

## Wood County Sheriff's Rescue Receives \$23,500 Grant



Wood County Sheriff Tom Reichert (left), Ho-Chunk Gaming Nekoosa Executive Manager Jonette Pettibone, Ho-Chunk Nation Legislator Lawrence Walker Jr., and Ho-Chunk Gaming Nekoosa Security Director Randy Snowball present the check for \$23,500 to Wood County Sheriff's Rescue.

A simple request has turned into a grant that could help save lives in Wood County. Ho-Chunk Gaming Nekoosa recently dedicated the Wood County Sheriff's Rescue's new chassis for its rescue truck. The department was able to purchase the chassis because of a \$23,500 grant from Ho-Chunk Gaming Nekoosa.

In the spring of 2009 the Wood County Sheriff's Rescue department was set to order a new chassis with the box to follow in 2010. Because of the economic downturn of 2009, truck factories had shut down. The original \$50,000 chassis for which Wood County Sheriff's Rescue had budgeted no longer was available. The new option would cost more than \$70,000. The Sheriff's Department was faced with two options: restart the budgeting process, which would delay the project one to two years, or seek outside funding to make up the difference.

The department approached Ho-Chunk Gaming Nekoosa for a small raffle item. Several meetings later that raffle item became a grant, which allowed Wood County Sheriff's Rescue to purchase a chassis that has more options to better serve the community.

The new chassis, equipped with heated mirrors and windshield, will reduce the response time during the winter months. It also is equipped with a parking heater that will warm the engine during sub-zero temperatures. The most important feature on the chassis is the transmission, which allows everything to operate electrically. The Sheriff's Department will be able to operate equipment from the truck during an auto accident with no down time waiting for generators to start up.

"Just having a truck that will work and start in the winter months will make a huge difference on the community," said Mike Wiberg, Director for the Wood County Sheriff's Rescue. "This past winter the current truck would not start during some rescue calls. Our current truck is from

1995 and is rusted, corroded and just falling apart. This new chassis will make a huge difference in the department's performance and in the community with better service and better response time."

Wood County Sheriff Thomas Reichert spoke of the relationship the sheriff's department enjoys with the Ho-Chunk Nation and Ho-Chunk Gaming Nekoosa. "To be able to count on friends to assist and serve the people of our county is ultimately important to me personally and our department. Over the years, a partnership, a friendship, has been forged and today the results of that friendship are apparent."

## Sycuan Donates \$35,000 for Purchase of Much Needed Meal Delivery Vehicle



Sycuan Chairman Daniel J. Tucker delivers a meal to 91-year-old John Schuettenehelm in Alpine, CA.

Sycuan literally delivered on a promise to help Meals-on-Wheels and the people who depend on the agency for their meals. Sycuan donated a brand new delivery van that will transport warm meals to thousands of seniors throughout San Diego County.

"Sycuan is honored to support Meals-on-Wheels and their ongoing mission to provide nutritious and affordable meals for our elderly. This van takes them one step closer to meeting the needs of the elderly in our community," said Daniel J. Tucker, Chairman of the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation.

The state-of-the-art delivery vehicle was donated in May. As a way to show its appreciation, Meals-on-Wheels made a stop at Sycuan Casino and provided sack lunches to staff and members of Sycuan's Tribal Council.

Following a brief ceremony, Sycuan Chairman Daniel J. Tucker helped with the first official deliveries in the van. One of the meals went to 91-year-old John Schuettenehelm of Alpine, California, located about 40 minutes east of downtown San Diego. Meals-on-Wheels provides two meals a day, seven days a week, to residents who are 60 years of age and older. The agency's volunteers also check up on seniors to make sure they're doing fine. Quite often, the delivery person will be the only human contact the senior has all day.

### Grand Casino Mille Lacs and Grand Casino Hinckley Donate \$4,000 to the Minnesota Humane Society

Grand Casino Mille Lacs and Grand Casino Hinckley donated \$4,000 to the Minnesota Humane Society (MHS) in May to honor “Be Kind to Animals” week. The annual event, which began in 1915, commemorates the role animals play in people’s lives and promote ways to treat them humanely. Grand Casinos’ donation will be used by MHS to educate the public on its mission and provide direct care of animals in the organization’s pound rescue adoption program.

The donation was the result of a recent casino promotion where guests earned points to receive a stuffed Maltese animal. For every stuffed animal that was given away,

Grand Casino Mille Lacs and Grand Casino Hinckley donated \$5 to MHS. More than 800 Guests participated in the promotion.

“The Minnesota Humane Society would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe and Grand Casino Mille Lacs and Hinckley,” said Linda Challeen, President of Minnesota Humane Society. “We are grateful to have been selected to receive the funds raised from the recent promotion at Grand Casino.”

“We recognize the hard work that MHS is doing in saving the lives of animals, and we are pleased to donate to their efforts,” said Lorraine Cebollero, Corporate Vice President of Marketing for Grand Casino Mille Lacs and Grand Casino Hinckley. ♣

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