



Covering the Ho-Chunk Nation



# HOCAL WORAK

Vol. XXXVIII, Issue 3

Hųc wiihiraagnira | Last Bear Moon

February 9, 2024



Young Ho-Chunk to be a  
Published Author

Page 2



Notice and Rules of Special  
Secretarial Election for April 5

Page 16

## Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg Hosts Local Veteran, Making His Last Wish Come True

*Vietnam Army Vet completes his final mission among a rally of support*

Wittenberg, Wisconsin - Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg, a community minded gaming establishment in north central Wisconsin, was able to make a final wish come true for local Army Veteran and Iola Resident, Ray Staral and his caretaker wife, Mary Staral.

An inquiry from Compassus Hospice in Stevens Point set in motion a flurry of teamwork to provide Ray and his wife Mary a memorable time for perhaps their last outing together. While providing care and support to patients and their families, Compassus Hospice has the opportunity to work with some patients nearing the end of their life's journey to help grant and coordinate a "last wish". In the case of Ray, his last wish was to visit Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg and have a nice  
*Continued on Page 4*



Ray Staral enjoying his meal



Ray and Mary Staral with Sous Chef Mitchell Giles

## Community Canoe Celebration in Madison

Ardith Van Riper  
Editor

On February 1, the community gathered for a meal celebration for the completion of a handmade canoe. Ho-Chunk Nation youth and other tribal youth working under the guidance of Gene Delcourt. The

Madison Metropolitan School District Title VI sponsored the event and the project that began in October 2023.

Native American Teacher Leader Tara Tindall welcomed everyone and asked Elias Heimlich to say a prayer over the  
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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.

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BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI 54615

HOCAL WORAK NEWSPAPER  
TEL: (800) 472-3089 FAX: (715) 284-7852  
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HO CHUNK NATION

Office of the General Council

Office of General Council Official Quarterly Report

To: General Council Members, and Legislative Branch

From: Nathaniel Longtail Jr. - General Council Advocate *NL*

Date: January 29, 2024

Re: Office of the General Council Official Quarterly Report

Good morning members of the General Council and Legislative Branch,

The Office of the General Council is hereby officially submitting the Quarterly Report to satisfy the provisions set within the Office of the General Council Establishment & Organizational Act.

**November 2023:**

- During the latter part of October 2023 a packet for two (2) Budget Modifications were sent forward to be addressed within the month of November.
  - Internal Budget Modifications – Approved by Legislative Finance Commission Motion.
  - True Increase – Approved by Legislative Resolution 12.05.23A
- The Office of the General Council submitted a third Budget Modification on November 13, 2023 for a True Increase to obtain Legal Counsel. This Budget Modification was denied by a Legislative Finance Commission Motion on December 1, 2023.

**December 2023:**

- On December 4, 2023 the Legislative Finance Commission was sent official notification to inform the Legislative Branch and the Legislative Finance Commission that their action in the way of a motion to deny a proposed budget modification for the General Council Branch during the December 1, 2023 Legislative Finance Commission Meeting appears to be an unlawful act according to the legal language within the Ho-Chunk Nation Appropriations and Budget Process Act 2 HCC § 4:
  - Budget Modifications
    - General Council.
      - 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.**
- They were also notified of our request for the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature and the Ho-Chunk Nation Finance Commission to take corrective actions According to the Ho-Chunk Nation Appropriations and Budget Process Act 2 HCC § 4:
  - Enforcement and Penalties. The penalties assigned the violations herein are mandatory and in addition to discipline administered under the Nation's employment law.
    - Enforcement and Imposition of Penalties.
      - Legislative Branch.
        - Violations of this Act by a Legislator shall be deemed a violation of fiduciary responsibility and subject that official to sanctions under the Nation's Code of Ethics Act (2 HCC § 1).
        - The Vice President shall enforce the provisions of this Act for employees within the Legislative Branch and impose the penalties provided by paragraph b, below.
      - Penalties.
        - Executive Directors and Enterprise General Managers and their subordinate supervisors having responsibility for formulation and execution of a budget shall be subject to the following penalties for violations of this Act.
          - For a first violation of this Act the individual shall be placed on probation and shall for **procedural violations be required to take correction action within thirty (30) days of the notice of the violation** and probation.
          - If the violation has not been corrected within thirty (30) days or if there is a subsequent violation of this Act within ninety (90) days, the individual shall be terminated from that position.
        - Employees of the government and enterprises other than those identified in paragraph (1), above, shall be subject to discipline, to include termination, as provided by the Nation's employment law.
- The Office of the General Council requested that corrective actions be taken to approve the previously proposed Office of General Council Budget Modification-True Increase to the following line items:
  - REGULAR WAGE EXPENSE - 100.3000.60000.10 - \$58,552.00
  - VACATION WAGE EXPENSE - 100.3000.60000.30 - \$1,750.00
  - HOLIDAY WAGE EXPENSE - 100.3000.60000.40 - \$874.00
  - SOCIAL SECURITY- EMPLOYER PORTION - 100.3000.61000.10 - \$1,765.33
  - STATE UNEMPLOYMENT - 100.3000.61000.30 - \$126.00
  - WORKERS COMPENSATION - 100.3000.61000.40 - \$247.00
  - HEALTH INSURANCE EXPENSE - 100.3000.62000.10 - \$3,536.66
  - DENTAL/VISION INSURANCE EXPENSE - 100.3000.62000.20 - \$488.50
  - LIFE INSURANCE EXPENSE - 100.3000.62000.30 - \$22.00
  - DISABILITY INSURANCE EXPENSE - 100.3000.62000.40 - \$48.66
  - 401K EMPLOYER MATCH - 100.3000.62000.50 - \$426.00

With a grand total of **\$67,836.15**

This Budget Modification was to allow the Office of the General Council to secure the adequate funding for a full-time General Council Attorney.

- The Department of Justice was also notified through Attorney General Gardner for the purposes of enforcement of 2 HCC § 4:
  - Prosecution by the Attorney General.
    - As legal counsel for the Nation, the Department of Justice shall prosecute all violations of this Act **promptly whenever:**
      - On the basis of any information available to him or her, including receipt of information from any person, the Attorney General has reason to believe that **any person is in violation of any provision of this Act** and the appropriate official has not the required disciplinary action; or
      - The Chair of the Finance Commission requests prosecution after the Commission has conducted a preliminary inquiry and has reason to believe a violation of this Act has occurred and the required disciplinary action has not been taken.
  - The Attorney General or his/her designee shall not exercise prosecutorial discretion.

- Lastly on December 21, 2023 the Office of the General Council received a memorandum dated December 20, 2023 that was to Vice President Karena Thundercloud and the Finance Commission's Presiding Officer, Legislative Representative Kristin White Eagle from the Ho-Chunk Nation Attorney General William Gardner. It was in RE to **Office of General Council Notification of potential Appropriation and Budget Process Act violation - DECISION**. It appears that the Attorney General may have exercised prosecutorial discretion with his decision to not prosecute the complaint. The Ho-Chunk Nation Judicial Branch was not given the opportunity to hear this complaint and afford the Legislative Branch to respond according o normal legal procedure. Instead it appears that Attorney General Gardner offered his own legal responses within the memorandum. This would normally be done by the defendant's legal counsel in the form of a response during a court proceeding, usually not by the prosecuting attorney.

**January 2024:**

- On January 2, 2024 a request was sent to the Office of the President – President Jon Greendeer for the Official General Council 2024 Meeting call.
- Then on January 15, 2024 the Office of the General Council received the Official Call for the 2024 Annual General Council to be set for September 21, 2024.
- Immediately after receiving the Presidential Call the Office of the General Council began the Request for Proposal processes regarding a venue.
  - Kohl Center – Madison WI, was the first to respond with an unfortunate update that the date would not work for them. Their RFP has been recorded.
  - Alliant Center – Madison WI, was the second to respond with great news that this date is available and has been in correspondence to meeting requirements and is hoping to have enough information in the near future to send us a proposal.
  - Kalahari – Wisconsin Dells WI, also responded with great news that this date is available and they will be sending their proposal in the next few weeks.
- Once a venue is secured we will be able to begin the process for all of the other vendors.

Thank you for your time. If you have any questions please reach out to this office directly.

Office of the General Council Main Number: 715-284-9343 ext. 11237

Nathaniel Longtail Jr.  
Office of the General Council – General Council Advocate  
[nathaniellongtailjr@ho-chunk.com](mailto:nathaniellongtailjr@ho-chunk.com)  
715-284-9343 ext. 11075

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Office of the General Council – General Council Deputy Advocate  
[Henry.WhiteThunder@ho-chunk.com](mailto:Henry.WhiteThunder@ho-chunk.com)  
715-284-9343 ext. 11070

OGC • P.O. Box 667, Black River Falls, WI 54615 • 27374 Hwy 21 Suite 2, Tomah, WI 54660  
Phone 715.284.7891 ext-11237, 11070 or 11075

# Young Ho-Chunk to be a Published Author

Ardith Van Riper  
Editor

Ho-Chunk Nation tribal member Jessalyn Smith is to be a published author at the age of 13. She penned a mini saga called “The Sickness,” and it was about COVID-19. The saga was an assignment from Longfellow Middle School in La Crosse, Wisconsin, and Ms. Raatz, an eighth-grade teacher, submitted the student stories to the Young Writers contest.

The contest challenged students to write a mini saga, a story in just 100 words, on the theme of hunted. Writers could choose to be the hunter or the hunted. The contest challenged students across the United States, and several winners’ stories will appear in a book called *Hunted* –

*Continued on Page 8*



NAC WISCONSIN DELLS

FEBRUARY

\$10 A SPOT OR 3 FOR \$25

BASKET WRAFFLE

PRAYER SHAWL 60X30 IN

CEDAR BAG 11X7 IN

\$30 GIFT CARD FOR JOSE'S WIS. DELLS LOCATION

STARBUCKS COFFEE

STARBUCKS TUMBLER

PASTA AND SAUCES

CANDLES

SET OF 4 GLASSES

CHOCOLATES

SPECIAL THANKS TO TERRY LEE SNAKE, HEATHER CLOUD, JOSE'S AND WIS. DELLS STARBUCKS!



DRAWING DATE TBD WHEN SPOTS ARE FILLED. WHEEL OF NAMES TO PICK THE WINNER VIA FACEBOOK LIVE. ALSO ACCEPTING FREEWILL OFFERINGS.

FB Pay: Nac WisconsinDells

Paypal: Rachel Thundercloud @RPTC422

CashApp: \$NACWD

Cash accepted via Rachel Thundercloud, Travis Cloud or Becky Davis



*Continued from Page 1*

meal.

“Odie (Orlando Ike) and Cher (Laubmeier) were really supportive throughout the process,” said Tindall. They allowed the use of the backroom of the Ho-Chunk Nation Madison Branch Office for the project.

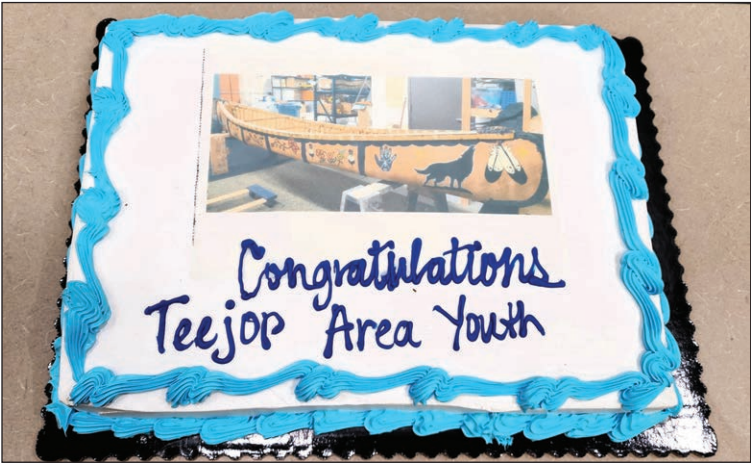
The canoe was on display while community members ate a potluck dinner. Shaya Schrieber from the school district said an art teacher

would like to store the canoe after completion.

“Here in Madison, it’s rare if we get opportunities to experience our indigenous culture and this is one of those rare and precious times,” said Tara Tindall.

Gene Delcourt provided a brief explanation of the canoe-making process. “This is a birch bark style canoe and very little of it is traditional material,” Delcourt began.

*Continued on Page 9*



**Attention: The Next Deadline of the Hocak Worak will be February 16th which will be published on February 23rd. Please contact Hocak Worak at ext. 11004 if you have a change of address or would like to be placed on the mailing list.**

# PREPAREDNESS

## TAKE CONTROL IN 1, 2, 3

Assess Your Needs

Make a Plan

Engage Your Neighbors

### Environmental Health Emergency Preparedness Survey

Scan me to take the survey online!



Follow the links below to video!

Video Link:  
<https://youtu.be/6DtH-7VfCgQ>  
[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

## Be Ready


Questions? Would like a paper copy?

Please contact  
Lisa Herritz 715-284-9851 Ext 35022  
Email: [lisa.herritz@ho-chunk.com](mailto:lisa.herritz@ho-chunk.com)



## COMING SOON... Waagax Hakeruxara Hosto

Library Board members of *Waagax Hakeruxara Hosto* invite you to join us, on Monday, February, 19, 2024, 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM. D1CC, N7261 Warrior Avenue, 2nd Floor, Black River Falls, WI. Preview the newly created tribal library. View the evolving collections, share ideas, and learn about services for all tribal members. Refreshments provided. Watch for more details in next Hocak Worak.



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.

### HOCAC WORAK NEWSLETTER


P.O. Box 667, Black River Falls, WI 54615


- **PHONE:** (800) 472-3089
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The Hocak Worak is a member of:

**The Native American Journalists Association**





**2016**  
**BETTER NEWSPAPER**  
**CONTEST AWARD**  
**WINNER**

WISCONSIN NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION



# Indigenous Peoples’ Day now an official paid holiday in Dane County

By Madison365 staff  
Reprint from Madison365

Dane County has joined a small handful of counties throughout the country that recognize Indigenous Peoples’ Day as an official paid holiday after the Dane County Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance amendment codifying Indigenous Peoples’ Day.

There are 11 federally recognized tribes in Wisconsin and the land that would later become known as Dane County is located on the ancestral and traditional lands of the Ho-Chunk, Sauk, and Kickapoo nations.

The Board also approved a resolution celebrating Indigenous

Peoples’ Day, the second Monday in October.

“For over 200 years, our country has honored Columbus Day as a holiday in some shape or form. Today, we recognize that the narrative around Columbus is inaccurate. I was inspired when four states began to celebrate Indigenous Peoples’ Day instead, showing respect and honor to our original people. Then I was further motivated in 2018 when the City of Columbus officially ended its celebration of Columbus and recognized this new holiday. A year later, Wisconsin dropped one holiday for the other,” said County Board Supervisor Rick Rose (District 16) in

a press release. “I’m glad that in 2024 we are doing more here in the first county in our state to make the day an official holiday. We are recognizing that we live on original Ho-Chunk land and their history and heritage is a vital part of Dane County life.”





# CORNHOLE Tournament

## Wednesday | Fed. 21<sup>th</sup>

### 5PM | House of Wellness

OPEN TO FIRST 16 TEAMS

REGISTRATION 4PM – 4:45PM

\$20 PER PERSON

DOUBLE ELIMINATION (NON-SANCTIONED)

STRAIGHT UP 21

BAGS FLY AT 5PM!

Prizes

1<sup>st</sup> \$100

2<sup>nd</sup> \$50



## 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Ho-CHUNK NATION

# FOUNDER’S DAY POWWOW



### LA CROSSE CENTER

300 HARBORVIEW PLAZA, LA CROSSE, WI 54601

SATURDAY

March 30, 2024

GRAND ENTRIES

Noon & 7pm

Contest Singing & Dancing

Moccasin Tournament | Lacrosse Games

Arts & Craft Vendors | Concessions

FREE ADMISSION

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



Powwow Contact: Waylon Pettibone 715.299.5508

Drug & Alcohol-free event. Not responsible for lost or stolen items. Must bring Tribal or CDIB.

Continued from Page 1

steak and lobster meal with his wife.

“Words cannot express what this means to us,” said Executive Manager Fletcher Collins. “To be able to provide such a request was so compelling and meaningful that we had to make this happen! We all have been blessed with this request. We all wish Mr. and Mrs. Staral all the best and we are grateful to them in many ways.”

Ray served in the Vietnam War from 1965 through 1966 in the United States Army. He was a supply man and provided support for the helicopter squadron that he served. Ray and Mary moved to Wisconsin over 25 years ago from the Chicago area after Ray retired from a trucking company that he owned. They have been married for 57 years; have two children who visit often, two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

“I had the pleasure of meeting Mary and Ray during their visit to Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg and what a blessing it was to witness,” said Slot Service Technician Adrienne Peters. “Watching Ray tear up while talking about their grandchildren and great grandchildren was so very touching. I am blessed to have been part of their visit and will always remember Ray’s face smiling, proud and happy.”

Ray and Mary made the trip to Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg from Iola for Ray’s last wish. As perhaps their final adventure out of doors that Ray and Mary will make together, employees at Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg wanted to make it a memorable and special time for the couple.

“We’ve been treated so good here, I’ll never forget this,” said Mary Staral. “I’m glad to see him happy and I’m trying to stay strong.”

“Everyone has been so nice,” said Ray Staral as he choked back tears. “I can’t believe what everyone has done for us today.”

The couple received Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg gifts and Rewards Play to enjoy during their visit. Sous Chef Mitchell Giles treated Ray and Mary to a delicious treat upon arrival to the Casino and later, an exceptionally prepared three-course steak and lobster banquet. Along with having the restaurant closed to the public and only open to the couple, the details and care put into creating such a special meal definitely elevated the overall experience and a memory to cherish for all.

“I am grateful and honored to be a part of a team and community that is willing to work hard and go the extra

step to make sure our guests have an amazing experience,” said Sous Chef Mitchell Giles. “Thank you Ray and Mary for giving us a chance to be part of your lives in such a special way.”

About Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg, Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg has been in business since 2008, with a major expansion

in 2018, which included gaming space and an addition of a luxury hotel. It is committed to providing excellent customer service to guests while creating an atmosphere that is fun, exciting, and strives to continue to support its employees and communities.



Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg staff with Ray and Mary Staral (Team members Left to Right: Jessica White Wing Clark, Karen Ostrowski, Adrienne Peters, Fletcher Collins)



# Bald Eagle Watching Days Take Flight Feb. 10 In Sauk Prairie

## All Events Are Free And Open To The Public

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) invites the public to participate in the rescheduled 38th annual Bald Eagle Watching Days happening on Saturday, Feb. 10, in Sauk Prairie. All Bald Eagle Watching Days events are free and open to the public.

Bald eagle lovers can watch eagles soar above the Wisconsin River from a newly renovated overlook located at 490 Water St. in Prairie du Sac. Volunteers will be available at the overlook to help visitors spot eagles and answer questions from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Visitors can also enjoy live raptor shows in the River Arts Center of the Sauk Prairie High School featuring educational birds and trainers from the Schlitz Audubon Nature Center in Milwaukee, a screening of a recently recorded rehabilitated bald eagle release with live expert Q&A session and more family-friendly activities. Full details are available on the Ferry Bluff Eagle Council website.

“These events offer unique opportunities for people to come together to celebrate the success of bald eagle recovery and conservation in Wisconsin,” said Sumner Matteson, DNR avian ecologist.

Active bald eagle nests can be found in every county of Wisconsin. Bald Eagle Watching Days celebrates eagles as they gather in winter areas, providing fantastic viewing opportunities as eagles from northern Wisconsin, Canada, northern Michigan and Minnesota move south in search of food. Raptors looking for fish typically congregate along open water areas below dams along

the Wisconsin, Mississippi and Fox rivers, where their growing presence has turned the sites into birdwatching destinations and inspired many community events.

The event is co-sponsored by Ferry Bluff Eagle Council, the Sauk Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce, the Wisconsin DNR and Tripp Museum in Prairie du Sac.

**Eagle Watching Tips**

The best time to see foraging eagles will be in the early morning (8-10 a.m.) as they depart their nighttime communal roosts to feed along the river and two hours before dusk as they return to their roosts.

When viewing eagles at these events or on your own, biologists advise onlookers not to venture too close as it will cause the eagles to fly off. Watchers are also encouraged to stay in their cars unless they are at a staffed viewing site.

To learn more about bald eagle watching, visit the DNR website.



The public is invited to participate in the Bald Eagle Watching Days on Feb. 10 to celebrate the species comeback in Wisconsin. / Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

EVERY THURSDAY IN  
FEBRUARY!  
1ST, 8TH, 15TH,  
& 22ND

P.R.O.S.P.E.R.I.T.Y. IN  
RECOVERY PRESENTS..

6-8  
PM

TRIVIA  
NIGHT

2 PERSON  
TEAM MIN.  
5 TEAM MAX.

\$5/  
PERSON

WINNING  
TEAM TAKES  
POT

COMMUNITY EDUCATION ROOM (2ND FLOOR)  
DISTRICT 1 COMMUNITY CENTER  
N761 WARRIOR AVE.  
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI 54615

CONTACT INFO: PROSPERITY IN RECOVERY FACEBOOK PAGE OR  
PROSPERITYINRECOVERY@GMAIL.COM

HOOCĀK HIT'ET'ERA  
NAĀWĀ :  
  
HO-CHUNK  
LANGUAGE IN  
SONG

THE EARTH  
STILL SPEAKS

STEVENS POINT AREA SENIOR HIGH  
2024 SPRING  
CHORAL CONCERT

LAKE DELTON DRUM  
JON GREENDEER

STEVENS POINT AREA  
SENIOR HIGH CHOIRS

SPASH AUDITORIUM  
STEVENS POINT WI  
  
MARCH 12TH, 2024  
  
7:30PM  
  
FREE PUBLIC EVENT

Attention Ho-Chunk Elders

Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Aging Division  
P.O. Box 430, W8825 Decorah Road  
Black River Falls, WI 54615  
715-284-0811

Tribal Aging Unit is working hard to make sure we have all the correct information for you on file. If you were born in 1964 or before we would like to update your information.

Name: (First, Middle, & Last) \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Tribal Id # \_\_\_\_\_  
Physical Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Please return  
Mail  
Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Aging Division  
PO Box 430  
Black River Falls, WI 54615  
Email  
[melissa.deloney@ho-chunk.com](mailto:melissa.deloney@ho-chunk.com)

Also can be turned into your local TAU or TAU Representative in Branch Office.

Thank you,  
Melissa Deloney  
Elder Benefit Specialist



Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health

House of Wellness

Behavioral Health Conference Room

PEER SUPPORT GROUP

Friday Nights at 6pm

Stronger Together

A solution based safe space for peers to share their lived experience

Info & register:  
danielle.miller@ho-chunk.com

# Edward Twinn Harvests Monster Buck

Edward Twinn (Ho-Chunk member) harvested a monster buck of a lifetime! Edward calls him “QuadZilla” because he has four drop tines. He was after the buck all season, and finally caught up to him one day after Thanksgiving during the 2023 Wisconsin gun season. He ended up scoring 201 ¾”.

Mr. Twinn shot a lot of monster bucks throughout his hunting years, but this is by far his biggest buck ever.



Ho-Chunk Nation

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

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TUTOR SERVICES DIVISION

We offer **personalized** individual and small group tutoring, in-person or virtually, during school or after school.

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1. COMPLETE APPLICATION  
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MM22

22ND ANNUAL MARCH 8, 9, 10

16 MENS & WOMENS DOUBLE ELIMINATION

MENS & WOMENS ENTRY FEE: \$600 PAID IN FULL TO SECURE SPOT

8th Annual Roberta Funmaker All-Star Womens Tournament

FRIDAY NIGHT: 3PT SHOOTOUT / DUNK CONTEST

SATURDAY: LITTLE HOOPSTERS

SATURDAY NIGHT: HAND DRUM CONTEST

ALL NATIVE

Must show proof of Tribal Enrollment AND Valid Photo I.D.

Men's

Women's

1st - \$10,000 1st - \$10,000

2nd - \$5,000 2nd - \$5,000


3rd - \$3,000 3rd - \$3,000

Tournament & Hotel info:  
contact sgilbeck@ho-chunk.com  
608.355.5155 ext. 15512



HOUSE OF WELLNESS  
Fitness | Aquatic Center





## Spring 2024 Wills Caravan

### SOUTHERN TOUR

Attorneys and Marquette Law Students will be at the **Ho-Chunk Casino & Hotel** on **March 12, 2024**, to assist Ho-Chunk Tribal members who want help drafting a will, powers of attorney for health care and/or finances, and other basic estate planning services for **FREE**.

## HO-CHUNK NATION

(Wisconsin Dells)

**March 12, 2024**  
**9 AM - 5 PM**

at  
Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Aging Unit  
S3214 Co. Rd BD  
Baraboo, WI 53913

*Appointments are in high demand. We therefore ask that you call us ASAP if you cannot make your appointment.*

*Please note an appointment will ONLY be scheduled once Judicare receives your completed paperwork.*


### To Schedule an Appointment


**STEP 1:**  
Call Beth Shampo at (715) 847-4526 or your Tribal Benefit Specialist to **REQUEST** the **REQUIRED** forms.

**STEP 2:**  
Complete the forms.

**STEP 3:**  
Return completed forms to Beth by email (bshampo@judicare.org) or fax (715-841-1010) or to your Tribal Benefit Specialist.  
**Deadline to return forms: March 1, 2024**

**STEP 4:**  
Beth will contact you to schedule your appointment.





## Spring 2024 Wills Caravan

### SOUTHERN TOUR

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## HO-CHUNK NATION

(Black River Falls)

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**9 AM - 5 PM**

at  
Ho-Chunk Tribal Aging Unit  
W8825 Decorah Rd  
Black River Falls, WI 54615

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# Just Hired!

# We may be able to assist.



## Our Services

- Training Assistance
- Educational Requests
- Supportive Services
- Continuing Education
- Help with resumes

Contact us at.  
[twd@ho-chunk.com](mailto:twd@ho-chunk.com)  
715-284-5877

## Tribal Workforce Development Division

## Ho-Chunk Nation Chicago Branch Office Indoor- Flea Market

**February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 12 noon-5pm**

Come join us for a fun filled day! Everyone is welcome!

## Indoor-FLEA MARKET



**We have no more tables available.**  
**You can bring your own table. Must RSVP by 2-16-24.**

**Free Refrehments & Homemade Chili and Frybread until gone!**

Questions? Contact Tammy Whitewing [tammy.whitewing@ho-chunk.com](mailto:tammy.whitewing@ho-chunk.com)  
4738 N. Milwaukee Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60630  
Office: 715-284-7894 Cell: 312-995-3745





# NEWS RELEASE

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection      datcp.wi.gov

Top Ten Consumer Complaints Reported to DATCP in 2023

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** February 1, 2024  
**Contact:** Caleb Kulich, Public Information Officer, (608) 621-1290,  
[caleb.kulich@wisconsin.gov](mailto:caleb.kulich@wisconsin.gov)

MADISON, Wis. – As the state’s primary consumer protection agency, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) receives tens of thousands of requests for assistance and resources each year. In 2023, DATCP received and responded to more than 10,000 written consumer complaints, with mediation and enforcement settlements resulting in over \$3.3 million returned to Wisconsin consumers and deposited in the general school fund from civil forfeiture payments.

“DATCP staff do incredible work protecting Wisconsin consumers from concerns ranging from simple transaction disputes to scammers and identity thieves,” said DATCP Secretary Randy Romanski. “I want to thank the entire Consumer Protection team for their commitment to promoting a fair marketplace through conflict mediations, investigations, and their efforts to proactively educate consumers.”

DATCP’s top ten complaint categories in 2023 were:

1. Landlord-Tenant Issues

Landlord-tenant issues were the number one complaint filed with DATCP in 2023. Consumers filed 2,208 complaints when disputes between landlords and tenants could not be resolved between parties, a slight increase from the previous year. Common issues reported were security deposit returns, eviction, unauthorized entry, inadequate disclosures, and unsatisfactory service. Additionally, DATCP received more than 60,000 visits to landlord-tenant consumer resources found on its website, including the [Landlord–Tenant Guide](#).

2. Telemarketing

DATCP received 1,276 telemarketing complaints in 2023, a slight decrease from 2022. These complaints concerned robocalls, phishing and spoofing, imposter scams, and [Wisconsin Do Not Call Registry](#) issues. Last year, DATCP joined the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ), the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), and agencies from all other 49 states and the District of Columbia in the [Operation Stop Scam Calls](#) initiative to crack down on illegal telemarketing operations responsible for billions of unwanted calls to U.S. consumers. This resulted in a lawsuit against a company that allegedly sent or transmitted approximately 157 million calls to Wisconsin phone numbers on the National Do Not Call Registry.

3. Home Improvement

Home improvement concerns accounted for 867 complaints in 2023. The top issues consumers reported include failure to provide services and materials, failure to honor warranties, deceptive and misleading representations, poor quality of work, billing disputes and incorrect charges, improper installation, and failure to properly disclose lien waivers. DATCP contributed to the federal investigation into Tyler and Jennifer Hansen, who [pleaded guilty](#) in 2023 to multiple charges related to home improvement businesses they ran together which stole over \$800,000 from Wisconsin consumers.

4. Telecommunications

DATCP received 642 complaints regarding telecommunications services in 2023, down slightly from the previous year. Consumers reported issues including billing disputes, disconnections and terminations of service, deceptive and misleading representations, refund and adjustment policies, and failure to cancel services when requested. Consumers should carefully read their contracts and policies to understand the extent and limitations of the services they are purchasing.

5. Identity Theft

With 459 complaints in 2023, reports of identity theft to DATCP decreased last year. Online account takeovers were the most common issue reported by consumers. To protect themselves against this risk and avoid the hassle of automated, sometimes unhelpful account recovery services, consumers are encouraged to create unique passwords and activate two-factor authentication for their important online accounts. Victims of identity theft should contact DATCP right away and keep in close communication with their DATCP consumer protection experts to recover and protect their identity against further fraud.

6. Medical Services

Complaints related to medical services decreased slightly from 2022, with consumers filing 380 complaints in 2023. The most common issues reported to DATCP include billing disputes, deceptive and misleading representations, and unsatisfactory service.

7. Motor Vehicle Repair

Returning to DATCP’s top ten list with 352 complaints reported in 2023, the number of complaints in this category more than doubled compared to 2022. Consumers reported issues such as failure to perform requested repairs, delays in service, poor quality of work, deceptive and misleading advertisements, overcharging, and charges for work not performed.

8. Travel

This category covers a variety of issues including motor vehicle rentals, airlines, hotels/motels, and travel company service bundling. DATCP received 255 travel complaints in 2023. Billing disputes, refund and adjustment policies, failure to return deposits and payment, and unsatisfactory service were commonly reported by consumers.

9. Motor Vehicle Sales (New and Used)

The ninth most common consumer complaint in 2023 concerned sales of both new and used motor vehicles, about which DATCP received 233 complaints. The most common issues cited in these complaints were inadequate disclosures, deceptive and misleading representations, and violations of prize notice and direct-mail marketing laws.

10. Motor Vehicle Accessories

DATCP’s tenth most common consumer complaint category of 2023, having received 185 complaints, was motor vehicle accessories. Common among these complaints were reports of deceptive and misleading advertising, refund and adjustment policies, defective products, and failure to deliver products.

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](mailto:DATCPHotline@wisconsin.gov).

###

Find more DATCP news in our [newsroom](#), on [Facebook](#), [X](#), and [Instagram](#).

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection  
CONSUMER COMPLAINT STATISTICS  
2023

RANK IN 2023	CATEGORY	# OF COMPLAINTS
1	Landlord/Tenant	2,208
2	Telemarketing	1,276
3	Home Improvement	867
4	Telecommunications	642
5	Identity Theft	459
6	Medical Services	380
7	Motor Vehicle Repair	352
8	Travel	255
9	Motor Vehicle Sales	233
10	Motor Vehicle Accessories	185

Total number of Trade and Consumer Protection consumer complaints received in 2023:  
10,882

Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health

EMOTIONAL SOBRIETY GROUP

STARTING FEBRUARY 7TH

\*or when group is full\*

A supportive non-judgmental environment for individuals coming together to focus on developing self-awareness and emotional wellbeing

8-week long sessions

All materials included

6PM-7PM WEDNESDAY NIGHTS  
AT HOUSE OF WELLNESS  
2ND FLOOR  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONFERENCE ROOM

TO REGISTER FOR GROUP  
PLEASE CONTACT  
Caitlin Clifford at  
608-355-1240  
ext 35563

Requirements:

- Must be willing to commit to the entire 8-week session
- Must be enrolled in behavioral health services prior to joining

Partners in Parenting:

Black River Falls area

Specific to parents and grandparents of infant to school-aged children

When:  
Wednesday February 21  
11:45 AM – 1:00 PM

Where:  
BRF D1 Comm. Center  
Multi-Purpose room

GUEST SPEAKER:  
JESSE MANN

The “Empowering Women” Program

Event includes free lunch and raffle!

MUST ATTEND PRESENTATION TO RECEIVE RAFFLE AND INCENTIVES

To sign up for your lunch reservation: Contact

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

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

HO-CHUNK HEALTH DEPARTMENT, HO-CHUNK HEALTH CARE CENTER  
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI

Continued from Page 2

Thrilling Tales From The USA.

Young Writers, established in 1991, is part of a worldwide publishing brand. According to their website, they pride themselves on “encouraging young writers to read, write and enjoy poetry as well as creative writing.”

Jessalyn, the eldest of two sisters and one brother, enjoys writing and keeps a daily journal. She developed her mini saga in her mind while her teacher explained the assignment. When the teacher released the

students to work, Jessalyn wrote her story in about an hour.


“I read her story and I thought that it was amazing, just the little details that she goes into,” said her father, Adam DeNasha. “She turned COVID into a predator.”

Hunted – Thrilling Tales From The USA publishes on March 31, 2024. The softcover book can be ordered for \$24.99 online at [www.youngwritersusa.com](http://www.youngwritersusa.com).



## Karen A. Hammer

June 7, 1980 - January 31, 2024



home for her children, Mohammed (Samantha) Ayesh, Jasmine Irizarry, Xavier Irizarry, the late Yvette Irizarry, and Nevaeh Irizarry. The joy of her life was further multiplied by her cherished grandchildren, Yvette Ayesh, Ezekiel Irizarry, and Azalea Irizarry.

Karen’s family was her world, and she leaves behind a legacy of love and cherished memories. She was a beloved sister to Gerald, Brenda, Tammy, the late Phillip, Gordon, the late Heather, the late John, Joseph, and Kayla. Her lifelong friendship with Mari Mendoza was a source of constant support and companionship. Karen’s absence will be deeply felt by her aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and a host of other relatives and friends who were touched by her vibrant presence. She is preceded in death by her parents Phillip Hammer Sr. and Donna Hammer.

A visitation to honor Karen’s life will be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, from 11 AM until the time of service at 1 pm. It will be a time for those who knew her to come together and celebrate the indelible mark she left on the world. The committal service will be held at Lincoln Memorial Cemetery at a later date.

Karen’s life was a beautiful journey of love, laughter, and unwavering dedication to her family. “She loved living her best life as a mom and grandma to the most amazing, beautiful kids in the world!”

Karen A. Hammer, a spirited and loving soul, passed away on January 31, 2024, at the age of 43, after a courageous battle with lung cancer. Born on June 7, 1980, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, she remained a lifelong resident of her beloved city, where she also drew her last breath, surrounded by the love and warmth of her family.

Karen’s life was a testament to the strength and resilience of her spirit. She was a proud member of the Ho Chunk tribe and held her Native American heritage close to her heart. Her role as a mother and grandmother was where she shone the brightest, pouring her love and energy into creating a nurturing

## VIRTUAL CLASS!

### BALANCING YOUR LIFE & DIABETES

..... Spring 2024 .....

Session 1	March 13	Basics of Diabetes- Kathleen
Session 2	March 20	Better Nutrition for Better Numbers- Kyla
Session 3	April 3	Improving Your Numbers with Exercise - Nick
Session 4	April 10	Navigating the Numbers- Kathy
Session 5	April 17	Accounting for Complications- Heather

Classes are at 5:30pm, virtual, via Webex. Classes are interactive and we learn from each other. You will receive an invite to the session the Tuesday before class (all classes will be held on Wednesdays). You must have a minimum of a phone and an email address to participate in the classes. You may call into the sessions if you are unable to join via video. You will be assigned a Lifestyle Coach who will assist you with your goal setting and any questions you may have regarding your diabetes.

Contact Rachel Montana or Lyndsey Killian at 715-284-9851 ext. 35039 or ext. 35068 or email [rachel.montana@ho-chunk.com](mailto:rachel.montana@ho-chunk.com) or [lyndsey.killian@ho-chunk.com](mailto:lyndsey.killian@ho-chunk.com) to sign up or if you have any questions.

## FALLING OFF TRACK WITH YOUR 2024 NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?

# GET BACK ON TRACK

JOIN US FOR 4 WEEKLY 30-60 MINUTE VIRTUAL SESSIONS IN FEBRUARY CENTERED ON GETTING BACK ON TRACK WITH YOUR 2024 HEALTH GOALS

**Goal Setting**  
Planning and making specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and timebound goals

**Tracking Progress**  
Setting milestones, gauging success, and finding opportunities for growth

**Setting Up for Success**  
Habit stacking, time management, life hacks, and proactivity

**Manifesting Motivation**  
Accountability, social support, professional help, and celebrating successes

**February 8th**  
11:00 AM

**February 15th**  
11:00 AM

**February 22nd**  
11:00 AM

**February 29th**  
11:00 AM

To register, contact HCN Nutritionist Alex Richeson at [alex.richeson@ho-chunk.com](mailto:alex.richeson@ho-chunk.com) or call (608) 355-1240 Ext. 35511

**HCN HEALTH & WELLNESS DIV.**


## Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health

In response to elevated PFAS levels in the Brockway Community Water System Environmental Health and Public Health are providing Brita pitchers & filters to affected individuals.

### Do you still need a Brita?

There are a limited number of additional pitchers left for Tribal members and employees on the Brockway community water system.

To receive a pitcher contact:  
**[Katelin.Berklund@Ho-Chunk.com](mailto:Katelin.Berklund@Ho-Chunk.com)**  
or  
**[Kevin.Gunderson@Ho-Chunk.com](mailto:Kevin.Gunderson@Ho-Chunk.com)**  
or 715-284-9851 ext 35060



Updated: 1.30.2024 KD

Continued from Page 3

He explained that he read a book and watched tutorial videos to figure out how to craft a canoe.

They used marine-grade plywood. It softens when heated. They soaked the wood for one day and used a clothing steamer to bend the boards. Then, they placed the boards into platforms until the boards cooled. Then, they cut the boards to conform to an oval shape. A polyurethane calk was used to seam the boards together. Parachute cord was used to lash it. Then, the tale was added. The school district purchased cedar wood to make up the ribs. However, they kept breaking. Ash wood replaced the cedar wood. Pine boards made up the inner lining. Four screws were placed for carrying the canoe.

Youth and Odie painted images on the canoe. The handprints were the signatures of the youth.

Tara Tindall then presented youth participation awards to Kyen

Schreiber, Carter Byinton, Gabriel Christner, and Elias Heimlich. Those not in attendance and were mentioned were Devin Starr and Landyn Morris. Adults who also received an award were Shaya Schreiber, Rachel Byington, and Forest Smart.

Orlando Ike presented Gene Delcourt with a token of gratitude, a golden eagle wooden statue. Then, he presented a crystal eagle statue to Elias Heimlich. “I’m thankful to be a part of this canoe. We still have to

find a name for this canoe because there was a Ho-Chunk, Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and Omaha that worked on this canoe.”

Odie welcomed those in attendance to view the canoe up close, and the mic was open to anyone who wanted to say something.

The event closed with remarks from Representative Lambert Cleveland, Jr.



# DNR, DHS Issue Updated Safe Fish Consumption Guidelines

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), in partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), today announced the online publication of the 2024-2026 Choose Wisely booklet, which outlines guidelines for safe fish consumption.

Fish are full of important nutrients like omega-3s and are a great source of lean protein, however, they may also contain pollutants from their environment and the food they consume that can cause health risks for humans.

To address this, DNR fisheries staff routinely sample fish from areas with suspected pollution or contamination as well as from heavily fished areas. Based on the levels of contaminants found, like polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), mercury and perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS), experts are able to determine the amount of fish that is safe to consume over a person’s lifetime to avoid negative health impacts.

“We test for contaminants in fish from a number of locations each year and use those new results, along with past testing, to update the advice for those newly tested waters,” said Sean Strom, DNR environmental toxicologist. “It’s important for anglers who frequently eat fish to be aware of advisory updates.”

This updated version of the Choose Wisely booklet identifies new advisories for Wisconsin waterbodies that have either elevated or decreased levels of contaminants, including:

- Removing of PFOS-based guidance for Black Earth Creek (Dane County) and the mercury-based guidance for Kentuck Lake (Vilas County) based on additional monitoring which showed consistently low enough levels to rescind the advisories
- Adding a PFOS-based advisory for the Hat Rapids Flowage on the Wisconsin

River (Oneida County)

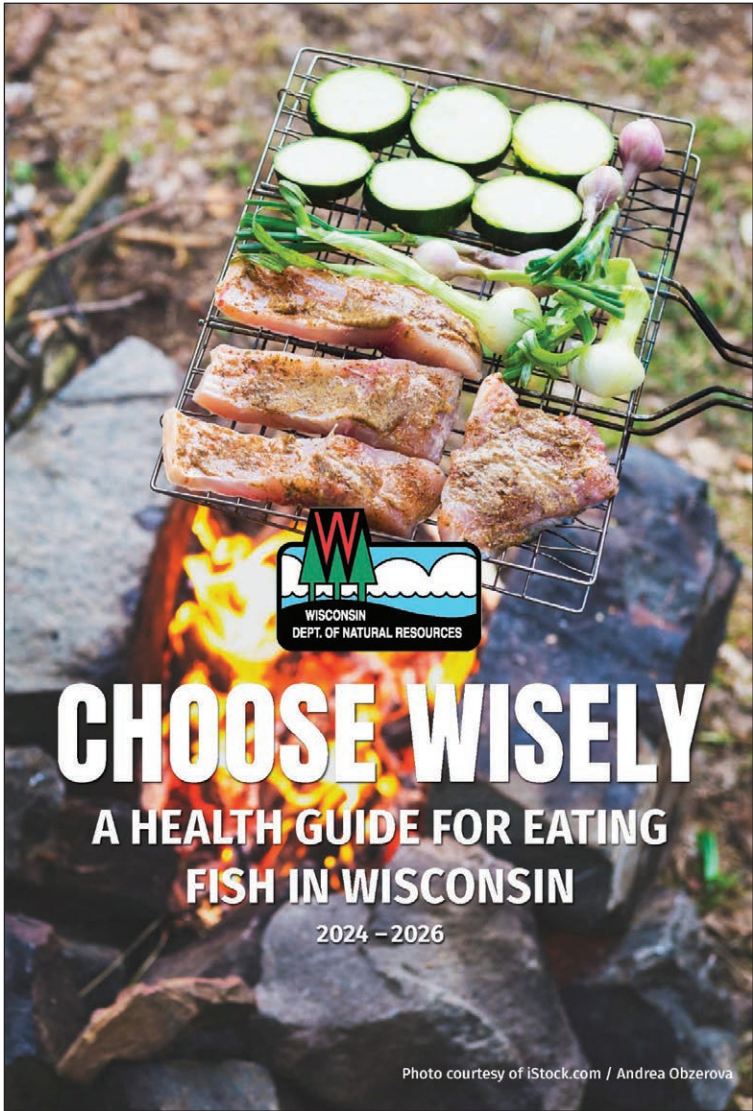
- New PFOS-based consumption advice for all species in the Moen Chain of Lakes (Oneida County)
- Modifications to consumption advice for certain species of Lake Michigan fish
- Adding a PFOS-based advisory for the La Crosse River from Angelo Pond to the Neshonoc Dam, including Perch and Neshonoc lakes (Monroe and La Crosse counties)

The DNR encourages the public to follow the safe-eating guidelines outlined in the Choose Wisely booklet to

reduce the risk of exposure to unwanted contaminants.

“When you follow Wisconsin’s fish consumption advice, you are still able to enjoy the many health benefits from eating fish while limiting your contact with contaminants that can build up in them,” said Dr. Sheryl Bedno, DHS Chief Medical Officer for Environmental and Occupational Health.

Waterbody-specific consumption advice can be found in the updated online booklet and by using the DNR’s online query tool.



**CHOOSE WISELY**  
A HEALTH GUIDE FOR EATING  
FISH IN WISCONSIN  
2024 – 2026

Photo courtesy of iStock.com / Andrea Obzerova

Fish are full of important nutrients like omega-3s and are a great source of lean protein, however, they may also contain pollutants from their environment and the food they consume that can cause health risks for humans. / Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

# UNITY Wraps Up a Successful Sold-Out Midyear Conference

*Highlights included appearances by Native American celebrities and influencers, cultural sharing, and learning opportunities*

Phoenix, Ariz. – Hundreds of Native youth from around the country are now armed with advocacy plans to help their tribal communities. They learned how to advocate for top issues during the UNITY Midyear Conference held February 2-4 at the Sheraton Phoenix Downtown Hotel. A record 700 attendees from tribal communities throughout the United States came together to participate in workshops, breakout sessions, and cultural sharing. The star-studded lineup of speakers and presenters includes hip-hop artist

Christian “SupaMan” Parrish (Apsáalooke Nation), actor Kiowa Gordon (Hualapai), visual artist Tomás Karmelo Amaya (A:shiwí/Ralámuli/Yoeme), and Netflix star Charley Hogan (Navajo) from the breakout hit “Frybread Face and Me.”

“I am always so inspired by both the speakers and youth attendees at our conferences,” said Mary Kim Titla, UNITY executive director. “The cultural sharing and education that happens here shows that there’s a bright future ahead for our communities.”

The event opened with a rousing keynote address and performance by Christian “SupaMan” Parrish, who spoke about challenges he overcame as a child while living on the Crow Reservation in Montana. Youth participants spent much of the conference in breakout sessions focusing on environmental, wellness, cultural, and mental health advocacy. The evening concluded with the UNITY mock pageant and social activities.

On day two, Shawn “DJ Continued on Page 11

## NIIOXAWANI COMMUNITY AGAINST DRUGS AND ALCOHOL POWWOW

**FEBRUARY 24, 2024 | D1 COMMUNITY CENTER & GYM**

**GRAND ENTRY AT 1:00 AND 7:00**

<b>MC:</b> Matthew Mann	<b>POWWOW COMMITTEE SPECIALS</b>
<b>Color Guard:</b> American Legion Post 129 & Ladies Auxiliary	Ho-Chunk Applique
<b>AD:</b> Bobby Blackdeer	Men’s Woodland Special
<b>Sound:</b> Travis Rave	Jingle Dress
	Hand Drum Contest during Dinner Break

**HOST DRUMS**  
IRONMOUND  
Black River Falls, WI  
BEARHEART  
Wisconsin Dells, WI  
**INVITED DRUMS**  
SMOKEYTOWN  
Zoar, WI  
PIPESTONE  
Lac Courte Orielles, WI

**Powwow Committee & the HCN are not responsible for any theft, stranded, or stolen property. Vendors are welcome. Bring your own tables, chairs, etc. Dinner will be served. Powwow: Sponsored by the Ho-Chunk Nation**

**VENDOR INFORMATION**  
Dana Deboer: (608) 317-3859

**N7261 WARRIOR AVE BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI 54615**  
**NO DRUGS OR ALCOHOL IS PERMITTED AT THE EVENT**

*Only 6 per class! Sign up now!*



## Diabetes Management Conversation Maps

**January - June 2024**

Tomah Health Office - March 4th - 11 am - 12:30 pm
BRF Community Health - March 28th - 3 pm to 4:30 pm
HOW Alberta Day Room - April 9th - 3 to 4:30 pm
Nekoosa Health Office - April 25th - 1pm to 2:30 pm
Wittenberg Siga Center - May 1st - 1 pm to 2:30 pm
La Crosse Three Rivers House - May 20th - 11 am to 12:30 pm
Madison Branch Office - May 23rd - 1 pm to 2:30 pm
Tomah TAU - June 3rd - 11 am to 12:30 pm
BRF Community Health - June 6th - 3 pm to 4:30 pm
Nekoosa Health Office - June 20th - 1 to 2:30 pm

**A one time, 90 minute session providing information on lifestyle changes such as healthy eating, medication management and physical activity in a supportive group setting.**

**To sign up please contact one of the Program Recruiters below.**


 Rachel Montana Program Recruiter 715-284-9851 Ext 35039 rachelmontana@ho-chunk.com	 Lyndsey Killian Program Recruiter 715-284-9851 Ext 35068 lyndsey.killian@ho-chunk.com
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# FACT vs. FICTION

**WITH HCN DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

**TEST AND SHARPEN YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF DRUG FACTS BY TAKING OUR QUIZ - 'DRUGS, FACT VS. FICTION'**

POINT YOUR PHONE'S CAMERA HERE



**OR VISIT: [HTTPS://HCN-BH.TYPEFORM.COM/FACTVSFICTION](https://HCN-BH.TYPEFORM.COM/FACTVSFICTION)**



FEBRUARY

2024

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
			1 OPEN BRF	2 OPEN BRF
5 OPEN BRF	6 OPEN BRF	7 WITTENBERG DISTRIBUTION 10:30 AM-12:30 PM	8 OPEN BRF	9 OPEN BRF
12 OPEN BRF	13 OPEN BRF	14 WIS DELLS DISTRIBUTION FOOD DEMOS WITH ALEX RICHESON 10AM-130PM	15 OPEN BRF	16 WIS, DELLS HOME DELIVERIES OPEN BRF
19 OPEN BRF	20 OPEN BRF	21 TOMAH DISTRIBUTION 12N-1:00 PM	22 SHIPMENT CLOSED	23 LACROSSE PICKUPS OPEN BRF
26 LAST FD PICK UP DAY FOOD DEMO WITH KATHY BRAATEN OPEN	27 NEKOOSA DISTRIBUTION 12N-1:00 PM	28 INVENTORY CLOSED		

\*\*CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY FOR TAILGATE DAYS\*\*

(Burns Paiute/Oglala Lakota), Eileen Crocker (White Mountain Apache), and J'Shon Lee (White Mountain Apache).

Throughout the weekend, several colleges, Native artists, and Native-focused organizations participated as exhibitors. The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians was the presenting sponsor for the conference. Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation sponsored lunch, the Seminole Tribe of Florida and Gila River Indian Community were champion sponsors. Other sponsors included ASU, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, APS, Apache Tribe of San Carlos, Chicken Ranch Rancheria Me-Wuk Indians of California, Daughters of the American Revolution, Freeport-McMoRan, Marquez and Melanie Quintero, Red Lake Nation, and San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians.

UNITY's National Conference will take place in Portland, Oregon, June 29-July 3. Registration is now open, with early bird rates available through March 31. Visit [www.unity.org](http://www.unity.org) for more information.



# DNR Seeks Tips On Illegal Elk Shootings In Jackson County

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) needs the public’s help in ongoing investigations into the illegal harvests of two cow elk in separate events in Jackson County during the 2022 gun deer season.

DNR staff received and responded to a mortality signal from a cow elk’s monitoring collar on Sunday, Nov. 20, 2022. The elk was found on private property near Whitney Road in the town of Knapp. DNR staff received a second mortality signal from another cow elk’s monitoring collar on Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022. DNR staff found the second elk near the Castle Mound and Brockway Roads in the town of Brockway.

Necropsy tests confirmed each animal had been shot. The deaths of

two breeding cows are losses to the elk population growth. The DNR issued a call for tips when the investigation first began in late 2022, however, the information provided thus far has been inconclusive and more information is needed.

No tip is too small. You can share tips of any kind by calling the DNR’s confidential violation hotline at 1-800-847-9367 or by submitting online.

Elk were reintroduced in Jackson County starting in 2015. DNR staff work with partner agencies to support a robust elk population. This includes collar monitoring of mortalities and location data of calves and adults.

For more information on elk in Wisconsin, visit the DNR’s elk webpage.

Winter Cooking Class

Wisconsin Dells/Baraboo

Tuesday, February 27th, 2024

4:30 - 6:30 PM

House of Wellness

S2845 White Eagle Rd

Baraboo, WI

(Meet in the kitchen off the Atrium)

Featured Recipes:

Chicken-Bacon Roll-ups

Roasted Red Potatoes

Cauliflower Steaks

Peach Crumb Bars

For questions or to register, please contact Alex Richeson at alex.richeson@ho-chunk.com or (608) 355-1240 Ext. 35511

Sampling will follow the class!

HCN Health and Wellness Division -AR- 1/2

Hųųc Wiłhiraagnįra

February: Last Bear Moon

HARVEST OF THE MONTH

Chia Seeds

ABOUT CHIA SEEDS

Chia seeds come from a desert plant in the mint family. Chia is native to western North America, Central America, and South America.

Chia seeds are an excellent source of Omega-3 fatty acid.

Chia seeds are a great source of dietary fiber, and also contain calcium, protein, iron, magnesium, and zinc.

Chia seeds were once utilized as a poultice and to treat fevers by indigenous people, in addition to being a staple in many tribe’s diets.

STORAGE AND USAGE

Chia seeds may be eaten raw or added to many dishes, even water.

It’s most common to add chia seeds to dishes with a liquid, as chia seeds are absorbent and have a jello-like texture after soaking in liquid.

Chia seeds can last 4-5 years without refrigeration. Store in a cool dry place.

CHIA PUDDING WITH WILD RICE

Adapted from recipe by Indigenous Dietitian Rachel Dickens

Ingredients:

2/3 cup cooked or leftover wild rice

1/3 cup chia seeds

2 cups milk of choice

1 Tablespoon maple syrup or other sweetener

Optional: Pinch of salt, vanilla, cinnamon or other spice

For serving: berries or chopped fruit, any kind (try frozen berries in the winter), chopped nuts or seeds

Steps:

1. Divide the chia seeds and milk between 2 bowls or jars. It will be 2.5 Tablespoons of chia seeds and 1 cup of milk in each bowl or jar. Mix well.

2. Add 1/3 cup of wild rice, 1/2 Tablespoon of maple syrup, and if using a pinch of salt, cinnamon and vanilla to each bowl or jar. Mix well.

3. Cover the bowls or jars and refrigerate at least 4 hours, or overnight. If using frozen berries for topping, add them now.

4. Check the consistency of the pudding. If too thick, add more plant milk. Add any desired berries, fruits, nuts or seeds to the pudding and serve!

5. Keeps in the refrigerator for 3-4 days.

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

Modified 1/24 HJ

HCN HEALTH & WELLNESS DIV.

http://health.ho-chunk.com/

HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT,

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

Jon F. Brown DOB: 6/02/21

By: Lori J. Gamble

Amended

Notice to Creditors

Case No. PR23-07

For Official Use

Notice to Newspaper and Personal Representative:

The personal representative is responsible for providing the deadline for filing a claim against the decedent's estate to all known or reasonably ascertainable creditors.

This notice shall be published for three (3) consecutive issues; the first publication date must be within 15 days from the date underneath the Clerk of Court's signature.

Here is the language that should be published in the newspaper:

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF THE ESTATE OF Jon F. Brown

A Petition for Probate was filed in the Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court. You have 90 days from the date of the first publication of this notice to present your claims to the personal representative, Lori Jeanne Gamble or the Clerk of Court at P.O. Box 70, Black River Falls, WI 54615. The deadline for filing claims is 4-24-24

Only those claims so presented may be paid from the estate.

Margie Shumate

Clerk of Court

Nam Thunder

Name Printed or Typed

1/10/2024

Date

Form completed by (Name)

Lori Jeanne Gamble

24609 Delight Avenue

Tomah, WI 54660

Telephone

608-567-7642

Bar Number (if any)

PR14, 04/18 Notice to Creditors

This form shall not be modified. It may be supplemented with additional material.

§8 HCC 13, HO-CHUNK NATION PROBATE CODE

DISTRICT 2 AREA MEETING NOTICE

LA CROSSE AREA | THREE RIVERS HOUSE

724 Main Street, La Crosse, WI

MONDAY, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 6:00PM

TOMAH AREA | TOMAH YOUTH CENTER

430 Julie St, Tomah, WI

TUESDAY, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 6:00PM

BARABOO/M DELLS/MAUSTON AREA | IND. HEIGHTS

975 Dyer St, Wisconsin Dells, WI

WEDNESDAY, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 6:00PM

REP. STEPHANIE BEGAY

stephanie.begay@ho-chunk.com

(608) 408-0339

REP. KRISTIN K. WHITE EAGLE

kristin.whiteeagle@ho-chunk.com

(608) 477-3007

REP. ROBERT FUNMAKER

robert.funmaker@ho-chunk.com

(608) 408-7723

LEGISLATIVE AIDE, Damian Thundercloud

damianthundercloud@ho-chunk.com

(800) 294-9343, Ext. 11151

POSTED 2/1/2024



HO-CHUNK NATION  
LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR MEETING  
TRIBAL EXECUTIVE  
OFFICES  
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI  
JANUARY 23, 2024

**Call to Order:** President Jon Greendeer called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

**Roll Call:**

- President Jon Greendeer-P
- Vice President Karena Thundercloud-VC
- Rep. Rodney Rave-P
- Rep. Phyllis Smoke-P
- Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr.-P
- Rep. Stephanie Begay-P
- Rep. Kristin White Eagle-VC
- Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr.-P
- ep. Shelby Visintin-VC
- Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle-VC
- Rep. Danielle DeLong-P
- Rep. Robert Pilot-P
- Rep. Paul Fox-P
- Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah-VC

VC-Video Conference

**Determination of Quorum:** Quorum is established at 10:01 a.m.

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

**Approval of Agenda:**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the agenda adding under District Meetings: I. D2 Hinukwas–January 22, 2024. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. **MOTION IS AMENDED** to add New Business: J. Indigenous Cannabis Industry Association Summit; New Business: K. Resolution-Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 08-29-23 E Authorization of Service Line Agreement for WE Energies on Lot 133 of Wazee Subdivision #439 T 2180. Second concurs. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:**

**Legislative Meeting-January 10, 2024**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the January 10, 2024 Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Special Legislative Meeting-January 15, 2024**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the January 15, 2024 Special Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-1(Rep. Danielle DeLong) **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Executive Branch Monthly Reports:**

**Department of Business**

A written report was received.

Rep. Stephanie Begay mentioned Executive Director of Business Robert Mudd has

established the Elder hotel rates that will go into effect March 1, 2024.

**Department of Education**

A written report was received.

**Department of Housing**

A written report was received.

**Department of Labor**

A written report was received.

**Unfinished Business:** No items under Unfinished Business.

**New Business:**

**RES Conference, March 11-14, 2024, Las Vegas, NV**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve up to four Legislators at attend the RES Conference, March 11-14, 2024, Las Vegas, NV. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution-Adoption of the Custody and Placement Ordinance (4 HCC § 18)**

Rep. Kristin White Eagle mentioned that there were no comments during the public review comment period.

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 01-23-24 A**, Adoption of the Custody and Placement Ordinance (4 HCC § 18). Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution - Adoption of Amendments to the Divorce and Custody Ordinance (4 HCC § 9)**

Rep. Kristin White Eagle mentioned that there were no comments during the public review comment period.

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 01-23-24 B**, Adoption of Amendments to the Divorce and Custody Ordinance (4 HCC § 9). Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution-Authorization for the Ho-Chunk Nation to Apply for and Enter into the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Inc. 2023-2024 Tribal Grant Agreement for the State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (SPAP)**

**MOTION** by Rep. Danielle DeLong to adopt **Resolution 01-23-24 C**, Authorization for the Ho-Chunk Nation to Apply for and Enter into the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Inc. 2023-2024 Tribal Grant Agreement for the State Pharmaceutical Assistance Program (SPAP). Second by Rep. Robert Pilot. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution-Authorization for the Health Department to Submit a Bemidji Area Indian Health Service Special Injury Prevention Project Proposal**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 01-23-24 D**, Authorization

for the Health Department to Submit a Bemidji Area Indian Health Service Special Injury Prevention Project Proposal. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution-Approval of the 2024 WDVA Grant by and between the WDVA and the Ho-Chunk Nation**

**MOTION** by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. to adopt **Resolution 01-23-24 E**, Approval of the 2024 WDVA Grant by and between the WDVA and the Ho-Chunk Nation. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution-Authorization of a Business Site Land Lease on Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells Property #439 T 2107 for Stromberg Wei LLC d.b.a. Adi’s Chinese Food**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 01-23-24 F**, Authorization of a Business Site Land Lease on Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells Property #439 T 2107 for Stromberg Wei LLC d.b.a. Adi’s Chinese Food. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 12-1(Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr.)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution-2024-2027 Tribal Transportation Improvement Plan Ho-Chunk Transportation Authority**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 01-23-24 G**, 2024-2027 Tribal Transportation Improvement Plan Ho-Chunk Transportation Authority. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Legislative Liaison – Trust & Investment Committee**

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to designate Legislative Chief Financial Officer Christina Neitzel as the Legislative Liaison to the Trust & Investment Committee. Second by Rep. Danielle DeLong. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Indigenous Cannabis Industry Association (ICIA) Summit**

Indigenous Cannabis Industry Association will be bringing together all the Tribal Nations in Wisconsin for a cannabis summit. The purpose would be to hear current, Legislative and Federal activities, and the current atmosphere within the Nations. The summit is scheduled to take place at HCG-Wisconsin Dells Convention Center, Wednesday, February 28-Saturday, March 2, 2024.

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to support and provide hosting financial support for the Indigenous Cannabis Industry Association to hold this Tribal Nations Cannabis Summit, and to refer this to Finance Commission for funding support. Second by Rep. Robert Pilot. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution-Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 08-29-23 E Authorization of**

**Service Line Agreement for WE Energies on Lot 133 of Wazee Subdivision #439 T 2180**

**MOTION** by Vice President Karena Thundercloud to adopt **Resolution 01-23-24 H**, Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 08-29-23 E Authorization of Service Line Agreement for WE Energies on Lot 133 of Wazee Subdivision #439 T 2180. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**District Meetings:**

**D1 Howasa – January 12, 2024**

No motions were made.

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to have the nomination of Penny LaMere Smart as District 1 Housing Board Member referred to the Department of Housing for a background check and return back to Legislature once completed for appointment to the Housing Board. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**D1 Niioxawani – January 10, 2024**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to Legislative Legal, Legislature and Realty for a history the MOTION by Henrietta Funmaker to have Legislature look into having the Redcloud Homestead returned to the family homestead from the Nation. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to Legislature, Legislative Counsel, Planning & Development and Realty the MOTION by Leland Bird to make the Christenson property into a mall plaza that would include a chain store. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**D3 Pac cinak – January 15, 2024**

No motions were made.

**NOTE:** The Pac cinak community have collected jackets and other warm clothing to send to Pine Ridge Reservation.

**D3 Tee hoikšek – January 16, 2024**

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to Department of Administration, Department of Personnel and the Office of the President the MOTION by Andi Jo Cloud to have the Executive Director of Administration look at the policy regarding elder and emergency transportation and reverse it. Second by Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**D3 Tejop – January 17, 2024**

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to the Finance Commission the MOTION by Chelsea Thompson to get the \$2,600 funds for the round dance here in Madison. Second by Rep. Lambert Cleveland,

Jr. 11-2(Rep. Rodney Rave, Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr.)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**READ FOR THE RECORD:**

**MOTION** by Dan Blumer to TABLE the discussion on the tutor program and move on to the next item on the agenda.

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to the Finance Commission the MOTION by Marlys Whiteagle to increase the Elite Elder property tax to \$5,000. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to the Finance Commission, HHCDA and Department of Housing the MOTION by Latisha Hoyo to have each area with property have its own property management staff. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to the Department of Administration the MOTION by Marlys Whiteagle to provide a storage/garage space for activities such as food, clothing donations, and TAU parking. Second by Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to the ERA Workgroup and the Office of the President the MOTION by Latisha Hoyo to get paid leave to attend area meetings. Second by Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. 10-3(Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr., Rep. Rodney Rave, Rep. Stephanie Begay)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**D3 Cexhaci – January 18, 2024**

**MOTION** by Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. to refer to HHCDA the MOTION by Richard Nakai to install one camera on Wilson Ln. for protection for the kids. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Lambert Cleveland Jr. to refer to HHCDA the MOTION by Richard Nakai to upgrade the playgrounds. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. to refer to the Department of Business and the Office of the President the MOTION by Richard Nakai to have pit bosses be nonexempt. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. to refer to the Office of the President and the ERA Workgroup the MOTION by Missy Redcloud for them to reevaluate the ERA tor exempt employees that are non-essential to get paid administration leave for inclement weather. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 13-0-0 *Continued on Page 14*



Continued from Page 13  
**MOTION CARRIED.**

**D4 Guuŝgonak – January 15, 2024**

No motions were made.

**D4 Maanico Horuzra – January 18, 2024**

**MOTION** by Rep. Robert Pilot to refer the Finance Commission the **MOTION** by Michael Goze to have the Ho-Chunk Nation sponsor this event in the amount of \$10,000. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Robert Pilot to confirm Alex Fox as the Twin Cities Election Board Alternate. Second by Rep. Danielle DeLong. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**D2 Hinukwas-January 22, 2024**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the Attorney General William Gardner the **MOTION** by Marsha Smith that the Legislators ask the Attorney General for clarification on the zero tolerance policy that address’s Election Board members consuming alcohol while attending Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board overnight stays for meetings. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**READ FOR THE RECORD:**

**MOTION** by Marsha Smith to nominate Robin Blackdeer for the Board of Commissioner for HHCDa.

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Legislative Legal to draft a resolution for the confirmation of Robin Blackdeer to the HHCDa Board of Commissioner and added to the agenda after Executive Session pending the background check regarding the **MOTION** by Tracy Littlejohn to accept the nomination of Robin Blackdeer to the Board of Commissioners for HHCDa. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**READ FOR THE RECORD:**

**MOTION** by Melanie Stacy that if District 2 could expedite Robin Blackdeer to the HHCDa Board of Commissioners to have her start immediately due to little representation in the La Crosse Area. *Rep. Stephanie Begay stated this is the reason it was added to the agenda today.*

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Legislative Legal regarding the **MOTION** by Tracy Littlejohn request that the Legislators check on the start date for the Veterans Advisory Board member. Second by Rep.

Robert Funmaker, Jr. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the Office of the President the **MOTION** by Adam Kruse to have President Jon Greendeer attend the next area meeting in La Crosse to discuss the Founder’s Day Pow-wow and how it came about. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Twelve Clans and Legislative Legal the **MOTION** by Tracy Littlejohn that 12 Clans come back with a business plan at the next area meeting in February and if they are unable to comply with the request that the Legislators take action in dissolving 12 Clans. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 13-0-0 **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. Phyllis Smoke. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*The meeting moved to Executive Session at 10:46 a.m.*

*The Executive Session*

*recessed for lunch at 12:15 p.m. until 1:00 p.m.*

*Vice President Karena Thundercloud called the Executive Session to order at 1:03 p.m. Quorum was establish. Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle was excused for the remainder of the meeting. Rep. Robert Pilot is online.*

*President Jon Greendeer arrives to the meeting at 1:10 p.m. and continues to chair the meeting.*

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

*The meeting returned to Open Session at 2:16 p.m.*

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to ratify all action taken in Executive Session. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Release to Open Session:**

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to move the topic of Village West Housing Development to Open and allow the release of information as allowable by law related to this subject, with the exception of items subject to Section 6 Executive Session of the Open Meetings Act, which may include contracts, financial negotiations, legal advice and discussion about

investors, in order to move forward with the Village West Workgroup established by Legislative Resolution 08-01-23 O, and release this motion to the Open Session minutes. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 13-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**District Meetings: (Continued)**

**Resolution-Confirmation of Robin Blackdeer as District 2 La Crosse County Ho-Chunk Nation Housing and Community Development Agency Board Member.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 01-23-24 I**, Confirmation of Robin Blackdeer as District 2 La Crosse County Ho-Chunk Nation Housing and Community Development Agency Board Member. Second by Rep. Robert Funmaker, Jr. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Adjournment:**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adjourn the Legislative Meeting to February 6, 2024 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 2:19 p.m.*

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Wisconsin Procurement Institute  
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Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin

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NOTICE AND RULES OF SPECIAL SECRETARIAL  
ELECTION  
FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2024



Notice is hereby served to all eligible voters of the Ho-Chunk Nation that the Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board is calling for Secretarial Election:

Article XIII of the Constitution provides: “Section 1. Requirements. This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the qualified voters of the Ho-Chunk Nation voting at an election called for that purpose by the Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board, provided, that at least thirty (30) percent of those entitled to vote shall vote in such election.

(2) The Election Code (2 HCC § 6); and  
(3) Article XIII of the Constitution provides: “**Section 2. Requests for a Secretarial Election.** It shall be the duty of the Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board to call and hold an election on any proposed amendment to this Constitution at the request of two thirds (2/3) of the entire Legislature, at the request of the General Council, or upon presentation of a petition signed by thirty (30) percent of the eligible voters of the Ho-Chunk Nation.”

(1) All Secretarial Elections will be administered by the Election Board.

Article XIII of the Constitution provides: “Section 2. Requests for a Secretarial Election. It shall be the duty of the Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board to call and hold an election on any propose amendment to this Constitution at the request of two thirds (2/3) of the entire Legislature, at the request of the General Council, or upon presentation of a petition signed by thirty (30) percent of the eligible voters of the Ho-Chunk Nation.”

AMENDMENT ONE:

To amend Article II Section 1(d) to read as follows:

ARTICLE II- MEMBERSHIP  
Section 1  
HCN Constitution Reads:  
“(d) Beginning the date of this amendment is approved, the Ho-chunk Nation shall no longer consider or accept for enrollment any person who has previously been enrolled as a member of another Tribe (including the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska) Proposed change to the constitution: unless such person was enrolled in the other tribe as minor and later relinquishes such membership or other extenuating circumstances (as determined by a committee of elders duly appointed as provided by law) exist.”

Voters will be asked a Yes or No question. A “yes” vote will be in favor of the amendment. A “no” vote will be against the amendment, and to leave the Constitution unchanged.

PURSUANT TO ARTICLE XIII SEC 1 AND ELECTION CODE SECTION 3.bb, THIRTY PERCENT (30%) OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS MUST CAST A VOTE EITHER FOR OR AGAINST THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS FOR THE AMENDMENT TO BE VALID. IF LESS THAN 30% OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS PARTICIPATE, THE AMENDMENT SHALL BE DEEMED TO NOT PASS.

Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board  
P.O. Box 247  
Black River Falls, WI. 54615  
TELEPHONE (715)284-8900  
TOLL FREE (800)890-0583  
FAX NUMBER(715)284-8600  
E-MAIL:  
[Election.board@ho-chunk.com](mailto:Election.board@ho-chunk.com)

Ballots may be returned by overnight mail, so they may be received at the Election Board Post Office Box 247.

NOTE THAT FEDEX and UPS NEXT DAY AIR DOES NOT DELIVER IN BLACK RIVER FALLS ON SATURDAYS.

**NO IN PERSON BALLOT DROP OFFS WILL BE ACCEPTED AT THE ELECTION BOARD OFFICE**

POSTING ELECTION RESULTS:  
The Election Board shall certify and post the official election results within three (3) days after the date of election.

CONTESTING OF ELECTION RESULTS: Any member of the Ho-Chunk Nation may challenge the results of any election results within ten (10) days after the Election Board certifies the results. The Trial Court shall hear and decide a challenge to any election within twenty (20) days after the challenge is filed in the Trial Court.

SECRETARIAL ELECTION  
Friday, April 5, 2024

POST NOTICE OF ELECTION  
Monday, February 5, 2024

POST ELIGIBLE VOTERS LIST  
Monday, February 5, 2024

CHALLENGES TO THE ELIGIBLE VOTERS LIST MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO Monday, March 18, 2024 4:00 PM

DAY MAIL BALLOTS WILL BE MAILED  
Tuesday, February 20, 2024

LAST DAY TO REQUEST REPLACEMENT BALLOT  
Tuesday March 26, 2024 4:00 pm

**CERTIFICATION DAY:**  
**Saturday, April 6, 2024 at 9:00 am at**  
**HO-CHUNK GAMING- WISCONSIN DELLS**

ALL BALLOTS DUE TO  
P.O. BOX 247  
BY Friday, April 5, 2024 4:00 p.m.