

A Tribal photography showing at the Sioux City Art Museum!

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Meet the 2026-27 HCI Apprentices!

pages: 7

Published Bi-Weekly for the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska

Volume 55, Number 23

Cā hikiruxe wirā
Deer Mating Moon

Saturday, November 21, 2026



The masthead scene for this edition of the Winnebago Indian News features the 2025 Spotlight Special from Last Bear Moon Powwow which included youth dancers from both boys' and girls' categories. The winter celebration is held annually on the last Saturday in the month of February, and the WIN will be counting down the days to the Last Bear Moon Powwow in February 2027! If you are on social media, follow the LBM Facebook page: facebook.com/@lastbearmoon
(Photography courtesy of Keya Clairmont)

Natives Rockin' It: Native American Heritage Month!



By Gayla Whitewater
Photography by Bethani Redhorn

From a Barbie unveiling in Macy to a gallery filled with powwow portraits in Sioux City, Native American Heritage Month has offered plenty of reasons to celebrate our relatives across Siouxland. Native performers took the stage at Briar Cliff University, and a young Winnebago dancer is headed back to the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Closer to home, a film screening asked how Native people are portrayed in schools and sports, while the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska spoke up for Tribal sovereignty, sacred places and clean water.

Barbie honors Dr. Susan La Flesche Picotte

On Nov. 9, the Dr. Susan La Flesche Picotte Center unveiled a Barbie honoring the Umoⁿhoⁿ (Omaha) physician in Macy, Nebraska. Dr. Picotte was the first Native American to earn a medical degree in the United States. After medical school, she returned home and cared for patients from several Tribal Nations, including Winnebago. She went on to establish a hospital in Walthill.

Center director Liz Lovejoy Brown opened the evening, followed by a presentation from the White Eagle Club of Umoⁿhoⁿ Nation Public Schools. Guest speakers included Omaha Tribal Chairwoman Cheyenne Robinson, Dr. Picotte's great-granddaughter Susan Picotte, nurse practitioner and descendant Ashleen Blackbird, and nursing student Layla Saunsoci.

Carlyle Nuera designed the doll for

Con't. on page 2...

Nį šoc Nįgešąną

By: Tyler Snake



November 17th and 18th, the Winnebago Tribe's Food Distribution Program had their annual Turkey and Ham Distribution. Each Tribal Member that is Head of Household were able to pick-up with a designated pick-up time set for elders as well.

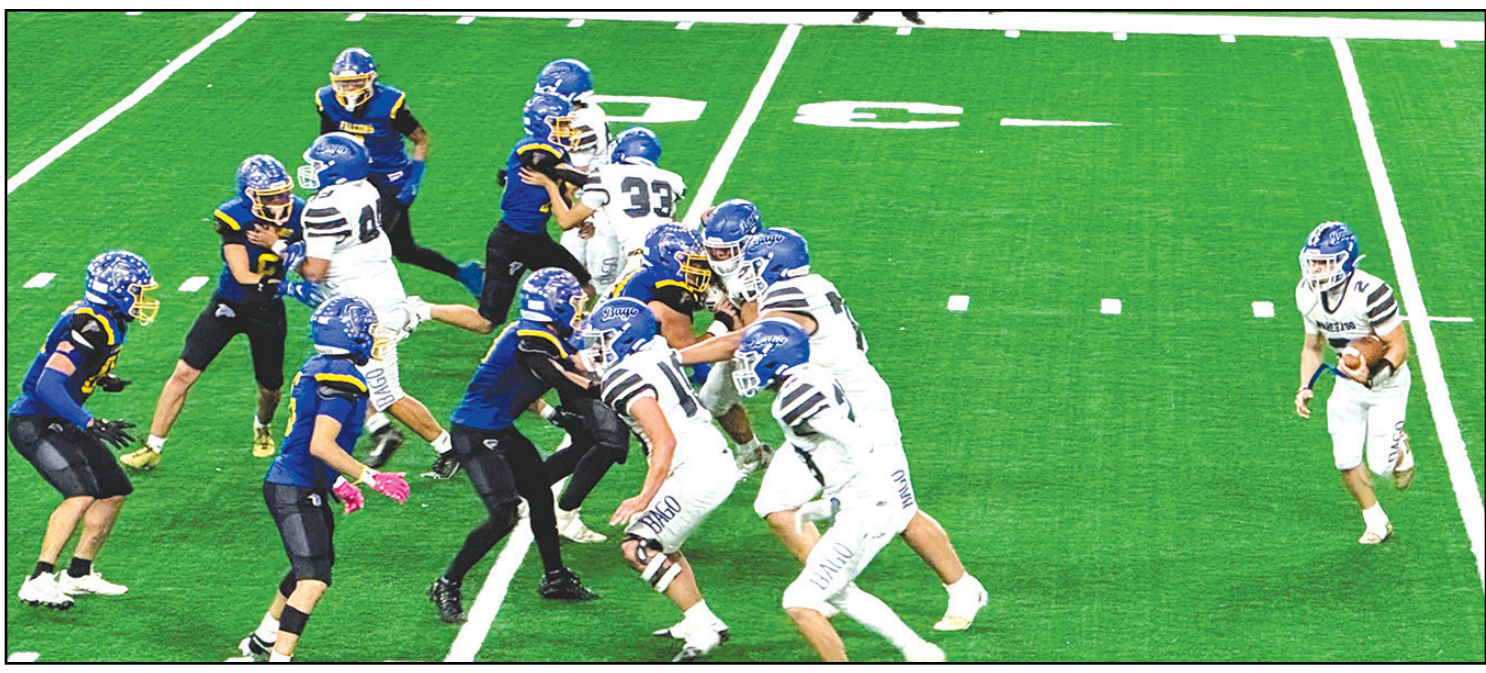


Winnebago Comprehensive Healthcare Systems Wazoki Program hosted a Family Game Night at the Whirling Thunder Wellness Center. Friends and families spent the evening playing a variety of games, sharing a meal and each other's time. Thanksgiving bundles were available also.



The annual Neola "Old Lady" Walker" Christmas Lighting Contest returns! Help us carry on the tradition and light up Winnebago by signing up; email tyler.snake@winnebagotribe.com for more information. The deadline for sign-up is December 11th, 2026.

Back-to-Back Champions: Winnebago Indians Claim Second Straight All-Nations Title



By Bethani Redhorn
Photography by Bethani Redhorn

Vermillion, S.D. – The Winnebago Indians are officially back-to-back champions! On Friday, November 6, 2026, the Indians defeated the Todd County Falcons by a final score of 50-26 at the DakotaDome in Vermillion, South Dakota, securing their second straight Class 9A All-Nations Conference (ANFC) championship title. The football team finished the 2026 season with an impressive 9-1 record.

The Indians' lone loss of the season had come earlier against Todd County in a close 28-26 battle on home turf. In the title rematch, Winnebago came out swinging, racking up 406 yards of total offense. "I'm incredibly happy for the kids, the community, and the families who traveled to support this team," said Winnebago Head Coach Dusty Welsh after the back-to-back title win. "That's what it's all about."

Winnebago set the tone in the first quarter, jumping to a 22-0 lead. Sirvell Rave opened the scoring with a six-yard touchdown run, followed by a 50-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Raiden DeCora to Rahkim Free-Bass. Kendrick Mallory capped off the explosive opening frame by recovering a fumble in the end zone.

Todd County battled back in the second quarter with two touchdowns to cut into the lead, but Winnebago quickly halted the Falcons' momentum. Just before halftime, Rave came up huge on defense with a 61-yard interception return for a touchdown, sending the Indians into the locker room with a comfortable 28-14 advantage. In the second half, Winnebago continued the lead, outscoring Todd County 22-12 over the final two quarters. DeCora added two more rushing touchdowns and connected with Free-Bass for another passing score

Con't. on page 2...

Wōšga Pį homąnį ne. - Walk in a Good Way.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

...*Con't from front page:* Natives Rockin' It: Native American Heritage Month

Barbie's Inspiring Women series in collaboration with the Dr. Susan La Flesche Picotte Center, and Umoⁿhoⁿ artist and seamstress Lisa Drum created the appliqué pattern on its shawl.

"My hope is that Native children will see this tribute and feel that their histories matter and their futures are full of possibility," Susan Picotte said.

The doll is available through Mattel Creations, Target, and Walmart. To learn more about Dr. Picotte and her legacy, visit picottecenter.org.

Familiar faces fill the gallery of the Sioux City Art Center in Powwow Portraits

At the Sioux City Art Center's Nov. 13 Native American Heritage Celebration, guests shared a meal prepared by Chef Anthony Warrior, Debra Walker and Denise Milford. Craig "Tunny" Cleveland Jr. served as emcee, and the New Breed Singers accompanied powwow dancers from surrounding communities.

The celebration accompanied Savannah Berlyn Anderson's Powwow Portraits, an exhibition of photographs taken during Winnebago's 160th Homecoming Celebration. The people pictured come from Winnebago and surrounding communities. Seeing relatives on the dance floor and on the gallery walls brought visibility to the Tribal Nations that call Siouxland home. The exhibition is on view through Jan. 10, 2027.

From the Sioux City stage to the streets of New York

Winnebago tribal members, Angel Frenchman, Toby James and Laura Lee were featured in New Stage Players' production of The Addams Family at Briar Cliff University in Sioux City. The musical ran through Nov. 8 and followed Wednesday Addams as she brought her boyfriend and his family home for dinner.

Next up, Winnebago dancer Wambli "Baby Wam" Dolezal is set to return to New York City with Native Pride Productions for the 100th Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade on Thursday, Nov. 26. Wambli made his parade debut with the group last year. The broadcast begins at 8:30 a.m. Central on NBC.

Little Priest Tribal College screens Imagining the Indian

Little Priest Tribal College hosted a screening and panel discussion of Imagining the Indian: The Fight Against Native American Mascoting on Nov. 17 at the Elk Auditorium in Winnebago. Where Powwow Portraits let visitors see how dancers present themselves, the film asked who gets to decide how Native people are depicted. It traced decades of Native advocacy to end the use of Native American mascots and gave the community a chance to talk about what those images teach young people in schools and sports.

The screening was part of a three-day series organized by the Nebraska Intertribal Coalition, which includes the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska, the Santee Sioux Nation and the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska.

Winnebago Tribe speaks up for sacred places and clean water

The Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska urged its congressional delegation to oppose the Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act (BAAJA) as written, citing concerns about Tribal sovereignty, treaty rights and the federal government's responsibilities to Tribal Nations.

The Tribe raised concerns about proposed changes to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. Section 106 gives Tribal Nations a role in federal reviews when projects could affect culturally significant places, including ancestral sites outside reservation boundaries. Section 401 allows authorized Tribes and states to review certain federally permitted projects for compliance with water quality standards. Both can give Tribal communities a way to protect places and waters they rely on before construction begins. On Nov. 18, the Senate voted 65-31 to end debate on the amended bill.

The Tribe's concerns about water are also visible closer to home. A billboard near Winnebago's south roundabout now reads, "WINNEBAGO TRIBE STRONGLY OPPOSES HYPERSCALE DATA CENTERS - RESOLUTION #26-170." Winnebago Tribe Web Master Christina Parker created the design, and the Tribe's Facilities Department helped install it.

"Hyperscale data centers aren't thinking like natives do, you know, 7 generations from now. And that's how we need to think, because it's going to impact our water for generations to come," said Winnebago Tribal Councilwoman Margaret "Emmy" Scott.

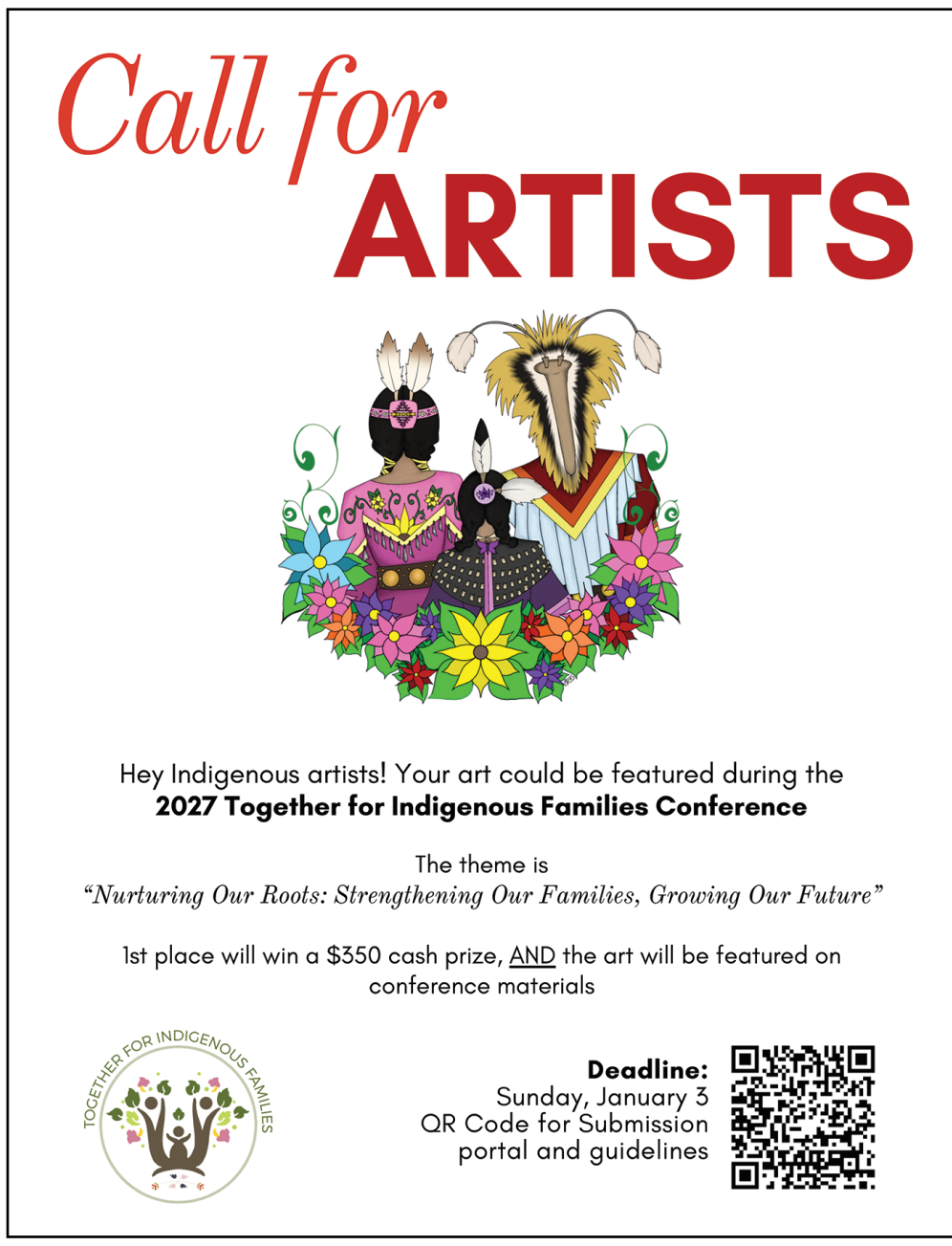
From the unveiling of Dr. Susan La Flesche Picotte's Barbie to the familiar faces in Powwow Portraits, this month offered many ways to see our relatives celebrated. As Native American Heritage Month draws to a close, those stories show what our relatives are doing year-round to share who we are and care for what future generations will inherit.

...*Con't from front page:* Back-to-Back Champions: Winnebago Indians Claim Second Straight All-Nations Title

to lock in the 50-26 final.

Following the win, three Winnebago Seniors swept the championship's top individual honors for their performances. Raiden DeCora earned the Jim Thorpe Award, All-Around MVP, after accounting for 325 total yards and four touchdowns. Rahkim Free-Bass earned the Offensive MVP, and Chris Perez earned the Defensive MVP honors for helping anchor the Indians' title-winning defense.

The 50-26 victory marks a memorable send-off for Winnebago's graduating seniors and adds another proud chapter to Winnebago's athletic history. Congratulations to the players and coaching staff on bringing the All-Nations trophy back home to Winnebago!











Wāgax hūk ra wāgax hokik'ųna

Letter to the Editor

HONORING AND RECOGNIZING MARGARET GILPIN FOR HER DEDICATED YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE WINNEBAGO TRIBE OF NEBRASKA

WHEREAS; the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska ("Tribe") is a federally recognized Indian Tribe organized pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), (25 U.S.C. §476, et seq.) as amended by the Act of June 15, 1935, (49 Stat. 378); and

WHEREAS; the Tribal Council is the duly recognized governing body of the Tribe established under the Winnebago Tribal Constitution, which was duly adopted and ratified by members of the Tribe on February 29, 1936; and

WHEREAS; pursuant to Article IV Section 1(c) of the Winnebago Tribal Constitution, and its inherent powers of self-government, the Tribal Council is vested with the power inter alia, "To safeguard and promote the peace, safety, morals, and general welfare of the Tribe"; and

WHEREAS; pursuant to Article IV Sections 1 and 2 of the Winnebago Tribal Constitution, and its inherent powers of self-government, the Tribal Council has the authority to negotiate with various governments; and

WHEREAS; Margaret Gilpin has dedicated 10 years of service to the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, demonstrating her commitment, compassion, and dedication to serving the Tribe and its community; and

WHEREAS; the Winnebago Tribal Council wishes to recognize Margaret Gilpin upon her retirement and express its sincere appreciation for her years of service and contributions to the Winnebago community; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; that the Winnebago Tribal Council hereby proclaims November 13, 2026, as "Margaret Gilpin Day" in honor of her 10 years of dedicated service and contributions to the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska and extends its heartfelt congratulations and best wishes upon her retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; that the Winnebago Tribal Council extends its heartfelt congratulations and sincere appreciation to Margaret Gilpin upon her retirement and wishes her happiness, good health, and continued blessings in the next chapter of her life.

Retirement Tribute for Margaret "Marge" Gilpin

Family, friends, coworkers, and community members gathered on November 13 to honor Margaret "Marge" Gilpin and celebrate her retirement after many years of dedicated service to the Winnebago community.

The day was filled with heartfelt appreciation and special tributes recognizing the impact Marge has had on the lives of so many people. One of the highlights of the celebration was the presentation of a beautiful handmade star quilt given as an appreciation gift from the Human Services Program. The quilt was created by Richelle "Bambi" Kearnes using Marge's favorite colors, blue and green, making it a meaningful and personal expression of gratitude for her years of service.

Another special tribute was the retirement cake made by Jonna Price. The cake was beautifully decorated in Marge's favorite shades of blue and green and was enjoyed by all in attendance. Guests commented on how moist and delicious it was, making it a memorable part of the celebration.

The school kitchen staff also demonstrated their appreciation in a remarkable way. Having worked alongside Marge during her many years of service to the school, staff members volunteered their time on their day off to prepare fresh fry bread for the retirement meal. Their generosity helped provide Indian Tacos for the gathering and reflected the respect and admiration they have for Marge.

The celebration included additional gifts and presentations, including a certificate of appreciation and a gift basket recognizing Marge's years of dedication and commitment. Community members gathered to share a meal, visit with one another, and express their gratitude for the many contributions Marge has made throughout her career.

In recognition of her lasting impact on the Winnebago Tribe and community, Miskoo Petite requested that Tribal Council designate November 13 as "Marge Gilpin Day." This special recognition honored Marge's years of service, dedication, and the positive difference she has made in the lives of countless people. The proclamation served as a fitting tribute to a woman whose commitment to her community has left a lasting legacy.

The retirement celebration was a beautiful reflection of the love, respect, and appreciation that so many people have for Marge. Through the gifts, meal, quilt, cake, and special recognition, family, friends, coworkers, and community members came together to thank her for her years of service and to wish her happiness and blessings in her well-earned retirement.









LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing
Case No. JFJ26-027ABCD
The People of the Winnebago Tribe In the Interest of:
Z.R/Z.R/Z.W./M.F.

To: TRISTA WHITEWATER & JASMINE HARDEN, Mothers STEVEN REDHORN & JARED FRAZIER , Fathers
ALL POTENTIAL FATHERS

You are hereby notified that a hearing for an Initial Appearance concerning the above referred minor individual(s) in case no. JFJ26-027 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 2nd day of Dec, 2026 at the hour of 2:30 P.M.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Hearing
Case No. JFJ25-027
The People of the Winnebago Tribe In the Interest of:
D.T.

To: LINDSEY THOMAS ,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. JFJ25-027 has been scheduled and will be heard in the Winnebago Tribal Court of Winnebago, Nebraska on the 2nd day of Dec, 2026 at the hour of 11:00 A.M.

The next issue of the WINNEBAGO INDIAN NEWS will be published on Dec. 5 , 2026. DEADLINE for this issue will be Dec. 1, 2026.

THE WIN Winnebago Indian News

Postmaster Send Address Changes To
Winnebago Indian News
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Winnebago, Nebraska 68071

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

The Mission of the WIN is to inform and to educate the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska of issues that affect them, and to be a vehicle in which stresses positive and beneficial concerns and points of view.
LETTER POLICY: Signed editorials, letters and articles appearing in the WIN are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the Winnebago Indian News or the Winnebago Tribal Council.
The WIN encourages the submission of Letters to the Editor; however, letters must be signed and addressed. Letters may be edited for language and length.

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Winnebago, NE 68071
or contact us at our e-mail address:
winnebagoindiannews@winnebagotribe.com
Phone: 402-878-2272

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Tyler Snake ..... Office Manager
Christina Parker ..... Desktop Publisher

WTN Communications
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Gayla Whitewater ..... Comm. Office Manger
Christina Parker ..... Web Master
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Craig Cleveland Sr. ..... Member
Ireta Frazier ..... Member
Rona Stealer ..... Member
Keely Purscell ..... Member
Margaret Scott ..... Member

NAJA Native American Journalists Association

COMMUNITY

Tour of Ho-Chunk, Inc. Offices and Properties in Siouxland

Pinagigi, thank you to everyone who joined our recent Tour of Ho-Chunk, Inc. Offices in Siouxland!

Throughout the day, Winnebago Tribal and community members explored Ho-Chunk, Inc. spaces, visited several of our properties and learned more about the businesses and developments that contribute to our mission.

We enjoyed the opportunity to share firsthand how Ho-Chunk, Inc. is building opportunities and creating lasting impact across the Siouxland area.



Congrats to Jill Smith on 20 Years with Ho-Chunk, Inc.!

Congratulations to Jill Smith on her 20 year milestone with Ho-Chunk, Inc.

Jill is our Operations Manager at Ho-Chunk Trading Group, a division of Ho-Chunk, Inc. dedicated to manufacturing and distributing premium Native American products.

Thank you for your hard work, your leadership and all you do!



All-Nations Championship Star Rahkim Free-Bass Selected for 5th Annual Native All-American Game in Minnesota

WINNEBAGO, NE — Following a spectacular, championship-winning performance on the gridiron, Winnebago Indians star Wide Receiver and Defensive Back Rahkim Free-Bass has been officially selected to showcase his talents on a national stage. The standout senior has been named to the prestigious roster for the 5th Annual Native All-American Game at the U.S. Bank Stadium (Vikings Stadium) in Minneapolis, Minnesota, an elite showcase recognizing the top Indigenous high school football players across the United States.

The selection serves as the perfect exclamation point to a historic high school season. Free-Bass cemented his legacy by fueling the Winnebago Indians to a dominant 50-26 victory over Todd County to capture their second consecutive Class 9A All-Nations Football Conference Championship at the DakotaDome in Vermillion, South Dakota.

Back-to-Back Icons: The DakotaDome Masterclass – Entering the November 6, 2026, title game, the defending-champion Indians were on a mission to avenge their lone regular-season blemish. Free-Bass wasted no time going on the Warpath and turning the game into a personal highlight reel.

In the first quarter, quarterback Raiden DeCora connected with Free-Bass on a blistering 50-yard touchdown pass, blowing open an early 22-0 lead for the Indians. Whenever Todd County threatened to claw back into the game, Free-Bass and the explosive Winnebago offense had an answer. He later hauled in a second spectacular touchdown pass from DeCora in the second half, effectively putting the game out of reach and securing "Title Town" status for Winnebago.

Free-Bass finished the championship match up with a jaw-dropping stat line of six receptions for 143-yards, two receiving touchdowns, 55-rushing yards on six carries, and key defensive snaps at cornerback, shutting down Todd County's aerial response. His 143-yard receiving clinic spearheaded an offense that racked up 406 total yards, solidifying the senior's reputation as one of the most explosive dual-threat playmakers in the region.

Elevating to the National Stage – The Native All-American Game, organized by the Native American Athletic Foundation, provides a premier platform for elite Indigenous student-athletes to compete in front of college scouts and national audiences. For Free-Bass, the invitation is a direct reflection of years of grit, community pride, and an unforgettable senior campaign.

As Free-Bass prepares to trade his blue-and-white Winnebago threads for the All-American jersey in Minnesota, he carries the proud spirit of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska with him. His journey from a local champion to a national All-American stand as a beacon of inspiration for the next generation of athletes across Indian Country.

THE WINNEBAGO INDIAN NEWS

community events

THE ANNUAL NEOLA "OLD LADY" WALKER CHRISTMAS LIGHTING CONTEST RETURNS!



Dear Winnebago Community,

As the holiday season approaches the WIN welcomes you to participate in our annual Christmas Lighting Contest, which was founded by Neola "Old Lady" Walker.

Neola enjoyed taking part in events during the holidays and was a member of the Dutch Reformed Church where she held pageants and a reenactment performance of Baby Jesus.

Christmas was very special to Neola and with a good thought and feeling to bring the holiday cheer to our Winnebago community, she began hosting the annual holiday lighting contest which first began with "bragging rights" for the 1st through 3rd place winners. A couple of years later, Neola began to offer prize money, and, at that time, the prize money was paid from her own pocket.

Thank you Neola for starting this holiday tradition for the Winnebago Community, Please join us!

RULES

Sign-up by **December 11th**

Must live within 10 miles of the Black Hawk Community Center

HOW TO SIGN-UP

Email info to tyler.snake@winnebagotribe.com

~address with directions
~phone number
~completed W9

DATES

Judges will be out **December 14th** around 6pm

Winners will be announced **December 17th** with checks TBD

DECEMBER

Cā hikirux wī

2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29	30 *ALL MEALS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.	1 Beef Tacos Tortilla Spanish Rice Beans Watermelon Bread & Butter	2 Biscuits & Sausage Gravy Scrambled Eggs Hashbrowns Mixed Berries Green & Red Peppers	3 Cheeseburger Spinach Salad Cucumber Fries Mandarin Oranges	4 Fish & Fries Coleslaw Carrots Bananas & Strawberries Bread & Butter	5
6	7 Pepperoni Pizza Green Salad Cucumber Oranges Grapes	8 Chili Mac & Cheese Peaches Cornbread & Butter	9 Bologna Sandwich Wheat Bread Mango & Strawberries Mac Salad Celery	10 Turkey Mashed Potatos Corn Apple Crisp Bread & Butter	11 Bologna Sandwich Wheat Bread Mango & Strawberries Mac Salad Celery	12
13	14 Ham & Bean Soup Carrots & Celery Mandarin Oranges Spinach Salad Bread & Butter	15 Beef Roast Roasted Potatos Corn Carrots & Celery Applesauce	16 Sloppy Joes Mac & Cheese Green Beans Peaches Bread & Butter	17 Chicken Tortilla Soup Corn Pineapple Bread & Butter	18 Sausage Pizza Cucumber Lettuce Salad Peaches	19
20	21 Potato Soup Carrot Sticks Fruit Cocktail Wheat Bread & Butter	22 Rotini Pasta Garlic Bread Green Beans Cherry Crisp	23 Chicken Tenders & Fries Veggie Medley Peaches Celery Stick & Peanut Butter	24 Chicken Alfredo Pasta Broccoli Lettuce Salad Garlic Breadstick Apricots	25 CLOSED	26
27	28 Ham Cheesy Potatos Green Beans Cantaloupe Wheat Bread & Butter	29 Beef/Hominy Soup Lettuce Salad Cucumbers Strawberries & Bananas Bread & Butter	30 Salisbury Steak Rice Peas & Carrots Apple Slices Bread & Butter	31 Fish & Fries Coleslaw Radishes Pears Bread & Butter	1	2

WCHS WINNEBAGO COMPREHENSIVE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

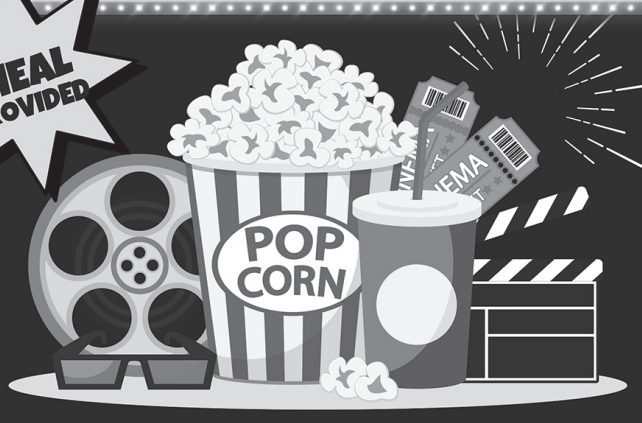
WCHS'S SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER SERVES A MEAL EVERY WEEKDAY, 11:30AM-12:30PM TO THE ELDERS IN OUR COMMUNITY. IF YOU ARE DISABLED OR HOMEBOUND, CALL 402-745-3957 TO ASK ABOUT HOME DELIVERY!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska
Higher Education Program

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

MEAL PROVIDED



SATURDAY NOV. 28, 2026 | 5 PM

AT THE WHIRLING THUNDER WELLNESS CENTER

MOVIE	MENU	POPCORN
Featuring The Grinch	Spaghetti Bread Sticks Pizza	Popcorn will be provided during movie time

FOR MORE INFO PLEASE EMAIL :
EDUCATION@WINNEBAGOTRIBE.COM

LITTLE PRIEST TRIBAL COLLEGE

Our Mission: "Be Strong and Educate My Children"

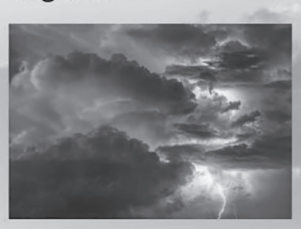
Little Priest Tribal College is now taking applications for the following positions:

- **Academic Advisor**
- **Administrative Assistant-Academics**
- **MNALRC Assistant**
- **Project Director for Education Equity and Extension**
- **Student Equity Intern**
- **Student Extension Intern**

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

HoChunk Renaissance
Language Preservation Program

MĀ'E
STORM



MĄĮTAJEWEHI
WIND



WAŽĄ HONĄKIPĮNI
BICYCLE





Nine Rent-To-Own Homes

$369,037.50



$262,000.00



WINNEBAGO TRIBAL HOUSING

CONTACT

madisyn.redhorn@winnebagotribe.com
jenaya.stout@winnebagotribe.com
+402-200-5371 Ext. 3401 & 3402
912 N. Mission Dr. Winnebago, NE
www.winnebagotribe.com

SCAN QR CODE FOR APPLICATION

GUIDELINES

Applicant must be 19 years of age and an enrolled member of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska.

Applications will be reviewed and scored through an anonymous grading system.

Meet low-income threshold. Will have PRIORITY. (HUD State Guidelines)

Have no outstanding delinquencies or debts with the Tribe.

Must ackowledge this is a one-time use benefit. If applicant defaults, neither the applicant, nor their spouse may reapply.

Must apply for Down Payment Assistance

Selection will be based off of scores and first come first serve regarding time stamps for completed applications.

ELIGIBILTY & ADMISSIONS PROCESS

All documentation is required for submission.

Applicants with completed applications will move to the next step for scoring.

An official notification will be sent to the applicant regarding placement on list and/or denial.

Home insurance will be included in mortgage. Payments must be made or applicant will be considered default.

Applicants responsibility to work with Land Management Department for a land lease agreement.

DEALINE FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION:
MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2026

Hill Court & Big Winnebago Ln.

CASINO • RESORT

HAT & GLOVE DRIVE

November 2 – December 17

Donate a new hat or new pair of gloves to **receive $10 Promo Play!** To receive the $10 Promo Play, visit Guest Services with the new hat or new pair of gloves.

The retail sales tag is required to be attached to prove it is new.
Limit one $10 Promo Play prize per day.

HoChunk Renaissance
Language Preservation Program

Žige hanįca kja wi.

I'll see you (plural) again.



Žige Hanįca kje.

I'll see you (singular) again.



NEXT W.I.N. DEADLINE:

December 1, 2026

HAKEWE

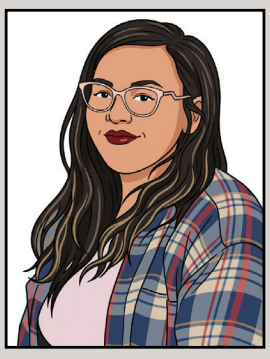
Question of the Issue:

What is an absolute must have at thee ol' thanksgiving dinner? Tell us why!



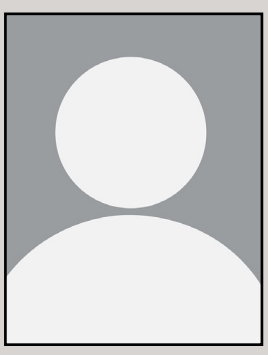
Garan Coons
Communications Officer

Must have cool whip with a sprinkle and dash of pumpkin pie. I am a dessert guy, so it's an absolute must.



Bethani Redhorn
Winnebago Indian News Editor

I'll have to go with my mom's stuffing! She makes it thee best.



Tyler Snake
W.I.N. Office Manager

Hmmm.. Everything. Haha. Then a nap after



Christina Parker
Web Master

Corn soup or a dish that includes wild rice! Because why not! I will forever miss my Kaka Bunk's homemade pies.



Gayla Whitewater
Comm. Office Manager

My mom's corn soup and frybread because it is a comfort food of mine. She makes it often during the colder months and I always look forward to it! :)



Quince Bass
Radio Station Broadcast Manager

Turkey of course...cuz we get free Turkeys from the Tribe. Not this year though...they were depleted by the time we were ready to pick up.

So next would be the Corn Soup. My dad always made the soup for the family. And wr loved it. Now that we are the dads...I take that responsibility very serious. My family gets to taste the love in that soup. It's not only the taste of the soup...its the time spent with my dad learning how he cooks his Corn Soup. That is why its a Must.



Kevin Ebert
Multi-Media Coordinator

Family is my Thanksgiving must-have. It's been about 40 years since we all gathered around the table with Grandma, Grandpa, and all my aunts, uncles, and cousins. I still miss those days. That's also where I learned to play cards , God bless you all, and happy Thanksgiving!



Sioux City Art Center hosts Native American Heritage Celebration

By Gayla Whitewater
Photography by Gayla Whitewater

SIOUX CITY, Iowa – Community members gathered at the Sioux City Art Center on Friday, Nov. 13, for a Native American Heritage Celebration featuring a shared meal, powwow singing and dancing, and Savannah Berlyn Anderson's Powwow Portraits exhibition.

Chef Anthony Warrior, Debra Walker and Denise Milford prepared the meal. Craig "Tunny" Cleveland Jr. served as emcee, and the New Breed Singers sang as powwow dancers from surrounding communities took the floor.

The event was among the first celebrations of its kind at the Art Center. On the gallery walls, visitors could see familiar faces in portraits Anderson took during the 160th Winnebago Homecoming Celebration in July. The exhibition features people from Winnebago and surrounding communities, giving visibility to the Tribal Nations that call Siouxland home. That local representation was especially meaningful during Native American Heritage Month, as Indigenous people from across the region came together to celebrate in the same space.

Powwow Portraits remains on view at the Sioux City Art Center through Jan. 10, 2027.









HO-CHUNK INCORPORATED

Meet Our Apprentices – Fall 2026

This semester, Winnebago Public School students are gaining hands-on experience across the community. From media and film to construction, education and more. Through the Apprenticeship Program, students build career skills, explore diverse fields, and prepare for success after graduation. This program is made possible through a partnership between the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, Ho-Chunk, Inc. and Winnebago Public Schools.



Devin Bassette

Devin Bassette is an enrolled member of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska and a senior. Placed at Educare Winnebago, he is building valuable workplace experience while preparing to continue his education at Little Priest Tribal College after graduation.



Harold BigFire

Harold BigFire, a senior and enrolled member of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska, is placed with Ho-Chunk Construction this semester. After high school, he hopes to turn his interests into a career in landscaping.



Braden Brownrigg

Braden Brownrigg is an enrolled member of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska and a senior. He is currently placed with the Winnebago Wildlife & Parks Program. Following graduation, he plans to attend college and further his education.



Ja'leena Earth

Ja'leena Earth is an enrolled Winnebago Tribal member and a senior, is gaining on-the-job experience at SweetWater Cafe. Her plans after high school entail attending college and exploring a career as an ultrasound technician as she keeps her options open.



Rahkim Free-Bass

Rahkim Free-Bass, a senior and enrolled member of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. This semester, he is gaining experience with the Winnebago Wildlife & Parks Program. Following graduation, he plans to attend college while also pursuing employment opportunities and buying himself a vehicle for reliable transportation to get him from point A to point B.



Jesse Gilpin

Jesse Gilpin is an enrolled Winnebago Tribal member and a senior. This semester, he is placed with the Wōrak Horak Youth Organization and after high school, he plans to further his education at Little Priest Tribal College.



Samee LaMere

Samee LaMere is an enrolled member of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska and a senior. She is currently gaining experience with the Wōrak Horak Youth Organization. Her plans after high school include attending college after graduation and continuing pursuing her education goals.



Starrie Mercer

Starrie Mercer, a senior and enrolled Winnebago Tribal member, is gaining hands-on experience with Educare Winnebago this semester. She plans to attend Wayne State College after high school and continue working toward her future goals.



Christopher Perez

Christopher Perez is currently a senior and gaining hands-on experience with the Winnebago Wildlife & Parks Program. After high school, he plans to attend trade school and further develop the skills needed for a career in the trades.



Elias Penn-Kennedy

Elias Penn-Kennedy, a senior and enrolled Winnebago Tribal member, is working with the Winnebago Wildlife & Parks Program this semester. He plans to continue to attend college after graduation to continue his education.



Michael Thomas

Michael Thomas is an enrolled Winnebago Tribal member and a senior. He is placed with the Wōrak Horak Youth Organization this semester. While he is still deciding where to attend, he plans to continue his education in college after high school.

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