



Staff Food Review: "La Fiesta Charra"

page: 6

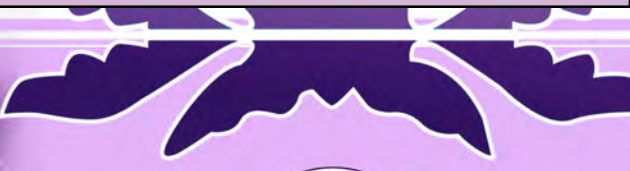


Storytellers: Ruby Bellanger

page: 6

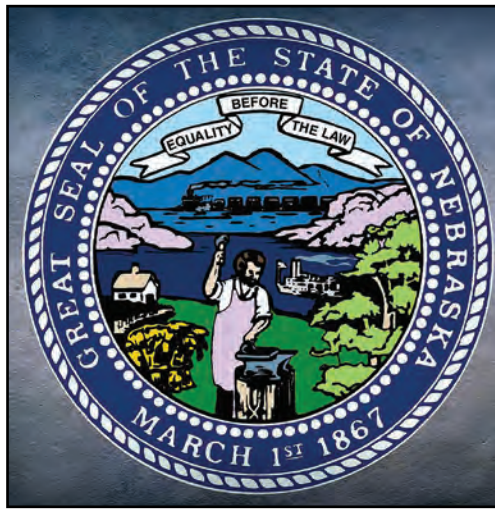
Volume 53, Number 9

Saturday, April 27, 2024



IN HONOR OF Neola Walker

LB1288 BECOMES LAW



By: Brian Chamberlain
Photo(s) by: archives
[CONTINUING COVERAGE]

[LINCOLN, NE] On Thursday, April 18th, 2024, after months of debate, process, and support, Governor Jim Pillen of Nebraska (R)[Columbus] signed LB1288 into law here. Following passage of the bill by the Nebraska Unicameral a couple of weeks prior, on a 30-8 vote in favor, the long-awaited bill has finally become a reality for all tribes in Nebraska.

This landmark action began in a process years ago. The Winnebago Tribe recognized a dilemma that needed State legislative action to resolve. EPC (Emergency Protective Custody) orders issued by the Tribal Court for the protection of tribal members who were either in a mental health crisis, or had

some other need for protective custody, these orders carried no weight in the Nebraska State system. The State had no ability to assist, whether it was with transportation, housing, or even much needed treatment. This placed the lives of these individuals in serious jeopardy and left their families with nowhere to turn. During debate on the Unicameral floor, Senator Jen Day (Omaha) who also serves as Chair of the State – Tribal Relations Committee said, "we are putting the health and safety of an individual at risk or harm to themselves or others."

At the onset of this legislative session, Lincoln Senator Jane Raybould introduced the bill (LB1288) that would serve to correct the problem with as much simplicity as possible. "If someone is having a behavioral health crisis, a mental health breakdown, the person needs to get transported to one of the

several hospitals that are available that deal with mental health (and) behavioral health issues," Raybould said. Her leadership pushed the bill forward and eventually it was passed by the entire body, even without her in person vote.

During her tenure as CEO of 12 Clans Unity Hospital (WCHS), tribal member Danelle Smith began working on the matter after witnessing many of our own tribal members fall through the cracks of the Nebraska State healthcare system. Smith participated in and introduced the subject to our own tribal leadership. At the tribe's annual Senator's Luncheon held in Lincoln near the onset of each legislative session, Smith and

Con't. on page 2...

BAGO BITS

By: Tyler Snake



WTN EPD hosted Winnebago's Community clean-up that took place from April 23rd through the 25th. Residents cleared out their homes while WTN departments took care of their assigned areas of the town. This community effort benefits everyone; Decluttering your homes can reduce stress, improve moods, and benefit your health due to dust/debris collecting overtime. Pictured above are facilities employees gathering resident's curbed items in Sunrise Drive.



The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) has hosted their interviews for ages 14-19. Applicants must bring a resume, interview, and pass a drug test. More details of eligibility can be found on the WTN website under Higher Education. This year there were more students than work-stations available. Local departments needing extra help during the summer should contact Higher Education at (402) 878-2631. Our youth can benefit from the learning experience of necessary skills and formulate a work ethic. Pictured above is the 2022 Summer Youth group. Fun fact: the SYEP has been going for over 39 years!

WPS HOSTS NATIVE YOUTH EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT



By Brian Chamberlain
Photos by Brian Chamberlain

[WINNEBAGO, NE] On Wednesday, April 17th, 2024, the Winnebago Public Schools hosted the 2024 Nebraska Native Youth Gathering here. In the return to an event held in years past, native students from across the State were welcomed to Winnebago en masse. "We used to hold this event annually but had to stop due to the pandemic. This year is the first one we've been able to hold in person since that time," said Winnebago Superintendent, Kamau Turner.

The event began inside the main gymnasium as the students gathered. Seating was at near capacity as the students of Winnebago High we joined by dozens of students from multiple other schools, like Omaha Nation, Walthill, Santee. Some even came from Lincoln and Omaha. Turner continued, "it's nice to see the participation return to such a robust level. We're very pleased with the turn out."

The attendees were officially greeted by a traditional prayer and honor song sung by visitors from the Santee district. Presenter and sponsor, Delberta Frazier, who also represented one of the breakout learning

sessions provided those in attendance with pouches of various native plants that indigenous people used for millennia as medicines, prior to colonial contact. She said, "We're happy to help teach the next generations about all the good medicines we have here right at home." She also shared some of their offerings with the WIN.

In tandem with the Gathering, the practice gym was filled with a slew of booths from various educational, vocational, and employment presenters. The Winnebago Tribe

Con't. on page 2...

COMMUNITY

...Cont. from front pg. "LB1288 BECOMES LAW"

members of our Tribal Council began the work of introducing the critical matter to the State Senators. The process took years to complete due to various factors.

Through Smith's leadership, the revelations regarding the pitfalls within the Nebraska State system began to become clearer. Working with the NE Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), the tribe's position was placed before their executive leadership and even more light became shed on the subject. Smith remarked to the Tribal Council several years ago regarding how the State system was simply not set up to allow Tribal EPC Orders to be put into effect. Sen. Raybould said, "But if the tribal judge gives that (EPC) order and the person gets transported, say, to Norfolk, they don't recognize it in Madison County".

Some opposition did exist during the debate sessions, but regardless of the push back the bill did gain approval. It was sent to the Governor's desk and was signed shortly after. Now as General Counsel for the Winnebago Tribe, Smith said, "LB 1288 is

an important law that respects the authority of Tribal Courts and helps tribal members who are experiencing a mental health crisis. We appreciate the support of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services in working with us to develop a solution, Sen. Raybould for her strong leadership, and the Nebraska legislature for voting in favor of the bill. This is a demonstration of what we can accomplish when we work together."

Tribal Council Chairwoman, Victoria Kitcheyan stated on the day of the Governor's signature, "It's a good day for the relatives." The WIN agrees as this measure helps our most vulnerable people who are in crisis. It also serves to help all tribal people within Nebraska, and Winnebago leadership worked diligently to make this happen.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The article's writer, Brian Chamberlain, was a part of the Tribal Council who voted in support of the actions taken to bring the process forward. Chamberlain spoke to the Senators during this year's Senator's Luncheon regarding the bill as well.

...Cont. from front pg. "WPS HOSTS NATIVE YOUTH EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT"

was represented, as was Little Priest Tribal College, Wayne State College, and recruiters from the military branches to name but a few. One presenter told the WIN, "We're excited to see the students and help them see how many different opportunities there are waiting for them once they've completed high school."

The keynote speaker for the event was Winnebago's own, Trey Blackhawk. Blackhawk spoke to the students at the onset of the event regaling the kids with stories of his times at Winnebago High, and his pathway since graduating, himself. Blackhawk is the winner of a recent scholarship award based on his original design now available through the Pendleton Blanket Company. In appreciation of his selection as keynote speaker,

Blackhawk bestowed one of his blankets bearing his design to the Winnebago Public School. Superintendent Turner was on hand to accept the gift as the students applauded the exchange.

The event was very well received, and the students seemed genuinely eager to see what the day's itinerary had in store for them. The vast array of options provided in the practice gym, in combination with the full day's agenda was sure to make for some good discussion and contemplation of which steps to take next. The WIN will cover future events such as this to help ensure all young tribal learners know there are many resources available to them for all sorts of educational pathways.



WPS Student Ambassadors welcome guests.



Presenter Delberta Frazier and her associates attend WPS Event.



Pendleton Blanket designed by Trey Blackhawk gifted to WPS.



Superintendent, Kamau Turner and Keynote Speaker, Trey Blackhawk

Senator Jane Raybould (Lincoln)



Tribal Farms Director, Trey Blackhawk gives event keynote.



Tribal Human Resources Generalist, Ofelia Cordova, holds tribal employment booth at student event.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SUICIDE IN INDIAN COUNTRY PART 45

What You Can Do

Be There

Together with formal counseling and/or medications for the emotional problems that set the stage for suicidal thinking and feeling, the very best thing you can do for a suicidal person is, simply, to be there.

Let that person know you care for and love them – in spite of how frightened they've made you feel. Assure them that, no matter how bad things may get before they get better, you will be there for them. This may mean that you will be in the same house or only a phone call away. But it means calling them before they call you, sending a "thinking of you" card, and spending time together enjoying life, not troubling over it.

By simply being there, being close and caring, you can keep hope alive.

Listen

Listening is the greatest gift one human can give to another. Advice tends to be easy, quick, cheap and often wrong. Listening takes time, patience and courage, but it is always right.

Ask yourself, "Who do I go to when I need to talk?" Your answer is seldom someone who lectures or makes quick judgments about what you should do. Rather, it is the good listener to whom we turn in times of trouble.

Listening is a healing art. You can become a better listener by realizing the following:

Listening to someone suicidal can save a life.

Listening means taming your own fear so that you don't rush into judgments.

Listening means giving your time to someone else.

Listening means sharing the burden of pain.

Listening means paying perfect attention while the other person's creates his or her own solution to life's problems.

That's right, creates his or her own solution – the only solution that has any real chance of working.

Because "tell me more" inspires hope, people struggling to find a way to live need to be listened to – sometimes once, but sometimes many times and for hours at a time. Suicidal people do not want to die so much as they want to find a way to live. Listening helps them find that way.

When listening to someone who has considered, threatened or even attempted suicide, try to remain calm and tranquil. Listen with your ears and your heart. This is the hard part because we must conquer our fear to do it. But as you listen to every word, you will hear not only what the sufferer is saying, but also what he or she is trying to say.

Confirm your guesses and suspicions with questions. If you get nods or "yeses", you have, in no small way, helped that person find a way to live. In the end, it is very hard to kill yourself when someone else truly understands your life. And listening, above all other forms of human communication, makes this understanding possible.

Reduce the Risk By Making Suicide Difficult

Some suicidal people are impulsive. In acute psychological pain, they do not understand that the pain will pass. To help reduce the risk of self-injury or suicide by an impulsive or even considered act, it is always helpful to remove the firearms, car keys, medications and other means of suicide. By simply restricting access to the means suicide, you may buy the time needed for the pain to pass, for a solution to be found, and for hope to be rekindled. Removing the means to suicide is, in itself, an act of hope.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-8255 (TALK), Winnebago Behavioral Health 1-402-878-2911, After Hours Crisis #1-712-259-3263.

JESUS OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN OUTREACH



By: Pastor Ricky Jacob

"Suffering today and glory forever"

There will come a time when the sons of God, having been adopted into God's family will be revealed. This is great news for some. And not only great news for some - it is also great news for creation.

Presently we live in this age. We are used to life in this world. We cannot comprehend any other world. However, this is not a good world. This world is filled with corruption, disease, suffering and in the end death.

Some accept this reality as the cycle of life. Yes, with the cycle of life comes the end of life - that is death. How futile is that!

This is not how it was in the beginning of this world. In the beginning all was good - really good! The trees gave fruit year round. There were no illness, disease, envy, stealing, brutality, wars, natural disasters such as tornados, floods, earthquakes. And there was no death.

However, this world in which we live is cursed. Who brought the curse upon creation? The very first man and the very first woman - Adam and Eve. In their desire to be like God, knowing good and evil, they ate fruit forbidden by God. In other words, they disobeyed God's one and only command.

The result was suffering and death entered the world. We turn to the third chapter of Genesis, beginning at verse seventeen: 'And to Adam [Creator God] said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in

pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field.

By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return" [Genesis 3:17-18 ESV].

The good news is that there is another age to come when creation will be set free and the circle of life will be truly be a complete and ongoing circle of life. This will also be the age or the time of the revealing of the sons of God who will share in His glory - forever and ever - without end!

You have been offered to share in the glory of God - it can be yours now and not yet! The offer comes at a great cost. Creator God sent his only begotten Son into this world in order to suffer and to die on a pole - the cross on Mount Moriah.

The story does not end then and there. Creator God's Son, Jesus, rose victoriously on the first day of the week - which we Christians refer to as Easter. Now Creator God offers glory forever and ever in paradise for all those who place their faith in Jesus!

The sons (as well as the daughters) of God they will share in the glory of God. In the meantime, the sons and daughters of God will suffer persecution. Our suffering does not compare to the glory and the joy of living with the rest of creation in the new heavens on the new earth. The basis of this blessed future please open your Bible and turn to Romans chapter eight, and read from verse eighteen through twenty-three (you may as well read the whole chapter while you are at it)!

Point your phone's camera at the QR code to go to the Big Voice Radio webpage!



KWTN 100.9 FM
The Official Radio Station of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing
Case No. CV24-076

In the Matter of the
Name Change Petition of:
EDWIN ALLEN BROWN
to EDWIN DENNIS BROWN

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. CV24-076 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 16TH day of May, 2024 at the hour of 11:30 A.M.

Notice:

The Polling Place for Winnebago is now located at the Whirling Thunder Wellness Center/ Blackhawk Center For the Primary May 14, 2024 Election Please enter through the North door.



Learn the skills.
Help save a life.

Suicide is preventable. Anyone can make a difference.

- Two-day workshop in suicide intervention skills
- Learn and practice a life-saving intervention model
- Widely used by professionals and the general public

ASIST's impact in 2016



ASIST works

Studies show that ASIST participants gain:

- Knowledge about suicide
- Skills to reach out
- Confidence to help save a life

ASIST changes lives

Odds of improvement after receiving an ASIST intervention (2013 study):

- ▲ 35% more hopeful
- ▼ 31% less depressed
- ▼ 46% less overwhelmed
- ▼ 74% less suicidal

ASIST is cost-effective

50:1 return on investment in decreasing long-term costs of suicide (2015 study)

FREE training!

Upcoming ASIST workshop
Date: May 8 & 9th, 2024/ 9-4pm
Location: YCIC basement
Hosted by: YCIC

Cost: FREE

To inquire or register,
402-841-3834
or email:
donna.wolff@winnebagotribe.com

Learn more about ASIST and see the evidence at www.livingworks.net/ASIST



The next issue of the WINNEBAGO INDIAN NEWS will be published on May 11, 2024. DEADLINE for this issue will be May 7, 2024.



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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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Victoria Kitcheyan.....Chairwoman
Isaac Smith.....Vice Chairman
Lorelei DeCoraSecretary
Rona Stealer.....Treasurer
Coly BrownMember
Kenny Mallory.....Member
Aric ArmellMember
Theresa Littlegeorge.....Member
Eugene DeCora.....Member



TRIBAL COUNCIL MINUTES

ments. Isaac Smith seconded.

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

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to Ratify the Five Signature March 18, 2024 Adopt Resolution #24-103 Approve \$2,584,709 funding request for American Indian Vocational Rehabilitation Services grant FY 24. Eugene DeCora seconded.

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

Aric Armell motioned to Ratify the Five Signature March 18, 2024 Adopt Resolution #24-105 Approve Absolute Relinquishment of #383-UO7003. Isaac Smith seconded.

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

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to Ratify the Five Signature March 20, 2024 Adopt Resolution #24-104 Approve Tribal Enrollment Applicants. Isaac Smith seconded.

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

Winnebago Gaming Development Corporation

Aric Armell motioned to appoint Eugene DeCora to the Winnebago Gaming Development Corporation Board. Rona Stealer seconded.

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

Tribal Council Listening Session RE: Tribal Enrollment, April 2, 2024 5pm in the BHCC and via Zoom meeting. Winnebago Tribal Members can request the meeting link or attend in-person.

U.S. Census Director Visit, Lincoln, NE March 19, 2024

Lorelei DeCora motioned to approve Tribal Council travel to attend the U.S. Census Director visit, Lincoln, NE March 19, 2024. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded.

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

Eugene DeCora motioned for Garan Coons, Communications Director to remain the U.S. Census communication point-of-contact for the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded.

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

Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska Tribal Community Response Plan Missing or Murdered Persons – presented by Thelma Whitewater

Aric Armell motioned to approve the 3-22-24 Winnebago Tribal Community Response Plan Missing or Murdered Persons. Isaac Smith seconded.

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

Tribal Council Secretary will send a copy to the U.S. Attorneys Office.

2024 Annual Homecoming Pow-Wow Committee

Lorelei DeCora motioned to appoint James Sun III, John Snowball, Kiylista Harden-Free, Kiva Harden-Free, Jeffrey Berridge, Tyresha Romero to the 2024 Annual Homecoming Pow-Wow Committee. Aric Armell seconded.

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

Aric Armell motioned to approve \$2,280.00 to the Roads Department for rock on the road used to ensure water our buffalo. The funds will come out of the appropriate Tribal Council budget to be determined by the Treasurer. Isaac Smith seconded.

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

Employee Appreciation Recognition
The Employee Appreciation Recognition (employees who worked during the blizzard/extreme weather) will be April 24, 2024.

Aric Armell motioned to go into Executive Session. Eugene DeCora seconded.

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

In Executive Session at 5:53 p.m.

Aric Armell motioned to come out of Executive Session. Eugene DeCora seconded.

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

Out of Executive Session at 6:17 p.m.

Rona Stealer motioned to adjourn. Eugene DeCora seconded.

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

Chairwoman Victoria Kitcheyan Adjourned the Meeting at 6:18 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Lorelei DeCora, Secretary
Winnebago Tribal Council*

WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA CEO & CONTINUING PHYSICAL RE-SOURCES REPORTS MEETING April 10, 2024

TRIBAL COUNCIL:

Victoria Kitcheyan
Isaac Smith
Lorelei DeCora - out at 2:15pm
Rona Stealer – out at 2:00pm
Eugene DeCora
Coly Brown
Kenneth Mallory
Aric Armell

Teresa Littlegeorge

OTHERS:

Esther Mercer
Lynelle Blackhawk
Brittany Thomas
Kevin Ebert
Desiree Kitcheyan
Amy Lapointe
Garan Coons
Annabess Preston
Jasmine Lammers
Willy Bass
Cecelia Earth
Kellie Snow
Janelle DeCora
Elizabeth Bayer
Ramona Sheridan
Denise Jensen
Misty Jefferson
Linda Free
Cassie Kitcheyan
Thelma Whitewater
Robert Byrnes
Autumn Nieman

CALL TO ORDER: Winnebago Tribal Chairwoman Victoria Kitcheyan Called the Meeting To Order at 9:05 a.m.

PRAYER: Offered by Vice-Chairman Isaac Smith

AGENDA: Add: Item #3 Boards & Committees

Isaac Smith motioned to approve the agenda. Eugene DeCora seconded.

VOTE: (8) yes (0) no (0) abstain
Motion carried.

CEO Report – presented by Esther Mercer, CEO

Isaac Smith motioned, from this day forward, all employees of the Ho-Chunk Renaissance Program must be Winnebago Tribal members. Aric Armell seconded.

Isaac Smith withdraws his motion. Aric Armell does not withdraw his second.

Aric Armell motioned, from this day forward, all employees of the Ho-Chunk Renaissance Program must be Winnebago Tribal members. Isaac Smith seconded.

OBJECT: Lorelei DeCora
VOTE:(2) yes, AA, IS (2) no, LD, RS (4) abstain: KM, TL, CB, ED, A tie. 2-2-4

Chairwoman Kitcheyan votes yes.
VOTE: (3) yes, AA, IS, VK (2) no, LD, RS (4) abstain, KM, TL, CB, ED, 3-2-4 Motion carried.

Five minute break at 10:00am. Back at 10:12am

AA –Stepped away from the table.

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to accept the CEO Report. Kenneth Mallory seconded.

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

CAO Report – presented by Lynelle Blackhawk, CAO

AA – Back at 10:32am
VOTE: (8) yes (0) no (0) abstain
Motion carried

Human Resources Director
Kenneth Mallory motioned to approve the Human Resources Director Job Description. Eugene DeCora seconded.

VOTE: (8) yes (0) no (0) abstain
Motion carried.

Kenneth Mallory motioned to approve the new Water Resources Technician Job Description. Rona Stealer seconded.

VOTE: (8) yes (0) no (0) abstain
Motion carried.

In-House Legal Counsel
Eugene DeCora motioned to table the In-House Legal Counsel to the next CEO Report. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded.

OBJECT: Isaac Smith
VOTE: (6) yes, LD, RS, KM, TL, CB, ED (2) no, IS, AA (0) abstain
Motion carried.

Aric Armell motioned to approve the Human Resources Director and Water Resources Technician into the ORG Chart. Eugene DeCora seconded.

VOTE: (8) yes (0) no (0) abstain
Motion carried.

Winnebago Tribal Council 2024 Primary & Regular Election Schedule

Eugene DeCora motioned to approve the Winnebago Tribal Council 2024 Primary & Regular Election Schedule, September 3, 2024 & October 8, 2024. Kenneth Mallory seconded.

VOTE: (8) yes (0) no (0) abstain
Motion carried.

Charitable Giving Survey Results
Out of 307 Winnebago Tribal Employees, 76 completed the survey. Yes: 48; No: 28

Eugene DeCora motioned to re-publish the survey until after the next Huddle to discuss Charitable Giving. Coly Brown seconded.

OBJECT: Isaac Smith
VOTE: (7) yes, ED, RS, LD, KM, TL, AA, CB (1) no, IS (0) abstain
Motion carried.

Winnebago Tribal Enrollment Applicants
Lorelei DeCora motioned to adopt Resolution #24-111 to approve the Winnebago Tribal Enrollment Applicants. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded.

VOTE: (8) yes (0) no (0) abstain
Motion carried.

Recess – At 12:00pm for lunch
Winnebago Tribal Housing

Aric Armell motioned to appoint Terri Lee Medina to the Winnebago Tribal Housing Board. Eugene DeCora seconded.

OBJECT: Isaac Smith
VOTE: (7) yes, CB, LD, KM, RS, ED, AA, TL (1) no, IS (0) abstain

Motion carried.
Tribal Member Services Mission & Vision Statement

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to approve the Tribal Member Services Mission & Vision Statement as is. Rona Stealer seconded.

Discussion
Teresa Littlegeorge withdraws her motion. Rona Stealer withdraws her second.

Aric Armell motioned to table the Tribal Member Services Mission & Vision Statement and for Tribal Member Services to bring it back after further refining to the Mid-Monthly Meeting. Isaac Smith seconded.

VOTE: (8) yes (0) no (0) abstain
Motion carried.

EduCare Network Conference – presented by Amy LaPointe

The National Director of Head Start will be attending. Describes ongoing preparation for May 1, 2024, May 2, 2024 Conference attendees will visit Winebago Educare that afternoon/evening, May 3, 2024.

Aric Armell motioned to gift the National Head Start Director. Eugene DeCora seconded.

VOTE: (8) yes (0) no (0) abstain
Motion carried.

Planning – presented by Brittany Thomas
ED - out

Isaac Smith motioned to adopt Resolution #24-112to approve the Winnebago Tribe and Education Department to apply for a grant from the Ho-Chunk Community Development Corporation (HCCDC), Winnebago Community Development Fund for EduCare Winnebago beautification & maintenance of their Building . The total project is \$19,101.00 and the 1:1 match required is \$9,550.50. The Education Department has pledged half the match will come out of their 968 Tribal Appropriation Fund. Aric Armell seconded.

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

Planning – presented by Brittany Thomas
ED - out

Isaac Smith motioned to adopt Resolution #24-113 approve the Winnebago Tribe and Education Department shall submit a letter for a donation request \$3,411.00 from the Ho-Chunk Inc. Charitable Giving Committee to assist EduCare to purchase food items, drinks and tableware to serve meals to the EduCare Learning Network during May 1st, 2nd & 3rd, 2024. The Winnebago Tribe is not required to match any funds for this donation request. Eugene DeCora seconded.

VOTE: (8) yes (0) no (0) abstain
Motion carried.

ED - back
Kenneth Mallory to adopt Resolution #24-113 approve the Winnebago Tribe and Education Department shall submit a letter for a donation request \$3,411.00 from the Ho-Chunk Inc. Charitable Giving Committee to assist EduCare to purchase food items, drinks and tableware to serve meals to the EduCare Learning Network during May 1st, 2nd & 3rd, 2024. The Winnebago Tribe is not required to match any funds for this donation request. Eugene DeCora seconded.

VOTE: (8) yes (0) no (0) abstain
Motion carried.

Isaac Smith motioned to adopt Resolution #24-114 approve the Winnebago Tribe to apply for \$35,000.00 from the Buffet Early Childhood Foundation to assist the building of EduCare to repaint the walls throughout the building. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded.

VOTE: (8) yes (0) no (0) abstain
Motion carried.

Isaac Smith motioned to adopt Resolution #24-115 approve Winnebago Tribe funding request of \$750,000.00 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, FY 2024 Opioid Affected Youth Initiative beginning October 1, 2024 though September 30, 2027 to support the Youth Crisis Intervention Center (YCIC) and Youth Shelter to address opioid use of youth & their families. Eugene DeCora seconded.

VOTE: (8) yes (0) no (0) abstain
Motion carried.

Isaac Smith motioned to adopt Resolution #24-116 approve the Winnebago Tribe grant request of \$900,000.00 from the U.S. Department of Justice under Category 1: Planning and Implementation for the BIA FY 24 Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska Adult Treatment Court Program. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded.

VOTE: (8) yes (0) no (0) abstain
Motion carried.

Emergency Grant Application Revision
Isaac Smith motioned to approve the Emergency Grant Application revision as presented. Aric Armell seconded.

VOTE: (8) yes (0) no (0) abstain
Motion carried.

Kenneth Mallory motioned to approve Winnebago Tribal Administration staff access from Human Services to check if the Emergency Grant applicant already got help from them for the same request. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded.

VOTE: (8) yes (0) no (0) abstain
Motion carried.

5 Minute Break
VK-out, RS –out at 2pm. Vice-Chairman Isaac Smith assumes the Chair.

Physical Resources Department Continuing Report – presented by Autumn Nieman, Assistant Physical Resources Director.

Eugene DeCora motioned for Winnebago Tribal Housing to have a monthly meeting with all Winnebago Housing Entities. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded.

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

VK – back, resumes as Chair
Lorelei DeCora motioned to accept the Physical Resources Report. Coly Brown seconded.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Motion carried.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Lorelei DeCora motioned to Suspend the Rules for a WinnaVegas Casino Resort Item. Kenneth Mallory seconded.

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

WinnaVegas Casino Resort
Eugene DeCora motioned to approve remodeling the bar for \$114,329.50 through Bacon Creek Design for WinnaVegas Casino Resort. The Winnebago Gaming Commission has already approved. Kenneth Mallory seconded.

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

LD – out at 2:15p.m.
Chairwoman Victoria Kitcheyan kept the Minutes.

Nebraska Renewable Energy Systems, – Solar Opportunity presented by Robert Byrnes.

Eugene DeCora motioned to adjourn. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded.

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

ADJOURN:
Chairwoman Victoria Kitcheyan adjourned the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted,
Lorelei DeCora, Tribal Council Secretary
Concur:
Chairwoman Victoria Kitcheyan*

WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA WINNEBAGO COMPREHENSIVE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM (WCHS) April 11, 2024

TRIBAL COUNCIL:

Victoria Kitcheyan – out at 11:30 a.m.
Isaac Smith – PTO in at 10:01 a.m.

Lorelei DeCora
Rona Stealer – PTO
Eugene DeCora
Coly Brown

Kenneth Mallory
Aric Armell – in at 9:25 a.m.
Teresa Littlegeorge

OTHERS:
Dr. Mona Zuffante
David Edwards
Beth Wewel
Sharon Frenchman
Austin Schanzenbach
Lynelle Blackhawk
Annabess Preston
Cecelia Earth
Garan Coons
Jasmine Lammers
Tyresha Romero
Esther Mercer
Kiva Free
Kevin Ebert

CALL TO ORDER: Chairwoman Kitcheyan Called the Meeting To Order at 9:11 a.m.

PRAYER: Offered by Eugene DeCora

AGENDA: Add as 1st Item - EMS Building

Teresa Littlegeorge motioned to approve the agenda. Kenneth Mallory seconded.

VOTE: (5) yes (0) no (0) abstain
Motion carried.

EMS Building
David Edwards, WCHS CEO reports the WCHS Board will meet to consider approving the additional 3.1 million requested for the EMS Building Construction.

AA – in at 9:25 a.m.
Aric Armell motioned to direct the WCHS Board to make the 3.1. million a priority for the EMS Building Construction. Teresa Littlegeorge seconded.

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

EHS Progress, Independent IT Network, Ongoing CMS Readiness, Quality Evolution – Update presented by Austin Schanzenbach, Chief Transformation Officer.

Five Minute Break
Building Assumption, Cultural Resources Committee, Domestic Violence Building – Updates presented by Sharon Frenchman, CAO.

Tier 4 Emergency Department Designation, SANE Nursing approved by the WCHS Board, Advanced Primary Care, Nephrology Prevention Clinic Developing, Cardiology Clinic Developing, Urology Clinic Developing, Auditory Services Developing – presented by David Edwards, CEO

Change Healthcare Status Update, Revenue Cycle Progress Report, Sources and uses update and cash balances – presented by Beth Wewel, Chief Financial Officer.

Aric Armell motioned to direct a letter of support from the Chairwoman to the Indian Health Service to expedite our Winnebago Comprehensive Healthcare Systems (WCHS) claims. Eugene DeCora seconded.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS



You need a photo ID to vote.

Bring your photo ID with you when you vote in person. Or provide your Nebraska driver's license/state ID or a photocopy of the ID when you vote by mail.

A variety of acceptable and readily attainable IDs* may be used for voting purposes, including:

- ✓ Nebraska driver's license/state ID
- ✓ U.S. Passport, military ID, tribal ID
- ✓ Hospital, assisted-living facility, nursing home record
- ✓ Nebraska political subdivision ID (state, county, city, school, etc.)
- ✓ Nebraska college or university ID

*ID must include name and photo

For more information on Voter ID, visit **VoterID.Nebraska.gov**

A message from the Nebraska Secretary of State.

LITTLE PRIEST TRIBAL COLLEGE
Our Mission: "Be Strong and Educate My Children"

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

- Admissions Coordinator
- Director of Security/Housing/Maintenance
- Director of Student Support Services / Title IX Coordinator
- Vice President of Teaching and Learning
- Learning Lab Specialist
- Maintenance and Security Assistant
- Adjunct – Early Childhood Education
- Student Interns
- Tutors
- Extension and Equity Student Intern

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

2024 Youth Indian Police Academy

Seeking Highly Motivated High School Students

BIA-BIE Youth Indian Police Academy
The Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Indian Education are hosting the second annual Youth Indian Police Academy for high school students held at the Riverside Indian School. Students will leave the program with an understanding of community policing, which is focused on providing encouragement, hope, inspiration, and mentorship for participants.



How to Apply:
Twenty-eight students will be chosen to participate and receive travel, housing, and meals. Students must submit a five-paragraph essay explaining who they are, their life goals, and why they want to attend the Youth Indian Police Academy. Final essays must be emailed to Carla.Whiteman@bie.edu on or before May 17, 2024.

Note for Guardians:
Upon student selection, guardians must complete an admissions package, which will be emailed after selections are finalized.

FACTS & TASKS
When: June 16-28, 2024
Where: Riverside Indian School, Anadarko, OK
Deadline: May 17, 2024

HANDS-ON LEARNING:

- Accident Investigation & Crime Scene Labs
- Driving Under the Influence Simulations
- Emergency Medical Services Certification
- Full Immersion Learning Field Trips
- K9 Demonstrations
- Nightly Team Building Events
- Special Weapons & Tactics Demonstrations
- Tactical Training Exercises





Winnebago Public Schools District 17
Post Office Box KK, 202 Osborne St.
Winnebago, Nebraska 68071
"Learners Today...Leaders Tomorrow"

Winnebago Public Schools is now accepting applications for the following positions:

- Administrative Activities and Safety Director
- High School Counselor
- K-12 P.E. Teacher
- Elementary Teacher
- Special Education Teacher
- High School Social Sciences Teacher
- Early Childhood Teacher
- Front Desk Secretary
- On-Call Environmental Services Staff
- Paraprofessionals

For more information contact HR Coordinator Cherish Mallory at 402-878-2224 ext. 120 or cherishm@winnebagok12.org OR visit our website <https://www.winnebagopublicschools.org/>

158TH ANNUAL HOMECOMING CELEBRATION

SAVE THE DATE

JULY 25-28, 2024




KWTN 100.9FM

THE BIG VOICE RADIO

<https://winnebagotribe.com/kwtn-radio>

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Midnight Love 10p	Midnight Love 10p	Midnight Love 10p	ARL All Request Live 11a-1p Rez Ride 4-6p Baby Bison Beats 7-8p Midnight Love 10p	Friday Nite Hot Mix 7-10p Midnight Love 10p

Info

Join Hosts DJ Guaranteed DJ Bessami MC BKC




HAKWE

Question of the Issue:

What are some of your Shocking Confessions? Things that will make people gasp and squeal once they've found out. Don't say we didn't warn you. Beware!

Garan: I am all for tipping for great service. But the one thing I can't stand is when you order something and they flip the screen around asking for the tip amount before the service is done. Or another example, I was in DC, grabbed my soda and snacks. Put them on the counter and then get met with a tip request screen. Like for what? On the flip side, if you get good service, please tip those who do a good job.

Brian: Prepare the gasps. I despise ranch dressing. (Yuk!) And I have never seen any of the Back to the Future sequels. None of them. Ever! And I've never seen one episode of Grey's Anatomy, nor one full episode of Yellowstone.

Tyler: Most sea food is a no for me. Everyone loves seafood boils, but I can't stand shrimp, clams, crabs or lobster.

Kevin: Hmm shocking confession that would make my friends gasp, well I guess I would have to say in my life I had two perms. I thought the first one came out rather good, so I got a 2nd one and it wasn't as successful. Then I went into the U.S Army and they shaved my head and I never grew my hair out again.

Christina: As a native woman, I don't know how to make frybread and I do not wish to learn because it's so unhealthy.

Bethani: My shocking confession that usually gets a gasp or two is my dislike for onions. I don't like onions – at all! When I was a little girl, we had chicken noodle soup for dinner. Whoever cooked left the onions into big slices drove me into disliking them. I couldn't get up until I was done and all I had left in the bowl was onions. I'll eat them if I must. But if I have the choice, I will request no onions, every time.

Staff Food Review:

“Vino, not so keen o”



By: Kevin Ebert
Photos by: Kevin Ebert

Hello all! I want to give my [review] on another spot to eat. I have eaten [t]here a few times, and it is normally pretty dang good. I wish I could say the same for this trip.

I was up in the city delivering a check to a local vendor and of course I got a little hungry. So, I thought I would stop at La Fiesta Charra [on] Floyd Blvd. in Sioux City, IA. I tried the Shrimp a La Crema. It has twelve shrimp sautéed with onions and mushrooms, [covered in] cream sauce with a splash of white wine [and is] served with rice, lettuce, pico de gallo, sour cream, and three tortillas. I always go for the flour[tortillas]. Corn is for tacos in my world.

The shrimp was cooked well, but the sauce just did not do it for me. [I was] not sure if it was the white wine. [You see] they say to use a wine you like to drink [for cooking] and I'm not wine drinker. The cooking Gods say don't use some old cooking wine. I must say it was a nice healthy portion, lots of big shrimp.

The restaurant is nice, clean, and so are the bathrooms. Crazy part is both waiters looked the same. They were nice, just a little slow. But there were four sets of customers that just walked in after me so that would explain that, but good service for the most part. It really has a cool atmosphere with nice pictures of the food they serve. I love that.

Ebbz would have to give them a 2.5 on a scale of 1-5. [2 ½ on the World Famous HaazZaat scale] Yeah, it was mid as my daughter Quinya would say. All in all I'll still go back. That's the first time I wasn't a big fan of their dish.

EDITOR'S NOTE: La Fiesta Charra is open 7 days a week, starting at 11am. They have an online menu and are on Facebook. They have a full-service bar and can handle larger groups. No reservations necessary.

La Fiesta Charra
3079 Floyd Blvd.
Sioux City, IA 51104
(712) 239-1005



STORYTELLERS – Ruby Bellanger

The Winnebago Indian News sat down recently with a special tribal member, Ruby Bellanger. Ruby agreed to speak with us after I introduced the new column idea to her following a recent public event. She was genuinely interested in providing her stories to the WIN and held an apprehensiveness due to her self-awareness of being in possession of an opinion. Once we began speaking, and the WIN assured her that our readers wanted to hear her points of view and her experiences – opinions intact; we began our dialogue. We had many laughs and we also named quite a few people. Ruby's life is certainly at no shortage for people all throughout it.

The WIN will employ a standard verbatim dialogue throughout this printed interview to preserve as much as possible the original intent and context of our discussion. However, some editing has been done for clarity. The original transcript remains in the WIN's possession. Ruby's appearance in the WIN is entirely voluntary and her perspectives are hers. So please enjoy this conversation as it is meant to describe her points of view on the life she has, and the experiences she's lived. We are so glad she bravely shared them with us, unapologetically. Ruby knew her story was hers to tell. The WIN appreciates her ability to open-up and share so much of her story with us. Ladies and Gentlemen, please allow me to introduce our first Storyteller debuting in these premiere issues of the Winnebago Indian News: Mrs. Ruby Bellanger – in her own words.

WIN (W) – Please tell us about yourself, who you are.

Ruby B. (R) - My name's Ruby Bellanger. I used to be Ruby Wolfe. My Mother was Velma Rave, and my dad was Reuben Wolfe, which I never really had the opportunity of knowing. And I don't know why, if it had to do with travel, because back then not everybody had a car, and my mother was separated. So anyway, I grew up with my grandmother [Annie Davis Rave]. And a bunch of uncles.

I just can't get over the uncles today, because I had some terrific uncles. They were like what Winnebago uncles are supposed to do. A lot of people don't know that. And I guess that's [me].

I wanted to start out too, when you said, 'an elder'. I like to tell people, I'm not an elder. Elders know something, and I don't know nothing. I'm just an old person! [laughed]

What I know is how I was raised and that's all I can talk about. I can't say so and so told me this. There wasn't that much in my growing up. It's just that you did things, and you were expected to follow suit. That's kind of how I grew up. They didn't sit me down and tell me stories or whatever.

(W) – About first dancing in the powwow arena.

(R) - I must have been about 7 or 8 when I first [danced]. And there was no [formal teaching]. One day my grandma told me to go over to this woman's house cause she's making me a dress. So, I go over there. And she's [sewing]. It's a buckskin. And I thought, oh boy I'm going to dance! And that's kind of how it was. I don't remember being out there [being taught], when I started there were very few. There must have been maybe 3, 4 of us at the most. And two of them were Omahas. So, and that's another thing, I only thought there was Winnebagos and Omahas. So, when other tribes started coming, I thought, wow!

But that's kind of how I started. Nobody put me out there. Nobody paid me... for me to be out there. That's kind of a given right to get out there and dance. You don't pay for somebody to 'oh this is his first time in the arena', so we wanna pay for him. So, I thought 'whatever'.

But that's like I said nothing was really [taught]. This is the way it was. They didn't explain a whole lot. In visiting with Barry Blackhawk he said the same way, you just accepted what they told you to do. You didn't question. Back then you didn't question.

(W) – You first danced at the Winnebago Powwow?

(R) – Yes, it was here.

(W) – Tell us about your first regalia.

(R) – It was a buckskin. A smoked one to boot. That's why maybe to this day I like to smell that smoked buckskin. From the brown one I went to a white one. I had a white buckskin.

Ruby then told us she transitioned from those buckskin dresses to cloth at 12 or 13 years old.

(W) – Describe your beadwork.

(R) – The only real beadwork we had was our headband. And on my brown buckskin I had 2 flags and 3 stars on the back. On the white one it was just mostly just the trim, because of the way our dresses were made.

(W) – What happened to your buckskins?

(R) – Somebody said one of my aunts took them and maybe made moccasins. [laughed]

(W) – Please tell us about your feathering.

(R) – I must have been about 10. Cause they have to be a combat veteran. It was my uncle Mose Rave.

(W) – Was it at the powwow?

(R) – At a separate ceremony. It was crazy. It was a bunch of us went to Sioux City to promote the powwow. We used to go around like that promoting. My uncle was home on leave. While he was there, I got feathered. But it wasn't like a big ceremony, anything like they do now. I like the way they do now. You're supposed to let the tribe know you got that feather. Cause I see some kids out there, I don't think you know who gave you that.

When we do the princess, we'd say, 'who gave you that feather?' and they'd kind of stutter and they're not sure. A few of them named veterans, but they're not combat veterans.

When I got feathered, it was probably because let's do it while he was home. Because he was home on leave. And that's who my grandmother must have wanted. And [she] was like, get over here! And I'm running amok, so I go over there and all of a sudden, I'm standing still and not saying nothing and somebody's talking. They put a feather on and that was it.

(W) – Have you ever dropped your feather?

(R) – Never did. Never did! Nope. That's what I tell my boy dancers, tighten [it] up. You gotta tighten up.

(W) – Tell us about being around the arena. (All good or hard / relocation / grand entry)

(R) – I don't think it was ever hard. It was always good. There was no bad time just mostly good times. I know one of the things that changed, When I went out on relocation I was gone for about 10 years, and I come back. Out there, there's so many Indian tribes. I was out in the Bay Area - San Francisco. These Indian clubs start popping up, so then powwows start popping up. To me that's when your Grand Entry started because then we started putting on shows for all the surrounding people to raise money for the Indian clubs and stuff. You know, charged them. So, we kind of made it a grand entry. So that's where Grand Entry [came from]. From the relocation days.

In my growing up, there used to be a guy going around in the morning telling people, get up. Get up! And that's how people [came], there was no time set. The singers would get out there and once they started singing, we'd just kind of starting coming in from all directions and any directions. And now they say we have to come in from the East. So, see all of that's still part of that showboat from the relocation days.

(W) – Your thoughts on Powwows today.

(R) – As far as powwows go, we've lost so much. We don't do the washboard anymore. They're calling it applique. They're calling it scrub. I was watching out of Sioux Falls last week. I was watching on YouTube. They sang this song, and these applique [dancers], but mostly Winnebago women out there. This song they sang there's a beat that goes like that [beats table quickly] and they're [dancers] going like this [flaps arms]. So, I put on Facebook, what is that? The Winnebago airplane dance?

For one thing, those singers should not have sung that song for the women. Because they don't do that fast of a dance. And even our, I still use the word, squaw dance songs, some of our guys, and I'm gonna say it, especially in Wisconsin, they sing it too fast. We got two drums here in Winnebago, to me got

Con't. on page 7...

COMMUNITY

...Cont. STORYTELLERS...

the right beat. Because if you look at the way the women are dancing, they can dance good to that. But in Wisconsin. A Wisconsin girl even told me this, cause we were sitting there. I was with Lavina. And I said, man they sang that song fast! And this Wisconsin woman walked by, and she said, oh they sing that faster than that in Wisconsin. I said, well this isn't Wisconsin. That's not the way we sing it down here, and she went on.

See things like that are changing. And our girls, I've gotta talk to some of them. I can't talk to all of them, but there's a few that kind of listen to me. When they're coming in Grand Entry, they're coming in like this [fists raised]. That movement is for the wash board. And those aren't washboard songs they're singing. Cause sometimes they'll switch drums, and you'll have a Sioux drum. And that movement doesn't go along with their songs cause they're different. I'm like, come on you guys pay attention here. But there's a lot of them now, that have stopped this [hands placed]. I don't know who started that, why they do that. I know why they do that, because we're dancing for money. And if I do something different the judge is going to look at me. It's all money.

(W) – Did you grow [up] to emulate or follow older dancers?

(R) – Oh Yeah. That was like Victoria Big Bear. Jane Littlewolf. A few [other] women. Esther Kelsey. Cause my grandma used to just say "Pay attention. Pay attention." That was her way of you know [teaching me].

(W) – On dancing the Snake Dance.

(R) – Growing up too they always said, 'have fun' and dance for the people so they can enjoy it. And see Lavina she's from the old school too so that's why we, we just kind of dragged Sidney in there. She was our Omaha captive! She was game to do it. That's just how we did it and we had more fun.

Now everybody is so stoic, they're

just so pretty coming in now. But it's all because they're contest people. I'm not a contest person. Somebody said to me, oh I see you with a number. And I said yes, I do. I do register. But you know why? So I can be the first person in the chow line. Because they let all the dancers eat first. So that's why I got a number. [laughs]

(W) – [On becoming an experienced dancer.]

(R) – By then I knew what I was doing. And looking at them we all did the same thing. And believe me, if I didn't do something right, I heard it from my grandma. Cause I don't know. She [would say]. A story I used to like to tell, is when I was 12, 13 becoming a teenager. By then the Oklahoma dancers were coming. And oh, we used to love the fancy Oklahoma dancers, you know. And I'm 13 so I'm looking at the boys. And my grandma would every time say, Green Corn, you pick Carl Blackfish. Now that's my brother. I'm 13, I don't want to dance with my brother! But I had to pick him. And the reason she liked him [was] because Carl was like I said, we danced and made the people like it. That's the word we used. Made them smile. Because Carl Blackfish could dance! Very few people know that. He was a good fancy dancer. He also danced traditional. He was just a dancer. He was very good. But you know like I said, nobody wants to dance with their brother. I wanted [another]. But never got to, so. But he was fun. Once he started acting up, I started acting up right with him. So, we had a lot of fun together.

Our "Storytellers" interview with Ruby Bellanger will continue in the next issue of the Winnebago Indian News. In the next section Ruby will continue telling us about her many times in and around the powwow arena, as well as her thoughts on what she sees today within the tribe and community. Don't forget this feature will appear only and exclusively in Hakewe.

The Nonpoint Source Water Pollution Program

Though I try to keep words more on the lighter side. There are those moments when the scientist in me must be released. I know, boring, right, but here I go anyway.

In 2012 to 2014, a Nonpoint Source (NPS) Water Pollution Assessment Report was developed under the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 106: Water Pollution Control Grant Program (Water Quality). It was revised in 2017 to include more details on land use and groundwater. This report is a comprehensive technical summary of the condition of Reservation water resources. This was the first step in the Tribe's journey towards an NPS Water Pollution Program.

In 2014 to 2016, a Nonpoint Source Management Plan was prepared under the CWA Section 106: Water Pollution Control Grant Program (Water Quality). The plan was revised in 2017 to include forests and groundwater and again in 2020 to address climate change issues. This plan describes how the Tribe will use the information contained in the assessment report to address identified water quality impairments and threats. This was the second step in the Tribe's journey towards an NPS Water Pollution Program.

In 2016 to 2017, received approval of the nonregulatory CWA Section 319 Nonpoint Source Treatment in a manner similar to a state (TAS) under the CWA Section 106: Water Pollution Control Grant Program (Water Quality). This document demonstrates that the Tribe is federally recognized; has a tribal government that posse's jurisdiction to regulate Reservation waters; a tribal government that has the capability of administering an effective NPS Program; and the staff that have the technical and administrative capabilities of administering an effective NPS Program. This was the final step in the Tribe's journey towards an NPS Water Pollution Program.

In 2018, the Winnebago Tribe's Nonpoint Source Water Pollution Program was born. NPS pollution or polluted runoff occurs when rainfall, snowmelt, or irrigation water runs over the land or through the ground, picks up pollutants, and moves them into surface

water such as creeks or groundwater. This program's overall goal is to control or prevent NPS pollution on a watershed level. The first action was to establish state and federal partnership with the Papio-Missouri Reiver Natural Resources District, Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District, and Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy. Then a Community Open House Meeting with established partners was put on to inform and include the community to address NPS pollution issues, develop roles, and identify responsibilities.

In 2019, the Tribe conducted an Ag Producers Open House Meeting again with established partners to inform and include private landowners and other citizens. From this meeting came the ideas for the framework of focusing rather on each individual stream segments but rather a watershed-based approach. This focuses efforts on the area of land that drains to a specific point, such as a river or lake.

In 2020, a brochure was designed and published that described some various ways or best management practices of addressing NPS pollution such as rain gardens, cover crops, no-till farming, bricked driveways instead of pavement and buffer strips.

2020 to current, developing a Blackbird-Soldier and Logan Creek Watershed-based Plan. This plan when completed by the Tribe will identify and implement best management practices more effectively within the exterior boundaries of the Reservation having the greatest impact on water quality with a focus on total nitrogen, total phosphorus, and sediments loading and reductions. The Plan is based on the Environmental Protection Agency's nine key element requirements and encompasses both the Blackbird-Soldier Watershed (Omaha Creek) and Logan Watershed.

In 2024, the program to better align with the Blackbird-Soldier and Logan Watershed-Based Plan, the Tribe will focus on identifying and implementing a best management practice described in the plan.

Well, there you have it.

2024 Winnebago Tribe of NE - Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP)

The goal of SYEP is for our youth to develop necessary skills and work ethic while receiving on-the-job training within the Winnebago Tribe of NE. Through positive interactions they learn job duties and responsibilities in each position they are placed within the tribe. The extra workforce for Programs during the summer months are needed and appreciated.

SYEP Job Fair will be held on Wednesday, April 10th at Winnebago Public School practice gym from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

SYEP Applications will be online starting April 1, 2024, followed by the closing date of May 10, 2024. Eligible SYEP participants will start at worksites beginning Monday, June 3rd and will end on Friday, July 26th. Eligible youth are paid Nebraska Minimum wage (\$12/hour) for actual hours worked up to 32 hours per week.

Mandatory youth orientation must be completed before youth workers are placed at the worksite. Mandatory workshops will be held every Thursday throughout the summer that focus on leadership, culture, mental health, soft skills, financial literacy, to name a few.

Youth guidelines:
 Enrolled with the Winnebago Tribe of NE
 Enrolled in a federally recognized tribe
 Must be 14 years of age - 18 years of age (up to 21 for Disability/IEP)
 Class of 2024 High school graduates

may apply

Must be enrolled and attending a secondary school

Must maintain a 2.5 GPA or higher (GPA waived for Disability/IEP students)

No more than 12 absences for the 2023-2024 academic school year

Youth must reside on the Winnebago Tribe reservation

These requirements may differ with other available funding sources.

Make sure to click on the link under the Summer Youth Employment Program on the Winnebago Tribe of NE website beginning April 1st. You must create your account and password if you do not already have one set up. After you create your account and complete your password, you must log back in. Please make sure to click the SYEP application and fill out the required information. After you successfully complete the application, Higher Education will receive notification and one of our staff will email you what remaining documentation will need to be turned in to complete your application.

For more information on SYEP, please contact: Patrice Bass or Rana Merrick at the Higher Education office @ 402-878-2631 or email: education@winnebago-tribe.com; patrice.bass@winnebago-tribe.com or rana.merrick@winnebago-tribe.com



L to R: Sidney Bird, Ruby Bellanger & Lavina Walker

Winnebago Construction Throw Backs



May Moolah

SELECT SATURDAYS ✦ **MAY** ✦ **BEGINS AT 6PM**

Cash! Cash! Cash!

**Get your moolah
at Winna Vegas!
Win your share
of over \$30,000!**

Swipe daily for one FREE entry.
Earn additional entries for every point earned.
No May Moolah Saturday, May 25th.

