



Advocate

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"TEE WAKAÇAK"

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy Spring! I love this time of year. I get to make maple syrup and have a front row seat to watch the migratory birds return for the season. Like the birds, the Friends are returning to the park for a full slate of activities from our volunteer days, to our work with the educational/interpretive center, music in the park and much, much more. Make sure you check out our calendar on page 6, and follow us on social media or visit our website for continued updates and information. I want to personally thank Paul Arentz for sharing an article for us to include about the installation and creation of the beautiful mural at Jack Young Middle School called Tee Wakacak (in Hoocak (Ho-Chunk)) which translates to "Sacred Lake."

As always, do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns and thank you for your continued support of the Friends and Devil's Lake State Park!

Bernadette Greenwood
President



 D. Barger

The Friends and members from the Wisconsin Climbers Association removing graffiti from rocks at the park during our volunteer day on April 9, 2022.



JOIN US... AT A PARK PROGRAM THIS SUMMER

Written By Sue Johansen-Mayoleth, Park Naturalist

It's been a long two years, since the pandemic started, that the Nature Center has been able to hold a "normal" schedule of programs, but this year is different! This year we have lots of new programs for you to enjoy, learn about the park, and have fun in the outdoors. There's lots of variety in the programs and this year we have events planned for your family, for just adults, and programs just for women.

One of the new program series this summer are the Summer Camp for Adult programs happening every Thursday evening from June 9 through August 25. Summer camp doesn't need to just be for kids, it's for adults too! Who can forget those sunny days filled with kayaking, hiking, crafts, or the starry nights of bonfires and s'mores? If you thought those days were long gone, think again! Each week we'll have a different activity which include fishing, archery, nature photography, pond study, kayaking and more. All of the Adult Program Summer Camps will have a social bonfire afterwards. Some of the programs will require you to pre-register, and some you can join in on the fun. You can pick up weekly calendars at the park's Nature and Visitor Center's or check out the summer's schedule on the Wisconsin Parks' event calendar (dnr.wi.gov/calendar/events/parks/).

If you want to explore the park and experience all the natural environments it has to offer, join the naturalist for

a guide hike or two. One of the best, yet more challenging hikes, offered this spring and summer is hike on section of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail that goes through the park. If you're up for an adventure, join the naturalist for this hike! The Ice Age National Scenic Trail, the only National Scenic Trail in Wisconsin, is a thousand-mile footpath that highlights glacial landscape features and roughly 16 miles goes through the park. On this hike you'll have a chance to hike most of the Ice Age trail that goes through the park; we'll hike about 12 miles of the trail. This hike is difficult – we'll be hiking up and down bluffs, walking on uneven ground, and up and down staircases, but well worth the challenge!

If a 12-mile hike is too much, but you'd still like to learn more about the park, join the naturalist on Wednesdays, starting on June 15 and going through August 31, for a guided hike up the East Bluff. Each week we'll explore the park's geology, history and wildlife. This morning hike starts at the East Bluff trail head to the north shore and will be approximately 3-miles in length. Still looking for a hike that showcases the beauty of the bluffs? Join the naturalist for one of the sunset, sunrise or summer solstice hikes happening in June, July, and August. We'll find a comfortable spot at the top of the bluffs to watch the sun rise or set on some of the more scenic spots in the park.

There's also a lot happening in the evenings this summer for everyone to enjoy the park after dark. In June and July join the naturalist every Friday evening around the fireside to watch fireflies. We'll have fun information about these fascinating night-time insects. Speaking of campfires, throughout the summer you can join the naturalist around the new campfire rings, on the north shore, to learn about the park's natural nightlife. Each week there will be fun activities about a different nighttime animal. You'll even have a chance to make some pudgy pies or s'mores (funded by the Friends Group). Beside learning about nocturnal wildlife, we also have programs you'll program that give you a chance to explore the night sky as well. The naturalist will have the telescopes out so you can check out the moon, planets, and in May watch a total eclipse of the moon! Also, back again this year is the popular S'mores and Perseids event in August.

Not only is there a lot to do in the evenings this summer, but there's also a lot happening during the day. The Nature Center has programs planned to help you learn more about Devil's Lake's geology, history and wildlife all happening on the North Shore near the

Chateau. This new program series, called Know Your Park, happens every Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday morning. There's also a new series for kids, called Kids Camp, for families to have fun learning about nature in the park. Topics include insects, fish, birds, outdoor challenges, unhuggables, the night sky, and more.

Another new program series this summer are programs just for women. Women can participate in several guided hikes, go kayaking or take a guided bike ride on the Great Sauk State Trail (a state bike pass is needed for this program and can be purchased at Devil's Lake's Visitor Center). For more information on when these park program are happening, you can pick up weekly calendars at the park's Nature Center and Visitor Center or check out the summer's schedule on the Wisconsin Parks' event calendar (dnr.wi.gov/calendar/events/parks/).

You can also call 608-356-8301 Ext. 140 or email Susan.JohansenMayo@wisconsin.gov the Nature Center/Naturalist to find out more details on any of the programs happening throughout the year. Looking forward to seeing you this summer!

BARABOO MIDDLE SCHOOL RECEIVES HOOCĀK MURAL DEPICTING CREATION OF DEVIL'S LAKE

Written By Content Editor/Writer for DriftlessNow.com

Last October, District and school administrators gathered at the Jack Young Middle School, along with community members, for an official ribbon cutting signifying the near completion of a \$41.7 million renovation and addition project. Construction began on the project in the Spring of 2020 after a funding referendum was approved in 2019. In addition to updated learning facilities, the school has a new front entrance and entrance to the pool facility. Also new, and almost complete, is an amphitheater.



The new front entrance, features an 8-foot by 20-foot clay tile mural that pays homage to the original inhabitants to the area, the Hoocāk (Ho-Chunk). The mural serves as a way for the district to recognize the diversity of the school body which includes Hoocāk students. The mural, commissioned by the school district, came about when past Baraboo District Administrator Lori Mueller, sought a Hoocāk artist to create a public art installation for the school's renovation. "We were referred by two relatives that live in the Baraboo area", said Hoocāk tribal member and Little Eagle Arts Foundation (LEAF) Founder and Director Melanie Tallmadge-Sainz.

The mural called Tee Wakāçak (in Hoocāk) or Spirit Lake and known as Devils Lake, graces the wall just inside the new entrance. The mural depicts the creation of Spirit Lake. "After the area was developed by the state of Wisconsin, they changed the name to Devils Lake. But as far as Hoocāk people, we still to this day refer to it as Tee Wakāçak. Tee (day) means lake or pond, Wakāçak means sacred or holy, in this case, interpreted as spirit," said Tallmadge-Sainz.

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“I learned the story from one of my Cokas (grandfather) Ray Lowe, and he told the story years ago to me about how Tee Wakaçak was created. There was a battle between Thunderbird and the underwater spirits. Thunderbird was casting down lightning bolts, and that's what created those rocks that show up in the cliffs over at the lake. The underwater spirit of course was down below. As far as the story goes, the Thunderbird won. After winning, the Thunderbird flew off to the north.”

The mural was constructed with LEAF's collaboration with their artist friends from FLOW in Milwaukee (a growing network of cultural and agricultural producers across Wisconsin's rural-urban continuum). Tallmadge designed the overall way the mural flows, and then shared her design with her FLOW design partner, artist Muneer Bahauddeen. “He took his skills and his magic and kind of broke it all up more, kind of as the engineer of working in clay tiles which is the media used for this mural. It's a really good partnership. My husband Felix Sainz is also a carpenter, so he did all the foundation work behind it and the installation.”

Bahauddeen said Tallmadge-Sainz had, “a grand vision, a really good vision of bringing this craft of ceramics to the Baraboo area for this commission”. Bahauddeen stressed that working on this project, as well as others in the past, has been inspiring and a great representation of cultural integration. This being FLOW artist Martina Patterson's second collaboration with LEAF, said she was thankful to be working with LEAF again. “This year, with this project, I'm grateful to assist where needed”.

Working in just about every stage of the mural's construction, Bahauddeen and Patterson helped make clay tiles, including setting and grouting them into their final positions, the glazing and firing process, and eventually the installation. Patterson noted that in any artwork she creates, she receives life, focus, and energy. Important to both, are the feelings of sharing they receive when working on a public art installation.

Tallmadge-Sainz said she went with the story of the Thunderbird, because the symbol for the Baraboo School District is a Thunderbird. “From what I understand, in terms of talking to my elders, particularly my brother Andy Thundercloud, who's a member of the thunder clan, we don't really have a bird that's represented or a bird image that represents our clan. Instead, the way Andy described the thunder clan is we were giants, they were the giant beings. That's why I blended the two. The images of the school district and the clan affiliation with the

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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Who isn't ready for spring this year? I know park staff would appreciate a spring with moderating temperatures, but it seems we are not always so fortunate. As I write this in the middle of April the windchill has the outdoor temperatures in the upper 20's, not a motivating factor to get me out of my winter slumber. Park staff are turning on our water systems in our frost protected buildings, but they are delaying start-ups on the water fountains and dump stations. Camping reservations have been strong this spring as campers try to anticipate that ideal first spring weather weekend to lock in a campsite. I have no doubt that by mid-May our campgrounds will be fully occupied on weekends and remain as such through the entire season.

The park's permanent staffing remains strong, and the Wisconsin State Park System continues to recruit for several vacancies across the state and at Devil's Lake State Park. Large

statewide recruitments also provide opportunities for staff to promote or seek employment at other properties they may have an interest in. If you or anyone you know has ever thought about applying for either a permanent position or a limited-term position I would encourage you to apply. There is nothing more rewarding than working in one of the most iconic state parks and serving not only the needs of the visitors but insuring the continued management and protection of this valuable natural resource.

As always, if you want to share your experience, have an interest you would like to be involved in, or just have a park related topic you would like to discuss, please reach out to me directly.

Jim Carter

james.carter@wisconsin.gov | 608-356-8301 ext. 111

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Hoocak people, and made that Thunderbird, as a giant within the overall design. Of course, we have the Thunderbolts representing that original story, the Hoocak story, of how the lake was created. We also wanted to have some components of clan affiliation and the natural world the animals inhabit in this area. We're so proud of the International Crane Foundation that's a part of the community, so we included two cranes in the mural. We have a family of deer, whitetail deer, and then of course we have the eagle overlooking everything”.

Liz Crammond, Director of Communications for the Baraboo School District said they worked closely with the Little Eagle Foundation, and the project construction company C.G. Schmidt through the design process and installation. Crammond stressed the importance to the district in honoring the Hoocak, and being able to keep the art in the form that it's in over the course of time. “It's amazing to be able to see how gorgeous of an art piece we're able to have here in the Jack Young Middle School. We're completely honored that Little Eagle Foundation was able to create such a beautiful and custom piece for the school and share the story of the Thunderbird, and we're incredibly honored to have the Thunderbird as our mascot for this school district.”

Crammond shared that the district hopes students will take away a multitude of things from the mural, from the majesty of the story of the Thunderbird and Spirit Lake, to the colors, textures, and the multimedia components as a part of the art. “We as a district, by all

means, want to make sure that our Native American students are seeing a reflection in all of our facilities within the district. We're incredibly excited to have this be one of those ways that we are incorporating the history of this land in our community and have that artwork represented here for our students to understand and learn where the land has come from.”

At the ribbon cutting, Jack Young Middle School Principal Amy Tranel said, “The School District of Baraboo acknowledges and honors the inherent sovereignty of the Hoocak Nation, and American Indian Nations of Wisconsin,” adding, “The Baraboo School District will continue to cultivate, strengthen, and maintain our ongoing collaboration and partnership with the Hoocak Nation.”

“We're really excited, and hope LEAF is receiving good recognition for the public art that we're doing. In the future, what we want to do is really develop our studio space at Maa Wákáčak (Holy land- aka the old Badger Ammunition plant) to include a full ceramic studio. Then we can bring in tribal members as well as non-tribal members from the broader community and hold workshops, so they can learn more about the art that we create,” said Tallmadge-Sainz.

It should be noted that the mural was inspired by a photograph of Devil's Lake by Baraboo community member Derrick Mayoeth.

Special thanks to the Little Priest Singers for rendering the appropriate Hoocak songs at the ribbon cutting ceremony.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Saturday May 7th

Friends Booth at Fair on the Square

Saturday May 14th

Highway Cleanup (*Meet at Steinke Basin at 9:00am*)

Saturday June 11th

Friends Volunteer Day at the Park (*Meet at 9:00am*)

Tuesday June 14th

Friends Members Only Guided Hike
With Sue Johansen-Mayoleth (Park Naturalist)

Saturday June 25th

Friends Booth at the
Baraboo's Big Top Parade and Circus Celebration

Sunday June 26th

Music in the Park
With The Swing Crew (North Shore at 6:00pm)

Saturday July 9th

Friends Volunteer Day at the Park (*Meet at 9:00am*)

Wednesday July 27th

Friends Members Only Guided Kayak
With Sue Johansen-Mayoleth (Park Naturalist)
And Wine & Cheese Tasting,
Sponsored by Wollersheim Winery

Saturday July 30th

Music in the Park with *La Septima Alianza*
(White Pine Shelter: South Shore at 7:00pm)

Friday August 12th

Music in the Park
With Gin Mill Hollow (North Shore at 7:00pm)

Saturday August 13th

Friends Volunteer Day at the Park
(Meet at 9:00 am)

Sunday August 28th

Music in the Park
With Dan Walkner & Friends (North Shore at 6:00 pm)

Saturday September 10th

Friends Volunteer Day at the Park
Meet at 9:00 am)

Sunday September 25th

Friends Members Annual Meeting & Dinner

Saturday October 8th

Friends Volunteer Day at the Park

Saturday October 22nd

Halloween Hike & Pumpkin Carving Contest

Saturday November 12th

Friends Volunteer Day at the Park

Saturday November 26th

Torch-lit Hike

Saturday December 17th

Torch-lit Hike



LEADERSHIP TAPPED FOR CAMPAIGN FOR AMERICA'S STATE PARK

Jim Radford, President and Founder of Baker Street Consulting Group

The Campaign for America's State Park is moving ahead under strong leadership, a new logo and the recruitment of talented members for the campaign committee. We're delighted to report that Dave Considine and Bernadette Greenwood, both well-known and committed Baraboo-area figures, have agreed to co-chair the committee that is raising funds for the much-needed \$18 million educational/interpretive center.

Many of you already know Dave, but for those who don't, he is a respected community member with deep roots in the area. His credentials, contacts and networks make him a dynamic choice to help lead our efforts. Dave, who taught special education in the Baraboo schools for 29 years, has represented our area in the Wisconsin state Assembly since being elected in 2014.

Of course, many of you are well-acquainted with Bernadette, president of the Friends since 2019. Her presidency ends in September, but her commitment to the project has only strengthened. Bernadette is a licensed professional geologist and has completed numerous geological and hydrogeological investigations and reports as an environmental consultant. She has also shared her love of science through middle school and

college teaching and as science club advisor at Jack Young Middle School.

Additionally, she has spent countless hours working to keep the organization strong and well-positioned for this capital campaign. Bernadette and Dave make a strong team, leading the committee's day-to-day workings. We expect the full committee to convene for the first time in July.

We've also rolled out a new-look logo for the campaign, shown here, developed publications and recruited a dedicated group of rock-climbing enthusiasts to help provide ideas and fundraising muscle. You'll begin to see a more public face to the campaign this summer as we engage with visitors and the community at local and park events.

We hope you become involved as a volunteer or donor to help make the center a reality by contacting Bernadette at bgreenwood@friendsofdevilslake.org. Gifts are accepted at www.friendsofdevilslake.org/donate or to the Friends at P.O. Box 209, Baraboo, WI 53913.

The project is a partnership of the Friends, the Devil's Lake Concessions Corporation and the Wisconsin DNR. Baker Street is helping to organize, direct and implement the campaign.



Friends of Devil's Lake State Park
P.O. Box 209
Baraboo, WI 53913

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Membership paid through year shown on label.

SPREAD THE WORD... *About the Friends!*

Our members are special advocates for our unique, beautiful wonder we call Devil's Lake State Park. Will you also be an advocate to help build our membership?

Tell a friend the value of a Friends' Membership:

1. Membership fees go directly toward supporting Devil's Lake State Park.
2. Members receive a quarterly newsletter, the "Advocate" by mail and/or email.


3. Members are updated first when we have news to share or for volunteer opportunities.
4. Know that members' fees also go toward funding Devil's Lake State Park community events such as the Halloween Hike and Candlelight Snowshoe.
5. Friends are invited to member-only events and meetings.
6. Receive 10% discount on food and merchandise at Devil's Lake State Park concessions (*some exclusions may apply*).

WANT TO JOIN US?

Visit our website at friendsofdevilslake.org to sign up.

Scan our QR code!



FRIENDS VOLUNTEER DAY AT THE PARK
Hosted on April 9, 2022  *B. Greenwood*