

MOHICAN NEWS

The people of the waters that are never still

Vol. XXX No. 14

N8480 Moh He Con Nuck Road • Bowler, WI 54416

July 15, 2023

Supreme Court Strikes Down Affirmative Action

By Thomas Kazik – Mohican News Reporter

The American Indian College Fund is disheartened and concerned that the U.S. Supreme Court's 6-3 majority opinion ruling in Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. President and Fellows of Harvard College will impinge on the equitable access to an affordable higher education for American Indian and Alaska Natives and other diverse student groups. They refuse to let this decision reverse decades of progress in educational achievement which has benefitted talented and accomplished Native students and other diverse students with the opportunity for an affordable higher education, along with their families, and their communities.

Jolene Bowman, Ph.D., Director of Stockbridge-Munsee Education and Career Services, said, "In equality, everyone receives the same measure, while in equity, everyone receives what they personally need to be equal, which may result in a more or less than measure. For example, in equality everyone has the

Action cont on page Ten:

Elderly Activity Coord.



Cassie (Moede) Molkent says, "Hello to all Community members"! Her new position is to specifically address the Elders of the Community. Cassie grew up in our community and also spent many years living around the country and have always considered Headquarters of the Stockbridge-Munsee Reservation-Mohican Nation my home. I began at our Elderly Center the end of May 2023 learning the details of the boring behind the scenes processes!

I have scheduled events to hop on the bus here at the Elder Center for July that include trips surrounding places and events as well as onsite activities. Tuesdays are the highlight of each week as we play Bingo in house, with daytime bingo the weeks there are council meetings. I am working on starting a book club in July with plans

Cassie cont on pg Three:

4th of July Address at Reidsville, N Y

(Editor's Note: It is the time of year, and time for us to take a look at John Quinney's Fourth of July Speech. Here it is below in its entirety):

By John Quinney (Mahican, 1854)

It may appear to those whom I have the honor to address a singular taste for me, an Indian, to take an interest in the triumphal days of a people who occupy, by conquest or have usurped, the possessions of my fathers and have laid and carefully preserved a train of terrible miseries to end when my race ceased to exist.

But thanks to the fortunate



circumstances of my life I have been taught in the schools and been able to

Speech cont on page 5:

SMHWC Dental Department



(L to R): Dr. Todd Herpy, Melanie Miller, Ashlynn Brisk, Rachel Ebert, Damita Verhaagh, Tynea Johnson, Brandi Ejniik, Chrystal Wedde, and Dr. Paul Favela

The Stockbridge-Munsee Health and Wellness Center Dental Department offers a full range of services for children and adults including: exams, x-rays, cleanings, sealants, periodontal therapy, extractions, root canal fillings, crowns, bridges, and dentures. Our

hours are 8:00AM-4:30PM Monday through Friday. For questions or appointments, please call (715)793-5019. Melanie Miller, Dental Office Specialist for 18 years: Mel is widely regarded as the friendly face of the dental department. She is the first person you'll see when you

Dental cont on pg Three:

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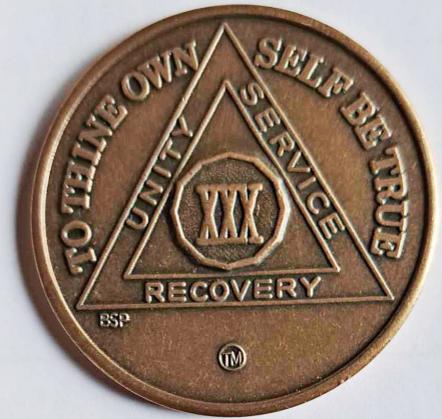


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Letter from the Editor



Where I have been (XXX)
June 27, 2023 marked a very important day in my life. June 27, 1993 was the first day that I stopped drinking; and now 30 years later I stand here, still sober. I say stand because I know if I did not stop drinking I would not be standing. I would be lying six feet underground.

Reaching this milestone, I feel like it's time that I gave

back. If someone needs an ear, I will listen. I will not buy a drunk a drink, but I will listen. I have had an occasional battle with the *idea* of drinking over the years. By the time I get through what I would be giving up to drink again, the thought goes away. The only advice I have: do not drink today, do not pick up the bottle or glass! The problems still exist, but they are more manageable sober than drunk.

I always have a laugh for anyone who will listen and today that is you: when I had reached 10 years of being sober I thought I would mark the date with a ten-year coin from Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) I asked my dear

friend Aught Coyhis to get me a coin when he went to his next A.A. meeting to represent those 10 years of sobriety.

Aught came the next day and gave me a coin. I put it in my pocket and went home and put it in my drawer where it sat for a couple weeks. I decided that I needed to explain it to my children because it meant a lot to me to be sober this long in my life. I got the coin out and started telling them about it. I talked about what it meant for me on my journey on the road of sobriety. As I was talking to them, I flipped the coin over and looked at the Roman numeral in the center point. Much to my surprise it was not an X but an L. Aught Coyhis had given me his 50-year coin.

The next time I saw him, I told him, "You old buzzard! Now you jinxed me because

now I have to stay sober for 50 years in order to honor this coin you have given me". I was actually moved to tears but we interacted with each other like that.

Well, I'm 60% along the way to making it to 50 years of sobriety. I have often wondered what the good Lord has in store for me, with all of the times He could have taken me home. And now I hope that I have another 20 years to live long enough to honor the honor that Aught gave to me when he gave me this coin.

Respectfully and sincerely,
Jeff Vele



Where I am going (L)

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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Band of Mohican Indians

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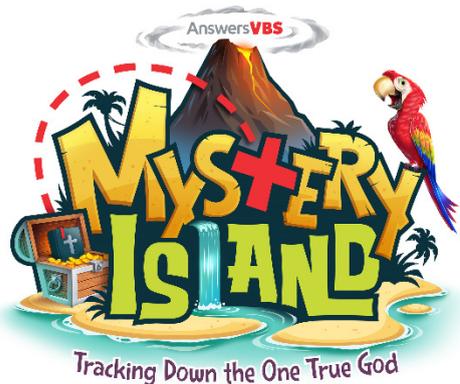
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Stockbridge Bible Church

invites

ALL KIDS K-6 grades to **VBS!!!**



Songs! Games! Cool Crafts! Bible Stories! Snacks!

JULY 24-28
Monday-Friday
9:00-11:45 AM

at Stockbridge Bible Church, corner of Camp 14 Rd. & Maplewood
If you need a ride or have any questions, please call Pastor Geeting
(Mr. G) at 715-216-5599.

THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR ABUSE.

STOP DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

Hands should be used to help rather than harm.
Together, let's take a stand against violence.

SAFE HAVEN IS PROUD TO CO-ADVOCATE FOR SURVIVORS WITH STOCKBRIDGE MUNSEE FAMILY SERVICES. IF YOU NEED HELP, OUR CRISIS LINE IS AVAILABLE 24 HOURS A DAY.



SHELTER AND SUPPORT SERVICES FOR SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE/SEXUAL ASSAULT

24 Hour Crisis Line: 715-526-3421 or 888-303-3421
24 Hour Text Line: 715-584-1258



Domestic Abuse Support Center of Shawano County

24-Hour Crisis Line
526-3421 or 1-888-303-3421



Babysitting Certification

8:00 AM-3:30 PM | For Ages: 11-15 | Cost: \$69

This American Red Cross Babysitting Certification course will prepare youth to be safe, effective and responsible babysitters.

July 24 or Sept. 16 | NTC Antigo

Nov. 18 | NTC Wittenberg

Register by calling 715.623.7601 or visiting: qrco.de/be2Qa1



Cassie cont from pg One: of holding this bi-monthly year around with multiple titles to come. We will also be having a craft day starting in July on Friday afternoons.

Please join us in the planned activities and as always, please forward your suggestions or leave

them in the suggestion box at the Eunice Stick Elder Gathering Place. Don't forget to sign up for the weekly lunches and Friday breakfasts as well; a perfect place to stop in and have some coffee, tea, juice and catch up with everyone and see what's on the menu as well.

Dental cont from pg One: walk through our door and is always ready to greet you with a helpful smile. Her duties include schedule management, answering phone calls, checking-in patients for scheduled appointments, and helping coordinate dental referrals. Dr. Paul Favela, Dental Director for eight years: As a general dentist, Dr. Paul performs exams, fillings, crowns, bridges, dentures, extractions, root canals and more. Behind the scenes, Dr. Paul is responsible for the general management of the dental clinic and supervision of staff.

Dr. Todd Herpy, Staff Dentist for seven years: As a general dentist, Dr. Todd performs exams, fillings, crowns, bridges, dentures, extractions, and more. He is capable of performing anterior, pre-molar, and molar root canals. Dr. Todd also conducts the Headstart screenings both onsite and at classroom visits.

Brandi Ejniak, Dental Hygienist for 19 years: As a dental hygienist, Brandi thoroughly cleans teeth and educates patients each day. She takes the x-rays for the dentist to review and measures changes in gum health. As a hygienist, Brandi can also place sealants on teeth in order to help prevent future sites of tooth decay.

Chrystal Wedde, Dental Hygienist for nine years: As a dental hygienist, Chrystal thoroughly cleans teeth and educates patients each day. She takes the x-rays for the dentist to review and measures changes in gum health. As a hygienist, Chrystal can also place sealants on teeth in order to help prevent future sites of tooth decay.

Tynea Johnson and Rachel Ebert, Dental Assistants for one year: As dental assistants, Tynea and Rachel are responsible for setting up for procedures, assisting the dentists during procedures, disinfecting operatories after procedures are completed, and sterilizing instruments throughout the day. The dental assistants will also occasionally take x-rays for the dentist to interpret. Tynea and Rachel primarily work alongside Dr. Todd.

Ashlynn Brisk and Damita Verhaagh, Dental Assistants for one year: As dental assistants, Ashlynn and Damita are responsible for setting up for procedures, assisting the dentists during procedures, disinfecting operatories after procedures are completed, and sterilizing instruments throughout the day. The dental assistants may take x-rays for the dentist to interpret. Ashlynn and Damita primarily work alongside Dr. Paul.



Larena M. White
Larena Marie "Rena" White, age 89, of Neopit, passed away on Monday June 26, 2023, in Shawano. Rena was born in the Town of Red Springs on January 22, 1934, daughter of the late Walter and Adelaide (Martin) Jacobs. Rena graduated from Bowler High School and on April 25, 1953, she was united in marriage to the love of her life Peter F. White. Peter preceded her in death on February 16, 2012. Rena was a devoted mother and wife and diligently created a very tight-knit family. An extremely hard worker, she maintained a full-time job while raising a large family. She cherished the time spent at Legend Lake with her family, and she always insisted on a big fire. Rena enjoyed the countless hours she spent watching her children and grandchildren's athletic events throughout the years. She was a talented cook and proudly fed everyone at family gatherings and holidays.

A wonderful mother and grandmother will be deeply missed by those she leaves behind.

Rena is survived by: her children, Cindy (Donald) Waukechon, Peter (Violet) White), Michaela "Kelly" (Tony) Brown, Brian White, Matt (Linda) White Sr., Curt (Carla) White, and Craig (Joleen) White; her stepdaughter Candice Firgens; her 27 grandchildren; her 65 great-grandchildren; her 5 great-great-grandchildren; her siblings Mae (Carl) Sabourin and Gordon Jacobs. She is further survived by her numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends, including dear friend, Irene "Skeezix" Dickenson.

She is preceded in death by her husband Peter; her parents Walter and Adelaide; a son Michael in infancy; and a brother Gerald Jacobs.

A funeral service for Rena was held on June 30, 2023 at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Neopit with Fr. Hanz Christian officiating. Visitation was held at Swedberg Funeral Home in Shawano and again at the church on Friday until the time of service.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Brian for being a wonderful caregiver for many years.

www.swedbergfuneralhome.com

Avoiding a Hernia

"Taking care of your body and being aware of your daily movements can go a long way in reducing your risk of a hernia."

UPPER PENINSULA, Mich. – If you've ever had a hernia, you know you don't ever want one again. Fortunately, only a small

percentage of people who have had a hernia once will have a recurrence, reports the American College of Surgeons (ACS).

On the Trail Home



Annette M. Wahsquonaikeshik

Annette M. Wahsquonaikeshik, age 67, passed away on Saturday June 24, 2023, in Keshena. She was born on May 5, 1956, in Shawano to the late Frank and Evangeline (Dodge) Nunway. Annette worked as a CNA for a majority of her life. She was united in marriage to Ernest Wahsquonaikeshik Sr. who later passed away on November 9, 2019. She was always able to keep busy and always cleaned and kept things tidy. She loved arts and crafts and gambling. Annette was known for her amazing cooking and wowed everyone with her fry bread and pies. Annette adored her family and especially her grandchildren. She will

be dearly missed.

Annette is survived by: her children, Cheyenne (John), Sha-ko-ka, Jesse, Onawa, and Ernest (Taylor) Jr.; her grandchildren, Ahke'nepowew, Angeliese, Joniah, Isaiah, Nathaniel (Julie), Paul, Phillip, Aubree, LaRayiah, Jeremiah, Josiah, Jesse Jr., Zophia, Jackson, Armoni, Ramon Jr., Elvaro, Harmony, and Kaycee Louise, Leaizah, Azaeliah, and Zariah; her siblings, Alan (April), Donnie (Beverly), and Bobby (Gary); her special children Brett Dodge and Lauri Sanapaw. She is further survived by numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She is preceded in death by: her husband Ernest; her parents Frank and Evangeline; her children Shaw-wah-osso-way and Ramon Sr.; her numerous siblings; her grandchildren Darwin Jr. and Starfire.

A Native American service for Annette was held on Thursday June 29, 2023 at St. Michael's Parish Hall in Keshena. Visitation was on Tuesday June 27, 2023, until services Thursday.

www.swedbergfuneralhome.com

Hernias occur when an organ such as your intestine or other tissue pushes through a weak area in the muscles that surround it. This can create a visible, often painful, bulge in your skin.

"Years of pressure or exertion can wear the tissue down and make your body more susceptible to developing a hernia," says [Rachel Laszko, MD, Aspirus](#)

[General Surgeon](#). "Hernias are not preventable. Taking care of your body and being aware of your daily movements can go a long way in reducing your risk."

Some activities can put increased strain on your abdominal wall and may lead to a hernia. According to the ACS, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases **Hernia cont on page Six:**

Speech cont from pg 1:

read your histories and accounts of Europeans, yourselves and the Red Man; which instruct me that while your rejoicings today are commemorative of the free birth of this giant nation, they simply convey to my mind the recollection of a transfer of the miserable weakness and dependence, of my race from one great power to another.

My friends, I am getting old and have witnessed for many years your increase in wealth and power while the steady consuming decline of my tribe admonishes me that their extinction is inevitable. They know it themselves and the reflection teaches them humility and resignation, directing their attention to the existence of those happy hunting grounds which the Great Father has prepared for all his red children.

In this spirit, my friends, as a Muh-he-con-new, and now standing upon the soil which once was and now ought to be the property of this tribe, I have thought for once and certainly the last time I would shake you by the hand and ask you to listen for a little while to what I have to say.

About the year 1645, when King Ben the last of the hereditary chiefs of the Muh-he-con-new nation was in his prime, grand council was convened of the Muh-he-con-new tribe for the purpose of conveying from the old to the young men a knowledge of the past.

Councils for this object especially had been held. Here for the space of two moons, the stores of memory were dispensed; corrections and comparisons made and the results committed to faithful breasts to be transmitted again to succeeding posterity.

Many years after, another

and last council of this kind was held; and the traditions reduced to writing, by two of our young men who had been taught to read and write in the school of the Rev. John Sargent of Stockbridge, Mass. They were obtained in some way by a white man for publication, who soon after dying, all trace of them became lost. The traditions of the tribe, however, have mainly been preserved, of which I give you substantially, the following: A great people from the northwest crossed over the salt water, and after long and weary pilgrimage, planting many colonies on their track, took possession of and built their fires upon the Atlantic coast, extending from the Delaware on the south to the Penobscot on the north. They became in process of time different tribes and interests; all, however, speaking one common dialect.

This great Confederacy, Pequots, Penobscot, and many others (Delawares, Mohegans, Mansas, Narragansetts) held its council fires once a year to deliberate on the general welfare.

Patriarchal delegates from each tribe attended, assisted by the priests and the wise men, who communicated the will and invoked the blessing of the Great and Good Spirit. The policies and decisions of this council were everywhere respected, and inviolably observed. Thus contentment smiled upon their existence and they were happy.

Their religion communicated by priest and prophet, was simple and true. The manner of worship is imperfectly transmitted; but their reverence for a Great Spirit, the observance of feasts each year, the offering of beasts in thanksgiving and atonement is clearly

expressed.

They believed the soul to be immortal—in the existence of a happy land beyond the view, inhabited by those whose lives had been blameless. While for the wicked had been reserved a region of misery covered with thorns and thistles, where comfort and pleasure were unknown. Time was divided into years and seasons; twelve moons for a year, a number of years by so many winters.

The tribe to which your speaker belongs and of which there were many bands, occupied and possessed the country from the seashore at Manhattan to Lake Champlain. Having found the ebb and flow of the tide, they said: "This is Muh-he-con-new," "Like our waters which are never still." From this expression and by this name they were afterwards known, until the removal to Stockbridge in the year 1630.

Housatonic River Indians, Mohegans, Manhattans, were all names of bands in different localities, but bound together as one family by blood and descent.

At a remote period, before the advent of the European their wise men foretold the coming of a strange race from the sunrise, as numerous as the leaves upon the trees, who would eventually crowd them from their fair land possessions. But apprehension was mitigated by the knowledge and belief at that time entertained, that they originally were not there, and after a period of years they would return to the west from which they had come. And they moreover said all Red Men are sprung from a common ancestor, made by the Great Spirit from red clay, who will unite their strength to avert a common calamity. This tradition is confirmed by

the common belief, which prevails in our day with all the Indian tribes; for they recognize one another by their color, as brothers and acknowledge one Great Creator.

Two hundred and fifty winters ago, this prophecy was verified and the Muh-he-con-new for the first time beheld the paleface. Their number was small, but their canoes were big. In the select and exclusive circles of your rich men of the present day I should encounter the gaze of curiosity, but not such as overwhelmed the senses of the Aborigines, my ancestors. Our visitors were white and must be sick. They asked for rest and kindness; we gave them both. They were strangers, and we took them in; naked and we clothed them.

The first impression of astonishment and pity was succeeded by awe and admiration of superior intelligence and address.

A passion for information and improvement possessed the Indians. A residence was given—territory offered—and covenants of friendship exchanged.

Your written accounts of events at this period are familiar to you, my friends. Your children read them every day in their school books; but they do not read—no mind at this time can conceive, and no pen record, the terrible story of recompense for kindness, which for two hundred years has been paid the simple, guileless Muh-he-con-new.

I have seen much myself—1 have been connected with more—and I tell you I know all. The tradition of the wise men is figuratively true that our home at last will be found in the west; for another tradition informs us that far beyond the setting

Speech cont on pg Six:

Speech cont from Four: sun, upon the smiling happy lands, we shall be gathered with our fathers, and be at rest. Promises and professions were freely given and ruthlessly and intentionally broken. To kindle your fires was sought as a privilege; and yet at that moment you were transmitting to your kings intelligence of our possessions, "by right of discovery," and demanding assistance to assert your hold.

Where are the 25,000 in number, and the 4,000 warriors, who constituted the power and population of the great Muh-he-con'new nation in 1604?

They have been victims to vice and disease, which the white men imported. Smallpox, measles and firewater have done the work of annihilation. Divisions and feuds were insidiously promoted between the several bands. They were induced to thin each others ranks without just cause; and subsequently were defeated and disorganized in detail.

It is curious, the history of my tribe, in its decline, in the last two centuries and a half. Nothing that deserved the name of purchase was made. From various causes, they were induced to abandon their territory at intervals and retire farther inland. Deeds were given indifferently to the government by individuals, for which little or no compensation was paid.

The Indians were informed, in many instances, that they were selling one piece of land when they were conveying another and much larger limits. Should a particular band, for purposes of hunting or fishing, for a time leave its usual place of residence, the land was said to be abandoned, and the Indian claim extinguished. To

legalize and confirm titles thus acquired, laws and edicts were subsequently passed, and these laws were said then to be, and are now called, justice.

Oh, what mockery to confound justice with law! Will you look steadily at the intrigues, bargains, corruptions and log rollings of your present legislatures, and see any trace of justice? And by what test shall be tried the acts of the colonial courts and councils?

Let it not surprise you, my friends, when I say that the spot upon which I stand has never been rightly purchased or obtained. And by justice, human and Divine, is the property of the remnant of the great people from whom I am descended. They left it in the tortures of starvation and to improve their miserable existence; but a cession was never made, and their title was never extinguished.

The Indian is said to be the ward of the white man, and the negro his slave. Has it ever occurred to you, my friend, that while the negro is increasing and increased by every appliance, the Indian is left to rot and die before the inhumanities of this model republic?

You have your tears and groans and mobs and riots for the individuals of the former, while your indifference of purpose and vacillation of policy is hurrying to extinction whole communities of the latter.

What are the treaties of the general government? How often and when has its plighted faith been kept? Indian occupation is forever next year, or one removal follows another, or by the next commissioner, more wise than his predecessor, repurchased, and thus your sympathies and justice are evinced in speedily fulfilling the terrible destinies of our race.

My friends, your Holy Book, the Bible, teaches us that individual offenses are punished in an existence—when time shall be no more—and the annals of the earth are equally instructive that national wrongs are avenged, and national crimes atoned for in this world to which alone the conformation of existence adapts them. These events are above our comprehension, and for a wise purpose; for

Hernia cont from pg Four: (NIDDK), National Library of Medicine (NLM) and National Institutes of Health (NIH), here are the risk factors and ways to reduce them:

- **Lifting heavy objects** – Lift properly by getting close to the object you intend to lift, bend at your knees (not waist) and use your leg muscles to lift.
- **Lack of muscle strength** – Exercise regularly to strengthen your abdominal muscles.
- **Chronic constipation** – Eat high-fiber foods, such as whole grains, bran, and raw fruits and veggies to help minimize constipation.
- **Significant weight gain or obesity** – Being overweight puts extra pressure on your abdomen, increasing your risk of developing a hernia.
- **Sitting or standing for long periods** – Take breaks and stretch regularly to avoid putting too much pressure on your abdomen.
- **Chronic coughing or sneezing** – Talk to your provider if either persists.
- **Smoking** – Nicotine weakens the abdominal wall and increases the risk of developing a hernia. Quit smoking as quickly as possible.
- **Pregnancy** – As the belly grows, the pressure

myself and for my tribe I ask for justice—I believe it will sooner or later occur, and may the Great Spirit enable me to die in hope.



on the abdominal wall increases. Watch out for a soft lump around the belly button or groin area.

Most people will need surgery to repair a hernia. The type of procedure will be determined by a surgeon and depend on factors such as the size of the hernia, the patient's age, health and medical history.

In open hernia repair, an incision is made near the site and the hernia is repaired with mesh or by suturing the muscle closed. In laparoscopic hernia repair, mesh or sutures are inserted through instruments placed into small incisions in the abdomen.

Watchful waiting, or safely delaying surgery, may be an option for people who are not uncomfortable. If you feel pain or discomfort in your abdomen, take it seriously and see your health care provider. They will be able to determine the best treatment option for you.

"Don't wait to see your health care provider about a hernia and assume it will be okay," urges Dr. Laszko. "It's such a simple surgery to get it fixed, and since the potential outcomes if you don't have it fixed are so dangerous, it's really worth talking to your provider and seeing if you're a good candidate for surgery."

The PACT Act and your VA benefits

The PACT Act is a new law that expands VA health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances. This law helps us provide generations of Veterans—and their survivors—with the care and benefits they've earned and deserve.

This page will help answer your questions about what the PACT Act means for you or your loved ones. You can also call us at 800-698-2411 (TTY: 711). And you can file a claim for PACT Act-related disability compensation or apply for VA health care now.

File a disability claim online
Apply for VA health care
What's the PACT Act and how will it affect my VA benefits and care?
What does it mean to have a presumptive condition for toxic exposure?
Gulf War era and post-9/11 Veteran eligibility
Vietnam era Veteran eligibility
Getting benefits
Information for survivors

What's the PACT Act and how will it affect my VA benefits and care?

The PACT Act is perhaps the largest health care and benefit expansion in VA history. The full name of the law is The Sergeant First Class (SFC) Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act.

The PACT Act will bring these changes:

Expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras

Adds more than 20 new presumptive conditions for burn pits and other toxic exposures

Adds more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation

Requires VA to provide a toxic exposure screening to every Veteran enrolled in VA health care

Helps us improve research, staff education, and treatment related to toxic exposures

If you're a Veteran or survivor, you can file claims now to apply for PACT Act-related benefits.

What does it mean to have a presumptive condition for toxic exposure?

To get a VA disability rating, your disability must connect to your military service. For many health conditions, you need to prove that your service caused your condition.

But for some conditions, we automatically assume (or "presume") that your service caused your condition. We call these "presumptive conditions." We consider a condition presumptive when it's established by law or regulation.

If you have a presumptive condition, you don't need to prove that your service caused the condition. You only need to meet the service requirements for the presumption.

Gulf War era and post-9/11 Veteran eligibility

What burn pit and other toxic exposure conditions are now presumptive?

We've added more than 20 burn pit and other toxic exposure presumptive conditions based on the PACT Act. This change expands benefits for Gulf War era and post-9/11 Veterans.

These cancers are now presumptive:

Brain cancer, Gastrointestinal cancer of any type, Glioblastoma, Head cancer of any type
Kidney cancer, Lymphatic cancer of any type, Lymphoma of any type, Melanoma, Neck cancer, Pancreatic cancer, Reproductive cancer of any type
Respiratory (breathing-related) cancer of any type.

These illnesses are now presumptive: Asthma that was diagnosed after service, Chronic bronchitis, Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), Chronic rhinitis, Chronic sinusitis, Constrictive bronchiolitis or obliterative bronchiolitis, Emphysema, Granulomatous disease, Interstitial lung disease (ILD), Pleuritis, Pulmonary fibrosis, Sarcoidosis.

How do I know if I have a presumptive exposure to burn pits?

If you served in any of these locations and time periods, we've determined that you had exposure to burn pits or other toxins. We call this having a presumption of exposure.

On or after September 11,



Veterans Corner

Gregg W. Duffek,
Tribal Veterans Service
Officer
Office: 715-793-4036
gregg.duffek@mohicansn.gov

203 W. Main St
Bowler, WI. 54416



2001, in any of these locations: Afghanistan, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Uzbekistan, Yemen

The airspace above any of these locations

On or after August 2, 1990, in any of these locations:

Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia

The United Arab Emirates (UAE)

The airspace above any of these locations

Am I eligible for free VA health care as a post-9/11 combat Veteran?

We're extending and expanding VA health care eligibility based on the PACT Act. We encourage you to apply, no matter your separation date. Your eligibility depends on your service history and other factors.

If you meet the requirements listed here, you can get free VA health care for any condition related to your service for up to 10 years from the date of your most recent discharge or separation. You can also enroll at any time during this period and get any care you need, but you may owe a copay for some care.

At least one of these must be true of your active-duty service: You served in a theater of combat operations during a period of war after the Persian Gulf War, or

You served in combat against a hostile force during a period of hostilities after November 11, 1998

And this must be true for you: You were discharged or released on or after October 1, 2013

We encourage you to enroll now so we can provide any care you

may need now or in the future. Enrollment is free.

What if I was discharged or released before October 1, 2013?

If you meet the requirements listed here, you can receive care and enroll during a special enrollment period between October 1, 2022, and October 1, 2023.

At least one of these must be true of your active-duty service: You served in a theater of combat operations during a period of war after the Persian Gulf War, or

You served in combat against a hostile force during a period of hostilities after November 11, 1998

And both of these must be true for you:

You were discharged or released between September 11, 2001, and October 1, 2013, and You haven't enrolled in VA health care before

We encourage you to apply during this 1-year period so we can provide you with any care you may need now or in the future. Enrollment is free. And your care may be free as well.

F. Publications. Any publications produced with funds from this award must display the following language: "This project [is being] [was] supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number [SLFRP0135FAIN] awarded to [the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs via the Wisconsin Department of Administration] by the U.S. Department of the Treasury."

Fourth of July Parade in Gresham



The Paisier Family soaking up some sun



Todd Miller ready to enjoy some baseball



Scott Vele's kids waiting for the parade to start



Mabel Miller's grand children and great grand children



Jody Hartwig, Donna Mohawk and Huband



More Fourth of July Fun





Community

Action cont from pg One: same opportunity to play ball, yet in equity it takes leveling the playing field so all have the same skill set to play ball”.

The College Fund stands with Justice Sonia Sotomayor, who dissented, when she said the Court “stands in the way and rolls back decades of precedent and momentous progress. It holds that race can no longer be used in a limited way in college admissions to achieve such critical benefits. In so holding, the court cements a superficial rule of colorblindness as a constitutional principle in an endemically segregated society where race has always mattered and continued to matter.” Sotomayor continued that the majority opinion is not grounded in law or in fact. President Joe Biden concurred in his statement to the nation, saying, “The court has effectively ended affirmative action in college admissions and I strongly, strongly disagree with the court’s decision,” adding, “the court has once again walked away from decades of [legal] precedent.” With regard to the facts of our lives lived in the real world that show us that, in fact, we do not live in a colorblind world: Our histories and cultures are still being removed from curricula across the country. Students continue to face prohibitions from wearing regalia at graduation ceremonies. Native students are frequently excluded from accessing campus resources and rarely see themselves represented on college campuses. Today’s U.S. Census data illustrates the impact of inequity: AIAN people have the lowest higher education

attainment rates in the United States (15.0% of AI/ANs 25 years and over have a bachelor’s degree or higher, compared to 32.1% of the overall population).

As Justice Sotomayor also said, “Equal educational opportunity is a prerequisite to achieving racial equality in our nation.” Education, as we say at the American Indian College Fund, was—and still is—the answer—to empowering people to envision and create a future of their choosing. Those benefits, not incidentally, are to the benefit of the entire country—making it more competitive, sustainable, and secure.

The need for continued access to higher education for Native peoples has not been erased despite this ruling. Despite the great progress American Indians and Alaska Natives (AIAN) people made in earning a higher education thanks to the tribal college movement and affirmative action, education inequality in Indian Country is disproportionate. Although Native peoples adhere to the legal distinction of American Indians as being citizens of sovereign nations rather than a racial group, we acknowledge there is a duality in how American Indians in the United States are classified in practice, as both sovereign peoples and as a racial group. It is for this reason we are aggrieved by the Supreme Court’s decision, while remaining unequivocally in favor of higher education policies and practices that equalize pathways to a higher education for Indigenous peoples (Taken from American Indian College Fund release).



Invite the Red Cross to visit your organization

3 exciting new classes designed for the general public

Unique learning opportunities for your school, office, club, summer camp, church, library, YMCA, community group, service organization, or chamber of commerce



Hands-Only CPR
Learn this simple process that can help save a life in a cardiac emergency. Includes AED instruction. (1/2 hour)



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A program that helps businesses, schools and organizations become prepared for disasters. (1/2 hour)



Even War Has Rules
An introduction to the Geneva Convention and the rules of International Humanitarian Law. (1 hour)

all classes are offered free of charge
to schedule a presentation in your neighborhood, contact:
Robert Dorgan, Disaster Program Manager
robert.dorgan@redcross.org
715-210-2649

The American Red Cross prevents and alleviates human suffering in the face of emergencies by mobilizing the power of volunteers and the generosity of donors.



Become a Red Cross Volunteer Today!

Every day, the Red Cross sees the heartbreak of people coping with more intense storms, heavier rainfall, higher temperatures, stronger hurricanes and more devastating wildfires. As more people rely on the Red Cross for help, the need for compassionate volunteers has never been greater. Help comfort and support people who are forced from their homes due to fires, storms and other emergencies, so they don't have to face tough times alone.



Volunteers urgently needed for the following positions in your community:

Recovery Caseworker

Supporting the recovery of disaster affected individuals, households, and communities by providing referrals, advocacy, and financial assistance.

Disaster Action Team

Respond day or night to meet immediate needs of your neighbors. Assistance given may include financial assistance for immediate needs and emotional support.

Disaster Dispatcher

Work from the comfort of your home being the liaison between emergency service/clients and DAT responders with answering the disaster direct phone line in order to send clients help.

Blood Drive Volunteer

Customer focused volunteer who engages with blood donors by greeting, registering them, answering questions and supporting the refreshment table.

Discover the role that's right for you!



Scan with cell phone camera to apply.

redcross.org/volunteertoday

Contact volunteerwisconsin@redcross.org for any questions regarding opportunities.

Elder Cookout

**SATURDAY
JULY 22**

**From 3pm to 6pm at the
Elderly Center**

**Food, Music And
Games**

Family Services Program/
Stockbridge-Munsee Fire Department

2nd Annual Fireman's Picnic

July 16th, @Family Center Baseball Diamond
2023 1pm-4pm

Bring a towel and your lawn chair!

Fundraiser for the Stockbridge-Munsee Fire Department

Informational booths with prizes!

50/50 Raffle & Basket Raffles!

Food Sale!

Come show your support!

Slip n Slide
Tug o War!

And have an afternoon of FUN!!!

Brat Plate w/ beans, potato salad, chips, and a drink	\$8.00
Hamburger Plate w/ beans, potato salad, chips, and a drink	\$8.00
Sun drop slushie	\$1.00
Big pickles	\$1.00
Freeze pop	\$.50
Soda/water	\$1.00

Any questions call: (715) 793-4906

JULY MAKE & TAKE 2023

BLACK PEPPER CHICKEN

An easy black pepper chicken with juicy tender chicken, crisp vegetables and a rich savory black pepper sauce.



FAIR WARNING THIS RECIPE DOES HAVE A BIT OF A KICK
25 FAMILIES WILL BE CHOSEN TO RECEIVE FREE INGREDIENTS!

Participants must have access to internet as the Make & Take is virtual, sessions will be pre-recorded and sent out via email. Ingredients must be picked up on Wednesday, July 19th, at the Stockbridge-Munsee Health & Wellness Center from 11:45am-1:15pm. Sign up is July 4th-July 10th.

We will be drawing names for the Virtual Make & Take.
We will contact you on July 12th if your name has been chosen.

ATTENTION: Make & Take activities are made possible thru grant funding. Pictures of your completed creations must be submitted to Anita. Pictures are part of the verification of appropriate funding use to our grantor, which allows us to continue to provide this program. Failure to do so may effect your future eligibility.

Contact Anita Mihtukwsun to sign up!

+715-793-3018 anita.mihtukwsun@mohican.com

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For an appointment call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code: NorthStar

Bring a photo ID or your blood donor card, or two other forms of ID.

All presenting donors will be entered into a raffle for a chance to win a Summer Fun Grill Package including a Wireless Bluetooth Portable Travel Speaker, 60qt Wheeled Insulated Portable Cooler and Standup Propane Gas Grill!



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On Tuesday, June 20th, 2023, 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
Craig Kroening Jr Present
Sara Putnam Present
Joe Miller; Present
Jeremy Mohawk Present
Terrie Terrio Present

Randall Wollenhaup Present
APPROVAL OF AGENDA-ADD: Resolution: Pelican River Forest

Forestry Discussion in Executive Session

STRIKE: Policy Review

NSMCR Building Inspection Report and State Audit

Motion by Terrie K. Terrio to approve the Regular Tribal Council June 20th agenda as amended. Seconded by Joe Miller. Motion carried.

OPEN AGENDA-MEETING MINUTES-

Motion by Joe Miller to approve those minutes as presented. Seconded by Terrie K. Terrio.

Roll Call: Joe yes, Terrie yes, Sara abstains, Craig abstains, Randall abstains, and Jeremy yes. Motion carried.

GRANT SUBMISSIONS-Michael Penass, Fire Chief and Molly Welch, Administrative Assistant

Motion by Terrie K. Terrio to approve the Fire Department's request to approve the Fire Department to submit an application for both the Firehouse Subs Foundation Grant and DNR Forest Fire Protection Grant. Seconded by Randall Wollenhaup.

Roll Call: Joe yes, Terrie yes, Sara yes, Craig abstains, Randall yes,

and Jeremy yes. Motion carried.

ASPHALT/SEALING BIDS-John Walsh, Maintenance Supervisor

Motion by Terrie K. Terrio to accept the recommendation and to award the bid for asphalt sealing to Mid-State Asphalt, LLC. Seconded by Jeremy Mohawk. Motion carried.

CASINO CORE SWITCH LIFECYCLE REPLACEMENT-Robert Kosowski, NSMCR IT Director

Motion by Sara Putnam to approve the purchase of Core Network Switches for Casino from Source One Technologies which was pre-approved in the CapEx budget. Seconded by Terrie K. Terrio. Motion carried.

BIA MOD 7-Marianne Higgins, Chief Judge

Motion by Jeremy Mohawk to approve BIA MOD 7 for one-timing funding. Seconded by Sara Putnam. Motion carried.

REQUEST FOR PRINTING OLD PICTURES-JoAnn Schedler, Mohican Writers Circle

Motion by Sara Putnam to approve the printing of old Headquarters pictures and to use the Many Trails symbol. Seconded by Craig Kroening Jr. Motion carried.

PURCHASE OF NEW BULK TRUCK-Candi Miller, LP Manager

Motion by Joe Miller to authorize monies and approve the request from LP for the purchase of a new bulk truck. Seconded by Sara Putnam.

Motion maker amends motion to add: from Westmor Industries. Second concurs. Motion

carried.

FORESTRY ISSUE-Chad Miller, Land Management

Motion by Sara Putnam to approve the re-enrollment of a 40-acre tract of land located in the Township of Almond though the Managed Forest Tax Program. Seconded by Jeremy Mohawk. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION: Pelican River Forest-

Motion by Joe Miller to adopt resolution #035-23, NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Tribal Council expresses its support for the establishment of the Pelican River Forest, and calls upon the Wisconsin DNR, the Governor, and the State Legislature to fully support the establishment of the Pelican River Forest. Seconded by Jeremy Mohawk. Resolution adopted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-

Motion by Jeremy Mohawk to go into Executive Session. Seconded by Terrie K. Terrio. Motion carried at 5:26 PM.

Motion by Joe Miller to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Terrie K. Terrio. Motion carried at 6:10 PM.

While in Executive Session discussion was held on a Legal Matter, Internal Audit, Tribal Member Request, Personnel Matter, and a Forestry Issue.

Motion by Terrie K. Terrio to accept the audit recommendations for the following program, 218 EPA General Assistance. Seconded by Craig Kroening Jr. Motion carried. Motion by Randall Wollenhaup to approve the signature of the Tolling Agreement as discussed in Executive Session. Seconded by Jeremy Mohawk. Motion carried.

Motion by Terrie K. Terrio to approve the Provider Contract as amended and

discussed in Executive Session. Seconded by Joe Miller.

Roll Call: Joe yes, Terrie yes, Sara opposed, Craig yes, Randall yes, and Jeremy yes. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT-

Motion by Joe Miller to adjourn. Seconded by Jeremy Mohawk. Motion carried at 6:12 PM.



On Wednesday, July 5th, 2023, 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
Craig Kroening Jr. Absent
Sara Putnam Present
Joe Miller; Present
Jeremy Mohawk Present
Terrie Terrio Present
Randall Wollenhaup Present

APPROVAL OF AGENDA-ADD: Lease of Land

Emergency Preparedness Request

Tribal Member Request in Executive Session

STRIKE: Personnel Matter in Executive Session

Motion by Terrie K. Terrio to approve the agenda as modified. Seconded by Randall Wollenhaup. Motion carried.

OPEN AGENDA-MEETING MINUTES-

Motion by Joe Miller to approve the minutes of June 20th, 2023. Seconded by Terrie K. Terrio. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL STATE

Directives cont on pg 13:

Directives cont from 12: MENTS: February 28, 2023, and March 31, 2023 (for approval)-

Motion by Sara Putnam to approve the financials statements ending February 28, 2023, and March 31st, 2023, for approval. Seconded by Terrie K. Terrio. Motion carried.

DONATION REQUESTS: Gresham Summer School-Michelle Hoffman

Motion by Sara Putnam to donate to Gresham Summer School as requested. Seconded by Joe Miller. Motion carried.

Bowler Area Development-Brittney Paiser

Motion by Sara Putnam to donate to the Bowler Area Development for the Beach Bash. Seconded by Terrie K. Terrio. Motion carried.

EXTENSION TO OPEN LAW LIBRARY CONTRACT-Bridge Swanke, Senior Counsel

Motion by Terrie K. Terrio to authorize for a sole-source extension to the Open Law Library for managing the Tribe's law library. Seconded by Sara Putnam. Motion carried.

GENERATOR BIDS-John Walsh, Maintenance Supervisor

Motion by Terrie K. Terrio to award the bid to Mueller Electric LLC for this project. Seconded by Randall Wollenhaup. Motion carried.

2024 NAHASDA PLAN-Allen Quinney, Executive Director

Motion by Sara Putnam to approve the NAHASDA Plan which includes striking the sentence under 2024-9: Development, "IHBG funds have been set aside as a match if we are awarded the IHBG competitive grant that we have applied for". Seconded by Joe Miller. Motion carried.

LINKEDIN CONTRACT-Stacie Bowman, HR Executive Director

Motion by Sara Putnam to approve LinkedIn Contract for the Recruiter Subscrip-

tion and the subscription will be split between Tribal Human Resources and Casino Human Resources. Seconded by Jeremy Mohawk. Motion carried.

SELECTION OF AUDITOR-Amanda Stevens, CFO

Motion by Terrie K. Terrio to approve a one-year engagement, with the option of extending up to 4 additional years with RSM US LLP for their audit services relating to North Star Casino, Stockbridge-Munsee Community and Enterprise 401(k) plan. Seconded by Sara Putnam. Motion carried.

NSMCR BUILDING INSPECTION REPORT & STATE AUDIT-Darcy Malone, Gaming Commission

Motion by Sara Putnam to approve the Inspection Report and State Audit. Seconded by Terrie K. Terrio. Motion carried.

AIR QUALITY MONITORING OPPORTUNITY-Antoinette Tourtillott, Environmental

Motion by Joe Miller to approve moving forward with the installation of air quality monitoring equipment from Bard College. Seconded Sara Putnam. Motion carried.

MOHICAN FAMILY CENTER EXPANSION BIDS-Allen Quinney, Executive Director

Motion by Joe Miller to award the design/build contract for the Mohican Family Center Expansion project to Bayland Buildings, Inc for a Guaranteed Maximum Price. Seconded by Terrie K. Terrio.

Motion maker amends motion to add: using the ARPA Funds. Second concurs. Motion carried.

RFP FOR DRUG PREVENTION & ASSISTANCE TRAINING-Andrew Miller, SMHWC Director

Motion by Terrie K. Terrio to approve posting an RFP for Drug Prevention and

Assistance Training. Seconded by Randall Wollenhaup. Motion carried.

BIA TRIBAL PRIORITY FUNDS-Randall Wollenhaup, Ecology Manager

Motion by Terrie K. Terrio to approve resolution #036-23, The Tribe wishes to accept funding through the BIA Natural Resources Fund, via a Public Law 93-638 contract, for the years of 2023-2024, to fund the management of natural resources on Tribal Lands. Seconded by Jeremy Mohawk. Resolution adopted.

LINKEDIN CONTRACT RESOLUTION-

Motion by Terrie K. Terrio to approve resolution #037-23 for the LinkedIn Contract. Seconded by Jeremy Mohawk. Resolution adopted.

BOARD/COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:

Constitution Committee- Motion by Joe Miller to approve the funding as requested. Seconded by Randall Wollenhaup. Motion carried.

Forestry Committee- Motion by Joe Miller to accept the June 7th, 2023, Forestry Committee Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Randall Wollenhaup. Motion carried.

Motion by Joe Miller to post the Forestry Management Plan revision with the exception noted on Page 58 for 30-days. Seconded by Jeremy Mohawk. Motion carried.

Motion by Terrie K. Terrio to accept the June 27th, 2023, minutes and approve the recommendations contained within. Seconded by Joe Miller. Motion carried.

Land Committee- Motion by Randall Wollenhaup to approve the May 25th, 2023, Land Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. Seconded by Terrie K. Terrio.

Roll Call: Jeremy abstains, Randall yes, Sara yes, Terrie yes and Joe yes. Motion carried.

LEASE OF LAND-

Motion by Joe Miller to adopt resolution #038-23, NOW THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tribal Council hereby approves the Lease of Land with Rainer Shooter, which allows him to obtain a home loan, and authorizes the Tribal President or Vice-President to execute the Lease of Land. Seconded by Terrie K. Terrio.

Roll Call: Jeremy abstains, Randall yes, Sara yes, Terrie yes and Joe yes. Resolution adopted.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS REQUEST-

Motion by Joe Miller to declare a Declaration of Disaster for air quality and medical health. Seconded by Terrie K. Terrio. Motion carried.

Sara left the meeting at 5:59 PM due to a prior commitment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-

Motion by Jeremy to go into Executive Session. Seconded by Randall Wollenhaup. Motion carried at 6:00 PM.

Motion by Jeremy Mohawk to come out of Executive Session. Seconded by Randall Wollenhaup. Motion carried at 7:02 PM.

While in Executive Session discussion was held on an Internal Audit, Legal Issue, Personnel Matter, Tribal Member Concern, Waiver Requests, Gaming Waiver, and a Tribal Member Request.

Motion Terrie K. Terrio to accept the audit recommendations for Program 261, Historic Preservation for manager's response. Seconded by Randall Wollenhaup. Motion carried.

Motion by Terrie K. Terrio to adopt resolution #039-23 for GW 23.02, Gaming Waiver. Seconded by Joe Miller. Resolution adopted.

ADJOURNMENT-

Motion by Joe Miller to adjourn. Seconded by Jeremy Mohawk. Motion carried at 7:04 PM.



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Stop in and see us at CMN or any of our off-site locations (Stockbridge-Education Department 1st Monday of the month, Shawano; 2nd Monday of the month, Maehnowesekiyah; 3rd Monday of the month, and Neopit- Menominee Tribal Enterprises; 3rd Tuesday of the month).

Call or visit in person or online today to begin your referral application process



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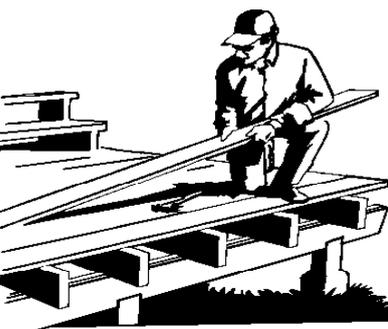
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