

Ho-Chunk Nation Honors WWII Code Talkers with Newly Designated Memorial Highway

Kaili Berg

On Saturday, April 26, the Ho-Chunk Nation held a special ceremony to celebrate the official designation of a memorial highway honoring tribal members who served as code talkers during World War II.

The event marked the culmination of years of research and advocacy to recognize these veterans whose contributions were once classified and largely unknown.

The newly designated “Ho-Chunk World War II Code Talkers Memorial Highway” spans Interstate 90 from the Minnesota-Wisconsin state line in La Crosse County to the intersection of I-90 and I-94 in Monroe County.

This corridor passes through the Ho-Chunk Nation’s ancestral homelands and areas with significant tribal populations.

The designation was made

Continued on Page 10




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

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

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


Ho-Chunk Nation Election Results Special Election - District 4 May 3, 2025				
	CHICAGO	ABSENTEE	TOTAL	%
SANDRA WHITEWING	12	2	14	50.00%
CORAL PETTIBONE (write-in)	4	0	4	14.29%
BENJAMIN GAMBLE (write-in)	2	6	8	28.57%
OTHER WRITE-INS	1	1	2	7.14%




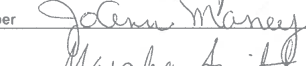
ELECTION CERTIFICATION


WE THE UNDERSIGNED ELECTION OFFICIALS OF THE HO-CHUNK NATION DO HEREBY CERTIFY THE ABOVE TO BE A TRUE AND ACCURATE ABSTRACT OF THE VOTES SHOWN HEREIN FOR THE ELECTION HELD ON THE THIRD DAY OF MAY, 2025. WE FURTHER CERTIFY THAT THIS ELECTION WAS CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION AND RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE HO-CHUNK NATION.


SIGNED AND DATED THIS FOURTH DAY OF MAY, 2025.


CHAIRPERSON: 


Member 

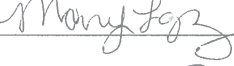
Member 


Member 

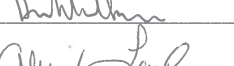
Member 


Member 

Member 

Member 

Member 

Member 

Member 

INSIDE SCOOP..

News.....2,5-6,11

Announcements.....2-4,8-10

Health.....3-4,6

Memorials.....7-8

Notices.....10-12,16

Legal.....13

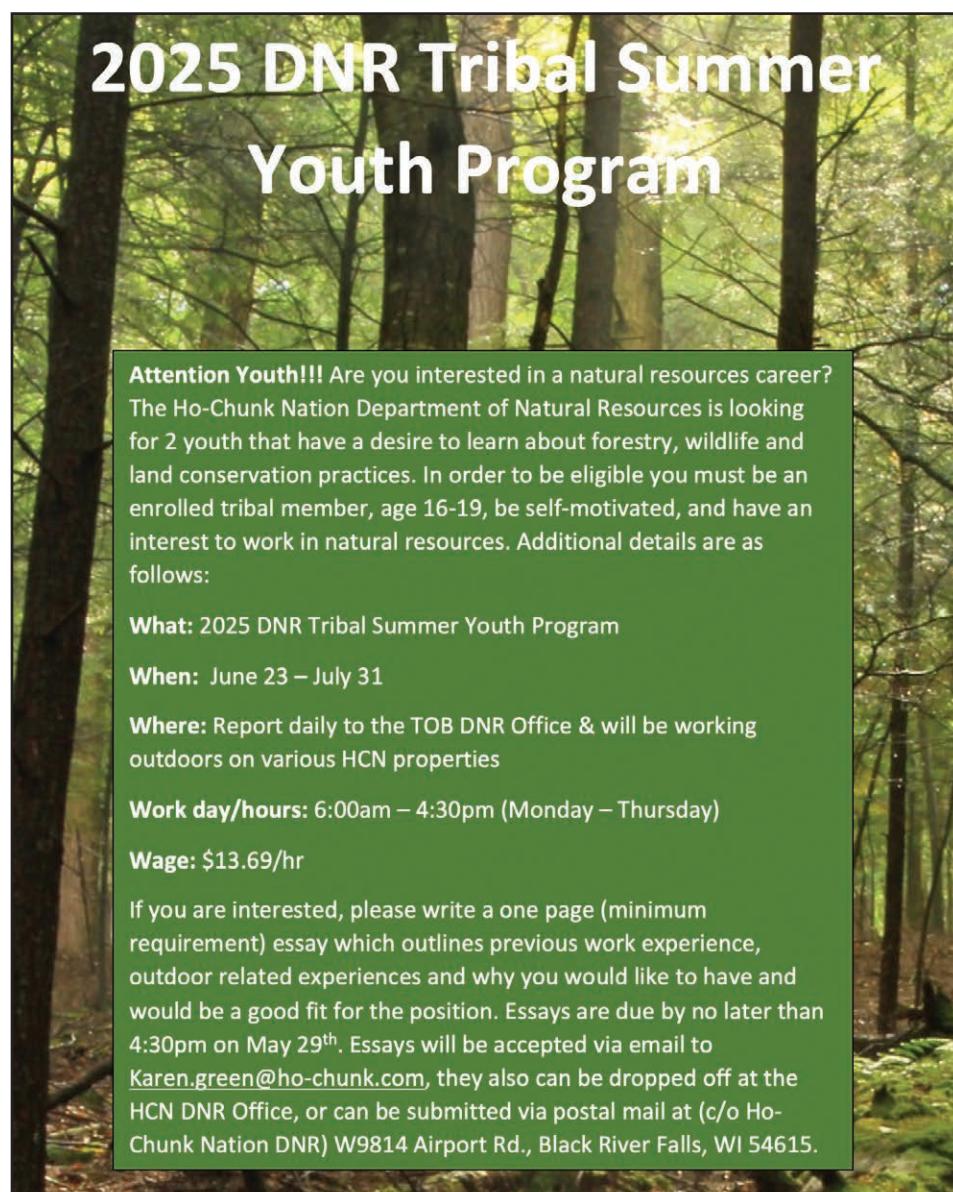
Legislative Minutes.....13-14

Ads.....12-13,15

Want something special placed in the Hock Worak?

Limited space is available so send your request in early.

Submissions will be handled on a first come first serve basis.



2025 DNR Tribal Summer Youth Program

Attention Youth!!! Are you interested in a natural resources career? The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Natural Resources is looking for 2 youth that have a desire to learn about forestry, wildlife and land conservation practices. In order to be eligible you must be an enrolled tribal member, age 16-19, be self-motivated, and have an interest to work in natural resources. Additional details are as follows:

What: 2025 DNR Tribal Summer Youth Program

When: June 23 – July 31

Where: Report daily to the TOB DNR Office & will be working outdoors on various HCN properties

Work day/hours: 6:00am – 4:30pm (Monday – Thursday)

Wage: \$13.69/hr

If you are interested, please write a one page (minimum requirement) essay which outlines previous work experience, outdoor related experiences and why you would like to have and would be a good fit for the position. Essays are due by no later than 4:30pm on May 29th. Essays will be accepted via email to Karen.green@ho-chunk.com, they also can be dropped off at the HCN DNR Office, or can be submitted via postal mail at (c/o Ho-Chunk Nation DNR) W9814 Airport Rd., Black River Falls, WI 54615.

Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health
Division of Public Health

Ważookj woo'ehi

family conversations
feedback survey

We want to hear from you!

Scan the QR code below
to take our short survey.



For more info:

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



Saturday, May 17, 2025

WAZEE LAKE RECREATION AREA, BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI

8:00am PACE & PEDAL DUATHLON

4.6 Mile Trail Run & 10.3 Mile Bike, \$30 per person or \$45 per team

8:30am 5K WAZEE COLOR FUN RUN/WALK

3.1 Mile Run/Walk, \$10 per person, 12 & under FREE

10:00am YOUTH COLOR FUN RUN/WALK

1.0 Mile; FREE for 12 & under

REGISTER ONLINE

www.jacksoninaction.org/pace-and-pedal



Could you survive a month in poverty?

What choices would you make if you had limited time and money?

Friday, May 16

1:00-4:00

Lunch @ Noon

Time Commitment: 3 full hours
Participants must attend the whole simulation

D1 Community Center
7261 Warrior Ave, BRF

Cost: FREE!

Facilitators: Barney Slowey & Tamara Sharp

What past participants have to say:

"Powerful experience to gain a different perspective on poverty."

"One of the best in-services ever. Thanks for bringing us this experience."

"LIFE CHANGING. I'M SO STEEPED IN MIDDLE CLASS VALUES THAT I'VE NEVER REALIZED WHAT POVERTY IS REALLY LIKE."

"I couldn't survive in poverty for two hours. I can't imagine how others live it daily."

Open to all community members while space is available!

You must RSVP to: Vicki Michalski
vicki.michalski@brf.org
(715) 670-1427

2025 TRIBAL ELDER FOOD BOX INFORMATION



2025 Program Information (dates & time)

Ho-Chunk Nation Distribution Locations:

Black River Falls
Wittenberg
Nekoosa
Tomah
Green Bay
Wisconsin Dells

Distribution Thursdays - time varies by location

DATES:
May 29th
June 26th
July 24th
August 21st
September 25th
October 23rd
November 20th
December 18th

With Questions, Contact Scott at Ho-Chunk Food Distribution
715-284-0811 ext. 13858

Each box will contain proteins, produce, and shelf-stable items, sourced from Indigenous and non-Indigenous local producers and will be representative of traditional foods whenever possible. The average box will be 20 pounds.
The contents of the boxes will change for each distribution based on what is available seasonally for the given distribution week.

PLEASE NOTE: Food provided is for Tribal members, 55 years and older. This project is funded by an Intertribal Local Food Purchasing Assistance grant and funding awarded through the Wisconsin Biennial Budget. The project is coordinated by the Great Lakes Intertribal Food Coalition in partnership with Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin.

PROTECTING OUR ELDERS

Awareness, Prevention & Intervention

In honor of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day we are inviting you to join us for a conversation on the different types of elder abuse and how to recognize the signs, along with services and prevention strategies that could help.

Monday, June 2nd

2:30pm - 4:00pm - for Community Partners

Jackson Co. Department of Health & Human Services
421 County Road R, Black River Falls, WI

5:00pm - 6:30pm - for General Public

Black River Falls Public Library
222 Fillmore Street, Black River Falls, WI

Questions? Call Jackson Co. Aging & Disability Services at 715-284-4301.
Brought to you by: Jackson County Adult Protective Services, Bolton Refugee House, Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Social Services and Domestic Abuse Division



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

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

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

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

EDITOR Ardith Van Riper

Administrative Assistant Anna Reichenbach

Reporter.....Kaili Berg

The Hocak Worak is a member of:

Indigenous Journalists Association



INDIGENOUS Journalists Association

HOCAC WORAK NEWSLETTER

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

• PHONE: (800) 472-3089

• FAX: (715) 284-7852

EMAIL: newsletter@ho-chunk.com

• ONLINE: www.ho-chunknation.com

www.hocakworak.com



2016 BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST AWARD WINNER

WISCONSIN NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

Attention: The Next Deadline of the Hocak Worak will be May 16th which will be published on May 23rd. Please contact Hocak Worak at ext. 11004 if you have a change of address or would like to be placed on the mailing list.

Wisconsin Historical Society Breaks Ground on the New Wisconsin History Center

New cultural attraction is coming to Capitol Square in 2027

MADISON, Wis. — The Wisconsin Historical Society celebrated the groundbreaking of the new Wisconsin History Center on Wednesday, April 23. The new cultural destination is rising on the site of the former state historical museum on Madison’s Capitol Square. The event included remarks from State, Society and Tribal leadership before officially kicking off construction of the long-awaited history hub. A ceremonial ground blessing performed by Ho-Chunk Nation drum group, Little Priest Singers, preceded the event.

“This is a historic day for Wisconsin,” said Christian Øverland, Ruth and Hartley Barker Director & CEO of the Wisconsin Historical Society. “With two decades of support from the State Legislature, the generosity of private donors, and the dedication of countless project champions, we are building more than just a museum—we are creating a place where all Wisconsinites can see themselves in history, and where connections between the past, present, and future will enrich the lives of each guest who walks through our new front door.”

The Wisconsin Historical Society is collaborating with an industry-leading architectural and exhibition design team to bring the five-story, 100,000-square-foot landmark to life. The design team is led by Wisconsin-based Continuum Architects in association with SmithGroup, as the lead designer. Ralph Appelbaum Associates, whose exhibition work includes many of the world’s most recognizable cultural attractions including the United States Holocaust

Memorial Museum and London’s Imperial War Museum, is designing the exhibits. Madison-based Findorff will lead the building construction, which is expected to be completed in just over two years.

“I am thrilled to be here as construction begins on a venue that will not only preserve Wisconsin’s rich heritage but will also support future civic engagement, educational opportunities and economic vitality with ripple effects across Wisconsin,” said Department of Administration Secretary Kathy Blumenfeld. “The Wisconsin History Center ensures that the shared history of our region remains accessible, relevant and inspiring for generations to come.”

The new Wisconsin History Center is designed to double the exhibition space of the former state historical museum, which was housed in an undersized, deteriorating building that previously served as a hardware store. The new purpose-built facility will be able to meet growing visitation demand—welcoming more than 200,000 guests and 60,000 school students annually—and deliver a dynamic venue for engaging historical exploration, community programming and statewide reach.

The Wisconsin Historical Society is stewarding the future history center under the guidance and expertise of some of the nation’s leading experience designers, curators, scholars and historians, infusing insights from a wide range of community voices and perspectives, and in



consultation with Native Nations.

“The sacred land we stand on here in Teejop—named for the four surrounding lakes that have sustained us since time immemorial—carries generations of stories, traditions and steadfast resilience,” said President Greendeer of the Ho-Chunk Nation. “Today, we take an important step in ensuring that the stories of our ancestors continue to be preserved, honored and shared for generations to come.”

The history center experience will be anchored by three core galleries that share regional stories in the context of American history, inviting guests to explore themes of civic engagement, human innovation and relationships with the land, and Wisconsin’s identity in American culture. Additional spaces include a rotating community gallery, a large changing gallery that can also host traveling exhibits, communal spaces for public programming, a café, retail storefront, sensory room, and a classroom, lunchroom and multipurpose room to serve students and community groups. The center also boasts a striking fifth-floor event space and adjoining rooftop terrace designed to host a variety of public and private gatherings.

Funding for the \$160.5 million project has been provided by \$112.3 million in state funds and \$48.2

million in private donations. The total private campaign goal for the project is \$66.5 million to support additional transition, opening and operating expenses, with more than \$54.1 million secured to date. The fundraising campaign was propelled by \$27.2 million in collective contributions from Jerry Frautschi and Pleasant Rowland, as well as a dozen lead donors that contributed \$1 million or more to the project, including:

- Jane A. Bartell and John W. Thompson
- The Boldt Family Fund
- Mr. Craig C. Culver
- Robert Dohmen
- Mary Roelli Hilfiker
- Robert* and Patricia* Kern
- Kohler Trust for Preservation
- Ruth DeYoung Kohler II*
- Mr. Frederic Mohs
- David L. and Rita E. Nelson Family Fund within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region
- Cathi Wiebrecht-Searer and Rick Searer

“The Wisconsin History Center is a testament to the generosity and passion of so many individuals and organizations that believe in the power of history to inspire and unite us,” said Julie Lussier, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Historical Foundation. “We are honored to stand here today on the precipice of this shared vision coming to life and we are humbled by the unwavering dedication of the many

people who have made today possible.”

Sen. Kelda Roys, Assembly Speaker Robin Vos and Senate President Mary Felzkowski were also present to celebrate the groundbreaking milestone, underscoring the long-standing bipartisan State support for the new center.

“This is an exciting moment as we launch construction on a world-class museum that will energize Wisconsin tourism, deliver economic benefits to the state and serve as a point of pride for residents across all 72 counties,” said Robin Vos, Wisconsin Assembly Speaker.

While the Wisconsin History Center is being built, a temporary History Maker Space located on the main level of US Bank Plaza on Capitol Square offers an interactive education space for school groups along with history center sneak peeks, a refreshed retail shop and a new lineup of public programming. The Wisconsin History Makers Tour is also traveling the state in the lead-up to the opening of the new Wisconsin History Center. The tour brings history directly to communities across the state through pop-up exhibits, collection displays, author talks, special events and more.

For the latest updates on the Wisconsin History Center, including a live construction camera, visit wisconsinhistory.org/historycenter.

Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health
Division of Public Health

Celebrate

WOMEN'S HEALTH

....

Health booths, activities, resources, and
program information centered on
women's health.

Wednesday
May 21, 2025
9:00am to 4:00pm

Banquet Hall
Ho-Chunk Gaming
Nekoosa

For more information contact Lena Walker:
715.886.5444 ext. 38753
lena.walker@ho-chunk.com

*this event runs at the same time as Marshfield
Clinic's mobile mammography at HCG-Nekoosa
Call Marshfield Clinic at 715-221-6086
to schedule a mammogram with Marshfield Clinic,
please have insurance available

PHAB
Addressing
Public Health
Performance
Health Accreditation

created by JD 04.23.25

Ho-Chunk Nation
Department of Health

Community Gathers for Ceexhaci Planting Day in Nekoosa

Kailli Berg

Community members came together on Friday, April 25, 2025, to celebrate the start of planting season at the Ceexhaci Naqra Woožu Haap event held at the Nekoosa Branch Office.

The day-long gathering, which ran from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., brought families and volunteers out to help plant trees, marking the kickoff to the summer season.

Participants were encouraged to bring their own gloves and got their hands dirty while enjoying food, drinks, door prize drawings, and hands-on learning activities.

“Our area members were strongly urged to participate, and it was a great turnout,” organizers said. “We are thankful for everyone who came out to help us plant trees and build up our community spaces.”

Community Health
Foot Clinics

May 2025

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Black River Falls - 5/5, 5/19
Community Health Office
W9850 Airport Road
(715) 896-1343

Tomah - 5/13
Tribal Aging Unit
358 Eos Road
(608) 372-5202

Wittenberg - 5/19
Siga Funmaker Center
W17634 Radke Road
(715) 348-4711

La Crosse - 5/20
Three Rivers House
724 Main Street
(608) 783-6025

Madison - 5/20
Branch Office
4724 Tradewinds Pkwy
(608) 277-9964

Wisconsin Dells - 5/22
Tribal Aging Unit
E8863 Winneshiek Drive
(608) 253-2185

Nekoosa - 5/29
Nekoosa Health Office
1021 County Road G
(715) 886-5444

A Registered Nurse will
clip/file your nails, and
dremel if necessary.

No walk-ins - appointment is now needed.

MH 4/22/25

Ho-Chunk Nation Contributes Support to the Gold Family Care Center at Beloit Health System

On May 5, Ho-Chunk Nation District 3 Representatives Shelby Visintin and Lambert Cleveland Jr. presented a \$25,000 contribution to support the Gold Family Care Center at Beloit Health System.

This contribution helps strengthen access to high-quality primary care and essential

services for families in the Beloit community, ensuring compassionate care close to home.

The Ho-Chunk Nation is proud to invest in partnerships that promote health, healing, and well-being across the Stateline region. Thank you to Beloit Health System for your continued commitment to community care.

On the Road for Better Women's Health

Committed to better health

As a part of its commitment to providing better health service to everyone in Wisconsin, Marshfield Clinic is proud to sponsor the Mobile Mammography Unit.

Marshfield Clinic's Mobile Health Screening Unit, a credentialed, 40-foot screening van, accommodates medical staff to perform digital mammography screening services for women in a confidential manner.

The Mobile Mammography Unit is coming here to serve you.

Date: 05/21/2025
Location: Ho-Chunk Gaming Nekoosa
949 County Road G
Time: 9:00 To 4:00

For more information or to schedule a mammogram call:
715-221-6086 Please have Insurance Info when calling

In the fight against breast cancer, Marshfield Clinic is proud to partner with

Associated Bank

Prevention is the key to good health - and now Marshfield Clinic is making it more convenient for you.

Marshfield Clinic

Don't just live. Shine.

Dixie Kay Brown

May 23, 1976 — April 21, 2025

Dixie Kay Brown, 48, of Sioux City, IA, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, April 21, 2025. Dixie, the daughter of Wayne C. and Patricia “Patty” A. (Ng) Albert, was born on May 23, 1976, in Winnebago, NE. Dixie’s early life was characterized by her family’s frequent relocations due to her father’s work. She lived in several states, including Texas, Missouri, and Minnesota, before the family ultimately settled in Sioux City, where she attended North High School.

Throughout her life, Dixie embraced various career paths, dedicating the last seven years of her professional journey to Lessman Electric in Sioux City, where she contributed to the accounts payable/receivables department. Known for her vibrant personality, she lived by the mottos, “Love and Laughter” and “My life, I Live it to the limit and I love it.” Her spirit shone brightly through her love for humor, often bringing laughter to those around her. A selfless individual, she consistently prioritized the well-being of others.

Dixie’s love extended beyond mere words; she was an extraordinary party planner, always eager to celebrate with family and friends. Additionally, her passion for animals and her joy in traveling enriched her life as well as those of her loved ones.

Dixie met the love of her life, Jason Brown, in September 1997, and they were united in marriage on August 18, 2000. Together, they raised two wonderful children, Savannah Albert and Tyler Brown. Dixie cherished her role as a mother and delighted in being a grandmother to Bryson “Angel Face” and Braxton “Handsones.” She is also survived by her parents,



Wayne and Patricia “Patty” Albert; her brother, Carl Albert; mother-in-law, Nancy Moos; sisters-in-law, Amy Hines and Angie Peplinski; brother-in-law, Jeremy Brown; and several nieces and nephews.

Dixie will be remembered not only for her dedication to her family and her penchant for making every moment special but also for the love and joy she spread throughout her community. She was preceded in death by her maternal and paternal grandparents and her father-in-law, Nick Brown.

A funeral service will be held in her honor at Meyer Brothers Morningside Chapel in Sioux City on Saturday, April 26, 2025, starting at 4:00 PM. Following the service, a Celebration of Life will take place at The Don’s in South Sioux City, beginning at 5:30 PM.

The memory of Dixie Kay Brown will forever be etched in the hearts of her loved ones, who are left to carry forward her legacy of love, laughter, and cherished moments.

Autumn Machado Laes

September 21, 1976 – April 2025

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Autumn Machado Laes, a beloved daughter, sister, Nani, cousin, and friend. Autumn was called home in April of the Year 2025 at the age of 49. Born on September 21, 1976, in Green Bay, Wisconsin, to her mother, Iris Smith, and father, Richard Laes, Autumn was a proud Ho-Chunk Native American woman whose heart belonged to her home in Black River Falls, Wisconsin.

Autumn embraced life with a vibrant spirit and a deep appreciation for the simple joys. She found immense pleasure in the beauty of the outdoors, often spending time hiking and connecting with nature. Music filled her soul with joy, and she expressed her creativity and love through the art of cooking, always eager to share a meal with those she cherished. Above all, Autumn treasured the moments spent with her friends and family, creating lasting memories filled with laughter and love.

Autumn is survived by her loving brothers, Ira Laes, Bobby Wilkinson, and Uriah Lewis; her dear Nanis, Regina Reel and Barb Smith; her cousins, Somer and Cheyenne Reel; her niece, Jocelyn Kimps; and numerous other nieces, nephews, and extended family members who will deeply miss her presence in their lives.

As a proud member of the Ho-Chunk Nation, Autumn held her heritage close to her heart. In this time of sorrow, we turn to the wisdom of her ancestors:

Great Spirit, Creator of all, We gather before you with hearts filled with sorrow. A life, like a young sapling, has been taken too

soon. Autumn’s journey on this earth, though vibrant and full of promise, has reached its end before its time.

We do not understand the path you have laid before her, But we trust in your wisdom and your boundless love. Embrace her spirit now, guide her on her journey to the next world. May she find peace and rest among our ancestors.

Comfort us, the ones left behind, with the strength to carry on. Help us to remember the joy she brought into our lives, The laughter she shared, and the love she so freely gave. Though her physical presence is gone, may her spirit forever live on in our hearts. Hoka hey.

A visitation will be held on Friday, April 25th at 9:30am at Torgerson’s Funeral Home, Black River Falls with services to follow at 11:00am to celebrate Autumn’s life and the impact she had on all who knew her.

Autumn’s memory will forever be cherished by her family and friends. May she rest in peace.



Heather Beckjorden & Leath "Digger" Lambert

Passed away May 4, 2025

Heather C. Beckjorden and Leath “Hyc Pi” “Digger” S. Lambert both 46 of Tomah walked into eternity together on Sunday, May 4, 2025.

Heather was born on September 19, 1978, in Albert Lea, MN to Cheryl (Miller) Arends. Leath was born on April 22, 1979, to Larry Lambert and Colette (LaMere) Guy in Tomah. They met in middle school and have been together for over 32 years. Their love for the outdoors took them all over; fishing, canoeing and camping on the Kickapoo, motorcycle rides and day trips on their Harley Davidson Road King, and splashing around in the pool with their grandchildren. Playing bingo was also a favorite pastime. They especially loved snuggling and lovin’ on their grandchildren. They were both avid pool players and members of the Stansfield Pool League, shooting doubles and singles. The way Heather would always try to make everyone smile along with Digger’s contagious laughter will forever echo throughout eternity. The love they shared with each other and those around them will remain forever.

They are survived by their children, Justice Beckjorden, Lexus Lambert and Haven

Lambert, grandchildren, Vivianna Beckjorden, Evie Beckjorden, Evren Beckjorden, Aiven Beckjorden, Scarlett Lambert and Kenai Tuchalski, and her mother, Cheryl Arends. Heather’s siblings, Dustin (Cherie) Beckjorden, Nicole Beckjorden, Kayla (Jacob) DuBord, and Kaylee Hojnacki, nieces and nephews, Miles Beckjorden, Haley Welch, Kyran Beckjorden, Lily Beckjorden, Zion Williams, Eric Williams Jr., Kaydan Humble, Kinley Pfeffer, Hudson DuBord, and Abigail DuBord.

Digger’s siblings, Desirae (Eric) Robarge, Sulynn LaMere, Casey (Jon) You, Kelly (Jordan) Westphal, Latoya (Tomas) Aguilar, Elaina Daughtery, Marcus Hartwell, his father, Larry Lambert and an aunt, Suzette LaMere, nieces and nephews, Morgan Robarge, Ronan Robarge, Littea Benny, Colten You, Jathan You, Elijah You and Arielah You, Adrienne Westphal, Ace Westphal, Anna Aguilar, Ayvah Aguilar, Cruz Aguilar, Isaac Aguilar, Emma Aguilar, and Letty Aguilar, Wacozu Cloud and Niyanta Cloud, Haley Hartwell, Forest Hartwell and Orion Hartwell .

They were preceded in death by Digger’s family, mother, Colette (LaMere) Guy, grandparents, Peter LaMere, Iva LaMere, sister, Marcy Hartwell, and a brother, Sage Daughtery.

A Visitation will be held on Thursday, May 8, 10:00 AM at the Sonnenburg Family Funeral Home, 801 E. Monowau Street, Tomah, with a Funeral Service to begin at 12:00 Noon. Burial will follow in the Blue Wing Cemetery.

Sonnenburg Family Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences can be offered by visiting www.sonnenburgfamilyfh.com.



Lenny Cloud

October 17, 1967 – April 30, 2025

Lenny Cloud, 57, passed away on Wednesday, April 30, 2025, at Prescott Nursing Home in Prescott, WI.

Lenny was born on October 17, 1967, to Gerald and LaVetta (Youngthunder) Cloud in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He worked as a pit boss at the Ho Chunk Casino. He loved reading zombie and apocalypse books. He loved messing around with family and making everyone laugh. He enjoyed spending time with his dogs around the house.

He is preceded in death by his dad, Gerald and sister, Geraldine.

Lenny’s memory will live in the hearts of his children, Kevin Cloud, Kora Cloud, and Leo Cloud; his mom, LaVetta (Jim Jensen) Cloud; siblings, Debra Cloud, Mitchel (Lee) Crowe, Linda Redbird, Raymond Cloud, Cynthia (Gus Downey) Cloud, Gerald Cloud Jr., and Elizabeth Cloud, along with a multitude of nieces and nephews.

The funeral service for Lenny will be held at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 3, 2025, at the District One Community Center. A visitation will be held from 10:00



a.m. to the time of the service at District One. Burial will follow at Decorah Cemetery.



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 715.284.9851 x35052



CREATED 2:27:25 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

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.



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

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

David A. Mrotek

September 27, 1962 – May 2, 2025

David A. (Sturzl) Mrotek, age 62, of Marshfield, WI, passed away on Friday, May 2, 2025, from complications of leukemia. He was born in Milwaukee on Sep. 27, 1962, to Errol Mrotek and Martha Blodgett Bradish. David was a member of the Ho Chunk Nation, nurturing a special place in his heart for his grandparents, Alvin and Sophie Lonetree-Mrotek, who helped raise him.

David grew up in Milwaukee but left it several times to follow his wanderlust, living in Australia, Spokane, WA and Baton Rouge, LA, to name just a few places. He always had a passion for cooking and earned degrees in both Culinary Arts and in Baking from Milwaukee Area Technical College, subsequently holding numerous positions in both fields.

In 2013, David met the love of his life, Celia Sturzl, and they married in 2016. They resided near Marshfield,

WI, where they had a small hobby farm. The couple enjoyed traveling, hiking, cooking, gardening, volunteer work, pets and remodeling. Some of his favorite pastimes were making bread, building birdhouses, photography, working in his wood shop or kitchen, playing board and video games and learning something new every day.

David rarely met a person he didn't like; he had a happy passion for life which was contagious to the many people he met. David's favorite quote, which he repeated often, was, "We are always becoming..."

David is survived by his wife, Celia Sturzl, stepchild, Phoenix Zenaz, special cousins Carole and Karl Lastrup, his surrogate family the Lopers, as well as in-laws Mary Moss, Steve and Cora Sturzl, Chris and Sue Sturzl, Brian and Deb Sturzl, and many nephews and nieces that were special to him. David

loved being part of these extended families, and they all adored him.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents, his brother-in-law Alan Moss and niece Janel Sturzl.

His family would like to thank all of the staff on 8 North for their kindness and compassion while David was in the Marshfield Medical Center over the past several months; their unwavering devotion was a great comfort.

A Service of Remembrance will be held at 12:30 PM Saturday, May 17, 2025, at Hansen-Schilling Funeral Home (1010 E. Veterans Pkwy, Marshfield, WI 54449). Visitation will be held from 10:30 AM until the time of services on Saturday at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the Personal Development Center or to the Marshfield Area Pet Shelter.



2025 HO-CHUNK NATION

Memorial Day POW-WOW

Honoring Their Sacrifice

MAY 24-26, 2025

Held at Andrew Blackhawk Pow Wow Grounds
W8426 Highway 54, Black River Falls, WI 54615

THIS EVENT IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

Camping will be available with showers and restrooms.

Grand Entries at 1 pm and 7 pm with a 1 pm Grand Entry on Monday. Flag Raising at 10 am on Monday.

Daily Pay for registered dancers in regalia.

Flag Registration all weekend.

MC will be Jon Pettibone and Jeremy Rockman.

Arena Director: Paul Cloud.


For vendor info, contact Adam Kruse at 608-799-8220.

For general info, contact 715-284-2658.

This is an alcohol and drug free event.

Not responsible for accidents, injuries, or thefts.


Not responsible for lost or stolen items.



SAFE AND SECURE PAPER RECYCLING DROP OFF

Too Much Paper?

Is it time to dispose of confidential documents, old files and or other household records? Bring your documents to be recycled to the Ho-Chunk Nation Records Management Division’s warehouse for safe, secure handling of your paper records.



Paper ONLY

Plastic, glass, wood, Styrofoam, metal, tin or wet waste are not accepted

Safe, secure handling

Paper pick-up in the BRF area available by appointment

Tuesdays 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

HO-CHUNK NATION RECORDS MANAGEMENT

N6564 Lumberjack Guy Rd.
Black River Falls, WI 54615

715-284-3069

HO-CHUNK NATION BECOME A PLACEMENT HOME PARENT

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIFE OF A CHILD

HO-CHUNK NATION SOCIAL SERVICES

Phone- 715-284-2622
Address- 808 Red Iron Road
Black River Falls, WI 54615

PLACEMENT HOME PARENTS PROVIDE

- Day to day care
- Enrollment in school & supervising school work & educational activities
- Compliance with court ordered contact with the birth family
- Support, love and encouragement
- Advocacy on behalf of the child
- Recreational and Social activities

WHAT IS PLACEMENT HOME CARE

Ho-Chunk Nation Placement Home Parents provide full time temporary care of a child in your home. A family like yours can provide a nurturing enviroment to children seperated from their families.

Is it your vision for all children and youth to live in a safe and secure home that recognizes individuality and promotes their maximum growth and development? Then contact Ho-Chunk Social Services today to initiate the process of becoming a licensed placement home.



PLACEMENT NEEDS ARE

- Sibling groups that must remain together
- Children with developmental or physical disabilities
- Children with emotional needs
- Children who need guidance
- Children who live with extended families

MOST IMPORTANT QUALITIES FOR PLACEMENT PARENTS

- DESIRE TO OPEN YOUR HOME
- DESIRE TO PARENT A CHILD
- DESIRE TO UNDERSTAND CHILDREN
- ABILITY TO PROTECT AND NURTURE
- ABILITY TO BE PATIENT AND FLEXIBLE
- ABILITY TO PROVIDE A SAFE & STABLE HOME
- ABILITY TO TEAM WITH BIRTH PARENT SOCIAL WORKER & OTHERS

Continued from Page 1

official when Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers signed Senate Bill 633 into law in March 2024, now known as 2023 Wisconsin Act 216.

During the ceremony, Ho-Chunk Nation President Jon Greendeer emphasized the vital role these veterans played in the war effort. “They provided a unique service to the United States Army and other armed forces out there to basically create a code that could not be cracked by any of our enemies or any of our attackers,” Greendeer said. “They played an instrumental role and proved a value and probably saved the lives of hundreds and hundreds of men and women in service at that time.”

For decades, the identities and contributions of the Ho-Chunk code talkers remained obscured due to the classified nature of their work. The effort to bring their stories to light began in earnest in 2012 when Sandy Winneshiek, then the Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Veterans

Service Officer, discovered a 1995 memo listing seven World War II veterans as “Possible Code Talkers.” Her persistent research led to the Department of Defense officially recognizing 14 Ho-Chunk veterans as code talkers.

These 14 individuals were honored with Congressional Gold and Silver Medals in ceremonies held in Washington, D.C., and Wisconsin Dells.

The recognition not only honored their military service but also highlighted the importance of preserving the Ho-Chunk language and culture.

“This sign recognizes and acknowledges the brave history

of the Ho-Chunk Code Talkers in our shared story and history, shining a light on these individuals’ tremendous lives and service for future generations to learn about, appreciate, and honor,” Evers said. “Here in Wisconsin, we will choose to embrace rather than erase this history and the contributions of the Ho-Chunk Nation and its citizens.”

The legislation not only names the 14 recognized code talkers but also includes provisions to honor any other unidentified Ho-Chunk World War II code talkers, ensuring that future discoveries can be appropriately acknowledged.

While the Navajo code talkers are perhaps the most well-known, many

Native American tribes contributed to secure communications during World Wars I and II.

Tribes such as the Choctaw, Comanche, and Meskwaki also had members who served as code talkers, using their native languages to transmit unbreakable codes. These efforts were crucial in various military operations and saved countless lives.

As travelers journey along this stretch of Interstate 90, they will now encounter signs that not only mark a route but also tell a story of bravery, ingenuity, and the enduring legacy of the Ho-Chunk Nation.



Our Relatives Are Never Forgotten

A Powerful Reminder at the Fourth Annual Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Relatives 5K

On May 5, the community gathered at Nii Taani Hoocira and Burns Park in La Crosse, WI for the 4th Annual Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women & Relatives (MMIW&R) 5K. The event raises awareness about the crisis of missing and murdered Indigenous peoples.

With strength, attendees walked and ran to honor those we've lost and to stand in solidarity for justice. Every step was a powerful reminder: our relatives are never forgotten.

Thank you to the speakers—Tracy Littlejohn, La Crosse City Mayor Shaundel Washington-Spivey, Council Member Jennifer Trost, and Rep. Stephanie Begay—for their powerful words and presence.

The City of La Crosse proclaimed the day as Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Awareness Day. The proclamation was delivered by Mayor Shaundel Washington-Spivey, who acknowledged the importance of addressing violence against Indigenous women at the local government level. The proclamation highlighted statistics showing that a large majority of Native women in America experience violence during their lifetimes.

Thank you to everyone who showed up, and to the organizers, volunteers, sponsors and event staff who made this day possible. Your support matters.



DISTRICT 1 AREA MEETING NOTICE

BLACK RIVER FALLS AREA MEETING
Tribal Office Building
W9814 Airport Road
Black River Falls, WI 54615
Wednesday, May 14, 2025 | 6:00 p.m.
IN PERSON/VIRTUAL

Twin Cities AREA MEETING
St. Paul Branch Office
1724 Selby Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104
Thursday, May 15, 2025 | 6:00 p.m.
IN PERSON/VIRTUAL

paul.fox@ho-chunk.com
robert.pilot@ho-chunk.com
danielle.delong@ho-chunk.com
jessika.greendeer@ho-chunk.com
rodnev.rave@ho-chunk.com
phyllis.smoke@ho-chunk.com

For WebEx/e-packet, information please contact:
michelleramberg@ho-chunk.com

Posted on: 2/17/25



HO-CHUNK NATION
PEOPLE OF THE BIG VOICE

DISTRICT 2 AREA MEETING NOTICE

LA CROSSE AREA | THREE RIVERS HOUSE
724 Main Street La Crosse, WI
MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025 6:00PM

TOMAH AREA | BLUE WING COMMUNITY BUILDING
28370 Epinal Avenue Tomah, WI
TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025 6:00PM

BARABOO/WI DELLS/MAUSTON AREA | INDIAN HEIGHTS
975 Dyer Street Wisconsin Dells, WI
WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2025 6:00PM

REP. STEPHANIE BEGAY stephanie.begay@ho-chunk.com (608) 408-0339
REP. DAMIAN THUNDERCLOUD damianthundercloud@ho-chunk.com (715) 896-9321
REP. KRISTIN WHITE EAGLE kristin.whiteeagle@ho-chunk.com (608) 477-3007
HILARY GREEN, LEGISLATIVE AIDE hilary.green2@ho-chunk.com (800)294-9343 x11214

POSTED 4/23/25

DISTRICT 3 AREA MEETING NOTICE

MILWAUKEE | WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2025 | 5:30 PM
WITTENBERG | MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025 | 6:00 PM
GREEN BAY | TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025 | 6:00 PM
MADISON | WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2025 | 6:00 PM
WI RAPIDS | THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025 | 5:30 PM

FOR WEBEX INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

REP. LAMBERT CLEVELAND lambertcleveland@ho-chunk.com (715) 896-5166
REP. SARAH LEMIEUX sarah.lemieux@ho-chunk.com (715) 315-8071
REP. SHELBY VISINTIN shelby.visintin@ho-chunk.com (715) 896-9323
AIDE BELLA BLACKDEER isabella.blackdeer@ho-chunk.com (715) 284-9343 x11313

District 4 Area Meeting Notice

IN PERSON / VIRTUAL MEETING CHICAGO AREA MEETING
Chicago Branch Office
4738 N. Milwaukee Ave. Chicago, IL 60630
Monday May 12, 2025
6:00pm

VIRTUAL CALIFORNIA WEBEX MEETING
Available via WebEx
Wednesday May 14, 2025
6:00pm

4/28/2025 - updated



HO-CHUNK NATION
PEOPLE OF THE BIG VOICE

For WebEx information please contact:
brianna.tadocahnippah@ho-chunk.com
jennifer.adams@ho-chunk.com x11284

UPDATED 3/26/25

Minnehaha County

HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT,

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
Jalisa Decorah

☐ Amended
**Notice of Hearing o
Petition for Probate**

FILED
IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION
TRIAL / SUPPLEMENT COURT

APR 29 2025

Mary Ann
Clerk of Court / Assistant

Case No. PR-25-01

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
1. A Petition for Probate was filed.
2. The decedent, with date of birth 8/5/07 and date of death 12/11/24 was domiciled in Minnehaha County, State of South Dakota, with a mailing address of 16100 W 43rd St, Sioux Falls, SD 57106
3. The names or addresses of the following interested person are not known or reasonably ascertainable:

4. The petition will be heard at Wa Ehi Hoci, W9598 Hwy 54 E, Black River Falls, WI, 54615, before Judge Michelle Greendeer-Raye on (Date) June 19, 2025 at (Time) 10:00am

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

If you require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to participate in the court process, please call 715-284-2722 at least 10 working days prior to the scheduled court date.
Please note that the court does not provide transportation.

Mary Ann
Mary Ann
04/29/2025
Name Printed or Typed
Date

SUMMONS
(Second 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 HOCÁK 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 **16th** day of **June 2025** for the following purpose **Continued Plea Hearing**. Pursuant to HOCÁK 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
LEGISLATURE
REGULAR MEETING
EXECUTIVE OFFICES
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI
APRIL 23, 2025**

Call to Order: Vice President Danielle DeLong called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call:

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

VC-Video Conference

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

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

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to approve the agenda with ADDING under District Meetings B. D2 Hınúkwas– April 14, 2025, C. D2 Ho’ųni Xųnųńk –April 22, 2025, D. D4 Guųşgonak – April 14, 2025, E. D4 California – April 16, 2025, F. D1 Maąńico Horuzra – April 17, 2025, G. D3 Pac cinak – April 14, 2025 and H. D3 Teşışik – April 9, 2025; TABLING under Commission Reports A. Special Finance Commission – April 3, 2025, B. Special Finance Commission – April 9, 2025 and D. Special Finance Commission – April 22, 2025; TABLING under Unfinished Business C. Thundermaker Wellness Request (Executive Branch Follow-Up). Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Legislative Meeting-April 8,

2025

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the April 8, 2025 Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Special Legislative Meeting-April 17, 2025

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to approve the April 17, 2025 Special Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 11-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Commission Reports:

Special Finance Commission-April 3, 2025-TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Special Finance Commission-April 9, 2025-TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Government Administration Commission-April 10, 2025

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the April 10, 2025 Government Administration Commission meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Establishment of a Language Generational Plan Workgroup

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 04-23-25 A**, Establishment of a Language Generational Plan Workgroup. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Special Finance Commission-April 22, 2025-TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Gaming Commission Report

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to accept the Gaming Commission Report. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Class and Comp Location Differentials Discussion

Rep. Shelby Visintin mentioned that the metropolitan areas (Milwaukee, Madison, Chicago and Minneapolis)

were negatively impacted by the recent classification and compensation plan as it lowered their ceiling for their wage cap. The Department of Personnel put together three options for the Legislature to consider. Rep. Shelby Visintin would like to increase the base salary by 8% across the board for Milwaukee, Madison, Chicago and Minneapolis.

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to request Legislative Legal draft a resolution to rescind and restate the class and comp for the metro wages to have Chicago, Minneapolis, Milwaukee and Madison at 8%. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Unfinished Business:

Red Cloud Park-Standing Agenda Item

Attorney General Gardner stated that we have not received any feedback from the City of La Crosse. Attorney General

reminded the Legislature that the Parks Director for the City previously said that there was opposition to the Nation owning Red Cloud Park.

Foreign Trade Zones

Rep. Kristin White Eagle mentioned that we requested legal to research any existing entity that would be used for this. Legislative Counsel mentioned that we do have corporate entities that can be utilized. There will need to be significant groundwork to make any of those ready to move along in the process.

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to authorize Legislative Legal, if needed, to use outside counsel to develop foreign trade zones further. Second by Rep. Jessika Greendeer. **MOTION IS AMENDED** to include to authorize looking into creation of Section 16 for this purpose. Second concurs. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Thundermaker Wellness

Request (Executive Branch Follow-Up)-TABLED AT APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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. Jessika Greendeer. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**


New Business:

Resolution-Granting of a Construction Easement to the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs for Road Construction on Siga Funmaker Center Property

MOTION by Rep. Rodney Rave to adopt **Resolution 04-23-25 B**, Granting of a *Continued on Page 14*

Domestic Violence is NOT a Native American Tradition


StrongHearts advocates can help by providing culturally appropriate support and advocacy.



Call or Text Chat Online

1-844-7NATIVE (762-8483)

www.strongheartshelpline.org



STRONGHEART
Native Helpline

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.

Continued from Page 13
Construction Easement to the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs for Road Construction on Siga Funmaker Center Property. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

WI State Assembly Bill 58 (Flags)

Wisconsin Assembly Bill 58 focuses on regulating the display of flags at state and local government buildings. Rep. Kristin White Eagle mentioned that tribal flags are an exception.

Executive Government Relations Officer (GRO) Ryan Greendeer stated that the bill also mentioned that if a flag has ever been used in a protest, it wouldn't be able to be flown. GRO Greendeer recommended that the Nation strongly oppose this bill.

Legislative Counsel stated that a letter can be sent to members of the State Assembly and Senate and Ho-Chunk Nation Legislators can schedule meetings with State Legislators to lobby.

Rep. Phyllis Smoke would like to see the Nation's opposition to Assembly Bill 58 be memorialized in a resolution, not just a letter.

MOTION by Rep. Kristin White Eagle to request work on opposition to Bill 58, prepare talking points, organize meetings via state lobbyist(s), reach out as much as possible and have a plan in place, and work with the Nation's Government Relations Officer through Office of the President. Second by Rep. Jessika Greendeer. **MOTION IS AMENDED** to include requesting a resolution and to have a co-position between the Executive and Legislative Branch for GLITC. Second concurs. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Rep. Jessika Greendeer requested that GRO Greendeer work with all Wisconsin tribes to oppose this bill.

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

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 04-23-25 C**, Authorization to Place Amendments to the Employment Relations Act (6 HCC § 5) out for Forty-Five Day Public Comment. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Confirmation of Myrna Littlewolf as Tribal Law Enforcement Commissioner for Shawano County

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 04-23-25 D**, Confirmation of Myrna Littlewolf as Tribal Law Enforcement Commissioner for Shawano County. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Confirmation of Cecilia Krause as Tribal Law

Enforcement Commissioner for Jackson County

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 04-23-25 E**, Confirmation of Cecilia Krause as Tribal Law Enforcement Commissioner for Jackson County. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Nomination of Representative Damian Thundercloud to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Tribal Intergovernmental Advisory Committee

MOTION by Rep. Rodney Rave to adopt **Resolution 04-23-25 F**, Nomination of Representative Damian Thundercloud to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Tribal Intergovernmental Advisory Committee. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 11-0-1(Rep. Damian Thundercloud) **MOTION CARRIED.**

HHCDA Annual Performance Report for FY24

Melanie Stacy, HHCDA Grants Manager, is in attendance. Ms. Stacy stated that this report is sent to the U.S. Office of Native American Programs, which lists all of the programs HHCDA provides.

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to approve the HHCDA Annual Performance Report for FY24. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Designating May 5, 2025 as a Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women-Relatives

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adopt **Resolution 04-23-25 G**, Designating May 5, 2025 as a Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women-Relatives. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

District Meetings:

D1 Njioxawani – April 9, 2025

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to Legislative Legal for research and resolution, the **MOTION** by Nathaniel Longtail to have Legislature create a workgroup that would research the Native American International Foreign Trade Zones, with urgency. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

READ FOR THE RECORD: **MOTION** by Clayton Winneshiek for Legislature to stop the Women's Day Proclamation as it was families that were removed, not just the men.

READ FOR THE RECORD: **MOTION** by Nathaniel Longtail to have Legislature begin advocating with the State and Counties to enforce the illegal gaming machines within a 50-mile radius from our casinos.

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to the Finance Commission the **MOTION** by Nathaniel Longtail to approve

community support for the funding request for the 75th Corporal Mitchell Red Cloud, Jr. Day in the amount of \$24,345 using the pow-wow restricted account. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D2 Hjnuḡwas– April 14, 2025

MOTION by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to refer to Planning and Development, the **MOTION** by Melanie Stacy to include Per-Cap v. General Welfare in the Comprehensive Needs Assessment. Second by Rep. Kristin White Eagle. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D2 Ho’uṇi Xunṇuṇik – April 22, 2025

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Legislature and Legislative Legal the **MOTION** by Carole Decorah for Legislators to support a compact deduct of \$75,000 for the Tomah Baseball Club. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 10-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay) **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Rodney Rave out of the room.*

Noted for the record: Rep. Stephanie Begay noted she abstained as Carole is her sister.

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Department of Justice for a background check, the **MOTION** by Hilary Green to nominate Jayce Sallaway to the Law Enforcement Commission as the Alternate for Monroe County. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Rodney Rave out of the room.*

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the Finance Commission the **MOTION** by Andrea McCaskey for HCN to match the funds raised in the amount of \$1,438 [regarding Ahuco Head Start fundraising efforts]. Second by Rep. Damian Thundercloud. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Rodney Rave out of the room.*

D4 Guuḡgonak – April 14, 2025

No motions.

D4 California – April 16, 2025

MOTION by Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah to refer to Legislature and the Department of Justice the **MOTION** by Bill Winneshiek to nominate Benjamin Gamble as a Department of Housing Board Member. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. **MOTION IS WITHDRAWN.**

It was mentioned that there is a current seated D4 Department of Housing board member and their term will expire next year.

READ FOR THE RECORD: **MOTION** by Bill Winneshiek to nominate Benjamin Gamble as a Department of Housing Board Member.

MOTION by Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah to refer to the Legislature the **MOTION** by Casey Brown to nominate Sunshine Thunderchief to the Comprehensive Community Needs Assessment Board

Member. Second by Vice President Danielle DeLong. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

READ FOR THE RECORD: **MOTION** by Sunshine Thunderchief to budget once a year event to “Walk the Southland” with potential to increase it into a run/walk event.

MOTION by Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah to refer to the Finance Commission and Legislature the **MOTION** by Reta Littlegeorge to raise General Welfare to 1200 per month for adults. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D1 Maqṇiḡ Horuzra – April 17, 2025

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to refer to the Finance Commission the **MOTION** by Libby Fairchild to approve community support for the funding request for the 75th Corporal Mitchell Red Cloud, Jr. Day in the amount of \$24,345 using the pow-wow restricted account. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

READ FOR THE RECORD: Asking a full-time maintenance worker with starting wage at \$16.10 in the Twin Cities will be a hard position to fill.

D3 Pac cinak – April 14, 2025

READ FOR THE RECORD: **MOTION** by Myrna Littlewolf to not fund the Thundermaker Wellness Center.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to Office of the President and Department of Administration the **MOTION** by Kelly LaMere for the Department of Administration to go to Wittenberg to discuss the Land Use Plan. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer to Office of the President and Department of Housing the **MOTION** by Jamie Funmaker to have the Director of Housing attend the next Wittenberg area meeting. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 12-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D3 Tešiḡik – April 9, 2025

No motions.

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

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

The meeting moved to Executive Session at 10:58 a.m.

11:24 a.m. Vice President Danielle DeLong is excused from the meeting. Rep.

Stephanie Begay chairs the meeting. 1:01 p.m. Vice President Danielle DeLong returns to the meeting and chairs.

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to return to Open Session. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah is not online.*

3:28 p.m. Vice President Danielle DeLong is online. Rep. Stephanie Begay chairs the meeting.

The meeting returned to Open Session at 4:47 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Damian Thundercloud to ratify all action taken in Executive Session. Second by Rep. Paul Fox. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah is not online.*

Commission Reports (Re-visited):

Special Finance Commission-April 3, 2025

MOTION by Rep. Rodney Rave to approve the April 3, 2025 Special Finance Commission meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Jessika Greendeer. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah is not online.*

Special Finance Commission-April 9, 2025

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to approve the April 9, 2025 Special Finance Commission meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah is not online.*

Special Finance Commission-April 22, 2025

MOTION by Rep. Jessika Greendeer to approve the April 22, 2025 Special Finance Commission meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah is not online.*

Release to Open Session:

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to have Legislative Legal coordinate with Department of Justice and Amanda White Eagle to retain 1-2 of the individuals for an internship and coordinate with the Legislative Finance Team to find funding, and release this motion to Open Session. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah is not online.*

Adjournment:

MOTION by Rep. Paul Fox to adjourn to May 6, 2025 at the Executive Offices in Black River Falls, Wisconsin. Second by Rep. Rodney Rave. 11-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** *Rep. Brianna Tahdooahnippah is not online.*

The Legislative Meeting adjourned at 4:51 p.m.



Military Monday

\$25 REWARDS PLAY

MONDAYS | 8AM - 11:59PM

Celebrate our heroes every Monday with Military Monday! Veterans and active service members can enjoy \$25 in Rewards Play from 8am-11:59pm. Just show proof of military status and let us thank you for your service with some extra fun on the house.

OUR SALUTE TO VETERANS



\$25 REWARDS PLAY

KIOSK | MAY 17 & 26 | 8AM-11:59PM

Attention Veterans! On May 17 and May 26, we're honoring your service with \$25 in Rewards Play during Warrior Card Payday. Just bring your Warrior Card and a valid photo ID, DD214, Military ID, VA ID, or American Legion Card and enjoy the rewards you deserve!

VISIT THE REWARDS CLUB FOR DETAILS.
HO-CHUNK GAMING RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CANCEL OR ALTER PROMOTIONS AT ANY TIME.

HO-CHUNK GAMING

BLACK RIVER FALLS

W9010 HWY 54 EAST, BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI 54615 | 800.657.4621

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 (Hinųk pȝi)

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

District 4, S3
July 2025 – June 2029
Benjamin Gamble
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, 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

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
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 Whiteagle Road
(608)355-1240

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

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

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

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

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

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

**GENERAL RUN-OFF
ELECTION**
Tuesday, June 3, 2025

SWEARING IN CEREMONY
Wednesday, July 2, 2025

Revised poster 05/06/25