

MOHICAN NEWS

The people of the waters that are never still

Vol. XXVIII No. 17

N8480 Moh He Con Nuck Road • Bowler, WI 54416

September 1, 2020

2020 Election News

The Caucus is being held on August 15, 2020. For those of you who are running for Tribal Council in the upcoming October 10, 2020 election please put your platform and a picture together and submit them to the Mohican News at mohicannews.submissions@mohican-nsn.gov by **September 4, 2020** at 4:30 pm.

For those of you who decide to run after the Caucus, the Ordinance states: **Section 49.5 Nomination Outside of the Caucus and Close of Nominations**

(A) Any eligible tribal member shall have the privilege of running for tribal council if not nominated during the caucus provided that he/she presents to the Election Board a petition form bearing the name, enrollment number, date of birth and signature of at least fifteen (15) qualified tribal voters prior to the close of nominations.

(B) Nominations shall be closed as of the end of the working day on the Friday before the first (1st) Saturday in September. **This year that will be September 4, 2020 (My emphasis).**

The Primary Election (if needed) will be held on September 19, 2020.

The Election will be held on October 10, 2020.

Election cont pn page Two:.



Tribe Buys Konkapot Lodge-The Story Behind The Story

By Jeff Vele – Editor

We spoke at length with Kim Vele about the sale of the Konkapot Lodge, who spoke on behalf of the Merton Vele family. Kim said the whole thing started about 23 years ago on Memorial Day weekend with 26 of the family packed into mom and dads (Mert and Carol Vele's) house. They talked about needing a bigger place for the family. Kim said, "We all decided that we were going to build a family lodge and call it the Konkapot Lodge". Kim said the plan was for each part of the family to have their own bedroom(s) onsite and have a shared kitchen and rooms and a meeting area.

The group sat on their mom and dad's porch and wrote the whole thing out on a napkin. John Miller was manager of the North Star casino and when he heard about it, he wanted to know if the family would consider building it a bit bigger because there was no hotel at the casino. John said that at the times their families were not using the lodge that they could rent out the rooms to casino guests. The family decided that if that were to be the case then they would have to build a hotel and the architect expanded the plans and it ended up being 28 rooms. Kim said, "It morphed into a bigger project and we made a plan; and while though some people were hesitant the people at the bank approved the loan and we built the lodge".

The Merton Vele family opened the Konkapot Lodge 22 years ago on August 24, 1998. This is a very important date because it is Merton's mother, Irene Vele's birthday. Irene Vele was the matriarch of the Vele family, which included Valetta (Letta),

Family continued on pg Three:

Tribe Buys Konkapot Lodge



By Jeff Vele – Editor

On August 24th, the Tribe closed on the purchase of the Konkapot Lodge from Konkapot Enterprises, Inc., for the purchase price fair to all. The sale ends 22 years of ownership by the Merton Vele family.

Executive Director Allen Quinney is over the Property and Equipment department of the Tribe. Quinney said, "the Konkapot is a great investment for the tribe. It is a beautiful property that fits our culture and is in great condition. It will provide quality and safe office space in the middle of a pandemic

and at an affordable price. In addition, it will provide logistical and resource efficiencies". Quinney added it is a great fit with our long-term strategic plan for office space needs and affords us the opportunity for continued growth.

Tribal Treasurer Terrie K. Terrio said there has been discussion in the past into the possibility of acquiring the Konkapot sometime in the future. However, it wasn't something Tribal Council wanted to budget for at that time. They asked the people who worked

Lodge continued on pg Eleven:

Food Safety at North Star Casino



North Star GM Michael Bonakdar emphasizes safety in all aspects of the facility in this time of COVID-19 pandemic

Thomas Kazik - News Reporter

With the reopening of North Star Casino food outlets, you may wonder how it will work. Casino General Manager Michael Bonakdar talks about what is going on at North Star. Bonakdar highlights his Food and Beverage (F&B) staff and how they have

made the dining experience safe for all. Though the buffet is currently closed there are plenty of food options available. Slowly but surely North Star Casino is striving to get back to normality. With safety as a priority moving forward you can get back to enjoying North Star Casino's delicious dining.

Casino continued on pg Eight:

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What's Inside?

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Election Proceedings: Notice to Land Assignment Holders

Masks are required for all. Children under the age of 21 will not be allowed in the voting area.

When you enter the voting room you will be required to sanitize your hands.

You will then proceed to the first Clerk station where you will present your Tribal Identification card. You may be asked for your name and/or Tribal Identification number.

You will then proceed to the next Clerk station where your identity will be verified.

You will then proceed to the Teller station where you will receive your ballot.

You will then be given a pen to use for marking your ballot. The pen is yours to keep, so please take it with you when you leave the voting booth.

After you have made your choices in the voting booth, or at the separate table for those who need or want to use it, you will place your ballot into the tabulation machine.

You will then proceed out of the building via the marked door

The Tribe, in conjunction with Wittenberg Telephone/Cirrinity, is bringing high speed internet to the reservation and surrounding communities in partnership with Wittenberg Telephone. Part of this process involves preparing the route for the high-speed fiber along the roadway and the route to individual homes that sign up for this service.

As part of the route preparation, tribal employees and others authorized by the Tribe may be on various land assignments from the Tribe and along tribal roadways marking the route, designating wetlands and invasive species areas to ensure proper precautions are taken.

These activities will largely be occurring from July 2020 to June 2021.

If you have any questions about the project or these activities, please feel free to contact broadband@mohican-nsn.gov.



North Star Mohican Casino Resort Reader's Choice Award Winner

The winners of best overall properties of the Midwest include North Star Mohican Casino Resort (Wisconsin), Treasure Island Resort and Casino (Minnesota), Four Winds Casino New Buffalo (Michigan), and Lumiere Place Casino & Hotel (Missouri).

The great Midwest region of the United States offers just about anything a gambler would want and covers states ranging from Indiana to Minnesota, and everything in between. Detroit has multiple great properties withing close proximity of each other but most of the casinos in this region are destination style resorts that casino enthusiasts can plan a multiple day stay in the lap of luxury.

The annual Reader's choice awards are designed to showcase the different area for gaming and

options in categories that will introduce gamers of any type to the properties they may not already be familiar with, and to help plan their next casino visit. Thanks to the 20,000 voters who took the time to share their opinions. We hope you enjoy this year's awards and find new casinos to add to your 'favorites' list.

Michael Bonakdar shared this information saying, "We won again as Best Overall Casino in Wisconsin. The survey was conducted prior to the pandemic and results were recently shared with us. We were recognized for being the best in many areas, including entertainment, golf course, buffet, and most importantly having the best staff! Potawatomi Second place, Lake of the Torches Third. Success Never Stops!"

Taken from Midwest Gaming and Destinations Magazine.

Express your thoughts and opinions. Let your voice be heard. We welcome your letters to the Editor and the Community.

Community Voices

Letters of opinion can be dropped off at Mohican News in the Tribal Offices or can be mailed to:

Mohican News

N8480 Moh He Con Nuck Road
PO Box 70
Bowler, WI 54416

e-mail: mohican.news@mohican.com

Please type your letters or print clearly and include your signature, address, and daytime phone number. Letters must be 500 words or less. All letters are subject to editing and may require confirmation. Some may be rejected due to inappropriate content as deemed by our editorial board. The views of our readers are not necessarily the views of the Mohican News, its staff, or the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribe.

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Family cont from page One:

Virginia (Toot), Vera (Dood), Adrian (Kanum), Merton (Mert), Vaughn, Tena Mae, Bette, Allen, and Suzie, and grandmother to many Vele children. There was a picture that was always hung above the fireplace which is a picture of Irene Vele. The family also went out east and found a print of the picture of John Konkapot (who is the direct ancestor to the family) meeting with John Sergeant in the famous unfinished picture of Norman Rockwell and they framed it and put it in the lodge. Kim said when they opened the Lodge there were two bald eagles in the rafters and a hunting party came and donated a bear to the opening. The bear hide is still hanging in the lobby today, on loan to the tribe.

Kim Vele said, "the family lodge flourished for a while and then took a little hit when the casino opened their hotel. But we learned to do online marketing and made changes to adjust with the times". Kim added that after all those years they have not had anybody who wanted to take over the business. So, after their mother and father

passed it was left to them and they decided that they wanted to retire. They were approached by the tribe and they took it back to the family and talked it over. Kim said, "It was a very difficult decision to make and people within the family thought they would be there forever, but others within the family wanted to retire".

Kim Vele ended by saying, "We wanted a business in the Community, and we helped put a lot of people through college and trained a lot of high school people and made all kinds of friends and family to the lodge. They were not blood relatives, but they come back every year to be there with the family at the lodge. We ended it on a real good note because we are not certain of how hotels are going to last with Covid-19. But we feel that is a fair deal for the buyer and a fair deal for us. It has always represented a gathering place for our family".

Make your voice be heard! Get out and register to vote and get out to vote by mail or at the polls. And be safe!

Tynea Johnson (Menominee): Importance of Family Drives Bowler HS (WI) Athlete To Earn 16 Varsity Letters

By Dan Ninham/ NDNSports.com

History will be made at Bowler HS in Bowler, WI after this next school year. A student-athlete will earn 16 varsity letters in her athletic career.

Tynea Johnson, 17, is an enrolled member of the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin. She is a direct descendant of the Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians.

Tynea is a senior at Bowler HS in Bowler, WI. Her parents are Scott, Menominee tribal member, and Jerilyn, Stockbridge-Munsee tribal member. The family lives in Bowler, WI.

Her athletic accomplishments started early. She was named the Middle School Female Athlete of the Year. In high school she was named Volleyball-Best Defensive Player, Basketball-Best Offensive



Player and Team Captain, Softball-Golden Glove and participated in Track & Field.

"After the completion of my senior year I will have been awarded 16 varsity letters with four each in
Tynea continued on page Eight:

Veterans Crisis Line

Are you a Veteran in crisis or concerned about one?

Connect with the Veterans Crisis Line to reach **caring, qualified responders** with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Many of them are Veterans themselves.

How to Connect With a Responder

Call 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1

Text 838255

838255

Chat

<https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help/chat>

Support for deaf and hard of hearing

1-800-799-4889



Veterans Corner

203 W. Main St
Bowler, WI. 54416

Gregg W. Duffek,
Tribal Veterans Service
Officer

Office: 715-793-4036
gregg.duffek@mohican-nsn.gov



715-793-4036

VA health care options under MISSION Act

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) launched its new and improved Veterans Community Care Program, implementing portions of the VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act (MISSION Act), which establishes a new Veterans Community Care Program.

The MISSION Act will strengthen the nationwide VA Health Care System by empowering Veterans with more health care options.

"The changes not only improve our ability to provide the health care Veterans need, but also when and where they need it," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "It will also put Veterans at the center of their care and offer options, including expanded telehealth and urgent care."

Under the new Veterans Community Care Program, Veterans can work with their VA health care provider or other VA staff to see if they are eligible to receive community care based on new criteria. Eligibility for community care does not require a Veteran to receive that care in the community; Veterans can still choose to have VA provide their care. Veterans may elect to receive care in the community if they meet any of the following six eligibility criteria:

1. A Veteran needs a service not available at any VA medical facility.
2. A Veteran lives in a U.S. state or territory without a full-service VA medical facility. Specifically, this would apply to Veterans living in Alaska, Hawaii, New Hampshire and the U.S. territories of Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
3. A Veteran qualifies under the "grandfather" provision related to distance eligibility under the Veterans Choice Program.
4. VA cannot furnish care within certain designated access standards. The specific access

standards are described below:

- **Drive time to a specific VA medical facility**
 - Thirty-minute average drive time for primary care, mental health and noninstitutional extended care services.
 - Sixty-minute average drive time for specialty care.
- Note:** Drive times are calculated using geomapping software.
- **Appointment wait time at a specific VA medical facility**
 - Twenty days from the date of request for primary care, mental health care and noninstitutional extended care services, unless the Veteran agrees to a later date in consultation with his or her VA health care provider.
 - Twenty-eight days for specialty care from the date of request, unless the Veteran agrees to a later date in consultation with his or her VA health care provider.
- 5. The Veteran and the referring clinician agree it is in the best medical interest of the Veteran to receive community care based on defined factors.
- 6. VA has determined that a VA medical service line is not providing care in a manner that complies with VA's standards for quality based on specific conditions.

The VA MISSION Act:

- Strengthens VA's ability to recruit and retain clinicians.
- Authorizes "Anywhere to Anywhere" telehealth across state lines.
- Empowers Veterans with increased access to community care.
- Establishes a new urgent care benefit that eligible Veterans can access through VA's network of urgent care providers in the community.

VA serves approximately 9 million enrolled Veterans at 1,255 health care facilities around the country every year.

For more information, visit www.missionact.va.gov.



On the Trail Home



Karolyn Margaret Raasch

sense of humor. Karolyn enjoyed baking and cake decorating. Her pastimes included fishing, going to rummage sales, and going to play nickles at the casino. Karolyn was a wonderful mother and grandmother who loved her grandchildren with her whole heart. She will be dearly missed by those who knew and loved her.

Karolyn is survived by her children, Preston Raasch of Tigerton and Rochelle Doxtator of Shawano; grandchildren, River, Olin, Ezra, and Livy; and brother, David (Carole) Raasch of DePere; as well as nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Karolyn Margaret Raasch, age 63 of Shawano, passed away on Saturday, August 22, 2020. Karolyn was born on March 29, 1957 to the late Walter "Lefty" and Margaret (Davids) Raasch in Shawano. She graduated from Bowler High School and continued her education at Milwaukee Area Technical College. Karolyn worked for over 28 years as an Administrative Assistant at North Star Casino. She had a big heart and was someone you could always count on. She was very generous and had a wonderful

She was preceded in death by her parents; siblings, Lillian, Keith and Buddy; and sister-in-law, Kathleen Raasch.

A memorial service for Karolyn was held on Saturday, August 29, 2020 at the Lutheran Church of the Wilderness with Rev. Paul Johnson officiating. Visitation was held at the church on Saturday until the time of service. Due to COVID-19 restrictions masks are requested.

www.swedbergfuneralhome.com

Notice from Historic Preservation: Ancestor laid to rest



The highest honor of our Historic Preservation program is facilitating return of ancestors that have been disturbed from their burial places. We would like to share that a reburial was recently held for one ancestor. This ancestor was a private repatriation to us from a historical society in Massachusetts. Historic Preservation Committee members reviewed the information and approved the course of action. Despite COVID we were able to take precautions and safely distance. THPO Nathan Allison dug an archaeological test pit to ensure that no cultural site was disturbed in the selected

location. Historic Preservation Manager Bonney Hartley received the ancestor from the historical society, prepared them, and conducted a simple ceremony to respectfully lay them to rest. Their resting place is a beautiful location among cedar trees where they will be protected now.

Due to the sensitive nature of this work we cannot disclose greater detail publicly. However, we wanted to share this update to keep our community informed of hopeful news from the homelands. One more ancestor, with great love and care, is now back at rest. Anushik/Oneewe

16th Annual Fire Safety/Crime Prevention Event **Rock-Paper-Scissor Tournament** **Open to all ages!**

Due to COVID19, our tournament this year will be done ON PAPER with your 10 best calls! Record your 10 best calls in your favorite order and then we will randomly pair up papers and hold the challenges until we have our top 3 winners. We will go down the list of your calls until you are either eliminated or you are the winner! If you make it through your 10 calls and are still active in tournament we will start over at the top of your list.

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

List Rock, Paper or Scissor on each line below, in any order you choose, as if you were face to face with your challenger. Each line is a separate challenge.

- #1 _____
- #2 _____
- #3 _____
- #4 _____
- #5 _____
- #6 _____
- #7 _____
- #8 _____
- #9 _____
- #10 _____

****All entries must be received by Wednesday, Oct 7, 2020 at the HOUSING OFFICE N8618 OAK ST BOWLER. Mail in, E-mail to shawn.moede@mohican-nsn.gov, or drop in drop box. Winners will be posted at the Drive-Thru Event on Saturday, October 10, 2020.**



16th Annual Fire Safety and Crime Prevention Event **DRIVE-THRU ONLY**

NO PARADE THIS YEAR

Saturday, October 10, 2020
11:00 am to 1:00 pm

At the Public Safety Building
W13455 Camp 14 Rd

Drive -thru to receive a bag of fire safety info and a light lunch*
*until gone

Everyone who drives thru is entered for a door prize

Family Fun Activity: Roshambo (Rock-Paper-Scissors) Tournament

**This year the tournament will be conducted by paper entry only, submit your 10 best calls in any order and compete. Open to all ages. Forms can be emailed, mailed or dropped in the drop box at Housing Office. Call Housing at 715-793-4219 to have form sent to you. All entries must be received by October 7, 2020. Gift cards given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd

1763 Petition of our Ancestors regarding Voting Injustices

By Bonney Hartley

Continuing our ongoing series of sharing highlights from The Rick Wilcox Collection of 1700s Stockbridge Mohican documents and transcriptions being archived at the tribal museum, please enjoy the following excerpts from a 1763 Petition to the Massachusetts General Court. Signed by many of our direct ancestors, this powerful petition shares, in our ancestors' eloquent voices, their grievances related to voter disenfranchisement and resulting dispossession stemming from a fraudulent annual Town meeting that took place earlier in the year. You can clearly hear their strength in standing up to the injustice and outlining the ways in which they present their case that the vote was unfair—that no notice was given of the vote, that people were brought in from outside the town to vote, and that voting was done in a new way by ballot instead of lifting of hands. It also imparts cultural knowledge, too, such as our ancestors' view in regard to not formulate plans ahead of time before meetings but rather to have all information laid out to digest and consider it together.

Thank you to Rick for providing us this transcription, and thank you to Harvard University Native American Petitions Project for the digitization of this document, making it accessible to our community and other researchers.

To the Honorable his Majesties Council and house of Representatives in General Court Assembled in Boston:

...That whereas a number of the said Inhabitants and freeholders both English and Indians did by their humble petitions to the great and general court at their Sessions in May Last set forth the illegal and imprudent conduct of some of the English at the Annual Town meeting held on the 21 day of March Last for chusing Town Officers...

...And also Complaining To the Honorable house of Representatives of the conduct of the English Selectmen that were chosen at said meeting for returning Mr. Williams as the person legally elected the representative for the Town of Stockbridge:

The Indians have always attended Town meetings have been chosen into Town offices and acted with great unanimity in conjunction with the English till of late some English have been endeavouring to worm them out of their privileges which has been the occasion of their not

accepting of any officers in the Town the present year. It appears very injurious to your Memorialists for people by all ways and means to crowd into the Town to get a [illegible] and then to cry out that they cannot bear to be a Society with Indians nor to be controlled by their votes, which disposition of the English is the foundation of the disturbances of the Town which if not remedied your memorialists apprehend will prove a means of destroying all the benevolent designs of the Government toward the Indians by creating such Jealousies in their minds as to induce them to imagine all that has been done is but in Jest...

...Whether the afore said Town meeting is legal or not it is certain measures were gone into new and unpracticed in any Town meeting ever held by the Town before....

So the Indians in their own language for their consideration and this was always done even in Nominations of persons for offices in the Town letting the Indians know the person Nominated the business of the office etc. and when the Indians were ready to vote, the matter was determined by the lifting of the hand. The Indians being a people that never form any schemes or plans of publick business before hand for which reason it was found necessary to give them time to digest every matter at the meetings before it was put to a vote, and thus was transacted all Things in Town meetings till the meeting in March Last.

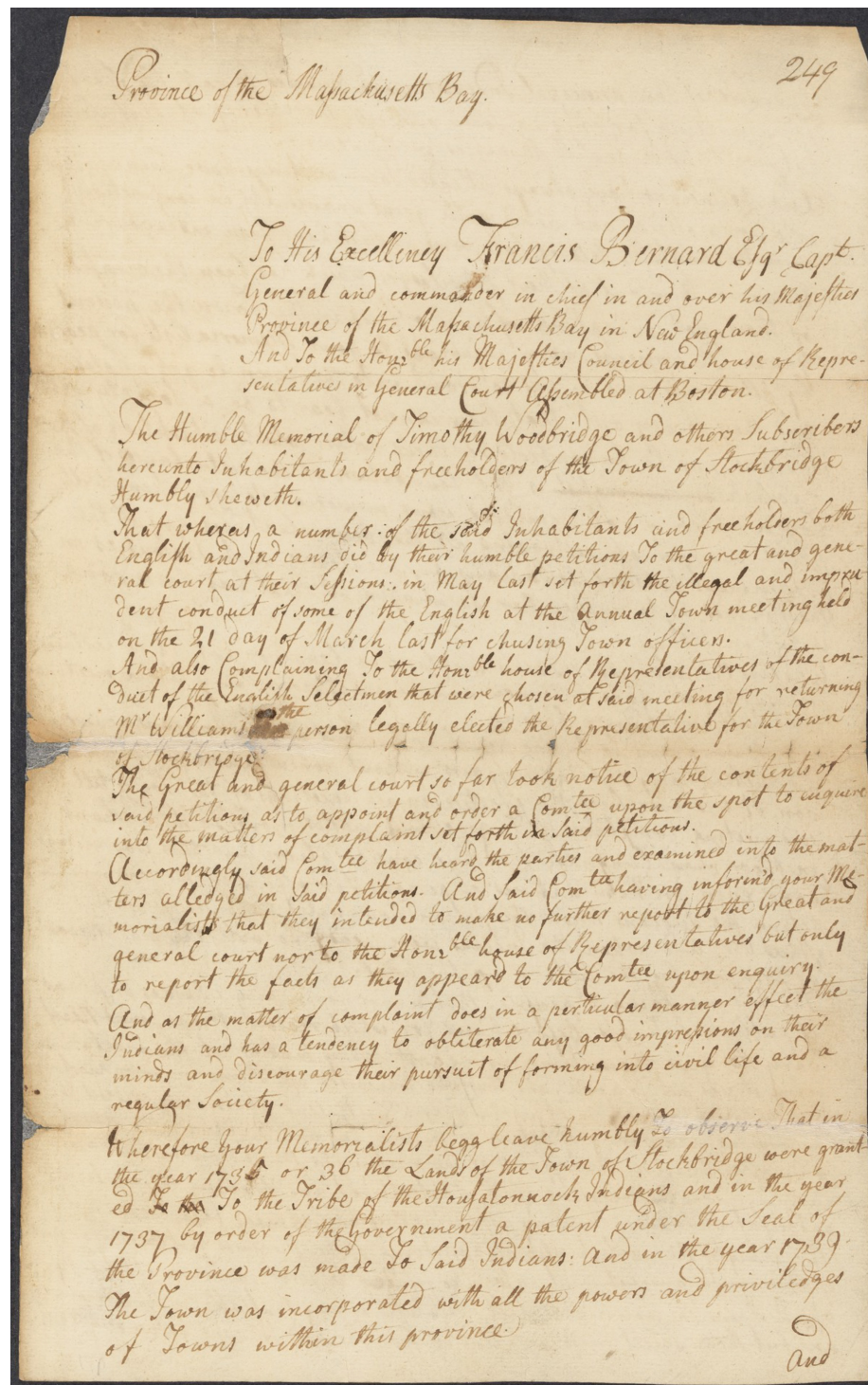
And it is very evident the introducing a new way of voting To the Indians and neglecting the Usual way of delivering the affairs of the meeting to the Indians in their own Language was the occasion of their resentment and leaving the meeting and refusing to serve in any offices as they had always before done...

...Your Memorialists would beg leave further To observe To the Honourable house of Representatives respecting the pretended Election of Mr. Williams. Your Memorialists are confident he was not legally and Constitutionally chosen The Representative for the Town of Stockbridge.

First: The law requires the meeting should be warned by an officer (viz.) a Constable The meeting at which Mr. Williams was pretended to be chosen was warned if any warning at all was: by Elijah Brown a private person. Said Williams and the other Two Selectmen appointing the meeting



Editor's Note: There are multiple pages in the document below that were provided by Bonney Hartley. However, we are only including one of the pages for illustration due to the issue of the pages being hard to read and having the space to print them.



so as to Suit their own designs and keeping all but their own party in ignorance of the Time of he meeting till the evening before it was held...

...In the second place your memorialists cannot imagine That several persons who voted for Mr. Williams had any legal right so to do: such were the persons who had no interest in the Town nor any in the government but some wild Lands lying in the places Called Yokun [Note: Lenox, MA] and Mount Ephraim [Note: Richmond, MA] some of which were by way faring men not Inhabitants of the Town...

...These people had no pretense

to be voters in the Town of Stockbridge...

...And your Memorialists shall as in duty bound ever pray
Stockbridge December 28th 1763
John (his mark) Pophnehonnuhwoh
David (DN) Naunaunee kaunuck
Benjamin (BK) Khokhkewenaunaut
Solomon Uhaunnauuuunmut
Johannis Mtokksin
Ephraim (his mark)
Waunaunqueen
Joseph Quinauquant
Abraham Naunaumphtaunk
Timothy Yokun

...Petition of Stockbridge Inhabitants
In the House of Representatives
January 28 1764"

Headstart Graduation Event



Corlyss Moderson



Cruz Vasquez III



Delylah Miller



James Murphy Jr.

As the days go rolling by,
You have to keep reaching for the sky.
Let no one steer you away from your course
Cause you are your only energy source.
Keep on soaring both near and far;
Your light constantly shines
You're a shining star.

Congratulations on Graduating From the
Electa Wuh-weh-wee-hee-meew Quinney
Head Start. Good luck in School. Your parents
and community are excited to watch you grow
and learn.



Nekiah Jacobs



Aaliyah Chirch



Ziva Boyd



Decklyn Miller



Deja Peters



Electa Quinney Headstart Building



Timber Welch

Ella Besaw Drive By To Say Hi





Casino cont from page One:

“Our team has gone above and beyond on ensuring we have the safest casino resort in the state and possibly the nation. Not only our patrons and employees feel safe in the casino, but we have even built confidence for all visitors seeking to dine with us. Our food outlets Embers and the Aroma Deli have been operating since May 26th with a slightly modified menu. We developed social distancing in all areas by distancing all table, chairs, and workstations. We do not offer a buffet anymore, but we are considering a remodel in the future to develop a better food experience for our customers. In addition everyone wears a mask until their food arrives. Masks wearing is monitored and everyone is expected to have their face mask put back upon completion of their meal.” Bonakdar states.

Bonakdar talk about his kitchen staff and what they done to prep for this reopening. “Chef Aaron and his culinary team have done an amazing job along with F&B management in training our team and ensuring we provide the highest level of service and food offering to our patrons. I personally eat at Embers regularly and I am pleased with the progress and the safety of our food delivery and service. On July 26th we initiated a new menu in Embers which included some additional food entrees from the Groove. We have also decided to reopen the Groove with full service as our business has picked up and we need additional seating. Initially during the reopening the Groove was utilized for overflow seating and bar service due to social distancing.”

On the new menu they offer a great selection of breakfast, lunch and dinner entrees. Bonakdar says “We have also added a variety of specials and appetizers. Our goal is to even improve this new menu by mid-August. I personally like to thank our F&B staff for doing an incredible job and for their patience. Our marketing team is doing their best to ensure we can creatively present the great service and food presentation at all our outlets to continue improving the

public’s perception of our business to even make it better. I think food and indoor dining is still an area most people have concerns with. That is why all of our entrees have food coverings as you have seen during a catered dining experience. This extra attention to 5-star service has also gained us numerous accolades on our dining experience from numerous customers with us. We are not perfect and we are still short staffed at times, but I feel we are on the right track. Furthermore, we just received information from Midwest Gaming Magazine which usually surveys over 40,000 that we were awarded the Best Overall Casino Resort in WI. The survey process started prior to the pandemic but the results were just shared. One of the categories we also won was the buffet! As I mentioned before even though the buffet is closed now, we know it was very popular. Therefore there will certainly be some consideration on a variety of future dining options for our customers. We will make sure to provide more detail in the coming weeks on our progress.”

Another area pertaining to F&B what North Star has done for the Employee dining. Bonakdar states “Again our F&B culinary team has done a wonderful job developing special menus and entrees to safely feed our valuable employees. This week we celebrated our superhero’s “our employees” for practicing safety protocols and wearing their face mask. A special tee shirt was made for them with superhero symbols, plus additional safety supplies, and an international menu for each day of the week. As you can see we plan to continue improving our employees experience too as we move forward on all shifts to ensure they can do their best to keep us safe.”

With the Covid-19 Pandemic here North Star Casino is definitely trying to bring back the super star service they offered before this began. Limited menu and specials at the moment but Michael Bonakdar and his staff are working hard to make the proper safety measures for quests, employees and the community.



Tynea cont from page One:

volleyball, basketball, softball and track and field, as well as receive four, 4-year participant awards in each sport,” said Tynea. “One of the most important core values both the Menominee Tribe and Stockbridge-Munsee Community have instilled in me is the importance of family,” said Tynea. “In my community, family is the foundation of all that we do. When someone is hurting, we extend our hands to help and our ears to listen. When someone accomplished a goal, there are congratulations provided from all. When we head out into the world to chase our dreams, we always know we can reach out to our community family when we hit a road block and they will be there to offer advice or guidance.”

“This is a top down approach. When something happens in my community the first person you see reaching out is our Tribal President. If she cannot help, she works hard to pull together the right people to remedy the situation,” added Tynea.

“When I am a part of a team, that team becomes and is treated like my family,” said Tynea. “The success of our team depends on the bond that our family builds. They do not call me ‘Mama T’ for nothing. I work very hard to be a positive role model for the underclassmen and I take the time to help them out as much as I can. This is both on and off the court or field, in hopes that they too will mentor and guide other underclassmen. When issues arise, we call for a family meeting and we work through those issues, clearing the air before our next game or practice.”

“My older brothers influenced me to become a student-athlete,” said Tynea. “It was their competitiveness with each other and their friends that first sparked

my interest. A wealth of talent in football, basketball, soccer and baseball, two of them worked really hard at all they did and one had an unbelievable natural talent in every sport he tried. Watching them compete and seeing how the underclassman and elementary students looked up to them made me want to be just like them, except I challenged myself to be better than them.”

“I also had one very inspirational coach named Ray Murphy, who coached middle school basketball,” said Tynea. “I will always remember him telling me, ‘if half of the other players on the team worked as hard as you and had half the heart you do, we would never lose a game.’ It is his words that I hear in my head when I want to give up, and those words are the reason I always give 110% each and every time I hit the court or practice field.”

“One other aspect that keeps me working hard is the commendations I have and continue to receive from other coaches, officials and spectators from competing venues,” said Tynea. “Their words of encouragement sometimes mean the most to me, it feels good to know that win or lose, my hard work, leadership and sportsmanship is noticed.”

“One thing many people do not know about me is that I am a special needs student,” said Tynea. “Being diagnosed with a seizure disorder at a young age has provided numerous setbacks for me academically, but I have not let that slow me down. Yes, I have to work two times harder than other kids my age, and I am probably more stressed than most, but I use athletics as a release.”

“Never let anyone tell you, you cannot do something,” said Tynea. “When you hear those words, working hard is all you have left.”

On Tuesday, August 18, 2020, the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Council held a Regular Tribal Council Meeting and at that time the following actions were taken:

Roll Call:

Shannon Holsey; Present
Jolene Bowman; Present
Terrie Terrio; Present
Jeremy Mohawk; Present
Martin Welch; Present
Marv Malone; Present
Craig Kroening Jr.; Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA-

ADD: Wisconsin Conservative

Voices

Clarification on Census

Motion by Jeremy Mohawk to approve the agenda with the additions. Seconded by Martin Welch. Motion carried.

OPEN AGENDA-

MEETING MINUTES: Regular Tribal Council Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, August 4, 2020

Special Tribal Council Meeting Minutes of Monday, August 10, 2020

Motion by Jeremy Mohawk to approve Regular Tribal Council Meeting Minutes of August 4, 2020. Seconded by Marv Malone.

Roll Call: Jeremy, yes, Marv yes, Terrie yes, Martin yes, Craig abstain and Jolene yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jeremy Mohawk to approve the Special Tribal Council Meeting Minutes of Monday, August 10, 2020. Seconded by Marv Malone. Motion carried.

PRESS RELEASE FOR STOCKBRIDGE MEETING HOUSE PROJECT-Heather Bruegl, Director of Cultural Affairs

Motion by Jeremy Mohawk to approve Historic Preservation to issue press release publicizing Stockbridge Meeting House archaeology project per National Parks Service grant agreement requirement. Seconded by Martin Welch. Motion carried.

CULTURAL EASEMENT-SOUL FIRE FARM, GRAFTON NY-Heather Bruegl, Director of Cultural Affairs

Motion by Jeremy Mohawk to approve and sign Cultural Easement Agreement with Soul Fire Farm, Grafton New York and designate point of contract. Seconded by Martin Welch. Motion carried.

WILLIAMS COLLEGE MOU-Heather Bruegl, Director of Cultural Affairs

Motion by Terrie K. Terrio to approve and sign Williams College MOU for free office space and partnership in Williamstown, Massachusetts pending Legal approval. Seconded by Jeremy Mohawk. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION AND PRESS RELEASE OPPOSING PIPELINE E-37-Heather Bruegl, Director of Cultural Affairs

Motion by Jolene Bowman to adopt resolution 058-20, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Stockbridge-Munsee Community opposes the proposed alignment of the Pipeline E37 project through Papscaanee Island due to cultural resource concerns and calls upon the State of New York and the Army Corps of Engineers to do the same. Seconded by Terrie K. Terrio. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (posting): June 2020, Amanda Stevens, CFO

Motion by Jolene Bowman to post the financial statements from June 2020. Seconded by Martin Welch. Motion carried.

REQUEST FOR NAMES & ADDRESSES-Kristy Malone, SM Elderly Services

Motion by Jeremy Mohawk to approve the request of the list of names and addresses of all enrolled elders living in our service area. Seconded by Marv Malone.

Roll Call: Jeremy yes, Marv yes, Terrie abstain, Martin yes, Craig yes and Jolene yes. Motion carried.

LIMITED WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY-Andrew Miller, SMHWC Director

1. Motion by Terrie K. Terrio to adopt resolution 059-20, Now Therefor Be It Resolved, the waiver of sovereign immunity for the Tribe is also limited to the terms and conditions set forth below: The limited waiver of the Tribe's sovereign immunity is granted only to and for the benefit of the parties identified as part of the agreement(s) that the Tribe has executed and shall not extend to any other entity or person.

2. The limited waiver of the Tribe's sovereign immunity contained in this Resolution shall be effective only after the parties' officially designated representatives have executed the agreement(s) and shall only be for the term of the agreement(s).

3. Nothing contained in this Resolution shall be deemed consent to levy of any judgment, lien, or attachment upon any property or interest in property of the Stockbridge-Munsee Community.

4. The limited waiver of sovereign immunity granted and approved through this Resolution does not waive the sovereign immunity of any official, employee, member or agent of the Tribe.

5. Any dispute resolution action against the Tribe, as consented to through this limited waiver of sovereign immunity, shall be brought in the form and venue identified in the agreement(s). Seconded by Martin Welch.

Roll Call: Jeremy opposed, Marv

yes, Terrie yes, Martin yes, Craig yes, and Jolene yes. Motion carried.

LIMITED WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY-Storage Pods-Andrew Miller, SMHWC Director

Motion by Terrie K. Terrio to approve a purchase of 2 climate-controlled storage pods for the SMHWC. The pods will be used to store PPE supplies. The purchase would be funded from IHS provided funds through CARES Act and, we are waiving the bid policy to use the vendor Pac-Van as it was the only vendor in town. Seconded by Martin Welch.

Roll Call: Jeremy abstain, Marv yes, Terrie yes, Martin yes, Craig yes, and Jolene yes. Motion carried.

WISCONSIN CONSERVATIVE VOICE-Shannon Holsey, President

Motion by Jolene Bowman to approve the Wisconsin Native Vote and authorize the President's signature. Seconded by Martin Welch. Motion carried.

CLARIFICATION OF CENSUS-Shannon Holsey, President

Motion by Jeremy Mohawk to approve with the guidelines set as discussed, nonresponsive follow-up with parameters discussed which would include social distancing, face mask wearing and making sure the worker identifies themselves as a Census worker. Seconded by Terrie K. Terrio. Motion carried.

BOARD / COMMITTEE SELECTIONS:

Motion by Jolene Bowman to appoint Beau Miller to the Investment Committee. Seconded by Martin Welch. Motion carried.

Motion by Jolene Bowman to appoint Patrick Jacobs to the Land Committee. Seconded by Martin Welch. Motion carried.

Motion by Jolene Bowman to appoint Patrick Jacobs to the Family Center Board. Seconded by Terrie K. Terrio.

Roll Call: Jeremy yes, Marv yes, Terrie yes, Martin yes, Craig abstain, and Jolene yes. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-

Motion by Jolene Bowman to go into Executive Session. Seconded by Jeremy Mohawk. Motion carried at 5:28 PM.

Motion by Martin Welch to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Jeremy Mohawk. Motion carried. Motion carried at 6:24 PM.

While in Executive Session discussion was held on an audit, appeal hearings, denial requests, land acquisition and Enrollment minutes.

Motion by Martin Welch to accept the audit of Program 220. Seconded by Craig Kroening, Jr.

Roll Call: Jeremy yes, Marv yes, Terrie yes, Martin yes, Craig

yes, and Jolene abstain. Motion carried.

Motion by Jeremy Mohawk to approve Enrollment Committee Meeting minutes of July 23, 2020 and the actions are, this one needs clarification on the motion that was done by the committee by Terrance, it would be with Walter Wilbur, there are questions on that and we need some clarification on that and get a recommendation and have that sent back to Tribal Council. Seconded by Terrie K. Terrio.

Motion maker amends motion to add: to set aside Walter Wilbur actions until it can be presented to the Tribal council. Second concurs.

Roll Call: Jeremy yes, Marv yes, Terrie yes, Martin yes, Craig abstain and Jolene yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jeremy Mohawk to deny enrollment to Crystal M. Malone. Seconded by Jolene Bowman.

Roll Call: Jeremy yes, Marv abstain, Terri abstain, Martin abstain, Craig yes and Jolene yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jeremy Mohawk to approve enrollment for Dakota Sky Adams at the blood quantum of ¼. Seconded by Martin Welch. Motion carried.

Motion by Jeremy Mohawk to approve enrollment for Kennedy Skidmore as ¼ Stockbridge-Munsee. Seconded by Martin Welch. Motion carried.

Motion by Jeremy Mohawk to approve enrollment for Ashley Rudesill as ¼ Stockbridge-Munsee.

Seconded by Martin Welch. Motion carried.

For the record Councilmember Kroening abstained from the minutes which was tied to Walter Wilbur because of one motion. He did want to vote on the minutes. There were two things tied to one and he abstained from the motion tied to Walter Wilbur and not the minutes.

Motion by Terrie K. Terrio that the following individuals have failed to submit a request to contest their initial enrollment denial. This is the second denial for: Kyle Hennessey, Elizabeth Hennessey, Tikola Miller, Erin Plass, Jason Plass, Richard Elmergreen, Thomas Kaquatosh, Benjamin Burr, Derrick Williams, James Agen, Kathi Arnold, Katrina Arnold, Kaylei Haley, Mark Coyhis and Peter Hetzer. Seconded by Jeremy Mohawk.

Roll Call: Jeremy yes, Marv yes, Terrie yes, Martin yes, Craig yes and Jolene abstain. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT-

Motion by Jeremy Mohawk to adjourn. Seconded by Martin Welch. Motion carried at 6:29 PM.

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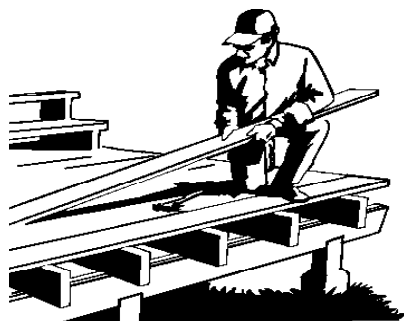
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Executive Director Allen Quinney

Lodge cont from page One:
under Tribal Council to do a space allocation plan and look at the cost of all the buildings that we had and when that study came back, we realized that we had to do something. Linda Katchenago, the Tribal Administrator led a workgroup that worked with an architectural firm to complete a space needs assessment. In 2017, Venture Architects, a firm out of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, reported their findings to the seated Tribal Council. Of the twelve facilities that were

assessed for overall condition of structures three were identified as not being in good condition and most disturbing was that of the then current total existing workspaces available were 56% short of recommended space needed for such operations. In other words, the Tribe was functioning and carrying out the various service and business operations in spaces that was significantly smaller than the recommended space required to perform such duties. The Tribe had become very good at making do with the current facilities; doubling, tripling and even quadrupling staff in designated workspaces. It was just a normal response to the growing organization. However once COVID-19 hit; the Tribe quickly realized that in order to meet CDC standards to keep employees and customers safe they needed to change. The Tribe quickly implemented various policies that would allow tele-working and alternative work scheduling, to reduce the number of employees in each workspace. Pre-Health Screenings prior to entering the workplace and an all employee COVID-Testing initiative were implemented as well. The opportunity to purchase the

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Konkapot Lodge and convert it into office space, increasing the number of available offices by twenty-eight; will significantly increase the Tribe’s ability to create safe working spaces to address the need to separate and socially distance staff. “At the heart of everything we do, is the health and wellbeing of our nation and employees, President Holsey stated, “COVID 19 really exposed our vulnerabilities and the need for more space due to our organizational growth over the years. As one of the largest employers in the county COVID-19 has accelerated the trend for exploring alternative delivery of services and it has also revealed its limitations – in a knowledge economy, an organization’s success will still depend on face-to-face interaction, collaboration and serendipity. With universal flexible working, the office space of Konkapot Lodge could become a vital anchor.”

In 2019 the Tribe approved a site-designate for future development which included future planning for a Tribal Office campus style near the current Stockbridge-Munsee Health & Wellness Center. That concept included the construction of four facilities. The current purchase of the Konkapot Lodge, which located along the County Highway A corridor, that has water, sewer, and electric infrastructure in place fits nicely with the 2015 Strategic Plan that was approved by the Tribal Council. When asked about logistical issues surrounding buying a log structure, Quinney said, “A log building is going to need routine maintenance every five or six years. It may need to be landscaped a little bit and we will dedicate staff to the maintenance”. He added that employees in the offices will be responsible for some of their own cleaning considering the Covid-19 situation. “However, we are

excited about it and feel that it is pretty much a plug and play type of deal. We are looking at maybe changing out the card systems for locks on the doors, but it doesn’t need much more than that”, added Quinney. Terrie said, “With that Covid-19 money available the opportunity to buy the Konkapot Lodge was presented. We ended up paying a fair price for that building and you cannot build a building with 28 offices in it for that amount of money. That does not include the meeting space in the office space and there’s other rooms that are available in that building. We had it inspected and the family that owned it took excellent care of it”. Holsey added, “What makes COVID-19 such a strange phenomenon is that its immediate impact will be to push organizations in the opposite direction – they will need more space per employee. Companies have been squeezing more and more people into existing available space for a long time. However, for our Tribe to operate safely and maintain physical distancing, ratios will have to shoot up again, with shifts, staggered start times and continued remote working essential. It’s too early to say whether we will ever again feel comfortable occupying space in such close proximity to others, which makes the longer-term impact on office requirements very hard to gauge”. This purchase allows the Tribe to greatly reduce shared office spaces throughout operations and reconfigure existing office space to increase efficiencies while also allowing the members of Konkapot Enterprises, Inc. to move onto the next adventure securely knowing that the Konkapot name will continue to be honored by the Tribe during its ownership of the building. (Linda Mohawk-Katchenago contributed to this article).

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