



Covering the Ho-Chunk Nation



# HOCAK WORAK

Vol. XXXIX, Issue 6

Wake hikiruxe wira | Raccoon Mating Moon

March 28, 2025

*You are Invited*

**Invitation to the State of the Ho-Chunk Nation**

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## Tribal Chairman Fowler Delivers 2025 State of the Tribes Address

Kaili Berg

On March 18, 2025, tribal leaders from across Wisconsin gathered at the State Capitol for the annual State of the Tribes Address.

This year's speech was delivered by Chairman Thomas Fowler of the St. Croix Chippewa Indians of

Wisconsin. It marked the 21st year this important event has taken place, giving Indigenous nations a platform to speak directly to state lawmakers.

"Tribal nations seek common-sense policy reforms that strengthen our ability to govern, and protect our own people, and preserve our

own cultures, and control our own lands and resources within our own boundaries, because tribes are not children of the government," Chairman Fowler said.

Education was a major focus. Fowler praised UW-Madison for its tuition waivers for tribal students but

asked for those same opportunities to be available at other UW schools, especially those closer to tribal communities.

"St. Croix is in an educational desert, and our kids won't all find success moving so far from home," *Continued on Page 4*



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## HCN DNR Stand Exams and Tree Risk Assessment News

The Ho-Chunk DNR is always making efforts to be aware of the health of our trees and forests. As such, all forests on trust lands and trees in human occupied areas on trust lands with over 50% control by the HCN are periodically inspected. Rural stand exams and urban tree risk assessment surveys have different emphases, but the same goal. To keep trees healthy and people safe. In either case, HCN DNR employees will sometimes be on allotment lands doing stand exams or near your home or workplace looking at trees without notice.

Every forest stand on HCN trust lands is expected to be inventoried every 10 years. This includes 100% Ho-Chunk Trust lands totally controlled by the Nation, and allotments that may be controlled by heirs or a combination of heirs *Continued on Page 7*



**Hoocak Xatap Hirakra Kjetil Garvin measures the diameter of a white pine on a Ho-Chunk allotment.**

**INSIDE SCOOP..**

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



# HCN Tree Planting 2025

Spring is nearly upon us, and the Ho Chunk Nation Department of Natural resources has big plans for planting trees. We have ordered 5500 seedlings for reforestation, 20 fruit trees and about 250 container trees for public areas and yards. We will need the community’s help planting the forestry seedlings. We will also need help finding homes for the container trees. Perhaps most importantly, we will need help watering the trees planted in community areas or in yards.

Last year Ho-Chunk tribal members, Viroqua Youth Initiative High School students, and Alliant Energy employees, and HCN DNR employees helped plant over 2500 canopy and food forest trees. It went so well, that we decided to more than double our goal this year. We are planning major plantings in the Kickapoo Valley Reserve, in the old agricultural field across from the Nekoosa Casino, in the new walking track in Wittenberg, a community garden area near Dells Dam and in some of the wetland properties around Black River Falls. We have ordered a wide variety of trees including three kinds of oak,

white cedar, shagbark hickory, black walnut, pine, wild plum and about 15 other species. This is much different than the typical red pine plantation most organizations plant!

As plans solidify we will be calling for volunteers to plant trees and install tree tubes. We will reach out through different HCN Departments and community leaders. Most of the planting will happen in the last couple of weeks of April. Any questions about forestry planting can be directed to [greg.blick@ho-chunk.com](mailto:greg.blick@ho-chunk.com).

Our Tree Planting Bonanza for urban settings is continuing again this year. Most of the trees this year were purchased with money from the Inflation Reduction Act, via the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. This grant requires that trees be planted in areas that meet certain criteria. Prime among them is being part of a “Disadvantaged Community.” All Ho-Chunk tribal members who live on trust land or allotments can have a tree or two planted for them through this program. HCN tribal members who live off trust land may also be eligible. Eligibility can be determined by searching “Wisconsin DNR

IRA interactive map” and looking at the map. We also received some money from Alliant Energy, and tribal members who live in their service area have some trees set aside for them as well. We have a few extra trees for people who live in other situations. Species include, elm, oak, maple, lilac tree, mountain ash, honeylocust, purple beech, musclewood, basswood, serviceberry, catalpa, redbud, Kentucky Coffee Tree, Hackberry, Ginkgo, Black Walnut, Willow, Kousa Dogwood, Rhododendron, Spruce, and Arborvitae.

Anybody getting a tree planted for them will be expected to water several times a week for the first couple of years. If you don’t water them they will die those first two years. It is as simple as that. We get good trees and we know how to plant them. After that they should be able to take care of themselves.

To request a tree for your yard and see if you are eligible email us at [treebonanza@ho-chunk.com](mailto:treebonanza@ho-chunk.com).

Remember, if you don’t plant a tree with the Ho Chunk DNR, plant one yourself!



Waukon Blackdeer plants a tree for a tribal elder.



The 2024 Ho Chunk Youth Services and Viroqua Youth Initiative planting team.

## Letter from Anne Egan-Waukau

On April 1, Wisconsinites will elect a new justice to the Wisconsin Supreme Court. By voting, Indigenous people will have the opportunity to shape our future and the future of the generations to come.

The Wisconsin Supreme Court holds the power to make decisions related to environmental protections, Tribal sovereignty, abortion access, the Indian Child Welfare Act, and much more.

Native Americans must head to the polls to protect the work of past generations who fought to protect our families, our culture, and our future, because the Wisconsin Supreme Court may make decisions that are crucial to Indigenous people.

Such as:

- Protecting our Native American children and families through the Wisconsin Indian Child Welfare Act (WICWA). WICWA protects the best interests of Native American children and promotes the stability and security of Wisconsin Tribes and families. WICWA ensures that Native children placed into the foster care system are placed into the custody

of fit and willing Indigenous relatives. In the past, Native children were placed with white families, a practice that may have contributed to historical trauma.

- Our sovereignty, which protects the inherent authority of tribes to govern themselves and allows tribes to honor and preserve their cultures and traditional ways of life.
- Our right to clean water and the protection of our waterways that hold our wild rice beds, and ancient walleye and sturgeon spawning grounds that travel from Lake Superior and wind through the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin’s pristine Wolf River.

Beyond tribal concerns, the Wisconsin Supreme Court plays a vital role in upholding checks and balances within state government, ensuring that voters’ voices are heard.

Wisconsin Native Vote remains committed to protecting Indigenous rights, language, and sovereignty. We encourage you to vote on April 1 – because our future, and that of the next seven generations, depends on it.

Anne Egan-Waukau



### STATE OF THE HO-CHUNK NATION

We are excited to invite you to the State of the Ho-Chunk Nation address. During this event, the President will reflect on the achievements of the past year and outline the goals and plans for the year ahead.

Our leadership, governing body, and esteemed guests will be present, making this a unique opportunity to hear directly from our leaders and celebrate the growth of our Nation. We look forward to your presence at this important occasion.

6:00PM

APRIL 15, 2025

HO-CHUNK GAMING  
BLACK RIVER FALLS BINGO HALL  
W9010 Hwy 54 East, Black River Falls, WI 54615

*Food and refreshments provided. Virtual option will also be provided for all unable to attend in person.*



# Art, Identity, and Ash

## Ho-Chunk Baskets on Display

Kaili Berg

The Paine Art Center and Gardens in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, is currently hosting “Weaving a Legacy: Ho-Chunk Black Ash Basketry,” an exhibition showcasing basketmaking in Wisconsin.

Running from March 15 through June 29, 2025, this exhibit features over 100 works by Ho-Chunk artisans, spanning from the early 1900s to the present day.

The Ho-Chunk black ash basket-making tradition dates back to the 1820s. Initially, these baskets were utilitarian, crafted for everyday use without adornment.

Over time, as the tourist industry grew, especially along routes like Highway 12, the baskets evolved in design and function, reflecting both the makers’ specialization and the

increasing demand from collectors and tourists.

This evolution led to a variety of basket forms, including sewing, picnic, hamper, shopper, market, purse, egg, barrel, feather, and funerary urn baskets.

The exhibition at the Paine is

*Continued on Page 6*



April

Elder Birthdays

1 Bruce Decorah

Harold Brooks

2 Gregory Butterfield

Thomas Powers

John Whitewing

3 John De Trinidad

Richard Funmaker

4 Timothy Hanson

5 Gary West

6 Lisa Buttolph

Anthony Mullen

7 Mildred Moyer

8 Lee Brown, Jr.

Gary Phillips

Samuel Thundercloud

9 Phyllis Big Soldier

Ira Funmaker

Ella Powless

Regina Reel

10 Bonita Clairmont

Teala Edwards

Aurelia Hopinkah

Alan Kehe

Bryan Lowe

Dean Whitewater

11 Raymond Cabasos

Kathy Frogg

Annette Littlewolf

Linda Reider

Dean Ryan

Kurt Winneshiek

12 Roger Perry

13 Leanne Burnstad

Lori Schmolke

Bonnie Tech

14 Harrison Funmaker

Leona Mc Kee

15 Sandra Blumer

Roger Pettibone

Barbara Whitewater

Gary Whitewing

16 Lois Behrens

Ileana Henry

Reginald Pettibone

Pamela Wilber

17 Anita Alderman

Robert Bird

Consuelo Contreras

James Greendeer

Beverly Inman

Roger Snake

Kenneth Whitehorse

18 Ruth Decorah

19 Rae Garcia

20 Robert Blackdeer

21 Kimberly Cloud

Quinn Sieber

Stuart Taylor

22 Dale Alderman

Nathaniel Cloud

Rita Gardner

Michele MacKinnis

Sharon Ornellas

Ila Waller

23 Edith Big Soldier

Ernestine Helgesen

Sue Krivitz

Suzanne McComas

Dale Prescott

Kathy Trudel

24 Dolly Finn

Caralee Murphy

Betty Preece

25 Roger Allen

Martin Falcon

Edward Greengrass

Joan Miller

Debra Neer

Frank Tudahl

Alan Whitegull

26 Jacob Lonetree

Sandra Sliwicki

27 Gregory Blackcoon

Mark Houghton

28 Glen Greengrass

Thomas Lopez

Lora Poppele

Terry Snowball

29 Bartola Enright

Dean Goodrich

Gregory Henry

Charles Miner

30 William Kingswan

Carolyn Thompson

**Attention: The Next Deadline of the Hocak Worak will be April 4th which will be published on April 11th. Please contact Hocak Worak at ext. 11004 if you have a change of address or would like to be placed on the mailing list.**

S.O.S.!

Strengthen Our Sovereignty! Part 3

How Big Should A Garden Be?

FIRST—How big is the available space? You may not want to use all of it but you may also have to be satisfied with a smaller space than you would like to have. You can have your garden in two sections if that is the only way you can get sufficient space for your plans. The closer these sections are together the easier they will be to attend.

SECOND—How experienced are you at gardening? While there is nothing mysterious or difficult about raising vegetables,

- A beginner will not be able to work as fast as an experienced gardener, or
- Be as good a judge of how much work is involved as fast as an experienced gardener,
- Or be as good a judge of how much work they are cutting out for themselves.
- They may find that they are unwilling or unable to do the necessary amount of work to bring the plants to the ripening and harvesting stages. (For example, we refer to our gardening as “survival of the fittest”—may the best plants win and good luck!)

Remember, too, that a modest garden will supply you with a surprising quantity of vegetables. Of course, if too much ripens at once (and you do not can or otherwise preserve it), you can always share it with your neighbors, but it does mean extra work for you. Review the plans of various size gardens by doing an Internet search on “garden sizes”, and select based on what you can successfully handle.

If you are experienced, you need little guidance. Undoubtedly you will plan one big enough to meet your current food needs as well as supply you with a surplus for canning or storage.

- We also advise the beginner to stick with easy going annuals and leave the perennials, such as asparagus, strawberries, rhubarb to the experienced gardener, or understand that you will not likely get much yield from your perennials the first year and look for them in future years. Of the annuals it is well to leave out of your places such vegetables as cauliflower, watermelons, carrots, and celery because they are they are challenging to grow in our area.

THIRD—Plan to grow the things that you and your family like best. Radishes are fine for people who like them, but why grow them if you don’t? And involve the children! It’s especially fun for them to watch the growth of their plants and to eat them when the time comes. Weston School District in WI had their students plant apple trees. The students picked “their apples” over the other fruit offerings at school those days.

FOURTH—Plan to grow a succession of crops.

- This is the most important reason for having a definite plan on paper before you start.
- It is the only way to insure a steady supply of fresh vegetables all season.
- Where your space is limited, such a plan will also help you to get two or three quick growing crops from a single row.
- Remember to put friendly plants next to each other. Go on the Internet and search companion plants to the plants you intend to grow. Articles will help you know that marigolds are good for tomatoes, and that tomatoes and cucumbers do not like to grow next to each other.

Brought to you as a PSA from Good Life Grant Program

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

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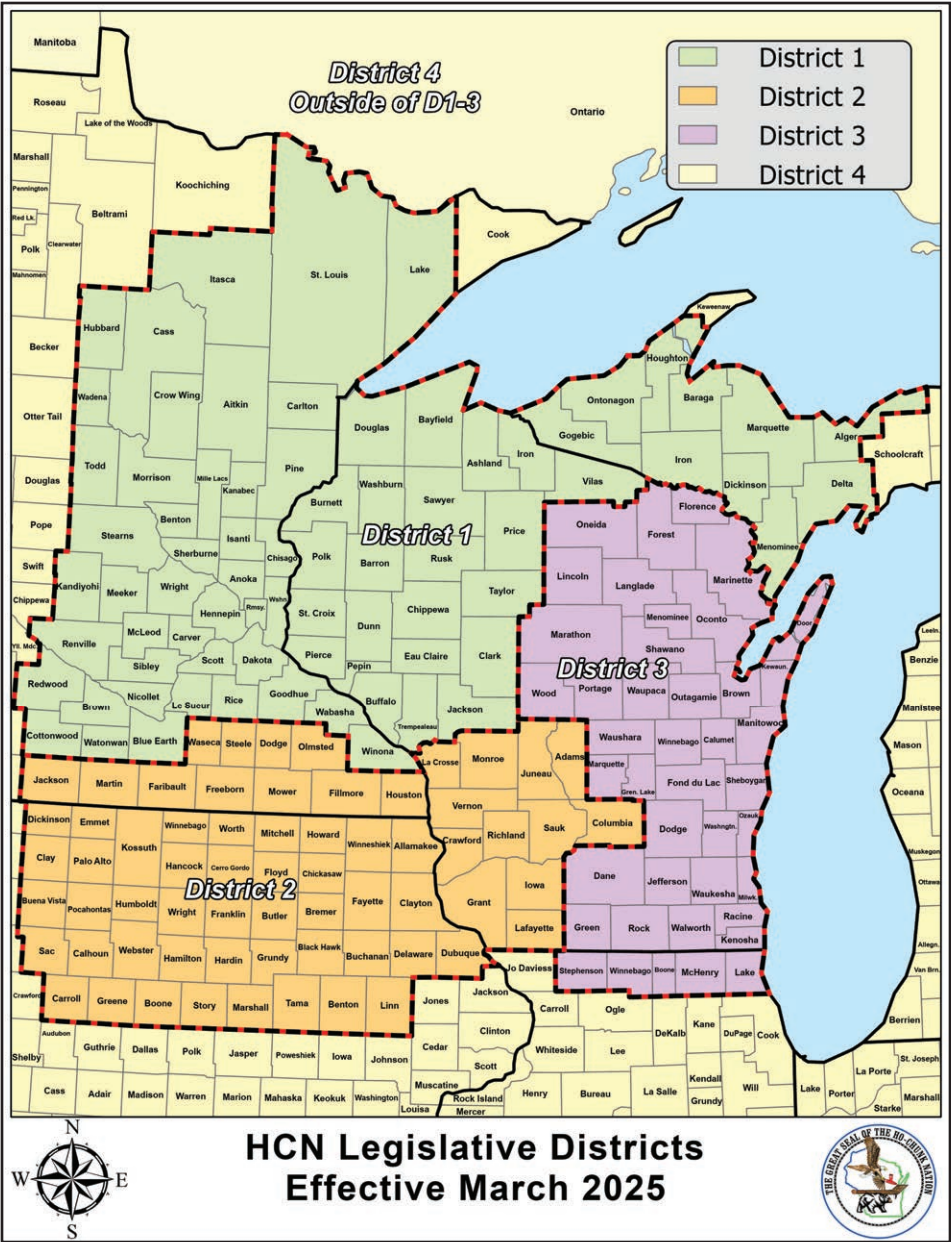
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Tuesdays 9:00 am - 1:00 pm starting March 4, 2025

HO-CHUNK NATION  
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MANAGEMENT

N6564 Lumberjack Guy Rd.  
Black River Falls, WI 54615

715-284-3069

Ho Chunk Nation Family Healing Camp August 5th - 7th 2025

Request for Catering Bids

WEEKDAY	BREAKFAST 8:00 A.M.	LUNCH 12 P.M.	DINNER 5 P.M.	SNACK - provided through out the day
TUESDAY			Family Healing Camp Feast Provided and Prepared by FHC Staff and Participants	Fruit - Protein - whole Grains - Protein rich foods and drinks
WEDNESDAY	Fruit - Grain - Vegetable - Protein - Dairy- Juices - Coffee - Water	Fruit - Grain - Vegetable - Protein - Dairy-Teas - Coffee - Water	Fruit - Grain - Vegetable - Protein - Dairy-Teas - Coffee - Water	Fruit - Protein - whole Grains - Protein rich foods and drinks
THURSDAY	Fruit - Grain - Vegetable - Protein - Dairy- Juices - Coffee - Water	Fruit - Grain - Vegetable - Protein - Dairy-Teas - Coffee - Water	Fruit - Grain - Vegetable - Protein - Dairy-Teas - Coffee - Water	Fruit - Protein - whole Grains - Protein rich foods and drinks

Bid For Catering must have the following:

provide a detailed menu feeding 600 participants and staff. Offering the catering menu expectation's and be able to provide the catering responsibilities

- Catering responsibilities:
- Meals must be served at designated time

Menu set up

Food preparation

Meal set up

Serving food

Clean up

Bid must be submitted by: April 4, 2025

Bid must be submitted to: Autumn White - Autumn.White@ho-chunk.com

updated: 2.5.2024

Continued from Page 1  
away from their support systems and culture,” Fowler said.  
Fowler also urged the legislature to pass Assembly Bill 98 and Senate Bill 85, which would allow Native students to wear traditional regalia at graduation ceremonies.  
“We ask that this body supports legislation that serves our students like AB 98/SB 85, so that school boards and charter schools don’t prohibit American Indian students

from wearing traditional regalia at a graduation ceremony,” Fowler said.  
Health issues were also front and center. Fowler talked about the impact of addiction on Native families.  
“In May of 2023, my daughter’s biological mother’s life was taken too early from an accidental overdose of this deadly fentanyl.”  
He advocated for the legalization of medical marijuana as an alternative for pain management

and addiction treatment, stating, “We need medical marijuana for chronic pain management, epilepsy, post-traumatic stress and addiction. Addiction has left no family untouched in Indian Country.”  
Environmental protection was another focal point, with Fowler expressing concerns over the hazards posed by pipelines traversing tribal lands. He called for collaborative efforts to safeguard natural resources, asserting, “Our

lands and waterways are at risk, putting our food, water, medicine, cultural practices at risk too.”  
Following the address, lawmakers showed support by passing three bills related to tribal concerns.  
These included one that protects students’ rights to wear regalia at graduations, one that helps tribes access vital records, and another that requires schools to report data on Native students to better support cultural education.



# PBS Wisconsin Education adds Mashkiibiizii Youth Singers to education collection

PBS Wisconsin Education and Wisconsin School Music Association (WSMA) welcome the Mashkiibiizii Youth Singers to their *Re/sound: Songs of Wisconsin* classroom media collection. The Mashkiibiizii Youth Singers continue the tradition of cultural preservation through learning the singing and drumming skills that allow them to celebrate impactful moments and connect with Tribal Nations across the country.

*Re/sound: Songs of Wisconsin* is a multimedia resource designed to help general music educators and learners in grades 4-8 explore the connections between music, culture and emotion. The collection features culture-bearers of music from Wisconsin, as they share a composition and discuss their musicianship, culture and identity. It includes video interviews and performances; audio tracks; and educator engagement guides featuring learning outcomes, strategies, assessments and aligned standards.

“From the gift of the first drum to the universal language through song, the Mashkiibiizii Youth Singers exemplify the meaning of singing with the drum,” said Ryan Hendricks, PBS Wisconsin Education Executive Producer.

In an interview, Zach Hartlev and Nathaniel Ante explain how Powwow

drumming and singing are deeply rooted in cultural tradition, serving as a shared spiritual expression and a way to bring people together through music. Members of the Mashkiibiizii Youth Singers describe how learning and performing Powwow music fosters cultural identity, connection and a sense of responsibility to preserve traditions for future generations.

The group performs an honor song composed by Wabano Owanapei. Ante explains an honor song can be performed for a variety of occasions to honor someone.

*Re/sound: Songs of Wisconsin* is available for free online access at [pbswisconsineducation.org/resound](https://pbswisconsineducation.org/resound).

Funding for *Re/sound: Songs of Wisconsin* is provided by the Pleasant T. Rowland Foundation, the Focus Fund for Education and Friends of PBS Wisconsin.

PBS Wisconsin is a service of the Educational Communications Board and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

PBS Wisconsin is a place to grow through learning on WHA-TV, Madison; WPNE-TV, Green Bay; WHRM-TV, Wausau; WLEF-TV, Park Falls; WHLA-TV, La Crosse; and WHWC-TV, Menomonie-Eau Claire.



## Celebrating Bennett Price!

Social Media post from Ho-Chunk Nation Legislative Branch  
March 21, 2025

Ho-Chunk Name: Caa Sгаа  
Waukesha North Jr. Northstars – 6th Grade  
Parents: Colin and Elizabeth Price

Bennett is a key player and starter for the Waukesha North Jr. Northstars 6th grade boys’ basketball team. This weekend, they’re heading to Madison to compete in the Middle School State Tournament. After finishing 2nd place last year, the team is fired up to take on the top teams in the state and bring home a championship!

Good luck to Bennett and his team!



PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING



OUR HO-CHUNK NATION  
HEALING TO WELLNESS COURT  
GRADUATE  
TASHA M. KING – HŪŪWĄ MĀĀNĬ

WHEN

Thursday, April 3, 2025 @ 11:00 a.m.

Wa Ehi Hoci/Trial Court

Large Court Room

Hwy. 54 E.

Black River Falls, WI 54615


RSVP

Michelle Oravez @ (715) 284-2722 ext. 13411


[michelle.oravez@ho-chunk.com](mailto:michelle.oravez@ho-chunk.com)

~ Meal will be served at D1CC upstairs community room @ 12:00 p.m. ~





### What you need to know



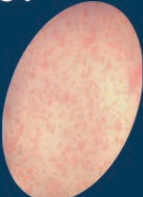


#### What is measles?

- Measles is a very contagious, airborne disease caused by a virus.
- Measles is spread through coughing, sneezing, and breathing.
- Measles can cause serious complications such as blindness and brain damage and in some cases death.

#### Signs and symptoms :

- Rash
- High fever
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Red, watery eyes




#### When should children be vaccinated?

- 1st dose of MMR 12-15 months old
- 2nd dose of MMR 4-6 years old


#### Do I need a measles booster?

- Adults vaccinated between 1963-1967 or those unaware of their immunization history may need another dose of the MMR vaccine. Please talk to your provider.

Created 3.20.2025 MG KD



### Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health



# Measles & Vitamin A

1

The best way to prevent measles is through vaccination.

2

Vitamin A cannot prevent or cure measles, but it can help some people when they have it.

3


Taking too much vitamin A can cause serious health problems.

Created 3.20.2025 MG KD

## Black River Falls JOM Committee


# SILENT AUCTION

All funds raised for the Silent Auction will be donated to BRF student group Waksik Wacek for their Social Dance/Senior Banquet on April 23rd.



### Items Available:

Jewelry/Beadwork  
Ribbon Skirts  
Waje  
Artwork Prints  
Household goods  
...and more!



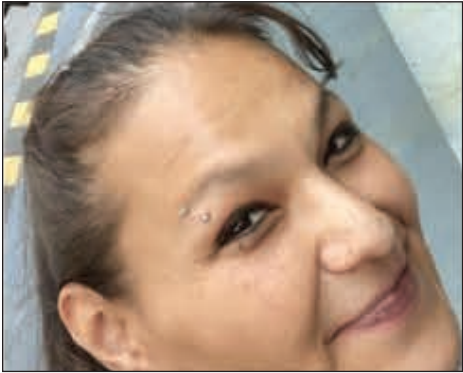
## TUESDAY APRIL 1ST TOB ATRIUM

Contact: Mandy Youngthunder at [mandyrach@gmail.com](mailto:mandyrach@gmail.com)

# Missing Person

LAC DU FLAMBEAU, WI – On March 23, 2025, the Lac du Flambeau Tribal Police Department received a report of a missing person. MELISSA BESON, age 37, was reported missing by concerned family members. A preliminary investigation has revealed that MELISSA was last seen on Monday, March 17, 2025, during the late afternoon. At that time, MELISSA was observed walking on Indian Village Road, near Wayman Lane, in Lac du Flambeau. MELISSA was walking toward Highway 47. When last seen, MELISSA was wearing red sweatpants, a black sleeveless shirt and a gray sweatshirt.

MELISSA BESON is a Native American female, 5'7", with medium build, brown hair and brown eyes.



Melissa Beson


She has numerous tattoos, including on her neck, arms and legs.

MELISSA's family is extremely worried about her and joins the Lac du Flambeau Tribal Police Department in seeking the public's help in locating her. Anyone with any information at all regarding MELISSA or her possible whereabouts is asked to call:

Lac du Flambeau Tribal P.D. at 715-588-7717 or  
Vilas County Sheriff's Office at 715-479-4441

#### LAC DU FLAMBEAU BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR CHIPPEWA INDIANS TRIBAL POLICE DEPARTMENT


T.J. Bill  
Chief of Police  
Phone: 715-588-7727  
Fax: 715-588-3461  
Email: [tjbill@lfbn.com](mailto:tjbill@lfbn.com)



Gilbert J. Chapman, Sr.  
Officer Judicial Center  
P.O. Box 337  
613 Peace Pipe Road  
Lac du Flambeau, WI 54601

### MISSING PERSON

#### MELISSA JUNE BESON



Melissa resides in Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin.  
Melissa was last seen on March 17, 2025, in Lac du Flambeau.  
Lac du Flambeau Police Department Case # 25-003105.

- Native American female, age 37 years old
- 5'7" tall, medium build
- Brown hair and brown eyes
- Last seen wearing red sweatpants, black sleeveless shirt and gray sweatshirt.

If you have any information regarding Melissa's whereabouts, please contact the Lac du Flambeau Tribal Police Dept. at (715) 588-7717, or the Vilas County Sheriff's Office at (715) 479-4441.

# TOMAH GAGA BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

BEGINS 6 PM

FIRST PLACE \$350  
MVP \$150  
BEST DRESSED \$50

\*Must register your team by Thursday, April 10th

ANNOUNCER: MATT MANN  
TOURNAMENT WILL BE LIVE STREAMED

430 JULIE ST. TOMAH, WI 54660  
608-344-3555

#### RULES

- Open to participants at least 16 years of age or older.
- Participants must wear a waje and carry a bag or purse. Must stay on during game.
- MVP will be decided strictly on most points throughout tournament.
- Teams must consist of at least five players.

#### CONTACT TO REGISTER YOUR TEAM:

CAROLE.DECORAH@HO-CHUNK.COM OR MICHAEL.MILESJR@HO-CHUNK.COM

Continued from Page 3

curated by Tom Jones, a Ho-Chunk artist and University of Wisconsin–Madison Professor of Photography. Jones has dedicated over a decade to collecting and studying thousands of Ho-Chunk baskets, piecing together tribal history through this art form.

Among the artists featured are Helen Lonetree (1932–2014), known for her visually striking experimental works covered in curlicues, and Lila Greengrass Blackdeer, who

was awarded a National Heritage Fellowship in 1999 for her contributions to the craft.

The Paine Art Center and Gardens is open Tuesday through Sunday, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Admission includes access to the mansion, gardens, and art exhibits, with tickets priced at \$12 for adults and \$7 for youth aged 5–17; children under 4 and Paine members enjoy free entry.



# SAVE THE DATE

## 5TH ANNUAL FAMILY HEALING CAMP

August 5-7, 2025  
Andrew Blackhawk Pow Wow Grounds

For questions contact: [FHC@ho-chunk.com](mailto:FHC@ho-chunk.com)



**HOLISTIC HEALING FOR GENERATIONS**

Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health  
Division of Public Health

# Wažookj woo'ehi

family conversations

We invite you to gather, learn, and share at our virtual education series on Ho-Chunk culture, resources, services, and connection to health.


Wednesdays 1pm-2pm

**April 2nd**  
Understanding Substance Use and Recovery for the Family  
Menissa Powless, SAC-IT

**April 9th**  
Child Passenger Safety Technician Program  
Community Health Representatives

**April 16th**  
Simplifying Home Cooking  
Alex Richeson, RD

JOIN NOW >



*If you have a topic you'd like to learn about, a topic you'd like to present, and to learn more contact:*

Jamie.Decorah@Ho-Chunk.com 715.896.1126  
Ronelle.McKernan@Ho-Chunk.com 715.896.2570

PHAB  
Advancing Public Health Performance  
Public Health Accreditation Board

Ho-Chunk Nation  
Department of Health

Created 11.12.24RM

Continued from Page 1

and the Nation. What are we looking for? First, we want to know timber volume, tree species, and tree density. This can help us and the BIA make timber management decisions. We also look for signs and symptoms of diseases like oak wilt. This allows us to take actions to limit the effect of these problems, if at all possible.

Our stand exams are being spearheaded by Kjetil Garvin, the Hoocak Xatap Hiraakara (Cultural Forester.) She is often accompanied by James Blackdeer, Forestry Technician or Greg Blick, Forestry Division Manager. They are taking three sample plots per stand, more if the stands are bigger than 30 acres. Some allotments and HCN parcels have one stand and some are divided into multiple stands. Each stand has a different mix of trees, or has a different history of storm damage, fire, or logging than the adjacent stands. Each stand has the potential to be managed differently than those



HCN Land Specialist Touger Vue bores a tree core so that the age of the tree and forest stand can be determined.

in the same land parcel. Stand exams help ensure that the management is the best for the forest as a whole.

These stand exams are not preparation for logging. In general, the BIA seldom sets up logging jobs on Ho-Chunk lands unless there is storm damage or a high rate of trees susceptible to insects or disease. They will also set up logging jobs if Ho-Chunk heirs want to sell some timber, and harvest can be done without negative effects to the forest's health and tree species mix. The HCN DNR's policy is to promote forests of older age than is the case for companies or counties who manage their forests primarily for profit. The BIA generally defers to HCN DNR's management plans.

In no case does the BIA have the right to make a cutting decision on their own. The BIA needs approval before they set up and then sell timber. If the harvest occurs on an allotment, heirs must sign off. Over 50% of the heirship (by % ownership) must sign the agreement. If the parcel to be harvested is controlled by the Nation itself, the legislature must pass a resolution approving the harvest. The proceeds from the timber sale on allotments go to the heirs, in proportion to their ownership percentage. Sale of 100% HCN Trust lands goes to the general fund, except for 10% which goes into forest development account, which can be used by the HCN DNR for things like tree planting.

The HCN DNR also tries to get eyes on every tree on 100% HCN Trust near homes, government building and public areas every 10 years. The HCN DNR received a nearly \$500,000 urban forestry grant from state of Wisconsin which is helping pay for this process. Because of the unique status of trust lands, the HCN is responsible for all trees on 100% HCN trust land. Periodic risk assessment inspections aim to prevent injury or property damage caused by trees. HCN Forestry Division Manager Greg is a certified arborist. He began the inspection process this February and will be continuing throughout the year. He is looking for dead, sick or structurally damaged trees. Using a digital system, he is marking the location of every tree which needs to be removed or pruned for safety's sake. He is taking other information on the tree, including the work to be done, and the priority of the work to be done. This information is then shared with HCN Housing, which is assisting with doing most of the tree work. Don't be surprised to see Greg around your house looking at trees and



HCN Forestry Technician James Blackdeer measures tree heights for stand exams.

using a rubber mallet to check for hollows.

The HCN DNR would like to do risk assessments for all allotments which have people living on them. Unlike, stand exams we will not be doing this unless requested, since we are unsure which allotments have residents, and we like to respect the privacy of the residential parts of allotments. Please contact Greg Blick with HCN DNR if you would like a tree risk assessment done on your allotment. He may also be able to help you fix any problems that he may find.

Also, if you are in Wisconsin and live in a residence you own, Greg can come and do a risk assessment on your property. In some cases he may be able to help find solutions to any problems he may find.

Please be aware that trees may sometimes hide their problems and nature's fury will sometimes destroy a very strong, healthy tree. Risk assessment cannot guarantee that a tree will not fail or do damage.



# Republicans Obstruct Key Infrastructure Projects Across Wisconsin Designed to Generate Over \$7 Billion in Economic Activity and Create 41,300 Jobs

***GOP rejects investments in veterans homes, corrections, and higher education, declines to address state’s estimated \$13 billion deferred maintenance backlog***

MADISON — Gov. Tony Evers released a statement today after Republican lawmakers on the State Building Commission (SBC) voted to once again block every project in the governor’s 2025-27 Capital Budget recommendations, deadlocking the Commission with a 4-4 vote. Republican lawmakers yesterday voted against key projects at Wisconsin’s veterans homes, across the University of Wisconsin, to improve parks and trails, and to modernize correctional institutions statewide by rejecting the governor’s \$4.1 billion investment in key projects across 26 of Wisconsin’s 72 counties and in Republican and Democratic legislative districts alike. Republican lawmakers have now obstructed state infrastructure projects through the Capital Budget process for four consecutive biennia, causing a backlog of maintenance projects that have only grown more expensive due to delays and obstruction.

“We have key infrastructure projects across our state that need repairs and investments, but Republican lawmakers continue to kick the can down the road, which only makes these projects more expensive with each day of delay while our buildings and infrastructure continue to deteriorate. It makes no sense,” said Gov. Evers. “These projects will support our veterans, help keep our communities safe, improve our university system, and create thousands of family-supporting jobs—this should be a no-brainer. One way or another, these projects have to get done, and with reckless tariff taxes and trade wars that could cause the costs of these projects and building materials to go up, decisions by Republican lawmakers

to obstruct this important work will only force taxpayers to pay more in the long run.”

Due to obstruction by the Republican members of the Commission to block critical projects, the SBC has consistently failed to develop a State Building Program since the 2019-21 biennium, undermining what had for years been a collaborative, bipartisan process. In the 2019-21 biennium, the SBC reviewed state agency requests and the governor’s 2019-21 Capital Budget recommendations and failed to provide recommendations for any of the items submitted on the agenda, marking the first time in SBC records the Commission did not collaborate to develop a State Building Program. Unfortunately, Republican lawmakers continued that trend in the 2021-23 and 2023-25 biennia, and yesterday’s vote marks the fourth consecutive biennia Republican lawmakers have blocked the governor’s Capital Budget and key projects across the state.

Wisconsin’s infrastructure challenges continue to grow, and delaying investments will only drive up costs, create safety risks and hazards, and threaten the reliability of state-owned facilities. Across Wisconsin, aging university buildings are failing to meet 21st-century education and workforce training needs, while dilapidated correctional facilities—some dating back to the 1800s—pose safety risks for staff and inmates. Additionally, deteriorating healthcare and veterans facilities are putting vulnerable populations at risk, and neglected state parks, bridges, and public safety infrastructure are threatening community access and safety.

Gov. Evers’ 2025-27 Capital Budget proposal would have generated an estimated \$7.5 billion in economic activity and supported more than 41,300 jobs across Wisconsin, as according to updated numbers from the Associated General Contractors of Wisconsin, every \$1 in construction spending results in \$1.82 in economic activity, and every \$1 million spent supports 10 jobs statewide.

By refusing to recommend the governor’s Capital Budget, Republican legislators turned their backs on:

- A commitment of \$325 million for the realignment of correctional institutions in support of Gov. Evers’ Comprehensive Corrections Reform Plan to improve public safety, reduce costs to taxpayers and recidivism, and support corrections staff with a “domino” series of facility changes, improvements, and modernization efforts across Wisconsin’s correctional institutions, including ultimately closing Green Bay Correctional Institution (GBCI) in 2029 and wholly rehabilitating and transforming Waupun Correctional Institution (WCI), facilities that were both built in the 1800s.
- Supporting reforms to the juvenile justice system through continued investments in correctional facilities to further work towards closing Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake Schools as juvenile facilities, including additional bonding to complete the Dane County Type 1 facility on Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC)-owned property in Oregon, planning funds to begin design for a new Type 1 facility in Northeastern Wisconsin, and the expansion of the Grow Academy in

Oregon.


- A transformative investment of nearly \$1.6 billion in capital improvement projects across the University of Wisconsin (UW) System, ensuring campuses statewide remain at the forefront of education, research, and innovation. This builds on the governor’s budget promise to propose the largest two-year increase in the UW System in state history with a \$856 million investment over the biennium to prevent further campus closures, layoffs, and program cuts and ensure the UW System remains the crown jewel of Wisconsin’s workforce and economy for future generations. These projects modernize aging infrastructure, address critical maintenance needs, and create flexible, future-ready spaces for students and faculty. Key projects include:
  - » Demolishing and replacing the deteriorating Mosse Humanities Building at UW-Madison, which suffers from severe structural and environmental deficiencies putting students at risk. This investment ensures the Art and Music Departments are relocated into modern, sustainable, and adaptable spaces, securing the long-term future of these programs.
  - » Completion of the Prairie Springs Science Center at UW-La Crosse, replacing the outdated Cowley Hall, which lacks fire suppression, has failing mechanical systems, and no longer meets modern science and research needs. This expansion supports STEM education and workforce development by providing state-of-the-art instructional labs and research spaces.
  - » Transforming former hospital

*Continued on Page 9*

*Honoring The Late*  
**MISTER WALKER**



*Heavenly Birthday & Legacy Memorial Fundraiser*  
Indian Heights Community Building  
WI Dells, WI May 2nd, 2025 11-3PM  
Come join us and remember the legacy of the late Mr. Walker.  
We'll also be fundraising to acquire his headstone.  
NDN Tacos will be served until gone \* 1 ticket per attendee



**RESOURCES! - RAFFLES! - BAKE SALE!**

## Welcome Legislative Chief Financial Officer Crystal Deschinny

The Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature is proud to welcome Crystal Deschinny as our new Legislative Chief Financial Officer! With over 35 years of experience in finance, accounting, investments, economic and business development, policy, and strategy, she brings a wealth of expertise to this critical role. A dual master’s degree holder (MBA & MA) with an AMP from Harvard Business School, Crystal has dedicated nearly 20 years to tribal government service, including previous work with HCN.

Crystal is proudly Ho-Chunk and FCP, with strong family roots—her late mother, Eleanor Longtail Johnson wanąira, was from Wittenberg, and her late father wanąira was FCP. She and her semi-retired husband, who is Navajo, have a son who is currently a senior in chemistry at the University of Arizona.



An avid reader, lifelong learner, and distance runner, Crystal is excited to return to HCN in this leadership role and looks forward to using her expertise to strengthen and empower the Nation.



# State Senator Patrick Testin and Secretary-designee Jeff Pertl Visit Ahuco Head Start

On Monday, March 10th, the Ho-Chunk Nation had the honor of hosting State Senator Patrick Testin and Secretary-designee Jeff Pertl for a special visit to Ahuco Head Start in Tomah, Wisc. During their visit, they toured the Head Start center and participated in a meaningful roundtable discussion with our Legislative Representatives,

the Department of Education, and parents of Ahuco Head Start. The conversation centered on the vital impact Head Start programs have within our tribe. It was a fantastic day, and both our students and teachers were thrilled to share their experiences and insights. We are grateful to our guests for their time and commitment to supporting early education!



ATTENTION

HO- CHUNK ELDERS OVER THE AGE OF 65  
THIS IS A REMINDER TO TURN IN YOUR  
AUXIANT 2024 ANNUAL ENROLLMENT AND CLAIM FORM BY MARCH 31, 2025  
IF YOU PAID A PREMMIUM FOR MEDICARE PART B.  
YOU CAN RECEIVE A REIMBURSMENT.  
PLEASE CONTACT GLORIA WARD AT HO-CHUNK INSURANCE DEPARTMENT  
715-284-9343  
OR  
CONTACT YOUR LOCAL TRIBAL AGING

*Continued from Page 8*

buildings into a cutting-edge, interdisciplinary Health Sciences hub at UW-Milwaukee. This project unifies programs currently scattered across five buildings, expands instructional labs, and enhances collaborative learning in high-demand fields such as physical therapy, biomedical sciences, and occupational therapy.

- Protecting Wisconsin’s cherished natural resources and enhancing visitor experiences through strategic investments in state parks and forests, critical bridge replacements, trail upgrades, and upgrades to fire response ranger stations. These projects focus on preserving natural landscapes, improving infrastructure resilience, supporting tourism, and ensuring public safety.
- Honoring veterans with more than \$137 million in essential upgrades to Wisconsin veterans homes and setting the stage for the future Wisconsin Veterans Museum upgrade and expansion with dedicated planning funds.
- An over \$40 million investment

to restore and modernize components of Wisconsin’s historic State Capitol, preserving its legacy for generations to come.

- A commitment of over \$195 million to strengthen health services facilities statewide, including renovating the food service building at Central Wisconsin Center and upgrading utility infrastructure at the Mendota and Winnebago Mental Health Institutions.
- Advancing clean energy solutions with a \$25 million investment for renewable energy construction projects at state facilities, aligning with Gov. Evers’ Clean Energy Plan, supporting the state’s energy reduction goals, and reducing utility costs. These projects include solar, wind, standby generators, and geothermal enhancements to support the state’s energy reduction goals and reduce utility costs to the state. The achieved savings from the reduction in utility costs is used to pay the debt service payments on the bonds.
- Laying the groundwork for future investments by allocating nearly \$50 million for preliminary planning and design of upcoming major projects

across Wisconsin. This proactive approach ensures that critical projects in state agencies’ six-year plans are more shovel-ready for future capital budgets.

- Aggressively tackling Wisconsin’s \$13.1 billion deferred maintenance backlog with a more than \$1.2 billion investment in the All Agency program—one of the largest commitments to date—targeting small to mid-sized maintenance and repair projects across all state agencies, including the UW System. Additionally, an over \$406 million investment in the Minor Facilities Renewal programs for DOC, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, including almost \$230 million for the UW System. This critical funding will modernize aging infrastructure, improve safety and efficiency, and prevent costlier emergency repairs, ensuring Wisconsin’s public facilities remain functional and reliable for years to come.
- Investing funds for preliminary planning, design, and sitework at

the Milwaukee County Courthouse Complex.

- Supporting local community projects and fostering stronger, more vibrant communities by recommending four projects for inclusion in his Operating Budget as part of the Grants for Local Projects program. These projects include the Green Bay New Community Shelter, YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee and Community Smiles Dental Health Commons, Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin, and the Colfax Railroad Museum.

The complete 2025-27 Capital Budget Agency Requests and Governor’s Recommendations can be found here. The Building Commission is chaired by Gov. Evers and comprised of the following members:

- State Sen. Brad Pfaff;
- State Sen. Mary Felzkowski;
- State Sen. André Jacque;
- State Rep. Jill Billings;
- State Rep. Rob Swearingen;
- State Rep. Robert Wittke; and
- Citizen Member Barb Worcester.



## Brockton James Garvin

### December 3rd, 1991 – March 24, 2025

Brockton James Garvin, 33, passed away surrounded by his loving family in Black River Falls on Monday, March 24, 2025.

He was born on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1991 to Steve Garvin and Samantha Day in Baraboo, WI.

Brockton James Garvin was a remarkable young man who began his journey on March 24, 2025, surrounded by his family. He will be deeply missed for his infectious laughter and subtle humor. Known for his generosity—sometimes to an excessive degree—Brockton had a heart of gold. As his brother Cody said, “He would give the shirt off his back to ensure others’ happiness.” His love for family and friends was immense. As the oldest grandson, he always felt a strong sense of responsibility to look after and protect his younger siblings.

He shared a passion for football and racing with many, and he always entertained his siblings during even the most intense rivalry games, especially when the Packers faced off against the Bears or Vikings. Brockton’s love for travel was particularly special with his Cooka Ahusak wanagira, as they would often travel to Las Vegas to gamble, watch the Raiders—especially Devante Adams—Knights, and NASCAR races. They always traveled first class, enjoying the best accommodations at every destination. As a season ticket holder for UW Badgers football, he was also very generous, giving away more tickets than he used. He found joy in seeing others happy, always putting their needs before his own.

Although we may never fully understand why he was taken from us so soon, we must find a way to let him go. The heartache is immense and may never completely fade, but



with time, we will learn to carry him in our hearts as we move forward.

Survived by Father Steven (Shelly) Garvin, Mother Samantha Day, Aunt Karen (Dana) Thundercloud, numerous Kaaka’s, Cooka’s, Naani’s, Jaaji’s, Teega’s, Cuuwi’s, sibling’s and special friend Kelly Witt.

Proceeded in death by Grandma Elethe Nichols (Grandma Falls), Cooka Elliott Garvin, Grandma Jean-Ann Day, Grandpa Richard Day and Kuunika Alberta Day.

Traditional wake services being held at the family’s home (N6801 Eddie Road, Black River Falls, WI). A visitation will be held at the Buswell Funeral Home on Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. On Thursday a visitation will be held at the family’s residence (N6801 Eddie Road, Black River Falls, WI) from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service at 12:00. Burial will take place immediately following the service at the Decorah Cemetery. Everyone is invited to a meal at the family’s home afterward. Funeral services officiated by Richard Mann.

## Wii Te’e Waagax Haraja Ee Warupj Wa’ujee

### STUDENT OF THE MONTH

We are looking to feature **two** “Student of the month” spotlights, **EVERY MONTH** to highlight student achievements, student-athletes, volunteer work, college acceptance, long-term and short-term goals, and/or contributions to the classroom, school or community **OF ALL AGES** & Educational Levels: Head Start, Elementary, Middle School, High School, Home School, & Post-Secondary Students.

This could include, but not limited to; academic performance or achievements, classroom recognition, student-athlete recognition, honor roll, Dean’s/President’s list, etc.

Student spotlights will be showcased for one month on Ho-Chunk Nation social media & in the Education Department! Spotlights will also be posted in Hoca,k Worak each month!

<https://form.iotform.com/250025400580038>



If you have any questions please email us at:

[StudentSuccess@Ho-Chunk.com](mailto:StudentSuccess@Ho-Chunk.com)

## Sage "Ahu Gišini" P. Daugherty

### April 28, 1980 – March 20, 2025

Sage P. Daugherty, “Ahu Gišini”, age 44, formerly of Tomah, Wisconsin, passed away on March 20, 2025. He was born April 28, 1980, to Phillip Daugherty and Susette LaMere. Sage dedicated most of his working career to the Ho-Chunk Nation in various capacities, and most recently worked in LaCrosse for Amazon.

Sage was known for his love of the outdoors, often found conquering Tough Mudder courses, running trail races, or immersed in a friendly yet competitive game of disc golf. He was never one to sit still, as evidenced by his passion for shooting pool, lifting weights, and playing golf, his athleticism matched only by his kindness.

Sage was a huge support to his friends, someone they could always rely on and the treasured uncle who cherished his nieces, nephews, and godchildren as if they were his own. His collection of Adidas shoes, each pair referred to as “three stripes for life,” was more than a hobby; it was a testament to his lifelong loyalty and dedication.

He is survived by his mother, Susette; brothers and sisters, Marcus Hartwell, Elaina Daugherty, Leath Lambert, Desirae Robarge, Sulynn LaMere, Casey You, Kelly Westphal and Latoya Aguilar; nieces and nephews, Haley, Forest, Orion, Wacozu and Niyanta; and his special godchildren.



He was preceded in death by his father, Phillip; sister, Marcy Lynn; grandparents, Peter and Iva LaMere and Dorothy and Frank Roubidioux; uncle, Page Daugherty and aunt, Colette LaMere.

Commitment Services will be held Saturday, March 22, 2025, 12:00 p.m. at the Torkelson Funeral Home in Tomah. Lance Long will officiate. Family and friends are invited for visitation on Saturday from 10:30 a.m. until the time of service at the funeral home. Burial will follow in the Blue Wing Cemetery, Tomah, WI. Online condolences are available at [www.torkelsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.torkelsonfuneralhome.com).

## Hannah Jane Yellowthunder

### August 28, 1979 – March 8, 2025

*A crack of thunder  
Intense, sudden, Earth shaking,  
Bold, loud and loving*

It is with deep respect that the Family Of Hannah Jane Yellowthunder, *Ma e Mani*, Warrior Clan, wishes to express our heartfelt gratitude for the excellent care provided to us by Liza Green and the Funmaker Family. The memory of this kindness and care will remain in our hearts. We thank the most honorable Ho-Chunk Nation and

Virginia DeFord, for providing the means to care for one of it’s children. We are further grateful to our clan leader, Richard Mann, and brother, Robert Mann, for their care and direction, and for all of our relatives We thank Roberta Decorah, Theresa Day and Elena Terry for cooking for us and Cheryl Funmaker for all of her caring assistance. Each of you remains in our hearts. *Waiinginapsanawi*

#### HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT,

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF  
Jacqueline Marie Prescott -Funmaker DOD 9/2/24

By Isiah Hanna Funmaker

☐ Amended

Notice of Hearing on  
Petition for Probate

PR 24-05

Case No.

For Official Use

**FILED**

IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION  
TRIAL / SUPERIOR COURT

FEB 06 2025

*Margaret J. H.*  
Clerk of Court / Assistant

#### PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

- A Petition for Probate was filed. 3-15-1987 September 2, 2024
- The decedent, with date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ and date of death \_\_\_\_\_ was domiciled in Sauk \_\_\_\_\_ County, State of Wisconsin \_\_\_\_\_, with a mailing address of S1064 Winneshiek, Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965
- The names or addresses of the following interested person are not known or reasonably ascertainable:  
731 W. Grand Ave., Beloit, WI 53511
- The petition will be heard at Wa Ehi Hoci, W9598 Hwy 54 E, Black River Falls, WI, 54615, before Judge Wendi A. Huling \_\_\_\_\_, on (Date) April 2, 2025 at (Time) 2:00 p.m.

You do not need to appear unless you object. The petition may be granted if there is no objection.

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.

*Margaret J. H.*  
Clerk of Court  
*Margaret J. H.*  
Name Printed or Typed  
01/06/25  
Date



NOTICE

NOTICE OF DEMOLITION

In accordance with 3HCC§66 Title: CIIRA RUŽEŽE (RAZE) ORDINANCE

To Whom It May Concern:

The Ho-Chunk Nation Residential Construction Inspector has conducted an inspection of the Property located at: **S1064 Winneshiek St., Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965**

It has been determined that the structure poses an imminent danger to life, property, or nearby buildings.

Pursuant to 3HCC§66 OF THE CIIRA RUŽEŽE (“RAZE”) ORDINANCE, the Ho-Chunk Nation (hereinafter “Nation”) has the legal authority to order immediate demolition without requiring an inspection warrant in order to protect health and safety of its Members and Communities.

The Property located at **S1064 Winneshiek St., Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965** was found to have severe structural concerns, and the Nation has deemed this Property to be beyond repair.

The Nation ensures that the Residential Construction Inspector “shall enforce any and all Federal and Ho-Chunk Nation laws and lawful orders relating to the construction, alteration, repair, removal, location, occupancy, safety and use of buildings and permanent building equipment.” 8HCC15(7)(a).

After consultation with the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Justice, a **PUBLIC NOTICE** will be presented at the Property with the approval of the Residential Construction Inspector and posted on the Property by the Residential Construction Inspector or Designee *immediately*.

Demolition is scheduled to begin on: **April 28, 2025** and the property will be cleared per Ho-Chunk Nation policies and procedures. If demolition is completed as scheduled, the property will be secured and made safe at the earliest opportunity.

If the Owner of the Property disputes this decision, they **MUST** contact the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Housing **IMMEDIATELY**.

**NOTE: DUE TO THE IMMEDIATE SAFETY CONCERNS OF THE PROPERTY, DELAYS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.**

Furthermore, any and all costs may be assessed against the Owner or Estate of Property as permitted by 3HCC§66(1)(f).

Any further objections by the Owner of the Property **must be filed in person** at the following Office:

Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Labor  
Attn: Frank Thunder, Residential Construction Inspector II  
W9814 Airport Road  
Black River Falls, WI 54615  
Phone: 715-284-9343, ext. 11251  
Email address: [Frank.Thunder@ho-chunk.com](mailto:Frank.Thunder@ho-chunk.com)

NOTICE

NOTICE OF DEMOLITION

In accordance with 3HCC§66 Title: CIIRA RUŽEŽE (RAZE) ORDINANCE

To Whom It May Concern:

The Ho-Chunk Nation Residential Construction Inspector has conducted an inspection of the Property located at: **9590 State Hwy. 173, Tomah, WI 54660**

It has been determined that the structure poses an imminent danger to life, property, or nearby buildings.

Pursuant to 3HCC§66 OF THE CIIRA RUŽEŽE (“RAZE”) ORDINANCE, the Ho-Chunk Nation (hereinafter “Nation”) has the legal authority to order immediate demolition without requiring an inspection warrant in order to protect health and safety of its Members and Communities.

The Property located at **9590 State Hwy. 173, Tomah, WI 54660** was found to have severe structural concerns, and the Nation has deemed this Property to be beyond repair.

The Nation ensures that the Residential Construction Inspector “shall enforce any and all Federal and Ho-Chunk Nation laws and lawful orders relating to the construction, alteration, repair, removal, location, occupancy, safety and use of buildings and permanent building equipment.” 8HCC15(7)(a).

After consultation with the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Justice, a **PUBLIC NOTICE** will be presented at the Property with approval of the Residential Construction Inspector and posted on the Property by the Residential Construction Inspector or Designee *immediately*.

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Phone: 715-284-9343, ext. 11251  
Email address: [Frank.Thunder@ho-chunk.com](mailto:Frank.Thunder@ho-chunk.com)

NOTICE

NOTICE OF DEMOLITION

In accordance with 3HCC§66 Title: CIIRA RUŽEŽE (RAZE) ORDINANCE

To Whom It May Concern:

The Ho-Chunk Nation Residential Construction Inspector has conducted an inspection of the Property located at: **30902 Fountain Ave., Tomah, WI 54660**

It has been determined that the structure poses an imminent danger to life, property, or nearby buildings.

Pursuant to 3HCC§66 OF THE CIIRA RUŽEŽE (“RAZE”) ORDINANCE, the Ho-Chunk Nation (hereinafter “Nation”) has the legal authority to order immediate demolition without requiring an inspection warrant in order to protect health and safety of its Members and Communities.

The Property located at **30902 Fountain Ave., Tomah, WI 54660** was found to have severe structural concerns, and the Nation has deemed this Property to be beyond repair.

The Nation ensures that the Residential Construction Inspector “shall enforce any and all Federal and Ho-Chunk Nation laws and lawful orders relating to the construction, alteration, repair, removal, location, occupancy, safety and use of buildings and permanent building equipment.” 8HCC15(7)(a).

After consultation with the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Justice, a **PUBLIC NOTICE** will be presented at the Property with approval of the Residential Construction Inspector and posted on the Property by the Residential Construction Inspector or Designee *immediately*.

Demolition is scheduled to begin on: **April 28, 2025** and the property will be cleared per Ho-Chunk Nation policies and procedures. If demolition is completed as scheduled, the property will be secured and made safe at the earliest opportunity.

If the Owner of the Property disputes this decision, they **MUST** contact the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Housing **IMMEDIATELY**.

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Furthermore, any and all costs may be assessed against the Owner or Estate of Property as permitted by 3HCC§66(1)(f).

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Black River Falls, WI 54615  
Phone: 715-284-9343, ext. 11251  
Email address: [Frank.Thunder@ho-chunk.com](mailto:Frank.Thunder@ho-chunk.com)

NOTICE

NOTICE OF DEMOLITION

In accordance with 3HCC§66 Title: CIIRA RUŽEŽE (RAZE) ORDINANCE

To Whom It May Concern:

The Ho-Chunk Nation Residential Construction Inspector has conducted an inspection of the Property located at: **11752 Freedom Rd., Tomah, WI 54660**

It has been determined that the structure poses an imminent danger to life, property, or nearby buildings.

Pursuant to 3HCC§66 OF THE CIIRA RUŽEŽE (“RAZE”) ORDINANCE, the Ho-Chunk Nation (hereinafter “Nation”) has the legal authority to order immediate demolition without requiring an inspection warrant in order to protect health and safety of its Members and Communities.

The Property located at **11752 Freedom Rd., Tomah, WI 54660** was found to have severe structural concerns, and the Nation has deemed this Property to be beyond repair.

The Nation ensures that the Residential Construction Inspector “shall enforce any and all Federal and Ho-Chunk Nation laws and lawful orders relating to the construction, alteration, repair, removal, location, occupancy, safety and use of buildings and permanent building equipment.” 8HCC15(7)(a).

After consultation with the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Justice, a **PUBLIC NOTICE** will be presented at the Property with the approval of the Residential Construction Inspector and posted on the Property by the Residential Construction Inspector or Designee *immediately*.

Demolition is scheduled to begin on: **April 28, 2025** and the property will be cleared per Ho-Chunk Nation policies and procedures. If demolition is completed as scheduled, the property will be secured and made safe at the earliest opportunity.

If the Owner of the Property disputes this decision, they **MUST** contact the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Housing **IMMEDIATELY**.

**NOTE: DUE TO THE IMMEDIATE SAFETY CONCERNS OF THE PROPERTY, DELAYS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.**

Furthermore, any and all costs may be assessed against the Owner or Estate of Property as permitted by 3HCC§66(1)(f).

Any further objections by the Owner of the Property **must be filed in person** at the following Office:

Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Labor  
Attn: Frank Thunder, Residential Construction Inspector II  
W9814 Airport Road  
Black River Falls, WI 54615  
Phone: 715-284-9343, ext. 11251  
Email address: [Frank.Thunder@ho-chunk.com](mailto:Frank.Thunder@ho-chunk.com)



DISTRICT 1 AREA MEETING NOTICE

BLACK RIVER FALLS AREA MEETING

Tribal Office Building  
W9814 Airport Road  
Black River Falls, WI 54615  
Wednesday, April 9, 2025 | 6:00 p.m.  
IN PERSON/VIRTUAL

Twin Cities AREA MEETING

St. Paul Branch Office  
1724 Selby Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104  
Thursday, April 17, 2025 | 6:00 p.m.  
IN PERSON/VIRTUAL

paul.fox@ho-chunk.com

robert.pilot@ho-chunk.com

danielle.delong@ho-chunk.com

jessika.greendeer@ho-chunk.com

rodney.rave@ho-chunk.com

phyllis.smoke@ho-chunk.com

For WebEx/e-packet, information please contact:

michelleramberg@ho-chunk.com

Posted on: 3/18/25



HO-CHUNK NATION  
PEOPLE OF THE BIG VOICE

DISTRICT 2 AREA MEETING NOTICE

LA CROSSE AREA | THREE RIVERS HOUSE

724 Main Street La Crosse, WI  
MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2025 6:00PM

TOMAH AREA | BLUE WING COMMUNITY BUILDING

28370 Epinal Avenue Tomah, WI  
TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2025 6:00PM

BARABOO/MI DELLS/MAUSTON AREA | INDIAN HEIGHTS

975 Dyer Street Wisconsin Dells, WI  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025 6:00PM

REP. STEPHANIE BEGAY

stephanie.begay@ho-chunk.com

(608) 408-0339

REP. DAMIAN THUNDERCLOUD

damianthundercloud@ho-chunk.com

(715) 896-9321

REP. KRISTIN K. WHITE EAGLE

kristin.whiteeagle@ho-chunk.com

(608) 477-3007

HILARY GREEN, LEGISLATIVE AIDE

hilary.green2@ho-chunk.com

(800)294-9343 x11214

POSTED 3/25/25

DISTRICT 3 AREA MEETING NOTICE

MILWAUKEE | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2025 | 5:30 PM

WITTENBERG | MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2025 | 6:00 PM

GREEN BAY | TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2025 | 6:00 PM

CANCELED FOR STATE OF THE HO-CHUNK NATION

MADISON | WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025 | 6:00 PM

WI RAPIDS | THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2025 | 5:30 PM

FOR WEBEX INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

REP. LAMBERT CLEVELAND

lambertcleveland@ho-chunk.com

(715) 896-5166

REP. SARAH LEMIEUX

sarah.lemieux@ho-chunk.com

(715) 315-8071

REP. SHELBY VISINTIN

shelby.visintin@ho-chunk.com

(715) 896-9323

AIDE EBELLA BLACKDEER

isabella.blackdeer@ho-chunk.com

(715) 284-9343 x11313

UPDATED 3/26/25

DISTRICT 4 AREA MEETING NOTICE

IN PERSON /VIRTUAL CHICAGO AREA MEETING

Chicago Branch Office  
4738 N. Milwaukee Ave. Chicago, IL 60630  
Monday, April 14, 2025  
6:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL CALIFORNIA AREA MEETING


Available via WebEx  
Wednesday, April 16, 2025  
6:00 p.m.

For WebEx information please contact:

brianna.tahdooahnippah@ho-chunk.com

jennifer.adams@ho-chunk.com

3/24/2025



HO-CHUNK NATION  
PEOPLE OF THE BIG VOICE

**HO-CHUNK NATION  
LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR MEETING  
EXECUTIVE OFFICES  
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI  
MARCH 4, 2025**

**Call to Order:** President Jon Greendeer called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Roll Call:**  
President Jon Greendeer-P  
Vice President Danielle DeLong-P  
Rep. Jessika Greendeer-P  
Rep. Rodney Rave-EX  
Rep. Phyllis Smoke-P  
Rep. Damian Thundercloud-P  
Rep. Stephanie Begay-P  
Rep. Kristin White Eagle-VC, P at 10:02  
Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr.-P  
Rep. Shelby Visintin-VC  
Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle-P  
Rep. Robert Pilot-VC

Rep. Paul Fox-P  
Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah-VC

*VC-Video Conference*

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

**Opening Prayer:** Public Relations Officer Shane Yellow Thunder offered a word of prayer.

**Approval of Agenda:**  
**MOTION** by Rep. Paul Fox to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Vice President Danielle DeLong. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:**

*Legislative Meeting-February 18, 2025*

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the February 18, 2025 Legislative Meeting

minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Special Legislative Meeting-February 24, 2025*

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the February 24, 2025 Special Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Commission Reports:**

*Special Finance Commission-February 19, 2025*

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to approve the February 19, 2025 Special Finance Commission meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 11-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay) **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Housing Commission-February 20, 2025*

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to approve the February 20, 2025 Housing Commission meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution-Authorization of Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding with the Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency for the 2025 Heating Assistance Program**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 03-04-25 A**, Authorization of Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding with the Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency for the 2025 Heating Assistance Program. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Health, Social Services, Insurance and Education Commission-February 24, 2025*

**MOTION** by Rep. Jessika Greendeer to approve the February 24, 2025 Health, Social Services, Insurance and Education Commission meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution-Authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with the School District of Tomah for Tutor Services**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 03-04-25 B**, Authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with the School District of Tomah for Tutor Services. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Continued on Page 13*



Continued from Page 12  
**CARRIED.**

*Resolution-Authorization to Enter into Agreement with the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. (GLITC) for the 2025 Women’s Infants, and Children (WIC) Program Grant*

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to adopt *Resolution 03-04-25 C*, Authorization to Enter into Agreement with the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. (GLITC) for the 2025 Women’s Infants, and Children (WIC) Program Grant. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Resolution-Amendment to the Ho-Chunk Nation Health Plan Elder Vision Benefits*

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt *Resolution 03-04-25 D*, Amendment to the Ho-Chunk Nation Health Plan Elder Vision Benefits. Second by Rep. Jessika Greendeer. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Development Commission-February 25, 2025*

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the February 25, 2025 Development Commission meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Jessika Greendeer. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Special Finance Commission-February 26, 2025*

**MOTION** by Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. to approve the February 26, 2025 Special Finance Commission meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Finance Commission-February 27, 2025*

**MOTION** by Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. to approve the February 27, 2025 Finance Commission meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Resolution-Approval of True Increase to Resolution 06-18-24 Q Adoption of Ho-Chunk Nation Executive Branch Budget Bill for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for the Department of Housing Heavy Equipment Division Aerial Lift*

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt *Resolution 03-04-25 E*, Approval of True Increase to Resolution 06-18-24 Q Adoption of Ho-Chunk Nation Executive Branch Budget Bill for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for the Department of Housing Heavy Equipment Division Aerial Lift. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Resolution-Authorization to Close Taxable Loan Proceeds Account with PNC Bank*

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt *Resolution 03-04-25 F*, Authorization to Close Taxable Loan Proceeds Account with PNC Bank. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Resolution-Authorization to Close Taxable Debt Service Account with PNC Bank*

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt *Resolution 03-04-25 G*, Authorization to Close Taxable Debt Service Account with PNC Bank. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Resolution-Authorization to Close Tax Exempt Loan Proceeds Account with PNC Bank*

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt *Resolution 03-*

*04-25 H*, Authorization to Close Tax Exempt Loan Proceeds Account with PNC Bank. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Resolution-Authorization to Close Tax Exempt Debt Service Account with PNC Bank*

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt *Resolution 03-04-25 I*, Authorization to Close Tax Exempt Debt Service Account with PNC Bank. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Unfinished Business:

*Red Cloud Park-Standing Agenda Item*

Attorney General stated that he sent a request for information and told the City of La Crosse the Nation can provide additional assistance, if needed. We have not received a response back. We will have a further update two weeks from now.

*Resolution-Authorization for the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum to Apply for the Opportunity Grant through Wisconsin Humanities*

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to STRIKE Authorization for the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum to Apply for the Opportunity Grant through Wisconsin Humanities. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

New Business:

*Resolution-Authorization for the Health Department to Apply for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Circles of Care for American Indian/Alaskan Natives (AI/AN) Grant*

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt *Resolution 03-04-25 J*, Authorization for the Health Department to Apply for the Substance Abuse and Mental

Health Services Administration Circles of Care for American Indian/Alaskan Natives (AI/AN) Grant. Second by Vice President Danielle DeLong. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Proclamation of the Ho-Chunk Women’s Day-Rep. Rodney Rave-TABLED*

*Resolution-D2 Housing Board Member*

Attorney General Gardner will check on the status of the background check for the D2 Housing Board member nominee.

*Resolution-Confirmation of Lanette Walker as Tribal Law Enforcement Commissioner for Shawano County*

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt *Resolution 03-04-25 K*, Confirmation of Lanette Walker as Tribal Law Enforcement Commissioner for Shawano County. Second by Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. 11-0-1(Rep. Shelby Visintin) **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Resolution-Authorization for the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum to Apply for the Walking Together: Investing in Folklife in Communities of Color Grant*

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt *Resolution 03-04-25 L*, Authorization for the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum to Apply for the Walking Together: Investing in Folklife in Communities of Color Grant. Second by Vice President Danielle DeLong. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Resolution-Cancellation of Lease #2419 on Lot #12 of Timber Run #439 T 2183*

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt *Resolution 03-04-25 M*, Cancellation of Lease #2419 on Lot #12 of Timber Run #439 T 2183. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Resolution-Support of Appointment of Kristin White Eagle to the University of Wisconsin Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies Planning Advisory Committee*

**MOTION** by Vice President Danielle DeLong to adopt *Resolution 03-04-25 N*, Support of Appointment of Kristin White Eagle to the University of Wisconsin Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies Planning Advisory Committee. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 11-0-1(Rep. Kristin White Eagle) **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Resolution-Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 02-04-25 J Consent to BIA Fiscal Year 2025 Tribal Priority Allocations*

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt *Resolution 03-04-25 O*, Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 02-04-25 J Consent to BIA Fiscal Year 2025 Tribal Priority Allocations. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Resolution-Redistricting and*

*Reapportionment Article V, Section 1(b) of the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation*

Legislative Counsel mentioned that this resolution is required by the Election Code. Once redistricting has occurred, the record of the results will be placed in the back of the Ho-Chunk Nation Constitution.

**MOTION** by Vice President Danielle DeLong to adopt *Resolution 03-04-25 P*, Redistricting and Reapportionment Article V, Section 1(b) of the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

District Meetings:

*D2 Hoxaikeja/Hoguceja/Nizhakisuc – February 18, 2025*

**READ FOR THE RECORD:** **MOTION** by Heather Cloud to support the request funding request in the amount of \$14,607. **RECORD**

**READ FOR THE RECORD:** **MOTION** by Roberta Funmaker to approve the funding request of \$22,000.

*It was noted that both motions were in reference to UNITY. Those motions were addressed at the last regular Finance Commission meeting.*

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the D2 Reps. and Legislative Legal, the **MOTION** by Barb Funmaker for D2 Representatives to release a detailed report regarding Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature’s efforts regarding the current Presidential administration for next area meeting. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the D2 Reps., the **MOTION** by Becky Davis for D2 Representatives to provide an update at the next area meeting regarding Vice President Danielle DeLong and Representative Robert Pilot violating the code of ethics. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*NOTED FOR THE RECORD: After the vote was taken, Vice President DeLong stated she would have liked to abstain from this vote.*

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the Legislature, the **MOTION** by Heather Cloud to have Legislative forums on a weekly basis. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the Election Board, the **MOTION** by Robert Funmaker to not remove Danielle DeLong’s name from the ballot. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 7-5(Vice President Danielle DeLong, Rep. Robert Pilot, Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah, Rep. Phyllis Smoke, Rep. Rep. Shelby Visintin)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie  
*Continued on Page 14*

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*Continued from Page 13*  
Begay to refer to the Election Code Workgroup, the MOTION by Heather Cloud to address Secretarial Elections at the annual General Council within the next update to the Election Code. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the Office of General Council, the MOTION by Christine Funmaker-Romano to make Heather Cloud to lead the charge in positive actions for the General Council to be alive and vibrant and be our mouth piece as General Council. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the Attorney General, the MOTION by Becky Davis for the Ho-Chunk Nation Attorney General to determine the proper ruling for filling the vacant General Council Advocate seat and have to necessary branch or department to fill seat by no later than 5/1/25. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the Department of Administration (Planning and Development) the MOTION by Cindy Tack to nominate Michelle Samphere to the District Advisory Board for the Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**READ FOR THE RECORD:**

**MOTION** by Cindy Tack to cancel the naming forum for the Village West Housing Development as the area previously decided on the names.

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the D2 Reps. and Heena Development, the MOTION by Laurette Pettibone to reaffirm the naming of Cloud Village for the apartments and Funmaker Road for Village West Housing Development from the 9/11/24 area meeting. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to D2 Reps. and Heena Development the MOTION by Heather Cloud to include Whiterabbit, Lonetree, Greendeer and Carly for names of roadways in Cloud Village, motion amended to use Blowsnake instead of Carly. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Department of Administration and Legislature the MOTION by Robert Funmaker for Ho-Chunk Nation to three bid for the development of Neeshla powwow grounds. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to D2 Reps. and Legislative Legal the MOTION by Robert Funmaker requesting the breakdown of unexpended funds for FY22-23 for the next area meeting. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 12-0-0

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**READ FOR THE RECORD:** MOTION by Robert Funmaker for Neeshla powwow budgets to be submitted at the next area meeting.

**Executive Session (Business Matters, Criminal Matters, Inter-governmental Relations, Land, Law Enforcement, Legal Advice, Personnel Matters, Public Safety or Well-Being):**

**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 Vice President Danielle DeLong. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*The meeting moved to Executive Session at 10:39 a.m.*

*The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:19 p.m. Vice President Danielle DeLong called Executive Session to order at 1:02 p.m. Quorum is established. President Greendeer arrives at 1:14 p.m.*

**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 4:28 p.m.*

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to ratify all action taken in Executive Session. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep.

*Robert Pilot is not online.*

**Amendment to the Agenda:**

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to add Potch-Chee-Nunk Area Culture Week Request to the agenda, under New Business. Second by Rep. Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. Robert Pilot is not online.

*Rep. Robert Pilot is online at 4:29 p.m.*

**Potch-Chee-Nunk Area Culture Week Request**

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to approve funding for the Potch-Chee-Nunk Area Culture Week with \$2,600 coming from the Youth Assistance Fund and \$2,600 coming from the D3 Community Improvement Funds (for a total of \$5,200), payable to Lanette Walker, with full conciliation on an EMERGENCY BASIS. Second by Rep. Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Release to Open Session:**

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to request that Attorney General Gardner provide his analysis of the next steps to Legislative Legal and Legislature and that an outline of sequential steps that need to be taken to be provided by the next Executive Session, and to have a response from the Attorney General regarding the D2 motion that was referred to him today in Open Session

preferably by next week Monday and release this motion to Open Session. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to request Legislative Legal to draft a letter of support, authorizing the Vice President and President to sign, if he would like to, having those parties apply for University of Wisconsin-Platteville engineering and design project to reroute Man Mound Road and release to Open Session. Second by Rep. Jessika Greendeer. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle is out of the room.

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to close this matter pertaining to Vice President DeLong and Rep. Robert Pilot addressing the concern from D2 area meeting in light of Legislative Counsel's opinion that the Code of Ethics does not provide an avenue for Legislature to pursue ethical complaints under the Code of Ethics against Legislators, and release this motion to Open Session. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-2(Vice President Danielle DeLong, Rep. Robert Pilot) **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Adjournment:**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adjourn the Legislative Meeting to March 18, 2025 at Quarles in Madison, Wisconsin. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*The Legislative Meeting adjourned at 4:32 p.m.*

Thank You  
for your vote!

I am honored and humbled to serve as the District 4, Seat 1 Representative.

I will work tirelessly to represent your values and interests.


This is just the beginning  
Thank you for believing in me  
—let’s make a difference, together!

EDDIE MULLEN

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District 4, Seat 1

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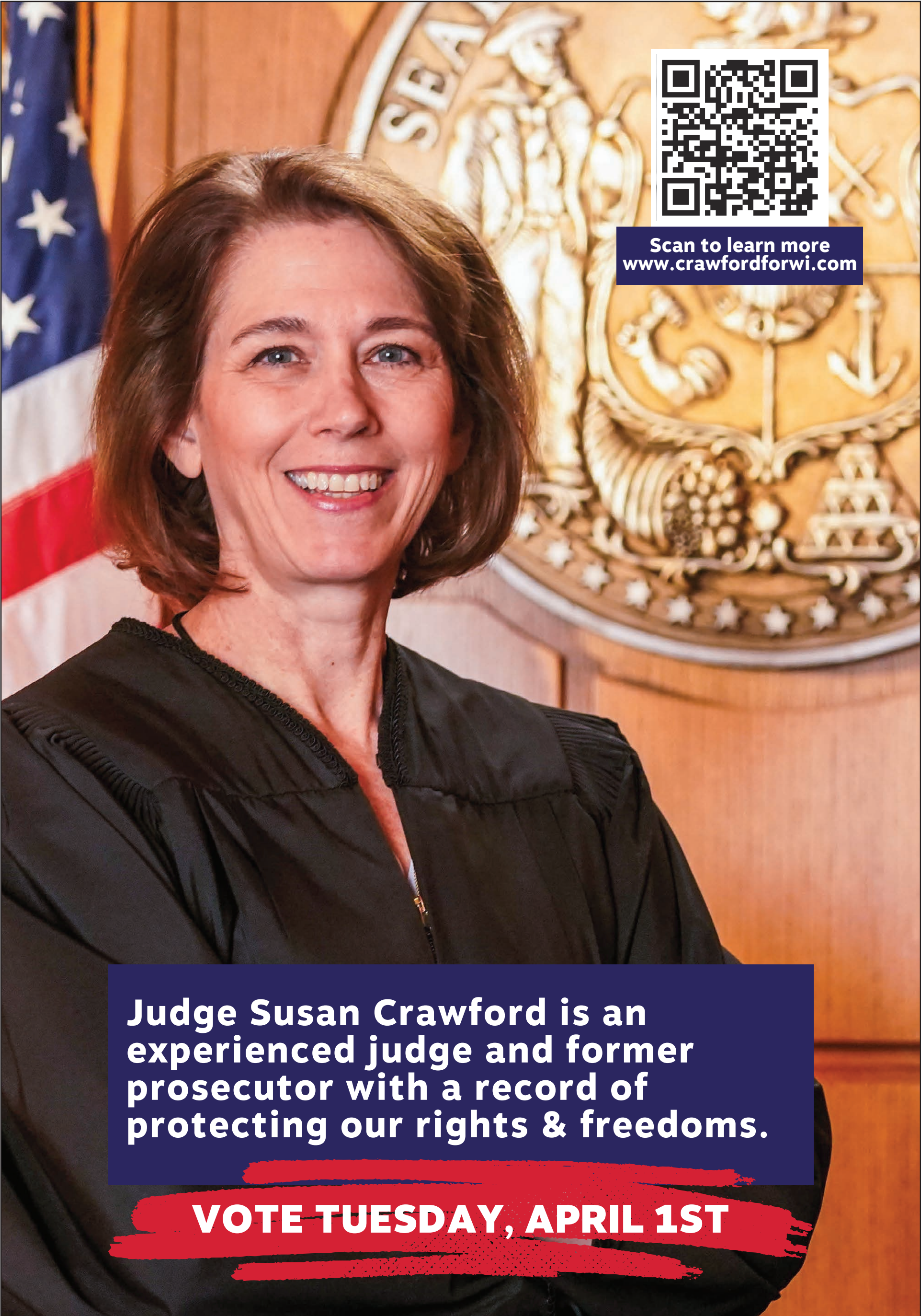
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**VOTE TUESDAY, APRIL 1ST**



NOTICE AND RULES OF  
GENERAL RUN OFF ELECTION  
TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025



Notice is hereby served to all eligible voters of the Ho-Chunk Nation that the Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board, in accordance with the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation has called a General Primary Election. ARTICLE VIII – ELECTIONS and the Election Code (2 HCC Sec. 6), states in relevant part:

3. Elections, c. Primary Election and Runoff Elections.

(1) Primary Elections shall be held prior to an Election with three (3) or more candidates in order to ensure compliance with the majority vote requirement as provided for in paragraphs 1c and 1e. (2) If no candidate in any Primary Election receives more than 50% of the votes cast in such Election, the two candidates with the highest vote totals from the Primary Election (and any candidates tied with the lower of such totals) shall appear on the ballot in the Runoff Election. When there are two (2) seats vacant in a district, the top two (2) vote getters for any vacant seats, if no candidate has received 50% + 1 vote, shall be on the ballot for the General Election or Runoff Election. (3) Primary Elections shall be conducted in the manner prescribed by this Code and in accordance with the timetable adopted by the Election Board.

THE FOLLOWING TERMS OF FOUR (4) YEARS WILL BE VACANT:

LEGISLATURE:  
District 1, Seat 1  
July 2025 – June 2029  
Jessika Greendeer  
Phyllis M. Smoke

District 2, Seat 2  
July 2025 – June 2029  
Travis Cloud  
Kyle White Eagle

District 3, Seat 2  
July 2025 – June 2029  
Andi Jo Cloud  
Shelby Visintin

ELIGIBLE VOTERS:

Any enrolled member of the Ho-Chunk Nation who is at least eighteen (18) years old and who has resided in their respective district for at least three (3) months. See Election Board Code Sec. 11 (c).

REGISTRATION:

Each person seeking to vote must register at the polling place. If a person cannot write, that person must sign his/her name with a mark before two (2) witnesses. A Ho-Chunk translator will be available to assist any tribal member who requests assistance.

ELIGIBILITY DISPUTES:

Any individual whose name does not appear on the eligible voters list can claim the right to vote by presenting a written challenge to the Election Board. Any eligible voter may challenge the eligibility of an individual's name appearing on the eligible voters list by presenting a written challenge to the Election Board.

The Election Board will rule on all written challenges to the list of eligible voters immediately after the close of the challenge period. Section 11(c) iii, (Deadline, Friday, June 13, 2025 at 4:00pm)

Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board  
W8801 Mission Road  
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)  
  
After 4:30 pm and the weekend please call (715)299-6104

Deadline to challenge the candidate(s) list to Election Board is Saturday, March 22, 2025 @ 4:30 pm.

ABSENTEE VOTING:

A voter may vote by absentee ballot provided the Election Board receives the absentee ballot request in writing no later than Saturday, May 24, 2025 by 4:00 pm. See Election Board Code, section 13(a), i

Requests MUST INCLUDE the eligible voter's name printed or typed (with signature), physical address where the ballot will be delivered (we use UPS next Day Air – UPS Next Day Air will not deliver to a P.O. Box), daytime telephone number and enrollment number.

Absentee Ballots must be received before 7:00 pm on Tuesday, June 3, 2025. Absentee ballots may be returned by overnight mail, so they may be received at the Election Board Office or the polling places prior to the close of the polls on Election Day. NOTE THAT FEDEX and UPS NEXT DAY AIR DOES NOT DELIVER IN BLACK RIVER FALLS ON SATURDAYS.

POSTING ELECTION RESULTS:

The Election Board will certify and post the official election results within three (3) days after the date of election.

Please check eligible voter's lists for your Districts.

CONTESTING OF ELECTION RESULTS:

Any member of the Ho-Chunk Nation may challenge the results of any election 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.

ELECTIONEERING:

There will be no electioneering within fifty (50) feet of any polling places.

GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION DAY  
~~Wednesday, March 5, 2025~~  
Rescheduled to  
Tuesday, March 11, 2025  
  
POST NOTICE OF ELECTION  
Wednesday, March 12, 2025  
  
POST ELIGIBLE VOTERS LIST  
Friday, May 2, 2025  
  
CHALLENGES TO THE ELIGIBLE VOTERS LIST MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO 4:00 PM  
Tuesday, May 13, 2025  
  
LAST DAY TO REQUEST ABSENTEE BALLOTS  
Saturday, May 24, 2025  
By 4:00 pm

GENERAL RUN-OFF ELECTION  
Tuesday, June 3, 2025  
  
SWEARING IN CEREMONY  
Wednesday, July 2, 2025

POLLING PLACES:  
OPEN AT 8:00 AM CLOSE AT 7:00 PM

BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI  
INDIAN MISSION  
COMMUNITY BUILDING  
W8813 Mission Road  
(715)299-6104

MPLS./ST. PAUL, MN  
MPLS./ST. PAUL BRANCH  
OFFICE  
1724 Selby Avenue  
(715)284-7660

TOMAH, WI  
BLUEWING COMMUNITY  
BUILDING  
320 Epinal Avenue  
(715)284-8900

LA CROSSE, WI  
LACROSSE BRANCH OFFICE  
724 Main Street  
(608) 783-6025

BARABOO, WI  
HOUSE OF WELLNESS  
S2845 Whiteagle Road  
(608)355-1240

WISCONSIN RAPIDS, WI  
CHAK-HAH-CHEE COMMUNITY  
BUILDING  
916 Chak-hah-chee Lane  
(715)886-8411

WITTENBERG, WI  
SIGA FUNMAKER COMMUNITY  
CENTER  
W17634 Radke Road  
(715)253-4407

MADISON, WI  
MADISON BRANCH OFFICE  
4724 Tradewinds Parkway  
(608)277-9964

MILWAUKEE, WI  
MILWAUKEE BRANCH OFFICE  
3501 S. Howell Avenue  
(414)747-8680

CHICAGO, IL  
CHICAGO BRANCH OFFICE  
4738 North Milwaukee Avenue  
(715)284-7894

GREEN BAY, WI  
BRANCH OFFICE  
2413 Hazelwood Ln  
(920) 490-2774

Post 3/12/25