

MOHICAN NEWS

The people of the waters that are never still

Mohican News Special Edition Limited Shutdown to Essential Services due to COVID-19



In order to best protect their employees while maintaining needed services, the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Council made the difficult decision to implement a limited shutdown of tribal operations to critical services in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

This shutdown will begin as of Thursday September 24, 2020 (9/24/2020) at the close of the business day for approximately two (2) weeks.

Tribal Council hopes to resume more operations after October 13, 2020, but the Council may need to reassess this approach depending on public health conditions.

Also, all employees will be required to take a COVID test and

receive a negative result before returning to the workplace.

Please keep monitoring the Tribe's COVID-19 website, which can be reached from www.mohican.com, for updates on the required COVID testing procedure and return to work guidance as it gets closer to October 13, 2020.

Employees are expected to shelter in place in compliance with the Tribe's Health Order during the shutdown.

The Tribal Council understands the financial burden that this shutdown will place on employees who are temporarily furloughed. Therefore, the Tribal Council is authorizing special paid leave for employees who are not working during this ini-

tial shutdown. Employees will be paid their regular average weekly wage during this period and normal group health plan benefits remain in place.

The Tribal Council intends to keep tribal government and businesses, other than the Casino (**which will be closed**), functioning in a more limited capacity during this time.

The managers and directors will be working with the employees over the next day to identify employees who will continue to provide services and how such services will be handled.

The tribe wants to operate as safely as possible, so additional limits may be put in place if needed.

The Tribal Council will be bringing employees back from furlough in their same jobs once it can resume normal operations. However, if the shutdown

continues beyond October 13, 2020, they will be reevaluating their operational path forward. The Tribal Council understands that employees will need to explore other options if the shutdown last longer than the anticipated two (2) weeks.

The Tribal Council is working hard to plan a way forward that looks out for the physical and financial well-being of its employees and community. Tribal Council recognizes this is an extraordinary situation and are trying to responsibly manage tribal resources in a way that recognizes short term and long-term tribal goals as well as the needs of its members and employees.

Thank you for your understanding, be kind to one another, and stay healthy and safe.

Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Council

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We are a resilient people who overcome difficulty every day. Throughout our history, we've been counted out more times than we can remember. No matter the difficulty, however, we survive by working together. When we need each other most, we stand together; this is one of those times. We have authorized a number of measures to be implemented to help place limits on opportunities for virus transmission while maintaining essential but limited operations and services with closure of most of the Tribal Government, North Star Casino, Little Star C-store and other areas of operation beginning September 24, 2020 until October 13, 2020, and will continue access on an ongoing basis. You can find information regarding open operations and hours of service that are listed in this Mohican News edition as well as at our Mohican.com webpage.

We ask for your cooperation patience and understanding during this critical time of COVID-19 viral resurgence. Wisconsin has experienced one of the highest percentage increases of the coronavirus over the past two weeks and has the second-highest rate of positive coronavirus tests in the nation according to Reuters tally.

The Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Council recognizes this tribal community is also seeing a surge



in positive COVID-19 infections as well as our surrounding areas. The recent public health conditions caused by the COVID-19 virus, a communicable disease, require this Community to implement stricter protective measures until infection rates are better controlled.

The closeness of our tribal community and employees presents many challenges regarding socially distancing and the need to want to be together while keeping one another safe. But those ties also strengthen our ability to support one another during times of great need and truly defines what is so special about our Tribe. That is why the current requirements are so hard to follow.

However, with the thresholds of our matrix and in counsel of our Medical Director, Dr. Lundin and with the guidance of GLITC Epidemiology Director, Dr. Gonzalez, we have exceeded safe numbers to continue operations. And most importantly for the safety and wellbeing of our Community we made the decision to close.

The high number of positive COVID-19 case epitomizes the urgent importance of continued diligence. Masks, social distancing, frequent hand-washing and limited group contact are the best way to show your Mohican pride and protect the community, especially our most vulnerable members.

To that end, the Tribal Council issued a new Order directing people who live on tribal lands, as well as tribal employees who are on leave from work, to isolate and shelter in place at their home to limit opportunities for infection and to transmit the COVID-19 virus to others. People are permitted to travel to the extent necessary for medical care, for essential work, or to purchase necessary supplies.

The October 10, 2020 tribal election remains scheduled and tribal members are permitted to travel as necessary to vote in the election.

This week will conclude our second mandatory all employee testing and will continue to test our employees and community on a frequent basis to curve and manage the spread of the coronavirus.

We are implementing serious measures to protect our Nation especially our Elders, children, and the most vulnerable members of our community – the residents

at the Ella Besaw Center. We are implementing a ban on in-person visitors and residents leaving the facility other than for necessary medical appointments. We recognize the terrible consequences the virus had throughout the Country and are taking these drastic measures in hopes of reducing the virus outbreak in our Community.

We anticipate that we will need to implement additional measures as conditions develop in our area. We are restricting operations to essential services. We hope the situation does not require a total shutdown of operations for a period of time, but it is something we will consider if it is necessary for the health, safety and well-being of our community and employees.

For now, we encourage you to comply with public health guidance and directions since the virus has yet to be contained. The Tribal Council is working proactively to provide necessary resources and support. We all need to do our part to control the spread of this disease.

Last, but certainly not least, we applaud the people working so hard to keep our Community safe during this crisis. We understand it mentally exhausting and there is fear, no doubt. Your dedication is proven by your presence at work and in our Community by consistently fostering a safe environment for all, by following the safety protocols the tribe has instituted. Everyone, please remain safe and healthy; we will get through this. "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."- Helen Keller.

Shannon Holsey, Tribal President

SMC COVID-19 \$1,000 EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Tribal Council approved a one-time reimbursement of eligible expenses or direct payment to a vendor for eligible expenses up to \$1,000.

Very similar to the COVID-19 General Assistance Program for \$500, the SMC COVID-19 Emergency Assistance program will provide financial assistance to SMC Tribal members 18 and over who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

This program is made possible through funding from the Federal Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

In addition to being a SMC Tribal member 18 and over, the applicant must have a hardship due to COVID-19 and provide evidence of eligible expenses, such as paid receipts and invoices that include the vendor information. Expenses must be incurred between March 15, 2020 and December 1, 2020. Eligible expenses that would be considered are:

1. Housing/Shelter (House payment, Rent, Security Deposit)
2. Utilities (Electric, Water/Sewer, Heating)
3. Groceries, Cleaning Supplies, PPE
4. Elder/Disabled Care
5. Child Care
6. Career Services (Vehicle Payment, Vehicle Insurance, Vehicle Repairs, Uniform/Work Boots, Licenses, Laptop/Computer)
7. Repairs (Heating, Electrical, Plumbing)
8. Appliances (Stove, Refrigerator, Washer/Dryer)
9. Generator

Paid receipts and/or invoices that include vendor information MUST accompany the completed application for payment to be processed.

Reimbursement can be made by check or direct deposit to the applicant's bank. Payment may also be made directly to a vendor on their behalf by submitting an invoice showing their account number.

Completed applications along with the required receipt/invoice documentation must be submitted by the deadline of December 1, 2020 by 4:00 p.m. via mail, electronically or in person.

By mail:

Stockbridge-Munsee Community
C/O Lori Robinson
PO Box 70
Bowler, WI 54416

Electronically: lori.robinson@mohican-nsn.gov

In-person (by drop box):

Stockbridge-Munsee Division of Community Housing
C/O Lori Robinson
N8618 Oak St
Bowler, WI 54416

During the Tribal Government shut down, applications will still be received and processed on a weekly basis. Please stay safe, stay at home, wash your hands, don't touch your face, wear your mask, social distance, stay away from large gatherings, and be kind to one another. As a Tribe, we can get through this together.

Services Available and Contact Numbers During the COVID-19 Shutdown

Tribal Operations from September 25th through October 13th, 2020 will be as follows.

Ella Besaw Center will provide services as usual, no visitors. Contact **Erin Lewis at 715-793-4530.**

Agricultural, Forestry and Land Management Offices are closed. Emergency contact for any of these services is **Chad Miller at 715-881-0525.**

The **Arvid Miller Library-Museum** is closed. The Language Classes will proceed as scheduled, being completed virtually. Emergency contact for Cultural Affairs is **Heather Bruegl at 248-767-7309.**

Internal Mail Services will be provided once a day, from 9am-1pm. Contact **Simone Duxtater** for assistance with the internal mail at **715-881-0627.**

Food Distribution will be operational, hours of operation Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm. Contact **Jill Duffek at 715-793-4941.**

Dairy Products Distributions will continue Wednesdays, Check the www.mohican.com for postings.

Elderly Services will be open with reduced services, meal delivery and well-being check. Elderly Services Contact number is **715-793-4236.** **The Eunice Stick Gathering Place is closed.**

Economic Support will remain operational providing contactless application pick-ups and drop-offs. All phones will be forward to staff. Contact numbers: **Crystal Malone at 715-793-4032, Rose Strege, 715-793-4862 and Roland Bierman at 715-793-4860.**

Indian Child Welfare is available for emergency services. Contact **Teresa Juga at 715-793-4580.**

Family Social Worker/CST will be available for emergency services. Contact **Miranda Vele at 715-793-3044.**

Hunting tags during the Shutdown

Tribal members can receive their fall hunting tags by calling Molly or Sterling and coordinating pick up at Public Safety. Sterling can be reached at 715-881-0401
Molly can be reached at 715-793-4555

Permittee's can obtain their fall hunting tags by purchasing their permit on-line on the SMC website at Mohican.com. Go to Services and click on Conservation. Once your payment has been made, save your receipt – print it, download it or take a picture of it. You can bring or email your receipt to Molly or Sterling at public safety or text a copy to Sterling.
Be safe and good luck hunting!

OVW Service will be available for emergency services. Contact **Kori Price at 715-793-4863.**

Family Services will be closed to the public. Weekly lesson plans will continue to be delivered via video post. Kori Price will continue to deliver boxes on Fridays as usual. Kori Price can be contacted at **715-793-4905.**

LP GAS The office will be closed to the public but call 715-793-4832 for assistance or with questions.

Drivers will provide services as usual, call 715-881-0605 or 715-881-0885

Medical Transport will be working as needed for transporting. For Transportation need **call 715-793-5040.**

Child Support will operate at reduced services. **Contact Gregg Duffek at 715-793-4036.**

Grants Writer will provide services via online and continue to monitor and submit grant applications as available. **Call 715-851-6680 for Jill Tiegs.**

Tribal Administrator will continue to be available. **Call 715-793-4355 or e-mail: linda.katchenago@mohican-nsn.gov**

Executive Director will continue to be available. **Call 715-793-3052 or 715-853-1458**

Environmental Office will be closed.

Ecology and Hydrology offices will be closed.

Enrollment Offices will be closed.

Mohican News will be open with reduced services. Contact **Jeff Vele at 715-793-4388.**

Stockbridge-Munsee Health and Wellness Center Clinic operations for the next 2 weeks, **September 25th**

through October 13th, 2020 will be 8:00am – 4:30pm.

Patients will not be allowed in the building without an appointment. All patients will be required to answer symptom questions and have their temperatures taken before being allowed in the clinic. All patients will be required to wear a mask when in the building.

Department operations will be as follows:

Medical (providers and nurses) – will be available for reduced services, COVID-19 testing and flu vaccinations. Patients with non-respiratory illness / non-COVID-19 illness will be seen in the morning. Those with any symptoms that possibly could be COVID-19 will be seen in the afternoon. **Call 715-793-5087 for appointments.**

Lab and Radiology will be available as needed.

Dental – Dental will close down except for emergency dental needs. **Call 715-793-5019 for appointments.**

Behavior Health – Behavior Health will be open for telehealth appointments, and limited availability for in-person counseling. **Call 715-793-3000** for appointments.

Pharmacy – Pharmacy will be open but will utilize a pharmacy runner system. Patients will not be allowed in Pharmacy; they will be required to use the pharmacy runner system to have medications delivered to them in the front of the building. **Call 715-793-5027**

Chiropractor – Chiropractor services will NOT be available.

Physical Therapy – Physical Therapy service will NOT be available. The clinic will utilize PRC when needed.

Community Health – Community Health services will be limited. Elder care will still be available but limited to those visits that are essential. Staff will call patients prior to visiting a patient to ask if the patient has any COVID symptoms. Dietician and Diabetic Education will be closed. **Call 715-793-4144**

Medical Records - Medical Records will be available by telephone to patients, but in a reduced capacity. **Call 715-793-4144**

Business Office – Business Office will be available by telephone to patients, but in a reduced capacity. **Call 715-793-4144**

PRC / Referrals - PRC / Referrals will be available by telephone to patients, but in a reduced capacity. **Call 715-793-5011**

Message from the Health Center: To all our patients, please stay home during this partial shut-down. If you do not absolutely need to leave your house, stay home! By doing so, you will help our more vulnerable community members stay safe. You may be saving someone's life.

STOCKBRIDGE-MUNSEE TRIBAL COURT

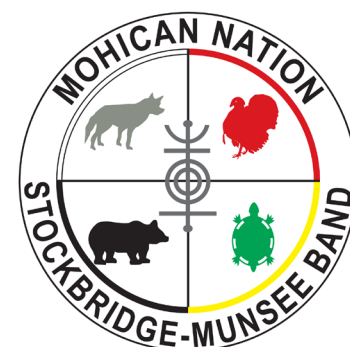
NOTICE OF EMERGENCY TEMPORARY MEASURES

In response to Tribal Council's Public Health Order 062-20, the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Court will be limiting operations to telephonic hearings and electronic filings.

Parties with hearings scheduled between September 25 – October 13, 2020 will use the call-in info located in the Notice of Hearing/Court Date previously provided to them. Filings must be submitted through the Court's website under the "submit E-File Here" tab. Filing fees must be paid through the Court's website under the "Tribal Court Filing Fee Payment" tab. Rules controlling E-filing and all court forms can be found on the Court's website.

The Deputy Clerk of Courts may be reached by email at: Brittany.kroening@mohican-nsn.gov.

Thank you, Travis Miller, J.D. Chief Judge Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Court



S/M COVID Plan – September 22, 2020

The Stockbridge-Munsee Community has put many protective measures in place that have successfully controlled the spread of COVID-19 while allowing governmental and business functioning to occur at appropriate levels given the rate of virus spread, along with the resources available to help those whom have contracted the virus. This includes following the Public Health Order that is in effect until November 30th.

This document is the basic framework will be applied to determine what public health measures are required to continue controlling the spread of COVID-19 within our operations until an effective vaccine is widely available to the public. Please be aware that this is a very fluid process and updates could be made to this matrix, so to keep informed continue to go to Mohican .com or the Stockbridge-Munsee Community Government Facebook page. You can also call the Toll-Free Number at 1-833-679-0136 with any COVID related questions. Always use precautions (mask, hand washing, and distancing). "The COVID Plan graphic was created from the written plan introduced 7 months ago with updates made along the way. This narrative was crafted into a culturally responsive graphic as a quick reference that depicts a visual explanation to complex challenges," said Vice-President Dr. Bowman.

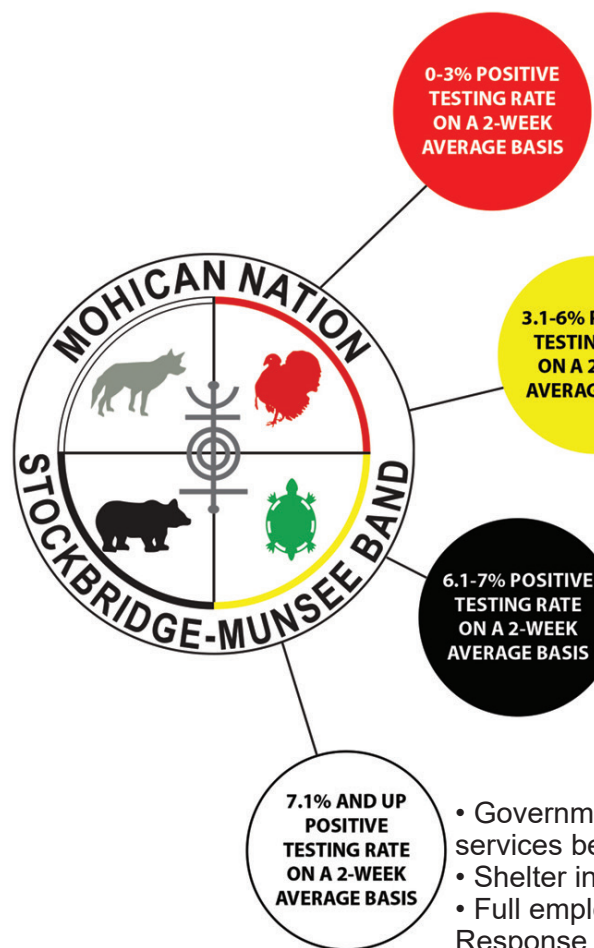
Target Data Response (Contact Tracer Data)

-If Contact Tracing Data suggest certain activities or locations are the point of COVID-19 spread, targeted measures shall be taken to address and special concern.

-If outside community traffic/visitors are bringing the virus into the community, a stricter curfew may be instituted to limit outside visitors.

-If a certain building is the point of transmission, that building will be shut down and deep cleaned for a period based on medical advice.

-If a certain activity is the point of transmission, that activity will be shut down until additional safety practices can be put in place with the assistance of medical advice.



WE WILL FIGHT THIS TOGETHER, SO THAT WE GET THROUGH IT TOGETHER!

- Building capacity of 50% or less.
 - Direct and Indirect Contact Tracing.
 - Every other month full employee testing.
 - Building capacity of 30% or less.
 - Direct Contact Tracing is the focus to ensure Contact Tracers can immediately isolate those at greatest risk to spread the virus.
 - Full employee testing monthly.
 - Alternative scheduling and Telework are fully implemented.
 - Building capacity of 20% or less.
 - Direct Contact Tracing is the focus to ensure Contact Tracers can immediately isolate those at greatest risk to spread the virus and additional Tracers may be needed.
 - Full employee testing monthly.
 - Community testing events held.
 - Minimal on-site staffing with Telework emphasized.
 - Restaurants are carryout only with curbside carryout offered.
 - Table games and bingo closed.
 - Government and business shut down for two (2) weeks with essential services being offered.
 - Shelter in place order issued.
 - Full employee and community testing at the end of the 2-week period.
- Response reset based on the positivity rate outcome of this testing event

Magnificent Mohicans by Yvette Malone



David Besaw. was born on May 4, 1944.and he was a bachelor.

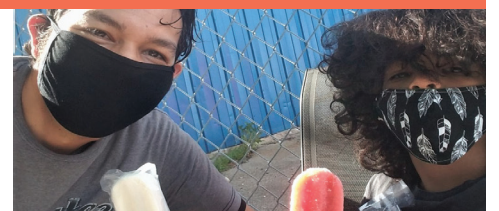
Dave was the epitome of a community helper. He was considered the medicine man of the community for his knowledge of natural medicines from the land. He collected medicine and dried them at his own home and would help folks out that came to him. Tobacco was all that was needed for his knowledge. He passed this on to Misty Davids Cook so it would not be lost.

Indian health has been the major focus for over 40 years of Dave's life as he was instrumental in

starting up the Stockbridge-Munsee tribe's first health care center in the early 1970's. He was the first Community Health Representative (CHR) for the Tribe in 1970. Dave then worked for the Indian Health Service in education for two years. In 1974, Dave became the first health care employee for the Tribe, eventually being hired as the director of the clinic for 19½ years. Dave held that position until his retirement, due to health reasons, in November 1992. He served on numerous boards and was a tribal council member.

He continued his work in the health field even in retirement as the Activities Director for the Ella Besaw Center for a while and collected medicines, following in the footsteps of his mother Ella Besaw, a tribal medicine woman, for whom the Center is named.

Dave loved to sing and lead his friends in song, he loved his community. His community loved him. He was known as a medicine man. He was definitely a Magnificent Mohican. Dave passed at the age of 67.



PROTECT OUR PEOPLE FROM COVID-19

When you take steps to stay safe during COVID-19, you lower the risk for everyone around you—because we're all connected. Learning how to protect your tribe can help protect everyone in Wisconsin.

- Wear a mask in public**
- Keep 6 feet apart**
- Stay home if you can**
- Wash your hands**
- Symptoms? Get tested**

YOU STOP THE SPREAD

dhs.wisconsin.gov/COVID19

Status of Membership Ordinance Amendments

The Stockbridge-Munsee Constitution addresses the process for promulgating membership ordinances in Article III, Section 4, which provides that the Tribal Council can adopt such ordinances subject to the approval of the Secretary of Interior.

SEC. 4. The Tribal Council shall have authority to promulgate ordinances, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, governing the adoption of new members and loss of membership in the Community.

The amendments to Chapter 44, the Tribe's Membership Ordinance, that the Tribal Council adopted on December 3, 2019 were adopted under this section of the Tribe's Constitution. This means the amendments to Chapter 44 cannot become effective without federal approval in accordance with this constitutional requirement.

The central feature of these 2019 amendments is a change in the way that blood quantum is calculated when people apply to be new members into the Tribe. The amendments establish that all persons identified as Stockbridge-Munsee on the January 1, 1940 Indian Census Roll of Stockbridge-Munsee Indians as well as on prior rolls, including the 1910 roll, back to the 1871 roll are treated as having full (4/4) Stockbridge-Munsee blood when calculating the blood quantum for new members. Additionally, full biological siblings to people on the 1940 roll, even if born after 1940, are also treated as having full Stockbridge-Munsee blood.

While the amendments to Chapter 44 do change the methodology for calculating blood

quantum in order to be eligible to be adopted as a new member of the Tribe, the amendments do not change the criteria used to determine eligibility. People who want to be adopted as a new member still need to show that they are of Stockbridge-Munsee descent and have a blood quantum of at least 1/4.

The Tribal Council shares the Community's interest in resolving these ordinance changes and continues to pressure the Bureau of Indian Affairs to complete their review with calls and letters. The Great Lakes Agency Office provided their comments and recommendations to the Midwest Region Office in January 2020. The Tribal Council has made a number of calls and sent two certified letters on the status of the approval process.

Most recently, the Tribal Council participated in a call with the Midwest Region, Tammy Poitra, Regional Director, on September 14, 2020. They were informed that the ordinance was still under legal review and that the Midwest Region hoped to provide the Tribe with a response within a month. They apologized for the delay and explained that their offices were operating with reduced staff and at limited operations due to the pandemic and they without a Director lead for a short time.

As the Tribe's Constitution requires federal approval for ordinances addressing membership, the Tribe cannot move forward with changes to Chapter 44 without federal action. The Tribal Council will keep you updated as to any developments.

Essential Employee Stickers During DOVID-19 Curfew Are Required



With the latest Public Health order Due to Covid-19- safety precautions were put in place.

One of the requirements was to establish a curfew between the hours of 12:00 AM to 5:00 AM. requiring persons to shelter at home during these hours.

But we have essential employee's, who still need to go to work.

President Holsey had curfew stickers made to easily allow Law Enforcement to identify employees traveling to and from their job during the curfew hours.

How do I receive my sticker?

On the tribal side:

Curfew stickers are available at public Safety building between the hours of 8:00-4:30 Monday through Friday. When you pick up your sticker, we will need the make, model and license plate



number and you will need you to initial by your name.

On the Casino side:

Casino essential workers will work with Gerald Miller to receive their sticker. The same information-make, model and plate number, and initials will be needed.

What happens if I am driving during the Curfew hours without a sticker?

Persons who are away from their homes during curfew hours are considered to be trespassing on tribal lands and subject to enforcement actions(s). This curfew does not apply to law enforcement, emergency responders, persons traveling for medical care, or persons permitted to travel for legitimate work and business purposes. If you have questions please call Molly at Public Safety - 715-793-4555.

Providing Food Resources

The Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Council has allocated CARES funding to provide food boxes to Tribal Member Households, living within Shawano County. Earlier this year, the Stockbridge-Munsee Community networked with the Hunger Task Force on initiatives to provide relief to the growing numbers of underfed and unemployed families. To date two very positive programs have been successful in providing food resource; Wisconsin Dairy Recovery Program and USDA Farmers to Families Food Box Program.

Hunger Task Force joined with the Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to create the Wisconsin Dairy Recovery Program. Wisconsin dairy farmers were paid to supply milk to farmer-owned dairy cooperative Kemps, who processes milk at a Cedarburg facility.

Hunger Task Force distributed milk to Free & local partner food banks and pantries through the Hunger Relief Federation of Wisconsin. Jill Duffek, FDP Supervisor and Crystal Malone, Economic Support Assistant Director, were instrumental in bringing this food resource to the Stockbridge-Munsee Community. The first delivery of milk and cheese was May 4, 2020. On average 192 gallons of milk has been distributed weekly. Other dairy items distributed were yogurt and cheese.

The second food resource that was brought to the Stockbridge-Munsee Community was the Farmers to Families Food Box

Program. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced that the USDA was exercising authority under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act to purchase and distribute agricultural products to those in need. The program supplied food boxes with fresh fruits and vegetables, meat products, dairy products, and combination boxes with a mixture of all the products. Tribal Members greatly relied on these products to supplement their household resources, with up 810 boxes being distributed at its peak. Unfortunately, it in round three of funding, no distribution vendor was chosen in the State of Wisconsin thus the food boxes will cease. The Stockbridge-Munsee

Tribal Council noted the significant number of Tribal Members who were utilizing this food resource and decided to work with a local merchant to provide food boxes of protein for Tribal Member households.

Tribal Council has allocated CARES funds to be used to provide food boxes for the months of September, October, November, and December. Charlies County Market of Shawano will work with the Tribe to arrange for distribution of protein boxes.

Hunger Task Force continues to advocate to USDA, to approve vendors in Wisconsin so that the Farmers to Families Food Boxes will return. At the time of this article there was no new development.



Covid-19 General Assistance Program

The Tribal Council approved a one-time reimbursement of expenses up to \$500 directly or a payment to a vendor for expenses. This general assistance program is made available through the CARES funding the Tribe received from the US Treasury.

To be eligible to participate in this general assistance program you must be an adult enrolled member age 18 and over at the time of application and demonstrate a need for assistance directly related to the Covid-19 pandemic. The following list would be considered direct impact:

1. Furloughed/Layoff from Employment
2. Unemployed during the pandemic (March 1st, 2020- December 1st, 2020)
3. Suspension of Medical Insurance
4. Reduction in work hours/pay
5. Expenses for Children home from school
6. Educational supplies needed or internet services
7. Increased food costs
8. Relatives living with you
9. COVID-related quarantine cost
10. Difficulty making rent/housing payment(s)
11. Difficulty making utility payments(s)
12. Increased cleaning, PPE, or in-home care and/or medical supplies due to age or medical condition
13. Underlying medical condition, requiring staying home to prevent exposure

For items 1-4, you should have a letter from your employer. For items 5-6, you should have a letter from your dependent children's school or college. For items 7-13, the Tribal Council's isolation order

COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Program

The Stockbridge-Munsee Community will continue to process applications for the COVID-19 Emergency Assistance Program.

This program is intended to provide financial assistance, not to exceed \$1,000.00, for rent, security deposits, utilities, and other wrap around services for adult SMC Tribal members.

Applications and additional information about this program can be found at Mohican.com. Please email Lori.Robinson@mohican-nsn.gov if you have questions, or need assistance.

Processing may be delayed slight-

or the Stay at Home or Safer at Home order the Governor of your state declared.

You need to submit receipts to be directly reimbursed.

Acceptable receipts would be for payment of rent, mortgage, electric, water, sewer, LP gas, fuel oil, internet, cellphone, groceries, personal protective equipment and supplies, and cleaning supplies. Reimbursement can be made by check to applicant or by direct deposit to the applicant's bank. The applicant will need to provide their banking information on their application. If the applicant is requesting a payment be made to a vendor on their behalf, they need to provide an invoice showing their account number.

Everyone has been impacted one way or another by this pandemic, and there should be no reason why they wouldn't qualify for this general assistance program. So far, the program has assisted over 329 tribal members. Fill out the application and provide your documentation and receipts (or invoice) and apply before the deadline of **December 1, 2020 at 4:00 pm.**

Submit completed applications:
By-mail: Stockbridge-Munsee Community
Covid-19 General Assistance
P.O. Box 70
Bowler, WI 54416

Electronically: covid19@mohican-nsn.gov

In-person (by drop box):
Tribal Office
N8476 Moh He Con Nuck Road
Bowler, WI 54416

Applications will still be received and processed on a weekly basis during the Tribal Government shut down. Please stay safe, stay at home, wash your hands, don't touch your face, wear your mask, social distance, stay away from large gatherings, and be kind to one another. As a Tribe, we can

ly due to limited staff – however we will continue to do our best to provide assistance in a timely manner.

In addition, the Stockbridge-Munsee Community will also continue to process applications for the COVID-19 Assistance (General Welfare) Program. This program is intended to provide assistance, not to exceed \$500.00, for individuals who have been directly impacted by COVID-19.

This application can also be found at Mohican.com. Please email Sheila.Miller@mohican-nsn.gov if you have questions, or need assistance.



PUBLIC NOTICE

THE STOCKBRIDGE-MUNSEE COMMUNITY WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE TRADITIONAL TRICK-OR-TREATING.

Watch for information on an alternative community event in lieu of Trick-or-Treating.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Council, by official motion on September 15, 2020, will not allow traditional trick-or-treating within the community.

Please stay safe and healthy.

Trick-or-Treating

Like so many other traditional activities the traditional Halloween trick-or-treating event will need to be revamped so that the little ghouls and goblins are kept safe. As well as the families who looked forward to handing out treats.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Council, by official motion, will not allow traditional trick-or-treating within the community. Under advisement of the Stockbridge-Munsee Health & Wellness Medical Director, Dr. Lundin and State Health officials, the Tribal Council took this action to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus.

According to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services going house-to-house and having in-person contact is not a good idea, according

The Mohican Family Center staff are organizing an alternative event that, keep your eyes posted for further updates.

Little Star Convenience Store Will be closing at 5:30 pm, today, September 24, 2020. Pay at pumps will be available. Tentative re-opening 6:00 am on October 13, 2020.

National Indian Gaming Association “My Vote Will Count” Campaign



Chairman Stevens joins the Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indian Tribal Council to further promote the Indian Gaming “My Vote Will Count” initiative. In the photo (L-R) Martin Welch, Tribal Council Member; Shannon Hosley, President, Stevens and Craig Kroenig, Jr., Tribal Council Member



Stevens out front of the beautiful North Star Casino in. with Gaming Commissioner Tony Granquist in Bowler, WI



Pictured Left: Stevens joins President Holsey, Vice President Jolene Bowman and Tribal Council Member Martin Welch



Stevens also visited with the Lac Du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Tribal Council in Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin.

Washington, D.C. – September 14, 2020

As the nation nears the upcoming 2020 elections, on November 3rd, National Indian Gaming Association Chairman Ernie Stevens, Jr., has been working on outreach to tribal communities to promote the importance of the Native American vote.

To promote the Indian Gaming “My Vote Will Count” initiative, Stevens visited with Shannon Holsey, President of the Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indian tribal council at the tribal headquarters in Bowler, Wisconsin.

During this visit, both Stevens and Holsey shared the importance of the Indian Country vote, sharing that native issues' prevalence during this election goes well beyond one setting and one story.

Holsey shared, "With the heightened political participation of Native people, Indian Country has become an increasingly powerful voting bloc. In recent years, the Native vote has been publicly acknowledged as making a pivotal difference in national, state, and local elections. Voting is a right which was not always afforded Native American's and something that is not only our civic responsibility but should be considered a sacred exercise of democracy."

"Representation matters. I believe this is going to be one of the most critical elections in our lifetimes long-standing, systemic issues that underpin differences in our communities." Holsey added, "Native American voters and communities now form a vital part of the demographic forces reshaping American politics and discourse in key areas. We need representation and allies to ensure that we can advance Indian Country's most pressing priorities."

Chairman Ernie Stevens, Jr., said, "I am inspired by the urgency of Native America to educate and ensure a clear understanding of tribal government gaming and tribal sovereignty overall. I believe the leadership and the communities they represent are the true educators. Before, during and immediately after the 2020 election will be key educational opportunities.

We must be loud and proud, yet respectful and diligent in our educational endeavors."

Stevens added, "These outreach events are a golden opportunity to educate our young citizens about the importance of becoming involved in the voting process. It also helps them understand and appreciate more about our Indian Country history, democracy and outreach. Our young vote has the potential to be extremely influential in this country."

In October 2019, the National Indian Gaming Association announced the creation of the gaming organizations Get Out the Vote campaign – "My Vote Will Count," leading up to the 2020 General Elections in November of 2020.

The National Indian Gaming Association developed this grassroots effort with partners, including Member Tribes, sister tribal organizations, and prominent events throughout Indian Country to educate, empower, and encourage all Native Americans to register to vote and commit to getting to the polls.

The grassroots efforts were forced to take a different path, with the impacts of COVID-19. Because many of our Indian country events and confabs were canceled, the "My Vote Will Count" initiative will look to all aspects of social media platforms as well as some outreach options with limited travel to encourage our young voters to vote.

Stevens shared, "Right now, we are sticking mostly to traveling to local areas of Wisconsin and are slowly expanding our travel to surrounding States." Chairman Stevens emphasized that all social distancing and safety precautions prioritize his travels to promote the vote.

One of the popular Native Vote give away items provided by the National Indian Gaming Association is the "United Vote 2020 T-shirts." Stevens said, "We've been able to deliver a limited number of t-shirts. They are delivered in sanitized and sealed boxes to tribes who are hosting their get out the vote initiatives."



STOCKBRIDGE-MUNSEE TRIBAL COURT
NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM AND RULES
GOVERNING ELECTRONIC FILING

The Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Court enacts revised rules establishing an electronic filing (e: filing) system and setting forth rules of procedure thereof. The revised rules are effective June 15, 2020 and replace the rules enacted on April 24, 2020. The revised rules will remain effective indefinitely, or until amended by further order of the Court.

Civil Procedure Rules of E-Filing

I. Purpose

(a) The Rules for electronic filing are hereby established and set forth for the purpose of providing parties electronic remote access to the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Court system.

2. Authority

(a) Under Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Law, Chapter 5 Sec. 1.12 - Rule Making Power, "[t]he Tribal Court System may from time to time prescribe Rules of Procedure for the conduct of Tribal Court System business." This rule making power provides the Chief Judge with vested authority to implement Rules of Procedure for the Court.

3. User Agreement

(a) By submitting filing(s) electronically, the signor of such documents (i.e., legal representative or unrepresented party) impliedly consents to abide by the rules of procedures provided herein, and recognizes that unless explicitly stated otherwise, all other rules of civil procedure and rules of practice before the Court remain effective.

4. E-Filing Domain

(a) All electronic filings shall be sent to court.efile@mohican-nsn.gov and must contain the Name of filing party, signature of the party, and date of submission.

5. Time and Effect of Electronic Filing

(a) The filing system is a mechanism of the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Court for the purposes of submitting electronic filings.

(b) When a document is submitted, the electronic filing shall be transmitted to the Tribal Court Clerk through the designated e-filing address. The Tribal Court Clerk shall issue confirmation that submission of the electronic filing has been received by sending an official confirmation form and assigning

a case number to the delivering party.

(c) In order for the filing to be accepted it must meet all electronic filing requirements.

(d) If the document is accepted for filing, it shall be considered filed with the Court on the day of receipt and at the time provided by the electronic time-stamp within the Court's system.

(e) The Court Clerk will file-stamp and process the filing as normally practiced.

(f) The Court will accept electronic filings received on that business day between the hours of 8:00 AM. - 4:29 P.M. (Central Standard Time) in accord with regular business hours. A filing must be complete and meet the legal requirements of such document; incomplete or partial filings will not be accepted. If a document is electronically filed after 4:29 P.M. it will be considered filed on the following business day.

(g) Parties that are unable to access the electronic filing system may send documents to the Court using general mail.

6. Filing Fee

(a) The initial filing fees required under Chapter 1 Sec. 1.15 shall be paid through the Court's electronic payment system found on the Tribal Court website. Payment and proof of payment due before the Court will process any filing. If a party fails to pay the applicable filing fee, the matter will be deemed *not filed* and no further action taken.

(b) Alternatively, a party filing an initiating document may submit payment to the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Finance Department. The payment must be submitted in the form of money order or cashier's check for the full amount due. The transmittal slip (receipt) of payment must be submitted to the Court via general mail, in-person delivery, or preferably by use of the electronic filing system. The transmittal slip must identify the filing party's name, amount paid, and date of payment.

7. Notice, Service, and Process of Service

(a) The general rules of notice, service, and process

of service under Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Law remain controlling. However, service by mail, or by email if the parties involved have an official user email on record, or by substitute service are recommended if the Tribe is under currently under emergency order or restrictions **regarding circumstances** such as the COVID-10 pandemic.

8. Format for Electronic Filings

(a) All documents, unless being submitted as evidence, must be provided in electronic format and typed into word processing software using common business font (e.g., Times New Roman, Times, Calibri, Arial).

(b) The document must be converted into Pdf format and sent as an attachment. If the filing requires

multiple attachments, all attachments shall be sent in one email unless restricted by document size.

9. Hearing Process During Emergency Orders

(a) All hearings during taking place during an active emergency order shall be conducted telephonically or by video conferencing. The call-in number and access codes will be provided by the Court Clerk upon scheduling of the hearing and received by the parties in the hearing notice.

Rules for Electronic Filing and accompanying Rules of Procedure are hereby entered into effect this 15th day of June 2020.

BY THE COURT

Chief Judge Travis J. Miller
Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Court

Getting a Flu Vaccine Now is Critical During Ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic

DHS Encourages State Residents to Get Flu Vaccinations by Halloween

Annual flu vaccines are always important, but reducing illness and hospitalization from flu is critical this year to protect our frontline health care workers and hospital systems who will continue to care for people with [COVID-19](#).

Last flu season, 42% of Wisconsinites received at least one dose of flu vaccine, leaving nearly two-thirds of people at higher risk of getting the flu. During Wisconsin's 2019-2020 influenza season, there were 36,175 flu cases reported, 4,425 flu-related hospitalizations, and tragically, 183 deaths, including three children. Last year, we saw the highest number of pregnant women hospitalized for influenza.

Flu season is right around the corner in Wisconsin and it takes about two weeks for the flu vaccine to protect you against the virus. Make a plan today to get yourself and your family vaccinated by contacting your health care provider to schedule an appointment, or checking with your local pharmacy. You can also use vaccinefinder.gov (link is external) or call 211 to find a provider near you. If cost is a concern, your children may be eligible for the [Wisconsin Vaccines for Children program](#).

"Both influenza and COVID-19 are respiratory illnesses, but until we have a vaccine against COVID-19, the way to help prevent these two viruses from circulating at

the same time is to get your flu vaccine now," Palm said. "We all need to do everything possible to make a difference this flu season, so let's keep people flu-free while we focus on ending COVID-19."

Providers are being creative this year to help make vaccinations easy and convenient, from holding vaccination drives at churches and grocery store parking lots, to providing them curbside at clinics. Safety precautions related to COVID-19 are in place, including social distancing and sanitizing at clinics, temperature checks, and special scheduling.

Simple steps we're already following to stop the spread of COVID-19 are also successful for warding off the flu. In addition to the flu vaccine, people should also:

- Stay home when they're sick.
- Cover coughs and sneezes.
- Wash their hands frequently and thoroughly.

To help increase flu vaccine rates statewide, the Department just announced [new funding for community organizations to reach out to underserved communities](#). DHS will award \$950,000, provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), to 5-10 organizations, each receiving up to \$200,000.