

# WINNEBAGO INDIAN NEWS



Winnebago Indians call themselves "Hochunkgra." A Siouan people, they once occupied the southern half of Wisconsin and the northern counties of Illinois. The Black Hawk War of 1832 and a series of treaties forced the Winnebago out of their homeland, and they were removed to reservations in Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, and finally to a portion of the Omaha Reservation in Nebraska.

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## Bago Bits...



Friday November 19th a blessing took place for The Winnebago Indians eSports Team for making it to The NSESA State Tournament! The tournament took place in Concordia, NE the next day. Team member Devin Spears took the 4th place medal in Hearthstone & The Overwatch team took 3rd place. Congrats to the team for this great accomplishment!!! This has been an amazing year full of firsts in WPS Sports history; From Golf, Cross-Country & now eSports being the 1st from WPS to go to a State Tournament! Keep up the winning streaks! As always #GBB



Friday November 19th WTN Human Services held the annual Veterans meal for the community. This meal was drive-thru style to prevent the spread of Covid-19. This tradition started back in 2006 by past CFS employees Elizabeth Bayer, Trina Aldrich, Liz Walker & Marian Thomas. A special thanks to these ladies for starting & continuing this honorable tradition for our members! There were many helping hands that made this event happen successfully! Olivia Parker & Barbara Macias from WTN Human Services, WPS Academy, Freshman & Sophomores volunteered for community service, Communications & IT played part in streaming the event live, Ho Chunk Renaissance Staff members helped to bag meals, Greg Bass Sr. Made the Corn soup, & WinneVegas played a big part in providing food & delivering! Thanks to everyone involved with all other donations that made this community meal happen! Teamwork makes the dreamwork, this event is a fitting example of that saying!!



As a tribute for Veterans Day our speaker Sunshine Bear listed past & present veterans that served among the years. The New Breed drum group sang HoCak service songs, Military honor songs & family songs like Lamere's. You can recap the event on our tribes YouTube channel: Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, Video titled "Winnebago Veterans Military Honor Songs". Thank you to those who served from us at the WIN!



November 20th WPS Coaches & High-school girls from JV & Varsity held a basketball camp for Winnebago youth grades K-6th. Fifty plus ran drills, were shown fundamentals, games & more! The proceeds raised are going towards this coming seasons' warm-up gear. In all this camp benefited both parties positively! Team member Amani Means stated "This was a fun experience for both the younger youth & players."



The Angel De Cora Museum & Research Center hosted two "Rock your" events in honor of Native American Heritage Month! For both events a photobooth in the Blackhawk center was present to take portraits of those in traditional wear! The 17th it was Hinuk Waje/Ribbon shirt day & 18th was "Rock your mocs". It was a beautiful sight to see individuals & families come in wearing different styles & patterns. Thank you to the drum group Winnebago Singers for opening up the group to play family songs & Project launch for sponsoring this event!

## Winnebago Tribe has big role in White House Tribal Nations Summit



Winnebago Tribal Chairwoman Victoria Kitcheyan and Deputy Solicitor for Indian Affairs, Ann Marie Bledsoe Downes lead historic panel discussions at the White House Tribal Nations Summit held in November. These Ho-Chunk ladies represented at the national level for all indigenous nations.

Winnebago, NE – On Monday, November 15, The Biden Administration hosted the White House Tribal Nations Summit. This summit hasn't been held since 2016 and was the first under the Biden/Harris administration. Kicking off the virtual summit, Winnebago Tribal Chairwoman, Victoria Kitcheyan had a big role in facilitating a discussion with Chief Medical Advisor to the President of United States, Dr. Anthony Fauci. During Chairwoman's opening remarks she said "I woke up this morning thinking of the Late-Great, Dr. Frank LaMere. He said make them uncomfortable..."

Also joining the discussion was the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, Xavier Becerra. Both Dr. Fauci and Secretary Becerra shared their thoughts to Chairwoman

Kitcheyan about the impact of Covid-19 in Indian Country. Addressing the need for more tribal members to get vaccinated because of the higher health disparities among indigenous populations.

Winnebago Communications Officer, Garan Coons and Winnebago Tribe's I.T. Director, Brandon Stout helped set up the virtual set for Chairwoman Kitcheyan. "It's pretty awesome to get a call from the White House asking to help set up the camera and microphones, but I think everyone should be proud of the role that Winnebago Tribal Members, Tori Kitcheyan and Ann Marie held in this year's White House Tribal Nations Summit" said Coons. After Chairwoman Kitcheyan's panel discussion concluded, the former Ho-Chunk Inc., Community Impact Engagement Director, Ann Marie Downes facilitated a discussion with

Secretary of the Interior, Deb Haaland who also introduced U.S. President, Joe Biden to the virtual attendees. Downes left her HCI position after Secretary Haaland handpicked Downes to serve with her administration as the deputy solicitor for Indian affairs. The discussion was about education in Indian Country.

Chairwoman concluded the discussion with Dr. Fauci and Secretary Becerra by saying "The pandemic is not over and we would like to continue our nation to nation dialog. I would also like to encourage you to listen to the relatives because we have the teachings of our ancestors and the wisdom of our elders. I hope that you think of Indian Country when you craft solutions at the White House..."

## A Story from our own: Success is not linear but constantly moving



Winnebago, NE – Bethani Redhorn & Tyler Snake

Aiming for success, Elizabeth "Liz" Johnson is an enrolled member of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska and is the first Ho-Chunk woman to own a trucking company with a customized look that has a spotlight bringing awareness to the Missing Murdered Indigenous Women movement. We pama kere winga is Elizabeth's Indian name, which means Rainbow Woman, is also featured on the truck. Determined to be successful in her own way, Elizabeth overcame many obstacles before she opened her trucking company in May of 2017 and has been on the road ever since.

From her youth, Elizabeth had a hard life and moved off the Winnebago reservation at the age of 12 when she was placed in the care of a foster home. Both on and off the reservation, Elizabeth endured different forms of abuse throughout her youth and adolescence to adulthood. Elizabeth was legally adopted by her Grandmother Lydia Josephine Bradford Johnson. She is the proud mother of four sons: Damian

Johnson, William Smith, Frederick Earl Johnson, and Bruno Chaves Espinoza Jr. Elizabeth graduated with her G.E.D. and went on to receive a mechanics diploma at Western Iowa Tech Community College in Sioux City, IA.

Facing the cold world early on, Elizabeth's personal experiences vary from different forms of abuse, addiction, incarceration, relationships, and motherhood at a young age that all shaped her into the woman she is today. Elizabeth has a message to share about the stigmas that exist within Native American communities regarding recovering addicts. She hopes that her successes can spark that flame of hope and motivation in anyone else struggling with their own personal experiences.

Elizabeth began her journey to obtain her commercial driver's license in 2001. She overcame financial obstacles that hindered her from getting started, so after securing a loan from her credit union, Elizabeth gave praise to her higher power and used her blessings as motivation to change her life and morals. Feeling the need to give back, she was inspired by her niece Jalisa "GiGi"

Horn to use her platform to give back in her own way by putting a spotlight on the MMIW movement across her entire semi-truck. This vision came to fruition by collaborating with other women from the Winnebago community. Each of the women had their own personal reasons for their purpose on the truck. The message reads, "INVISIBLE NO MORE: For 500 years, countless Native women have been murdered or gone missing. Stop killing our sisters."

Her movement comes from within. It takes a heavy amount of bravery to have your story on learning and growing through hard life lessons be shared publicly. Despite having toxic peoples imprints on her journey, being incarcerated and swayed to the side, Elizabeth makes a way for herself. She hopes her story will inspire anyone else dealing with the same struggles to know there is hope; there is strength in knowing your struggles, admitting your downfalls or triggers, and be strong enough to say NO.

"I am not turning back and I will keep moving forward," shared by Elizabeth Johnson.

# BAGO NEWS

## Angel Tree

STARTING NOW UNTIL  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 13TH, 2021

2021 WINNEBAGO CHILDREN'S

### TOY DRIVE

PROVIDING HOLIDAY GIFTS  
TO CHILDREN IN NEED

Join us in providing holiday gifts to children in need within the community. We serve children with the Child and Family Services Department, Temporary Assistance Needy Family Program, and the Juvenile Services Program.

To participate: Stop by the Winnebago Dental Clinic and choose a child from our tree or our list. You will register the child with the Front Desk so we can ensure that no child is missed. The tag will only state the age and gender of the child. Bring back the unwrapped gift with the tag by Dec. 13th, 2021.

Winnebago Dental Clinic is located inside  
Twelve Clans Unity Hospital  
225 US-75 Winnebago, NE 68071  
For questions call (402) 878-2465



NEBRASKA  
CHILDREN'S  
HOME SOCIETY

children first.

### Raising Your Grandchildren: Together While Apart

Tuesday, November 30, 2021  
12:00 to 1:30 p.m.  
Presentation will be streamed via Zoom

In Nebraska, more than 28,000 children live with grandparents or other relatives. Of these children, more than 4,500 have no parents in the home. Hear first hand experiences from grandparents raising their grandchildren at this free, virtual event.

This presentation is the first session of a three week series. This group will meet again on December 7 and December 14 from 12:00-1:30. Participants will discuss how to balance caring for others and meeting your own needs while forming meaningful connections with other kinship caregivers.

This meeting will be offered virtually via Zoom. Video access is required. Registration is open to grandparents and kinship caregivers statewide.

To register: Call/text 402.253.4002 or email grandkin@nchs.org

## Save the Date!



### Jingle all the Way! December 23, 2021

We will give away  
3 Playstation 5's

The Grand Prize

1 PS5, 1 monitor, 1 gaming  
chair, and 1 headset  
Over \$1000.00 Value  
Plus 2 individual drawings  
for 1 PS5, 1-65 inch tv and 1-Iwatch.

The Native Star reserves the right to change or cancel promotion without notice. Must be present to win. Must be of legal age. See Casino for complete rules. Family members of management are not eligible for grand prize, all other prizes have no restrictions. Prize winners will be determined by which barrel they are drawn from.

SIGN-ON  
BONUS!



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

Located in the Training Center behind the Casino.  
Please Contact Human Resources  
at [HR@winnavegas.biz](mailto:HR@winnavegas.biz) for more information



Scan me and  
apply for a job!

## Winter Gathering

December 10, 2021

9 a.m-3 p.m.

Whirling Thunder Gym

Winnebago, NE 68071

WHDC would like to hold a naming contest at the Winter Gathering for the new Senior Complex on 100 Peach St. We are all happy to have our new building for our seniors. We would like to involve the community in the naming of the new building. We want it to be a Ho-chunk name. Please bring your idea to the Winter Gathering WHDC table and enter your idea. The winner will be awarded a door prize.

Winnebago Housing & Development Commission



Next WIN News Deadline:

**December 7th**

Save the date

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LIGHTING CONTEST

WINNEBAGO INDIAN NEWS

SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY BY 12/15

PRIZES TO BE ANNOUNCED

SPONSORSHIP SPOTS ARE OPEN

EMAIL TYLER.SHAKE@WINNEBAGOTRIBE.COM

MORE INFO TBA

CONTEST APPLIES TO RESIDENTS WITHIN WINNEBAGO TOWN LIMITS

# TRIBAL NEWS

## HoChunk Inc. Vice-President & COO Celebrates 20-year anniversary



“Annette Hamilton, Ho-Chunk, Inc. Vice President and COO, recently celebrated her 20-year anniversary with the company. In her 20 years with Ho-Chunk, Inc., she’s been a transformative leader in the company, and nationally an influential advocate on Native issues.

Friends, colleagues and employees joined her for a recent reception at the Ho-Chunk Centre in Sioux City, Iowa.”

**WINNEBAGO HEALTH FOUNDATION**  
 ‘HOIKIKARA RA’ (TAKING CARE OF ONE ANOTHER)

## SEEKING QUALIFIED BOARD MEMBERS

VISIT [HTTPS://BIT.LY/WHFOUNDATION](https://bit.ly/WHFOUNDATION) TO APPLY BY DEC. 6TH, 2021.

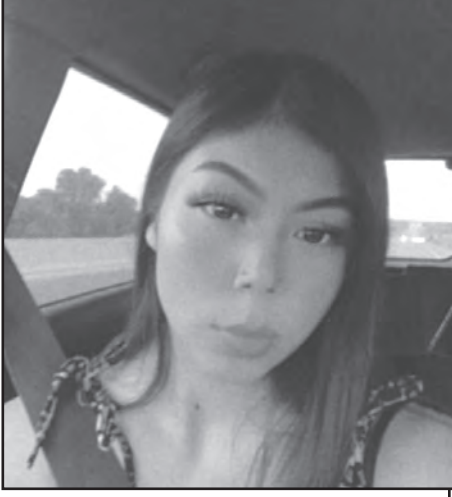
The mission of the Winnebago Health Foundation is to build enduring relationships that maximize advocacy and philanthropy to support the health of the Winnebago community and the people we serve. The primary objectives of the Foundation include fundraising activities to help meet the ongoing financial challenges for healthcare and reduce health disparities within the Winnebago community, increase access to comprehensive, quality healthcare programs and services with the use of dedicated resources, lead change strategies that educate, create and sustain healthier communities, expand education opportunities within the community by providing educational scholarships and paid internships to those entering the health field, and develop training programs in partnership with health professional schools to expand opportunities to educate and mentor youth interested in obtaining health science degrees.

## Question of the Issue: What is your all time favorite holiday movie and why?



**Garan Coons**  
Winnebago Communications Officer

National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation is my all time favorite holiday movie. I think it's my favorite because I can see a cousin Eddie in every family. Haha we all have that one cousin who acts like him. Who would you say is your cousin Eddie?



**Tyler Snake**  
WIN Office Manager

My all-time fav is Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas! A Classic. As a kid I loved how the whole town celebrated; shopping was necessary, large dinners & everything was decorated whimsically. It was truly a picture-perfect setting, including all the chaos. Christmas is a big deal in the movie, and I would love to have the same energy in real life Haha!



**Bethani Redhorn**  
Communications Office Manager

The Nightmare Before Christmas is my absolute all-time favorite holiday movie! I have loved this movie since I was a little kid, I'd watch it with my sister and my brothers at least 5 times in a row. We knew the movie word for word from start to finish. It is an animated movie but it includes both Halloween and Christmas, definitely one of the classics!!



**Christina Parker**  
Desktop Publisher

My favorite holiday movie ever since I've been a kid has been Home Alone 2: Lost in New York. Why? Because New York is amazing during the holidays and he gets to experience it with his Dad's money and meet some pretty interesting people during the adventure.

LUNCH & LEARN DEC. 9TH 12-1:30PM

## WINTER BLUES OR SAD?

Email: [donna.wolff@winnebagotribe.com](mailto:donna.wolff@winnebagotribe.com) to register

**Still Taking Casualties: Veteran Suicide**  
 Lunch & Learn Monday Nov. 29th 12-1:30pm  
 Online Zoom presentation  
 Email: [donna.wolff@winnebagotribe.com](mailto:donna.wolff@winnebagotribe.com) to register

### COVID-19 Testing at Twelve Clans Unity Hospital

Please call (402) 878-3404 for COVID-19 testing appointment.

COURTESY TESTING (COVID-19 Testing Through the Outpatient Drive-Up Clinic)	CRITICAL TESTING (COVID-19 Testing Through the Emergency Room)
COVID-19 testing through the Outpatient Drive-Up Clinic can be utilized for patients who do not need emergency care or have little to no symptoms.	COVID-19 testing through the Emergency Room is reserved for patients having severe symptoms like:
COVID-19 testing is done by <b>appointment only</b> . Call the Outpatient Clinic at (402) 878-3404 for an appointment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trouble Breathing</li> <li>• Persistent pain/pressure in the chest</li> <li>• New confusion</li> <li>• Inability to wake or stay awake</li> <li>• Bluish lips/face</li> </ul>
Patients who have had a COVID-19 exposure should not get tested until 5-7 days after the initial exposure. This is because you can test negative if you get tested too early. It is possible to test positive up to 14 days after an exposure.	This ensures ER resources are allocated to the community members who need immediate attention. This helps ensure that emergency medical attention is available for you, family, friends, and your loved ones when needed.

Twelve Clans Unity Hospitals logo

Posted as of May 27th, 2021

The next issue of the WINNEBAGO INDIAN NEWS will be published on December 11, 2021. DEADLINE for this issue will be December 7, 2021.

## Winnebago Indian News

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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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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



## JESUS OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN OUTREACH

### "O Give Thanks unto ?"

This week across the lands of America people are taking time to give thanks. On page three of this newspaper there is printed the 'Question of the Issue.' Bethani, Christina, Garan and Tyler give their answers. I would want their question and answers will be.

Today I would like to ask you an important question. The question is found in the title of my article. O give thanks unto \_\_\_\_? How would you answer this question?

One way that the Tribe of Israel taught their children about their Creator was through songs. One form of their songs was in a poetic format and referred to as a psalm. We turn to Psalm 107. (I would like to insert the Ho-Chunk name for Creator God - Mauna - in place of the Hebrew name - YAHWEH - 'I am who I am'). The psalm begins:

Oh give thanks to Mauna, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever! Let the redeemed of Mauna say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

I would like you to reflect on three things that caught my attention. The first thing is regarding Mauna's love. Mauna's love is steadfast and endures forever! There is no end to the love of Mauna.

The second thing refers to who should be giving thanks - the redeemed of Mauna. Are you one of the redeemed? You are if you place your trust, your faith, your hope in the Son of Mauna - Jesus. Jesus is the redeemer of the world. The one and only way to graciously accept Mauna's steadfast love.

The third thing is that Mauna will gather people from all four directions. The psalm continues:

Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them. Then they cried to Mauna in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.

There are times in our lives that we have wandered away from Mauna. We all have experienced distress and our helplessness to deal with trouble of various kinds, including regrets, the death of loved ones, and our decisions to turn our back on Mauna. Those who cry out to Him will be delivered from their trouble.

Some were fools through their sinful ways, and because of their iniquities suffered affliction; they loathed any kind of food, and they drew near to the gates of death. Then they cried to Mauna in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.

He sent out his word and healed them, and delivered them from their destruction. Let them thank Mauna for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man! And let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving, and tell of his deeds in songs of joy!

They mounted up to heaven; they went down to the depths; their courage melted away in their evil plight; they reeled and staggered like drunken men and were at their wits' end. Then they cried to Mauna in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.

The psalm concludes with these words: Whoever is wise, let him attend to these things; let them consider the steadfast love of Mauna.

## Garden Update

Week of November 22, 2021

Kathleen Cue, Nebraska Extension Horticulture Educator in Dodge County

### Winter Care of Houseplants

If you grow your own fresh air, you appreciate the liveliness houseplants bring to the indoors during the long winter months. On days when I'm feeling blue, nothing lifts my spirits like taking care of my houseplants. Removing dead leaves, looking for any insect pests that I missed when bringing them indoors last fall, pinching off leggy stems for rooting later, checking soil levels, setting aside plants that require further attention, and admiring the handsome plants are just some of the tasks I look forward to. If leafy plants aren't your thing, consider growing one of the hugely popular succulents now found in garden centers and online. They offer the ease of growing cacti without all the thorns that make them user-unfriendly.

### Light

Unless you have a greenhouse or grow lights, keeping houseplants at their finest during the winter months can be a challenge. With sunlight intensity and duration at a low point, even the best window in the house can keep plant growth to a minimum. Give plants a quarter turn each time you water to keep plants from leaning and getting top heavy. Pinch off stems that have gotten leggy to keep plants looking good and place the cuttings in water for rooting. These can be potted up to give away as gifts or used to dress up outdoor containers in spring.

### Fertilization

With reduced growth during the winter months, a houseplant's need for nutrients drops. Unless plants have supplemental grow lights, continuing to fertilize during the winter months risks the buildup of fertilizer salts in potting soil, reaching critical levels that can kill plants. For houseplants in the window, fertilization should take place March through October, when sunlight intensity and duration promotes plant growth and vigor.

### Watering

Snow melt water (allowing it to come to room temperature before using), rainwater, and water saved from the AC unit last summer are great for houseplants. Water from these sources have low amounts of minerals that make water hard but do contain trace elements beneficial to plants. Well water and tap water are OK to use but have lots of minerals that can leave deposits on the soil surface. Water-softened water is harmful to houseplants and should not be used at all. The best way to water houseplants is from the top down, allowing excess water to drain into the catch dish below. Allow plants to remain in the excess water for about an hour before emptying the catch dish. The method of watering houseplants known as wicking, along with leaving drained water in catch dishes, deposits minerals and salts on soil surfaces as water evaporates. Water temperature plays a huge

role in root activity, so make sure water is brought to room temperature before it is used. Never place ice cubes on the soil surface to water plants. Ice water is just above freezing and extremely injurious to plant roots.

### Humidity

Misting is a great way to provide humidity around houseplants—for about 10 minutes. Once plant foliage is dry, it's back to dry air. Unless you're willing to stand there misting your plants, it will be easier to group houseplants together, so they can bask in the humidity from their fellow plant's evapotranspiration. Another technique to create humidity around plants is to set up a pebble tray. A shallow tray, wider than the plant's foliage, is filled with pebbles and enough water to just cover the pebbles. Pots are placed on the pebble layer, not directly in the water. As water evaporates, voila, humidity for plants!

### Pest Management

There were several hitchhikers that came in with my houseplants when moved inside. A Japanese beetle, more than several boxelder bugs, lots of fungus gnats, and a few ladybugs rounded out the mix. The vacuum cleaner made short clean-up of these visitors. It's the hard-to-see hitchhikers that garner more concern. Aphids, spider mites, scale, mealybugs, and whiteflies are major pests of houseplants, but they are tiny, sometimes requiring a hand lens to see them. These pests can take an otherwise healthy plant close to death in just a few months, especially when there are no insect predators to feed on them. An insecticidal soap kills most of these pests. Spray plants on a weekly basis until no more insects are seen. With scale and mealybugs, ridding plants of these species is time-consuming and has little success in long term results. Discard plants that are heavily infested. For plants with sentimental value, do a twice-weekly clean up using cotton swabs dipped in rubbing alcohol. Always keep new plants isolated from your other houseplants for a few weeks to make sure nothing is inadvertently spread to healthy plants.

### Setting Houseplants Outside

In spring, when nighttime and daytime temperatures have reached 55° F and higher, houseplants can be moved outside to take advantage of the weather. Because they are weaklings from their protected time indoors, plants should be acclimated first. Start by putting them beneath the shade of a tree or a porch, out of any direct sun, wind, or precipitation. Every few days, move plants to a more exposed place, eventually moving them to a full sun location. Once plants are hardened off, they can be placed in their permanent summer location.

When you grow houseplants, you're benefitting you and your family's physical and psychological health. So... grow your own fresh air!



## Thoughts on Needing an Update!

develop another racetrack and casino. However, the Norfolk facility is in a bit of limbo while the state of Nebraska examines their approach to future casino development.

### Community Development

We have a lot going in Winnebago. The Tribe has allocated significant Federal Covid funding to developing the community and has authorized a wide variety of community projects. Ho-Chunk Inc. was allocated some funding to finish the streets and sewers for the second 40 acres of the Ho-Chunk Village. The Tribe also authorized the construction of another 10 very nice elder's homes. We already charge fairly modest rents on the elder's homes, but the Tribe asked that we set aside a couple units that are designed for lower income elders. The Tribe also insisted we add some solar panels on these units to lower their electrical costs. We also are finishing the infrastructure of the Thunder Way project south of Winnebago, which will open up another 16 housing lots.

I have occasionally been critical of the tribe over the last 25 years, but I need to give credit where it is due. These decisions by the Tribal Council will put in place the infrastructure for housing for the next 10 years and I really appreciate the council using these federal Covid funds wisely.

### Historic Fourth Street

Earlier in the year, we purchased one block of Historic Fourth Street in Sioux City, IA. We now own all of the buildings except one small one on the block that includes the historic Aalfs building. We anticipate adding apartments, restaurants and offices to the area. This will give Ho-Chunk, Inc. an even larger presence in downtown Sioux City and set the stage for even more future growth.

### Walthill Store

We recently sold the Pony Store in Walthill, NE to the Omaha Tribe. We have had agreements to sell the store to the Omaha Tribe in the past, but for various reasons it never happened. The store had it most successful years when the Omaha Tribe used it to provide for the members. In recent years, the Omaha Tribe hadn't used the store much, so it made sense to sell it to them because they would be able to maximize the facility. This will also allow us to focus on making sure we have enough employees to work at our remaining stores.

Contact me at hochunk@aol.com

Anthony (Tony) Wayne Free, age 62, passed away on August 22, 2021 at his residence in Lincoln, Nebraska of natural causes.

Tony was born on June 30, 1959 in Denver, Colorado to Virgil Lee Free and Dorothy A. (Thomas) Free.

At a young age, he was diagnosed with nerve damage in his ears causing him to be deaf. At the age of 3 his parents enrolled him at the Nebraska School for the Deaf in Omaha, Nebraska. At the age of 18, Tony graduated from the Deaf school and transitioned to living on his own and working for the City/County Law Enforcement Center in Lincoln as a custodian by the age of 19. He worked for 43 years until his passing. Tony had a strong work ethic and over his years of service he only missed 10 days of work.

In life, he enjoyed watching Nebraska football; and only Nebraska. He also was an avid weightlifter. He enjoyed watching TV and visiting with his friends and family.

Due to the circumstances surrounding his death, family not being notified until recent days, his remains were cremated. Upon notification, services and burial were held on November 13, 2021. Services were conducted by Matthew Cleveland Jr. at the HoChunk Center in Winnebago, Nebraska and his ashes were laid to rest by his mother at the James Rave Cemetery in Winnebago.

He is survived by his brother, Carl (Rachel Akins) Free of Farmington, NM and his sister, Alma (Free) Walker of Winnebago; nephews, Jordan and Jacob Walker of Winnebago, NE and one niece, Dannelle (Free) McDonald of Winnebago, NE; maternal aunts Velma (Rey) Alaniz and Teala C. Walker, both of Winnebago, NE and many extended family members.

He was preceded in death by his longtime companion, Shelly Harrison, who died of breast cancer in 2017, his mother, Dorothy (Thomas) Free, his father, Virgil L Free, maternal grandparents; Theodore Thomas and Mary (Renfer) Thomas, his paternal grandparents: Jesse Free and Virginia (Ricehill) Free.

### THANKYOU

The family of Anthony (Tony) Wayne Free graciously want to extend our appreciation & gratitude to all those involved in the funeral & burial service of our loved one. Thank you to the following tribal programs; Wake & Burial Program, especially Robin Bear, extending professionalism & family support; facilities for providing fire wood; Issac Smith for his kind words, and uplifting sentiment. Thank you To Matthew Cleveland Jr for officiating and honoring the family's wishes. Also to his Wife, Monica Cleveland and her helpers in preparing the noon meal. The food was delicious and very satisfying. Thank you Jacob Walker for playing the flute. And Thanks to everyone that participated behind the scenes, attended the services, made donations or said kind words or prayers. Thank you to those who shared good memories and stories as they remembered Tony. A sincere and heartfelt thankyou to all. May God Bless you.

The Family of Anthony (Tony) Wayne Free







# \$50,000 Stuffed Stocking Giveaway

Every Saturday in December  
from 2pm to 5pm

Win your share of over  
**\$50,000** in cash!

Every Saturday we'll draw 14  
winners for a chance to win up  
to **\$5,000 in CASH!**

That's **56 winners** throughout  
the month!



SWIPE DAILY FOR  
ONE FREE ENTRY  
EVERY DAY IN  
DECEMBER



## LITTLE RIVER BAND



**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11TH**  
Doors Open at 7pm • Show Starts at 8pm  
Tickets starting at \$30

**Winna Vegas**  
CASINO ♦ RESORT

For more information:  
visit [WinnaVegas.com](http://WinnaVegas.com)  
or call us at 800-468-9466

**16th Anniversary**  
**\$10,000.00 Cash**  
**Drawing**  
**Wild Thing Party**  
**December 4, 2021**



**Begin earning chances**  
**October 10, 2021 multiple chances available**

**HOT SEAT DRAWINGS**  
**4 people will win \$100.00 Free Play every hour**  
**6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.**

THE NATIVE STAR CASINO IS OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA. THE NATIVE STAR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHANGE OR CANCEL PROMOTION WITHOUT NOTICE. MUST BE LEGAL AGE. MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN. FAMILY MEMBERS OF THE MANAGEMENT ARE NOT ELIGIBLE. FAMILY INCLUDES: SPOUSE, SON, DAUGHTER, BROTHER, SISTER, PARENT, GRANDPARENT, GRANDCHILD, STEPARENT/SIBLING-IN-LAW. ALSO, CO-HABITATING PARTNER. LIST OF MANAGEMENT WILL BE AT THE CASINO. EVERYONE IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE HOT SEAT DRAWINGS.

