



Covering the Ho-Chunk Nation



# HOC AK WORAK

Vol. XXXIX, Issue 8

Ho hiroginiṇa wira | Fish Drying Moon

April 25, 2025



Notice of Eligibility  
for Membership

Pages 8-9



Special Primary  
Election D4, S3 is  
May 3

Page 16



Absentee Ballot  
Requests Forms  
Available

Page 5

## Sadie Garvin and Valerie Blackdeer Receive 2025 Secretary's Putting Families First Award

Ardith Van Riper  
Editor

On Friday, April 18, the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) hosted an awards ceremony and luncheon at the Pyle Center in Madison, WI. Sadie Garvin and Valerie Blackdeer were nominated and selected to receive a 2025 Secretary's Putting Families First Award.

They were chosen because of their exceptional and transformational efforts to support Wisconsin's children, families, and communities in thriving. Their work has been instrumental in transitioning the child welfare system to come more family-focused, collaborative, and in-home.

Nine individuals and teams received the awards during the celebration as part of Wisconsin's proclaimed month-long recognition of Family Strengthening Month.

Jeff Pertl, DCF Secretary, and Lt. Gov. Sara Rodrigues presented the awards.

"Wisconsin succeeds when the families within it do. I was honored to join all the wonderful

award recipients who have done so much to better the lives of not just our young people, but also mothers, fathers, and families," said Lt. Gov. Rodriguez. "I want to thank these awardees for their tireless work and recognize the many organizations, providers, and individuals who join them in bettering the lives of children and families across our great state."

The awards highlight the impactful work being done across the child welfare system.

"Stability, connectedness, and belonging are essential for families to grow and thrive. Together, parents, professionals and community partners have worked diligently to serve even more families in-home with programs and services needed for success," said DCF Secretary Jeff Pertl. "These efforts deserve to be celebrated because when families thrive, so do our communities. I am proud to honor such caring and compassionate individuals."

This year's recipients include:

Parents with Lived Experience:

Natasha Broxton, Samantha Copus, and Alyssa Hake all

*Continued on Page 7*



## Inaugural State of the Ho-Chunk Nation Addresses Progress, Challenges, and Priorities

Kaili Berg

Ho-Chunk Nation President Jon Greendeer delivered a State of the Nation address on April 15, at Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls, sharing updates on the Nation's progress, challenges, and priorities.

The night opened with a traditional lineup that honored veterans, language speakers, and tribal youth.

The Winnebago Sons drum group and Head Start students kicked off the event, and Chief Clayton Winneshiek offered an invocation before the President took the stage. Dr. Marcus Lewis was the Master of Ceremonies.

Greendeer opened by thanking elders, language speakers, cultural leaders, and the children who performed at the event. He also  
*Continued on Page 2*



### INSIDE SCOOP..

Letters .....	2
Elders .....	3
Announcements.....	3-5
News.....	4,6
Health.....	5-6
Memorials .....	7
Legal .....	7,10
Notices .....	7-9,15-16
Legislative Minutes.....	11-13
Ads.....	13-14

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.

FIRST CLASS MAIL  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 203  
Eau Claire, WI

HOC AK WORAK NEWSPAPER  
P.O. BOX 667  
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI 54615

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



*Continued from Page 1*

recognized the importance of spring ceremonies, traditional foods, and the Ho-Chunk way of life.

“Our culture is the root of our government,” Greendeer said. “Not the other way around.”

Greendeer shared how the Nation worked quickly with other tribes and elected officials to stop the closure of the Ashland BIA office.

Greendeer also addressed the loss of federal library funding and promised that the Ho-Chunk Nation Library will stay open.

Greendeer spoke about the new Ho-Chunk Gaming Beloit project, calling it a game-changer for jobs and revenue. He also admitted past mistakes in land purchases and stressed the need for better planning going forward.

“This is going to be one of the best entertainment venues in the Midwest,” Greendeer said.

A new financial plan is underway, along with updated wages, faster hiring, and better workforce support.

Greendeer highlighted a major

achievement that Ho-Chunk students can now attend UW–Madison tuition-free. The Nation also expanded tutoring programs and took over a struggling Montessori school to keep child care more accessible.

Greendeer honored the work done to recognize Ho-Chunk Code Talkers with a new memorial highway. He also announced a new Cultural Resources Center and plans for expanded housing options, including a new apartment complex near the House of Wellness in Baraboo.

In Greendeer’s closing remarks, the President emphasized love for the community. He spoke to parents, workers, and young people alike, reminding them that the efforts of today are for the generations to come.

“This place isn’t for us anymore, it’s for them,” Greendeer said. “If you thought our green corn was just about food, now you understand. It’s about life. It’s about our future.”

The President ended with heartfelt thanks and a reminder that the story of the Ho-Chunk people is still being written, by every citizen, every day.



# EVERS: THEY ARE GOD'S CREATURES AND GOD IS WATCHING

By: Stephen Gutschick

I’m a nobody. Nothing special. I’m not endowed with any great attributes or characteristics. I have no Ojibwe-Chippewa, Ho-Chunk, Potawatomi, Oneida, or Mohican ancestry.

Having said that, all Wisconsinites are allowed, encouraged, and expected to stand up for any issue that we care about. So, I am calling upon Governor Evers, DNR Secretary Hyun, and The Natural Resources Board (NRB) to do something good by placing Wisconsin’s wolves on the State’s Endangered Species List.

Wisconsin has a long tradition of conservation and stewardship. Our Native Tribes in particular know this. Respect for Wisconsin’s nature is so true that it’s probably written in ocher and charcoal in some prehistoric cave in our Ocooch Mountains.

With names such as šųųkjaḱ. ma’iingan, me’ingen, moewe, othahyu:ni:, moqwaio, na’qpote, and yvhv, Wisconsin wolves cannot face yet another orchestrated campaign of butchery. These sacred animals, symbols of the spiritual and natural world, are asking us to dare Governor Evers to be strong in the face of cruelty and hatred.

The Badger State gave us Aldo Leopold, John Muir, Gaylord Nelson, and so many others. Over so many years, we have praised the work of these individuals. But now, powerful lobbyists want us to betray their work and stain the State’s reputation once again.

How does Wisconsin treat these creatures of God entrusted to us? In 2021, a minimum of two hundred and sixteen Wisconsin wolves were killed in less than 60 hours – some in especially cruel and emotionless ways – causing a decline in the state’s wolf population of between 27% and 33%.

Today, there is a law on the books (Act 169) that *requires* a wolf hunt the moment the Federal Government removes Great Lakes wolves from the Endangered Species List, which is about to happen. Unfortunately, several Wisconsin members of Congress are also in support of this. Moreover,

we are living in Machiavellian times, and it is within the realm of possibility that those now in Washington may abrogate entirely the Endangered Species Act.

This Wisconsin “Let’s Go Kill ‘Em Again” law is obscene. Of the more than 3,500 Public Comments presented during the creation of the State’s Management Plan, 8 out of 10 affirmed that we don’t want to see our wolves slaughtered once more.

According to genetic studies, prior to the arrival of Europeans, wolves lived throughout much of the contiguous United States with a population comprised of nearly half million individuals. This land was their land.

By the mid-twentieth century, wolves in the lower United States had been exterminated, except for a few dozen that lived in Northern Minnesota. Beginning in 1973, wolves came under the protection of the Federal Endangered Species Act. Since then, those protections have been taken off, put back on, taken off again, and put back on again.

Today, outside of Alaska, most wolves only live in two places: The Northern Rockies (Montana, Wyoming and Idaho) and The Western Great Lakes (Minnesota, Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, and Wisconsin).

How easy it is to forget that there are creatures on this Earth other than man. Wisconsin is blessed to have wolves and so many other animals and plants not readily found elsewhere.

Wolves deserve to live where they once thrived and we have a moral obligation to right a past wrong. Governor Evers must protect our wolves because the Federal Government will not.

Ask yourselves: Why are Wisconsin wolves an exception to protections under animal cruelty and wildlife harassment codes?

Now pick up a Bible and remind yourself that every creature belongs to God and that God challenges us to treat animals with respect. Above all, Proverbs 12:10 shows us that compassion towards all animals is a reflection of a person’s

character and spiritual maturity.

To a certain degree, our governor and the DNR exist to protect wildlife and the environment. It is their job to do so. They’re not there to protect Ted Nugent and the interests of Hunter Nation, nor logging enterprises, mining companies, and corporate farming.

Wolves have become nothing but symbols. Most people who oppose wolf protections are just plain opposed to government intervention into anything. They think: “...Government is not going to tell me what to do or what I can’t do.” Period. Full stop.

We’re so much better than this. Wisconsin doesn’t have BLUE wolves. For that matter, we don’t have red or green ones either.

We are born and we die. Native Americans know that the whole challenge in life is to act with integrity, goodness and nobility. Wisconsin’s governor is known to be compassionate and humane and merciful. Evers has a sacred duty to act in only morally correct ways, even when it might be difficult or inconvenient to do so.

I kindly ask for all the original inhabitants of Wisconsin – each and every Nation and Band – Ho-Chunk, Oneida, Ojibwe-Chippewa (Lac du Flambeau, Lac Courte Oreilles, Sokaogon, St. Croix), Menominee, Forest County Potawatomi, and Stockbridge-Munsee to join me in calling upon the governor to do what is right and good.

\*\*\*

Stephen Gutschick  
40410 102<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Genoa City, WI 53128  
(262) 581-5092  
s.gutschick@outlook.com

Semi-retired Stephen Gutschick lives in the town of Randall and works as a Data Analyst in Whitewater. His interest in wolves began decades ago with the Nez Perce adoption programs of the Pacific Northwest. He studied both Zoology and Military Science at Southern Illinois University becoming a most unusual environmental enthusiast.





HO-CHUNK NATION DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION



Denim Day

WEDNESDAY

APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup> 2025



Wear denim on April 30<sup>th</sup> to support the long-standing movement against sexual assault and violence

Read more about the origin of denim day:



Created 4/13/25 MG

Save The Date

May 5-9, 2025

Pathways Registration open

To register go to <https://www.hocak.org/>



Questions: [dana.deboer@ho-chunk.com](mailto:dana.deboer@ho-chunk.com)

Hoocak Language Classes

May Elders Birthdays



2 Richard Amble

3 Veronica Espinoza

4 Douglas Maisells

5 Paul Krause

6 Joyce Penland

7 Michael Goodbear

8 Allen Cloud

9 Jennifer Kearnes

10 Natalie Bird

11 Clyde Blackdeer

12 Roberta Funmaker

13 Kent Mallory

14 Clinton Thunderchief

15 Charles White Eagle

16 Margaret Hoffman

17 James Latzke

18 Anna Salinas

19 Myra Cunneen

20 Carl Hernandez

21 Nancy Prescott

22 Lance Tallmadge

23 William Tucker, Jr.

24 Patrick Day

25 Yvonne Delarosa

26 Nellie Peoples

27 Donna Sposito

28 Dawn Campion

29 Kelly Wiese

30 Cecil Garvin, Sr.

31 Lawrence Littlegeorge, Jr.

32 Lisa Stroessner

33 Raymond Tipton

34 Carolyn Toews

35 James Funmaker, Jr.

36 Gregory Smith

37 Glenn White Eagle

38 Larry Garvin

39 Kerwin La Mere

40 Melissa Olvera Marquez

41 Jeremy Rockman

42 William Walker

43 Pamela Folz

44 Dawn Velarde

45 Anna Winneshiek

46 Mark Myers

47 Claire Revels, Jr.

48 Michael Sherwood

49 Pauline Ward

50 Linda Goodwin

51 Lita Snake

52 Mark Stroessner

18 Tony Delarosa

19 Wayne Peters

20 James Rogers

21 Gloria White Thunder

22 Orval Tipton, Jr.

23 Kevin Vasquez

24 Daniel Whitehorse

25 Wilfrid Cleveland

26 Jayne Dawson

27 Louisa Decora

28 Joan Greendeer-Lee

29 Joyce Warner

30 James Ensley

31 Kate Martin

32 Anita Nevsimal

33 Valerie Peterson

34 Anthony Smith, Jr.

35 Casey Whitegull

36 Alicia Barker

37 Marilyn Lowe

38 Trevor Littlesoldier

39 Francesca Medina

40 Robert Pilot

41 Cynthia Decorah

42 Anthony Houle

43 Raymond Armendariz

44 Christine Jendrisak

45 Leigh Schulte

46 Arlene Shegonee

47 Patricia Swartling

48 Herbert Cleveland

49 Colleen Greengrass

50 Kirk Hopinka

51 Rena Hudson

52 Nancy Masiello

53 Wendy Miller

54 Duwayne Link

55 Sherry Smith

56 Sandra Whitewing

57 Anthony Dick

58 Jack Britton

59 Lawrence Delarosa

60 Glenn Prescott

61 Susan Walczak

62 Truman Williams, Sr.

63 Sherman Funmaker

64 Starrise Hausladen

65 Linda Johnson

66 Lonnie Rich

67 John Steindorf



To all Ho-Chunk Nation Elders

Address Change

When you apply for Elder Insurance if you could include Email and Phone Numbers that would be great.

Please notify Gloria Ward or Sara Pomeroy in the insurance department with any address changes.

If you changed it with Enrollment or Treasury you must also change with Insurance, they do not share information with us. This will help Insurance in case any notifications are required.

New Insurance Cards

In March 2025 you received new insurance cards these will have your name and other information on them. We will no longer be using your Social Security number for your insurance identification.

When you go to the Doctor or any other medical facility you must give them a copy of your Insurance card and Medicare card if you have one.

If you utilize an ambulance you must give them a copy of your Insurance and Medicare cards, the hospital does not share information with them.

Medicare Parts A and B

If you are not working for the Ho-Chunk Nation and your turning 65 you have to sign up for Medicare Parts A and B, failure to sign up will result in consequences. The plan will only pay 20% of your bill and you will be responsible for 80%.

You do not need anything other than **A** and **B**, you don't need **D** it is for Prescriptions you have that coverage with your Elder Insurance.

If you need help signing up for Medicare A & B contact Melissa Deloney at TAU in Black River Falls, WI 715-284-0811

If you're drawing Social Security your payment for Medicare B will come out of your check.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call the Insurance Division at 715-284-4361.

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.

HOCAK WORAK NEWSLETTER

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

• PHONE: (800) 472-3089

• 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](http://www.hocakworak.com)

WNA

2016

BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST AWARD WINNER

WISCONSIN NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

The Hocak Worak is a member of:

Indigenous Journalists Association



INDIGENOUS Journalists Association

Attention: The Next Deadline of the Hocak Worak will be May 2nd which will be published on May 9th. Please contact Hocak Worak at ext. 11004 if you have a change of address or would like to be placed on the mailing list.



# ART 64® Painting Tournament Returns to The Village of Wauwatosa June 6 & 7

*\$20,000 prize to be awarded in nation’s largest live, bracket-style painting competition*

WAUWATOSA, Wisc. (Wednesday, April 16, 2025) – Discover Wauwatosa will host ART 64® presented by North Shore Bank in The Village of Wauwatosa on Friday, June 6 and Saturday, June 7. This is the fourth year of the one-of-a-kind, bracket-style live painting tournament with a \$20,000 grand prize. It’s the largest juried live painting tournament in Wisconsin, featuring 64 artists that were selected from a pool of 400 applicants coming from 37 states and 16 countries. For the first year, international artists are set to travel to Wauwatosa from Spain and Mexico to compete.

Members of the public are invited to watch the paintings come to life during the competition and can vote for their favorite paintings online. The artist in each pairing with the most votes advances to the next round. The third (and final) round features 16 artists competing for the grand prize. Paintings created at the event will be available for

purchase through an online silent auction.

New this year, ART 64 will also host an artist market during the event on Saturday, June 7, with additional works by the participating artists available for purchase.

Over 11,000 people visited The Village of Wauwatosa during the event in 2024, nearly quadruple the amount of the 3,000 visitors that attended the original 2022 event. There were 9,415 votes cast last year, as well as more than 100 paintings sold.

“ART 64 is a one-of-a-kind experience, offering visitors not only the opportunity to watch art being created but also the chance to interact with the artists, while the competition component takes this public art experience to a whole new level,” says Beth Gleesing, Tourism Specialist at Discover Wauwatosa. “The Village of Wauwatosa offers the perfect backdrop for the event where guests can explore great local dining, shopping and entertainment.”

The free, family-friendly event will take place in The Village of Wauwatosa on Friday, June 6 between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. and on Saturday, June 7 between 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (with the Tosa Farmers Market happening a short walk away Saturday morning). Food and musical entertainment will be available on the streets holding the tournament, as well as a dedicated North Shore Bank-sponsored kids’ area. Local businesses will add to the festive ambiance with unique experiences. Limited edition ART 64 merchandise will be available for purchase during the event. To accommodate the event, Harwood Avenue, State Street, and Underwood Avenue will be closed to vehicle traffic. DJ Dori Zori from 88Nine Radio Milwaukee will emcee the event.

Guests are encouraged to support local businesses in the event area before, during, and after the tournament, including at ART 64 major sponsors Frank & Larry’s Buckatabon Tavern & Supper Club



and Hollander Grand Café.

“ART 64 brings a special kind of magic to the heart of The Village of Wauwatosa each summer, and we’re excited to be back sponsoring another great year,” says Eric Wagner, founder and CEO of Lowlands Group. “As one of the premier events in the Milwaukee area, it’s a celebration of art, music, and local hospitality that Café Hollander and Buckatabon are proud to support.”

Last year, the winner of the \$20,000 grand prize was Chicago-based artist Tyrone Acierto.

“As the winner of the ART 64 painting contest, I can confidently say it was one of the most rewarding and inspiring experiences of my career. The live painting format challenged me to push my creative boundaries, while the support and energy of the community fueled my work,” says Acierto.

For more information about ART 64 and to RSVP for event updates, please visit: [discoverart64.com](https://discoverart64.com).



### Hoocak Language Summer 2025 Course Offerings

Coming Soon!

ONLINE REGISTRATION  
MAY 5-9, 2025

Classes run May 19 - August 8, 2025

ISWM

It Starts With Me

By the end of this 9 week course, learners will have an understanding of what it takes to learn a language, proficiency levels and will have a language learning plan. Classes are In Person or Online.

OPP 1A

Introduction & Kinship

By the end of this 12 week course, learners will be able to introduce themselves including their name, age, Clan, Where they live and their immediate family members.

OPP 1B

Time\Weather & Traveling

Prerequisite: Successful completion of OPP 1A or test out. By the end of this 12 week course, learners will be able to add time and weather to their language and begin using Hoocak Traveling Verbs.

OPP 1C

Daily Life - Mealtime & In the House

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pathways 1B or test out of 1A & 1B. By the end of this 12 week course, learners will gain a vocabulary in "daily life" areas of Mealtime, In the House, and Everyday Phrases.

OPP 1D

Body, Characteristics & Personality Traits

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pathways 1A, 1B, and 1C or test out. By the end of this 12 week course, learners will gain a vocabulary and every day language about the body.

OPP 2A

Online Pathways 2A - Getting Ready & Clothing

Prerequisite: Successful completion of OPP 1A, 1B, 1C and 1D This course is for learners who have a strong vocabulary foundation and understanding of how the language works.

OPP 2B

Online Pathways 2B - Daily Routines & Current Events

By the end of this course, learners will be able to talk about their daily routines and be able to use spontaneous language to talk about current events.

## FUNDRAISER FOR BRENDA FISHER

Menu

Frybread taco

Frybread Philly

cheese steak

Frybread chilli

dog

Single frybread

Frybread Strawberry

shortcake

Bake goods sold

Details

"Deer Park"

Chamber of Commerce

120 N. Water St.

Black River Falls, WI

When: Sat May 17th

Time Noon

Why:

Expenses to pay off Brenda's funeral bill

Brenda's special recipe being used

PIC-COLLAGE





**Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board**

**ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST FORM**

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TO: Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board Office  
W8801 Mission Road  
Black River Falls, WI 54615  
715/284-8900  
Email: [election.board@ho-chunk.com](mailto:election.board@ho-chunk.com)

FROM: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I am requesting an absentee ballot for the upcoming Special Primary Election, D4, S3 on Saturday, May 3, 2025. Mail to:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_


(Full Legal Name)  
(Street Address)  
(City, State, Zip)

Thank you,

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature District  
Enrollment # Phone Number to be reached at

Deadline to request ballot is Monday, April 28, 2025 by 4:00 pm.



**Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board**

**ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST FORM**

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

TO: Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board Office  
W8801 Mission Road  
Black River Falls, WI 54615  
715/284-8900  
Email: [election.board@ho-chunk.com](mailto:election.board@ho-chunk.com)

FROM: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I am requesting an absentee ballot for the upcoming General Run off Election on Tuesday, June 3, 2025. Mail to:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(Full Legal Name)  
(Street Address)  
(City, State, Zip)

Thank you,

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature District  
Enrollment # Phone Number to be reached at

Deadline to request ballot is Saturday, May 24, 2025 by 4:00 pm.

**Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health**  
**Division of Public Health**

**Wažookj woo'ehi**  
*family conversations*


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


**Wednesdays 1pm-2pm**

**May 7th**  
**Ho-Chunk Nation Labor Dept.**  
*Cora Redbird & Julie Rodriguez*



**May 21st**  
**Climate Change, Health, and the Next 7 Generations**  
*Pam Thunder, RS*

**May 14th**  
**Cedar Growth**  
*Stephanie Clark, Loan Officer*



**JOIN NOW** 

If you have a topic you'd like to learn about, a topic you'd like to present, and to learn more contact:  
Jamie.Decorah@Ho-Chunk.com 715.896.1126  
Ronelle.McKernan@Ho-Chunk.com 715.896.2570



Created 11.12.24RM

**Spring Foraging Walks**

**Update: Postponed**

**Black River Falls & Dells Area**

*with Nicholas Waze&Gale*

**Saturday June 14th, 2025**

**10:00 am - 12:00pm in Dells Area - 9 Eagles**  
W1530 Cliff House in Lyndon Station, Wisconsin 53944

**2:00pm - 4:00pm BRF in the Mission**  
At the State Trail 0.7 miles in on Pettibone Pass, at the bridge.  
Park safely on side of road.


Please bring a gathering bag! Also bug spray, your own water bottle and a jacket if appropriate!




Sign-up is requested for planning purposes.  
BRF: Kathy Braaten at 715.284.9851 ext. 35335 or [kathy.braaten@ho-chunk.com](mailto:kathy.braaten@ho-chunk.com)  
Dells: Alex Richeson at 608-355-1240 ext. 35511 or [alex.richeson@ho-chunk.com](mailto:alex.richeson@ho-chunk.com)



updated 4/25/ KB  
HCN Health and Wellness Division



**NaaguPii**  
Ho-Chunk Nation  
Childcare Center  
W9250 Big Bear St. Black River Falls, WI 54615



**NaaguPii**  
Ho-Chunk Nation  
Childcare Center  
N6431 Lumberjack Guy Rd. Black River Falls, WI 54615

**Child Care Teachers Needed**

To Apply Go To: <https://ho-chunknation.com/employment/> Job Title: Child Care Teacher

**Starting Wage \$14.92/Hour + Benefits**

**Hours of Operation Monday Through Friday 7:00am-5:30pm**

**Benefits Include**

- Health, Dental & Vision Insurance
- Life Insurance
- 401K Up to 5% Employer Match
- Paid Holidays
- PTO After Probationary Period

**Job Duties Include**

Work under minimal supervision while teaching in the classroom.  
Work with the children on developmentally appropriate activities that include physical, emotional, social and cognitive lessons.  
Observation, documentation, and evaluation of each child's development and progress.  
Ensure safety of the children. Physical caregiving of children.  
Maintain an orderly appearance and cleanliness of the learning environment on a daily basis.

**Qualifications**

High School Diploma or Equivalent  
18 Years of Age  
Must Pass Background Check and Provide Negative TB Test  
CPR/First Aid, SIDS/Shaken Baby Certified or Willing to Obtain Within 90 Days of Hire  
Must Adhere to All Confidentiality Laws and Sign Confidentiality Agreement



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

**SUMMER 2025**  
**BLOCK PARTIES**

HEALTH RESOURCES, FUN ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES,  
DOOR PRIZES, AND PICNIC STYLE FOOD!  
1PM-5:30PM

**JUNE 4 - WITTENBERG**  
**@ Siga Funmaker Community Center**

**JUNE 18 - TOMAH**  
**@ Youth Services Gym**

**JULY 9 - BARABOO**  
**@ House of Wellness**

**JULY 23 - NEKOOSA**  
**@ Nekoosa Community Center**

**JULY 30 - MADISON**  
**@ Teejop Hocira Community Center**

**AUGUST 13 - BLACK RIVER FALLS**  
**@ District 1 Community Center**

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



CREATED 2.27.25 PM



# APRIL

# 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
	1 OPEN BRF	2  WITTENBERG DISTRIBUTION 10:30 AM- 12:30 PM FOOD DEMOS- KATHY	3 OPEN BRF	4 OPEN BRF
7 OPEN BRF	8 OPEN BRF	9  WIS DELLS DISTRIBUTION 10 AM- 12:30 PM Nutrition Booth- ALEX Purchased Referred Care	10 OPEN BRF	11  WI DELLS HOME DELIVERIES OPEN BRF
14 OPEN BRF	15 OPEN BRF	16  TOMAH DISTRIBUTION 12N- 1:00	17 LA CROSSE PICKUPS OPEN BRF	18  CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY
21  CLOSED EASTER HOLIDAY	22 OPEN BRF	23  NEKOOSA DISTRIBUTION 12N- 1:00 PM Nutrition Booth - Alex Purchased Referred Care	24 OPEN BRF	25  CLOSED MONTHLY SHIPMENT
28 OPEN BRF FOOD DEMOS- KATHY	29  CLOSED INVENTORY	30  CLOSED ALL-STAFF		

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

Pope Francis had made individual apologies when he met with Indigenous survivors, descendants and other officials in the spring of 2022. They would all be private with no statement from the church,

*Continued on Page 11*

# IF YOU ONLY KNEW... PREVENT T2

# PREVENT TYPE 2

**APRIL 2025 – SEPTEMBER 2025**  
**1 PM – 2 PM VIRTUAL VIA WEBEX**  
(11 AM PST / 12 PM MST / 1 PM CST / 2 PM EST)

The Prevent T2 Lifestyle Change Program is a yearlong program designed for people with prediabetes. It is also designed for people who are at high risk for type 2 diabetes and want to lower their risk.

Webex Invites will be sent out the day before class, you must have a minimum of a phone and e-mail address to participate. Please reach out to Rachel Montana or Lyndsey Killian to register.

Rachel Montana  
715-284-9851 ext. 35039  
rachel.montana@ho-chunk.com

Lyndsey Killian  
715-284-9851 ext. 35068  
lyndsey.killian@ho-chunk.com

Session 1: April 15th - Welcome/Introduction  
Session 2: April 22nd - Get Active to Prevent T2  
Session 3: April 29th - Track Your Activity  
Session 4: May 13th - Eat Well to Prevent T2  
Session 5: May 20th - Track Your Food  
Session 6: May 27th - Get More Active  
Session 7: June 10th - Burn Calories  
Session 8: June 17th - Shop and Cook to Prevent T2

## Earn incentives!

### Trial a G7 blood sugar sensor!

\*Must attend a minimum of 5 classes\*\*.

Session 9: June 24th - Manage Stress  
Session 10: July 8th - Find Time for Fitness  
Session 11: July 22nd - Cope with Triggers  
Session 12: July 29th - Keep Your Heart Healthy  
Session 13: August 12th - Take Charge of Your Thoughts  
Session 14: August 26th - Get Support  
Session 15: September 9th - Eat Well Away From Home  
Session 16: September 23rd - Stay Motivated to Prevent T2

6/24/24 LK



Randall C. Mann

November 23, 1957 – April 10, 2025

Randall C. Mann, age 67, of Tomah, Wisconsin, passed away on Thursday, April 10, 2025. He was born November 23, 1957, to Ralph and Christine (Littlebear) Mann. Randall’s early years were marked by the discipline and camaraderie he found with Semper Fi, which shaped the strong-willed and resilient man he would become. He was incredibly proud of his service to our country with the United States Marine Corps.

Randall was a man of many talents, a true computer wiz who had an uncanny ability with numbers. His career was as diverse as his interests. He was an avid casino player and respected member of the gaming community.

A huge Wisconsin sports fan, Randall’s enthusiasm for the Badgers, Packers, Brewers, and Bucks was infectious. He was the epitome of a true fan, his spirit both quiet and loud, his dedication unwavering. Despite his stubborn streak, Randall was incredibly soft-spoken, his loving and caring nature touching all who knew him.

Christmas held a special place in Randall’s heart, a time for creating cherished memories, often opening gifts with an excitement that rivaled that of his daughters. His love for the film “Home Alone” was well known, as he could watch it repeatedly with the same joy each time. Many evenings were spent in his chair, playing a mean game of 8 ball pool on his phone.

Randall’s devotion to his daughters was unparalleled. He was the kind of father who would brave the worst weather to ensure they experienced life’s special moments. His driving was a testament to his adventurous spirit, always ready to take risks for the sake of his loved ones.

Above all, Randall was a true child at heart, delighting in the joy of giving gifts and often more excited about the toys than his girls. His legacy is one of love, kindness, and gentle strength, a man who lived to care for his family and spread happiness wherever he went.

He is survived by his daughters,



Meko Deloney, Brianna Mann, Siga Mann; siblings, Carole (Karl) Laustrup, Richard Mann, Roberta (Francis) Decorah, Robert (Winona) Mann; nieces and nephews, Matt Estebo, Kori Mann, Katina Matson, Richard “Duffy” Mann, Stephanie Begay, Carole Decorah, Corey (Rosie) Hindsley, Terry Lee Snake, Yvonne Sheridan, Rochelle Mann, Matt Mann, Manda Mann, Rosann Mann, Kiana Beaudin, Arvina Martin, and Lina Martin; and many other extended family. He also leaves behind his beloved pets, Bandit and Ollie.

He was preceded in death by parents, Ralph and Christine; wife, Rebecca Mann; daughter, Molly Mann; brothers, Roger Mann, John Mann, John Beaudin and Buck Martin; nephews, Chris Estebo and Joe Estebo, and niece, Kelly Mann.

Traditional Ho-Chunk Services will be held on Sunday, April 13, 2025, 12:00 p.m. at the Torkelson Funeral Home in Tomah. Bobby Bird will officiate. Burial will follow in the Blue Wing Cemetery. Family and friends are invited for visitation from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service at the funeral home on Sunday. The Torkelson Funeral Home in Tomah is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be offered at [www.torkelsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.torkelsonfuneralhome.com)

SUMMONS

(First Publication)

IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT

In the Interest of Minor Child: A.S.C., DOB 04/07/2025

Case No.: JV 25-01

TO THE PARENT, GUARDIAN, LEGAL OR PHYSICAL CUSTODIAN AND/OR TRADITIONAL RELATIVE(S): Lynn St.Cyr

You are hereby informed that you have been deemed an interested party in the above-entitled juvenile protection case. This legal notice of the filed *Child/Family Protection Petition* 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 a *Plea Hearing* in accordance with HOC K NATION CHILDREN AND FAMILY ACT, Para. 3.41. Any parent(s), guardian(s) and/or person(s) having legal or physical custody of the child must personally appear along with the child at the *Hearing* described below.

The Court shall commence a proceeding at **11:00 a.m. CDT** on the **16<sup>th</sup>** day of **June 2025** for the following purpose Continued Plea Hearing. Pursuant to HOC K NATION CHILDREN AND FAMILY ACT, Para. 3.35, 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.



HO-CHUNK NATION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



MEETING NOTICE

HEALTH ACCREDITATION

BOARD MEETING

Friday, May 16, 2025

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Eileen Decorah Conference Room

Ho-Chunk Health Care Center

N6520 Lumberjack Guy Road

Black River Falls, WI 54615

Virtual Option also available via WebEx

Please contact Lorinda Bird for Virtual meeting information.

715-284-9851 ext. 35351

Email: [Lorinda.Bird@ho-chunk.com](mailto:Lorinda.Bird@ho-chunk.com)

Ho-Chunk Health Care Center

N6520 Lumberjack Guy Road  
Black River Falls, WI 54615  
Ph. 715-284-9851 FAX 715-284-5150

House of Wellness

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



HO-CHUNK NATION

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



MEETING NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING

Friday, May 2, 2025

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Eileen Decorah Conference Room

Ho-Chunk Health Care Center

N6520 Lumberjack Guy Road

Black River Falls, WI 54615

Virtual option available via WebEx

Please contact Lorinda Bird for virtual meeting information.

715-284-9851 ext. 35351

Email: [Lorinda.Bird@ho-chunk.com](mailto:Lorinda.Bird@ho-chunk.com)

Ho-Chunk Health Care Center

N6520 Lumberjack Guy Road  
Black River Falls, WI 54615  
Ph. 715-284-9851 FAX 715-284-5150

House of Wellness

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

Continued from Page 1

received recognition for serving as a support to other families who are serving as a vital support to other families navigating the child welfare system or involved in the child welfare system. The honorees were also recognized for their passion in sharing information and encouraging system change.

Community Partners: Teresa Baier and Anjali Patel, Community Collaboration and Navigation Network of Walworth County, and Crystal McClain received recognition for their strong

collaboration with their local child welfare agency and other community partners to keep families safely together and in their homes. Their efforts in supporting and advocating for youth, families, and child welfare system change were also celebrated.

Child Welfare Professionals: Valerie Blackdeer and Sadie Garvin, Lexi Rachner, and Haleigh Thomas all received recognition for their passion for innovative approaches to reducing barriers to keep families together and keeping them connected to their communities and culture.

The following individual applicants have met the requirements of the HO-CHUNK NATION CODE (HCC) TITLE 2 – GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 7 – TRIBAL ENROLLMENT AND MEMBERSHIP CODE, Enacted by Legislature: October 16, 2007 in accordance with the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation and the Tribal Enrollment and Membership Code. The Enrollment Officer will certify a Notice of Eligibility for Membership and will publish such Notice in the Nation’s newsletter and on the Nation’s website. Upon publication a sixty (60) Day notice period begins. The Notice of Eligibility for Membership must include the Applicant’s name, date of birth, Base Roll ancestry, Ho-Chunk Blood and parent. In cases of adopted Applicants, certain identifying information will be neither published nor released pursuant to Wisconsin and other States’ Laws. **This determination may be appealed to the Ho-Chunk Nation Judiciary by any adult enrolled Ho-Chunk Nation Member within sixty (60) Days after the date on which the Office of Tribal Enrollment publishes the Notice of Eligibility for Membership.**

EOPUB 04252025

APPLICANT NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	BLOOD QUANTUM	ANCESTOR	FATHER	MOTHER
1. Bird, Ezra Christopher	09/25/2023	1/4	Nathan Bird Sr N1912 – 00059	Nathan Victor Bird	Destiny Marie Muir
2. Browne, Demetrius Jerome	06/19/2015	1/4	Jim Soldier Brown Maw Naw Pae Kah 1881 – 00506	Timothy Micheal Browne	Non-Indian
3. Coit, K'Lynn Joy	03/10/2018	3/8	Charles Smith N1910 – 00013		Karissa Julia Smith
4. Decorah, Dylan Matthew	07/23/2013	1/4	George Green Thundercloud Wa Con Cha Cho Kah 1901 – 00459	Ryan Matthew Decorah	Non-Indian
5. Decorah, Owen Stuart	05/04/2010	1/4	George Green Thundercloud Wa Con Cha Cho Kah 1901 – 00459	Ryan Matthew Decorah	Non-Indian
6. Fanning, Jacoby Jaxson	10/03/2022	1/2	Sam Blowsnake Carley Haw Gaw Kah 1881 – 00454	Larry Alan Fanning	Jamie Lynn Fanning
7. Funmaker, Adalyn Grace	09/26/2023	1/4	George Funmaker Sr Wojh Tchaw He Ray Kah 1881 – 00328	Joshua Leland Funmaker	Non-Indian
8. Gard, Brighton Meyer	02/03/2011	1/4	1901		Adrianne Gayle Lewis
9. Gard, Brooklynn Melissa	08/09/2013	1/4	1901		Adrianne Gayle Lewis
10. Garvin, Lightning Runninghorse	10/29/2020	1/2	Black Deer Chau Zap Kah 1881 – 00174	Non-Indian	Quincy Susette Garvin
11. Garvin, Louella Michelle-Renee	08/30/2023	1/2	Black Deer Chau Zap Kah 1881 – 00174	Non-Indian	Quincy Susette Garvin
12. Gordon IV, Donald Alfred	12/20/2023	9/32	Sarah Windblow Uk Se Uk Kah 1881 – 00380	Non-Member	Alycia Benora Gordon
13. Heser, Jonnie Grace	11/29/2019	1/4	George Funmaker Sr Wojh Tchaw He Ray Kah 1881 – 00328	John Gregory Heser	Non-Indian
14. Hill, Alonzo Cade	10/11/2022	1/4	Foster George Cloud Coo Noo Kah 1901 – 00154	Jacob Cade Hill	Latasha Marie Greengrass
15. Hill, Ayla Dolly Mae	11/14/2023	1/4	Foster George Cloud Coo Noo Kah 1901 – 00154	Jacob Cade Hill	Latasha Marie Greengrass
16. Jacobo, June Julia	10/30/2021	3/8	Charles Smith N1910 – 00013	Non-Indian	Karissa Julia Smith



Continued from Page 8

17. Johnson, Elliana Lindley	07/05/2022	21/64	Will Greendeer Chau Nauk He Cho Kah 1901 – 00080	Non-Member	Jasmine Marie Domenget
18. Johnson, Kamari Rose	10/19/2023	21/64	Will Greendeer Chau Nauk He Cho Kah 1901 – 00080	Non-Member	Jasmine Marie Domenget
19. Kearnes, Sirock Westin	01/21/2021	51/128	Charles Rogue N1910 – 00688	Non-Member	Non-Member
20. Littlebear, Brielle	12/03/2022	1/2	Little Bear Wau Sock Nee Kah 1881 – 00352	Charles Littlebear	Danielle May Decorah
21. Lopez, Shawne Ladainian	05/01/2008	5/8	Edward Greengrass Che Win Che Kay Ray He Kah 1881 – 00281	Jaime Alan Lopez	Jody Fawn Whiteeagle
22. Lowman, Jasmine Marie	04/22/2016	1/4	1901		Allison Manxiwinga Lowe
23. Lucero, Seth Hayes	08/16/2022	1/4	Abel Hopinkah Coo Noo Kah 1901 – 00027	Merle Preston Lucero	Non-Member
24. Nicholas, Michael Jonathan	09/27/2005	27/64	Nathan Bird Sr N1912 – 00059	Michael Jonathan Nicholas	Non-Member
25. Redbird, Hilda Mae	02/26/2023	47/128	Frank Redbird Ha Kah Kah 1901 - 00840	Thomas Redbird IV	Brandi Rae Redbird
26. Reed, Azul Lee	08/22/2016	3/8	Charles Smith N1910 – 00013		Karissa Julia Smith
27. Reed, Mimike Rae	09/02/2019	3/8	Charles Smith N1910 – 00013		Karissa Julia Smith
28. Sallaway, Reign Rambo	05/10/2023	1/2	George Funmaker Sr Wojh Tchaw He Ray Kah 1881 – 00328	Jayce Gage Sallaway	Tama Leigh Sallaway
29. Smith, Christine Ann	07/21/1996	1/4	Joseph Hall Koo Noo Kah 1881 – 00461	William Patrick Bartlett	
30. Stewart, Aralynn Dream	08/01/2019	1/4	Luke Green Mon Mar Chau Naw Gee Car War Ra Kaw 1881 – 00104	Lucas George Stewart	Non-Indian
31. Sutton, Sage Lenore	12/14/2007	1/4	1901		Allison Manxiwinga Lowe
32. Vasquez, Journey Myron	02/25/2023	1/4	George Cloud Son Nik O He Way Kah 1901 – 00149		Maya Abril Vasquez
33. Vasquez-Thompson, Jeremaya Juan	07/23/2021	1/4	George Cloud Son Nik O He Way Kah 1901 – 00149		Maya Abril Vasquez
34. Walker, Andrew Lee	03/09/1992	1/4	Leonard Walker Cho Na Ka Hu Kaw N1910 – 00394		Adriane Gayle Walker
35. Walker, Levi Maitaje	08/14/2022	1/2	Leonard Walker Cho Na Ka Hu Kaw N1910 – 00394		Sylvia Rae Walker
36. Whiteeagle, Nova Ayani	03/23/2023	15/32	Floyd Thomas White Eagle Hunk Nik Cha Kah 1901 - 01085	Kyle Justin White Eagle	Venita Lucille White Eagle
37. Zepeda, Genesis King Azayah	01/10/2023	1/4	Nat Sager Dick Mauh Tis A Kah 1901 – 01178		Ramona Rose Bush

I, **Eliza Decorah /s/**, Enrollment Officer for the Ho-Chunk Nation, hereby certify that the above Enrollment Eligibility List is an accurate presentation of enrollment applications reviewed and processed by the Office of Tribal Enrollment. Signed and dated this **22nd day of April, 2025.**



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

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

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

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

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

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



HO-CHUNK NATION  
LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR MEETING  
EXECUTIVE OFFICES  
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI  
APRIL 8, 2025

**Call to Order:** Tribal Secretary Rep. Stephanie Begay called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

- Roll Call:**
- President Jon Greendeer-EX
  - Vice President Danielle DeLong-VC
  - Rep. Jessika Greendeer-VC
  - Rep. Rodney Rave-P
  - Rep. Phyllis Smoke-P
  - Rep. Damian Thundercloud-P
  - Rep. Stephanie Begay-P
  - Rep. Kristin White Eagle-P
  - Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr.-VC
  - Rep. Shelby Visintin-VC, P at 10:16 a.m.
  - Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle-P
  - Rep. Robert Pilot-VC
  - Rep. Paul Fox-P
  - Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah-EX

**Determination of Quorum:** Quorum is established at 10:00 a.m.

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

**Approval of Agenda:** MOTION by Rep. Phyllis

Smoke to approve the agenda with adding New Business O. Letter of Support for Head Start Program. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:**

**Legislative Meeting-March 18, 2025**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the March 18, 2025 Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

**Commission Reports:**

**Housing Commission-March 20, 2025**

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to approve the March 20, 2025 Housing Commission Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

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

MOTION by Rep. Jessika Greendeer to approve the March 24, 2025 Health, Social Services, Insurance and Education Commission Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep.

Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

**Resolution-Approval of the 2025 Older Americans Act Title III Grant Agreement between the Ho-Chunk Nation and the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources**

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 04-08-25 A**, Approval of the 2025 Older Americans Act Title III Grant Agreement between the Ho-Chunk Nation and the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

**Resolution-Authorization for Paid Administrative Leave for Family Healing Camp 2025**

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 04-08-25 B**, Authorization for Paid Administrative Leave for Family Healing Camp 2025. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

**Resolution-Reaffirming Support for the Ho-Chunk Nation Fitness Initiative**

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 04-08-25 C**, Reaffirming Support for the Ho-Chunk Nation Fitness Initiative. Second by

Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

**Special Finance Commission-March 26, 2025**

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to approve the March 26, 2025 Special Finance Commission meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

**Resolution-Approval for Designation and Funding of a Capital Project-HCG Nekoosa Kitchen Roof Repair**

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 04-08-25 D**, Approval for Designation and Funding of a Capital Project-HCG Nekoosa Kitchen Roof Repair. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

**Thundermaker Wellness Request (Executive Branch Follow-Up)**

Rep. Jessika Greendeer stated that this request came through the Special Finance Commission on March 26, and Behavioral Health was requested to give their perspective and feedback on the proposal from Thundermaker Wellness, and how it applies to the Nation’s needs.

Division of Behavioral Health Director Ruth Garvin was online, and mentioned that she reviewed all the information from Thundermaker Wellness, and she requested a schedule of activities from Thundermaker Wellness. Director Garvin said that last fiscal year her budget allowed service of 93 facilities, and with the same budget, it would only allow for 4 clients to be served at Thundermaker Wellness.

10:16 a.m. Rep. Shelby Visintin is present, in person.

MOTION by Rep. Jessika Greendeer to TABLE Thundermaker Wellness Request (Executive Branch Follow-Up) until the other items and additional information has been received. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.

**Resolution-Authorization of Funding to the Thundermaker Wellness Center from the Healing Center for Addiction Special Revenue Fund**

Hunter Thundercloud-Eary and Dr. Alec Thundercloud from Thundermaker Wellness were online.

Rep. Kristin White Eagle mentioned that this resolution would provide funding to Thundermaker Wellness for tribal members to receive Continued on Page 12



Continued from Page 6 recordings or official documentation. On May 12, the Vatican announced the official visit to Canada, which would be during his “penitential pilgrimage” when the Pope would make his official public acknowledgement, apology and a prayer for forgiveness. He would make stops in the west, the east and the far north during his six-day tour, arriving on July 24 and flying back to Rome on July 30.

The pope travelled to Maskwacis Cree Nation, Alberta, on July 25, where thousands of Indigenous people, the majority of who were residential school survivors and their descendants, had gathered. It was greatly anticipated that this would be the day that the Pope would make his historic apology.

In the morning, the pontiff and a small delegation visited the grounds where the former Ermineskin Indian Residential School operated from 1916 to 1975 as one of the largest government-funded schools run by the Catholic Church. He then arrived at the pow wow harbour where people had been arriving since sunrise. The day would be overcast, with occasional breaks in the sky to let in some sun. It threatened to rain all day, but it never did.

“Today I am here, in this land that, along with its ancient memories, preserves the scars of still open wounds. I am here because the first step of my penitential pilgrimage among you is that of again asking forgiveness, of telling you once more that I am deeply sorry,” said Pope Francis. “Sorry for the ways in which, regrettably, many Christians supported the colonizing mentality of the powers that oppressed the Indigenous Peoples. ... In the face of this deplorable evil, the church kneels before God and implores his forgiveness for the sins of her children.”

When the apology finally came, nearly 150 years after the first Indigenous children were snatched from their families to face abuse and neglect, it drew applause and a few whoops from the thousands of people gathered.

The day was filled with ceremony, including traditional singing and dancing, and included one of the more controversial moments of the visit, when the Pope was gifted with a ceremonial headdress by elder Wilton Littlechild, who also served as commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which heard from

hundreds of survivors.

For many, Littlechild said, the apology mattered.

“This has been a journey for many Indigenous peoples who wanted to see this day happen, in tears, sometimes in anger, who said to me, ‘I just want to hear three words from the Pope in front of me, ‘I am sorry,’ for what happened to me as a child,’” Littlechild told ICT. “I was just following their instructions all these years making sure he made that commitment. And sure enough, here we are.”

Soon after Littlechild presented the Pope with the headdress, an unscripted and dramatic moment occurred when a First Nations woman approached the dais and began to sing a powerful song.

Trina Fontaine, who is known as Sih Pi Ko, stood near the bottom step of the stage where the Pope and various dignitaries were sitting. With her fist in the air, she sang in her Cree language a song that sounded very much like the Canadian national anthem. The crowd cheered when she finished singing, and the Pope applauded.

The next day, Si Pih Ko, Cree explained that the song was not the Canadian anthem. The song is yet another example of cultural elements stolen from Indigenous peoples and corrupted by colonizers, she said.

“They use that,” she told ICT. “They tried to translate that song and use it for their anthem. It doesn’t belong to them.”

Si Pih Ko, traveled to Alberta from the remote mining town of Thompson, Manitoba, to come face to face with the Pope. “Holding my brother’s jacket with me, he would have been right beside me too, yesterday and today,” she said. “Still to this day, there’s no answers. And I’m here actually to heal from that.”

She said she wanted to send a message to the chiefs upon the stage as well as the Pope.

“I said, ‘I know who I am. You need to be reminded who you are and not bow down. We’re looking for a place to heal, not to kneel,’” she said.

On July 26, the Pope visited Lac Ste. Anne just east of Edmonton to participate and conduct ceremonies at a place that has become a shrine for Indigenous Catholics.

Former Chief Rosanne Casimir of Tk’emlúps te Secwépemc, previously known as Kamloops

Indian Band, was waiting at the waters for the Pope to arrive. She said that as soon as she found out the Pope would not travel to Kamloops she made plans to travel to Lac Ste. Anne.

“I am very honored to be here, to be supporting all our brothers and sisters right on Turtle Island here to visit with the Pope and to witness him here at Ste. Anne’s,” she told ICT as she stood among hundreds pressed against the waist-high, steel fence awaiting the Pope.

“Coming to Lake Ste. Anne is very meaningful,” she said. “And this is something that’s very historical, you know, looking around here, all the thousands of First Nations, Indigenous and Métis people that have come together as a family, to come and witness the Holy See come and bless these waters and to also acknowledge who we are.”

Kamloops brought the attention of the world to Canada’s residential school history when the First Nation announced in May 2021 the discovery of anomalies that are believed to be the unmarked graves of 215 children at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School in British Columbia.

On the day of the apology, Mavis LongJohn sat with her sister at the top of the arbor bleachers where just moments earlier Pope Francis had offered apologies for the Catholic Church’s role in Canada’s residential school system.

The crowd was dispersing quickly as the Pope’s helicopter disappeared into the overcast sky on its way back to Edmonton.

LongJohn had traveled from Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation in Saskatchewan to Maskwacis First Nation as part of her own healing journey. She went to the St. Michael’s Indian Residential School in Duck Lake, Saskatchewan, and she carries not only her own story but those of her parents and her late sister.

“I cried,” she told ICT about hearing the Pope’s apology. “I was looking down on the ground because my deceased parents were residential school survivors as well. I had an older sister who passed away in 1996, who is not able to hear what the Pope has said. My mom passed away two weeks ago – she was 91 – and she was unable to experience this event, but hopefully she is looking down from the spirit world.”



*Continued from Page 11*  
treatment.

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to establish an MOU with Thundermaker Wellness with Legal and Legislators to work on an MOU towards establishing a resolution addressing outstanding issues and matters Behavioral Health brought up, and to see this to completion in one month. Second by Rep. Jessika Greendeer. **MOTION IS AMENDED** to include within the timeframe, request Wally Apland to provide those documents for consideration. Second concurs. 11-0-1(Rep. Shelby Visintin) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Dr. Alec Thundercloud said that Wally Apland from the Ho-Chunk Health Care Center recommended that Thundermaker Wellness recommend the rate of \$30,000 per month to the Ho-Chunk Nation. Dr. Thundercloud continued, with saying that they thought that was too high, so they brought the price down to a price closer to fair market value of insurance companies, which includes a tribal discount. Mike Lu introduced himself as a subject matter expert on license health care consulting and administrating. He helped start a dozen of these facilities, and is currently assisting Thundermaker Wellness. Mr. Lu said that he accessed the costs to deliver the services, from that, they delivered cash based services at a fixed rate of \$25,000 per month and set discounts for tribal nations, and additional volume discounts on top of that. Mr. Lu stated that all of the calculations are available. Mr. Lu has a full business plan for Thundermaker Wellness, a cost analysis and pro forma.

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to request the pro forma, business plan and treatment facilities documents to be sent to Legislative Attorney Carolyn Garnett for review from Legislative CFO and all Legislators. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to TABLE Resolution-Authorization of Funding to the Thundermaker Wellness Center from the Healing Center for Addiction Special Revenue Fund. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

***Development Commission- April 1, 2025***

**MOTION** by Rep. Rodney Rave to approve the April 1, 2025 Development Commission meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*10:39 a.m. Vice President Danielle DeLong is excused for the remainder of the meeting.*

***Resolution-Cancellation of Fee Lease #4145 for Leslie Ast***

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 04-08-25 E**, Cancellation of Fee

Lease #4145 for Leslie Ast. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

***Resolution-Cancellation of Fee Lease #4736 for Amber & Cody Greendeer***

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 04-08-25 F**, Cancellation of Fee Lease #4736 for Amber & Cody Greendeer. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

***Special Finance Commission- April 2, 2025***

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to TABLE Special Finance Commission- April 2, 2025 to after Executive Session. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

***Special Finance Commission- April 3, 2025***

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to TABLE Special Finance Commission- April 3, 2025 to after Executive Session. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Unfinished Business:**

***Red Cloud Park-Standing Agenda Item***

Attorney General Gardner stated that there is no new update, and will have an update next session.

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

***Foreign Trade Zones***

Legislative Counsel mentioned that this is still a work in progress, and will have a written update at the next Legislative Meeting.

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to support the ongoing review by legal as to whether any existing Ho-Chunk Nation entities can be used for foreign trade zone, if not, authorize legal to develop a strategy to formulate the necessary entity using assistance of Quarles. Second by Rep. Rep. Rodney Rave. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

***Governor Evers’ State Budget Proposal***

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to STRIKE Governor Evers’ State Budget Proposal. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**New Business:**

***Resolution-Appointment of Steve Abangan to the Ho-Chunk Nation Trust and Investment Commission***

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 04-08-25 G**, Appointment of Steve Abangan to the Ho-Chunk Nation Trust and Investment Commission. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

***Resolution-Authorization for the Department of Social***

***Services Tribal Aging Unit to Apply for the Greater Wisconsin Agency for Aging Resources American Rescue Plan Act-Title III Grant***

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 04-08-25 H**, Authorization for the Department of Social Services Tribal Aging Unit to Apply for the Greater Wisconsin Agency for Aging Resources American Rescue Plan Act-Title III Grant. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

***Resolution-Authorization for the Department of Agriculture to Apply for the USDA Farm Service Agency Agricultural Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage***

**MOTION** by Rep. Jessika Greendeer to adopt **Resolution 04-08-25 I**, Authorization for the Department of Agriculture to Apply for the USDA Farm Service Agency Agricultural Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

***Resolution-Authorization for the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Social Services Tribal Aging Division to Apply for and Enter into the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources 2024-2025 Tribal Grant Agreement for the Nutrition Services Incentive Program***

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 04-08-25 J**, Authorization for the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Social Services Tribal Aging Division to Apply for and Enter into the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources 2024-2025 Tribal Grant Agreement for the Nutrition Services Incentive Program. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

***Resolution-Authorization to Place Proposed Amendments to the Charitable Request Act (4 HCC § 8) out for Forty-Five Day Public Comment***

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 04-08-25 K**, Authorization to Place Proposed Amendments to the Charitable Request Act (4 HCC § 8) out for Forty-Five Day Public Comment. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

***Resolution-Adoption of Amendments to the Police Department Advisory Board Establishment Act (1 HCC § 17)***

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 04-08-25 L**, Adoption of Amendments to the Police Department Advisory Board Establishment Act (1 HCC § 17). Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

***Resolution-Adoption of Rights of Nature Charter***

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adopt

**Resolution 04-08-25 M**, Adoption of Rights of Nature Charter. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 10-0-1(Rep. Jessika Greendeer) **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Noted for the record: Rep. Jessika Greendeer stated, “Once upon a time we made a law to prohibit the use of Styrofoam, but throughout our enterprises over the last few weeks we had only the choice to drink from and eat off of Styrofoam. In the last month we talked about the exploitation and commodification of a plant, a living being. This charter is simply paying lip service and the rights of nature is not a code or law-but rather who we are as Ho-Chunk people. We all have to work together on truly making a difference for our future generations.”*

Attorney General Gardner inquired about the enforcement mechanisms within the Charter, as the Nation does not have restorative justice practices right now. Rep. Kristin White Eagle mentioned that the stewardship council was to encourage the communities to come together, and there is no legal framework right now.

Associate Judge Wendi Huling is online and stated that the Peacekeepers Court could be of assistance with the restorative justice piece, but will need funding. Judge Huling said she would like to be a part of getting the Peacekeepers Court moving again.

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to request the Judicial Branch, through Judge Huling, to forward information on reinstating and including a budget for how we can incorporate the Peacekeepers Court as well as using that as part of restorative justice for Rights of Nature and the Stewardship Council and have that for the next Finance Commission Meeting. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Rodney Rave is out of the room.*

***Resolution-Authorization for the Department of Personnel to Utilize E-Verify***

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 04-08-25 N**, Authorization for the Department of Personnel to Utilize E-Verify. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Shelby Visintin is out of the room.*

***Resolution-Authorization to Deduct Amounts from Annual Gaming Compact Payment to Riverside International Friendship Gardens***

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to adopt **Resolution 04-08-25 O**, Authorization to Deduct Amounts from Annual Gaming Compact Payment to Riverside International Friendship Gardens. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 8-1(Rep. Jessika Greendeer)-

1(Rep. Kristin White Eagle) **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Shelby Visintin out of the room.*  
*Noted for the record: Rep. Kristin White Eagle expressed her concerns regarding compact deducts, and does not agree with the compact deduct dollars being separated by district. If this is going to be considered something that would reduce any amount that D2 may need because it is considered within that district, she would not be in favor of moving this forward in this way. Rep. Kristin White Eagle then asked if there is something in writing that states the compact deduct funds needs to be separated per district.*

Legislative Counsel Michael Murphy stated that there was a motion that was passed at the Legislative Meeting on July 18, 2023 to have the amounts split equally between Districts 1, 2 and 3. There is nothing in law or in the compact that dictates that.

***Resolution-Establishment of a Tribal Data Sovereignty Workgroup***

**MOTION** by Rep. Jessika Greendeer to adopt **Resolution 04-08-25 P**, Establishment of a Tribal Data Sovereignty Workgroup. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Shelby Visintin out of the room.*

***Resolution-Confirmation of Alana Hansen to the Election Board as the District 3 Wittenberg Alternate***

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 04-08-25 Q**, Confirmation of Alana Hansen to the Election Board as the District 3 Wittenberg Alternate. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 10-0-1(Rep. Shelby Visintin) **MOTION CARRIED.**

***Clean Lakes Alliance Watershed Council Letter of Intent***

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to authorize President Greendeer to sign the Letter of Intent at the May 15, 2025 breakfast with the Clean Lakes Alliance. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 10-0-1(Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle) **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Noted for the record: Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle mentioned she abstained as she is a board member of the Clean Lakes Alliance.*

***HHCDa Madison Location Change Order***

**MOTION** by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to approve \$2,000 from District 3 Community Improvement Funds for the change order. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

***Resolution-Per Capita Declaration for May 1, 2025***

**MOTION** by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution** *Continued on Page 13*



*Continued from Page 12*  
**04-08-25 R**, Per Capita Declaration for May 1, 2025. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Rep. Kristin White Eagle would like an updated template for the per capita declaration resolutions; one that does not including language regarding the COVID pandemic. Legislative Attorney Carolyn Garnett will update the template for future use.

**Letter of Support for Head Start Program**

Rep. Phyllis Smoke stated that this is a letter of support for the protection of the Head Start program, and the letter will be sent to Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr.

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to authorize the Vice President to sign the letter and to send it. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**District Meetings:**

**D1 Maqničo Horuzra – March 13, 2025**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to the Election Board Workgroup, Department of Justice, Election Board Office, and the Election Board, the **MOTION** by Libby Fairchild to the June 3, 2025 election strictly conducted by mail in ballots and not require notarization. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 9-0-1(Rep. Shelby Visintin) **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Paul Fox out of the room.*

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to the Election Board Workgroup, Department of Justice, Election Board Office, and the Election Board, the **MOTION** by Libby Fairchild to have the Election Board be subject to background checks and completed before the next election. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 10-0-1(Rep. Shelby Visintin) **MOTION CARRIED.**

**D2 HoxaikejaHogucejal/Nizhakisuc – March 20, 2025**

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to Legislature for final budget approval, the **MOTION** by Shane Funmaker to approve the proposed powwow budget in the amount of \$133,890. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to the Office of the President, Department of Social Services, Finance Commission, and TAU with having TAU come up with a budget for this event and to provide a funding request, the **MOTION** by Clariss Funmaker to approve up to four elders per district to attend 2025 NICOA American Indian Elder Conference to include traveling companions for each elder. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Executive Session (Business Matters, Criminal Matters, Inter-governmental Relations, Land, Law Enforcement, Legal Advice,**

Fox to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

**MOTION** by Rep. Paul Fox to move to Executive Session for Business Matters, Criminal Matters, Inter-governmental Relations, Land, Law Enforcement, Legal Advice, Personnel Matters, Public Safety or Well-Being, and include Amanda DeCora, Bernice Twinn, and Department of Business staff. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*The meeting moved to Executive Session at 10:04 a.m.*

*Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. and Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle are excused for the remainder of the meeting at 11:39 a.m.*

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to return to Open Session. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*The meeting returned to Open Session at 12:37 p.m.*

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis

**Personnel Matters, Public Safety or Well-Being:**

**MOTION** by Rep. Paul Fox to move to Executive Session for Business Matters, Criminal Matters, Inter-governmental Relations, Land, Law Enforcement, Legal Advice, Personnel Matters, Public Safety or Well-Being. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*The meeting moved to Executive Session at 11:35 a.m.*

*Rep. Lambert Cleveland, Jr. is excused for the remainder of the meeting at 2:45 p.m.*

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

*The meeting returned to Open Session at 5:05 p.m.*

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to ratify all action taken in Executive Session. Second by Rep. Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Commission Reports (Re-visited):**

**Special Finance Commission-April 2, 2025**

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to approve the April 2, 2025 Special Finance Commission meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Special Finance Commission-April 3, 2025**

Smoke to ratify all action taken in Executive Session. Second by Rep. Jessika Greendeer. 9-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Robert Pilot is not online.*

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to TABLE the April 3, 2025 Special Finance Commission meeting minutes. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Amendment to the Agenda:**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to add to the agenda: New Business P. Resolution-Authorization for the Department of Education to Apply for the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs Johnson O’Malley Grant and New Business Q. Resolution-Authorization for the Department of Education to Apply for the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs Higher Education Grant. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution-Authorization for the Department of Education to Apply for the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs Johnson O’Malley Grant**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 04-08-25 T**, Authorization for the Department of Education to Apply for the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs Johnson O’Malley Grant. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution-Authorization for the Department of Education to Apply for the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs Higher Education Grant**

**MOTION** by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 04-08-25 U**, Authorization for the Department of Education to Apply for the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs Higher Education Grant. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Release to Open Session:**

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to get support to provide funding for this event from Special Projects, up to \$5,000 for the April 26, 2025 Ho-Chunk Code Talkers Event, payable to Shane Yellow Thunder with reconciliation. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. **MOTION IS AMENDED** to include release to Open Session. Second concerns. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to request that the proposal that she (Rep. Kristin White Eagle) submitted for future land use at the Foremost Farms property be released out of executive session, and release this motion to Open Session. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Adjournment:**

**MOTION** by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to adjourn to April 23, 2025 at the Executive Offices in Black River Falls, Wisconsin. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 10-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

*The Legislative Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.*

**HO-CHUNK NATION  
LEGISLATURE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
EXECUTIVE OFFICES  
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI  
APRIL 17, 2025**

**Call to Order:** Rep. Kristin White Eagle called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Roll Call:**

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

VC-Video Conference

**Determination of Quorum:** Quorum is established at 10:02 a.m.

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

**Approval of Agenda:**

**MOTION** by Rep. Paul



STRONGHEARTS

Native Helpline

Safe | Anonymous | Confidential

StrongHearts Native Helpline is a 24/7 safe, confidential and anonymous domestic and sexual violence helpline for American Indians and Alaska Natives offering culturally-appropriate support and advocacy.

Call | Text: 1-844-7NATIVE (762-8483)

Chat online at [www.strongheartshelpline.org](http://www.strongheartshelpline.org)

This advertisement was produced by StrongHearts Native Helpline with Grant No 15POVC-23-GK-01582-TVAG, awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this ad are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.



# VOTE CORAL PETTIBONE

## as a write in for the May 3rd, 2025 legislature District 4, Seat 3 special election

I am Coral Pettibone, currently running as a write in for legislature district 4, seat 3. My Cooka and Gaaga are Gavin and Vaughn Pettibone. I reside in Livonia, Michigan. I am a licensed massage therapist and I am currently taking courses to be a certified youth life coach and I am also in the process of getting my builders license. For the past 30 years my family and I have been performing educational programs at schools, libraries, universities, and events that bring awareness and true knowledge of Native American people throughout Michigan. As an at large legislature, I would like to see and push for a system that ensures that all members in district 4 are made aware of all updates for new programs and assistance in a timely manner. It is important that at large tribal members feel included, heard, and have equal opportunities within the nation. My Dad Reginald Pettibone, being in the pigeon clan, has passed down to me the Ho-Chunk values that he was taught by his grandfathers and grandmothers which is to take care of the elders before oneself and creating a healthy and successful environment for our youth. I am well rounded in the knowledge of health therapy (my current job), the process of addressing the needs and concerns of the youth, and all aspects of building. As a district 4 legislature I would be honored and look forward to working for you.

I would greatly appreciate if you write my name in on your ballot for the May 3rd election as your district 4, seat 3 for legislature.

Pinagigi,  
Coral Pettibone



Empowering  
Indigenous  
Entrepreneurs.

Strengthening  
Wisconsin's  
Indian Country.

At **First American Capital Corporation (FACC)**, we believe in the power of Indigenous-owned businesses to drive economic growth, create jobs, and build wealth in Wisconsin's Indian Country. As a **mission-focused lender**, we provide **access to capital** through business loans, expert **technical assistance**, and **advocacy** to ensure Native entrepreneurs have the resources needed to succeed—on and off the reservation.

Our goal? To be a stepping stone—helping our borrowers strengthen their financial position so they can graduate to mainstream banking. When one business thrives, it lifts an entire community.

Let's build the future together. **Partner with FACC and grow your business today.**

**Inquire today at [faccwi.org](http://faccwi.org).**



10710 W. Scharles Ave., Hales Corners, WI 53130  
414.604.2044 | [info@faccwi.org](mailto:info@faccwi.org) | [faccwi.org](http://faccwi.org)



NOTICE AND RULES OF GENERAL RUN OFF ELECTION

TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025



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

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

(1) Primary Elections shall be held prior to an Election with three (3) or more candidates in order to ensure compliance with the majority vote requirement as provided for in paragraphs 1c and 1e.

(3) Any candidate who receives fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) of the total votes cast will be deemed as the winner.

Therefore the following were declared winners as of Tuesday, March 11, 2025:

LEGISLATURE:  
July 2025- June 2029

District 2, Seat 3  
Stephanie Begay

District 4, Seat 1  
Eddie Mullen

District 4, Seat 2  
David Greendeer

JUDICIARY:  
Supreme Court Chief Justice:  
July 2025 – June 2031  
Todd R Matha  
Supreme Court Associate Justice 1 – July 2025 – June 2029  
Tricia Zunker (Hinuk pij)

b. General Elections.  
(1). General Elections shall be held in accordance with Article VIII, Section 1 of the Constitution, which states: “Section 1. General Elections. General Election shall be held on the first Tuesday in June of odd numbered years. Offices of the Legislature, Executive, and Judiciary shall be filled at General Elections.”

Therefore the following will be placed on the ballot for HCN General Runoff Election on Tuesday, June 3, 2025.

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

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

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

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

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

ELIGIBILITY DISPUTES:  
Any individual whose name does not appear on the eligible voters list can claim the right to vote by presenting a written challenge to the Election Board. Any eligible voter may challenge the eligibility of an individual’s name appearing on the eligible voters list by presenting a written challenge to the Election Board.  
The Election Board will rule on all written challenges to the list of eligible voters immediately after the close of the challenge period. Section 11(c) iii, (Deadline, Friday, June 13, 2025 at 4:00pm)

Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board  
W8801 Mission Road  
Black River Falls, WI. 54615  
TELEPHONE (715)284-8900  
TOLL FREE (800)890-0583  
FAX NUMBER(715)284-8600  
E-MAIL:  
Election.board@ho-chunk.com

After 4:30 pm and the weekend please call (715)299-6104

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

ABSENTEE VOTING:  
A voter may vote by absentee ballot provided the Election

Board receives the absentee ballot request in writing no later than Saturday, May 24, 2025 by 4:00 pm. See Election Board Code, section 13(a), i Requests MUST INCLUDE the eligible voter’s name printed or typed (with signature), physical address where the ballot will be delivered (we use UPS next Day Air – UPS Next Day Air will not deliver to a P.O. Box), daytime telephone number and enrollment number.

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

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

Please check eligible voter’s lists for your Districts.

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

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

GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION DAY  
~~Wednesday, March 5, 2025~~  
Rescheduled to  
Tuesday, March 11, 2025

POST NOTICE OF ELECTION  
Wednesday, March 12, 2025

POST ELIGIBLE VOTERS LIST  
Friday, May 2, 2025

CHALLENGES TO THE ELIGIBLE VOTERS LIST MUST BE RECEIVED PRIOR TO 4:00 PM  
Tuesday, May 13, 2025

LAST DAY TO REQUEST ABSENTEE BALLOTS  
Saturday, May 24, 2025  
By 4:00 pm

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

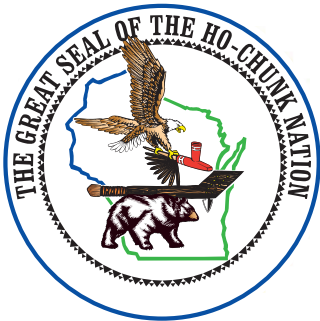
GREEN BAY, WI  
BRANCH OFFICE  
2413 Hazelwood Ln  
(920) 490-2774

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

Revised poster 04/14/25



NOTICE AND RULES OF  
SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION D4, S3  
SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025



Notice is hereby served to all eligible voters of District 4. The Ho-Chunk Nation is calling a Special Election which will be held due to the Residency requirement, Sec. 8, iii, Residency Requirements for Legislative Candidates. A candidate for Legislature shall be eligible to run for office in the District in which the candidate has resided for at least one (1) year immediately prior to filing the petition declaring his or her candidacy. The Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board, in accordance with the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation will conduct a Special Election. ARTICLE IX< SECTION 10, Removal, Recall and Vacancies and the Election Code 2 HCC Sec. 6, states in relevant part:

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

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

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

LEGISLATURE:  
District 4, Seat 3  
July 2025 – June 2029  
Sandra Whitewing

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

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

**ELIGIBILITY DISPUTES:**  
Any individual whose name does not appear on the eligible voters list can claim the right to vote by presenting a written challenge to the Election Board. Any eligible voter may challenge the eligibility of an individual’s name appearing on the eligible voters list by presenting a written challenge to the Election Board. **The Election Board will rule on all written challenges to the list of eligible voters immediately after the close of the challenge period. Section 11(c) iii, (Deadline Wednesday, April 23, 2025).**

Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board  
W8801 Mission Road  
Black River Falls, WI. 54615  
TELEPHONE (715)284-8900  
TOLL FREE (800)890-0583  
FAX NUMBER(715)284-8600  
E-MAIL:  
[Election.board@ho-chunk.com](mailto:Election.board@ho-chunk.com)

After 4:30 pm and the weekend  
please call (715)299-6104

**Deadline to challenge the candidate(s) list to Election Board is Wednesday, April 23, 2025 @ 4:30 pm.**

**ABSENTEE VOTING:**  
A voter may vote by absentee ballot provided the Election Board receives the absentee ballot request in writing no later than **Monday, April 28, 2025 by 4:00 pm.** See *Election Board Code, section 13(a), i* Requests **MUST INCLUDE** the eligible voter’s name printed or typed (with signature), physical address where the ballot will be delivered (we use UPS next Day Air – UPS Next Day Air will not deliver to a P.O. Box), daytime telephone number and enrollment number.

**Absentee Ballots must be received before 7:00 pm on Saturday, May 3, 2025.**

Absentee ballots may be returned by overnight mail, so they may be received at the Election Board Office or the polling places prior to the close of the polls on Election Day. **NOTE THAT FEDEX and UPS NEXT DAY AIR DOES NOT DELIVER IN BLACK RIVER FALLS ON SATURDAYS.**

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

Please check eligible voter’s lists for your Districts.

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

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

SPECIAL ELECTION DAY  
Saturday, May 3 2025

POST NOTICE OF ELECTION  
Monday, April 7, 2025

POST ELIGIBLE VOTERS LIST  
Friday, April 11, 2025

CHALLENGES TO THE ELIGIBLE  
VOTERS LIST MUST BE RECEIVED  
PRIOR TO 4:30 PM  
Wednesday, April 23, 2025

LAST DAY TO REQUEST ABSENTEE  
BALLOTS  
Monday, April 28, 2025  
4:00 pm.

POLLING PLACE:  
OPEN AT 8:00 AM CLOSE AT 7:00  
PM  
CHICAGO, IL  
CHICAGO BRANCH OFFICE  
4738 North Milwaukee Avenue  
(715)284-7894

**Other Polling Sites will be closed during this Special Primary Election D4, S3**

Amended Poster 4/7/25