



158th ANNUAL WHITE EARTH TREATY DAY CELEBRATION & POW WOW

This is a Family Event
JUNE 12, 13 & 14, 2026
White Earth, MN
FIVE GRAND ENTRIES

FRI, JUNE 12, 1PM & 7PM | SAT, JUNE 13, 1PM & 7PM | SUN, JUNE 14, 1PM
All dancers must be in regalia to register. All dancers must register prior to every grand entry.

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR | ROB TIBBETTS, NAYTAHWAUSH, MN
MCS | VINCE BEYL, WHITE EARTH, MN & JACKSON ROLLING THUNDER TAHUKA, SASKATCHEWAN, CANADA
ARENA DIRECTORS | LUKE HISGUN MAHNOMEN, MN, THOMAS MASON NAYTAHWAUSH & JEREMY CLARK PINE POINT, MN
HOST DRUM | HOCHUNK STATION, LYNDON, WISCONSIN CO-HOST DRUM | LEADING ARROW, PAWNEE, OKLAHOMA
DRUM SPLIT | TBA- NO DRUM HOPPING DRUM CONTACTS | ANTHONY BUCKANAGA 218-850-3048

SPECIALS:

Iron Man Men & Woman Fancy \$2,000 winner takes all	Men's Woodland 1st \$1,500, 2nd \$1,000, 3rd \$500, 4th \$250, 5th \$250	12-17 Combined Girls 1st \$300, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$100
Men's Chicken 1st \$1,500, 2nd \$1,000, 3rd \$500, 4th \$250, 5th \$250		12-17 Combined Boys 1st \$300, 2nd \$200, 3rd \$100

WHITE EARTH VETERANS HONOR GUARD
RAISING FLAG: TIMES | FRIDAY: 1:00 PM
SATURDAY 10:00 AM | SUNDAY WILL BE ANNOUNCED

ROYALTY CONTEST
CONTACT | Jon Weaver (218) 261-1433
Open to White Earth enrollees or descendants
Junior Princess or Brave: 9-12 years old. | Senior Princess or Brave: 13-17 years old.

Living on or near the White Earth Reservation; additional qualifications apply
APPLICATIONS DUE BY Monday, June 1 at 12PM.
Applications available at WERBC Headquarters or via email.

Ojibwe Style Moccasin Game Tournament
Registration 10AM-11AM | Tournament Starts 11AM Friday
1st \$1,200, 2nd \$800, 3rd \$600, 4th \$400, 5th \$300, 6th \$300, 7th \$200
Contact: Charles Grolla 218-407-0160
Female Teams Allowed to Participate!

VENDOR CONTACT | VENDERS ARE FULL
Autumn Auginaush 218-368-3320 & Gene Keezer 218-401-1532

DIABETES MEMORIAL 5K RUN/WALK
SATURDAY, JUNE 13
Registration: 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. | Race Starts: 9:00 a.m.
Start at White Earth Health Division Parking Lot
Open to everyone. No registration fee.

RULES FOR POW WOW GROUNDS & CAMPING AREA

- Camping at your own risk
- Free campfire wood
- Showers are available on Saturday and Sunday between 6 and 10 a.m.
- 24-hour security on-site
- 11pm Curfew

FOR ADDITIONAL INFO | **WHITE EARTH NATION**
www.whiteearth.com

White Earth General Election is Tuesday, June 9

The White Earth General Election is Tuesday, June 9 and voters will decide who will be Secretary-Treasurer, District 1 and District 2 Representatives for the next four years.

The order of how the candidates will be placed on the ballot was determined by a lottery drawing held at an open public meeting at the RBC building. The following names and order of the candidates are how they will appear on the ballot:

tion returns on June 9 starting at 8 p.m. at the Shooting Star. The event will also be live streamed on the White Earth YouTube channel. The final results will be posted on the White Earth Facebook page, website, and in the July Anishinaabeg Today.

If you have election questions contact the Election Board at 218-936-5622 or email electionboard@whiteearth-nsn.gov.

District 1 Rep. Candidates

Secretary-Treasurer

Michael "Mike" LaRoque (Incumbent)
Jacob McArthur

District 1 Representative

Andy "Jack" Auginaush
Henry G. Fox (Incumbent)

District 2 Representative

Sheri Snetsinger
Alrick "Son" Accobee

The public is invited to view the elec-



Andy "Jack" Auginaush



Henry G. Fox (Incumbent)

Secretary-Treasurer Candidates



Michael "Mike" LaRoque (Incumbent)



Jacob McArthur



Sheri Kay Snetsinger

District 2 Rep. Candidates



Alrick "Son" Accobee

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Detroit Lakes MN
Permit NO 14

ECRWSS

Postal Customer



Ready, Set, GO!

The Naytahwaush Community Charter School held their 16th Annual 5K Run & Walk on May 15.

The healthy event was open to students and community members. Each participant received a t-shirt.

The event was sponsored by the school and White Earth Tribal Public Health.

Photo by Gary W. Padrta

Anishinaabeg Today

The Anishinaabeg Today (AT) is the official publication of White Earth Nation and is published once a month. Editorials and articles appearing in the AT are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion, attitude or philosophy of the AT staff or the White Earth Nation Reservation Business Committee.

The submission of articles and photos is encouraged, however, they are subject to editing for grammar, length, and malicious/libelous content. Submission does not guarantee publication. The Editor reserves the right to reject any advertising, material, or letters. **Deadlines are strictly enforced!** Deadline dates are printed below in each issue.

The AT is distributed at no charge to all postal patrons living on White Earth Reservation and by mail to White Earth Nation citizens (who request the newspaper) living within the United States or at military installations overseas. One paper per household. The cost of a newspaper subscription is \$12 per year for non-members (including descendants) living off the reservation. **Current and past issues of the AT can be read online for free at www.whiteearth.com**

For more information call 218-935-3569, email: today@whiteearth-nsn.gov, fax: 833-607-0776, or write to:

Anishinaabeg Today
PO Box 418
White Earth, MN 56591

Memberships

- ◆ Indigenous Journalist Association
- ◆ Minnesota Newspaper Association

WER Business Committee

Michael Fairbanks
Chairman

Michael LaRoque
Secretary-Treasurer

Henry George Fox
District 1 Representative

Eugene Sommers
District 2 Representative

Laura Lee Erickson
District 3 Representative

Editor

Gary W. Padrta

Future Issues *

Deadline	Issue Date
June 24	July 1
July 29	August 5
August 26	September 2
September 30	October 7
October 28	November 4

* Deadline and issue dates subject to change

Highlights of the Mother's Day Pow Wow




Photos by Gary W. Padrta

The annual Mother's Day Pow Wow was held May 9-10 at the Shooting Star Casino in Mahanomen. There were more than 430 dancers and 20 drums. The host drum was Whitefish Jr's and the co-host was Eyabay.



Tribal offices closed for holidays

White Earth RBC offices will be closed for the following holidays: **June 12 - Treaty Day** and will reopen on June 15. **June 19 - Juneteenth** and will reopen on June 22. **July 3 - Independence Day** and will reopen on July 6. Modified services will still be available. Dates are subject to change.



CIRCLE OF LIFE ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE

Join us for our Open House and Kindergarten Round up

Applications for New and Returning Students

Light food and refreshers

Activities for Kids

May 27, 2026
June 24, 2026
July 29, 2026

Time: 11-2pm
Location: Circle of Life Academy

News From Chairman Michael Fairbanks

Aaniin Boozhoo Gaa-waabaabiganikaag Niminwendam Waabaminaan!

Ode'imini-Giizis!

Aaniish inaa akawe ninga-gaagiizomaag aadi-zookaanag.

Weweni-sago-na

Greetings White Earth Nation I am Happy to See You!

It is already June, Strawberry Moon!

Everyone Be Safe and Stay Safe,

Mii miinawaa ji-niimi'ididing iwidi gaa-waabaabiganikaang aabitawangizod awe ode'imini-giizis. They're going to have a pow-wow again at White Earth in the middle of June.

It is going to be the 158th Annual White Earth Treaty Day Celebration & Powwow. It's June 12-14 at the White Earth Powwow Grounds. The day before our powwow will be our Annual White Earth Nation Recovery Parade on June 11 at 10 a.m. It's always such an amazing time - our White Earth Nation programming always has the best parade floats the kids love, so come on over and celebrate with us, Gaawaabaabigabikaag Ishkoning gaye Anishinaabeg miziwe!

Does anyone know the Anishinaabe author William Warren? There are many of his family's descendants living here in White Earth. I just spoke with some of his family's descendants. Cliff, who makes his living off the land here on Gaawaabaabiganikaag, White Earth Nation, was at the RBC Courts to share his testimony on the White Earth VS Vipond court case, it has to do with a farmer named Vipond and his request to install a pump that is capable of pumping millions of gallons of water out of our Wild Rice river. Cliff spoke clearly to Dustin and lawyers about the concern of pumping huge amounts of nibi (water) out of the river will be devastating to his harvesting season and his way of life, as well as many others depend on healthy waters. I will be giving an update on this case soon.

Cliff's ancestor William Whipple Warren wrote A History of the Ojibwe People. William said he wrote so that our history would not be forgotten, and so others outside our villages and communities might begin to understand who we are. Like many records from that time, his writing reflects both the strength of his intention and the limits of the era he lived in.

Today, we carry on our ancestors' stories and understand that no single account tells the full story of our people. Our history lives in the land, in the language, in the water, and in the voices of our people still speaking today.

At White Earth, we continue to carry that responsibility forward to protect our nibi (water), our traditions, stories, and our future generations.

There are methods of history that can help us learn about the past. Even with all the methods together do not paint the whole picture for us. Nevertheless, learning about the past can help us understand our present day and future.

Here's a quick update from our Tribal Self-Governance and Sovereignty Department.

Today, White Earth Nation continues to exercise self-governance authority across many essential services that support the health, safety, and future of our people. These services include Education, Law Enforcement and Policing, Tribal Courts, Healthcare and Social Services, Natural Resource Management, Economic Development, and Administrative



Services.

White Earth Nation is recognized as a sovereign self-governance tribe that maintains a government-to-government relationship with the United States. Tribal sovereignty remains central to protecting treaty rights, managing tribal affairs, and continuing our Nation's ability to govern ourselves according to our responsibilities and priorities.

From 2023 through 2025, federal self-governance funding averaged approximately 23% below actual programmatic need each year.

In 2025, White Earth received \$2,690,929 in self-governance funding while the actual need totaled \$3,287,014.24. The remaining funding gap was supported through supplementation from the Tribe's General Fund to ensure continued operation of essential tribal services and programs.

Self-governance funding continues to support many important programs under the Tribe's MYFA, including Natural Resources, Law Enforcement, Johnson-O'Malley Education Programs, Social Services, Tribal Courts, Education, and Administrative Services.

Hope to see you all at the 158th White Earth Treaty Day Celebration & Powwow!

Chi-miigwech bizindawiyeg miinawaa anooj ninda-gikinoo'amaadiwin

Baamaapii wiingezin.

Miigwech bizindawiyeg.

Gigawaabaminim naagaj.

Thank you for listening and continuing to learn together

Take it easy.

See you all later.

Chairman Michael Fairbanks

Please update your address!

Please let the newspaper know if you moved so we can cancel your old address.

Many papers are still being sent to old addresses!

Call the **Anishinaabeg Today** at 218-935-3569

or

email today@whiteearth-nsn.gov



2026 COMMUNITY PICNICS
Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Rice Lake | Thurs, May 14th
Community Center

Waubun | Thurs, June 18th
Community Park

Mahnomen | Wed, July 1st
Mini Park

Callaway | Thurs, July 16th
Softball Fields

White Earth | Wed, July 22nd
Community Center

Pine Point | Thurs, August 6th
Powwow Grounds

Elbow Lake | Thurs, August 20th
Elbow Lake Shelter

Naytahwaush | Wed, September 9th
Sports Complex

Sponsored by Behavioral Health, Tribal Health/Public Health and the local Community Councils.
DRUG & ALCOHOL FREE

White Earth Nation Tribal Health Division
Mino-Bimadziwin

News From Secretary-Treasurer Michael J. LaRoque

Greetings White Earth Members,

As we welcome the arrival of summer, I am filled with excitement for the season ahead. The longer days and warming temperatures signal the start of a vibrant time for our community, including the much-anticipated Pow-Wow season.

I am honored to provide you with this monthly report from the Secretary-Treasurer's Office. My report includes the following key updates:

Waabigwan Mashkiki: The RBC and staff and media attended the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Grand Opening of the Waabigwan Mashkiki dispensary in East Grand Forks, Minn.

This is the third dispensary that they have opened off reservation. These off reservation dispensaries provide revenue for on-reservation programs.

White Earth Reservation Business Committee updates:

I attended these events in May,

- The annual State of the Nation was held May 7 with a large crowd of membership and local dignitaries. This event was a huge success and provided several important updates. I did a thorough Financial report for our membership.

- The Annual Mother's Day Pow-Wow on May 9-10 at the Shooting Star Event Center. It was great spending time visiting with everyone at this annual event.

- The Circle of Life Academy Pow-Wow in White Earth. It was a pleasure visiting with the students and staff.

- A couple of retirement celebrations for White Earth RBC employees that have served the tribe for many years. Now they can take a well-deserved break so they can spend time with their families and friends. I say congratulations to these employees - relax and enjoy your retirement, well deserved.

- The 4th Annual MMIR Awareness Walk in Mahnomen, this event brings awareness to all the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives. It was a great turnout.

- The Pine Point Resilience Hub Solar Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at the Pine Point School. This project provides power to the school and emergency



power when the electricity goes out in severe weather, providing resources for all the membership in the Pine Point area. This is a great and much needed project.

- The Mahnomen and Waubun High School American Indian Education Program Senior Banquets. Graduating seniors were honored for their accomplishments. Congratulations to all graduates.

- The White Earth Tribal and Community College graduation on May 14. I would like to congratulate all the graduates on their accomplishments and moving forward in the next phase of their lives.

- The Circle of Life Academy graduation on May 21. They graduated five seniors this year - congratulations to all students. The future looks bright.

- The Circle of Life Academy Drug Resistance and Education (DARE) graduation. White Earth Police Officer Peter Drift Sr. is the School Resources Officer and DARE instructor for this course. This is a very important course for the students at COLA. I would also like to thank our Deputy Director Curtis Rogers for attending and for being the keynote speaker at this event.

- The Waubun Youth Wellness Event ("Our Health is Sacred") at the Waubun Community Center. This was hosted by the White Earth Tribal Public Health and White Earth Behavioral Health programs. I played kick ball with all youth along with all Public Safety staff, it was a great event for our youth and community.

The 158th Annual White Earth Treaty Day Celebration & Pow-Wow is June 12-14 at the White Earth Pow-Wow grounds. This is a great celebration where all relatives are able to celebrate our culture and visit from all over the country.

I would also like to congratulate all graduates from Head Start to the college level and everyone in between. You are all future leaders. I would like to quote our former Chairwomen Erma J. Vizenor - "Education is key to our future."

As summer arrives, bringing with it outdoor activities, I eagerly anticipate the celebrations and the chance to engage with our members this season. I am grateful to the members of the White Earth Nation for appointing me as Secretary-Treasurer. Serving our Nation is an honor, and I am dedicated to advancing our priorities and improving people's lives.

Miigwech!

Michael J. LaRoque
Secretary-Treasurer
White Earth Nation

Festival for Fathers and Families 2026

DATE CHANGE: Saturday, August 22nd, 2026

Shooting Star Casino and Event Center

9:00am-11:00am

Ages 0-18yrs

No Registration/ Everyone Welcome!

Branch Served 9:30am-11am Only



Come join the fun and check out our vendors!

Family Activities,
Family Resources,
Literacy Books for all,
and much more!

NARCAN TRAINING POP-UPS



LEARN. SAVE LIVES.
STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY.

Join us for free Narcan training pop-ups this summer! Get trained, get equipped, and help make our communities safer.



🕒 TIME: 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM | 🍴 MEAL PROVIDED!

SUMMER NARCAN POP-UP SCHEDULE

📅	MAY 6	MAHNOMEN	224 Main St
📅	MAY 20	WHITE EARTH	New Park
📅	JUNE 3	NAYTAHWAUSH	Skate Park
📅	JUNE 17	RICE LAKE	Community Center
📅	JULY 1	PINE POINT	Community Center
📅	JULY 15	MAHNOMEN	224 Main St
📅	AUGUST 5	WHITE EARTH	New Park
📅	AUGUST 19	RICE LAKE	Community Center
📅	SEPTEMBER 9	NAYTAHWAUSH	Skate Park

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

GET TRAINED. GET EQUIPPED. SAVE LIVES.

TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD SAFER COMMUNITIES.

Everyone Welcome!

LEARN. SAVE LIVES. STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY.

WHITE EARTH OJIBWEMOWIN

DOWNLOAD ON IOS

DOWNLOAD ON ANDROID

WHITE EARTH OJIBWE GAMES

DOWNLOAD ON IOS

DOWNLOAD ON ANDROID

WHITE EARTH

Early Childhood Ojibwe Language Apps

LEARN THE OJIBWE LANGUAGE FROM INDIGENOUS SPEAKERS IN A FUN, INTERACTIVE WAY. FREE TO DOWNLOAD ON YOUR ANDROID OR APPLE DEVICE.

THIS PROJECT MADE POSSIBLE BY

You can reach the AT at 218-935-3569 or today@whiteearth-nsn.gov

News From District 3 Rep. Laura Lee Erickson

As we close out the month of May and welcome June. June brings our White Earth Recovery Parade, blessing of pow wow grounds for the 158th White Earth Treaty Day Celebration and Pow wow in White Earth on June 12-14. We are looking forward to our celebration to see all of our relatives and communities come together.

5-4 Pine Point School Pow Wow and the Pine Point Solar and Battery Resilience Hub Ribbon Cutting. The solar project a 500 Kilowatt solar array; 2 Megawatt hour battery system in Pine Point didn't happen overnight. The team had vision and through collaboration and hard work they made it a reality. I want to recognize the teams, partners and community members who made this possible. Last summer we had storms, people were without power, this will fill that gap! It will help save the school money. Miigwech to the 10Power, the developer, 8th Fire Solar, Ziegler Electric, Pine Point School, Pine Point Community Council, Sandia Labs, Pacific Northwest Labs, Itasca Mantrap Cooperative, Great River Energy Cooperative, State of Minnesota and Minnesota Department of Commerce Solar for Schools program

5-5 MMIP Awareness Day walk and activities at Shooting Star Casino. We walked to honor our relatives and create awareness.

5-7 It was a beautiful day on the Gaa-waabaabiganikaag Reservation. We gathered at Shooting Star Casino for the State of the Nation. Miigwech to everyone who came out. It's always special to connect with community, leadership and friends in a good way.

5-13 I stopped by our fish hatchery at Ice Cracking to visit the staff. The White Earth Nation Fish Hatchery and Fisheries Program is part of the tribe's Natural Resources Department and focuses on protecting and restoring fish populations within the White Earth Reservation. Goals of the hatchery program include: raising and stocking important fish species such as walleye, lake sturgeon and whitefish, supporting sustainable fishing for tribal members and surrounding communities, restoring native fish populations that have declined due to habitat loss, pollution, overfishing and climate change. White Earth works with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe.

5-14 Tribal leaders attended the White Earth Tribal and Community College and White Earth GED graduation ceremony. We are truly fortunate to have White Earth Tribal and Community College on our reservation. Our college is a beautiful place that continues to grow stronger each year while honoring who we are as Anishinaabe people. WETCC incorporates our culture, our traditions and our Ojibwe language into education, creating a place where students can learn with pride in their identity and community. Our education is rooted in our future. Miigwech to the Board, staff, faculty, students, families and community members who continue to support and strengthen this college.

5-15 Tribal leaders joined staff at the Child Advocacy Center for a ribbon cutting name ceremony. Aakwade'ewin CAC is "Bravery CAC" which represents the bravery it takes to advocate for children's rights and safety, the bravery it takes for a child to speak up, the bravery it takes for a family to navigate the system.

We attended the Spring celebration Circle of



Life Academy School Pow wow. It was a beautiful day of dancing, drumming and visiting.

5-21 Congratulations to all of the Circle of Life Academy graduates! The graduation ceremony was beautiful. Wishing all of the graduates continued success as you begin this next chapter of your journey.

5-27 Tribal leaders, staff and the City of Mahnomen met to discuss ongoing projects, permitting processes and future collaboration efforts. The meeting focused on strengthening communication, building working relationships.

Congratulations to all the 2026 high school and college graduates. We wish each of you success as you being the next chapter of your journey!

Miigwech

Contact information:

Laura Lee Erickson

Office: 218-935-6238

Cell: 218-401-1153

laura.erickson@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Facebook: Laura Lee for District 3

Assistant for District 3

Tiffany Swiers

Office: 218-935-6235

Cell: 218-997-9124

tiffany.swiers@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Valleyview Commons

Valleyview Commons in Mahnomen has immediate openings for 1 bedroom units for persons 62 and older or with a verified disability.

Rent is based on 30% of your adjusted monthly income calculated per HUD guidelines up to a contract rent of \$615 and includes water, sewer and garbage.

Tenant is responsible for electric and heat.

For more information contact DW Jones Management. 218-547-3307 or apply at www.dwjonesmanagement.com



CREATING BETTER LIVING
Equal Housing Opportunity

TTY711



WHITE EARTH HEALING BRIDGE

JUNE 2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUE 2	12:00-1:00pm	Teas 101 Learn about a handful of herbs, how to correctly steep different teas, and blend your own custom tea blend.
WED 10	1:00pm-2:30pm	Herbal Salve Workshop Learn how to make your own herbal salves at home with hands-on practice & step-by-step instructions.
FRI 18	3:00pm-4:00pm	Self-Healing Workshop Monthly workshop dedicated to teaching you various self-healing modalities like energy healing, meditation, somatics, etc.
TUE 23	1:00pm-2:30pm	Herbal Glycerite Workshop Learn how to make your own herbal glycerite at home with hands-on practice & step-by-step instructions.
TUE 30	3:00pm-4:00pm	Sound Bath A relaxing & meditative journey through the sound of crystal bowls that promote self-healing

Healing Bridge Program
www.whiteearth.com

White Earth IHS
Traditional Room

2026 White Earth General Election

Tuesday, June 9 / 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

Early Voting is Open!

Monday-Friday / 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Additional Hours

Saturday, June 6: 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Location

White Earth Election Board Building
(Mahnomen)

218-936-5622

Moorhead Casino Project Update

Over the past months the White Earth Nation has conducted further planning and study regarding the potential of a new gaming facility to be constructed on the east end of Moorhead. An integral part of the planning and Trust application process is for the White Earth to conduct a Socio-Economic Impact Analysis. This analysis evaluates the economic impacts of a project and looks at total economic output, jobs, earnings, tax revenues, and community effects. Below is a summary of this study, and we would like to share that with White Earth membership to help develop understanding about the total economic and social impacts of a potential new Moorhead Casino to the White Earth Nation, and the Moorhead Region.

Nate Mathews
WE Special Project Manager
WE TUC Executive Director

White Earth Nation Proposed Moorhead Casino Moorhead, Minnesota

Economic and Social Impact Study
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview

This Executive Summary presents the key findings and conclusions from the economic and social impact study of the proposed Moorhead Casino development by the White Earth Nation in Moorhead, Minnesota. The study, conducted by Klas Robins, Q.E.D., evaluates the direct, indirect and induced impacts of the casino project on Clay County and the State of Minnesota, including economic output, employment, earnings, tax revenues, and community effects.

Project Description

- Location: 296 acre parcel at the NW Corner of Interstate 94 and State Highway 336, Clay County, near Moorhead, MN
- Facilities:
 - First-class casino with 950 gaming machines and 10 table games
 - 200-room hotel (three-plus diamond standard)
 - 15,000 sq. ft. main ballroom, additional meeting spaces
 - Multiple dining options, bars, and a gift shop
 - Parking for 1,000+ vehicles and a 50-pad RV park

Key Economic Impacts

Direct Impacts

- Total Project Cost: \$176.8 million (including \$47.6 million in construction payroll)
 - Construction Jobs: 391 full-time equivalent jobs (18-month period, avg. wage \$39/hour)
 - Ongoing Employment: 699 jobs (597 full-time, 102 part-time)
 - Annual Employee Earnings: \$35.9 million (avg. \$55,400 per FTE)
 - Annual Purchases for Operations: \$30.1 million (over \$14.4 million from in-state vendors)
 - Annual Visitors: Over 1.1 million, with 927,500 from outside Clay County
- Multiplier Impacts (Direct, Induced, and Indirect)

- Annual Economic Output:
 - Clay County: \$175.6 million
 - Minnesota: \$244.6 million
- Annual Employment:
 - Clay County: 957 jobs

- Minnesota: 1,223 jobs
 - Annual Employee Earnings:
 - Clay County: \$50.1 million
 - Minnesota: \$76.8 million
- Net Economic Impact (After Competitive and Substitution Effects)

- Annual Output:
 - Clay County: \$174.2 million
 - Minnesota: \$213.6 million
- Annual Employment:
 - Clay County: 949 jobs
 - Minnesota: 1,067 jobs
- Annual Earnings:
 - Clay County: \$49.7 million
 - Minnesota: \$67.0 million

Fiscal Impacts

- Construction Phase Tax Revenue: \$27.6 million (county, state, federal combined)
- Annual Operating Tax Revenue: \$25.4 million (county, state, federal combined)
- Net property taxes for Clay County remain positive, even after land is taken into trust.

Community and Social Impacts

- Housing: Minimal impact; estimated demand for 33 new housing units in Clay County.
- Schools: Estimated increase of 20 students (1.3% of current enrollment).
- Public Services: Projected annual increase of \$1.4 million in public safety and other government services (3.5% of current public safety budget).
- Social Costs: Research indicates marginal long-term social costs. Any short-term increases in problem gambling or crime are expected to be minor and temporary, with best practices in place for mitigation.

- Tourism: Significant boost with over 1.1 million annual visits, 61.9% from outside Minnesota.

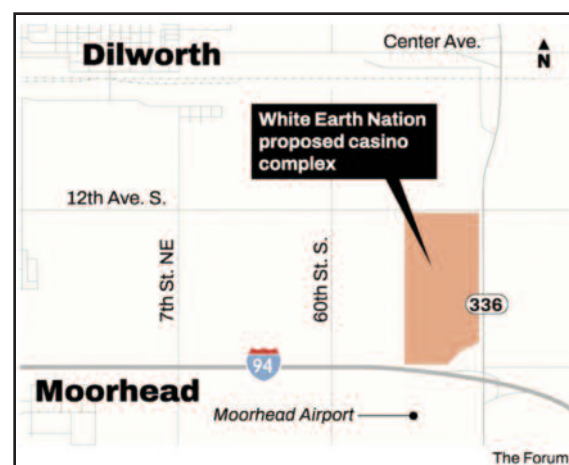
Competitive Impact

- The new casino will primarily affect the White Earth Nation's existing casinos (Mahnommen and Bagley) but overall tribal income will increase. Other Minnesota casinos are not expected to experience significant net losses.

- Substitution effect on local businesses is minimal (about 0.3% of total retail, lodging, entertainment, and dining revenue in Clay County).

Conclusion

The proposed Moorhead Casino is projected to deliver substantial economic benefits to Clay County and Minnesota, including job creation, increased earnings, significant tax revenue, and enhanced tourism. Community impacts are expected to be manageable, with minimal negative effects on housing, schools, and social services. The project represents a major opportunity for economic development and regional vitality.



WHITE EARTH ANNUAL RECOVERY PARADE

June 11th, 2026

ROOTED IN TRADITION, BLOOMING IN STRENGTH

Parade will begin at 10 am. Blessing of the Powwow Grounds to follow.

Join us for a community feast after the parade! Food will be served inside the Community Center, elders served first.

Sponsored by the Behavioral Health, Tribal Health, and Maintenance divisions of the WERBC.

To register a float please email veronica.roy@whiteearth-nsn.gov
Float line up will begin at 9 am at the old school corner.

WHITE EARTH NATION TRIBAL EVENT

DULUTH, MINNESOTA

DULUTH URBAN AREA OFFICE

26 E. Superior St., Suite 315, Duluth, MN 55802

25 JUNE 25

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

26 JUNE 26

8:30 AM - 3:00 PM

****NO SERVICES** 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM**

DMV - TRIBAL IDs
Card Creation & Updates
****BRING YOUR TRIBAL ID**
****NO FEE for IDs valid for one year.**

ENROLLMENT
Members & 1st and 2nd Generation Descendants
****BRING your Non-enrollee certificate with a valid ID**

EDUCATION
Student Financial Services.
Assistance with applications and guidance.

PARKING INFORMATION
P PUBLIC PARKING RAMPS: Use Nearby Public Ramps (e.g., Hart Ramp or Tech Village Ramp).
METERED STREET PARKING: Use ParkDuluth App or Kiosks.

CONTACT: 218-983-3285
WhiteEarth.com

WHITE EARTH URBAN OFFICE

The White Earth Urban Office is located at 1730 Clifton Place, Suite 100, in Minneapolis. Their phone number is 612-813-1590 and the office is open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

From trails to sunshine: How to stay healthy outdoors

By Savannah Leiser, LPN
White Earth Nation Tribal Public Health

As warmer temperatures return and many of us head outdoors to enjoy Minnesota's lakes, trails, and sunshine, it's important to take simple precautions to protect your health. As a Public Health nurse, I want to share key tips to help prevent tickborne illnesses and reduce your risk of sun damage and skin cancer this season.

Ticks are most active in warm weather and are commonly found in wooded areas, tall grass, and brush. Preventing tick bites is the first and most important step in avoiding tickborne disease.

When spending time outdoors, use an effective tick repellent. Look for products that contain at least one of the following: 20-30% DEET, 10-20% picaridin, 15-20% IR 3535, or 30-40% oil of lemon eucalyptus (note: oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under 3 years old).

Clothing can also provide a strong layer of protection. Wear long-sleeved shirts tucked into your pants and long pants tucked into your socks. Light-colored clothing is helpful because it makes ticks easier to spot. While walking or hiking, stay in the center of trails and avoid brushing against tall grass or vegetation where ticks may be waiting.

After spending time outdoors, take a few important steps. Shower within two hours to help wash off ticks that may not yet be attached. Perform a full-body tick check, paying close attention to areas where ticks often hide, such as armpits, groin, scalp, belly button, and behind the ears. Don't forget to check your clothing and any pets that were outside with you. To kill ticks on clothing, place items in the dryer for at least 60 minutes on high heat or 90 minutes on low heat.

If you find a tick attached to your skin, remove it promptly and safely. Use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible and pull straight out with steady pressure. If tweezers are not available, use tissue or gloves to protect your fingers. Avoid using petroleum jelly, heat, or twisting motions, as these methods can cause the tick to

release more harmful fluids or leave parts embedded in the skin.

After removal, clean the area with soap and water or rubbing alcohol. It is a good idea to store the tick in a sealed bag in case symptoms develop later. Watch for signs such as rash, fever, chills, or body aches. If any symptoms occur within 30 days, or if you've been in high-risk areas, contact your health-care provider.

In addition to tick prevention, protecting your skin from the sun is essential during the warmer months. Ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun can cause both immediate and long-term damage. UVB rays directly damage DNA and can lead to skin cancer, while UVA rays penetrate deeper into the skin, contributing to premature aging, wrinkles, and increased cancer risk.

To protect your skin, use broad-spectrum sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher. Apply it at least 30 minutes before going outdoors. There are two main types of sunscreen ingredients: chemical filters, which absorb UV rays, and mineral filters (also known as physical filters) which reflect and scatter them. Both can be effective, so choose one that works best for your skin type.

Reapply sunscreen every two hours, and more often if you are swimming, sweating, or toweling off. Remember, no sunscreen is completely waterproof. An average size adult or child needs about one ounce—roughly the amount in a shot glass—to fully cover exposed skin. Don't forget commonly missed areas like the scalp, ears, and back of the neck.

Whenever possible, seek shade—especially during peak sunlight hours between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. If the UV index is 3 or higher, additional protection is recommended. Wearing protective clothing such as long-sleeved shirts, pants, and wide-brimmed hats can significantly reduce sun exposure. Tightly woven fabrics offer the best protection, and darker colors may block more UV rays than lighter ones.

Even on cloudy days, UV rays can penetrate the clouds and cause damage, so daily sun protection remains important regardless of the weather.

White Earth Council of Elders

By Lucille M. Silk, Chairwoman
White Earth Nation Council of Elders

A primary election was held March 31 for Secretary-Treasurer and District 1 and 2. The Elder Council sponsored a Candidate Forum on April 18 from 1 to 4 p.m. at Shooting Star Casino in Mahanomen. All candidates were given the opportunity to answer questions at random. Patleen Straub was the MC and was able to coordinate the process in a very respectful manner. She kept the forum going with a three minute time limit for answers. We are very grateful for Patleen and her ability to keep the event on time.

All the candidates were able to offer their perspectives on the subject matter. In all fairness, we had attendees write out their questions and they were selected on an individual basis. Now, it is up to all of us to process the information and vote at the general election on June 9 or by prior mail-in ballot. Good luck to all candidates!

The second meeting of WECO was held May 5 at the Pine Point Elder Nutrition site after lunch. Several guests came and provided information. A special thank you was given to Lawrence (Sam) Crowell for his dedication to serving Elders after the meeting with cake. No funds were taken from our Elder fund. A few Elders paid for the cake.

The State of the Band was held May 7 at the Shooting Star Casino. Each Tribal Council representative presented their individual annual report. A delicious meal was served and many booths were provided to the public to visit.

The Wisdom Steps Program is holding their annual conference from June 2-4 at Black Bear Casino in Cloquet, Minn. Sixteen members from White Earth Nation earned the right to attend. The Elder bus transported this group. Thank you and congratulations to all that have completed the needed health and walk cards necessary to be eligible. The annual conference is a tribute to members for their personal health care. Wisdom Steps has been in existence for 26 years and has been recognized as one of the best preventive health care programs in the Minnesota. We challenge new members to get started and join the team.

A commencement ceremony was held on May 14 at White Earth Tribal and Community College. We are so proud of our students that are graduates. There were nine students with a 3.5 and above GPA that were honored for their achievements.

Please take care of Elders with even a simple phone call or perhaps a home visit. Health care and safety continue to be a couple of concerns for Elders.

"Until we meet again, may the Great Spirit make sunrise in your heart. And may your moccasins make tracks in many snows yet to come."

Lucille Silk, Chairperson
White Earth Council of Elders
218-204-0112

Community members gather for Mental Health Event

The Anishinaabeg Mental Health Event was held May 27 at the Shooting Star Casino Event Center in Mahanomen.

The theme of the daylong event was Nindayaan Bagosendamowin - I Have Hope.

Community members attended breakout sessions and listened to keynote speakers.

Right: White Earth Tribal and Community College Professor Naabek Liberty was one of the featured speakers.



Photo by Sage Thompson

The Anishinaabeg Today went to press before the results of the White Earth General Election were available.

You can see the results on the White Earth website at www.whiteearth.com or visit the White Earth Facebook page



Photos courtesy of White Earth Tribal Public Health

Nora Schulz and Ian Anderson engaging with youth attendees Youth Wellness Night in Waubun.

Public Health hosts Youth Wellness Night in Waubun

By Ana Kircher
Community Health Educator II
White Earth Nation Tribal Public Health

White Earth Nation Tribal Public Health recently hosted a Youth Wellness Night in Waubun. The Waubun Community Center was buzzing with energy from music, exhibitors, guest speakers, vision building, traditional games and healthy foods!

Youth and their caregivers were greeted with community resources designed to benefit youth and their futures. From the local White Earth Tribal and Community College to surrounding Tribal and county services, nearly 20 exhibitors set up to engage with attendees.

Guest speakers Tony St. Clair and Delarose Cleveland captivated the audience by discussing bravery, humility and dreaming big! Delarose shared about her own journey of preparation and the hours of practice it took to speak, serving as a powerful example of bravery – the willingness to act even if you are afraid.

Additionally, Anishinaabe trivia, vision board making, leather medicine pouch sewing, moccasin game, Great Lakes Lacrosse, and glow-in-the-dark

kickball kept the youth fully engaged throughout the evening. Closing out the night, youth submitted feedback and received a JBL Bluetooth speaker.

The response was overwhelmingly positive, including many hopes for a “next time.” Attendees walked away with additional door prizes from generous supporting programs and memories to last a lifetime!



Motivational speakers Tony St. Clair and Delarose Cleveland talk about DREAMING BIG, bravery and reframing the idea of work.

Elders Commission Election Notice

The White Earth Elders Commission hereby announces the General Election will be held Aug. 11, 2026, for the following positions;

Two (2) - District representatives for District I
Two (2) - District representatives for District III

Filing dates are 8 a.m. Monday, June 1 to 4:30 p.m., Thursday, June 18.

Those wishing to file for candidacy can do so with the Filing Agent - White Earth Compliance Division 779 E Jefferson Ave, Mahnomen, MN 56557. Please contact Christie Haverkamp at 218-935-3962 or Email Christie.Haverkamp@whiteearth-nns.gov.

Candidates wishing to file for must meet the following eligibility criteria per the White Earth Elders Commission By-Laws.

- Is an enrolled member of the White Earth Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe
- At least 55 years old on or before the date of the

Election.

- Must reside within the exterior boundaries of the White Earth Reservation and
- Must be a resident of their District for a least 12-month period immediately preceding the date established for the election.
- Must be able to pass the background check and meet background eligibility* according to the approved By-laws of the Elders Commission.

Election: Aug. 11, 2026

Regular Election Polling Places:
District 1 - Rice Lake Community Center
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Mahnomen Veterans Center / 2 - 6 p.m.

District 3 - Pine Point Community Center
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

White Earth Community Center / 2 - 6 p.m.

23rd Annual White Earth 5K Run/Walk to fight Diabetes

Saturday June 13th, 2026

Registration is 8:00-9:00am

Race starts at 9:00am

- ❖ No registration fees
- ❖ All ages and physical activity levels are welcome.
- ❖ Bring your family and friends, Saturday morning for a nice walk or run.
- ❖ 1st, 2nd and 3rd place ribbons for each age group
- ❖ Men & Women age 5-14, 15-29, 30-45, 46+



The 5K Run/Walk starts and finishes at the White Earth Tribal Health Division parking lot at 26246 Crane Road White Earth, MN. 56591



PAPA MURPHY'S
TAKE 'N' BAKE PIZZA

we welcome!
EBT

\$12 Large Pepperoni Pizza

Available Only at your
Detroit Lakes Papa Murphy's

Expires 3/31/2027

Walk In Only

Walk In Only

NAYTAHWAUSH COMMUNITY COUNCIL invites you to join our

Naytahwaush 4th Annual PRIDE Celebration

JUNE 20th

2:45 PM Parade Line-up @ Sk8 Park
Parade begins @ 3 PM & ends @ Drumhall
Feast & Honored Speakers following

White Earth Housing Authority & Naytahwaush Community Council partnership

Phone and Internet Discounts Available to CenturyLink Customers

The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission designated CenturyLink as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier within its service area for universal service purposes. CenturyLink's basic local service rates for residential voice lines are \$16.32-\$29.00 per month and business services are \$35.48-\$39.86 per month. Specific rates will be provided upon request.

CenturyLink participates in the Lifeline program, which makes residential telephone or qualifying broadband service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers may qualify for Lifeline discounts of \$5.25/month for voice or bundled voice service or \$9.25/month for qualifying broadband or broadband bundles. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs. The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone or qualifying broadband service per household, which can be either a wireline or wireless service. Broadband speeds must be at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload to qualify.

A household is defined as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Services are not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in these programs. Consumers who willfully make false statements to obtain these discounts can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from these programs.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, visit <https://www.centurylink.com/aboutus/community/community-development/lifeline.html> for additional information about applying for these programs or call 1-800-201-4099 with questions.



WE Constitutional Reform holding June 13 election

There will be an upcoming election for District I and District II delegate positions for the White Earth Constitutional Reform Delegation on June 13 from 2-6 p.m. at the 158th Annual White Earth Treaty Day Celebration & Pow Wow.

District I Candidates (one opening)

Delmar Hvezda, Heidi Stevens, Theresa Thompson, Michelle Frederick, and Debra Waukazo

District III Candidates (one opening)

Beverly Libby, Paula Smith, and Janea Warren

Constitution reform has been discussed for many years. In 2017-2018, the TEC assigned a delegation with a large task. Years later of planning, coordination and monthly meetings, a covid break and transition/addition of zoom, and many delegates involvement of bringing voices to the table, and leaving.

Where we are at now is at an attempt to work better alongside the TEC to best address current amendments through the current procedures, on top of perfecting as much as possible; a document bundle that amends the current revised constitution that we now abide by into separate governing documents to place certain powers to the level of the six reservations/bands (discussed to convert to seven with the addition of Sandy Lake) individually, and under an "umbrella document" that still remains holding all MCT reservations/bands to a uniform standard or such.

There are two options available at this time being drafted as for the umbrella document, and each band/reservation is in a different phase as for individual separate governing documents. Nothing is set on stone.

For change, we need to work together within the current guidelines and procedures of the current policies/constitution along with the addition of an open

mind to see a future of more sovereign power to our people. By bringing the voices we represent to the table, reaching out for input, and getting education out to educate our members. Writing word for word the best changes to make and agreeing on every paragraph sentence by sentence within each document, once complete the bundle of documents may be put through the current process of secretarial election into place that officially amends the new "constitution" officially. This process is lengthy, and we want to cross the t's and dot the I's throughout the process to best serve our people and make decisions for our future generations wisely.

Current complex and urgently important topics are membership, secretarial election process, individual constitution drafts/member input, structure, and so much more. We **need** to hear from more membership to move forward in the best way. **Your voice matters** and can make an impact on the future of our people. Please reach out to your delegates and tell us what your perspective is and what direction you want to steer us in, so we are able to best serve all.

Current list of White Earth MCT Constitution Reform Delegates:

At-Large Delegate: Chris Vanwert Jr.

Metro Delegate: Sybil Gund

Iron Range Delegate: Louie Johansen

Cass Lake Delegate: Jolyn Donnell

District I Delegates: Fawn Roy, **Open**

District II Delegate: Mykee Brown, Patty Straub

District III Delegate: Emily Annette, **Open**

Please join us! Be on the lookout for flyers for upcoming meetings.

Email: wecrmemberinput@outlook.com

Facebook(s): White Earth Constitutional Reform Delegation, White Earth MCT Constitution Reform

4th Annual NAAME GIIZIS STURGEON MOON
White Earth Community Council Pow Wow
JULY 25 & 26, 2026
White Earth, MN

3 GRAND ENTRIES
SAT, JULY 25 | 1PM & 7PM
SUN, JULY 25 | 1PM
All dancers must be in regalia to register. All dancers must register prior to every grand entry.
FEAST - 5PM - SATURDAY

RULES FOR POW WOW GROUNDS & CAMPING AREA

- Camping at your own risk
- Free campfire wood
- Showers are available on Saturday and Sunday between 6AM & 10AM
- 24-hour security on-site
- HIPM Curfew
- No fireworks, weapons, alcohol or illegal substances
- No unruly behavior
- No ATVs
- The White Earth Community Council, Police and Pow Wow Committee reserve the right to remove violators.

WERBC, SSC, WE-P, WEEC and all associated entities will not be liable for people who are attending at their own risk nor be held responsible for accidents, losses, illnesses or short-funded travelers, but responsible for vendor stands at camp grounds.

HOST DRUM: Smokey Hills

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR: Mike Bunker
MCS: VINCE BEYL / Opwaganse Goodwin
ARENA DIRECTORS: TOM MASON | Luke Hisgun

DRUM SPLIT | TBD
 Up to 10 Drums | Bring own chairs
 Must be 18+ to register | An adult must be on the drum
 Drum contacts:

CONTESTS: TBD
SPECIALS: TBD

VENDOR CONTACT: Josey Keezer 218-401-0439
 Alana Thompson 218-401-4268

FOR MORE INFO:
WHITE EARTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

SHOOTING STAR
 CASINO HOTEL ENTERTAINMENT



Independence LOANS

White Earth Investment Initiative's vehicle loans can help customers in tribal communities go farther than you thought possible.*

White Earth INVESTMENT INITIATIVE

(218) 902-2069 | www.weii.website
 This institution is an equal opportunity provider and lender.
 *Subject to credit approval

White Earth Reservation Enrolled Elder Lawn Mowing Program

DATE APPLYING: _____

Name: _____ Spouse's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Physical Address: _____
Permanent residency is required.

Telephone # _____ Cell # _____ Work # _____

Email address: _____

Birthdate: _____ Spouse's Birthdate: _____

Enrollment # _____ Spouse's Enrollment # _____
Attach a colored copy.

Do you own the home: Yes _____ No _____ if not, name your landlord? _____

Do you live in a Housing home? _____, as they plov for their own Residents/Units.

Which district do you reside in: District I _____ District II _____ District III _____

Detailed directions to your residence (only for new applicants): _____

*****Lawn mowing will be done every two weeks; area needs to be cleared of debris.**
*****Dogs must be tied up, fenced in, or housed during service.**
*****Weed trimming, bagging of grass & mowing ditches will not be provided.**
*****Mowing service will end after Labor Day weekend.**

White Earth Water & Sewer Department
 P.O. Box 418
 White Earth, MN 56591
 Phone: 218-935-6411
 Fax: 888-228-3650
 Email address: Lisa.Donovan-Larson@whiteearth-nsn.gov or Burnham.tibbetsiii@whiteearth-nsn.gov


Ages 55+

WHITE EARTH ENP INVITES YOU TO THE 2026 ELDERS PICNIC

Join us July 10th at the Rediscovery Center in White Earth

❄️ 11AM-2PM ❄️

Transportation information to follow!



Contact your local ENP or ENP Management at 218-983-3286 Ext 1266 for questions



The excitement you feel when it's time to expand your business?

We've got a loan for that.

White Earth Investment Initiative offers affordable business expansion loans for businesses in tribal communities.

White Earth INVESTMENT INITIATIVE

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and lender.
 (218) 902-2069 | www.weii.website

White Earth Treatment Court honors journeys of both current and former participants

By Lori Thompson
White Earth Tribal Court Administrator

May was recognized across the country as Treatment Court Awareness Month, a time dedicated to highlighting the life-changing impact of treatment courts and the individuals who work tirelessly to support recovery, accountability, and second chances. Treatment courts provide an alternative path for individuals struggling with substance use and other challenges, helping participants rebuild their lives through structure, support, and community connection.

To honor this important month, our treatment court program recently hosted a community picnic celebrating the journeys of both current and former participants. The event brought together participants, graduates, family members, staff, mentors, and community partners for a day of fellowship, encouragement, and reflection on the progress made through the program.

The picnic served as more than just a gathering — it was a celebration of resilience and hope. Former participants shared stories of recovery, personal growth, employment success, and reunification with family members. Current participants had the oppor-

tunity to connect with graduates who once stood in their shoes, offering inspiration and proof that lasting change is possible.

Treatment courts focus on accountability while addressing the underlying causes of addiction and criminal behavior. Through treatment services, regular court appearances, mentorship, and community support, participants are given the tools needed to achieve long-term recovery and stability. Events like this picnic remind everyone involved that recovery is not a journey taken alone.


The atmosphere throughout the day reflected the true spirit of treatment court: compassion, support, and celebration of progress. Games, food, laughter, and meaningful conversations created an environment where participants felt valued and encouraged. Staff and community partners were also recognized for their dedication and commitment to helping individuals succeed.

As Treatment Court Awareness Month comes to a close, the picnic served as a powerful reminder that recovery is possible and that every milestone deserves recognition. By continuing to support treatment courts and the individuals they serve, communities can help create brighter futures, stronger families, and safer communities for everyone.




Submitted photos

Mike Weaver - Wellness Court Graduate and Brandon Kier - Traditional Practitioner (left), Jeff Tibbetts - Wellness Court Graduate (upper right), and Rita Rogers - Wellness Court Graduate participate in a recent picnic recognizing Treatment Court Awareness Month.



WHITE EARTH NATION ENROLLMENT INFORMATION BOOTHS SUMMER SCHEDULE

COME SEE US AT YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY!




1. PINE POINT

📍 LOCATION: Old School

🕒 WHEN: Every 3rd Wed., 10 AM - 2 PM

📅 JUNE 17TH
📅 JULY 15TH
📅 AUGUST 19TH




2. RICE LAKE

📍 LOCATION: Rice Lake Community Center

🕒 WHEN: Specific Fridays, 9 AM - 12 PM

📅 JUNE 26TH
📅 JULY 10TH
📅 AUGUST 14TH




3. NAYTAHWAUSH

📍 LOCATION: Sports Complex

🕒 Every 2nd Friday, Starting July

📅 JUNE 26TH, 1 PM - 4 PM
📅 JULY 10TH, 1 PM - 4 PM
📅 AUGUST 14TH, 1 PM - 4 PM



OTHER POP-UP LOCATIONS: Look for us at area Pow Wows, local events, and parades!

“Remembering What We Always Knew”





**Return to
First Medicines
Annual Gathering**

A Gathering for Adults & Youth to Learn About Sacred Medicines, Growing Traditional Foods, Maternal Health, and Self-Care

~ Restoring Traditional Knowledge ~

Key Note Speakers:
Dr. Terry Maresca & Dr. Kalidas Shetty

- Basic skills about gathering, using and respecting our traditional medicines
- Water and environmental teachings
- Self-care and mental health practices
- Art workshops
- Barter and Trade
- Ribbon Skirt & Jewelry Swap
- Sunrise Ceremony

SHOOTING STAR CASINO
777 S Casino Rd

Hotel Booking ID:
“Return to First Medicine Conference”

JULY 28 & 29TH 2026

EventBrite Registration







UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS

Please update your address with the Anishinaabeg Today. Let us know if you moved so we can cancel your old address.

Many papers are still being sent to old addresses!

Today@whiteearth-nsn.gov
218-935-3569

BARGAINS OF THE MONTH[®]

Shop for June bargains while supplies last!

 <p>SAVE OVER 55% 7.99 Green Thumb[®] 10-Pattern Hose Nozzle 183 651</p>	 <p>SAVE OVER 30% 17.99 Cowboy[®] 20 lb. Hardwood Lump Charcoal 112 330</p>	 <p>SAVE OVER 40% 22.99 Green Thumb[®] 5/8 in. x 100 ft. Medium-Duty Garden Hose 839 454</p>	 <p>SAVE OVER 40% 4.49 HTH[®] 13.3 oz. Pool Care Shock 795 602</p>
--	---	--	--

True Value.

 <p>SAVE OVER 40% 8.79 Shur-Line[®] 3 pc. Angled Paintbrush Set 129 455</p>	 <p>SAVE OVER 40% 15.99 Master Mechanic[®] 3 pc. Adjustable Wrench Set 213 200</p>	 <p>SAVE OVER 35% 8.99 Stanley[®] 6 pc. Fluted Standard Screwdriver Set 444 565</p>	 <p>SAVE OVER 25% 34.99 Flexzilla[®] 5/8 in. x 50 ft. Lightweight Garden Hose 225 305</p>
---	--	---	--

©2026 TV Hardware Distribution, LLC
Consumer responsible for taxes. While supplies last. Products, product availability, pricing and savings may vary by store. See your local store for details.
Prices good through June 30, 2026. TV-BM-11550045006 June 2026 BOM Bargain Stuffer A version

Stop by the Mahnommen True Value store and see Ryan and Paige or give them a call at 218-935-5148.



SHOOTING STAR CASINOS

MAHNOMEN + BAGLEY

STARCASINO.COM + 800.453.STAR



summer ON THE LAKE giveaway

\$97K IN CASH & PRIZES INCLUDING A NEW PONTOON

Sundays in June

Don't spend summer on the dock. Earn entries now for a chance at cash or a new pontoon. Double entries Saturdays and Mondays during promo.

- CONCERTS
- Terri Clark | June 5
 - Starship | June 26
 - Jackson Dean | July 10
 - Night Ranger | July 24
 - Billy Bob Thornton & The Boxmasters | August 7
 - The Beach Boys | Aug 21



Home Stretch

Homebuyer Education Class



Register online at weii.website or call 218-844-7057

Attend **ONE** all-day session to receive a Homebuyer Education certificate

June 24
 July 22
 August 19
 September 16
 October 21

All classes are 9am to 5pm at
 Shooting Star Casino Mahnommen MN

White Earth Investment Initiative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Tribal Canoe Drawing

Drawing

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

5 Canoes and Paddles will be given away!

Drawing will be recorded and posted to the White Earth YouTube channel and Facebook page. Winners will be notified.

Rules and Eligibility

- One entry per person
- Enrolled White Earth Tribal members only
- 18 years of age or older
- Must have valid tribal ID to claim prize

No Exceptions!
Ages of entrants and White Earth enrollment will be verified. Double entries and entries that are illegible and/or incomplete will be discarded. Winners from the past three years are not eligible.

Gift of canoes donated by Shooting Star Casino. Drawing event sponsored by White Earth Reservation Tribal Council and White Earth Natural Resources Dept.

Entry forms available in the Anishinaabeg Today, at Shooting Star Casino and on White Earth Facebook page.

Submit Entries:

- Anishinaabeg Today entry forms will be accepted, fax to 218-935-2524.
- Mail entry form to:
White Earth Natural Resources Office
Attn: Taylor Anderson
PO Box 393 | Mahnomon, MN 56557
- Drop off at: Shooting Star Casino, Mahnomon Main Entrance - Info Desk

Must be post marked or dropped off by Wednesday, July 15, 2026.




Proudly owned and successfully operated by the White Earth Nation © 2026 White Earth Reservation

Tribal Canoe Drawing Entry Form

There will be drawings for 5 canoes and paddles on Wednesday, July 22, 2026. Drawing will be recorded and posted to the White Earth YouTube Channel and Facebook page. Winners will be notified via phone.

Rules and Eligibility

- One entry per person
- Enrolled White Earth Tribal members only
- 18 years of age or older
- Must have a Valid Unexpired Tribal ID

No Exceptions

Ages of entrants and White Earth enrollment will be verified. Double entries and entries that are illegible and/or incomplete will be discarded. Winners from the past three years are not eligible.

Entry forms available in the Anishinaabeg Today, at Shooting Star Casino and on White Earth Facebook page.

Submit Entries:
• Anishinaabeg Today entry forms will be accepted, fax to 218-935-2524.

• **Mail entry form to:**
White Earth Natural Resources Office
Attn: Taylor Anderson
PO Box 393
Mahnomon, MN 56557

• **Drop off at:** Shooting Star Casino, Mahnomon Main Entrance - Info Desk

Entry must be dropped off or postmarked no later than Wednesday, July 15.

Gift of canoes donated by Shooting Star Casino. Drawing event sponsored by White Earth Reservation Tribal Council, and White Earth Natural Resources Department.

Entrant's Full Name (Last, First, Middle Int.)

Entrant's Full Tribal Enrollment Number (408 X 0000000)

Entrant's Birth Date (Month-Day-Year)

Phone #



Proudly owned and successfully operated by the White Earth Nation.
©2026 White Earth Reservation



COLA students graduate from DARE program



Photo by Gary W. Padrta

The Circle of Life Academy recently held a graduation ceremony for students that completed a 10-week DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program. The program was run by White Earth Police Officer Peter Drift Sr. and taught students how to learn and practice good decision-making skills to include how to call 911, Stanger Danger, resisting peer pressure, and more. Students received a certificate and DARE t-shirt.

BAM'IDIZOWIGAMIG CREATOR'S PLACE



AFFORDABLE BURIAL STONES

\$300

- CUSTOMIZABLE
- BLACK POLISHED GRANITE
- SET IN CONCRETE
- 22" x 16" 75 POUNDS

John Smith

Jan. 1, 2000 Jan. 1, 2000

Forever In Our Hearts

"Bill"

William Smith

Jan. 1, 2000 Jan. 1, 2000

Rest In Peace

CONTACT

218-699-3811

48513 Pow Wow Hwy.
Ponsford, MN 56575

CREATORSPLACEPINEPOINT@GMAIL.COM

Catherine Smith

Jan. 1, 2000 Jan. 1, 2000

Gone But Not Forgotten

LOCALLY MADE BY PINE POINT ARTISANS
 In partnership with White Earth Maadaadiizi Workforce Center



“Culture and tradition play a vital role in our health and wellness.” —indi

**your heart beats
for generations**
Made possible by Hennepin County

HennepinCounty.gov/heart-beats

Valley View Manor

Valley View Manor in Ada has 1 bedroom units for rent.

Rent is based on 30% of your adjusted monthly income calculated per HUD guidelines up to a contract rent of \$750 and includes: Water, Sewer, Garbage and Heat.

For more information contact DW Jones Management. 218-547-3307 or apply at www.dwjonesmanagement.com



CREATING BETTER LIVING
Equal Housing Opportunity

TTY711



Courtesy photo

Top row from left, Suzie Ballot (Facilitator), Marlena Hanson (Site Coordinator), Alicia Avila (graduate), Amber Fox (graduate), Azalea Stone (Graduate), Debbie Villibrun (Child Care Teacher), Crystal Littlewolf (Facilitator), and Barb Fabre (CEO of All Nations Rise). Bottom row from left, Kris Manning (Facilitator/ Site Coordinator), Candace Potter (Graduate), Kendra Boswell (Graduate), Danielle Bjerk (Gaduate), and Stephanie Longfield (Facilitator).

Indigenous Parent Leadership Initiative Cohort 4 honors six “women warriors” at graduation ceremony

WHITE EARTH — All Nations Rise honored six graduates of its Indigenous Parent Leadership Initiative (IPLI) during a ceremony held Sunday, May 17, at Shooting Star Casino & Event Center in Mahnomen.

The graduates, described by organizers as “women warriors,” completed a 22-week leadership journey focused on advocacy, parenting, cultural identity and community leadership. Through the program, participants explored personal growth, vulnerability, understanding and discovery while developing skills to advocate for children and families.

Since the initiative began, IPLI has graduated 33 parent leaders from the White Earth Tribal community. Graduates are now serving as advocates for children and families at tribal, local, state and national levels.

The Indigenous Parent Leadership Initiative is designed to guide parents in becoming effective advocates and community leaders. The free 23-week program combines child development, leadership training, civic engagement and Indigenous cultural teachings to strengthen the voices of parents, grandparents, foster parents and caregivers.

IPLI integrates the nationally accredited Parent Leadership Training Institute curriculum with the Indigenous Foundations curriculum developed by Elders from the Red Lake Nation and White Earth Ojibwe Nation, along with educator Dr. Anton Treuer. Organizers say the initiative addresses the lasting effects of historical trauma connected to the boarding school era while revitalizing Ojibwe values, language, teachings and traditional lifestyles.

Founded in 2021 by Indigenous Visioning, LLC, All Nations Rise is an Indigenous women-led non-profit focused on improving the well-being of children and families through multi-generational support

and community partnerships. The organization works with tribal, state, federal and philanthropic partners on initiatives related to parent empowerment, policy advocacy, systems improvement and tribal economic development.

The next class, IPLI Cohort 5, is scheduled to begin in Fall 2026.

More information about the program is available through All Nations Rise or by contacting the organization at 218-694-2005.

WHITE EARTH
CONSTITUTION DELEGATE
ANNOUNCEMENT

White Earth Constitution Reform District 1 and District 3 Delegate Candidates & Election Information

DATE: SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH, 2026
TIME: 2:00-6:00 PM
LOCATION: WHITE EARTH POWWOW GROUNDS

District 1 Candidates:	District 3 Candidates:
1. Delmar Hvezda	1. Beverly Libby
2. Heidi Stevens	2. Paula Smith
3. Theresa Thompson	3. Janea Warren
4. Michelle Frederick	
5. Debra Waukazo	

Please vote and support these candidates – must be a tribal member (show tribal ID) and reside in that WE District.

SAVE THE DATE!

WILD RICE DAYS
EST 1938
MAHNOMEN, MN

Saturday, August 15, 2026
Parade 11am
Street Dance 8pm
Family Friendly Events All Day!

White Earth General Election

Tuesday, June 9 / 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

Early Voting is Open!
Monday-Friday / 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Additional Hours
Saturday, June 6: 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Location
White Earth Election Board Building
Shooting Star Casino RV Park (behind casino)
Mahnomen, Minn.

218-936-5622

Fred Littlewolf

was part a crew that achieved legendary status in WWII

Editor's Note: A brief write up on Fred Littlewolf and this particular mission appeared in last month's Anishinaabeg Today. However, due to limited space, the more detailed account of what Fred and his nine fellow crewmen accomplished on that day in January 1943, had to be postponed until this month. We now share a more complete narrative of what the Thunderbird and her incredible crew accomplished on that harrowing day.

By Budd Parker
White Earth Community Veteran

Fred Theodore Littlewolf, a private in the U.S. Army Air Corps was from Daigle's Mill near Twin Lakes. Fred was a waist gunner and radio operator on a B-17 Flying Fortress - a four-engined heavy bomber. He spent several months with the 8th Army Air Force conducting submarine patrols along the west coast of England before taking part in the 1st all-American raid over France. Taking Fred's suggestion, their Fortress was named the Thunderbird (B-17E No. 41-24437).

In January 1943, Fred and the other crewmembers aboard the Thunderbird, deployed from their home airdrome at Biskra, Algeria on a mission 500 miles away to bomb the huge and massively defended Axis airdrome, Castel Benito, near Tripoli, Libya. The events that occurred with the Thunderbird and her crew that day reached legendary status across the U.S. and Europe due to being beautifully documented by the famed WWII correspondent Ernie Pyle. I could hardly do justice to this story, nor to Ernie Pyle's incredible reporting, so these are partial excerpts, in his own words, from the story Ernie called his "favorite story from the Africa campaign of World War II."

Ten Men Come Back From the Grave On Flying Fortress

The Pittsburgh Press (Pennsylvania) - Jan. 24, 1943

It was late afternoon at our desert airdrome. The sun was lazy, the air was warm, and a faint haze of propeller dust hung over the field, giving it softness. It was time for the planes to start coming back from their mission, and one by one they did come - big Flying Fortresses and fiery little Lightnings. Nobody paid a great deal of attention, for this returning is a daily routine thing.

Finally they were all in - all, that is, except one. Operations reported a Fortress missing. It had lagged behind and lost altitude just after leaving target. The last report said the Fortress couldn't stay in the air more than five minutes. Hours had passed since then. So it was gone. Ten men were in that plane. The day's accomplishments had been great, but the thought of the 10 lost friends cast a pall over people.

We had already seen death that afternoon. For one for the returning Fortresses had released a red flare over the field, and I had stood with others beneath the great plane as they handed its dead pilot, head downward, through the escape hatch onto a stretcher. The faces of his crew were grave, and nobody talked very loud. One man clutched a leather cap with blood on it. The pilot's hands were very white.

Everybody knew the pilot. He was so young a couple of hours ago. The war came inside us then and we felt it deeply.

Half a dozen of us went to the high control tower. We go every evening to watch the sunset, and to get a report on the progress of German bombers that frequently come just after dusk to blast our airdrome.

The sunsets here in the desert are truly things with a soul. The violence of their color is incredible. They splatter the sky and the clouds with a surging beauty. The mountains stand dark against the horizon, and the palm trees silhouette themselves dramatically against the fiery west.

As we stood in the tower looking down over this powerful scene, the day began folding itself up. Fighter planes, which patrol the field all day, were coming in. All the soldiers in the tent camps had finished supper. That noiseless peace that sometimes comes just before dusk hung over the airdrome. Men talked in low tones about the dead pilot and the lost Fortress.

And then an electric thing happened. Far off in the dusk a red flare shot into the sky. It made an arc against the dark background of the mountain and fell to the earth.

It couldn't be anything else. It had to be. The 10 dead men were coming home!

Where's the flare gun? Gimme a green flare! yelled an officer. He ran to the edge of the tower, shouted "Look out below!" and fired a green rocket into the air. Then we saw the plane - just a tiny black speck. It seemed almost on the ground, it was so low, and in the first glance we could sense that it was barely moving, barely staying in the air. Crippled and alone, two hours behind all the rest, it was dragging itself home.

I am a layman, and no longer of the fraternity that flies, but I can feel. And at that moment I felt something close to human love for that faithful, battered machine, that far dark speck struggling toward us with such pathetic slowness.... Not one of us thought the plane would ever make the field, but on it came - so slowly that it was cruel to watch.

It reached the far end of the airdrome, still holding its pathetic little altitude. It skimmed over the tops of parked planes, and kept on, actually reaching out - it seemed to us - for the runway.

They cleared the last plane, and they were over the runway. They settled slowly. The wheels touched softly. And as the plane rolled on down the runway the thousands of men around that vast field suddenly realized that they were weak and that they could hear their hearts pounding.

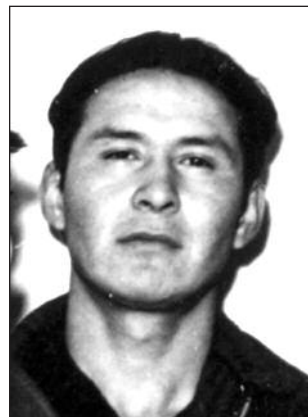
The last of the sunset died, and the sky turned into blackness, which would help the Germans if they came on schedule with their bombs. But nobody cared. Our 10 dead men were miraculously back from the grave.

The 10 men undoubtedly will get decorations. Nothing quite like it has happened before in this war. Here is the full story:

The Tripoli airdrome was defended heavily, by both fighter planes and anti-aircraft guns. Flying into that hail-storm, as one pilot said, was like a mouse attacking a dozen cats.

The Thunderbird - for that was the name of this Fortress - was hit first just as it dropped its bomb load. One engine went out. Then a few moments later the other engine on the same side went. When both engines go out on the same side it usually is fatal. And therein lies the difference of this feat from other instances of bringing damaged bombers home. The Thunderbird was forced to drop below the other Fortresses. And the moment a Fortress drops down or lags behind, German fighters are on it like vultures. The boys don't know how many Germans were in the air, but they think there must have been 30.

Our Lightning fighters, escorting the Fortresses, stuck by the Thunderbird and fought as long as they could, but finally they had to leave or they wouldn't have had enough



Fred Littlewolf
Photo Courtesy of the Clearwater Historical Society

DON'T MISS A THING!
SIGN UP TO OUR NEWSLETTER

Scan here

2026 Election Calendar

- June 9: General Election**
(Polling Place open from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.)
- June 10:** General Reservation Election Board certifies results of Election. Prior to 8 p.m.
- June 11:** General Reservation Election Board publishes Election results.
- June 12:** Deadline for Request for Recount. (Filed with General Election Board prior to 5 p.m.)
- June 16:** 4:30 p.m. - Deadline for Notice of Contest. (Filed with Reservation Election Judge and Executive Director of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe).
- June 17:** Decision on Request for Recount and Results of Recount, if allowed (or June 16 if request for Recount is filed before deadline).
- June 26:** Deadline for Decision on Contest for General Election
- June 29:** 4:30 p.m. - Deadline for appeal to Court of Election Appeals. Filed with Executive Director of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and Reservation Tribunal rendering Decision (or within 3 days of decision of Contest).
- July 1:** Record of contest forwarded to Court of Election Appeals (at least 2 days prior to the Hearing date).
- July 6:** Last Day for Hearing on Appeal. (Hearing within 7 days notice of appeal).
- July 14:** Winning candidates assume office by operation of law, unless sooner seated, or the election is subject of appeal to the Court of Election Appeals.
- July 16:** Deadline for decision of Court of Elections Appeal. (Or 10 days from Hearing on Appeal)
- Day following Decision of Appeal:** Winning candidate prevailing on appeal takes office.

You can reach the Anishinaabeg Today at
today@whiteearth-nsn.gov

See Littlewolf Page 28

Special Events

- Diabetes Bingo
- June 3rd—Pine Point
- June 10th—Elbow Lake
- June 23rd—Mahnomen Senior Meals

Gaawaabaabanganikaag Ogikaag Miniwanjige

“White Earth Elder Eating Good”

White Earth Elderly Nutrition Program

Ode'imini-giizis (Strawberry Moon) - June

Elderly Nutrition Program Information

*Daily Menu includes bread of chefs choice, 1% or skim milk, coffee, tea and provides 1/3 of the Recommended Daily Allowance (RDA) with health conscious consideration to overall well-being.

*Menu is subject to change depending on product availability and/or schedule changes.

Elders Suggested Donation \$3

Guest Meals \$5

Questions or comments please contact :

White Earth ENP Site
(218) 983-3744
Site Controller—Thor Smith

Pine Point ENP Site (218) 573-2210
Site Controller—Zac Adams

Elbow Lake ENP Site (218) 734-2315
Site Contrler—Cheryl Rindahl

Naytahwaush ENP Site (218) 935-5554 ext. 3238
Site Supervisor—Sherry Halberg

Rice Lake ENP Site (218) 694-2795
Site Supervisor—Russell Boswell

Tanya LaDoux—ENP Manager
(218) 983-3286
Tanya.Heinonen@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Jeanie Rogers—Assistant Manager
(218)983-3286
Jeanie.Rogers@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1 Baked Ham Mac N Cheese Capri Blend Veggies Wheat Bread Manadrin Oranges	2 BLT W/Lettuce & Toma- to Chicken Noodle Soup Apple	3 Chef's Choice Main Entrée Vegetable and/or Salad Fruit Bread Beverage of Choice	4 Hamburger Gravy Mashed Potatoes Cauliflower Dinner Roll Pear	5 Chef Salad Dinner Roll Granola Bar Peaches
8 Ctry. Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes Peas Wheat Bread Strawberries	9 White Chickn Chili Side Salad Cornbread Fruit Cocktail	10 Chef's Choice Main Entrée Vegetable and/or Salad Fruit Bread	11 Mac Hotdish Green Beans Dinner Roll Banana	12 Closed For Treaty Day
15 Chicken Fajitas Peppers & Onions Spanish Rice Fiesta Corn Apricots	16 Sub Sandwich W/Lettuce & Toma- to Mac Salad Fresh Veggie W/Dip	17 Chef's Choice Main Entrée Vegetable and/or Salad Fruit Bread	18 Scalloped Potatoes W/Ham Steamed Broccoli Hawaiian Roll Orange	19 Closed For Juneteenth
22 Beef Tips W/Gravy Egg Noodles Country Veggies Cran.Wildrice Bread Mangoes	23 Chicken Pot Pie W/Mixed Veggies Beets Biscuit Jello Fruit Salad	24 Chef's Choice Main Entrée Vegetable and/or Salad Fruit Bread	25 Pork Loin W/Gravy Mashed Potatoes Cali Blend Veggies Dinner Roll Tropical Fruit	26 Lemon Pepper Fish Rice Pilaf Brussel Sprouts Wheat Bread Apple Crisp
29 Broccoli Cheese Soup Ham&Cheese on Pretzel Bun Fresh Veggies W/Dip Grapes	30 BRUNCH FOR LUNCH Chefs Choice	SAVE THE DATE! Annual Elders Picnic July 10th 2026 @ Rediscovery		

White Earth Food Distribution June Store Hours

Mon-Thurs 8:30-3:30

Office Hours M-F 8-4:30 / 218-935-2233

June 2026 Home Delivery Schedule (Subject to Change)

Nutrition Education & Health Screenings w/Shirley: June 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th.

June 5th: Naytahwaush & Bagley

June 8th: Mahnomen & Waubun

June 12th: Closed for Treaty Day

June 19th: Closed – Juneteenth holiday

June 26th: Detroit Lakes & White Earth

June 30th: Closed for Inventory

No Store hours on Fridays

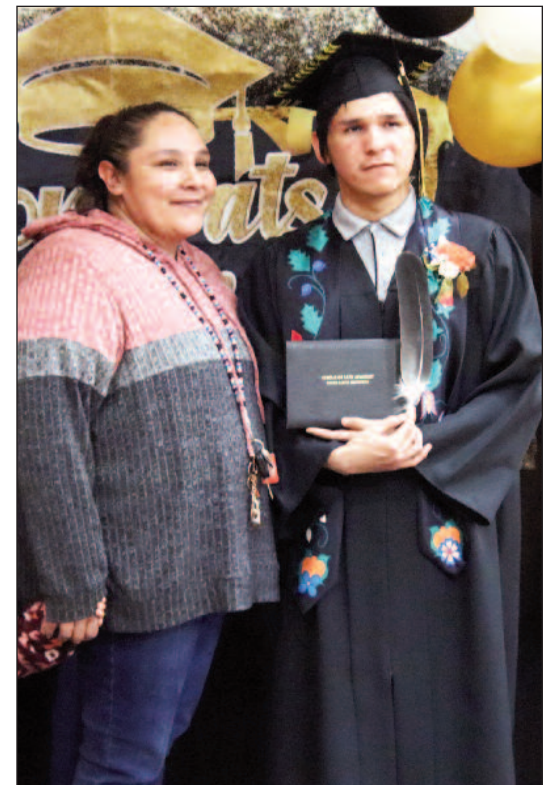
Notify us ASAP if you will not be home on your scheduled route.

White Earth WIC June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
WIC follows RBC Schedule for closings	*Locations and times are subject to change*					
	1 White Earth Health Center 8:30-4:00	2 White Earth Health Center 8:30-4:00	3 White Earth Health Center 8:30-4:00	4 Pine Point Community Building 9:30-3:00	5 White Earth Health Center 8:30-4:00 <small>(Appt Request Only)</small>	6
7	8 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:30	9 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:30	10 White Earth Health Center 8:30-4:00	11 CLOSED	12 CLOSED	13
14	15 White Earth Health Center 8:30-4:00	16 Bagley Elementary School 10:00-3:00	17 White Earth Health Center 8:30-4:00	18 Naytahwaush Health Center 9:15-3:30	19 CLOSED	20
21	22 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:30	23 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:30	24 White Earth Health Center 8:30-4:00	25 Naytahwaush Health Center 9:15-3:30	26 CLOSED	27
28	29 White Earth Health Center 8:30-4:00	30 White Earth Health Center 8:30-4:00				

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Please call 218-204-0399 or 218-401-4247 to contact our department.



Photos by Gary W. Padrta

Five seniors from the Circle of Life Academy graduated on May 21. From left are Xavier Roberts, Leighland Fineday, Peyton Person, Isaiah Thompson, and Cameron Dewey.

Circle of Life Academy Class of 2026

May 21, Circle of Life Academy Gym

Graduates

Cameron Dewey
Leighland Fineday
Peyton Person
Xavier Roberts
Isaiah Thompson

Master of Ceremonies

Mike Bunker

Grand Entry

White Earth Honor Guard,
Royalty, COLA Graduates, Tribal
Council, COLA School Board

Honor Song

White Earth Boyz

Welcome / Opening Remarks

Mike Bunker

Presentation of Graduates

Mike Bunker

Individual Ceremony

- Introduction Speech
- Family Members Speak on Their Graduate's Path of Education
- Maanaaji'wem Ingiw gaa Kanawenimigooyaang (Honoring Those That Helped Us)
- Diploma and Feather

Honor and Traveling Song

White Earth Boys

Class Motto

"Together we rise, forever we shine!"

Class Colors

Black and Gold

Class Flower

Carnation

Highlights of the annual Rice Lake Pow-Wow



Photos by Gary W. Padrta

The annual Rice Lake Memorial Walk and Pow-Wow was held May 24-25. There were 183 registered dancers and 11 drums. On May 25, more than 170 people participated in the Memorial Walk from Roy Lake to the Rice Lake Powwow grounds.





Photo by Sage Thompson

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Pine Point Resilience Hub was recently held at the Pine Point School.

Solar-powered microgrid shines at Pine Point School

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Pine Point Resilience Hub was held on May 4. Pine Point School and numerous partners flipped the switch on the solar and battery system. The 500-kilowatt solar array, paired with a 2.475 megawatt-hour battery, is capable of powering the building through a full blackout. It's based at the K-8 school and community

center in Pine Point. Leading the way were 10Power, the developer, 8th Fire Solar, Ziegler Electric, Pine Point School, Pine Point Community Council, Sandia Labs, Pacific Northwest Labs, Itasca Mantrap Cooperative, Great River Energy Cooperative, State of Minnesota and Minnesota Department of Commerce Solar for Schools program.



Students help flip a ceremonial switch for the Pine Point Resilience Hub located near the school. The solar array, paired with a battery can power the school through a full blackout.

Photo by Sage Thompson

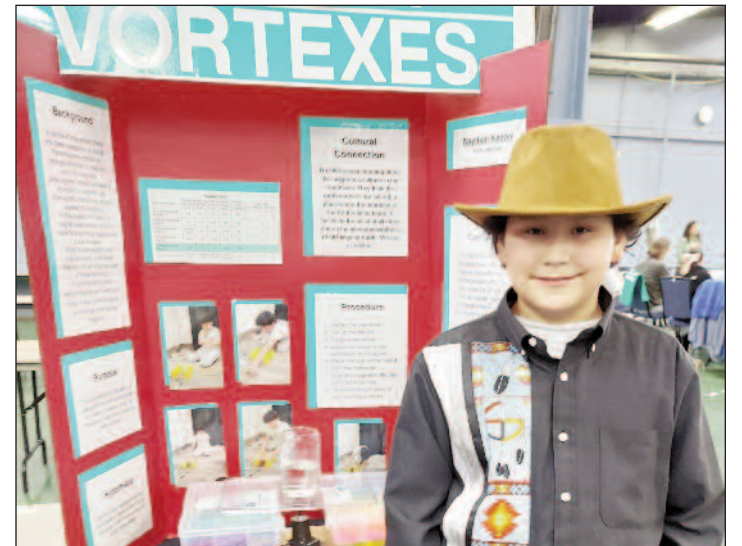
Community gathers for 4th Annual MMIP Awareness Day



Photo by Sage Thompson

The 4th Annual MMIP Awareness Day was held May 5 at the Shooting Star Casino Event Center in Mahanomen. The daylong event included guest speakers, and a Walk of Solidarity and Hope. A breakfast and lunch were provided and everyone was eligible for door prizes.

NCCS students shine in Okla.



Submitted photos

Seven NCCS students recently attended the National American Indian Science and Engineering Fair in Oklahoma City. The students competed in the Junior Division (Grades 5-8). They presented their projects to judges who asked questions and then scored them. NCCS sixth grader, Naythan Keezer, placed 3rd in the category of Physics and Astronomy. His project titled, Magnet Vortexes, investigated how the size and shape of magnets impacted the time it took to form a vortex in water. While in Oklahoma City, students also visited the First Americans Museum, Oklahoma City Science Museum, and Okana Water Park. **Top:** Back row - Persaeus Sargent-Hawks, Azalea Brown, Tanise Comrie, Naythan Keezer, Jayceon Quimby, Adrial Brugeiur and Karen Wadena. Front row - Lisa Christensen and Beth Zietz. **Bottom:** Naythan with his project.

COLA students view mock crash



Photo by Gary W. Padrta

The White Earth Police Department recently staged a mock crash for students at the Circle of Life Academy. The purpose of the event was to show what can happen if people choose to drink and drive. Participating in the event were Becker County sheriffs, Minnesota State Patrol, White Earth Ambulance Service, Mahnomen Health Center, Life Link Air Ambulance, Carrots Autobody, Waubun Fire Rescue, Ogema Fire Department, Anderson Funeral Home, and White Earth Emergency Management.



Photos by Gary W. Padrta

The White Earth State of the Nation was held May 7 at the Shooting Star Casino in Mahanomen. The Tribal Council took turns sharing their highlights from 2025.

Hundreds gather for WE State of the Nation

White Earth Nation leadership shared 2025 tribal program highlights, current updates, and priorities for the coming year at the annual State of the Nation in Mahanomen.

More than 800 community members, employees and dignitaries gathered May 7 at the Shooting Star Casino Event Center.

Chairman Michael Fairbanks focused on land return, citing several projects that have increased White Earth Nation's influence on land management.

Secretary Treasurer Michael LaRoque followed with financial and programmatic updates, including the tribe's shift away from federally managed health

clinics.

District 1 Rep. Henry Fox, District 2 Rep. Eugene Sommers and District 3 Rep. Laura Lee Erickson all spoke on the positive highlights that happened in their districts in 2025.

In addition to the Tribal Council addresses, community members were invited to visit more than 40 tribal program information tables. The event ended with a plated meal served by the Shooting Star Casino Banquet staff.

The entire State of the Nation event is available to view on the White Earth YouTube channel at www.whiteearth.com.



Chairman Michael Fairbanks shares his vision for the White Earth Nation as District 1 Representative Henry Fox looks on during the State of the Nation on May 7 at the Shooting Star Casino.



Veronica Roy, left, and Jen McDougall from White Earth Behavioral Health were one more than 40 tribal program information tables at the State of the Nation. Community members were invited to visit the programs and learn more what the tribe has to offer for services.



Royalty take time to gather for a photo before the State of the Nation grand entry.



The White Earth Nation Honor Guard formed a greeting line after the conclusion of the State of the Nation. They also led the grand entry to start the event.

988 Minnesota Lifeline

A mental health resource for all Minnesotans

Everyone has mental health and can experience challenges in maintaining mental wellbeing. When you need someone to talk to, 988 is your confidential resource to help work through big emotions. By call, text, or chat, 988 honors your stories and listens with care.

The Minnesota Department of Health is working to increase awareness, understanding, trust and ultimately use of the 988 Minnesota Lifeline for all communities, including Minnesota’s Black/African American, Asian/Asian American, Hispanic/Latine and American Indian cultural communities.

The 988 Minnesota Lifeline is a free, 24/7, confidential resource for individuals who need emotional or mental health support. By calling or texting 988, or chatting online at 988Lifeline.org, anyone who needs someone to talk to can connect with trained 988 specialists, who are ready to listen and provide support, including information and resources to local community support services. 988 specialists are trained to focus on de-escalation, safety planning, coping skills and pathways to help. This includes providing information about services and resources in local communities. People who prefer to receive support in Spanish can call 988 and press 2 or text “Ayuda” to connect with a Spanish-speaking 988 specialist. For other languages, 988 specialists can patch in interpreters in more than 200 languages to help when you call.

As part of outreach efforts, MDH’s 988 team held focus groups in 2025 to learn about cultural community feelings and perceptions about mental health, potential barriers to support, and awareness of 988. A consistent takeaway was all communities are seeing higher levels of stress the past year. And, unfortunately, some community members are unaware of the mental health services available to help them, including 988.

“It’s a real concern when we hear some Minnesotans aren’t aware of 988,” said Emily Lindeman, Minnesota Department of Health 988 Project Coordinator. “We know that one of the best ways to help people learn about 988 is through outreach by trusted leaders and organizations serving their communities. So, we developed a 988 Minnesota Lifeline community engagement toolkit to help communities raise awareness and understanding about the 988 Minnesota Lifeline with the communities they work with and encourage them to reach out to 988 to receive crucial, lifesaving mental health support if they are struggling.”

Research shows some cultural communities in Minnesota face factors that result a greater burden of the mental health challenges, according to the Minnesota Department of Health. American Indians in Minnesota experience the highest sui-

cide rates of any group and the highest number of poor mental health days each month. In addition, people who self-identified as Hispanic reported the highest rates of loneliness in Minnesota, and Black and Asian Minnesotans are most likely to report low levels of social and emotional support. (Health Status Among Minnesota Adults, 2024, Data Brief: Suicide Mortality Steady in 2024)

During Mental Health Awareness Month in May, outreach is underway to increase awareness about 988. Although mental health and suicide prevention is important to address year-round, this is a dedicated time for people, organizations, and communities to join their voices and share that there is hope, help is available, and healing is possible.

The toolkit includes 988 Minnesota Lifeline fact sheets, posters, newsletter articles, social media posts, images and video, with messages in English, Spanish, Hmong, and Somali.

To download the 988 Minnesota Lifeline community engagement toolkit materials, visit the 988 Minnesota Lifeline Dropbox.

To help those in need understand what to expect when they reach out to the 988 Minnesota Lifeline, a new video has just been released on social media and throughout communities. To view and share with those in need, see 988 Minnesota Lifeline: What to expect when you connect.

If you need emotional or mental health support, or are worried about someone else, please call or text 988 or visit 988Lifeline.org to chat online with a trained specialist.



Photo by Shannon Eck / Lens Lilly Photography

Six years sober after 30 years of drinking

For more than 30 years, alcohol was a constant presence in my life. What began as social drinking slowly became something much heavier, shaping my decisions, my relationships, and eventually the direction of my life.

Over time, the consequences began to stack up. I lost jobs because of my drinking and received DWIs that forced me to face realities I had spent years avoiding. My pattern with alcohol actually started much earlier than many people realize. I received my first minor in consumption at age 16. Even then, the warning signs were there, but I didn’t understand how they would follow me into adulthood. Even after that, I continued to party throughout high school and college, not recognizing how deeply the pattern was becoming rooted in my life. I told myself I could manage it, that things would settle down, that tomorrow would be different. But the pattern kept repeating itself.

My personal life carried its own pain and instability, and I used alcohol to cope with emotions I didn’t know how to handle in healthier ways. Instead of dealing with problems directly, I drank to numb them. In the end, it only deepened the very problems I was trying to escape.

My marriage eventually ended. Both of us drank heavily, and the relationship became increasingly strained. Looking back, I can see how much of my life during that time revolved around avoidance rather than resolution.

I am also a father of three children. During my years of drinking, my two oldest daughters and I became distant. My youngest, my son, also experienced the impact of my choices. My mom would often cry because of my drinking, watching the path I was on and feeling powerless to stop it. Alcohol took up space that should have belonged to my family, and rebuilding those relationships has been one of the most important parts of my sobriety.

There were also moments of painful honesty from within my own family. My father once told me I had become the “black sheep” of the family, especially as my two brothers had stopped drinking while I continued. Between that and receiving a domestic-related charge, it became

See Sober Page 34



**WHITE EARTH NATION
FITNESS CENTERS**

Mahnomen | White Earth | Naytahwaush | Rice Lake | Pine Point

218-401-2421 OR 218-401-3079

Voting eligibly for White Earth Primary Election

1.6(A) Judging Qualifications

Each Band governing body will be the sole judge of the constitutional qualifications of its voters and may, by official action, delegate this responsibility to its General Reservation Election Board.

1.6 (B) Eligibility to Vote: Generally

Eligible voters are enrolled members of the Tribe, 18 years of age or over. All Eligible voters shall vote by secret ballot. To be eligible to cast a ballot a voter must meet all constitutional requirements. In addition, to be eligible to cast a vote for Committeeperson, a voter must have resided within that district for at least thirty (30) days immediately preceding the election, unless the voter casts an absentee ballot as permitted by this Ordinance.

1.6 (C) Eligibility to Vote: Absentee

Whenever, due to absence from the reservation, illness or physical disability, an eligible voter is not able to vote at the polls and notifies the General Election Board consistent with this Ordinance, he/she

will be entitled to vote by absentee ballot in the manner and under the procedures as provided by Section 2.2(B). To cast an absentee ballot for Committeeperson, an eligible voter must have resided within that district for a period of at least thirty (30) days as his/her last reservation residence. In the event an eligible voter has never resided on the reservation of his/her enrollment, he/she must declare in his/her request which district has been selected in which to cast the ballot for Committeeperson.

If an eligible voter does not and has not previously designated a district, that eligible voter may cast an absentee ballot that includes only the at-large positions up for election.

Once a voter has resided in or declared a district, the voter may not thereafter change his/her district for absentee voting purposes without actually residing within a different district on his/her reservation of enrollment for at least thirty (30) consecutive days immediately preceding the election.

GENERAL ELECTION NOTICE

A General Minnesota Chippewa Tribal Election of the White Earth Reservation Business Committee a/k/a Tribal Council will be held on **June 9, 2026** to fill the following positions:

CANDIDATES FOR SECRETARY-TREASURER - 4 Year Term

Michael "Mike" LaRoque (incumbent), and Jacob McArthur

CANDIDATES FOR DISTRICT I COMMITTEEPERSON - 4 Year Term

Henry G. Fox (incumbent), and Andy "Jack" Auginaush

CANDIDATES FOR DISTRICT II COMMITTEEPERSON - 4 Year Term

Alrick "Son" Accobee, and Sheri Kay Snetsinger

White Earth General Election Board

Shooting Star Casino RV Office, 777 SE Casino Drive, Mahnomen, MN 56557
Phone: 218-936-5622 / Toll Free: 866-211-9154 / email: electionboard@whiteearth-nsn.gov

ABSENTEE BALLOT VOTING

PO Box 99, Mahnomen, MN 56557

Absentee Request cards may be sent to: electionboard@whiteearth-nsn.gov

POLLING PLACES:

DISTRICT I:

Bejou - Community Center, Main Street
Pine Bend - Church Parking Lot, 320th Avenue
Rice Lake - Community Center (Rice Lake Village) County Road 35

DISTRICT II:

Mahnomen - Tribal College, 2250 College Road
Naytahwaush - Fire Hall, County Road 4
Waubun - Community Center, 1004 Central Avenue

DISTRICT III:

Callaway - Community Center, Highway 59
Ogema - Fire Hall, 309 Perrault Street
White Earth - Community Center, Martin Drive
Elbow Lake - Elderly Nutrition Center, (Elbow Lake Village)
Pine Point - Community Center (old school)

MARBLE, MN

Marble City Hall (Community Center)
302 Alice Avenue

MINNEAPOLIS

American Indian Center
1530 East Franklin Avenue

CASS LAKE, MN

White Earth Family Office
220 2nd Street NW

POLLS OPEN: 8 a.m. / POLLS CLOSE: 8 p.m.

(Sample)

White Earth Absentee Ballot Request Form

Please send an Absentee Ballot for the upcoming White Earth election set for June, 9, 2026

Full Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

District 1 _____ District 2 _____ District 3 _____

FIRST TIME VOTERS; you may select a District.

If you choose not to select a District, you will receive a ballot to vote for only the at-large position.

* Once your district is declared you cannot change your District until you move back to the new district 30 days prior to the election, until then you will only be allowed to vote in the District you select. The Enrollment Office has an Address Request Form you will need to fill out. The boundaries are listed as follows:

District 1: North of State Highway 200

District 2: From State Highway 200 to State Highway 113

District 3: South of State Highway 113

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

*Absentee voters in the Primary Election will automatically be mailed a ballot for the General Election held on June 9, 2026.

Send submissions to:

White Earth Election Board
PO Box 99
Mahnomen, MN 56557

Contact:

electionboard@whiteearth-nsn.gov
218-936-5622
Toll free: 866-211-9154

White Earth Election Board

218-936-5622 / Toll-free: 866-211-9154

Email: electionboard@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Or by mail at:

White Earth Election Board
PO Box 99, Mahnomen, MN 56557

The Election Board is located behind the Shooting Star Casino in the old RV Park building.

Election Board Hours

Monday-Friday:
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



**Not sure what Minnesota tax
credits you qualify for?
We can help!**

**CHILD TAX · WORKING FAMILY
CHILD & DEPENDENT CARE · K-12 EDUCATION · RENT · HOMESTEAD**



**weii.website
218.396.1002**



WEII is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.
Service made available through a grant from the State of Minnesota.

Application and Participant Rules for
Junior and Senior Princess and Brave Contests
158th Annual White Earth Celebration

June 12, 13 and 14, 2026

Deadline for submission of completed applications with documentation is 12 p.m. (noon) on Wednesday, June 10, 2026 to allow for verification of eligibility

- All portions of the princess and brave contests will begin at the 1 p.m. Grand Entry on Friday, June 12, 2026.
- This includes but is not limited to interviews, verification of eligibility, self-introduction at Powwow, and dance competition scoring. Please note that an introduction in our language is beneficial to the contestants.
- All applicants and their parents/guardians agree, through submission of their signed application, that the contestant:

1. Pledges to live a crime, drug and alcohol-free lifestyle at all times prior to and during their reign as princess or brave, including but not limited to their social media presence.
2. Continues with successful academics and maintains a positive role within their school and community, including social media.
3. Is unmarried, may not have any pregnancies past, present or during the year that the participant holds the title of princess or brave.
4. Is an enrolled member or descendant of White Earth Reservation, **documentation required.***
5. Resides on or within 25 miles of the White Earth Reservation presently and during the reigning year, **documentation required.****
 - a. If a princess or brave moves, it is the family/guardian's responsibility to contact the committee immediately.
6. Is age 9-12 for Junior title, or age 13-17 for Senior title.
7. Is willing to represent the White Earth Reservation throughout the reigning year by traveling to and dancing at other powwows.***
8. Cannot hold any other title of royalty while applying for or holding the title of White Earth Princess or Brave.
9. Will only be awarded the title of White Earth Celebration Princess or Brave once in their lifetime.
10. Will immediately relinquish his or her title to the first runner-up if White Earth Pow Wow Committee finds the princess or brave to violate these rules. Relinquishment includes returning of crown and/or sash to the White Earth Pow Wow Committee.

- Applications are available at the White Earth RBC Headquarters, via email, and in the *Anishinaabeg Today* newspaper.
- **Application and documentation materials must be filled out completely and submitted to Chris Vanwert by noon on Wednesday, June 10 to be verified by the White Earth Pow Wow Committee and White Earth Enrollment Office.**
- Please mail completed application and documentation to White Earth Pow Wow Committee, PO Box 418, White Earth, MN 56591. Contact Chris Vanwert at christopher.vanwert@whiteearth-nsn.gov (218-850-2533) or Brian Clark, Powwow Committee Chairman, at brian.clark@whiteearth-nsn.gov with questions or concerns. Do not rely on social media for communication.

Sr. Princess Jr. Princess Sr. Brave Jr. Brave

Please Print Clearly

Full Legal Name _____ Birth Date _____ Clan _____

Address _____
Street (and PO Box if used for mailing purposes) City Zip Code

Phone number _____ Additional phone number _____

School _____ Grade in 2025/26 _____

Enrolled Contestant's White Earth enrollment # _____, or
Descendant Contestant's Enrolled Parent or Grandparent:

Full Legal Name Birth Date WE Enrollment #

I, _____ understand and comply with the above-stated conditions for application to the White Earth Princess/Brave title. My parents/guardian and I understand and agree to have the above information verified by the White Earth Pow Wow Committee. This form gives the above-named school and the White Earth RBC permission to release and verify information entered on this form. I also agree that all information above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Participant Signature Printed Name Date

Custodial Parent/Guardian Signature Printed Name Date

WEPC Only: Verified eligible by WE Enrollments: _____ Date: _____

mmcdc.com

218-847-5641

MONTHLY RENT \$700 ALL-INCLUSIVE

FOR RENT JEFFERSON ESTATES

- 1 BR w/ Den, Garage w/ Openers, Community Room and Patio
- Restricted to Seniors (61 yrs. plus)
- Mahnomon, Minn.

Equal opportunity employer, provider and lender.

WHITE EARTH Community Farmers Market
Growing Healthy Families & Communities

The White Earth Community Farmers' Market offers fresh, locally grown produce, baked goods, and arts/crafts.

JUNE 4, 2026 TO OCTOBER 1, 2026 (WEATHER PERMITTING)
THURSDAYS: 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
South Main Street, Mahnomon, MN

Come join the fun! To access current happenings/news, check out the market's FACEBOOK pages at: <https://www.facebook.com/WhiteEarthNation/>

Our market accepts: WIC; Farmers' Market; and Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program Checks and we have Hunger Solution monies for EBT/SNAP cards.

If you would like to be a vendor or have questions regarding the market, please contact: MARKET MANAGER and CO-MARKET MANAGERS, Eva Brakefield or Maria Fatz 218-401-3173 or 218-401-4037, eva.brakefield@whiteearth-nsn.gov or maria.fatz@wetcc.edu

The market is a collaboration between the White Earth Nation Tribal Public Health, the City of Mahnomon, and the White Earth Tribal and Community College Extension Service.

Ganawendandaa Nibiikaangi
LET'S PROTECT OUR WATERS
Help Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers

To avoid spreading aquatic invasive species do the following:

BEFORE launching and **BEFORE** leaving.

- ◆ Remove aquatic plants and aquatic animals
- ◆ Drain lake/river water away from the landing
- ◆ Dispose of unwanted live bait in the trash

It's unlawful to transport aquatic plants, and zebra mussels

MAHNOMEN COUNTY FAIR



Visit our **WEBSITE** for more information!

July 1st-4th, 2026

Wednesday July 1st

9am Livestock & Open Class Entry
 9am 4-H General Project Judging
 Noon-4H Fashion Review
 Noon-8pm 4-H Food Stand Open
 1pm Poultry/Rabbit Judging
 5pm- Carnival Opens
5:30pm Township Tug of War
6pm GRANDSTAND: Johnny Holm Band

Thursday July 2nd

10am Livestock Judging
 Noon – 8 pm 4-H Food Stand
 Noon-8 pm Emotion in Motion Painting-Free
2pm-4H Livestock Premium Auction
 4pm Dazzling Dave Yo-Yo Master
 5pm- Carnival Opens
 6 pm Dazzling Dave
6pm GRANDSTAND: Modified Tractor & Truck Pull by Red River Valley Pullers

Friday July 3rd

Noon-8pm 4-H Food Stand
 Noon-8pm Emotion in Motion Painting-Free
 1-4pm 4H Ambassador Table
 Noon- Carnival Opens
 2pm & 4pm--Dazzling Dave
6pm GRANDSTAND(Horse Arena): WOJO'S RODEO

Saturday July 4th

7:30-10:30am Breakfast at the Fair
 Noon-8pm 4-H Food Stand
 Noon- Carnival Opens
6pm GRANDSTAND(Horse Arena): WOJO'S RODEO
 (4H and Open Class Exhibits will release at various times saturday.)

- ★ Malt Wagon
- ★ Booths & Vendor Exhibits

Bring your lawnchair for the rodeo!



Advanced Carnival Wristbands: \$25 Purchase on website!

Gather your neighbors for the tug of war, gravel prize for the touchest township/community!

ATM available on site

Website:
www.mahnomenmncountyfair.org

THANK YOU to our Sponsors!



Littlewolf from Page 17

fuel to make it home. The last fighter left the crippled Fortress about 40 miles from Tripoli.

The Thunderbird flew on another 20 miles. Then a single German fighter appeared, and dived at them. Its guns did great damage to the already crippled plane, but simply couldn't knock it out of the air.

Finally the fighter ran out of ammunition, and left. Our boys were alone now with their grave troubles. Two engines were gone, most of the guns were out of commission, and they were still more than 400 miles from home. The radio was out. They were losing altitude, 500 feet a minute, and now they were down to 2000.

The pilot called up his crew and held a consultation. Did they want to jump? They all said they would ride the plane as long as it was in the air. He decided to keep going.

The ship was completely out of trim, cocked over at a terrible angle. But they gradually got it trimmed so that it stopped losing altitude. By now they were down to 900 feet, and a solid wall of mountains ahead barred their way homeward. They flew along parallel to these mountains for a long time, but they were now miraculously gaining some altitude. Finally they got the thing to 1500 feet.

The lowest pass is 1600 feet, but they came across at 1500. Explain that if you can! The navigator said "If I had been on the wingtip I could have touched the ground with my hand when we went through the pass." The air currents were bad. One wing was cocked way down. It was hard to hold. The pilots had a horrible fear that the low wing would drop clear down and, they'd roll over and go into a spin....

The navigator came into the cockpit, and he and the pilots navigated the plane home. Never for a second could they feel any real assurance of making it. They were prac-

tically rigid but they talked a blue streak all the time, and cussed, as airmen do. Everything seemed against them. The gas consumption doubled, squandering their precious supply. To top off their misery, they had a bad headwind. The gas gauge went down and down.

At last the navigator said they were only 40 miles from home, but those 40 miles passed as though they were driving a horse and buggy. Dusk, coming down on the sandy haze, made the vast flat desert an indefinite thing. One oasis looks exactly like another.

But they knew when they were near home. Then they shot their red flare and waited for the green flare from our control tower. A minute later it came—the most beautiful sight that crew has ever seen.

When the plane touched the ground they cut the switches and let it roll, for it had no brakes. At the end of the roll the big Fortress veered off the side of the runway. And then it climaxed its historic homecoming by spinning madly around five times and then running backwards for 50 yards before it stopped.

When they checked the gas gauges, they found one tank dry and the other down to 20 gallons. Deep dusk had enveloped the field. Five more minutes and they never would have found it.

This weary, crippled Fortress had flown for the incredible time of 4 1/2 hours on one pair of motors.

Any pilot will tell you its impossible.

Fred was officially credited with shooting down two German bombers and thought by his crew to have downed several others that were not confirmed. He had also been seriously wounded in one of his North African missions. Fred was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross Medal -

our nations 4th highest medal awarded for extraordinary heroism. He was also awarded the Purple Heart Medal, the Air Medal with 7th oak leaf cluster, the Good Conduct Medal, as well as numerous campaign medals.

This exploit of Thunderbird and her crew reached such fame across the U.S. and Europe thanks to Ernie Pyle. The Bangor Daily News (Maine) reported "High in the list of heroes of the air wars over North Africa...is the U.S. Army Air Forces Flying Fortress "Thunderbird" an account of whose growing legend has been received by the War Department." Fred was nearly always mentioned in these nationwide articles and proudly pointed out that he was a Chippewa Indian from Minnesota.

The story of the Thunderbird and her crew reportedly became one of President Eisenhower's favorite wartime stories. It even inspired a wartime hit song "Comin' In On a Wing and a Prayer" by the Song Spinners which was later recorded by other big name artists such as Kate Smith, Bing Crosby, the Vagabonds, and Gene Autry.

After surviving over 50 combat missions in Europe and north Africa, Fred transferred back stateside only to be killed along with all nine other crewmen onboard their Flying Fortress when it crashed on a training mission May 26, 1944 near Anthon, Iowa. Fred was 23 years old. He is buried in St. Anne's Catholic Cemetery in Naytahwaush.



Distinguished Flying Cross Medal

"Our Indigenous life culture is just a part of who we are. We have to be more cognizant that there are many ways to achieve our best self, and heart health is a part of that." —elaine

**your heart beats
for generations**
Made possible by Hennepin County

HennepinCounty.gov/heart-beats



WHITE EARTH BAND OF OJIBWE TRIBAL COURT

In Re the Custody of:
Cassius D. Blakely, DOB: 12/21/2018,

SUMMONS
Marisa Alvarez,
Petitioner,

File No. C2024-00038
and
Maria P. Carrisalez (Moving Party),
Respondent.

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on April 29, 2026, a Petition for Custody was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding the above-named parties. A hearing will commence on June 29, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at the White Earth Tribal Courts located at the White Earth Tribal Office in White Earth, Minnesota. The telephone number is (218) 935-3528. You are served with this notice because you are a party to this proceeding, or you are a person whose presence is important to a determination concerning the above-named parties. If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order.

Dated: May 15, 2026

WHITE EARTH TRIBAL COURT CHILDREN'S COURT

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of:
Any Man Coming Forward as the Father of the Child of Bridget Beaulieu,
Notice of Petition and Hearing Notice
Court File No. **CP2024-00028**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on February 12, 2026, a Petition for Suspension of Parental Rights was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your child in file CP2024-00028. A Pretrial Hearing on the matter is scheduled for July 16, 2026, at 10:15 A.M. You are asked to contact White Earth Tribal Court Administration located at the RTC in White Earth, Minnesota at 218-983-4648. If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order.

Dated: May 20, 2026
Tammy J. Swanson
Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

WE BAND OF OJIBWE TRIBAL LAND OFFICE

Notice of Abandonment (of personal Property) on Tribal Land

In the Matter of the Estate of **Belva Littlewolf**, deceased Assignee.

Located at: 126 3rd Avenue, Naytahwaush, Minnesota 56566

Legal Description of Tribal Land: S ½ E ½NW¼ NE¼ SW¼ NE¼ of Section 28, Township 144 North, Range 39 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Mahnomen County, Minnesota, White Earth Reservation.

HEIRS OR OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the homesite (assignment/lease) has been determined to be abandoned and cancelled as of June 5, 2013. You have 30 days to contact the White Earth Land Office in White Earth, Minnesota, at (218) 983-4650. Any or all personal property must be removed from the site within 30 days of this notice, or it becomes affixed to the property and ownership will be transferred to the White Earth Band of Ojibwe.

Dated: May 27, 2026

WHITE EARTH TRIBAL COURT CHILDREN'S COURT

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of:
Justine Fasthorse,
Notice of Petition and Hearing Notice
Court File No. **CP2026-00015**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on May 19, 2026, a Child in Need of Protection and/or Services Petition was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your child in file CP2026-00015. An Admit/Deny Hearing on the matter is scheduled for July 1, 2026, at 9:15 A.M. You are asked to contact White Earth Tribal Court Administration located at the RTC in White Earth, Minnesota at 218-983-4648. If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order.

Dated: May 20, 2026
Tammy J. Swanson
Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

WHITE EARTH TRIBAL COURT CHILDREN'S COURT

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of:
Tony Vang,
Notice of Petition and Hearing Notice
Court File No. **CP2024-00028**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on February 12, 2026, a Petition for Suspension of Parental Rights was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your child in file CP2024-00028. A Pretrial Hearing on the matter is scheduled for July 16, 2026, at 10:15 A.M. You are asked to contact White Earth Tribal Court Administration located at the RTC in White Earth, Minnesota at 218-983-4648. If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order.

Dated: May 20, 2026
Tammy J. Swanson
Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

WE BAND OF OJIBWE TRIBAL LAND OFFICE

Notice of Abandonment (of personal Property) on Tribal Land

In the Matter of the personal property of the Assignee, **Michael Littlewolf**, whose last known address is P.O. Box 187, Naytahwaush, Minnesota 56566.

Located at: 2129 310th Avenue, Mahnomen, Minnesota 56557

Legal Description of Tribal Land: W½ NW¼SE ¼ NE¼ NE¼ of Section 33, Township 145 North, Range 39 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Mahnomen County, Minnesota, White Earth Reservation.

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that the homesite (assignment/lease) has been determined to be abandoned and is set for cancellation. You have 30 days to contact the White Earth Land Office in White Earth, Minnesota, at (218) 983-4650 to avoid cancellation. Upon cancellation, any or all personal property must be removed from the site within 60 days of the date of cancellation, or it becomes affixed to the property and ownership shall transfer to the White Earth Band of Ojibwe. The site will be reassigned without further notice. If clean-up is required on the site, you will remain ineligible for any leases/assignments until the cost is paid in full.

Dated: May 27, 2026

WE BAND OF OJIBWE TRIBAL LAND OFFICE

Notice of Abandonment (of personal Property) on Tribal Land

In the Matter of the personal property of the Assignee, **Frank Bellanger**, whose last known address is 2148 220th Avenue, Mahnomen, Minnesota 56557.

Located at: 2148 220th Avenue, Mahnomen, Minnesota 56557

Legal Description of Tribal Land: N ½SW¼ SW¼ SW¼ NW¼ of Section 31, Township 145 North, Range 40 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Mahnomen County, Minnesota, White Earth Reservation.

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that the homesite (assignment/lease) has been determined to be abandoned and is set for cancellation. You have 30 days to contact the White Earth Land Office in White Earth, Minnesota, at (218) 983-4650 to avoid cancellation. Upon cancellation, any or all personal property must be removed from the site within 60 days of the date of cancellation, or it becomes affixed to the property and ownership shall transfer to the White Earth Band of Ojibwe. The site will be reassigned without further notice. If clean-up is required on the site, you will remain ineligible for any leases/assignments until the cost is paid in full.

Dated: May 27, 2026

WE BAND OF OJIBWE TRIBAL LAND OFFICE

Notice of Abandonment (of personal Property) on Tribal Land

In the Matter of the Estate of **Rexine Adams**, deceased Assignee.

Located at: 29066 465th Avenue, Ponsford, Minnesota 56575

Legal Description of Tribal Land: S ½ NW¼ SE¼ SE¼ SW¼ of Section 30, Township 141 North, Range 37 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Becker County, Minnesota, White Earth Reservation.

HEIRS OR OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the homesite (assignment/lease) has been determined to be abandoned and cancelled as of February 26, 2021. You have 30 days to contact the White Earth Land Office in White Earth, Minnesota, at (218) 983-4650. Any or all personal property must be removed from the site within 30 days of this notice, or it becomes affixed to the property and ownership will be transferred to the White Earth Band of Ojibwe.

Dated: May 27, 2026

WE BAND OF OJIBWE TRIBAL LAND OFFICE

Notice of Abandonment (of personal Property) on Tribal Land

In the Matter of the personal property of the Assignee, **Harvey Bonga**, whose last known address is P.O. Box 182, Ponsford, Minnesota 56575.

Located at: 28510 455TH Avenue West, Ponsford, Minnesota 56575

Legal Description of Tribal Land: W½ SW¼ SE¼ SE¼ SW¼ of Section 30, Township 141 North, Range 37 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Becker County, Minnesota, White Earth Reservation.

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that the homesite (assignment/lease) has been determined to be abandoned and is set for cancellation. You have 30 days to contact the White Earth Land Office in White Earth, Minnesota, at (218) 983-4650 to avoid cancellation. Upon cancellation, any or all personal property must be removed from the site within 60 days of the date of cancellation, or it becomes affixed to the property and ownership shall transfer to the White Earth Band of Ojibwe. The site will be reassigned without further notice. If clean-up is required on the site, you will remain ineligible for any leases/assignments until the cost is paid in full.

Dated: May 27, 2026

WE BAND OF OJIBWE TRIBAL LAND OFFICE

Notice of Abandonment (of personal Property) on Tribal Land

In the Matter of the Estate of **Robert A. Butcher**, deceased Assignee.

Located at: 29446 465th Avenue West, Ponsford, Minnesota 56575

Legal Description of Tribal Land: SW 1/4SW¼ NE¼SE ¼ SW¼ & NW 1/4 NW¼SE ¼ SE ¼SW¼ of Section 30, TownshJp 141 North, Range 37 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Becker County, Minnesota, White Earth Reservation.

HEIRS OR OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the homesite (assignment/lease) has been determined to be abandoned and cancelled as of September 27, 2022. You have 30 days to contact the White Earth Land Office in White Earth, Minnesota, at (218) 983-4650. Any or all personal property must be removed from the site within 30 days of this notice, or it becomes affixed to the property and ownership will be transferred to the White Earth Band of Ojibwe.

Dated: May 27, 2026

Forestry has wood available for Spirit Fires

The White Earth Tribal Forestry office has firewood available for Spirit Fires when there is a passing in our communities. This firewood is cut and split, and can be delivered to families on the reservation that may be going through the grieving process.

There are a few special considerations:

- ❖ This firewood is available for a tribal member passing only.
- ❖ Firewood deliveries will be limited to one pickup load per Spirit Fire/passing.

❖ The firewood will be delivered to families within the reservation boundary.

❖ This firewood may be used only for Spirit Fire purposes.

We hope to continue to offer this service as much as we can in the future. Please contact the White Earth Tribal Forestry Office in Naytahwaush for this service at 218-935-5967.

After business hours and during weekends, call White Earth Police Dispatch at 218-983-3281.

The White Earth General Election is June 9 from 8 am to 8 pm

Obituaries

Donna “Donna Ross” Lynn Manypenny

Donna “Donna Ross” Lynn Manypenny, 64, sadly passed away at her home in White Earth on May 2 after battling an illness with tremendous strength until her body got too tired.

Donna is the daughter of Leonard “Honeycutt” and Mary (Bevins) Smith and Melvin Manypenny of White Earth. As a kid, she lived in the Detroit Lakes, Minn., area. Donna later moved to White Earth where she raised her own family. She worked various jobs in Moorhead, Detroit Lakes and most recently at White Earth RBC as a custodian. Donna was known for being a hard worker, having beautiful long hair, her generosity, a loving heart and her willingness to help anyone in need without judgement.



She enjoyed family dinners, playing cards and shaking dice. Family was everything and she loved spending time with her kids and especially treasured the time spent with her grandchildren and the special bond she held with her nephew, Dalton Jackson. Donna loved fishing, going for long rides taking in the scenery, or gambling at the casino. Donna touched many hearts with her loving, caring personality and wonderful sense of humor. The world will definitely be a lonely place without her, but we know she’s watching over us with the most wonderful wings.

Donna is survived by her children, Jeffrey (Alison Jordan) Manypenny and Melissa (Jesse Finch Jr.) Manypenny; grandchildren: James, Emma, Madison, Khloe, Kameron, Donald, Jordan, Natalie, Alora, Louis III, Ahshya and Jack; great-granddaughter, Paisley; mother, Mary Smith; brothers, Michael Smith and Timothy (Laura) Smith; sisters: Pauline Manypenny, Diane (Ronald) Chilton and Sherri Bevins; numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her son, Leonard; father, Melvin Manypenny; dad, Leonard Smith; nephew, Nathan Jackson; and nieces, Haley and Rylee.

Blessed be the memory of Donna Lynn Manypenny.

An all-night wake service began on May 7 and continued until the time of the funeral on May 8, both at the White Earth Community Center.

Interment: St. Columba Episcopal Cemetery.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Majorie Irene Ellis

Marjorie Irene Ellis, lovingly known as “Margie,” passed away peacefully on May 21 in Fargo, N.D., on the very day of her 66th wedding anniversary. She was 87 years old.

Margie was born Marjorie Irene Kjolberg on June 23, 1938, in White Earth to Lillian “Marian” Bellecourt and Robert Kjolberg. She was a proud Elder of the White Earth Nation and carried strength, resilience, and spirit throughout her life. She grew up alongside her siblings Ginger, Bobby, Rodney, and Rusty, attending White Earth Mission School through 8th grade before graduating from Waubun High School.



As a young woman living in an apartment above the café where she worked in Detroit Lakes, Minn., Margie met the love of her life, drummer “Bill” Alvin Ellis. The two were united in matrimony on May 21, 1960, in Detroit Lakes.

Together they built a loving family through adoption, first welcoming home their five-month-old daughter, Michelle Marie “Shelly,” on April 8, 1963. Margie’s dear friends, Florence and Gideon Weber, served as Michelle’s godparents. In 1964, they welcomed their six-week-old son, William Jr. “Tige,” into the family, with Betty and Lloyd Benson serving as his godparents.

After living near Margie’s parents, the family eventually settled in Albert Lea, Minn., in 1967, where Margie and Bill made their home for more than 50 years. When her children reached 4th and 6th grade, Margie went to work outside the home and became a beloved lunch lady and playground aide at Lakeview Elementary, where she worked proudly for more than 27 years. Children knew her as both caring and no-nonsense — especially when it came to cleaning their plates.

Later, after the Weyerhaeuser Plant closed, Margie and Bill entered a long season of self-employment together, doing handyman work that included painting, lawn care, and snow removal. They worked hard, side by side, building their life through determination and grit.

Margie was famous for her overflowing gardens, especially her tomatoes, and for a kitchen that never seemed to rest. Cooking and baking were her love language. Family and friends eagerly awaited her potato candy, mocha bars, legendary lefse, and endless batches of deep-fried smelt that continued until everyone finally surrendered with full stomachs. Coffee, potato chips and dip, rummage sales, secondhand stores and an ice-cold beer with

family and friends were among life’s simple joys she thoroughly embraced.

She possessed a life-long passion for quilting, embroidery, sewing, and canning. For a while, she delighted in collecting and wearing wigs just for fun. Tiny but mighty, Margie was often described as “older than she weighed” — a firecracker and a force to be reckoned with. Though she never fully embraced driving a car, she walked everywhere she pleased, entirely on her own terms.

Margie had a tender heart beneath her fierce exterior. She faithfully checked in on elderly neighbors, especially widows living alone, and quietly cared for others whenever she saw a need. She cherished May Day traditions and delighted in sending her children through the neighborhood with baskets of treats for all the local dogs.

Margie shared a particularly close bond with her baby brother, Rusty, who was born in 1955, when she was 16. Margie and Bill often had Rusty along for their adventures! His passing in April 2005, followed by the loss of her beloved husband, Bill, later that same year, and her mother in April 2007, marked a season of profound heartbreak in her life. Yet through it all, she continued forward with the strength, resilience, and fierce spirit that defined her.

Margie was preceded in death by her parents, Lillian “Marian” Bellecourt and Robert Kjolberg; all her siblings; cherished son, William Jr. “Tige” Ellis (1999); beloved husband, William Sr. “Bill” (2005); and granddaughter, Nicole Sophia (2022).

She is survived by her daughter, Michelle Marie Ellis; grandchildren: Tori (Calvin) Pagel, Caitlin Stern, and Ryan Stern; and great-grandchildren: Allie, Jordan, Charlotte, Henry, and Ella Pagel; Bridgett Stern; and Gianna, Olivia, Phillip, and Harrison Sophia. She is also survived by the children of her siblings, along with their spouses and families, all of whom she cherished deeply.

Her memory will live on in every shared recipe, quilt stitch, garden row, cup of coffee, rummage sale treasure, and story retold around the kitchen table.

The family extends unending gratitude to Jeff and Shirley Kjolberg for the care they provided during the last years of Margie’s life spent “home” in Waubun, on White Earth land. A very special appreciation is also extended to Rodell and Lynn for their final visit and for filling Margie’s last hours with all the laughter. She loved you all immensely.

A memorial service was held Tuesday, June 2 at Anderson Family Funeral Home in Mahnomen.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

David Leon LaFriniere

David Leon LaFriniere, 84, of Mahnomen, began his journey to the spirit world on May 18 from the Essentia Hospital in Fargo, N.D. He was born Dec. 3, 1941, in White Earth to Eulalia (Brisbois) and Wilfred LaFriniere.

David and Judy were united in marriage on Dec. 22 and were together for 39 years.



He drove truck for Mark’s Sand and Gravel for more than 30 years. He retired from Mark’s and went to work for Knife River. David decided it was time for him to come home and enjoy life with his wife, kids and grandbabies. When he wasn’t working, he enjoyed hunting and fishing and loved hanging out with his buddies when he was younger. In his more recent years, hanging out at home, watching western movies, and being with his granddaughters Nina, Carmun, Eve, and Febi were his favorite things to do. David had a special gift with animals, he and Judy loved and cared for many wild animals over the years.

Family that David is reuniting with are his sons: Shawn, Rusty, Dino and Randy Paul LaFriniere; infant daughter; parents, Eulalia and Wilfred; sisters, Marge and Josie; and brothers, Putt and Glen.

Those left behind to cherish his memory are his wife, Judy LaFriniere; daughters: Tonya (Dan) Beckman, Maria and Samantha LaFriniere; sons: Dominic and Marty (Kim) LaFriniere, and Cory (McKenzie) Anderson; sisters: Mary (Bucky) Tibbetts, Carol Mathre, Melody LaFriniere, Jenny (John) Uruo, and Carrie Graham; brother, Bert LaFriniere; numerous grandchildren; and many great and great great grandchildren.

A memorial service for David was held May 23 at St. Anne’s Catholic Church in Naytahwaush with Reverend John Cox officiating. David’s pallbearers are all his grandkids, and his honorary pallbearers are all his work buddies.

Interment: Will be at a later date.

Arrangements: Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, Minn.

Online: www.northernpeace.com

You can reach the **Anishinaabeg Today**
at 218-935-3569
or email today@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Obituaries

Michael James Azure Sr.

Michael James Azure Sr., lovingly known as “Mike,” passed away on May 8 at the age of 47.

Michael James Azure, the son Debra Azure and Raymond Bellcourt, was born on Feb. 2, 1979, in Detroit Lakes, Minn. He was raised in White Earth, where he attended school and built many lifelong friendships. As a young man, Mike met his high school sweetheart, Jamie Day, and together they began their family. Mike was especially proud of being a father to his six children. Later in life, becoming a grandpa brought him even greater joy. His grandchildren were truly the light of his life, and he treasured every moment spent playing with them. The role he cherished most in life was being a father, grandfather, son, brother, cousin, and friend. His greatest joy came from his children and grandchildren.



He loved being outdoors, whether doing yard work, riding his 4-wheeler, or simply spending time outdoors with the people he loved most. Mike loved playing with them, making memories, and being surrounded by family. To those who knew him best knew he was truly the best dad ever.

Mike was never one to sit still. He loved helping others and was always fixing, repairing, or tinkering on something. He loved and cared deeply for his mom, his children, and his family. He also treasured spending time with his brothers and cousins, sharing laughs, stories, and unforgettable moments together. Mike had a great sense of humor, loved joking around, and was always ready to brighten someone’s day. More than anything, Michael will be remembered for the love he had for his family and the laughter he brought wherever he went.

Mike leaves behind his children: Arianna, Michael Jr. (Merrie), Jazmyn, James, Kyla (Alex), and Elliana; beloved grandchildren: Jacob Jr., Maizey, Mateo, and Waaseyaa; mother, Debra Azure; father, Raymond Bellcourt; grandma, Kibby Sullivan; brothers: Jeff Azure, Jeremy Azure, Ray VanWert, and Chris VanWert; and along with many family members and friends who loved him deeply.

Mike was welcomed into heaven by his beloved grandson, Joseph; brother, Todd Bellcourt; aunt, Rebecca “Jumbo” Villebrun; grandparents, Grace Bellcourt and Edward Jackson; great grandparents, Aaron and Marcianna Bevins; and other extended family.

An all-night wake with ceremony was held May 13 and continued until the time of the funeral service on May 14, both held at the White Earth Community Center.

Interment: Calvary Cemetery in White Earth.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahanomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Claire Roselyn La Friniere (Jappe)

Claire Roselyn La Friniere (Jappe), blessed mother and grandmother, passed away on May 4. Born on Oct. 26, 1943, Claire left a lasting impact on all her friends and family.

Claire was a ferocious reader and enjoyed numerous types of books throughout her lifetime. Her passion for music was colored by her fondness for Dwight Yoakam and Dr. Hook. In addition, she was an ardent supporter of her favorite sports teams, the Minnesota Vikings, Minnesota Wild and the local high school football team, which she had a great time listening to on the radio.

Claire had a fondness for the casino and enjoyed playing slot machines. In later years puzzles and match games on her iPad were her favorite. She treasured time spent with her family and embarked on many memorable trips with Glenn, her husband, the love of her life and true partner. Her love for nature was evident in her knowledge of berry picking, edible plants and the ability to identify numerous birds.

Claire was characterized by her unconditional love for her children and her fierce loyalty towards them. She was the type of person who was always rooting for the underdog and loved to take the side of those she felt needed support.

One of Claire’s greatest accomplishments, which she was deeply proud of, was her children. Her dedication, hard work and unconditional love helped to shape them. Her legacy is one of love, peace, and a strong sense of family. She was also a lover of animals; her dogs offered her comfort and companionship throughout the years.

She is survived by her children; Marty LaFriniere (Kim), Tonya Beckman (Dan), Maria (Mia) La Friniere, and Heather La Friniere (Ken Crane). Claire’s family also extends to her 12 grandchildren, five great grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren. Her grandson Tristan played a huge part in her care and enjoyment of life; they had a special bond and were very important to each other.

A celebration of life for Claire will be held on June 27 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Shooting Star Casino Event Center. As we remember and honor Claire, we also carry forward the lessons she taught us, her love for us, and the fond memories we share.

Harold George Meintsma

Harold George Meintsma, 87, of Ponsford, passed away peacefully on Dec. 22, 2025, at his winter home in Texas, surrounded by loved ones.

Harold was born on Feb 11, 1938, to George and Glorene Meintsma at St. Cloud (Minn.) Hospital. He grew up on the family farm in Maple Lake, Minn., and attended Maple Lake schools. At age 17, Harold joined the United States Navy and served his country from 1955 to 1961. He shared many stories from his service with his family and was very fortunate to see many parts of the world.



Harold and Virginia (Simming) were united in marriage on July 15, 1958, and together had four children: Ron, April, Jolene, and Steven. They lived in the Wright County area for many years and later built a log home together on Fish Trap Lake near Motley, Minn., where they enjoyed fishing and being outdoors.

Harold worked at Bondhus Corporation for many years, where he made lifelong friendships with Darrel Lanz and Gordy Seahafer. He also worked for Hognlund Bus Company as a salesman. He loved his job because he could talk with many people and treated everyone as if they had been friends for years. Harold also had a great passion for motorcycles his whole life, with his Harley being his prized possession. He loved to snowmobile in the winter with good friends and family, having covered many trails in the area.

After his beloved wife Virginia’s death in 2003, Harold met Doris Metzger at Park Place Estates in Harlingen, Texas, in 2005. They were married in Ponsford on June 16, 2007. Harold and Doris spent their winters in Texas and summers on Ice Cracking Lake near Ponsford. They both enjoyed looking out over the lake and feeding many kinds of birds.

Harold is survived by his loving wife, Doris Metzger; son, Ron Meintsma (Linda Ashley); daughter, April (Craig) Vassar; stepson, Robert (Georgiann) Metzger; stepdaughters: Julie (Kurt) Fondrick, Mitzi (Andy) Gregg, and Mariann Metzger; 7 grandchildren; 14 step-grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; 18 step-great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandson; sister, Connie (Mike) Jatko; and sisters-in-law, Barb (Vernon) Meintsma and Beverly (Jack) Meintsma.

Harold was preceded in death by his wife, Virginia; parents, George and Glorene Meintsma; son, Steven Meintsma; daughter, Jolene Osiecki; stepson, Anthony Metzger; stepdaughter, Patricia Metzger; step-grandson, Matthew Metzger; brothers, Vernon and Jack Meintsma; and sister, Barbara Raleigh.

“To live in the hearts of those we love is never to die.” - Thomas Campbell

A memorial service will be held Wednesday, June 10 at noon at the Peterson Chapel in Buffalo, Minn.

Interment: Lakeview Cemetery on Maple Lake.

The Boys & Girls Club of the White Earth Reservation is participating in the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Meals will be provided to all children without charge. Meals will be provided, on a first come, first serve basis, at the following sites, times, and dates/days during the summer as follows:

Site Name	Site Address	Dates and Days of Operation	Meals with Service Times
Mahanomen Boys & Girls Club	416 US Hwy 59 Mahanomen, MN 56557	June 1 st -August 31, 2026 Monday-Friday	Breakfast 8:30-9:30 Lunch 12:30-1:30
Naytahwaush Boys & Girls Club	2531 310 th Ave Naytahwaush, MN 56566	June 1 st -August 31, 2026 Monday-Friday	Breakfast 8:30-9:30 Lunch 12:30-1:30
Pine Point Boys & Girls Club	48580 Pow Wow Hwy Ponsford, MN 56575	June 13 th -August 31, 2026 Monday-Friday	Breakfast 8:30-9:30 Lunch 12:30-1:30
Rice Lake Boys & Girls Club	13830 Community Loop Rd Rice Lake, MN 56621	June 1 st -August 31, 2026 Monday-Friday	Breakfast 8:30-9:30 Lunch 12:30-1:30
Waubun Boys & Girls Club	1041 Dutch St Waubun, MN 56589	June 1 st -August 31, 2026 Monday-Friday	Breakfast 8:30-9:30 Lunch 12:30-1:30
White Earth Boys & Girls Club	35233 Misson Road. White Earth, MN 56591	June 1 st -August 31, 2026 Monday-Friday	Breakfast 8:30-9:30 Lunch 12:30-1:30
Elbow Lake Boys & Girls Club	39988 N Elbow Lake Dr Waubun, MN 56589	June 1 st -August 31, 2026 Monday-Friday	Breakfast 8:30-9:30 Lunch 12:30-1:30
Callaway Boys & Girls Club	403 Main Ave Callaway, MN 56521	June 1 st -August 31, 2026 Monday-Friday	Breakfast 8:30-9:30 Lunch 12:30-1:30

*Hours are subject to change due to staffing.

For more information, contact Aimee Drift at 218-935-3519

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form \(AD-3027\)](https://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992.

Submit your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by:

- mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
- fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- email: program.intake@usda.gov

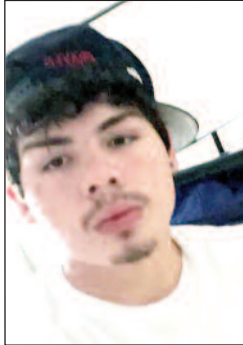
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Obituaries

Jacquar Rain "Jack" Burnette

Jacquar Rain "Jack" Burnette, 21, of Naytahwaush, died unexpectedly on May 7.

Jack was born Jacquar Rain Burnette on May 13, 2004, the son of James Burnette Jr. His elementary years were spent growing up in Naytahwaush where he and his sister, Kaylene, were cared for by their father, James Jr. and his partner, Amanda Alger, as well as grandparents, James Sr. and Carmen Burnette. As an adolescent, he was adopted by Sherilyn and Greg and made his home in Bemidji, Minn. He attended school at TrekNorth High School in Bemidji.



While in Bemidji, he met Brittany Fox and together they were blessed with a daughter, Nindaanis Ninde. Nindaanis was the light of his life. With her, he found purpose in life and his world revolved around her. He loved everything about being a dad to her. Jack eventually moved back to Naytahwaush, where he met Mataya Alvarado and became part of her family. He was thrilled when he and Mataya learned they were expecting a baby and looked forward to the family they would be. He was devastated

when they lost baby Burnette.

In addition to spending time with and taking care of his daughter, Jack enjoyed playing video games, shooting some hoops at the complex, listening to music and being in the great outdoors. He had a special bond with his grandpa, James and also with his honorary brother, Trey. Together, they played Xbox, bean bags and pool. Although Jack is gone from this life far too soon, he will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him.

Jack leaves behind his daughter, Nindaanis Ninde; biological father, James Raymond Burnette Jr.; mother, Amanda Alger; adoptive parents, Sherilyn Warren and Greg Brumback; grandmas, Holly Alger and Judy Brumback; grandpa, Harold "Butch" Gordon; sisters: Kaylene Burnette, Heather Burnette, Carmen Burnette, Jackie Brumback, Leah Brumback and Izabel Brumback; brothers: James Burnette, Jayce Burnette, Aaron Brumback, Jeffrey Brumback, Alex Brumback, Thomas Westbrook and Rylie Defoe; honorary brother, Trey Beauchamp; nieces, Leilani Tiessen and Adela Burnette; nephew, Markus St. Clair Jr., aunts, Shari Burnette, Effie Burnette; and uncles, Simon Burnette and George Burnette.

He was preceded in death by his great grandma, Thelma "Midge" Keezer; grandma, Gladys Gordon; grandparents, James and Carmen Burnette; aunt, Sasha Burnette; special friend, Joseph "Budda" Thompson; and baby Burnette.

An all-night wake and ceremony started on May 13 and continued until the time of the funeral service on May 14, both held at the Naytahwaush Sports Complex.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnommen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Roy Oscar Lattie Jr.

Roy (Roy, Roy, or Little Roy) Oscar Lattie Jr., 62, of White Earth, passed away on May 16 at Heather's House Hospice in Fargo, N.D.

Roy was born in Aberdeen, Wash., on July 7, 1963, to Roy Oscar Lattie Sr. and Harriet Louise Lattie. He later moved to White Earth - the place that would forever become his home. To Roy, White Earth was more than just a place to live; it was where his heart belonged, and he never wanted to be anywhere else.

Roy graduated from Waubun Public High School in 1981 and continued his education at the Detroit Lakes Area Vocational Technical School, earning a Plumbing Certificate in 1982. Throughout much of his life, Roy dedicated himself to hard work. His primary profession was masonry, cement, and block work - work he continued to do until health challenges no longer allowed him to. He also worked for the White Earth Reservation in the well and septic department and later helped maintain one of the local elderly housing complexes.



Roy loved all sports and was known as the number one fan of the reservation softball teams. He also faithfully followed local high school sports and was a past member of the White Earth Volunteer Fire Department.

Throughout his life, Roy found joy in life's simple and meaningful moments. He loved being outdoors, whether he was casting a line into the water, spending time hunting, or simply taking in the beauty that surrounded him. To Roy, happiness was never found in grand things - it was found in the peaceful moments and in the people he loved most. Those who knew Roy understood that while he enjoyed many things, his greatest gift was not what he did - it was who he was. He was a man of quiet strength and a generous spirit, always willing to lend a hand, help someone in need. Kindness was never something Roy turned on and off; it was woven into the very fabric of his heart and guided the way he lived each day. He gave of himself freely, asking for

nothing in return, and in doing so left a lasting mark on the lives of those fortunate enough to know and love him.

Roy was preceded in death by both sets of grandparents: Clifford and Dora Warren of White Earth, and Otto and Ida Lattie of Aberdeen; parents, Roy and Harriet Lattie of White Earth; nephews: Matthew Steven Premo, Harry Rhoades Jr., Michael Thebiay, Sean Thebiay, and Jarred Thebiay; brothers-in-law, Harry Rhoades Sr. and Bruce Thebiay; along with numerous aunts and uncles on both sides of the family

Roy is survived by his siblings: Mike (Terri) Vail, Jacque (George) Donnell, Dora Thebiay, Nancy Lattie, Linda Rhoades, and Doris (Dan) Premo. He is also survived by 18 nieces and nephews, 57 great-nieces and nephews, and two great-great-nieces and nephews.

The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to Shaundra, Roy's personal care attendant, Essentia Health in Fargo and Detroit Lakes, Heather's House Hospice in Fargo, and Donehower Funeral Home for the compassionate care, support, and guidance provided during Roy's final journey.

Roy will be greatly missed, but the love, kindness, and gentle spirit he shared will continue to live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him. His memory will be cherished and remembered fondly by all whose lives were made brighter simply by knowing him.

Funeral services were held May 26 at St. Benedict's Catholic Church in White Earth. Interment: Calvary Cemetery in White Earth.

Memorial donations may be made to the family of Roy Lattie at PO Box 405, White Earth, MN 56591.

Arrangements: David-Donhower Funeral Home of Detroit Lakes, Minn.

Online: www.daviddonehower.com

White Earth INVESTMENT INITIATIVE



Sue Trnka
WEI Community
Services Coordinator
218-844-7029



Jodi Lunde
WEI Community
Services Coordinator
218-844-7057

DO YOU WANT TO:

- \$ CREATE A HOUSEHOLD BUDGET?
- \$ GET STARTED WITH SAVINGS?
- \$ PLAN FOR HOMEOWNERSHIP?
- \$ FIX YOUR CREDIT?
- \$ LEARN NEW FINANCIAL HABITS?

We can help!

Financial wellness counseling is a service provided by White Earth Investment Initiative and made possible by support from Minnesota Housing, Minnesota Homeownership Center and the Oweesta Corporation. White Earth Investment Initiative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Call to schedule your appointment in Ogema
or Detroit Lakes today!



877-410-8550

anonymous crime and elder abuse tip line

**WE BAND OF OJIBWE
TRIBAL LAND OFFICE**

Notice of Abandonment (of personal Property) on Tribal Land

In the Matter of the Estate of **Herbert Roy**, deceased Assignee.

Located at: 2089 310th Avenue, Mahnomen, Minnesota 56557

Legal Description of Tribal Land: W ½SE¼ NE¼ SE¼ SE¼ of Section 28, Township 145 North, Range 39 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Mahnomen County, Minnesota, White Earth Reservation.

HEIRS OR OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the homesite (assignment/lease) has been determined to be abandoned and cancelled as of August 11, 2019. You have 30 days to contact the White Earth Land Office in White Earth, Minnesota, at (218) 983-4650. Any or all personal property must be removed from the site within 30 days of this notice, or it becomes affixed to the property and ownership will be transferred to the White Earth Band of Ojibwe.

Dated: May 27, 2026

**WE BAND OF OJIBWE
TRIBAL LAND OFFICE**

Notice of Abandonment (of personal Property) on Tribal Land

In the Matter of the Estate of **Fern (Roy) Bice**, deceased Assignee.

Located at: 2142 220th Avenue, Mahnomen, Minnesota 56557

Legal Description of Tribal Land: N ½NW¼ SW¼ SW¼ NW¼ of Section 31, Township 145 North, Range 40 West of the 5th Principal Meridian, Mahnomen County, Minnesota, White Earth Reservation.

HEIRS OR OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the homesite (assignment/lease) has been determined to be abandoned and cancelled as of November 23, 2015. You have 30 days to contact the White Earth Land Office in White Earth, Minnesota, at (218) 983-4650. Any or all personal property must be removed from the site within 30 days of this notice, or it becomes affixed to the property and ownership will be transferred to the White Earth Band of Ojibwe.

Dated: May 27, 2026

**White Earth Food Shelf
June 2026 Delivery Schedule**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	2	3	4	5
Closed	Callaway 11am-1pm Nijji Radio	Rice Lake 11am-1pm ENP Site	NTW 11am-1pm Sports Complex	Closed
8	9	10	11	12
Closed	Elbow Lake 11am-1pm ENP Site	Pine Point 11am-1pm ENP Site	Closed	Closed
15	16	17	18	19
Closed	White Earth 11am-1pm ENP Site Congregate	Ogema 11am-1pm M&W Gas Station	Closed	Closed
22	23	24	25	26
Closed	Waubun 11am-1pm Community Center	Mahnomem 11am-1pm College parking lot	Closed	Closed
29	30			
Closed	Closed			

Applications are available at Community Centers, ENP sites and Naytahwaush Complex
Hours are subject to change due to weather and holidays
Feel free to contact the White Earth Food Shelf at 218-935-6313 or 218-935-6314
Please note you may go to any of our stops to pick up a food box, you don't have to reside in that area
White Earth Food Shelf Hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**The White Earth Nation General Election is
Tuesday, June 9
Polls will be open from 8 a.m to 8 p.m.**

**Is Bigfoot real or fake?
White Earth member wants to hear from you**

By David Harper
White Earth Member

Recently on Cable TV, the Patterson-Gimlin famous film of a Bigfoot filmed in Northern California in 1967 was reviewed, analyzed, and tested for authenticity.

The results concluded the film to have a better than 98% chance of being real; disavowing earlier evaluations that it was staged, through modern technologies that was not available before.

I agree with the findings and am a believer because I too have seen a bigfoot.

In the mid 70s late summer/early fall, I and my cousin D (who has never related this story to others) for fear of ridicule having just purchased a six pack of beer and were chatting and laughing while night road deer hunting. Turning onto the Big Rat Lake Trail from Becker County Road 35 we placed the Winchester lever-action 30-30 between us leaning on the seat.

About a quarter mile in, I slowed down on the top of the rise because I knew there was a massive mud hole at the bottom. The modern road is now rerouted around it.

As we topped the hill, slowing down to 10 mph the head lights hit, what we thought, was a bear on the side of the mud hole. I said "Bear!" as I reached for the rifle. The "bear" turned to look at us, we saw it had a face almost human. For maybe two or three seconds we stared at each other and then the animal stood up from a crouch and ran three or four steps into the woods on two legs. I conducted the fastest three-point turn around in my life and roared off the way we came. We didn't stop until we were on County Road 35. I turned to D and asked, "Did you see it? Was it a Bigfoot?" "I think it was!" was all he said.

Around spring of 2005, I was eating breakfast in a cafe in Detroit Lakes, Minn., relating this story to a couple of friends. As I exited the cafe, I was approached by a man sitting on an electric scooter. He started with, "Can I talk to you?"

"Sure, what's up?" I replied.

He said, "It happened to me too."

He went on: "Deer hunting with a small disposable camera in my pocket. About a mile along the Ogiimaash Indian trail, off the Bruce Blvd Road, I noticed about 100 feet away, standing behind a tree a large hairy "dark" animal. It looked at me from one side of the tree and then the other. For over a minute it did this, finally as it was walking away I snapped a picture. I wish I had my 35mm with me, but the disposable was all I had."

When I was viewing the picture I couldn't see anything, he then pointed at a burry dark blob.

He was a retired meat cutter from the area and he told me that he lived in the high-rise assisted living facility a couple of blocks away from the cafe and he would be available to relate the story and show his "proof."

In my reading of the 200 plus books, articles, and stories as well as numerous TV programs concerning Bigfoot, I concentrated my investigations in Minnesota.

A couple of stories in the area stand out. In the mid 70s there appeared to be a "flap" of Bigfoot sightings all occurring in Becker County.

Strawberry Lake is mentioned by four teenagers. Their relating of the incident all four stories were identical. A tourist spotted one about a mile west of the Tamarack Refuge headquarters crossing the road from about 250 feet away.

One incident that was personally related to me by the ranger of Many Point Scout Camp are as follows:

"About a week after the campers left for the 1974 season, about one hour into the day I was on the road to finish inventory at one of the camp sites. I was about 75 yards from a creek just south of the camp's administration buildings, when I saw a huge hairy black/brown animal climb out of the water, crossed the road, and entered the water on the other side. I estimated it to be over seven feet tall walking on two legs. Stopping just short of the creek I saw water stains on the road. Not tracks because the sand at that point is too fine to hold impressions. This is the only time I experienced such an occurrence."

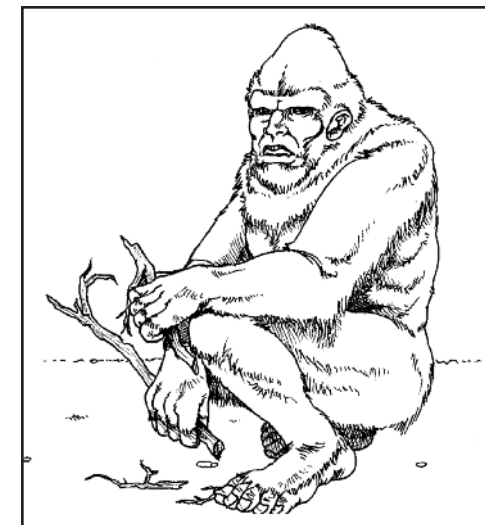
All these incidents occurred within a five-mile radius of my experience and am not sure of the time frame.

This human interest article is not only designed to entertain, but to also request additional incidents and encounters the reader my have had with sasquatch or big-foot.

I am writing a book of encounters in northern Minnesota. I have 12 personal stories relayed to me and would like to get as many stories as possible. I have included my phone number and special email for any correspondence.

I hope to compare facts and experiences of nearby sightings. Please contact me with personal data and facts.

David Harper
218-841-8315
mnbigfootstories@outlook.com



Sober from Page 23

a moment where I had to think long and hard about my drinking and where my life was heading.

There was no single turning point. It was more a gradual realization that I was no longer in control of my life. I was tired of the consequences, tired of the cycle, and tired of waking up knowing things could not continue the same way.

Six years ago, I made the decision to stop drinking.

The early days of sobriety were not easy. Without alcohol, I had to face emotions I had long avoided—regret, stress, and responsibility. I had to learn how to sit with discomfort instead of escaping it. Recovery was not just about quitting drinking; it was about learning how to live again.

Today, six years sober, my life is not perfect, but it is stable in a way I never knew before. I wake up clear-headed. I keep my commitments. I have rebuilt trust in my life, including with my children. My two daughters and my son now have respect for me again, something I do not take for granted. I also have a supportive relationship with my girlfriend, which has been part of my continued stability.

One of the hardest truths I learned is that change has to come from within. No one can do it for you. It wasn't until I reached the point where I was willing to change for myself that my life began to turn around.

A song that especially resonates with me is Jason Isbell's "It Gets Easier." My youngest daughter asked me to listen to it, and it struck me deeply. The lyrics reflect something I've come to understand in sobriety—that while the struggle doesn't disappear overnight, it becomes more manageable with time and commitment.

By the grace of God, my Lord and Savior and faith and support of my family, I am now six years sober.

Sobriety has not erased the past, but it has given me the ability to repair what I can and live differently going forward. It has shown me that change is possible, even after decades of struggle.

Six years ago, I could not imagine life without alcohol. Today, I cannot imagine returning to it.

If anyone is struggling with alcohol or would like to talk about sobriety, I am always willing to listen and share my experience.

Tribal program sponsors Morel Mushroom Hunt



Photo by Taylor Soyring

The White Earth Food Sovereignty Initiative recently sponsored a Morel Mushroom Hunt. Participants learned how to search for mushrooms in the Snider Lake Road area. In addition to mushrooms, students also went home with a mushroom book, mesh bag and a special mushroom knife.

Election Questions?

White Earth Election Office
 777 SE Casino Drive, Mahnomen, MN 56557
 electionboard@whiteearth-nsn.gov
 218-936-5622 or 1-866-211-9154
Hours: Monday through Friday / 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Absentee Ballot
 PO Box 99, Mahnomen, MN 56557

Congrats Frank Johnson Jr.



Submitted photo

Frank Johnson Jr., PHD, RN, PHN, MPH, graduated from the University of North Dakota (UND) with a PhD in Nursing Science on May 16. Frank is an enrolled member of White Earth and is the first ever PhD graduate from the Recruitment & Retention of American Indians into Nursing (RAIN) program. He is the son of Frank and Connie Johnson, and the late Verna McDougall.

Howah Ads

Happy 25th Birthday
Asia

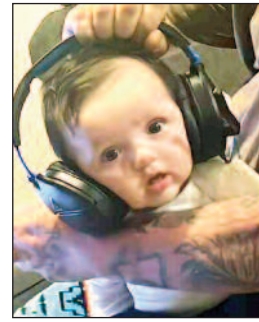
From everyone who loves
you earthside!

May 30th



Happy 2nd Birthday
Baby Charlie!

From
Dad

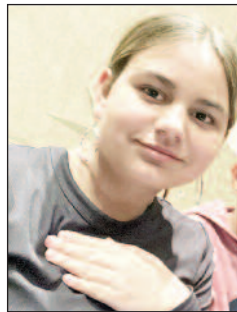


Happy National Holiday
Taytum (June 3)



Happy Birthday
Azalea!

Love,
Gram
Becky!



**Congrats
Morgan & Richard**

Getting
married
on
**June
13!**

Love
Mom &
Brothers



Happy Heavenly Birthday
Mantha
We Love You - The Kids



Happy 58th Birthday
Big Al

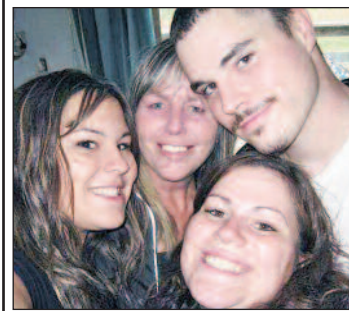
From Merri Lu, Losie & Jeff

June
17th



Happy Birthday
Matthew Cogger

Love you Brother - Tiff



Happy Birthday
Terri

Love,
Joe Sr., Melanie, Joe Jr.,
and all your grandbabies

June 16th

Happy Father's Day
Dad

Love, Melanie and Joe

Happy Birthday
Jen Scott

(June 10)

and

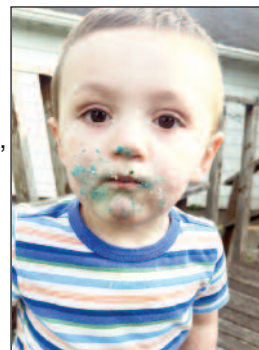
Sheri Snet

(June 15)

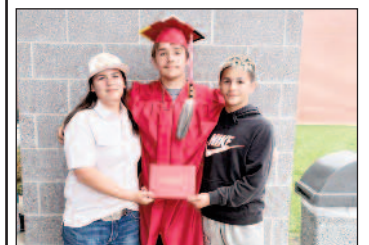


Happy Birthday
Baby Charlie!

Love,
Layne,
Mom,
and
Dad



Congratulations
**Alexander
Chilton-McDougall**
Detroit Lakes High School
Class of 2026



Emma Bellanger graduated from Morris Area High School. She will be attending MSUM in Moorhead in the fall for Language Pathology.

Love you so much - mom,
brothers, grandma, aunties, uncles



Congratulations
Adrian Olson!

WETCC
Class
of 2026!

Love
Devin &
family



Did You Know

You can read the current
and past issues of the
Anishinaabeg Today online at
www.whiteearth.com for free!

The online issues feature
more color and you can read
them right away when the
paper comes out on the first
Wednesday of each month.



Are you that person that has a lot of heart for children and looking to start a home business?

See what child care licensing has to offer YOU!

White Earth Child Care/Early Childhood Program who works to support child care providers with the process of licensing their home or a child safe facility while building their own personal business ownership through resources available for the following:

- ❖ START-UP GRANTS FOR CHILDREN'S EQUIPMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY COMPLIANCE
- ❖ CHILD DEVELOPMENT/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATIONAL TRAININGS
 - ❖ POLICY PROCEDURE & CONTRACT DEVELOPMENT
 - ❖ ANNUAL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS
 - ❖ BUSINESS PLANNING & ADVERTISEMENT
 - ❖ HEALTH & SAFETY TRAININGS
 - ❖ CHILDREN'S PLAY-SCAPES
- and much more.



Just CALL and WE WILL COME TO YOU FOR A VISIT
to HELP ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS.


Contact Child Care Licensing Kim L. at (218) 935-6272 or email

Kim.Lage@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Tribal Child Care Licensing for the White Earth Reservation

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
JUNE 2026						
JUNE *	02 **	03 **	04	05	06	07
Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program						
08 *	09	10	11	12 TBCP	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Register in Person TBCP 2:30 - 4:30PM WE-Congregate Housing	Register in Person TBCP 2:30 - 4:30PM Pine Point Computer Lab	Register in Person TBCP 2:30 - 4:30pm Rice Lake Computer Lab	22	23	24	25
Register in Person TBCP 2:30 - 4:30pm NTW Workforce Center Computer Lab	Register in Person TBCP 2:30 -4:30pm NTW Complex Computer Lab	Register in Person TBCP 2:30 -4:30 pm White Earth RBC Cafe/ Computer Lab	28	29	30	31
29	30					

218-935-3059



Computer Lab Schedules are subject to change based on location availability, please call ahead to make sure that the computer lab is open.



Join Us

Dr. Anton Treuer

Author • Speaker • Trainer • Professor

Anton Treuer is an Ojibwe author, professor, and public speaker dedicated to Indigenous language revitalization, education, and cultural understanding. Through writing, teaching, and public speaking, he helps communities learn, reflect, and build bridges grounded in lived experience, scholarship, and hope.



2 Sessions

June 10th : 9am & 1pm

"Healing the Whole Self."

June 23rd : 9am & 1pm

"Walking the Sacred Path of Healing."

REGISTER:

Call 218-401-3241 to register and let us know which date and time you'd like to attend.

Register by June 5 for the June 10 event OR by June 18 for the June 23 event.

This event is free and open to our community. The first 100 people to register will receive a free copy of Dr. Treuer's book.



SHOOTING STAR CASINO & EVENT CENTER



White Earth Nation
TRIBAL PUBLIC HEALTH
Prevent. Promote. Protect

SAVE THE DATE!!!!

THE 3RD ANNUAL
NATIVE AMERICAN ELDER PICNIC



September 16
Veterans Park
6335 Portland Ave., Richfield, MN

White Earth Community Council

Craft & Art Pop-Up

White Earth Community Center

June 11th 8am-4pm

Crafts & Art Stands
20\$ set up fee
3 tables per spot
Bring your own tables

Food Stands
50\$ set up in parking lot

Rent our tables for the day 10\$ per plus set up fee

Rummage Sales Welcomed

Contact
Sue Hanks 218-401-3769
Alaina Thompson 218-401-4269

WECC is not responsible for lost or stolen items

NEED MORE ENERGY?

JOIN STAR FITNESS CENTER TODAY!

Located in the Manitok Mall, Mahnomen

Email Jackie.Haugo@whiteearth-nsn.gov or call 218-401-2421 to fill out an application. Keycards cost \$10. Shooting Star employees can have their badge activated for free.

UPDATED KEY CARD HOURS:

- Adults (18 & older) have 24 hour keycard access 7 days a week.
- Minors (age 15-17) have keycard access 6 a.m.-10:00 p.m. 7 days a week



White Earth Nation
TRIBAL PUBLIC HEALTH
Prevent. Promote. Protect

Come Join us
"A Day for Trey"

He's a 16yr old 9th grader at Mahnomen High School who was diagnosed in December 2025 with Ewing Sarcoma a rare metastatic childhood cancer. It has spread rapidly throughout his body. Trey is also on the football team and proudly wears #68. Instead of calling it Waubun Days this year we will call it "A Day for Trey"

Let's all come together & make this day extra special

Waubun City Park
June 6th, 2026

- ☆ 8am- Color Run
- ☆ 10am-Parade Line up
(north end of Waubun)
- ☆ 11am- Parade with lunch to follow

Face Painting Bouncy Houses
Kid Games Horseshoe tourney
Rootbeer Floats Bean Bag Tourney

DJ & Volleyball @ Sundown
Vendors needed

Sponsored by
Rising Sun Community Council
White Earth Housing

There's No Place Like Home

Callaway Daze Reunion



JULY 18, 2026



Hands-On ADA Concrete Training

WHEN: June 22-26, 2026 (tentative)
8:00 am - 4:00 pm

WHERE: Maadaadizi Workforce Center
3081 Workforce Rd, Mahnomen, MN 56557

The Hands-on concrete training is free and teaches skills to construct Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant concrete ramps and sidewalks. Participants will gain specialized knowledge and experience to maximize employment opportunities.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

- Small group of trainees. All equipment and supplies provided.
- Hands-on training. Half in the class room, half in the field.
- Skill can lead to working anywhere in Minnesota.
- Visit MNDOT Headquarters and learn about careers.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND
People interested in working in concrete and construction industry. No prior experience necessary.

TO REGISTER CONTACT:
Kim StClair
kim.stclair@whiteearth-nsn.gov
218-935-6268



READING IS TIMELESS

SUMMER READING PROGRAM
AT THE MAHNOMEN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Free Events at the Mahnomen Public Library

Explore Sunflowers
Learn All About How They Grow
Tuesday, June 2 at 12:30 p.m.

Conductor Jack's Kids Dance Party
Monday, July 13 at 10 a.m.

Make Your Mark: The Timeless Power of the Printing Press
Wednesday, June 3 at 3:30 p.m.

TRAVEL THROUGH TIME with your library's free Summer Reading Program!
Read to win fun prizes and join us for programs throughout the summer.

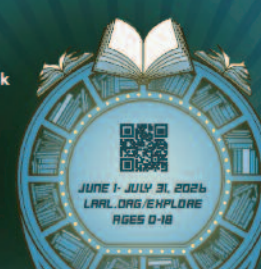
Art is Timeless
Mandala Dot Style Rock Painting
Tuesday, June 9 at 12:30 p.m.

Stories in the Soil
Tuesday, June 16 at 12:30 p.m.

Music is Timeless: Rock Around the Clock
Tuesday, June 23 at 12:30 p.m.

The Lost Art of Creating Your Own Snack Foods
Tuesday, June 30 at 12:30 p.m.

Nature is Timeless with Itasca State Park Staff
Tuesday, July 7 at 12:30 p.m.



Did You Know?

You can read the current and past issues of the newspaper online at www.whiteearth.com for **free!**

The online issues feature **more color** and you can read them right away when the paper comes out on the first Wednesday of each month.

Farm for Sale

13 acre hobby farm with house in Mahnomen County.

Make an offer.

Call Kevin at 218-935-2489. Leave your name and phone number and he will get back with you.



Photos by Gary W. Padrta

The many partners that support the White Earth Child Advocacy Center in Naytahwaush recently held a ribbon cutting to honor their new name - Aakwade'ewin Child Advocacy Center.

White Earth CAC holds Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

The White Earth Child Advocacy Center hosted a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on May 15 at their building in Naytahwaush. They revealed their new name and logo as Aakwade'ewin Child Advocacy Center.

Aakwade'ewin (Bravery) represents the bravery it takes to advocate for children rights and safety, the bravery it takes for a child to speak up, and the bravery it takes for a family to navigate the system.

The Ceremony was attended by many organizations that support the Center as well as community members. In addition to a tour of the building, attendees were treated to a picnic lunch on site.

The creator of the new Child Advocacy Center logo is Ava Graff of Naytahwaush.



Chairman Michael Fairbanks congratulates Ava Graff after her logo was selected to represent the White Earth Child Advocacy Center in Naytahwaush. The sign in the background will soon show the new logo.

Ashley Zurn

named NAFWS Conservation Law Enforcement Officer of the Year

By Zoe Keezer
Natural Resources Coordinator
White Earth Natural Resources

White Earth Conservation Officer Ashley Zurn was named Conservation Law Enforcement Officer of the Year at the 43rd Annual National Native American Fish and Wildlife Society (NAFWS) Conference in Verona, New York - Oneida Nation.

Her profound dedication to preserving our natural resources on the reservation does not go unnoticed. Receiving this honor is incredibly impressive, and she has earned the title! Ashley's dedication to our youth program is also admirable.

She has taught more than 300 of our local youth, ensuring they are being safe in our recreational and traditional activities. The youth team and the conservation department could not thrive without the dedication and outstanding support of Zurn.

Additionally, while at the conference, she was able to compete in the National Shooting Competition for Law Enforcement Officers within NAFWS. She competed as part of the Great Lakes Shoot Team who has taken home their fifth first place award!

We are very proud of her and cannot wait to see her continue to thrive in our community!



Photo by Gwen Lassen / NAFWS

White Earth Nation Conservation Officer Ashley Zurn was recently named Officer of the Year at the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society Conference in New York.



Your job search ends here
www.whiteearth.com





WETCC Graduates

Top row from left: Stephanie Turner, Deziree Buckanaga, Blaze Tucker, James Libby, Derek Blakely, Alexis Perreault, Matthew Bowstring, Brent Murray, Tierra Villebrun, Bruce Turner, Corey Weaver, and Adrian Olson. **Bottom row** from left: Hailey Denomie, Danielle Bjerk, Trinity Parisian, Breanna Azure, Ayva Jackson, Dawn Kier, Karen Branden, Delayna Heisler, Stephany Morgan, Ava Graff, and Deidra Berg.



White Earth Tribal & Community College Class of 2026 Commencement Ceremony

May 14 - White Earth Tribal and Community College Drum Hall

**A.A Degree -
Humanities, Arts, and Social Science**

Breanna Azure / Danielle Bjerk*
Derek Blakely / Matthew Bowstring*
Deziree Buckanaga* / Hailey Denomie
Nicole Goodwin* / Ava Graff
Delayna Heisler* / Ayva Jackson*
James Libby / Brent Murray
Adrian Olson* / Trinity Parisian*
Alexis Perreault / Peyton Sherk
Blaze Tucker / Bruce Turner*
Stephanie Turner / Tierra Villebrun
Cory Weaver

Certificate Recipients

Court Advocacy
Breanna Azure / Deziree Buckanaga
Lynette Londo / Brent Murray*

Office Administration

Deidra Berg* / Deziree Buckanaga*
Trinity Parisian* / Blaze Tucker*

Ojibwe Language

Karen Branden* / Delayna Heisler*
Dawn Kier / Stephany Morgan*
Franck Stech*

* Graduate with Highest Honors 3.5 and above

White Earth

Adult Basic Education Graduates

Quintin Anderson, Nadia Beaupre, Jolie Bunker,

Cassandra Craythorn, Mickensy Denenny, Linda Diaz, Alexander Jack-Littlewolf, Dallas Jensen, Ahshya Londo, Clinton Manning Jr., Drew Martinson, Malachi Roy, Kia Thompson, Victoria Tiokasin-Peake, Jeanette Villebrun, Charles Wadena, Joseph Warren, Rin Wolfcry, Chelsey White

Ceremony Program

Opening Song - Maanomin Singers

Grand Entry - White Earth Veterans Honor Guard, WETCC Graduates, ABE Graduates, Faculty, and Administration

Flag Song - Maanomin Singers

Opening Prayer

Ian Anderson - Cultural Coordinator

Welcome - Dr. Laura Driscoll / Provost

Opening Remarks

Dr. Allan Derks - Interim WETCC President

Keynote Speaker: Renee Keezer / Alumni

AICF Student of the Year: Delayna Heisler

Presentation of Degrees: Dr. Allan Derks

Presentation of Diplomas

Melissa Widner - ABE Program Director

Conferring of Degrees, Honor Song, Closing Remarks, Traveling Song



Photos by Gary W. Padra

ABE/GED Graduates

Top row from left: Malachi Roy, Nadia Beaupre, Chelsey White, Rin Wolfcry, Jeanette Villebrun, and Ahshya Londo. **Bottom row** from left: Alexander Jack-Littlewolf, Mickensy Denenny, Jolie Bunker, and Quinten Anderson. **Not pictured:** Cassandra Craythorn, Linda Diaz, Dallas Jensen, Clinton Manning Jr., Drew Martinson, Kia Thompson, Victoria Tiokasin-Peake, Charles Wadena, and Joseph Warren.

Application and Participant Rules for
Junior and Senior Princess and Brave Contests

158th Annual White Earth Celebration

June 12, 13 and 14, 2026

**Deadline for submission of completed applications with documentation is
12 p.m. (noon) on Wednesday, June 10, 2026 to allow for verification of eligibility**

- All portions of the princess and brave contests will begin at the 1 p.m. Grand Entry on Friday, June 12, 2026.
- This includes but is not limited to interviews, verification of eligibility, self-introduction at Powwow, and dance competition scoring. Please note that an introduction in our language is beneficial to the contestants.
- All applicants and their parents/guardians agree, through submission of their signed application, that the contestant:
 1. Pledges to live a crime, drug and alcohol-free lifestyle at all times prior to and during their reign as princess or brave, including but not limited to their social media presence.
 2. Continues with successful academics and maintains a positive role within their school and community, including social media.
 3. Is unmarried, may not have any pregnancies past, present or during the year that the participant holds the title of princess or brave.
 4. Is an enrolled member or descendant of White Earth Reservation, **documentation required.***
 5. Resides on or within 25 miles of the White Earth Reservation presently and during the reigning year, **documentation required.****
 - a. If a princess or brave moves, it is the family/guardian's responsibility to contact the committee immediately.
 6. Is age 9-12 for Junior title, or age 13-17 for Senior title.
 7. Is willing to represent the White Earth Reservation throughout the reigning year by traveling to and dancing at other powwows.***
 8. Cannot hold any other title of royalty while applying for or holding the title of White Earth Princess or Brave.
 9. Will only be awarded the title of White Earth Celebration Princess or Brave once in their lifetime.
 10. Will immediately relinquish his or her title to the first runner-up if White Earth Pow Wow Committee finds the princess or brave to violate these rules. Relinquishment includes returning of crown and/or sash to the White Earth Pow Wow Committee.
- Applications are available at the White Earth RBC Headquarters, via email, and in the *Anishinaabeg Today* newspaper.
- **Application and documentation materials must be filled out completely and submitted to Chris Vanwert by noon on Wednesday, June 10 to be verified by the White Earth Pow Wow Committee and White Earth Enrollment Office.**
- Please mail completed application and documentation to White Earth Pow Wow Committee, PO Box 418, White Earth, MN 56591. Contact Chris Vanwert at christopher.vanwert@whiteearth-nsn.gov (218-850-2533) or Brian Clark, Powwow Committee Chairman, at brian.clark@whiteearth-nsn.gov with questions or concerns. Do not rely on social media for communication.

Sr. Princess Jr. Princess Sr. Brave Jr. Brave

Please Print Clearly

Full Legal Name _____ Birth Date _____ Clan _____

Address _____
Street (and PO Box if used for mailing purposes) City Zip Code

Phone number _____ Additional phone number _____

School _____ Grade in 2025/26 _____

Enrolled Contestant's White Earth enrollment # _____, or
Descendant Contestant's Enrolled Parent or Grandparent:

Full Legal Name Birth Date WE Enrollment #

I, _____ understand and comply with the above-stated conditions for application to the White Earth Princess/Brave title. My parents/guardian and I understand and agree to have the above information verified by the White Earth Pow Wow Committee. This form gives the above-named school and the White Earth RBC permission to release and verify information entered on this form. I also agree that all information above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Participant Signature Printed Name Date

Custodial Parent/Guardian Signature Printed Name Date

WEPC Only: Verified eligible by WE Enrollments: _____ Date: _____