

Vol. XXVI, Issue 7

Ho hiroginą wira | Fish Drying Moon

April 13, 2012



# Proclamation

## Vietnam Veterans Day

March 29, 2010

The Ho-Chunk Nation recognizes March 29, 1973 as the day American armed forces officially withdrew all combat forces from the Republic of Vietnam. Therefore ending U.S. military involvement in what has been perceived as a highly controversial conflict that is also recorded as the longest war in United States history.

Whereas: Over 8 million veterans served during the Vietnam era and were not afforded the respect and gratitude they deserved for serving this great country. Let us not forget the 58,195 brave warriors who died defending freedom, the 153,303 brave warriors wounded in action, the 1,948 brave warriors who are recorded as Missing in Action and the 766 brave warriors who were taken as Prisoners of War.

Whereas: The Ho-Chunk Nation recognizes all who served during the Vietnam Era, our brave warriors, our Hocak Ma Na Pe. It is with a great sense of pride and gratitude that we offer our sincerest respects to the warriors who have selflessly served our country during the Vietnam Era.

Now, Therefore: I, NASANEHIGA, WILFRID CLEVELAND, President of the Ho-Chunk Nation, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the Ho-Chunk Nation, in recognition of the sacrifices made by our veterans do hereby proclaim from this day forward the 29th day of March.

### Vietnam Veterans Day

and encourage all citizens to actively participate in the scheduled activities that acknowledge and express our unending gratitude and reverence to our Vietnam Veterans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the Ho-Chunk Nation to be affixed this 9th day of March, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Ten.

NASANEHIGA, WILFRID CLEVELAND

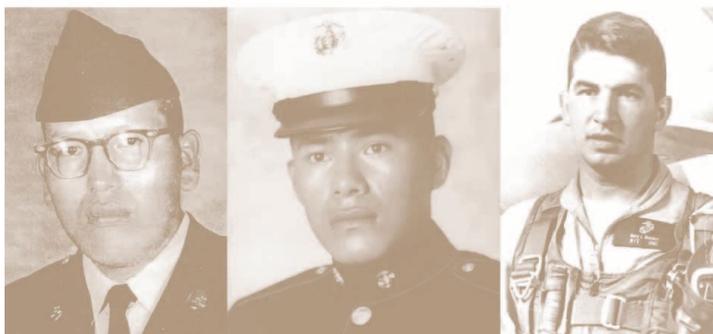


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*Want something special placed in the Hocak Worak? Limited space is available so send your request in early. Submissions will be handled on a first come first serve basis.*





# LEGISLATIVE TRIP REPORT

Legislator Greg Littlejohn - NAFOA Conference in New Orleans, LA  
March 20, 2012 – March 21, 2012



I attended the 30th Annual Native American Finance Officers Association Conference in New Orleans, LA.

The opening session was "A Tribal View of Economic Challenge and Opportunities." The opening remarks were presented by 1997 Nobel Prize Winner Mr. Myron S. Scholes. He encouraged attendees to be open to new ideas and that learning is crucial in the current macro-economy. He emphasized that China had \$1.5 billion invested in the U.S. as of 2008 and 2009. Also, the Japanese owns a lot of debt instruments here in the U.S. His closing remark was for Tribes to be careful of who you partner with and

observe that the U.S. economy and the current financial crisis in the U.S. has revealed that we have structural weaknesses in the U.S. economy.

The afternoon session was "Lowering the cost of capital". The top ten considerations when raising capital were:

1. Form your financial and legal teams early in this process;
2. Put your finances in order;
3. Get informed on market conditions;
4. Understand the pricing methods of the financial institutions you will be dealing with;
5. Identify your Tribes needs and goals;
6. Consider alternative financial instruments (bonds vs. loans);
7. Consider alternative sources of capital to include BIA loan guaranties;
8. Explore all options at your disposal;
9. Find back-up and leverage in your favor;
10. Document all inter-actions and be efficient – time is money.

The U.S. is currently faced with historic life time lows in the interest rates that are available (1.24% interest rates are currently in place). Tribes were encouraged to plan ahead and explore optional financing alternatives well in advance of potential projects and focus on maximum usage of tax-exempt bond financing for all types of capital projects. The key is to reduce the amount of debt and the length of that debt with the main focus of not jeopardizing per-capita payments.

The Tuesday late afternoon session was retirement plans and health care benefits. The current Affordable Care Act is soon to be before the U.S. Supreme Court for determination of constitutionality of the various aspects of this Act. Discussion focused on remaining alert to this case and be ready to react on relative short notice as to the outcome of this case. Some discussions were had about performing third party audits and negotiations of large pending claims. Tribes with self-funded health benefit plans (like the Ho-Chunk Nation) were encouraged to create employee wellness plans with incentives attached for participating employees.

On Wednesday I attended "Dealing with a distressed situation", in the morning session. This focused on refinancing and restructuring approaches on Tribal debts. The following tribal debt restructures were discussed:

State	Debt	Site	NPD involved
CT	\$2,100,000,000	Foxwoods	Yes
CT	\$1,600,000,000	Mohegan	Yes
CA	\$ 320,000,000	Chukchansi Gold	Yes
NM	\$ 245,000,000	Buffalo Thunder	N/A
CA	\$ 200,000,000	River Rock	Yes
NM	\$ 200,000,000	Inn of Mountain Gods	Yes
CA	\$ 450,000,000	Red Hawk	Yes

These financial transactions were discussed in detail and some of the focus was on the need for Tribes to "Not put too much debt on the properties involved". The resulting potential of interrupted net profit distributions could be the result if the wrong decisions are made! Additionally, they advised Tribes to consider carefully the following:

1. Know your finances;
2. Understand all terms of your loans;
3. Track any and all covenants to your loans;
4. Find trends – study the markets;
5. Look, Watch and Listen Carefully;
6. Record and document all of the important aspects of your transactions and the discussions involved;
7. Keep the communication lines open at all times.

Be optimistic and remain opportunistic. Look for compromises that will surface at any time. Some risks were discussed for potential threats to business continuity and all Tribes must have the ability to determine and address proactively current and potential competition before moving into long-term debt! Proposed Casinos in the same market has been a big problem in California and Connecticut! These Tribes have had to suspend net profit distributions because of their unforeseen cash flow problems that resulted from unanticipated competition problems. Tribes in attendance were cautioned to do their due diligence in this regard and go forward cautiously when these types of problems were identified as being out there in a very competitive market.

The final session I attended was "Financial Benefits of Risk Management= Strategies for Success". The presenters were from Travelers Ins. Company, they are the Ho-Chunk Nation's current property and casualty insurance carrier. Their presentation high-lighted the importance of making risk management an essential part of everything your organization does. Controlled risk is of paramount concern in regard to maintaining an acceptable loss ratio for the client. Keep good documentation of all current losses and claims that are on-going. Perform periodic motor vehicle record checks for your fleet vehicle operators. Pay special attention to your organizations safety programs and make sure that they are reviewed and up-dated annually. Special events coverage's and workers compensation programs were discussed generally at the end of this presentation.

All in all, this 30th Annual NAFOA Conference was extremely beneficial to all who attended. I enjoyed the numerous discussions that I had with the other Tribal Leaders that attended this conference.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Greg Littlejohn,  
District 5 Legislator

## ATTENTION: Firework Sellers

Starting Monday April 2, 2012 until Friday June 22, 2012  
Fireworks Application packets will be available at the Division of Safety offices in Black River Falls.

Those tribally-affiliated Charitable Organizations who have not yet obtained charitable organization status for the purpose of selling fireworks on HCN tribal lands must submit a copy of the Organization's Articles of Incorporation, Board Membership and Bylaws, and complete a Waiver of Liability Form.

No permits for the sale of fireworks will be issued until the Charitable Organization's documents are placed on file with the Ho-Chunk Nation.

Send documents to:

Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Labor,  
Attn: Leonard Kluge  
Division of Occupational Health and Safety,  
W9814 Airport Rd.,  
Black River Falls, WI 54615

Documents can also be fax to fax no. (715) 284-1520.

For additional information please contact the  
Division of Safety  
(Leonard Kluge or Nick Flugaur) at 715-284-5877.

Let the Hocak Worak help celebrate your achievements. Send us your pictures!! Whether you are a head start, high school, or college graduate, send in a picture with your name, where you are graduating from, and a brief description of your future endeavors.

With so much uncertainty in the world, a heartfelt congratulation is due to all those that have made the countless sacrifices necessary to graduate. And for those that feel there efforts are unproductive, DON'T GIVE UP, YOU CAN DO IT!

A special section of the Hocak Worak will be used to show your achievements!  
*Please email or mail to the Hocak Worak by June 22nd, for the June 29th edition of the Hocak Worak.*

CORRECTIONS TO THE March 16, 2012 Publication of Approved Applicants					
Please add the following individual applicants they have met the requirements for the Ho-Chunk Nation tribal membership in accordance with the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation and the Tribal Enrollment and Membership Code. This final determination was made by the Enrollment Officer. This determination may be appealed to the Committee on Tribal Enrollment (contact the Office of Tribal Enrollment) by any adult (over 18 years of age) enrolled Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Member within sixty (60) days from publication (March 16, 2012). <b>EOPUB 03302012</b>					
Applicant	Date of Birth	B Q	ANCESTOR	Father	Mother
DAY, Aydrían James	02/04/2010	1/4	Wojh Tchaw He Ray Kah George Funmaker, Sr. 1881 - #00328	NON-MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
WILLIAMS, Ka-Rlo-Cho-Inga Vanessalyn Evelyn	08/18/2011	1/4	Coo Noo Kah Nathaniel John Longtail 1901 - #01171	NON-MEMBER	NON-MEMBER

# Celebrate Earth Day and get better nutrition

Submitted by Nicholle Oman, RD, CD – Nutritionist at HOW

Earth Day falls on April 22nd this year, and what better way to celebrate the earth and reduce your impact on the environment than by growing your own food!

By growing your own food, you are not only reducing the distance food needs to travel to reach your plate, but it can also help save you money at the grocery store, give you more flavorful foods, and reduce pesticide and herbicide use. In addition, it gives you a reason to get outside and be active, and it can serve as a lesson to your kids or grandkids about responsibility, how food grows, and what nutrients are in food.

Your garden can be as small or as large as you would like. If you have the space, you may consider putting a garden in your backyard. This would involve finding a space that gets adequate sun light and drainage, tilling up the space you wish to garden in, and then planting and maintaining your garden.

If you do not have the space to plant a garden in your yard, planting in pots or containers

can work just as well!

This would involve having containers to plant in (could be old buckets, 5 gallon pails, or planting containers from the store), soil to fill the container with, and then planting and maintaining your containers. A few benefits of planting in containers includes the fact that you can move the containers as needed, you can place the containers anywhere that gets adequate sunlight such as a deck, porch, or right outside your door, there is less area that will need to be weeded, the container may help to keep animals out of your plants, and if you like, you can separate your plants based on how much sun or water they need. Most plants will do better in containers that allow excess water to escape, so consider containers with small holes in the bottom or poke small holes to allow the water to escape. Also, most plants growing in containers need to have more water than plants in the ground.

Gardening has many good health benefits. Depending on what you choose to plant, you could have fresh fruits and vegetables all summer long and even into the fall. Any

excess food you have could be canned or put in the freezer, and then you can enjoy them all winter long! Choose the foods you and your family like, but also consider planting a few new kinds to try as well! The more you vary your fruit and vegetable intake, the more vitamins and minerals you will get.

We could all benefit from reducing the sodium in our diets, and gardening is a great way to do this. Fruits and vegetables are extremely low in sodium, and you could also grow your own herbs to season your foods with to reduce how much sodium you add during cooking or at the table. If you have a picky eater at home, have them help you garden. Research



Picture taken from www.earthday.org

shows that when kids are part of gardening, or preparing foods, they are more likely to eat that food. Gardening is also a great exercise the whole family can be a part of! So whatever your reason

for gardening, use April and Earth Day as a reason to get out there and start! I am sure you will be able to “dig up” some great benefits!!

## Nekoosa Health Fair

Submitted by Pam Reimer RN, HCN Community Health Nurse

On April 26th the health department will host its annual health fair from 9am-3pm at the Chak-Hah-Chee community building. There will be displays on various health topics, freebies, snacks, and massages.

Also in attendance will be Marshfield Clinic’s Mobile Digital Screening Unit, which provides mammograms for women.

The American Cancer Society advises all women 40 years and over to have a mammogram once a year. The goal of this screening exam is to detect cancer before it starts to cause symptoms. Breast cancers found at this time tend to be smaller and still confined to the breast and can be successfully treated over 90% of the time. Most doctors feel that early detection of breast cancer saves thousands



of lives each year, and that many more could be saved if more women took advantage of screening mammography.

Mammograms are covered by insurance, Medicare, and Badgercare. If you do not have insurance, you may be able to get assistance through the Wisconsin Well Women’s Program. To schedule an appointment for a mammogram here in Nekoosa, call Pam, the CHN at 715-886-5444.

**Attention: The Next Deadline of the Hockak Worak will be April 20th which will be published on April 27th. Please contact Enrollment at ext. 1015 if you have a change of address or would like to be placed on the mailing list.**

### HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM

**Overwhelmed! Confused! Concerned!**

Stop in and see us at either Ho-Chunk Health Care Center or House of Wellness. We assist Ho-Chunk members and other Native American enrolled members. You may be eligible for the following programs:

- Medicaid Program
- BadgerCare Programs
- Wisconsin Well Woman’s Program
- Disability
- Social Security Program
- Express Enrollment-Pregnancy
- BadgerCare Plus Core Plan for Childless Adults-**Waitlist**

<p><b>Joyce Rockman</b> Health Benefits Specialist @ Ext: 5065</p> <p><b>Sandy Lanier</b> Health Benefits Advocate @ Ext: 5318 Ho-Chunk Health Care Center N6520 Guy Rd Black River Falls, WI 54615 (888) 685-4422 or (715) 284-9851 Email: Joyce.Rockman@ho-chunk.com Sandy.Lanier@ho-chunk.com</p>	<p><b>Autumn Whiteagle</b> Health Benefits Advocate @ Ext: 5546</p> <p><b>Tonie Lewis</b> Health Benefits Advocate @ Ext: 5525 House of Wellness S2845 WhiteEagle Road Baraboo, WI 53913 (888) 552-7889 or (608) 355-1240 Email: Autumn.Whiteagle@ho-chunk.com Tonie.Lewis@ho-chunk.com</p>
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The Hockak Worak is a periodical published twice monthly by the Ho-Chunk Nation. Editorials and articles appearing in the Hockak Worak are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the Hockak Worak staff or the Ho-Chunk Nation.

The Hockak 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 Hockak 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 Hockak Worak. The Hockak Worak will not assume any responsibility for unsolicited material.

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

<p>EDITOR .....Tracy Pecore</p> <p>STAFF WRITER .....Marlon WhiteEagle</p> <p>Administrative Assistant .....Anna Reichenbach</p> <p>The Hockak Worak is a member of:</p> <p><b>The Native American Journalist Association</b></p>	<p><b>HOCKAK WORAK NEWSLETTER</b></p> <p>P.O. Box 667 Black River Falls, WI 54615</p> <p>• <b>PHONE:</b> (800) 472-3089</p> <p>• <b>FAX:</b> (715) 284-7852</p> <p>• <b>ONLINE:</b> www.hochunknation.com</p> <p><b>www.hockakworak.com</b></p>
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# Mary Jo Hunter: Honored by UCLA

Tracy Pecore  
Editor

Less than a month ago, on March 20, Prof. Hunter received a telephone call from Angela Riley, Director of the Center at UCLA, congratulating her on being the recipient of the Native Nations Distinguished Alumnus Award. "I was quite surprised and honored. It feels good to be honored by peers and so I am excited about this wonderful event," explained Prof. Hunter.

Professor Mary Jo Hunter is an enrolled member of the Ho-Chunk Nation. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a Journalism degree in 1978 and she obtained her law degree from the UCLA School of Law in 1982. She is a Clinical Professor of the Child Advocacy Clinic for Hamline University School of Law located in Minnesota.

Prof. Hunter was elected as the first Chief Justice of the Ho-Chunk Nation Supreme Court in July 1995. She was re-elected in 2002, and again in 2007, and she continues to preside over that court. Currently, she

is serving as an Associate Justice for the Supreme Court of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska and Chief Justice for the Prairie Island Indian Community's Appellate Court. In the past, Justice Hunter has also served as an Associate Justice for the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Tribal Appellate Court. Prof. Hunter has also conducted workshops and training on the Indian Child Welfare Act and Cultural Issues of American Indians.

Prof. Hunter has worked for the Neighborhood Justice Center and Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services in St. Paul. From 1989 until November of 1993, she was employed with the University of North Dakota School of Law where she taught Indian Law and directed the Native American Law Project clinical program. In November 1993, she returned to St. Paul, Minnesota. In her present capacity, she serves as a Guardian Ad Litem (GAL) for Indian children who are subject to the Indian Child Welfare Act and represents other GALs in cases involving

ICWA. In addition, Prof. Hunter teaches the Native American Law seminar course for Hamline University Law School.

Prof. Hunter has served as the Chair of the St. Paul Indian Education Parent Committee and as a member of the State of Minnesota Indian Tribal Welfare Advisory Council as an Urban Representative for the Indian community in St. Paul. Previously, she served on the Board of Directors for Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services and is currently on the Board of Directors for the Minnesota American Indian Bar Association (MAIBA).

She has two adult children and eight grandchildren.

The person Prof. Hunter came to be today is in large part due to her upbringing as a Ho-Chunk. Born in Madison, WI but raised around the Cranmoor area, she said, "I had wonderful women who I admired growing up. My mother, Virginia Lillian White Smith; Mable Kingsley Lincoln; Susie Lincoln; Helen Cloud; Minnie Walker; Norma Greengrass;

Gloria White Thunder and so many others. My maternal great uncle Edmund Lincoln advised me that my law degree did not just belong to me. He said that it belonged to my family and my Ho-Chunk people so that is how I try to live and work."

To all of our young Ho-Chunks that are struggling and don't know which way to turn, it's okay, we've all been there. Life isn't easy and it takes hard work and life experiences to sometimes know right from wrong; to turn things around and to accomplish your goals.

"Higher education is more important now than ever! I did not just go to school for 7 years straight. I had to go a semester, take off a semester. Work and go back. It was my goal even when I had to put it aside to earn a living. The best thing to do is keep chipping away at those courses and requirements. It can be done. Once you have the degree, nothing or no one can take it away. Perseverance is a Ho-Chunk trait! It can be done... does not matter how long it takes! That is my advice for



Professor Mary Jo Hunter

all of our younger and older Ho-Chunk generations," said Prof. Hunter.

Professor Hunter will receive the award at UCLA's Student/Alumni Breakfast Reception at the Federal Bar Association Indian Law Conference on Friday, April 20 at 7:30am; located at the Hilton Santa Fe Golf Resort at Buffalo Thunder.

**Congratulations Prof. Hunter on all of your hard work and success.**



Sandra Winneshiek

## Welcome aboard

Sandra Winneshiek is a Ho-Chunk tribal member, a mother of three, and is a native of Wisconsin Rapids. Sandra graduated from Lincoln High School and enlisted in the United States Air Force after graduating from High School. Upon completing her enlistment, Sandra was employed with the Department of Veterans Affairs for 24 ½ years.

Sandra served as the National co-chairman of the American Indian Working Group, for Readjustment Counseling Service, Northeast Region 1A, from 1990 to 1999, travelling throughout the United States. She assisted hundreds of Veterans with obtaining health, educational and employment benefits. Additionally, she provided support to Veterans while serving as an administrative

assistant in the Addiction Disorders Program at the Middleton VA Medical Center in Madison, WI. Sandra will retire from the Tomah VA Medical Center, Tomah, WI, on April 20, 2012.

Sandy will be starting a new chapter in her life as the Tribal Veteran Service Officer with the Ho-Chunk Nation Veteran Affairs on Monday, April 23, 2012. **Congratulations!**

## Tips for saving money

Submitted by Travis Peardot – Financial Development Officer of First Nation's Community Financial

Everyone is encouraged to save money. There is often, however, very little concrete advice on the subject. When living on a limited income, saving can be a difficult thing to do. The following are tips on ways to put money aside and cut spending, thus helping to build your savings account.

One of the first steps in saving money is to "pay yourself first." To do this, first determine how much to save. Choose either a set amount per pay check, such as \$20, or a percentage, such as 10%. Then, on every payday, \$20 or 10% of the paycheck will be set aside in a savings account before any money is spent on bills. Even such small amounts will add up over time. Plus, the money available for paying bills shouldn't be much affected. Other ways of saving

money involve cutting spending. One area to decrease spending is eliminating bottled-water expenditures. Using a container for water and filling it yourself can save \$10 per week, more or less. Another way to cut spending is to pack lunches instead of eating out. Typically, it costs less than a dollar to make your own sandwich—or less: a peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwich can cost as little as 30¢ to make at home. Eating one every day would run \$6 a month. A third way to cut costs is to buy generic brands, with their lower prices, though be aware the quality may be lower. Yet another savings idea is car pooling, which allows the high cost of gasoline to be split several ways.

Money can also be saved through changes in personal banking and bill-paying practices. Pay attention to how often you use an ATM. Some ATMs charge up to

\$2.50 per withdrawal, so using them 2 or 3 times a week can really add up—you could be spending \$5 to \$10 to take out as little as \$100. Try to use free ATMS or ATMS owned by your financial institution to avoid these fees. One C-Store chain offers no fee ATM's as a service.

Another area in which to be cautious is your use of a checking account. Pay attention to the account balance. Any time there is an overdraft, the bank will charge a fee, sometimes up to \$35. Also, if a check bounces, there is often another fee—typically \$20 or more from the merchant where the check bounced.

Credit cards can be handy to pay bills or make purchases, but interest is charged on cards' unpaid balances at the end of the billing cycle. Also, a fee will be charged if you go beyond the card's limit. Interest fees can be avoided

by paying the full balance each month.

It is important to pay bills on time, whether utility bills, cable bills, or phone bills. Late fees will typically be added when the bill is late. These can range from \$10 to \$20. Not only are late fees charged, but discontinuation of service may occur after a few months of nonpayment on the bill. Setting up auto-bill-pay can help to avoid payments. Most financial institutions and businesses offer auto-pay programs.

Finally, the amount spent on interest on your debts can be lowered by consolidating outstanding debt. By consolidating debt, you typically are left with only one loan or balance to pay off. A lower interest rate may also be obtained, which will reduce the amount of interest paid over the life of the debt. The earlier that the debt can be paid off, the lower will be the interest charged, which

means more money for you.

Those are just a few money-saving tips. There are other ways to save money which you can research on your own, but the important thing is to figure out what works best for you. Once you establish a positive pattern, it becomes easier to make progress with your personal finances.

This is a message from First Nation's Community Financial, A Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) chartered to provide services to members of the Ho-Chunk Nation and other low income Native American Communities in western Wisconsin. Contact us for Consumer loans and debt consolidate loans. We are located in the Blue Wing Community Building in Blue Wing village, just outside Tomah off Hwy 21 East.

# Wittenberg Senior makes Honorable Mention

Tracy Pecore  
Editor

On March 15, Ho-Chunk tribal member and Senior from Wittenberg-Biramwood High School, Danika Decorah, was just 2 games away from heading to the State tournament in Madison. Unfortunately, they lost by one point right at the end of the game. Up by two points with 14 seconds to go, the other team hit a three pointer. Danika began playing ball when she was 8 years old beginning with the Chargers "Backers Program" created by Coach Bailliet. She said, "I started out attending camps and began playing in weekend tournaments when I was 9 years old. We were the only 4th



grade team so we had to play against teams that were older than us. We lost nearly every game, but the next few seasons we did really good and won many tourneys."

One of her biggest accomplishments was the successful team she was a part of in high school. She said, "During my four years we were conference champs twice, regional champs three times, sectional runner-up once, and sectionals participant my final year."

The season went awesome. The Chargers finished 21-4 and although they lost in the Sectionals by one point, they still claimed the title and bragging rights as conference and regional champs. "We also set a school record by being the first Wittenberg-Biramwood team to win the regional championship at home," said Danika. She was also honored as the Channel 9 Player of the Week March 14.

Whoever said basketball was easy is crazy! Like any sport, it takes a lot of motivation, dedication, hard work, and a positive attitude to criticism. For Danika, her team practiced every day, sometimes twice a day beginning with a morning workout at 5:45am, and then practice after a long day of school. "We also were required to practice on

Sundays most weeks," said Danika.

During the summer, they also had to do workouts and practice along with participation on a summer league in which they played in tournaments. "This past summer we won the Wisconsin Dells Invitational Tourney. This has been my life since my freshman year," said Danika. "I couldn't have asked for a better senior season. I will miss the game and most of all I will miss the friends I have made over the years."

Danika's coach nominated her as Honorable Mention and she won. She said she was very happy and honored. Along with being Honorable Mention, Danika was also one of the leading scorers this year for the Chargers.

Other than basketball, Danika also ran Cross Country all four years. She said, "We were conference champs all four years and I made it to State last year. My freshman year I ran track and we were conference champs. Sophomore thru my senior year I played Softball as a center fielder. So far we are undefeated."

Like any other teen, she loves to hang out with friends, go to pow-wows, and of course play basketball whenever she can.



Danika Decorah, Senior at Wittenberg-Biramwood High School

With only a few more months until graduation, she has been applying to several universities. Currently, she has applications sent to UW-Green Bay, UW-Baraboo and UW-Oshkosh. If accepted, she said, "I plan to major in Art or Sports Broadcasting. I would like to become the first ever Native American anchorwoman for ESPN."

Danika is the daughter to Stacey Schreiber and Brian Decorah. Her grandparents are Terry and Bonnie (Decorah) Tech and Ellen

and Duane Schreiber of the Stockbridge Munsee Band of Mohicans.

"My mom inspires me to do well. She is always encouraging me to do well in everything I do whether it's in sports or school. Whenever I get discouraged she is my biggest supporter," said Danika.

Great job Danika! Keep up the great work, and remember that motivation, dedication, and hard work will get you far in life.

# Dreams do come true

Tracy Pecore  
Editor

Third grade student at Biramwood elementary, Maurice Bigjohn, had one of his dreams come true at only age 9. On March 23-25, he competed at the State Wrestling Tournament in Madison, WI at the Alliant Energy Center. Maurice's future dreams are to be in the Marines and become an FBI agent..

Maurice is the son to Amber Renee Bigjohn. His grandparents are Melanie and Corwin Roth of Wittenberg, and his great-grandparents are the late Maurice Bigjohn (whom he's named after) and Dollie Bigjohn of Wittenberg as well.

Three years ago, when Maurice was in Kindergarten, a sign-up sheet came home for all those interested in learning the sport of wrestling. Of course this energetic 5 year old, Maurice, was super excited and immediately wanted to be involved. But, due to having Attention Deficit Disorder (A.D.D.), his gaga told him to concentrate on school and said if he stayed focused and did well then he could join in second grade. Of course he moved onto first grade and once again that slip came home and he was anxious to begin wrestling. In 2010 Maurice was in second grade and he was able to join the wrestling team, just as his gaga had promised. Having only a full year of training under his belt, he has only progressed since then.

As a beginner and a second grader, Maurice did an awesome job. He hadn't lost a match and his record was close to 19-0. There was finally a time when he met his match and lost. Like any other young boy, he took it very hard, was disappointed in himself

and said, "I'm never gonna wrestle again!"...and stomped away.

At first, it was like the end of the world for Maurice if he lost but now as a third grader he realizes he still did good and tried his hardest. As a 9 year old, he is very sympathetic to those he beats and tries to cheer them up afterward and make them feel better. Maurice has a very loving family and they are all so proud of his accomplishments. His mom said, "I'm really proud of him, how hard he works; he gives it his all and pushes himself. He's setting a nice example for other native kids and it keeps him out of trouble."

After a long practice he'll rush home to tell his choka about another move he learned and always tries to impress his coach at each practice. He insists that his gaga and choka ask the coach how he did and as soon as the coach says he worked really hard, Maurice will start smiling from ear to ear just hearing the excitement from his coach. After three or four tournaments and several wins, coach Dwayne Potrykus, said, "I think I'm going to have to put Maurice on the A-Team."

One of Maurice's favorite moves is the Cow Catcher. When he went to the Merrill regionals the coach stressed not to use that move all of the time and he should try other moves. Last year was his first time to Regionals and he came in third. In order to go to state, the wrestler must come in first or second place. Although he was bummed out, it only made him pursue his dream and work harder this year. He said to his mom, "I wanna go to State this year," and he did.

So at Merrill Regionals, it was down to his last match and it was either he loses or wins and goes to State. As his opponent was getting ready, his choka said to him, "Get down and give me 10." So down he went, he pushed out 10 quick push-ups, and he was pumped and ready to go. The other kid was looking at him all crazy but Maurice won that match and off to State he went, coming in second at Merrill.

As Maurice weighed-in Friday night (in the 64-66 pound weight class) at the state tournament, they watched a few matches, and his choka said to him, "Look grandson, that's where all the gladiators are gonna wrestle." Maurice was really impressed and excited, his dream was coming true.

Maurice was off to a great start and won his first two matches. The next two he lost but he got upset after the first loss because he thought he was done.



5th place winner at the State Wrestling tournament held on March 23-25, Maurice Bigjohn.

The first match he lost was to a boy that had only lost once all season and the final score was 7-6. After a few inspiring words from his supporters, they told him not to feel down on himself and that he did a good job and fought hard all the way. Maurice won his last match putting him in fifth place at the state tournament.

Maurice is very competitive, likes the challenge, and loves sports and is an athlete year round from wrestling, to baseball, to football, to starting it all over the next season. His grandparents are very supportive and have fun travelling and attending all of his events. Maurice said he didn't want to play football this year because he didn't want to hurt himself prior to the wrestling season (but since then he's changed his mind to play).

Great job Maurice; Keep working hard and good luck on your future dreams!



Family show their support by writings on their vehicles as they make their way to Madison.

# Nation presents at NAFOA- National Finance Conference

Submitted by  
Patrick RedEagle

NAFOA, Native American Finance Officers Association, has semi-annual nationally attended finance conferences for Indian Country. These provide education forums and resources for those in tribal finance positions, tribal leaders and financial auditors/advisors to instill the best finance and accounting practices in their jobs and with their leadership. As a non-profit that maintains a board of all tribal members that are experts in the financial field, this organization connects experts together to strengthen tribal governments through financial information and professional idea sharing.

Ho-Chunk Nation has contributed their expertise through support and attendance by both Executive branch management and Legislative leadership. In March 2012, Ho-Chunk Nation attendance included Legislative Representative Estebo, Representative Holst, Representative RedEagle and Representative Littlejohn along with Attorney General Corbine and Treasurer Gleason. Other financial employees were in attendance to gain further knowledge to perform their jobs on behalf of the Nation.

Business Department  
Finance Director, Becky

Albert, presented in a session all the great strides the Nation has made within the financial structure. The session called "Tribal Treasurers and Finance Directors Roundtable" provided information on how the financial structures operate in various tribes, how economies have affected these and changes in approach with finances. The presenters were able to provide critical insight to problems that plague financial structures in Indian Country and share successes with various solutions implemented at their tribe. There were very similar obstacles that presenters shared about that their tribal organization's faced either in the past, or present. Sharing this knowledge and solutions not only benefited tribes represented throughout the audience but also between presenters and raised vendors awareness levels to needed services within Indian Country.

Ms. Albert was proud to present the great strides made by the Ho-Chunk Nation with our recognition of investment fiduciary responsibilities and the implementation of strong fiduciary support for the Treasurer and Legislature through development of an Investment Officer and Investment Committee. Also stressed was the implemented process to review our



**Becky Albert, Business Finance Director, presents along with Corey Blankenship, Tribal Treasurer of Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and Thayne Hutchins, Treasurer of the Mohegan Tribe at National Finance Conference in Indian Country.**

current relationships with our financial vendors.

We identified the need to strengthen our requirements from vendors on behalf of the Nation. RFP, Request for Proposals, were successfully accomplished for our Cash Management, Auditors, Financing Advisors, and Trust Investment Advisors with the Trustee, Investment Managers and Business Due Diligence contracts close to finalization. With the new process, we reviewed the relationships and identified the Nation's responsibility to demand a higher level of service such

as increased financial literacy, resources, and reporting.

As current Business Finance Director, Ms. Albert's prior position as Legislative Finance Examiner was filling a newly created financial position for the Legislature to provide more in depth analysis and financial information for stronger decision-making with financial matters. As cited in the presentation, this position provides additional strength within major financial decisions that will produce better results and expectations within the tribe's financial

structure while providing better communication to the tribal membership. As the Nation grows so does the need for much stronger financial structure, decisions, accountability, and financial responsibility. This reflects in its decision-making, changes, reporting, and expectations from outside vendors while continuous strengthening of internal communication. It is excellent when we, Ho-Chunk Nation, can present to other tribes and the national financial community that we are making great strides within our internal finances.

## NAFOA 30TH Anniversary – Trip Report

March 20 – 21, 2012 - NEW ORLEANS, LA

I attended the 30th annual NAFOA, Native American Finance Officers Association, conference held in New Orleans, LA for tribal leaders, financial employees, and various vendors. Over the last 30 years NAFOA has evolved into the leading economic and financial gathering in Indian country. In today's challenging economy tribes are constantly striving to develop successful economic enterprises to support and grow their local economies that they depend on.

My primary goals at the conference were to access more information in the areas of tribal taxation issues, renewable energy opportunities, and venture capital partnerships for tribes as investors. Although other tracks were attended I will only provide a brief report on my primary goals because other reports may have already covered them.

Key taxation issues addressed were the general welfare exclusion

for governmental programs, minor trust, tribal Tax Exempt Bonding Authority, PACT Act issues and state taxation challenges. The general welfare exclusion is particularly troubling for tribal nations in that the federal governmental is not clear and consistent on when this exemption applies. Currently the IRS is trying to set the benchmark for when this exemption would apply but the tribes should be determining what the benchmark will be since it affects Indian country. The Nation has to be aware of the development regarding the PACT Act if we decide to sell Native brand tobacco products which could generate considerable revenue in profits and tax. The key element with selling Native brand tobacco products is commerce would be nation to nation transactions; thereby, eliminating state taxation and the MSA fee currently being imposed on purchases of major brands. Since the

Nation is currently making changes to the Children's Trust Fund (CTF) my purpose in attending this track was to gain more information to assist with this endeavor.

The renewable energy opportunities and venture capital partnerships for tribes as investors are being addressed together. In January the Nation was presented with the opportunity to established ownership of an investment fund that would invest primarily in renewable energy projects. Tribes investing in partnership could potentially be a considerable force in the renewable energy field and could help fund other tribes with projects they would like to complete. Since countries in Europe and Asia have an interest in Native Americans we could possibly get into the global market and take advantage of that interest. Investing tribes could develop tourism packets and create an additional stream of revenue much



like the Seminole Tribe of Florida does with the countries where there is a Hard Rock facility.

Submitted by:  
Patrick C. Red Eagle  
District 5 Legislator



# Ho-Chunk Elder celebrates 90th birthday in style

Submitted by Thomas S. Tourtillott, freelance writer

Friends, relatives, and two invited drum groups came together at the Ho-Chunk Nation's Area I community building in Black River Falls, WI; to help make Ho-Chunk elder, Annabelle Lowe's, ninetieth birthday celebration an occasion to remember.

In a gymnasium that was packed to capacity, Parmenton Decorah officiated as Master of Ceremonies. Troy Swallow offered a prayer of thanksgiving over the birthday meal. Marty Little Wolf took the podium as the after-dinner speaker. Birthday celebrity, Annabelle, followed that impromptu speech with a few words of her own. Shortly thereafter a photo opportunity ensued. Once the cameras stopped flashing fifty times a second, a social dance then took place for the rest of the afternoon. The drum groups, Little Thunder and Hiwasipi, provided the music for such dances as a round dance, a two-step, a potato dance, and a swan dance. Throngs of descendants danced with Annabelle as gaga showed off the strut in her step.

Just prior to the dancing, both Marty and Annabelle spoke. Read on to find out what they had to say.

Marty Little Wolf

This is a glorious occasion. She's like the [referring to his mother, Annabelle] last of the people her age, her generation. She's by herself; but we are her children, so we try to be by her. She gets tired, so we try to be by her. She gets tired, so we try to say a prayer because a family that prays together stays together.

So with that thought in mind, the Creator God answers our prayers and my mom, she's okay, here. She can feel like going on, continuing on in this daily life. She was saying that someday when she retires she's going to look forward to old age. When she got there [to old age] she asked, "Who said it was good when you get old? Gee, I just kind of ache and pain and it is hard for me to get up."

But being ninety years old, believe it or not, she's still got a driver's license, in case you need a designated driver. She's got some good stories for when the waragos [police] stop her. Boy, she knows how to get out of them. So she's still got all her points.

I love my mom, you know... I have three sisters; hinu, wiha, and siga; that's Julia, Annette, and Martina, and myself. We're all over sixty. So that's really nice for our mother. She has four of her children. And I got another one, too. Brother Norman [Snake]; we're all over sixty. That's really nice for our mom to have that

many elder children with her and we're all here. I'm really glad that my brothers and sisters are here to help celebrate our mom's birthday.

And then my children; my sons, kunu Mike and all my other sons and daughters are all here to help celebrate Annabelle's ninetieth birthday, even though it's going to be on Monday. So here it's an early birthday. So, mom I want to say happy birthday.

I'm a great grandfather. I have grandchildren that are parents. To me, that's a privilege. And then there are five generations that are here with my mom. I'm just glad for my mom that she could witness this many generations here helping her celebrate her ninetieth birthday. Thinking about my mother...you know, when you have children, you are concerned about them and you want to know that they are all right, especially when you don't hear from them for some time. My mom is still that way.

Myself, I feel thankful to God that I am an able bodied person. Still, my mom...she will call or stop over to see how I'm doing [instead of the other way around]. She would say "hello, son? How are you feeling, son?" And that's really nice that parents are like that way towards their children and my mom, she is still that way with us. It's really nice; I feel good about that.

I'm just trying to find some encouraging words for this after-dinner speech. I'm really glad that my sisters are here and some of my brothers are here, all you relatives here. I'm really thankful for each one of you for taking time out from your everyday lives to come over here and help my mom celebrate her ninetieth birthday. And then you also brought some gifts along with your good thoughts, good feelings, and good hearts. Thank you for your sacrifice.

Way back in my younger days when my kids were small, we used to celebrate my mom's birthday every year. All those years we used to buy her gifts; a rain coat, an umbrella, dishes, dresses, jackets, gloves, all those kinds of things. Because of her clanship she can't keep those things we gave her. I didn't know that.

One day I had a ceremony at her house and in the morning we went to raise my brother Eddie's flag. We looked for that flag in a room where my mom keeps all the gifts she has received; she keeps the door locked. We looked all over. We couldn't find his flag, so we couldn't honor him. When we looked for his flag I saw all those things that we bought for my mom; she had them all in that



Annabelle Lowe celebrates her 90th birthday at the District I community Center with friends, family, and a lot of laughter, along with singing and dancing.

room, still brand new and in their packages.

So when the ceremony was done we just put all those things back and then on Monday morning we told our mom we went to the place where the flag was at and couldn't find it but on Monday morning it was right there where it was supposed to be. This goes to show that God works in mysterious ways.

Once again, I want to say thanks [Ho-Chunks believe that a person can never say thank you enough] that all my children are here, except for my hayna but I know where he's at. He had one of those OWI's; one too many. So I hope that doesn't happen to you guys; especially our elders, like my mom. I wish that wouldn't happen to my mom. Otherwise, we'll have to pass the hat around, do a blanket dance to her out. I'm just saying that because my mom likes humor, she like laughter. I appreciate her very much.

I'm going to conclude here...but before I do that I want to thank the drums for being here. All the food is picked up and everything is moved out of the way. We are getting ready to dance. I also want to thank all the women for wearing squaw dresses; this was one of my mom's wishes, so thank you very much for doing that. So with that, I'll say a word of thanks for your attention. Thank you.

Annabelle's speech

I'm getting old. You take advantage of it when you're young but when you get to be old like me, you lift your knee up high for every little thing. Now I can REALLY

talk. I just got to hang on to something. I'm getting to that point where my joints hurt when I walk or when I sit too long or when I stay in bed too long; I have to get up every so often.

I'm thankful for all the prayers that are said for the elders. I'm not the only elder, there's a lot of elders and I understand that there's another elderly lady in Bluewing. I often wish that I could go visit her and talk to her and just be with her.

I don't even know her name and I don't even know where she lives, but that is somebody I was asking about because there was another elderly person...that's what I was told [An elderly woman sitting at the honor table says "I'm right behind you." Everybody bursts out in laughter; the drums roll] Are you the one [Annabelle chuckles, doing a double take in disbelief]?

My dad and her dad used to sit down and talk and make jokes and laugh. I used to like listening to them. And when I see her she makes me laugh. Just looking at her makes me laugh. Yeah, we went to school together. And we fought together [more applause, drums roll]. I'm kidding.

It's really nice to see everybody and I would like to say again I really appreciate everything that was done and my family. They went out of their way to earn this money to be able to do what they are doing here today. And I'd like to say thank you to them and they didn't tell me nothing about what they were doing. I knew they were up to something, but I did not know

what. Now I know what they were doing because here I am. Thank you to them for all that they have done.

Once in a great while I make it to a prayer service [Native American Church]. I really like to do that; offer prayers for everybody. I feel like I'm getting closer to that time when I'll be leaving this world. And that's what I say everyday when I talk. I say "I'm getting ready for that next world to come." If I say that, they too, you folks, will feel the same way; be that way. You can take care of yourselves and your thoughts and you're doing whatever you're doing.

I always want to put a smile on somebody's face. That's my motto, that I do that. No matter where I'm at, I try to put a smile on somebody's face and I make them feel happy. I think we all ought to do that; that way we can all get along real good no matter what we're going through. Hard times, good times. Like today, it makes a person feel good.

This morning I was kind of tired and I thought "Oh, I don't know if I should go, I'm kind of tired this morning" but then I said my prayer and after that I was ready for the day. I asked for strength so I could finish out the day. And I would like to say thank you again, you people make me feel that way. And I would like to say again thank you to the little ones running around here; they're going to be one day like the way I am. That's the way I'm looking at it. I really appreciate each and every one of them.

# Vietnam Veterans Day at Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls

Marlon WhiteEagle  
Staff Writer

On March 28, Ho-Chunk Nation Veteran Affairs hosted a Vietnam Veterans Day activities at Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls. The event had a full agenda and was attended by Ho-Chunk Nation government officials, Andrew Blackhawk American Legion Post 129, and special guest Jim Northrup. Northrup is known for his Fond Du Lac Follies. Lance Long, Buffalo clan, served as the emcee of the Vietnam Veterans Day event. Members of both the Mitchell Red Cloud Jr. Marine Corps League and the Andrew Blackhawk American Legion Post 129 served as the color guard.

Wilbert Cleveland offered an invocation to begin the evening of remember those who served in Vietnam. Ho-Chunk Nation President, Jon Greendeer, gave a welcome address.

Mario DeSanctis, Tomah Veteran Affairs Center Director and Retired Air Force Colonel, was the guest speaker and talked about how the Tomah VA Center could help Vietnam and other veterans with the services they provide. Jim Northrup, Vietnam Veteran/Poet/Author/Columnist, was the keynote speaker. Northrup is known for his column, Fond Du Lac Follies. Northrup read several of his poems from his books of poetry.

Little Thunder and Iron

Mound drums were present to render a flag song, service songs, thank you for the food song, and for giveaways. Vietnam Veterans from the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps spoke, followed by the service song. Ralph Snake spoke for Air Force, Bob Low for the Army, Doug Greengrass for the Marine Corps, and Andy Thundercloud for the Navy. President Greendeer presented the speakers with handmade vest. Bobby Bird, Army Veteran, served as the "unofficial official arena director".

Wilfrid Cleveland, Ho-Chunk Nation Veterans Affairs Office, read a list of those Ho-Chunk tribal members who were killed

in action. Cleveland also read a list of all Vietnam Era Veterans who have passed away, those that were present at the event, and those still alive.

A dinner was provided by Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls. Norman Snake, Vietnam Veteran-Navy, said a prayer over the meal. All veterans in attendance were given a gift: commemorative

bag and polo shirt. Ho-Chunk Nation Vice-President, Greg Blackdeer, gave closing remarks.

Several information booths were set up by Department of Veterans Affairs-Tomah Center, Vocational Rehabilitation/Mental Health Services, La Crosse Veterans Center, and Women's Veterans Program.



Vietnam Veterans receive a bag of goodies along with a commemorative gift and dance to a few honor songs.



Keynote speaker, Jim Northrup and President Greendeer.



Iron Mound Singers

## Wisconsin Dells

Marlon WhiteEagle  
Staff Writer

On March 29, Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells held an event in honor of Vietnam Veterans Day. On March 9, 2010, then Ho-Chunk Nation President Wilfrid Cleveland, signed a proclamation March 9, 2010 to designate March 29 as Vietnam Veterans Day. March 29 marks the day American troops withdrew and American involvement in the Vietnam ended in 1973.

Joseph WhiteEagle, U.S. Marine Corps Gulf War Veteran and Commander of Sanford WhiteEagle American Legion Post 556, served as the events emcee. Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells employees, local veteran groups, and hotel and casino guests gathered near the flagpoles. The Security and Maintenance Departments blocked the roadway to make provisions for the event.

WhiteEagle introduced the guest speaker, Andy

Thundercloud, who served in Vietnam as a Navy Corpsman. Thundercloud said, "I could tell you stories that would make you cry, feel good, horriy, and laugh. But I'm not going to tell a story.

Yesterday, I spent some time with a fellow Vietnam Veteran who writes books and poetry. I want to share a quote that I whole heartedly agree with. I wish we didn't have to have veterans."

The Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells Security Department raised the flags: American, Ho-Chunk Nation, and POW-MIA flag. The Sanford WhiteEagle American Legion Post 556 rendered a salute, a 21 gun salute, and taps. Bearheart rendered a flag song and the service songs for the occasion.

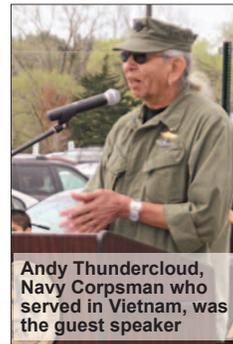
Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells invited all the veterans present to eat at the Stand Rock buffet for lunch.



Joseph WhiteEagle, Commander-Sanford WhiteEagle American Legion Post 556, served as emcee.



Flags are raised at Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells in observance of Vietnam Veterans Day.



Andy Thundercloud, Navy Corpsman who served in Vietnam, was the guest speaker



Bearheart renders the flag song and four service songs.

# Nekoosa

Tracy Pecore  
Editor

On March 30, 2012 the Joseph White Legion Post 442 and Little Thunder drum group helped pay tribute to our Vietnam Veterans. Due to the weather not cooperating, the ceremony was held in the banquet facility.

Jim Fedder, Commander of the Joseph White Legion Post gave a warm welcome of what Vietnam Veteran's Day means to Vietnam Veteran's everywhere. The Chaplain, Gary Fischer, also gave a prayer. Little Thunder drum group, led by William Collins, then sang the four service songs: Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps. Taps were also played along with a 21 gun salute.



Little Thunder drum group led by William Collins.



Joseph White Legion Post 442 bring in the colors.



Joseph White Legion Post 442 honor 21 gun salute and playing of the Taps.

# Wittenberg

Tracy Pecore  
Editor

On March 30, 2012 Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg honored those who fought, died or who are still accounted for in the Vietnam War. It was almost 40 years ago that our Vietnam Veterans first returned home and never received a "Welcome home". Today, many states have designated a day in honor of our Vietnam vets who put their lives in danger to serve our country. So with that said, Pi na gi gi!

To start the morning off right, Ho-Chunk elder and Vietnam Veteran Dallas Whitewing began with a few words to the creator. As a slight rain fell from the sky, the Lake Delton singers led by Allen Cloud, began singing the Flag song. Ho-Chunk tribal members Jeremy Rockman, Sid Whitewing, and John Whitewing raised the US Flag and the POW Flag. Once they were raised and brought back down to half mast, the four service songs were sung.

Once the service songs were complete, Ho-Chunk tribal member and Vietnam Veteran Jeremy Rockman, read the proclamation signed by Wilfrid Cleveland. The event concluded with a light breakfast and a specially designed cake in honor of Vietnam Veteran's Day. Although it was a cold and rainy day, a special thank you to everyone who helped make this day possible. A gentleman in the casino stopped one of the singers and said it was beautiful!



Lake Delton Singers led by Allen Cloud.



Sid Whitewing and Dr. Jeremy Rockman stand at rest as the Lake Delton singers finish the service songs.



Ho-Chunk tribal member and Vietnam Veteran Jeremy Rockman reads the proclamation signed by Wilfrid Cleveland.



Special cake designed in honor of Vietnam Veteran's Day.

# Madison

Submitted by Dave Abangan - Director of Marketing

Keynote was offered by Doug Johnson, Rock Greendeer read the Vietnam Veteran's Day proclamation, and Landlord drum sang the branches of service songs at the Ho-Chunk Gaming - Madison Flag Raising Ceremony held on

March 29. An estimated 40 Veteran's, area tribal members and employees attended the Madison flag raising ceremony. "Special thanks to the employee Veteran's who lowered flags during the beautiful, sunny, cool Thursday morning," said Dave Abangan, Director of Marketing.



Landlord singers sing the Flag song as the flags are raised and brought down to half mast as onlookers stand in respect.



Rock Greendeer goes down the line as Veteran's explained what years they served and what branch of service they were in.



Rock Greendeer, left, Doug Johnson and Judy Whitehorse.



Observers stand in respect as the songs are sung.

# Thundercloud Youth Golf Academy

The youth Golf Academy is to provide to qualified participants between the ages of 13 and 18 years of age the opportunity to receive instruction in golf. The participants will receive a \$500 scholarship to assist them in introduction to the World of Golf.

Qualified participants will have to provide written documentation that they have at least a "C" average in school. They must be

between the ages of 13-18 years of age. Students of the Academy will always have consultations with Instructors, at no additional costs.

#### They must provide also:

- A written statement of future goals in employment
- College
- Technical School
- An agreement with parental or guardian support financially and support

#### The \$500 includes:

- Instruction in all aspects of Golf i.e. golf ethics, swing set-up, putting style, short game, Damage control, and proper usage of each golf club
- A custom set of golf clubs
- A pair of golf shoes
- Golf gloves
- 6 or more rounds of golf
- Competition in the HAGA tournaments
- Competition in WIGA golf outings

#### Schedule for participants

4 youth will be selected  
April 1 – 30, 2012

#### Instruction Period

May 1st 2012 - August 15th 2012

#### Other Services

Those not picked could also participate @ \$20 per instructional sessions

We will hold instruction in the areas depending on the residence of the participants..

## THUNDERCLOUD YOUTH GOLF ACADEMY Now Recruiting Players

Lessons will be given to those that are interested in learning the game of golf. There will be specific criteria that must be met to receive a scholarship.

### Available scholarships to include:

- **Custom golf clubs**
- **Golf bag**
- **Shoes**
- **Golf balls and tees**
- **Rounds of golf / tournaments**

The academy will teach you golf techniques as well as etiquette, sportsmanship and patience.

For more information please contact Quentin or Andy at:

**Andy Thundercloud**  
Phone: 608-387-2640  
ndngolfguy@netscape.net

**Quentin Thundercloud**  
24402 Dexter Ave.  
Tomah, WI 54660  
Phone: 608-372-9558  
qthundercloud@centurylink.net

# “The sweet science” with Ricky Thompson

Tracy Pecore  
Editor

Young people ages 10-30 can sign-up and train with Coach Ken Hilgers who has been a coach for 35 years with the Nekoosa Boxing Club. One of our very own Ho-Chunk youth by the name of Ricky Thompson has been training there for the past year and has shown a positive attitude and has a goal to one day become a pro boxer.

Ricky’s mother is Kari Thompson and his grandparents are Lindley and Kay Thompson. Last summer, Ricky went with his gaga to Colorado Springs, CO, to visit Kay’s sister. While there, Ricky went to a gym and worked out with the local boxing club. They liked his abilities and asked him to join their club. “I was pretty impressed with their wanting him there(and) the Marshfield



Boxing gloves used to protect your hands.

Boxing Club asked him to box with them too so I know he has the moves for the sport,” said proud Choka Lindley.

About seven years ago, Ricky said his “older cousin, Ivory Kelly, used to box in the same gym, and when I saw them boxing it made me want to box too.” Currently a ninth grader at the Nekoosa High School, weighing in at approximately 160 pounds, Ricky has a lot of potential as a boxer.

One of his interests was the technique he saw and his interest grew more and more. After a year of training Ricky has been discouraged, because he has been unable to get a bout. When he joined a year ago, Ricky weighed in at 210 pounds, but since then he has lost 50 pounds.

For those of you not familiar with the sport of boxing, as an amateur you show up to a tournament with your club and hope that another boxer is there your age and weight class. This is how it works for the most part, and unfortunately so far Ricky has been either too heavy or too light for his opponents.

Coach Hilger said, “He’s been ready to fight competitively for a while now but he hasn’t been able to find an opponent. He’s great, everyone likes him. He’s very coachable and one of our favorite boys. He’s plenty skilled to be competing.”

One of his motivating factors is to stay fit for boxing, and to be able to keep up with the other boxers in his gym, and of course for the ladies. Knowing what alcohol and drugs can do to a person Ricky stays away from drinking and doing drugs. Ricky said, “I’m not gonna do that,” knowing that it would hurt his mind and body and that he would not be able to reach his potential.

When he’s not in the gym,



Coach Ken Hilgers and Ricky Thompson pose in boxing stance.

he focuses on running, lifting weights, and trying to eat healthy. He said he’ll usually go four, three minute rounds on the bag at home. “I used to run two miles a day but cut down to (only) lifting weights. I know I need to start running again cuz’ I burnt out pretty quick out there,” said Ricky.

One thing that keeps Ricky boxing is to see if one day he can make it to the pros, “At least one pro fight anyway,” he said. “I also look up to my Choka. Whatever he went with he stuck with and he’s been pretty successful in his life, so I wanna stick with

it too,” said Ricky. He also mentioned that sticking with it is the hardest part of boxing.

Some good words from an ex-pro boxer were, “Whatever you do Ricky, go as hard as you can, don’t quit; on the bags, doing sit-ups, everything you do. If you train that way that’s how you’re gonna fight. If you really like the sport, watch a lot of boxing. It’ll help you more than you think, from counter punches to the movement, everything.” He also said that Ricky has a lot of potential and “watching him spar I can see a lot of fight in him; and that’s

defiantly an important thing for a boxer to have.”

Ricky and other kids in sports can learn a lot about life, not quitting, working hard, and realizing your goals. A message to the youth from Ricky: “Stick with it if you’re gonna go with it and keep your grades up.”

**Awesome job Ricky, keep going strong and being a leader for our other Ho-Chunk youth.**

**SUMMONS**  
(First Publication)  
**IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT**  
State of WI & Shaila Henneha, Petitioner, v. Adrian J. Foote,  
Respondent.

Case : CS 12-25

**TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT: Adrian J. Foote**  
You are hereby informed that you have been named a respondent in the above-entitled civil lawsuit. This legal notice of the *Petition to Register & Enforce a Foreign Judgment or Order* is now served upon you by publication. Your written *Answer to the Petition* must be filed with the Court on or before the twentieth day from the date of the second published issuance of this *Summons*. You may request a hearing within your written response. See RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS ORDINANCE, 4 HCC § 2.5. Also, you must send or present a copy of your *Answer* to the opposing party listed above or to their attorney of record. Failure to file a timely *Answer* in the time allowed can affect your right to object to the enforcement of the foreign judgment or order. *Id.*, § 2.6c.

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.

**SUMMONS**  
(Second Publication)  
**IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT**  
Charlene K. Spangler, Petitioner, v. Phillip J. Youngthunder,  
Respondent.

Case : CS 12-17

**TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT: Phillip J. Youngthunder**  
You are hereby informed that you have been named a respondent in the above-entitled civil lawsuit. This legal notice of the *Petition to Register & Enforce a Foreign Judgment or Order* is now served upon you by publication. Your written *Answer to the Petition* must be filed with the Court on or before the twentieth day from the date of the second published issuance of this *Summons*. You may request a hearing within your written response. See RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS ORDINANCE, 4 HCC § 2.5. Also, you must send or present a copy of your *Answer* to the opposing party listed above or to their attorney of record. Failure to file a timely *Answer* in the time allowed can affect your right to object to the enforcement of the foreign judgment or order. *Id.*, § 2.6c.

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# Wisconsin Veteran's Scholarships available

Submitted by HCN  
Veteran's Affairs

## DONALD P. WEBER VETERANS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was established in 2008 by Donald J. and Roxanne Weber of La Crosse, WI, in honor of Don's father, Donald P. Weber. Both Weber men are veterans of the Armed Forces with Donald P. serving in WWII and Donald J. in Vietnam. American Veterans selflessly protected and defended us through the

years. Without them, we would not be able to enjoy the freedoms we have today. This fund was established to support Wisconsin Veterans who want to attend a UW System institution of higher learning.

## COL. EDWIN L. OVERHOLT, M.D. FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP FOR WISCONSIN VETERANS FUND

This scholarship was established in 2010 by the

Overholt Family in honor and memory of their father, Dr. Edwin L. Overholt. Dr. Overholt was sent to the front lines of the Korean War just days after the invasion began and only two years after becoming an MD, part of a task force of 500 against over 30 world-class tanks and thousands of infantry, and saved lives without regard for himself. He was only a captain then. He would give the US Army a career, and then another

career to Gunderson Lutheran Health System. Throughout his civilian career, they affectionately called him "Colonel." (Ed Marek, 3/2/08)

## CRITERIA FOR BOTH SCHOLARSHIPS:

1. Recipient must be a WI resident and enrolled full time at a UW System institution of higher learning.
2. Recipient must be a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States of America

3. Recipient must be in good academic standing.

4. Recipient may be a freshman, sophomore, junior, senior or graduate student.

5. Must attach a copy of DD214.

Application deadline is April 20, 2012. Please contact Sara Olson at 608-785-8491 or [olson.sar2@uwlax.edu](mailto:olson.sar2@uwlax.edu) if you have questions.

## Homebuyer Education



Does the idea of a mortgage scare you?

Have you ever thought about buying a home?

**Date** April 23 & 24, 2012

**Time** 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. Both Evenings

**Location** Ho-Chunk Convention Center  
Baraboo, WI

**Sponsors** HHCA & NHS of Richland Co.

**Join Us** Homebuyer Education can help reduce the stress & confusion of buying a home.

**Contact Name**  
Winona Mann  
(608) 374-1245

It is a great place to start if you're considering buying a home & are not quite ready.

Come & Learn about Down Payment Assistance Programs. Snacks, Dinner, Door Prize will be provided! Hurry and call for a reservation!



- Lowest UW tuition
- Transfer Guarantee
- Begin ANY major
- Student housing option
- Financial aid available

Visit, explore, find out more at:

## Taste of UW-Richland

for high school juniors, seniors & their parents

**Wednesday, October 26**  
**3 – 5pm**

Reserve by April 18 for your free, no-obligation preview

online: [richland.uwc.edu](http://richland.uwc.edu)  
phone: (608) 647-6186, #3  
e-mail: [rlninfo@uwc.edu](mailto:rlninfo@uwc.edu)



We are currently Accepting Applications for the 2012-13 school year, if you have a child that will be 3 on/before Sept. 1, 2012 please call the Head Start in your area.



Ahuco  
Lowell (608)372-6669

Chahk Ha Chee  
Heidi (715)886-5838

Ho Chunk Gra  
Stacy (715)284-2311

Neenk Chunk Gra  
Kathy (608)254-4227

Puzaki Pei Cinak  
Carolyn (715)284-3331

Wipaman Ker'da  
Anne (715)253-3826

**for sale**

3 bdrm ranch style house, with 2 car attached garage. 1152 sq feet w/ full basement, on 1.25 acres on HCN tribal land in the Wisc. Dells area

**Asking \$100,000.00**

**SERIOUS INQUIRIES ONLY**

**608-408-6211**



## House For Sale

Timber Run Site, Lot 9 Wisconsin Dells  
Newly remodeled 4 bedroom, Ranch Style House. 2 full baths, full basement. Appliances included on 4.2 acres of land. Located at W2430 Readle Lane, Lyndon Station, WI. Wisconsin Dells School District.

Asking \$125,000

"Tribal Members Only"

Contact Kevin Vasquez • Cell: 608-844-3352



# Look for us in the mail!



In an effort to reach more tribal members, Ho-Chunk Nation Division of Natural Resources is **MAILING** out the membership survey to tribally enrolled Wisconsin Residents. If you are a tribal member not living in Wisconsin and would like us to mail you a copy of the survey, please contact the DNR office at (800) 294-9343 x1124. We at HCN DNR want to hear your voice to better serve you.

It is HCN DNR mission to "preserve Ho-Chunk traditions through land and natural resource management." By taking this survey, you will provide your valuable feedback toward this effort.

All those who complete the survey will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win: GRAND PRIZE \$100 Gift card to Ho-Chunk Whitetail Crossing Convenience Stores; FIRST PRIZE \$50 Gift card to Ho-Chunk Whitetail Crossing Convenience Stores; SECOND PRIZE Five bags of Daxu Organic Coffee beans; THIRD PRIZE One pound of heirloom Indian corn seed.

You can also access the survey by visiting Ho-Chunk Nation DNR website at <http://ho-chunknation.com/?PageId=51>



## Earth Day Exhibit April 25th, 2012

Join Ho-Chunk Nation Division of Natural Resources and Environmental Health Staff to learn about:

- Ho-Chunk Nation Lands
- Prescribed Fire
- Birds of Prey
- Pond Life
- Wildlife
- Trees
- and Much More!



**COME ON OVER AND BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY!**

April 25th From 3:00 – 6:00pm

Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Office Building



***The Ho-Chunk Nation Domestic  
Violence Program will be  
coordinating a Walk for Awareness***

***April's Sexual Assault  
Awareness month***

**Black River Falls Walk, April 13, 2012**

TOB Cafeteria and Walking Trail

**House of Wellness Walk, April 20, 2012**

Registration and walk details at House of Wellness

**Wittenberg Community Walk, April 27, 2012**

Booths/registration at Potch-chee-nunk Community Center

Will be using Community Walking Trail for event

**Registration begins at:**

**10:00 to 3:00 p.m. at each site**

Please join us walk in a Community closest to you.

Lunch and T-Shirts will be provided

**In Coordination with:**

*Ho-Chunk Child Care Program | Ho-Chunk Family Services Program | Ho-Chunk  
Gaming/Wittenberg*

**District 1 Community Center**

Black River Falls

**2012  
Baseball/  
Softball  
Opening Day**



Opening Dates

Minor Girls 1st game May 16th

Major Girls 1st game May 17th

Jr. League Girls May 18th

Rookie Ball 1st game May 25th

Tee-Ball 1st game June 2nd

For more information please contact  
District 1 Community Center @ 715-284-0905

**District One Community Center**

***Shape Shifters***

**Men's 16 and Older Category**

**\$20.00 Registration fee. Winner takes all.**

**Women's 16 and Older Category**

**\$20.00 Registration fee. Winner takes all.**

**First Weigh-in will be Friday, April 20, 2012 You must  
have your registration fee before you can weigh in.**

**Last weigh-in will be Friday, June 29, 2012 .**

**Winners will be announced on Monday, July 2, 2012**

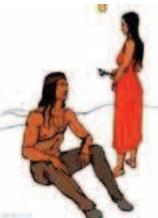
Weigh-in Schedule for Friday, April 20, 2012

6:00 AM–9:30 AM District One Community Center

10 AM–10:30 AM TOB

10:45 AM –11:15 AM MPC Hotel

11:30 AM–9:00 PM District One Community Center



CONTACT MELISSA OR DERRIS AT 715-284-0905

**H.A.G.A.  
TOUR GOLF**

Location: Glacier Wood Golf Club  
604 Water Street, Iola, WI  
Date: May 12, 2012  
Time: 10:00 a.m.  
Modified Shotgun

Phone: Bob Jome 715-445-3831  
More information:  
Marty Littlewolf  
715-253-3496 (home)  
715-432-6594 (Cell)

**S.A.F.E. House seeks  
Board Members**

For almost three years a small group of dedicated Ho-Chunk women have worked diligently to form an active and engaged Advisory Board for the Ho-Chunk Nation's S.A.F.E House Program. The acronym S.A.F.E stands for Stop Abuse From Existing.

We have, with tremendous support from the staff in the Social Service Department and the Domestic Violence Program, been able to secure tax exempt status with a 7871 approval from the Nation's Legislature, but we now need more Board Members to step up and help in this effort and to reorganize. There is no funding available for mileage or for stipends, so it is a financial commitment to participate, but a worthy one. As a matter of fact, we have shared in a potluck at many of our gatherings and that in and of itself has been fun too.

The next meeting for the Board will be Saturday, April 21 in at the Social Services Building in Black River Falls. We usually meet at 10:00 AM and run through the early afternoon with a break for lunch. If you have an interest in the program or if you are certain that you'd like to participate, please contact me at libby.fairchild@yahoo.com or at 612.805.7141.

Pina-gigi!

Libby Fairchild  
Chairperson  
S.A.F.E. House Advisory Board

# Ho-Chunk Gaming WI Dells Congratulates Taylor Rivera

Submitted by Karen WhiteEagle – Guest Service Supervisor

Ho-Chunk Youth Worker, Taylor Rivera is 14 years old and has been working at the Hotel Guest Services Front Desk. We cannot nominate Taylor for a Guest Appreciation Award (GAP), because he is only a Limited Time Employee LTE on

weekends.

However, I am very impressed with Taylor's abilities, as well as many of Taylor's co-workers who think very highly of him. He began working with us in February of 2012. Since then, he has helped in assisting with PBX answering phones (the main 800 number to the casino), and has had training

in making reservations by utilizing top of the line software.

I was assigned to be his lead trainer and responsible for his assignments. Due to being short staffed on Saturdays and Sundays which are our busiest days of the week, I made a last-minute decision to have Taylor help us at the Front Desk. Even if he could assist us with the paper processing it would really help the rest of the staff as well.

Thanks to Guest Service Representative's Linda Miller, Jessica Snake and Panuhlis "Nuli" Yang who also assisted in showing Taylor more ways to process information, make a reservation, answer the Front Desk phones, assist guests with questions or directions, how to find information in the system, and all the how-to's with our new V1 Property Management Software used for check-ins/ check-outs.

Taylor's ability to adapt to the computer usage, follow directions, listen to guests, speak clearly and not be intimidated by this system, led to his current advancement capabilities. Today, Taylor works as an active Guest Service Representative without any cash handling ability because of his age,



Ho-Chunk Youth LTE, Taylor Rivera.



Taylor processes information into the system as a Guest Service Representative at Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells Hotel and Convention Center.

but is able to handle the processing of credit card transactions during check-ins and check-outs and post all other types of payment transactions.

We look forward to working with him, he is very quiet, friendly and extremely polite and very helpful to guests. He has a bright future ahead of him, and our hope is that he is able to stay with us at the

Front Desk for some time.

Taylor is the son of Ruth Houghton. Within a month, Taylor has accomplished all of the above mentioned, and I just thought perhaps this would make a great story and give Taylor the recognition he truly deserves! You've done a great job Taylor, keep up the awesome work!

## Elder Social

April 26, 2012

Thursday at 10:00 AM

District One Community Center

Come and join the fun!!!

Bingo

Lunch

Feel Free to Bring a

Prize to Share

55 and Older

Contact Melissa or Derris at 715-284-0904

## Family Reflections

Our families struggle on a daily basis as parents we are faced with new dilemmas. Whatever we face we must remember that we are not alone. There may be other parents who face the same issues. We have a responsibility as parents to ask for assistance when required.

Our children are born of innocence and learn from the teachers known as "parents". Their young lives may have been touched by adversity and difficulty. These young children do not have control of their lives, of which, parents possess this responsibility.

Our Ho-Chunk children's lives have been entrusted to responsible adults better known as "parents".

In their young lives the decisions that are made by parents affects their lives. These young children need a secure, responsible, caring parent to make these decisions. They deserve nothing short of this which may require parents to learn about parenting. These decisions include where they live, where they go to school, school activities and spiritual needs.

Our Native children require their parents to be there to assist them on their young journey. The lessons that they learn will help them to become responsible adults. We may wish that sometimes as parents, we could have made a better decision or acted differently.

I want you to know that you are not alone because older parents share those same thoughts.

We have to remember as parents that we have this responsibility for a short period of time. We may have pictures to recall an activity in which they participated and captured that moment.

There may be a moment when we traveled together and something interesting happened. These are those captured moments that will forever be etched in our mind.

As an older parent we have those moments that we wished we could have done differently. We realize that we cannot and we can only hope to improve our behavior. We realize that they have become responsible adults and we can be thankful for that. Our realization that "we cannot change time" we can only move forward.

I am grateful that our Creator Almighty has bestowed "our children" with mindful decisions.

The prayers that have been offered on our children's behalf are beginning to bear fruit. We begin to understand that the decisions that we made were done in their best interests. That our children's lives will continue to mature as they become perceptive parents for their children

These are the blessings that we wish for our future generations. These are the messages that I wish to share for all parents of Ho-Chunk children. Prayers are made on your behalf everyday by someone who truly cares.

Written by Roberta Decorah

# High school senior performs senior recital at UWSP

Tracy Pecore  
Editor

Brittany Greendeer, a Senior at the Stevens Point Area Senior High, presented a phenomenal senior recital at the Noel Fine Arts Center at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point on Sunday, April 1; accompanied by David Becker, pianist.

Greendeer began playing violin much later than most other Suzuki students; a program started for those as early as three and four years of age who are interested in orchestra. "I didn't start until sixth grade. I started violin because Grandma Jenquin bought me a cassette from a rummage sale with two recordings on it: Beethoven's Romance No.2, and Beethoven's Violin Concerto in D Major. Both pieces are beautiful beyond words and I am so lucky to have been given the knowledge in order to play the Romance today," said Greendeer.

In seventh grade, Brittany was introduced to a woman that would change and shape her life forever. In 2007, Brittany began private lessons with Jenny Burton who said, "Brit was determined to learn as much as possible. She was very thorough in her practice habits and always came to lessons ready to learn more."



Brittany Greendeer and family after her senior recital.

Although Brittany was nervous to meet this new face, she said, "Her personality set me at ease immediately. We began to work that very day on the Two Grenadiers and I knew she was the teacher for me."

In 2011, Brittany had a minor set-back and developed problems with her back and shoulder. Having played soccer for her high school, she decided not to play this year and said, "I couldn't risk having the problems I did with my shoulder in past years resurface. I still play with friends almost every week and will probably play on the recreational team this summer." Along with soccer, Brittany also had to stop swimming and playing her violin until things settled down.

Her teacher, Miss Burton said, "We spent several months studying music theory and basic keyboard skills. Brit made the most of this time and has continued these studies. She even wrote a violin composition during this time. This showed me how well Brit can turn a disappointment into a positive experience."

Now that her high school year is coming to a near end, she decided to do a recital on her own; it was not



Brittany Greendeer proudly stands next to her violin teacher, Jenny Burton.

mandatory. She said because she's a Suzuki student she can use the UWSP facilities. "I coordinated a time with the pianist and that's how the date was chosen."

After four months of lessons to polish and be ready for her recital, Brittany performed in front of approximately 30 spectators who came to show her support on April 1. No fooling, she played four chosen pieces based as a "greatest hits" compilation: Gavotte by Rameau, Romance No.2, Op. 50 for Violin and Piano by Beethoven, Vocalise, Op. 34, No. 14 for Violin and Piano by Rachmaninoff, and Concerto in C Major, Op. 48 for Violin and Piano.

There were a few others that Greendeer could have performed, but she really wanted to focus on having the best of the best. The Rameau is a representation of Suzuki repertoire from Volume 6 of 10. Beethoven has always been an inspiration to Greendeer and the Romance she played is one of two songs she heard and just had to start playing violin. She said, "Playing it on the recital was a true honor for me and was an emotional moment. I don't even know how to begin on the Rachmaninov. The piece is so beautiful and moves me to tears when I hear the late Jascha Heifetz' rendition. Of the pieces I've played, Vocalise was an obvious choice for the recital because I connect with it so much

emotionally. High school can be really rough at times and I've had some drama going on but when I play that piece, I can really let myself flow free and I don't care about what others think of me. At times when I play, I have to remind myself that I'm not actually speaking because I can express my deepest feelings through my instrument so clearly. I wanted to end the recital on a happy note so I wanted to choose a piece with a fast tempo and major key. I handpicked this piece for this recital."

Ending with a standing ovation, this young Ho-Chunk female has a bright future ahead. If she could have changed anything, she said she would have added one more piece in the middle. "I feel that I played to the best of my abilities. I was really happy to have given it because I love to share my gift with others. I just wish I could do it again."

When asked who or what inspires her, she said, "My teacher is such an inspiration for me. I love the way she changes the lives of those around her through violin. I would not be on this stage here today if it were not for a few key people in my life. My father, Jon Greendeer, who gave me some of the inspiration to start violin with his bass and guitar playing through my childhood: My mother, Stacy Sieber, who always encourages me and

supports me however she can. Thank you to Chris Munson and Perry Sieber for being the best (not evil) step-parents on earth. Finally, thank you to Robert and Barb Munson for seeing my potential and envisioning this moment six years ago."

Through Miss Burton, Greendeer says she has learned to be a better person. "I will carry the lessons she taught me through music for my entire life. She's shown me how to be honest, diligent, and respectful. She's also inspired me to pursue a career in music."

**For those interested in orchestra, this is what Brittany has to say,** "Try to find a teacher and the younger you start the better, although don't let that put you off from starting late. I know a violinist that started when she was 78. Don't give up in junior high and high school because it isn't cool anymore because once you get through that, any instrument you have will be there for you for your entire life."

Congratulations to Brittany Greendeer, she's recently been accepted to UW-Stevens Point and Lawrence University. With more than one option, Greendeer said, "I'll have to decide between the two but I am definitely going to college for violin. If at UWSP, I will study Suzuki pedagogy, and at Lawrence, I would double major in violin performance and music education."

