



Covering the Ho-Chunk Nation



# HOC AK WORAK

Vol. XXXIX, Issue 19

Ca Ma Hinaḡo wira | Deer Pawing Moon

October 10, 2025



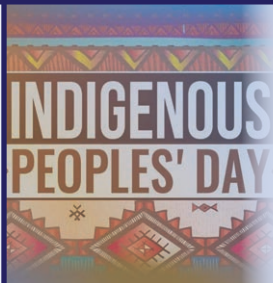
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Meeting Minutes

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Office

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All Governmental  
Buildings Closed  
October 13

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## Ho-Chunk Nation Observes Orange Shirt Day

Kaili Berg

Members of the Ho-Chunk Nation came together on September 30 to recognize Orange Shirt Day, a day of remembrance and reflection for the Indigenous children who were taken from their families and forced into boarding schools.

Staff and community members wore bright orange shirts to honor survivors and remember those who never made it home.

Observed annually on September 30, Orange Shirt Day, also known as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, began in 2013 after

residential school survivor Phyllis Jack Webstad shared her story.

At age six, Webstad attended the St. Joseph Mission Residential School in British Columbia wearing a new orange shirt her grandmother had bought for her.

Upon arrival, the shirt was taken away and never returned, a moment that came to symbolize the loss of identity, culture, and childhood experienced by thousands of Indigenous children across the U.S. and Canada.

The color orange also holds cultural meaning for many Indigenous nations, symbolizing

the sun, healing, and a bright path forward.

Ho-Chunk Nation departments and enterprises, including Ho-Chunk

Gaming Black River Falls, Madison, Nekoosa, Wisconsin Dells, and the Ho-Chunk House of Wellness, participated in the observance.



## Ho-Chunk Cinema Open House Highlights Updates and Amenities

Ardith Van Riper

On Tuesday, October 7, the Ho-Chunk Cinema in Tomah held an open house. An estimated 1,000 or more visitors toured the updated facility. The updates and amenities will make Ho-Chunk Cinema a premier choice for movie theater entertainment.

Representatives from the City of Tomah and the Ho-Chunk Nation experienced different movie theatres and what they offered. The Ho-Chunk Cinema staff

welcomed the public free of charge. The community was treated to a tour, free popcorn, and free cotton candy.

The comfort seating was the hot topic of the tour. The new recliners in all six auditoriums feature a swivel tray, anti-gravity component, and an optional heated back.

There is new flooring throughout the building. The walls have been restored.

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

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TEL: (800) 472-3089 FAX: (715) 284-7852  
Please notify the Newspaper of  
any address changes or corrections

# Green Corn Event 2025 – A Day to Remember in Galena, IL

On Thursday, September 25, representatives from the Ho-Chunk Nation gathered in Galena, IL for the Green Corn Event — a day filled with celebration, community, and connection. This year held special meaning because of a naming ceremony, officially naming this cultural site, MaaPii, which means “good earth” in the Ho-Chunk language.

The ceremony was deeply moving, with heartfelt words from speakers who shared the powerful history of the land and how it continues to unite us in positivity and respect. Two trees stood as symbols of our bond: one planted on-site, and the other gifted to the Ho-Chunk Nation by the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation — representing enduring friendship and

shared stewardship of this land. The day was filled with joy — traditional games, a delicious meal, and singing and dancing as the sun set. The event coordinators extend our deepest gratitude to all who attended and everyone who helped make this event a meaningful success.



**HCN Tribal Youth Natural Resource Initiative**  
In Collaboration Between HCN DNR, HCN Education, & Youth Services  
\*\*\* Must complete online section prior to field day \*\*\*

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HUNTER'S SAFETY



FIELDDAY

**October 25, 2025**

Transportation will be provided by all Youth Centers  
Maximum of 25 tribally enrolled participants  
Meet at D1CC at 9 AM



SCAN THE QR CODE TO REGISTER OR  
EMAIL [GREG.BLICK@HO-CHUNK.COM](mailto:GREG.BLICK@HO-CHUNK.COM)

**NATIVE AMERICAN**  
*Song & Dance Showcase*  
*Celebrating Culture in Motion at Ho-Chunk Gaming Nekoosa.*  
**Saturday, November 15**

**Native American Dance Performance:**  
**1PM & 3PM**

**MC:** Dylan Prescott  
**Drum:** Bearheart  
Native American Craft Vendors and Food Stand **11AM - 4PM**

**Hand Drum Contest: (21+) 2PM**  
1st \$500 | 2nd \$300 | 3rd \$200  
**Specials (21+):**  
Best Moccasin  
Best Ribbon Shirt/Skirt

**FREE EVENT**  
*Public Welcome | Family Friendly*

**HO-CHUNK GAMING**  
NEKOOSA

Vendor Contact: [Karen.Roy@Ho-Chunk.com](mailto:Karen.Roy@Ho-Chunk.com)(715)886-4560 ext. 28232





HO-CHUNK NATION DIVISION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
W9814 Airport Rd. PO Box 667, Black River Falls, WI 54615

**FAMILIES OF ACTIVE-DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS**

Concerns have been brought to our attention as active-duty military members continue to work but are not receiving pay. While a paycheck was issued on October 1, 2025 for the prior pay period, the October 15 check has been affected. Service members will not be paid again until Congress passes new appropriations legislation. Their pay is delayed and they are entitled to back pay once funding is restored. In the meantime, please refer to financial assistance below.

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:**

- If the service member uses Navy Federal Credit Union as their financial institution they can apply for Government Shutdown assistance. The assistance will have NFCU front the usual check from DFAS and wait to be reimbursed from the back payment. Additionally, USAA has a similar program with a no-interest, no-fee loan if they use them.
- Unfortunately, if the service member uses a hometown bank, then they may want to look towards Fleet and Family to see what kind of support they may have.
- Below I've added a link to a Task and Purpose article with helpful information to help service members through the shutdown.
- <https://taskandpurpose.com/news/military-shutdown-financial-help/>
- **Military Aid Societies:** Each branch of the armed forces has an aid society that provides interest-free loans and grants to active-duty service members and their families in financial need. These organizations are prepared to assist during a shutdown.
  - Air Force Aid Society
  - Army Emergency Relief
  - Coast Guard Mutual Assistance
  - Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society
- **Military Credit Unions:** Financial institutions that serve the military community, such as Navy Federal Credit Union and USAA, typically offer low- or no-interest loans to help cover missed paychecks during a shutdown.
- **Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW):** The VFW provides financial grants to active-duty service members and their families experiencing unexpected hardship due to military service, though they note they cannot assist with shutdown-related pay issues on a large scale.
- **American Red Cross Hero Care:** This program can help connect military families with financial aid from the military relief societies.
- **Blue Star Families:** Their website maintains a shutdown resource hub with links to aid programs and local services.

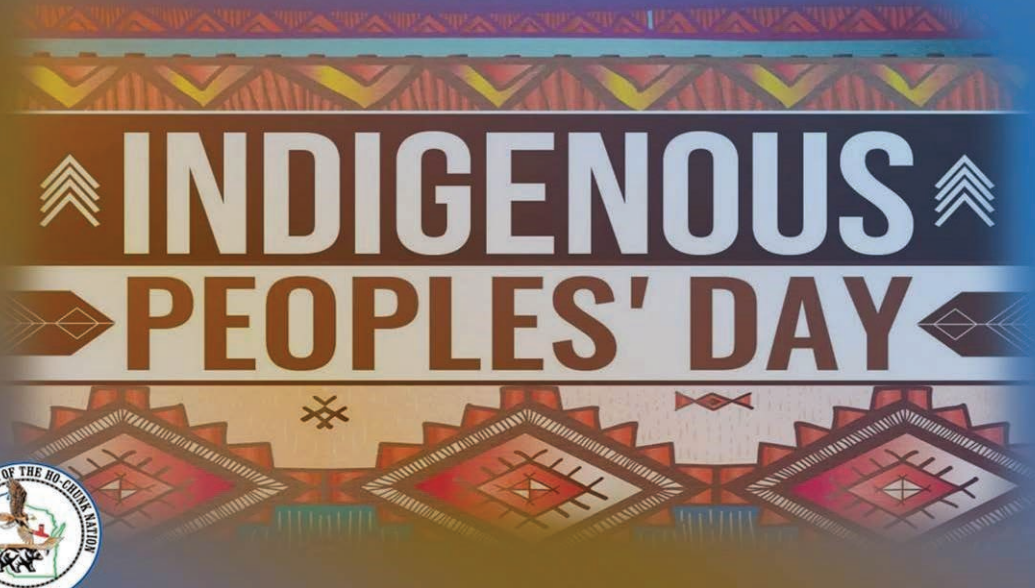


Dawson McAndrew  
Veterans Service Officer (USMC)  
Ho-Chunk Nation  
Division of Veterans Affairs



1-800-294-9343 • 715-284-4563

*In Observation of Indigenous Peoples Day,  
All Ho-Chunk Governmental buildings will  
be closed October 13<sup>th</sup> 2025*



**INDIGENOUS  
PEOPLES' DAY**



Serve. Advocate. Protect.



### Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court Lay Advocate Training 2025:

The Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court is offering a unique training opportunity to prepare individuals to represent people in tribal court.

Lay Advocate training will be held from 9:00am to 4:30 pm on October 6 — October 9, 2025.

A **lay advocate** helps people who have cases or matters in tribal court. Lay advocates should have a basic understanding of trial skills and legal principles in order to assist individuals in tribal justice systems.

Lay Advocates are **not** licensed attorneys.

Contact Senior Staff Attorney Naomi Whitehead at [Naomi.Whitehead@ho-chunk.com](mailto:Naomi.Whitehead@ho-chunk.com) for more information or to apply.

Attendees must apply by October 1, 2025.

The Ho-Chunk Nation Supreme Court is charged with admitting qualified individuals to the Ho-Chunk Nation Bar Association. Upon completion of this training, Lay Advocates shall be required to apply for admission to the bar and will be evaluated on an individual basis.



**4 Day Lay Advocate Training:**

**Monday, Oct. 6 -**

**Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025**

**9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. MTW & 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. TH**

**\*All 4 days mandatory & TH in person attendance required.**

#### Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court

W9598 Hwy. 54 East  
P.O. Box 70  
Black River Falls, WI 54615

Phone: (715) 284-2722  
Fax: (715) 284-3136  
<http://www.ho-chunknation.com>



Tomah JOM, Title VI Indian Education and Ahuco Headstart  
Parent Committee  
Present the Tomah Area

**TRUNK  
OR  
TREAT**

Come and Join Us!  
**Friday October 24<sup>th</sup>**  
**3:00PM-6:00PM**

**Bluewing Community Building  
324 Epinal Ave Tomah, WI 54660**



**Contact Andrea McCaskey 608-343-1171**

**Attention: The Next Deadline of the Hocak Worak will be October 17th which will be published on October 24th. Please contact Hocak Worak at ext. 11004 if you have a change of address or would like to be placed on the mailing list.**

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

The Hocak Worak encourages the submission of letters to the Editor. All letters must include the signature, address and telephone number of the author. Letters are subject to editing for grammar, length, malicious and libelous content.

The Hocak Worak reserves the right to reject any advertising, material, or letters submitted for publication. The submission of articles, poetry, artwork and photos is encouraged. The Editor makes the sole decision of what is published in the Hocak Worak. The Hocak Worak will not assume any responsibility for unsolicited material.

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

**HOC AK WORAK NEWSLETTER**  
P.O. Box 667, Black River Falls, WI 54615

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- **FAX:** (715) 284-7852
- EMAIL:** [newsletter@ho-chunk.com](mailto:newsletter@ho-chunk.com)
- **ONLINE:** [www.ho-chunknation.com](http://www.ho-chunknation.com)

**www.hocakworak.com**



**2016  
BETTER NEWSPAPER  
CONTEST AWARD  
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WISCONSIN NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

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



The Hocak Worak is a member of:  
**Indigenous Journalists Association**

**INDIGENOUS  
Journalists Association**

# Princeton Wisconsin Historical Society Hosts Re-Opening of their Folklore Museum

Submitted by Chris Goulet of the Princeton Historical Society

On Sunday, September 14, 2025 the Princeton Wisconsin Historical Society had a Grand Re-Opening of their Folklore Museum, after being closed for two years for expansion. Another 1100 square feet of museum space was added, which includes twelve new permanent exhibits. One of the new exhibits focuses on Pre-Princeton history and the inhabitants of the Princeton area prior to it becoming a city in 1848. The Princeton Historical Society is very committed to honoring and representing the culture of the Indigenous populations native to our area. With the Pre-Princeton exhibit, we hope to share their stories and lifestyles of the past as well as the future.

We are particularly in awe of the most beautiful black ash baskets that are handwoven by the Ho-Chunk Nation basket makers of Wisconsin. We are very fortunate to have met basket weaver, Kimberly Crowley. She came to the Folklore Museum in 2024 and brought her beautiful baskets. She shared her story about the resilience of this timeless craft and how she carries on a family legacy that has supported generations. To help honor the Ho-Chunk Nation basket weaving heritage, our museum purchased baskets that were made by Kimberly Crowley; her brother, Sidney Hall Jr.; her son, Thomas Crowley; and her two granddaughters, Brooklyn and Ariel Awonohopay. We are proud to display this generational collection as a permanent display in our museum. Kimberly and her family were invited to our recent Grand Re-opening and were very proud to see their baskets displayed in our Pre-Princeton exhibit. Young Ariel was particularly excited to know that her basket will be permanently on display for many generations to come!

We are saddened by the impact that the Emerald Ash Borer has had on the intricately

woven works of art. We plan to tell this story as well as show the Discover Wisconsin video, *Weaving Tradition: Ho-Chunk Nation's Basket Makers*, on our computer screen in the Pre-Princeton exhibit. Please come visit! The Princeton Historical Society hopes to continue to maintain a relationship with the Ho-Chunk Nation so that we can respectfully honor more of their culture and heritage in our museum.

The Princeton Folklore Museum is located at 630 W. Water St, in Princeton, WI and open from 11am-3pm on Saturdays from April through October, as well as by appointment by calling 920-295-9008. Follow us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/princetonhistoricalsociety/> and on our Web page: <https://princetonwihistoricalociety.org/>.



Kimberly Crowley and her granddaughter, Ariel Awonohopay, pose for a photo next to their baskets that are permanently on display at the Princeton Folklore Museum.

### Student of The Month

### October 2025

## Tiffany King-Youngthunder



**Chippewa Valley Technical College**  
**Parents: Sara WhiteEagle & Timothy King**

Tiffany is a true example of perseverance and dedication. In her first semester pursuing her Associate's Degree, she earned a spot on the President's List and continues to maintain straight A's. She is approaching 18 months of sobriety and will graduate from Drug Court on October 8th. Tiffany has also secured full-time employment, regained her driver's license, and moved into a new home while preparing to welcome another child. Her hard work and determination inspire her family and community.

*"When one person grows stronger, the whole circle benefits. Tiffany's journey uplifts us all."*

### Student of The Month

### October 2025

## Twyla Perez



**1<sup>st</sup> Grade - Herman Elementary**  
**Parents: Hailey Whitegull & Santino Perez**

Twyla is recognized for winning an award during her school's Character Strong Respect lesson. In her first month at a new school, she has shown kindness, growth, and respect while excelling in her academics. She enjoys bike rides with her family, playing T-ball, taking Polaroid pictures, and doing at-home science experiments. Twyla is also a talented artist, with three of her art pieces displayed at the public library and post office. Her creativity, positivity, and respectful character make her a wonderful role model!

### Student of The Month

### October 2025

## Kaius Simmons -

## Huuc Coo



**8<sup>th</sup> Grade - Black River Falls Middle School**  
**Parents: Martie Simmons & John Simmons**

Kaius has been recognized as our Science Scholar of the Month! He brings positivity and enthusiasm to the classroom, making science both fun and engaging for everyone.

**Academics:** He consistently shows curiosity in science, sharing thoughtful ideas and working well with classmates during investigations.

**Activities:** Kaius enjoys basketball, football, gaming online, and spending time with friends.

## Wii Te'e Waagax Haraja Ee

## Warupj Wa'ujee

# STUDENT OF THE MONTH

## NOMINATE A STUDENT OF THE MONTH

We are proud to recognize **three** outstanding Ho-Chunk students each month in our Student Spotlight!

**Who Can Be Nominated?**

All Ho-Chunk students — any age, any grade, any level of education (Head Start, Elementary, Middle School, High School, Home School, and Post-Secondary).

**What We Celebrate**

Academic achievements (Honor Roll, Dean's/President's List), Student-athletes & extracurricular achievements. Volunteer work & community service. Leadership & contributions to school or family. College acceptances & future goals. Everyday efforts that inspire others.

**Where Will They Be Featured?**

- \*Ho-Chunk Nation Social Media.
- \* Education Department Spotlight Wall.
- \*Hocąk Worak (monthly feature).

**How to Nominate**

It's quick and easy! Fill out our form here: <https://form.jotform.com/250025400580038>

**Questions? Email us at:**

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



Open to all Ages

Logo Design Contest

Winner will receive \$100 Gift Card



HO-CHUNK NATION CLAN MOTHERS

Mission Statement: To positively impact safety issues and focus on the well-being of families and children eligible for prevention, at-risk and protective services.

To engage the family in defining the skills and services they need to strengthen and stabilize their family according to Ho-Chunk tradition and customs.

To break the cycle of generational enabling and create opportunities for change within the redefined family system

PLEASE SUBMIT ANY QUESTIONS & ALL ENTRIES TO: HCNCLANMOTHERS@HO-CHUNK.COM BY 4:30 PM ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2025

Bet on Life. Roll Up Your Sleeve, Save up to 3 Lives!



DONATE BLOOD WITH THE American Red Cross

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28 11:30am - 5:30pm | Lower Dells Ballroom by Atrium

All presenting donors will receive a \$10-merchandise gift card via email, \$15 Rewards Play, coupon for a pint of Culvers custard, a delicious meal PLUS a chance to win one of three \$5,000 PRIZES!

APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED

CALL 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767)

VISIT RedCrossBlood.org Sponsor Code: Casino



HO-CHUNK GAMING WISCONSIN DELLS

Area IV Ho-Chunk Nation HALLOWEEN SCRAP BOO KING

Wednesday October 22nd & 29th 2025 5:00pm-7:30pm

Ho-Chunk Nation Chicago Branch Office 4738 N Milwaukee Ave Chicago, IL 60630

Bring your pics & come scrap with us! Everyone is Welcome to Attend!

Sponsored By Ho-Chunk Nation Area IV Youth

Info? Contact Dorothy@715-284-7894 or dorothy.ramirez@ho-chunk.com

Tomah Youth & Learning Center HALLOWEEN Party

October 24th 2025

Meal@5:30PM Grand Entry@6:30PM

Potluck- please bring a side or salad Main dish and drinks provided

Prizes for most original, scariest, funniest costumes ages 6-11, 12-17, 18+

You're invited to the Teejop Hocira HALLOWEEN PARTY

TACO BAR, HAUNTED MAZE, PRIZE CONTESTS AND MORE

October 17, 2025 5-8pm

Costumes are encouraged! Any guest in costume will receive a goodie bag!

4724 Tradewinds Parkway Madison, WI 53718

Contact: Cher.Laubmeier@Ho-Chunk.com (608)-277-9964 ext 13222 Mya.Estebo@Ho-Chunk.com (608)-277-9964 ext 13221

HALLOWEEN PARTY AT HO-CHUNK NATION CHICAGO BRANCH OCTOBER 30th, 2025 5PM-7:30

RSVP IS REQUIRED, THANK YOU!



FOOD & REFRESHMENTS

HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST 1st PLACE \$25 2nd \$15 3rd \$10

FAMILY HALLOWEEN PRIZE BINGO!

AND MUCH MORE!

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND.



CONTACT DOROTHY RAMIREZ TO RSVP 715-284-7894-EXT. 11502 CELL: 312-995-3745 4738 N. MILWAUKEE AVE CHICAGO, IL 60630

2025 HO-CHUNK NATION GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

KALAHARI RESORTS & CONVENTION CENTER – BARABOO, WI

September 20, 2025

- I. **ROLL CALL:** Quorum is established through registration with 1293 registered at time of roll call. (1290 tribal members required for quorum)
- II. **SELECTION OF PRESIDING CHAIRMAN:**  
Ho-Chunk Nation President, Jon Greendeer respectfully declined to chair the meeting.

Gloria Visitin #3116 moved to open the floor for Chairperson nominations. Seconded by Anna Salinas #1974

Joyce Warner #2431 nominates Kurt Hopinka. Seconded by Toree Jones #1278

Martha Simmons #4028 Nominates John Stacy. Seconded by Kathy DeCamp #2122

Waylon Pettibone #5067 Nominates Sugar Bear (Forrest McKee). Seconded by Corey Hindsley #3888

Elijah Leonard #3892 Nominates Nathaniel Longtail. Seconded by Elisha Leonard #7692

Valerie Kempen #0442 Moves to close nominations. Seconded by Unga Stacy #2516

**Discussion:** Tara Chapman #0010 stated that she believes nominations should be open for a set amount of time, so nominations should not be closed yet. Tara Chapman #0010 Nominated Wilfrid Cleveland. Seconded by Richard Walker #2420

Emcee Nathaniel Longtail stated that there was a motion on the floor to close nominations prior to the motion nominating Wilfrid Cleveland as Chair.

VOTE TO CLOSE NOMINATIONS:

| YES OR ACCEPT  | NO OR REJECT | ABSTAIN | TOTAL VOTES |
|----------------|--------------|---------|-------------|
| 726            | 237          | 54      | 1017        |
| MOTION CARRIED |              |         |             |

VOTE WAS TAKEN TO SELECT THE CHAIRMAN FOR THE 2025 GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING:

- RESULTS:**
- |                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| 1. Kirk Hopinka | 231 |
| 2. John Stacy   | 402 |

- |                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| 3. Forest McKee       | 376         |
| 4. Nathaniel Longtail | 328         |
| <b>TOTAL VOTES:</b>   | <b>1337</b> |

John Stacy was selected as General Council Chairman for the 2025 General Council Meeting.

Chairperson – John Stacy #2118  
Secretary – Margaret Garvin #5936  
Sgt At Arms – Harrison Funmaker

- III. **OPENING PRAYER:** Prayer was offered by Chief Clayton Winneshiek
- IV. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The General Council meeting minutes were previously ratified, posted and accepted.
- V. **REPORTS:**  

1. Legislative Branch – Presentation by VP Lambert Cleveland.

2. Judiciary Branch – Chief Justice Jodeen Lowe verbal update.

3. Executive Branch – President Jon Greendeer verbal update.
- VI. **AGENDA:**

**Motion by:** Nathaniel Longtail #2830 To establish the agenda and add resolution to begin Constitutional Reform procedures. **Seconded by** Gloria Visitin #3116.

GENERAL COUNCIL VOTES TO APPROVE THE AGENDA:

| YES OR ACCEPT  | NO OR REJECT | ABSTAIN | TOTAL VOTES |
|----------------|--------------|---------|-------------|
| 1066           | 209          | 89      | 1364        |
| MOTION CARRIED |              |         |             |

**Discussion**  
*Gloria Visitin #3116:* Opposes amending the agenda. No other resolutions were submitted within the 90 days, the only resolution that was submitted should be on the agenda which is one agenda item.

*Saresa Ryckman #3305:* Wanted to address the procedural issue with Mr. Longtail's motion. It directed the General Council to establish a submission deadline but it did not restrict the General Council from accepting resolutions on the day of the annual general council meeting. There were no modifications to the General Council Meeting Procedures in the resolution. The current copy of the meeting procedure does not reflect any change in requiring a deadline in advance of a general council meeting. Therefore, per the Ho-Chunk Nation constitution, Article IV Section 3. (d) The General Council retains its power to establish its own procedures in accordance to the Constitution.

**Motion by:** Saresa Ryckman #3305 to suspend GC Resolution (09-21-2024N) until for the remainder of the annual General Council meeting. **Seconded by:** Nathaniel Longtail #2830.

**Discussion:**  
*Nathaniel Longtail #2830:* Asked what the parameters of the suspension were.

*Jon Warner #2430:* Is in concurrence so in the future resolutions can still be added and to move forward with the motion.

*Saresa Ryckman #3305:* Withdraws her motion.

**Motion by:** Marlys Whiteagle #2551 To amend the agenda and to add the Elite Elder Payout. **Seconded by:** Miriam Whiteagle #4221.

**Discussion**  
*Nathaniel Longtail #2830* Amend motion for the Elite Elder Payout to include all tribal members so there is no age discrimination and it's not just for the elders.

*Marlys Whiteagle #2551* Rebuttals Nathaniel's address to only target elite elders and will not change her motion.

**Motion by:** Joyce Warner #2431 Add to the agenda a resolution in support for 501.C(3)s that are owned by Ho-Chunk people. **Seconded by:** Aneesha Decorah #5737

**Motion by:** Cindy Tack #2630 For Ho-Chunk Nation to pay for legal fees for the enforcement of General Council Resolutions. **Seconded by:** Myrna Littlewolf #1514.

**Motion by:** Jon Warner #2430 To amend the agenda to add a resolution for a Constitutional convention to update the Ho-Chunk Nation Constitution. **Seconded by:** Joyce Warner #2431

GENERAL COUNCIL VOTES TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO ADD RESOLUTIONS:

| YES OR ACCEPT   | NO OR REJECT | ABSTAIN | TOTAL VOTES |
|-----------------|--------------|---------|-------------|
| 576             | 760          | 103     | 1439        |
| MOTION DEFEATED |              |         |             |

**Motion by:** Nathaniel Longtail #2830 To adopt 9-20-2025-1 to accept Constitutional Reform. **Seconded by:** Gloria Visitin #3116

Discussion

*Marlys Whiteagle #2551:* There is no need for a resolution as it was already accepted. GCA (General Council Agency) was already established. It was never erased and feels it's outdated.

1. GENERAL COUNCIL VOTES FOR CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM PROCEDURES TO ADOPT 9-20-2025-1

| YES OR ACCEPT   | NO OR REJECT | ABSTAIN | TOTAL VOTES |
|-----------------|--------------|---------|-------------|
| 522             | 662          | 226     | 1370        |
| MOTION DEFEATED |              |         |             |

**Motion By:** Nathaniel Longtail #2830 To adjourn. **Seconded by:** Valerie Kempen #0442

**Discussion**  
*Henry Whitethunder #2619:* The deadline of July 22, 2025 was not met. He never received anything in writing at the Office of General Council.

*Hattie Walker #2408:* Vote NO for adjournment.

*Wetha Montelongo #5309:* Why are we adjourning? We have items to discuss.

*Janine Hefner #1145:* States she was in the hospital for a while. She never got a return call from the Office of General Council. She says she called 2 weeks straight.

*Tracy Littlejohn #1490:* Wants the resolutions to be printed. The agenda is too short. We need to get things done. Do not adjourn.

GENERAL COUNCIL VOTES TO ADJOURN

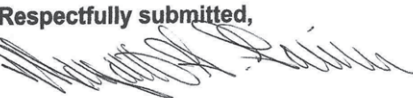
| YES OR ACCEPT  | NO OR REJECT | ABSTAIN | TOTAL VOTES |
|----------------|--------------|---------|-------------|
| 855            | 507          | 71      | 1433        |
| MOTION CARRIED |              |         |             |

**Announcements:**  
Veterans and Disabled please use the far-left door to receive your payouts.

*Rita Gardner #0346:* Please take a moment to vote in the Secretarial Election before you leave. The Election Board will be available for voting up to 2 hours after adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 3:12 pm

Colors were retired by American Legion Sanford WhiteEagle Post 556

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Margaret G. Garvin #5936  
Recording Secretary

# Ho-Chunk Nation Kicks Off Domestic Violence Awareness Month with 5K Color Fun Run/Walk

Kaili Berg

The Ho-Chunk Nation came together on Saturday, October 4, for the annual 5K Color Fun Run/Walk at the Chak Ha Chee Community Center for the observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM).

Participants walked and ran along the colorful route to the theme “Every1KnowsSome1,” a campaign slogan emphasizing that domestic violence affects people across all communities and backgrounds.

The event kicked off at 9:00 a.m. with registration and community information tables, followed by the 5K Color Fun Run/Walk at 10:30 a.m. Lunch was provided, along with a DVAM presentation highlighting the Nation’s ongoing efforts to support survivors and promote prevention.

Door prizes and contests wrapped up the day, with the grand prize being two Green Bay Packers tickets to the Nov. 23 game against the Minnesota Vikings at Lambeau Field.

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV), 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men in the United States have experienced



some form of physical violence by an intimate partner.

For Native communities, the rates are even higher; studies from the National Institute of Justice show that more than 4 in 5 Native women (84%) have experienced violence in their lifetime.

Domestic violence is not only a personal issue but a public health crisis. It affects children, families, and communities, often leading to cycles of trauma that can span generations.

Throughout October, the Ho-Chunk Nation’s Domestic Violence Community Education program will host additional outreach activities and educational sessions under the campaign hashtag #HoChunkDVAM25.

The initiative encourages community members to get involved, volunteer, and learn how to recognize and respond to signs of abuse.



# INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 13TH

### Daytime Events

Various Locations

9:30-10:00 a.m. Mayoral Proclamation & Ho-Chunk President Jon Greendeer Welcome at the Nature Place Patio

10 a.m.-3 p.m. Hinukwaseja Trolley Tours at Myrick Park (pick up and drop off location)

10 a.m. Caabna (Lacrosse) Tournament at Myrick Park

11 a.m.-3 p.m. Activities, Vendors, Education at Myrick Park & The Nature Place

### Evening Program

UWL - Bluffs Ballroom

3:30-5 p.m. Vendors, Community Tables, & Tours of the Hinukwas Tree Trail

5 p.m. Welcome

5:30-7:30 p.m. Community Dinner & Entertainment

Irene Keenan Jr. Waąksikra Voices ("Voices of the People") & Hoocak Dancers

7:30 p.m. Keynote Speaker: Amy Lonetree

Presented by the UWL Birchler Lecture Series

**THANK YOU TO OUR ADDITIONAL SPONSORS**

City of La Crosse, Emplify Health by Gundersen, Mayo Clinic Health System, Franciscan Spirituality Center, La Crosse Community Foundation, UWL, Birchler Lecture Fund, Dairyland Power, Great Lakes Cheese

Contact: [ipdplanning.lacrosse@gmail.com](mailto:ipdplanning.lacrosse@gmail.com)

# Monona Indigenous Roots Dinner to Celebrate Ho-Chunk Culture and Community Partnerships

Monona, WI — Oct 8, 2025 — This November, the City of Monona will honor the living heritage of the Ho-Chunk Nation and other Indigenous peoples through a powerful evening of culture, connection, and community.

The Monona Indigenous Roots Dinner will take place on Saturday, November 15, 2025, from 3:00–7:00 PM at the Aldo Leopold Nature Center. The event is a fundraiser for Ho-Chunk cultural initiatives, organized by Discover Monona and Aldo Leopold Nature Center, and presented through the generous sponsorship of the Ho-Chunk Nation.

Honoring the Four Directions

The evening will begin outdoors with the unveiling of a new statue honoring the Ho-Chunk people — past, present, and future. This east-facing statue will be the first in The Four Directions Project, a multi-year effort to install four statues in different area locations to symbolize balance, connection, and the enduring presence of Indigenous voices in the region.

A Celebration Through Food, Song, and Story

Following the unveiling, guests will gather inside the Nature Center for a multicourse meal prepared by Chef Lightning The Earth New Rider, whose heritage includes Ho-Chunk, Oneida, Pawnee, Ojibwe, and Arikara ancestry. The dinner will feature remarks and blessings from local government leaders, Ho-Chunk Nation officials, and respected elders.

Musical performances by the Little Thunder Drum Group, will fill the space with the sound of traditional drumming, singing, and dancing — creating a deeply immersive and moving cultural

experience.

Supporting Cultural Revitalization

Proceeds from the dinner and accompanying silent auction will directly support future Ho-Chunk cultural programming and language and cultural revitalization initiatives.

“This event is more than a dinner,” said Laura Hofstee, Tourism Coordinator. “It’s an opportunity for our community to come together in celebration, respect, and gratitude — and to invest in the cultural

vitality that makes our region so special.”

Event Details

Date: Saturday, November 15, 2025

Time: 3:00–7:00 PM

Location: Aldo Leopold Nature Center, Monona, WI

Tickets & Information: <https://discovermonona.com/monona-indigenous-roots-dinner/>

Proceeds benefit Ho-Chunk cultural initiatives and The Four Directions Project.



# MONONA INDIGENOUS ROOTS DINNER

Celebrating Ho-Chunk Heritage: A Fundraiser for Cultural Preservation

Saturday, November 15  
at Aldo Leopold Nature Center

# WAAGAX WAA'E HIT

## BOOK DISCUSSION

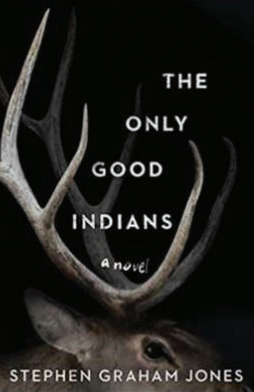
- OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup> 6PM-8PM
- OCTOBER 21<sup>ST</sup> 6PM-8PM
- OCTOBER 28<sup>TH</sup> 6PM-8PM

○ VIRTUAL OR IN-PERSON AVAILABLE

### PREREGISTRATION REQUIRED!

CONTACT LUCAS QUACKENBUSH TO SIGN UP:

- 715-284-0905 X 15230
- LUCAS.QUACKENBUSH@HO-CHUNK.COM



THE ONLY GOOD INDIANS  
A NOVEL  
STEPHEN GRAHAM JONES



Waagax Hakiwaxaxara Hosto  
Hoocg Community Library



## PUBLIC STATEMENT FROM THE HO-CHUNK NATION

On behalf of the Ho-Chunk Nation, we offer our deepest condolences. Mr. Ernie Stevens Jr. has left a lifelong imprint on the progress of Indian Country. Guided by the strong legacy of leadership from his father figures and the wisdom of the matriarchs of his family, he embodied a spirit of service that uplifted all Native Nations.

The selfless time and tireless work he devoted to strengthening Indian Country cannot be overstated. His unwavering advocacy for Native peoples and the sovereign rights of our Nations is immeasurable—and even in his passing, his influence endures.

The Ho-Chunk Nation extends our deepest gratitude for Ernie's lifetime of dedication, and we offer our heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and all who had the honor of working alongside him.

We join together in embracing and celebrating the immense contributions he shared with the world.

## IMPORTANT:

### Updates to the Financial Literacy Program

The Ho-Chunk Nation Education Department is excited to announce that we will be rolling out new online financial literacy courses. Starting January 1, 2026 we will be adding four additional courses to our award-winning Ho-Chunk Financial Literacy Program.

**What this means for Ho-Chunk Youth**

If you have not completed your program before the new roll out, you will be required to complete the additional four courses. Ho-Chunk youth are required to complete the program in order to receive their trust prior to age 25.

|                                        | Complete Program in 2025 | Complete Program in 2026 |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| # of courses                           | 14                       | 18                       |
| Final exam questions                   | 70                       | 90                       |
| Meets NEW State of Wisconsin Standards | NO                       | YES                      |

*(Please contact your school regarding Act 60 for personal financial literacy. Our program may be able to fulfill that .5 credit requirement)*

NEW: Money Explained: From Coins to Crypto  
NEW: Making a Major Purchase  
NEW: Debt Management  
NEW: How your Trust Fund Works

If you or your student has any questions regarding the roll out, please contact the Department of Education at 1.715.284.4915 or email [honoryourfuture@ho-chunk.com](mailto:honoryourfuture@ho-chunk.com)

## Community Health Foot Clinics

### October 2025



**Black River Falls - 10/6, 10/16, 10/22**  
Community Health Office  
W9850 Airport Road  
(715) 896-1343

**10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**  
A Registered Nurse will clip/file your nails, and dremel if necessary. For ingrown toenail removal, please contact podiatry.

**Tomah - 10/7**  
Tribal Aging Unit  
358 Eos Road  
(608) 372-5202

**Nekoosa - 10/23**  
Nekoosa Health Office  
1021 County Road G  
(715) 886-5444

**La Crosse - 10/14**  
Three Rivers House  
724 Main Street  
(608) 783-6025

**Madison - 10/28**  
Branch Office  
4724 Tradewinds Pkwy  
(608) 277-9964

**Wisconsin Dells - 10/21**  
House Of Wellness  
S2845 White Eagle Road  
(608) 355-1240 x35509

**Wittenberg - 10/28**  
Tribal Aging Unit  
W17956 Wittbirn Towline Rd  
(715) 701-2069

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

9.29.25 MBH

# OCTOBER

# 2025

## 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                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <b>PURCHASED REFFERED CARE</b><br>Oct 15th & Oct 22nd |                   | 1<br><b>WITTENBERG DISTRIBUTION</b><br>10:30 AM- 12:30 PM<br>Nutrition Booth- <b>KATHY</b> | 2<br>OPEN<br>BRF  | 3<br>OPEN<br>BRF                                  |
| 6<br>OPEN<br>BRF                                      | 7<br>OPEN<br>BRF  | 8<br><b>WIS DELLS DISTRIBUTION</b><br>10 AM- 1:30 PM<br>Nutrition Booth- <b>ALEX</b>       | 9<br>OPEN<br>BRF  | 10<br><b>WI DELLS HOME DELIVERIES</b><br>OPEN BRF |
| 13<br><b>CLOSED</b><br>Indigenous Peoples' Day        | 14<br>OPEN<br>BRF | 15<br><b>TOMAH DISTRIBUTION</b><br>12N- 1:00                                               | 16<br>OPEN<br>BRF | 17<br><b>LA CROSSE PICKUPS</b><br>OPEN BRF        |
| 20<br>OPEN<br>BRF                                     | 21<br>OPEN<br>BRF | 22<br><b>NEKOOSA DISTRIBUTION</b><br>12N-1:00 PM<br>Nutrition Booth - <b>Alex</b>          | 23<br>OPEN<br>BRF | 24<br><b>CLOSED SHIPMENT</b>                      |
| 27<br>OPEN<br>BRF<br>Nutrition Booth - <b>Kathy</b>   | 28<br>OPEN<br>BRF | 29<br><b>CLOSED ALL STAFF</b>                                                              | 30<br>OPEN<br>BRF | 31<br><b>CLOSED INVENTORY</b>                     |

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



## All Ho-Chunk Nation Health Buildings will be CLOSED

### Monday October 13th

For the observance of

## HO-CHUNK NATION INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY

**PLEASE PLAN ACCORDINGLY FOR MEDICATION REFILLS**

**IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY CALL 911**

# Ho-Chunk Nation Honors the Life and Legacy of Ernie Stevens Jr.

**Kaili Berg**  
Ernest “Ernie” L. “Big Cat” Stevens Jr., a prominent figure in Indian Country, passed away on September 26, 2025, at the age of 66.  
He leaves behind a legacy of advocacy, leadership, and service that transformed the landscape of Indigenous sovereignty and tribal governance.  
A citizen of the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin, Stevens rose to national prominence as Chairman of the Indian Gaming Association (IGA), a position he held for more than 25 years.  
Throughout his tenure, he worked to defend and expand the rights of tribal governments through gaming, protecting sovereignty, strengthening economies, and advancing intertribal collaboration.  
“He connected with people, he unified people, that’s classic Ernie,” one speaker said during memorial services held at Oneida Nation Elementary School, where

hundreds gathered to honor his life and contributions.  
His leadership of the IGA was marked by dedication to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA) and the protection of tribal self-governance. When he took the role in 2000, tribal gaming revenues stood around \$11 billion; by 2024, they had reached \$43.9 billion.  
He was instrumental in building strong partnerships with Congress, the Department of the Interior, and the National Indian Gaming Commission, ensuring tribes maintained authority over their own enterprises. Through his guidance, the IGA became a model for how Native nations could define success on their own terms.  
In recognition of his lifelong commitment to strengthening Indian Country, the Ho-Chunk Nation released a statement honoring Stevens’ impact and expressing deep gratitude for his service:  
“On behalf of the Ho-Chunk

Nation, we offer our deepest condolences. Mr. Ernie Stevens Jr. has left a lifelong imprint on the progress of Indian Country. Guided by the strong legacy of leadership from his father figures and the wisdom of the matriarchs of his family, he embodied a spirit of service that uplifted all Native Nations.  
The selfless time and tireless work he devoted to strengthening Indian Country cannot be overstated. His unwavering advocacy for Native peoples and the sovereign rights of our Nations is immeasurable, and even in his passing, his influence endures.  
The Ho-Chunk Nation extends our deepest gratitude for Ernie’s lifetime of dedication, and we offer our heartfelt condolences to his family, friends, and all who had the honor of working alongside him. We join together in embracing and celebrating the immense contributions he shared with the world.”



(Photo Courtesy: Indian Gaming Association)

Beyond his professional roles, Stevens was a veteran, husband, father, and mentor. He served on numerous boards, including the Nike N7 Foundation, Center for Native American Youth, and the Boys & Girls Clubs of America Native Advisory Board, always advocating for Indigenous youth and future

generations.  
He also held positions with the National Congress of American Indians and served as a councilman for the Oneida Nation from 1993 to 1999. Colleagues remembered him for his humor, humility, and unwavering belief in the power of tribal unity.

# Tracy Thundercloud Takes Oath of Office

**Ardith Van Riper**  
Wednesday, October 8, the Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board hosted an Oath of Office Ceremony for the newly elected Tracy Thundercloud at the Tribal Office Building near Black River Falls, WI. Mr. Thundercloud brings a wealth of knowledge and history of the Ho-Chunk Nation with him.  
Mr. Thundercloud was a former Legislator and

Executive Director of multiple departments of the Ho-Chunk Nation. He is now the Representative for the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature District 1, Seat 2.  
Matthew Mann was the Master of Ceremonies. The Bearheart singers rendered honor songs throughout the morning. The Andrew Blackhawk Legion 129 and Auxiliary Post 129 posted the colors.  
Traditional Chief Clayton

Winneshiek offered a word of prayer. The Ho-Chunk Nation President, Jon Greendeer, expressed some opening remarks.  
The Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board Chairperson Weeta Montelongo administered the oath of office.  
The Election Board provided refreshments and family of Tracy Thundercloud offered some food for those in attendance.



*Continued from Page 1*  
Walkways and hallways are all equipped with safety illumination. The electrical has been updated.  
“It’s like breathing life back into community, back into the movie theatre,” said Andrea Estebo, the Theater Manager.  
The Cinema is inclusive and respectful to those who may need special accommodations, being wheelchair accessible. Specialty food trays that can fit most wheelchairs are available at the concession stand.  
New projectors with laser projection have been

installed and are ready for use in all auditoriums. Dolby subwoofers enhance the sound.  
The concession stand offers soda, water, Frosty Icee drinks, candy, popcorn, hot dogs, pizzas, pretzel bites, nachos, and, new to the menu, walking tacos. Throw blankets will also be available for purchase.  
Twelve new video games in the lobby add to the fun.  
A soft opening is scheduled later in October 2025.  
Ho-Chunk Cinema is located at 135 Wittig Road, Tomah, WI.



Garrick "Kunu" D. Cleveland Jr.

April 2, 1991 - September 28, 2025



Garrick “Kunu” Cleveland, Jr. Walking Bear – Huuc Maani, age 34, of Lyndon Station, Wisconsin walked on Sunday, September 28, 2025.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, October 1, 2025 at 12:00 P.M. at the Native American Church

in Wisconsin Dells with Dashell Thunder officiating. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 30th at the church beginning at 3:00 P.M. Burial will be at Spring Grove Cemetery in Wisconsin Dells, WI.

Kunu was born April 2, 1991 in Eau Claire, Wisconsin the son of Garrick Cleveland Sr. and Nelsena Deschamps.

Kunu is survived by his children Matthew and Miigwan Cleveland; his siblings, Timothy Deschamps, Ilena Lee Cleveland, Terrance Gene Cleveland, Delano Cleveland, David Cleveland, Buster Cleveland, Jackie Cleveland, Lucas Cleveland; stepmother, Danielle Lewis and grandmother, Annette Littlewolf. He is preceded by Gerald Cleveland Sr., Rick Cleveland Sr., Iris Cleveland, Jolie Cleveland, Dontay Cleveland, Jewel Houghton, Gerald Cleveland Jr., Brigitte Morris, Juanita Walker and Bonnie Smith.

Always in Our Hearts:

National Day of Remembrance for U.S. Indian Boarding School Survivors

Minneapolis, MN – In recognition of the National Day of Remembrance for U.S. Indian Boarding Schools, observed each year on September 30, the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (NABS) honors the lives of Native children taken from their families, remembers those who never returned home, and stands with survivors, their descendants, and Tribal Nations who continue to carry the weight of this history.

From the early 1800s through the mid-20th century, the U.S. Indian boarding school system sought to erase Native identity by forcibly removing children from their homes, languages, and cultures. Many endured neglect, abuse, and deep loss; thousands never made it back to their families. The generational trauma caused by these institutions continues to impact Native Nations today.

“We remember the children who never made it home, and we honor the survivors whose strength ensures their stories are not forgotten. They remain always in our hearts.” said NABS Chief Executive Officer Deborah Parker (Tulalip Tribes). “The Day of Remembrance brings us together to honor a painful history while reaffirming our collective commitment to truth, justice, and healing within our communities.”

As the Nation confronts this painful chapter in history, the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition urges all Americans to learn about the enduring impacts of the boarding school system and to actively support efforts that promote healing and justice for Native communities.

“We honor the lives forever impacted by this painful legacy, recognize the

courage and strength of Survivors and Native communities, and reaffirm our shared responsibility to support healing, truth, and understanding,” said NABS Board President, Chief Benjamin Barnes (Shawnee Tribe).

NABS encourages communities across the country to take part in events, conversations, and actions that promote truth, healing, and understanding. By coming together, we can honor survivors, amplify their voices, share their stories, and support their healing journeys. Below are five simple yet meaningful ways to observe the Day of Remembrance for Indian Boarding Schools (Orange Shirt Day):

1. Wear Orange – Put on an orange shirt to honor survivors and remember those who never came home. Share why you’re wearing it to spark conversations.
2. Learn and Share – Take time to learn about the history and impact of Indian boarding schools, then share resources or stories with friends, family, or on social media.
3. Support Survivors – Donate to the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (NABS) to help fund truth, healing, and justice efforts.
4. Create Space for Reflection – Observe a moment of silence, light a candle, or attend a remembrance event in your community.
5. Uplift Native Voices – Read books, listen to podcasts, or watch films created by Native authors and filmmakers, and recommend them to others.

To learn about the impact of U.S. Indian Boarding Schools, and to explore organizations, states, and communities that support and honor the Day of Remembrance, please visit [boardingschoolhealing.org](http://boardingschoolhealing.org).

Nyomi L. Ewack-Cleveland

April 22, 1991 - September 28, 2025

Nyomi Ewack-Cleveland, Kaag’i T’aaj ga, Flying South Raven Woman, age 34 of Baraboo, Wisconsin, walked on Sunday, September 28, 2025.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, October 1, 2025 at 12:00 P.M. at the Native American Church in Wisconsin Dells with Dashell Thunder officiating. Visitation will be held at the church on Tuesday, Sept. 30th beginning at 3:00 P.M. Burial will be at Spring Grove Cemetery in Wisconsin Dells, WI.

Nyomi was born April 22, 1991 in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, the daughter of Gerald Cleveland Jr. and Lisa Ewack.

She is survived by her siblings Courage Cleveland, Amber Cleveland, Chayna Lee Cleveland, Keanu Noon, Hockan Cleveland, Audris Cleveland, Myron Funmaker

and Cante Kirk. She is preceded by Gerald Cleveland Sr., Gerald Cleveland Jr., Garrick Cleveland Sr., Jolie Cleveland, brother Holy Bear Cleveland, Dontay Cleveland, Brigitte Morris, Robert Sunkawaste, Yvette Ewack and Trevor Ewack.



Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health

Let's Get Vaccinated!

Aara Wapoxwagigiwire

2025 Flu & COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics

*Includes influenza & 2025-2026 COVID-19 vaccine (Moderna SPIKEVAX) for adults.*

October:

- 15th – Teejop Hocira (Madison) – 10am-2pm
- 16th – Pac cinak TAU (Wittenberg) – 11am-2pm
- 17th – Ahuco TAU (Tomah)– 10am-2pm

- 22nd – HCG Wisconsin Dells (Upper Ballroom)– 10am-2pm
- 23rd – Njoxawanj TAU (Black River Falls)– 8:30am-12:30pm

- 28th – Nj Tanj Hocira (La Crosse) – 10am-2pm
- 30th – Ho-Chunk Gaming Nekoosa – 10am-2pm

November:

- 4th – Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg– 11am-2pm
- 5th – Ho-Chunk Gaming Madison (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)– 10am-2pm

**No appointment needed.**  
COVID-19 stock may be limited due to supply availability.

**Please bring ID and insurance card.\***  
\*Employee insurance may be billed. Please check your coverage to avoid unexpected copays.

Questions: 715-284-9851 ext 35042 or [kandycyce.dunlap@ho-chunk.com](mailto:kandycyce.dunlap@ho-chunk.com)

HO CHUNK NATION DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

WHAT IS YOUR ALARM TELLING YOU?

SMOKE ALARMS

Three loud beeps means fire. Get out, call 9-1-1, and stay out

Single chirp every 30-60 seconds means the battery is low and must be changed

Chirping that continues after battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced. Replace every 10 years.

CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

A continuous set of four loud beeps means carbon monoxide is present in your home. Get outside and call 9-1-1 and stay out.

A sing chirp every 30-60 seconds means the battery is low and must be replaced

Chirping that continues after battery has been replaced means the alarm is at the end of its life and the unit must be replaced. Follow manufacturer guidelines for replacement.

CONTACT US IF YOU NEED A SMOKE

ALARM!

[pam.thunder@ho-chunk.com](mailto:pam.thunder@ho-chunk.com)

715-284-9851 ext. 35011

Created PT 10-1-25

# In Partnership with the Minnesota Vikings and the NFL, the Native American Athletic Foundation Announces Annual Native All-American Football Game and Camp at U.S. Bank Stadium

MINNEAPOLIS – Seventy of the nation’s top Native American high school athletes will be selected to participate in the 2025 Native All-American Football Game, taking place on Sunday, December 14, 2025, at U.S. Bank Stadium, home of the Minnesota Vikings. The event is produced by the Native American Athletic Foundation (NAAF) in partnership with the Minnesota Vikings and the National Football League (NFL). This marks the fourth year of NFL partnership and the third time the Vikings have hosted (previously in 2022 and 2023) a similar game.

The Native All-American Football Game and Camp will unite athletes from across the United States for elite coaching, college preparation, leadership development, life-skills training, and mental wellness tools—equipping them for success on and off the field. Applications are open at [NativeAthletes.org](http://NativeAthletes.org).

As part of the weekend’s programming, the NAAF will also host a Native Female Flag Football Clinic on Saturday, December 13, 2025. Open to girls in grades 6–12, the clinic will feature skill development, leadership sessions, and mentorship from collegiate coaches, former NFL players, and community leaders—demonstrating NAAF’s commitment to expanding opportunities for Native girls in sports while promoting health, confidence, and leadership. For more information, please check our Facebook page and website for updates.

Coaching Leadership  
• Athletic Director: Derek Fine

A proud citizen of the Cherokee Nation, Derek Fine is a former NFL tight end who played collegiately at Kansas—serving as team captain, earning the Gale Sayers Award for courage, and helping lead the Jayhawks to

a 12–1 season capped by an Orange Bowl victory. Drafted in the fourth round by the Buffalo Bills in 2008, he also had stints with the St. Louis Rams and Houston Texans.

• Head Coach: Ahman Green

A citizen of the Choctaw Nation, Ahman Green is a legendary NFL running back, a four-time Pro Bowl selection, and the all-time rushing leader for the Green Bay Packers. Following a 12-year NFL career, he transitioned into coaching and esports, serving as Head Esports Coach at Lakeland University, where he built playoff and championship-caliber teams.

• Head Coach: Levi Horn

An enrolled member of the Northern Cheyenne Nation, Levi Horn began as a standout tight end in Washington state before excelling as an All-American offensive tackle at the University of Montana. Signed by the Chicago Bears in 2010, he later became a motivational speaker who inspires Native youth through outreach and storytelling.

“We are excited and honored to partner with the Minnesota Vikings and the NFL to make an impact in the lives of Native athletes,” said Michael Stopp, Executive Director of NAAF. “Our organization was founded to use sports as a platform to develop the next generation of leaders in Indian Country. We are also proud to expand our programming this year by hosting a Flag Football Clinic for Native girls



Group photo of 2024's Native All-American Teams, Wa'Ya and Ta'Tanka

in conjunction with the All-American Game.”

“The support and partnership with the Native American community in Minnesota and surrounding states has always been important to the Vikings organization,” said Brett Taber, Minnesota Vikings Vice President of Social Impact. “We’re proud to welcome the Native All-American Game back to U.S. Bank Stadium again this season to provide a memorable game and experience for all.”

For many participants—traveling from Tribal reservations and rural communities—the chance to compete on the same field as NFL professionals at U.S. Bank Stadium provides a once-in-a-lifetime experience that reinforces their commitment to athletics, academics, and community leadership.

“The NFL proudly supports the Native All-American Game. This game is a great opportunity for young Native American players to showcase their talent, teamwork, and

dedication on the field, embodying the values of sportsmanship and community pride,” Anna Isaacson, SVP Social Responsibility, NFL.

The Native American Athletic Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is dedicated to creating educational and athletic opportunities for Native youth. Through its programs, NAAF strives to build resilience and character in student-athletes while preparing them to become leaders in their Tribal communities.

Eligibility & Application:  
To be considered for the Native All-American Game, athletes must:

- Be an enrolled member of a federally recognized American Indian Tribe
- Be a high school senior who has completed their final football season

Applications are now open at <https://nativeamericanathleticfoundation.org/player-application/>



Team Wa'Ya celebrates a big play in the 2024 Native All-American Football Game

HOUSE OF WELLNESS

MEAT

CANNING CLASS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22

3:30pm-6:30pm at

House of Wellness

S2845 White Eagle Rd, Baraboo

Win a Ball Canning Book!

Take home a jar of canned meat!

Class provided by UW-Extension

Sponsored by HCN Health & Wellness Division

Contact Nutritionist Kyla Ripp to RSVP for your jar of canned meat

[kyla.ripp@ho-chunk.com](mailto:kyla.ripp@ho-chunk.com) OR 608-355-1240 Ext 35554

Upcoming Ho-Chunk Closures

Oct-Dec

|             |                                                      |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| OCTOBER 13  | Both pharmacies closed for Indigenous Peoples' Day   |
| OCTOBER 29  | Both pharmacies closed for Health Department Meeting |
| NOVEMBER 11 | Both pharmacies closed for Veteran's Day             |
| NOVEMBER 19 | HHCC Pharmacy (BRF) closed 8:30am-10:00am            |
| NOVEMBER 27 | Both pharmacies closed for Thanksgiving Day          |
| NOVEMBER 28 | Both pharmacies closed for Ho-Chunk Day              |
| DECEMBER 17 | HHCC Pharmacy (BRF) closed 8:30am-10:00am            |
| DECEMBER 17 | HOW Pharmacy (Baraboo) closed 12:30pm-1:30pm         |
| DECEMBER 24 | Both pharmacies closed for Christmas Eve             |
| DECEMBER 25 | Both pharmacies closed for Christmas Day             |
| DECEMBER 31 | Both pharmacies closed for New Years' Eve            |

PLEASE PLAN ACCORDINGLY FOR MEDICATION REFILLS

DISTRICT 2 AREA MEETING NOTICE



LA CROSSE AREA | THREE RIVERS HOUSE

724 Main Street La Crosse, WI

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2025 6:00PM

TOMAH AREA | BLUE WING COMMUNITY BUILDING

324 Epinal Avenue Tomah, WI

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2025 6:00PM

BARABOO/MI DELLS/MAUSTON AREA | INDIAN HEIGHTS

975 Dyer Street Wisconsin Dells, WI

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2025 6:00PM

REP. STEPHANIE BEGAY [stephanie.begay@ho-chunk.com](mailto:stephanie.begay@ho-chunk.com) (608) 408-0339

REP. DAMIAN THUNDERCLOUD [damianthundercloud@ho-chunk.com](mailto:damianthundercloud@ho-chunk.com) (715) 896-9321

REP. KYLE WHITE EAGLE [kyle.whiteeagle@ho-chunk.com](mailto:kyle.whiteeagle@ho-chunk.com) (800)294-9343 x.11276

POSTED 9/25/25

District 4 Area Meeting Notice



IN PERSON / VIRTUAL DISTRICT 4 AREA MEETING

Chicago Branch Office

4738 N. Milwaukee Ave. Chicago, IL 60630

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

6:00pm CST

VIRTUAL DISTRICT 4 AREA MEETING

Available via WebEx

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

6:00pm PST

9/30/2025 – updated



HO-CHUNK NATION  
PEOPLE OF THE BIG VOICE

For WebEx information please contact:

Rep. David Greendeer [david.greendeer@ho-chunk.com](mailto:david.greendeer@ho-chunk.com) (715)-896-9192

Rep. Edward Mullen [edward.mullen@ho-chunk.com](mailto:edward.mullen@ho-chunk.com) (715)-896-9180

Rep. Sandra Whitewing [sandra.whitewing@ho-chunk.com](mailto:sandra.whitewing@ho-chunk.com) (715)-896-9183

Aide: Jennifer Adams [jennifer.adams@ho-chunk.com](mailto:jennifer.adams@ho-chunk.com) (715)-284-9343x11284

[D4@ho-chunk.com](mailto:D4@ho-chunk.com)

The institutional review board is having its annual meeting on Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:15PM. We review any research done on Ho-Chunk properties or with Ho-Chunk people. Our meeting will be virtual to allow access to anyone who is interested. You can connect via the information below.

|                                                                                                                                                                                 |                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Join by computer:                                                                                                                                                               | Join by phone:           |
| <a href="https://ho-chunk.webex.com/ho-chunk/j.php?MTID=m04c6971449d48c456580027362478bfd">https://ho-chunk.webex.com/ho-chunk/j.php?MTID=m04c6971449d48c456580027362478bfd</a> | +1-415-655-0002          |
| Meeting number: 2496 790 8195<br>Meeting password: mQuuUduW392                                                                                                                  | Access code: 24967908195 |

SUMMONS  
(Second Publication)

IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT

In the Interest of Minor Child: K.L.C., DOB 12/10/2021

Case Nos.: TG 25-08

TO THE PARENT, GUARDIAN, LEGAL OR PHYSICAL CUSTODIAN AND/OR TRADITIONAL RELATIVE(S): [Divana L. Yellowcloud](#)

You are hereby informed that you have been deemed an interested party in the above-entitled guardianship case. This legal notice of the filed *Petition for Temporary Guardianship* is now served upon you by publication. A proceeding concerning the above-named child is pending in the Court, and an adjudication will be made. The Court shall convene an *Guardianship Hearing* in accordance with HOCĀK NATION THIRD PARTY GUARDIANSHIP ACT, Para. 11.13a. Any parent(s), guardian(s) and/or person(s) having legal or physical custody of the child must appear along with the child at the *Hearing* described below.

The Court shall commence a proceeding at **10:00 a.m. CST** on the **23rd** day of **October 2025** for the following purpose: **Guardianship Hearing**. Parties may seek to appear by telephone by submitting a written request and accompanying *Certificate of Service* to the presiding judge. See *Ho-Chunk Nation Rules of Civil Procedure*, Rule 5(B). Pursuant to HOCĀK NATION THIRD PARTY GUARDIANSHIP ACT, Para. 11.13c, the parties have a right to counsel at their own expense; a right to confront and cross-examine those appearing against them; a right to present and subpoena witnesses; a right to substitution of judge; and a right to a jury trial.

**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.

CAAMAĀHINAḡOWII  
October  
HARVEST OF  
THE MONTH  
Sijporo– Arrowhead Lily root

About

- Sijporo grow in shallow waters. Look for its distinctive arrow-shaped leaves and small white flowers, which bloom from July to September.
- The best time to harvest its walnut-sized tubers (also called duck potatoes, katniss or wapato) is in fall or early spring when they’re mature and nutrient-rich.
- Tubers grow in the mud at the end of root-like rhizomes. To harvest, gently feel in the mud with your hands or feet and remove tubers carefully to avoid damaging the plant or habitat. Tubers also float to the surface once they are removed from the soil.
- Sijporo tubers were a staple food for many Indigenous people. Known for their excellent flavor, they can be eaten raw, cooked, dried, or ground into flour. The skin is edible, but peeling can improve flavor. Prepare them as you would potatoes: baked, boiled, mashed or sauteed.

Nutrition

- Sijporo are rich in starch and phosphorus.

Safety & Harvesting Notes

- As with all foraging, check with multiple resources to help accurately identify plants and only harvest from clean, unpolluted areas to ensure safety.
- Always check your local regulations before harvesting, as some areas may have restrictions to protect ecosystems and ensure sustainability.

For more info

(1) <https://ahd.ku.edu/foods/arrowhead.htm>, source

(2) <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/warning/2021/spring/foraging> –last+Foraging+206+2allowedP+20July+20for+Check+20Tuber+206+20for+20for+20information

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. This material was funded by USDA’s supplemental nutrition assistance program-SNAP.



Sijporo Sautee

Ingredients:

- About 10 tubers, washed, peeled, and thinly sliced
- 2 Tablespoons plant oil of your choice
- 1 teaspoon ground sumac
- salt and pepper, to taste

Steps:

- Heat oil in pan. Add sliced sijporo. Heat until tender and lightly browned.
- Season with ground sumac, salt, and pepper, to taste.



Photos: Canva.com

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

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

Created 9/25 MB

Scan for the Survey



Link to Survey:  
[https://sweetgrassconsulting.forstack.com/forms/ho\\_chunk\\_cc\\_na](https://sweetgrassconsulting.forstack.com/forms/ho_chunk_cc_na)

The Survey Closes on Nov 14<sup>th</sup>!



The People's Plan  
Community Needs Assessment



General Council 2025

Members who complete the survey receive \$20!

Please screen shot your fireworks at the end of the survey along with a copy of your HCN Tribal ID and you can either pick up \$20 in person at HCN Headquarters or email us your address. Those that are emailed will received a \$20 electronic gift card.

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
All Responses Will Remain Strictly Confidential!

Contact:  
[Ryan.Zaroudi@ho-chunk.com](mailto:Ryan.Zaroudi@ho-chunk.com)  
[Darcy.Funmaker@ho-chunk.com](mailto:Darcy.Funmaker@ho-chunk.com)



**SATURDAY**  
**10/25/25**

**10AM-2PM**



**TRUNK or TREAT**

**SIGA FUNMAKER COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**W17634 RADKE ROAD**  
**WITTENBERG, WI 54499**

# Get Ready For Hunting And Trapping Seasons Opening In October

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reminds hunters to prepare for the opening of several hunting and trapping seasons in October.

There are five dates throughout October when seasons open, so hunters are encouraged to double-check the hunting season dates and trapping season dates and confirm that they have acquired all necessary licenses and stamps before heading into the field.

Oct. 4

- Duck (Southern Zone)
- Coot (Southern Zone)
- Gun deer hunt for hunters with disabilities (select properties only)

Oct. 11

- Youth deer hunt

Oct. 18

- Duck (Open Water Zone)
- Cottontail Rabbit (Southern Zone, opens at 9 a.m.)
- Pheasant (9 a.m.)
- Ruffed Grouse (Zone B)
- Hungarian partridge (opens at 9 a.m., closed in Clark, Marathon and Taylor counties)

Oct. 25

- Bobwhite quail (opens at 9 a.m.)
- Bobcat (Period 1, hunting and trapping)
- Coyote (trapping)
- Fisher (trapping)
- Raccoon (Resident, hunting and trapping)
- Fox (hunting and trapping)
- Mink (Northern Zone, trapping only)
- Muskrat (Northern Zone, trapping only)

Oct. 25

- Mink (Central Zone, trapping only)
- Muskrat (Central Zone, trapping only)

The DNR also reminds hunters of mobile-friendly online resources, including regulations, season dates, hunting hours, pheasant stocking information and more, available on the DNR’s Hunting or Trapping webpages. Hunters and trappers can also find information in the DNR’s Fall Hunting Forecasts.

A list of public lands open to hunting is available using the Public Access Lands webpage. This web resource lets hunters plan their next adventure from the comfort of their home.

If you are using a firearm, it’s important to do your part to keep Wisconsin a safe place to hunt by following these firearm safety rules:

- T - Treat every firearm as if it is loaded.
- A - Always point the muzzle in a safe direction.



Several hunting and trapping seasons open in October. / Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

• B - Be certain of your target, what’s before and beyond it.

• K - Keep your finger outside the trigger guard until you are ready to shoot.

Anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 1973, must have a hunter education certification to purchase a hunting license unless hunting under the Mentored Hunting Law. Learn more about safe hunting in Wisconsin and register to take a hunter education course on the DNR’s Hunting Safety webpage.

All first-time trappers must complete an approved trapper education course unless trapping under the youth supervised option, mentored trapping program or other exemptions. Experienced trappers teach this comprehensive course that covers basic trapping skills, including legal methods, regulations, safety and ethics.

Be aware of what your ammunition is made out of. Lead is a highly toxic heavy metal that is found in many types of ammunition and fishing tackle. Wild birds can become toxicity-prone when they accidentally consume a source of lead through their normal feeding habits. Learn more about lead toxicity in wildlife on the DNR website.

The DNR also reminds hunters to always check the current consumption advisories on the DNR’s Consumption Advisories webpage before going out into the field.

The DNR wishes all hunters and trappers a safe and successful hunting and trapping season.

**HO-CHUNK NATION LEGISLATURE REGULAR MEETING EXECUTIVE OFFICES BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI SEPTEMBER 23, 2025**

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

**Roll Call:**

President Jon Greendeer-P  
Vice President Lambert Cleveland, Jr.-P  
Rep. Phyllis Smoke-P  
Vacant  
Rep. Paul Fox-VC  
Rep. Damian Thundercloud-P  
Rep. Stephanie Begay-P  
Rep. Kyle White Eagle-EX  
Rep. Shelby Visintin-VC

Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle-P  
Rep. Edward Mullen-VC  
Rep. David Greendeer-VC  
Rep. Sandra Whitewing-VC

*VC-Video Conference*

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

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

**Approval of Agenda:**

**MOTION** by Rep. Paul Fox to approve the agenda with STRIKING Resolution-Confirmation of Ron Perry to the Election Board as the District 4 Chicago Alternate under New Business. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 10-

**0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:**

**Legislative Meeting-September 3, 2025**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the September 3, 2025 Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Special Legislative Meeting-September 11, 2025**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the September 11, 2025 Special Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Commission Reports:**

**Government Administration Commission-September 11, 2025**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the September 11, 2025 Government Administration Commission Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Housing Commission-September 18, 2025**

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to approve the September 18, 2025 Housing Commission Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Gaming Commission Monthly Report**

A written report was received.

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to accept the Gaming Commission report. Second by Vice President Lambert Cleveland, Jr. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Unfinished Business:**

**Red Cloud Park-Standing Agenda Item-Rep. Damian Thundercloud-TABLED**

**New Business:**

**Resolution-Authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with School District of Sun Prairie**  
*Continued on Page 14*

Continued from Page 13

**MOTION** by Rep. Shelby Visintin to adopt **Resolution 09-23-25 A**, Authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with School District of Sun Prairie. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Indigenous Business Group Sponsorship**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the silver membership from Charitable Contributions. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution-Authorization to Place Amendments to the Employment Relations Act (6 HCC § 5) Out for Forty-Five Day Public Comment (Hoocąk Woos`ga Leave Policy)**

Rep. Phyllis Smoke stated that the ERA was discussed at the June Black River Falls area meeting, and Tribal Members requested edits to the woosga leave policy. The amendments that will be placed out for public comment include: increase the number of woosga leave hours from 7.69% of the employee’s total hours during each fiscal year period to 10%, adding “participants” to those eligible for woosga leave, adding preparations prior to a ceremony or those with post ceremony responsibilities, deleting that a second infraction of this policy shall result in the employee not being eligible to request woosga leave for a period of 180 days and adding that employees may still take unpaid woosga leave, which shall be PTO or unpaid leave. Rep. Phyllis Smoke also stated that the changes were taken to Traditional Court.

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 09-23-25 B**, Authorization to Place Amendments to the Employment Relations Act (6 HCC § 5) Out for Forty-Five Day Public Comment. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution-Ho-Chunk Transportation Authority Jackson County, WI County Highway O Bridge Construction Project over Clear Creek**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 09-23-25 C**, Ho-Chunk Transportation Authority Jackson County, WI County Highway O Bridge Construction Project over Clear Creek. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution-Authorization to Write Off the Balance of the Elder Home Ownership Restricted Fund and Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 09-09-09A Authorization of the Release to the Home Ownership Program the Restricted Funds from the Mortgage Payments Collected**

Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle stated that all the mortgage payments collected through the home ownership program was going into a restricted account for elder home ownership. The program is not sustainable and there is too much owed on that

account to move forward with any new home ownership.

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 09-23-25 D**, Authorization to Write Off the Balance of the Elder Home Ownership Restricted Fund and Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 09-09-09A Authorization of the Release to the Home Ownership Program the Restricted Funds from the Mortgage Payments Collected. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution-Establishment of Home Ownership Restricted Account**

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 09-23-25 E**, Establishment of Home Ownership Restricted Account. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution-Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 07-06-22 I, Signature Authority for Grants Entered into on Behalf of the Ho-Chunk Nation**

Rep. David Greendeer mentioned that the purpose of this resolution is to be more efficient in approving grants that do not have matching fund requirements. Rep. David Greendeer requested a meeting with the President to collaborate on a process to expedite the grant process.

**MOTION** by Rep. David Greendeer to TABLE-Rescission and Restatement of Resolution 07-06-22 I, Signature Authority for Grants Entered into on Behalf of the Ho-Chunk Nation. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**District Meetings:**

**D1 Nijoxawani – September 17, 2025**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to HHCDA, the HHCDA Board of Directors, and Legislature the **MOTION** by Darcy Funmaker to have HHCDA Board of Directors to review the charter regarding at large metro areas such as Chicago, Milwaukee & Twin Cities to minus the representatives on the HHCDA Board as there is no housing in those areas. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to Office of the President, Treasury, Department of Administration, and Planning and Development the **MOTION** by Carol Garvin to have the Nation establish a non-profit office to solicit donations with reporting process along with the IRS. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to D1 Legislators and the D1 Legislative Aide, the **MOTION** by Darcy Funmaker in the event a District 1 BRF meeting needs to be canceled due to unforeseen circumstances to postponed the meeting to the following week within the same month. Second by Rep.

Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to Legislative Counsel and Legal staff the **MOTION** by Darcy Funmaker referred to Legislative Counsel and legal staff, to add the changes to the history for laws and ordinances. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to Legislative CFO, Budget Analyst and Legislative Legal the **MOTION** by Nathaniel Longtail to have the amount on the per cap reserve account balance by the next area meeting. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to Legislature, Office of the President and Treasury the **MOTION** by Nate Longtail for Treasury to the have Legislator’s mileage and per diem available at the front desk of Treasury for tribal members to view at all times during normal business hours between 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to Personnel, Office of the President, President Greendeer, John Stacy and John Steindorf, the **MOTION** by Darcy Funmaker to refer to Personnel, OOP President Jon Greendeer, John Stacy and John Steindorf to direct the supervisors to provide their employees with their yearly appraisals formerly known as yearly reviews. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to Office of the President and President Greendeer the **MOTION** by Wilfrid Cleveland to have OOP President Greendeer to direct all Executive Directors to have the yearly appraisals done immediately. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**NOTE FOR THE RECORD:**

**Clarification to BRF July 9, 2025 Area Meeting motion.**

**Motion** by Carol Garvin for Legislature to have a forensic audit done for the Housing Down Payment Assistance Program. Second by Nathaniel Longtail. 13-0-0 Motion Carried.

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to the Finance Commission the **MOTION** by Carol Garvin for Legislature to have a forensic audit done for the Housing Down Payment Assistance Program. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**NOTE FOR THE RECORD:**

**Clarification to BRF July 9, 2025 Area Meeting motion.**

**Motion** by Nathaniel Longtail for Legislature to have a forensic audit on the Housing Existing Mortgage Assistance program. Second by Jovanna WhiteEagle. 13-0-0 Motion Carried.

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to the Finance Commission and Legislature the **MOTION** by Nathaniel Longtail for Legislature to have a forensic audit on the Housing Existing Mortgage Assistance Program. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**NOTE FOR THE RECORD: Clarification to BRF July 9, 2025 Area Meeting motion.**

**Motion** by Carol Garvin to have the rental policy language to be added to the Home Ownership Code-General Welfare Code Title 8-Housing, Real Estate & Property Code, Section 5-Housing for the General Welfare of Veterans, Elders and Non-Elders Act. Second by Wilfrid Cleveland. 13-0-0 Motion Carried.

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to Legislative Legal the **MOTION** by Carol Garvin to have the rental policy language to be added to the Home Ownership Code-General Welfare Code Title 8-Housing, Real Estate & Property Code, Section 5-Housing for the General Welfare of Veterans, Elders and Non-Elders Act. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to the Finance Commission the **MOTION** by Nathaniel Longtail to approve the Hatfield Fire and Rescue Request for 50% from Think Digital Signs quote for compact deduct in the amount of \$18,775. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to Legislative Legal to prepare a resolution for the next meeting the **MOTION** by JoVanna White Eagle to nominate Nate Longtail to the housing board. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. **MOTION IS AMENDED** to include language that the resolution is contingent on a background check. Second concurs. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to Office of the President, Personnel and Insurance Division, the **MOTION** by Darcy Funmaker to have Legislature waive the adult Ho-Chunk tribal members to be able to stay on their parent’s insurance document plan if the adult tribal member is working full time for the Nation, as an option. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to Office of the President, Personnel and the Insurance Division and Legislature, the **MOTION** by Nathaniel Longtail for the Nation offered all tribal members insurance plan. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**D1 Maqnjco Horuzra – September 18, 2025**

**READ FOR THE RECORD:** Motion by Libby Fairchild to approve the request for the Youth Twin Cities Holiday Party in the amount of \$3,195. Second by Rosetta Hunt. 13-0-0 Motion Carried.

*Rep. Phyllis Smoke mentioned that the Department of Business will be funding this request.*

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to the Election Board and Election Code Workgroup the **MOTION** by Rosetta to have the Election Board accept and support the ballots with only the witness signature. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to Legislative Legal for an opinion on the timeframe, the **MOTION** by Libby Fairchild to not approve the nomination to the Housing Board until the requisite number of days are required. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**NOTED FOR THE RECORD:** Rep. Phyllis Smoke read the Department of Housing Establishment Act, Section 8, a (7) Vacancies. Director vacancies shall be posted pursuant to the requirements of the Legislative Organization Act.

**Amendment to the Agenda:**

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to add Resolution- Approval of Heritage Preservation-Museum and Cultural Center to Apply for Art’s Midwest GIG Fund. Second by Rep. David Greendeer. **MOTION IS AMENDED** to also add Resolution-Joint Resolution of the Legislature and President Establishing a Joint Clearinghouse Process for Federal Grant Oversight and Accountability. Second concurs. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**NEW BUSINESS (Re-visited):**

**Resolution-Approval of Heritage Preservation-Museum and Cultural Center to Apply for Art’s Midwest GIG Fund**

Museum Director Josephine Lee was present and said that Heritage Preservation is looking to apply for the grant for \$15,000, which includes a \$15,000 match. If awarded, the grant would be used for a month-long applique class, with the hopes of accommodating 20 attendees.

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to adopt **Resolution 09-23-25 F**, Approval of Heritage Preservation-Museum and Cultural Center to Apply for Art’s Midwest GIG Fund. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution-Joint Resolution of the Legislature and President Establishing a Joint Clearinghouse Process for Federal Grant Oversight and Accountability**

**MOTION** by Rep. David Greendeer to adopt Resolution-Joint Resolution of the Legislature and President Establishing a Joint Clearinghouse Process for Federal Grant Oversight and Accountability. Second by Rep. *Continued on Page 15*

*Continued from Page 14*  
Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle.  
MOTION IS WITHDRAWN.

Executive Branch will review the resolution before next meeting.

**District Meetings (Re-visited):**

***D2 Hįnułkwas– September 15, 2025***

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to Department of Justice, Department of Admin, and D2 Legislators, MOTION by Tracy Littlejohn to endorse a land transfer for Red Cloud Park and Three Rivers House. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to Department of Justice, Admin and D2 Legislators, the MOTION by Perry Carrimon for D2 Representatives to continue to work with Dept of Administration and Three Rivers staff for a Branch Office at Red Cloud Park. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

NOTED FOR THE RECORD: The area did not receive any materials from Dept. of Administration, and the Executive Director of Administration was not present.

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to Department of Administration, Office of the President and EDOA Michael Rave the MOTION by Adam Kruse for EDOA Mike Rave to attend the October area meeting to provide a Presentation on Red Cloud Park to include a plot layout. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to Legislature the MOTION by Tracy Littlejohn for Legislature to review the Charter of Incorporation for HHCDa and change membership of the Board of Commissioners for representation only from the areas that Ho-Chunk Nation has service area. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 9-1(Rep. David Greendeer)-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

***D2 Ho’ųnį Xųnuńįk – September 16, 2025***

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Department of Justice and Law Enforcement Commission the MOTION by Roberta Decorah to approve the Monroe County Law Enforcement Agreement 2026. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 9-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay) **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Legislature the MOTION by Andrea Estebo for District 2 Representatives to amend the Charter of Incorporation for HHCDa to address the numerous board meetings. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Legislature, Legislative Legal and

Department of Justice the MOTION by Liza Green for HUD to complete an audit on HHCDa. Second by Rachel Winneshiek Motion is amended to complete an internal audit by Ho-Chunk Nation and external audit by the federal government. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Department of Justice and Law Enforcement Commission the MOTION by Rachel Winneshiek for the LEC to propose changes to the code to ensure the HCN Police Department is responsible party. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Department of Housing, Department of Justice and the Finance Commission the MOTION by Steve Eades for Department of Housing to suspend active collection of arrearages for Tenants and homeowners until a full audit of arrearage records is completed, verified and shared with the advisory board and legislature including an accounting of all arrearage funds collected since 2023 to be completed and presented at December 2025 area meetings. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

***D2 Hoxąįkeja/Hoguceja/ Nįžhakisųc – September 17, 2025***

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to Department of Justice the MOTION by Cindy Tack to approve the Juneau County Law Enforcement Agreement. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to Department of Justice the MOTION by Weeta Montelongo to approve the Sauk County Law Enforcement Agreement. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to Legislative CFO and Legislative Legal the MOTION by Robert Funmaker, Jr. to provide all information for the Beloit loan to include loan amount, payments and interest for the next area meeting. Second by Cindy Tack. Motion amended to include the amount of the reserves and what was put towards the Beloit project. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**READ FOR THE RECORD:**

MOTION by Weeta Montelongo to use the \$75 allocated for area meetings to be used for five \$15 area meeting stipends beginning October 2025.

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to Department of Justice and the Election Board the MOTION by Cindy Tack to approve/accept all mail ballots received by the Election Board with just the witness signature for the current Secretarial Election. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to Department of Housing and Heena Development the MOTION by Robert Funmaker, Jr. that a written tribal member preference policy be enforced at Cloud Village and all future tribal housing projects, including prioritization for placement, lease renewals, and rent structures based on tribal enrollment. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to Department of Housing and Heena Development the MOTION by Robert Funmaker, Jr. that the employment prerequisite for residency at Cloud Village be suspended until an equity impact assessment is completed, and the policy is reviewed to ensure it does not exclude disabled, elder, or unemployed tribal members. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Phyllis Smoke out of the room.*

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to Department of Housing, Office of the President and Department of Justice the MOTION by Cindy Tack that the Department of Housing suspend active collection of arrears for both tenants and homeowners until a full audit of arrearage records is completed, verified, and shared with the Advisory Board and Legislature, including an accounting of all arrearage funds collected since 2023. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Phyllis Smoke out of the room.*

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to Department of Housing, Office of the President and Department of Justice the MOTION by Cindy Tack that the Department of Housing adopt an income-based cap on repayment plans for tenants and homeowners with arrears, not to exceed 20% of household monthly income, to prevent economic displacement amid inflation and financial hardship. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

***D3 Pac cinąk – September 15, 2025***

No motions.

***D3 Tee hoikšek – September 16, 2025***

No motions.

***D3 Tešišik – September 10, 2025***

No motions.

***D3 Tejop – September 17, 2025***

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to the Housing Advisory Board, Department of Housing, Heena Development and the Housing Commission the MOTION by Christine Funmaker-Romano that the Advisory Board request an immediate review by the Department of Housing and Legislative Oversight Commission into whether Cloud Village rental policies –

specifically job requirements and income thresholds – violate the Nation’s intent to prioritize Ho-Chunk members in tribal housing programs. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to Department of Housing, Office of the President and the Housing Commission the MOTION by Cindy Tack that all current and future tribal housing projects, including Cloud Village, submit to an equity review ensuring rental policies, costs, and occupancy guidelines reflect the priority and access needs of Ho-Chunk members. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to Department of Housing, Office of the President and Legislature the MOTION by Christine Funmaker-Romano that the Department of Housing appoint a Tenant Advocacy Liaison to assist renters with navigating complaints, arrearage disputes, and retaliation claims, and to report quarterly to the Advisory Board. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to Department of Housing, Housing Advisory Board and Legislature the MOTION by Christine Funmaker-Romano that the Department of Housing and Advisory Board jointly host a public forum for tenants and homeowners to voice concerns on arrearages, retaliation, Cloud Village policy, and rent increases, with records submitted to the Legislature. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to the October 2, 2025 Finance Commission Meeting the MOTION by Weeta Montelongo to approve the DORA pow-wow request for flags and cases with duffle bags in the amount of \$2,000 payable to James Day. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

***D3 Pac cinąk – September 15, 2025***

No motions.

***D3 Tee hoikšek – September 16, 2025***

No motions.

***D3 Tešišik – September 10, 2025***

No motions.

***D3 Tejop – September 17, 2025***

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to Office of the President, Social Services and TAU the MOTION by Lashina Hoyer to request Greg Blackcoon and Lanette Smoke to attend the next Madison area meeting. Second by Vice President Lambert Cleveland, Jr. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

***D3 Cexhaci – September 18, 2025***

No motions.

***D4 Guųšgonąk – September 15, 2025***

**READ FOR THE RECORD:**

MOTION by Sunshine Thunderchief in the entirety of the HCN we should wholly reject to sell the Southland. As it goes against financial, cultural and traditional. Southland is Valuable piece of property with 120 acres.

**READ FOR THE RECORD:**

MOTION by Sunshine the Southland legislative workgroup must immediately seek the input on their ideas of HCN tribal members before proceeding any ideas on Southland. Open to two round table discussion including HCN tribal members from all areas.

**READ FOR THE RECORD:**

MOTION by Sunshine Thunderchief HCN does an environmental assessment of Southland in Lynwood Illinois before April 2, 2026.

**MOTION** by Rep. Sandra Whitewing to refer the Finance Commission the MOTION by Casey Brown for the Annual Halloween party in the amount of \$500 for the community to enjoy the holiday. Second by Rep. David Greendeer. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

***D4 Virtual Meeting – September 17, 2025***

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. Shelby Visintin 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. Damian Thundercloud. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*The meeting moved to Executive Session at 11:24 a.m.*

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to return to Open Session. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*The meeting returned to Open Session at 3:30 p.m.*

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to ratify all action taken in Executive Session. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Adjournment:**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adjourn the Legislative Meeting to October 7, 2025 at the Tribal Office Building in Black River Falls, Wisconsin. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*The Legislative Meeting adjourned at 3:31 p.m.*

“Mending Broken Hearts”

Workshop

Healing from Unresolved Grief, Loss  
& Intergenerational Trauma

Workshop Dates

October 21st - October 24th - 9am-4pm

October 27th - October 28th - 9am-4pm.

W8813 Mission Rd Black River Falls WI 54615

- Limited transportation available.
- Lunch will be provided.
- Feel free to bring your own tools for healing (cedar, sage, etc.)
- Future workshops in other areas.

The Ho-Chunk Nation Behavioral Health division is facilitating this workshop for tribal members, offering culturally based ways of healing from unresolved feelings of loss and grief created by intergenerational and historical trauma.



Facilitators:  
Myrna Littlewolf  
Menissa Powless  
Co-Facilitators:  
Randeem Decorah  
Travis Cloud  
Karie Decorah  
Alina Dick

SCAN TO REGISTER, OR VISIT:  
<https://hcn-bh.typeform.com/MBH2025Oct>

