



Travis Bevins

is Boys & Girls Club Youth of the Year for White Earth

By Carol Thompson, CEO
Boys & Girls Club of White Earth

Boozhoo!

We have had an exciting start to the New Year! On Feb. 13, we held our annual Boys & Girls Club of White Earth Youth of the Year Event at the Mahnomen Club site.

Our two candidates were both from our Waubun site and are brothers! Travis and Tyler Bevins. They presented applications, had letters of reference, wrote and present-

ed the speeches to judges and the younger youth at club.

We had three judges present: Peter Drift from White Earth Police Department, Joshua Zornes from White Earth Behavioral Health, and Aimee Drift from within the White Earth B&G Club Admin Team. The outcome of the night was that Travis would move on to state! He did say he wished his brother would have won.

On March 19, we were at Allianz Field in St. Paul for the State Youth of Year for Boys & Girls Clubs of Minnesota. Travis was the only male candidate. He did an excellent job representing us by again interviewing, having his application scored and giving his speech not only in front of the judges in a separate room but also to the room full of people at the end of the day.

He said who he is and what he is passionate about, speaking about his time at the three clubs that have impacted his life and how he plans on continuing his education at MSUM. He won a \$2,000 HOME-TEAM scholarship for college, or when he receives a trade certificate. Congratulations Travis! We are so proud of you!

The time didn't end there! Did I mention that we had also had the entire family down for the event, including Tyler? Being it was the two candidates and they were brothers it was only fair that they were able to experience this together.

On March 20, they were able to experience their first day at the capital together! They started the day off by attending a

See Youth Page 21



Photo by Carol Thompson

Travis Bevins, left, and Tyler Bevins gifted Minnesota Governor Tim Walz with a smudge basket.



Photo by Gary W. Padrta

Veterinary students give a dog a wellness exam at the Naytahwaush Complex.

SIRVS students take care of Rez pets

A Free Wellness and Spay/Neuter Clinic was held March 8-11 at the Naytahwaush Complex. The clinic was run by SIRVS and hosted by White Earth Animal Control.

SIRVS, a student-run organization within the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary medicine, serve Indigenous communities in Minnesota by providing access to veterinary care.

They provide wellness care such as physical exams, vaccines, tick-borne disease/heartworm testing, and flea/tick/heartworm preventative medications, limited care for sick patients, and spay and neuter surgeries. All the supplies and ser-

vices they provide are free of charge.

Through clinics, they are able to serve Indigenous communities while providing students with an opportunity to learn and practice skills that will help them become well-rounded compassionate veterinarians.

March 8 was a wellness only day and they saw 66 pets. March 9 was a wellness and surgery day and they saw 21 pets for wellness and did 20 surgeries. March 10 was a wellness and surgery day and students saw 20 pets for wellness and did 24 surgeries. March 11 was a wellness only day and they saw 64 pets. Overall, they provided care for 215 pets!

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Honored for saving a life

White Earth Police Officers Lane West and Autumn Cardinal, and White Earth Behavioral Health Overdose Recovery Officer Mike Weaver were presented with a Life Saving Award during a recent ceremony at the Shooting Star Casino. They provided life saving measures for an individual that was suffering a serious medical emergency.

From left are Access to Recovery Program Manager Ralph Goodman, Lane West, Lt. Dustin Anderson, Mike Weaver, Autumn Cardinal, and Lt. Tyrell Rishovd.

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, malicious, and 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.

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

Anishinaabeg Today
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White Earth, MN 56591

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Editor

Gary W. Padrta

Future Issues *

Deadline	Issue Date
April 30	May 7
May 28	June 4
June 25	July 2
July 30	August 6
August 27	September 3

* Deadline and issue dates subject to change

April is Child Abuse Awareness & Prevention Month

Submitted by the WE Tribal Child Advocacy Center

Whether we are aware of it or not, most of us have someone in our lives – a family member, a friend, a coworker, or a neighbor – who suffered abuse in their childhood. It's so common that one in ten children will be sexually abused before their 18th birthday. The trauma of abuse can take a toll on the health and well-being of loved ones over their lifetime. That's why the White Earth Tribal Child Advocacy Center wants to share information on Child Abuse Prevention and intervention. Together, we can empower communities to prevent abuse, educate on body safety, and create secure environments for our children. We'll share resources that help our communities learn how to respond effectively to abuse—every effort counts!

Raising Our Voices for Child Abuse Prevention Month

- On Friday, April 4, dress in blue for #GoBlueDay, and share your pictures on social media! Don't forget to add hashtags of #ChildAbuseAwarenessMonth #CAPM25
- Learn Body Safety Education and teach body safety to the children in your life!
- Learn how to report!

How To Report

Child abuse happens in secrecy and isolation, so as a parent or caregiver it is important to be prepared if the children we love are in need of help. Resources are available to assist you in taking action. Learn what steps to take if you suspect that your child is being abused or they disclose abuse.

- Follow These Steps
- Tell the child that you believe them and you are glad they told you.
 - If the child is in immediate danger or is at risk of coming into contact with the alleged abuser, call 911.
 - Contact your county social service agency to make a report. If you're in Minnesota, contact your local human services office. Otherwise, call the Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline at (1-800) 422-4453.
 - White Earth ICW Main Office / 218-983-4647
 - Mahnomon County Social Services (Monday to Friday) / 218-935-2568
 - After Hours Mahnomon County Sheriff's Office / 218-935-2255
 - Clearwater County Human Services / 218-694-6164
 - Becker County Human Services / 218-847-6738
- Remember: it is not your job to investigate or to confront an alleged abuser. The information you need to make a report are the basics regarding what happened and who allegedly hurt the child.

How to Support Children Who Have Disclosed

- Tell them you are glad they confided in you.
- Try not to make promises about what will happen next.
- Let the child know you are there to help them be safe.
- Reassure the child that the abuse is not their fault

Body Safety Education

We prepare for many things when there are young ones in our lives. As parents, caregivers, and concerned adults, we aim to keep children safe from harm. So, we have safety rules. For example, we teach kids to wear a seat belt in the car and use a helmet when riding a bike. But when it comes to abuse, many of us don't know how to talk about it.

It's hard to know when and how to talk about body safety and consent with the children in your life. The good news is you can start early with child-friendly language. These guidelines can help children identify safe and unsafe situations, understand their body autonomy, and know when to seek help from a trusted adult.

Simple Body Safety Rules to Teach Kids

You can start early when teaching kids about body safety. In fact, toddlers and young children can learn and practice all the safety rules below.

1. Say "No" to Unwanted Touches

It's important for children to know that they have the right to say "no" to any touch that makes them uncomfortable or scared. Let them know that their body belongs to them, and they can decide who can touch them and how.

2. Identify Safe and Unsafe Situations

Children need to learn how to recognize when they are in a safe or unsafe situation. Tell your child that it's okay to talk to a trusted adult about any concerns they have and that they should never keep secrets about touches or events that make them feel uncomfortable or scared.

3. Use Proper Names for Body Parts

By teaching your child the proper names for all body parts, including the genitals, you can help them communicate effectively about their bodies and any concerns they may have.

4. Establish Boundaries

Encourage your child to establish boundaries with others. Let them know they can say "no" to hugs, kisses, or any other physical contact that makes them uncomfortable.

5. Seek Help from a Trusted Adult

Teach your child that they can always seek help from a trusted adult if they feel scared or uncomfortable. It's important for them to know that they have people in their life who care about them and will listen to them.

Talk About Body Safety Early and Often

Remember, it's never too early to start teaching your child about body safety rules. By revisiting the topic regularly and using age-appropriate language, you can help create a safe and supportive environment where your child feels comfortable asking questions and sharing concerns.

Other body safety resources include:

- *Body Safety Bundle I: Three Book Set* - Children's Books About Body Safety - Diggs Publishing
- Lighthouse Children's Advocacy Center is a valuable resource - <https://hopeunitedgaston.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Body-safety-informational-packet-english.pdf>

Thank you to all of those who will be participating and raising awareness to Child Abuse Awareness Month! Together we can make our community healthier and safer for children and future generations!

Notice to Tribal Membership

A proposed Land Office Code and updated Land Assignment Agreement can be viewed on www.whiteearth.com. Pursuant to White Earth Reservation Business Committee Resolution No. 001-16-0174, this notice to membership will be posted for a 15-day comment period, ending on Friday, April 11, 2025 at 5 p.m. All comments may be made in writing and shall be respectful and constructive. Comments may be dropped off in person at the Legal Department front office in the RBC headquarter building or emailed to PublicForumLegal@whiteearth-nsn.gov

The proposed Land Office Code is currently under consideration by the White Earth Reservation Business Committee.

After completion of the 15-day comment period, all comments will be considered by the White Earth Reservation Business Committee for 7 days. The comments will be summarized, this summary and summary responses will be publicly posted on Friday, April 18, 2025.

Upon receipt of a final draft, the Executive Director will post another notice to Tribal membership for an additional 7 days, after which the White Earth Reservation Business Committee will consider for a final vote.

White Earth Delegate Announcement

White Earth Constitution Reform Reservation At-Large Delegate Election has been updated!

The election for a White Earth Reservation At-Large Delegate has been changed to the following scheduled event:

Date: May 10th, 2025

Time: 2:00-5:00 PM

Election location: White Earth Mother's Day Powwow Shooting Star Event Center Mahnomen, MN

• Self-Nominations were held: March 3-31, 2025

• Candidates must reside on White Earth Reservation

• Watch for a list of candidates

• Voter must be at least 18 years of age

• Must show tribal ID to vote

WHITE EARTH CHILD CARE PRESENTS



WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD WITH BLUEY AND FRIENDS!

Join us for a fun filled event celebrating early learning children, their families, and traditions!

TUESDAY, APRIL 15TH

4:00-7:00 PM

Meal Time is 5:15-6:15

Shooting Star Casino

MUST PRE-REGISTER TO ATTEND 'AGES 0-6'

Please email casey.francis@whiteearth-nsn.gov or call 218-935-6256

FAMILY NAME:

PHONE NUMBER:

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ADULT MEALS: KID MEALS:

Feel free to visit us at:
www.facebook.com/WhiteEarthNation

News From Chairman Michael Fairbanks

Aaniin Boozhoo Gaa-waabaabiganikaag Niminwendam Waabaminaan!

Maango-Giizis!

Aaniish inaa akawe ninga-gaagiizomaag aadi-zookaanag.

Weweni-sago-na

Greetings White Earth Nation I am Happy to See You!

It is already April which represents the Loons returning.

Everyone Be Safe.

It's zigwan - spring and all of the niikag and waabiziiwag - geese and swans, and other migrating birds are back to start the nesting season!

Did you ever wonder how the stars became scattered all around over the sky? Well long ago Anang Inini or Star Man, caretaker of Starland was in charge of placing the stars in the sky every night he'd walk around the sky, carefully positioning them one by one then one evening before it was time to go to work or just Anang Inini felt very tired.

He plopped down his sack of stars, closed his eyes and nodded off while he was sleeping his pet red fox Waagosh a cunning little creature decided to have some fun so he grabbed the bag and took off with it. The stars spilled out everywhere all over the sky when Anang Inini woke up he couldn't believe what he had seen. What happened here? There were so many stars were flying all over the sky. There was no way he could ever gather them all back together again and the stars will have to remain scattered across the heavens.

He said now it takes poor ol' Anang Inini all night to walk around Starland lighting the stars one by one sometimes when the snow is deep or Anang Inini is very tired he can't get to them all. That's why it's a little harder to see a lot of stars in the sky, especially in the winter.

As you know, we have been fighting in the courts to protect our water. In 2023, White Earth Nation adopted the Water Protection Ordinance to safeguard our precious water resources—grounded in both science and our traditional teachings. This ordinance reflects our commitment to preserving our community, culture, traditions, and environment for generations to come.

We view water as a sentient being—one that connects and sustains us all. Water is the lifeblood of us as Anishinaabe, it is not a commodity it's the life blood of Mama Aki. That's why we passed the Water Protection Ordinance - to protect our Mama Aki, our Mother Earth and ensure that we can decide how to best care for the lands and waters that have cared for us since time immemorial.

State agencies too often fail to fully consider the long-term impacts their decisions have on our ecosystems, putting entire communities at risk. Water is not an unlimited resource—it must be managed responsibly, guided by scientific knowledge, fairness, and nibi, water teachings passed down from our ancestors. Now, we are continuing this fight in the courts to assert our sovereign right to protect our waters. We are currently involved in three cases—two in federal court and one in Tribal court—and the progress has been encouraging.

In R.D. Offutt Farms Co. v. White Earth Division of Natural Resources, U.S. District Judge Bryan dismissed the case—a major win. In Vipond v. DeGroat, U.S. District Judge Menendez upheld our



sovereignty and the well-established legal doctrine requiring that Tribal court remedies must be exhausted before a challenge to Tribal authority can proceed in federal court.

She issued a stay to allow our Tribal court case to continue. This is a very positive development. That Tribal court case—White Earth Division of Natural Resources v. Vipond—recently went to trial. This included two full days of testimony about jurisdiction. In it, we argued that White Earth Nation has the inherent sovereign right to protect the waters of Gaa-waabaabiganikaag -White Earth Nation through the Water Protection Ordinance. It may be several months before we receive a ruling, but we stand firm in believing that we are doing what is right for our children and grandchildren to come.

This fight is not about just one water permit—it's about the future of the Wild Rice River and all the waters in Gaa-waabaabiganikaag. These waters are essential to our families, farmers, businesses, ecosystems, and our animal relatives that depend on clean and healthy water systems. We will continue to fight to protect them all.

I want to acknowledge our Legal Department for the outstanding update in our fight for clean water for generations to come!

Baamaapii wiingezin.

Miigwech bizindawiyeg.

Gigawaabaminim naagaj.

Take it easy.

Thank you for listening to me.

See you all later.

Chairman Michael Fairbanks

Attention AT Readers

Please let us know if you recently moved, or have moved in the past few years 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

News From Secretary-Treasurer Michael J. LaRoque

Aanin Boozhoo,

Greeting White Earth Members, I have the honor of providing you with the monthly report of the Secretary/Treasurer position for the White Earth Tribal Council. This month I will be providing an update on Waabigwan Mashkiki LLC and White Earth Enterprises, and Data process.

Waabigwan Mashkiki LLC

Dear Membership,

I am going to feature some updates on our businesses starting with Waabigwan Mashkiki LLC. The Mahnomen business has two entities - a Grow Facility and a Retail Operations lead by Chief Executive Officer Zach Wilson. This business is covered by a Board of Directors.

Grow Facility

The Grow Facility employs 105 full and part time employees that range from VP of Cultivation, Human Services Director, Maintenance Manager, Director of Operations, Security Supervisor, Director of Cultivation, Custodian, Maintenance Tech, Kitchen Manager, Extraction Manager, Pack and Trim Supervisor, seven Security Guards, Assistant Cultivation Manager, Kitchen Lead, Extraction Lead, Inventory Control, three Pack/Trim Leads, three Flower Leads, Dry/Cure Leads, 14 Flower Techs, four Kitchen Techs, four Extraction Techs, and 23 Trim/Pack Techs. Some positions are not filled currently. Please see job postings for open positions.

Retail Operations

The Retail Operations employs nine full time employees that range from Retail Director, Comptroller, Compliance and QA Manager, Metric Manager, Retail Compliance Tech, Bookkeeper, Data Administrator, Retail General Manager, Operations Compliance Tech, Payroll Clerk, Retail Assistant General Manager, three Retail Leads, and five Retail Techs. Some positions are not filled currently. Please see job postings for open positions.

White Earth Enterprises LLC

White Earth Enterprises is made up of Building Supplies, Business Products, Builders and Sanitation. The staff is led by Executive Director Rachelle Perkes, Controller, two Staff Accountants.

Business Products

This division has an Office Supply Manager, Office Supply Clerk, Office Supply Administrator, Apparel Supervisor, and a CSR.

Building Supplies

This division has a Business Manager, Building Maintenance and Yardman Supervisor, and Yardman/Delivery Driver.

Sanitation

This division has an Operations and Office Manager, Administration Assistant, Satellite Station Operator, Sanitation Labor Tech, Sanitation Maintenance Grounds Tech, and four Sanitation Drivers/Labor Techs.

Builders Project Management

This division is led by Senior Project Manager Todd Woiteshek, Project Manager, Office Administrator, and five Project Superintendents.

White Earth Enterprises is covered by a three-person Board of Directors - Tom Lavoy, Mike Spry, and Jessica Johnson.

Data Practices Update

I'm pleased to share that legislative efforts are now underway to present to the White Earth



Reservation Business Committee a proposed law to enact a government data practices law for the White Earth Nation. This long-overdue step will both protect the Nation's information and provide greater transparency and access for White Earth citizens.

Once passed, this law will ensure that citizens are better informed and confident that the Nation's resources are being managed responsibly—not just for today, but for generations to come. As your Secretary-Treasurer, I am fully committed to strengthening transparency and accountability. This legislation will establish clear expectations for how government information is protected, shared, and accessed.

Why a government data practices law matters:

- Promote transparency and accountability in government operations
- Protects individual privacy, cultural information, and trade secrets
- Clearly defines types of data and how they are classified
- Impose responsibilities on government agencies for data collection, storage, and sharing
- Establishes enforcement mechanisms and penalties for misuse or non-compliance
- Strikes a fair balance between public access and privacy

This is a critical step forward in building trust and ensuring good governance for all citizens of the White Earth Nation.

On a quick note, the RBC has contracted with a new property management company for Congregate Housing, Gwayako, Giwanakimin, Dream Catcher Homes, and Tiny Homes in Districts I, II, and III. The new property management group is Optima Property Management Group.

I hope everyone has had a happy and safe spring. Pow-wow season is getting underway with the Mother's Day Powwow on May 10-11 at the Shooting Star Casino Event Center. We are moving forward into the future with another successful year ahead of us.

In closing I want to thank the members of the White Earth Nation for giving me this opportunity to serve as the Secretary/Treasurer for this great nation. I look forward to moving forward with great progress and optimism and I hope we can work together for a brighter future. Miigwech!

Michael J. LaRoque
218-849-1140
Secretary-Treasurer

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JUNE 13 - 15, 2025

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White Earth INVESTMENT INITIATIVE

White Earth Investment Initiative is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Service made available through a grant provided by the State of Minnesota.

Iron Range Area Community Council

The Iron Range Area Community Council holds a meeting on the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Greenway Township Hall in Marble, Minn.



Submitted photos

2025 WETCC Handgames Team

From left are Shane'Na Frog, Frankie Papasodora-Clark, Alexis Perreault, Oliver Fondie, Matty Bowstring, Deidra Berg, and Brittney Bellanger.

WETCC Students shine at AIHEC Conference in Rapid City, SD

White Earth Tribal and Community College (WETCC) is thrilled to announce that its handgames team finished second out of 27 teams at the 2025 AIHEC Student Conference. This was the first time an Ojibwe Tribal College made it into the tournament's finals. After an exciting but grueling final round that lasted over three hours, the championship ultimately went to Navajo Technical University.

WETCC is also exceptionally proud of second-year student, Alexis Perreault, who was one of 36 competitors in the Poetry Slam and made it all the way to the final four with her poem, "Pack a Punch." (Her recorded performance may be viewed on WETCC's Facebook page.)

The AIHEC Student Conference is an annual event organized by the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC). It brings together over 1,000 students, faculty, and staff from Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) across the United States to participate in academic, cultural, and artistic competitions. This year's conference was held March 8-11 in Rapid City, S.D.

WETCC Cultural Coordinator, Ian Anderson, expressed his pride: "I'm proud of all of our students! Miigwech [thank you] to everyone who represented and supported our college! Let's keep the momentum and come back stronger next year!"

About WETCC

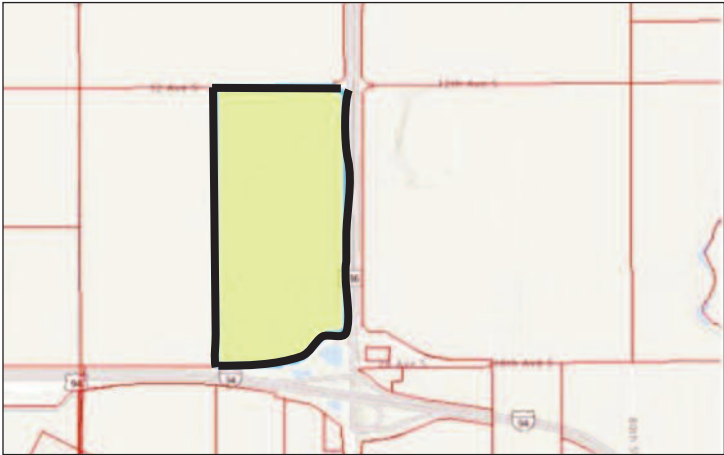
White Earth Tribal and Community College (WETCC) is two-year college dedicated to academic excellence grounded in Anishinaabe culture, values, and traditions. The college strives to provide quality education and training that meets the needs of the

White Earth Nation and surrounding communities. WETCC is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is open to all, regardless of tribal affiliation.



2025 AIHEC Poetry Slam Final Four

From left are Jacob Fast Horse - Sitting Bull College, Alexis Perreault - WETCC, Pte San Win - Oglala Lakota College, and Terance Woody - Diné College.



WE buys land near Moorhead

The White Earth Band recently purchased 280 acres east of Moorhead at the intersection of Interstate 94 and Highway 336 at a local land auction.

The White Earth Reservation Business Committee (RBC) said this purchase is part of our broader efforts to support the long-term economic and cultural sustainability of our people. As stewards of our own future, we are continuously exploring opportunities to diversify our economic initiatives, which may include but are not limited to housing, education, environmental preservation, business development, and cultural enrichment.

Public Hearing Indian Education Programs and Budgets
NOTICE

Waubun-Ogema-White Earth Schools

There will be a public hearing regarding the spring review 2024-2025 American Indian Education Programs and Budgets

The Public Hearing will take place at 5:30 p.m.
at the Waubun Media Center

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

The hearing will include the following:

- 1. Presentation of Indian Policies and Procedures.
- 2. Overview of Title I, II, & VI, Johnson O'Malley, American Indian Education Aid, and Impact Aid.
- 3. Review student participation data and general District programming.
- 4. Seek comments and recommendations regarding various programs.

Parents/guardians, staff, and community members of American Indian students attending Waubun-Ogema-White Earth School District #435 are urged to attend. Feedback is welcome on all agenda items. Please share feedback prior to the meeting if you are unable to attend.

Jordan Spaeth, Superintendent
jspaeth@waubun.k12.mn.us - 218-473-6171

Patti DeGroat, Indian Education Coordinator
pattid@waubun.k12.mn.us - 218-473-6173

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The White Earth Mother's Day Powwow is May 10-11 at the Shooting Star

2025

White Earth Adult
Basic Education
Program
Calendar

Monday

Naytahwaush Maadaadizi 8-2
Congregate White Earth 2-4.30

Tuesday

Mahnomen Site - Open Lab
701 E. Jefferson Ave.

Wednesday

Naytahwaush 8-4.30
Maadaadizi

Thursday

Pine Point 8-4.30
Creators Place and Old School.

Friday

Rice Lake 10-12
Rice Lake Community Center

Contact:

melissa.widner@whiteearth-nsn.gov
amy.fish@whiteearth-nsn.gov
218.935.3576

Bone's 113 Bait n Tackle

Waubun MN

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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



News From District 3 Rep. Laura Lee Erickson

Aaniin Anishinaabe. I want to take a moment to update you on the work happening within our Tribe through the month of March.

As we move forward into April, the sugar bush is alive with activity. Throughout March and into April, families and community members work together in the sugar bush, carrying on practices passed down through generations- tapping the maple trees to harvest sap. The sweet smell of boiling sap fills the air, signaling the arrival of spring.

March Updates

3-3 - Tribal leaders met with White Earth Constitutional Reform Delegation to review proposed MCT Constitution Reform project and Delegate Committee Charter. The delegation will be hosting educational meetings in the villages.

3-5 - Tribal leaders met with state lobbyists to discuss and get updates on our legislative priorities. This meeting provided an opportunity to align on key issues, strategize on advocacy effort. This ongoing dialogue is essential to making sure our voices are heard and our needs are addressed in the legislative process.

A meeting with finance construction team along with staff from the Boys and Girls Club to discuss the plans for a proposed building in Callaway. The discussion focused on identifying the community's needs and outlining the necessary steps to bring this vision to life. The proposed facility aims to provide a space for youth programs and community services. Plans include a functional structure that will serve as a cultural center hub for recreational, educational and social activities. Both the finance and construction teams are working closely with the Boys and Girls Club staff to ensure that the facility meets the standards of safety, accessibility and functionality.

3-6 - Pine Point Public School held a Native American Youth Science and Engineering Fair. Students from Pine Point, Red Lake School, Naytahwaush Community Charter School, Nay Ah Shing School Mille Lacs and the Bemidji showcased their talent. The exhibits highlighted the remarkable knowledge and creativity of our youth, proving their potential as future leaders in science and innovation. It was inspiring to witness their passion and dedication firsthand. I want to thank the educators, families and Pine Point School for putting this event together for our youth! It was an honor to serve as one of the judges for this event.

3-7 - The Circle of Life Academy staff provided updates on recent activities and initiatives. Earlier in the day, the students' classroom ventured outdoors to tap trees as part of their educational experience.

Attended a virtual roundtable discussion with Representative Sharice Davids to discuss administration efforts and the importance of safeguarding tribal sovereignty. These updates reflect continued dedication to hands-on learning and advocacy for tribal rights and self-governance.

3-11 - I attended the Reservation Economic Summit that provided an opportunity to connect with tribal leaders, Board member from national Boys and Girls Club and others from across the nation to discuss programming, resources and tribal collaboration. Breakout sessions training, federal impacts, self-determination, workforce development, AI and data technologies data sovereignty, Health and Wellness for community success, community wellness initiatives. Discussions emphasized the importance of data privacy and sovereignty while exploring the benefits and risks of AI technology.



I had the privilege of watching students from our White Earth Tribal and Community College (WETTC) participate in the AIBL National Business and Leadership Student Conference. Adrian Olson, a WETTC student, earned first place in the competitive Elevator Pitch Competition, showcasing his outstanding communication and business skills. In addition to Adrian's individual success, the team also secured third-place finish in the Tribal College Business Plan Competition. Ira Keezer won a secret award of most out-going and friendly.

These accomplishments highlight the incredible talent and determination of our students and I couldn't be more proud of their achievements. It's a testament to the dedication of both the students and the faculty at WETTC, who continue to foster an environment of excellence and opportunity for future leaders. The Bemidji State University team competed in the University Business Plan Level competition and earned first place. Among the team members was Justin Keezer, a member of the White Earth Nation. Congratulations to all participants!

3-12 - I attended a follow-up meeting with the construction team, Boys and Girls Club staff and the project architect to further discuss and address the specific needs for a proposed building in Callaway. This collaborative meeting was an important step in ensuring that the design and planning align with the community's goals and priorities and to move forward.

3-14 - A special RBC meeting was held at the White Earth Tribal headquarters to review and approve signatory requests ensuring that grant deadlines were met.

3-17 - White Earth tribal leaders joined Minnesota tribal leaders, staff and legislators at the Minnesota Senate Building for Sovereignty Day, an educational event dedicated to raising awareness of tribal history, sovereignty, and the relationship between federal, state, and tribal law.

The day began with an opening ceremony and was followed by engaging panels on housing barriers on reservations, federal impacts, natural resource challenges, and the implications of federal policies on tribal nations.

Senator Smith shared updates on the administration's initiatives in Washington, D.C., emphasizing efforts that impact tribal communities. The event highlighted the importance of collaboration and advocacy for tribal sovereignty and the continued development of tribal communities.

3-18 - Seven meetings were held with state leg-

See Erickson Page 31

National Public Health Week

Honoring Our Tradition of Community Wellness

Submitted by White Earth Tribal Public Health

Anishinaabe people have always known that our health is sacred. From the foods we gather and prepare, to our ceremonies, to the ways we care for each other and the land, our culture is rooted in prevention and wellness. We've always planned for the health of our families and communities, knowing that a strong and healthy people are the foundation of our future.

This year, during National Public Health Week (April 7-13), we honor this legacy. The theme, "It Starts Here," reminds us that health and wellbeing begin in our homes, neighborhoods, and how we care for our community. Public health may sound like a modern idea, but it has always been part of our way of life.

Our Culture is Prevention

For Native people, prevention means more than just avoiding illness—it means living in harmony with ourselves, each other, and the natural world. It means protecting what is sacred: our health, our families, and our connection to the land.

Public health builds on these values by working to protect our communities in ways that align with our traditions:

- Ensuring clean water and safe homes for our families.
- Providing access to vaccines, healthy foods, and healthcare.
- Supporting mental health and healing through culturally informed care.
- Teaching ways to prevent illnesses like diabetes and heart disease.
- Preparing for challenges like wildfires, floods, and the impacts of climate change.

When we take care of ourselves and each other, we honor the teachings of our ancestors and ensure a healthier future for generations to come.

Celebrating 30 Years of Progress

This year marks the 30th anniversary of National Public Health Week, and there's a lot to celebrate. Over the past three decades, public health efforts have made a real difference in the lives of our people:

Smoking: Smoking rates among U.S. adults have fallen dramatically, from 25.5% in 1994 to just 11.4% today. Smoke-free policies, public awareness campaigns, and tobacco taxes have played a major role in this achievement.

Childhood Mortality: In 1960, the infant mortality rate in the United States was around 26 deaths per 1,000 live births, indicating that many infants did not survive their first year. Today, this rate has significantly decreased to 5.4 per 1,000, thanks to improved access to vaccines, healthcare, and nutrition (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; National Center for Health Statistics).

Mental Health: Awareness and treatment for mental health conditions have improved significantly. Laws and programs have expanded access to care, reducing the number of untreated individuals and breaking down stigma.

Lead Poisoning: Policies banning leaded gasoline and reducing lead in paint, pipes, and water systems have greatly decreased high blood lead levels in children. In 1978, kids ages one to five had an average lead level of 15 µg/dL, much higher than today's safe level of 3.5 µg/dL. Thanks to efforts to eliminate lead from gasoline and paints, the average lead level dropped to 0.7 µg/dL by 2016, a 95% reduction since

1978 (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; National Center for Health Statistics).

Climate Change: Public health efforts now address health risks caused by climate change, including heat waves and extreme weather.

Pandemic Preparedness: The COVID-19 pandemic fast-tracked advancements in vaccine technology, health infrastructure, and preparedness plans, ensuring we are better equipped to face future outbreaks.

Our Work is Sacred and Ongoing

While we've made progress, we know there's still work to do. Native communities continue to face health challenges, including higher rates of diabetes, heart disease, and other illnesses. We also know that where we live matters—access to clean water, healthy food, and healthcare isn't the same for everyone. Public health efforts must focus on fairness and equity, just as our ancestors planned for the wellbeing of the whole community.

How We Can Honor Our Health

National Public Health Week is a time to reflect on the ways public health supports us—and to recommit to practices that honor the sacredness of our health and traditions. Here's how we can all take part:

Honor Prevention: Live in ways that protect your body, mind, and spirit. Enjoy traditional foods, spend time on the land, and care for your mental and emotional health.

Share Knowledge: Teach your family and community about ways to stay healthy, just as our ancestors passed down wisdom.

Support Community Wellness: Volunteer, attend wellness events, or support programs that promote food sovereignty, clean water, and mental health care.

Advocate for Health Equity: Speak up for policies that protect our land, water, and people. Encourage leaders to invest in public health for everyone.

"It Starts Here"—with each of us, with our families, and with our community. Let's honor our ancestors by continuing to care for one another and the land. Together, we can protect what is sacred: our health, our traditions, and the future of our people.

April's Speaker 4/24/25

Candice Sherer

White Earth Urban Programs
Community Health Outreach Worker (CHOW)

The last Thursday of every month!

- Community education (substance use disorder (SUD) topics)
- New facilitator/ Speaker each month
- Home cooked meal and light refreshments
- Safe space for community

We offer a welcoming sober environment for you and your loved ones!

212 West Franklin Ave
Minneapolis, MN

5:30pm – 8:00pm

Agenda

- 5:00-5:30 Begin to Gather/ Socialize
- 5:30-6:30: Meal Served
- 6:30-7:30: SUD Guest Speaker
- 7:30-8:00: Coin Ceremony/ Talking Circle

Hosted by:
White Earth Behavioral Health & White Earth Urban Programs

White Earth Council of Elders

By Tim Rindahl, Chairman
White Earth Nation Council of Elders

Aaniin,

The month of March was an up and down month with the weather. Started cleaning the yard then a snowstorm, then nice again, then snow, wow lol.

Looks like White Earth Agriculture will be doing gardens and tilling this year so if you haven't had a raised garden reach out to Nicole LaFrinier. She is working on a list for those that need one but have never got one before. If you already have one we want to get those elders that have never received one to get them out and enjoy the weather.

On the good note it looks like there might be some fresh vegetables to pass out this year if everything goes good so keep your fingers crossed. Wade Jackson is working hard to make sure that this happens. Thanks to Wade and Nicole you guys are awesome.

The Student Initiative Vet Services (SIRVS) was here in March. They saw 215 pets. I really enjoy the students when they come, they are so polite and nice. All the work they do is amazing and needed - they will be back next year in March.

We went to breakfast a couple times in March with a small group of elders and would like to continue so it will be added to the event calendar. We can sit down and talk about what is needed in your area and how we can get together and find a solution to address our needs.

Pretty soon the weather will be great and we can go out and do some walking, yard work, gardening, and whatever else that makes us smile so get and get some sunshine.

Remember, we would like to hear from you about your concerns and all the good stuff that takes place in your village and what you would like to see happen. If you see those that need a extra hand please be willing to help out when and if you can. It will make a difference to those that you help plus it will make you feel good and as always - remember we want to be part of the solution and not the problem, together we will be unstoppable.

May you be strengthened by yesterday's rain, walk straight in tomorrow's wind and cherish each moment of the sun today.

Miigwech

Tim Rindahl (Chairman) 218-261-0182

Sam Crowell (Vice Chair) 218-252-9390

Colleen Blattenbauer (Treasurer) 218-204-0134

Missy Fairbanks (Secretary) 218-401-0553

Your job search ends here

www.whiteearth.com

Community help needed in finding photos of our World War II Veterans

By Budd Parker

White Earth Community Member

We are asking relatives and friends of these families to PLEASE look through your old photographs to try to find any pictures of the following veterans that were killed in the World Wars.

These will be included in the new memorials being installed at the White Earth IHS Clinic honoring each one of them. Despite years of searching, no photos of these fallen servicemen have been located.

Photos in uniform are preferred, but any of them about the time of their service is good too. Please send emails to:

faircox@arvig.net

whiteearthhistory@gmail.com

Belland, Robert M. "Bob" (WWII) of Waubun area, son of Fred and Amelia (Perrault) Belland; brother of Joe, Ed, Fred "Taus," George, William, Amelia, Agnes, and Theresa Clark

Brown, Eddie H. (WWII) of McCraney Lake area, son of Ernest and Carrie Brown; brother of George, Lloyd, Herman, Sam, Dan, John, and Elsie.

Brunette, George "Jumbo" (WWII) of Naytahwaush, son of Simon Peter and Effie Burnette; brother of John, William, Peter, Eddie, Clifford "Oodge," Jimmy, Ivan, Mary Nina Cloud.

DeGroat, Carl G. "Gordie" (WWII) of Ogema area, son of Willis and Mina DeGroat; brother of Wilbur, Lyle, Micheal, Emily Oberdick, Hazel Beauchamp, and Mathilda "Tillie" Parker.

LaDuke, Clarence I. (WWII) of Bagley area, son of Phillip and Josephine (Vezina) LaDuke; brother of Russell, Harold, Margaret, Merrill Paulson, Phyllis Skala, Joan "Joni" Peterson, and Frances Johnson.

Lewis, Harry V. (WWII) of Beaulieu, husband of Dolly Londo; son of Gus and Margaret Lewis; brother of Arley Lewis

Ottershaw, Dean M. (WWII) and **St. John**, Emery E. (WWII), brothers of Rice Lake, Pine Bend, Ebro, and Lengby areas, sons of Josephine (Durant) St. John Ottershaw; brothers of George and James "Spud" St. John, Elsie Bush, Louise Rabideau, Emma Bledsoe, Mary Jane Lamb, and Virginia Lamb Hutton.

Smith, Charles V. "Buster" (WWII) of Beaulieu and Cass Lake area, son of Charles and Esther (Bellcourt) Smith; brother of Hermit, James, Theodore Simon, Philip, Frances, Gladys Cain and Margaret Smith.

Wadena, Charles V. "Sonny" (WWII) of Naytahwaush, son of Elizabeth and Joseph Roy; brother of Donald and Richard Roy, Elizabeth "Chick" Alvaredo.

Weaver, Joseph L. (WWII) of White Earth, son of William and Josephine (Manypenny) Weaver; brother of George Weaver, Mabel Bonnell, and Veronica Pettiford.

Feather, Elmer A. (WWII) of White Earth or Pine Point area, brother of Everette C. LaBelle

Potter, William P. "Billy Mud" (WWII) of White Earth, son of Joseph and Sarah (Mason) Potter; brother of Jack, Charlie, and Louie Potter, and Anastasia Blue.

TeJohn, Robert (WWII) of Ponsford-Pine Point area, son of John and Florence (Basswood) TeJohn; brother of Elmer TeJohn, Lucy Cassawaty, Emma Burnette; husband of Elsie Kurtti and father of James, Alfred, Richard, Robert TeJohn, and Marlene Ritchie.

Belland, William A. (WWII) POW of Waubun area, son of Fred and Amelia (Perrault) Belland; brother of Joe, Ed, Fred "Taus," George, William, Amelia, Agnes, and Theresa Clark

We are also seeking photos of following WWII vets that didn't die in service.

Wilson, Bennie (WWII) of White Earth area, son of Joseph and Emily Wilson; brother of Pete Wilson, Josephine DeGroat, Martha "Mutt" Clark Sanders.

Brown, Earl (USN 1920s) of Naytahwaush, son of Francis and Maggie Brown; brother of Emery, Hadley, Percy, Harvey, Hartley, Victor, Flora, Cora, Ethel, Priscilla, and Sylvia.

Jackson, Edward "Tuh-bah" (WWII) of White Earth, son of Louis and Mary Jackson; brother of Mae Roy, Rose Weaver, Victoria Durant, Celia Greenlaw, and Irene Keezer.

Percy, Joseph A. (WWII) of White Earth, son of Josephine Parker and raised with relatives Henry "Smokey," Joseph "Sass," and Lawrence "Butts" Parker.

Jugg, Albert (WWII) POW of Ponsford and Pine Point, son of Jim Jugg; brother of Mary (Mrs. Fred) Weaver.

In addition to the men, we are also wanting photos of the following women veterans in order to include them in the Women in the Military Memorial.

Buckanaga, Melba (Hodges) of Ponsford-Pine Point, sister of Melvin "Buh-dub," John B., Curtis, Chuck and Jerry Buckanaga.

Bunker, Ruth (Swartz) of Naytahwaush, sister of Douglas Bunker, Edward "Skip" Pelerin Jr. and Sue, Elaine, and Betty.

Heisler, Doris "Dubbie" (Drinkwine) of White Earth, daughter of Bill and Stella Heisler.

Shingobe, Gladys (Ray) of Mahnomen County, daughter of Thomas and Mary Shingobe.

Vizenor, Rita of Ponsford-Pine Point, daughter of Joe and Irene Vizenor; sister of Magnus "Moxie," Betty Maher, Cleo Warren, Judy Henry, Toni Vizenor, and Wilma Henry.

UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS

Please update your address with the Anishinaabeg Today. Let us know if you recently moved so we can cancel your old address. Many papers are still being sent to old addresses!

Call the *Anishinaabeg Today* at
218-983-3285 Ext. 5903

or

email today@whiteearth-nsn.gov

WHITE EARTH NATURAL RESOURCES HOSTS 1ST ANNUAL EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

NAYTAHWAUSH SPORTS COMPLEX ON APRIL 22,
2025

5:00PM- 7:00PM

Join White Earth Natural Resources, White Earth Tribal College, and White Earth CSOs for an Earth Day Family Picnic! Join us for an evening of great food, yard games, and fun activities for all ages! The festivities kick off at 5:00 PM. Bring a reusable water bottle to use throughout the event and get entered into a drawing for a waterproof tote bag!

We also invite you to bring recyclable items to exchange for your very own recycling bin. Let's have fun and support sustainability together!

We're serving up to 150 people—first come, first served!



21st Annual Communities Collaborative Brain Development Conference

Save the Date

August 13th & 14th, 2025
with Preconference August 12th, 2025
Shooting Star Casino & Event Center
Mahnomen, MN

More information coming soon...

Conference website: <https://bit.ly/ccbdconference>

White Earth Child Care and Early Childhood Programs
sueheisler@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Scan me



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



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Equal Housing Opportunity

TTY711





Submitted photo

Wild Rice Electric Cooperative recently presented the Circle of Life Academy sixth-grade class with a \$500 check for their STEAM project.

Wild Rice Electric Cooperative Supports STEAM Education at Circle of Life Academy

Wild Rice Electric Cooperative is supporting Circle of Life Academy’s sixth-grade class with a \$500 donation for a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) project. Funded through the Cooperative’s unclaimed capital credits, this donation will help students purchase components to build and program robots, gaining hands-on experience in coding and problem-solving.

Seth Houglum, K-12 Principal of Circle of Life Academy, shared, “The kids are very excited to work

on the project. We thank Wild Rice Electric for the opportunity.” He highlighted teamwork, problem-solving, and real-world robotics applications as key learning goals.

Wild Rice Electric Cooperative is committed to supporting education and investing in programs that inspire future careers using these STEAM skills.

For more information about Wild Rice Electric Cooperative’s community efforts, visit www.wildriceelectric.com or call 1-800-244-5709.

Protecting Our Community: Understanding Measles

Our reservation, like many communities across the country, faces a growing concern: the resurgence of measles. This highly contagious disease, once nearly eliminated, is making a comeback, and it's vital that we understand the risks and take steps to protect ourselves, especially our most vulnerable.

Measles is a viral infection that spreads through the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes. It starts with a fever, cough, runny nose, and red, watery eyes, followed by a rash that spreads across the body. While some people recover without serious problems, measles can lead to severe complications, including pneumonia, brain inflammation (encephalitis), and even death. Our children, elders, and those with weakened immune systems are particularly at risk.

The primary reason for the measles resurgence is a decline in vaccination rates. The MMR vaccine

(measles, mumps, rubella) is safe and highly effective. It's the best way to protect ourselves and our community. When we choose not to vaccinate, we put everyone at risk, including those who cannot receive the vaccine due to medical reasons.

In our tribal community, we understand the importance of protecting our health and the health of future generations. We encourage everyone to ensure their vaccinations are up-to-date. If you have questions or concerns about the MMR vaccine, please reach out to our tribal health clinic. Our health providers are here to provide accurate information and address any concerns.

Let’s work together to protect our community from measles. By getting vaccinated, we're not only safeguarding ourselves but also ensuring the health and well-being of our entire tribal nation.



Book Review

Sugar Bush Babies: Stories of My Ojibwe Grandmother

Through the eyes of a child and the teachings of an elder, Janis A. Fairbanks revisits her life during Indian Relocation, taking us home with her through stories of childhood and lessons learned at her grandmother’s knee on the Fond du Lac Reservation. A lyrical memoir, *Sugar Bush Babies* conveys the eloquence of women speaking and sharing through generations and the lasting power of tradition.

About the Author

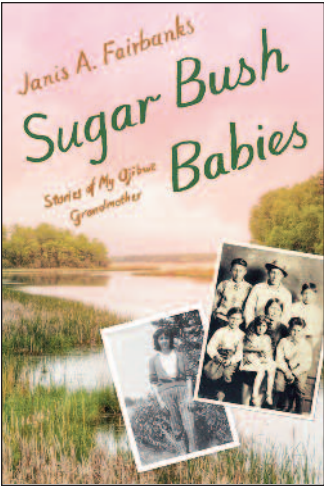
Janis A. Fairbanks is a member of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. She is involved in preserving and revitalizing the Ojibwe language and was the first coordinator of the Anishinaabemowin Ojibwe Language Program for Fond Du Lac Reservation. She is on the Editorial Advisory Board for Thunderbird Press (Animikii Mazina’iganan) and mentors a writer’s group.

Praise for *Sugar Bush Babies*

“Janis A. Fairbanks shows us how connection, culture, and community are more than dreams - they live inside of us wherever we go. Her journey from and back to her grandmother’s Ojibwe teachings in *Sugar Bush Babies* speaks to us all.” - Anton Treuer, author of *Where Wolves Don’t Die*

For more information, visit the book’s webpage:

<https://www.upress.umn.edu/9781517919023/sugar-bush-babies/>



By Janis A. Fairbanks

University of Minnesota Press | 152 pages | September 30, 2025
ISBN 978-1-5179-1902-3 | Hardcover | \$17.95

WENR Youth Summer Internship

White Earth Natural Resources is looking for highly motivated individuals that want to learn about natural resources. WENR is offering our summer internship to those who have an interest in NR, are able to work outside, and are flexible to various job duties and environments.

The summer internship pays \$16.00/hour and will approximately be 12-weeks starting June 2nd 2025.

Requirements:

- *Valid drivers license
- *Subjected to a background check.
- *Must be 16-25 years old.
- *Must currently be in high school, or have diploma/GED.
- *If in college, must be in a natural resources field or interest in a natural resources career.
- *Flexibility of the working schedule.
- *Interest in working in the outdoors in various environments.

MUST HAVE RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION TO WORK STATION

PLEASE REACH OUT TO
JASON.CLARK@WHITEEARTH-NSN.GOV OR
ZOE.KEEZER@WHITEEARTH-NSN.GOV TO ACCESS
THE APPLICATION AND LETTER OF INTEREST

APPLICATIONS DUE- APRIL 11TH



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

Keezer competes in AIBL National Business and Leadership Student Conference


Justin Keezer, White Earth citizen, and his team recently won 1st place and \$1,000 for the Business Plan Competition at the American Indigenous Business Leaders (AIBL) National Business and Leadership Student Conference in Las Vegas. The team donated their prize to the Bemidji State University AIBL program to fund future students to attend the AIBL conference.

Justin is a student at Bemidji State University in the MBA program where he currently has a 4.0 GPA. He is also the Youth Coordinator for the White Earth Natural Resources Department. His business plan proposal was for a wild rice processing facility in White Earth under the name of “The Good Berry.” He is actively looking for investors to make his business plan become a reality. Justin was also recognized for The Most Upbeat and Positive award at the conference.

AIBL’s National Business and Leadership Student Conference is designed to give Indigenous students and professionals access to relevant business information and expertise, offering a variety of activities geared specifically to enhance and expand educational experiences beyond what is taught through traditional academic methods. During the conference, students compete for prizes in business plans, community projects, and elevator pitches, where they are offered leadership roles to gain valuable presentation, organizational, and project management skills and experience.



Photo by Renee Keezer
Justin Keezer reacts to his team winning 1st place.



Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Calendar
Shooting Star Event Center Site / Mahnomen

February-March-April 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
February 10 OPEN 11am-7pm	February 11 OPEN 11am-7pm	February 12 OPEN 11am-7pm	February 13 OPEN 11am-7pm	February 14 SITE CLOSED
February 17 SITE CLOSED	February 18 OPEN 11am-7pm	February 19 OPEN 11am-7pm	February 20 OPEN 11am-7pm	February 21 SITE CLOSED
February 24 OPEN 11am-7pm	February 25 OPEN 11am-7pm	February 26 OPEN 11am-7pm	February 27 OPEN 11am-7pm	February 28 SITE CLOSED
March 3 OPEN 11am-7pm	March 4 OPEN 11am-7pm	March 5 OPEN 11am-7pm	March 6 OPEN 11am-7pm	March 7 SITE CLOSED
March 10 OPEN 11am-7pm	March 11 SITE CLOSED	March 12 OPEN 11am-7pm	March 13 SITE CLOSED	March 14 SITE CLOSED
March 17 OPEN 11am-7pm	March 18 SITE CLOSED	March 19 OPEN 11am-7pm	March 20 SITE CLOSED	March 21 SITE CLOSED
March 24 OPEN 11am-7pm	March 25 SITE CLOSED	March 26 OPEN 11am-7pm	March 27 SITE CLOSED	March 28 SITE CLOSED
March 31 OPEN 11am-7pm	April 1 SITE CLOSED	April 2 OPEN 11am-7pm	April 3 SITE CLOSED	April 4 SITE CLOSED
April 7 OPEN 11am-7pm	April 8 SITE CLOSED	April 9 OPEN 11am-7pm	April 10 SITE CLOSED	April 11 SITE CLOSED
April 14 OPEN 11am-7pm	April 15 SITE CLOSED	For assistance after April 15, call Sue at 218.844.7029 or Jodi at 218.844.7057		

Call 218-396-1002 for appointments or go to weii.website

WETCC Community Extension is focusing on teaching members how to grow their own plants

White Earth Tribal and Community College (WETCC) is a 1994 Tribal Land Grant institution through which funding and resources received are used to support the areas of education, research, and extension programs, within topical areas such as agriculture, natural resources, and community development.

WETCC Community Extension (CE), a department within the college, supports informal, community-based learning and strives to strengthen community food security by providing informal, culturally relevant, food literacy education within the community. Funded in part by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Institute of Food & Agriculture (NIFA), we are very grateful also to our many community partners who support our educational efforts.

In response to food security uncertainty, in 2020, WETCC CE expanded community educational activities to include a seed and plant start distribution component to increase community food access and encourage as many people as possible to grow their own produce. Distribution of seeds and plants continued through the 2024 growing season. Moving forward, we are now dedicating more time to our role of informal community-based teaching with an increased emphasis on Food Security and Food Sovereignty.

- What is Food Security? According to the 1996 World Food Summit, food security was defined as “when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.”
- What is Food Sovereignty? As per the USDA Indigenous Food Sovereignty Initiative Fact Sheet, “Indigenous Food Sovereignty is the ability for tribal nations and communities to feed their own people on

their own terms.”

Due to a variety of factors, such as lack of capacity and sustainability, WETCC Community Extension is restructuring the seed and plant start distribution effort. We will continue to distribute seeds throughout the spring by bringing seeds and educational literature to as many community functions as possible. This will be followed up with seed saving education throughout summer and fall, where participants will be encouraged to create their own individual/family seed collections.

WETCC Community Extension will no longer provide community distribution of plant starts, as we are focusing on teaching community members how to grow their own. In 2024, we offered Plant Propagation Kit workshops in three communities: Pine Point, Rice Lake, and at WETCC in Mahnomen. In 2025, these workshops included the sites of Callaway (March 26), Naytahwaush (April 2), and at WETCC in Mahnomen (April 9). Informational flyers advertising the sessions were distributed in communities and on WETCC’s website and Facebook page. Registration was required, as we had 25 kits available per site.

Food security starts with the seeds. Community members play an important part in strengthening their own food sustainability and resilience when the seeds in their individual/family collections are grown out, saved, and planted each gardening season.

For more information on gardening and seed saving, you may contact WETCC Community Extension staff through the department’s email address: extension@wetcc.edu and find current and upcoming educational offerings on the WETCC Community Extension’s webpage: <https://www.wetcc.edu/extension/> and on the WETCC’s Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/wetcc/>.

PLANT START DEMONSTRATION

Community Learning Opportunities

Seeds available for all.

WETCC Community Extension is working to educate the community on self-sufficiency, food sovereignty, and seed saving. These workshops are taking the place of the previous May plant and seed distributions.



OPEN
3:00 to 6:00 PM
Wednesday
March 26, 2025
Callaway
WE Land Recovery Project

Wednesday
April 2, 2025
Naytahwaush
Firehall

Wednesday
April 9, 2025
Mahnomen
Zhehe Classroom
WETCC

Learn when & how to plant seeds indoors and transplant outdoors.

Register for Propagation Kits

25 Kits per site:

- Must reside within White Earth Reservation boundaries
- Must register to receive kit
- 1 kit per household



First 25 to register will receive a propagation kit to take home. SEEDS AVAILABLE FOR ALL!

Scan QR Code to register online or email extension@wetcc.edu.







UCare Medicaid plans offer fitness club and grocery discounts, no-cost car seats for children, rewards for taking care of your health and much more.

Find out if you qualify at ucare.org/boozhoo
Call 1-866-605-3418 (TTY 1-800-688-2534)





SPRING INTO SUMMER WAVES



CHANCE TO WIN CASH OR A NEW BOAT

Sundays in April | 4PM-8PM

Shake off the frost and cast into summer with
a chance to win cash or a brand-new boat!
Catch your entries now.

CONCERTS

Foghat | April 11

RaeLynn & Jerrod Niemann | April 25

The Beach Boys | May 16

Steven Adler of Guns N' Roses | May 23



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FREE FINANCIAL WELLNESS COUNSELING

DO YOU WANT TO:

- CREATE A HOUSEHOLD BUDGET?
- SET UP A PERSONAL SAVINGS PLAN?
- BUY YOUR OWN HOME?
- ESTABLISH OR REPAIR CREDIT?
- SET FINANCIAL GOALS?

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.

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White Earth Band of Ojibwe

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AND COLLATERAL SUPPORT

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www.wei.website

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The Small Business Credit Initiative program is operated under the funding requirements of the US Dept of the Treasury. White Earth Investment Initiative is the SSBCI Contracted Entity for the White Earth Band of Ojibwe.



White Earth Food Shelf April 2025 Delivery Schedule				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1	2	3	4
	Callaway	Rice Lake	NTW	Cleaning, Inventory
	10am-noon	10am-noon	Walk in's	CLOSED
	Nijiji Radio	ENP Site	Stocking Shelves	
	NTW CLOSED	NTW CLOSED	9am-2pm	CLOSED
7	8	9	10	11
NTW	Elbow Lake	Pine Point	NTW	Cleaning, Inventory
Walk in's	10am-noon	10am-noon	Walk in's	CLOSED
Stocking Shelves	ENP Site	ENP Site	Stocking Shelves	
9am-2pm	NTW CLOSED	NTW CLOSED	9am-2pm	CLOSED
14	15	16	17	18
NTW	Closed	Closed	NTW	Cleaning, Inventory
Walk in's			Walk in's	CLOSED
Stocking Shelves			Stocking Shelves	
9am-2pm			9am-2pm	CLOSED
21	22	23	24	25
Closed	White Earth	Ogema	NTW	Cleaning, Inventory
Easter	10am-noon	10am-noon	Walk in's	CLOSED
Holiday	ENP Site	Dream Catcher Homes	Stocking Shelves	
	NTW CLOSED	NTW CLOSED	9am-2pm	CLOSED
28	29	30		
NTW	Waubun	Mahnomen		
Walk in's	10am-noon	10am-noon		
Stocking Shelves	Community Center	Vet's Building		
9am-2pm	NTW CLOSED	NTW CLOSED		
HOURS OF OPERATION 7AM---3:30PM Monday--Friday				
applications are available at Community Centers, ENP Sites and Naytahwaush Sports Complex				
Hours are subject to change due to weather and closure's for Holiday's				
Walk in's are Monday's and Thursday's only at the Nay tah waush Sports Complex from 9am-2pm				
please feel free to contact the White Earth Food Shelf at 218-935-6313 or 218-935-6314				
please call ahead of time if picking up so that we have enough food for everyone thanks				

Annette earns Lifetime Achievement Award

Billie Annette, White Earth enrollee, received a Lifetime Achievement Award at a recently held Minnesota Indian Education Association conference. The following is a write up of her nomination.

“I am honored to nominate Billie Annette, an enrolled member of the White Earth Nation, to recognize her work with a Lifetime Achievement award. Billie is a treasured elder whose warmth, wisdom, and humor create a soft presence in every space she enters. Her joyful spirit uplifts those around her, and her kind heart makes her a natural mentor and advocate for students, families, and colleagues alike.

For the past 20 years Billie has been a steadfast leader in Indian Education, serving as an active board member on both the Tribal Nations Education Committee and the Minnesota Indian Education Committee, representing the White Earth Nation. Through her advocacy, she has worked to ensure that Native students across Minnesota receive the support, resources, and culturally grounded education they deserve. Her work as the Johnson O'Malley (JOM) Coordinator at the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe further demonstrates her dedication to Indigenous education. Billie's expertise in JOM programs has been instrumental in guiding programming throughout the state and metro area, helping Native stu-

dents stay connected to their culture while achieving academic success.

Beyond her educational leadership, Billie is also a gifted and deeply respected Ojibwe poet. Though she carries her talents with humility, her poetry is a reflection of her lived experiences, heritage, and the strength of the Anishinaabe people. Her unique writing style - offering profound glimpses of life in the fewest words possible - is an art form she has mastered. Through her poetry, she weaves together history, resilience, and personal storytelling, leaving a lasting impact on those who have the privilege of reading her work.

Billie Annette is more than an educator, leader, and artist - she is a source of inspiration for so many who have had the honor of working alongside her and calling her a friend. Her unwavering commitment to Indian Education, her ability to bring people together, and her generosity in sharing her wisdom make her an outstanding candidate for Lifetime Achievement. For all she has done and continues to do for our communities, we give our deepest gratitude.”



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April 23
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WHITE EARTH
2025 ANGLING SEASONS AND DATES

Species	Dates	Daily Possession Limits
Walleye	May 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026	10
Northern Pike	May 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026	15
Muskellunge	May 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026 (Minimum size limit of 50 inches) <u>Angling only.</u> Netting incidentals will be exempt.	1
Bass	May 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026 (Large/Small Mouth combination)	10
Trout	May 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026 (All species in combination)	10
Crappies	May 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026	20
Sunfish	May 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026 (All species in combination)	30
Rough fish	May 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026 (Perch are classified as Rough fish)	200
Lake Sturgeon	Open angling March 1, 2025 - February 28, 2026 * Ceremonial permits may be issued for limited harvest and use. Please contact Natural Resources for a permit application	0 Catch and Release Season Only

DARK HOUSE SPEARING

November 8, 2025 though March 31, 2026

- Daily possession limit is the same as angling.
- Spearing and angling limits are combined and may not exceed daily possession limits alone or in combination with the exception of muskellunge.
- It is prohibited to spear muskellunge during any season(s).

ROUGH FISH SPEARING REGULATIONS

Daytime Period

Rough fish may be speared in rivers and lakes during daylight hours beginning at sunrise on March 1 through April 12, 2025

Nighttime Period

Rough fish may be speared in rivers and lakes anytime beginning at 12 a.m. on April 12, 2025 through Feb. 28, 2026

General

- ❖ It is prohibited to harvest Game Fish with a spear. This incudes Lake Sturgeon.
- ❖ All lakes, rivers, ponds, streams and creeks are open to the harvest of rough fish with a spear with the exception of crossing private property without permission.

Tribal members are asked to respect private property:

1. Please do not litter.
2. Please be careful and do not damage stream banks or other access points.

Daily Limit

200 rough fish (all species in combination)

TURTLE HARVEST

Species	Dates	Daily Possession Limits
Snapping	May 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026	10
All other species	May 1, 2025 - April 30, 2026	200

2025 ROUGH FISH
BOW FISHING, HARPOON, DIP NET AND SEINE REGULATIONS

Daytime Period

Rough fish may be bow fished, dip netted and seined in rivers and lakes during daylight hours beginning at sunrise on March 1 through April 12, 2025

Nighttime Period

Rough fish may be bow fished, dip netted and seined in rivers and lakes anytime beginning at 12 a.m. on April 12, 2025 through February 28, 2026

General

- You cannot bow fish, spear, seine, dip net or harpoon in designated trout lakes and streams.
- You cannot bow fish in posted spawning areas.
- Arrow must be tethered to the bow. If you shoot a fish you must retrieve the fish and your arrow.
- You cannot shoot a fish and throw it back in the water, leave it on the bank of any waterway, ice of any lake, stream, pond or any access site.
- You can transport and use a bow while taking rough fish from a watercraft with or without a motor.
- You may only bow fish and harpoon for rough fish, which include carp, buffalo, sucker, redhorse, sheephead, bowfin, burbot (ellpout), yellow perch, cisco (tullibee), and bullhead.
- **It is prohibited to harvest game fish with a dip net, harpoon, bow and arrow or seine. This includes Lake Sturgeon**
- The hoops on hand-held dip nets cannot exceed 24 inches in diameter.
- You cannot harpoon within 1,000 feet of a swimming beach.
- You cannot exceed the daily limit for each species taken with any combination of spearing, harpooning, dip netting or seining equipment to reach the limit. Fish taken by archery (bow fishing) also are included in this limit.

Daily Limit

200 rough fish (All species in combination)

All violations of the provisons of these regulations shall be considered a violation of the Conservation Code and shall be subject to any penalties provided therein.

WETCC Student Spotlight: Ashley Stevens

White Earth Tribal and Community College (WETCC) honors a student each month who exemplifies academic excellence, resilience, and personal growth. Students are nominated by fellow students who recognize the unique and exceptional qualities of their peers. WETCC’s student spotlight for the month of April is Ashley Stevens.

Ashley is in her first year of higher education at WETCC, pursuing an Associate of Arts (AA) degree. This term, she decided to become more engaged on campus, not only in her courses, but also in extracurricular activities. She got involved in Student Senate, then joined the American Indian Business Leaders (AIBL) club and became a member of the team of four students that competed at AIBL’s National Business and Leadership Student Conference in Las Vegas, NV in March. The team impressed the judges and placed third overall in the business plan competition.

Her success is even sweeter given that just a year ago, Ashley was fighting with addiction. “It got the best of me last spring, but I’m back better than ever!” she said. As a student, mother, and employee, she is balancing the multiple facets of her life successfully. She credits her success in putting school first, focusing on academic improvement, and never giving up.

According to Ashley, she is happiest when she is with her children. She says that both of her children and her two “bonus” children make her extremely proud. “I love watching them grow into young adults and want them to dream big and never stop dreaming.”

When asked why she chose to attend WETCC, Ashley says there were many reasons. She loves that the college is part of the White Earth Nation. She also enjoys the smaller classes, working with other students, and the amazing opportunities that WETCC provides. After graduation, Ashley plans to continue her education at Bemidji State University, reenter the workforce full time, then start her own business.





Ojibwemodaa.2!

Lets all speak Ojibwe! Aaniin, Boozhoo.; Greetings.

Ojibwemowin involves 4 communication skills; speaking, listening, reading and writing. This is the Double Vowel writing system. Refer to The Concise Dictionary of MN Ojibwe, by John Nichols & Earl Nyholm. Respectfully ask an elder, family and friends to speak Ojibwe within your circle.

Abinoojiwin•Infancy Bilingual: To speak two languages-Give their gift of Ojibwemowin. Speak daily to our Nation's youngest. Birth to age five best promotes bilingualism! Pronounce by syllables: Boo zhoo! Aa niin e zhi -a yaa yan. - Greetings!-How are you? Gimino-ayaa na?-You're well? Gaye niin-Also me. ••USE Ojibwe Vowel sounds in "syllables": consonant(s) & vowels > ••"Aaniin ezhi-ayaayeg? Nimikwedam. Gaawaabaa-

biganikaag, gidonjibaam imaa. ("How/what way are you all? I remember. White Earth, you all come from there.) ••"Gaye niin. Ningii-izhigoz gitigaaning." ("Also me. I moved to a farm.") ••"Ziigwan, Niibin, Dagwaagin, Biboon." ("Spring. Summer, Fall, Winter.") ••"Nindooday omaa." ("I have/own a horse/dog here.") ••"Ginanda-gikendaan." ("You seek to learn it.") **Awesii(yag)-Wild animal(s)** Makwa(g)- Bear(s) **Ajidamoo(g)- Red Squirrel(s)** Waabooz(oog)- Rabbit(s) **Mooz(oog)- Moose** Waawaashkeshi(wag)- Deer **Waagosh(ag)- Fox(es)**



Find the ten(10) underlined Ojibwe words in the wordfind.

Oshki-nitaawigiwin•Young Adult•Teen

Boozhoo! Aaniin waa-izhichigeyan? **Niwii**-ojibwem omaa. Greetings. How/what way will-you be doing? **I will**-speak Ojibwe here. Students are learning! Gaawiin.-No. Eya'.-Yes. Gaawiin gegoo.- Nothing. Ganabaj.-Maybe. Gego! -Don't! Howah!-Wow! Bekaa! -Slow down! Wiisinin! -Eat! Maanaadan. -It's bad. Wiidookawishin! -Help me! Daga -Please. Aaniin minik? -How much/many? Geget ina? -Sure? Niminwendam.- I am happy. Anishinaabeg.-The People.

Write/Speak Ojibwemowin words the "double vowel" way. A Concise Dictionary of Minnesota Ojibwe by John D. Nichols and Earl Nyholm is a popular language dictionary. Speak "syllables" -A consonant and vowel together. O ji bwe mo win - A ni shi naa be mo win. Practice the language vowel sounds below!

Goal: Learn one word a day.
Speak a weekly list from this page.
Listen/Speak w/dictionary online.

E Z N A P
G I K J O E
I I N O G Z L
T G M I O O N B
I W W O N Y H I S
G A M K W D A M I G
A N E B A N O O J B E
A J I D A M O O N A I S
N O I O G P S M D Z H N
I Y D Z O N J I E A H W
N A W E S I I G K O Y D
G E Y B H G I O G A Y E

Double Vowel Sounds!
Specific to Ojibwe!
*Longer voiced vowels:
AA (baa), II (teen),
OO (moo), E (cage)
*Short voiced vowels
A (about), I (tin), O (only)
A glottal stop ' is a
voiceless nasal hesitation
as dash in: oh-oh

Nitaawigiwin

• Grownup

Aaniin ezhichiged?
>>>>>=====>>>>>
What is s/he doing?
1. Jiibaakwewigamigong,
jiibaakwe. _____
2. Agwajiing, _____
babaamose. _____
3. Iwidi, _____
nibaa. _____
4. Miikanaang, _____
bimibatoo. _____
5. Nibaaganing, _____
ninibaa. _____
6. Odaabaaning, _____
nimbabaamibiz. _____

Mii'iw. - That's all.
Miigwech! - Thanks! _____
Key: 1-In a kitchen, s/he cooks. 2-Outside, s/he walks about. 3-Over there, s/he sleeps. 4-On a path, s/he runs. 5-In the bed, I sleep. 6-In the car, I drive/speed about.

Anishinaabeg.- The People....
Aaniin ezhi'ayaayan? How are you?
Niin, ninminwendam. - Me, I'm happy.
Nindayekoz noongom. - I am tired now.
Niminwaadiz. - I am a good person.
Ningichi-minwedam! - I'm really happy!
Nindagigokaa. - I have a cold.
Ningichi-bakade. - I am very-hungry.
Ninzaagi'iwe. - I love someone.
Nimbimiwijige! - I am pregnant!
Nindakamanji'. - I feel cold.
Ningizhaabikiz. - I am hot.
Ningiizhkaabaagwe.-
I am thirsty.
Mii'iw. That's it.

Jiigada'igan. - Broom.
Bagiwayaanish. - Cloth/Rag.
Ningiziisaga'ige - I mop the floor.
Ninbiinichige. - I am cleaning.

•WE Resources

<https://whiteearth.com/divisions/culture/services>
•Search/Listen: Ojibwe People's Dictionary
<https://ojibwe.lib.umn.edu>
•Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Comm.
<https://www.glifwc.org/>
•Clipart: clipart.com

Gichi-aya'aa•Elder

Aaniin ezhinikaazod wa'aw giizis? What/how is s/he called this moon/month? Iskigamizige-Giizis wa'aw giizis. -S/he's called Maple Sugar-Moon this moon. (April). —•Nindayaa iskigamiziganaak Eya! Nindiskigamizige. Ginaadoobii ina? Eya! Niminwendam ziigwang. Aandi izhaayan noongom. Nindizhaa iskigamiziganing. Izhaadaa! •I have boiling sap kettle frame. Yes! I boil down maple sap. You gathering sap? Yes! I am happy as it is spring. Where you going now? I am going to the sugarbush. Let's all go! Gichi-Miigwech!- Big Thanks!

-waad
-daa!
-yan
ina
Eya'!

1. Aandi ezhaa_____ noongom?
Where are **you** going now?
2. Aandi waa-izhaa_____ baamaa?
Where will-go **they** after awhile?

3. Anama'ewigamigong _____ izhaawag? Ninaadinise.
To the church ?? they are going ?? I'm going to get firewood.
4. Nimbakade noongom. Ishkwaa-naawakwe. Wiisini_____!
I am hungry now. It is afternoon. **Let's all eat!**
5. Aaniin ezhi-ayaayan agwajiing? Gibinaakwe'ige na? _____ omaa!
What are you doing outside? You raking? **Yes, here!**

Ojibwemodaa! - **Let's all speak Ojibwe!** March©2025 Shelly Ceglar

Ojibwemowin/Anishinaabemowin is an "indigenous language"; meaning it is native to a region, is spoken by the region's original groups and has minority language status. "Dialect" is region-specific unique speech patterns or word use within the same language. "Orthography" is a standardized way of writing the language. The Double Vowel orthography is commonly used in teaching Ojibwe in MN & WI circles.

MIIGWECH! Share your Ojibwemowin successes, knowledge, resources, how you learn, and help others!

Detroit Lakes Schools Royalty



Photo by Tiffany Swiers

The Detroit Lakes Public Schools Powwow was held March 13. Justuz Rylar Swiers, 13, a 7th grader, won the Brave title. Justuz is known for his dedication and hard work and cultural ties to the Anishinaabeg traditions. Justuz is the son of Tiffany Swiers and Ricky Smith. Taya Lynn LongChace, 14, a 9th grader, won the Princess title. Taya is a shy yet lively young girl who loves dancing. She has dreamed of becoming the DL Princess since elementary school. She is the daughter of Cassie Warren and the granddaughter of Jacky Carrabou and John Stiyr.

Family Movie Night



Photo by Page Lhotka

Family Movie Night was held March 20 at the Shooting Star Casino Event Center. Children (and adults) enjoyed the movie *Brother Bear!* In addition to the movie, those in attendance enjoyed a meal of chicken nuggets, mac n' cheese, tator tots, yogurt and cake. The event was sponsored by White Earth Nation Tribal Public Health.

Pine Point School hosts Native American Science and Engineering Fair



Photos by Gary W. Padrta

The Native American Science and Engineering Fair was held March 6 at Pine Point School. Competing schools were Bemidji, Naytahwaush Community and Charter School, Nay Ah Shing School, Red Lake and Pine Point. The guest speaker was Mike Swan and the MC was Rob Fairbanks (aka Rez Reporter). The over all top winners received a \$600 shopping spree at the Mall of America. The two top in Science were Chance and Sean - *Drag of a Paper Airplane*, and Ira and Cass - *Exercise and Heart Rate*, both from Nay Ah Shing. The top two, both from Pine Point, in Engineering were Kenzie Lerud - *The Claw*, and Karleigh Annette and Sierra Crowell - *Rez Dogs Need Clean Water Too*. **Top left:** Judge Stephanie Williams checks out a wind-powered car. **Bottom left:** District 3 Representative Laura Lee Erickson chats with students from Pine Point. **Upper right:** MC and judge Mike Swan discusses a project with students. **Lower right:** Students demonstrate their project to District 2 Representative Eugene Sommers who helped with judging.



White Earth Mother's Day Powwow

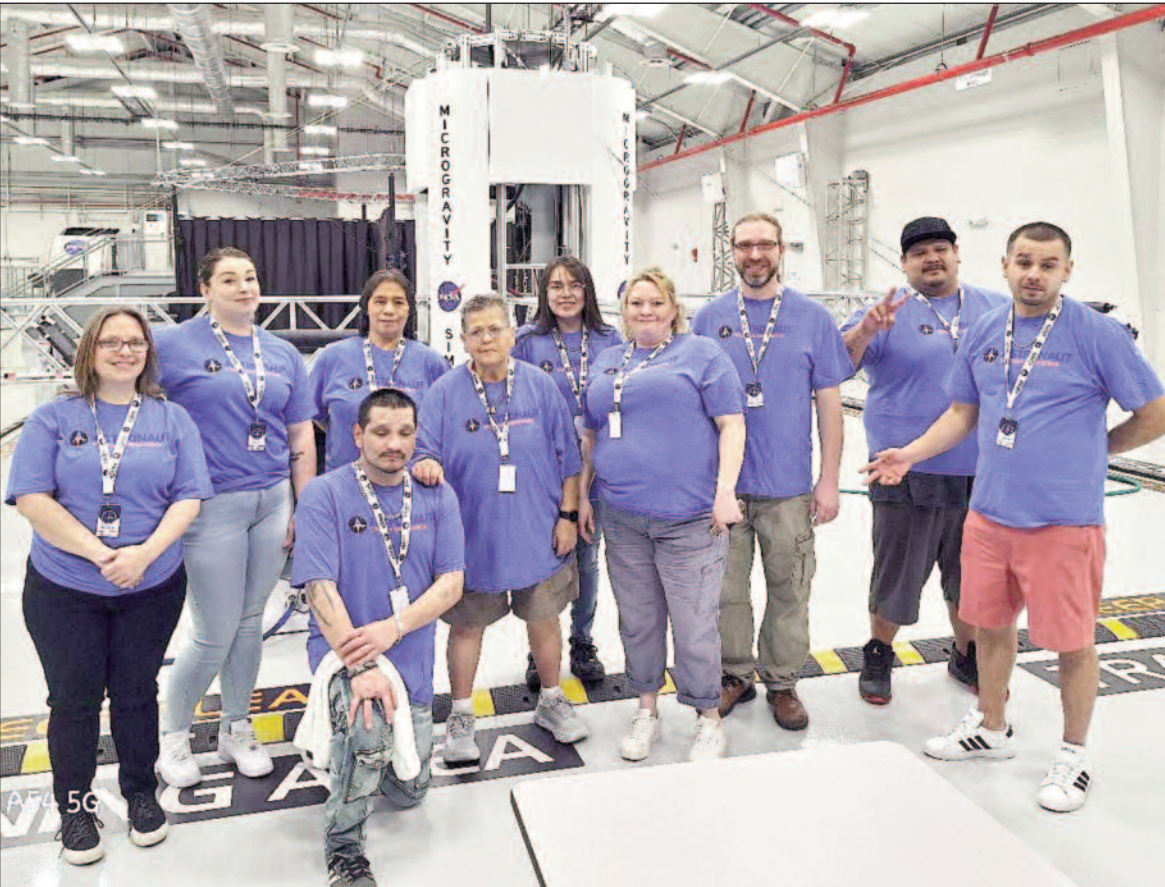
May 10 & 11, 2025

Shooting Star Event Center
SHOOTING STAR CASINO, 777 CASINO ROAD, MAHNOMEN, MN 56557

Save the Date!

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Charles Littlewolf | 218.902.1267 | Autumn Auginaush | 218.368.3320

This is a Drug and Alcohol Free Event. WERBC, SSC, WEPC and all associated entities will not be held liable for people who are attending at their own risk nor be held responsible for accidents, losses, illnesses or short funded travelers.



Submitted photo

Nine White Earth Tribal and Community College students, along with their advisors, recently returned from a once-in-a-lifetime educational journey to the Kennedy Space Center and Visitor Complex in Florida. From left are Nicole Desjarlais, Devin Donovan-Larson, Ira Mercurio-Keezer (in front), Amy Fairbanks, Shirley McGregor, Natalie Manypenny, Lonnie Schmit, Allen Derks, Brent Murray, and Adrian Olson.

WE Tribal and Community College students embark on exciting NASA exploration

Nine White Earth Tribal and Community College (WETCC) students, along with their advisors, Allen Derks and Nicole Desjarlais, recently returned from a once-in-a-lifetime educational journey to the Kennedy Space Center and Visitor Complex in Florida. The trip was organized as part of the Tribal College and University (TCU) Building Bridges Grant Program, an initiative designed to engage TCU students in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.

According to WETCC Science Instructor and Advisor, Allen Derks, the trip aimed to achieve three key objectives: explore the multifaceted work of NASA, uncover related career opportunities in STEM fields, and foster self-confidence through hands-on participation in NASA's astronaut training experience.

During their visit, students experienced an array of interactive simulations and training exercises, including piloting a space capsule flight simulator, taking on roles in a mission control simulator, maneuvering a Mars rover simulator (described as, "like a giant washing machine on the spin cycle"), and exploring virtual reality environments like a Mars surface simulation. They also experienced a weightlessness simulator, offering a glimpse into the challenges faced by astronauts in space.

The students—comprising of Devin Donovan-Larson, Amy Fairbanks, Karley Goodwin, Natalie Manypenny, Shirley McGregor, Ira Mercurio-Keezer, Brent Murray, Adrian Olson, and Lonnie Schmit—also experienced a behind-the-scenes

tour of the Kennedy Space Center. They marveled at iconic spacecraft from past Apollo moon missions, the renowned Atlantis space shuttle, and cutting-edge spacecraft from NASA's Artemis program. The group also saw spacecraft from private aerospace companies, including Blue Origin, SpaceX, and Boeing.

The students all agreed that the trip was an experience of a lifetime. Student Amy Fairbanks described being in the Mars rover simulator, "It was awesome! I hit a rock and got flipped over a couple of times." She added that one lasting memory was, "Seeing the Atlantis Space Shuttle with the burn patterns on it, and how it looks inside – yes it's the real shuttle!"

This enriching experience was made possible through a collaborative agreement between the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) and NASA's Minority University Research and Education Project for American Indian Alaska Native STEM Engagement (MAIANSE). The grant program supports projects aimed at broadening TCU students' engagement with STEM disciplines, expanding research opportunities, and enhancing course and curriculum development.

By inspiring students and building bridges to STEM careers, this program continues to strengthen the foundation for success among Native American students and the greater scientific community.

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

Annual COLA Round Dance



Photos by Gary W. Padrta

The Circle of Life Academy 8th Annual Spring Round Dance was held March 14 at the school. Specials included an Orange Dance, Hand Drum Contest, Spot Dances and Best Dressed. 1st place hand drum went to Anthony Bucknaga, 2nd place was Dom Bellanger, and 3rd place Dayton Jones, 1st place orange dance team went to Kathy Potter and Tylie Smith and 2nd place was Honey Dewy and Breah Person

QUITTING SMOKING AND THE PATH TO A HEALTHIER LIFE

There are many stories about how people quit smoking commercial tobacco. A few of these stories about smoking cessation success only happen after someone experiences a health scare. A health scare can happen when someone goes into the hospital, has surgery, and then decides it is probably a good time to quit while hospitalized. Some people have said they just decided to quit cold turkey because they were tired of purchasing a pack of cigarettes at approximately \$13.53 with tax. Stopping cold turkey is an example of willpower-resisting a short-term temptation to accomplish a long-term goal. This is easier for some than others, depending on how much they smoke. A good support person is also key to success.



The rewards of quitting a nicotine addiction can be fantastic. The money saved in a jar over time can help pay off a bill you have been struggling with. The money saved can pay for a trip with your loved ones, and it is something you might find worthwhile and have money to do more often. Life insurance will become cheaper (and well worth the investment) once you accomplish your quit. The ability to breathe better improves your sense of smell, and you might even have more energy. Consider the fact that one day, your clothing will no longer smell like an ashtray.

The first thing people worry about is how to deal with cravings, restlessness, irritability, and possibly even headaches. If you can make it the first week, it will eventually become easier going forward. That's where willpower comes in. Figure out what works for you and talk to other people to see what helped them. You don't have to do this alone. You say you are too stressed to quit? Find different ways to deal with stress. Deep breathing is a relaxing exercise when stress is taking place. Get up and move from your spot. Changing your location or habits can keep you mindful that you are only in a temporary situation. If you always sit in a certain place while smoking, move to a different spot to remind yourself of the new change that is taking place. Suppose you used to smoke while in your vehicle, place some hand-to-mouth tools nearby to take the place of the cigarette. Talk to others and get some exercise (go outside if the weather permits and get some fresh air). Eat healthy snacks to avoid weight gain and think about what you can do instead of smoking, like learn a new hobby or read a good book.

Finally, nobody can do it for you. The first thing is to set your mind to what you need to do and mark it on a calendar for when you will start. This plan of action will also need some positive affirmations. Only when we think about it and believe it will be possible. Thoughts like: I deserve to be healthy and free from my commercial tobacco addiction. My body is going to feel better when I start taking better care of my health. I can overcome any challenge that I am faced with each new day. Make it your own, and keep telling yourself until it happens. Success can only happen if you start learning what works and what does not. It might be your first time or your twentieth time, but somewhere on that journey, you will finally get it right. Be Well.

**COACHING IS A FREE WAY TO GET HELP
QUITTING. COACHES ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP
BY PHONE, TEXT OR ONLINE.**

**American Indian Quitline: 1-833-9AI-QUIT
Minnesota Quitline: 1-800-QUIT-NOW
<https://www.quitpartnermn.com>**



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m DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH

April Sexual Assault Awareness Month

By Andrea Carrier
Community Advocacy Coordinator/ASART Coordinator and
Taylor Benson
Sexual Assault Advocate
White Earth DOVE Program

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). This month we bring attention to the crisis of sexual violence that has been harming our relatives and damaging our communities for many generations. The White Earth DOVE Program is a tribal victim services program funded by state and federal grants to provide culturally specific services to survivors. The White Earth DOVE Program serves Native and non-Native men, women and youth survivors of sexual violence who reside on or within a 25-mile radius of the White Earth Reservation boundaries. DOVE has a shelter that houses women survivors of intimate partner violence and women survivors of sexual assault who are high risk for being revictimized by their perpetrator. All employees of the White Earth DOVE Program receive 40 hour Native-Focused Sexual Assault Advocacy Training. DOVE has two Sexual Assault Advocates on staff who provide services specifically to survivors of sexual assault including adult survivors who were sexually abused at children and secondary survivors. A secondary survivor is someone who has been affected by the assault but

was not directly involved in the incident. For example, a parent or guardian, a sibling, or a child. Services for sexual assault survivors include: Crisis Intervention, Support, Personal Advocacy, Transportation to Hospital, Court or Appointments Related to the Victimization, Safety Planning, Assistance in applying for Crime Victim Reimbursement, Assistance in obtaining a Protection Order, Court Accompaniment, Accompaniment to Emergency Medical Care/Forensic Exam, Law Enforcement and Prosecution Advocacy//Accompaniment, Assistance with writing a Victim Impact Statement, Cultural Advocacy, Relocation Assistance, Referrals, Information on Victims' Rights and the Criminal Justice Process. White Earth has the Anishinaabe Sexual Assault Response Team (ASART) which is a multi-disciplinary team that meets quarterly to review cases, discuss best practices for responding to sexual assault cases in Becker, Clearwater and Mahnomen counties, and provide education on various topics surrounding sexual assault. If you or someone you know has been sexually assaulted, call our hotline for services and resources. The White Earth DOVE Program is able to help and can be reached at 218-935-6286 or 1-877-830-DOVE (3683), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week or visit our website at www.whiteearthdove.com.

Awards from Page 32

on to the next students who join!" Lauri Zupan said, Attending the American Indigenous Business Leaders Conference was a transformative experience that highlighted the strength of community and collaboration. Competing pushed me beyond my comfort zone, revealing that challenges are truly opportunities for growth. I learned to trust in my vision; preparation and confidence are essential, and every voice holds significance. The inspiring energy from Indigenous leaders and entrepreneurs motivated me and affirmed my vision of starting a business. Their examples encouraged me to move forward while uplifting others for a brighter future. Ashley Stevens said, I'm grateful for the opportunities AIBL has brought to me, it's been fun and exciting. I'm thrilled to move forward and even have thoughts on joining the BSU AIBL team after I graduate tribal college. Ira shares, I was hoping to network with a few renewable energy people—there were

several hundred! I met several business people who grew up on the Rez and a couple from more rugged situations than we have here on WEN who are now CEOs and CFOs of multi-million and even billion-dollar companies. The AIBL conference and the RES convention were both unbelievable experiences! Tessa Sayers, the Director of Marketing and Program Development for AIBL shared a unanimous quote written about the WETCC advisor Carlene Hisgun. She inspires and challenges students to be our best selves while staying personable and easy to talk to, she is the reason I am here now and the one who challenges me to continue to raise my personal bar and keeps me motivated in the club! After the awards ceremony all White Earth Nation student and advisor enrolled representation celebrated together by taking photos. Congratulations to all of these students! Minnesota and WETCC proud.

Anishinaabeg Today Readers

Let us know if you recently moved so we can update your address, or if you have moved in the past few years so we can cancel your old address.
Call 218-935-3569 or email: today@whiteearth-nsn.gov

WHITE EARTH RESERVATION
ENROLLED ELDER LAWN MOWING PROGRAM

DATE APPLYING: _____

Name: _____ Spouses 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 plow 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.tibbettsiii@whiteearth-nsn.gov

APRIL
2025
Cultural Calendar
Iskigamizige-giizis
White Earth Cultural Activities
Monthly Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 WE MATS 10-12	2 WE Wesa 10-12pm Co-ed Sweat Noon	3	4	5
6	7 OMC Tobacco Ceremony 9am Youth Sweat 12pm	8 Mahnomen Culture 10-12pm	9 Reunification 11am	10 Acute Care 1-3 Circle Back 4-6:30pm	11	12
13 Inini/Kwe Camp 9-2pm	14 OMC Tobacco All 9am We Mats Culture 10-12pm	15 NTW Moms Ceremony 10-12pm WE MATS 10-12	16 WE Wesa 10-12pm Urban Poles: Mike	17 OMC Talking Circle 9-11am Urban Sweat pm	18 Urban Sweat Re-build	19
20	21 OMC Tobacco 9am Wm Sweat Doula Training Eau Claire, WI...	22 Mahnomen Culture 1012pm	23 *Bear Offering Ceremony 10am Northside Gaa-Niizhoogamaag	24 Acute Care 1-3 Circle Back 4-6:30pm Gwayako 10-12	25 Inini/Kwe CAMP 9-4 NTW	26 Inini/Kwe CAMP 9-4 NTW
27 Inini/Kwe CAMP 9-2 NTW	28 OMC Tobacco Ceremony 9am We Mats Culture 10-12pm	29 NTW Moms Ceremony 10-12pm WE MATS 10-12	30			

Obituaries

Tammy Lynn Bunker

Tammy Bunker, 54, of Mahnomen, died March 17 at Sanford Medical Center in Fargo, N.D.

Tammy Lynn was born Dec. 4, 1970, in Detroit Lakes, Minn., the daughter of Darwin Bellanger and Goldie Hanks. Growing up, her youth was spent on the White Earth Reservation mainly around White Earth and she graduated from Waubun High School.



Following graduation, Tammy furthered her education by attending vo-tech. She worked in food and beverage at the Shooting Star Casino for some time in addition to working the fall sugar beet campaigns.

Tammy was blessed with three children and in turn seven grandchildren, all of whom she loved deeply. She has spent the past several years in Mahnomen, with her significant other, Jerry.

Tammy was outgoing and hard working. She was a strong woman who strived to be the best mom she could be. She loved her family, especially her kids and grandkids and cherished the times she spent with them. Tammy enjoyed cooking, going to pow wows and collecting dolphin memorabilia. She will be greatly missed by

all who knew and loved her.

Tammy is survived by her partner, Jerry Bush of Mahnomen; son, Devan (Zeegwunikay Warren) Keezer of Mahnomen; daughter, Samantha Keezer of Minneapolis; eight grandchildren; sisters, Danette Wolff of Mandan, N.D., and Jennifer Herrly of International Falls, Minn.; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents; son, Derek Keezer; brothers: Ricky Bellanger, Marvin “Bunny” Bellanger and Dale “Strapper” Leitch.

Funeral services were held March 24 at the White Earth Community Center.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Debra (DJ) Darco

Debra (DJ) Darco, 70, peacefully departed this life on Feb. 27 at her home in Portland, Ore. DJ was a proud Anishinaabe woman who cherished her culture and heritage.

DJ gii-izhinikaazo, maamaanaan, her name was DJ, mother of us all. Migiziwan odoodeman miinawaa Gaa-waabaabiganikaag gii-onjibaa DJ, her clan was Eagle and DJ came from White Earth Nation.

DJ lived by her motto “Spirit Rules” embodying the essence of a free spirit. Born in



Portland, she emerged as a trailblazer and role model for women, exemplifying the triumph of overcoming adversity. DJ’s journey began at 17 in Hawaii, where her father was stationed with the Air Force, as she embarked on her career as a baker and salesgirl. She graduated from JB Castle High School in Kaneohe, Hawaii. Returning to Portland, she worked at I Layton Creations until a hand injury led her to new opportunities in Wisconsin, working at Okray Produce in Plover and Holiday Inn in Stevens Point. DJ’s resilient spirit brought her back to Portland again and she resumed work at I Layton Creations then at Fred Meyers.

Facing challenges, DJ chose to attend trade school instead of “ending up in jail” and eventually becoming a welder with a certified welder certificate and apprenticeship. Her exceptional skills led her to the shipyards in north Portland and leaving her mark on the Big Pink U.S. Bancorp Tower with her flower-like welds on its I-beams. In 1996, DJ broke new ground as the first female welder for the City of Portland Park Bureau, crafting many of the structures seen at the Washington Park Rose Garden. She designed and built the iconic arches and pyramid rose trellises that continue to impress visitors. She was an Oregon Tradeswoman member and mentor.

DJ retired due to health complications, yet she bravely faced her challenges until her passing. In her final hours, she was surrounded by strong, supportive womyn [sic] who loved and cared for her. Gayle and Leigh Wilson generously supported DJ with their home and friendship celebrating holidays, birthdays and life together. Nancy Packer, DJ’s best friend of over 50 years, was by her side, offering unwavering support and care throughout DJ’s many medical appointments. Katrina Darco-Feldman, DJ’s niece, provided incredible support and assistance, organizing and running errands, much to DJ’s delight.

DJ is survived by her loving brother, Richard Darco Jr. (Sharon), nieces, great nieces, great nephews, cousins, her goddaughter and many lifelong friends. She was preceded in death by her parents and one brother. She leaves behind a legacy of resilience, courage and wisdom. May DJ’s spirit continue to guide and inspire all who knew her. She will be deeply missed.

DJ wiiji-aanikoobijiganag, DJ is with ancestors, Giga-waabamin miinawaa, I will see you again.

We request in remembrance of DJ to place tributes in her name to her beloved charity, Native American Youth and Family Center in Portland (nayapdx.org/tribute).

Francis (Joe Doll) Joseph Warren

Joe Warren, 82, was born June 6, 1942, in White Earth. He passed away peacefully at his home on Feb. 27.

Joe Warren was a “Jack of all Trades,” from becoming a hairdresser in his early years to working several different jobs. Joe worked for White Earth Housing for many years and his latest job was for LaDue Construction.



Joe and Sherian loved their life together. Most of all they loved spending time together at their lake home on beautiful White Earth Lake. They will both be missed by many family and friends.

They are survived by their children, Patty (Wayne) Spry of Callaway, JoAnn (Warren) Simon of Callaway, LouAnn (Brian) Davis of Bemidji, Minn., and Joseph Warren of White Earth; many grandchildren, and great grandchildren; and relatives.

There will be a celebration of life for both Joe and Sherian at a later date this year.

Arrangements: David-Donhower Funeral Home of Detroit Lakes.

Online: www.daviddonehower.com

Paul Howard Brehm

Paul Brehm, 69, of Waubun, passed away at his home on March 20.

Born on June 2, 1955, in Mahnomen, Paul Howard was the son of Howard and Doris (Anderson) Brehm. After both of his parents passed away at a young age, Paul was lovingly raised by his grandparents in Waubun.



Immediately following his graduation from Waubun High School, Paul began his law enforcement career with the Waubun Police Department. In 1976, he joined the Waubun Fire Department, an organization that would become one of his lifelong passions.

Paul was united in marriage to his high school sweetheart, Barbara Ahles, on June 10, 1978, and together they were blessed with two sons. The family made their home in Waubun, where Paul dedicated himself to public service. For 35 years, he served as the Waubun Chief of Police, and from 1979 until his retirement in 2010, he also worked as a deputy, advancing to Chief Deputy with the Mahnomen County Sheriff’s Office.

In the early-1990s, Paul co-founded Alarms Unlimited Inc., where he spent nearly a decade installing security-surveillance systems for homes and businesses. Paul also enjoyed hauling sugar beets for Haugo Farms. Paul’s dedication to the Waubun community and surrounding area was evident in all aspects of his life. In addition to his law enforcement career, he honorably served as Chief of the Waubun Fire Department for 38 years and was former Mayor of Waubun. He was a member of St. Ann’s Catholic Church, Waubun Area Men’s Organization, Minnesota State Fire Warden for 38 years, and served on the Board of Directors for the Mahnomen County Airport.

In his rare moments of free time, Paul loved to fly and eventually owned his own plane which was a dream come true. He spent many hours ice fishing, cruising around on his side-by-side patrolling the streets of Waubun, visiting with neighbors, and meeting friends at the café. Above all, Paul cherished his family. He took great pride in raising his sons, who are each carrying his legacy forward. He adored being a grandpa and “Papa Paul” delighted in spoiling his six grandchildren. He also loved spending time with his German Shepherd, Hemi.

Paul’s unwavering devotion to his family, commitment to his community, his oath to serve and protect, and his compassion for others will be remembered by all who knew him. May his memory live on in the countless lives and hearts he touched and saved.

Paul is survived by his wife, Barbara and sons, Scott (Tammy) and Brett (Kelsey) all of Waubun; grandchildren: Faith, Maverick, Karidee, Taya, Cheslyn, and Tyce; brother-in-law, Michael Ahles (Yvonne Bakken) of Detroit Lakes; as well as his fire department and law enforcement families.

Paul is proceeded in death by Howard and Doris Brehm, Helmer and Miriam Anderson, Herbert and MaryAnn Ahles, and James and Fern Blattenbauer, along with aunts, uncles, and cousins.

A memorial service was held March 29 at the Waubun High School. A time of gathering was held March 28 at the Anderson Family Funeral Home in Mahnomen and continued one hour prior to the service at the school.

Interment: St. Ann’s Cemetery in Waubun.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Obituaries

Lisa Ann Monroe

Lisa Ann Monroe was born on May 2, 1966, and entered the Spirit World on March 11. Lisa was born in Minneapolis to Valerian “Diggers” Monroe and Margaret “Wicky Leith” Monroe. Lisa grew up in South Minneapolis and had two children before she moved to Cass Lake, Minn., when she was in her late 20s. There she met Derrick Harper and made a life and family with him for many years.

Lisa was known and loved by many, she was a beloved mother, sister, daughter and much loved cousin and friend. Her caring nature led her to a fulfilling career as a Personal Care Assistant and she made many lifelong friends of her patients and their families.



Lisa had an artistic spirit and enjoyed drawing, calligraphy and beading. She enjoyed watching crime shows and soap operas on TV and going to the casino(s) for her weekly comps, lots of times winning (and knowing enough to leave). Many times you could find her at home playing cards and dice with family and friends while having a few beers. She mostly enjoyed playing with her grandchildren when they came over and she loved them all very dearly.

Lisa will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by her daughters: Blaze Casebolt, Channa Casebolt and Ashley Harper; life partner, Derrick Harper; son-in-laws: Aaron Stoneburg, Duane Guilford and Tim Goodman; sisters: Debbie Monroe, Vala Monroe, Stacy Monroe and Leslie Monroe; her beloved grandchildren: Ziibi Guilford, Timiriana Goodman, Terrick Goodman and Binesi Stoneburg. Lisa has many cousins but there are a few special ones she was very close to: Wally Sargent Rea, Dallas Sargent and Baby Irene LaRoque; as well as many other nieces, nephews, cousins and friends too numerous to list. She had a special nephew, Alan “Froggy” Monroe; and some special friends, Theresa “Treefrog” Jourdain and Sharlene Harper.

Those greeting Lisa in the Spirit World are her parents, Valerian and Margaret Monroe; infant daughter, Madison Harper; nieces, Dawn Monroe and Jessica Monroe; nephew, Marshall Skinaway; aunts: Maxine Leith, Nancy Fairbanks, Susie (Delores) Sargent, and Sandra Chase; cousins: Tom Fairbanks, Guy Fairbanks, Tammy Fairbanks, Chris Roy, and Robert Roy; and special friends: Debbie Harper, Tom and Stan Hare, Monica Johnson, Bonnie Earth and Joe Jones.

Services were held on March 22 at the White Earth Family Center office in Cass Lake, Minn.

Lisa’s cremains will remain with her family until she can be reunited with her infant daughter, Madison Harper at a later date.

Arrangements: Chilson Funeral Home of Winsted, Minn.
Online: www.chilsonfuneralhome.com

Renita J. Spider

Renita Spider, 64, of Waubun, died March 13 at the St. Cloud (Minn.) Hospital.

Renita J. Lofthus was born on Aug. 31, 1960, to Orval and Cynthia (Keezer) Lofthus. After graduating from Waubun High School in 1979, she attended business school obtaining a degree as an Executive Secretary. Renita soon became employed and worked for White Earth RBC with the WIC program. She made lifelong friendships with Donna Dakota and the late Lois Bevins.



On July 27, 1984, her oldest son John Paul “JP” Stech was born. A few years later her son, Andrew James Stech was born on Feb. 1, 1987. Renita was a good mother and provider. She loved life to the fullest and went on many little family adventures. Renita enjoyed cooking, gardening and cherished family gatherings.

Later, she was hired as the Caberet Manager at the Shooting Star Casino, where she met and worked with many big-name entertainment performers, co-workers, and customers. While working at the casino, Renita also met Delbert Spider, and the couple was married on a beautiful fall day on Sept. 29, 2009. She welcomed

Delbert’s children into their home and loved them like her own.

The last years of her career were spent working again for the White Earth Reservation in the Human Resources Department. In most recent years, Renita enjoyed going for drives, visiting with family and simply Delbert’s company. She will be missed by many who loved her.

Survivors include her husband, Delbert; children: John Paul Stech, Andrew James Stech, Ryan Spider and Dana Spider; grandchildren: Veda Jo “Kadence” Skabicki, John Stech Jr., Josh Stech, Tanner Stech and Brianna Stech; father, Orval Lofthus; sister, Vernita Paradis; nephews: Daniel Sharpe, Jeffery Sharpe, William “Bill” Keezer, and Vincent Keezer; and many great nephews and nieces. She is also survived by her only aunt, Lillian Bednarz age 94; and numerous extended family members.

Renita was preceded in death by her wonderful mom, Cynthia M. Keezer Lofthus; sisters, Yvonne P. Keezer and Linda D. Sharpe; in addition to many well-loved pets who welcomed her into glory! She also leaves Rocky “Ralph” and Floppins behind to carry on with many adventures.

Blessed be the loving memory of Renita J. Spider.

A memorial service was held March 25 at the Anderson Family Funeral Home in Mahnomen.

Interment: Vernon Anderson Memorial Cemetery, rural Waubun.
Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.
Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Brenda Jo Fairbanks

Brenda Fairbanks, 51, of Naytahwaush, died unexpectedly on March 2 at the Mahnomen Health Center.

Brenda Jo Fairbanks was born July 6, 1973, in Mahnomen, the daughter of Shirley Belland and Spencer Fairbanks. She grew up in the Naytahwaush area and attended school at Circle of Life in White Earth. During her school years, Brenda enjoyed and excelled at sports, mainly basketball. She later worked for a time at the Shooting Star Casino in Mahnomen. However, the best job she had was being a mom and grandma. Brenda loved all her family, especially the grandkids. She made her home near Naytahwaush and was fortunate to spend the last several years together with Dave.



Brenda will be remembered as a hard working individual who was very outgoing, loving and caring. She was always willing to help anyone in need. In her spare time, she spent her time coloring, doing word find puzzles and watching CSI. Brenda enjoyed cooking for family but eating sweets was her downfall. She absolutely loved desserts, bars, chocolates, and candy, anything and everything sweet! Brenda had a special place in her heart for all animals, but mostly her cats, Whiskers and Tig. She also enjoyed time tending to her huge vegetable garden and flower beds. Above all, family was first and foremost. Brenda treasured family cookouts and any time she could surround herself with family. She will be missed by many who loved her.

Brenda is survived by her significant other, Dave Jack III; daughters, Heather White of Naytahwaush and Trinity (Blaze Tucker) Parisian of Waubun; son, Brandon White of Naytahwaush; seven grandchildren: Victoria, Vanessa, Bryson, Ja’Niya, Aubrielle, Alyauna and Jaelani; several nieces and nephews; her cats, Whiskers and Tigger; and grand puppy, Milo.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Shirley and Spencer; siblings: Douglas, Kenneth, Donna and Terri; niece, Tasha; and great niece, Auria.

Blessed be the memory of Brenda Jo Fairbanks.

All night wake services began March 6 and continued until the time of the funeral service on March 7, both at the Naytahwaush Sports Complex.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.
Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Youth from Front Page

House committee meeting in support of DEED funding which assists in workforce development within the state Boys & Girls Clubs across Minnesota. They were able to experience what the testimonies of three people in various areas looked and sounded like.

We then moved on to the meeting with Minnesota Governor Tim Walz. Travis presented him with a smudge basket, Travis stated he was surprised that the Governor knew Ojibwe when he greeted him with Boozhoo and knew what the basket was and how to smudge as well as stated that he smudged quite frequently.

In our down time the boys had the opportunity to view the capital and became quite familiar with the layout. They visited and advocated with Senator Mary Kunish, Representative Jeff Backer, Senator Paul Utke and Representative Matt Bliss.

During this time, they were able to ask questions and respond to questions regarding their time at club, experiences and future goals and plans. Both youth were invited to become potential Minnesota House of Representative Errand Runners which is an application process open to Juniors throughout the state.

They also had an invitation from Senator Kunish for job shadowing for a day for the life of a senator in which both boys again showed interest! We are looking forward to furthering their interest in government and advocacy by utilizing their voices for their needs within the communities!

Community can help keep bears away

Black bear encounters have been on the rise in many of our communities and villages. Although most bears are not comfortable around people and leave when encountered, some have become a nuisance by lingering around homes and public areas. Please remember that bears are wild animals – always remain cautious.

The White Earth Wildlife Department and Conservation Officers offer the following suggestions when encountering a bear.

Do not attract bears to your home and public spaces.

Garbage

- Don't let your garbage pile up in a vehicle or garage/shed
- Reduce odors
- Store in a bear-proof container
- Wash out garbage cans
- Don't put your garbage out for collection the night before, do it the morning of pickup. Make sure it's in a container and not just in garbage bags laying at the end of your driveway. That not only attracts bears but other wildlife as well, especially raccoons and skunks.

Bird feeders

- If you feed birds into the summer – consider bringing in feeders at night. Bears love sunflower seeds and suet.
- This includes hummingbird feeders. Nectar is a great bear attractant.

Pet food (dog or cat food)

- Keep inside at night or anytime there's a bear sighting in the area

Outdoor grills and picnic areas

- Keep clean
- Bears like the grease inside the grill or the little grease trap underneath

- Fruit trees, Gardens and honeybees

- Use electric fencing if possible

Animal or fish carcasses and leech bait

- Don't clean fish or leech bait in your backyard, unless you clean it up afterwards.
- Boxes from leech bait should be disposed of properly
- Rinse out the buckets/pails used for transporting leeches

Boats and canoes

- Rinse out the inside of the canoe and any containers used for fishing or leeching
- Rinse out the live well and the inside of the boat

If you come into contact with a bear

- Don't panic
- Don't shoot
- Don't approach
- If a bear is in a tree, leave it alone. It should



come down when it feels safe

- If a bear is treed by your dogs, remove the dogs to the house or garage until the bear leaves the area

The White Earth Conservation Officers have a policy in place for setting up the live trap. The following procedure should be followed: (This will be done only after the above listed recommendations have been followed)

- Call White Earth Dispatch, 218-983-3201, with the complaint; leave your name and contact info

- A Conservation Officer will contact you for the complaint info and any recommendations they may have for getting rid of the bear problem

- A Conservation Officer will do a home site assessment to determine what may be bringing the bears to your residence

- If the above listed recommendations are followed and the bear continues to hang around for a week or more afterwards, then the live trap will be utilized

- When the live trap is set up; please choose a safe location away from children and pets. The trap door is very heavy and dangerous for children and pets.

- Keep children and pets away from the trap, whether it's empty or has a bear in it. This is not a toy! It is very dangerous.

- Contact White Earth Dispatch immediately if a bear is seen inside the trap. **Do not approach the trap!**

- You may see a Conservation vehicle in the area checking on it on occasion during this process

The trap won't be used if the recommendations aren't followed or if the nuisance bear has cubs. There's nothing worse than catching a cub and having to deal with the mama bear on the outside of the trap.

The only time a nuisance bear can be shot, is if they are threatening to humans or if they're attacking a persons' domestic animals - cats, dogs or livestock. You can't shoot them if the food sources aren't eliminated from the property and the bear continues to come in to eat. A wounded bear is more dangerous than a bear coming in to eat "free" food.

Any bear that's destroyed must be reported to the White Earth Conservation Department. Call dispatch immediately to report any bears that are shot.

IN NEED OF SEPTIC PUMPING

If you need your sewer system pumped call the White Earth Water and Sewer Department at 218-935-6276.

Tribal Enrolled Elder (55 years of age or older) - \$25

Tribal Enrolled Member (54 years or younger) - \$80

White Earth Business - \$115

Non-enrollee (any age) - \$185

Businesses - \$225

(You must reside on the White Earth Reservation)

**ANISHINAABE
GIIGWIN MIHKANA**

218-261-1010

Healing Pathways

Participates - Where are You?

Interviewers are in your community trying hard to find and connect with you.

If you are an Original Healing Pathways Participant

If you Haven't yet completed your interview, please update your contact information or contact us to schedule.

WERTC RES. NO. 001-14-025

Contact your Local Interviewer

Update:

Name | Address | Phone

Update your Contact Information by Visiting:

<http://caih.jhu.edu/programs/healing-pathways>

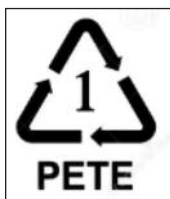
facebook.com/JHCIH

WE Sanitation now offers commingled recycling

White Earth Sanitation now offers commingled recycling for plastics one and two, glass and aluminum cans.

Examples of plastics one and two include but are not limited to pop bottles, water bottles, and laundry soap jugs. Look for the symbols on the bottom of the container.

All items must be **rinsed clean**. Dirty items cannot be recycled. The food/drink contamination can cause mold and contributes to system fail-



ures at the recycling centers.

White Earth Sanitation also accepts cardboard for recycling. All boxes must be broken down.

Battery recycling is also a huge issue in the world right now. We recycle any type of used battery, including cellphones.

We also recycle other items for a small fee. This list includes metal items, fluorescent light bulbs, used motor oil, antifreeze, paint, televisions, monitors, and other e-waste

Thank you for choosing to recycling with us! We thank you now and the planet will thank you later!

**TASTE TRADITION & FOOD SOVEREIGNTY
BISON BOWL & PLANT STORIES**

DEREK NICHOLAS

**TRADITIONAL FOODS
NUTRITION PROGRAM
COORDINATOR AT
DIVISION OF INDIAN
WORK**

APRIL 4TH

11am - 3pm

**RICE LAKE
ENP SITE**

COOK WITH US!

**JOIN OUR DEMO TO MAKE WILD RICE
BISON BOWLS WITH NATIVE
INGREDIENTS. LEARN ABOUT LOCAL
PLANTS, SEASONINGS, AND
INDIGENOUS FOOD SOVEREIGNTY. IT'S
A CULINARY EXPERIENCE YOU WON'T
WANT TO MISS!**

RAFFLE STYLE FOOD KIT GIVEAWAYS!

White Earth Sanitation
TRADITIONAL FOODS
NUTRITION PROGRAM

Special Events
WECOE Meeting:
April 1st– White Earth
Diabetes Bingo
April 2nd—Pine Point
April 9th —Elbow Lake
April 23rd — Valley View

Elderly Nutrition Program Information
*Daily Menu includes 1% milk, and provides 1/3 of the Recommended Daily Allowance (RDA) set by USDA guidelines, with health conscious and cultural consideration to overall well-being.
*Menu is subject to change depending on product availability and/or schedule changes
Guest Meals \$6
Elders Suggested Donation \$4
Questions or comments please contact :
White Earth ENP Site (218) 983-3744
Site Supervisor ~ Jeanie Rogers

Elbow Lake ENP Site (218) 734-2315
Site Controller ~ Cheryl Rindahl

Pine Point ENP Site (218) 573-2210

Naytahwaush ENP Site (218) 935-5554
Site Supervisor ~ Sherry Halberg

Rice Lake ENP Site (218) 694-2795
Site Controller~ Millie Roy & Larae Stevens

Kat Thompson, ENP Manager
Danielle Sutherland Uran, Nutrition Coord.
(218) 983-3286 ext. 1266
Katherine.thompson@whiteearth-nsn.gov
Danielle.Sutherland@whiteearth-nsn.gov

White Earth Elder Nutrition Program
Gaawaabaabanganikaag Ogikaag Miniwanjige
“White Earth Elder Eating Good”
Manidoo-Giizisoons(Little Spirit Moon)- April 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1 Chicken sandwich w/ fixings Potato salad Pear	2 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	3 Beef stroganoff over egg noodles Veggie blend Manoomin bread Pineapple	4 Baked fish Squash Rice Pilaf Spinach salad Fresh fruit
7 Sweet & sour pork Fried Rice Oriental Veggies Egg roll Peaches	8 BBQ chicken Baked beans Coleslaw Cornbread muffin Berry yogurt parfait	9 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	10 Meatloaf Baked potato Glazed carrots Croissant roll Mandarin oranges	11 Brunch for lunch Egg bake Hashbrowns Oatmeal Muffin Grapefruit
14 Chicken fajitas w/ fixings Spanish rice Corn/black bean blend Melon	15 Turkey tetrazzini Breadstick Steamed broccoli Applesauce	16 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	17 Birthday Lunch Ribs Mac n cheese Green beans Garden salad Birthday treat	18 Tuna sandwich Manoomin soup Cucumber salad Grapes
21 Ham Scalloped potatoes Peas and carrots Artisan roll Pears	22 Cheeseburger Pickles Oven fries Tropical fruit	23 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	24 Baked chicken Sweet potato Steamed veggies Wheat bread Chocolate pudding w/ bananas	25 BLT sandwich Broccoli cheese soup Fresh fruit Dessert
28 Spaghetti Garlic toast Cali. blend veggies Mixed fruit	29 Pork loin Mashed potatoes Manoomin stuffing Corn Cranberries	30 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread		

White Earth Food Distribution April Store Hours
Mon-Thurs 8:30-3:30
Office Hours M-F 8-4:30 / 218-935-2233
April 2025 Home Delivery Schedule (Subject to Change)
Nutrition Education w/Shirley: April 2nd, 10th, 14th and 22nd.
Apr 4th: Bagley, Ponsford & Naytahwaush
Apr 11th: White Earth
Apr 14th: Mahnomen & Waubun
Apr 18th: Detroit Lakes
Apr 30th: Store closed for inventory
No Store hours on Fridays
If you receive home delivery service and will not be home on your scheduled route, please notify us ASAP.

White Earth WIC April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	2 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	3 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	4 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	5
6	7 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-11:45 PM- Unlited Phone Availability	8 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:30	9 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	10 Naytahwaush Health Center 9:15-3:30	11 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	12
13	14 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	15 Bagley Elementary School 10:00-3:00	16 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	17 Naytahwaush Health Center 9:15-3:30	18 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	19
20	21 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:30	22 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:30	23 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	24 Naytahwaush Health Center 9:15-3:30	25 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	26
27	28 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	29 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	30 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	<div>Please call 218-204-0399 or 218-401-4247 to contact our department.</div>		

WIC follows RBC schedule for closings

Dates and times are subject to change

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Here to help your business grow.

Robin Littlewolf
VP of Business Banking
Ogema
218.935.8612
robin.littlewolf@deerwoodbank.com





EST. 1910
DEERWOOD BANK

Member
FDIC

WE TRIBAL COURT TRAFFIC COURT

In the Matter of **Gordon Leroy Smith, DOB: 08/17/1945**

Summons to Appear in Court

Court File No. **T2025-00008**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on **April 23, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.** a Continued Initial Hearing on the traffic citation will be held at the White Earth Tribal Court at 35500 Eagle View Road Ogema, MN 56569. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the Court may find you in default and/or held in contempt of Court. You may contact Court Administration at (218) 983-3285.

Dated: March 26, 2025

WE TRIBAL COURT CHILDREN'S COURT

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of **Delilah Sommers**

Hearing Notice

Court File No. **CP2023-00016**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on December 11, 2024, a Petition to Transfer Permanent Legal and Physical Custody was filed; and on December 12, 2024, a Long-Term Foster Care Petition was filed, both with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your children, in file CP2023-00016. A Pretrial hearing on the matters is scheduled for **April 25, 2025, at 9:00 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: March 11, 2025
Tammy J. Swanson
Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

WE TRIBAL COURT CHILDREN'S COURT

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Children of **Curtis Dionne**

Hearing Notice

Court File No. **CP2023-00016**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on December 11, 2024, a Petition to Transfer Permanent Legal and Physical Custody was filed; and on December 12, 2024, a Long-Term Foster Care Petition was filed, both with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your children, in file CP2023-00016. A Pretrial hearing on the matters is scheduled for **April 25, 2025, at 9:00 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: March 11, 2025
Tammy J. Swanson
Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

WE TRIBAL COURT TRAFFIC COURT

In the Matter of **Jameson Lee Jackson Sr., DOB: 05/24/1985**

Summons to Appear in Court

Court File No. **T2024-00166**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on **April 23, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.** an Order to Show Cause Hearing on the traffic citation will be held at the White Earth Tribal Court at 35500 Eagle View Road Ogema, MN 56569. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the Court may find you in default and/or held in contempt of Court. You may contact Court Administration at (218) 983-3285.

Dated: March 26, 2025

White Earth Mental Health

WALK IN SCHEDULE



White Earth Behavioral Health Building:	Pine Point:
Monday: 8am-4:30pm	Monday: 12pm-4:30pm
Tuesday: 8am-4:30pm	Naytahwaush Behavioral Health Building:
Wednesday: 8am-4:30pm	Tuesday: 8am-12pm
Thursday: 8am-4:30pm	Bagley/Rice Lake:
Friday: 8am-4:30pm	Wednesday: 1pm-4:30pm
	Mahnomen Behavioral Health Building:
	Thursday: 1pm-4:30pm

WE 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.

Pine Point celebrates health and community at vibrant colon care fair

By Ana Kircher
WE Tribal Public Health
Community Health Educator

Pine Point buzzed with energy and community spirit as over 135 residents gathered for the annual Colorectal Cancer and Digestive Health Awareness event on March 27! With a sunny day and perfect temperatures, the fair transformed health education into a vibrant celebration of well-being.

Attendees were treated to a diverse range of interactive program booths from vital health checks to the gift of vegetable seeds, from the engaging Colon Jeopardy game to the refreshing kombucha bar, there was something for everyone to discover about colon care and disease prevention.

The day's excitement peaked with the highly anticipated soup and frybread contests! The competition was fierce, but ultimately, Heather Romero took home the top prize in the soup category, followed closely by Indra Miller and the dynamic duo of Evelyn and Katelyn Smith. In the frybread showdown, Pat Miller's culinary skills reigned supreme, with Jamie Jones and again, Evelyn and Katelyn Smith, earning well-deserved second and third places.

Adding to the festive atmosphere, youth enjoyed a spirited football throwing contest under the warm sunshine, while the powerful rhythms of the opening drum group, Smoky Hill Singers, echoed throughout the day, both welcoming attendees and closing the event with a resounding sense of community.

This dynamic health fair was designed to empower community members with crucial knowledge about colon cancer prevention and the importance of regular screening. With over 20 program booths and vendors, it was a day filled with learning,

laughter, and a shared commitment to a healthier future.



Submitted photos

Top: Paulie Neisen stands next to a vendor table at the Colorectal Cancer and Digestive Health Awareness event in Pine Point. **Bottom:** Rachel LaFrinier, left, and Sara Hunt.



Submitted photo

People had to walk through a giant inflatable colon as they arrived and left the Colorectal Cancer and Digestive Health Awareness event on March 27 in Pine Point.

Howah Ads

Happy Birthday to our eldest son **Jeffery (Big Country)** and to our youngest grandson **Tayden (Tater Tot)**

Love both of you - Mom, Dad, Des, Mema, Papa



Happy **8th** Birthday to our wild child **Harley Quinn**

We love you!



Love Mom, Dad, Sisters and Brother

Happy Birthday **Tayden**

Love, mom dad and brother



April 10th

Happy **2nd** Birthday **Za'Naeya Desjarlait**

April 14th

Love Auntie Lyssa, Tia & family

Happy **12th** Birthday **Jacob Potter**

April 13th

Love sister Lyssa, Tia & family

Happy **1st** Birthday **Little Bear Clark**

April 17th



Happy Birthday **Mokahum Kloskey**

Love Dad and Family

Happy **3rd** Birthday **Weston Blaze**

April 12th

Love Mom, Dad, Arayah, Carter, Gramma, Papa, Auntie Melanie, Uncle Ben, and the Girls

Howah Ads are \$5 with a picture or \$4 without. All payments must be made in advance.

No exceptions

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.

The Bureau of Trust Funds is looking for White Earth enrollees

The Bureau of Trust Funds Administration is searching for the following individuals. If your name is on this list, please call our Trust Beneficiary Call Center at **1-888-678-6836** to verify/update your Individual Indian Money Account (IIM Account).

All calls/inquiries are to be directed to the number listed above.

Call Center hours of Operation: (M-F) 9:00am-4:30pm (Mountain Time)-Closed Sat/Sun.

You may also scan the QR code below to be directed to our WAU search tool and search other locations or by individual name only.



WWW.BTFA.GOV

- A-A-A-A
- ACKLEY, CLIFFORD
ADAMS, DALE
ADAMS, DAVID
ADAMS, LAVONNE
ADAMS, NATHAN
AHSHEIN, KENNETH
AITKEN, MARVA
ALVERADO, HAROLD
AMOROSO, JAMES
AMOROSO, CRAIG
AMUNDSON, LOUIS
ANDERSEN, CHARLES
ANDERSON, CHARLOTTE
ANDERSON, JOHN
ANDERSON, PATRICIA
ANDERSON, JEFFREY
ANOKA, NOEL
ARMENT, DON
ARMSTRONG, TOM
ARMSTRONG, CHERYL
ARMSTRONG, BARBARA
ARTHUR, CHARLENE
ARTISHON, GRACE
ARTISHON, JEANETTE
ARTISHON CASEY, MARY
ASFELD, CRAIG
ASHING, JODY
ASPINWALL, MELISSA
ATKINS, JAMES
ATKINSON, KAYE
AUGINAUSH, BRUCE
AUGINAUSH, WILLIAM
AUGINAUSH JR, NORMAN
AUGUSTINE, PAUL
AUTMAN, SHIRLEY
- B-B-B-B

BACKS, MARY
BADBOY, DUANE
BALDWIN, JAMES
BALDWIN, JOSHUA
BALDWIN, MICHAEL
BARNETT, MICKAEL
BARRELL, FRANCIS
BARTOSH, JOHN
BAUERS, DEAUNE
BAUMGARTNER, JANICE
BAZILE, BRANDON
BEAN, EMILY
BEANE, MATTHEW
BEAULIEU, PATRICIA
BEAULIEU, JILL
BEAULIEU, MARVIN
BEAULIEU, SHAWN
BEAULIEU, JESSICA
BEAULIEU, DARRICK
BEAUPRE, JAMES
BEAUPRE, YVONNE

BECKER, GARY
BELLANGER, LORRAINE
BELLANGER, BRIAN
BELLANGER, FRANK
BELLANGER, GUY
BELLANGER, TIMOTHY
BELLANGER, CINDY LEE
BELLANGER, LEON
BELLECOURT, CRAIG
BELLECOURT, MARK
BENDER, RITA
BENDER, MELODY
BERG, KAREN
BERGLAND, STEVEN
BERGREN, MELISSA
BIGBEAR, JAMES
BIGBEAR, FRANK
BIRD, SHARON
BIRD, CALVIN
BIRD, TERRI
BIRD, KENT
BISHOP, DEAN
BLACKWELL, CHARMAINE
BLAKELY, DONOVAN
BLANCHARD, KENNETH
BLANCHARD, MARK
BLANCHARD, BEAULAH
BLONDIN, GREGORY
BLUE, ELEANE
BLUE, BERNARD
BLUE, ELEANE E
BODEN, RENEE
BOGART, MARGARET
BOLLIG, THOMAS
BOLLIG, WILLIAM
BOLLIG, JOHN
BOLLIG, FRANCIS
BONGA, EUGENE
BONGO, REBECCA
BONNEVILLE, MARGARET
BOOTH, DAVE
BORAH, GERMAIN
BOROWSKI, GERTRUDE
BOSWELL, FRANK
BOSWELL, DARLENE
BOSWELL, CHARLES
BOSWELL, WILLIAM
BOSWELL, JOJO
BOTTIGER, SUSAN
BOUDREAU, RICHARD
BOWEN, STACIE
BOWLES, MONA
BRAUNSCHWEIG, CHARLES
BRAWLEY, RICHARD
BRAWLEY, DONNIE
BRAWLEY-HARRIS, ELISABETH
BRAWLEY-SVANDA, DIANE
BREWER, MICHELLE
BREYETTE, SHARON
BROOKS, ELEANOR

BROWN, MARY
BROWN, DAVID
BROWN, BRIAN
BROWN, WALTER
BROWN, CARMEN
BROWN, AMANDA VALEN
BROWN, CHARLES
BRUCE, LENORA
BRUMOVSKY, PAULA
BRUNETTE, DOUGLAS
BRUNETTE, RUTH
BRUSVEN, DELORIS
BRUSVEN HOYT, SUZAN
BUCHHOLTZ, KAYDON
BUCKLEY, MARY
BUDREAUX, WILLIAM
BUDROW DROBNICK, STEVEN
ALLEN
BULAU, ELIZABETH
BULAU, ANGELA
BULAU, KURT
BURDICK, CLINTON CHAR
BURGINGER, KRISTY
BURNETTE, ALTHA
BUSH, CHARLES
BUSHETTE, DENNIS
BUTCHER, ROBERT
BUTCHER, WILLIAM
BUTCHER, ALVIN
BUTCHER, MERRIE

C-C-C-C

CABRAL, JUDITH
CAMERON, GERALD
CAMERON, JANICE
CAMERON, LYDIA
CAMERON, MAURICE
CAMPBELL, FRANCIS
CAMPBELL, FRANK
CAMPBELL, DELORES
CANTON, ROSA
CAPPS, STEVEN
CARDINAL, JOSEPH
CARDINAL, CECEILIA
CARLSON, NAOMI
CARLSON, JONATHAN
CARLSON, CAROL
CARLSON, DANA
CASEY, WILLIAM
CASSAWAY, LINDA
CAVENDER, IRENE
CHAMBERLAIN, JESSE
CHAMBERS-FINEDAY, KRISTAL
CHARETTE, GENE
CHARWOOD, MATTHEW
CHARWOOD, OLIVIA
CHEVALIER, BETTY
CHURCHILL, TIFFANY
CLARK, LAVONNE
CLARK, GLENN
CLARKE, TONI MAUREEN
CLAYMORE, CURTIS
CLOUD, TAMARA
COAUETTE, CARMEN
COBB, DIANA
COFFEY, RUSSELL
COGGER, DERICK
COLEMAN, HERBERT
COLEMAN MATHES, BRIDGET
AGNE
COLEY, JOYCE
COLUMBUS, MARY
CONAWAY, MICHAEL
CONGER, ARIANNA MARI
CONLEY, RACHEL
CONTRERAS, IRENE
COOK, MARIETTA
COOPER, ANNE

COUNTRYMAN, KATHLEEN
CRAWFORD, SUSAN
CRONIN, SUZANNE
CROW, JEREMIAH
CROW, MONEKEE
CROW, JEREMIAH
CRUGGS, TERRY
CURNOW, MARIAH

D-D-D-D

DAHL, LANNI
DAHL, JESSE
DAKOTA, LORI
DAKOTA, GARY
DALE, HOLLIE
DALE, CLIFFORD
DANIELSON, BRAD
DAUTERIVE, GAROME
DAVIS, JAMES
DAWLEY, JESSIE
DAY, DENNIS
DECOSTE, DEBRA
DEEGAN, LORDES
DEMARRE, KIMBERLY
DEMARRE, CHARLENE
DEMARRIS, DONALD
DENTZ, RICHARD
DINZEO, GEORGE
DINZEO, HEATHER
DOCKENDORF, ROSE
DOMOLECZNY, JAMIE DOYLE
DONNELL ESTATE, LIZZIE
DOOLEY, EDWARD
DOWNEY, CHARLOTTE
DOWNEY, JACOB
DOYLE, ADELINE
DROBNICK, RUDOLPH
DROBNICK, MICHAEL
DROBNICK, KATHERINE
DUNNING MARCEL, RITA

E-E-E-E

EAGLESHIELD, MELISSA MITZ
EDWARDS, MARY
EGGERS, ROBERT
EIDEN, WILLIAM
ELLEFSON, BRYAN
ELLEGAARD, WALTER
ELLIS, JOSEPHINE
ELLIS, BRENDA
ENGELKE, DANIEL
ESCHENDAL, NICOLE
EVERS, THEODORE

F-F-F-F

FAIRBANKS, JAMES
FAIRBANKS, MEGAN
FAIRBANKS, PAUL
FAIRBANKS, KENNETH
FAIRBANKS, THOMAS
FAIRBANKS, DEBRA
FAIRBANKS, RAYMOND
FAIRBANKS, JEFFREY
FAIRBANKS, BEVERLY
FAIRBANKS, JENNIFER
FAIRBANKS-ROY, DEREK
FARMER, KAMRYN G
FARMER, CODY
FARRELL, ROBERT
FARRELL, TIMOTHY
FARRELL, DENNIS
FARRELL, RANDY
FERGUSON, JOAN
FERGUSON, GLEN
FERGUSON, RUTH
FESENKO, JACQUELINE
FICK, MICHAEL
FICK, DYLAN

FINEDAY, PATRICIA
FINEDAY, HEATHER
FINEDAY, LEANN
FINEDAY GOODMAN, GEORGE
FINN, HARRIETT HEI
FISHER, BETTY
FITZGERALD, FRANCES
FITZGERALD, CHARLES
FLAHERTY, MORGAN
FLAHERTY, NACE
FLORES CEBALLOS, ALYSSA
FLOREZ, KENNETH
FLOREZ-JACKSON, LISA C
FOLSTROM, MARY
FOLZ, MELISSA
FOX, JOHN
FOYE, GERRY
FRANCO, KRISTY
FRESTEDT, GLORIA
FURBER, STUART

G-G-G-G

GALLO, ELIZABETH
GARBOW, GEORGIANNA
GARBOW, TANYA
GARBOW, DANIEL
GARCIA, DAVID
GARDEN, RICHARD
GARDNER, ZAKERY
GARVIE, KATRINA
GARVIE, RONALD LEE
GARVIE, VICKIE LYNN
GENSMEN, DEBBIE
GIARD, BERTHA
GIBSON, WILLIAM
GLASS, LANA
GLASS, JEREMY
GLASS, GILBERT
GLASS, CLAUDE
GLEASON, DEBBIE
GOODELL, KELLY
GOODMAN, LAJUANA
GOODMAN, MICHAEL
GOODMAN, VANESSA
GOODWIN, NICOLE
GORDON, PHILOMINE
GORR, SCOTT
GOSEWISCH, JOSEPH
GOSEWISCH, MICHELLE
GOSEWISCH, JEREMY
GRACYALNY, JANET
GRAHAM, IRENE
GRAHAM, MADELINE
GREANEY, MAUREEN DOLO
GREENE, DAWN
GREENE, GEORGE
GREENE, AUDREY
GRIEKE, RUSSELL
GRIEVE, HUGH
GUINN, DEAN
GUINN, WILLARD
GUNDERSON, TERRI

H-H-H-H

HACHFELD, JOSHUA STEVE
HACKLEY, CAROLINE MAR
HACKLEY, MARK
HACKLEY, WILLIAM ANTH
HACKMAN, DARLA
HAFNER, MICHAEL
HAHN, DIANE
HAJEK, KERRI LEE
HALL, KIM
HALVERSON, MURLENE
HALVORSON, CHARLES
HAMLIN, SANDY
HAMLIN, BEVERLY
HANKS, LEROY

HANKS, PATRICIA
HANKS, VANESSA
HANSEN, SANDRA
HANSON, RICHARD
HARDMAN, WILLIAM
HARDY, KARLA
HARFIELD, DWAYNE
HARLAND, ROY
HARPER, MARLIN
HARRIS, ZACHERY
HARSIN, PATRICK
HART, NICOLE
HAYNES, BRIAN
HENDRIX, WILLIAM
HENRY, HELEN
HENRY, CLIFFORD
HENRY, SARAH
HENRY, WILSON
HENRY, FREDERICK
HEWITT, ROBERT REYNO
HILL, ROBERT
HILL, DAVID
HILL, DUANE
HINTSALA, HAROLD
HINTSALA, JOHN
HOGAN, GARY
HOGLUND, JEANINE
HOLMAN, KIMBERLY
HOLMES, HAZEL
HOOPES, JUDITH
HOSKINS, LYLE
HOUGH, TREVIN
HOUGH, DEBRA
HOUGH, LESLIE
HOUGH, BEVERLY
HOWARD, LOYD
HOWEN, JOSEPH
HUDGKINS, GEORGE
HUGHES, SOPHIA
HUTCHINSON, JOHN

I-I-I

IDEN, ERIC
ISHAM, ANGELA

J-J-J

JACKSON, FRED
JACKSON, CYNTHIA
JACKSON, MICHAEL
JACKSON, AURELIA
JACKSON, ALBERTA
JACKSON, CYNTHIA
JACKSON, RUTH
JACKSON, ROGER
JACKSON, DELORES
JACKSON, TAMMI
JACOBY, ERNEST
JACQUES, CAROL
JAMES, SHARON
JEFFREY, TAMMY
JEMISON, SAMUEL EDWAR
JENSEN, VALERIE
JOHNSON, JOHN
JOHNSON, CHERYL
JOHNSON, JAMES
JOHNSON, NORBERT
JOHNSON, CYNTHIA
JOHNSON, NOEL
JOHNSON, TRACEY
JOHNSON, DALE
JOHNSON, MARCINE
JOHNSON, RHEUBEN
JOHNSON, RAYMOND
JOHNSON, HARRY
JOHNSON KIER, DARLENE
JONES, CHARLES
JONES, WENDELL
JONES, WESLEY
JONES, DANIEL
JONES, LENORA
JONES, ROBIN JOLEEN

JONES, WESLEY
JONES, CHARLES
JONES DIX, FAITH

K-K-K

KASTEL, PEARL
KAY, WILLIAM
KAY, ROBERT
KAY, LILA
KEELER, STEVEN
KEEZER, ROBERT
KEEZER, FRANK
KEEZER, SHANE
KEEZER, RONNIE
KELLEY, AVA
KELTY, MAUREEN
KEOUGH, JAMIE
KETTLE, VINCENT
KETTL, RONALD
KILLIAN, PATRICIA
KIRSCH, JOHN
KLATT, DAWN
KLEIN, JOSEPH
KLEIS, YVONNE
KNEELAND, MARILYN
KNUDSON, DORIS
KOCHENDORFER, FRANCES
KORTE, MARYN
KORTE, MARY
KOVACHICH, KRISTI
KOVACHICH, JOHN
KROGMAN, DORIS
KRUPKA, GAIL
KUBITZ, DANA
KUCERA, MELVIN
KUCHYNKA, KURTIS

L-L-L

LACHAPELLE, DUANE
LADUKE, JACOB
LADUKE, ALICE
LADUKE, BRADLEY
LAFLEUR, CAROL
LAGARDE, AARON
LAGREW, JOHN
LAMBERT, FRANK
LAMBERT, GEORGE
LARABEE, DONALD
LARSEN, SANDRA
LARSON, JANIS
LARSON, ADAM
LATRAILLE, BENITA
LAWRENCE, JOSEPH
LAWRENCE, CLAUDINE
LAWRENCE, ANTHONY
LAWSON, ANITA
LEACH, MYRTLE
LEE, GERALDINE
LEEVALDSON, CHARLOTTE
LEITH, WHITNEY
LEITH, WILLARD
LEITHEISER, STEPHEN
LEITHEISER, WILLIAM
LEMIER, DALE
LEVEY, JORDAN
LEWIS, JAYNE
LIBBY, JOHN
LIDDELL, MARIE
LILLEY, BRYAN
LIND, LESLIE
LINDSTROM, DAWN
LINN, EILEEN
LITTLEWOLF, BARBARA A
LITTLEWOLF, REGINA
LITTLEWOLF, SARAH
LITTLEWOLF, GARY
LITTLEWOLF, THEODORE LEE
LITZAU, JESSICA
LITZAU, ROBERT
LOUGHEED SCHLAGI, CAMILLE
LOUVIERE, JOAN

LUCERO-QUIN, LINDA
LUND, IONE
LUNDGREN, EDWIN
LUNDQUIST, JOSEPH
LUNDQUIST, JOSHUA

M-M-M

MADISON, ROBERT
MALZAHN, MARY
MANCUSO, JEANNETTE
MANCUSO, MIKE
MANCUSO, JEANNETTE
MANCUSO, MIKE
MANKER, GEORGINE
MANLEY, CLAUDEAN
MARCHAND, MARY
MARKEE, DANIEL
MARKEE, DAVID
MARSDEN, DENISE
MARTENS, MICHELE
MARTINMICHELE
MARTIN, SHARI
MARTIN, JAMES
MARTIN, KATHERINE
MARTIN, RENE
MASON, SUE
MATH, JOANN
MATHISON, SHARON
MATTHEWS, NATHANIEL
MATTISON, RAYMOND
MATTSON, JANE
MCARTHUR, JOHN
MCARTHUR BREDESON,
MARJORIE
MCCAMMON, PHYLLIS
MCCARTOR, LINDA
MCCLOSKEY, WILLIAM
MCCLOSKEY, SARAH
MCCLURKIN, MONICA
MCDONOUGH, SHARON
MCDOUGALL, MILDRED
MCDOUGALL GOODWIN,
GLORIA
MCDOWELL, ANITA
MCGAUVVRAN, BONNIE
MCKENY, MIKHAILA
MCKINNEY, BLAKELY
MCKINNEY, BILL
MCLING, SHARON
MCRAE, PATRICIA
MEDWEOSH, TOM
MEISER, ERIK
MEREDITH, GERALDINE
MERRILL, AMANDA
MEYER-LOPEZ, SHARON
MEYERS, LIBBY MARISE
MICHAELS, LUCILLE
MILLER, PAULETTE FRA
MITCHELL, WILLIAM
MONROE, DAWN
MOOERS, PATRICIA
MOORE, THOMAS TAYLO
MOOSE, LEROY
MOOS, ROBERT
MORAVEC, KATHRYN
MORENO, MICHAEL
MORENO, VICTORIA
MORENO, ROBERT
MORRISON, LELAND
MORRISON, JOHN
MORRISON, VETA MARIE
MORRISON, JERRY
MORRISON, PATRICK
MORRISON, MICHAEL
MORRISON, SANDRA
MORRISON, KENNETH
MORRISON, RANDOLPH
MORRISSON, JOYCE
MULLER, CAROL
MURPHY, JOSEPHINE
MURRAY, ALFRED

MURRAY, BRANDON
MURRAY, ALFRED
MURRAY, CONSTANCE
MURRAY, FREDRICK
MUTCHLER, AUGUST
MYERS, BOBBI
MYERS, CARY
MYERS, YODI

N-N-N

NATYSIN, SALLY
NEELAND, CHARLES
NEGRETE, KRYSTAL
NELSON, LENA
NELSON, MYRTLE
NELSON, STAN
NELSON, RICHARD
NELSON, MELISSA
NELSON, OLIVER
NEVITT, DONALD
NEWTON, CHARLES
NEZ, COURAGE
NICHOLAS, CHRISTINE
NICHOLAS, ROSALIE
NORCROSS, MYRON
NORCROSS, SHERYL
NORCROSS, VINCENT
NORDMARKEN TONI
NORTON, EARL
NYLUND, JOHN

O-O-O

OLSEN, YVONNE
OLSON, KYLE
OLSON, RUPERT
OLSON, CHERIE
OLSSON, KATHLEEN
OMDAHL, RANDI
OMDAHL, RONALD
ORNELAS, RENEE
ORNS, SAMUEL
OSBURN, KAREN
OTTERSON, SHERRILL
OTTO, LENORE
OVERBY, MICHAEL

P-P-P

PAGEL, KAREN
PALODICHUK, KARLA
PARKER, MICHELE
PARKHURST, AMBER
PARKS, BRIAN KEITH
PARRA, ROBERTA
PARTRIDGE, DAWN
PASCHKE, COLLEEN
PATRICK, CLIFFORD
PAULSON, STEVEN
PEACOOK, KELLY
PEAKE, RAYNA C
PEAKE, DARRELL
PEAKE, SETH
PEARSON, ROBERT
PEARSON, DEB
PECK, JAMIE
PEERMAN, JOSHUA
PELE, SHARON
PERSINGER, RAYMOND
PETERSEN, SHYANN
PETERSON, ROBERTA
PETERSON, MARY
PETERSON, JOAN
PHILLIPS, ALVINA
PHILLIPS, RAYMOND
PIANO, FLORENCE
POOLE, ROBERT
POPA, ANN
POST, ERNESTINE
POTRATZ, MARIA
POTTS, SHIRLEY
POYIRIER, DENISE
PRELLWITZ, MICHAEL

PRENTICE, JUDITH
PRIMOLI, JEANINE
PRINCE, NORA
PROWS, KATRYNA
PUCKENOGAY, SELAM
PYSICK, SHALEIGH LYN

R-R-R

RATHBUN, LAWRENCE
REAGAN, LAURA
REESE, PETER
REESE, BEATRICE
REESE, RAVEN
REESE, WITONISEE
RICE, MINDI
RICE, JANEEN
RICHEY, ROBERT
RICHNER, MICHAEL
RICHNER TREMAIN, DIANE
RIECHERT, DARLA
RITTS, MARK
RITTS, ROBERT
ROBBINS, MICHAEL
ROBBINS, PATRICK
ROBBINS, TIMOTHY
ROBERTS, RAYMOND DAVI
ROBERTS, WAYNE
ROBERTS, CRYSTAL
ROBIDEAU, WILLIAM
ROBINSON, LORELEI
ROCK, MABEL
ROCK, TAMI LYNN MA
ROCK, SUNSHINE
ROCK BETANCOURT,
REBECCA
ROGALLA, GREGORY
ROGALLA, KARL
ROGERS, JAMES
ROMERO, MARGARET
ROSSITER, ANITA
ROY, RENEE
ROY, RONALD
ROY, DENNIS
RUMPEL, FRED
RUSSELL, CHONNIE
RUTKOWSKI, JAMES
RYAN, MICHELLE

S-S-S

SAICE, JOHN
SALLEE, TERRI
SANDERS, BERTHA
SANTOS, YOLANDA
SARGENT, JOSEPH
SARGENT, DALLAS
SARGENT, MARY
SARGENT, DARREN
SARGENT SIAS, DENISE
SAUBER, JOHN
SAXON, LOREN
SAXON, MICHAEL
SAYERS, GERALD
SAYLOR, FRANKLIN
SCHAPP, HARRIET
SCHINNERT, LEONA
SCHIRO, DENYCE
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SHERER, BONNIE
SHERER, DOROTHY
SHERER, BRUCE
SHERER, JAY

SHINAULT, LOU
SILK, JOHN
SILK, TERRI
SIRSON, MELANIE
SKELTON, JULIE
SKINAWAY, RAYMOND
SKINAWAY, SHELLY
SKINAWAY, DONALD
SKINAWAY, JAMES
SKINAWAY, SHELBY
SKYWATER, LITTLEFAWN
SLAGOWSKI, LAURA
SLAGOWSKI, ROGER
SLATER, ROSALIE
SMITH, DORCY
SMITH, BENEDICT
SMITH, KIMBERLY
SMITH, CAROL
SMITH, JOYCE
SMITH, RONALD
SMITH, JULIA
SMITH, JOHN
SMITH, SHAWN
SMITH, RUSSELL
SMITH, CORINA
SMITH, DAVID
SMITH, JEAN
SMITH, RONALD
SMITH, BETTY
SMITH, EUGENE
SMITH, GAIL
SMITH, GARY
SMITH, CHARLOTTE
SMITH, BENEDICT
SMITH, RICHARD
SMITH, WALLACE
SMITH, ALEXANDER
SMITH JOHNSON, SHARON
SNOW, KENNETH
SOWDEN, KIMBERLY
SPENCER, MARY
SPRY, DALE
SPRY, JOHN
ST CLAIR, KAREN
STAMPER, WAYNE
STAPLES, ALLEN
STAPLES, BETTY
STAPLES, MICHAEL
STAPLES, RONALD
STAPLES, ETHEL
STAPLES-GONZALEZ, KAREN
STATELY, ANTHONY
STAVICK, PATRICIA
STAY, NICOLE
STELICK, KAYLA
STEPHENS, DEBRA
STEPHENS, ROCHELLA
STEVENS, DAVID
STEVENS, GREGORY
STEVENS, DAVID
STEVENS, GREGORY
STEVENS, ROBIN
STEVENS, TERRANCE
STEVENS, THOMAS
STICHE, LYLE
STONE, KATHERINE
STONE, LORI
STONE, DARRICK
STONE, KODY
STONE, JENNALEE

STONE, MICHAEL
STONE, PAULETTE
STONE, TIMOTHY
STONE, FLORA
STONE, SHEILA
STONE, JENNIFER
STONE, BERKLEY
STONE, COLTON
STONE, PAULETTE
STRINGER, MEEGIS
STRONG, ANGELICA
STRUSS, EUNICE
SUAREZ, SHEILA
SULLIVAN, KRISTINA
SUTTON, JUNIOR
SWENSON, BRIAN

T-T-T-T

TAYLOR, GLORIA
TAYLOR, MAVIS
TAYLOR, ELIZBETH
TEFFT, GAYLIN
TEFFT, LYLE
TEIKEN, MARILYN
THOMAS, DANIEL
THOMAS, JOHN
THOMPSON, FLORENCE
THOMPSON, MABLE
THOMPSON, ARIANNA
THOMPSON, JERALDINE
THOMPSON, DANIELLE
THOMPSON, ARIANNA
THOMPSON, CINDY
THOMPSON, IZOLA
THOMPSON, CHARLENE
THOMPSON, ROBIN
THOMPSON, CASSI
THOMPSON, LELAND
THURSTIN, DANIEL
TIBBETTS, PATRICK
TICE, DARRIN
TOMMERVIK, DAVID
TRAHAN, TODD
TRASK, ROBIN
TRIPP, JUDITH
TROMBLEY, JEANNE
TROMBLY, BARBARA A
TROTTER, WARREN
TUCKER, JUNE
TURNER, BARBARA
TURNER, DONALD
TURNPIN, JAMES

U-U-U-U

URAN, JENNIFER
URAN-HODGE, ANN
URBAN, JESSICA
URUO, JENNIFER

V-V-V-V

VALKANOFF, JEFFREY
VALLEJO, JOHN
VAN AKEN, MICHELLE
VAN PELT, TINA
VAREBERG, PAMELA
VARRIANO, BARBARA
VIELE, DOLORES
VIZENOR, MICHAEL
VIZENOR, RICHARD
VIZENOR, GERALD

VIZENOR, KENNETH
VIZENOR, RICHARD
VOGEL, MATT MONOLEE

W-W-W-W

WACHIER, VALLORY
WADE, FRANK
WAKEMUP, SHERLENE
WALKER, JAMES
WALL, CARMEN
WARD, THERES
WARMUTH, TRACI
WARREN, WILLIAM
WARREN, JAMES
WARREN, ERICK
WARREN ENGELKE, JOHN
WAYKEKESHIG TREBOR, ALEXA
WEAVER, FRANK
WEAVER, CLIFFORD
WEAVER, MILDRED
WEAVER, DESIREE
WEBB, MARGARET
WEBSTER, JULIUS
WEISE, JOHN
WEISE, BRYAN
WELTON, FORREST
WHITE, ROBERTA
WHITENER, THOMAS
WIDME, BERNICE
WILKINS, DUSTIN
WILKINS, WILBUR
WILKINS, WILMA
WILKINS, VICTOR S-J
WILLIAMS, FRANCIS
WILLIAMS, SHERYL
WILLIAMS, JOHN
WILLIAMS, JEFFREY
WILLIAMS, THOMAS
WILLIAMS, EVRYL
WILLIAMS, DAVID DUANE
WILLIAMS, DEBRA JOY
WILLIAMS, EUNICE
WILLMAN, ARTHU
WINFREY, LEXI
WIRTH, DUANE
WITHERSPOON, JOSEPH
WITTNER, AMBER D
WITTNER, CAROL
WITTNER, KIM
WITTNER, LULU
WITTNER, MILLESSA
WITTNERSTEIL, ROSE
WOCHNICK, JAZMIN
WOLFF, WILLIAM
WRIGHT, DEBRA
WRIGHT, DIANE
WRIGHT, EUGENE
WRIGHT, JAMES
WRIGHT, ROBERT
WRIGHT, MELISSA

Y-Y-Y-Y

YANEZ, UANITA
YBARRO, LESLIE
YERKES, WARREN
YOUNG, JOHN

Z-Z-Z-Z

ZARATE, NICHOLE

Tribal youth shines in tourney



Submitted photo

Karter Smith (#12), an enrolled tribal member with White Earth and a 3rd grade student at Roosevelt Elementary School in Detroit Lakes, Minn., was selected to compete in the 2025 Midwest Mites Cup-Regional Championship Tournament held on March 14-16, at the Moorhead Sports Arena in Moorhead, Minn.

He was selected from the Lakers Mites hockey team to compete at this advanced level based on his skill level and readiness for full ice format and rules where they went undefeated in the championship title on March 16 for this region. Karter scored 8 points overall, including a hat trick in game two of the tourney.

Karter, is the son of Steven (BJ) Smith and Desiree Jackson, and grandson of Lori A. Jackson.

We wish to thank Laura Lee Erickson, White Earth Reservation Tribal Council, and the Youth and Elder’s Committee for all their support. Without, he and his family may not have been able to participate and attend this important event.

We are proud of Karter for all his hard work and dedication to his team and what a way to close out the 2024-2025 hockey season!



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Even if you are not required to file a Minnesota income tax return, you may be eligible to receive a **refundable Minnesota Child Tax Credit** of \$1,750 per child dependent under age 18. Find out today!

Questions?
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For additional rental information contact the
Callaway City Hall at 218-375-4691

www.callawaymn.gov
clerk@callawaymn.gov

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

Diabetic Bingo

All are welcome and it costs nothing to play.



April 2nd, Wednesday Pine Point
April 9th, Wednesday Elbow Lake
April 23rd, Wednesday Mahnomen – Valley View

Bingo in Pine Point is on the west side of the School in the E.N.P. Dining Hall after the 11:30 elder meal.
Bingo in Elbow Lake Village in at the E.N.P. building after the 11:30 elder meal.
Bingo at Valley View will be in the Community Room in Valley View at 1:00pm.

May 7th, Wednesday Naytahwaush
May 21st, Wednesday White Earth – Congregate
May 28th, Wednesday Rice Lake

Bingo in Naytahwaush is at the Sports Complex, E.N.P. dining hall after the 11:30 elder meal.
Bingo in White Earth is at the Congregate Housing, Dining Hall after the 11:30 elder meal.
Bingo in Rice Lake is at the Rice Lake Community Center after the 11:30 elder meal.

June 4th, Wednesday Pine Point
June 17th, Tuesday Elbow Lake
June 18th, Wednesday Mahnomen – Valley View

Bingo in Pine Point is on the west side of the School in the E.N.P. Dining Hall after the 11:30 elder meal.
Bingo in Elbow Lake Village in at the E.N.P. building after the 11:30 elder meal.
Bingo at Valley View will be in the Community Room in Valley View at 1:00pm.

Schedule is subject to change without notice. If the RBC or the E.N.P. site is closed.
Bingo will be rebooked to another date, if possible.

Other Public Health Events that are coming up in April

Dr. Ung (a foot doctor) Clinic – Call (218) 255-2204 to set up an appointment.

April 14th & 15th in White Earth 9:00-4:00

April 16th at the Naytahwaush L.H.S. Clinic 9:00-3:40

April 17th at the Rice Lake Community Center 9:20-3:00

April 4th Rice Lake Food Sovereignty, talks about food sovereignty, harvesting, bison bowl demonstrations, stories on how plant came to be.

April 13th W.E. Community Center Elvis Impersonator.



Get Ready to Rock ‘N’ Roll

April 15th Week of the Young Child Shooting Star Casino

April 19th Rice Lake Natural Dyes Egg Coloring



For additional information please check the Anishinaabeg Today or Facebook for detailed information.

Updated 3/14/2025

Attention New Homeowners
& Existing Homeowners

If you are in need of a Well & Sewer system for your house/trailer home, you can contact the White Earth Water & Sewer Department

Requirements to qualify for the grants are:

- White Earth Tribal enrolled member
- Reside on the White Earth Reservation
- Proof of the Land in which you own, Fee land (Land Deed/ Warranty Deed or Tribal Trust Land (Tribal Trust agreement)
- Proof of home ownership
- Eighteen (18) years of age or older
- Must have electricity, heat source and interior plumbing to the home

Contact us at 218-935-6276

YOUTH Event

Saturday, April 12th, 2025

Noon to 3PM



Parents and guardians, sign up the children and attend with them for our YOUTH Bingo. We will have plastic eggs filled with either candy or cash for them to win.

Pizza and water will be provided for lunch

We do need a head count for the food and bingo prizes.

Contact Sherri 612-423-6760 or Annette 612-508-4425

Sponsored by WEUCC-White Earth Urban Community Council

MCT Building—1308 East Franklin Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55404

PP School Meeting Minutes

Pine Point Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, February 3, 2025 @ 4:30 p.m.

Pine Point School Staff Room

1.0 Roll Call – Meeting called to order by Chairman John Swan at 4:32 p.m.

Member present – Michael Swan, Marva Aitken, Gerald Roberts, Allison Jones, John Swan

Members absent – Sara Hunt

Ex-officio – Christopher Schulz, Principal

2.0 Recognition of Visitors – Bonnie Meeks

3.0 Approval/Amendment of Agenda – Motion by Allison Jones to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Gerald Roberts. All in favor. Motion carried.

4.0 Approval/Amendment of Minutes – Motion by Michael Swan to approve the January 13, 2025 minutes as presented, seconded by Marva Aitken. All in favor. Motion carried

5.0 Finance

5.1 Treasurer’s Report – Motion by Allison Jones to approve the Treasurer’s Report for January 2025 as submitted, seconded by Marva Aitken. All in favor. Motion carried.

5.2 Payment of Bills & Electronic Funds Transfer & Debit Card Transactions – Motion by Allison Jones to approve the payment of bills for the month of January 2025 in the amount of \$78,071.24 for check # 33984 through check # 34045 and the EFT for Federal/State/TRA/PERA Payroll Tax & Debit Card Transactions, seconded by Gerald Roberts. All in favor. Motion carried.

6.0 Unfinished Business

6.1 Reorganization of Board – Motion by Michael Swan to keep everyone the same, seconded by Allison. All in favor. Motion carried.

6.1.1 Chairman – John Swan

6.1.2 Vice Chairman – Marva Aitken

6.1.3 Clerk/Treasurer – Allison Jones

7.0 New Business

7.1 No new business

8.0 Principal’s Report – Discussion on School Counselor Appreciation Week; Feb 7th – Read Act Core Training – half day for students; Feb 14th – Parent/Teacher Conferences – half day for students; Feb 21st – Read Act Core Training – half day for students; Feb 13th K-3 Eye Clinic trip; Feb 27th – 4-8 Eye Clinic trip; Feb 17th – No School; Feb 21st K-8 tubing field trip; Feb 19th – Headchecks; Mar 6th – Science Fair; Solar Panel update. No action needed.

9.0 Public Participation – Feb 22nd – Culture Camp 10 am to 2 pm; Raised gardens.

10.0 Adjournment – Motion by Michael Swan to adjourn the meeting at 4:55 p.m., seconded by Allison Jones. All in favor. Motion carried.

Spring Dinner!

Sunday, April 6

Ogema Community Center


Serving 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Fried Turkey, Potatoes, Dressing,
Vegetable, Salar Bar, Dessert

Sponsored by:

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Lawn Mowing Provider(s)
White Earth Tribal Elders Program

District II & an On-Call position opening


- Must be an enrolled Tribal member or descendant (18 years or older)
- Provide your own lawn mower (rider)
- Must complete an application
- A current Driver's license & insurance.
- You must have your own transportation to & from each site.
- Knowledge of area highways & roads in District
- Must be able to pass a criminal background check & drug screening
- Must be able to communicate with the elders
- Must sign a contract & liability form upon hire
- \$48.00 per lawn, with guidelines to follow upon hire

Deadline: Until filled
Contact: Lisa or Buck at W&S Department 218-935-6411
Email addresses: Lisa.donovan-larson@whiteearth-nsn.gov or Burnham.tibbetsIII@whiteearth-nsn.gov

**NAYTAHWAUSH
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH
UNLESS NOTED DIFFERENT *
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**2025
REGULAR
MEETINGS**



09 JAN	NCC 6PM		
13 FEB	NCC 6PM	14 AUG	NCC 6PM
13 MAR	NCC 6PM	*04* SEPT	NCC 6PM
10 APR	NCC 6PM	09 OCT	NCC 6PM
08 MAY	NCC 6PM	13 NOV	NCC 6PM
19 JUN	NCC 6PM	*04* DEC	NCC 6PM
10 JUL	NCC 6PM	QUESTIONS? PLEASE MESSAGE NAYTAHWAUSH COMMUNITY COUNCIL FB PAGE	

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PO Box 270, White Earth, MN 56591
(218) 935-3411 Cassandra.Hoban@whiteearth-nsn.gov
Bidding will close on April 30th, 2025 @ 4:30pm

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

BUS Bid Amount: \$ _____

Erickson from Page 6

islators at the Minnesota Senate building and state capital to discuss wild rice and natural resource protection, proper advanced consultation, education, addressing additional community needs and funding and other issues. Collaborative efforts with legislators play a crucial role in advancing these priorities.

3-19 - I attended the Boys and Girls Club Minnesota Youth of the Year event at Allianz Field in St. Paul. Two students from White Earth proudly represented the reservation, demonstrating exceptional dedication and achievements. The participants submitted essays, delivered powerful speeches and answered questions. The winner from a Twin Cities Club earned a \$20,000 scholarship and will move on to the next stage of the competition, while all participants were awarded \$2,000 scholarships in recognition of their hard work and commitment.

3-20 - Staff from the Boys and Girls Club, along with youth members and I traveled to the Minnesota State Capital. The youth had an opportunity to meet Governor Tim Walz, attend a House hearing and engaged directly with five legislators. This experience allowed them to share their stories, discuss the challenges they face, and highlight the profound impact the club has on their lives and communities. Empowering our youth to use their voices is essential in shaping a better future. Grateful for the opportunity to connect, learn, and push for meaningful change.

3-26 - A meeting was recently held to discuss the future of the old Elbow Lake Boys and Girls Club building and the surrounding site. The focus of the meeting was on the demolition of the existing structure and plans for revitalizing the site. This initiative aims to clear the area and transform it into a more functional and welcoming space for the community. The project reflects a commitment to improving local infrastructure and creating a positive environment for future use. Plans for the site's redevelopment are still in the works, but the goal is to enhance the area and better serve the needs of the community.

3-27 - Tribal leaders held the RBC Regular meeting at the Shooting Star Casino Event Center. Discussions: Sponsorship proposals, consent agenda with signatory requests for resolutions, grants, LLC's and agreements.

I joined the weekly Governor's call with tribal leaders, where we received important updates on various issues

affecting our communities. Commissioner Paul Marquart provided a detailed update on the child tax credit, including the number of people who have filed and how it's impacting families. Additionally, MCH Commissioner Brooke Cunningham addressed the ongoing challenges in public health, specifically the cuts to COVID-related grants.

These discussions are crucial for understanding the evolving landscape of state policies and their direct impact on tribal communities. The information shared during this call highlights the ongoing efforts to address key concerns and advocate for the resources needed to support our people.

Federal Legislation

We are actively monitoring the current administration in Washington, D.C., and maintaining regular communication with our federal and state lobbyists to stay informed on policies and decisions that impact our Tribe. We will continue to advocate to protect our sovereignty, respond to legislative and regulatory changes that affect our community's interests and future. We remain committed to ensuring that our voice is heard and that the unique needs of our Tribe are represented at all levels of government. We are committed to ensuring that families in our community have access to essential resources and are exploring alternative programs and assistance.

We encourage tribal members to share any concerns, ideas or questions they may have. If you need assistance or wish to schedule a meeting, please don't hesitate to reach out to either myself or Tiffany Swiers. We are here to listen, support and ensure your voice is heard.

MIIGWECH
Contact information:
Laura Lee Erickson
laura.erickson@whiteearth-nsn.gov
Office: 218-935-6238
Cell: 218-401-1153
Facebook: VOTE LAURA LEE

Assistant for District 3
Tiffany Swiers
Office: 218-935-6235
Cell: 218-997-9124
tiffany.swiers@whiteearth-nsn.gov

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WE Tribal and Community College students stand out at AIBL conference in Las Vegas

By Carlene Hisgun, MBA

WE Tribal and Community College

White Earth Tribal and Community College (WETCC) students competed nationally on March 10-11 in Las Vegas at the American Indigenous Business Leaders (AIBL) conference. I am so incredibly proud of this group of students. They worked hard, faced challenges, found solutions, trusted each other and executed their goals together. They have made history in many ways over the past year and a half and have learned some valuable business lessons along the way.

The team was led by Ira Mercurio-Keezer who serves as the club chair. Other participants were Adrian Olson, who is co-chair. Lauri Zupan served as the marketing person for the club but is now a graduate of WETCC. She is looking to serve as a volunteer or mentor to the club in the future. Ashley Stevens is our newest member, and she is the secretary-treasurer. Although Jacob Turchin is a member who has helped with various fundraising activities and IT usage/needs, the team missed his presence at the competition.

This team also participated in RES seminars, getting their professional portraits done, and they learned to network with people from the Reservation Economic Summit (RES). Chairman Michael Fairbanks and District 3 Representative Laura Erickson stopped in to show their support. The students also got to meet and spend a few minutes with our AIBL business plan competition mentor Delmar Blackhorse.

Minnesota swept the awards with the U of M Morris taking home the AIBL chapter of the year. Bemidji State University took home 1st for the university level of the business plan competition. Justin Keezer a BSU student and White Earth Nation member won a secret award for most positive and upbeat.

Our WETCC students were recognized as a new chapter and took home 3rd place for the Tribal



College level of business plan competitions. They presented a business plan for an Indigenous art consignment store through the WETCC bookstore. Plans are to open in the fall. The students are currently recruiting, and working with local students, staff, and community members to get their work beyond the reservation.

Adrian Olson took home the win in the elevator pitch in the 26+ age division. He beat out a Stanford student! Ira Keezer also won a secret award for the most outgoing and friendly.

Adrian said "I joined AIBL to learn about the business world as well as gain experience and insight into how a business is run. We are hoping to pass this

See Awards Page 19



Submitted photo

Bottom: From left are District 3 Representative Laura Lee Erickson, Ira Mercurio-Keezer, Adrian Olson, Chairman Michael Fairbanks, Ashley Stevens, Lauri Zupan, and Carlene Hisgun. **Top:** Adrian Olson took home the win in the elevator pitch in the 26+ age division.

New homes for wood ducks



Submitted photo

Kaleb Kessler (on ladder) with Boy Scout Troop 674 in Detroit Lakes recently made 33 wood duck boxes and donated them to the White Earth Wildlife program. Kaleb and his dad, Kyle delivered them on March 24 and assisted Doug McArthur, White Earth Wildlife Manager, (left) in hanging up 18. The White Earth Natural Resources Department would like to send our appreciation to Kaleb and the rest of Troop 674 for all of their hard work and generosity. Thanks again Kaleb and Kyle!

Family Fun Day



Photo by Jackie Haugo

Family Fun Day was held March 9 at the Waubun School Forest. About 50 people attended the event and were treated to wild rice, soup, hot cocoa, coffee, and cookies. The event was sponsored by White Earth Tribal Public Health and Waubun School.