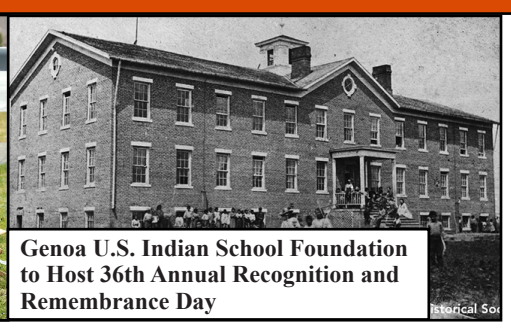
Published Bi-Weekly for the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska



Community Fall Clean-Up Information

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Genoa U.S. Indian School Foundation to Host 36th Annual Recognition and Remembrance Day

pages: 8

Volume 55, Number 18

Hūwą žuk wīra
Elk Calling Moon

Saturday, September 12, 2026



The masthead scene for this edition of the Winnebago Indian News features Winnebago Tribal Members Margaret "Emmy" Scott, Cam LaRose, Florence Lonetree, Jaralyn Bear, Kae Earth, and Kaira Wolfe dancing at the 2025 Harvest Celebration. Following our previous countdown to the annual homecoming celebration, we are now counting down towards the Wahaği Wōška, 2026 Harvest Celebration. SAVE THE DATE: Tuesday, September 29, 2026. *(Photography by Garan Coons)*

Nį šoc Nįgešąną

By: Tyler Snake



The Winnebago Big Voice Radio held a Graduation Artist Spotlight. The contest highlighted the artistic talents of our community members, though beading and sewing for every student's big milestone: graduation! Congratulations to Averi LaPointe for winning Best Local Design and to Malia Tuamoheloa for winning Best Regional Design! Thank you to everyone who shared their talent, creativity, and stories with us!



On September 4th, the Winnebago Public Health Department hosted their annual Salsa Showdown. Participants entered their homemade salsa into 1 of 3 categories: fruit, veggie or meat. Community members were able to vote on their favorites. Congratulations to all the participants and winners! The first-place winners are: Tara Picotte for meat salsa, Lyla Clinchers for veggie salsa, and Marisela Nava for fruit salsa.



On September 10th, WCHS' Kikijire Community Crisis Response Program hosted a Mental Health & Awareness Fair. Local community entities gathered at the Whirling Thunder Wellness Gym to share their knowledge of mental health resources, share ways to support others and more. If you missed the event but are wanting info on resources or needing rapid crisis response, call 402-745-3968 and for non-emergency call 402-745-3950.

Protecting Our Water: Winnebago Tribe Hosts AI Data Center Teach-In



By Gayla Whitewater

SLOAN, Iowa – For the Winnebago people, water is more than a resource. It is a living relative, a source of life and an essential part of who we are as Hōcąk people. That responsibility to protect the water brought Tribal leaders, representatives of neighboring Tribal Nations, Salix residents and members of the public together on Wednesday, September 9, for a Hyperscale AI Data Center Teach-In at the WinnaVegas Casino Resort Event Center. Hosted by the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska in partnership with the Brave Heart Society, the gathering was organized in response to a potential 900-acre data center development involving Google and MidAmerican Energy near Salix, Iowa.

MidAmerican Energy holds options on approximately 900 acres of agricultural land recently annexed into the City of Salix and has been evaluating the site for possible development as a large-scale data center campus. Google has expressed interest in exploring a future data center at the location. While the project has not been finalized, its proposed size and proximity to the Winnebago Reservation have raised serious concerns about its possible effects on water, energy, agricultural land, infrastructure and surrounding communities.

The Teach-In followed the Winnebago Tribal Council's formal

Con't. on page 2...

Primary Candidates Advance to the General Election



By Bethani Redhorn
Photography from WIN Archive

[Winnebago, NE] The Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska Primary Election for Winnebago Tribal Council was held on Tuesday, September 1, 2026. Eligible voters made their way to the Blackhawk Community Center gym to cast their ballots from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM. The results included a total of six candidates that received votes, including two write-in candidates.

The upcoming General Election list of candidates includes Eugene DeCora, Sr.; Craig Cleveland, Sr.; Damon Payer; Keely Purscell; Darla LaPointe (write-in); and Brian Chamberlain (write-in). The General Election will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at the Blackhawk Community Center gym with polls open from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

Three seats are open on the nine-member Winnebago Tribal Council, with each position carrying a three-year term. Important dates leading up to the election include a deadline to submit requests for absentee ballots on Friday, September 25, 2026, and mailed out to registered voters by Monday, September 28, 2026. The final list of eligible voters and additional election updates are accessible on the Winnebago Tribe's webpage at: www.winnebagotribe.com

"Hopįxjįna hį' ųąje! - *Do your best!"*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

...*Con't from front page:* Protecting Our Water: Winnebago Tribe Hosts AI Data Center Teach-In

opposition to hyperscale data centers. On July 20, 2026, the Council adopted Resolution No. 26-170, strongly opposing their development on or near the Winnebago Indian Reservation, within ceded lands or treaty-protected areas, and anywhere such development could adversely affect the Reservation or its citizens and residents.

The Tribe's position is rooted not only in environmental concerns, but also in a cultural and spiritual responsibility to protect the lands and waters that sustain all life. The resolution identifies concerns surrounding the immense amounts of water and electricity hyperscale facilities may require, as well as their potential effects on regional energy reliability, consumer costs, air quality and public health.

During the Teach-In, Winnebago Tribal Councilwoman Keely Purscell spoke from the heart about the declining health of the Missouri River and asked those in attendance to think of the river as they would a beloved family member. "The Missouri River is operating at 14% of health," Purscell said. "I used the example of our mother. If our mother's kidneys, if our mother's heart was only operating at 14%, what would you do? What would you do to help her? You would get the best experts. You would do everything you could to fight for our mother."

Her words captured the heart of the gathering. The Missouri River is not simply a body of water near the Winnebago Reservation. It is woven into the Tribe's history, identity, culture and way of life. The Winnebago Tribe itself is known in the Hōcąk language as Hōcąk Nįšoc Haci, meaning "Ho-Chunk who dwell by the river." Protecting the Missouri River means protecting the health of the community, the survival of cultural practices and the ability of future generations to continue their relationship with the land and water

Three sessions were held throughout the day. A morning presentation brought together the Winnebago Tribal Council and representatives of invited Tribal Nations. An afternoon session was offered to Salix residents, followed by an evening presentation open to the general public. By extending invitations to surrounding Tribal Nations, the Winnebago Tribe recognized that environmental impacts do not stop at reservation, county or state boundaries. Water connects communities, and a development of this scale could affect lands, people, and natural resources throughout the region.

The invitation also emphasized the importance of standing together as Tribal Nations. Indigenous communities have cared for these lands and waters since long before present-day borders were drawn. Their treaty rights, cultural knowledge and responsibilities to future generations must be included in decisions that could permanently change the region.

Attendees received blue "Water Protector" T-shirts featuring a design by Virginia Snake-Bumann. More than a keepsake, the shirts served as a visible reminder of the responsibility shared by everyone in attendance. To be a water protector is to understand that clean water is not guaranteed and that protecting it requires people to remain informed, speak up and act with future generations in mind.

The event's co-host, the Brave Heart Society, brought its own longstanding commitment to cultural restoration and water protection to the gathering. Based on the Yankton Reservation in South Dakota, the organization describes itself as the revival of a traditional cultural society for women working to "call home the spirit of the culture."

The Brave Heart Society was formed by a community of grandmothers in 1994 and operates under the guidance of the Kunsi Circle, a group of community grandmothers. Its mission is to enhance and preserve Dakota, Nakota and Lakota culture for future generations while creating strong families grounded in cultural values, morals and worldview. Its work includes language revitalization, coming-of-age programming, community gardening, land-based education, cultural restoration and water protection. The organization's involvement helped ground the Teach-In in an Indigenous understanding that environmental advocacy is inseparable from culture, community and love for future generations.

Hyperscale data centers provide the computing power needed for artificial intelligence, cloud computing and other data-intensive technologies. Depending on their size, design and cooling systems, the facilities may require substantial amounts of electricity and water. As AI infrastructure expands across the country, communities are being asked to consider whether promises of economic development outweigh potential long-term effects on water, land, public health, utility costs and quality of life. For Tribal Nations, these questions also involve sovereignty, treaty rights and the responsibility to protect places that hold cultural and spiritual meaning

The Teach-In was not only about understanding a proposed development. It was about ensuring that Tribal Nations and local residents are not left out of decisions that could affect their homes, their water and their children's future. It created a space for people to learn, ask questions and stand together while there is still time to be heard. It also sent a clear message: progress cannot come at the cost of the water and communities that make life possible.

The Winnebago Tribe's response to the potential Google and MidAmerican Energy development reflects a responsibility carried across generations: to care for the land, defend the water and leave a healthy home for those still to come. For more information about the Brave Heart Society and its programs, visit www.braveheartsociety.com.

Whats New in Bago Sports?



The Winnebago Activities and Athletics released photos of their new field



WPS Cross Country Athlete, Misu Dolezal



WPS girls JV Volleyball earned their first win of the season vs Tri County Northeast!



Winnebago HS & JH Cross Country at the Hartington Meet on August 27th





Wāgax hūk ra wāgax hokik'ųna
Letter to the Editor

Winnebago Indian News is owned and published by the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska".

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Hearing
Case No. JFJ26-025ABCD
The People of the Winnebago Tribe In the Interest of:
A.W.
R.H.
A.W.
A.W.

To: AUDREY WOLFE, Mother
& ROBERT HENRY, JERRY TINDALL, & ALL POTENTIAL FATHERS

You are hereby notified that a hearing for an Initial Appearance concerning the above referred minor individual(s) in case no. JFJ26-025ABCD has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 30th day of Sept., 2026 at the hour of 1:00 P.M.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Hearing
Case No. JFJ26-019AB
The People of the Winnebago Tribe
In the Interest of:
E.M. (Born 3/2012)
D.M. (Born 8/2013)

To: ALISON DUMARCE, Mother
ALL POTENTIAL FATHERS

You are hereby notified that a hearing for an Initial Appearance concerning the above referred minor individual(s) in case no. JFJ25-019AB has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 14th day of October, 2025 at the hour of 11:30 A.M.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Hearing
Case No. JFJ26-025ABCD
The People of the Winnebago Tribe In the Interest of:
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R.H.
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E.M. (Born 3/2012)
D.M. (Born 8/2013)

To: ALISON DUMARCE, Mother
ALL POTENTIAL FATHERS

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LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Hearing
Case No. JFJ26-146
In the Matter of the
Guardianship Petition of:
Kristina Yellowbank
In Re:
J.V.G. (Born 12/2017)

TO: MAYA WHITE, Mother
JERAMY VANDELL, Father

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed for Guardianship and a hearing concerning the above-referred Individual(s) in Case No. CV26-146 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 21st day of SEPTEMBER 2026 at the hour of 11:00 A.M.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Hearing
Case No. JFJ26-023
The People of the Winnebago Tribe
In the Interest of:
Z.B.

To: VICTORIA POLENDO, Mother
& ALL POTENTIAL FATHERS

You are hereby notified that a hearing for an Initial Appearance concerning the above referred minor individual(s) in case no. JFJ26-023 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 23rd day of Sept., 2026 at the hour of 10:30 A.M.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Hearing
Case No. JFJ26-026
The People of the Winnebago Tribe In the Interest of:
N.K.

To: AMEAH KITCHEYAN, Mother
& ALL POTENTIAL FATHERS

You are hereby notified that a hearing for an Initial Appearance concerning the above referred minor individual(s) in case no. JFJ26-026 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 30th day of Sept., 2026 at the hour of 1:30 P.M.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Hearing
Case No. CV26-144
In the Matter of the
Name Change Petition of:
LADONNA LEGARDE
to LADONNA HOLSTEIN

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. CV25-056 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 14TH day of September, 2025 at the hour of 10:00 A.M.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Hearing
Case No. CV23-018
In the Matter of the
Guardianship Petition of:
SIMONE ALDRICH In Re:
M.A. (Born 9/2017)

TO: SHAQUILLE MONIZ, Father

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed for Guardianship and a hearing concerning the above-referred Individual(s) in Case No. CV23-018 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 21st day of SEPTEMBER 2026 at the hour of 10:30 A.M.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Hearing
Case No. JFJ26-022
The People of the Winnebago Tribe
In the Interest of:
A.C.

To: TANYA MCCULLY, Mother
& ALL POTENTIAL FATHERS

You are hereby notified that a hearing for an Initial Appearance concerning the above referred minor individual(s) in case no. JFJ26-022 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 23rd day of Sept., 2026 at the hour of 11:00 A.M.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of Hearing
Case No. JFJ26-024
The People of the Winnebago Tribe
In the Interest of:
X.C.

To: ANNA CLEVELAND, Mother
& RASHAAN POMANIO, Father

You are hereby notified that a hearing for an Initial Appearance concerning the above referred minor individual(s) in case no. JFJ26-024 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 23rd day of Sept., 2026 at the hour of 11:30 A.M.

JESUS OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN OUTREACH

By: Pastor Ricky Jacob

'Let me' versus 'Let us'

Our nature - our sinful nature is one of a 'let me' do attitude. 'Let me' do this or 'let me' do that, rather than 'let us.' Even when we come together we tend to be not fully engaged as we are are in our own little world on social media. Our phone moves us more and more to self-centered and independent actions. Independent lifestyles not only cuts out others - including family members - spouse, child, parent, etc., it also cuts out Creator God.

Creator God would rather have us come near to Him together. Let us reflect on these Sacred Words found in the book of Hebrews: 'Therefore, brothers, having freedom of speech for entrance into the holy places by the blood of Jesus, which he inaugurated for us as a new and living way through the curtain, that is, [the way] of his flesh, and [having] a great Priest over the house of God, let us come near with a true heart in the fullness of faith, having had our hearts sprinkled from a bad conscious and having had our body washed with pure water' [Hebrews 10:19-22 Kleinig translation].

The faith of the true believer is truly all about us - inclusive. It begins with our triune God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit! And then it includes, by the grace of God, countless others. All of us are not worthy on our own to be invited to be a member of God's family. It is by the grace of God and the pure water of Holy Baptism that we are welcomed into God's family.

It is the blood of Jesus, our great Priest that we are allowed to come near - together. The pure water of Holy Baptism, along with all of its blessings, namely the forgiveness of one's sins, is received through a true heart in the fullness of faith.

An attitude of 'Let me' refuses to come near to Mauna in the way that Mauna wants us to come near to Him. It is in one's own faith or 'MY WAY' type of attitude that leads one away from Creator God.

An example of a 'My Way' type of faith would be the self-centered and self-righteous attitude of the Pharisee who entered the temple to pray. We pick up in the eleventh verse of chapter eighteen of the Gospel of St. Luke: 'The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get' [Luke 18:9–14 (NIV84)].

On the other hand, an attitude of 'Let us' is blessed with having a true heart in the fullness of faith that moves one again and again to 'let us' come near to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We who believe in Jesus have access to enter into the holy places - God's loving presence. And we, believers in Christ Jesus, are moved by his Spirit to gather together on a weekly basis to receive God's gifts, be reassured of His blessings as well as to encourage one another in our daily walk with Jesus as our Good Shepherd leading us to walk in his ways.







The next issue of the WINNEBAGO INDIAN NEWS will be published on Sept. 26, 2026. DEADLINE for this issue will be Sept. 22, 2026.

THE WIN Winnebago Indian News

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

The Mission of the WIN is to inform and to educate the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska of issues that affect them, and to be a vehicle in which stresses positive and beneficial concerns and points of view.
LETTER POLICY: Signed editorials, letters and articles appearing in the WIN are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the Winnebago Indian News or the Winnebage 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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Phone: 402-878-2272

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NAJA
Native American Journalists Association

BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF WINNEBAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A Meeting of the Board of Winnebago Public Schools was convened in open and public session on Monday, August 10, 2026 at 4:47 p.m. in the board room at the Winnebago Public Schools, Highways 77 & 75, Winnebago, Nebraska. The roll was called and the following Board members were present or absent:

Present: Teresa Littlegeorge, Nilah Solomon, Crystal Ross, Greg Bass III, Kiana Lewis, Kristine Earth
Absent: Greg Bass III (excused) Kristine Earth in at 5:02 p.m.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by posting in accordance with the Board approved method for giving notice of meetings. Notice of the meeting was given in advance to all members of the Board of Education. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the publicized notice. All proceedings of the Board of Education, except as may be hereinafter noted, were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

1.Receiving of Delegations:

2. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:47 p.m. by President Teresa Littlegeorge, also President Littlegeorge states, "MEMBERS OF THE BOARD RECEIVED NOTICE OF THE MEETING SHOWING THE TIME AND PLACE OF THE MEETING INCLUDING THE AGENDA TO BE CONSIDERED. NOTICE OF THE MEETING WAS PUBLISHED BY POSTING ON THE OFFICE DOOR AND THREE OTHER PLACES." A COMPLETE COPY OF THE OPEN MEETING ACT IS POSTED ON THE SOUTH WALL.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Ross
Second: Lewis
Discussion: None
Voting for: Lewis, Ross, Solomon, Littlegeorge
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Earth, Bass III
Motion Carried: (4-0-0-2)

4. Business Affairs

4-1. Approve minutes of July 13, 2026 Regular Meeting with corrections

Motion: Lewis
Second: Solomon
Discussion: None
Voting for: Ross, Solomon, Littlegeorge, Lewis
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Earth, Bass III
Motion Carried: (4-0-0-2)

1.
August 10, 2026, 2026 School Board Meeting

4-2. Approve accounts payable in the amount of $847,152.49, petty cash account/ treasurer's report.

Motion: Lewis
Second: Solomon
Discussion: accounts payable
Voting For: : Solomon, Littlegeorge, Lewis, Ross
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Earth, Bass III
Motion Carried: (4-0-0-2)

4-3. Approve Facilities WEFLC: $594.48

Motion: Ross
Second: Lewis
Discussion: update on facility
Voting For: Littlegeorge, Lewis, Ross, Solomon
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Earth, Bass III
Motion Carried: (4-0-0-2)

5. New Business

5-1. Approve contract of: 1) Karli Guthridge (Elementary Teacher)

Motion: Ross
Second: Solomon
Discussion: interview, qualifications
Voting For: Lewis, Ross, Solomon, Littlegeorge
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Earth, Bass III
Motion Carried: (4-0-0-2)

5-2. WPS Budget for 2026-2027 (potential dates for next meetings)
Monday August 24, 2026 for a Special Meeting, No action required.
Motion:
Second:
Discussion: budget, dates, times
Voting For:
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent:
Motion Carried: (0-0-0-0)

2. August 10, 2026 School Board Meeting

5-3. Metal Detectors selected CEIA PMD2 Plus Elliptic & the Evolv System Status
Purchase was approved at the July Meeting so no action is required. Information only.
Motion:
Second:
Discussion: none
Voting For:
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent:
Motion Carried: (0-0-0-0)

Kristine Earth in at 5:02

6. Closed Session 84-1410 Enter Motion 5:43 p.m. Exit Session at 6:24p. m.
To discuss: 1. Open Staff Positions and Interviews Update

Motion: Ross
Second: Earth
Voting For: Ross, Solomon Littlegeorge
Littlegeorge, Lewis, Earth
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Bass III
Motion Carried: (5-0-0-1)

Motion: Lewis
Second: Solomon
Voting For: Solomon, Littlegeorge
Lewis, Earth, Ross
Voting Against: None
Not Voting: None
Absent: Bass III
Motion Carried (5-0-0-1)

7. Reports

1.Superintendent:
a. Football Field completed 8/6/26, Blessing 8/10/26 @ 10:15 a.m.
b. NAFIS Conference, September 18-22nd, Washington D.C.
c. NIEA Conference, October 6-11th,
d. NIISA Conference, December 11-15th ?, Las Vegas, NV (No advertised date yet)
Administrative Reports (No reports, can answer any board member questions on open house/PD)
2. Pre-K-4 Principal
3. 5-8 Principal
4. 9-12 Principal
5. Special Education Director
6. Safety/Athletic Director
7. Dean of Students

8. Public Comment (No Board Discussion)

9. Adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Crystal Ross, Secretary
Winnebago Board of Education

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
DISTRICT 17
WINNEBAGO, NEBRASKA

The regular meeting of the Board of Education (the "Board") of Thurston County School District 0017 (Winnebago Public Schools) in the State of Nebraska (the "District") will be held at 4:45 p.m., on Monday, September 14th, 2026 in the regular meeting place of the Board, the School Conference Room on Highway 77 & 75 in the Village of Winnebago, Nebraska. An agenda, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection in the offices of the District Superintendent, located at Highway 77 & 75, 878-2224. The meeting will be open to the attendance of the public. If the meeting needs to be rescheduled, the 1st rescheduled date and time is Tuesday, September 15th, 2026 at 12:00p.m. and the 2nd rescheduled date and time will be Thursday, September 17th, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY

WCHS Welcomes New Advanced CT Scanner

By Halle Murray, WCHS Marketing Specialist

Winnebago, NE –The Winnebago Comprehensive Healthcare System has installed and begun using a new state-of-the-art CT machine. Providers and patients alike are excited to welcome this advancement in patient care that offers significant improvements to the diagnostic imaging capabilities of this Native-serving hospital and clinics.

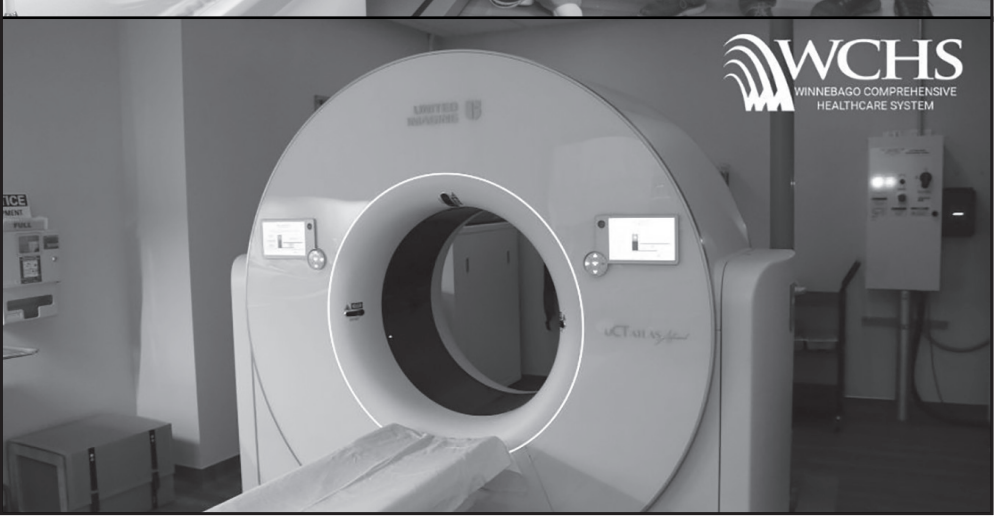
A computed tomography (CT or CAT scan) is a medical imaging test that uses X-rays and a computer to make detailed cross-sectional pictures of the inside of your body. United Imaging uCT ATLAS 4cm is a 160-slice CT system that features a 0.25-second rotation speed, an 82-centimeter ultra-wide bore, and a 700-pound table capacity, enabling fast, detailed imaging of patients of all shapes and sizes. This advanced, AI-powered technology allows us to create images with the least amount of radiation exposure available on the market. This new machine will expand access to high-end diagnostic imaging previously unavailable within a 75-mile radius of Winnebago, Nebraska.

"This is a significant advancement for WCHS and our community," said Austin Schanzenbach, Chief Transformation Officer. "This technology gives our patients access to advanced diagnostic imaging closer to home while also helping us identify cardiovascular risk earlier, expand cancer screening and diagnostic capabilities, and find disease before it becomes more difficult to treat."

The uCT ATLAS 4cm offers advanced, potentially life-saving imaging capabilities, including cardiac, whole-organ, and stroke imaging, 3D imaging, and an accelerated CT workflow. Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in Native Americans, with rates about 50% higher than those of white Americans. "The silent killer" is a common medical nickname for high blood pressure (hypertension) because it causes dangerous internal damage without showing any early warning signs. Hypertension (high blood pressure) is a major contributing risk factor for the development of coronary artery disease. Coronary artery disease (CAD), more commonly referred to as heart disease, leads to reduced blood flow and oxygen to the heart muscle, which can result in chest pain, heart attacks, and long-term heart damage. One example of how this technology can benefit patients is that WCHS can now offer coronary artery calcium scoring. Calcium scoring is a quick, noninvasive scan that detects calcium buildup in the heart's arteries, which is often one of the earliest indicators of coronary artery disease.

To learn more about these new screening opportunities, schedule an appointment by calling 402-745-3950 or using the WinnHealth Portal. Take an active step toward your health by talking with your WCHS provider to determine if any of these expanded screening options may be right for you.





WinnHealth Portal Continues to Grow, Reaching 882 Accounts

By Halle Murray, WCHS Marketing Specialist

Winnebago, NE – In April 2026, Winnebago Comprehensive Healthcare System (WCHS) launched its first-ever patient portal, the WinnHealth Portal, giving patients convenient and secure access to their healthcare information online. Since its launch, the portal continues to grow as more patients use it to stay connected with their care.

To date, 882 patients have created an account, and 308 are currently active users. The portal's most-used features include easy access to visit notes, lab results, vaccinations, upcoming appointments, and other health information, making it more convenient for patients to review their health information. Patients who have not yet created an account can get started by visiting www.wchs.health/portal or downloading the MHealth app and selecting "Create your Account."

"We are excited to see our patients continuing to adopt the WinnHealth Portal and use it as a tool to stay connected to their healthcare," said Sharon Frenchman, Chief Administrative Officer. "It gives patients more flexibility and control while making it easier to access important information and communicate with their care team."

The portal also offers proxy access, allowing parents or guardians to manage their child's account and adults to grant family members or caregivers access to assist with their healthcare. For questions or assistance with the WinnHealth Portal, contact Medical Records at portal@wchs.health or 402-745-3950.

The continued growth of the WinnHealth Portal reflects WCHS's commitment to improving the patient experience and providing convenient tools that enable patients to take an active role in their health.



WINNEBAGO TRIBAL COUNCIL

PRIMARY & REGULAR ELECTION SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 1, 2026 & OCTOBER 6, 2026

September 1, 2026	**Tuesday**	**PRIMARY ELECTION**
September 2, 2026	Wednesday	Post Top Candidates
September 2, 2026 *Special Tribal Council Meeting*	Wednesday	Approve Enrollment & Adoption Requests
September 4, 2026	Friday	Send Ballots to Automated Election Services- Regular
September 25, 2026	**Friday**	**Deadline for Absentee Ballot Requests**
September 28, 2026	Monday	Absentee Ballots Mailed Out- Regular
October 6, 2026	**Tuesday**	**GENERAL ELECTION**
October 7, 2026	Wednesday	Notification of Newly Elected Members Oath of Office Re-Organizational Meeting of New Tribal Council Members

Tribal Council approval date: May 20, 2026

Legacy Learning Cohort #5 Underway

The Legacy Learning Program, housed under Ho-Chunk, Inc.'s Community Development Department, has welcomed a new cohort of individuals ready to build valuable skills through hands-on experience. Designed to support workforce training and skill development, the program provides real-world learning opportunities that help strengthen workplace habits and prepare participants for future career opportunities.

In partnership with the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska Human Services Department, this cohort will focus on renovating homes in Winnebago to help address two key community priorities: creating jobs and alleviating the local housing shortage. Throughout these projects, cohort members will gain experience in construction, maintenance, renovation, basic carpentry, tool safety, and property improvement projects.

As projects get underway, we look forward to following the cohort's progress and seeing both the transformation of the homes and the skills developed along the way. By pairing workforce development with community impact, the Legacy Learning Program continues to create opportunities that help support the future of the Winnebago community.

We look forward to sharing updates and milestones as Cohort #5 advances in the months ahead!

LITTLE PRIEST TRIBAL COLLEGE

Our Mission: "Be Strong and Educate My Children"

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

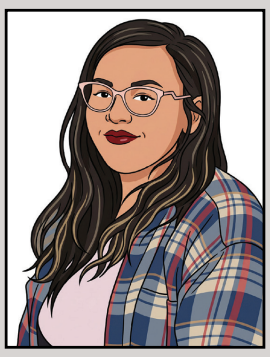
- **Academic Advisor**
- **Administrative Assistant-Academics**
- **Recruitment Specialist**
- **Student Equity Intern**
- **Student Extension Intern**
- **Wolves Den Assistant**

For more information, visit us on the web at:
https://www.littlepriest.edu/human-resources/
LPTC is an equal-opportunity employer.
LPTC 601 E. College Dr. Winnebago, NE

HAKEWE

Question of the Issue:

With the Fall equinox approaching, what is your favorite fall tradition or activity?



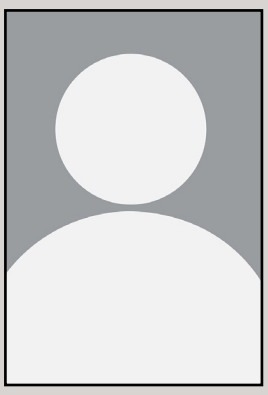
Bethani Redhorn
Winnebago Indian News Editor

My favorite fall tradition is during Halloween! I always take my boys to the haunted hallway at Briar Cliff University. My son was Captain America one year and as we were going through the haunted hallway, one of the workers popped out to scare us and my son took his shield (which was a lot bigger than him) and blocked the way so the worker couldn't come near us. It was a had to be there moment. I fear that this year will be the year that they tell me they are too old for that one.



Kevin Ebert
Multi-Media Coordinator

One of my favorite things about fall is simply being outside and watching everything change. I'm definitely not a hot-weather person, so I love when the air starts getting cooler and you can feel the seasons changing. I enjoy watching the leaves turn different colors and seeing the corn change from green to brown as it gets ready to be harvested. There's just something peaceful about watching nature go through that change and knowing that those crops will eventually be harvested to help feed people across the country. Fall has always been one of my favorite times of the year.



Tyler Snake
W.I.N. Office Manager

I'd have to say taking my son, niece and neph to pumpkin patches, carving pumpkins, trunk or treats and actual trick or treating! I love spending time with them and being able to make that childhood magic memorable. As a kid, I remember having a "at home" feeling when we'd be in the middle of family doings. As a mom/auntie I feel like it's my turn to create that.



Christina Parker
Web Master

Favorites during the fall season are pumpkin patches, hot apple cider and enjoying SWEATER WEATHA!



Gayla Whitewater
Comm. Office Manager

My favorite fall tradition is taking the kids in my family to the pumpkin patch. We all look forward to it every year! Also, I am a huge fan of pumpkin spice, so I look forward to all the seasonal drinks and treats around this time of year.



Quince Bass
Radio Station Broadcast Manager

My favorite part about this season is Halloween and High School football. I'm a huge Winnebago Indians fan. And a big Trick or Treating parent. My favorite memories are from Halloween.



Wažoki

Wazoki Round Dance

EVERYONE IS WELCOME
COME ENJOY AN EVENING OF FOOD, DANCING, AND FUN!

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE 2 STEP CONTEST, POTATO DANCE CONTEST, BEST RIBBON SHIRT CONTEST, BEST RIBBON SKIRT CONTEST, & MORE!

SEPTEMBER 23RD 2026
5:00PM – 8:00PM

AT THE WINNEBAGO POW-WOW GROUNDS

MEAL WILL BE SEVED AT 5:00PM & THE ROUND DANCE WILL START AT 6:00PM

WCHS WINNEBAGO COMPREHENSIVE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM



Hemp Farming Opportunity

Hemp vs. Marijuana

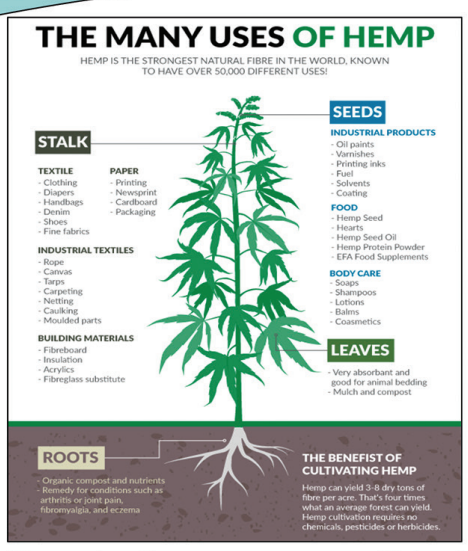
Hemp is different from marijuana in many ways including:

- Grows up to 20 ft
- Long, sturdy stalks, skinny leaves
- Adapts to a variety of climates
- 20% CBD
- < 0.3% THC
- Federally legal
- Non-psychoactive (does not cause the "high")

Benefits of Hemp

Some benefits include:

- Hemp oil is rich in vitamin E and acts as an antioxidant
- Hemp oil may reduce your risk of heart problems
- Whole hemp seeds are an excellent source of fiber
- Hemp seeds are a healthy source of plant-based protein
- Hemp seed oil can be used as a cooking oil in the same ways as olive oil



Are you interested in the opportunity to grow hemp as a business venture? Then this flyer is your sign to begin your journey.

Did you know?

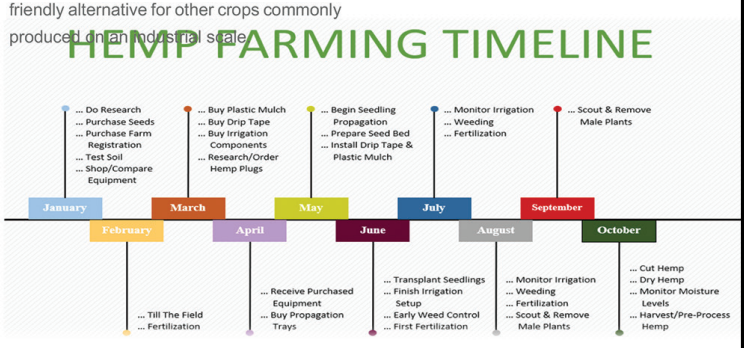
- Per Resolution #20-91, the Winnebago Tribe of NE has approved growing Hemp within the reservation boundaries.
- The Hemp Commission was established to set up the regulations and fees for the community.

Why grow hemp?

Hemp grows more vigorously than corn, but requires less water, pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizer, earning it a reputation as a sustainable crop. The plant has over 25,000 known uses and is potentially an eco-friendly alternative for other crops commonly produced on an industrial scale.

What are the ideal growing conditions?

Hemp seeds are sown directly into where the plants are to grow. They should be planted after the average date of last frost has passed. The seedlings require irrigation for the first six weeks whenever the soil is dry.



If interested contact the Hemp Commission at: HempCommission@WinnebagoTribe.com

Šāgowį

2026 Atokad Downs Live Meet Recap

The Live Meet at Atokad Downs in South Sioux City, Nebraska, brought together community members and visitors for a weekend of competition, entertainment, and celebration. Held over five days on August 29-30 and September 5-7, the event featured live horse racing, wagering, family-friendly activities, giveaways, contests, and food vendors, offering something for attendees of all ages.

Between races, attendees enjoyed a variety of community-focused entertainment that kept the energy high throughout the weekend. Winnebago dancers also performed their style of dance, sharing an important part of the Winnebago Tribe's culture and helping make the event a memorable experience for attendees of all ages.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's live meet a success. From the sponsors and community leaders to the guests and attendees, each played an important role in making the event another successful celebration of live horse racing, culture, and community.











At the Water's Edge: Hōcąk Artist Truman Lowe Honored at the Smithsonian

By Gayla Whitewater

Washington, D.C.-- While on vacation, I visited the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C., where I experienced Water's Edge: The Art of Truman Lowe, the first major retrospective dedicated to acclaimed Hōcąk artist Truman Lowe.

I originally stopped by to capture B-roll for future seasons of The Big Voice's WOIPERES series, in which I plan to explore Hōcąk art and artists. Still, I was not prepared for how deeply the exhibition would affect me.

Born in 1944 and raised near Black River Falls, Wisconsin, Lowe grew up speaking Hōcąk and learning from a creative family. His mother made split-ash baskets, his father carved basket handles and both practiced beadwork. As a child, Lowe gathered rocks along the Black River and used them to create drawings.

Long before his work entered the nation's most prominent museums, he was a Hōcąk child creating with materials gathered from his homeland.

Lowe earned degrees from the University of Wisconsin–La Crosse and UW–Madison. He later became an art professor and chair of UW–Madison's art department, educating and mentoring generations of students.

In 2000, Lowe was appointed curator of contemporary art at the National Museum of the American Indian. He served until 2008 and helped curate an inaugural exhibition for the museum's Washington location. There is something especially meaningful about seeing him honored in the same institution he once helped shape.

Lowe's work has been collected by institutions including the Smithsonian American Art Museum, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Whitney Museum of American Art, Milwaukee Art Museum and Eiteljorg Museum. His many honors included a National Endowment for the Arts Individual Fellowship, an Eiteljorg Fellowship and the Wisconsin Visual Art Lifetime Achievement Award.

Water's Edge features almost 50 sculptures, drawings and paintings spanning Lowe's career. His minimalist sculptures, made from willow branches, feathers, wood and other natural materials, evoke rivers, streams, waterfalls and canoes.

My mother's maternal side is Wākjexi Hikikarac, or Waterspirit Clan, and I have always felt deeply connected to water. Walking through the exhibition felt like entering the woodlands and waterways of our Hōcąk homelands. The willow flowed like water, and the canoes seemed to carry memory. Before I knew it, nearly two hours had passed.

Lowe's art reminds us that water is more than scenery. It carries people, histories, teachings and relationships, connecting us to place and to those who traveled the same waterways before us.

Seeing Hōcąk art honored at the Smithsonian filled me with pride. Our people have always been artists, designers and storytellers. Too often, Native art is treated only as something belonging to the past. This exhibition recognizes Lowe as a major contemporary artist whose Hōcąk identity was not separate from his success, it was at the heart of his work.

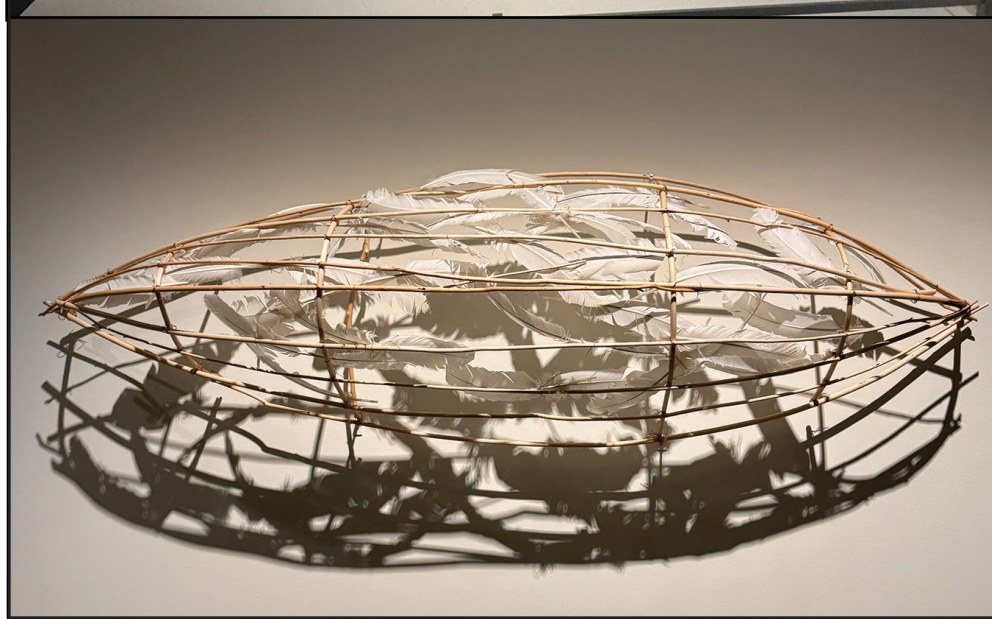
There is something powerful about seeing your people reflected in a national institution with dignity, care and importance. It tells our young people that Hōcąk creativity belongs in these spaces and reminds the world that we are still here, still creating and telling our own stories.

For me, Water's Edge became more than an assignment. It was an opportunity to feel seen and to witness a Hōcąk artist's life and legacy honored on a national stage.

I left proud of everything Truman Lowe accomplished, proud of the people and homelands that shaped him, and proud to be Hōcąk.

Water's Edge: The Art of Truman Lowe will remain in Washington, D.C., through January 18, 2027, before traveling to the Milwaukee Art Museum from April 9 through August 1, 2027.





COMMUNITY

Genoa U.S. Indian School Foundation to Host 36th Annual Recognition and Remembrance Day

GENOA, NEBRASKA — The Genoa U.S. Indian School Foundation will host its 36th Annual Recognition and Remembrance Day on Saturday, 26 September 2026, bringing together former students, descendants, tribal communities, historians, educators, residents, and visitors for a day dedicated to remembering and honoring the children who attended the Genoa U.S. Indian School.

The event will take place from 10 AM to 4 PM at the St. Rose of Lima Community Center and the Genoa U.S. Indian School site. The annual gathering offers an opportunity to learn about the school's history, recognize students' experiences, and celebrate the connections that continue to bring families and communities together.

The Genoa U.S. Indian School operated from 1884 until 1934 and was one of the federal government's largest and longest running off-reservation Indian boarding schools. Today, the former school site serves as an important place for education, historical research, and remembrance.

The day's activities begin at 10 AM with a Welcome and Opening Ceremony and building blessing from William St. Cyr of the Omaha and Winnebago Tribes of Nebraska, followed at 10:45 AM by a presentation from Jill Hanson titled "Frank Hamilton: From Hampton Normal to Genoa, A Boarding School Life Cut Short." The presentation will offer an opportunity to learn more about Frank Hamilton, a former student who passed away at the school.

At 1 PM, the Memorial Presentation will provide a special time for reflection and remembrance. We will honor those who passed away since the last Recognition and Remembrance Day and pay special memorial to those students who died at the school and those buried in the cemetery.

Following the memorial, at 1:15 PM, the Foundation will hold its Scholarship Presentation and Former Winners' Panel, featuring former scholarship recipients Aaron LaPointe, Alexis Zendejas and Kateri Hinman Petto.

Aaron LaPointe has become a respected leader in the Winnebago community. He serves in senior leadership with Ho-Chunk, Inc., where his work has included tribal agriculture and economic development. LaPointe has been involved in efforts to reclaim tribal farmland, strengthen food sovereignty, promote traditional Indian corn and encourage Native youth to consider careers in agriculture. He has also served on the Nebraska Farm Service Agency State Committee and has been recognized nationally for his leadership and community contributions.

Dr. Kateri Hinman Petto has also built a career centered around community, culture and service. Of the Omaha, Winnebago and Seneca Tribes, Petto is a Clinical Pharmacist as well as board president of Healing Ribbons. This Indigenous organization promotes cultural identity, healing and wellness through gathering, traditional arts, storytelling and community connection. Her work reflects the importance of preserving cultural knowledge and creating opportunities for Indigenous people to connect with their heritage.

Alexis Zendejas' career reflects the importance of service and advocacy. A member of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, Zendejas earned her law degree from the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law in 2019. Her legal career has included work in Tribal and Federal Indian Law, family and juvenile law, the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), and Tribal-State-Federal relations. Her commitment to tribal families and children has been evident throughout her legal career. Zendejas has represented the Omaha Tribe in Indian Child Welfare Act proceedings, including a case that reached the Iowa Supreme Court, where she argued for the Tribe.

The panel is intended to be more than a discussion about academic accomplishments. It allows current students, families, and visitors to hear directly from people who once stood where today's scholarship applicants stand and to learn how their connection to the Genoa Indian School's history has continued into adulthood.

Food and fellowship will once again be an important part of Recognition and Remembrance Day. From 11:30 AM to 1 PM, Indian tacos made by Rez Eats and served by Twin River FBLA will be available. Indian tacos are free for honored guests and $10 for all others. The meal provides another opportunity for former students, descendants, visitors, and community members to gather, share stories, and enjoy time together during the day's activities. The event will conclude with an Ice Cream Social at 3 PM.

Throughout the day, visitors can participate in guided tours of the Interpretive Center and Research Center, visit Native vendor booths, and view entries in the Student Art Contest. The Student Art Contest features artwork created by current students and inspired by the Genoa Indian School and its former students. The contest gives young people an opportunity to explore local history and express what they have learned through art.

The Research Center also provides an important resource for descendants and families interested in learning more about relatives who attended the school. Preserving records, photographs, and stories helps ensure that the lives of the students who attended Genoa are remembered for generations to come.

Recognition and Remembrance Day is more than an annual historical program. It is a day to remember the children who attended the Genoa U.S. Indian School and to recognize the families and communities whose histories remain connected to the school. The event also gives people unfamiliar with the history of the Genoa Indian School an opportunity to learn about the institution and its former students. By bringing descendants, former students, educators, historians, tribal communities, and the public together, the Genoa U.S. Indian School Foundation continues to create a place where people can remember, discuss, and pass on history to future generations.

The Genoa U.S. Indian School Foundation invites everyone to attend the 36th Annual Recognition and Remembrance Day on 26 September. Whether you attend to honor a family member, learn more about the Genoa Indian School, support the Foundation, participate in educational activities, or spend the day with the community, visitors are welcome.

The stories of the children who attended the Genoa U.S. Indian School are an important part of Nebraska history and the history of many Native families and nations. Recognition and Remembrance Day helps keep those stories alive while honoring the people whose lives are forever connected to Genoa.

For more information, visit genoaindianschoolmuseum.org or the Genoa U.S. Indian School Foundation's Facebook page.




Dr. Kateri Hinman Petto


Alexis Zendejas


Aaron LaPointe





HO-CHUNK INC.

HO·CHUNK™
INCORPORATED

Fan Appreciation Night

WINNEBAGO INDIANS

— VS —

OMAHA NATION LADY CHIEFS

Tuesday, September 22nd
starting at 5pm

FIRST 300 FANS RECEIVE FREE SUPER NACHOS!
Courtesy of Ho-Chunk, Inc.
Visit the Ho-Chunk, Inc. table!

GAME TIMES:
JV at 5PM • Varsity at 6PM
Winnebago Public High School

CASINO ♦ RESORT

IT'S JUST MORE FUN

THE $100,000

BIG GAME

Saturdays In September
5pm to 11pm

WINN YOUR SHARE OF OVER $100,000 IN CASH & PRIZES

Start earning entries **September 1 - 26.** 1 Entry for every 10 points earned.

COLLIN RAYE



Saturday, October 24th
Doors at 7pm * Show at 8pm

Tickets starting at $25!
Live at the WinnaVegas Event Center

Tickets can be purchased in person at the WinnaVegas Gift Shop, by calling 800-468-9466, ex. 7117 or online at winnavegas.com.

For more information: visit *WinnaVegas.com* or call us at *800-468-9466*