



Covering the Ho-Chunk Nation



HOCAK



WORAK

Vol. XL, Issue 5

Wake hikiruxe wira | Raccoon Mating Moon

March 13, 2026



State of the Ho-Chunk Nation Address is March 18

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Laurel Sackett-Meek Guides Early Childhood Education and Support Services for Ho-Chunk Children and Families

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Ho-Chunk Cinema in Tomah Now Open Thursday to Sunday

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Lady Ballers and Plainzmen Champions at 2026 Ho-Chunk March Madness Tournament

Kaili Berg

The 2026 Ho-Chunk March Madness All-Native American Basketball Tournament brought athletes and fans together March 6-8 at the Ho-Chunk House of Wellness.

The tournament featured men's and women's divisions, a three-point contest, youth competitions, and a closing awards ceremony honoring players, teams, and community members who helped make the event possible.

The Lady Ballers captured the women's championship, earning the \$10,000 first-place prize after an impressive run through the tournament bracket.

Final placements in the women's division included:

- 1st Place: Lady Ballers – \$10,000
- 2nd Place: X-Factor – \$5,000
- 3rd Place: WSU – \$3,000
- 4th Place: All Nations – \$1,500

Several players were recognized for their performance throughout the tournament. The women's Most Valuable Player award went to Jenna Pumley of Lady Ballers.

Women's All-Star selections included:

- Jenny Womsi – All Nations
- Shawna-Lei Kuehu – WSU
- Mahpiya Irving – X-Factor

Morning Rain Hononi – X-Factor
Lexus Eagle Chasing – Lady Ballers
In the men's tournament, Plainzmen secured the championship title and the \$10,000 first-place prize.

Final placements in the men's division included:

- 1st Place: Plainzmen – \$10,000
- 2nd Place: Native Soldier – \$5,000
- 3rd Place: J.U.M.P. – \$3,000
- 4th Place: FLA – \$1,500

The men's Most Valuable Player
Continued on Page 9



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Please notify the Newspaper of any address changes or corrections

Ho-Chunk Nation Education Department Employee Spotlight: Dr. Cheryl Funmaker

We are proud to recognize Dr. Cheryl Funmaker, our dedicated Disability Division Director, for her outstanding leadership and unwavering commitment to the students and families we serve.

In her role, Dr. Funmaker oversees services that support students across all age groups, ensuring that each individual receives the care, advocacy, and resources they need to succeed. From early childhood through adulthood, her work touches lives at every stage, reflecting her deep understanding of the diverse needs within our community.

Dr. Funmaker is especially known for her work supporting critical cases. She approaches each situation
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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.

Where Secrets Refuse to Stay Buried: A Review of Sinister Graves

Submitted by Ryan John Crain, Sr.

Sinister Graves, the third book in the Cash Blackbear mystery series, is written by Marcie R. Rendon, an enrolled member of the White Earth Nation. Rendon's Ojibwe heritage deeply informs the story, infusing it with cultural nuance and an Indigenous worldview often underrepresented in mainstream fiction.

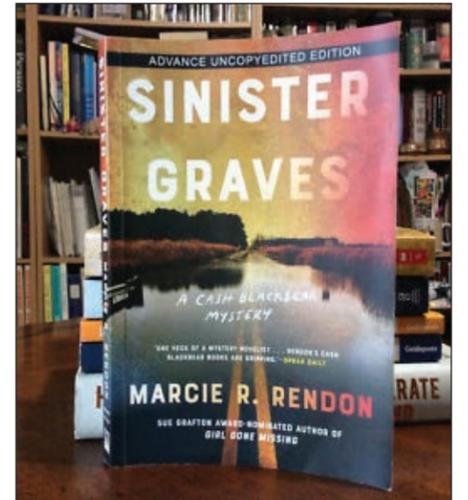
Fresh from her harrowing ordeal in the Twin Cities, Cash returns to a

landscape transformed: muddy water laps at steps, roads glisten beneath a gray sky, and daily life has ground to a halt. The flood has brought with it more than inconvenience, forcing Cash to hitch a boat ride into town when a drowned body is discovered. At the morgue, she is shaken by the sight of a young Indigenous woman on the mortuary table who bears an uncanny resemblance to herself and is unsettled further by a brooding presence lurking in the shadows. It soon becomes clear the woman was murdered, not drowned, and the only clue is a battered hymnal inscribed in both English and Ojibwa.

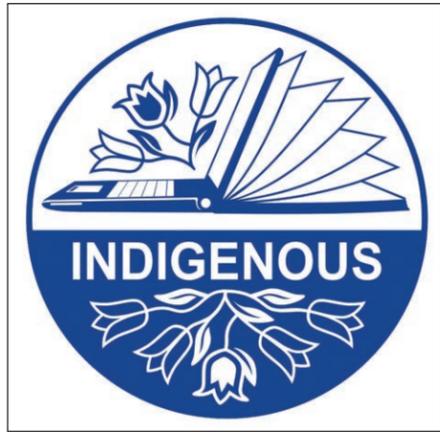
Cash enlists the help of Geno, the young man who lost his father

and mother in the first installment of the series and is now living with Sheriff Wheaton. Drawing on Geno's understanding of cultural traditions and Cash's intuitive connection to her community, the two use relational knowledge and guidance from their elders as they investigate. Their process involves careful listening, observation, and respect for spiritual signs, an approach rooted in community values rather than outside frameworks. Through their collaboration, they uncover clues that lead them to a church in the countryside near the White Earth Reservation, off the beaten path. The church, run by a charismatic white man who has attracted young Indigenous women to his congregation, becomes the focus of their inquiry. Outside the church is a small graveyard with two small headstones and the dark spirit that Cash saw at the morgue.

Stories like Rendon's echo through our own shelves at the Ho-Chunk Community Library, inviting exploration and connection. For



readers who wish to discover more Indigenous mysteries and diverse voices, the library is a valuable resource. There is even a special section on MMIW topics. Stop by Monday through Thursday, 10 am to 7 pm, or make an appointment to visit. Let this be the perfect place to start your personal list of inspiring Indigenous mysteries.



HOOÇAK HOIT'ERA CAFÉ

FRIENDLY GATHERING FOR COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO CONVERSE IN HOOÇAK HOIT'ERA

DESIGNED TO PRACTICE AND IMPROVE LANGUAGE SKILLS, FOCUSING ON REAL-LIFE, IN-PERSON CONVERSATIONS

~SNACKS AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED~

FRIDAY, MARCH 20 5PM

HOSTED BY TEEJOP COMMUNITY LANGUAGE LEARNERS

TEEJOP HOCIRA - MADISON BRANCH OFFICE
4724 TRADEWINDS PARKWAY
MADISON, WI 53718

Cher.Laubmeier@Ho-Chunk.com 608-277-9964 ext. 13220
Mya.Estebo@Ho-Chunk.com 608-277-9964 ext. 13221

PATHWAYS HOMEBUYER CLASS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1ST, 2026
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
HO-CHUNK NATION COMMUNITY CENTER
4724 TRADEWINDS PKWY, MADISON, WI 53718

TOPICS WE'LL COVER

- ✓ Homebuyer Readiness
- ✓ Financial Management
- ✓ Home Maintenance
- ✓ Home Purchase Process
- ✓ Understanding Credit

REGISTER HERE

CEDAR GROWTH

Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Housing
HOD Home Ownership Division
QUESTIONS? CALL 608-374-1225

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BQMPLRN>

Laurel Sackett-Meek Guides Early Childhood Education and Support Services for Ho-Chunk Children and Families

Kaili Berg

The Ho-Chunk Nation Education Department is recognizing the decades of dedication and leadership of Laurel Sackett-Meek, director of the Ho-Chunk Nation Head Start program.

Sackett-Meek has served the Ho-Chunk Nation for nearly 30 years. For more than two decades, she has overseen the Nation's Head Start program, helping guide early childhood education and family support services for Ho-Chunk children and families.

Her path into early childhood

education began unexpectedly.

"Early Education, particularly Head Start, is an amazing broad-based program providing services for both children and families," Sackett-Meek said. "I was recruited to come to Head Start by a couple of gentlemen who happened to be eating at a restaurant where I was working at the time. I had a degree, but surely wasn't putting it to use."

The men told her about an open position with Ho-Chunk Head Start and introduced her to the program. Though she was unfamiliar with it at

the time, Sackett-Meek said she was immediately intrigued.

"I definitely wanted to learn more about it," Sackett-Meek said. "I was fortunate to get to fill that vacant position and have not looked back since that day."

Over the years, Sackett-Meek said she has come to appreciate the program's holistic approach to supporting both children and their families.

"I learned that Head Start involves the whole family, and I love that,"
Continued on Page 7





DEMO NOTICE

Demolition of the old D1CC building will begin **March 16, 2026** and is expected to be completed by **April 1, 2026.**

Please use caution when traveling in the area. **Thank you** for your patience and cooperation during this process.



Youth Spring Pow Wow

Open to the public

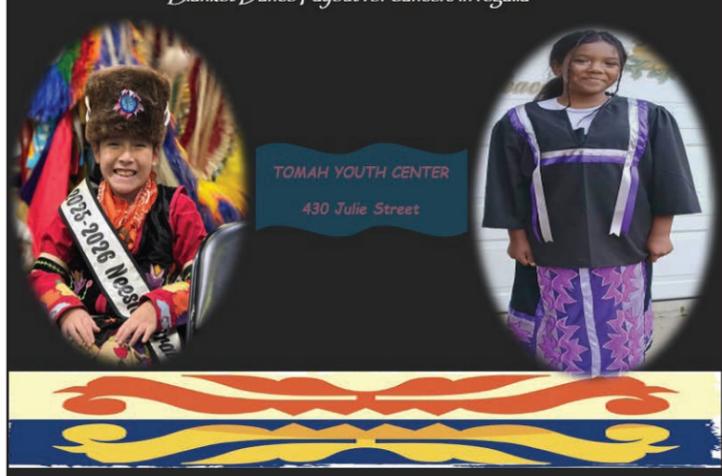
HEAD DANCER SPECIAL

April 11th, 2026
Doors open @ NOON
Potluck @ 1:00PM *Bring a dish to pass*
Grand Entry @ 2:00PM

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

MC: Matt Mann Arena Director: Corey Hindsley
Drum Groups: Bad Fish Creek Singers / Nioxawani Youth Drum Group
Head Female: Marselena Roth
Head Male: Hudson Bird
Blanket Dance Payout for dancers in regalia

TOMAH YOUTH CENTER
430 Julie Street



Continued from Page 1 with professionalism, compassion, and determination, while always prioritizing the well-being and best interests of the students and families involved. Her ability to navigate complex circumstances while maintaining strong collaboration with staff, families, and community partners is truly commendable.

Her leadership within the Education Department continues to strengthen our programs, enhance service delivery, and create meaningful impact for those we serve. We are grateful for her expertise, dedication, and the positive difference she makes every day.

Thank you, Dr. Funmaker, for your commitment, advocacy, and leadership!

Attention: The Next Deadline of the Hocak Worak will be March 20th which will be published on March 27th. Please contact Hocak Worak at ext. 11004 if you have a change of address or would like to be placed on the mailing list.

Ho-Chunk Elders

Are you have problems filling your prescription drugs; Benistar or Express Scripts?

We can help, contact the Ho-Chunk Insurance Division
1-800-232-0086.

DISTRICT 1 COMMUNITY CARE SUPPLY DRIVE

TWIN CITIES SUPPORT • DROP-OFF IN BLACK RIVER FALLS • DELIVERED TO THE TWIN CITIES

DISTRICT 1 IS ORGANIZING A COMMUNITY CARE SUPPLY DRIVE TO SUPPORT HO-CHUNK RELATIVES IN THE TWIN CITIES. WE'RE COLLECTING ESSENTIAL ITEMS IN BLACK RIVER FALLS AND DELIVERING THEM DIRECTLY FOR DISTRIBUTION TO MEET IMMEDIATE NEEDS. THESE SUPPLIES WILL SUPPORT RELATIVES IN THE AREA WHO ARE CHECKING ON FAMILY, PROVIDING RIDES, AND HELPING CONNECT PEOPLE TO ESSENTIALS.

DONATION WINDOW:
START: MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2026
CUTOFF: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2026 BY 4:30PM
DONATIONS WILL BE DELIVERED TO THE TWIN CITIES FOLLOWING THE CUTOFF.

DROP OFF YOUR DONATION @ HCN LEGISLATIVE OFFICE
BETWEEN 8:00 AM-4:30 PM
@ HO-CHUNK NATION TRIBAL OFFICE BUILDING (TOB)
W9814 AIRPORT ROAD
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI 54615

QUALITY GUIDELINES

- NEW ITEMS ONLY FOR HYGIENE AND CLOTHING
- UNOPENED ITEMS ONLY
- FOR MONETARY DONATIONS OR QUESTIONS ABOUT DONATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE EMAIL BELOW.

CONTACT:
SHANE YELLOW THUNDER
EMAIL: SHANEYELLOWTHUNDER@HO-CHUNK.COM
TELEPHONE: 715-896-5182

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

- WATER**
 - BOTTLED WATER (CASES)
- SHELF-STABLE FOOD**
 - CANNED MEALS/SOUP/CHILI
 - TUNA/CHICKEN PACKETS
 - PEANUT BUTTER
 - GRANOLA/PROTEIN BARS
 - RICE, PASTA, BOXED MEALS
 - SHELF-STABLE MILK
- BABY SUPPLIES**
 - DIAPERS, WIPES, FORMULA
 - BABY FOOD/SNACKS
- HYGIENE & PERSONAL CARE**
 - TOOTHBRUSHES/TOOTHPASTE
 - SOAP/BODY WASH, SHAMPOO/CONDITIONER
 - DEODORANT, LOTION
 - FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS
 - WASHCLOTHS, TOWELS, AND HAND TOWELS.
- COLD-WEATHER BASICS (NEW PREFERRED)**
 - NEW SOCKS
 - GLOVES, HATS, SCARVES/NECK GAITERS
 - HAND WARMERS
 - BLANKETS (NEW PREFERRED)
- HOUSEHOLD ESSENTIALS**
 - TOILET PAPER, PAPER TOWELS
 - TRASH BAGS, LAUNDRY DETERGENT
 - DISINFECTING WIPES/SPRAY

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

The Hocak Worak encourages the submission of letters to the Editor. All letters must include the signature, address and telephone number of the author. Letters are subject to editing for grammar, length, malicious and libelous content. The Hocak Worak reserves the right to reject any advertising, material, or letters submitted for publication. The submission of articles, poetry, artwork and photos is encouraged. The Editor makes the sole decision of what is published in the Hocak Worak. The Hocak Worak will not assume any responsibility for unsolicited material.

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

EDITOR Ardith Van Riper
Administrative Assistant Anna Reichenbach
Reporter.....Kaili Berg

The Hocak Worak is a member of:
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INDIGENOUS Journalists Association

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Immigrants fight ICE detention in federal court — and increasingly win

After a federal appeals board barred most detained immigrants from seeking bond, filings challenging their confinement surged in Wisconsin and nationwide. Wisconsin judges have ruled for detainees more than half the time.

By Paul Kiefer
Wisconsin Watch

Over the past six months, dozens of immigrants held in Wisconsin jails awaiting deportation have challenged their detention in federal court. Judges ruled in their favor in more than half the cases, pushing back on new federal immigration enforcement practices.

Wisconsin's federal courts have not seen comparable volumes of immigration-related habeas corpus petitions, which challenge the legality of a person's detention, in at least a decade. More than a third of the petitions heard in Wisconsin since 2016 were filed in the past six months.

Two forces are driving the influx: the Trump administration's effort to halt bond for virtually all detainees and its enforcement surge in neighboring Minnesota.

The U.S. Department of Justice's Board of Immigration Appeals ruled last September that all unauthorized immigrants in ICE custody are ineligible for bond, meaning they must remain in custody while their case plays out.

The ruling reversed a long-standing practice that previously enabled many immigrants to continue their cases while out on bond. In its wake, habeas petitions became one of few remaining paths to an exit.

Wisconsin's growing tally of habeas petitions pales in comparison to national figures. Federal district courts nationwide have received more than 24,000 habeas petitions from detained immigrants since January 2025, with numbers surging after the Board of Immigration Appeals decision, overwhelming federal prosecutors tasked with defending the legality of ICE detentions.

Soon after the board's ruling, the Trump administration targeted Minnesota in its immigration crackdown, deploying thousands of federal agents to patrol the Twin Cities and nearby rural communities. The White House claimed in early February that the campaign resulted in the arrests of more than 4,000 immigrants.

Since January 2025, ICE has transferred at least 108 immigrants from Minnesota to the Douglas County jail in Superior, Wisconsin. The sheriff's office contracts with ICE for detainee housing, as do three other Wisconsin counties.

At least 15 immigrants held in Douglas County have filed habeas petitions in Wisconsin's Western District

Court since September 2025. Judges have thus far sided with immigrants four times, including two Ecuadorian men arrested in a raid on a construction site in a Minneapolis suburb. Five of the cases remain pending.

Those detained in the Douglas County jail made up two-thirds of the Western District's immigration-related habeas petitions between September 2025 and February 2026.

While arrest locations were not available for every case, available data indicates that 60% of immigrants who passed through the Douglas County jail between January and October 2025 were arrested in Minnesota.

The Madison-based court had not previously handled an immigration-related habeas case in over a decade.

The federal court for Wisconsin's Eastern District, however, has heard dozens of similar cases in the same period.

The fact patterns of those cases, and the arguments behind them, have shifted dramatically since the September Board of Immigration Appeals ruling.

Habeas petitions in the recent past were a "hodgepodge," said Milwaukee immigration attorney Benjamin Crouse, and were often dismissed or denied by judges in Wisconsin's Eastern District.

Prior to last September, many habeas petitions challenged the legality of detaining immigrants for months at a time without a clear end date. A Colombian man transferred into ICE custody after a drug arrest in 2014 filed a habeas petition after spending more than 20 months at the Dodge County Detention Facility in Juneau, arguing his detention had stretched beyond reasonable time limits.

Judge William Griesbach denied the man's petition in 2016. Griesbach has ruled on 17 habeas petitions in the past decade, granting only one: a 2018 petition filed by a Mexican asylum seeker who spent more than two and a half years in the Kenosha County Detention Center without a bond hearing.

In some cases, Griesbach and other federal judges had no choice but to deny or dismiss habeas petitions: In at least 10 cases filed in Wisconsin's Eastern District Court since 2016, federal immigration officials deported immigrants before the court could fully consider their petitions.

Nearly as many immigrants left ICE custody through other routes,

including community supervision and asylum, before a judge could rule on their habeas petitions.

Despite the influx of new cases in the Western District, the Eastern District has still heard roughly two-thirds of the immigration-related habeas petitions filed since September.

Most federal district court judges who have considered habeas petitions since September have ruled against the Board of Immigration Appeals' decision prohibiting bond hearings for detained immigrants.

Wisconsin's Eastern District judges are split. Griesbach called the board's position "persuasive" in December, rejecting a habeas petition filed by a Venezuelan man arrested alongside his wife during a routine check-in at the Department of Homeland Security's downtown Milwaukee office earlier that year. That man, Diego Ugarte-Arenas, left ICE custody after receiving asylum in January.

Judge Brett Ludwig also sided with the Trump administration's position on detaining immigrants without bond. Trump appointed Ludwig to the Eastern District bench in 2020; then-President George W. Bush appointed Griesbach to the court in 2002.

Eastern District judges Byron Conway, a Biden appointee, and Lynn Adelman, a Clinton appointee, have both criticized the board's ruling. "Courts have nearly universally rejected the conclusion of the Board," Conway wrote in an October order granting the habeas petition of a Nicaraguan man arrested during an incidental run-in with ICE agents.

Western District judges have uniformly ruled against the Board of Immigration Appeals' bond decisions.

Keeping cases in courts like Wisconsin's Western District is a high priority for attorneys representing detained immigrants.

"It's less about jurisdictions where you're successful and more about avoiding jurisdictions where it's more problematic," said St. Paul immigration attorney Solomon Steen, who has represented two clients detained in the Douglas County jail.

Many of ICE's largest detention facilities are in Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi — states within the jurisdiction of the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals, which last month backed



A person walks in front of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, March 3, 2026, in Milwaukee. The Eastern District has still heard roughly two-thirds of the immigration-related habeas petitions filed in Wisconsin since September. (Jonathan Aguilar / Milwaukee Neighborhood News Service / CatchLight Local)

the Board of Immigration Appeals' bond eligibility decision.

When a client arrested in Minnesota lands in a Wisconsin jail, Steen said, attorneys can find them within "hours or days." Tracking clients' locations becomes tougher once they are transferred to larger detention facilities elsewhere, he added.

With thousands of immigrants now bouncing between distant detention centers, Steen said many face pressure to give up on their legal cases. "You won't know if you'll be able to contact a lawyer if you get detained," he said. "So wouldn't it be easier to just take a voluntary departure or take a removal order in immigration court just so that you will know where you are and what's happening?"

Steen and other attorneys are now working to keep clients' cases in Midwestern courts — and out of the 5th Circuit's jurisdiction — even when their whereabouts are unclear, preserving their chances of a successful habeas petition.

Even before the Board of Immigration Appeals blocked most detainees from seeking bond, voluntary departures — wherein an immigrant leaves the U.S. to avoid a deportation on their record — increased 21-fold between January and September of last year.

Meanwhile, an order from a federal district court judge in California has opened the door for many of Wisconsin's current ICE detainees to request bond for the first time in months.

Judge Sunshine Sykes of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California initially ruled in November that the Department of Homeland Security's practice of denying bond hearings to

most immigrant detainees ran afoul of federal law.

DHS didn't budge, maintaining that the Board of Immigration Appeals' rulemaking authority takes precedence over a ruling in federal district court. Chief Immigration Court Judge Teresa Riley, a Department of Justice employee, later directed judges in immigration courts nationwide to continue denying detained immigrants' requests for bond hearings.

Sykes doubled down last week, rebuking DHS for ignoring her earlier order.

"It is not the executive department's province and duty to say what the law is," she wrote.

Sykes vacated Board of Immigration Appeals bond rules in all states outside of the 5th Circuit, which still leaves most immigrants in ICE's largest detention centers unable to request bond hearings.

Crouse recently observed one Chicago immigration court judge notify immigrants about Sykes' latest order.

"They're taking this a little more seriously now, but we still don't know exactly what this looks like," he said.

He and other Milwaukee-area immigration attorneys are again filing bond motions for their clients. "We're getting hearings," he added. Aissa Olivarez, an attorney with the Community Immigration Law Center in Madison, confirmed that immigrants detained in Dodge County are receiving notice that they are eligible for bond. So far, she said, there is no indication federal immigration authorities are rushing to move Wisconsin detainees to holding facilities farther south.

SAVE THE DATE



2026 HO-CHUNK NATION FAMILY HEALING CAMP

August 4, 5, & 6

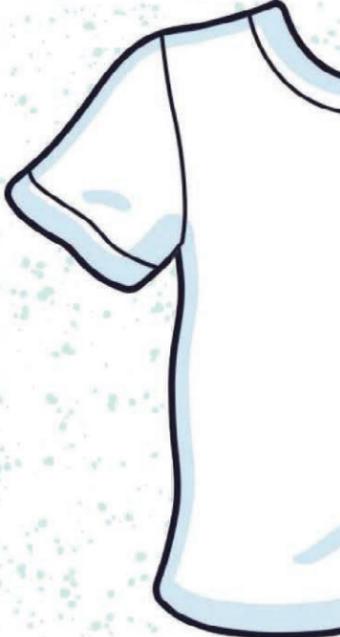
Andrew Blackhawk Memorial Pow-Wow Grounds

W8426 WI-54
Black River Falls, WI

Questions and Updates?
FHC@ho-chunk.com
facebook.com/groups/familyhealingcamp




2026 FAMILY HEALING CAMP T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST



The Scoop
Event Theme Wooxetekjwire. Wookixetewire "Love yourself. Love Each Other"
Contest Open to All Winner receives \$100.00 Gift Card
Submit Entries by: April 1, 2026

Any questions and entry submissions send to:
FHC@Ho-Chunk.com




Alcohol is the only drug that causes generational destruction but is marketed as celebration."

-Dr. Nicole LePera




HO-CHUNK CINEMA

Now Open Thursdays!

Tickets Available Online

Ho-ChunkCinema.com



BLACK RIVER FALLS JOM COMMITTEE

DONATION REQUEST

It's that time of year again! The Black River Falls JOM Committee is requesting donations for a Silent Auction that will benefit the BRF High School Student Group Waksik Wacek. All funds raised from the fundraiser will go towards the upcoming Waksik Wacek Senior Banquet on April 22nd. *The Silent Auction will be held at the TOB Atrium on Tuesday April 1st.*



Please consider donating:

- Clothing & Blankets
- Jewelry/Accessories
- Household Goods
- Gift Cards

Donations can be dropped off at the Education Department Front Desk with attn to Mandy Youngthunder

OR Contact to arrange item drop off: Mandy Youngthunder mandyrach@gmail.com

ATTENTION Ho-Chunk Nation Members

The Annual General Council Meeting is on **September 19, 2026.**

The deadline to submit a proposed resolution is **July 21, 2026.**

A fillable resolution form is available on the Ho-Chunk Nation website under the Office of General Council tab.



Submit proposed resolutions to:
Henry.WhiteThunder@ho-chunk.com




Maple Syrup Day - 2026





Sign Up Here

March 21 - 10AM-3PM

For Youth 7th through 12th grade

HHCDA's Community Resource Training Center – Dell's Dam (SW of Neillsville)

We Will: tap trees, learn the use of an evaporator, see high capacity tubing in action, learn how to identify maple trees and sample the supply.



Ho Chunk Tribal Youth Initiative
a cooperation between HC DNR, HC Youth Services and HC Education Presents:

Native Perennial Garden Kits



Hooçak DNR is offering 15 free native perennial garden kits to enrolled Hooçak tribal members. DNR staff will plant the kits in the area designated by the awardee and provide guidance for ongoing stewardship if needed.

Awardees will be chosen based on location suitability, care plan, and commitment.



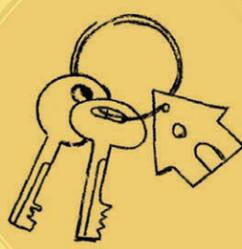
Applications will be taken until March 31st.

Ho-Chunk Nation Dept. of Housing Q&A NEKOOSA

Nekoosa Branch Office
4910 Winneshiek Ln.
Nekoosa, WI 54457

4pm - 5pm

Monday March 16th



Questions?
Contact Kaleena Emery at
Kaleenaemery@Ho-Chunk.com



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cloud Village Announces Availability of Affordable 1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apartments in Baraboo, WI

Baraboo, WI — Cloud Village, a thoughtfully designed residential community in Baraboo, Wisconsin, is pleased to announce the availability of its spacious and modern 1, 2, and 3-bedroom apartments. Proudly built by the Ho-Chunk Nation, Cloud Village reflects a deep commitment to quality housing, community connection, and long-term sustainability.

On Tuesday, February 10th, Cloud Village will be hosting an event to apply for an apartment. If you are interested in setting up an application appointment, please call 608-963-1238.

Situated in a peaceful, scenic part of Baraboo, Cloud Village blends contemporary living with cultural pride. The community was developed with residents in mind, offering abundant amenities, comfortable floor plans, and a welcoming environment for families, professionals, and community members of all ages.

Each home features modern finishes, energy-efficient appliances, ample natural light, and open-concept living spaces. Utilities, heated, underground parking, and additional storage are available at no cost to the residents.

Cloud Village offers a wide range of community amenities for residents to enjoy, crafted to enhance quality of life, including:

- Basketball Court
- Pickleball Court
- Playground
- Large Community Room

Cloud Village is currently accepting applications for all floor plans. Those interested in joining this growing residential community. Cloud Village is an affordable housing community; income restrictions apply.

For leasing information, tours, or questions:

Phone: 608-963-1238
Email: cloudvillage@horizondbm.com




DANCING THROUGH THE DECADES:

A sober celebration

RSVP!
4/18/2026 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm
HOUSE OF WELLNESS
S2845 WHITE EAGLE RD
BARABOO, WI 53913

Scan the QR Code to RSVP for adult Sober Prom! RSVP's help us in our planning efforts. You can also nominate King and Queen, voting will take place at Prom and winners announced at 8pm.



SCAN ME

For more information Ronelle.McKernane@Ho-Chunk.com 715-896-2570



Student of the Month March 2026

Kane Funmaker HųųWašoše



University of Wisconsin - Madison
Major: M.S. Human Ecology
Parents: Kenneth Jr. & Cheryl Funmaker

Kane is a dedicated M.S. Human Ecology student graduating in Spring 2026 who is passionate about supporting Indigenous communities, cultural education, and community-based leadership. As a Graduate Assistant with the First Nations Cultural Landscape Tour Program, Kane serves as a storyteller, sharing Indigenous histories and perspectives with respect and authenticity. Through his work he helps others build meaningful connections to land, culture, and community while honoring the traditions of the Ho-Chunk Nation. Kane's commitment to education, cultural understanding, and service makes him a valued leader on campus and beyond.



Student of the Month March 2026

Madelyn Greendeer

Caasepji - Black Deer Woman



7th Grade - Webb Middle School
Parents: Kurt & Jodel Greendeer

Madelyn is a kind and thoughtful student whose creativity and compassion shine in everything she does. Her love for animals, art, and music reflects her unique spirit and bright imagination. Through her positive choices and caring nature, Madelyn inspires those around her and continues to grow as a talented and remarkable young leader.



Student of the Month March 2026

Reginald Blackdeer

Naąjije - Eagle on tree top



5th Grade - Red Creek Elementary
Parents: Rita & Bo McClure,
Santino Perez & Hailey Whitegull

Reginald consistently demonstrates positivity, respect, and strong character in everything he does. A dedicated multi-sport athlete, he gives his best effort in baseball, basketball, football, and wrestling while showing outstanding sportsmanship. He is deeply connected to his culture, proudly participating in traditional activities and pow-wow dancing with honor and pride. As a caring older brother to four younger sisters, he leads by example through kindness and responsibility. What truly sets Reginald apart is his natural ability to include others—especially shy students—making everyone feel welcomed, valued, and like they belong.



**HO-CHUNK NATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

SUMMER 2026 BLOCK PARTIES

**“A Summer of Mental Wellness”
SAVE THE DATES!**

MORE INFO COMING SOON

- JUNE 10 - WITTENBERG**
- JUNE 24 - TOMAH**
- JULY 8 - BARABOO**
- JULY 22 - NEKOOSA**
- JULY 29 - MADISON**
- AUGUST 12 - BLACK RIVER FALLS**

Free event for tribal members and employees of the Ho-Chunk Nation.
This is a drug and alcohol free event.
For more info: Melissa.Govek@ho-chunk.com 715.284.9851 x35052



Continued from Page 2
Sackett-Meek said. “The kiddo’s are amazing and eager to learn, the families are incredible, and the Head Start team, top notch.”
Head Start programs provide early learning experiences and developmental support before children enter elementary school. Sackett-Meek describes the program as an important foundation for future education. “Early education is that preparatory period before the ‘big school.’ We get to provide experiences and opportunities that prepare kiddo’s for their future endeavors in education,” Sackett-Meek said. “Bottom line, Head Start is not what you do, it’s who you are, it is in your heart forever.”

While Sackett-Meek’s role often takes place behind the scenes, she says the rewards of the work are evident every day. “There are rewarding moments each day, and for sure never a dull moment in the world of Head Start,” Sackett-Meek said.
Much of her work involves securing funding and partnerships that allow the program to continue serving Ho-Chunk families. “Obtaining the funding and partnerships necessary to ensure the continuation of the program and being a good partner is rewarding,” Sackett-Meek said. “In doing reporting, it is inspiring to see the impact that the Head Start team is making.”
She also sees the program’s

impact in measurable ways. “When compiling child growth outcomes data, wow, the growth is amazing,” Sackett-Meek said.
Parent engagement has also been a highlight of the program. “Hearing about the huge parent involvement in festivals and celebrations, parent-teacher conferences, involvement in our program governance, and day-to-day involvement is beyond exciting,” Sackett-Meek said.
After decades with the program, Sackett-Meek has also had the opportunity to see the long-term impact Head Start has had on Ho-Chunk children. “I’ve been around a minute, so to see the children from the early days out there making a difference in the world is

nothing short of incredible,” Sackett-Meek said. “We know every child is given great opportunities here, and how they take them forward into the world is just the best to observe.”
While she acknowledges that every career has its challenges, Sackett-Meek credits the strength of the Head Start staff for helping the program succeed. “Of course there are hard days, as with any profession, but I am blessed with an amazing team,” Sackett-Meek said. “Solutions are always out there, and staff are always willing to implement them.”
Looking ahead, Sackett-Meek hopes the program continues to grow and thrive long into the

future. “At some point, I imagine I will step down, it will be hard, because Head Start is not what you do, but who you are,” Sackett-Meek said. “My hope for the future of Head Start is that it continues to thrive.”
Sackett-Meek said the dedicated team in place will help ensure the program remains strong for generations to come. “When I do decide to step down, I am confident the program will be in excellent condition for the new director to come in and run with it, taking care of the Head Start staff so they can give their best to the children and families they serve.”

Sobriety looks GREAT on you!

PSA from the HCN Healing to Wellness Court

STATE OF THE HO-CHUNK NATION

Address

WEDNESDAY

5 PM 18 2026

MARCH

4:30pm: Doors Open

5:00pm: Special Guest Panel and Dinner:

From the WWBC to the Ho-Chunk Nation

7:00 pm: Address from Representative Stephanie Begay & President Jon Greendeer

Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls - Bingo Hall

TEEJOP COMMUNITY SWAP

A chance to give your clothes a second life, find new favorites and support sustainability

- Gently used clothing
- Coats, sweaters, shoes
- Kitchen items
- Household goods

Donations Accepted Through April 10, 2026

Teejop Hocira - Madison Branch Office
4724 Tradewinds Parkway
Madison, WI 53718
Monday - Friday 8am-4:30pm

Donated items will be made available to all community members that visit the Teejop Hocira. Any remaining items will be donated to the Free Sales for Families event scheduled for April 11, 2026

For more information, call us: 608-277-9964 or email: Cher.Laubmeier@Ho-Chunk.com or Mya.Esteban@Ho-Chunk.com

Upcoming Ho-Chunk Closures

Mar - May

MARCH 18	HHCC Pharmacy (BRF) closed 8:30am-10:00am
MARCH 19	Both pharmacies closed for Ho-Chunk Nation Founders Day
MARCH 25	HOW Pharmacy (Baraboo) closed 12:30pm-1:30pm
APRIL 3	Both pharmacies closed for Good Friday
APRIL 6	Both pharmacies closed in observance of Easter Sunday
APRIL 15	HHCC Pharmacy (BRF) closed 8:30am-10:00am
APRIL 22	HOW Pharmacy (Baraboo) closed 12:30pm-1:30pm
APRIL 29	Both pharmacies closed for 5th Wednesday Divisional All Staff
MAY 20	HHCC Pharmacy (BRF) closed 8:30am-10:00am
MAY 25	Both pharmacies closed for Memorial Day
MAY 27	HOW Pharmacy (Baraboo) closed 12:30pm-1:30pm

PLEASE PLAN ACCORDINGLY FOR MEDICATION REFILLS

SLP 3/2/26



WAKE HIKIRUXE WIIRA
March: Raccoon Chasing Each Other Moon

HARVEST OF THE MONTH

Xqawizi (Dandelion)

ABOUT DANDELIONS

- Nearly all parts of the dandelion can be eaten, but be sure the dandelion has not been treated with any chemicals.
- The leaves of dandelions are best when they are young in early spring. You can boil, steam, or enjoy them raw.
- The roots may also be eaten in early spring. Cook them as you would any other root vegetable. Dried roots can also be used in tea.
- Blossoms are sweetest in early spring and should be eaten shortly after gathering. They may be used to garnish a plate or on salads. Dandelion buds can even be pickled, like capers.
- Dandelion sap does contain latex so anyone with a latex allergy should avoid handling.
- Dandelion leaves have more vitamin A than spinach, and more vitamin C than tomatoes!
- Dandelions have a long history as a medicinal plant and are a gentle diuretic.

GATHERING CONSIDERATIONS

- Gather dandelions that are free from any chemical treatments. Make sure you have permission to gather in that area.
- Dandelion may interact with some medications so check with your provider before consuming. Do not consume if pregnant or nursing.

Dandelion Flower Tea

From Home Spun Seasonal Living

Ingredients:

- 1 cup dandelion flowers
- 6 cups water
- 1 Tbsp. lemon juice, or to taste
- 1 Tbsp maple syrup, honey, or other sweetener if desired, to taste

Steps:

- Rinse the dandelion flowers under cold water to remove any bugs. Cut off the green part on the bottom of the flower, or pull out the yellow flower petals. (The green part is not poisonous, but is bitter).
- Boil 2 cups of water and pour over the flowers. Stir, cover, and steep for 20 minutes or so. Tea may be strained after this step and drank warm.
- For iced tea or cold tea, add the remaining 4 cups of cold water, lemon, and sweetener to taste.
- Refrigerate at least 3 hours or overnight. Tea may be kept in the fridge for up to 3 days.
- Feel free to add other flavors such as mint, chamomile, or wintergreen to be steeped with the flowers.

For more Information Contact a HCN Registered Dietitian/ Nutritionist:

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

Updated 2/24 Nutr.
HCN HEALTH & WELLNESS DIV.
<http://health.ho-chunk.com/>

Future Oral Health Workforce Day

Ho-Chunk Health Care Center
N6520 Lumber Jack Guy Rd, Black River Falls
April 10, 2026 10am-2pm



High School students learn about dental health professions— including dentist, dental hygienist, dental assistant, and lab tech—in this **FREE** workshop.

The agenda includes: hands-on activities, information on the prerequisites needed to apply to dental training programs and admissions preparation, and additional opportunities for furthering their interest in a dental career.

Apply by March 20th at <https://ahec.wisc.edu/fohwd/>





Wisconsin AHEC is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. For more information, visit ahec.wisc.edu.

Community Health Foot Clinics



MARCH 2026
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Black River Falls - 3/2, 3/18, 3/25
Community Health Office
W9850 Airport Road
(715) 896-1343

Tomah - 3/10
Tribal Aging Unit
358 Eos Road
(608) 372-5202

La Crosse - 3/17
Three Rivers House
724 Main Street
(608) 783-6025

Madison - 3/17
Branch Office
4724 Tradewinds Pkwy
(608) 277-9964

Baraboo - 3/24
House Of Wellness
S2845 White Eagle Road
(608) 355-1240 x35509

Nekoosa - 3/26
Nekoosa Health Office
1021 County Road G
(715) 886-5444

Wittenberg - 3/26
Siga Funmaker Center
W17634 Radke Road
(715) 701-2069

A Registered Nurse will clip/file your nails, and dremel if necessary. For ingrown toenail removal, please contact podiatry.

Open to Tribal Members - No walk-ins - Appointment is now needed.

MARCH 2026

HO-CHUNK NATION FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

OFFICE HOURS: 8:00AM - 11:45AM
1:00PM - 3:45 PM

SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE
PHONE: 715-284-7461 EXT. 35038



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 OPEN BRF	3 OPEN BRF	4 OPEN BRF	5 WITTENBERG DISTRIBUTION 10:30 AM- 12:30 PM NUTRITION BOOTH - KATHY	6 OPEN BRF
9 OPEN BRF	10 OPEN BRF	11 OPEN BRF	12 WIS DELLS DISTRIBUTION 10 AM- 1:30 PM NUTRITION BOOTH - ALEX	13 WI DELLS HOME DELIVERIES OPEN BRF
16 OPEN BRF	17 OPEN BRF	18 TOMAH DISTRIBUTION 12N- 1:00	19 CLOSED HO-CHUNK FOUNDER'S DAY	20 LA CROSSE PICKUPS OPEN BRF
23 OPEN BRF	24 OPEN BRF	25 OPEN BRF	26 NEKOOSA DISTRIBUTION 12N-1:00 PM NUTRITION BOOTH - ALEX	27 CLOSED MONTHLY SHIPMENT
30 OPEN BRF LAST PICKUP DAY NUTRITION BOOTH - KATHY	31 CLOSED INVENTORY			

****CLOSED ON THURSDAY FOR TAILGATE DAYS****

Partners in Parenting:



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

Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health
Division of Public Health

GUEST SPEAKER:
Joseph WhiteEagle BS, SAC
Ho-Chunk Nation Behavioral Health Division

How To Have Difficult Conversations With Your Child

Monday March 23, 2026
5:00 - 6:00 pm
House of Wellness Atrium
S2845 WhiteEagle Road
Baraboo, WI 53913

Event includes free light supper and raffle!
Must attend presentation to receive raffle and incentives

Please RSVP to:
Wendy Lonetree
Public Health Worker
wendy.lonetree@ho-chunk.com
Office: (608)-355-1240 ext. 35600
Work Cell: (715)-896-7199




WL 2.20.26

Continued from Page 1
award went to Donald Gunmiller Jr. of Plainzmen.
Men's All-Star selections included:
Boralys Cypress – FLA
Quentin Raynor – J.U.M.P.
Lane Micha Lena – Native Soldier
Hunter Osceola – Native Soldier
Robert McClain Jr. – Plainzmen

The tournament also featured a Great Lakes 3-Point Contest, where Falcon Albers won the men's competition and Miracle Spotted Bear captured the women's title for the second year in a row.
The Kunu Yazzie Slam Dunk Championship was won by Robert McClain Jr.
A youth competition was also held, with the Little Hoopster Orange Team, Ho-Chunk

Plus, taking the championship. Individual honors went to Reyna Martinez, who was named Girls MVP, and Ken Funmaker, who earned Boys MVP.
As part of the weekend's celebrations, a Ho-Chunk Hall of Fame induction ceremony honored several individuals whose contributions have left a mark on the community.
The 2026 Ho-Chunk Hall of

Fame inductees include:
Nancy Stacy Leonard
Chloris Lowe
Jodeen Lowe
Trisha Zunker
William Lowe
Harrison Funmaker
During the closing ceremony, organizers recognized the many individuals and organizations whose support helped make the tournament possible, including the Ho-

Chunk Nation leadership and legislature, fundraising partners, and staff at the House of Wellness.
Special recognition was given to Roberta Funmaker, along with the event's management team, fitness staff, security personnel, concessions workers, and maintenance crew who worked behind the scenes throughout the tournament.

Garden Tools & Outdoor Safety Tips

Sanford WhiteEagle Legion Post
E11046 N. Reedsburg Rd.
Baraboo, WI. 53913

Bring your questions in preparation for the garden season!

Wednesday
April, 8th
5 - 7 PM



Demonstration Topics:

- Practical Tools
- Tool Safety
- Outdoor Safety
- Preferred Clothing



715-284-9343 ext. 11109 Agriculture@ho-chunk.com

Garden Tools & Outdoor Safety Tips

D1CC N7261Warrior Ave.
Black River Falls, WI. 54615

Weather permitting, we will meet behind D1 near the sand volleyball courts. If not, we will be in the lower atrium.

Wednesday
April, 1st
5 - 7 PM



Demonstration Topics:

- Practical Tools
- Tool Safety
- Outdoor Safety
- Preferred Clothing



715-284-9343 ext. 11109 agriculture@ho-chunk.com

Healthy Plants & Healthy Soil

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 22ND
5 - 7 PM

Sanford WhiteEagle Legion Post
E11046 N. Reedsburg Rd.
Baraboo, WI. 53913

Prepare yourself for some fun learning & get ready to do some gardening!

Take home your own transplants!

Topics Covered:

- Garden Plan
- Starting Seeds
- Intentional Planting
- Soil Recommendations



715-284-9343 ext. 11109 Agriculture@ho-chunk.com

Healthy Plants & Healthy Soil

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 15TH
5 - 7 PM

D1CC N7261 Warrior Ave,
Black River Falls, WI. 54615

Weather permitting, we will meet behind D1 near the sand volleyball courts. If not, we will be in the multi-purpose room.

Prepare yourself for some fun learning & get ready to do some gardening!

Take home your own transplants!

Topics Covered:

- Garden Plan
- Starting Seeds
- Intentional Planting
- Soil Recommendations



715-284-9343 ext. 11109 Agriculture@ho-chunk.com

Dianne Louise Littlegeorge

June 9, 1956 - March 8, 2026

Dianne Louise Littlegeorge, 69, of Baraboo, WI, passed away in Madison, WI, on March 8, 2026.

Dianne was born to Irwin Littlegeorge and Joanne Blackdeer on June 9, 1956, in Brockway, WI. Dianne spent her early years in Black River Falls before moving to Baraboo, WI.

After graduating from high school, Dianne attended cosmetology school and worked as a hair stylist. Later she worked as an advocate for native American students in the Baraboo School District. Dianne was also proud to have worked as a gaming commissioner for the Ho-Chunk Nation.

In her free time, she enjoyed activities like sewing, cooking, and making jewelry; skills she

was incredibly gifted in. Dianne also loved animals, especially horses and Newfoundland dogs. Many evenings she could be found watching any sort of sci-fi movie and had a special place in her heart for the Disney character Stitch from the Disney movie "Lilo and Stitch".

Dianne is survived by her loving husband of 35 years, James Long; her daughter Lori Littlegeorge; her siblings Roy Littlegeorge, Joanna (Greg) Hollenback, and Michael Blackdeer; her grandchildren Eva (Tyler) and Landon; and her great-grandchildren Kash, Brynneleigh, and Sage; her uncle Stan Blackdeer, her aunts Veronica Espinoza and Sophie Blackdeer; her sister-in-law Teresa Littlegeorge; and many other friends and relatives.

Dianne is preceded in death by her parents, Irwin Littlegeorge and Joanne Blackdeer Klute, her brothers Steven (Jennifer) Littlegeorge, Mitchell Littlegeorge, Bradley Littlegeorge; and sister-in-law Cindy Littlegeorge.

A visitation will be held on Wednesday, March 11 at the Buswell Funeral Home in Black River Falls, WI, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Burial will take place at the Blackdeer Homestead.

Buswell Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.



Rosemary Thundercloud

December 9, 1951 - March 9, 2026

Rosemary Thundercloud, Homiṅkpiiwj, "She who keeps her den clean", age 74 of Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin, walked on Monday, March 9, 2026 at her residence.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. at Conway-Picha Funeral Home in Lyndon Station, Wisconsin with Richard Mann officiating. Visitation will be held at Conway Picha Funeral Home on Wednesday, March 11th, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. and on Thursday from 12:00 Noon until the time of service at 2:00 p.m. Burial will be at Spring Grove Cemetery in Wisconsin Dells.

Rosie was born December 9, 1951 in Baraboo, Wisconsin, the daughter of Richard and Alberta (Miner) Day. She was married to Samuel Thundercloud for over 54 years and was a great wife; loved taking care of her family and also unofficially adopted many younger people as well. Rosie was an enthusiastic sports fan. She loved to watch Wisconsin Dells High School competitions, Sam's softball games, Green Bay Packers football, Milwaukee Brewers baseball and Wisconsin Badgers. She also greatly loved her great-grandchildren.

Rosie is survived by her



husband, Sam; son, Matthew and Tim (Sarah) Decorah, who she treated like a son; daughter, April; brothers, Michael (Nancy), Patrick, Kevin (Marcia) and Jim (Carol) and a sister, Helene Day; along with her 9 grandchildren, Racheal, Brennan, Courtney, Brandy, Callie, Abbie, Bailey, Aaliyah, and Maddalyn and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, sisters, Deborah Weaver, Jean-Ann Day and Fredericka Day; two grandsons, Brockton and Kaleb, and her two unofficial sons, Alex and Jordan.

Levi Lindley Lujan

June 8, 2023 - February 27, 2026

Levi Lindley Lujan, a beacon of joy and strength, passed away on Friday, February 27, 2026, at the tender age of 2, leaving behind a legacy of love and courage. Born on June 8, 2023, Levi's life, though brief, was marked by an ability to bring happiness to everyone he encountered.

Levi's smile was contagious, and his laughter could lighten the heaviest of hearts. His joy was infectious, and it was impossible not to be swept up in his delight. His fascination with cars was apparent to all who spent time with him; he could often be found playing with his toy cars, a look of pure contentment on his face. More than anything, he loved reading books with his Dad.

From the outset, Levi was a happy and strong child, whose resilience in the face of adversity was nothing short of inspirational. His fighting spirit was evident in all he did, and it was this tenacity that endeared him to all who knew him. Levi's love for his older sister, Natalia, was always evident. Only a year older than him, she was his constant companion, and their bond was a beautiful testament to his loving nature.

Levi is survived by his father, Jovahn Lujan; mother, Quantella Anderson; sister, Natalia Lujan; grandparents, Victoria (Isaiah) Houghton, and Joseph "JP" (Gabrielle) Lujan; great grandparents, John Houghton, Vicki (Howard Pettibone) Greendeer, and Ramona



(Michael) Wetzel; his aunts and uncles, Mia, Hannah, Summer, Niyanna, Jaella, Jolani, Jos, Joaquin, and Malcolm; along with many cousins, and other relatives that loved him dearly.

Funeral Services for Levi will be held on Monday, March 2, 2026 at 12:00 p.m. (Noon) at the Torkelson Funeral Home in Tomah. Richard Mann will officiate. Burial will follow in the Blue Wing Cemetery, rural Tomah. Family and friends are invited for visitation on Monday from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, family is requesting monetary donations to assist Levi's family with arrangements.

Online condolences may be offered at www.torkelsonfuneralhome.com. The Torkelson Funeral Home of Tomah is assisting the family with arrangements.

Jordan M. Funmaker

March 6, 1992 - March 9, 2026

Jordan Funmaker, 34, passed away unexpectedly, leaving behind a family and community who will deeply miss his humor, warmth, and lighthearted spirit.

Jordan was born March 6th, 1992, in Baraboo, WI, to Jones Funmaker Sr. and Lu ann Menore.

Jordan was known as a jokester who could always make people laugh. He had a natural way of lifting the mood and reminding those around him not to take life too seriously. His quick wit and playful personality made him someone people loved being around.

More than anything, Jordan loved spending time with his children. He was the proud father of seven: Aiden, Gavin, Braylon, Layla, Quinton, Jovie, and Jaceon. His kids meant everything to him, and he cherished the time they spent together—sharing laughs, playing games, and creating memories.

Jordan also enjoyed playing Scrabble and other games that brought people together. He appreciated the simple things in life: laughter, conversation, and the company of the people he loved.

He will be remembered for his humor, his easygoing nature, and the joy he brought into the lives of those around him. Though his time here was far too short, the memories he created with his children, family, and friends will live on.

Jordan is survived by his beloved children Aiden, Gavin, Braylon, Layla, Quinton, and

their mother Cheyenne Bird of Black River Falls; Jovie, and Jaceon, and their mother Rosalind Cleveland of Tomah, WI, and his siblings Tia, Brittney, Sam, Ellie, Coleman, McKinley, Angel, Jones Jr, and Amaya, along with many nieces, nephews, and family members and friends who will forever hold his memory close to their hearts.

He is preceded in death by his father, Jones Funmaker Sr., and his brother Lyle Funmaker.

A funeral service will be held at the Buswell Funeral Home in Black River Falls, WI, on Thursday, March 12, 2026. Visitation will begin at 10:00 a.m. and continue until time of services at 12:00 p.m. Following the funeral service, burial will be held at Indian Heights Cemetery in Lyndon Station, WI.





Ho-Chunk Housing & Community Development Agency
Administration. Operations. Grants. Economic Development

**HHCDA Board of Commissioners
January Regular Meeting**

January 22nd, 2026
12:00 pm

HHCDA Main Office

1116 E Monowua St
Tomah, WI
54660

Meeting Minutes

Roll Call:

Vice Chair Mike Goze (p)
Commissioner Donald Greengrass Sr. (p)
Commissioner Lucinda Lonetree (p)
Commissioner Fidel Delarosa (p)
Commissioner Missy Red Cloud (p)
Commissioner Marlys Whiteagle (p/v)

Commissioner Kelly LaMere (ex)
Commissioner Cheri Byhre (p)
Commissioner Ben Krause (p/v)
Commissioner Rebecca Nambo (ex)
Commissioner Wilfrid Cleveland (ex)

Quorum is established at 12:08 pm

Opening Prayer:

Chairperson Red Cloud calls for a moment of individual prayer in silence.

Agenda Approval:

Motion by Commissioner Cher Byhre to approve the agenda with the addition of Dane County term expiring and modification of moving up Unfinished Business. **Motion Seconded** by Commissioner Fidel Delarosa.

Motion Carried 7-0-0

Meeting Minute Ratification: December Regular Meeting

Motion by Commissioner Mike Goze to approve the December Regular Meeting minutes. **Motion Seconded** by Commissioner Cheri Byhre. **Motion Carried 7-0-0**

Note: October 2025 Regular Meeting minutes have not been ratified.

Staff Reports:

Motion by Commissioner Ben Krause to only hear the HHCDA Executive Director report. Also, to have included in that any action items needed. **Motion Seconded** by Commissioner Cheri Byhre.

Motion Carried 6-0-1 Commissioner Marlys Whiteagle

Executive Director –

Motion by Commissioner Donald Greengrass Sr. to approve the January 2026 HHCDA Executive Director report. **Motion Seconded** by Commissioner Cheri Byhre. **Motion Carried 6-1-0 Commissioner Marlys Whiteagle**

Unfinished Business:

Organization Chart –

Motion by Commissioner Krause to deny the proposed HHCDA Organization Chart. **Motion Seconded** by Commissioner Fidel Delarosa. **Motion Carried 5-1-1 Commissioner Goze, Commissioner Lonetree**

Board breaks at 2:00 pm

Board returns from break at 2:15 pm

Cultural Resource Coordinator –

Motion by Commissioner Donald Greengrass Sr. to approve the HHCDA Cultural Resource Coordinator position. **Motion Seconded** by Commissioner Lucinda Lonetree. **Motion Carried 7-0-0**

Chief Financial Officer –

Motion by Commissioner Donald Greengrass to table the HHCDA Chief Financial Officer until a wage packet and wage justification packet is submitted. **Motion Seconded** by Commissioner Ben Krause. **Motion Carried 7-0-0**

Community Engagement Director –

Motion by Commissioner Ben Krause to deny until a wage packet is submitted along with a financial impact analysis. **Motion Seconded** by Commissioner Donald Greengrass Sr. **Motion Carried 7-0-0**

Maintenance worker I&II –

Motion by Commissioner Ben Krause to approve the HHCDA Maintenance Worker I&II job descriptions. **Motion Seconded** by Commissioner Donald Greengrass Sr. **Motion Carried 6-0-1 Commissioner Marlys Whiteagle**

Junior Accountant –

Motion by Commissioner Lucinda Lonetree to table Jr Accountant job description. **Motion Seconded** by Commissioner Fidel Delarosa. **Motion Carried 7-0-0**

New Business:

Intact Budget Modification –

Motion by Commissioner Donald Greengrass Sr. to table the Intact budget modification. **Motion Seconded** by Commissioner Lucinda Lonetree. **Motion Carried 6-0-1 Commissioner Cheri Byhre**

Adjournment:

Motion by Commissioner Cheri Byhre to adjourn. **Motion Seconded** by Commissioner Donald Greengrass Sr. **Motion Carried 7-0-0**

Meeting is adjourned at 3:48 pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Adam M. Kruse

Adam M. Kruse
HHCDA Board Secretary

NOTICE

RIGHT TO OBJECT

In accordance with HCC 8 §14 Title Transfer & Recording Act

Ho-Chunk Member, NELLIE PEOPLES, has submitted a Request for Title for Permanent

Improvements located at: S1020 WINNESHIEK ST WISCONSIN DELLS, WI 54615

And more particularly described as: LOT 14 WITHIN THE SE 1/4 OF THE NE 1/4 OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 13 NORTH, RANGE 5 EAST, TOWN OF DELLONA, SAUK COUNTY, WISCONSIN

Any objections must be filed in person at Executive Office Building / W9814 Airport Road or received by mail at:

Ho-Chunk Nation Realty Division
Attn: Register of Deeds
P.O. Box 310
Black River Falls, WI 54615
Phone: (715) 284-9343 Ext 11032

By or before APRIL 8, 2026

Absent any objections the Ho-Chunk Nation Register of Deeds shall issue Title for the above described Permanent Improvements to the named individual(s) within 10 days following the deadline.

NOTICE

RIGHT TO OBJECT

In accordance with HCC 8 §14 Title Transfer & Recording Act

Ho-Chunk Member, ANGELA MCCABE & CHEYENNE MIKE, has submitted a Request for Title for Permanent

Improvements located at: S1030 WINNESHIEK ST WISCONSIN DELLS, WI 53965

And more particularly described as: LOT 13 WITHIN THE SE 1/4 OF THE NE 1/4 OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 13 NORTH, RANGE 5 EAST, TOWNSHIP OF DELLONA, SAUK COUNTY, WISCONSIN

Any objections must be filed in person at Executive Office Building / W9814 Airport Road or received by mail at:

Ho-Chunk Nation Realty Division
Attn: Register of Deeds
P.O. Box 310
Black River Falls, WI 54615
Phone: (715) 284-9343 Ext 11032

By or before APRIL 20, 2026

Absent any objections the Ho-Chunk Nation Register of Deeds shall issue Title for the above described Permanent Improvements to the named individual(s) within 10 days following the deadline.

SUMMONS
(Third Publication)

IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT

Ho-Chunk Nation Child Support Agency and HCN Child and Family, Petitioner, v. Sierra Mckee, Respondent.

Case No.: CS 25-02

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED: Garrette T. Montanye

You are hereby informed that you have been deemed an interested party in this child support action. This legal notice of the filed *Petition for Child Support* is now served upon you by publication. A proceeding concerning the above-named child is pending in the Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court, and an adjudication will be made.

You have twenty (20) days from the date of service to respond to the *Petition for Child Support*. Failure to do so will cause the Court to proceed without your participation, which may result in the entry of a *Default Judgment* against you. An *Answer* (response) shall be filed with the court at the address given below, and must be served on all parties to the action. The Court shall convene an *Initial Child Support Hearing* as permitted by CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT CODE, 4 HCC § 7.28.

The court shall commence a proceeding no sooner than twenty-five (25) days from the date of service. The *Initial Child Support Hearing* shall be held at **2:00 p.m. CDT** on the **7th** day of **April, 2026**. The Court also provides notice of the potential of being held in contempt of court:

NOTICE- VIOLATION OF THIS ORDER IS SUBJECT TO PROCEEDINGS FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT. SUBPOENAS: THE FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH A SUBPOENA SHALL SUBJECT THE PERSON FAILING TO COMPLY TO THE CONTEMPT POWER OF THE COURT. THE COURT MAY FIND ANY PARTY TO THIS MATTER IN CONTEMPT OF COURT FOR FAILURE TO APPEAR AT A COURT HEARING OR FOR FAILURE TO FOLLOW COURT ORDERS.

The Trial Court is physically located at Wa Ehi Hocira, W9598 Highway 54 East, Black River Falls, (Jackson County) Wisconsin. The Trial Court's mailing address is P.O. Box 70, Black River Falls, WI 54615. The telephone number is (715) 284-2722, or toll free 800-434-4070, and the facsimile number is (715) 284-3136.

**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

March 4th

Lets talk woreke, and how to increase your fiber intake!
Dietetic Intern

March 18th

National Native HIV AIDS Awareness Day
Jennie Steele, Vivent Health
Special Session to be live streamed at Community Centers, swag bags available for participants!

March 25th

Together We Can: Suicide Prevention Information for Veterans, Families and Caregivers
Chelsea Van Gundy, LCSW
Community Engagement & Partnership Coordinator
Tomah VA Medical Center

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



The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Justice Seeks Letters of Interest for its Board of Directors

The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Justice (DOJ) is seeking qualified and dedicated individuals to serve on its Board of Directors. The DOJ functions as the defender of the sovereignty of the Ho-Chunk Nation for all its branches of government on matters that concern the Nation's interest and welfare. The appointment term will be for a period of two (2) years.

The purpose of the DOJ Board of Directors is:

- To serve in an advisory capacity on matters referred by the Attorney General;
- To participate in the Department's strategic planning;
- To consult during the development of the Department's annual goals and objectives.

Qualifications: Board Members are to possess the requisite skills, knowledge, and education to provide professional and expert advice and recommendations to the Attorney General. The Board of Directors will meet at least two times per year, in addition to special meetings as needed. Compensation will be provided for attendance at each Board Meeting at the rate established by the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature.

If interested in serving on the DOJ Board of Directors, please submit a letter of interest, including your qualifications to the address listed below by **no later than April 3rd, 2026**.

For more information, please contact Jennifer Arms at the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Justice at 715-284-3170 or e-mail at DOJHotline@ho-chunk.com.

Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Justice

PO Box 667, W9814 Airport Rd
Black River Falls, WI 54615
Phone (715) 284-3170 • (800) 501-8039 • FAX (715)284-7851

The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Justice Seeks Letters of Interest for the HCN Police Department Advisory Board

The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Justice is seeking qualified and dedicated individuals to serve on its Police Department Advisory Board. The Police Department Advisory Board serves to advise the Ho-Chunk Police Department and Attorney General on Police Department matters. The Advisory Board will meet no less than quarterly and members will serve staggered terms of one (1) to three (3) years.

The duties of the Police Advisory Board are:

- To serve as an advisory board to the Ho-Chunk Nation Chief of Police pertaining to needs management for the department;
- Provide recommendations to the Attorney General regarding all policies and procedures for the Ho-Chunk Nation Police Department;
- Assist and provide the Attorney General with hiring recommendations for the position of Chief of Police;
- Provide recommendations to the Attorney General for an interim Chief of Police, when the position is vacant and before a permanent Chief of Police is hired;
- Assist the Attorney General in the investigation of any formal complaints against the Chief of Police and issue a recommendation to the Attorney General regarding any appropriate discipline if necessary;
- Assist the Attorney General and the Chief of Police in determining disciplinary actions for officers.

Qualifications: A board member must meet the following criteria to be considered for appointment:

- Current or former law enforcement officer with at least three (3) years of experience;
- Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Member;
- At least twenty-five (25) years of age;
- Complete a satisfactory background investigation (no felony convictions);
- Cannot be an employee of the HCN Police Department;
- Cannot be an immediate family member of the Attorney General, an attorney from the Department of Justice, or the HCN Police Department.

If interested in serving on the Police Department Advisory Board, please submit a letter of interest including your qualifications to the address listed below by **no later than April 3rd, 2026**.

For more information, please contact Jennifer Arms at the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Justice at 715-284-3170 or e-mail at DOJHotline@ho-chunk.com.

Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Justice

PO Box 667, W9814 Airport Road
Black River Falls, WI 54615
Phone (715) 284-3170 • (800) 501-8039 • FAX (715) 284-7851



**HO-CHUNK NATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**



**SPECIAL
MEETING NOTICE
HEALTH ACCREDITATION
BOARD MEETING**

Friday, March 20, 2026
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Eileen Decorah Conference Room

Ho-Chunk Health Care Center
N6520 Lumberjack Guy Road
Black River Falls, WI 54615

Virtual Option also available via Webex
Please contact Lorinda Bird for Virtual meeting information.
715-284-9851 ext. 35351
Email: Lorinda.Bird@ho-chunk.com

Ho-Chunk Health Care Center
N6520 Lumberjack Guy Road
Black River Falls, WI 54615
Ph. 715-284-9851 FAX 715-284-5150

House of Wellness
52845 White Eagle Rd
Baraboo, WI 53913
Ph. 888-552-7889 FAX 608-355-9643



**HO-CHUNK NATION
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING**

NOTICE OF VACANCY

The Department of Housing is seeking (1) D-1Housing Board of Director

Duties:
Be involved in the Department's strategic community housing plan
Serve as a consultant during the development of the Department's annual goals and objectives required pursuant to the *Appropriations and Budget Process Act*.
Serve in an advisory capacity on matters referred by the Executive Director of Housing.

Qualifications:
Enrolled member of the Ho-Chunk Nation
Shall have the requisite skill, knowledge specific to housing
Provide professional and expert advice and recommendations
Board experience and having a flexible scheduling are beneficial to being appointed

Membership:
Shall not be an employee of the Department of Housing
Shall not be a member of more than two (2) department Boards of Directors
Shall not be appointed nor serve as a member of a subordinate advisory board within the Department of Housing
Shall not be appointed nor serve as a Commissioner of the Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency

Term:
Shall serve two (2) year terms and may serve for more than one (1) term. The term shall be alternated so that two (2) Directors are appointed or re-appointed after the first year and every two (2) years thereafter

If you have any questions or need additional information, you can reach me at (608) 374-1225 Ext: 15915 or via email Denise.Wright@ho-chunk.com

Thank you,
Denise Wright
Executive Director
Department of Housing

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
(Live and/or Webex Connect)**

Ho-Chunk Nation Land Development Team

HEARING DATE: March 25, 2026
HEARING TIME: 5:00 p.m – 6:00 p.m.
HEARING LOCATION: HOW Alberta Day Conference Room
REVIEW AUTHORITY: Land Development Team
DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY: Land Development Team
STAFF CONTACT: Ryan Zaroudi (715) 284-9343 Ext. 11729
APPLICATION/DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL: Conditional use permit for a mobile home for Bernard Mountain
LOCATION OF PROPOSAL/REQUEST: Winnebago Heights area
APPLICANT: Bernard Mountain
APPROVAL CRITERIA: APPROVAL CRITERIA: Ho-Chunk Nation Zoning and Land Use Ordinance 8 HHC § 4

HEARING POLICIES AND APPEALS: the Land Development Team will conduct the hearing pursuant to 8 HHC § 4. All interested persons may testify at the public hearing and may submit written comments and documents before or at the hearing. All hearings are conducted in facilities that are accessible to persons with physical disabilities.

STAFF REPORT AND INSPECTION OF FILE: A staff report will be available for inspection seven (7) calendar days before the hearing. The staff report and application file may be inspected at the Ho-Chunk Nation Planning Office, W9814 Airport Road, Black River Falls, WI. 54615; between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.; Monday-Friday. Copies of documents are available for purchase. Questions or public comments can be directed to the staff contact.

NOTICE: Individuals planning to attend the meeting who require special assistance to accommodate physical, hearing, or other impairments, please contact the staff contact as soon as possible for arrangements.

*Please contact Ryan.Zaroudi@ho-chunk.com or call 715-284-9343 Ext. 11729 for WebEx information.



**Ho-Chunk Nation
Land Planning Commission**

HO-CHUNK NATION LAND PLANNING COMMISSION – VACANCIES
The Ho-Chunk Nation's Land Planning Commission has four (4) appointed positions. The Commission advises the Legislature on land use planning matters, including land use plans, zoning, leases, land acquisition, and development proposals.

Terms: Initial appointments are staggered (2-year, 4-year, and two 6-year terms). After initial appointments, terms are generally 4 years. No term limits (subject to removal under the Act).

Eligibility: Must be a federally recognized tribal member. The Commission includes a minimum of three (3) Ho-Chunk Nation tribal members. Background check is required.



Email letter of interest and resume:
Legislature@ho-chunk.com





Hard Copy Submission
Mail to:
HCN Legislative Branch
ATTN: LPC
PO Box 667
Black River Falls, WI 54615

Scan to read the Act, terms, and qualifications in full.

Qualifications (one or more):

- Relevant Bachelor's degree, OR
- 3 years of relevant experience (planning, zoning, realty/leasing, construction/permitting, roads/ROW, water/stormwater, surveying, historic preservation), OR
- Professional licensure/certification (surveying, planning, engineering, GIS, architecture, EIA, real estate)

Interested tribal members are encouraged to submit a letter of interest and a resume for consideration.
Submission Deadline: March 27, 2026

**HO-CHUNK NATION
LEGISLATURE
REGULAR MEETING
BELOIT, WI
FEBRUARY 17, 2026**

Call to Order: Vice President Lambert Cleveland, Jr. called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call:

President Jon Greendeer-EX
Vice President Lambert Cleveland, Jr.-P
Rep. Phyllis Smoke-VC
Rep. Tracy Thundercloud-P
Rep. Paul Fox-P
Rep. Damian Thundercloud-P
Rep. Stephanie Begay-P
Rep. Kyle White Eagle-P
Rep. Shelby Visintin-P
Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle-P
Rep. Edward Mullen-P
Rep. David Greendeer-VC
Rep. Sandra Whitewing-P

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. Paul Fox to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Rep. Sandra Whitewing. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Legislative Meeting- February 3, 2026

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the February 3, 2026 Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Commission Reports:

Gaming Commission Report

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to accept the Gaming Commission Report. Second by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Government Administration Commission-February 5, 2026

MOTION by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud to approve the February 5, 2026 Government Administration Commission Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 11-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay) MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Establishment of Judiciary Branch Donations Restricted Account

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to adopt **Resolution 02-17-26 A**, Establishment of Judiciary Branch Donations Restricted Account. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Unfinished Business: No agenda items.

New Business:

Wisconsin Native Vote Spring Election Mailers

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to refer to Office of the President and Enrollment the Wisconsin Native Vote Spring Election Mailers to be mailed to tribal members. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Consideration of Quick Passage to the Employment Relations Act

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to consider Quick Passage to the Employment Relations Act. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Quick Passage Procedure to Amend the Employment Relations Act (6 HCC § 5)

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 02-17-26 B**, Quick Passage Procedure to Amend the Employment Relations Act (6 HCC § 5). Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Authorization to Place Amendments to the Employment Relations Act (6 HCC § 5) out for Forty-Five Day Public Comment

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 02-17-26 C**, Authorization to Place Amendments to the Employment Relations Act (6 HCC § 5) out for Forty-Five Day Public Comment. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Ho-Chunk Transportation Authority Granting a Temporary Limited Construction Easement to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for Road Construction on Winneshiek Circle

MOTION by Rep. Kyle White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 02-17-26 D**, Ho-Chunk Transportation Authority Granting a Temporary Limited Construction Easement to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for Road Construction on Winneshiek Circle. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Appointment of Members to the Ho-Chunk Nation Homeless Coalition Board of Directors

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 02-17-26 E**, Appointment of Members to the Ho-Chunk Nation Homeless Coalition Board of Directors. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Appointment of Shane Yellow Thunder as Legislative Liaison to Ho-Chunk Nation Traditional Court

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 02-17-26 F**, Appointment

of Shane Yellow Thunder as Legislative Liaison to Ho-Chunk Nation Traditional Court. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Establishment of Wang`i Homik Ordinance Workgroup

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 02-17-26 G**, Establishment of Wana`g`i\ Homik Ordinance Workgroup. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 11-0-1(Rep. David Greendeer) MOTION CARRIED.

Consideration of Quick Passage to the Confirmation Process of Executive Directors for the Ho-Chunk Nation Act (2 HCC § 9)

President Greendeer is online. He proposed amendments to the Confirmation Process of Executive Directors, and submitted a supplemental memo to the Legislature.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to consider Quick Passage to the Confirmation Process of Executive Directors for the Ho-Chunk Nation Act (2 HCC § 9). Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution-Quick Passage to the Confirmation Process of Executive Directors for the Ho-Chunk Nation Act (2 HCC § 9)

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 02-17-26 H**, Quick Passage to the Confirmation Process of Executive Directors for the Ho-Chunk Nation Act (2 HCC § 9), drafted by Legislative Legal. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

NOTED FOR THE RECORD: Rep. Stephanie Begay stated that the Legislature agreed with numerous WHEREAS clauses that the President proposed. The resolution the President submitted was edited by Legislative Legal and the formatting was cleaned up.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to request Legislative Legal to draft a resolution placing the Confirmation Process of Executive Directors for the Ho-Chunk Act out for forty-five-day public comment for next session. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

District Meetings:

D1 Nijoxawanj - February 11, 2026

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to D1 Representatives, the Public Relations Officer, Department of Administration and Office of the President the MOTION by Darcy Funmaker to have Legislature organize a community donation drive to collect supplies to assist tribal members affected by ICE activities in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, coordinating

with local branch office and volunteers for delivery. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to Office of the President, Treasury, Department of Administration - I.T., and Enrollment the MOTION by Darcy Funmaker to explore and implement enhanced security and verification procedures for Treasury forms, including requiring notarization or other verification methods to prevent identity fraud. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

D1 Maqñico Horuzra - February 12, 2026

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to refer to HHCDA the MOTION by Wendy Helgamo to have a presentation on the Supportive Housing project located in Black River Falls at the next Twin Cities District Meeting. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to refer to the next Finance Commission meeting the MOTION by Stephanie Yellowbank to donate \$10,000 to the Native American Community Development Institute from Community Improvement Funds. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to refer to the Legislative Body, Legislative Legal, I.T., Treasury, Office of the President and Enrollment the MOTION by Jennifer Adams for legislature create an AI policy ordinance to ensure that Ho-Chunk Nation employees, directors, legal teams, and contract workers are not sharing our private and confidential information. Legislature will ensure the policy aligns with Rights of Nature and the threat AI has on our Great Lakes and other land base locations. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 11-0-1(Rep. Edward Mullen) MOTION CARRIED.

D2 Ho`unj Xunujik - February 12, 2026

MOTION by Rep. Kyle White Eagle to refer to the next Finance Commission meeting the MOTION by Liza Green to approve the All Area Youth pow-wow request in the amount of \$2,000. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 11-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay) MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Rep. Kyle White Eagle to refer to TAU, TAU Elder Advisory Board the MOTION by Marie Lewis to support Elder Advisory Board to host the next GLNEA conference at HCG-Wisconsin Dells. Second by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud. 11-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay) MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Rep. Kyle White Eagle to refer to Department of Personnel and Insurance and TAU the MOTION by Roberta Decorah to have the Elder Insurance Benefits Specialist to go to

all TAUs to provide a class to explain insurance concerns re: Medicare, Elder Insurance and Pharmacy. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 11-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay) MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Rep. Kyle White Eagle to refer to Department of Personnel and Insurance the MOTION by Andrea McCaskey for Insurance Department to provide an updated preferred pharmacy list. Motion amended to include schedule 2 and higher. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Rep. Kyle White Eagle to refer to D2 Reps. and Legislative Legal for an opinion, the MOTION by James Greendeer for District 2 Legislators to create a Department of Veterans Affairs for the Ho-Chunk Nation. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by James Greendeer to restore Andrew Blackhawk Legion Building back to the Andrew Blackhawk Legion Post.

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Office of the President and Department of Administration the MOTION by James Greendeer to restore Andrew Blackhawk Legion Building back to the Andrew Blackhawk Legion Post. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

D2 Hoxajkeja/Hogucejal Njzhakisuc - February 11, 2026

MOTION by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to the Legislative Chief Financial Officer, the Finance Commission and TAU the MOTION by Barb Funmaker to support the TAU once in a lifetime benefit increase from \$25,000 to \$50,000 for Elder Home Repair. Second by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Weeta Montelongo to have Jim Delarosa stay on the HHCDA Board.

MOTION by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to Legislature and the Finance Commission the MOTION by Cynthia Tack for Legislature to support the Law Enforcement Commission budget for line-item Community Activities in the amount of \$12,501 for FY26-27. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to the Finance Commission and the Legislative Chief Financial Officer the MOTION by Lucinda Lonetree to cover the Post-Secondary Computer and Technology program current applications as of February 11, 2026. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

Continued on Page 15

Continued from Page 14
MOTION CARRIED.

D3 Tešišik – February 4, 2026

No motions.

D3 Tee hoikšek – February 10, 2026

No motions.

D3 Tejop – February 11, 2026

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to the Finance Commission the **MOTION** by Brenda Neff to request \$2,000 for the All-City Indian Graduation Ceremony. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D4 Guųšgonak – February 9, 2026

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Casey Brown to nomination Samantha Hawk.

D4 Virtual Meeting – February 11, 2026

No motions.

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 Rep. Sandra Whitewing. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting moved to Executive Session at 10:52 a.m.

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

3:05 p.m. Rep. Stephanie Begay is now online.

The meeting returned to Open Session at 3:51 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to ratify all action taken in Executive Session. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Phyllis Smoke is not online.*

Amendment to the Agenda:

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to add the following Resolutions to the agenda: Resolution-Authorization to Apply for the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development Wisconsin Fast Forward Grant, Resolution-Authorizing and Supporting the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum’s Application

for the Institute of Museum and Library Services: Inspire Grants for Small Museums, Resolution-Authorizing and Supporting the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum’s Application for the Institute of Museum and Library Services: Museums Empowered Grant, Resolution-Authorizing and Supporting the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum’s Application for the Institute of Museum and Library Services: Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Grant, Resolution-Authorizing and Supporting the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum’s Application for the Institute of Museum and Library Services: Museums for America Grant. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization to Apply for the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development Wisconsin Fast Forward Grant

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 02-17-26 J**, Authorization to Apply for the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development Wisconsin Fast Forward Grant. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 11-0-1(Rep. Edward Mullen) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorizing and Supporting the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum’s Application for the Institute

of Museum and Library Services: Inspire Grants for Small Museums

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 02-17-26 K**, Authorizing and Supporting the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum’s Application for the Institute of Museum and Library Services: Inspire Grants for Small Museums. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorizing and Supporting the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum’s Application for the Institute of Museum and Library Services: Museums Empowered Grant

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 02-17-26 L**, Authorizing and Supporting the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum’s Application for the Institute of Museum and Library Services: Museums Empowered Grant. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 11-0-1(Rep. Edward Mullen) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorizing and Supporting the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum’s Application for the Institute of Museum and Library Services: Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Grant

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to

adopt **Resolution 02-17-26 M**, Authorizing and Supporting the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum’s Application for the Institute of Museum and Library Services: Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services Grant. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 11-0-1(Rep. Edward Mullen) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorizing and Supporting the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum’s Application for the Institute of Museum and Library Services: Museums for America Grant

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 02-17-26 N**, Authorizing and Supporting the Ho-Chunk Nation Museum’s Application for the Institute of Museum and Library Services: Museums for America Grant. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 11-0-1(Rep. Edward Mullen) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Adjournment:

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to adjourn the Legislative Meeting to March 3, 2026 at the Tribal Office Building in Black River Falls, Wisconsin. Second by Rep. Sandra Whitewing. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Legislative Meeting adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

JUDGE CHRIS TAYLOR
SUPREME COURT

PROTECTING YOUR RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

Judge Chris Taylor has spent her three-decade legal career fighting to protect the fundamental rights of every Wisconsinite. Now, she’s running to be the fair and impartial justice we need on the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

- Protected access to healthcare as the former legal and public policy director for Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin
- Represented Wisconsinites in the state legislature protecting victims of domestic violence and keeping our communities safe
- Current Court of Appeals Judge

ELECTION DAY IS APRIL 7TH

LEARN MORE:
[QR Code]

PAID FOR BY CHRIS TAYLOR FOR JUSTICE

VOTE

APRIL 7

for the Wisconsin Supreme Court



We must vote from our hearts, our compassion, and our understanding. There isn't anyone in this country who understands this land better than we do because of our participation here and our stories.

– Guy Reiter, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin



conservationvoices.org/vote