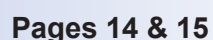




HOCAK WORAK

July 10, 2026



Page 4



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

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

Gaming Commission commissioners sworn in to serve Ho-Chunk Nation

Kaili Berg

The Ho-Chunk Nation Gaming Commission welcomed one returning commissioner and one new commissioner during a swearing-in ceremony held at the Tribal Office Building in Black River Falls on July 1.

Commissioner Toni Blackdeer was sworn in to continue her service on the Gaming Commission, while Commissioner James Dakota took the oath of office as the commission’s newest member.

The ceremony featured opening remarks from Gaming Commissioner Greg Garvin before the oath of office was administered by Ho-Chunk Nation Judge Huling. An honor song followed to recognize the commissioners as they began their terms of service.

The Gaming Commission serves an important role within the Ho-Chunk Nation by providing oversight of the Nation’s gaming operations, helping ensure compliance with tribal, federal and regulatory requirements while maintaining the integrity of tribal gaming.



Photo courtesy of Ho-Chunk Nation Legislative Branch: Gaming Commissioner Greg Garvin, Commissioner Toni Blackdeer, Judge Wendi Huling, Commissioner James Dakota and Gaming Commissioner Toni Funmaker pose following the Ho-Chunk Nation Gaming Commission swearing-in ceremony.



Attention ALL HOP, HRL, & Rental Tenants

Effective July 1, 2026

The Ho-Chunk Nation DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & PUBLIC WORKS mailing address has changed. Please send **ALL** mail to:

Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Housing

27374 Hwy 21 E

Bldg. #5

Tomah, WI 54660

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at

608-374-1225

or

housing@ho-chunk.com

Thank you,

The Department of Housing

SPONSORED BY:

D.O.R.A. "DESCENDANTS OF RED ARROW" and FRIENDS

HONORING ALL VETERANS FOR THEIR SERVICE AND SACRIFICE

VETERANS POW-WOW

Since 1978



In Honor of 128th Infantry Company D 32nd "Red Arrow Division"

VOLK FIELD - CAMP DOUGLAS, WI

VOLK FIELD AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE - 100 INDEPENDENCE DR, CAMP DOUGLAS, WI 54618

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2026

PROGRAM OF EVENTS 11:00 AM SPECIAL FLAG RAISING ANDREW BLACKHAWK AMERICAN LEGION POST 129 WELCOME TO POST: TBA NOON LUNCH MEAL 1:00PM KEY SPEAKER: TBA GRAND ENTRY	THUNDERCLOUD SINGER HOST DRUM OPEN DRUM FAMILY VETERAN SONGS TRADITIONAL GIVEAWAYS D.O.R.A. AUCTION FUNDRAISERS
--	---

FREE ADMISSION • OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: MIKE DAY 608.434.7790 or JIM DAY 262-637-9046
Alcohol & Drug Use Is Strictly Prohibited. Organizers & Event Hosts Are Not Responsible For Lost Or Stolen Items.

Tribal Storm Wins MoTown Throwdown Tournament and Carleigh Cain Secures Team MVP

The team that Carleigh Cain, daughter of Carleen Funmaker and granddaughter Elliott Funmaker Sr., won the softball tournament in Mosinee, WI at the MoTown Throwdown Tournament on

June 20, 2026. Carleigh also went home with the GOAT award. The 8U Tribal Storm is a softball group from Keshena that allows Native kids from different tribes an opportunity to play together.



2026 Family Healing Camp

Pre-Registration OPEN



Online Registration: Scan QR Code or Visit <https://shc.ho-chunk.com/>

Event Details

Date: August 4, 5, & 6

Location: Andrew Blackhawk Memorial Pow-Wow Grounds

W8426 WI-54

Black River Falls, WI 54615

Follow on Facebook to stay up to date on event details

facebook.com/groups/familyhealingcamp





Law Enforcement Activity Near District One Community Center

July 2, 2026
BLACK RIVER FALLS, Wis. – The Ho-Chunk Nation Office of the President would like to inform the public of a law enforcement situation that occurred near the District one Community Center.

Earlier today, law enforcement officers executed a warrant in the area across from the District One Community Center. Law enforcement personnel will remain on site until all aspects of the case have been fully addressed and the scene is secured.

At this time, all administrative activities in the immediate vicinity may be temporarily suspended to ensure public safety and to allow law enforcement to complete their work without disruption.

We appreciate the community’s patience and cooperation. Further update will be provided if necessary.





10 BENEFITS OF NOT DRINKING ALCOHOL

1. Improved Heart Health

2. Weight Loss & Weight Maintenance

3. Improved Liver Health & Hydration

4. Better Mental Health - Less Anxiety & Depression

5. Better Sleep

6. Stronger Immune System

7. Reduced Risk of Cancer

8. More Money

9. Improved Relationships

10. Healthier Skin

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

Nation Leaders Meet with Former Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes

On June 24, former Lt. Gov. Mandela Barnes made a stop at the Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Office Building, meeting with President Jon Greendeer and elected Representatives.

Nation leaders are always ready to engage in dialogue that supports the interests of the Nation and its Tribal Members. Discussion revolved around issues the Nation faces, not just in this moment but into the future.

From left to right: Rep. Phyllis Smoke (District 1), Rep. Stephanie Begay (District 2), President Jon Greendeer, Mandela Barnes, Vice President Lambert Cleveland Jr. (District 3), and Rep. Damian Thundercloud (District 2). Also in attendance: Rep. Tracy Thundercloud (District 1).

CAREER DAY 2026

REAL ESTATE & DESIGN

Tour The Winn & learn from those who built.

Tuesday, August 11th, 2026

12 pm. - 4 pm.

The Winn at Golden Valley

640 Wisconsin Ave N.

Golden Valley, MN 55427

Event Highlights:

• Guided tour of the Winn

• Presentation from Industry Professionals

• Explore careers in:

Real Estate & Development

Commercial Construction

Architecture

Interior Design

City Planning

• Network with experts

• Engage & ask questions for the chance to win an iPad.

*Lunch Provided.

*Transportation or gas vouchers are available.

Attendance is Limited - Apply today!

Scan the QR Code or visit:

<https://forms.gle/REYDKBdT5W915mjSA>

Questions? Email:

TWD@ho-chunk.com

12-clans.com/events







*Limited tickets available.

The Twins game at 6:40 pm.

Must be registered for the event and attend in person.

1 ticket for one student and 1 chaperone.

RSVP for eligibility.

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.

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

The Hocak Worak is a member of:

Indigenous Journalists Association



INDIGENOUS Journalists Association

EDITOR

Administrative Assistant

Reporter.....

Ardith Van Riper

Anna Reichenbach

Kaili Berg

J
O
I
N
U
S

Ho-Chunk Elder Picnic

July 15th, 2026

9 am – 2 pm

Winnebago Park

1020 Brandon St

Tomah, WI 54660

Reminder:

Please bring your Tribal ID for registration!

General Welfare Applications Due August 15 for Upcoming Payments

Ardith Van Riper, Editor

The Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature passed Resolution 06-12-26 H, titled ‘2026-2027 General Welfare Payment for Ho-Chunk Tribal Member Adults and Minors,’ which establishes the program for General Welfare Payments during the 2026-2027 fiscal year. The resolution passed by an affirmative vote of eleven members, with zero opposed and zero abstaining, on June 12, 2026.

Per this resolution, “Adults shall receive a July and August payment, but must submit a General Welfare Program Application by August 15, 2026, in order to continue to receive monthly payments on the first of the month.”

The purpose of the program is “to promote the general welfare and provide a social benefit to all Tribal Members so as to ensure appropriate access to food, clothing, housing/shelter, utilities, transportation, fuel, healthcare, elder and disabled care, and assistance to promote self-sufficiency.”

The resolution states that the General Welfare Payment is \$1,000 per month for adult members. Minor members will receive \$1,000 monthly as a trust account distribution, except for the August, November, February, and May payments, which will be \$750 as a trust account distribution and \$250 as a personal check.

Tribal Members may opt out of the General Welfare payments by indicating their preference to the Ho-Chunk Nation Treasurer before the August 15, 2026 deadline.

The 2026-2027 General Welfare Program Application is available online and in paper format. The online application is <https://gwea.ho-chunk.com/>. Paper copies can be obtained at the Tribal Office Building or Branch Offices, or requested by calling 800-294-9343, extension 11245, or emailing tribalmembersupport@ho-chunk.com.

Completed paper applications can be returned in person, by U.S. Mail, by FAX, or by email to the Treasury Department at the Tribal Office Building. The FAX number is 715-284-7887. The email address is tribalmembersupport@ho-chunk.com. The mailing address is Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Treasury, General Welfare, P.O. Box 640, Black River Falls, WI 54615.

The resolution explains, “if a General Welfare Program Application is submitted prior to August 15, 2026, or prior to the 15 of any month, the applicant shall receive the next monthly payment and any back pay for prior unpaid monthly payments on the first of the month. Applications submitted after August 15, or after the 15 of a month, shall receive any back pay for prior unpaid months on the 15 of the following month and then regular monthly payment on the first of each month.”

Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Members are encouraged to ensure their payment method is established with the Department of Treasury, such as direct deposit or Rapid Pay Cards. A paper check will be mailed via the U.S. Postal Service to those who have not established a payment method.

Ho-Chunk Nation citizens with questions or comments regarding the General Welfare Application can call 800-294-9343, extension 11245, or email tribalmembersupport@ho-chunk.com.

ATTENTION

Ho-Chunk Nation Members

The Annual General Council Meeting is on

September 19, 2026.

The deadline to submit a proposed resolution is

July 21, 2026.

A fillable resolution form is available on the

Ho-Chunk Nation website under the

Office of General Council tab.

Submit proposed resolutions to:

Henry.WhiteThunder@ho-chunk.com

HOUSING RESILIENCY

HOMEBUYER CLASS

Join us for a **free**, comprehensive homeowner class designed to give you the tools and knowledge you need for a secure and successful future.

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN

✓ Building & Using Home Equity

✓ Preventing Foreclosure

✓ Financial Security

✓ Disaster Preparedness

✓ Home Maintenance & Safety

THURSDAY

JULY 30

9 AM - 1 PM CDT

VIRTUAL

REGISTER HERE

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TC6LQ9>

Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Housing
1006 Home Ownership Division
QUESTIONS? CALL 608-374-1225

HO-CHUNK NATION Office of Tribal Enrollment

Bereavement Assistance

For Ho-Chunk Tribal Members

The Ho-Chunk Nation recognizes the family's time of grief. In an effort to assist Ho-Chunk Tribal Members the Nation has established the following:

Memorial Relief Fund

The Memorial Relief Fund (MRF) established in 1992 covers actual funeral expenses for Ho-Chunk Tribal Members. Currently the **MRF fund is \$8,000 (eight thousand) dollars**. Payments are made directly to the Funeral Home once an itemized invoice is received. All expenses exceeding the maximum amount allowed will be incurred by the family.

For more information on the Memorial Relief Fund, please contact the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Administration at (800) 294-9343, ext. 11505 or memorial@ho-chunk.com.

Memorial Marker/Headstone Assistance

As part of the Memorial Relief Fund the Ho-Chunk Nation assists with the expense associated with Memorial Markers/Headstones for Ho-Chunk Tribal Members. The Nation recognizes the importance of properly marking the graves of our people. No more than **\$1,000 (one thousand) dollars** will be expended for refurbishing or purchasing headstones or markers for the presently weathered or unmarked graves of tribal members. All expenses exceeding the maximum amount allowed will be incurred by the family.

For more information on the Memorial Marker/Headstone Assistance, please contact the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Administration at (800) 294-9343, ext. 11505.

W9428 Airport Rd. PO Box 129 Black River Falls, WI 54615 • 715-284-7824 • 800-331-7634 • FAX 715-284-7634

2026

TRIBAL ELDER FOOD BOX
NEWSLETTER

Summer/Fall Distribution

Ho-Chunk Nation
Distribution Locations:

Black River Falls
Wittenberg
Nekoosa

Tomah
Green Bay
Wisconsin Dells

Distribution time varies by location

DATES:

May 28th	September 24th
June 25th	October 22nd
July 23th	November 19th
August 27th	December 17th
	January 28 th ,2027



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 a Feeding America National Organization grant, Feeding Wisconsin's Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection ARPA grant, and an Intertribal Local Food Purchasing Agreement grant.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



2026 Point-In-Time
(PIT) Count

Volunteers
needed for
Juneau and Monroe

What is the PIT

The PIT Count is a one-day snapshot of the people experiencing homelessness in our communities.

What you will do

Volunteers go into the community unsheltered areas (such as streets, parks, and encampments)—to help identify individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Volunteers respectfully engage with people, explain the purpose of the count, and ask them a brief set of survey questions to collect information on demographics, living situation, and immediate needs.

Locations (Ho-Chunk Tribal Lands)

In Counties of:
Brown, Jackson, Juneau, Monroe, La Crosse, Sauk, Shawano and Wood

Wednesday, July 22–23, 2026

Available Shifts 11 pm–1 am and 4 am–6 am

If you would like to be a volunteer please reach out to Lynnette Henry, Coordinated Entry Lead Specialist at (715) 284-2622 or lynnette.henry@ho-chunk.com or scan QR code.



Scan Me



All-Abilities Stroll

1.3 MILE WALK

ABILITIES OUTWEIGH
DISABILITIES!

FREE
REGISTRATION

@ DISTRICT 1 COMMUNITY CENTER

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2026 - 10AM
9:30AM CHECK-IN; 10:00AM WALK START

Rest Stations Every 0.15 Miles With Seating
Strollers, Wheelchairs, and Assistive Devices Welcome
Therapy Pets Allowed; No Other Pets Please

T-SHIRTS
AVAILABLE
ONLINE



www.JacksonInAction.org/abilities

Community Health
Foot Clinics



JULY 2026

Black River Falls -
7/6, 7/16, 7/22

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Community Health Office
W9850 Airport Road
(715) 896-1343

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

Tomah - 7/14

Tribal Aging Unit
358 Eos Road
(608) 372-5202

Baraboo - 7/28

House Of Wellness
S2845 White Eagle Road
(608) 355-1240 x35509

La Crosse - 7/21

Three Rivers House
724 Main Street
(608) 783-6025

Madison - 7/28

Branch Office
4724 Tradewinds Pkwy
(608) 277-9964

Nekoosa - 7/23

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

Wittenberg - 7/30

Siga Funmaker Center
W17634 Radke Road
(715) 701-2069

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

JULY

2026

HO-CHUNK NATION FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

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

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



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1 WITTENBERG DISTRIBUTION 10:30 AM- 12:30 PM NUTRITION BOOTH - KATHY	2 OPEN BRF	3 CLOSED HOLIDAY
6 OPEN BRF	7 OPEN BRF	8 WIS DELLS DISTRIBUTION 10 AM- 1:30 PM NUTRITION BOOTH - ALEX	9 REEDSBURG HOME DELIVERIES OPEN BRF	10 CLOSED BRF MONTHLY SHIPMENT WI DELLS HOME DELIV
13 OPEN BRF	14 OPEN BRF	15 TOMAH DISTRIBUTION 12N - 1:00 PM	16 OPEN BRF LA-CROSSE PICK UP	17 CLOSED EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION
20 OPEN BRF	21 OPEN BRF	22 NEKOOSA DISTRIBUTION 12N - 1:00 PM NUTRITION BOOTH - ALEX	23 OPEN BRF	24 OPEN BRF
27 OPEN BRF NUTRITION BOOTH - KATHY	28 OPEN BRF	29 OPEN BRF	30 OPEN BRF LAST PICKUP DAY	31 CLOSED INVENTORY

CLOSED ON WEDNESDAY FOR TAILGATE DAYS

Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health

SUMMER
checklist

- ☒ Sunscreen
- ☒ Bugspray
- ☒ Swim suits
- ☒ Water bottles
- ☒ Snacks
- ☒ Kayaks
- ☐ Life jackets
- ☐

To request a life jacket at your child's next
appointment call:

Ho-Chunk Health Care Center 715.284.9851
House of Wellness 608.355.1240

Updated By
PT 7-2-26



Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health
Division of Public Health

Ważookj 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

July 1

Take Time To Care For Your Eyes...Tips For Healthy Vision
Lisa M. Peterson, O.D, Ho-Chunk Optical

July 15

Beyond the Classroom: Ho-Chunk Education in Action
Bethany Redbird, Diane Rave, Arielle Hall
Ho-Chunk Education Department Personnel

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

Gov. Evers Joins Coalition of Governors Calling for Immediate Withdrawal of Trump Administration Proposed Rule to Illegally Restrict Mail-In Ballots, Disenfranchise Voters

Governors slam Trump Administration’s efforts to restrict mail-in ballots, asserting that the new rule is unconstitutional, violates federal law, and disenfranchises voters by illegally putting election administration in the hands of USPS and President Trump

MADISON — Gov. Tony Evers, alongside several other state governors, joined in calling for the immediate withdrawal of the Trump Administration’s latest efforts to undermine election integrity, increase federal oversight of state elections, and illegally disenfranchise voters by giving the United States Postal Service (USPS) the authority to withhold mail-in ballots unless states hand over private, personal voter data to the Trump Administration. The Trump Administration’s proposed rule builds on an executive order issued by President Donald J. Trump in March, key provisions of which were recently blocked by a federal judge who ruled that the USPS has no authority to regulate elections and that the president cannot decide who is eligible to vote.

“Wisconsin has free, fair, and secure

elections, and it’s thanks to the hard work of countless clerks, election officials, and poll workers across our state, because here in America, states run our elections, not the president and not the U.S. Postal Service,” said Gov. Evers. “Who Wisconsinites voted for is none of President Trump’s business, and the only reason he wants our private information is to try and prevent eligible Wisconsinites from casting their ballot and sow distrust in our fair and safe elections. Period. This rule would effectively disenfranchise eligible voters, preventing them from exercising their most basic fundamental right to cast their ballots. It would usurp state authority over election administration and, in the process, put private, sensitive, personal voter data

Continued on Page 8

HO-CHUNK NATION
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

SUMMER 2026
BLOCK PARTIES

“A Summer of Mental Wellness”
10am-3pm

JUNE 10- WITTENBERG
@ Siga Funmaker Community Center

JUNE 24 - TOMAH
@ Ho-Chunk Cinema Parking lot

JULY 8 - BARABOO
@ South YellowThunder Rd
Pavillion behind House of Wellness

JULY 22 - NEKOOSA
@ Ho-Chunk Gaming Nekoosa

JULY 29 - MADISON
@ Teejop Hocira Community Center

AUGUST 12 - BLACK RIVER FALLS
@ Sandpillow Baseball Field

Free event for tribal members and employees of the Ho-Chunk Nation.
This is a drug and alcohol free event
More info: Melissa.Govek@ho-chunk.com, Jamie.Decorah@ho-chunk.com,
Ronelle.McKernan@ho-chunk.com

CREATED 2.27.25 RM

WAAXOC WI
(Corn Tassel Month: July)

HARVEST OF
THE MONTH

Kaqc
Wild Plums

Wild Plum Compote

Ingredients:

- 3 cups wild plums, washed (pits in or out)
- ¼ cup maple syrup, honey or sugar
- ¼ cup water
- 1–1½ tsp ground sumac
- Pinch of salt (optional, enhances flavor)

Steps:

1. Rinse the plums. You can remove the pits now, or leave them in and remove them while eating.
2. Combine ingredients in a medium saucepan: plums, water, maple syrup (or other sweetener), sumac, and salt (if using).
3. Bring to a simmer over medium heat. Stir occasionally as the plums begin to soften.
4. Cook for 5–10 minutes, until: the plum skins split, the flesh becomes tender, the liquid thickens slightly into a syrup.
5. Remove from heat and let cool slightly.
6. Serve warm as a dessert sauce or topping, or cool completely and refrigerate for up to 3-4 days.

Recipe inspired by: <https://veganonboard.com/wild-plum-compote-easy-and-quick-recipe/>

For more Information Contact a
HCN Registered
Dietitian/ Nutritionist:



BRE, Tomah, Wittenberg areas:
(888) 685-4422, ext. 35335
BRE, La Crosse areas:
(888) 685-4422, ext. 35340
Dells, Madison areas:
(888) 552-7889, ext. 35554
Dells, Nekoosa areas:
(888) 552-7889, ext. 35511



HCN HEALTH & WELLNESS DIV.
<http://health.ho-chunk.com/>
Updated 6/26 HJ

About Wild Plums

- Many indigenous groups used wild plums fresh, dried, or made into sauces. They were a staple on the prairies and are still enjoyed today in sauces, jams, jellies, and baked goods.
- Tribes used different parts of the plant for various health needs as well as for ceremonies.
- Wild plums are a healthy way to increase your fiber intake and help keep eyes and immune systems healthy.
- One cup of wild plums provide 147 Calories, 35 grams of Carbohydrate, 9 grams of fiber, and are a good source of Vitamin C and Vitamin A.
- Wild plums are often found in the Midwest and Great Plains region.
- They are about the size of a cherry and are often orange to light red in color.
- They have a small pit inside that should be removed before eating.
- As with any foraging, remember to take time to correctly identify your plant and harvest from an area free from chemicals and away from roadsides.

For more info:
https://plants.usda.gov/DocumentLibrary/plantguide/pdf/pg_prum.pdf
<https://nativememoryproject.org/plant/americans-wild-plum/>
<https://fdc.nal.usda.gov/food-details/169820/nutrients>
<https://reallifegoodfood.umn.edu/fruits/plums>

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



HO-CHUNK HOUSE OF WELLNESS

Medication questions?
Ask a pharmacist in person!

Multiple questions?
CMRs available!

Comprehensive Medication Review

- Pharmacist goes over all of your medications with you
- Identifies any issues
- Answers questions or concerns

What can I bring with me?

1. A medication list or pill bottles, including:
 - Prescriptions
 - Over-the-counter medications
 - Vitamins/supplements
 - Inhalers, blood sugar testing supplies, and other devices
2. Written-down questions and/or concerns
3. Health tracking data, such as:
 - Blood pressure logs
 - Blood glucose logs
 - A1c or other lab values

When/Where?

Tribal Aging Units
Wednesdays
10:30am - 1:30pm
No Appointment Needed!

6/10/26 - Black River Falls

6/17/26 - Tomah

7/1/26 - Nekoosa

7/15/26 - Wittenberg

8/5/26 - WI Dells

8/12/26 - Black River Falls

8/19/26 - Tomah

9/2/26 - Nekoosa

9/9/26 - Wittenberg

9/16/26 - WI Dells

Future dates TBD

Contact Us

608-355-5177

Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health
Division of Pharmacy

Ho-Chunk Nation Regains Stewardship of 165 Acres of Ancestral Homeland in Dane County

Kaili Berg

The Ho-Chunk Nation has regained ownership and stewardship of 165 acres of ancestral homeland in Dane County through a landmark conservation partnership.

The property, located in the Lower Mud Lake Natural Resource Area south of Babcock County Park, includes wetlands, woodlands and shoreline along the Yahara River, Lower Mud Lake and Lake Waubesa.

Dane County purchased the property for \$6.41 million through its Conservation Fund before transferring ownership to the Ho-Chunk Nation under a permanent conservation easement co-held with Groundswell Conservancy.

The agreement permanently prohibits development while preserving public access and protecting the land’s ecological, archaeological and cultural significance.

County officials say the partnership represents a new model for conservation by combining environmental protection with Tribal stewardship.

“This is a historic investment in conservation, cultural preservation, and partnership,” Dane County Executive Melissa Agard said in a statement announcing the purchase. “These lands are environmentally significant, culturally sacred, and deeply important to the history of this region. I’m proud Dane County is taking this step to protect this land forever while ensuring it can be stewarded by the Ho-Chunk Nation, the original caretakers of this

place.”

The land contains six recorded archaeological sites and 22 ancient burial mounds, many of which date back centuries. Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Bill Quackenbush said the landscape reflects generations of Ho-Chunk history and traditional ecological knowledge.

“We’re the only tribe that has the ability to speak confidently about we were the first original people from this region right here,” Quackenbush said during an interview with PBS Wisconsin and ICT News. “We have beautiful stories that talk about how we adapted through time from living in a place of refuge, what today’s society calls the Driftless Area, and moving back into these first places as that glacier began to recede.”

Quackenbush said the property also presents an opportunity to educate future generations about traditional plant knowledge and the Ho-Chunk relationship with the land.

“Every plant is a resource,” Quackenbush said. “They say everything our Mother Earth gifts us is a form of medicine.”

Beyond its cultural importance, the property protects sensitive wetlands and wildlife habitat within the Yahara River watershed.

Under the agreement, the Ho-Chunk Nation will own and manage the land while assuming responsibility for its maintenance, property taxes and long-term stewardship. Groundswell Conservancy and Dane County will conduct annual visits to ensure



Milkweed (maahic) grows on the newly returned 165-acre property in Dane County. The native plant plays an important role in supporting pollinators and reflects the ecological diversity of the landscape. (Photo by Kaili Berg)

the conservation easement continues to protect the property’s natural and archaeological resources.

Future plans for the property include protecting its environmental resources while creating educational opportunities for visitors to learn about Ho-Chunk history, culture and traditional ecological knowledge. Tribal leaders have discussed developing a gazebo and interpretive space where the public can gather and learn about the significance of the landscape.

The agreement is being recognized as one of Wisconsin’s most significant recent land return efforts, demonstrating how conservation partnerships can permanently protect culturally significant landscapes while returning stewardship to Indigenous nations.

Aurelia Lera Hopinkah April 10, 1942 – June 27, 2026

Aurelia Lera Hopinkah “WaxopiniSgai”, age 84, of Tomah, WI, passed away Saturday, June 27, 2026, at her home surrounded by family.

Lera was born April 10, 1942, to Archie and Delphine (Swallow) Goodbear. On June 25, 1961, Lera was united in marriage to Thomas E. Hopinkah. After schooling she served in the United States Army.

As an eminent Ho-Chunk speaker, she preserved her culture through language. She continued teaching Ho-Chunk to others up until her passing.

Lera is survived by a daughter, Felicia; grandchildren, Aaron, Allie, and Marisa; great grandchildren, Atraedeis, Aurelia, Alaeryck and Alastair; brothers, Cleland, Doran, and Leroy Goodbear; along with many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

Lera was preceded in death by her parents, Archie and Delphine; husband, Thomas Hopinkah; daughter, Celeste; brothers, Orbert, Verlyn, and Blair Goodbear.



Traditional Ho Chunk services will be held Tuesday, June 30, 2026, 12:00 p.m. at Blue Wing Community Center, Tomah, WI. Richard Mann will officiate. Burial with full military honors will follow in the Blue Wing Cemetery, Tomah, WI. Family and friends are invited for visitation Monday, June 29, 2026, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at the Torkelson Funeral Home in Tomah, WI. Visitation will also be held Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. until noon at the Blue Wing Community Center, Tomah.

The Torkelson Funeral Home of Tomah is assisting the family with arrangements.

Matthew Samuel Johnston February 4, 1946 – June 20, 2026



Matthew Samuel Johnston, 80, of Green Bay, WI, died at the Bellin Hospital on June 20, 2026.

Matthew was born on February 4, 1946, and was raised in Black River Falls, WI. He was married to Carla Johnston, whom he spent many wonderful years with, and with their children, till they separated. Throughout the years, Matthew worked all sorts of odd jobs- painting and lawn care were

two of the main ones he did. In his spare time, he enjoyed all kinds of puzzles, but especially crosswords, and he also loved to read. He will be remembered as being a go-getter, happy, and very proud of his Ho-Chunk heritage.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Carla; children, Diana Peterson, Robert Bavinck, and Debra Hartzheim; his grandson, Jonathon Cornelius; and sister, Marty Angell.

Matthew is survived by his daughter, Georgianna King as well as his grandchildren, Demi Bigbear and Jeremy Cornelius.

Funeral services for Matthew will be Friday, July 10, at the Buswell Funeral Home at 11:00 a.m. Friends and family are invited to visitation from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service. Burial will immediately follow at the Decorah Cemetery.

The Buswell Funeral Home is assisting the family with arrangements.

WORKFORCE
LABOR

READINESS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		Baraboo House of Wellness Energy Fair 5pm-8pm	BRF Tribal Office Building Energy Fair 5pm-8pm	
	Wittenberg Siga Center 11am-1pm	Baraboo House of Wellness 10am-3pm <i>Health Block Party</i>		
	La Crosse 3 Rivers House 11am - 1pm	Tomah Community Building 11am-1pm		
	Twin Cities Branch Office 11am-1pm <i>No 477</i>	Nekoosa HCG- Nekoosa 10am - 3pm <i>Health Block Party</i>		
	Chicago Branch Office 11:30am-1pm <i>No 477</i>	Madison Community Building 10am-3pm <i>Health Block Party</i>		

July 2026

Career Building Services
Resumes, Applications, & Mock-Interviews

Training/Education Services
Training, Education Courses, & Certificates

Supportive Services
Work Attire, Fuel Assistance, & Outdoor Attire

Intakes for both TWD & 477

TWD Contact: 715-284-5877 ext. 11135

Facebook: Tribal Workforce Development

Scan QR for Pre-Intake



Annual Meeting General Council 2026

Kalahari Resorts & Convention Center
1305 Kalahari Drive
Lake Delton, WI

September 19, 2026

Link below for booking rooms at Kalahari
<https://book.passkey.com/e/51295582>

More Information

 715-284-7891



Details for registration, tribal IDs, bus routes, meal specifics, and booking information for the Ho-Chunk Hotel will follow.

Continued from Page 6
at risk, and it would completely overwhelm our local election officials with unnecessary, burdensome requirements just months before an election and with no time to prepare. “This rule is wholly unworkable, impractical, and above all, unlawful,” continued Gov. Evers. “It is a power grab by President Trump to try to assert illegal and unconstitutional control over our time-honored democratic institutions and control the outcomes of elections, and we will not stand for it. Wisconsin has free, fair, and secure elections, and we want to keep them that way. The single biggest threat to our democracy and our fair elections is President Trump. Simple as that. So, we’re going to fight this all the way.”
In the letter addressed to USPS Postmaster General David Steiner and USPS Product Classification Director Dale Kennedy by Gov. Evers and governors from across the nation, the governors outline the blatant illegality of the proposed rule, as well as the several negative impacts the

new rule would have on voters and election workers if not immediately withdrawn, including:

- Undermining state’s authority to ensure the integrity and efficiency of elections, which is not only delegated to states by the U.S. Constitution but also prevents nationwide fraud and election rigging;
- Disenfranchising voters who rely on mail-in balloting to exercise their fundamental right to vote by allowing USPS to establish compulsory specifications for election mail while maintaining unilateral power to refuse to deliver ballots if a state refuses to follow President Trump’s unlawful directives;
- Jeopardizing voters’ private, personal voting data by creating a single national database of millions of voters under the control of the president, with no plan to protect it;
- Needlessly complicating the voting process and burdening local election officials by requiring that a state’s Mail-in Absentee Participation List must be certified at least 30 days before federal Election Day or by the

date on which mail-in or absentee ballots may begin to be mailed under state law, a requirement that will inevitably lead to voting information being outdated or incorrect by the time of the election;

- Requiring USPS to set up an entirely new system and database to control millions of absentee ballots just months prior to a general election—despite the recent federal court ruling that asserted USPS has no authority to regulate elections; and
- Requiring state and local election officials, who work months in advance of an election to update voter registration databases, program and test voting systems, print ballots and election materials, train poll workers, coordinate with vendors, and educate voters regarding important deadlines, to then implement the new USPS system on the ground on short notice.

This latest attempt by the Trump Administration to undermine election integrity comes as President Trump and the Trump Administration have continuously spread disinformation about Trump’s election loss in 2020,

including about Wisconsin’s elections, despite numerous lawsuits, audits, and investigations that have confirmed the accuracy and outcome of the election. Gov. Evers, over the course of his over seven years in office, has repeatedly worked to protect the voting rights of Wisconsinites and uphold democracy in the state. Earlier this year, Gov. Evers, in a Dane County Circuit Court filing, slammed court arguments made by a former election official and local officials that suggested absentee voting, which is used widely in Wisconsin and across the country, is a ‘privilege’ and not a constitutional right. Also this year, Gov. Evers joined a multi-state lawsuit in response to President Trump’s executive order directing the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to force states to use a nationwide list of voters provided by the Trump Administration, further suppressing the rights of voters, undermining democracy, and sowing distrust in Wisconsin’s fair, safe, and secure elections.

Department of Defense removes Native American Religion distinction, groups as ‘other’

A list of recognized religion codes used by military chaplains to aid service members has been reduced from over 200 to just 31

Amelia Schafer
Reprint from ICT

The U.S. Department of Defense drastically reduced the number of recognized religions it observes from roughly 211 to just 31, following a memorandum issued by the Under Secretary of War, Elbridge A. Colby, and signed by Anthony Tata on May 20.

Native American religion, a term used to classify traditional Indigenous faiths, was among the 180 recognized faiths removed from a list of codes used by the Department of Defense. Religious Affiliation Codes are used in the creation of “dog tags” worn by active duty members as well as given to military chaplains to aid them in providing religious support needs. Aside from dog tags, religious information is used in the creation of headstones for service members.

The removal of a distinct code for Native American faiths does not mean Native religious practices will no longer be protected or recognized, it just means there is no separate distinct category to select, grouping them instead with all “other” category religions.

It’s unclear if this move is a violation of the American Indian Religious Freedom Act as the religion itself will still technically be recognized through the “other” category, just not in the form of a distinct, separate category. What could happen is a potential impact to the availability of tailored religion-specific resources from chaplains, though that aspect is also uncertain at this point.

The removal of a distinct Native American religious code falls in stark contrast to the overwhelming number of American Indian and Alaska Native service members, who serve at five times the national average and have served in every major conflict for over 200 years.

The distinctions removal also means that Native Americans are once again placed in the “other” category, said Frances Dupris, a Sicangu Lakota/Northern Arapaho veteran who served 24 years in the Air Force. Dupris was a United States Air Force Master Sergeant.

The removal of Native American Religion from the list of codes given to chaplains does not

necessarily mean that Native American religious practices will not be observed by the military. When asked for comment, a Department of Defense Spokesperson directed ICT to a statement published on the Department’s X account detailing the changes.

“Service members will not be limited to the list of ‘Religious Affiliations Codes’ when selecting information to place on their identification tags, i.e. ‘dog tags’,” the statement reads.

The Department of Defense did not respond to ICT’s request for comment on whether or not this will impact hair cutting exemptions for Indigenous veterans or the ability to wear sacred items such as eagle feathers.

The new, trimmed down list, features 21 different sects of Christianity each input as a distinct, individual code. The other ten codes are limited to: Agnostic, Baha’i faith, Buddhism, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Hindu, Islam (Muslim), Judaism (Jewish), No Religion, Other Religion and Sikh.

“Why not reduce it further?” Dupris asked.

“Why not just say ‘This individual has a religious preference.’ Why pick and choose only these faiths?”

The drastic reduction of recognized faith follows what critics have called a push toward a military-wide acceptance of Christian theology.

The Department of War says the move was not intended to demean or question the legitimacy of any faith or religious belief, it’s simply to streamline the military chaplain process. However, Department of Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth has previously criticized the Biden Administration’s diversification of religious identities and expressed a desire to reverse several changes.

“Our Chaplain Core was infected by political correctness,” said Hegseth in a March 24 video on X (formerly Twitter). “The previous system had ballooned to well over 200 faith codes. ... It was impractical and unusable, and many codes were never used at all.”

Visibility has a direct impact on the retention of Indigenous service members,

Dupris said.

Dupris previously worked with a team of Air Force members to create support systems for Indigenous service members such as the Department of the Air Force Barrier Analysis Working Groups, the Space Force Indigenous Nations Equality Team and Joint Indigenous Collaborations Team.

“It’s important to remove barriers within the service for our members and also support recruitment and retention,” Dupris said. “All too often in my career I saw Native Americans, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and Indigenous Groups be not fully understood and weren’t retained (as a result).”

For many Indigenous people, including Dupris, joining in the armed forces means following in the footsteps of their ancestors. Dupris said numerous relatives of hers including her grandparents, uncle, cousins and aunts all served in the military in different capacities.

“We would visit the Black Hills National Cemetery with my grandmother and I would see my grandparents’ graves

Continued on Page 10

Be Road Trip Ready This Fourth Of July Weekend With Your Wisconsin State Park Pass

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reminds the public to plan ahead for summer travel by purchasing their Wisconsin state park and forest vehicle admission pass and making their camping reservations before they hit the road.

A Wisconsin state park and forest vehicle admission pass is required for all motor vehicles stopping in most state parks, forests and recreation areas. Purchase your vehicle admission pass online before arriving to help save time when entering Wisconsin State Park System properties.

Admission passes can be purchased online, at individual properties, from DNR service centers or when renewing your vehicle registration online or at self-service kiosks at Wisconsin Division of Motor Vehicle (DMV) locations.

Once a vehicle admission pass is purchased online, visitors can use the email confirmation as proof of purchase immediately and will receive a physical pass by mail. Visitors may print their email receipt and place it on the driver’s side dashboard so that it can be read through the windshield. Customers who don’t have a printer can write the order and pass details on a piece of paper to display.

Customers who ordered a pass online with their vehicle registration can also display the order details on their dash by printing their confirmation or writing the required details on a piece of paper, along with the phrase “Ordered via DOT.” Customers who purchase a 12-month admission pass during their DMV registration will receive a physical pass by mail with their vehicle registration stickers and Certificate of Registration.

For those looking to bike, horseback ride or inline skate, daily and annual state trail passes can also be purchased online.

Camping On Holiday Weekends

The DNR encourages all visitors to be courteous to their camping neighbors. Noise from a campsite should never create a disturbance or interfere with other people’s enjoyment of the park.

The DNR reminds visitors that not all occupied campsites look the same. Some campers may use a vehicle as their primary camping unit or plan to set up their belongings later in the day. If a campsite looks empty, this doesn’t always mean it’s unoccupied.

Campers are reminded to cancel their reservation if they are unable to make their trip. Reservations can be canceled online or by calling 888-WIPARKS. Cancellations made before 3 p.m.

Central Time two days before the day of the reservation will be credited with a full refund of camping fees but not the reservation or cancellation fees.

Take The Road Less Traveled To A Hidden Gem

With over 20 million visitors annually, Wisconsin State Park System properties can be popular destinations on holidays and weekends. During the summer season, visitors may experience long lines to enter the park, limited parking availability and crowded trails and picnic areas.

To make the most of the holiday, parkgoers are encouraged to explore lesser-visited state properties to avoid congestion at the most visited parks. With 50 state parks, 15 state forests, 44 state trails, several state recreation areas, wild rivers and flowages to discover, there are plenty of places to find adventure while avoiding the crowds.

Find a new Wisconsin state park, forest, trail or recreation area to explore with the DNR’s Find A Park tool.

The DNR Reminds You To “Know Before You Go”

- Most Wisconsin state parks, recreation areas, trails and forests are open from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- Campers must make a reservation before setting up on any site. The campsite check-in is 3 p.m., and the



check-out is 1 p.m.

- Familiarize yourself with the property layout and amenities such as restrooms, drinking water sources, trail distance and surface type and concessionaires.
- Ticks are out, and visitors should take precautions to prevent Lyme disease and other tick-borne conditions.
- Most Wisconsin state parks, forests and other day-use areas do not have garbage or recycling bins. When you visit, you will need to take your garbage and recyclables home with you. We all play a vital role in taking care of our natural resources.
- Fireworks are prohibited on DNR-managed lands. Restricted areas include state parks, natural areas, forests and state-owned public hunting and fishing areas.

White House Report Targets Smithsonian’s Treatment of Native History, Criticizes ‘Stolen Land’ Narrative

Levi Rickert
Reprint from Native News Online
WASHINGTON — As Americans marked the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, late Saturday night, the Trump White House quietly released a 162-page report accusing the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of American History (NMAH) of promoting what it calls a politically biased interpretation of the nation’s past.

The report, *Saving America’s Story: How Ideological Capture at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of American History Erases Our Heritage*, was issued as part of President Donald Trump’s effort to reshape how American history is presented in federally supported institutions.

The report stems from Trump’s March 27, 2025 executive order, *Restoring Truth and Sanity to American History*, which directed a review of Smithsonian exhibits, educational programs, and policies. The executive order named Vice President JD Vance to serve on the Smithsonian Board of Regents and charged administration officials with examining what the White House described as “divisive” and “ideological” historical narratives.

While the report focuses primarily on the National Museum of American History, it also takes aim at interpretations of Native American history presented across Smithsonian museums, including themes long associated with the Smithsonian Institution and the National Museum of the American Indian.

The report criticizes the National Museum of the American Indian’s *Nation to Nation* exhibition.

“For example, the exhibit’s introductory video begins by stating that the story of the U.S. and

Native American Indian nations is a story about ‘the rise of a new great nation at the sacrifice of hundreds of others,’” the report states.

The report also takes issue with Suzan Shown Harjo’s video, *The ‘Indian Problem’*. In the video, Harjo—Cheyenne and Muscogee (Creek), one of the exhibit’s curators and a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Barack Obama—states:

“When you wrench people from their homelands, wasn’t that genocide? We don’t make the case that there was genocide. We know there was.”

Another of the report’s central criticisms is the use of “land acknowledgements” and exhibits that describe the United States as having been built on land taken from Indigenous peoples. A chapter titled “NMAH’s Repeated Claim that America Rests on Stolen Land” argues that such interpretations frame American history primarily as a story of oppression rather than achievement.

The report criticizes Smithsonian Under Secretary for Education Monique Chism and NMAH Director Anthea Hartig for beginning official museum events with land acknowledgements recognizing Indigenous peoples as the original inhabitants of the land.

The report also challenges content in the museum’s *Many Voices, One Nation* exhibit, which states that the U.S. government “forcibly pushed Indians from their ancestral lands” to make way for Euro-American settlement, distributed land taken from Native peoples through the Homestead Act, and pursued war with Mexico in 1846 to acquire western territory.

According to the White House, these



Entry into the "Nation to Nation" exhibition at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. (Photo/Levi Rickert)

interpretations place too much emphasis on Indigenous dispossession, slavery, and racial injustice while downplaying the nation’s founding ideals and accomplishments.

The report’s release sets up a direct conflict between the Trump administration and many Native historians, tribal leaders, and scholars who view land dispossession and treaty violations as essential parts of the American story. Coming on the nation’s semiquincentennial, the report signals that debates over how U.S. history is told—and whose perspectives are included—are likely to intensify in the years ahead.

DHS Statement on Unauthorized Access and Potential Impact to Certain Medicaid Members

June 30, 2026

Today, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) announced that some Medicaid members receiving benefits from the state’s Supplemental Security Income program had letters with personal and private information regarding an increase in their benefits sent out to their outdated addresses.

After discovering what happened on April 30, 2026, DHS immediately identified the affected individuals and halted all future mailing to the incorrect addresses.

On June 30, 2026, notifications were sent to 8,157 Supplemental Security Income members whose information may have been accessed by unauthorized individuals. These members have been offered free credit monitoring for one year as well as given access to a dedicated call center to answer questions they might have.

Members who received a notification letter or have questions about this incident, can call 800-362-3002 from 8:00 a.m. to 8 p.m. CT Monday through Friday.



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that served in the Korean War, the Vietnam War and so forth,” Dupris said. “So it’s inherently in us to serve... All of these individuals that were my guardians in my life, that I have respect for, they prompted me to join the military.”

For generations Native people have been crucial to the success of the United

States military, another aspect recently erased. Information detailing the crucial role Indigenous language speakers like the Navajo Code Talkers played in World War II was temporarily erased from the Pentagon’s website in 2025 alongside thousands of pages detailing the contributions of women and minorities to the military.

LOOKING FOR
Employment?



HO-CHUNK GOVERNMENT
& GAMING FACILITIES
POSITIONS AVAILABLE



HO-CHUNK GAMING
WISCONSIN

↑ Scan here! ↓

1 Scan the QR code.

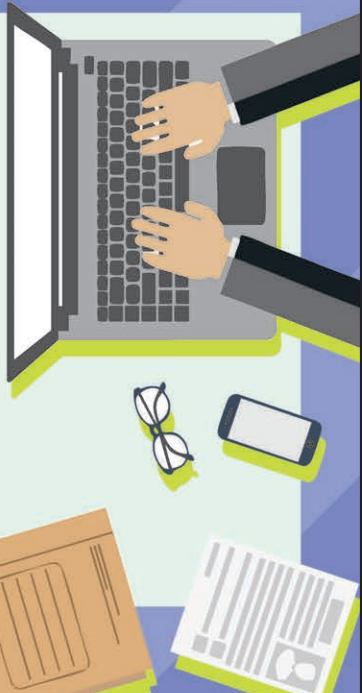
2 Register or Sign in.

3 Select a job.

4 Apply online!

PHONE:
(715) 284-4361

WEBSITE:
<https://ho-chunknation.com/employment/>



Ho-Chunk Garden Dedication



Please join us as we dedicate the new Ho-Chunk Garden. All are welcome.
Date: Thursday, July 30
Time: 9:00 AM

Location: Ho-Chunk Garden, Riverside International Friendship Gardens, Riverside Park, La Crosse, WI

SUMMONS
(Second Publication)

IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT

Ho-Chunk Nation CSA, State of Wisconsin and Zoe E. Two Crow, Petitioners, v. John P. Rave, Respondent.

Case No.: CSFJ 25-09

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED: [John P. Rave](#)

You are hereby informed that you have been named the payer in the above-entitled child support action. This legal notice of the *Petition to Register & Enforce a Foreign Judgment or Order* is now served upon you by publication. Your written *Answer* to the *Petition* must be filed with the Court on or before the twentieth day from the date of the second published issuance of this *Summons*. You may request a hearing within your written response. See CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT CODE, 4 HCC § 7.36. Also, you must send or present a copy of your *Answer* to the opposing party listed above or to their attorney of record. Failure to file a timely *Answer* in the time allowed *can affect your right to object to the enforcement of the foreign judgment or order*. *Id.*, § 7.36(b)(v).

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

SUMMONS
(First Publication)

IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT

Ho-Chunk Nation Child Support Agency and Wisconsin Foster Care, Petitioner, v. Heather Joy Hopinka, Respondent.

Case No.: CS 26-03

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED: [Heather J. Hopinka](#)

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

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

The court shall commence a proceeding no sooner than twenty-five (25) days from the date of service. The *Initial Child Support Hearing* shall be held at **2:00 p.m. CDT** on the **14th** day of **September, 2026**. The Court also provides notice of the potential of being held in contempt of court:

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

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

Continued from Page 1

best retire four times for each direction. I know we’ll see him down the road continuing to do good for the people.”

Throughout his career, Quackenbush became a respected voice in tribal historic preservation, advocating for the protection of cultural resources, sacred places, burial sites, and ancestral landscapes while helping

ensure the Ho-Chunk Nation’s perspective was represented in federal and state preservation decisions.

His retirement comes as the Cultural Resources Division enters a new chapter with the development of the Ho-Chunk Nation’s new Cultural Resources Center, a project that reflects decades of growth within the department.

DISTRICT 1 AREA MEETING NOTICE

BLACK RIVER FALLS AREA MEETING
Tribal Office Building
W9814 Airport Road
Black River Falls, WI 54615
Wednesday, July 15, 2026 | 5:00p.m.
IN PERSON/VIRTUAL

Twin Cities AREA MEETING
St. Paul Branch Office
1724 Selby Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104
Thursday, July 16, 2026 | 6:00 p.m.
IN PERSON/VIRTUAL

Rep. Paul Fox | paul.fox@ho-chunk.com (715)896-6251
Rep. Phyllis Smoke | phyllis.smoke@ho-chunk.com (715)299-1016
Rep. Tracy Thundercloud | tracythundercloud@ho-chunk.com (715)299-0576

For Webex/e-packet, information please contact:
michelleramberg@ho-chunk.com
(715)284-9343 Ext. 11250

Posted on: 6/15/26



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, JULY 13, 2026 6:00PM

TOMAH AREA | BLUE WING COMMUNITY BUILDING
324 Epinal Avenue Tomah, WI
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2026 6:00PM

BARABOO/WI DELLS/MAUSTON AREA | INDIAN HEIGHTS
975 Dyer Street Wisconsin Dells, WI
WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2026 6:00PM

REP. STEPHANIE BEGAY stephanie.begay@ho-chunk.com (608) 408-0339
REP. DAMIAN THUNDERCLOUD damianthundercloud@ho-chunk.com (608) 606-2644
REP. KYLE WHITE EAGLE kyle.whiteeagle@ho-chunk.com (800)294-9343 x.11276

POSTED 7/2/26

DISTRICT 3 AREA MEETING NOTICE

MILWAUKEE | WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2026 | 6:00 PM

WITTENBERG | MONDAY, JULY 13, 2026 | 6:00 PM

GREEN BAY | TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2026 | 6:00 PM

MADISON | WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2026 | 6:00 PM

WI RAPIDS | THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2026 | 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

POSTED 6/23/2026



HO-CHUNK NATION

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING

NOTICE OF VACANCY

The Department of Housing (1) D-3Housing Board of Director

Duties:

Be involved in the Department's strategic community housing plan

Serve as a consultant during the development of the Department's annual goals and objectives required pursuant to the *Appropriations and Budget Process Act*.

Serve in an advisory capacity on matters referred by the Executive Director of Housing.

Qualifications:

Enrolled member of the Ho-Chunk Nation

Shall have the requisite skill, knowledge specific to housing

Provide professional and expert advice and recommendations

Board experience and having a flexible scheduling are beneficial to being appointed

Membership:

Shall not be an employee of the Department of Housing

Shall not be a member of more than two (2) department Boards of Directors

Shall not be appointed nor serve as a member of a subordinate advisory board within the Department of Housing

Shall not be appointed nor serve as a Commissioner of the Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency

Term:

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

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

Thank you,

Denise Wright

Executive Director

Department of Housing

District 4 Area Meeting Notice



IN PERSON / VIRTUAL DISTRICT 4 AREA MEETING

Chicago Branch Office

4738 N. Milwaukee Ave. Chicago, IL 60630

Monday, July 13 2026

6:00pm CST

VIRTUAL DISTRICT 4 AREA MEETING

Available via WebEx

Wednesday, July 15 2026

6:00pm PST

6/23/2026 – updated



HO-CHUNK NATION

PEOPLE OF THE BIG VOICE

For WebEx information please contact:

Rep. David Greendeer

david.greendeer@ho-chunk.com

(715)-896-9192

Rep. Edward Mullen

edward.mullen@ho-chunk.com

(715)-896-9180

Rep. Sandra Whitewing

sandra.whitewing@ho-chunk.com

(715)-896-9183

Aide: Jennifer Adams

jennifer.adams@ho-chunk.com

(715)-284-9343x11284

D4@ho-chunk.com

HO-CHUNK NATION
LEGISLATURE
REGULAR MEETING
EXECUTIVE OFFICES
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI
JUNE 23, 2026

Call to Order: President Jon Greendeer called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

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

VC-Video Conference

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

Opening Prayer: President Greendeer offered a word of prayer.

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the agenda ADDING under District Meetings J. D4 Gu\u\u\sgona\uK – June 15, 2026 and K. D4 Virtual Meeting – June 17, 2026. Second by Rep. David Greendeer. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Legislative Meeting-June 9, 2026

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the June 9, 2026 Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Special Legislative Meeting-June 12, 2026

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to approve the June 12, 2026 Special Legislative Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Commission Reports:

Gaming Commission Report

The Gaming Commission is not present.

MOTION by Rep. David Greendeer to TABLE the Gaming Commission Report. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Government Administration Commission-June 11, 2026

MOTION by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud to approve the June 11, 2026 Government Administration Commission Meeting minutes with corrections. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 6-0-1(Rep. Stephanie Begay) **MOTION CARRIED.**

Amendment to the Agenda:

MOTION by Rep. David Greendeer to revisit the Gaming Commission Report, as the Gaming Commission is online now. Second by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Commission Reports (Re-visited):

Gaming Commission Report

The Gaming Commission is online, and overviewed their report with the Legislature.

MOTION by Rep. David Greendeer to accept the Gaming Commission report. Second by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Unfinished Business: No agenda items.

New Business:

Presentation: Gallagher Property and Casualty

Tyler Von Fossen was online to overview Gallagher's recommendations regarding:

- Cyber insurance vendor,
- Cyber insurance coverage, and
- Property insurance program

Resolution-Approval of 2026-2027 Property & Casualty Insurance Renewal Recommendations for the Ho-Chunk Nation

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 06-23-26 A**, Approval of 2026-2027 Property & Casualty Insurance Renewal Recommendations for the Ho-Chunk Nation. Second by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization for the Judiciary to Apply for the Wisconsin Department of Justice 2027 Treatment Alternatives and Diversion Grant

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 06-23-26 B**, Authorization for the Judiciary to Apply for the Wisconsin Department of Justice 2027 Treatment Alternatives and Diversion

Grant. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Authorization for Paid Administrative Leave for 2026 Elder Picnic

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 06-23-26 C**, Authorization for Paid Administrative Leave for 2026 Elder Picnic. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Enactment of the Department of Housing Rental Ordinance (8 HCC § 17)

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 06-23-26 D**, Enactment of the Department of Housing Rental Ordinance (8 HCC § 17). Second by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud. 2-2(Rep. Stephanie Begay, Rep. David Greendeer)-3(Rep. Shelby Visintin, Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle, Rep. Sandra Whitewing) TIE VOTE. President Greendeer votes in opposition. **MOTION DEFEATED.**

Resolution-Authorization for the Health Department to Apply for the Department of Health and Human Services Indian Health Services Fiscal Years 2025 & 2026 Small Ambulatory Program for American Indians and Alaska Natives

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to adopt **Resolution 06-23-26 E**, Authorization for the Health Department to Apply for the Department of Health and Human Services Indian Health Services Fiscal Years 2025 & 2026 Small Ambulatory Program for American Indians and Alaska Natives. Second by

Rep. Stephanie Begay. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Resolution-Consent to BIA Fiscal Year 2027 Tribal Priority Allocations

MOTION by Rep. Phyllis Smoke to adopt **Resolution 06-23-26 F**, Consent to BIA Fiscal Year 2027 Tribal Priority Allocations. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Native Voices Donation Request

Rep. Tracy Thundercloud said this request came from Office of the President. The request is for \$25,000.

MOTION by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud to TABLE. Second by Rep. David Greendeer. **MOTION IS AMENDED** to refer to the Finance Commission. Second concurs. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

District Meetings:

D1 Nijoxawani – June 10, 2026

MOTION by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud to approve matching \$2,700 funds with \$1,350 from the Youth Assistance Fund and \$1,350 from District 1 Community Improvement Fund regarding the **MOTION** by Kelly Jo Funmaker to donate matching funds for the Native American Junior Nationals Basketball Tournament in Mesa AZ. The motion was amended to \$3,000 matching funds. Second by Rep. Stephanie Begay. 6-0-1(Rep. David Greendeer) **MOTION CARRIED.**

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by JoVanna
Continued on Page 13

Continued from Page 12
White Eagle to have Legislature donate \$1,000 for transportation cost for the Ho-Chunk Basketball Team to attend the Native American Junior Nationals Basketball Tournament in Mesa AZ.
Note: This was addressed at the June 12, 2026 Special Legislative Meeting.

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by JoVanna White Eagle to have Legislature donate \$500 for food to the Ho-Chunk Basketball team that will be attending the Native American Junior Nationals Basketball Tournament.
Note: This was addressed at the June 12, 2026 Special Legislative Meeting.

MOTION by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud to refer the Finance Commission the MOTION by Nathaniel Longtail, Jr. to have Legislature increase the general council payout to \$200 per tribal members. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud to refer to the Office of General Council the MOTION by Darcy Funmaker to research and conduct a feasibility study on the cost per person riding the buses to general council from last year’s numbers to determine if this assistance is cost effective. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud to refer to the Election Board, Election Code Workgroup and the Department of Justice the MOTION by Darcy Funmaker to have Legislature add language to the Election code for referendum voting. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud to refer to Office of the President, Department of Administration, Department of Business and the Legislature the MOTION by Regina Funmaker to explore economic diversification including partnerships with sport teams’ options for Lynwood, including training centers. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud to refer to the D1 Legislators, Department of Health, Heritage Preservation and Office of the President the MOTION by Forrest Funmaker to have District 1 Legislators champion the results of the Comprehensive Needs Assessment. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud to refer to Legislature the MOTION by Kelly Jo Funmaker to sell the Lynwood property. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud to refer to Department of Justice, the Law Enforcement Commission and Legislature the MOTION by Forrest

Funmaker to include statistical reporting requirements and probation and parole to the MOU for the Jackson County Law Enforcement Agreement. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud to refer to Office of General Council the MOTION by Paula Mike to have General Council Office provide the submitted resolutions prior to the next meeting be made available for tribal members. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud to refer to Legislature the MOTION by Paula Mike to have Legislature add to the Charitable Act to include homeowners’ association fees as an allowable expense under the elder program to increase elder financial support options. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Darcy Funmaker to have the BRF District meetings begin at 5:00 p.m. Funding a meal in the amount of \$125 and having 5 tribal member drawings of \$25 with a cut off time of 6:30 p.m., per meeting. Second by Waverly Bird. 15-4-1 Motion Carried.

MOTION by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud to refer to DNR the MOTION by Forrest Funmaker to have Department of Natural Resources clear the brush along Mission Road to Tribal Courts. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D1 Mqan̄ico Horuzra – June 18, 2026

MOTION by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud to refer to the Department of Administration, the Hocak Worak, and Office of General Council the MOTION by Libby Fairchild to have the Hocak Worak publish a special addition newsletter of the General Council Resolutions submitted by the July 21, 2026 deadline be printed and mailed prior to the next general council meeting. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud to refer to Legislative Legal and Department of Justice the MOTION by Libby Fairchild to approve Brook Funmaker as the District 1 Housing Board member, pending background check. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. MOTION IS AMENDED to include Department of Housing in the referral. Second concurs. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Libby Fairchild for the Twin Cities District Meeting funds to be divided with meal of \$100 and the remaining funds used as payout with all tribal members in attendance that arrive before 6:30 p.m. Second by Rosetta Hunt. 12-0-1 Motion Carried.

MOTION by Rep. Tracy

Thundercloud to refer to the Finance Commission the MOTION by Rosetta Hunt to have Legislature increase the general council payout to \$200 per tribal members. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud to refer to the Finance Commission the MOTION by Rosetta Hunt for Legislature to provide funding for All Areas school supply distribution for the upcoming school year. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud to refer to the Finance Commission the MOTION by Libby Fairchild to have Legislature allocate funding for the Twin Cities area in the amount of \$3,000 for Back-to-School Supplies and to expedite the check, as some of the schools in the Twin Cities area schools begin in August. Second by Rep. Phyllis Smoke. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D2 H̄inȳkwas– June 15, 2026

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to the Legislative Finance Team the MOTION by Amy DeBoer to receive a Beloit budget update progress report as detailed as possible for July Area Meeting. Second by Rep. Tracy Thundercloud. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D2 Ho’uñ̄i X̄uñ̄uñ̄ik – June 16, 2026

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Melanie Stacy for HCN Legislature to fund HostoPii. Second by Myra Jo Price. 13-0-0 Motion Carried. Note: HostoPii is currently funded by the Tribal Nation Opioid Abatement efforts from the State of Wisconsin. That funding ends June 30, 2026. After that, they will be funded through the same program, Tribal Nation Opioid Abatement efforts from the State.

Rep. Stephanie Begay mentioned that the discussion for the next motion was regarding dental implants.

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Department of Personnel and Insurance and the Health, Insurance, Education and Social Services Commission the MOTION by Myra Jo Price to include implants in the insurance. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Legislature the MOTION by Joan Greendeer-Lee for the HCN Legislature to institute a lifetime ban on Data Centers on and around HCN lands. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to refer to Legislature the MOTION by Deana Mitch for Legislature to develop a code for Right of Nature. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D3 Teš̄išk – June 10, 2026

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Hazel Guerrero to start Milwaukee’s area meetings at 6PM instead of 5:30PM. Second by Heather Schulz. 13-0-0 Motion Carried. **MOTION** by Rep. Shelby Visintin to refer to HHCDa the MOTION by Heather Schulz to strike the last resort stipulations in the rental assistance grant administered by HHCDa. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D3 Pac cin̄q̄k – June 15, 2026

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to refer to Legislature the MOTION by Shelby Wulf for Legislature to look into how Wittenberg can utilize the old Head Start building. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. MOTION IS AMENDED to include Department of Administration in the referral. Second concurs. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to refer to Department of Administration the MOTION by Shelby Decorah to get a notary at the Siga Center. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to refer to Michael Rave the MOTION by Myrna Littlewolf for Mike Rave to attend the next Law Enforcement Commission meeting at the Tribal Office Building in Black River Falls at 10AM on July 2. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to refer to Shawano County, the Law Enforcement Commission and the Department of Justice the MOTION by Shelby Decorah for Shawano County to not put personal information in their monthly reports. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D3 Tee hoikšek – June 16, 2026

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to refer to the Finance Commission the MOTION by Mary Lopez for the Ho-Chunk Nation to fund the community trip. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D3 Tejop – June 17, 2026

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to refer to Heritage Preservation, Treasury, Department of Justice, and Office of the President the MOTION by Shawn Woldt to ask why there wasn’t an RFP list for the Cultural Center in regard to the 3-bid process. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Note: Rep. Shelby Visintin noted that the area wants an explanation of what happened with the RFP for the cultural

center.

D3 Cexhaci – June 18, 2026

MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to refer to Office of the President and Department of Health the MOTION by Barb Smith for someone from the Nekoosa Health Office to attend the next Nekoosa Area Meeting to talk about the program. Second by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.** Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle stated that District 3 voted on the D3 Housing Board member, and the area selected Mary Lopez.

MOTION by Rep. Sarah Lemieux-White Eagle to refer the selection of Mary Lopez as the D3 Housing Board member to the Department of Housing for a background check. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

D4 Gūṣ̄gon̄q̄k – June 15, 2026

No motions.

D4 Virtual Meeting – June 17, 2026

READ FOR THE RECORD:

MOTION by Reta Littlegeorge for General Council food to be covered through the District 4 restricted account. Second by Victoria Stacy Goodthunder. 2-0-2 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. Phyllis Smoke to move to Executive Session for Business Matters, Criminal Matters, Inter-governmental Relations, Land, Law Enforcement, Legal Advice, Personnel Matters, Public Safety or Well-Being. Second by Rep. Sandra Whitewing. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting moved to Executive Session at 10:57 a.m.

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to return to Open Session. Second by Rep. David Greendeer. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting returned to Open Session at 1:18 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to ratify all action taken in Executive Session. Second by Rep. David Greendeer. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

Adjournment:

MOTION by Rep. Stephanie Begay to adjourn the Legislative Meeting to July 7, 2026 at the Tribal Office Building in Black River Falls, Wisconsin. Second by Rep. David Greendeer. 7-0-0 **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Legislative Meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.



HCN Election Board Notice

Ho-Chunk Nation Voting Tribal Members:

Please be aware that all ballots were mailed on **Monday, July 6, 2026**.

How to Vote:

Mark your ballot.

1. Place your completed ballot in the **Ballot Secrecy Envelope** and seal it.
2. Place the sealed Ballot Secrecy Envelope into the **Return Envelope**.
3. Sign the Return Envelope.
4. Have a witness who is **18 years of age or older and a U.S. citizen** sign the Return Envelope and provide their address.

Once completed, you may return your ballot:

- By mail,
- Directly to the **Election Board Office**, or
- At **General Council** before the voting deadline.

Need a Replacement Ballot?

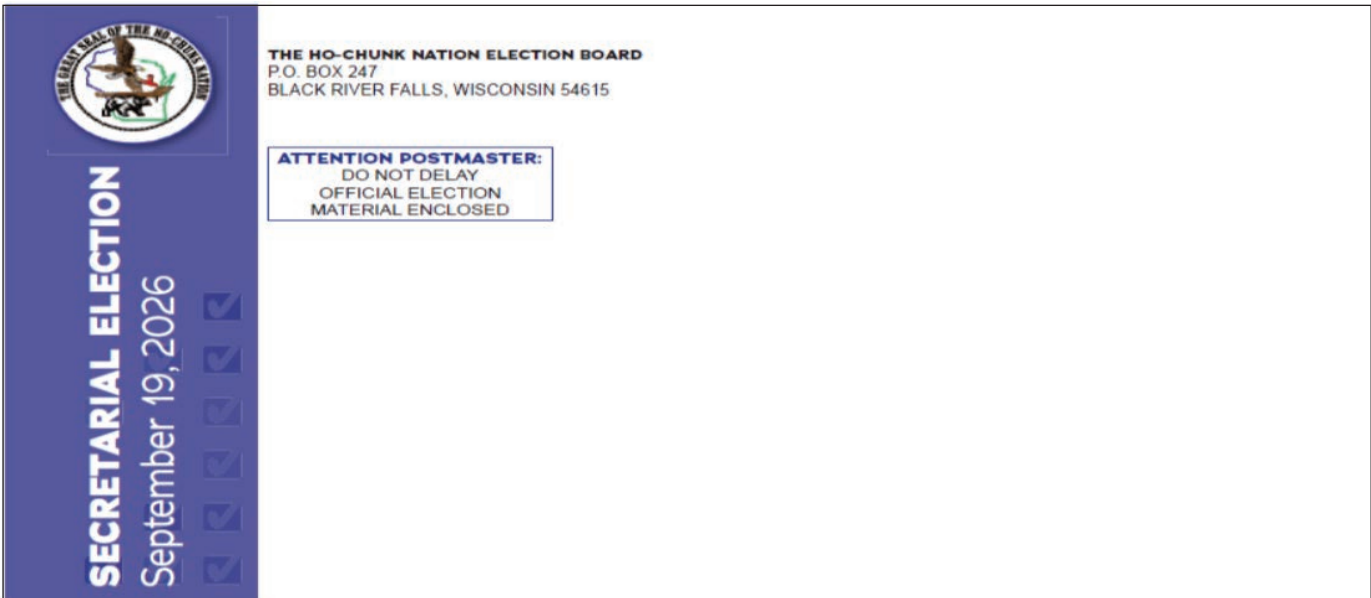
If your ballot has been lost or damaged, please contact the **Election Board** to request a new one.

In-Person Voting

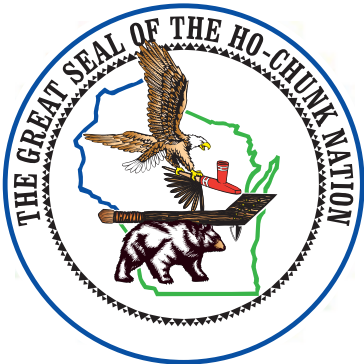
In addition to voting by mail, eligible voters may also vote **in person at General Council on Election Day**.

Watch for Your Ballot

This is the envelope your ballot will arrive at your mailing address below:



NOTICE OF RULES OF SECRETARIAL ELECTION
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2026



Notice is hereby served to all eligible voters of the Ho-Chunk Nation that the Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board is calling an Election to amend the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation,

Article XIII of the Constitution provides: “Section 1. Requirements. This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the qualified voters of the Ho-Chunk Nation voting at an election called for that purpose by the Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board, provided, that at least thirty (30) percent of those entitled to vote shall vote in such election.

Article XIII of the Constitution provides: “Section 2. Requests for a Secretarial Election. It shall be the duty of the Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board to call and hold an election on any proposed amendment to this Constitution at the request of two thirds (2/3) of the entire Legislature, at the request of the General Council, or upon presentation of a petition signed by thirty (30) percent of the eligible voters of the Ho-Chunk Nation.”

Mail and in person procedures:

The Election Board will mail out ballots no later than 30 days before General Council. The Voter will mark the ballot and place it in the ballot secrecy envelope and seal it. The Voter will then place the ballot secrecy envelope inside the return envelope and seal it. The return envelope will be signed by the Voter as his or her name appears on the return envelope, and signed by a witness who is a U.S. Citizen 18 years or older along with the address of said witness, and he or she will then return it by mail to the location designated by the Election Board pursuant to Section 14.a.(2).(a), in-person to the Election Board Office or in person at the annual General Council meeting if applicable.

A voter may make a request to replace a lost ballot no later than ten (10) days before the Election. Upon the request of the voter, the Election Board will replace the lost ballot within twenty-four (24) hours by sending a new ballot by overnight shipment. The Election Board will not be held responsible for ballots which are received beyond the deadline for receipt of ballots. It will be the voter’s responsibility to ensure the ballot is returned by the due date.

The Election Board will also make available the ability to vote at General Council in accordance with Section 21.e.(3). The Election Board will set up a number of voting locations in and around the location of General Council as the Board deems necessary to allow voting to occur with a reasonable wait time. Such in-person elections will be done consistent with the procedures listed in Section 13.g, j, and k of the Election Code.

Hours for voting at General Council will be from eight a.m. until seven p.m., unless quorum is not achieved or if General Council adjourns before the close of polls, then the polls will close two hours after adjournment or failure to achieve quorum, but no later than seven p.m. Any voter still in line at close of polls shall be allowed to vote.

LANGUAGE OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

To amend the Ho-Chunk Nation Constitution, would be as follows, with underlined text as new language added to Article II, to add Section 1(b) of the Constitution as follows:

“(b) All descendants of persons listed in Section 1(a), provided, that such persons are at least one-fourth (1/4) Ho-Chunk blood. All persons who were duly enrolled as Ho-Chunk Nation members as of December 31, 1999, will be considered full blood or 4/4 Ho-Chunk Blood.”

g. Challenges to Results; Amendments.

(1) Challenges to the results of the Election may be made pursuant to Section 18 of this CODE.

(2) The Election Board is not responsible for the legality or constitutionality of any amendments. If a member believes that an adopted amendment is in violation of the CONSTITUTION, or applicable federal law such as the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968 25 USC Ch. 15, such suit will be brought against the proponent of the Amendment, either the petitioner, Legislature, or General Council.

PURSUANT TO ARTICLE XIII SEC 1 AND THE ELECTION CODE, THIRTY PERCENT (30%) OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS MUST CAST A VOTE EITHER FOR OR AGAINST THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS FOR THE AMENDMENT TO BE VALID. IF LESS THAN 30% OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS PARTICIPATE, THE AMENDMENT SHALL BE DEEMED TO NOT PASS.

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 Code Sec. 11 (a) (b).

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 shall rule on all written challenges to the list of eligible voters immediately after the close of the challenge period. Section 11. c. ii. (August 30, 2026, at 4:00 p.m).

Ho-Chunk Nation Election Board
W8801 Mission Road
P.O Box 247
Black River Falls, WI. 54615
TELEPHONE (715)284-8900
TOLL FREE (800)890-0583
E-MAIL: Election.board@ho-chunk.com

Ballots may be returned by overnight mail, so they may be received at the Election Board Office or the polling places prior to the 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 shall certify and post the official election results within three (3) days after the date of election.

CONTESTING OF ELECTION RESULTS: Any member of the Ho-Chunk Nation may challenge the results of any election results 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:

The Election Board will make attempts to prevent electioneering on the issues of the Secretarial Elections from occurring within fifty (50) feet of the locations where voters are queued to receive their ballots, so long as those attempts do not interfere with the Board’s ability to timely assist voters. Advocacy of the issues for consideration for a Secretarial Election does not carry the same concern as a candidate electioneering for their own office. Therefore, such advocacy in and of itself within fifty (50) feet of the voting location shall not be sufficient to challenge the results of a Secretarial Election.

SECRETARIAL ELECTION
Saturday, September 19, 2026

POST NOTICE OF ELECTION
Monday, June 22, 2026

POST ELIGIBLE VOTERS LIST
Thursday, August 20, 2026

CHALLENGES TO THE ELIGIBLE
VOTERS LIST MUST BE RECEIVED
SUNDAY AUGUST 30, 2026 PRIOR
TO 4:00 PM

ALL MAIL BALLOTS WILL BE
MAILED BY
Friday, August 5, 2026

LAST DAY TO REQUEST
REPLACEMENT BALLOT
Wednesday, September 9, 2026
By 4:00 pm

ALL BALLOTS DUE TO POST
OFFICE BOX
BY
Saturday September 19, 2026
OR WILL ACCEPT AT GENERAL
COUNCIL UNTIL POLLS ARE
CLOSED

CERTIFICATION WILL BE HELD
on Sunday, September 20, 2026
at HCG- Wisconsin Dells
starting at 9 a.m.

Amended Post 6/29/2026



2026 NEESH-LA Contest Powwow

AUG 11, 12 & 13 E10793 N REEDSBURG RD
BARABOO, WI 53913

ENTRY FEE

\$5 DAY / \$10 3-DAY
HCN MEMBERS - FREE

GRAND ENTRY

TUESDAY - 6PM
WEDNESDAY - 3PM
THURSDAY - NOON

HOST DRUM

HO-CHUNK STATION - WI

EMCEE

VINCE BEYL - MN
TRAVIS CLOUD - WI

ARENA DIRECTOR

KENNY "HANK"
FUNMAKER JR - WI

HEAD MEN'S DANCE JUDGE

OJ LITTLECOOK - OK

HEAD WOMEN'S DANCE JUDGE

LISA EWACK - SK

HEAD SINGING JUDGE

DAVID CLEVELAND- WI

DRUM CONTEST

1ST - \$10,000 4TH - \$3,000
2ND - \$7,000 5TH - \$2,000
3RD - \$5,000

DANCE CONTEST

ADULT MEN: SR (35-54) /JR (18-34)
TRAD/GRASS/FANCY

1ST - \$1,000 3RD - \$500
2ND - \$700 4TH - \$300

ADULT WOMEN: SR (35-54) /JR (18-34)
TRAD/JINGLE/FANCY

1ST - \$1,000 3RD - \$500
2ND - \$700 4TH - \$300

GOLDEN AGE 55+ MEN TRADITIONAL,
GRASS/FANCY COMBINED

1ST - \$1,000 3RD - \$500
2ND - \$700 4TH - \$300

GOLDEN AGE 55+ WOMEN
TRADITIONAL, JINGLE/FANCY COMBINED

1ST - \$1,000 3RD - \$500
2ND - \$700 4TH - \$300

TEEN BOYS TRAD/GRASS/FANCY

1ST - \$300 3RD - \$150
2ND - \$200 4TH - \$100

TEEN GIRLS TRAD/JINGLE/FANCY

1ST - \$300 3RD - \$150
2ND - \$200 4TH - \$100

JR BOYS TRAD/GRASS/FANCY

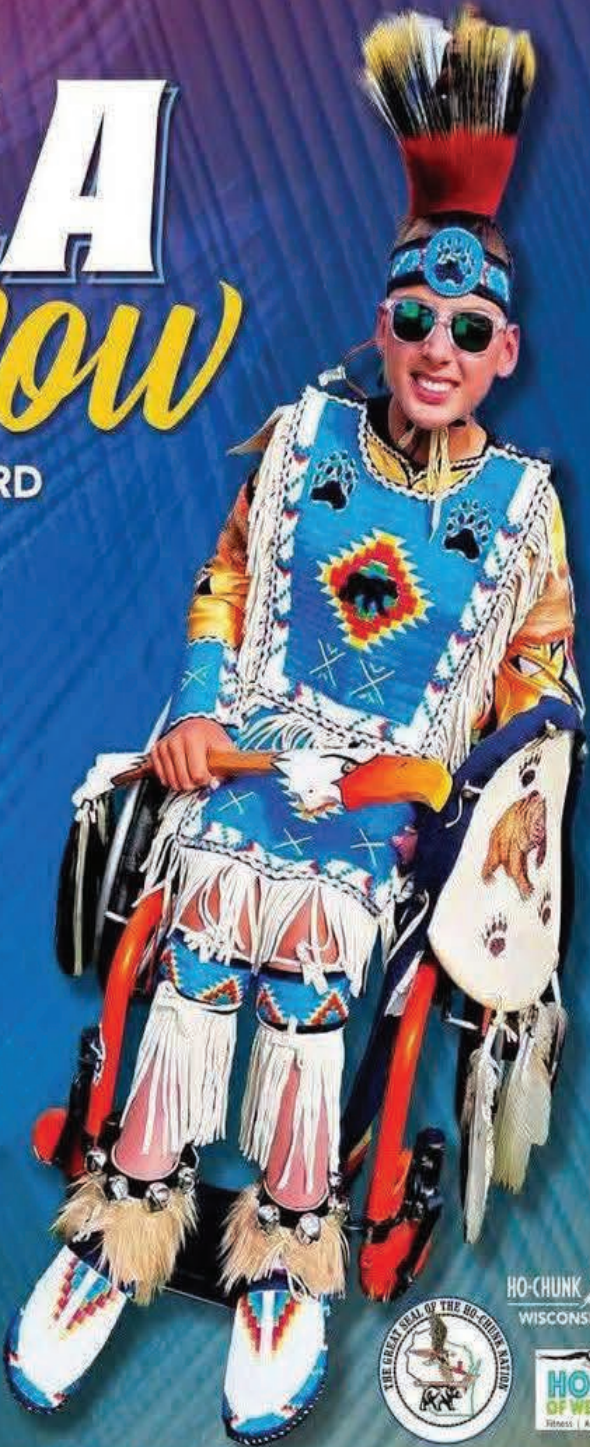
1ST - \$200 3RD - \$100
2ND - \$150 4TH - \$50

JR GIRLS TRAD/JINGLE/FANCY

1ST - \$200 3RD - \$100
2ND - \$150 4TH - \$50

2026 PRINCESS & BRAVE CONTESTS

CONTACT: WACLATTI@GMAIL.COM
608.432.1066



DISABILITY SPECIAL IN HONOR OF BENTLEE GERALD CLEVELAND
SPONSORED BY CLEVELAND FAMILY
PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES SPECIAL
SPONSORED BY LOV. INC

COMMITTEE SPECIALS

MEN'S WOOLAND 18+

1ST - \$400 3RD - \$200
2ND - \$300 4TH - \$100

WOMEN'S APPLIQUE 18+

1ST - \$400 3RD - \$200
2ND - \$300 4TH - \$100

APPLIQUE COMBINED TEEN & JRS

1ST - \$200 3RD - \$100
2ND - \$150 4TH - \$50

WOODLAND COMBINED TEEN & JRS

1ST - \$200 3RD - \$100
2ND - \$150 4TH - \$50

OTHER SPECIALS TO BE ANNOUNCED

POWWOW CONTACT INFORMATION

COURAGE CLEVELAND
608.472.1011 | clevelandcourage@gmail.com
VENDOR CONTACT
MAYTA MONTELONGO - 715.340.1824
HOTEL STAY - Ho-Chunk Gaming Wisconsin Dells
800.746.2486 | Room Block: 15665
CAMPING AVAILABLE
DRUG AND ALCOHOL-FREE EVENT
NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST OR STOLEN ITEMS

BASKETBALL 3 ON 3 TOURNAMENT - WEDNESDAY
GOLF TOURNAMENT - WEDNESDAY

CONTACT COURAGE CLEVELAND
608.472.1011

