



Raasch Selected to Serve on Indian Law and Order Commission

The Indian Law and Order Commission recently informed the Honorable David Raasch of the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Court that he has been selected to the Tribal Law and Order Act Advisory Committee as a representative for the Wisconsin BIA region.

Judge Raasch was selected to the Committee based on his knowledge and experience gained through his work in Indian Country. The Commission is tasked with reviewing existing law enforcement and judicial systems in Indian Country and proposing ways to improve the administrative of justice in Indian Country in the future. The Commission will look to Judge Raasch for guidance and recommendations on a variety of issues.

Raasch continued on page Six:



Electa Quinney Honored

By Jeff Vele - Mohican News Editor

Roxanne Mohawk works at the Stockbridge-Munsee HeadStart Program. In working with her students Mrs. Mohawk, who is married to Jeremy Mohawk, decided to do a dedication to honor Electa Quinney and to introduce her to her students.

The children did not know the school was named after her and that she was from this community. Mohawk asked Virginia (Gin) Johnson to be part of the ceremony to cut the ribbon and unveil the picture because she is the eldest living full blooded female in the community. She also asked Penny Jashinski to take part in the Ceremony because she is a descendant of Electa Quinney.

The HeadStart sign was refurbished by Leonard (Mr. Bingo) Welch. Leah Miller provided assistance in gathering all the information needed on Electa Quinney and also provided the picture from the archives at the Library/Museum.

"We now have a portrait of Electa Quinney hanging in the school after all these years and the children are very proud to see it hanging when they come in everyday. This is a start of a celebration that will take place every year to honor not only a great woman but a great educator," said Mohawk.

(Editor's Note: Pictures of the event can be seen on the left center spread of this issue).



Health and Human Services Regional Director Munson Meets with Tribe

By Jeff Vele - Mohican News Editor

Regional Director for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Kenneth Munson met with President Bob Chicks, Vice-President Wally Miller, and Tribal Council members Joe Miller and Scott Vele; and the new Wellness Center Director, Gregg Duffek on December 15 at the Stockbridge-Munsee Health and Wellness Center.

Munson was making his rounds visiting area health centers to gather information on needs of Tribal communities.

According to a story from the Oct. 4, 2011 JS (Journal/Sentinel) Online by Karen Herzog of the Journal Sentinel, Kenneth Munson, deputy secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, has been named a regional director for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In that role, he will serve as a key representative of Sebelius in working with federal, state, local and tribal officials on a wide range of health and social service issues. The Region V office is based in Chicago, and works with officials in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin.

At the meeting at the Stockbridge-Munsee Health and Wellness Center Councilperson Scott Vele brought up the importance of looking at ways to save money and improve the efficiency of meetings held with on a national level. President Chicks expanded on this idea by saying that agenda items should be identified prior to

the meetings through pre-scoping. Chicks said this would prevent an excessive amount of discussion on items that are not solvable at these meetings.

Munson said they would include pre-scoping at meetings scheduled to be held the week of February 13-17, 2012 in Michigan.

Health Center Director Gregg Duffek addressed several funding issues which the Secretary said he would look into because he is new in the position and needs to familiarize himself with all of the budgetary issues. "The price of business goes up but the funding levels stay the same which makes [our jobs] very difficult," Duffek said.

Councilperson Joe Miller said unfunded mandates are also an issue. Joe Miller talked about a solution that was provided by the tribes regarding the well and septic program regarding IHS standards. He said Indian Health Services (IHS) standards cause wells to be shut down due to nitrate levels at a cost of thousands of dollars. "These wells are being wasted because the nitrates could be handled with a 500 dollar filtration device. If IHS used these filtration devices it could save the government a lot of money and stop the wasting of funds," said councilperson Joe Miller.

Chicks ended the discussion by saying, "We must be aware of how the Midwest stacks up to other regions. The cost of delivery

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The Rich Don't Need a Free Ride



Editorial by William Rice

Despite popular fascination with the rich and famous, most working people have little understanding of the finances of the wealthy. And the rich use that unfamiliarity to their advantage as they wield their outsized influence over public policy.

Take the competing tax proposals of the Republican presidential candidates. Going almost unremarked amid all the discussion of the 9-percent federal sales tax in Herman Cain's "9-9-9" plan, or the surviving deductions in Rick Perry's 20-percent flat tax, is that under both plans capital gains wouldn't be taxed at all. Perry

would also not tax dividends, and the other GOP hopefuls would largely exempt from taxation both of these kinds of passive income as well.

Now, if you're a middle-class wage earner for whom dividends and capital gains are, at most, modest entries on your annual mutual fund statement, their exemption from taxation is a minor consideration when examining the merits of a tax plan. But if you're among the independently wealthy who live almost entirely on dividends and capital gains, such a provision holds great appeal. It means you would pay no federal income tax at all. Nothing. Nada. Zero.

Of course, all the candidates would also eliminate the estate tax, meaning that rich people would never be taxed on their inherited assets or income. As in pre-revolutionary France, taxes would be left entirely to the middle-class and poor.

I'm quite familiar with these permanent passive-income tax holidays promised by the GOP presidential hopefuls, because I'm one of those independently wealthy people who would benefit so handsomely. I'm no Bill Gates or Warren Buffet, but I do have

enough money that it makes enough money for me to live on. I mostly volunteer my time to worthy causes, and though I occasionally pull down a paycheck or charge a client fee, the bulk of my income comes from interest, dividends, and capital gains.

Why should I pay no taxes while someone who gets up and goes to work every day does? The reason usually offered for taxing passive income at a lower rate than wages, salaries, and small-business income is that such preferential treatment encourages investment and job creation. And that may be true of entrepreneurs who start businesses, seek investors, and then sell off their creations and start all over again.

But I don't do any of those things, and there are millions of rich people like me who don't either. Like a lot of them, I inherited stock in big companies like IBM and General Electric. I support myself primarily by depositing dividend checks. Occasionally I sell some shares at a profit. And conservative tax reformers believe I should be rewarded for this great exertion by exempting me entirely from taxation.

This is neither fair nor logical at a time of rising federal debt and severe budget cuts. True "job

creators" could be encouraged without benefiting those like me who don't need any more economic breaks. The preferential treatment already accorded capital gains and dividends from startup companies could be increased. Those who make a majority of their money from working could be encouraged to save and invest by taxing their investment income at lower rates than those of the already independently wealthy.

To his credit, Mitt Romney would still tax the passive income of those making over \$200,000 a year.

But to ensure such sensible approaches are adopted, those of us who live off inherited wealth and believe in tax equity must speak up.

We have to blow the whistle on the giveaways in the proposed tax overhauls that most working folks are too busy to notice.

William Rice has promoted progressive causes and candidates both in the Washington, DC area and in northern New England, is active in the political arts world, and is a member of Wealth for Common Good.

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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:

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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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Personal thanks from Bob Chicks

Thanks. Certainly to those who voted and certainly to the voter whose vote took two months to be counted. Thanks as well to all of us who stood by a simple principle particularly during a frustrating time. Thanks to all who provided me with advice and who themselves exhibited patience and helped me to practice it as well. Finally, to everyone who cast that ballot and then so silently reminded all of us the importance of voting and just how significant a single vote can be.

confrontations.

We will work on a strategic long-term plan; review our ordinances; making changes if they are needed and omitting needless regulations. We will also address our governmental organization structure and make necessary changes. Our employees have waited a very long time for a new wage scale and we intend to have a revised one in place prior to adoption of the FY13 budget. There are additional objectives to be sure. But for now.....

I am spending these several days listening to the other Council members and working with them to fashion a purposeful but realistic set of objectives held over from 2011. I am following up on several open matters from the last term and I am hopeful that we can resolve them in short order. There are of course many administrative tasks associated with a change in the presidency and our staff continues to help this brief transition conclude seamlessly.

We pause now as family and community celebrate the holidays with one another; remembering and reinforcing the great commonality that we share. No matter our faith or understandings, this is a spiritually important season and we should share it together. Remember those who are in service and are away from family and home--remember too those who are ill or facing personal battles; remember our Elders who have provided us with all that we need and bless our children who are the future.

We will work together to introduce greater efficiencies in our Council meetings, work hard at making sure there is follow-through, and pledge to make our meetings a time for business and not a time to utilize the meetings for personal agendas and personal

The very best of the New Year to each and every one of you!

Sincerely,

Bob Chicks



Stockbridge-Munsee Flags

The Mohican Veterans are selling Stockbridge-Munsee Flags and the C-store will be selling Mohican Veterans T-shirt's
The Mohican Veterans are selling the Stockbridge-Munsee flags for \$65 for the 4x6 and \$30 for the 2x3. T-Shirts available at the Little Star Convenience Store in various sizes and colors selling at \$25 each. Contact Robert Little at 715 787-2535 or Gregg Duffek at 715 793-5007 or Roger Miller at 715 793-5070 if you wish to purchase flags.

A Christmas Greeting to the Elders of the Mohican Community

By Burdette Burr, Sr.
I hope your Christmas is calm and bright,
and I hope you sleep peaceful at night,
I hope your aches and pains stay away,
and good days for you are here to stay.

Lost Dog

Please help find our lost dog. This is a friendly brown boxer that was lost about two weeks ago. There is a reward for the return of this dog. He is loved and missed by his owner and family. No questions asked, just please help find our dog Maynard. Please call 715-793-4388.

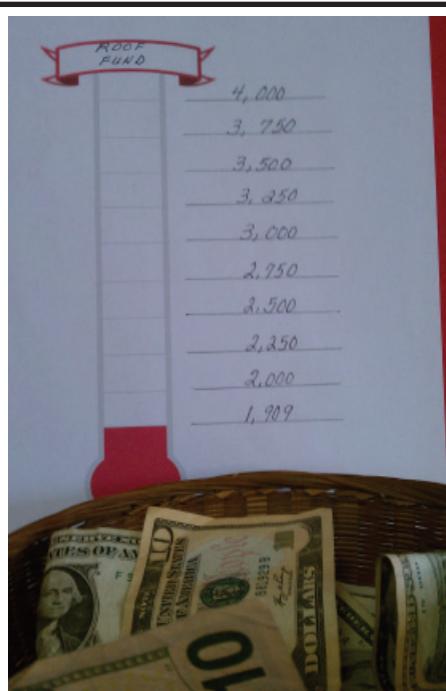


The first-born grandson of Pam Vele and son of Shane Albrecht Makai (pictured here at age four) has been diagnosed with Adrenal Luco Dystrophy (ALD), a genetically inherited rare disease which affects one in twenty thousand males from the age of four to ten.

A fund raiser for the benefit of Makai is currently being held to help meet the needs of the family. Makai is the great grandson of the late Merton Vele.

Donations may be made at the First National Bank of Bowler or call Pam at 715-793-4125 to see how you can assist the family.

Thank you in advance for your prayers and your help. For more info on the disease visit ulf.org



The members of Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Morgan Siding are working towards raising funds to repair the roof.

Every Sunday the membership puts a monetary donation in a basket towards this endeavor.

If you are interested in helping us reach our goal please send your monetary donations to:

Our Saviors Lutheran Church in care of Ms. Darlene Reif, P. O. Box 57, Gresham WI 54128-0057.



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Elder Wisdom

UW-Green Bay set to graduate biggest mid-year class to date

GREEN BAY – The University of Wisconsin-Green Bay is on pace this semester to break a mid-year graduation record, as more than 400 bachelor's and master's degree students have applied to complete their degrees.

This number includes two Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal members, CrystalRose Dodson (Bowman) with a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies and Vera Heubel who attained a degree in Nursing.

More than 300 of the 422 students who had applied for graduation as of Dec. 13 took part in commencement ceremonies Saturday, Dec. 17 at the Weidner Center for the Performing Arts on campus. Five students have applied to complete graduate degrees, while 417 have applied to finish undergraduate degrees.

The number of December graduates at UW-Green Bay has increased steadily during the past several years, according to the University's Office of Institutional Research and Assessment. In 2010, 396 students applied for mid-year graduation, up from 391 in 2009 and 339 in 2008.

Here are some additional facts and figures about UW-Green Bay's December 2011 class:

- Undergraduate degree candidates range in age from 20 to 58, with a median age of 23 and an average age of 28. Fifty-six percent are younger than 25.
- Sixty-five percent of undergraduate degree candidates are female; 35 percent are male.
- The applicants' racial and ethnic diversity mirrors the campus as a whole, with 10 percent of degree candidates coming from U.S. minority groups and 1 percent from foreign countries.
- Twenty-one percent of December 2011 undergraduate degree candidates are alumni of Brown County high schools. They hail from Green Bay Preble High School (16), Bay Port High School (13), Green Bay Southwest (nine), Green Bay West (eight), Ashwaubenon High School (seven), De Pere High School (seven), Green Bay East (seven), West De Pere High School (seven), Pulaski Community High School (six), Green Bay Notre Dame Academy (two), Denmark High School (one),

Providence Academy (one) and Wrightstown High School (one).

- Degree candidates come from Wisconsin and 15 other states: Alaska, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Idaho, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Pennsylvania and Tennessee.
- Flags designating the various nations of origin of this semester's graduates will be carried in the opening procession. Along with students from the United States, the December 2011 graduating class includes individuals from Egypt, Honduras, Iran, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Romania and Sweden; as well as the sovereign Native American nations of the Lac Courte Oreille Ojibwe, Lac du Flambeau Chippewa (Ojibwe), Menominee, Oneida and Stockbridge-Munsee Mohican.
- Thirty percent of undergraduate degree applicants completed an associate's degree prior to attending UW-Green Bay. Thirty-five of these degrees came from the UW Colleges, while another 30 came from Northeast Wisconsin Technical College.
- Of the graduates who started at UW-Green Bay as new freshmen, 14 percent are graduating in less than four years; 52 percent began college 4 ½ years ago; 16 percent began 5 ½ years ago and 18 percent started at least six years ago.
- The potential December 2011 graduates have an average GPA of 3.22, while 18 percent have GPAs higher than 3.75.
- Business Administration is the most popular major for December undergraduate degree candidates, with 13 percent of potential grads earning degrees in that major. Other majors graduating 5 percent or more of students are: Interdisciplinary Studies (12 percent), Nursing (9 percent), Human Biology (7 percent), Psychology (7 percent), Elementary Education (5 percent), Human Development (5 percent) and History (5 percent).

At press time we had information available on CrystalRose Dodson (Bowman) (Pictured on the right). She is graduating summa cum laude (highest honors, earned by achieving a 3.85 or higher GPA, or a GPA of 3.75 to 3.849 plus eligibility for the successful completion of an honors-in-the-major project).

Facebook partners with Labor Department to help job-seekers

The Labor Department is hoping a popular new friend can help unemployed workers find jobs.

Labor Secretary Hilda Solis on Thursday announced a partnership with Facebook designed to connect the jobless with companies that are hiring. The Social Jobs Partnership will aggregate a variety of existing, but often little-known, job-search services on a [new Facebook page](#) in hopes of drawing more attention to them.

"Landing on this page can help Americans land good jobs," Solis said at a Washington news conference with representatives from Facebook, the National Assn. of Colleges and Employers, the National Assn. of State Workforce Agencies and the DirectEmployers Assn.

The partnership, which Solis hopes to expand to Twitter, LinkedIn and other social-networking sites, will highlight job-placement resources to match those openings to some of the people who need work.

There are about 3 million job openings in the U.S., Solis said, and about 14 million unemployed people.

Among the services available to help match them up are 3,000 one-stop career centers nationwide, and online tools such as the Labor Department's [My Skills My Future website](#), which allows people to see alternative careers for their skills and get information on educational opportunities and employers for those fields that are near them.

"Our data information and services are valuable only when people know about us," said Bonnie Eelsey,

president of the National Assn. of State Workforce Agencies, which represents public agencies that assist the unemployed, such as the California Employment Development Department. "Just think of the expanded audience we can reach with our partnership with Facebook. We can connect more job-seekers with jobs."

Facebook's new page will be a one-stop shop for those looking for work, said Marne Levine, the company's vice president for global public policy.

"Think of this as a free, online job fair that can be accessed seven days a week, day or night," she said. "Our labor market is changing, and so should the tools that are used to find these jobs."

A [survey](#) this summer by recruiting site Jobvite of 800 U.S.-based human resources and recruitment professionals found that 64% hired through social networks this year, up from 58% in 2010.

"The social Web is changing the way that employers search for talent," said Bill Warren, executive director of the DirectEmployers Assn., a nonprofit consortium of about 600 U.S. companies that focuses on recruitment and other human resources practices. "This initiative is going to make the recruiting process easier and more efficient for both employees and job-seekers."

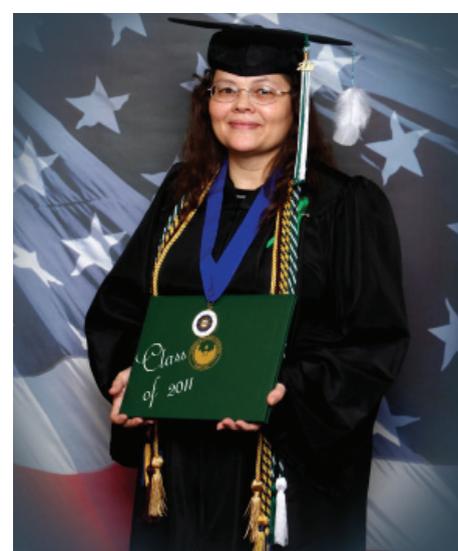
In addition to creating the Facebook page, Levine said the company would launch public-service announcements on Facebook and the 10 states with the highest unemployment rates, a list led by Nevada and California.

CrystalRose is a Mohican Veteran who is currently in the Air Force Reserves.

She was selected to receive the University of Green Bay Leadership Award and due to being in the top 10% of her class. She is now a member of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society.

She wore all three cords during her graduation ceremony. CrystalRose also has an Associate Degree from Northeast Wisconsin Technical College with a major in Business Administration Credit where she graduated with a 3.950 GPA.

She is currently working towards her Associate Degree



with the Community College of the Air Force. CrystalRose plans to continue her education by seeking a master's degree for Business Management in the fall of 2012.

Rambling through history... ...with Dot Davids



Season's Greetings

Today is December 15, 2011, I think. I forgot to change my calendar, so I have been operating on November time for the last few days. Christmas Day was approaching much sooner than I expected. Part of this confusion with time may be that we celebrated my friend Ruth's 80th birthday on December 9th with a lively crowd at Pine Hills. We also attended the Elderly Christmas party and the Black Diamond Casino Dinner that week. It's no wonder time gets confusing this time of the year.

Christmas time! The greeting cards are beginning to arrive. Many of them carry the message of the real meaning of Christmas. That takes me back to the 1930s when I attended the Lutheran Mission Boarding School. At Christmas time there was always a Christmas program in the Lutheran Church.

Each of us had a Christmas piece to say. These included the passages in Luke 2 of the St James Version of the Bible. I still remember, "and it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed . . . And Joseph also went up from Galilee. . .to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was . . ."

I can remember standing in a row with other second and third graders in front of the big Christmas tree and each saying our piece "peace". I suspect we were looking forward to receiving the bag of candy at the end of the program. I remember there were some peanuts, a few pieces of candy and an apple in each bag. In the 1930s this was a real treat. In the 1930s we didn't have a car, but Pa, Grandpa Davids or Uncle Ed had a team of horses and a sleigh. They created a bed of hay on the sleigh and we kids, dressed in our

warmest clothes, huddled on the sleigh and headed the five miles to the Lutheran Church. I suspect my Mother, who was a musician, had us singing Christmas songs as we glided down "Gray's Hill."

About 1935, the Mission Boarding School closed due to a lack of funds although it continued as a day school for a few years. However, the "Depression" continued. At Christmas time, each of us kids in the family received one present. I remember one year, I received a pencil box with a couple of pencils and a short ruler in it. Another year I received a knitted hat and matching scarf. I don't remember what the other kids received.

Today I live across the road from where I was born. Perhaps some of those memories are still floating around in the air.

And here it is December 15, 2011. It's a different world. Television is bringing the news of the world, some of which is quite depressing. Perhaps the best news is that the War in Iraq has ended. According to many, this is a war that that should never have started. I noticed that some of the soldiers returning home had tears in their eyes. (Men don't seem to share their tears easily, so this must have had deep meaning for them.) I hope the end of this war will lift our "Christmas Spirits."

Christmas Spirit! Christmas is a time when we think about our family, friends and associates in a slightly different way. We send them cards and letters and may even buy them gifts to show our thoughtfulness. We decorate our houses, our trees, even ourselves with colorful lights or clothing. We have the spirit of giving. I wonder if this idea came with the three Wisemen, or Magi, who traveled a long distance following a star bringing gifts to the baby Jesus. Of course they brought their "adoration" also. (Oh, come let us adore him.)

It seems as if our stores take advantage of this idea of "gift-giving" and they measure their generosity by big bargains and profits. Of course, we take advantage of the stores at this time, too.

In a sense the "occupiers" and the 99 % (per centers) are also trying to give to the world a better balance of the spiritual

goodness as they perceive it. The one % (per centers) those with the wealth have another perception . . .I'm way out on a limb here...so I'd better just drop the subject.

We did receive a beautiful a little Christmas greeting from Morris Dees of the Southern Poverty Law Center. It, in a great diversity of colors and prints reads, "**We all should know that diversity makes for a rich tapestry and we must understand that all the threads of the tapestry are equal in value no matter what their color.** Maya Angelou.

Rambler has just spent the last hour looking for a humorous version of **The Night Before Christmas**. I couldn't find it, but I did run across some items I called "Elevens."

Elevens require one to express a thought in eleven syllables. This requires considerable self-discipline.

OTHER KNEADS HAVE I

Wisconsin driver licenses and ID cards are acceptable for voting

A new law requiring a photo ID at the polls has many people confused about what they need. In recent weeks, a number of Wisconsinites have gone to their local DMV customer service center to request a "Voter ID card" only to find out that they already have it – a Wisconsin driver license.

DMV Deputy Administrator Patrick Fernan notes, "There is a lot of confusion out there as to what is needed, and we want people to know that the vast majority of people already have an acceptable photo ID for voting, and it is their Wisconsin driver license. We're seeing people who think there is a separate Voter ID card that is needed, and that simply does not exist." What does exist is what DMV has always issued – driver licenses and ID cards. What is different is that they, or some other acceptable photo identification, are now needed to vote.

Currently, more than 4,114,000 Wisconsinites have a driver license which is acceptable as photo identification for voting. Another 481,810 Wisconsinites have a Wisconsin ID card, issued by the DMV. Wisconsin ID cards are also

(1964)
My hands were deep in dough
Making bread
You know!

SMUGNESS

(1964)
The day the chimney fell
Sooted me just fine.

AUTUMN RESPONSE

(1964)
We named one tall maple tree
Flaming sweetness.

KEEPSAKES

(1964)
Precious thoughts
Tucked in a pocket
Of silence.

Express a thought in eleven syllables. Try it.

With that, Rambler wishes you a Merry Christmas and a good 2012!!

acceptable as photo identification at the polls. For people who don't have an acceptable photo ID for voting and want one, DMV can issue a photo ID free of charge if they meet the requirements. Driver license receipts and ID card receipts issued by DMV and valid for 45 days are also acceptable forms of photo ID for voting. For more information, visit www.wisconsinidmv.gov.

The Government Accountability Board notes that an unexpired Wisconsin driver license is the most common acceptable photo ID for voting. An expired Wisconsin driver license or ID is also acceptable, as long as it expired within two years after the most recent general election (November 2, 2010). In other words, if a Wisconsin ID or driver license expired in December 2010, it can still be used for voting purposes in the November 2012 general election.

More information about voting in Wisconsin, is available through the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board at www.gab.wi.gov.

Munson cont from page One:
for our health care is higher in comparison to the IHS hospitals." Munson has served three times as deputy secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services: in 2003, 2004 and most recently, in 2010. As deputy secretary, he was the chief operating officer and managed the department's \$7.8 billion budget and 5,500 employees statewide. He also oversaw the deployment of a statewide vital records information system linking hospitals with the state records office and local registrars in 72 counties.

Munson previously served as president and CEO of the Children's Service Society of Wisconsin, leading the state's largest private, not-for profit provider of child welfare services. There, he managed more than 80 programs including out-of-home

care, mental health, education and prevention programming that served 85,000 children and adults annually.

He also served as chief executive officer of the Bradley Technology and Trade School in Milwaukee, where he coordinated the planning and construction of a \$50 million technology school and directed school operations after it opened in November 2002. And, he served as deputy director of Milwaukee's Department of Administration, and executive director of the Milwaukee Fire and Police Commission.

A Milwaukee native, Munson holds a law degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a bachelor of arts degree in history and political science from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. (Information taken from <http://www.jsonline.com/blogs/news/131097018.html>).

Raasch cont from page One:

of topics as data is obtained in preparation for the creation of a report to be presented to the President and Congress at the conclusion of this process.

The advisory committee is created to provide advice and recommendations to the Commission, and other information as the Commission determines to be necessary to carry out their duties. The Commission said they expect

to utilize Judge Raasch's knowledge, experience, and expertise as they grapple with the many and varied issues that currently affect Indian Country throughout the United States.

Judge Raasch was told, "The Commission looks forward to your participation on such a worthwhile and necessary effort, especially with your "boots on the ground" experience in Indian Country that you will bring to this process."

Deadline approaches for mandatory IRA withdrawals

By Jason Alderman

Reaching your 70th birthday is cause for celebration. But thanks to our quirky tax code, a potentially more important milestone arrives six months later. IRS rules say that you must begin taking required minimum distributions (RMDs) from your IRAs and other tax-deferred retirement accounts beginning in the year you reach age 70 ½.

Failure to make these mandatory withdrawals by December 31 each year can result in severe penalties, so if you or someone you know are approaching that threshold, read on:

Congress devised IRAs, 401(k) plans and other tax-deferred retirement accounts to encourage people to save for their own retirement. You generally contribute "pretax" dollars to these accounts (except for Roth plans), which means the money and its investment earnings are not subject to income tax until withdrawn.

In return, Congress decreed that RMDs must be withdrawn – and taxed – each year after you reach 70 ½. Furthermore, unless you meet certain narrow conditions, you'll have to pay an excess accumulation tax equal to 50 percent of the RMD you should have taken – plus take the distribution and pay taxes on it.

In a few cases you can delay or avoid paying an RMD:

- If still employed at 70 ½, you may delay RMDs from your 401(k) or other work-based account until you actually retire, without penalty; however, regular IRAs are subject to the rule, regardless of work status.

- Roth IRAs are exempt from the RMD rule; however Roth 401(k) plans are not.

- You can also transfer up to \$100,000 directly from your IRA to an IRS-approved charity. Although the RMD itself isn't tax-deductible, it won't be included

in your taxable income and lowers your overall IRA balance, thus reducing the size of future RMDs.

Another way to circumvent the RMD is to convert your tax-deferred accounts into a Roth IRA. You'll still have to pay taxes on pretax contributions and earnings; and, if you're over age 70 ½, you must first take your minimum distribution (and pay taxes on it) before the conversion can take place.

Ordinarily, RMDs must be taken by December 31 to avoid the penalty. However, if it's your first distribution you may wait until April 1 the year after turning 70 ½ – although you still must take a second distribution by December 31 that same year.

Generally, you must calculate an RMD for each IRA or other tax-deferred retirement account you own by dividing its balance at the end of the previous year by a life expectancy factor found in one of the three tables in Appendix C of IRS Publication 590:

- Use the Uniform Lifetime Table if your spouse isn't more than 10 years younger than you, your spouse isn't the sole beneficiary, or you're single.
- Use the Joint and Last Survivor Table when your spouse is the sole beneficiary and he/she is more than 10 years younger than you.
- The Single Life Expectancy Table is for beneficiaries of accounts whose owner has died.

Although you must calculate the RMD separately for each IRA you own, you may withdraw the combined amount from one or more of them. The same goes for owners of one or more 403(b) accounts. However, RMDs required from 401(k) or 457(b) plans must be taken separately from each account. To learn more about RMDs, read IRS Publication 590 at www.irs.gov.

THE GROOVE

Will reopen for Senior Day Buffet on Tue., Jan. 3, 2012

\$5 SENIOR DAY BUFFET
REGULAR PRICE \$10

THE LONGHOUSE

All You Can Eat Buffet in the Longhouse \$5
11 am- 8 pm Tuesdays for those 55 and older

Chicken on the run!

Delicious

Immediate seating or to go. Does NOT include all you can eat.

\$5
Includes 4 pieces of fried chicken, mashed potatoes, vegetable & bread roll

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Social Security Resolutions

Distributed By Ken Hess
Think about retirement. Social Security is the largest source of income for elderly Americans today, but it was never intended to be your only source of income when you retire. You also will need savings, investments, pensions or retirement accounts to make sure you have enough money to live comfortably when you retire. The earlier you begin your financial planning, the better off you will be.

For tips to help you save, visit www.mymoney.gov.

Plan ahead. The best way to begin planning for retirement is by using the free resources provided by Social Security. Start by using our *Retirement Estimator*, where you can get a personalized, instant estimate of your future retirement benefits using different retirement ages and scenarios. Visit the *Retirement Estimator* at www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator.

Using Your Car Keys to Protect You

This is a time when we need to be extra careful. Pretty neat idea. Put your car keys beside your bed at night

Tell your spouse, your children, your neighbors, your parents, your Doctor's office, the check-out girl at the market, everyone you run across. Put your car keys beside your bed at night.

If you hear a noise outside your home or someone trying to get in your house, just press the panic button for your car. The alarm will be set off, and the horn will continue to sound until either you turn it off or the car battery dies.

This tip came from a neighborhood watch coordinator. Next time you come home for the night and you start to put your keys away, think of this: It's a security alarm system that you probably already have and requires no installation.

Test it. It will go off from most everywhere inside your house and will keep honking until your battery runs down or until you reset it with the button on the key fob chain.

It works if you park in your driveway or garage. If your car alarm goes off when someone is trying to break into your house, odds are the burglar/rapist won't stick around.

After a few seconds all the neighbors will be looking out their windows to see who is out there and sure enough the criminal won't want that.

And remember to carry your keys while walking to your car in a parking lot. The alarm can work the same way there.

This is something that should really be shared with everyone. Maybe it could save a life or a sexual abuse crime.

The White House - Office of National Drug Control Policy

There is new data out today from the 2011 Monitoring the Future survey and it includes some important information for parents and communities across the country. According to the annual household survey, one in nine high school seniors reported using "Spice" or "K2" over the past year. That means synthetic marijuana is now the second most frequently used illicit drug, after marijuana, among high school seniors.

So what do we know about these synthetic drugs?

First, they're dangerous. Poison Control Centers operating across the Nation have reported over 5,500 calls relating to synthetic marijuana as of October 31 of this year. That's almost double the number received in all of 2010. We also know that state and local public health departments note that these drugs cause serious adverse health effects, including agitation, anxiety, nausea, vomiting, tachycardia (fast, racing heartbeat), elevated blood pressure, tremor, seizures, hallucinations, and paranoid behavior. Making matters worse, these drugs are often marketed as "legal" substances. They are sometimes labeled as "herbal incense" and sold in small pouches or packets over the Internet, in tobacco and smoke shops, drug paraphernalia shops, gas stations, and convenience stores.

There's still a lot we do not know about these drugs, but here's what we do know: We must all work together to respond to this emerging threat. The good

news is that over the past year, the Federal Government has taken comprehensive action to address this challenge: ONDCP has convened several working group meetings to bring public health and safety agencies from across the Federal Government together to share data and coordinate the Federal response to reduce the threat these drugs pose. In March, the Drug Enforcement Administration used its emergency scheduling authority to ban the sale of the chemicals used to manufacture K2 and Spice. We are also working with Congress to pass new laws aimed at reducing the availability of these drugs. Just last week, the House of Representatives passed legislation that would ban synthetic drugs, including those marketed as "bath salts." (And at least 38 states have taken action to ban the chemicals found in K2 and Spice, as well.) Over the next few weeks, ONDCP will reach out to a nationwide network of public health and safety organizations to provide them with the latest information we have on this public health problem, raise awareness, and spur action at the local level.

We will continue to address this threat. But parents, too, must take action. Parents are the most powerful force in the lives of their teens. That is why we ask that all of you take time today to talk to your teens about the serious consequences of using marijuana - in whatever form it may come, including synthetic forms like K2 and Spice.



WISCONSIN INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION 2012 - 2013

This scholarship is an achievement-based scholarship, not based on financial need.

SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT: \$1,000 (\$500/semester)

Four (4) scholarships will be awarded, one (1) in each of the following categories:

1. New or continuing student attending a vocational/technical/tribal college.
2. Entering freshman at a four-year college.
3. Undergraduate at a four-year college (second semester freshman, sophomore, junior or senior)
4. Graduate or Ph.D. student.

REQUIREMENTS: Must be a Wisconsin resident and provide proof of Tribal Enrollment.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

To complete the application process for this award, the applicant must provide the following:

1. Completed Application form.
2. Copy of current or most recent school transcript. GED/HSED students are eligible only as continuing undergraduate or continuing technical college students.
3. Two (2) sealed letters of recommendation, one from a teacher, employer or other professional familiar with your academic potential. No family or relative letters of support.
4. A one-page typed only personal essay focusing on how you will apply your education.

ONLY COMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE REVIEWED.

THEY WILL BE SCORED AS FOLLOWS:

Recommendation	10 Pts.	Letters of	
Personal Essay	25 Pts		
GPA 2.5 - 2.99	5 PTS	3.0 - 3.49	10 PTS / 3.5 - 4.00 15 PTS

MAXIMUM POSSIBLE POINTS: 50

STUDENTS SCORING 25 POINTS OR LESS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED. NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 19, 2012

F A X E S

WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED! SEND COMPLETE PACKET TO:

Virginia Nuske, Scholarship Coordinator
WIEA
P.O. Box 910
Keshena, WI 54135

RESPONSIBILITIES OF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT:

1. Must meet application deadline with complete packet.
2. Must be maintaining at least a 2.50 Cumulative GPA.
3. Must be carrying sufficient credits to maintain full-time status
4. Must send a copy of grades to WIEA Treasurer at the end of semester to receive next semester's award.
5. Scholarship must be used for educational purposes.

RELEASE OF FUNDS:

Upon receipt of a copy of the student's semester course registration, \$500 will be released for the first semester. Upon receipt of the grade report and next semester's course registration, \$500 will be released. Submit information to WIEA Treasurer

RECIPIENTS ONLY WILL BE NOTIFIED BY MAIL AND INVITED TO ATTEND A WIEA BOARD MEETING OR ANNUAL CONFERENCE. STUDENTS CAN ONLY RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD ONE TIME IN EACH CATEGORY!

Please contact the Stockbridge-Munsee Education Department To get a WISCONSIN INDIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM 2012 - 2013 DEADLINE: March 19, 2012

Please contact the Stockbridge-Munsee Education Department with any questions about the form or to secure registration packets.



The children enjoyed the break in their routine and got to visit with their family at HeadStart.



Councilpersons Scott Vele and Joann Schedler took part in the activities along with Gin Johnson and Penny Jashinski.



The day included the dedication of the new sign which was built by Mr. Bingo and the meal and presentation inside.



Many people took time out of their busy day to enjoy the festivities and share in a meal together.



Gin Johnson also unveiled a photo of Electa Quinney which hangs in the HeadStart building.



Jeremy Mohawk and his sons took time off hunting for the festivities as Councilperson Joann Schedler admires the sign.



Penny Jashinski is a descendant of Electa Quinney and was invited to cut the ribbon on the new sign.



Councilperson Scott Vele assisted Gin Johnson, who was invited as the oldest female on the res, with cutting the ribbon.



Class of '59

(Front row l to r): Jayne Pecore, Nita Tourtillot, (Back row l to r): Sheila Powless, Mae Sabourin, Peg Drephal.
 This bunch was together in school from the first to the 12th grade. They still meet yearly for their annual reunions.



Christina Carstenson of the Security Department was named Employee of the Year for 2010-2011 at North Star Mohican Casino Resort. A dinner was held for employees that were selected as Employee of the Month for the period July 2010 through July 2011. Christina has been with North Star for 19 ½ years. Congratulations!!

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6
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BOXING



JJ Corn's Farewell Fight



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JANUARY 28, 2012
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EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

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OVER 70 Vehicles To Choose From - More Arriving Daily!

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 '03 Pontiac Grand Am 3.4 V-6, Very Clean \$4,740	 '00 VW Jetta Sunroof Auto. 81K miles JUST ARRIVED	 '00 Chevy 1500 4x4 JUST IN!	 '01 Buick Century Custom 3.1 V6 Only 89K Miles NICE CAR
 '99 Olds Cutlass Auto, AC, Loaded, 91,000 Mi. Leather NICE SHAPE!	 '00 GMC 1500 SLT Leather, Loaded, 4x4 ON SALE!	 '00 DODGE STRATUS SE VERY SHARP! PRICED TO SELL	 '01 Volvo S80 Sunroof, Leather, 81K Miles MUST SEE
 GMC Yukon SLE 4x4 ONLY \$3,640	 '99 Ford Taurus SE Very Clean \$2,970	 '00 Chrysler Town & Country Leather, Loaded \$3,960	 '98 Jeep Grand Cherokee 4x4 101K, Moon Roof, Leather, V-8 93,000 MILES
 '01 Olds Silhouette Leather Rear A/C 7 PASSENGER	 '02 Dodge Grand Caravan 7 Passenger READY TO ROLL	 '01 Chevy Prizm LSI 1.8 4 cyl., Great MPG! 93,000 MILES	 '99 Olds Alero 6 cyl., 91,000 Miles, Moon Roof SHARP!
 '00 VW Jetta VR6 Leather, Moon Roof, Low Miles TWO TO CHOOSE FROM	 '01 Pontiac Sunfire 2.2 4 cyl., Sun Roof GREAT MPG	 '02 Durango SLT V-8, 7 Pass, Rear Air LOADED!	 '98 Chevy Cavalier 4 cyl., Great MPG! \$3,430

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3046262-01



Community

Need An ID Card?

Take the right documents with you when applying for an ID at the DMV.

Being prepared will save you time and keep you from making a return trip

The state legislature recently passed a law that requires people to present an acceptable photo ID when voting. Following is some information to help those who need to obtain a Wisconsin ID card for voting purposes better prepare for a visit to the DMV.

If you don't have photo ID for voting, DMV can issue a photo ID free of charge if you will be at least 18 years of age on the date of the next election and request an ID card for the purpose of voting.

A free ID card is NOT available if you:

- Currently have a valid, unexpired driver license
- Will not be at least 18 years of age on the date of the next election
- Already have a Wisconsin ID card that is not eligible for renewal (you may renew your ID card up to one year prior to its expiration date)
- Are not eligible to vote in Wisconsin.

When applying, it will be necessary to provide **your Social Security number** and **one document from each category below.**

· Proof of name and date of birth:

- o Certified U.S. birth certificate (not a copy)
- o Valid U.S. passport
- o Certificate of Naturalization
- o Tribal ID card

· Proof of identity:

- o Social Security card
- o Certified copy of a marriage certificate or judgment of divorce
- o A driver license or ID card from another state (this must be surrendered to get a Wisconsin driver license or ID card).

· Proof of Wisconsin residency – Documents listed below must include your **name** and **current Wisconsin residence street address:**

- o Pay check or stub or earning statement with your name and Wisconsin address, and your employer's name and address, issued within the last 90 days.

Your employer's telephone number may be required for verification.

- o A bill for water, gas, electricity, landline telephone, cable or cell phone service issued within the last 90 days. Electronic copies are acceptable.
- o An account statement from a Wisconsin bank/financial institution issued within the last 90 days. Electronic copies are acceptable.
- o Certified school record or transcript that identifies you by name, shows your current address and is issued within the last 90 days for the most recent school period.
- o Mortgage documents for a residential property located in Wisconsin.
- o Community based/assisted living residential contracts.
- o Your current valid homeowner, renter or motor vehicle insurance policy dated within one year of application.
- o A letter from a homeless shelter.

· Proof of U.S. citizenship, legal permanent resident, conditional resident or temporary visitor status:

- o U.S. state or local government-issued certificate of birth (certified copy-birth registration and hospital certificates are not acceptable).
- o Valid U.S. passport
- o U.S. Certificate of Naturalization or U.S. Certificate of Citizenship

The Government Accountability Board notes that an unexpired Wisconsin driver license is the most common acceptable photo ID for voting. An expired Wisconsin driver license or ID is acceptable too as long as it expired within two years after the most recent general election.

In other words, if a Wisconsin ID or driver license expired in December 2010, it can still be used for voting purposes in the November 2012 general election.

The most common documents are listed above. For a complete list of acceptable documents and more information on how to get a Wisconsin ID card, visit the Wisconsin DMV online at www.wisconsindmv.gov.

For more information on voting in Wisconsin, visit the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board online at www.gab.wi.gov.

Let's Vote Lori to the Packer Fan Hall of Fame

For those who think they are the ultimate fan of the Green Bay Packers, the team has created an opportunity for fans to become permanently recognized for their enthusiastic support in the Packers Hall of Fame. The Packers, the first professional football team to have its own hall of fame, were part of another first in 1998, when they announced the establishment of the Green Bay Packers FAN Hall of Fame.

Lori Mueller (Pictured here with former kicker Chester Marcol) is a teacher at Bowler Elementary who is a Packer fan like no other. She has passed along a Packer legacy to generations of young people, and others as well. She has taught a summer class called Packermania for several years, and it has been seen on the "Inside Lambeau" show, and even written about in the New York Times! With this class, she integrates a Packer theme into various subjects, and the students love it! It is a very popular class, with some students taking it repeatedly.

"The spirit and tradition of the Green Bay Packers is best represented by our loyal and enthusiastic fans," said Packers President/CEO Mark Murphy. "It is fitting that we honor our fans by recognizing them through the Packers FAN Hall of Fame."

Every Friday during the Packer season, she rewards everyone in the school with a treat if they wear "Packer gear," or green and gold. She encourages fans of other teams to wear their colors as well. She does this to promote school spirit, good sportsmanship, and of course the Green Bay Packers!

Her students have visited the Packer Hall Of Fame and taken the ever-popular Lambeau Field tour many times, and she always makes the experience a special one. She has also made it possible for many people to attend Packer games, and Packer Family Night. She donates tickets to her summer class each year, making it possible for students and their families to have a true Lambeau Field experience.

Finalists are chosen by the FAN Hall of Fame selection committee, comprised of members of the Green Bay Packers' front office and this year Lori Mueller has been selected as one of the finalists.

Ten finalists are chosen and profiled in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, as well as on the Packers' website - Packers.com. Fans are given an opportunity to vote on the 10 finalists whose stories were profiled. Voting ballots are available in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, online through packers.com and at the corporate locations of the program's sponsors.

A special project that Lori does each year is called a "Packer Wax



Museum" where students research and write a speech on a Packer person they admire from the past or present. She has brought in some Packer people who have been portrayed in the wax museum, including the original Golden Girl, Mary Jane Sorgel. Last year Chester Marcol came to visit Bowler School and talk to the students and community. Also, Lori was instrumental in Chester writing his autobiography, and she is mentioned in the introduction of the book. She feels strongly that the Packer veterans of the past have a lot to offer the Packers (and fans) of the present and future.

If you were to come and visit Lori's classroom, you'd see a definite Packer imprint. There are Packer curtains, posters, signs, and a lot of Packer artwork which her students give to her as gifts. She has planted a seed, and there seem to be Packer fans growing everywhere, thanks to Lori! Lori is already an award-winning teacher (she won a Kohl Fellowship last year).

Another teacher at Bowler Elementary, Kathy Glenetske nominated Lori for the Packer Fan Hall Of Fame. We think she should be an award-winning Packer fan too so let's all get behind Lori and send her to the Packer Fan Hall Of Fame!

The nominee who receives the most votes each year is named as the honorary fan and is inducted into the FAN Hall of Fame. The honoree also will have his or her name displayed in a place of honor in the Packers Hall of Fame. In addition, each ballot voted will also serve as an entry for the voter into a Green Bay Packers Fan Hall of Fame drawing for a road trip for two to a 2012 away game including airfare, accommodations and game tickets.

Voting for the Packer Fan Hall Of Fame begins on January 1st, and runs through February 5th. Ballots can be obtained at participating sponsor locations: Goodwill Industries, Mattress Firm, Best Buy Stores, The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Green Bay Packers Pro Shop and Green Bay Packers Hall Of Fame. You can also vote online at <http://www.packers.com>. (Some information taken from <http://www.packers.com/fan-zone/fan-hall-of-fame.html>).

Stopping smoking DOESN'T make you more stressed, say successful quitters

By [Claire Bates](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-2073959) <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-2073959> Last updated at 2:30 PM on 14th December 2011

Smokers who are worried they will struggle to stay calm after throwing out their cigarettes should take note - a study has found quitters cope with stress just as well after beating the habit.

Researchers from the University of Wisconsin looked at the psychological impact of giving up, after noticing many smokers assumed quitting would reduce their quality of life.

Helpful? Smokers often believe smoking helps them deal with stress but a study of successful quitters suggests otherwise

Smokers worried about their 'decreased ability to cope with stressors and negative effects, social ostracism, loss of pleasure and intense cravings', the team wrote in the Annals of Behavioural Medicine.

They said that although it was well-established that quitting improved health and save lives, there had been little research into its effect on subjective well-being.

The scientists, led by Dr Megan Piper, performed a placebo-controlled trial involving more than 1,500 male and female smokers, who they then asked to try and quit the habit.

Each participant completed an assessment and took a biochemical test to confirm their smoking status at the start of the trial, with a follow-up one and three years later.

The team found that smokers who managed to quit long-term saw an improvement rather than any deterioration in their quality of life.

Dr Piper told Mail Online: 'This

research provides important additional information for smokers who are considering quitting. Quitting smoking is hard, but if you can get through it not only will your health improve, but you will feel better overall.'

Quality of life measures included health, self-regard, philosophy of life, standard of living, work, recreation, learning, creativity, love relationship, friendships, relationships with family, home and community.

Compared to those who continued to smoker, the quitters scored higher on all of these measures and experienced more positive emotions both one year and three years on. They also said they felt they had fewer things to feel stressed about by the third year

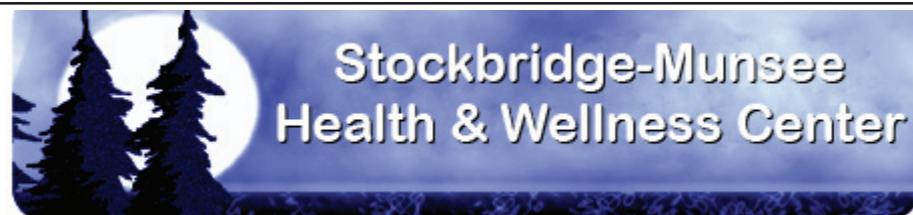
The authors said: 'This research provides substantial evidence that quitting smoking benefits well-being compared to continuing smoking.

'Smokers might believe that quitting will decrease life satisfaction or quality of life - because they believe it disrupts routines, interferes with relationships, leads to a loss of smoking-related pleasure, or because cessation deprives them of a coping strategy.

'Our findings suggest that, over the long-term, individuals will be happier and more satisfied with their lives if they stop smoking than if they do not.'

Read more: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-2073959/Stopping-smoking-DOESN-T-make-stressed-say-successful-quitters.html#ixzz1giRdyLbF>

Lenore M. Shepard
WTPPW Tribal Coordinator
Stockbridge-Munsee Community



MOHICAN BUCKS WEIGHT LOSS PROGRAM UPDATE

December 2011

Mary Murray R.D. (715) 793-5006



Since summer the Special Diabetes Program for Indians has been funding a Mohican Bucks for weight loss program. Participants were Native Americans who have diabetes, prediabetes, or risk factors for developing diabetes. Twenty-four people joined the program and decreased their collective weight by 85 pounds as of mid-December. I would like to thank all those who participated in the program which ended on December 29th.

Despite the end of the Mohican Bucks for weight loss program, I will continue to be available for one-on-one weight loss support, and to serve as a resource for information on general healthy eating as well as eating to manage specific medical conditions such as diabetes and high blood pressure. If you are interested in these services please feel free to call me at (715) 793-5006.

Resolve to be Ready in 2012 Don't Drop the Ball for the New Year

(MADISON) – What is your New Year resolution? Why not "Resolve to be Ready in 2012". It could help keep you and your family safe.

"Wisconsin experienced its share of disasters in 2011 including a blizzard, 38 tornadoes, devastating windstorms in northern Wisconsin and a heat wave that killed five people and impacted the entire state," said Tod Pritchard, Wisconsin's Emergency Preparedness Coordinator. "Emergencies can range from inconvenient to devastating, but resolving to take easy steps now can minimize the impact of an emergency on you, your family and your community."

"Resolve to be Ready" is a nationwide effort designed to increase awareness as well as encourage individuals, families, businesses and communities to take action and prepare for emergencies by taking three important steps:

1. Get an emergency supply kit
2. Make a family emergency plan

3. Be informed about the types of emergencies that can happen in Wisconsin and how to respond.

The moment disaster strikes is the worst time to think about buying emergency supplies. Having food, water, medications, first-aid kits, flashlights, battery-powered radios and other items ready to go is essential. An emergency plan will help your family communicate during a crisis. And being informed about possible dangers near you could save your life. And don't forget, always have your NOAA emergency weather radio turned on for immediate alerts to danger.

Information about Wisconsin disasters, safety tips and checklists to help make your resolution happen are available at readywisconsin.wi.gov

You can also follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/readywisconsin) or Twitter (www.twitter.com/readywisconsin) for great tips and real time information on emergencies in Wisconsin.



Sights of winter - as evidenced from the view of Besaw's Bridge (pictured above) and the Duck Pond on National Guard Road (pictured right). Snow is on the way!



Education

News from Bowler School

(Editor's Note: As we go through the school year we will attempt to get news from both of the schools within the reservation area of Bowler and Gresham to provide coverage of our children's activities at either school).



Bowler Elementary's trip to a water park last week near Wausau as a reward for being named a Wisconsin School of Recognition for its exemplary WKCE test scores from the previous school year.



Great News from the Technology Education Department at Bowler School

The Technology Education Department at the Bowler School District recently received a generous donation of twenty four small engines. Kohler Engines, through Fox Valley Technical College, made these new engines available to schools around the state. The engines Bowler received will be used for years to come and will give students a hands-on experience with small engines. Students will have the opportunity to tear-down and reassemble the engines back to a working condition. Tim Ploeger, the Technology Education teacher at Bowler and the students would like to extend a Big Thank You to Jeff Steffen and Steve Olig at Kohler for the donation of the engines and Dale Drees at FVTC for coordinating the distribution.



Santa's Workshop held last week at Bowler Elementary, sponsored by the school's PTCO. Students were able to go shopping and buy Christmas gifts for the holiday season.



Why Manage Your Woodlot?

By Melvin Koelling and Russell Kidd

Most landowners do not practice good woodlot management for a variety of reasons. These include failure to view the forest as a manageable resource, belief that leaving a forest alone will maximize its benefits, ignorance of necessary treatments and their applications, and a general mistrust of loggers and timber harvesting procedures. Because of past experiences with indiscriminate logging, some landowners improperly associate forest management with harvesting only large trees. Hence, many forest landowners are reluctant to plan any new management activity. Still others are not aware of the potential for producing a forest crop on a continuing basis.

In the past, most woodlots were not managed for renewable crops; instead, they were periodically logged with little or no concern for improving the condition of the remaining stand. Usually only the choicest trees were removed, leaving defective and otherwise low-value trees to occupy an increasingly larger portion of the woodlot.

In addition, many farm woodlots have been grazed by livestock. Fortunately, many farmers have discontinued this practice.

Woodlots that have been grazed typically contain much low-grade, defective material. Few desirable, merchantable trees are present, although desirable species may be reproduced where grazing has been discontinued. Consequently, a large number of potentially high quality, small diameter stems may be present.

Woodlot management

Woodlot management is the care and maintenance given to a forest stand to assure continuing yields of products and services. Management practices allow each acre of forest to produce at a maximum, in intangible benefits, such as aesthetics and environmental enhancement, or in tangible products, like various wildlife species, fuelwood, pulpwood, sawlogs or veneer. Management is concerned with providing an adequate number of trees of good form and quality, spaced to maximize both tree growth and use of available growing space. It is also concerned with providing for regeneration of the stand to replace harvested trees. This can be done through planting or natural sprouting and/or seeding, and is essential for continued benefits.

Timber Stand Improvement

A timber stand improvement cut is

the most immediate need in most hardwood forest stands. Deformed, diseased, dam aged or otherwise defective trees will not produce high-value timber products. In addition, such trees compete with more desirable trees for available moisture, nutrients and growing space. Their presence not only reduces the growth of desirable trees, but also often prevents the establishment of better trees within the stand. A timber stand improvement cut will remove these generally undesirable and low-value trees. Such trees are most suitable for firewood, since their value for other commercial products is low.

Proper Thinning

Along with a timber stand improvement cut, most woodlots also require thinning to obtain optimum tree spacing. The amount of thinning necessary will vary depending on the size and distribution of the tree in the stand. In a properly thinned stand, growth of remaining trees may double or triple. As trees increase in size, their growing space requirements likewise increase making periodic thinnings necessary. Later thinnings and harvest cuts will yield higher quality products and, more importantly, provide openings in the stand for the establishment of new trees. Thus, with some harvesting occurring every few years, the woodlot can be managed to produce continuing crops.

Previously poorly managed forest stands can be managed to produce at or near their potential. The proper timing and application of timber stand improvement, thinning and harvesting operations will gradually improve the quality of a woodlot and help maintain its productivity. In addition to obtaining forest products through proper management, forest landowners will also gain satisfaction from being good stewards of their land. Many forests are diverse in both type and ownership. At least nine major forest types are present. These produce a variety of products, including Christmas trees, sawlogs for lumber, pulpwood for paper, and raw materials for post, piling and log home industries.

Both publicly and industrially owned forests are generally well managed and produce at or near their potential. However, the majority of small privately owned forests are poorly managed. Most are producing at one-half or less of their potential, even though most private forests are on good



Tribal Council Directives

On Monday, December 12, 2011, the Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Council held a Special Tribal Council Meeting and at that time the following motions were made and carried:

APPROVAL OF AGENDA-

Motion by Joe Miller to approve the Special Tribal Council Meeting agenda of Monday, December 12, 2011. Seconded by Shannon Holsey. Motion carried.

BUDGET MODIFICATION: Wildlife GLRI Grant-Randall Wollenhaup

Motion by JoAnn Schedler to approve the modified GLRI grant,

soils and possess the capacity to produce significantly greater yields.

Demand for products from private forestland is growing. In the past, there had been little concern with increasing the productivity of private forests because supplies of forest products were plentiful and forest lands abundant. This is no longer the case. Nationally, the forest land base has been shrinking while the demand for wood products is projected to sharply increase. Thus, it is necessary to increase the productivity of privately owned forestlands. To accomplish this, private forest landowners must manage their land more efficiency.

Further Help

Information on how to complete a timber stand improvement operation is contained in MSU Extension Bulletin E-1578 "Improving Hardwood Timber

moving monies from Equipment and adding it to the contractual line. Seconded by Shannon Holsey. Motion carried.

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL TRIBAL CONTRIBUTION-

Randall Wollenhaup

Motion by JoAnn Schedler to approve Tribal Contribution out of the unallocated line for the Circle of Flight Project. Seconded by Shannon Holsey. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT-

Motion by Joe Miller to adjourn. Seconded by Shannon Holsey. Motion carried at 9:06 AM.

Stands." Included are suggestions for selecting the best trees of desirable species and maintaining proper spacing. On-the-ground management assistance can be obtained from your local Michigan Department of Natural Resources field office and county Soil Conservation District office. Assistance is also available from consulting foresters and from some of the larger forest industries in the state. Additional information on woodlot management and related subjects is also available from your local Cooperative Extension office.

Cooperative Extension Service • Michigan State University

(Editor's Note: While this info is general information regarding Michigan forests we will be looking at the logging and care of our forest on the reservation in the next few issues of the Mohican News based on concerns from Tribal members).

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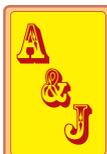
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Closed New Year	3	4	5 Editorial Board Housing Board 12 p.m. News Deadline	6	7
8	9 Language & Culture 5 p.m.	10 Elderly Steering 10 a.m. Tribal Council 5 p.m.	11 Forestry 4:45 p.m. Garbage/Recycling	12	13	14
15	16	17 Fire Department 4:45 p.m. MFC Board 5 p.m.	18 Core Planning 11 a.m. Fish & Game 5 p.m. Garbage/Recycling	19 Land Committee 4:30 p.m. News Deadline	20	21
22	23 Health Board 2 p.m.	24 Tribal Council 5 p.m.	25 Garbage/Recycling	26	27	28
29	30 Mohican Vets 5 p.m.	31				