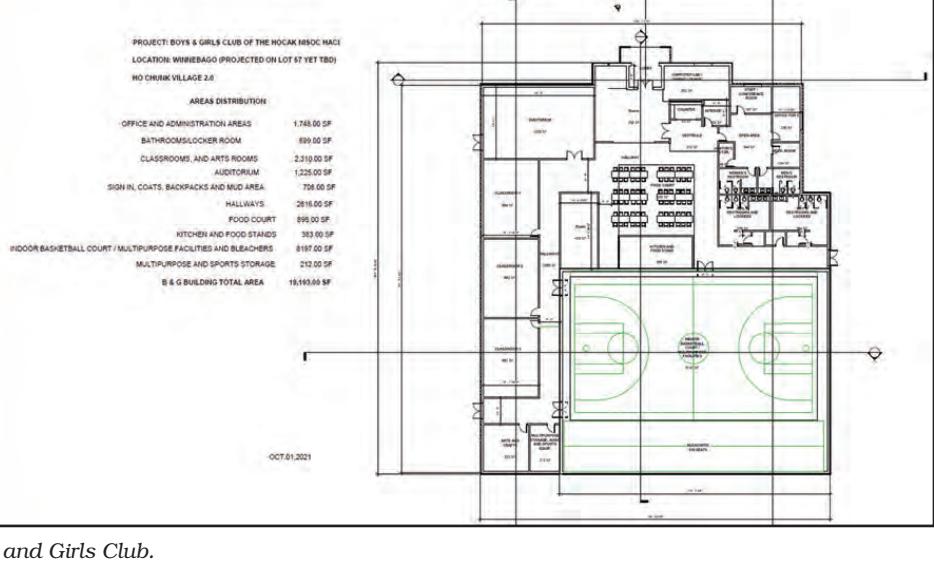
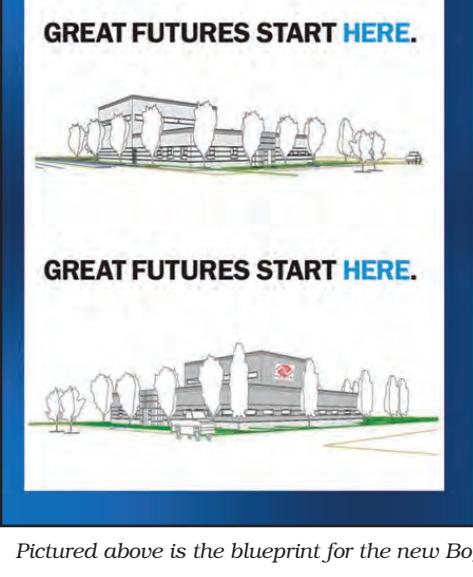




Published Bi-Weekly for the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska • Volume 50, Number 21 • Saturday, October 30, 2021

## Boys & Girls Club Announce Building Expansion



Pictured above is the blueprint for the new Boys and Girls Club.

### Greetings,

My two-year anniversary was 9/18/21 as the CEO of the Boys and Girl Club of Hocak Nisoc Haci (BGC). We have endured a lot in the past year due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We were limited in services and programming we could provide our children. We were forced to close our doors in March but later reopened in September. I am so thankful for the BGC staff that continued to show up during these trying times. The BGC club averages over 80 kids daily in the summer. We serve 34 kids during the school year. Our current building does not have the infrastructure to serve that many children. We have turned kids away because our building and staff limitations. I want to thank the BGC staff for their creativ-

ity and collaborative efforts with local departments.

Over the past year we have worked with Blue Stone Homes in designing a blueprint for the new BGC building. Our children deserve the best; our new building will provide the space needed to serve our youth so nobody will be turned away. We are excited to share the design with the Winnebago community. As of 10/20/21 a motion was passed by the council to secure land in the HoChunk Village 2.0 for this 6.5-million-dollar project.

A big thank you to the BGC Unit Director, Gregory Bass III, and all of our hardworking staff, Allie Frenchman, Denicia Walker, Alayah Frazier, Kaileah Walker and Tia YellowThunder. They play a huge role in the success of

the club. I am extremely proud of all of them and the determination they bring to BGC. Thank you to the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska for your continued support, Winnebago Planning Department and Alan Post for your guidance. I would also like to thank our Department of Organization (D.O.D) Mr. Elwood Pipestem-Ott, for everything he does for our club and of course our awesome Board of Trustees.

Thank you to all those that support the club. It is an honor to serve the people of Winnebago.

Pinagigi,  
Wambli Dolezal, CEO  
Boys & Girls of Hocak Nisoc Haci

## Thurston County & The Covid-19 Vaccine



Winnebago Tribal Elder Viola Rave LaPointe receives her COVID-19 vaccine. The Winnebago Tribe has vaccinated more than 76 percent of its 12-and-older members, which is the highest rate than any single county in Nebraska. Photo courtesy of Twelve Clans Unity Hospital.

By Tim Trudell Flatwater Free Press

Nearly three-quarters of eligible residents in tiny Thurston County have been vaccinated, beating even the metro counties of Douglas and Lancaster, which both have vaccinated roughly 70 percent of eligible residents

WINNEBAGO, Nebraska — On a muggy August afternoon, members of the Winnebago Tribe in northeast Nebraska gathered to clean heritage corn and dry it for the coming winter. Some will be given to relatives. Some will be used in soup to warm tribal members when the Nebraska weather turns brutally cold.

This return to the normal rhythms of Winnebago life feels deeply satisfying to tribal members like Keely Purcell. A year ago, Purcell sat lonely in her Iowa living room, staying home, working hard to keep her immunocompromised husband and young children safe.

Now she's cleaning corn in this shed and laughing with her friend Elaine Rice, who is like an auntie to her, a de facto relative in the way that tribe is family to many Indigenous people.

Purcell, Rice and many other tribal members feel comfortable in the shed for a simple reason: Nearly everyone here is vaccinated. As Nebraska strug-

gles to get its rural residents vaccinated, Native Americans living in rural places here have gotten jabbed at extremely high rates.

Case in point: 76 percent of Winnebago Tribe members 12 and older

are now fully vaccinated, according to the Twelve Clans Unity Hospital. The nearby Omaha Tribe has 75 percent of its eligible members fully vaxed, including nearly every tribal employee, said Sarah Rowland, director of Macy's Curtis Health Center.

Those numbers are markedly higher than the United States as a whole, and stunningly higher than any single other rural Nebraska spot. Most rural Nebraska communities have vaccinated between a third and a half of their eligible residents, according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data.

The vaccination push by the Winnebago and Omaha tribes, whose reservations border one another in rural northeast Nebraska, has led to an eye-opening fact: Tiny Thurston County, by far the poorest county in Nebraska, is also its most vaccinated.

Nearly three-quarters of eligible residents have been vaccinated there as of October 6, beating even the metro

counties of Douglas and Lancaster, which both have vaccinated roughly 70 percent of eligible residents.

An inborn sense of community and family, as well as an intensely local education push, have driven large numbers of tribal members to embrace the vaccines.

"When smallpox came around, we didn't have anything to protect us. We didn't know," Purcell said, referencing the virus that killed as many as 90 percent of Native Americans in the decades after traders and settlers brought it here. "But, this time, in the middle of all this, knowing that the virus could kill our people, we have a vaccine. Take it."

Tribal support for vaccination has been strong both because of 21st century technology and an age-old respect for tribal elders and community safety, tribal members say.

Mona Zuffante, the tribe's public health director, co-hosted weekly Facebook Live presentations starting early in the pandemic, sharing vital information as tribal officials continued to learn more about the virus.

"We watched the news. We saw the

Cont. on pg. 5...

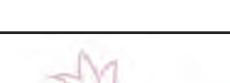
# BAGO NEWS

**Winnebago Comprehensive Healthcare System**

Apply At [WCHScareers.com!](http://WCHScareers.com)

Current Openings:

- AR Clerk
- COVID Collector/Program Manager
- Emergency Room Physician (FT & PT)
- EVS Tech (Temp)
- Maintenance/Utility Systems
- Medical Lab Technologist or Technician
- Mental Health Therapist (Salaried)
- Nursing Assistant (PT Nights)
- ED, Chronic Disease Case Manager
- OP, ED, IP Clinical Nurse (FT, PT, Days/Nights)
- Paramedic
- Patient Benefits Coordinator
- Purchasing Agent
- Recovery Outreach Worker
- Security Guard
- Third Party Biller
- Fitness Specialist
- Employee Health Nurse



Winnebago Public Health Department



TWELVE CLANS  
UNITY HOSPITAL



INPATIENT  
NURSING



MAWAHAWA  
Land of Rivers





WELLNESS



**PHOTO SUBMISSIONS**

**FOR THE 2022 HEALTH AND WELLNESS CALENDAR**

**ACCEPTING PHOTOS UNTIL NOVEMBER 5TH**

Submit your photos to [Michelice.kie@winnebagotribe.com](mailto:Michelice.kie@winnebagotribe.com)

Every year, the Tribal Practices for Wellness in Indian Country grant produces a Health and Wellness Calendar and is distributed among the community. The theme this year will focus on the twelve Hocak clans; one clan for each month. TPWIC invites you to submit a photo to be used in the calendar under your respective clan. If you are interested, submit your photo noting which clan you belong and a completed Talent Release and Talent Authorization Form.

Forms can be found at <https://winnebagopublichealth.com/healthandwellness>



**SIGN-ON BONUS!**

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**On the Spot Interviews**

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday  
9am to 1pm or by appointment.

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**Job Openings**

Please apply online at [www.WinnaVegas.com](http://www.WinnaVegas.com)



Located in the Training Center behind the Casino. Please Contact Lori Payer, Recruiting Specialist at 712.428.7105 for more information.

# JOBS

JOB TITLE	DIVISION	LOCATION
Compensation Analyst	Ho-Chunk Corporate Services	Bellevue, NE
Benefits Enrollment Clerk	Ho-Chunk Corporate Services	Bellevue, NE
Business Development/Capture Manager	Flatwater Solutions	Bellevue, NE
Compliance Coordinator	Ho-Chunk Corporate Services	Bellevue, NE
Database Administrator Supervisor	Ho-Chunk Corporate Services	Bellevue/Winnebago, NE
Commercial Auditor	Ho-Chunk Corporate Services	Bellevue, NE/Winnebago, NE
Director of Finance	WarHorse Gaming, LLC.	Bellevue/Omaha, NE
Director of Legal	Ho-Chunk Corporate Services	Bellevue/Winnebago, NE
Director of Marketing	WarHorse Gaming, LLC.	Bellevue/Omaha, NE
Government Contracting Auditor	Ho-Chunk Corporate Services	Bellevue, NE/Fairfax, CO
Project Coordinator	Flatwater Solutions	Fairfax, NE
Talent Acquisition Manager	WarHorse Gaming, LLC.	Bellevue/Omaha, NE
Project Manager II	Flatwater Solutions	Fairfax, VA/Washington, DC
Electrical Engineer	Flatwater Solutions	Lakewood, CO
Mineral Geologist	Flatwater Solutions	Lakewood, CO
IT Systems Engineer	WarHorse Gaming, LLC.	Lincoln, NE
Team Supervisor I	Pony Express	Rosalie, NE
Insurance Analyst	Ho-Chunk Corporate Services	Sioux City, IA/South Sioux City, NE
Barista I	Sweetwater Café	Sioux City, IA
CAD Technician	BluStone Architectural	Sloan, IA/Rosalie, NE/Walthill, NE/Winnebago, NE/Emerson, NE
Team Member I (4) PT	Pony Express	South Sioux City, NE
Carpenter/Finish Carpenter (3)	BluStone Homes	South Sioux City, NE
Carpentry Apprentice	HCI Construction	South Sioux City, NE
Construction Manager/Estimator	HCI Construction	South Sioux City, NE/Emerson, NE/Walthill
Facilities/Maintenance	Pony Express	South Sioux City, NE
Project Manager Assistant	HCI Construction	South Sioux City, NE
Senior Superintendent	HCI Construction	South Sioux City, NE
Shop Tech/Delivery	HCI Construction	South Sioux City, NE
Assistant Team Member & Team Supervisor I	Heritage Foodtown	Walthill, NE
Ambassador I (5)	Thunder Ridge Solutions	Winnebago, NE
Ambassador II (5) & Ambassador III (5)	HCI Management Services	Winnebago, NE

Ho-Chunk, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer. All applicants are considered without regard to age, sex, race, religion, national origin, gender identity or expression, marital status, or physical disability. However, preference may be extended to persons of Native American descent in accordance with applicable laws.



**Winnebago Comprehensive Healthcare System**

**Twelve Clans Unity Hospital and the Winnebago Public Health Department will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 11th, 2021 for**

# Veterans Day

The Inpatient and Emergency Departments will remain open. All patients should continue to use the East (ER) Entrance. Masks are required at the hospital and other public places.

**WE WILL RE-OPEN FOR BUSINESS ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH, 2021.**

**WCHS Salutes Our Veterans.**  
We are grateful for your service and bravery.



**WHIRLING THUNDER WELLNESS PROGRAMS**

**Whirling Thunder Wellness Center Family Event**

**Ping Pong, Cornhole Tournament, and Basketball Knockout Contest**

**For Ages 8 & Over**  
**Date: 11/16/21**  
**Time: 11am**  
**Location: WTWC Gym**  
**Masks are required and COVID protocols will be enforced.**



# TRIBAL NEWS

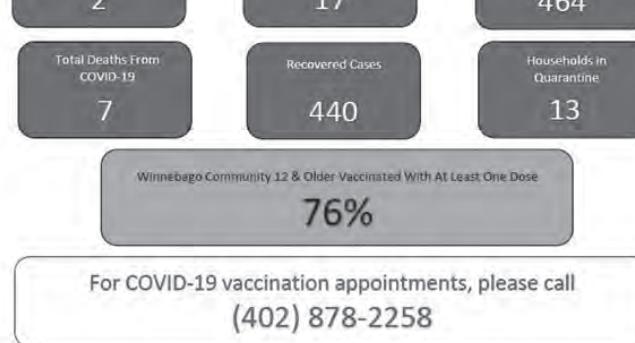
## Construction Update

The end is near...!!! Permanent striping taking place today and tomorrow. Please be patient. Completing sidewalk, barrier curb, and the fire hydrant on Mercer Street. Backfill will be weather dependent. We need to complete the lighting and coordinate with the paving project going east from the new circle for full opening. What a great improvement to get the road east paved, that will be nice!!

Thank you!  
Jerry Kabourek

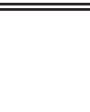
### Winnebago COVID-19 Status Report

Date: Monday, October 25th, 2021



For COVID-19 vaccination appointments, please call  
(402) 878-2258

[www.WinnebagoHealth.com](http://www.WinnebagoHealth.com)



TWELVE CLANS  
UNITY HOSPITAL

## Question of the Issue:

What is your favorite trick or treat memory?



**Garan Coons**  
Winnebago Communications Officer



**Bethani Redhorn**  
WIN Office Manager

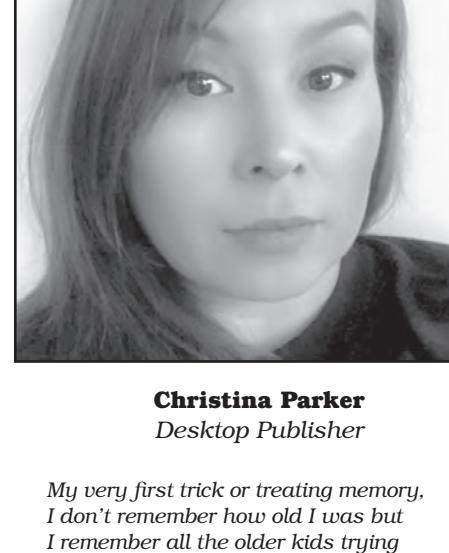
I don't know if this is my favorite one but it's the most memorable. In 1991, Winnebago had a huge snowstorm and that year Halloween trick or treating was cancelled. I remember it was pretty bad but eventually a couple of days later us kids were able to hit up all the good houses for some candy. I personally liked stopping at Gaga Darlene Bear's house when I was in my trick or treating prime.

I have a favorite Halloween memory from my elementary school days which was my 5th grade year, I think. My mom convinced me to get into that year's masquerade where she dressed me up all crazy. I had on these huge overalls, and she stuffed me up all big and round where I could barely move! I had on a super funky mask that had an old scary man face and topped off with a straw hat. My favorite part was looking in the mirror and knowing no one knew it was me under that mask! The best part was placing second in the youth division. Good times!



**Tyler Snake**  
WIN Office Manager

My favorite memory is the aftermath of trick-or-treating; we would get home & dump out our buckets and exchange candy. Also getting to dress-up as whatever I chose & run door to door with my cousins was exciting. All good memories.



**Christina Parker**  
Desktop Publisher

My very first trick or treating memory. I don't remember how old I was but I remember all the older kids trying to scare me. I remember it was just me and my older sister Keely and it was dark out and we were walking in front of the minister's house of the Reformed Church. She was telling everyone to not scare me because I was just cute and little.

## Ho-Chunk Renaissance check presentation

Ho-Chunk, Inc. employees were honored to present Ho-Chunk Renaissance with a donation of \$26,990 during the 2021 Winnebago Harvest Celebration. The check was the first of two donation amounts that will total \$50,000 to the program.

The money was raised by employees – across the company and country – through the Ho-Chunk Way Employee Donations Program. It will help further language and cultural education.

"Culture and language are essential aspects of a healthy and thriving community," said Annette Hamilton, COO of Ho-Chunk, Inc. "The missions of Ho-Chunk Renaissance and Ho-Chunk, Inc. share things in common. We are both working together for self-sufficiency and self-determination."

The Ho-Chunk Way program is a voluntary employee donation program that helps employees live the company's mission by making a direct and lasting difference among community priorities. Additionally, the program builds on Ho-Chunk, Inc.'s goal of helping provide a better way of life for Winnebago Tribal members.

Since the program started in 2017, employees have helped raise over \$224,000.



The next issue of the WINNEBAGO INDIAN NEWS will be published on November 13, 2021. DEADLINE for this issue will be November 9, 2021.

# Winnebago Indian News

Postmaster Send Address Changes To  
Winnebago Indian News  
P.O. Box 687  
Winnebago, Nebraska 68071

The Winnebago Indian News (WIN), founded in January 1972, is published bi-weekly for the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska.

The Mission of the WIN is to inform and to educate the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska of issues that affect them, and to be a vehicle in which stresses positive and beneficial concerns and points of view.

LETTER POLICY: Signed editorials, letters and articles appearing in the WIN are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the Winnebago Indian News or the Winnebago Tribal Council.

The WIN encourages the submission of Letters to the Editor; however, letters must be signed and addressed. Letters may be edited for language and length.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please send change of address with old mailing label to:

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P.O. Box 687  
Winnebago, NE 68071

contact us at our e-mail address:

winnebagoindiannews@  
winnebagotribe.com

402-878-2272

**"Official Newspaper of  
the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska"**

### Yearly Subscription Rates

Nebraska Residents ..... \$25.00

Out-Of-State ..... \$35.00

Overseas ..... \$50.00

### Advertising Rate

Per Column Inch ..... \$7.00

### Advertising/News Deadline

12:00 Noon Monday Printing Week

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Editor

Tyler Snake ..... Office Manager

Bethani Redhorn ..... Office Manager

Christina Parker ..... Desktop Publisher

### Winnebago Tribal Council

Victoria Kitcheyan ..... Chairwoman

Brian Chamberlain ..... Vice Chairman

Lorelei DeCora ..... Secretary

Rona Stealer ..... Treasurer

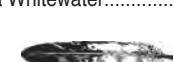
Coly Brown ..... Member

John Snowball ..... Member

Arik Armell ..... Member

Louie LaRose ..... Member

Thelma Whitewater ..... Member



Native American Journalists Association

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Emergency Rental Assistance Ending!

Emergency Rental Assistance with Winnebago Housing & Development Commission Is coming to an end. I would like to say how great this program has been with assisting families in these hard times in the covid-19 pandemic. I want to say to all of you that continuing to make rent payments is your first priority. Please be aware that once this grant has been exhausted there won't be this kind of assistance to help the way this program has allowed us to help you. So, with that I want to say Do Not stop paying rent. Nov 30, 2021 I will no longer except applications. Remember to make rental payments, remember to make utility payments. Also, if you have been approved once for future rent you can no longer recertify. Making continued rental payments will only benefit your household in the months to come. I did what I could to assist your families in your rental dwellings. If there is any update, I'll post it in the Winnebago news as far as deadline changes.

Thank you,  
ERA Coordinator Rena Brownrigg

## JESUS OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN OUTREACH



### "I have a fatal disease"

Seriously, I have been diagnosed with a fatal disease. The fatal disease is referred to as 'hamartias.' It is genetic in nature. I was born with this birth defect and it is only by the grace of Creator God that I have survived this long.

I have come to the realization that my days are numbered. Each day, I am a day closer to my last day on this earth.

I have also come to understand that there is no way, try as I might, to add an hour to my life. That is not to say that I could decide to hasten my end or to play a part in my own demise. However, this would not only go against the will of my Creator, it would also bring much undo suffering to those who love and care for me.

So what am I to do - knowing that I have a fatal disease? What would you do if you were in my shoes, or in my moccasins?

Again, I don't know how long I have to live on this planet. One man, when asked what he would do if he knew that tomorrow would be his last day, responded with 'I would plant a tree.'

My own thoughts are that I should live each and every day as if it were my last. I know that my last day in this land will quickly turn into the beginning of living with my Creator in paradise. I have this blessed hope and promised assurance solely through my faith in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. Jesus is the way, the one and only way, to paradise and to life everlasting. You too can have this hope.

How can I be so sure? God's Sacred Word makes this promise: 'For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord' (ESV). Inserting my fatal disease it reads: 'For the wages of hamartias is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.'

## Garden Update

*Week of October 25, 2021*

Kathleen Cue, Nebraska Extension in Dodge County

### Cutting Back Plants in Fall

If you are a creature of tidiness, here is a thought to ponder. Cutting back the foliage of flowering perennials, ornamental grasses, and small shrubs is damaging to native bees that overwinter in the hollow stems of plants. Moisture seeps down through the open ends, killing the eggs, larvae, and pupae of native bees that are set to emerge as adult bees come spring.

According to Dr. Jody Green, Entomology Educator with Nebraska Extension, roughly 30% of solitary bees are cavity nesters, utilizing the hollow spaces in plant stems, and twigs of trees and shrubs to lay their eggs. These eggs must stay dry over the winter months so eggs can hatch, larvae will develop into pupae, and pupae into adults. Hollow stems serve as incubators for this process, underscoring the necessity for protecting the integrity of plant stems from freezing rain and snow.

Where possible, holding off on stem removal until spring is the best thing for native solitary bees. Granted, there are instances when cutting back the diseased foliage of peonies and

other perennials is necessary to decrease the amount of disease incidence next year. Where plant foliage has been disease-free, however, these materials can be left in place to help the native solitary bees.

In spring, freezing rain no longer poses a threat to bees, so the stems of flowering perennials, small shrubs, and ornamental grasses may be cut back then. "But wait! There is more to this," says Dr. Green. "Solitary bees emerge over an extended period, so removing all the spent foliage in spring risks killing bees that haven't emerged yet." To remedy this, Green suggests cutting back stems, leaving lengths from 8 to 24 inches intact. This allows native bees a fighting chance at survival. The new foliage, as it develops, will cover up last year's stems, and old stems will eventually decompose.

Bee hotels are an artificial way to add hollow "stems" to a landscape, but be aware these nesting sites concentrate bee numbers, making it easier for diseases and parasites to run rampant through populations. From a bee health perspective, nothing beats intact hollow stems of plants for overwintering success.

ENROLLMENT DEPARTMENT

## Office Hours Changed

**OPEN TUES. AND THURS. ONLY**

**2021 Winnebago  
Tribal Turkey  
Distribution**

**DISTRIBUTING TO ALL TRIBAL MEMBERS AT  
FOOD DISTRIBUTION**

**(PLEASE ENTER THROUGH THE SOUTH DOORS.) (PLEASE HAVE TRIBAL ID)  
ONE PER HOUSEHOLD • MUST WEAR A MASK**

**NOVEMBER 9, 2021 11 AM TO 3:30 PM**

**NOVEMBER 10, 2021 9 AM TO 3:30 PM**

**NOVEMBER 11, 2021 - HOLIDAY CLOSED**

**NOVEMBER 12, 2021 9 AM TO 3:30 PM**

**WILL DISTRIBUTE UNTIL DEPLETED**

**CALL IN ADVANCE IF YOU ARE HAVING SOMEONE PICKUP**

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**WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA**

**Attention:  
WINNEBAGO  
VETERANS**

The Winnebago Tribe has numerous veterans from all branches of military. We would like to highlight our veterans and express our gratitude.

We are seeking photographs of Winnebago tribal members (past/present) who have served in any branch of military.

If you, or a family member would like to submit your photographs please email:

[angeldecoramuseum@winnebagotribe.com](mailto:angeldecoramuseum@winnebagotribe.com)

or hand deliver:

Angel De Cora Museum  
601 E. College Rd.  
Winnebago, NE 68071



# TRIBAL NEWS

*...Cont. from front pg.*

stories about the cruise ships. We knew it was coming. We're not an island. It's coming here. It started on the coasts and would be here," Zuffante said.

Emmy Scott and her brother Aaron Scott took it upon themselves to help tribal officials by providing their own social media updates. With more than 6,600 followers on Twitter, Emmy Scott shared Winnebago updates, such as mask mandate information and statistics on isolation and quarantine.

"Since I knew that most younger people followed me on Twitter, I thought I'd share information that way," she said.

The tribe also reverted to tried-and-true ways to get its message out. Tribal leaders sent paper fliers to elders, and put them in children's lunch bags.

As COVID-19 spread through Nebraska, both the Winnebago and Omaha implemented actions to mitigate its impact on the reservations. The tribes mandated facemasks. They quickly shut down schools, eventually moving to virtual learning. Businesses closed temporarily, and employees started working from home. In May 2020, the tribal town of Macy put in checkpoints at all four of its entrances and enforced a curfew from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. to control the virus' spread.

The checkpoints were removed this spring; the curfew revoked. Both communities' schools have returned to in-school learning.

In Winnebago, the sense of family and community helped contain the spread of Covid, Zuffante said, leading to lower death rates than elsewhere in Nebraska. Still, Winnebago lost five people to Covid-related deaths, while the Omaha Tribe suffered at least eight deaths.

"When you'd see your uncle walking down the street, you'd go, 'Hmmm, what's he doing out there?'" she said.

In one case, it was an elder on his way to pick up mail. "Getting your mail? Give me those keys. The tribe will get your mail," she said.

Once vaccines became available to both tribes in December, health officials prioritized who would receive the first shots. Elders, language keepers and culture leaders were first in line, along with healthcare workers and first responders.

Following a prayer ceremony, the Winnebago clinic started to administer their first doses. Zufante, who is also an EMT, was among the first to receive the vaccine.

"We were able to show its (safety)," she said. "We could say we had all the side effects and we're OK. It helped a lot with people."

Hospital staff and tribal leaders decided to move vaccinations from the cramped clinic to the spacious school gymnasium where, starting Jan. 6, they offered jabs each Wednesday.

"We had 120 people that first day," Zuffante said.

There, they vaccinated an average of 150 people each week through the spring and early summer until almost every adult was vaccinated. More recently, they have moved vaccination back to the clinic, where they still average about 25 newly vaccinated people per week.

The elders showed the importance of the vaccine to Winnebago, she said. At one of the tribe's first clinics, one woman worried that she was too old to get the vaccine, Zuffante said. But she decided to go through with it, because she wanted to hold her baby granddaughter after not being able to hold her for most of 2020.

At another mass clinic, Zuffante watched the elders who had been vaccinated earlier in the day lingering together in a corner of the gym. The senior center was still closed. Some

hadn't spoken in months.

"It was so powerful, because you could tell how much they missed each other...I asked a nurse how long she told them they had to stay after receiving their shots. '15 minutes,' she said. What time was that? An hour. I was going to kick them out.'

Nah, Zuffante said. Leave them be.

"It was the safest place for them to be. They hugged. Some of them were six feet apart and yelling at one another. It was nice to see it."

Tribal members realized the value of vaccinations outweighed the ills of history, Zuffante said.

"Historically, we've really gone through so much with our people, from smallpox to always being the last ones to get anything," she said. "And, I think, even given that, then we were among the first in line for vaccines, and we're like, 'Ok what's going on here?' But, it kind of reminded people that things are changing.

"It affected us so much. I've never experienced where I couldn't go to college, or go to religious ceremonies. Or even be around family. We were all in the same boat. We're a resilient people, and we've gone through all these things up to this point."

Tribal leaders are continuing a push to get their vaccination numbers even higher.

After having had to cancel the public portion of Winnebago's annual Homecoming Celebration powwow in 2020 because of the pandemic, the tribe required everyone participating and attending this year's event to show proof of vaccination. The Omaha tribe also hosted its August powwow with a mask mandate and social distance requirements. Both events proved successful. And safe.

"Not a single case of Covid was connected to the powwow," Zuffante said.

Non-Native communities may be better served by embracing the Winnebago and Omaha concept of family and community, Purcell said.

"This may sound cheesy, but it's safer here than it is in cities," she said. "...People talk about strong community. Here, we know who we can depend on. Out there, that might be your neighbor you wave to, but it's not your cousin. That's not your auntie. That's not your auntie's best friend, or grandma who lives down the street. We have that here. We have not lost our tribal community. You're mine. I'm yours."

Purcell's own life started to return to some version of normal when she received a call from the reservation earlier this year. The tribe had two doses of the Pfizer vaccine available for her family. Could she come, now?

Purcell and her 25-year-old son Dylan jumped in the family car and sped three hours to the Twelve Clans Unity Hospital. Eventually her entire family, including her white husband, received their vaccines from the tribe.

And, after enduring more than a year isolated from the tribe, the Purcell family made another COVID-19-inspired decision. This summer, they packed their belongings in Iowa and moved back to the reservation. Because, more than ever, Winnebago feels like home.

"I missed this last year," Purcell says as she sits in a shed, shucking corn and laughing with the lifelong pals she regards as loved ones. "There's something special about corn season. Sitting here, with friends and family, I missed this."

*Tim Trudell is a freelance writer based in Omaha and an enrolled member of the Santee Dakota Tribe. Trudell has co-written three books with his wife Lisa. Together they run a travel blog, [thewalkingtourists.com](http://thewalkingtourists.com). Trudell has also written for outlets such as The Omaha World-Herald, Omaha Magazine, Nebraska Magazine and Living Here Midwest.*

ture or flow to the next regular meeting, she adjourned the meeting at 11:16 a.m.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Teresa Littlegeorge,  
Executive Assistant  
CONCUR:  
Lorelei DeCora, Secretary  
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska*

Louis LaRose motioned to authorize the CEO and HR to work on a COVID Vaccine Policy including reaching out to legal. Rona Stealer seconded. VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Aric Armell motioned to go into Executive Session at 10:51 a.m. Rona Stealer seconded.

VOTE: (7) yes(0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Brian Chamberlain motioned to come out of Executive Session at 12:00 p.m. Aric Armell seconded. VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Aric Armell motioned to adopt resolution #22-01: Banishment and Exclusion of Antonio Baker from the Winnebago Reservation, until conclusion of current Tribal Court Charges. If guilty, a lifelong banishment [CR 21-170]. Louis LaRose seconded. VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

John Snowball motioned to reassign Kenny LaPointe to Wildlife & Parks as a Conservation Officer II to be funded out of appropriations and added to the Org. Louis LaRose seconded.

VOTE: (7) yes(0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Brian Chamberlain motioned to authorize the Treasurer to take all actions necessary to support the previous motion to reassign Kenny LaPointe to Wildlife & Parks. Aric Armell seconded. VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

#### ADJOURN:

Aric Armell motioned to adjourn at 12:04 p.m. Rona Stealer seconded. VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

#### Respectfully submitted,

*Lorelei DeCora, Secretary  
Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska*

## WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA REGULAR TRIBAL COUNCIL MEETING

**October 4, 2021 Via GoTo Webinar**

#### TRIBAL COUNCIL PRESENT:

Victoria Kitcheyan  
Lorelei DeCora  
Rona Stealer  
Brian Chamberlain  
Coly Brown  
John Snowball  
Aric Armell  
Louis LaRose

#### OTHERS PRESENT:

Brian Mathers

Joy Johnson

Tyresha Wolfe

Esther Mercer

Lynelle Blackhawk

Brandon Stout

Garan Coons

#### TRIBAL COUNCIL ABSENT:

Thelma Whitewater

#### CALL TO ORDER:

Chairwoman Kitcheyan called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

#### OPENING PRAYER:

Brian Chamberlain offered the opening prayer.

#### APPROVE AGENDA:

Brian Chamberlain motioned to approve the agenda. Aric Armell seconded.

VOTE: (7) yes(0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

#### READING OF THE MINUTES:

September 13, 2021 Land Meeting Minutes

Coly Brown motioned to approve the September 13, 2021 Land meeting minutes. Rona Stealer seconded.

VOTE: (7) yes(0) no (0) abstain motion carried.

September 20, 2021 Mid-monthly Tribal Council meeting minutes

Aric Chamberlain motioned to approve the September 20, 2021 Mid-monthly Tribal Council meeting minutes. Rona Stealer seconded. VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

October 1, 2021 Treasurer's Report meeting minutes

Coly Brown motioned to approve the October 1, 2021 Treasurer's Report meeting minutes. Aric Armell seconded.

VOTE: (7) yes(0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

#### RATIFY FIVE SIGNATURES:

Approval of the American Rescue Plan – Children's Coat Project Budget and the purchase of 1372 Visa gift cards.

Aric Armell motioned to ratify the five signature approving the American Rescue Plan – Children's Coat Project Budget and the purchase of 1372 Visa gift cards. Brian Chamberlain seconded.

VOTE: (7) yes(0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

#### ADOPT RESOLUTION #21-145: TRIBAL ENROLLMENT APPLICANT – EMERGENCY ENROLLMENT

Coly Brown motioned to ratify the five signature adopting resolution #21-145: Tribal Enrollment Applicant – Emergency Enrollment. Brian Chamberlain seconded.

VOTE: (7) yes(0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

#### ADOPT WINNEBAGO SURVEILLANCE PROJECT

Rona Stealer motioned to ratify the five signature approving the Winnebago Surveillance Project. Aric Armell seconded. VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Indigenous Peoples Day Event Budget

October 11, 2021 in Lincoln, NE

Lorelei DeCora motioned to approve the Budget; also, our chairwoman will speak on behalf of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. Louis LaRose seconded.

VOTE: (7) yes(0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

#### BRIAN CHAMBERLAIN – WINNEBAGO HOUSING AND FINANCIAL SERVICES MARKET STUDY

Brian Mathers – Winnebago housing and Financial Services Market Study

Discussion only, no action taken.

#### HAF PLAN

Lorelei DeCora motioned to approve the HAF plan to include the percentage of adult enrolled members on the reservation and a percentage of the adult enrolled members off reservation. Louis LaRose seconded.

#### OBJECT: RONA STEALER

VOTE: (6) yes(0) no (1) abstain, RS Motion carried.

#### WINNAVEGAS GENERAL MANAGER JOB DESCRIPTION

WinnaVegas General Manager Job Description.

Lorelei DeCora motioned to approve with the correction the language under environmental. Louis LaRose seconded.

VOTE: (7) yes(0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

COVID Mandate

Louis LaRose motioned to authorize the CEO and HR to work on a CO-VID Vaccine Policy including reaching out to legal. Rona Stealer seconded. VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Aric Armell motioned to go into Executive Session at 10:51 a.m. Rona Stealer seconded.

VOTE: (7) yes(0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Brian Chamberlain motioned to come out of Executive Session at 12:00 p.m. Aric Armell seconded. VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Aric Armell motioned to adopt resolution #22-01: Banishment and Exclusion of Antonio Baker from the Winnebago Reservation, until conclusion of current Tribal Court Charges. If guilty, a lifelong banishment [CR 21-170]. Louis LaRose seconded. VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

John Snowball motioned to reassign Kenny LaPointe to Wildlife & Parks as a Conservation Officer II to be funded out of appropriations and added to the Org. Louis LaRose seconded.

VOTE: (7) yes(0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

Brian Chamberlain motioned to authorize the Treasurer to take all actions necessary to support the previous motion to reassign Kenny LaPointe to Wildlife & Parks. Aric Armell seconded. VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

#### ADJOURN:

Aric Armell motioned to adjourn at 12:04 p.m. Rona Stealer seconded. VOTE: (7) yes (0) no (0) abstain Motion carried.

#### Respectfully submitted,

*Lorelei DeCora, Secretary*

*Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska*

## WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA OATH OF OFFICE AND REORGANIZATION MEETING

**October 6, 2021**

#### TRIBAL COUNCIL PRESENT:

Brian Chamberlain  
Lorelei DeCora  
Louie LaRose  
Victoria Kitcheyan  
Rona Stealer  
John Snowball  
Isaac Smith  
Aric Armell  
Coly Brown

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## WinnaVegas Casino Resort

### General Manager

<b>Job Title:</b> General Manager	<b>Key/Staff:</b> Key
<b>Division:</b> Administration	<b>Reports To:</b> Tribal Council
<b>Department:</b> Administration	
<b>FLSA Status:</b> Exempt	<b>Supervises:</b> Executive Directors & Management Team
<b>Issue Date:</b>	<b>Revision Date:</b> 10/7/2021

#### SUMMARY

Execute the policies, goals and objectives of Winnavegas Casino Resort operations as set forth by the Winnebago Tribal Council. Develop and implement business plans, systems and procedures to maximize profit. Oversee all operations at the property and act as final arbiter in matters involving hr, finance, marketing, operations, facilities, F&B, slots, security, Hotel, customer relations and compliance with gaming regulations.

#### ESSENTIAL DUTIES

1. Formulate the site business plan to accomplish the goals and objectives of the Tribal Council. Research, develop and install necessary systems, procedures and policies to run the business effectively and efficiently. Ensure policies are in concert or supportive of the broad policies of the Tribal Council or the Gaming regulations.
2. Develop, adapt or modify the organizational structure to effectively operate the business and maximize profit. Hire, develop, direct, control, coordinate and motivate key staff members to execute the business plan by established guidelines and directives.
3. Direct or assist in preparation of all operational budgets; review for fiscal soundness and accomplishment of Board goals/objectives. Monitor operational performance to budget and initiate actions to correct unfavorable variances or optimize opportunities.
4. Determine and direct the marketing strategy to develop new clientele, improve market position and enhance revenue. Analyze cost of sales and adjust tactics to optimize profit.
5. Plan for the development of human resources at Winnavegas Casino Resort; ensure programs are established and maintained that produce an effective management cadre and skilled occupations at all levels of the organization. Assist with the overall recruitment plan with the Director of HR. Develop a succession plan to ensure functional competencies and future leaders/skills are in place for perpetuating/growing the casino.
6. Within the framework of Board policy and Tribal regulations, act as arbiter in resolving site organizational conflict, interpretation or application of policies/rules/regulations. Final authority on matters as site organizational structure, staffing requirements, expenditures, gaming selections/placement, and employment decisions affecting such matters as promotions, demotions, layoffs, salary adjustments and disciplinary actions up to and including separation of employment.
7. Ensure compliance with gaming rules and regulations, tribal laws and mandates; establish and enforce controls to protect assets. Build and maintain a culture of core values and continuous improvement.
8. Establish and maintain effective working relationship with the media, public, patrons, employees, officials/legislators, vendors, consultants, trade associations and related support entities. Positively promotes the gaming business at Winnavegas Casino Resort.

#### EDUCATION

Bachelor's degree preferred or 10 years gaming management experience, 5 of which were held as an executive position. Master's degree a plus.

#### EXPERIENCE

Minimum of 10 years' experience in Class III gaming industry in progressively responsible positions. Three to five years' experience as a Casino Executive equivalent capacity responsible for at least 150 employees and operating budget of \$500,000, including payroll costs.

#### SPECIAL SKILLS

Expertise in a variety of management disciplines such as marketing, sales, operations, finance and human resources. Above average business acumen for vision, planning and development of gaming enterprise. Exceptional creativity, motivational, oral/written communications and human relations skills to attain maximum performance. Well-developed problem-solving skills. Knowledgeable in business enterprise systems to effectively manage the enterprise.

#### LICENSES/CERTIFICATIONS

Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska Gaming License is required.

Drivers License

#### JOB DEMANDS

**Physical**  
Ability to maneuver in all areas of casino, frequent ascent/descent from bus stairs, travel to various on/off site venues, which may involve elevation changes in surfaces. Visual acuity to discern and examine text, graphics, color and symmetry. Speech to communicate clearly, express ideas and convey information in an understandable manner. Ability to hear for listening comprehension and to understand ideas presented through spoken words and sentences. Manual dexterity to operate office equipment and examine documents, records and files. Refer to Human Performance Evaluation for specific physical demands.

#### Mental

Social perceptiveness to assess and understand other's reactions and behavior. Critical thinking to use logic and reasoning, reach conclusions/solutions. Comprehension in assessing and analyzing and processing alpha, numeric and visual data; completing required documents accurately. Mental capacity to monitor sometimes complex driving situations to make quick decisions to manipulate/maneuver vehicles in crowded or high-risk areas; tolerate stress, conduct tasks under critical deadlines. Ability to concentrate on task over a period without being distracted.

#### Environmental

Work in motor vehicle, casino operations and external environments; exposure to second hand smoke, high noise level, bright lights, fluctuating temperatures/weather conditions.

Winnavegas Casino Resort applies American Indian Preferences in its hiring practices. The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed. They should not be construed as an exhaustive list of all the essential duties, responsibilities and requirements of personnel. WCR reserves the right to substitute, amend, change, modify or discontinue any or all portions of this description/job function.

Winnavegas Casino Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## COVID-19 Vaccine Facts

- COVID-19 vaccines **will not** give you COVID-19.
- COVID-19 vaccines **will not** cause you to test positive on COVID-19 viral tests.
- People who have gotten sick with COVID-19 **still benefit** from getting vaccinated.
- Getting vaccinated **can help prevent** you from getting sick with COVID-19.
- Receiving the vaccine **will not** alter your DNA.



## Next WIN News Deadline:

**November 9th**

### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing  
Case No. CV22-010

In the Matter of the  
Name Change Petition of:  
TIFFANY BUCHANAN  
to TIFFANY ARMELL-BUCHANAN

To: ANY INTERESTED PARTIES

You are hereby notified that a petition for Name Change has been filed and a hearing concerning the above referred Individual in case no. CV22-010 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 6TH day of DECEMBER, 2021 at the hour of 10:30 A.M.

### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing  
Case No. CV22-002

In the Matter of the Custody Petition of:  
GARRETT MARR JR.  
vs.  
SAVANNAH WALKER

To: SAVANNAH WALKER,

You are hereby notified that a Custody petition has been filed and a hearing concerning the above referred Individual(s) in case no. CV22-002 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 6TH day of DECEMBER, 2021 at the hour of 11:00 A.M.

### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing  
Case No. CV21-154

In the Matter of the  
Guardianship Petition of:  
LOU ANN MALLORY  
In Re:  
T. M. (Born 9/2006)

To: CREE MALLORY, Mother  
TYLER WRIGHT, Father

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed for Guardianship and a hearing concerning the above referred Individual(s) in Case No. CV21-154 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 30th day of NOVEMBER, 2021 at the hour of 2:00 P.M.

### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing  
Case No. CV21-119

In the Matter of the  
Guardianship Petition of:  
KOBE SMITH  
In Re:  
E. K. (Born 4/2007)  
F. K. (Born 5/2008)  
D. K. (Born 9/2010)  
Tricia Kearnes, Mother

To: SCOTT KEARNES SR., Father

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed for Guardianship and a hearing concerning the above referred Individual(s) in Case No. CV21-119 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 8th day of NOVEMBER, 2021 at the hour of 11:00 A.M.

### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing  
Case No. CV20-030

In the Matter of the  
Guardianship Petition of:  
In Re:  
R. B. (Born 6/2011)  
R. B. (Born 9/2013)  
R. B. (Born 9/2015)  
R. B. (Born 11/2016)  
R. B. (Born 5/2018)

To: ANGEL LYONS, Mother  
RYAN BLACKHAWK, Father

You are hereby notified that petitions have been filed for Guardianship. A Pretrial Conference concerning the above referred Individual(s) in Case No. CV20-030 has been scheduled for the 2ND day of NOVEMBER, 2021 at 11:00 AM. and the Trial has been scheduled for the 3RD day of DECEMBER, 2021 at 9:30 AM. Both hearings will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska.

### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing  
Case No. CV21-155

In the Matter of the  
Guardianship Petition of:  
ROBIN REDHORN  
In Re:  
T. C. (Born 2/2007)

To: ALVINA CHILSON, Mother  
RICK CHILSON, Father

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed for Guardianship and a hearing concerning the above referred Individual(s) in Case No. CV21-155 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 30th day of NOVEMBER, 2021 at the hour of 2:30 P.M.

**The Winnebago Tribal Council is 100% AGAINST Meth. Not only is Meth harmful to the individual, it destroys families and our community. Meth use is not the HoChunk/Winnebago way of life. On 12-30-19, during the Winnebago Mid-monthly Tribal Council meeting, a motion was passed to publish all meth related offenses occurring on the Winnebago reservation, in the Winnebago Indian News.**

*The following individual(s) has been arrested for a meth offense...*

*As of 10-26-2021, there are no recent meth arrest(s) to report.*

## LITTLE PRIEST TRIBAL COLLEGE

Our Mission: "Be Strong and Educate My Children"

### Little Priest Tribal College is now taking applications for the following positions:

- **Full Time Faculty**
  - Business Instructor
  - Biology Instructor
- **Adjunct Faculty**
  - Business
  - Chemistry
  - CNA
- **Student Library Aide**
- **Technical Evaluator**
- **Instructional Technologist**
- **Retention Specialist**
- **Extension Assistant**

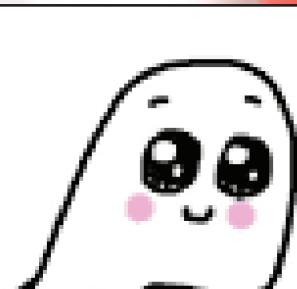
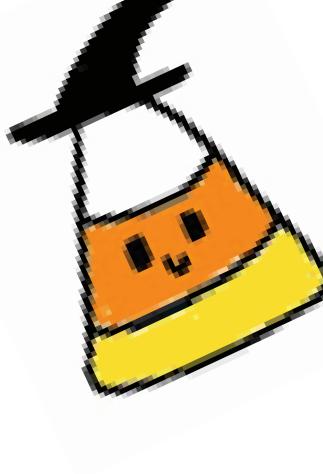
For more information, visit us on the web at:

<https://littlepriest.edu/jobs-openings/>

LPTC is an equal opportunity employer.

**LPTC 601 E. College Dr. Winnebago, NE**

# BOYS & GIRLS CLUB HALLOWEEN EVENT



# Big Truckin'

# GIVEAWAY



# October 30

**WINN YOUR SHARE OF \$117,000  
IN CASH AND PRIZES!**

**From 7pm to 9:30 two players will be drawn to  
WINN \$500 every 30 minutes!**

**At 10pm one lucky player can drive away in a  
brand new truck!**

\*Pictures shown may not be actual representation of prize

## LITTLE RIVER BAND



**SATURDAY  
DECEMBER 11TH**

**Doors Open at 7pm • Show Starts at 8pm  
Tickets starting at \$30**



Visit [WinnaVegas.com](http://WinnaVegas.com) for  
more information!  
Or call us at 800-468-9466!