

Worage

NATO XWANYE

NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN

2021

Iowa Tribe of Kansas & Nebraska
3345 B Thrasher Rd.
White Cloud KS 66094



Greetings and Call for Submissions



Aha! My name is Olivia Brien. I am a member of the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, and I am writing to introduce myself to those I have not yet met. Earlier this year I began working as a Marketing and Communications Consultant for the Tribe.

This is the first newsletter published by the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska in some time. The purpose of our newsletter is to update and inform our citizens and is intended to be a place to further build and develop our community.

We want to hear from YOU!

If you have any life events or exciting news that you would like to share in an upcoming newsletter, please share with us! This could include:

- Birth announcements
- Graduation announcements
- Wedding announcements
- Obituaries and death announcements
- Accomplishments
- And more!

Moving forward, the tribe plans to publish the newsletter quarterly. The deadlines for submissions and publishing schedule is as follows:

Behu (BAY-hoo) *Spring*: February 12 deadline for submissions, published in March

Mansje (MAH(n)-sjey) *Summer*: May 12 deadline for submissions, published in June

Nato Xwanye (NAH-toh KHWAH-nyeh) *Autumn*: August 12 deadline for submissions, published in September

Banyi (BAH-nyee) *Winter*: November 12 deadline for submissions, published in December

Please email all submissions to **ITKNNewsletter@gmail.com** by the above deadline. Alternatively, you may mail submissions to:

Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska
c/o Olivia Brien
3345 B Thrasher Rd.
White Cloud KS 66094

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Báxoje: Learning Our Language

Our language, Báxoje (BAH-kho-jeh), is an integral part of our culture. If you don't already know and use these words, try to incorporate them into your everyday conversations, especially when talking with your family and other tribal members.

nanyi (NAH-nyee) *honey*

nanwe (NAHn-weh) *leaf*

buje (BOO-jeh) *acorn*

wadwan (WAH-dwah(n))
squash or pumpkin

waduje (wah-DOO-jeh) *corn*

peje (PAY-jeh) *fire*

tanji (TAHN-jee) *soup*

wenawine (weh-NAH-wee-neh) *Thank you!*

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Worage

Language is always changing and evolving. This is because the needs and experiences of the speakers change over time. While Báxoje doesn't have a word that means "newsletter," we are using **worage** (WOH-rah-geh) as the title of this quarterly newsletter. **Worage** means news, happenings, or stories (not sacred stories).

Chairman's Report to the Nation

Aho, Tribal Members,

I hope this letter finds you doing well as we venture into the fall season. While we continue to battle the difficult challenges of COVID-19 and the variants, the Executive Committee remains focused on the future of the membership and your well-being.

CARES ACT / American Recovery Funds

I want to acknowledge the hiring of tribal member Brandi Liberty's company, Heroda Bikax^e Consulting LLC, to conduct a tribal-wide Needs Assessment. The pandemic has turned not only Indian country upside down, but the entire world. This Needs Assessment will be very important for each member to complete and send back. The information from this assessment will be instrumental in developing and implementing programs to serve the tribal members' needs. The programs are funded by the CARES Act and American Recovery Funds distributed by the United States Department of Treasury.

Membership Addresses

It is critical that all tribal members contact the tribal office to update their addresses. We are developing programs that will be beneficial to all tribal members. Once the Needs Assessment is completed, these programs will be rolled out. Therefore, we will need current addresses to communicate with the membership.

Economic Development

I have been in a position of tribal leadership for 14+ years, and I have learned that to survive and thrive, the tribe must diversify our tribal business ventures.

Casino White Cloud is the economic driver for the tribe, but we still need to look into other business markets to prepare ourselves against future pandemics and market variability. We took a hard look at where the tribe's dollars are going and realized we could keep these dollars here on the reservation through diversified enterprises focused on creating a stronger community. We are striving to build a strong and long-lasting tribal economy.

Diversifying Agricultural Operations

Our farming operation in the past has always been a corn and soybean rotation and a Black Angus cow calf operation, putting us at the mercy of the commodity market's variability. Currently, we are in the second year of a hemp crop, and our cattle operation is transitioning to grass and grain finishers. We will be able to



Timothy N. Rhodd
Chairman

add value to our herd through direct-to-consumer sales and intertribal commerce focused on providing our community with nutrient-dense foods. Additionally, we are growing several new crops this year and will continue to transition into a more value-added food production system. While introducing regenerative agriculture practices into the farming operations, we have been able to decrease our input cost, maintain yields, and increase overall profitability.

Our water has been steadily increasing in nitrates, and there will come a day when our water is unfit to drink due to the anhydrous ammonia leaching in the water table. By focusing on the Reservation's soil health, we can address our water quality and rebuild our aquifers. Additionally, with these practices, we can control leaching and achieve more savings by decreasing and eventually eliminating synthetics usage on our lands.

Tribal Sovereignty / Food Sovereignty

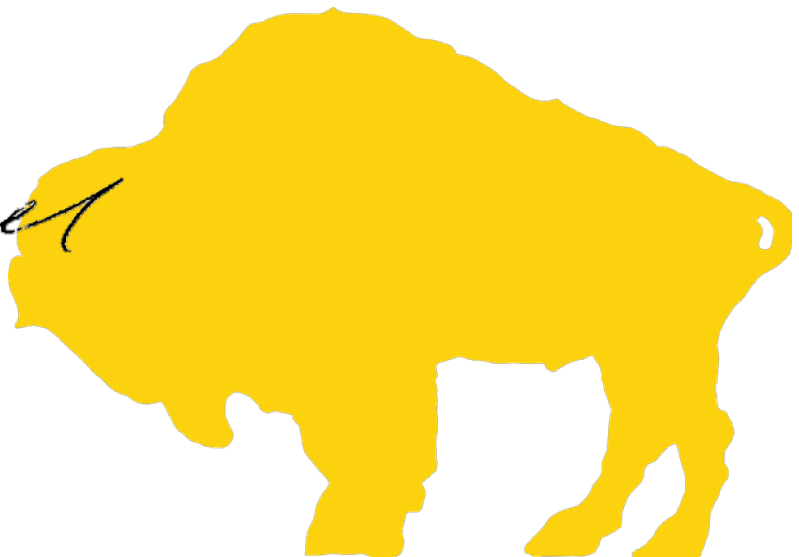
Although the Tribe is a sovereign nation, we will never be truly sovereign until we have financial and food sovereignty. Diversifying our businesses and producing food products puts us in alignment with reaching both goals of becoming a self-sustaining and sovereign tribal nation.

Conclusion

I know there have been many changes in a very short time, and I want to make sure that each tribal member understands why these changes are being made. Today, we are laying the foundation for the success and continued survival as Indian people for our future generations.

Wenawine,

Timothy N. Rhodd
Chairman



Do You Need Your COVID-19 Vaccinations?

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), American Indians and Alaska Natives are vaccinated against the coronavirus at rates higher than any other demographic in the United States.

As of September 8th, 54.9% of American Indians and Alaska Natives had received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, and 46.9% had been fully vaccinated. For the best protection against the coronavirus, you need two doses of the Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines or one dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine. The White Cloud Health Center (WCHC), located on the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska reservation, has vaccines available. They are providing vaccines to tribal members and their families, age 12 and older.

The United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has recently fully approved the Pfizer vaccine (now marketed as Comirnaty) for individuals 16 years of age and older. This vaccine continues to be available for children ages 12 through 15 under emergency use authorization (EUA) by the FDA, as do the Moderna and Johnson & Johnson vaccines for individuals age 12 and older. In late August, Moderna submitted their application for full FDA approval. Johnson & Johnson plans on applying for full approval later in the year.

If you would like to schedule your vaccination or have questions about its safety or efficacy, please call the WCHC at (785) 595-3450.

Booster Shots

For more information on booster shot eligibility and availability, continue checking the WCHC website for updates at WhiteCloudHealthCenter.org, or use the QR code below!



Executive Committee Elections and General Council Meeting

The Executive Committee Elections are currently scheduled for October 16, from 10:00 AM to 1:30 PM at the George Ogden Building. There will be a **PRE-RECORDED** General Council Meeting. Please continue to check the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska website, Facebook page, and your email for updates.

The candidates for the 2021 Executive Committee Elections are as follows:

Chairman

Tim Rhodd, Incumbent
Norma Garlington

Secretary

Tony Fee, Incumbent

Member

Robbie Craig, Incumbent
Cheyenne Colborn

Pow Wow and Fall Encampment

Adapted from the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska's Facebook post from August 17, 2021

Unfortunately, the 2021 Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska Fall Encampment and Pow Wow had to be canceled yet again this year.

The highly contagious Delta variant of the COVID-19 virus is being blamed for rising case levels in our communities and around the country.

It was difficult for the Pow Wow Committee and the Executive Committee to recommend and approve the cancellation of the event as we miss having our family and friends, as well as the public, come out to celebrate with us. However, in light of the current positivity rates in the area and in other states where people travel from, the Tribe thought it would be in our best interest not to hold the event.

We had been hopeful to invite our family and friends from across Indian Country back to Báxoje Territory this year, but we feel that it is in everyone's best interest to instead focus on joining together in 2022. Thank you for your understanding.



Needs Assessment Survey

WORDS BY BRANDI LIBERTY



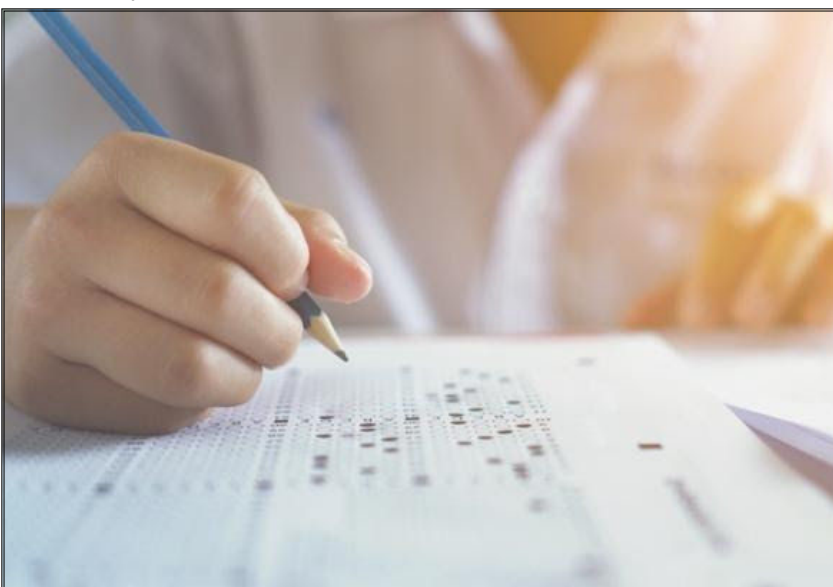
In July 2021, the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska contracted with Heroda Bikax^e Consulting LLC, owned by Brandi Liberty (tribal member), to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment of the tribal community and membership both on and off the reservation. In the coming months, tribal members will receive a link to a needs assessment survey via social media, email blast, and QR codes. Those with limited access to technology or who need accommodations may request a hardcopy survey be mailed to them. All tribal members will receive additional information during the virtual General Council meeting in October. In addition, Heroda Bikax^e Consulting will host a town hall in early November, allowing all tribal members to attend. This Townhall will include a series of questions related to the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska and give tribal members an opportunity to participate in a SWOT (strength, weakness, opportunity, threat) Analysis of the Tribe. Please be on the lookout for future information.

Your participation in the needs assessment survey, General Council meeting, and the Townhall, as

a member of the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, is very important to us. The Tribe has never completed a comprehensive needs assessment. The valuable information gathered will supply the Tribe with the resources and data it needs to provide additional services and opportunities for the Tribe and its members. More often than not, the U.S. Census provides inaccurate information on Native American needs. A Tribal Needs Assessment Survey can be used to correct inaccurate or incomplete data collected by the U.S. Census Bureau, most recently collected through the 2020 U.S. Census and the American Community Survey. This misrepresented data can of-

ten lead to a lack of funding at the federal and state level, which inhibits community program needs for housing, healthcare, economic development, and more! The data collected from this survey will result in more accurate information about the Tribe's demographics, such as household size and estimates of household income and employment status; on- and off-reservation community needs, such as programs, services, and other types of assistance; and overall membership statistics.

Again, I cannot emphasize enough the importance of answering all questions being surveyed for the Tribe to gather this valuable data.



Over the years, through various Executive Committee and General Council meetings, tribal members have emphasized the need for programming and the lack of resources available at the Tribal level. Unfortunately, through my experience disseminating surveys for other tribal purposes as an Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska Consultant, there is an evidenced lack of participation in all of these tribal surveys. With over 2500 tribal members, our surveys typically only garner 75 to 150 respondents.

Many do not understand that most state and federal resources available to Tribes have income limits and other eligibility criteria that cannot be proven without a comprehensive community survey. Evidence also shows that when questions are asked regarding income or other types of personal information, respondents simply leave the survey at that point and do not complete it. It is this type of information that severely limits the programs served by our Tribe and future programming. Because of this, the results of the American Community Survey and U.S. census data show that Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska's tribal reservation area is not considered low to moderate income, falling over the 80% median income range. This limits the need component for most state and federal grant funding. The only remedy to dispute this information is by doing our own Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska Community Needs Assessment survey. Comprehensive tribal data is an accepted form

of proving "need" for both state and federal funding.

All survey responses will be completely anonymous. Rest assured that there is no way of telling who answered what questions in which way. In addition, as an incentive for completing the survey, the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska will enter those who choose to provide contact information through a separate, redirected source into a raffle with prizes to be announced at the General Council meeting.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the community needs assessment, the survey, or the future Town Hall, please do not hesitate to reach out to Brandi Liberty at Heroda Bikax^e Consulting LLC: Brandi.Liberty@morningstarconsultants.org.

We look forward to your continued participation!



Every tribal member 18 years of age and older must complete the Needs Assessment Survey in its entirety to ensure our entire tribal community can receive the benefits they need.

What do you need to do?

- Attend the virtual General Council Meeting on October 16th
- Attend the Town Hall in November (Date and time TBD)
- Complete the Needs Assessment Survey which will be available on social media, email, and QR codes
 - **DO NOT** leave any questions unanswered.
 - All survey responses will be completely anonymous.
 - Those with limited access to technology or who need accommodations may request a hardcopy survey be mailed to them.

If you have questions, comments, or concerns, please email Brandi Liberty at brandi.liberty@morningstarconsultants.org.



Nation-Wide COVID-19 Relief for Rent and Utilities

Adapted from the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska's website.

If you are a tribal member who rents your housing and have been affected by COVID-19, there is assistance available for you!

The Housing Authority of the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska applied for an Emergency Rental Assistance Grant through the Department of Treasury and was awarded \$653,194 to assist Tribal members nation-wide pay their rent and utilities.

Details along with the application can be picked up at the Housing office or it can be downloaded and printed from the ITKN website at <https://bit.ly/3odxC0c> or by using the QR code to the right. Applications will need to be returned to the Housing Authority office. HUD income limits apply to this program. Please call (785) 595-3380 for additional information.



ITKN



The Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska is seeking passionate loway artists, doers, makers, crafters, thinkers, planners, and everything in between to join the ITKN Arts Committee. The committee will meet and discuss ways that we can introduce art and the loway culture into our landscape, education, and daily lives.

For those interested please submit a letter of interest by November 1st, 2021 to Lance Foster at the Iowa Tribal Office or by email at lfoster@iowas.org.



3345 B Thrasher Rd.
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785-595-3258



Member's Area of the ITKN Website

If you are a member of the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska and are 18 years of age or older, you are invited to join the Member's Area on the ITKN website.

Register today! As we develop the Member's Area, you will be able to find newsletters, photo and video content, and more!

The Member's Area is accessible from the home page of the ITKN website (iowatribeofkansassandnebraska.com) in the menu at the top of the page. Or, use this QR code!



Chiropractic Care Added to White Cloud Health Center's Available Services

On August 25th, the White Cloud Health Center (WCHC) welcomed Dr. Jacob Bartek, a chiropractor born and raised in Falls City, Nebraska, to their team. Dr. Bartek owns and operates Bartek Chiropractic Clinic in Falls City and will be providing care to WCHC patients on Wednesday afternoons.

Dr. Bartek lists his father as a source of inspiration, as he practiced as a chiropractor for 32 years. When Dr. Bartek was a child, he found he was interested in the practice and never deviated. He played baseball and earned a biology degree at Doane College in Crete, Nebraska, and continued his education at Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa. After finishing his education, he worked at a clinic in Hiawatha from 2015 until 2017, when he took over his father's clinic, the aforementioned Bartek Chiropractic Clinic in Falls City. He lives in Falls City with his wife, a nurse practitioner, and their two children.



Dr. Jacob Bartek
Chiropractor

"I provide chiropractic care that conforms to each patient," said Dr. Bartek. "I realize how severely musculoskeletal pain can affect a person's life and take the necessary steps to provide the type of care that is best suited for each patient. I take pride in educating patients about their health so that they are fully equipped to maintain a healthy and active lifestyle." Dr. Bartek uses various adjustment techniques and therapeutic modalities to promote an improved range of motion and increase flexibility, especially of the spine, as up to 80% of the general population will experience back pain at some point in their lives.

If you are a White Cloud Health Clinic patient and are experiencing pain, you may be eligible to receive chiropractic care. To be seen, you will need a referral from your WCHC provider. As Chairman Tim Rhodd explains, "With the tribe compacting with Indian Health Services, we have the opportunity to expand our services to fit our tribal members' healthcare needs. Adding new services will keep our healthcare dollars within the facility instead of sending those dollars to outside clinics. I am happy to see this new service added, and there will be additional new services coming soon."



Call for Business Information

Do you own a business, or know a tribal member that owns a business? We are gathering information about all businesses owned by ITKN tribal members for possible collaborations on future projects, enterprises, and more. Please email your business information to Olivia Brien at ITKNnewsletter@gmail.com, or use the QR code to the right.





Regenerative Agriculture

A brief overview of the farming practices being utilized by Ioway Farms

The Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska's enterprise, Ioway Farms, is taking steps for the health of our community, earth, and tribal economy.

While monocropping is the most popular method of farming, there is clear evidence that it is disproportionately contributing to climate change, affecting our drinking water and waterways, and has overall resulted in a breakdown of the nutrient loop. This nutrient loop breakdown requires costly nutrients and synthetics to be added to the soil for a successful crop. The soil, without living organisms and proper nutrients, is degraded. This soil degradation leads to problems like increased flooding and, eventually, the desertification of the land.

By improving the health of our soils and lands, Ioway Farms is working to ensure:

- Clean drinking water for the local community for generations to come
- Food security for tribal and community members, with healthy and fresh local food options
- Resiliency against climate change, such as temperature fluctuations and flooding
- Decreased input costs
- Increased profits from the sale of premium products
- Increased economic and career opportunities for community members
- Improved general wellbeing of our land, waterways, air, and health

Principles of Regenerative Agriculture

Keep Soil Covered

Covercropping reduces weed pressure, provides protection from wind erosion of topsoil, aerates the soil, and pulls nutrients deep into the soil. This minimizes or eliminates the need to add costly nutrients for successful growth of crops.

Maintain Living Roots

Living roots draw carbon from the atmosphere into the earth which is then transformed into nutrients essential for our crops to thrive. These roots also increase the water-retaining capabilities of the soil, preventing flooding and providing water for cashcrops during dryspells.

Minimize Soil Disturbance


When soil is plowed or otherwise disturbed, carbon is released into the atmosphere from the soil. This contributes to global warming and the loss of important nutrients that are expensive to replace and lead to unsafe drinking water.

Integrate Livestock

Each animal at Ioway Farms has jobs of its own. Animals raised grazing freely produce superior meat and other animal products. This creates food opportunities for our tribal members as well as economic opportunity for the tribe.

Maximize Crop Diversity

Using diverse crops breaks insect and disease cycles, increases the varieties of microbes and other nutrients in soil, provides economic opportunities for niche markets or typically imported products, lessens environmental impact, and decreases economic risk.



Walter, one of Ioway Farms' newest "employees," keeps watch over the chickens, ducks, and guineafowl, keeping them safe from predators, while the cattle graze freely at the Leary Site.

Thoughtful livestock utilization recreates the natural order of these lands. Before cattle, bison roamed freely here. The cattle graze, creating opportunities for the turnips in this field to grow. The cattle leave behind nutrient-rich manure that increases the soil health. After the cattle have grazed, the chickens, ducks, and guineafowl provide pest control.

A more in-depth article about Ioway Farms's use of regenerative agriculture will be included in the next newsletter, published in December.

Ioway Indigenous Regeneration Featured in Upcoming Documentary



Tim Rhodd poses in the George Ogden Building during a filming break.



Elyse Towey and Director of Photography, Gabriel Vargas, prepare for a take.

WORDS: OLIVIA BRIEN

PHOTOGRAPHY: ARTEES VANNETT

Big Picture Ranch, founded by Sundance Award-Winning documentarians Josh and Rebecca Tickell, is the film studio behind *Kiss the Ground*, *The Earthing Movie*, and other popular documentaries. The Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska will be featured in the sequel to *Kiss the Ground*.

At the beginning of August, the Big Picture Ranch film crew spent some time getting to know our regenerative agriculture story and filmed segments for the documentary, which has a release date aimed for sometime in 2023.

I had the opportunity to speak with Josh Tickell after filming.

What do you hope to accomplish with this project?

Josh Tickell: *We hope to bring a bigger awareness of the problems modern agriculture has created with a historical context of how we got here while also providing examples of positive and solution-oriented regenerative and indigenous inspired food growing systems.*

Regenerative Agriculture Practices Documentary

How did you decide to include us, the loway?

We had heard of the exciting work that you all are doing with food production and hemp there, and your leadership was kind enough to allow our crew to come do some filming.

Indigenous people have been growing food with regenerative agriculture and generally managing lands for thousands of years. Will there be any other tribes, indigenous people, or people of color included? To what capacity?

Yes. We are covering food growing and ecological management from black, hispanic, native and indigenous perspectives. There are many incredible people in the film who span a diverse array of backgrounds from Lakota to people of African descent to those representing migrant farm issues, and also indigenous perspectives from Latin America.

If you would like to watch *Kiss the Ground*, it is available on Netflix as of September 2021.



Anna Fee demonstrates loway Bee Farm honey bottling for the camera.



Landrie Rhodd approves Gabriel Vargas's shot of loway grown mushrooms.

Soje Hemp Cigarettes

The Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska creates connection through smoke

WRITTEN FOR VARIOUS LOCAL
AND NATIONAL PUBLICATIONS BY OLIVIA BRIEN



In the rolling hills and bluffs where the Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska borders meet lies the reservation of the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska. Green plant life is abundant in the summer, thanks to the rich soils near the Missouri and Great Nemaha Rivers. The tribe, also known as the Ioway, uses much of this land to grow plants in traditional indigenous ways utilizing regenerative agriculture. Regenerative agriculture is the use of holistic land management principles to improve the overall health of the land. Growing in this farmland are soybeans, corn, cereal rye, and various fruits and vegetables. Perhaps the most exciting crop being grown, however, is cannabis. The Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska is one of the largest growers of cannabis in Kansas and was the fourth Native American tribe to be approved for growing cannabis nationally.

The tribe produces several non-psychoactive products featuring hemp. Hemp and marijuana are both cannabis plants, but to be considered hemp, the plant must contain less than 0.3% THC (tetrahydrocannabinol), marijuana's psychoactive component. CBD, or cannabidiol, is a plant medicine commonly used for, but not limited to, pain and anxiety relief. The tribe's many CBD products include tinctures, honey, and hemp cigarettes, the latter of which boasts a potent 50+ mg of CBD per cigarette.

The Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska began developing a hemp cigarette in 2019, officially hitting retailers' shelves in April of this year. The Iowa Tribe designed Soje hemp cigarettes to be a healthier alternative to typical tobacco cigarettes, as they are entirely free of tobacco, nicotine, or any other additives.

In Chiwere, the Ioway's indigenous language, "soje," translates to

"smoke." The tribe intentionally designed every part of Soje with tradition in mind, from packaging to selecting herbs inside the cigarettes. The cigarettes feature traditional smoking herbs from multiple tribes, including the Ioway, Otoe, and Missouri tribes and various Northwestern Tribes.

Soje offers three blends: Original Blend, Mint Blend, and Floral Blend. The Original Blend features 100% regeneratively grown "kàhuxaŋe uxra" (hemp flower). The Mint Blend includes hemp flower, "tajiŋebuðehu" (peppermint), and "haxoje" (prairie sage). The Floral Blend is hemp flower, damiana, "dèxtoxreke nàwe" (raspberry leaf), "kinnikinnick" (uva ursi), "wansikerani" (lobelia), "igixwehu" (echinacea), and lavender. All hemp and smoking herbs are organic or grown using indigenous agricultural practices for the safest and purest product available and the good of our planet.



While the only part of the cannabis plant in Soje hemp cigarettes is the hemp flower, the rest, called hemp hurd, does not go to waste. The tribe uses the hemp hurd to make hempcrete, a material similar to but more eco-friendly than concrete, for insulation and construction projects. The Ioway Bee Farm also uses the hemp hurd as a fuel source for their bee smokers. The paper, filter, and package of the cigarettes are compostable, bringing the concern for our planet full-circle.



The Iowa Tribe created Soje with smoking cessation, relaxation, and connection in mind. Soje is an alternative to typical tobacco cigarettes, and while they cannot directly treat nicotine addiction, the physical act of smoking



a hemp cigarette can help replace tobacco cigarettes. The Mint Blend mimics a menthol cigarette, and the Floral Blend includes herbs that have demonstrated nicotine detoxification properties. If one does not wish to smoke but is seeking the benefits of Soje, the contents of each cigarette can be broken into hot water and, once strained, consumed as an herbal tea.

As explained by Lance Foster, the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer and Vice Chairman of the tribe, it is a traditional Ioway belief that “when one smokes, you join your breath with the substance you smoke, and the mingled breath and smoke rise to the Creator. Then, all Creation shares in it.” While the Ioway primarily smoked sacred “ranyi” (tobacco), this sense of oneness is at the heart of Soje, whose mission is “to restore, revitalize, and regenerate our lands,

our tribe, and our culture by connecting people back to nature.”

Anyone aged 18 or older can purchase Soje locally at Grandview Oil Gas Station and Convenience Store in White Cloud, Kansas, or on Soje’s website at <http://soje.co>. Soje hemp cigarettes are the first Native-made hemp cigarettes, and 100% of proceeds directly support Native American communities. If you would like to see Soje in your local store or would like more information, please contact Artees Vannett, Business Development, at sales@soje.co.



Top: Ioway cannabis ready to harvest, Middle: Keesis Potts and Georgia Beck harvest cannabis along a row, Bottom: Jimmy Lundsford demonstrates how the flower is removed from the cannabis plant.

Congratulations to the 2021 Lynn R

The Lynn Roubidoux Scholarship is for graduating high school seniors that are planning on attending accredited schools of the following types:

- Universities or Colleges of higher education
- Vocational or Trade schools
- Technical Schools
- Nursing Schools

The due date for applications for this award is April 15th of the students' high school senior year. If you or someone you know is a senior for the 2021-2022 school year, the application can be found online at the ITKN website under the "Services" tab. The applicants must be members of the Iowa Tribe of KS and NE.



**Brooke
Frederick**

Las Vegas, NV

Brooke attends the College of Southern Nevada.



**Courteney
Gordon**

Mound City, MO

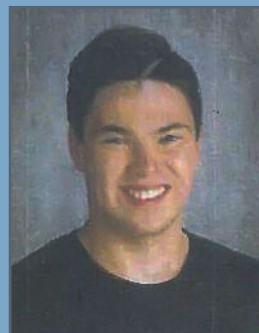
Courteney attends Missouri Western State University.



**Makenzi
Hansen**

Lincoln, NE

Makenzi attends Nebraska Wesleyan University.



**Caleb
Holmbeck**

Lincoln, NE

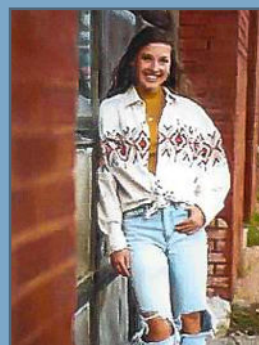
Caleb attends the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.



Joscelyne Keller

White Cloud, KS

Joscelyne attends the University of South Dakota.



Elizabeth Libel

Wathena, KS

Elizabeth attends the Franciscan University of Steubenville.

Roubidoux Scholarship Recipients!



**Tatum
Martinson**

Spring, TX

Tatum attends the
University of Kansas.



Aviree Roup

Mound City, MO

Aviree attends Northwest
Missouri State University.



**Jackson
Stembridge**

Bamberg, SC

Jackson attends The
Citadel.



**Amaya
Straehlin**

La Vista, NE

Amaya attends Northwest
Missouri State University.



**Dalton
Fouraker**

Falls City, NE

Dalton attends Peru State
College.



Mitchell Bryan

Hiawatha, KS

Mitchell attends Kansas
State University.



Tristan Chavez

Lawrence, KS

Tristan attends Milwaukee
Institute of Arts.



**Victoria
Roubidoux**

Omaha, NE

Victoria attends the
University of Nebraska.

Not Pictured:

William Walters *St. Joseph, MO, Northwest Missouri State University*

Ethan Nycum *Rulo, NE, Peru State College*

Sydney DeRoin *St. Joseph, MO, University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

White Cloud Health Center's Impressive COVID-19 Response

WRITTEN FOR LOCAL PUBLICATIONS BY OLIVIA BRIEN

PUBLISHED JULY 21, 2021

The White Cloud Health Center LLC staff has been working tirelessly to ensure that their patients and community are safe during the coronavirus pandemic. Led by Medical Director Dr. Michael Bryer-Ash, the facility has adjusted its practices and procedures to keep both staff and patients safe and has administered approximately 1,380 vaccines since the last week of December.

Until approximately the last week of April, the center locked its doors to eliminate risk from walk-in patients. Instead, staff greeted and screened patients outdoors. General care continued, and if a patient was exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, staff members saw the patient in an isolated area. They also provided curbside testing for those not showing symptoms of COVID-19 but in need of a test. The center performed weekly COVID-19 tests for their staff through May. The testing positivity rate at the White Cloud Health Center peaked below 5%, which is significantly lower than Kansas's peak at 20.5% and Nebraska's at 29.3%.

When the center first began receiving vaccines, large clinics organized by Brenda Griffin, RN, and Bobbie Rhodd were a weekly occurrence. These clinics were highly efficient,

sometimes vaccinating over 100 people per clinic. They followed CDC guidelines for the rollout, taking age and other health risk factors into consideration. Initially, they were vaccinating only tribal members, but their reach quickly stretched to include other community members. They offered to vaccinate all educators in the Falls City Public Schools, fully vaccinating over 100 of them. In March, the clinic opened up vaccination eligibility for all adult residents of White Cloud, Kansas, and adult non-Native household members of enrolled members of federally recognized tribes living in Brown or Doniphan Counties in Kansas, and Richardson County, Nebraska. Transportation to and from vaccination clinics and in-home COVID-19 testing has been available through their existing Community Health Representative and Public Health Nursing programs. Dr. Bryer-Ash emphasizes the importance of receiving the COVID-19 vaccination "...not only for our own personal protection but even more importantly, to prevent us from unknowingly spreading COVID-19 to the most vulnerable members of the community."

Because this virus appears to be here to stay, the White Cloud Health Center staff are thinking

ahead for the long term. A few grant-sponsored projects are in the works: a self-contained negative air pressure suite that will alleviate contamination risks while assessing and caring for COVID-19 patients, a short-term residence for quarantining or isolation, and a mobile testing vehicle.

In July, the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska and the White Cloud Health Center received an Indian Health Services Area Director's Award in recognition of their response to the coronavirus pandemic. Chairman Timothy N. Rhodd says he is "very humbled and honored to see the White Cloud Health Center staff come together as one to combat the COVID-19 virus by administering the vaccine clinics not only to our tribal member patients but to our surrounding communities. I appreciate the hard work and dedication the staff has expressed during the national pandemic."

If you are interested in being vaccinated or tested, call the White Cloud Health Center at 785-595-3450, ext. 2, to check your eligibility and make an appointment.



Traditional Corn Drying Demonstration



Photos, L to R. TOP: Lainey Rhodd, Cooper Quinn, Pete Fee **BOTTOM:** Gracelyn (Grace) Webster, Tim Rhodd, Lydia Simmonds, Lainey Rhodd

On September 2nd, the tribe held a traditional corn drying demonstration. The Boys and Girls Club came and learned how and when to pick corn, shuck it, and prepare it for drying.

Pete Fee shared his knowledge, and the children had a great time learning. Keep an eye on the Member's Area for a video coming soon!

Reservation Economic Summit – RES 2021

In Mid-July, many ITKN employees and Executive Committee members attended RES, or Reservation Economic Summit, to network, attend workshops, and market and sell our products from our various enterprises. Many connections were made with other tribes, tribally- and tribal member-owned companies, and organizations that will be beneficial to the economic growth of our tribe.



L to R: Robbie Craig, Tim Rhodd, David Tam, Artees Vannett, Jimmy Lundsford, Brett Dovel, Jack Towey, Elyse Towey, and Mike Owens. Not pictured: Olivia Brien



Booth displays for Ioway Bee Farm and Soje. The bowl of Soje hemp cigarettes sits on a block of hempcrete to demonstrate the material to potential clients.

Careers with ITKN

If you are interested in working for the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, please visit our website to see what positions are available. Below is a QR code to the Jobs page of the ITKN website.



IOWA
TRIBE
KS & NE

Important Phone Numbers

ITKN Offices

Admin. Offices: (785) 595-3258

Tribal Police: (785) 595-6614

Tribal Court/Vehicle Registration: (785) 595-6647

ITKN Services

Imagination Library: (785) 595-6673

Senior Citizens Program/Meals: (785) 595-3501

Boys and Girls Club: (785) 595-3850

Peace Program: (785) 595-3261

Generator Program: (785) 595-3520

Fish and Wildlife: (785) 595-3390

ITKN Organizations

Housing Authority: (785) 595-3380

United Tribes: (785) 595-3291

Native American Family Services: (785) 595-3260

NAFS Crisis Line: 1 (800) 209-0910

White Cloud Health Center

Main Line: (785) 595-3450

Direct Lines:

Pharmacy: (785) 595-3455

Community Health Rep.: (785) 595-3429

Patient Relations & Compliance: (785) 595-3457