For generations, Harry Whitehorse's Ho-Chunk family camped here and lived off the wetlands by trapping, fishing, and hunting long before there was a road. As a boy, he was mentored in art by his uncle, a silversmith, and helped sell baskets, beadwork, and jewelry from the family stand.

During his Navy service in World War II, he discovered the museums of Europe and Asia and chose to pursue life as a sculptor, painter, and carver.

He later ran Chief Auto Body on this property while creating art that blended skill, innovation, and strong cultural themes. His work drew deeply from nature and his Ho-Chunk heritage.

His public art can be found across Madison, Dane County, and beyond, as well as in private collections.