he accidentally pulled the trigger. The victim was transported to the hospital for non-life-threatening injuries.

• Adams County, Big Flatts Township: On Nov. 19, 2023, in the morning hours, a 62-year-old male shot once at a dog, which he believed was an antlerless deer, on private property. A 47-year-old female victim was walking Continued on Page 8



The 2023 gun deer hunt harvest totals and license sales are now available. I Photo Credit: iStock/FRANKHILDEBRAND

CORRECTION

The HCN Energy **Assistance Grant is POSTPONED** due to High **Volume of Applications**

We will begin accepting applications DECEMBER 8th until funding has been depleted.

-HHCDA Staff

Ho-Chunk CEDS Community Sessions

All Ho-Chunk Tribal **Members Welcome**

Survey Results

Q&A

Understand CEDS

November 30, 2023 at HOW, 5-6 pm December 4, 2023 at SFCC, 5-6 pm December 6, 2023 at Cexhaci CC, 5-6 pm December 16, 2023 at DICC, 11 am-12 pm

WebEx links:









For More Information Email: economicdiversification@ho-chunk.com

StrongHearts Native Helpline Receives \$100,000 Giving Tuesday Grant from San Manuel Band of Mission Indians

EAGAN, MN. November 28, 2023 - StrongHearts Native Helpline is proud to announce that it has been awarded a generous Giving Tuesday grant of \$100,000 from San Manuel Band of Mission Indians in Southern California. This substantial grant will be instrumental in advancing StrongHearts' mission to provide critical support and resources to Native communities while fostering healing, empowerment, and resilience.

The grant funds will be strategically allocated to strengthen our organization in key areas:

Organization Infrastructure: StrongHearts is dedicated to building a strong organizational foundation for long-term sustainability, spanning seven generations, and this grant will help us allocate more staff hours to capacity building, prioritizing quality assurance and data-driven improvements in our services.

Outreach Initiatives: With the support of San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, StrongHearts will launch comprehensive outreach campaigns to raise awareness about our helpline's services and the importance of addressing domestic and dating violence in Native communities. These initiatives aim to reach a broader audience and connect those in need with our vital resources.

Staff Training: The grant will enable us to provide specialized training for our dedicated staff, equipping them with the knowledge and skills needed to offer culturally sensitive, traumainformed support to our callers. This training will further enhance the quality of care provided by StrongHearts Native Helpline.

StrongHearts Native Helpline

Partners in

Parenting: BRF Specific to parents and grandparents

of infant to school-aged children

extends its heartfelt gratitude to the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians for their unwavering commitment to our mission. This partnership reinforces our shared dedication to making a meaningful and lasting impact on Native individuals and communities affected by domestic and dating violence.

"We are deeply grateful for their generous support. This grant represents a significant step forward in our ongoing efforts to create a safer, healthier future for Native people," said Lori Jump, Chief Executive Officer of StrongHearts Native Helpline. "Together, we will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that our relatives never have to face domestic or sexual violence alone."

StrongHearts Native Helpline remains steadfast in its commitment to providing culturally appropriate, confidential, and compassionate support to Native survivors of domestic and sexual violence. With this generous support, we are better equipped than ever to fulfill this mission and make a real difference in the lives of those we serve.

About StrongHearts Native

StrongHearts Native Helpline offers a confidential, anonymous, and culturally sensitive service, free of charge, for American Indians and Alaska Natives who are dealing with domestic and/or sexual violence. StrongHearts can be reached 24/7 by phone or text at 1-844-7NATIVE (1-844-762-8483), or chat at www. stronghearts helpline.org.

About San Manuel Band of **Mission Indians:**

The San Manuel Band of Mission

Indians is a federally-recognized Indian tribe located on the San Manuel Indian Reservation near Highland, California. San Manuel exercises its inherent sovereign right of self-governance and provides essential services for its citizens by building infrastructure, maintaining civil services, and promoting social, economic and cultural development. As the Indigenous people of the San Bernardino highlands, passes, valleys, mountains and high deserts, the Serrano people of San Manuel have called this area home since time immemorial and are committed to remaining a productive partner in the San Bernardino region. For

more information, visit http://www. sanmanuel-nsn.gov

StrongHearts Native Helpline serves all individuals who reach out for their services regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or any other factor protected by local, state, or federal law.



HHCDA After-Hours Rental Hotline

At HHCDA, we understand that housing emergencies can occur at any hour.

So, we have after-hours contacts available to help you resolve any issues.



For rental emergencies after hours, our Maintenance Supervisors are here to help.

They should be your first point of contact.

Roy Littlegeorge - BRF - 608.343.0743

that dog and was shot in her thigh. The

victim was taken to the hospital via

midday, a 30-year-old male was

the victim of a gunshot to his upper

a 35-year-old male shooter shot at a

deer, striking the victim. The victim

Comparatively, during the 2022 gun

deer season, the DNR reported eight

firearm-involved hunting incidents. Of

those incidents, four were self-inflicted

The average hunting incidents per

year for the last 10 gun deer seasons (2014-2023) is 5.9. In addition, there

were no fatalities in 6 of those 10

With various hunting seasons

continuing through December, the

DNR reminds hunters to always

received medical treatment at a

gunshots.

years.

thigh. During the end of a deer drive,

Continued from Page 7

MedFlight for her injuries. • Taylor County, Rib Lake Township: On Nov. 24, 2023, near

Christian Bird - Tomah, West Salem/Onalaska, Nekoosa, Wittenberg, GB - 608.343.0515

Cody Greendeer - WI Dells, Madison, Milwaukee - 608.343.3318



12:00 - 1:00 PM

Wednesday Dec.13th DICC Multi-Purpose Room Black River Falls

GUEST SPEAKER:

Ronelle McKernan, RN

QPR Suicide Prevention Training

Event includes free lunch and raffle

MUST ATTEND PRESENTATION TO RECEIVE RAFFLE AND INCENTIVES

TO MAKE YOUR LUNCH RESERVATION: CONTACT

BEVERLY BANECK COMMUNITY HEALTH REPRESENTATIVE PHONE: (715) 284-9851 EXT 35032 CELL: (715) 896-0178

KATHY BRAATEN REGISTERED DIETITIAN/NUTRITIONIST PHONE: (715)-284-9851 EXT 35335 KATHY.BRAATEN@HO-CHUNK.COM

HO-CHUNK HEALTH DEPARTMENT, HO-CHUNK HEALTH CARE CENTER BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI 11/23/KB/HEALTH AND WELLNESS DIVISION



follow and practice the four primary rules of firearm safety, otherwise known as TAB-K:

- T Treat every firearm as if it is
- A Always point the muzzle in a safe direction.
- B Be certain of your target, what's before it and what's beyond it.
- K Keep your finger outside your trigger guard until you are safe to shoot.

More tips for safe hunting in Wisconsin are available on the DNR

DNR VIOLATION HOTLINE: Anyone with information regarding natural resource violations may confidentially report by calling or texting: 1-800-TIP-WDNR or 1-800-847-9367. The hotline is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Trained staff relay the information to conservation wardens. File a report online.

DHS and DOJ Announce Dose of Reality Roundtable Discussions on Wisconsin's Opioid Epidemic

Statewide tour will include local community leaders and partners to talk about what we can do to save lives

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) and Department of Justice (DOJ) are announcing a series of roundtable discussions to hear directly from local communities who are working toward preventing overdose deaths in the state and helping Wisconsinites struggling with opioid use.

"We are calling these roundtable discussions a "Dose of Reality" because we want to hear the reality of Wisconsinites experiences in their own communities," said DHS Secretary-designee Kirsten Johnson. "We want to understand our partners' current situation, hear what is needed to address opioid use in their community, and celebrate their

successes."

Last year, 1,421 Wisconsinites died by opioid overdose. There were also 2,530 opioid-related trips to emergency departments, and 978 hospitalizations. Drugs mixed with fentanyl account for most of the overdose deaths.

^{Gron}Ho Chunkgra Headstart

THE HO CHUNKGRA PARENT COMMITTEE AND YOUNG SCHOLARS WOULD LIKE TO GIVE YOU A HUGE **THANK YOU!** OUR COMMUNITY HELPED RAISE FUNDS FOR OUR HOLIDAY FESTIVITIES, WITH ALL OF YOUR DONATIONS WE ARE ABLE TO GIVE THE BEST HOLIDAY EVER!

STAY TUNED FOR OUR NEXT FUNDRAISER, WE'LL BE BACK BETTER THAN EVER!



By KRS



The Indian Mission Community Building is back open for rentals!

- -Graduations
- -Birthday parties
- -Family gatherings
- -Holiday events





Call Dory at HHCDA for rental information and availability

608-374-1245 ext. 18800

www.HHCDA.com

DNR Confirms CWD In Wild Deer In Jackson County

Baiting And Feeding Bans Renewed, Public Meeting To Be Scheduled

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) confirms the first positive test result for chronic wasting disease (CWD) in a wild deer in Jackson County. The deer was harvested in the town of Garfield and is within 10 miles of the Eau Claire and Trempealeau county borders.

This detection will cause the following:

- Jackson County will renew the ban already in place.
- Eau Claire and Trempealeau counties currently have 3-year baiting and feeding bans in place from positive detections within the county, so this detection will not impact those counties.

The deer was a hunter-harvested 2-year-old buck and is the first confirmed wild CWD-positive deer detected in Jackson County.

The DNR and the Jackson County

Deer Advisory Council are planning on hosting a public meeting, date and location are still being determined. More details will be provided in the future. At the meeting, DNR staff will provide information about CWD in Wisconsin and local testing efforts within Jackson County.

State law requires that the DNR enact a three-year baiting and feeding ban in counties where CWD has been detected, as well as a two-year ban in adjoining counties within 10 miles of a CWD detection. If additional CWD cases are found during the lifetime of a baiting and feeding ban, the ban will renew for an additional two or three years.

The DNR also reminds the public that it is illegal to hunt over an area previously used for legal baiting and feeding until that area is completely free of bait or feed for 10 consecutive days

Baiting or feeding deer encourages them to congregate unnaturally around a shared food source where infected deer can spread CWD through direct contact with healthy deer or indirectly by leaving behind infectious prions in their saliva, blood, feces and urine.

More information regarding baiting and feeding regulations is available on the DNR's Baiting and Feeding webpage.

Hunters Can Help

The DNR asks deer hunters in Jackson, Eau Claire and Trempealeau counties to help with efforts to identify where CWD occurs on the landscape by having their deer tested for the disease. The collection of CWD samples is essential for assessing the presence of CWD in the deer population across the state.

In addition to submitting samples for CWD testing, hunters are also encouraged to properly dispose of deer carcass waste by locating a designated dumpster, transfer station or landfill location. Proper carcass disposal helps slow the spread of CWD by removing potentially infected deer carcasses from the landscape. A map of CWD sampling and carcass disposal locations is available on the DNR's CWD sampling webpage.

CWD is a fatal, infectious nervous system disease of deer, moose, elk and reindeer/caribou. It belongs to the family of diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs) or prion diseases. The DNR began monitoring the state's wild white-tailed deer population for CWD in 1999. The first positives were found in 2002.

More general information about CWD can be found on the DNR's CWD webpage.

Gift Cards: A Scammer's **Favorite Holiday Present**

MADISON, Wis. - Prepaid gift cards are a popular holiday present. They are easy to find, can be loaded with a value of your choosing, and allow the recipient to make their own purchases. But gift cards can also be a versatile tool for defrauding consumers. Protect your money and your identity by knowing how gift card scams work and remembering the following fraud prevention tips from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP).

When buying gift cards for friends and family, you may find them sold in bulk or at discounted prices online. Be cautious of these deals, as in some cases after consumers bought them, they discovered the cards were expired or already drained of funds. Other buyers never received them at all.

• Always buy gift cards directly from the retailer or an authorized seller. Never buy a gift card from someone you do not know.

Some online ads or targeted email and text messages offer gift cards as incentive to sign up for a sweepstakes or fill out a survey, but these are usually bogus offers. The scammer will sell your private information after they obtain it without sending you the promised gift card.

• Resist the temptation to hand over your personal information in exchange for a gift card. Even if you do receive

a real card, you have no way of controlling what happens to your data afterwards.

When buying a gift card from a store, check it for tampering. Gift card thieves have been known to scan cards on kiosks or shelves, record the data, then drain the funds remotely after a legitimate consumer purchases and activates them. Do not purchase a gift card that has been opened.

• If possible, purchase a card that comes in fully enclosed packaging which prevents it from being swiped by a card reader device or having the pin number scratched off.

Some companies are taking steps to combat gift card scams and fraud. If a gift card scam happens to you, act fast.

• Report the scam to the card company, no matter how long ago it happened, and ask for your money back. If the card was frozen for a suspicious transaction or not yet drained, it may be recoverable.

For the best and most secure results, always encourage the recipient to spend their new gift card quickly after receiving and activating it.

For more information and consumer protection resources or to file a complaint, visit DATCP's Consumer Protection webpage at ConsumerProtection.wi.gov. DATCP's Consumer Protection Hotline can be contacted at (800) 422-7128 or DATCPHotline@wisconsin.gov.









Continued from Page 3

BRMH extends its gratitude to the vendors, sponsors, and community members whose collective efforts made the 2023 Holiday Tea successful. The event raised significant funds for a worthy cause and fostered a sense of community and shared goodwill.

The Gifts of Gratitude Volunteer Enrichment Fund is dedicated to providing BRMH volunteers the opportunity to support patient-centered requests as they see best fit.

To learn more about Gifts of Gratitude or the Volunteer Enrichment Fund, visit brmh. net/gratitude.

ABOUT BLACK RIVER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Black River Memorial Hospital is a not-for-profit 25bed Critical Access Hospital in west-central Wisconsin offering the best in patient care since 1968. Key services available include emergency care, inpatient services, an infusion center, a pain clinic, physical medicine

and rehabilitation, obstetrics, transitional care, surgical services, respiratory care, a wound care center, and a clinic that offers behavioral health, home, and primary care services. BRMH is one of the area's largest employers, employing over 360 staff and providers in addition to visiting specialists in more than 20 specialties. Visit brmh. net for more information.





BRMH Business Intelligence and Marketing Director Chris Plaisance and BRMH CEO Carl Selvick (outside) present Heather Rogers (middle) with her winnings from the 50/50 raffle drawing.

ArtsHERE: New Grant Initiative from National Endowment for the Arts Now Accepting Statements of Interest

New grantmaking initiative from the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with South Arts and in collaboration with the five other U.S. Regional Arts Organizations supports increased opportunities for arts participation. The deadline to submit a Statement of Interest is January 19, 2024.

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) awards thousands of grants each year to provide diverse opportunities for arts participation. However, historically underserved communities with rich and dynamic cultural identities continue to report lower arts participation rates than other groups. To address these disparities and better

understand these dynamics, the NEA, in partnership with South Arts and in collaboration with the five other U.S. Regional Arts Organizations, launched a new grant program, ArtsHERE.

ArtsHERE supports organizations that have demonstrated a commitment to equity within their practices and programming and have undertaken consistent engagement with underserved groups/communities. Grants are for specific projects that will strengthen the organization's capacity to sustain meaningful community engagement and increase arts participation for underserved groups/communities. Grantees have access to peer-learning

and technical assistance opportunities designed to share knowledge and build networks. ArtsHERE will award approximately 95 nonprofit organizations with non-matching grants of \$65,000 to \$130,000.

As a pilot program, ArtsHERE will be documented and evaluated by the National Endowment for the Arts to better understand the project activities supported and how grantees approached this work.

The deadline to submit a Statement of Interest is January 19, 2024. To learn more, review the full guidelines, and submit a Statement of Interest, visit ArtsHERE.org.

American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin: Announces new executive leadership team

Hales Corners, Wisc., Dec. 4, 2023 – The American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin (AICCW) announces today the addition of Heather Cloud Wakajapi as executive director and Paul Smith as assistant executive director.

For over 30 years, the AICCW has promoted economic development in Wisconsin Indian Country by offering targeted services to American Indian entrepreneurs. Since its inception in 1991, the Chamber has advocated for, provided access to, and delivered community and economic development resources, tools, and networks to Wisconsin's

Native Nations, businesses, and entrepreneurs. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, the AICCW is committed to being a resource for building wealth in Wisconsin Indian Country.

As executive director, Heather Cloud Wakajapi (Ho-Chunk Nation) will usher in a new season for the Chamber. She has more than 25 years of customer service and management experience, having served a variety of roles in her work with Ho-Chunk Nation and the United States Navy, where she served as Second-Class IT Petty Officer.

"It's important to me to give back

to our community and I'm excited to bring awareness to the Chamber and help other Tribal members improve their quality of life with access to the resources they need," said Cloud. "Our culture and sharing our values with the younger generation through mentoring will help ensure traditional works continue to flourish for future

Paul R. Smith (Oneida Nation) brings more than 30 years of professional experience in the housing industry to the AICCW, including 15 years in the nonprofit housing sector, training over a thousand volunteers on how to build new and repair old

homes for underserved families in Milwaukee and around the country.

"By joining the AICCW team, I hope to continue my family's long history of serving the Native community of Milwaukee and Wisconsin," said Smith. "I am excited to bring the services of AICCW to assist and support our Indigenous business partners throughout Wisconsin."

As executive leaders, Smith and Cloud join a strong Tribal memberled Board of Directors and further the AICCW's mission to facilitate economic growth in Indigenous communities throughout Wisconsin.

generations."

Wausau Man Indicted for Drug Offenses In Two North-Central Wisconsin Tribal Communities

Gregory J. Haanstad, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, announced that on November 28, 2023, a federal grand jury returned a two-count indictment charging Charles A. Parham a/k/a "Red," a/k/a "Cuzzo," with drug crimes taking place on the Menominee Indian Reservation and at a tribal casino on land owned by the Ho-Chunk Nation.

The indictment charged Parham, a 41-year-old formerly of Wausau, as follows:

COUNT	DATE	CHARGE	PENALTY
One	On or about September 29, 2023	Distribution of Heroin, 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(C)	Maximum of 20 years in prison; up to \$1 million fine
Two	On or about October 12, 2023	Possession with Intent to Distribute Fentanyl, 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(b)	Mandatory minimum 5 years, up to 40 years in prison; up to \$5 million fine

Parham also faces terms of supervised release and special assessments of \$100 per count if convicted.

According to filed court documents, on or about September 29, 2023, Parham distributed heroin to another person at a location on the Menominee Indian Reservation. Count Two relates to Parham's possession with intent to distribute at least 40 grams of a mixture and substance containing Fentanyl, which was at a tribal casino in western Shawano County.

The case was investigated by multiple agencies as part of the Safe Trails Task Force (STTF) and Native American Drug and Gang Initiative (NADGI). NADGI and STTF allow federal, tribal, state, and local law enforcement to partner in an effort to combat drug trafficking and violent crime on the Menominee Indian Reservation. STTF members are deputized federal officers who identify and target for prosecution individuals who are involved in distribution of dangerous drug on the Menominee Indian Reservation. Coordination of state resources through NADGI permits efficient communication and evidence processing, which are essential to swift but fair prosecution of offenders.

The Menominee Tribal Police Department and Federal Bureau of Investigation investigated the case, with assistance from the Central Wisconsin Narcotics Task Force, Shawano County Sheriff's Office, and the Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory. Assistant United States Attorney Andrew J. Maier will prosecute the case in U.S. District Court in Green Bay.

An indictment is only a charge and not evidence of guilt. The defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial at which the government must prove his guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

Ho-Chunk Day 2023 at District 1 Community Center



Ho-Chunk Day! Your attendance was much appreciated!

We'd also like to thank everyone who had a helping hand in making this event a success! Your donations, delicious dishes, and help was very much appreciated and did not go unnoticed!

Bearheart Singers
Rave Trail Singers
Josie Lee
Gabby Rave
Paula Cleveland
Bill Quackenbush
Lucas Quackenbush
Tina Brown

Clayton Winneshiel Myra Jo Price Hinu Smith Marilyn Decorah Dana Houghton Olivia Anderson Jacob Blackdeer Rachel Winneshiek Angelo Torres

Office of the President Staff

































CoBank Partners with the American Indian

College Fund to Support Native College Students

\$300,000 in scholarships will be distributed over three years

November 30, 2023, Denver, Colo.—CoBank is partnering with the American Indian College Fund (College Fund) to provide American Indian and Alaska Native students with scholarships. CoBank has granted \$300,000 over the next three years, providing \$100,000 per year for 20 student scholarships in the amount of \$4,500. All Native students are eligible to apply for consideration, however preference will be given to those studying banking, finance, and agriculture. Scholarship

recipients who continue to meet program requirements can reapply for funding each year.

"CoBank is honored to partner with the College Fund to provide scholarships to deserving students. Higher education plays a vital role in securing a prosperous future for individuals, families, and communities throughout the country – especially in rural America. We are excited about this new relationship and the opportunity to support underserved Native American students," said Tom

Halverson, CoBank's president and CEO.
College Fund President and CEO, Cheryl Crazy
Bull said, "On behalf of the College Fund, I want
to thank CoBank for this wonderful partnership
that will help students obtain degrees that are
so important to the financial well-being of our
communities and the important relationship that we
have with the land and its resources."

LEGISLATIVE MINUTES

HO-CHUNK NATION LEGISLATURE REGULAR MEETING UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON MADISON, WI NOVEMBER 7, 2023

<u>Call to Order:</u> President Jon Greendeer called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call:

President Jon Greendeer-P Vice President Karena Thundercloud-P Rep. Rodney Rave-P

Rep. Phyllis Smoke-P

Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr.-P

Rep. Stephanie Begay-P

Rep. Kristin White Eagle-P Vacant

Rep. Shelby Visintin-P

Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle-P

Rep. Danielle DeLong-P

Rep. Robert Pilot-VC

Rep. Paul Fox-P

Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah-VC

VC-Video Conference

Determination of Quorum: Quorum is established at 10:00 a.m.

Opening Prayer: Rep. Paul Fox offered a word of prayer.

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. MOTION IS AMENDED to ADD under New Business: E. Madison Advisory Council; Unfinished Business: C. D2 Community Request. Second concurs. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Legislative Meeting-October 31,2023

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the October 31, 2023 Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Reports:

Enrollment Report

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to accept the Enrollment Report. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Office of General Council (Quarterly Report)

A written report was received.

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay refer the Office of General Council matter to Executive Session. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED**.

Ho-Chunk Transportation

A written report was received.

Executive Branch Monthly Reports:

Department of Administration

A written report was received.

Department of Health

A written report was received.

Rep. Phyllis Smoke asked when Hosto Pii Hoci will reopen. Governmental Relations Officer Ryan Greendeer said the Nation needed to send a follow up letter to Wisconsin Department of Health Services. There was a system failure when the application was submitted for licensure of the facility, and the application got lost in the system. The application has been found and will be prioritized. The decision for the licensure should be received soon.

Department of Personnel; Insurance

A written report was received.

Rep. Stephanie Begay mentioned having asked for a report from the ERA Complaints Officer to be included in the report. Human Resource Manager Jim Lambert said Executive Director Rave would include it in next month's report. There is nothing to update at this time.

Rep. Robert Funmaker Jr. would like to have a narrative/explanation included in the report regarding the Gallagher reports. The Human Resource Manager will make note of that request.

Department of Social Services

A written report was received.

Rep. Robert Funmaker asked if Executive Director of Social Services Sadie Winneshiek could provide a reason why last year's UNITY reconciliation has not been complete.

President Jon Greendeer said the request did not come from Social Services but from a motion by Rep. Danielle DeLong. The President mentioned he looked into this issue, there has been a reconciliation but it is not completed in full. This can be a detriment if that reconciliation has not been accounted for.

Elder Advisory Board

A written report was received.

Unfinished Business:

UNITY Conference

Danielle DeLong Rep. mentioned the UNITY Conference request has been brought to the Finance Commission, and presented at two Legislative Meetings. The Treasury Department and Youth Services Director said they are still in process of reconciling the UNITY Conference from last year. The request is for \$82,520 for the conference being held in Portland, Oregon, June 29-July 3, 2024.

Youth Services Director Lori Pettibone reported that Youth Services are currently planning for the upcoming UNITY Conference in Portland Oregon. The reconciliation for this event should be done within two weeks along with the paperwork.

Rep. Stephanie Begay mentioned the Baraboo UNITY 2022 request has not been reconciled as well.

A discussion took place regarding the responsibility and process of completing the UNITY reconciliation requests on a timely basis. It should not take over a year to complete.

President Greendeer said currently the Legislature does not have a written request, along with a budget for 2023 UNITY Conference. If Youth Services can have all the information completed, the Legislature can revisit this later in the meeting today.

MOTION by Rep. Danielle DeLong to approve the UNITY Conference in the amount of \$82,520 from the Youth Assistance Fund to be reconciled by the Youth Services Director. Second Vice President Karena Thundercloud. **SECOND** WITHDRAWS. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. WITHDRAWS. SECOND Second by Rep. Robert Pilot. MOTION IS AMENDED contingent upon completed reconciliation for 2022. Second concurs. MOTION IS AMENDED to include Youth Services reconciliation. MOTION IS AMENDED to include the Baraboo reconciliation. **MOTION IS** WITHDRAWN.

MOTION by Rep. Danielle DeLong to TABLE UNITY Conference until after Executive Session. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Street Lights

Ho-Chunk Transportation Authority (HTA) Brett Blackdeer, Chief Roads Officer said in the past there had been a verbal agreement with the former HHCDA Director to cover the monthly electricity costs. HTA was unaware of the billing issues until recently, and are now working with BIA to cover engineering, installation and monthly cost of lighting.

Community Request

Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. received a request from a community member for assistance with food, Christmas bags, and decorating for a winter gathering at the Wak Sik Ma Community Building. The community is requesting \$1,500 from the Juneau County Law Enforcement, \$500 from Sauk County Law Enforcement, and \$1,500 from the Legislature.

MOTION by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. to fund the winter gathering in the amount of \$1,500 from the Community Improvement Fund. MOTION DIES DUE TO LACK OF SECOND.

Rep. Stephanie Begay would like it noted that she did not second the motion because she had not received any information on this event. This was the first time hearing about this request.

Rep. Kristin White Eagle would also like it noted, this is the first time hearing about this request.

New Business:

Resolution-Authorization for the Department of Education and Health to Apply for the Buckle Up for Life Innovation Grant

MOTION by Rep. Danielle DeLong to adopt *Resolution* 11-07-23 A, Authorization for the Department of Education and Health to Apply for the Buckle Up for Life Innovation Grant. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 12-0-0 **MOTION** CARRIED.

Resolution-Adoption of Amended Ho-Chunk Nation Residential Fee Simple Lease Template

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt *Resolution 11-07-23 B*, Adoption of Amended Ho-Chunk Nation Residential Fee Simple Lease Template. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Authorization for the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum to Apply for the Institute of Museum and Library Services Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Grant

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution** 11-07-23 \boldsymbol{C} , Authorization for the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum to Apply for the Institute of Museum and Library Services Native American/ Native Hawaiian Museum Services Grant. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Authorization for the Department of Health to Apply for the Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services Block Grant Supplemental Funding

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle Resolution 11-07adopt 23 D, Authorization for the Department of Health to Apply for the Substance Use Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services Block Grant Supplemental Funding. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 **MOTION** CARRIED.

Rep. Stephanie Begay mentioned that maybe with this grant, the Nation can develop a Prevention Division within the Department of Health.

Rep. Kristin White Eagle would like to know where the funds will fall within the Health Department. In one of the WHEREAS it refers to the Nation having a substance use disorder treatment program, and then asked if this is something that is in development.

Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle will find out that information.

Madison Advisory Council

There was a request from the Madison Advisory Council for a representative to be appointed to the council to help plan an event for the Children and Nature Network Conference.

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to appoint Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to the Madison Advisory Council. Second by Vice President Karena Thundercloud. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Executive Session:

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to move to Executive Session for Business Matters, Criminal Matters, Inter-governmental Relations, Land, Law Enforcement, Legal Advice, Personnel Matters, Public Safety or Well-Being. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting moved to Executive Session at 10:56 a.m.

The Executive Session recessed for lunch at 11:49 a.m. The Celebration of Ho-Chunk Banners on Bascom Hall Ceremony was held at Noon.

Executive Session was called to order at 1:30 p.m. Quorum was established.

Rep. Danielle DeLong rejoins the meeting online at 2:00 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to return to Open Session. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED**.

The Legislative Meeting returned to Open Session at 3:54 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to ratify all action taken in Executive Session. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Unfinished Business:

UNITY Conference (Revisited)

The requested information has been received.

MOTION by Rep. Danielle DeLong to approve the June 29-July 3, 2024 UNITY Conference held in Portland Oregon to be reconciled by the Youth Services Director using funds from the Youth Assistance pending the completion of UNITY 2023 reconciliations from Youth and Services Baraboo. Second by Rep. Robert Pilot. 6-5(Vice President Karena Thundercloud, Rep. Stephanie Begay, Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle, Rep. Shelby Visintin, Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr.)-1(Rep. Rodney Rave) MOTION CARRIED.

Adjournment:

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie BegaytoadjourntheLegislative Meeting to November 21, 2023 at the Tribal Office Building in Black River Falls, Wisconsin. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED**.

The Legislative Meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

LEGISLATIVE MINUTES / HEALTH / ADS

HO-CHUNK NATION
LEGISLATURE
SPECIAL MEETING
TRIBAL EXECUTIVE
OFFICES
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI
NOVEMBER 13, 2023

<u>Call to Order:</u> Vice President Karena Thundercloud called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call:

President Jon Greendeer-EX
Vice President Karena Thundercloud-P
Rep. Rodney Rave-P
Rep. Phyllis Smoke-P
Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr.-EX
Rep. Stephanie Begay-P
Rep. Kristin White Eagle-VC
Vacant

Rep. Shelby Visintin-EX
Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle-VC
Rep. Danielle DeLong-VC

Rep. Robert Pilot-EX Rep. Paul Fox-VC

Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah-VC

VC-Video Conference

Determination of Quorum:Quorum is established at 9:01

Opening Prayer: Rep. Rodney Rave offered a word of prayer.

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED**.

New Business:

Resolution-Authorization for Paid Administrative Leave for Tomah Area School District Native American Heritage Month

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt *Resolution* 11-13-23 A, Authorization for Paid Administrative Leave for Tomah Area School District Native American Heritage Month. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 9-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Conference Approval: Regulating the Cannabis Industry, December 12-15, 2023, Las Vegas, Nevada-Vice President Karena Thundercloud

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve conference travel for up to four Legislators to attend the Regulating the Cannabis Industry, December 12-15, 2023 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 9-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Executive Session:

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to move to Executive Session for Business Matters, Criminal Matters, Intergovernmental Relations, Land, Law Enforcement, Legal Advice, Personnel Matters, Public Safety or Well-Being. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 9-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting moved to Executive Session at 9:07 a.m.

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to return to Open Session. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 9-0-0

MOTION CARRIED.

The meeting returned to Open Session at 9:38 a.m.

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to ratify all action taken in Executive Session. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED. Rep. Paul Fox was not online during the vote.

Adjournment:

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adjourn the Special Legislative Meeting. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED. Rep. Paul Fox was not online during the vote.

The Special Legislative Meeting adjourned at 9:39



UW-Madison Research Project: Ho-Chunk Black Ash Baskets

I am a Ph.D. Candidate in the Anthropology Department at the University of Wisconsin Madison and Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal member conducting dissertation research on Ho-Chunk Black Ash Baskets. Adult Ho-Chunk tribal members that have knowledge of black ash basketry or tribal history are eligible to participate. If you would like to learn more about my UW-Madison Research Project:

If you would like to learn more about my research project or participate in sharing your knowledge, artistry, or family history, my contact information is below. This timesensitive research on the emerald ash borer impacting the black ash tree population will be conducted over the next year, 2023-2024. The time commitment for this research will be 1-2 hours and two meetings at a convenient, confidential location for the participant. This project is voluntary, and a small gift will be offered for your time.

For further information contact: Molli A. Pauliot (Huling-White) (608) 566-3336 or Pauliot@wisc.edu

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Dec-23		Antler Shedding			Three Rivers House)	
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Continued from Page 6 tribal members navigate the Heavy Equipment Request program for tree work, including helping find contractors. HCN DNR also helped Ho-Chunk RV Park cut hazard trees this fall.

Inter-Tribal Cooperation

In November the Oneida Nation Forestry Department put out a state-wide request for shagbark hickory (Carya ovata) for making their traditional La Crosse sticks. The HCN DNR stepped forward and offered to help. That same month HCN DNR Forestry staff selected, felled and processed three trees from our Red Bank properties with the help of Oneida staff and tribal

members. Just as other tribes have helped The Nation with procuring black ash seeds and logs, we were happy to help another nation continue their traditions. There are still plenty left for Ho-Chunk stickmakers!

The Future

The HCN DNR plans on continuing all the previously mentioned projects going forward. This winter there will be two timber sales set up in the BRF area. These are primarily pine forests which need to be cut for their long term health and to fulfill a contract with the State of Wisconsin which lead to reduced tax rates. Stay tuned about updates on this process.



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