



The White Earth Nation General Election is June 9

Meet the candidates moving on to the big show

The candidates are set for the White Earth General Election slated for Tuesday, June 9.

Incumbent Michael "Mike" LaRoque and Jacob McArthur will battle it out for Secretary-Treasurer. LaRoque received 474 votes and McArthur gathered 616 votes in the March 31 Primary Election.

Incumbent Henry G. Fox edged out Andy "Jack" Auginaush in the District 1 race. Fox received 152 votes and Auginaush brought in 131.

In District 2, Representative Eugene Sommers did not re-run for office. Eight candidates filed and Alrick "Son" Accobee, 270 votes, and Sheri Kay Snetsinger, 127 votes, will move on to the June General Election.

The official White Earth Nation Primary Election results can be seen on Page 9.

The order of the how the candidates will be placed on the ballot was determined by a lottery drawing that was open to the public and streamed live on White Earth YouTube on April 13 at RBC building lower conference room. The names of the following candidates are how they will appear on the ballot:

Secretary-Treasurer

Michael "Mike" LaRoque (Incumbent)
Jacob McArthur

District 1 Committeeperson

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

District 2 Committeeperson

Sheri Kay Snetsinger
Alrick "Son" Accobee

All candidates were given the opportunity to submit an article stating their views, platforms, and a photo for this issue. To read what they have to say turn to Pages 27-29.

More election information can be found on Page 25.

Early Voting Begins

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

Additional Hours

Saturday, May 9 (10 a.m.-2 p.m.)
Monday, May 25 (8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.)
Saturday, June 6 (8 a.m.-4 p.m.)

Location

White Earth Election Board
Shooting Star Casino RV Park
Mahnomen, Minn.

If you have election questions you can contact the White Earth Election Board at 218-936-5622, toll free at 1-866-211-9154 or via email at electionboard@whiteearth-nsn.gov

The White Earth Mother's Day Powwow is May 9-10 at Shooting Star

Join us for a safe & sober family event

RICE LAKE 28TH Annual Memorial Pow-Wow & walk

May 24th (1:00 & 7:00) & 25th (2:00) **Specials TBA**

Host Drum- Smokey Hill
Co-Host- Naytahwaush Noise
Area Direc.- Shawn Goodman
Spiritual Advis.- Brandon Kier
MC.-Frank Stech
Specials- TBA

Drum Spin
Royalty Contest for (District 1 members)
Feast & Sack lunch
Campers welcome

Feast on Sun & Mon sack lunch for walkers on mon

Walk starts @ 9:00 at the old Roy Lake Landing

Vendor Contact Autumn Auginaush 218-368-3320 Security Provided

RLCC Not responsible for any accidents incidents or theft or short funded travelers.

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ECRWSS

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Sweet deal!

White Earth Natural Resources Parks and Rec in collaboration with the Waubun School Forest recently finished the maple syrup season. They had a total of 680 youth from seven school districts and two local youth organizations from on and off the reservation who were able to travel to the Waubun School Forest. Students learned about maple tapping, tree identification, phenology and the evaporation/boiling process. Students collected 600 gallons of sap that made 18 gallons of syrup, a 33 to 1 ratio!

Photo by Zoe Keezer

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.

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

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

Anishinaabeg Today
PO Box 418
White Earth, MN 56591

Memberships

- ◆ Indigenous Journalist Association
- ◆ Minnesota Newspaper Association

WER Business Committee

Michael Fairbanks
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Michael LaRoque
Secretary-Treasurer

Henry George Fox
District 1 Representative

Eugene Sommers
District 2 Representative

Laura Lee Erickson
District 3 Representative

Editor

Gary W. Padrta

Future Issues *

Deadline	Issue Date
May 27	June 3
June 24	July 1
July 29	August 5
August 26	September 2
September 30	October 7

* Deadline and issue dates subject to change

Do Not Forget

Memorial Day honors men, women who have fought in many wars

By Budd Parker
White Earth Community Veteran

Spring is here and Memorial Day is around the corner. Once again, we are called to remember and show the respect of a grateful nation to the fallen men and women who died in the many wars that our country has suffered through, as well as to those who made it home but have since passed away. Daily we lose veterans who served our country during these all too frequent times of trial.

Here in our own communities, only recently, we've lost our dear friend Darwin "Boy Boy" McArthur - one of the kindest, decent, and most unassuming veterans here in White Earth, as well as one of our honored female veterans, Rita (Vizenor) Boriin, formerly of Pine Point.

Armistice Day - renamed Memorial Day in 1954 - was not proclaimed a national holiday in order to glorify wars or battles, rather that it would keep the sacrifices, horrors, and senselessness of war ever present in our memories in hopes that we would ever strive to find alternatives to prevent future wars. Absolutely, it is entirely appropriate and incredibly important to honor and celebrate the countless heroics performed by so many in battle and in the war efforts.

However, a main purpose was to continually recall, honor, and contemplate the millions slaughtered and to remind citizens of the overwhelming mass destruction and carnage of war, particularly World War I and 22 years later World War II - that Americans would never forget or minimize the depravity that occurred every single day, on land and at sea, in nearly every corner of the world for six long years. This national holiday was set apart to remember and honor those who died fighting to defeat authoritarianism, mass murder of millions of innocents, and to preserve the democratic values and liberties that are the foundation of the United States of America.

Eighty years and several generations later we can no longer entirely grasp, nor fully appreciate the enormity of what these previous generations endured and sacrificed. Not only the millions of service men and women who lost their lives, but the anguish of millions of mothers, fathers, and spouses that lost their young men and women in the prime of their youth - of the millions of children that went through life having never known their fathers or mothers - or at best, having only a faint memory of them. And of course, the soldiers and sailors that endured lifelong emotional damage witnessing unimaginable atrocities that haunted so many of them to their dying days.

Let us all take time this Memorial Day to honor our fallen veterans and to be ever mindful and grateful for the countless benefits and liberties we enjoy, and too often take for granted, because of their sacrifices.

Over the winter, we learned of five more soldiers and one sailor from our reservation that died in service and of several more of our female veterans. These are brief accounts of what little we've been able to learn of them, as well as to recall exploits of one airman that have been largely forgotten and absolutely should not be.

We still have not found pictures of many of our men that died in wartime: Spanish-American War - Joseph Vizenor; World War I - James Bear, Isaac Bunker, Peter DeFoe, Mike Kiplin, Louis LeQuier, Wm Mitchell, Joseph Paul; and World War II - Eddie Brown, George Burnette, Harry Lewis, William Potter, Charles "Buster" Smith, Emery St. John, and Charles "Sonny" Wadena.

If readers know of photos of any these veterans, please email faircox@arvig.net or whiteearthhistory@gmail.com

or write to: Calvary Cemetery Sexton, PO Box 57, Ogema, MN 56569.

World War I

James Joseph Bear [no photo found]

Corporal, Co. K, 4th Engineer Training Rgt., 4th Div., U.S. Army Engineers Corps. After attending Morris Gov't Indian School, he joined the Army Engineers Corps enlisting under the name James Beare and was soon promoted to Corporal. He was removed from the overseas list and selected for officer's training. While there, James contracted influenza and pneumonia and died at the Base Hospital, Camp A. A. Humphreys (now Ft. Belvoir), Virginia Oct. 3, 1918 at the age of 33. James became the second known Chippewa of the White Earth Reservation to be buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Michael E. "Mike" Kiplin [no photo found]

Pvt., Co. E, 23rd Inf., 2nd Div., U.S. Army. Due to his cool nerve, courage and experience with firearms he soon qualified for the extremely hazardous position of sharpshooter. In July 15-22 at Chateau Thiery, the 2nd Div. arrested the Germans' drive to Paris and went on to attacking their forces at Belleau Wood followed by fierce engagements at Fère-en-Tardenois and Soissons. In the thick of combat throughout July, they were relieved briefly to regain full divisional strength before being sent to the Champagne front where the 2nd took a leading role in the Champagne-Marne offensive Aug. 22-Sept. 2 and then the Saint-Mihiel offensive Sept. 12-16. They were then sent back to the Champagne sector Oct. 1, where the 2nd was used as shock troops in the first phase of the Meuse-Argonne offensive which was destined to end the war. The 2nd broke through allowing other units to consolidate and capture the strong held position of Blanc Mont. The 23rd Reg't. relieved the 165th Inf. and attacked at 5:30 a.m., Nov. 1 on a two-kilometer front. They captured Landres-et-St. Georges, Bois Hazois and Bois l'Épasse. Advancing continuously from Nov. 1 to the 5, the 23rd captured Fosse, Letanne and Beaumont. Six days later on Nov. 11 1918, the Armistice took effect and ended the war.

After the fighting ended, Mike's family heard nothing from him or about him for nearly two months until Dec. 31 when his mother Elsie received word from the War Department that he had been severely wounded in action Nov. 5. Desperately trying every avenue to learn where her son was and of his condition, she repeatedly contacted Mike's company officers, the War Dept., and the Home Service Department of the Red Cross, but still Elsie could get no answers. Despite all her efforts, it wasn't until one year and four months later on March 1920, that the Adj. General's Office notified Elsie that her boy had been Killed in Action on Nov. 5, 1918. Mike was 24 years old. His remains were brought home the following year and on April 4, 1921, Mike was laid to rest in St. Michael's Catholic Cemetery in Mahanomen.

William Mitchell [no photo found]

Pvt., Co. L, 6th Inf., 5th Div., U.S. Army. From Naytahwaush, he entered the service and was sent to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri Aug. 9, 1918. High numbers of casualties on the front led the Army to ship many enlisted men to Europe before completing their training - many with only three weeks of instruction before going into combat. The commander of the 307th Inf. informed the 1st Army's inspector general that 90% of his 850-900 replacements he received just before going into the Argonne had never fired a rifle or thrown a grenade. Some officers "had to teach their new men how to load their weapons and don

See Veterans Page 36

Tribal offices closed for holiday

White Earth RBC offices will be closed on May 25 for **Memorial Day** and will reopen on May 26. Modified services will still be available.

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

- Rice Lake | Thurs, May 14th**
Community Center
- Waubun | Thurs, June 18th**
Community Park
- Mahnomen | Wed, July 1st**
Mini Park
- Callaway | Thurs, July 16th**
Softball Fields
- White Earth | Wed, July 22nd**
Community Center
- Pine Point | Thurs, August 6th**
Powwow Grounds
- Elbow Lake | Thurs, August 20th**
Elbow Lake Shelter
- Naytahwaush | Wed, September 9th**
Sports Complex

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

Festival for Fathers and Families 2026

Saturday, June 20th, 2026
 Shooting Star Casino and Event Center
 9:00am-11:00am
 Ages 0-18yrs
 No Registration/ Everyone Welcome!

Brunch Served 9:30am-11am Only.

Come join the fun and check out our vendors!
 Family Activities,
 Family Resources,
 Literacy Books for all,
 and much more!

News From Chairman Michael Fairbanks



Aaniin Boozhoo Gaa-waabaabiganikaag Niminwendam Waabaminaan!

Zaagibagaa-giizis-Giizis!

Aaniish inaa akawe ninga-gaagiizomaag aadi-zookaanag.

Weweni-sago-na

Greetings White Earth Nation I am Happy to See You!

It is already May!

Everyone Be Safe & Stay Safe,

Omagakiig gaye binesiiwag iwide agwajjiing noongom! The frogs and birds are outside today! Ziigwan has finally sprung. As we all know when all the goon, snow has melted and the lakes and rivers wake up, it is then the time we cannot tell our sacred Creation Stories, aadizookaanag so, we must ask to borrow different ones from our local membership family stories or other tribe's. So, this month I have one from our Haudenosaunee relatives this month.

In a large village where all nine clans lived together, each family kept its own longhouse, marked by a carved symbol above the doorway. One evening, an old man emerged from the forest and wandered into the village. He looked worn from travel—his clothes torn, his moccasins thin, his hair all snarled up. Hunger gnawed at him, and he hoped only for a warm place to rest and a little food.

He approached the first longhouse, where a wolf was carved above the door. He knocked, and the Wolf Clan Mother appeared. The old man asked gently for shelter and something to eat. She looked him over with disgust and snapped at him to leave, pulling a deerskin across the entrance.

He moved on to the next house, marked by a hawk. Before he could even speak, the Hawk Clan Mother drove him away, blocking her doorway with a stick. And so, it went from one longhouse to another the Deer Clan, the Beaver Clan, the Heron, the Snipe, the Eel each turned him away. Some mocked him, others simply shut him out. With every refusal, he bent lower, his steps slower, his hunger sharper.

At last, at the far edge of the village, he came upon a small, worn longhouse with a bear carved above the door. Smoke drifted from a single fire. With little hope left, he knocked.

The Bear Clan Mother opened the door and saw him clearly—his frailty, his hunger, his exhaustion. Her expression softened. “Grandfather,” she said, “you should not be out in the cold. Come inside and warm yourself.” She brought him in, sat him on her best furs, and offered what little food her family had—a bowl of corn soup, given freely.

When the old man asked why she would help a stranger, she answered simply: “It is what we are taught. We honor our elders and care for those who travel.”

That night, as he slept, she quietly mended his worn moccasins.

In the morning, the old man awoke with a harsh cough. The Bear Clan Mother insisted he stay until he recovered. In return, he offered her a gift. He described a tree in the forest and asked her to bring back its leaves. She found it just as he said. He showed her how to make a tea, and when he drank it, his cough disappeared. “Remember this,” he told her. “These leaves are medicine.”

The next day, he woke with a different ailment. Again, he guided her to a plant, and again she learned how to use it for healing. Day after day, this contin-

ued. Each illness brought a new lesson, each remedy a new piece of knowledge. She listened carefully and promised to remember and share what she learned.

After many days, the old man rose, fully well, ready to leave. Before he departed, she went to gather strawberries for his journey. But when she returned, she saw a brilliant light shining from her longhouse. Fearing fire—or worse—she rushed forward.

In the doorway stood a young man, glowing with a gentle radiance. As she trembled, he spoke calmly: “Do not be afraid. I am the Creator. I came to your village in the form of that old man. I sought kindness, but only you welcomed me. Because you remembered your teachings, I have given you a gift—the knowledge of medicine.”

He told her to carry this knowledge to her people, to heal and to teach others.

From that day on, the Bear Clan became known for their understanding of medicine—a gift born from compassion, humility, and the simple act of welcoming a stranger.

The White Earth Nation General Election will be held on Tuesday, June 9 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. This issue of the Anishinaabeg Today includes articles from the top two candidates for the Secretary-Treasurer, District 1 and District 2 representative positions. I encourage everyone to read carefully what each candidate has to say. Ask questions, and reflect before deciding who you feel will best represent you, your family, and our Nation.

This issue also contains important information on who can vote, polling locations, an absentee ballot request, and contact information if you have election questions.

Early voting is currently open at the election office, located behind the Shooting Star Casino. They are open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. They will also be open for additional hours on Saturday, May 9 (Mother’s Day Powwow) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., May 25 (Memorial Day) from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and June 6 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. You can reach the election office at 218-936-5622 or electionboard@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Current and updated election information will be shared through the White Earth website, White Earth Facebook page, the Anishinaabeg Today, and the election office. Also consider attending upcoming candidate forums in your area to help in making informed decisions.

Miigwech and thank you to everyone who takes

See Chairman Page 6

News From Secretary-Treasurer Michael J. LaRoque

Aanin Boozhoo!

Greeting White Earth Members, I am honored to serve as the Secretary/Treasurer for the White Earth Tribal Council. This is my 2nd fiscal year 2026 quarterly report, ending March 31. Our fiscal year runs from Oct. 1, 2025, to Sept. 30, 2026.

Overview of the Tribe's Financial Position (Q2 Financial Report)

As of the close of Q2 FY2026, the Tribe remains in a strong and stable financial position, supported by robust enterprise performance and healthy fund balances across key governmental and programmatic accounts. Shooting Star Casino continues to provide a solid financial foundation, with total assets of \$125.1 million, unrestricted cash of \$66.4 million, and total fund equity of \$115.1 million, reflecting strong liquidity and sustained asset growth. In addition, major Tribal funds—including Behavioral Health, Health, ARPA, and Youth & Elder Funds—maintain adequate cash reserves to support ongoing operations and approved investments. Within the General Fund, \$16.28 million has been expended against the FY26 approved budget of \$31.26 million, leaving \$14.98 million available to support remaining FY26 operations and approved initiatives. Collectively, these results demonstrate sound financial management, sufficient liquidity, and the capacity to advance the Tribe's strategic priorities while maintaining long-term financial stability.

Shooting Star Casino – Financial Overview

As of March 31, Shooting Star Casino, Hotel & Event Center remains in a strong financial position. Total assets decreased by \$10.2 million, reaching \$125.1 million, driven primarily by a distribution of 10.6 million, to the tribal government. Unrestricted cash and cash equivalents declined by nearly \$12.1 million, because of the distribution to the tribe and continued investment in remodeling of the casino.

Current assets decreased to \$73.7 million, while net property and equipment grew by \$673,000, reflecting ongoing capital investment and maintenance of facilities. On the liability side, total current liabilities decreased by \$2.0 million, largely attributable to lower gaming-related accruals and accounts payable, reflecting normal operational activity and timing of expenses.

Fund equity remains strong at \$115 million. While retained earnings decreased by \$8.1 million during the quarter a result of the tribal distribution, overall equity levels remain robust and continue to support the Tribe's long-term financial stability and strategic priorities.

Category	March	December	Change
Unrestricted Cash & Equivalents	\$66.4M	\$78.5M	- \$12.1M
Total Current Assets	\$73.7M	\$84.5M	- \$10.8M
Net Property & Equipment	\$51.4M	\$50.7M	+ \$0.7M
Total Assets	\$125.1M	\$135.3M	- \$10.2M
Total Current Liabilities	\$10.1M	\$12.2M	- \$2.1M
Total Fund Equity*	\$115.0M	\$123.0M	- \$8.1M

Through the first half of the fiscal year, Shooting Star remains ahead of budgeted net income on revenues of over \$54.5 million and net income of over \$4.6 million.

*Total fund equity is the residual value of a company's assets after all liabilities are deducted, representing the net worth belonging to shareholders. It is found on the balance sheet and calculated as Total Assets – Total Liabilities. This figure indicates the amount returned to owners if the company were liquidated.



Behavioral Health, Health, Youth & Elder, ARPA Funds Report

As of the close of Q2 FY2026, selected major funds continue to maintain stable cash positions sufficient to support ongoing operations and approved expenditures. Cash balances remain strongest within the Behavioral Health Funds, reflecting the scale of services and funding streams supporting these activities.

The ARPA Fund reflects revenues exceeding expenses for the quarter, consistent with the planned and phased use of time-limited federal resources. Health Funds show expenses modestly exceeding revenues for the period, consistent with normal timing differences between expenditures and reimbursements. Youth & Elder (Y&E) Funds reflect smaller-scale activity with cash balances aligned to current operational needs.

Overall, these funds remain financially stable and continue to support the Tribe's operational and strategic priorities.

Fund	Cash Balance	Revenues	Expenses
ARPA Fund	\$3.22M	\$4.48M	\$1.26M
Y&E Fund	\$202,926	\$248,977	\$45,710
Health Fund	\$14.84M	\$3.91M	\$4.85M
Behavioral Health Fund	\$55.75M	\$17.55M	\$21.40M

General Fund Overview

As of the close of Q2 FY2026, \$16.28 million has been expended, leaving \$14.98 million available to support remaining FY26 operations and approved initiatives.

Category	Amount (\$)
FY26 Approved Budget	\$31,260,421
FY26 Cumulative Actuals	\$16,283,270
Remaining Available	\$14,977,151

Waagigwan Mashkiki Financial Update 2nd Quarter Report

Consolidated revenue for Mahnomen, Moorhead, St. Cloud, Wholesale Sales, and all other sources of revenue for the 2nd Fiscal Quarter of FY2026, ending March 31, was \$6.6 million. The consolidated total expenses for the Quarter were \$4.0 million. Consolidated net income for the quarter was \$2.6 million.

The total employees as of this quarter is 175 employees that range from Cultivation Technicians, Dispensary Technicians, Post Harvest Technicians,

See LaRoque Page 31

THE PRESIDENT, TRUSTEES, FACULTY AND THE GRADUATING CLASS OF WHITE EARTH TRIBAL & COMMUNITY COLLEGE

INVITE YOU TO THE 2026 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY AT 2:00 PM THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2026 WETCC DRUM HALL 2250 COLLEGE RD MAHNOMEN, MN 56557

You are invited to CIRCLE OF LIFE ACADEMY CLASS OF 2026 GRADUATION

Honoring Cameron Dewey Leighland Fineday Peyton Person Xavier Roberts

Class Flower: Carnation Class Colors: Black and Gold

Let us celebrate this special milestone together 21 May 2026 5:00pm - 7:00pm Circle of Life Academy

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.

News From District 3 Rep. Laura Lee Erickson

As April comes to a close, this coming month will be filled with celebrations including graduations that mark milestones in the lives of our young people. Graduation is a time to honor the hard work and dedication of our students as they move onto the next chapter of their lives. Congratulations to all the graduates and their families.

4-15 Tribal leaders visited Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge. Naytahwaush Community Charter School students arrived to engage in environmental education. We continued a meeting Friends of Tamarac members to discuss ideas, collaboration ideas.

4-20 Consultation with EPA regarding decision to rescind the 2024 "Tribal Reserved Rights Rule," which had aimed to protect tribal treaty rights regarding water quality standards. There was a short comment period. White Earth staff and tribal leaders provided comments along with clarification how EPA is going to comply with and recognize existing federal law regarding treaty rights. This decision makes it harder to protect aquatic resources.

4-27 MCT Tribal Executive Subcommittee meeting's in Hinckley, Minn.

4-28 MCT Tribal Executive Committee meeting in Hinckley, Minn.

Project Updates

We remain dedicated to various projects and initiatives throughout the Reservation and District 3. Our ongoing efforts focus on improving the quality of life for our community members, supporting development and ensuring that our district continues to grow and thrive.

White Earth

White Earth was awarded funding to complete design and environmental review activities for a proposed shared use path. The project will extend from the White Earth Tribal Headquarters to Highway 34, and then continue along Highway 34 to the intersection near the former Circle of Life School.

The project will be delivered in two phases. The first phase will focus on the segment connecting the Tribal Headquarters to Highway 34 while the second phase will continue the path along Highway 34 to the identified intersection. Phasing the project allows for a more manageable approach to design, environmental clearance and future construction, while also positioning the Tribe to pursue additional funding as needed.

This shared use path is intended to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety, enhance connectivity between community destinations and provide a safe, accessible transportation option for residents.

Pine Point

The Tribe completed a Tribal Transportation Safety Plan in 2024 which identified priority safety projects throughout the community. One of the key projects identified in the plan is the Pine Point Shared Use Path. A consultant was engaged to develop preliminary design concepts and cost estimates for the proposed trail which would extend from the newer housing area along the curve and continue through the village. These cost estimates were used to support a Tribal Transportation Program Safety Fund (TTPSF) grant application submitted earlier this year.

The application requests funding to support pre-construction activities, including design, environmental review, and right-of-way acquisition. Award announcements are anticipated in July or August. As outlined in the application, all pre-construction activities are expected to be completed by the end of



2027. After this step, Construction funding will need to be secured. The current project schedule assumes construction would begin in 2029. It would be ideal to advance the project to 2028.

The Pine Point Community has an existing softball field that requires updates and repairs to ensure it is safe, functional and suitable for community use. Tribal leaders approved funding to repair the outfield, fix the infield and provide softball bases to restore the Pine Point Community softball field to safe and usable condition.

Elbow Lake

The new Boys and Girls Club building is scheduled to be set on July 27.

A contractor for the Big Elbow Lake Park swim area project was secured last fall. Plans to break ground will be determined by spring thaw and road restrictions. The contractor is scheduled to start as soon as possible this spring.

Contact information:

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laura.erickson@whiteearth-nsn.gov
Facebook: Laura Lee for District 3

Assistant for District 3
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tiffany.swiers@whiteearth-nsn.gov

HELP PROTECT WHITE EARTH NATION FROM WILDFIRE!

Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Input Needed

We are developing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan to reduce wildfire risk and protect our community, lands, and natural resources. Your input will help identify risks, set priorities, and guide actions to better prepare for wildfires.

WHY YOUR INPUT MATTERS

- Help to identify wildfire risks in your area
- Share local knowledge and concerns for plan input
- Help protect homes, forests, and cultural resources
- Support funding and mitigation actions for future efforts

TAKE THE SURVEY TODAY
Scan the QR Code Below

Thank you for helping protect our community, lands, and future generations from wildfire.

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



Gaa-waabaaganiikaag

White Earth Urban Community Council
2026 3RD ANNUAL POWWOW

MAY 16TH 2026

DOORS ARE OPEN 10AM - 8PM

Minneapolis American Indian Center
1530 E. Franklin

Vendors please call Sherri
612-423-6760

Welcome All "Community" Relatives

10AM - 12PM REGISTRATION DANCERS AND DRUM'S
INVITED DRUMS ONLY
HOST DRUM - SOUTHSIDE RAMBLERS

DOORS OPEN 10:00 AM GRAND ENTRIES: 12PM & 6PM
Emcee: Wes Jourdain, & Brandon Bowstring.
Arena Director: Lucas Hisgun.

4:00-6:00PM FEAST

DANCE SPECIALS:
TRADITIONAL MALE-WOODLAND
WOMEN'S JINLE DRESS(18+)
YOUTH DANCE(9-17)
ROYALTY RECOGNIZED

Absolutely no tolerance for drugs and alcohol and anyone under the influence will be asked kindly to leave. Miigwech Indinawemaaganidog (My Relatives)

2026 White Earth General Election

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

Early Voting is Now Open!

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

Additional Hours

Saturday, May 9: Mother's Day Powwow / 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

(Open) **Monday, May 25:** Memorial Day / 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

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

Location

White Earth Election Board Building (Mahnomen)

218-936-5622

A Message from the Tribal Council

The White Earth Reservation Business Committee is strongly condemning recent federal action to overturn protections for the watershed surrounding the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, calling the decision a dangerous step backward for environmental protection and Tribal sovereignty.

"For the Anishinaabe people, this is not a political issue. It is a sacred responsibility," said Chairman Michael Fairbanks. "These waters are our relatives. They sustain manoomin, our culture, and our way of life. To put them at risk for short-term extraction is to abandon that responsibility."

The Senate vote to reverse a long-standing mining withdrawal opens the door to sulfide-ore mining in one of the most pristine freshwater ecosystems in the world, a move the Committee says ignores both science and treaty obligations.

"Sulfide-ore mining in this watershed is not a manageable risk. It is a permanent one," Fairbanks said. "Once these waters are contaminated, they cannot be restored. This is not development. It is irreversible damage."

Guidelines for obtaining bison parts for ceremonial, personal use

The White Earth Division of Natural Resources is providing the opportunity to obtain bison parts for personal or ceremonial use. To ensure a respectful and orderly process, the following guidelines outline the eligibility requirements, scheduling, and procedures for receiving bison parts.

Eligibility Requirements

To request and receive bison parts you must be an enrolled member or descendant of the White Earth Nation.

Harvest Schedule and Pickup Process

Two bison are harvested monthly at B&T Meats in Waubun. The harvesting date may vary month to

The Committee also criticized federal leadership for failing to uphold its trust responsibilities to Tribal Nations.

"This vote represents a failure to honor treaty rights and a willingness to sacrifice Indigenous lands and waters for corporate gain," Fairbanks said. "Respect for Tribal sovereignty is not optional. It is a legal and moral obligation."

For the Anishinaabe people, protecting these waters is not optional. It is a responsibility carried forward for the generations yet to come.

"We are taught to think seven generations ahead. This decision does the opposite," Fairbanks said. "It places profit today over the survival of tomorrow."

The White Earth Reservation Business Committee is calling on federal leaders to reverse course and engage in meaningful government-to-government consultation with Tribal Nations.

"We will not stand by as our waters are put at risk," Fairbanks said. "We will defend manoomin. We will defend these lands. And we will uphold the responsibility given to us by our ancestors."

month based on scheduling and herd management needs.

Bison parts must be picked up on the same day as the harvest. Upon arrival, recipients are required to complete an acknowledgment letter before receiving any materials.

How to Request Bison Parts

Eligible applicants may call the White Earth Division of Natural Resources at 218-935-2488.

Requests are fulfilled in the order received. If demand exceeds availability during a given harvest, applicants will be added to the list for the following month's harvest.

Chairman from Page 3

the time to stay informed and getting involved, by casting your vote for the future of our Nation.

Chi-miigwech bizindawiyeg miinawaa anooj ninda-gikinoo'amaadiwin

Baamaapii wiingezin.

Miigwech bizindawiyeg.

Gigawaabamininim naagaj.

Thank you for listening and continuing to learn together

Take it easy.

See you all later.

Chairman Michael Fairbanks

WE Tribal Public Health sponsors Medicare 101 event

White Earth Tribal Public Health recently sponsored a Medicare 101 event at the Shooting Star Casino. Attendees could visit several vendors and attend an informational lecture by Anne Larson, an Outreach Specialist with Minnesota Aging Pathways. Lunch was also provided.



Photo by Gary W. Padrta

WHITE EARTH ANNUAL RECOVERY PARADE

June 11th, 2026

ROOTED IN TRADITION, BLOOMING IN STRENGTH

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

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

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

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

Did You Know?

- Anyone can apply for White Earth Nation Child Support Services.
- When you are active on Public Assistance a referral is automatically sent to Child Support.
- Child Support can help with establishing paternity for your child(ren) including DNA Genetic Testing.
- Payments can be made in person at the Child Support Office (cash, check, money order).
- White Earth Child Support has a NO FEE Child Support Debit Card you can apply for to receive payments.
- White Earth Child Support can assist with paperwork including modifications.
- White Earth can assist with case transfers from the county on applicable cases.
- That the Child Support Application and other forms are on White Earth Nation website.

Any other questions you may have, please give us a call!!

White Earth Nation Child Support

PO Box 387, White Earth, MN 56591

218-935-3512

Whiteearth.com > Divisions > Human Services > Child Support

2026 White Earth General Election

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

Early Voting is Now Open!

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

Additional Hours

Saturday, May 9: Mother's Day Powwow / 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Monday, May 25: Memorial Day / 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

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

Location

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

218-936-5622

Important updates on future healthcare services at White Earth and Naytahwaush

Dear White Earth Community Members,

We want to share an important update about the future of healthcare services at White Earth and Naytahwaush. As we work to bring the IHS clinics under White Earth self-governance, our goal is to keep you informed, answer questions, and ensure our community understands what this transition means.

Why is This Happening?

White Earth's self-governance efforts reflect a long-term commitment to improving health care through tribal leadership, community voice, and stronger local control. While this work has moved through different phases over time, the overall goal has stayed the same: to prepare White Earth for a stronger, more effective, and tribally guided health system for future generations.

White Earth's IHS program is currently operating at about a 50% vacancy rate, and staffing shortages are affecting patient care. White Earth sees this as a critical point for stepping in and strengthening local control of clinic operations.

White Earth has been planning for this transition since 2016, following direction from Tribal leadership. Over the past several years:

The Tribe partnered with Dr. Don Warne and the NDSU American Indian Public Health Resource Center in 2016-2017 for technical assistance on 638 compacts and tribal readiness. This team addressed:

- A full community-informed SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis. In 2017 this piece was completed.
- Elders and community member concerns and considerations. Members of the community identified tribal politics as a key concern and outlined the need to establish a health system that could operate independently.
- In response, a Health Board structure was created to ensure separation from the Reservation Business Committee (RBC).
- A Health Board has met with other Title V tribes, continued planning for White Earth Title V assumption, thought out community concerns and identified key strategies to move forward.

Two current members of the Interim Health Board have served since its original formation in 2016. The Board learned from other Tribes who have completed similar transitions to learn from their experiences.

White Earth has continued investing in this effort, including the joint venture for the Naytahwaush clinic, and after nearly nine years of planning, we are now moving forward.

How Tribal Management Improves

White Earth has already successfully managed federal healthcare funding through agreements with Indian Health Service. This has allowed us to expand services far beyond what would have been possible under federal control. For at least 20 years White Earth has operated Title I services under an annual funding agreement, providing health and behavioral health services under Tribal governance.

Examples include:

Within the Tribal Health Division, if we solely relied upon the IHS annual funding agreement, it would support:

- 3 Public Health Registered Nurses
- 10 Community Health Representative (CHR)

drivers

- 1 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) staff member
- 4 full-time Registered Nurses and 13 part-time Registered Nurses

However, under tribal assumption we've been able to grow our Tribal Health program to:

- 48 nurses within the Health Division
- 24 EMS staff
- 20 CHR staff

These positions exist today because of Tribal management of healthcare funding and are part of the services our community relies on.

Substance Use Disorder Services:

• Under IHS the tribe receives only about \$500,000 in funding, supporting limited staff. If the tribe had not assumed this service area, there would be very limited CD (substance use disorder) services.

• Under Tribal control we have been able to expand programs such as Women's Wellbriety, Oshki Manidoo youth treatment, Acute Care men's treatment, Strawberry Lake family treatment, outpatient and MAT services, and First Thunderbeing youth programs. We employ roughly 278 staff across all our inpatient and outpatient programs, serving our membership on reservation, Bemidji, and the Twin Cities.

Mental Health Services:

• Under IHS there would be funding for approximately 1 psychiatrist or 3 therapists.

• Since coming under Tribal control, the past 15 years we have expanded services in all communities, including 5 psychiatrists and about 70 providers on the reservation, in Duluth, Bemidji, and the Twin Cities.

This is the impact of Tribal self-governance. We are bringing our experience and abilities to grow and expand services that our membership needs.

Why Now?

We are at a critical point:

- The current IHS system is operating at approximately 50% vacancy.
- There have been fewer people applying for open positions.
- This directly impacts patient care.

At the same time, White Earth already successfully supports approximately 600 employees across Tribal Health and Behavioral Health programs. We believe that we have more resources to successfully support and assist the overall health system to attain healthy staffing levels and ultimately improve service access.

With this transition, we will:

- Hire a healthcare CEO to oversee clinic operations.
- Ensure that experts are administering the programs and advising the health board.
- Provide a stable and supportive work environment.
- Streamline hiring processes to avoid hiring delays and maintain healthy staffing levels.
- Offer competitive salaries and benefits to existing employees and new hires.
- Improve recruitment and retention.

See Updates Page 18

White Earth Council of Elders

By Lucille M. Silk, Chairwoman

White Earth Nation Council of Elders

We trust that everyone had a very Happy Easter and are now looking forward to spring, or will we have to bypass it again this year. We are getting a variety of weather that goes from a nice warm day to extremely cold with winds galore. It creates havoc on our Elder bodies, so please take good care of yourselves to prevent colds and flu.

The first meeting for the Elder Council was held April 7 in White Earth at the Congregate complex. The meeting renewed the purpose of this Council which is to do all that we can to advocate for better living conditions, health care, enough food, safety, and to check on homebound Elders. We try to answer all calls and make the appropriate referrals to programs that deal with their issues.

The Wisdom Steps quarterly meeting was held at Black Bear Casino on the Fond du Lac Reservation. These folks are busy planning for the annual conference at their facility on June 2-4. Board members represent the 11 Tribes in Minnesota, which includes Minneapolis, Duluth and Bemidji urban. These board members are endorsed by each Tribe and urban areas. White Earth has 16 members that have completed their requirements to attend the conference. The Elder bus will transport most of the members and some will be driving their own vehicles. Wisdom Steps is a great health prevention program that has been in existence for 26 years. We encourage others to join by checking with your health provider to get the needed requirements and beginning an exercise routine that would be marked weekly for steps or miles walked. We hope to send more Elders to the conference in 2027, so we ask that you begin now.

There was a conference on April 21-22 at Northern Lights in Walker, Minn., that was available for Elders to attend but no one signed up for it. The Elders decided at the April meeting that if WECO funds were to pay for Elders to attend meetings or conferences during the same month that they had to choose one or the other, so that in all fairness others could have the opportunity.

There were nine members that attended the Tribal Executive meeting on April 29-30 at Grand Casino in Hinckley, Minn. It was a good meeting with lots of information and questions about Tribal members rights to be informed on the issues of concern, with the right to have a referendum vote.

The Reservation Business Committee for White Earth held their quarterly meeting on April 24 at the Shooting Star. A report was given by the Elders Council and other councils throughout the Reservation and urban areas. All Tribal Council members gave their individual reports to those in attendance. A three-minute question time was allowed for members to ask their concerns about sovereignty and when the need for a referendum vote of the people was asked of the RBC Council. One of the big issues of concern was the 638 of Indian Health Service, which is the transfer of management to the Tribe. It was stated that not enough education was given to membership about this process.

Missteps, pauses and detours are part of every journey. They don't erase progress—they shape it. Stay patient with yourself. Your dreams are still within reach, and you're closer than you think.

Peace to all.
Lucille Silk, Chair
218-204-0112

Elders Commission Election Notice

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

Two (2) - District representatives for District I

Two (2) - District representatives for District III

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

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

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

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

the date of the Election.

- Must reside within the exterior boundaries of the White Earth Reservation and

- Must be a resident of their District for a least 12-month period immediately preceding the date established for the election.

- Must be able to pass the background check and meet background eligibility* according to the approved By-laws of the Elders Commission.

Election: Aug. 11, 2026

Regular Election Polling Places:

District 1 - Rice Lake Community Center
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Mahnomen Veterans Center / 2 - 6 p.m.

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

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

White Earth Tribal and Community College launches fully online Associate of Arts Degree

White Earth Tribal and Community College (WETCC) is proud to announce the launch of a fully online Associate of Arts (AA) degree program, expanding access to higher education for students across the region and beyond.

This new online option allows students to complete their AA degree with greater flexibility, making it possible to balance education with work, family, and community responsibilities. The program reflects WETCC's ongoing commitment to providing accessible, community-centered education rooted in Anishinaabe values.

"WETCC's new fully online AA degree program option opens doors for students who may not be able to come to campus but still want a meaningful, culturally grounded college experience," said Allen Derks, Ph.D., Interim President of WETCC. "Through distance education, WETCC can support White Earth members and other learners across the region, in the Twin Cities, and out of state, helping them earn a college degree while strengthening their connection to Anishinaabe culture, language, and community."

The online Associate of Arts (AA) degree in Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences provides a strong foundation in critical thinking, communication, creativity, and problem-solving—skills that are essential in today's workforce. Graduates of liberal arts programs pursue careers across a wide range of fields, including business and administration, communications and marketing, education and human services, government and public service, healthcare support roles, and data and analytical fields. Because of its broad and adaptable skillset, the AA degree prepares students for diverse career pathways across many industries. The program also serves as a strong academic

foundation for students planning to transfer, as it meets the general education requirements for Minnesota State Colleges and Universities four-year institutions, creating a seamless pathway to a bachelor's degree. Courses are designed to reflect WETCC's emphasis on cultural knowledge, community engagement, and student support, ensuring that online learners remain connected to the college's mission and values while pursuing their education from anywhere.

Enrollment for the online AA degree is now open for in-state and out-of-state students.

Enrollment Information

Students interested in enrolling in the online AA program can get started today. Phone: 218-935-0417 or apply online: www.wetcc.edu/apply

For additional support, prospective students can connect with:

- Admissions Office – admissions@wetcc.edu
- Student Services – Amber Fox, 218-935-0417 Ext. 8330, amber.fox@wetcc.edu. WETCC staff are available to guide students through the enrollment process and help them take the next step in their educational journey.

About White Earth Tribal and Community College

White Earth Tribal and Community College is located in Mahnomens. The college provides higher education that integrates academic excellence with Anishinaabe culture, language, and values. WETCC serves students through degree programs, certificates, workforce training, and community education.

Contact Information

White Earth Tribal and Community College 218-935-0417 or www.wetcc.edu

WE Housing Authority 2025 annual report available

The White Earth Housing Authority (WEHA), TDHE, would like to share with our community that the 2025 Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) Annual Performance Report (APR) has been completed.

This report reflects the work, progress, and services provided over the past year to support our families and communities. We believe in keeping our

people informed and welcome anyone who would like to review it.

Copies are available at the front desk of the White Earth Housing Authority, or you can call 218-473-4663 to request one be emailed.

Miigwech for your continued support, and the White Earth Housing Authority Team wish you all a safe and grand day.

White Earth Community Cleanup 2026

Haulers Scheduled Areas

April 22nd thru April 24th

Mahnomen & Rice Lake Riverland Apts, Riverland Housing, Perch Lake, Lengby, Ebro, Pine Bend, Roy Lake, Mahkounce, and Zerkle included

April 29th thru May 1st

Naytahwaush Community Pinehurst to Mahkounce, Co road 6 from Hwy 59 to Co road 4 (BAB Road, Blair Road, Tibbetts Road, & Bass Lake)

May 13th thru May 15th

Elbow Lake Community Pinehurst to Hwy 113 including Lynnwood and Elkhorn, McCraney Lake cut across, Snyder Lake area, Tamarac Resort on Hwy 35 back to Hwy 113

May 27th thru May 29th

Pine Point Community LaDoux Road, Ice Cracking, Strawberry Lake, Mary Yellowhead, Richwood, Sugar Bush Area

June 3rd thru June 5th

White Earth Community Callaway, Richwood Road, Goat Ranch Road, Ogema,

These are general areas and are not set in stone. The senior pickup lists were coordinated with these areas and dates. **Everything will be hauled to the Waubun Transfer Station. 8 tires per household. Refrigerators and Freezers must be empty. Please leave it on site if it's not empty; this is the tenant or elders' responsibility to clean out.**

PLEASE LET SANITATION KNOW IF YOU ARE HAULING FOR A HOUSING OR ELDERS SO THEY CAN MARK THEIR TICKETS CORRECTLY

White Earth Community Cleanup 2026

ALL ITEMS MUST BE BROUGHT TO THE WAUBUN SITE IF HAULING IN YOURSELF

PICK UP SERVICES AVAILBLE TO TRIBAL ENROLLED SENIORS - 55 years and older

IF ELDERS HAVE ANY ITEMS YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE PICKED UP, PLEASE CALL 218-473-3222 or 218-935-3234 TO SIGN UP AND GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DAY OF SERVICE. PLEASE GIVE YOUR NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER TO THE OFFICE ASSISTANT TAKING YOUR CALL. ALSO HAVE YOUR ITEMS AT THE END OF YOUR DRIVEWAY TUESDAY NIGHT DURING YOUR WEEK OF CLEAN UP.

WE HOUSING TENANTS - CREWS WILL BE PICKING UP THEIR RENTAL UNITS TUESDAY THRU FRIDAY. PLEASE HAVE UNWANTED ITEMS AT THE END OF YOUR DRIVEWAY BY THE TUESDAY NIGHT BEFORE.

April 22nd thru April 24th

Mahnomen & Rice Lake Riverland Apts, Riverland Housing, Perch Lake, Lengby, Ebro, Pine Bend, Roy Lake, Mahkounce & Zerkle included

April 29th thru May 1st

Naytahwaush Area Pinehurst to Mahkounce, Co road 6 from Hwy 59 to Co road 4 (BAB Road, Blair Road, Tibbetts Road & Bass Lake)

May 13th thru May 15th

Elbow Lake Area Pinehurst to Hwy 113 including Lynnwood and Elkhorn, McCraney Lake cut across, Snyder Lake area, Tamarac Resort on Hwy 35 back to Hwy 113

May 27th thru May 29th

Pine Point Area LaDoux Road, Ice Cracking, Strawberry Lake, Mary Yellowhead, Richwood & Sugar Bush Area

June 3rd thru June 5th

White Earth Area Callaway, Richwood Road, Goat Ranch Road, Ogema

TV's, Electronics & 8 Car Tires per household accepted (NO SEMI OR TRACTOR TIRES). Refrigerators and Freezers need to be empty. If they are not empty, they will be left. NO HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE OR HAZARDOUS WASTE ALLOWED. If possible, please keep piles separated by material. There should be 3 basic piles: Metal, Tires, Everything else

Notice

St. Columba Episcopal Church Cemetery Clean Up

The Cemetery Clean-up will be in effect
May 1 through Memorial Day.

Families are responsible for cleaning loved one's graves. The cemetery is maintained on a volunteer basis. The majority of maintenance is completed by a number of elders, if you are able to assist, please feel free to do so.

We will have a dumpster on site for disposal of old flowers and memorials. If you see a grave that is not being maintained, please be neighborly and clean it if you are able. Thank you for your assistance.

St. Columba Bishop Committee

WHITE EARTH RESERVATION

PRIMARY ELECTION

March 31, 2026

OFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS

	RICE LAKE	BELOU	PINE BEND	WAUBUN	NAYTAHWAUSH	MAHMONEN	OCEMA	WHITE EARTH	PINE POINT	ELBOW LAKE	CALLAWAY	MARBLE	MINNEAPOLIS	CASS LAKE	IN PERSON ABSENTEE	ABSENTEE	TOTAL	%
SECRETARY/TREASURER																		
JACOB MCARTHUR	68	0	6	23	115	66	19	100	31	5	9	1	16	22	130	5	616	41.12%
JUSTIN KEEZER	18	2	0	9	70	15	2	20	6	0	5	1	8	12	23	4	195	13.02%
MICHAEL "MIKE" LAROQUE	45	2	7	21	78	16	12	52	27	5	29	1	17	57	85	20	474	31.64%
ROCK E. KEEZER, SR.	6	0	1	0	21	4	0	2	2	1	2	0	3	0	5	0	47	3.14%
MYKEE BROWN	3	0	1	0	14	3	0	7	0	0	0	5	2	5	9	1	50	3.34%
JIM LAFRINIERE	52	1	7	5	16	5	1	4	0	0	0	2	0	3	15	5	116	7.74%
DISTRICT ONE COMMITTEEPERSON																		
ANDY "JACK" AUGINAUSH	77	1	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	11	14	10	131	41.32%
HENRY G. FOX	101	2	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	5	19	2	152	47.95%
FAWN ROY	18	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	7	3	0	34	10.73%
DISTRICT TWO COMMITTEEPERSON																		
BONITA BROWN	0	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	11	1.55%
LEONARD LOUIS WADENA	0	0	0	2	11	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	4	0	28	3.94%
PATTY (PATLEEN) STRAUB	0	0	0	9	27	25	0	0	0	0	0	2	7	43	4	117	16.48%	
SHERI KAY SNETSINGER	0	0	0	4	66	23	0	0	0	0	1	1	9	22	1	127	17.89%	
JOE BUSH	0	0	0	0	14	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	3	0	24	3.38%	
ALRICK "SON" ACCOBEE	0	0	0	25	149	29	0	0	0	0	0	1	10	55	1	270	38.03%	
TYLER COLEMAN	0	0	0	6	30	10	0	0	0	0	0	5	2	15	2	70	9.86%	
TYLER ANDERSON	0	0	0	11	13	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	26	2	63	8.87%	

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned Election Officials of the White Earth Reservation do hereby certify that to be a true and accurate reflection of the votes cast in the Primary Election held on Tuesday, March 31, 2026. We further certify that said election was conducted in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, the White Earth Reservation and Election Ordinance #10.

SIGNED

Jay S. Tracy
Sherrill Hanker
Bonnie Ladboy
Bonnie Ladboy

158th ANNUAL WHITE EARTH TREATY DAY CELEBRATION & POW WOW

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

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

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

SPECIALS: TBA
 Payouts to be announced
WHITE EARTH VETERANS HONOR GUARD
 RAISING FLAG-TIMES | FRIDAY: 1:00 PM
 SATURDAY 10:00 AM | SUNDAY WILL BE ANNOUNCED
ROYALTY CONTEST
 CONTACT | Jon Weaver (218) 261-1433
 Open to White Earth enrollees or descendants
 Junior Princess or Brave: 9-12 years old. | Senior Princess or Brave: 13-17 years old.
 Living on or near the White Earth Reservation; additional qualifications apply.
APPLICATIONS DUE BY Monday, June 1 at 12PM.
 Applications available at WERBC Headquarters or via email.
VENDOR CONTACT | Autumn Auginaush 218-368-3320 & Gene Keezer 218-401-1532

**RULES FOR POW WOW
GROUNDS & CAMPING AREA**

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

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

• No fireworks, weapons, alcohol or illegal substances
 • No unruly behavior
 • No ATVs
 • No Gang Colors
 • No Smoking of Marijuana around vendors or dancing areas
 • The White Earth Reservation Business Committee, Police and Pow Wow Committee reserve the right to remove violators.
 WERBC, SAC, WERBC and all associated activities will not be held liable for people who are attending at their own risk nor be held responsible for accidents, injuries or other financial troubles.

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

Oshki Manidoo Center celebrates with spring feast



Photo by Carla Dahl

The Oshki Manidoo Center in Bemidji, Minn., recently held their annual spring feast. The day was filled with games to include bingo, bags and volleyball, and everyone enjoyed a nice meal. Speaking at the event is Chairman Michael Fairbanks as Secretary-Treasurer Michael LaRoque, center, and Oshki Manidoo Center CEO Jeremy Syverson look on. The Center provides a safe and supportive environment for culturally-based healing and recovery.





Sue Trnka
WEII Community Services Coordinator
218-844-7029



Jodi Lunde
WEII Community Services Coordinator
218-844-7057

DO YOU WANT TO:

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

We can help!

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

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

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

“Remembering What We Always Knew”



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

~ Restoring Traditional Knowledge ~

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

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

SHOOTING STAR CASINO
777 S. Casino Rd
Hotel Booking ID:
“Return to First Medicine Conference”

JULY 28 & 29TH 2026

Eventbrite Registration









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

We've got a loan for that.

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



This institution is an equal opportunity provider and lender.

(218) 902-2069 | www.weii.website



**White Earth
Mother's Day Powwow**

May 9 & 10, 2026
Shooting Star Event Center
SHOOTING STAR CASINO, 777 CASINO ROAD, MAHNOMEN, MN 56557

Grand Entries
Saturday | 1pm & 7pm Sunday | 1pm | All dancers must be in regalia to register
Feast Saturday at 5PM

Mother's Day Gift Giveaway

Emcees: Wes Jourdain & Londel Seaboy
Arena Directors: Jeremy Clark Lucas Hisgun
Spiritual Adviser: Rob Tibbetts

Host Drum | White Fish JRS **Co-Host Drum | Eyabay**
Drum Split - TBD
No drum hopping

Drum Registration Contact Information
Jon Weaver | 218-261-1433 & Anthony Buckanaga | 218-850-3048

WHITE EARTH HONOR GUARD
SPECIALS | TBA
Vendor Contact
The Vendor List is Full and there are No More Spots Available.

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.

Sponsored By: White Earth RBC & SHOOTING STAR
CASINO HOTEL ENTERTAINMENT

There are things we can do to support and strengthen mental health wellbeing

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. Mental health is our ability to navigate our thoughts, emotions, relationships, and the world around us. It affects how we think, feel, and act every day. Just like physical health, there are things we can do to support and strengthen our mental wellbeing.

When your mental health is strong, you're better able to handle stress, face challenges, build meaningful relationships, and feel more confident in yourself. Everyone experiences ups and downs, tough days and tough seasons are part of life. The key is learning to recognize what supports your well-being and taking steps to care for it, even when things feel "okay."

Paying attention to your mental health helps you understand what impacts you and what tools, supports, or resources may help when you need them. Small, consistent actions can make a big difference. Taking care of your mental health isn't just self-care, it's an investment in your overall wellbeing and future.

A mental health condition (or mental illness) refers to symptoms that are identified by a healthcare provider. These conditions can affect emotions, thinking, and behavior. For some, it may look like ongoing sadness or anxiety. For others, it may include difficulty concentrating, withdrawing from others, or experiencing things that others do not. Mental health conditions are common, treatable, and recovery is possible.

Mental health is not just individual; it's also shaped by our communities. Connection, culture, support systems, and access to resources all play an important role in our overall well-being. Creating spaces where people feel supported, respected, and connected strengthens mental health for everyone.

If you or someone you care about needs support, please reach out to White Earth Mental Health.

24/7 Mental Health Crisis Line:
218-850-HELP (218-850-4357) or dial 988

WR Electric awards \$1,000 grant to COLA

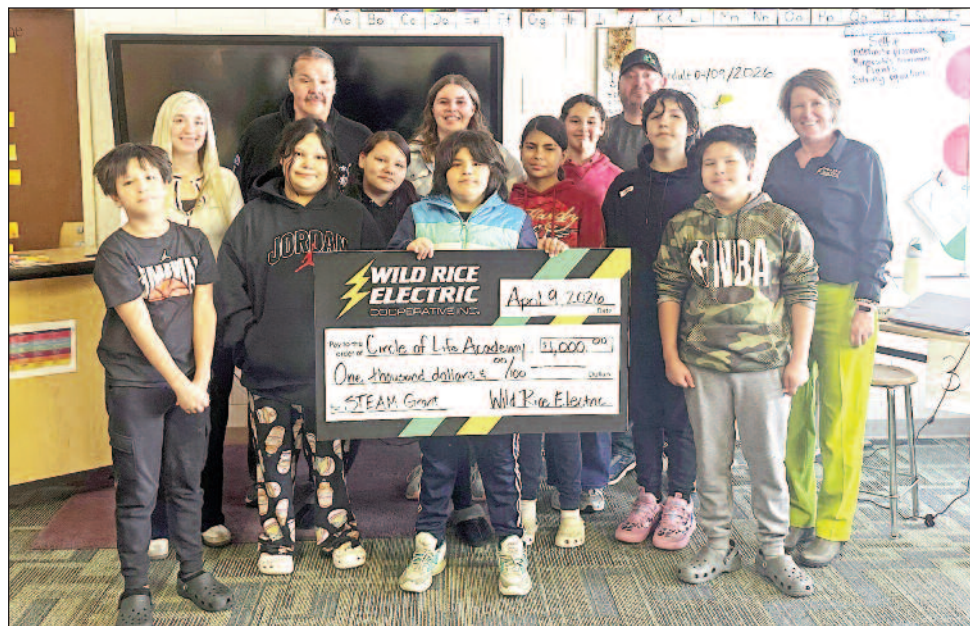
Wild Rice Electric Cooperative (WREC) recently awarded a \$1,000 STEAM Grant to Circle of Life Academy to support a new hands-on learning project in their 6th grade classroom.

The funding will be used to develop an indoor garden, where students will study plant growth, test different growing mediums, and participate in activities such as

plant dissection. The project also includes a creative component, with students designing and decorating their own pots.

WREC is pleased to support classroom projects that provide practical learning opportunities in science, technology, engineering, art, and math.

WREC looks forward to seeing the impact of this project as it gets underway.



Submitted photo

Wild Rice Electric Cooperative recently awarded a \$1,000 STEAM Grant to Circle of Life Academy.



May
is Mental Health Awareness Month

What is "Mental Health?"

- We all have mental health.
- Mental health is just as important as physical health!
- Mental health affects how we think, feel, and act!
- Mental health is emotional, psychological, and social well-being.
 - It can influence and affect our cognition, perception, and behaviors.
 - It can also determine how we handle stress, relationships, and decision-making.

Why should we prioritize mental health?

- It allows for building positive life experiences and strengthening resiliency. Life often presents difficult circumstances and having that resiliency allows us to bounce back and live in a way that creates more joy and helps us to achieve our goals.

IS...

- Important
- Something everyone has
- Linked to physical health
- Worth making time for
- Part of being human
- Something we need to look after
- Positive & Negative Feelings
- Changeable
- Complex
- Real

IS NOT...

- A sign of weakness
- Shameful
- Always something negative
- Something you decide to have
- Something to think about- only when it feels "broken."
- The same term as "mental illness."
- Feeling good all the time
- Something you can "snap out of."
- "Fake News"

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

BARGAINS OF THE MONTH[®]

Shop for May bargains while supplies last!

 <p>SAVE OVER 35% 19.99 Fiskars[®] 3 pc. Ergo Garden Tool Set 261 738</p>	 <p>SAVE OVER 50% 6.99 Green Thumb[®] Impulse Sprinkler with Metal Spike 581 833</p>	 <p>SAVE OVER 40% 15.99 Green Thumb[®] 2 gal. Home & Garden Sprayer 272 295</p>	 <p>SAVE OVER 45% 3.99 7.5 x 18 x 1 in. Knee Pad Cushion 725 582 <i>True Value.</i></p>
 <p>SAVE OVER 35% 13.99 Annin[®] Flagmakers 2.5 x 4 ft. U.S. Flag on 5 ft. Wood Pole 535 813</p>	 <p>28.49 SALE PRICE -10.00 INSTANT 18.49 FINAL PRICE Roundup[®] 1 gal. Weed Killer [Northern] 133 014 *Limit 2 per offer.</p>	 <p>SAVE OVER 35% 5.99 ScotchBlue[™] 1.88 in. x 60 yd. Original Multi-Surface Painter's Tape 865 352</p>	 <p>SAVE OVER 35% 2.99 Rain-X[®] 1 gal. +32" Bug Remover Windshield Washer Fluid 190 842</p>

©2026 TV Hardware Distribution, LLC. Consumer responsible for taxes. While supplies last. Products, product availability, pricing and savings may vary by store. See your local store for details. Prices good through May 31, 2026. TV BM-1126/113323 May 2026 BOM Bargain Stuffer TXZ version.

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



SHOOTING STAR CASINOS

MAHNOMEN + BAGLEY
STARCASINO.COM + 800.453.STAR

34TH ANNIVERSARY

HIGHWAY TO WINNING



WIN YOUR SHARE OF OVER \$110K IN CASH & PRIZES

May 3, 10, 17, 24 and Memorial Day

Help us celebrate 34 years by joining us for a chance at cash prizes or a pickup truck! Earn entries now. Double entries first three Tuesdays and Thursdays in May.

CONCERTS

- Gary Allan | May 1
- Kansas | May 15
- Terri Clark | June 5
- Starship | June 26
- Jackson Dean | July 10
- Night Ranger | July 24



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





Home Stretch

Homebuyer Education Class



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

May 20
 June 24
 July 22
 August 19
 September 16

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

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

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



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

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

HennepinCounty.gov/heart-beats

BAM'IDIZOWIGAMIG CREATOR'S PLACE



AFFORDABLE BURIAL STONES

\$300

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



John Smith
Jan. 1, 2000 Jan. 1, 2000
Forever In Our Hearts



"Bill"
William Smith
Jan. 1, 2000 Jan. 1, 2000
Rest In Peace

CONTACT
218-699-3811
48513 Pow Wow Hwy.
Ponsford, MN 56575
CREATORSPLACEPINEPOINT@GMAIL.COM

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

Follow simple rules to keep bears away

By White Earth Conservation Law Enforcement

As some are already aware, 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 on how **not** to attract bears.

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 in the morning of pick up. Make sure it's in a container and not just in garbage bags lying at the end of your driveway. That not only attracts bears but other wildlife as well, including raccoons and skunks.

Bird Feeders

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

Pet Food (dog or cat food)

- Keep inside at night or any time there is a bear sighting in the area.

Outdoor grills and picnic areas

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

Fruit trees, gardens, and honey bees

- Use electric fencing if possible

Animal or fish carcasses and leech bait

- Don't clean fish or leech bait in your back yard, 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 canoes and any containers used for fishing or leeching.

- Rinse out the live well and inside of the boat.

If you do come in 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 and leave when it feels safe.
- If a bear is treed by your dogs, place the dogs in the house or garage until the bear leaves the area.

The White Earth Conservation Officers have a policy in place for setting up a live trap. The follow-



ing procedure should be followed: (This will be done only after the above listed recommendations have been followed.)

- Call White Earth Dispatch at 218-983-3201 with the complaint. Leave your name and contact information.

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

- 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 them.

- **Keep children and pets away from the trap, whether it's empty or has a bear in it. This is not a toy! It's 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 **will not** be used if the recommendations aren't followed or if the nuisance bear has cubs. There is nothing worse than catching a cub and having to deal with the mama bear on the outside of the trap, or vice-versa.

The **only** time a nuisance bear can be shot is if they are threatening to humans or if they are attacking a person's domestic animal: cats, dogs, or livestock. You cannot shoot them if the food sources are not 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 destroyed must be reported to the White Earth Conservation Department. Call dispatch immediately to report any bears that are shot or found dead.

And finally, for those who live out in the country, please remember that it is expected to have some type of encounter with the animals inhabiting the surrounding area, whether it be squirrels, skunks, or bears, etc. Please use common sense and follow the guidelines recommended above when needed.

Please note that like any animal, bears are sacred and should be treated with respect; just as one would a beaver, eagle, hawk, etc. Try putting out asemaa (tobacco) and say a little prayer with good thoughts.

Thank you from the White Earth Department of Natural Resources and Conservation Officers.

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.



2026

Summer Youth Employment

Requirements:

- Ages 14 to 21
 - must be 14 years old by May 26th
- A resident of White Earth reservation
 - proof of address required
- Enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe
 - tribal ID or CDIB
- A low-income individual, or a youth who lives in an area of high poverty

Benefits:

The purpose of SYEP is to provide supplemental employment and training related services to low-income Indian/Native American youth who live on White Earth Reservation

Application Deadline:
May 15th

Call: (218) 936-3110 ask for Darwin or Janea

Applications can be mailed, emailed or picked up at the address below

Maadaadiizi Workforce Center 3081 Workforce Rd Naytahwaush MN

Did You Know...

You can read the current and past issues of the *Anishinaabeg Today* online at www.whiteearth.com for free! The online issues feature more color and you can read them right away when the paper comes out on the first Wednesday of each month.

2026 Election Calendar

June 9: General Election

(Polling Place open from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.)

June 10: General Reservation Election Board certifies results of Election. Prior to 8 p.m.

June 11: General Reservation Election Board publishes Election results.

June 12: Deadline for Request for Recount. (Filed with General Election Board prior to 5 p.m.).

June 16: 4:30 p.m. - Deadline for Notice of Contest. (Filed with Reservation Election Judge and Executive Director of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe).

June 17: Decision on Request for Recount and Results of Recount, if allowed (or June 16 if request for Recount is filed before deadline).

June 26: Deadline for Decision on Contest for General Election

June 29: 4:30 p.m. - Deadline for appeal to Court of Election Appeals. Filed with Executive Director of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and Reservation Tribunal rendering Decision (or within 3 days of decision of Contest).

July 1: Record of contest forwarded to Court of Election Appeals (at least 2 days prior to the Hearing date).

July 6: Last Day for Hearing on Appeal. (Hearing within 7 days notice of appeal).

July 14: Winning candidates assume office by operation of law, unless sooner seated, or the election is subject of appeal to the Court of Election Appeals.

July 16: Deadline for decision of Court of Elections Appeal. (Or 10 days from Hearing on Appeal)

Day following Decision of Appeal: Winning candidate prevailing on appeal takes office.



GAA-WAABAABIGANIKAAG

ELECTION CANDIDATE ANNOUNCEMENT

Re-Elect Secretary Treasurer Michael LaRoque

GENERAL ELECTION WILL BE HELD JUNE 9, 2026

Get out and vote!

LEADERSHIP - FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY - TEAM PLAYER

Learn about my priorities on the Secretary Treasurer - Mike LaRoque Facebook Page

paid for by Secretary Treasure Mike LaRoque campaign

Protecting your feet and legs if you have diabetes

By Lisa Braun, RN

White Earth Nation Tribal Public Health

Why Foot and Leg Care Is Important

If you have diabetes, taking good care of your feet and legs is essential. Diabetes can damage blood vessels over time, making it harder for blood to circulate throughout your body. Poor circulation in the legs and feet can cause pain, slow-healing sores, or infections. Detecting and addressing these issues early can help prevent serious complications.

The Ankle-Brachial Index (ABI) Test

One effective way to monitor your foot and leg health is by getting an Ankle-Brachial Index (ABI) test. The ABI test is a simple and painless procedure that compares the blood pressure in your ankle to the blood pressure in your arm. This comparison allows doctors to assess how well blood flows in your legs.

The test is quick, safe, and does not require needles or surgery. A blood pressure cuff is placed on your arms and ankles, and the results are then compared. Despite its simplicity, the ABI test provides valuable information about your health and can uncover circulation problems before you experience

any symptoms.

Benefits of Early Detection

The ABI test is an important tool for preventing serious complications in people with diabetes. If circulation problems are detected, your doctor may suggest lifestyle changes, medications, or treatments to improve blood flow. Taking these steps can reduce your risk of infections, ulcers, or even amputations, which are higher risks for individuals with diabetes.

Take Action for Your Health

Getting an ABI test is a small step that can have a significant impact on your health. If you have diabetes, consider discussing this test with your doctor. It can help keep your legs and feet healthy, give you peace of mind, and prevent problems before they start.

This service is offered by White Earth Nation Tribal Public Health. You can call and ask for a nurse in public health or email public.health@whiteearthnsn.gov. The team will be happy to assist you in making an appointment at a location near you.

Four community locations are available: White Earth, Naytahwaush, Rice Lake, and Pine Point.

The White Earth Nation General Election is Tuesday, June 9 to 8 p.m.

NCCS
16th Annual
5K RUN & WALK

FRIDAY, MAY 15TH, 2026
NCCS LOWER PARKING LOT

FREE 16TH ANNUAL T-SHIRT
WITH REGISTRATION

FREE REGISTRATION @ 12:30 PM

START TIME @ 1:00 PM

Community Welcome!

White Earth Nation
TRIBAL PUBLIC HEALTH
Prevent. Promote. Protect

Special Events

- **WECOE MTG**
May 5th — Pine Point
- **Diabetes Bingo**
May 5th— Nayttahwaush ENP
May 13th— White Earth ENP
May 27th—Rice Lake ENP

White Earth Elder Nutrition Program
Gaawaabaabanganikaag Ogikaag Miniwanjige
“White Earth Elder Eating Good”
Zaagibagaa-giizis (Budding Leaves Moon) - May

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

Elders Suggested Donation \$4
Guest Meals \$6

Questions or comments please contact :
White Earth ENP Site (218) 983-3744
Site Controller: Thor Smith
Elbow Lake ENP Site (218) 734-2315
Site Controller: Cheryl Rindahl
Pine Point ENP Site (218) 573-2210
Site Controller: Zachery Adams
Nayttahwaush ENP Site (218) 935-5554
Site Supervisor: Sherry Halberg
Rice Lake ENP Site (218) 694-2795
Site Supervisor: Russell Boswell

Tanya LaDoux
Elder Nutrition Program Manager
Tanya.Heinonen@whiteearth-nsn.gov
218-983-3286
Jeanie Rogers
Elder Nutrition Program Assistant Manager
Jeanie.Rogers@whiteearth-nsn.gov
218-983-3286

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	Friday 22nd a bag lunch will be put out for the 25th Memorial Day			1 Sloppy Joes Potato wedges Baked beans Peaches w/cottage cheese
4 Tomato tortellini soup Ham & cheese Berry parfait	5 Salisbury steak Mashed potatoes Stewed tomatoes Dinner roll Orange	6 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	7 Spaghetti w/meat balls Green beans Breadstick Banana & Pudding	8 BBQ chicken Potato salad Corn bread Creamed corn Watermelon
11 Au gratin potatoes Sliced ham Cali blend veggie Wheat bread Jello-fruit mix	12 Chicken pot-pie Beets Biscuit Apricots	13 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	14 Tuna noodle hotdish Peas Breadstick Angel food cake w/ berries	15 Pork roast Mashed potatoes Carrots Dinner roll Pineapple
18 Chicken alfredo Steamed broccoli Breadstick Tropical fruit	19 Ravi w/sausage marinara Country blend veggie Garlic bread Apple sauce	20 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	21 Grilled chicken sandwich w/ lettuce & tomato Pickles Mac salad Banana	22 Tator tot hotdish Garden salad Dinner roll Fruit crisp
25 	26 Pulled pork on a bun Baked beans Coleslaw Pears	27 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	28 Tacos w/fixings Churros Grapes	29 Baked chicken Rice pilaf Roasted zucchini Mangos

White Earth Food Distribution May Store Hours

Mon-Thurs 8:30-3:30

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

May 2026 Home Delivery Schedule (Subject to Change)

Nutrition Education & Health Screenings w/Shirley & Taylor: May 4th, 6th, 11th, 13th, 18th, 20th & 27th.

May 8th: Nayttahwaush & Bagley

May 11th: Mahnomen & Waubun

May 15th: White Earth, Detroit Lakes & Ponsford

May 25th: Closed – Memorial Day

May 29th: Store closed for inventory

No Store hours on Fridays

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

White Earth WIC  May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
WIC follows RBC Schedule for closings	*Locations and times are subject to change*				1 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	2
3	4 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	5 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	6 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	7 Rice Lake Community Center 9:00-3:00	8 CLOSED	9
10	11 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:00	12 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:00	13 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	14 Nayttahwaush Health Center 9:15-3:30	15 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	16
17	18 CLOSED	19 Bagley Elementary School 10:00-3:00	20 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	21 Nayttahwaush Health Center 9:15-3:30	22 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	23
24	25 CLOSED	26 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:00	27 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	28 Nayttahwaush Health Center 9:15-3:30	29 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	30
31						

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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



Valley View Manor

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

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

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



CREATING BETTER LIVING
Equal Housing Opportunity

TTY711



WE Constitutional Reform Delegate Report

Aaniin, Boozhoo.

This month's Delegates Report will continue to provide information to White Earth Members regarding the Secretarial Election Process.

Why is this topic so important? For the people of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT) to make changes to such areas as Membership, authorities of the Tribal Executive Committee, or Tribal Elections, etc., the current language must change.

Presently, the language is as follows: "This constitution may be revoked by Act of Congress or amended or revoked by a majority vote of the qualified voters of the Tribe voting at an election called for that purpose by the Secretary of the Interior if at least 30 percent of those entitled to vote shall vote. No amendment shall be effective until approved by the Secretary of the Interior. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to call an election when requested by two-thirds of the Tribal Executive Committee."

What this means is the Secretary of the Interior has the authority to "approve" any/all amendments. The White Earth Delegates are working jointly with the other five MCT Reservation Delegates on this matter. There is strong support from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) and Reservation Business Committees (RBC)

and MCT Membership to remove the Secretary from Article XII. There is even a stronger voice by all to ensure this change is the people's voice. A consistent focus of these changes surround Checks and Balance, Transparency and Accountability.

When removing the Secretary from Article XII, we do remove a "Separation of Powers" Duty. The Secretary has the duty to ensure and approve amendments or changes are within our constitution. Allowing this duty to remain with the Secretary of Interior is not allowing us to govern ourselves.

This is an important step we are taking, moving forward with caution and attentiveness to the new language is extremely important. The MCT Delegates have been working on language for the MCT Citizen Tribunal/Oversight Committee and MCT Uniform Tribal Election Ordinance.

To improve communication, involvement and accommodation for members but not taking up the entire evening, please join us on a Zoom Get-Together on May 19 from 5-6 p.m. This will be held once a week, for one hour and one topic of information pertaining to the Constitutional Reform. Meeting ID: 892-6209-8227 Passcode: 569227

Giga-waabamin miinawaa/I'll see you again,
White Earth Constitutional Reform Delegates

Updates from Page 7

- The goal is more providers, shorter wait times, and better care.
- The system will be locally controlled and responsive to community needs.
- Eligibility for on-site services will remain the same.

Important Dates

- Targeted assumption date is October 1, 2026.
- Community information sessions will be announced.
- CEO hiring is in process.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Will I still be able to see my current provider?
A: Our goal is continuity of care. We are working to retain providers while also adding new ones.

Q: Will services change or be reduced?
A: No. The goal is to expand services and improve access.

Q: Will this affect my benefits or eligibility?
A: No changes to patient eligibility are expected. Services will continue to be available.

Q: Why is this better than staying with IHS?
A: Tribal management allows faster hiring, more services, and care that reflects our community's needs.

Q: Who will be in charge of the clinics?
A: A healthcare CEO will be hired to oversee operations, reporting to the Health Board.

Q: How can I learn more or share input?
A: Community information will be provided electronically through WE social media accounts, and the Anishinaabeg Today newspaper. You can also contact the health board through email at health-board@whiteearth-nsn.gov or you can call interim health board member Nakoa Graff (218) 935-3818.

All questions regarding the assumption status

will be reviewed with the health board and answered expediently. Please note that the health board will not be able to answer questions about your current patient care or PRC referrals at this time. The purpose of this is solely to answer questions about the assumption process.

We understand this is an important change, and we are committed to transparency every step of the way.

We appreciate your support as we move forward together to strengthen healthcare for our community.

Sincerely,
White Earth Tribal Health Systems Health Board

WHITE EARTH FAMILY OFFICE
CASS LAKE

ID EVENT

TUESDAY JUNE 2ND 2026
217 2ND ST NE CASS LAKE, MN
(OLD AMERICAN LEGION)
9AM-3PM
QUESTIONS? PLEASE CALL
218-335-0035

WHITE EARTH
Community Farmers Market
Growing Healthy Families & Communities

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

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

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

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

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

MOVIE NIGHT
INSIDE OUT 2

TUESDAY, MAY 12TH
SHOOTING STAR CASINO

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A FREE MOVIE AND MEAL
REGISTRATION 4-5PM
DINNER 5:15-5:30PM
MOVIE 6PM
EVENT WILL END AROUND 7:45-8PM
YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND
PLEASE CALL 218-401-0550 TO REGISTER

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

White Earth Constitution Reform Reservation District 1 and District 3 Delegate Election

Election Date: June 13th, 2026
Election Time: 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Election location: White Earth Powwow Grounds

- Candidates must reside on White Earth Reservation
- Candidates for District 1 must reside in District 1
- Candidates for District 3 must reside in District 3
- Voter must be at least 18 years of age
- Candidates must complete a Self-Nomination Form
- Voters must show tribal ID to vote

Self-Nominations are being taken: May 1-22, 2026
 District 1 contact Fawn Roy. 218-401-3458
 District 3 contact Emily Annette. 218-849-0717

Information will be available at the White Earth Delegate table at the White Earth State of the Band on May 7th 2026, at the Shooting Star Event Center.



Photo by Sage Thompson

The White Earth Agricultural Department welcomes four new 'Red Dogs' to the bison family. They can be seen at the Spence Farm near Naytahwaush.

White Earth Agriculture Department offers mushroom hunts, welcomes four new bison

The White Earth Food Sovereignty and Security Initiative (WEFSI) has been moving right along with the seasons!

Now that the time in the sugar bush has passed, our Food Sovereignty Coordinator, Nicole M. LaFrinier, is planning Morel mushroom hunts, seed distribution for individuals and community, offering tilling services, and a limited number of raised beds. If you have interest in learning more about Food Sovereignty programming and events or would like to know how WEFSI can help support your food projects, Nicole can be reached at 218-935-3562.


The White Earth bison herd is flourishing as well. With our larger herd size and the increase in snowpack over the past two years, we implemented a new method for our supplemental winter hay feed-

ing. This past winter we used a hay processor and found the results to be very successful yielding less hay loss and better distribution of the feeding disturbance. By spreading the feeding over a broad area, our soil will benefit from the returned nutrients producing healthier grass and healthier bison.

In conducting our twice per week herd and fence inspection our Technician Jordan Brown and Bison Foreman Jack Heisler discovered that the herd was blessed with four new arrivals in April. The first calf was born on April 17, and the second on April 23, and the third on April 27, and the fourth on April 28. Please, drive by the old Spence Farm bison pasture and see if you can spot the 'Red Dogs.' The bison family is now up to 44 members with more arrivals expected, so you'll need to look.



WHITE EARTH TRIBAL & COMMUNITY COLLEGE
GAAMWAABAABIGANIKAAK GABEGIKENDAAOOWICAMIG



Online Associate of Arts Degree

Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences

This new online option allows students to complete their A.A. degree with greater flexibility, making it possible to balance education with work, family, and community responsibilities. The program reflects WETCC's ongoing commitment to providing accessible, community-centered education rooted in Anishinaabe values.

218-935-0417

wetcc.edu/apply

2250 Mahnomen College Road
Mahnomen, MN



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Available *Only* at your
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John Clark Jr. inducted into the Minnesota Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame

White Earth member John Clark Jr., was recently inducted into the Minnesota Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame during a banquet at the Doubletree Hotel in Minneapolis. He was one of five coaches selected for the High School Division.

"I feel honored and thankful to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. I know I get the recognition, but this is an award that goes to our entire football program. So many people have impacted the success of our football team over the years that it's impossible to thank all of them," said Clark. "But I must say that our program has been blessed with some of the best coaches in all levels of our program, from varsity level to junior high to elementary coaches and I thank them all. My assistant coaches deserve as much credit as I do for this award."

Clark is currently the Dean of Students at Mahnomon High School and is head coach of the Thunderbirds football team and the boys basketball team. He was also Athletic Director for 20 years.

He is a 1990 graduate of Waubun High School. He attended Northland Community College and then Moorhead State University. He participated in four sports at Northland: football, basketball, golf and baseball. While at Northland, he won two JUCO state titles, one in basketball and an individual golf title. He is a member of the Northland Athletic Hall of Fame. He graduated from Moorhead State with a degree in Elementary Education and a minor in Coaching.

Clark has coached a variety of sports at Mahnomon High School. These include football, basketball, golf, and summer youth baseball. He was head girls basketball coach for two years before becoming the boys basketball coach for the past 23

years. His teams have one state tourney appearance in basketball. He holds the school record for winning percentage in a season with a record of 21-1 in the 2020-2021 season.

Clark coached junior high football in 1999, was an assistant coach on the varsity in 2000, and took over head coaching duties in 2001. In 25 seasons as head coach, he has compiled a record of 238-48. His teams have won 17 Section titles, three State titles (2012, 2013, 2018), with one State Runner Up finish (2011). The 2018 State Championship was extra special as his dad, Bomber, and brother, Paul, were assistant coaches. He has been named Class A Coach of the Year twice. John had the honor of being selected to coach twice in the Minnesota All Star game under coaches Dwight Lundeen and Jeff Ferguson.

He has been married to his wife Jackie for 29 years. They have three children: Hallie, Sydney and Carter. John and Jackie greatly enjoy spending time with their kids, but two grandchildren (PJ and Amiyah) rule the roost now.

When not coaching, you will find him on the golf course or in a boat trying to catch walleyes with his father. Clark feels extremely blessed with the great coaching staff that he has, most have been there for over 20 years. He says without hesitation that he would not be here without them. They are life-long friends, and he cherishes the camaraderie that they have together.

"The biggest credit without a doubt goes to all of the players past and present! Without all of their hard work and dedication, this award does not happen. Lastly, a heartfelt thank you to my family for all of their support, sacrifice and patience allowing me to be a coach!"



Photo by Hallie Clark

White Earth member John Clark Jr. was recently inducted into the Minnesota Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame. He was one of five coaches selected for the High School Division. Celebrating with Clark at the induction banquet are his football coaches Steve McMullen, from left, Bob Larson, Todd Johnson, John Clark Jr., Vize Bevins, Josh Kemper, and Jon Starkey.

Ptown is in the House!



Submitted photo

White Earth Nation was represented at the recent Gathering of Nations Pow Wow, "Last Dance" in Albuquerque, N.M. Pine Point was in the house! Pictured from left are Linda Buckanaga, Vince Beyl (emcee) and Patti Vizenor - all White Earth enrolled members. Vince gave us a loud shout out! This was the last Gathering of Nations Pow Wow after 43 years.

Bio Girls complete 5k run



Photo by Jackie Haugo

The Mahnomon Chapter of Bio Girls completed their 5k run on April 25 starting at Mahnomon Elementary parking lot. Bio Girls (Beautiful Inside and Out) is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the self-esteem and mental health of girls in grades 2-6. The girls complete a 12-session program that combines mentorship, faith-based values, character building lessons and non-competitive physical activity. Congratulations to all the girls and their mentors, they completed the walk/run and proved that they can do hard things. White Earth Tribal Public Health provided the water, snacks and prizes for the girls after the race.



Photo by Abby Fostveit / Detroit Lakes Tribune

Jayson Belland and Amara Annette at Detroit Lakes High School.

Jayson Belland and Amara Annette honored by the Minnesota Indian Education Association

By Abby Fostveit
Detroit Lakes Tribune

Two Detroit Lakes seniors, both of the White Earth Nation, have earned statewide honors from the Minnesota Indian Education Association, each crediting their success to a blend of cultural identity, discipline and community support.

Amara Annette, a senior at the Detroit Lakes Area Learning Center, was named Outstanding Student of the Year by the MIEA Board of Directors. Jayson Belland, a senior at Detroit Lakes High School, was recognized as Male Student Athlete of the Year, recognizing a career spanning four sports, music and academic clubs.

Leadership and resilience shape Annette's path

Holmquist, the college and career facilitator with the American Indian Education Department at Detroit Lakes High School, said Annette's leadership stands out among her peers.

"(Annette's) peers appreciate her energy and enthusiasm as well as her passion for her Ojibwe culture. I would consider Amara a leader amongst her peers, leading with a kind heart," Holmquist wrote in a recommendation letter.

Annette's path to the Outstanding Student award was anything but easy. She completed a certified nursing assistant program while working, juggling coursework and job schedules.

"It was super busy, but it was also worth it in the end, because I was able to buy myself a vehicle and get all that stuff done," she said, adding that her mom was one of her biggest motivators.

Annette has attended the ALC since her sophomore year and said receiving the Outstanding Student of the Year recognition came as a surprise.

"It was really unexpected, but it felt really good," she said.

Her future plans build on that same drive. Inspired first by her mother, who is a nurse, Annette initially considered nursing before finding a more specific interest in dental hygiene.

"My mom's a nurse, and she works in a nursing home in Mahanomen, and she told me about the CNA job and it interested me," Annette said. "I did want to do nursing, but I want to be a dental hygienist now."

Part of that interest, she admitted, comes from how seriously she takes her own oral health.

"I really like to take care of my teeth," she said, emphasizing the importance of oral hygiene for overall health.

Annette plans to complete her prerequisites through M State in Detroit Lakes, if the campus remains open, before transferring.

"I want to do my prerequisites through M State here in Detroit Lakes. ... (Holmquist) brought us on a really nice tour to M State Moorhead, and that's where I want to go and get into their program."

Her motivation is also deeply tied to her Ojibwe identity. Annette said her dad gave her her Ojibwe name, Memengwaa, meaning butterfly.

She spent time both in Pine Point and Detroit Lakes and grew up regularly attending ceremonies. Her pride in her culture is evident in her participation in the American Indian Student Council and extends into how she teaches and learns alongside family.

"I've taught a lot of my younger cousins and my friends, and it's fun when they teach me too," she said, noting that her older brother works at White Earth Tribal and Community College and is fluent in Ojibwe.

Ceremonies like powwows and pipe ceremonies are especially meaningful to her. She mentioned Mike Swan, a pillar of the community and longtime cultural liaison for Detroit Lakes Public Schools, who died Feb. 9, as a beloved mentor.

"Pipe ceremonies were really fun when (Swan) was leading them in Pine Point," she said.

Dedication, balance define Belland's achievements

For Belland, the Male Student Athlete of the Year award recognizes a high school experience

See Students Page 22

"No matter how far someone falls, it is always possible to rise again"

Matthew Bowstring Sr. knows what it means to lose everything and what it takes to build it back.

At one point in his life, Matthew was battling a meth addiction and living in a tent outside his parents' home. Those were some of his darkest days, marked by instability, hardship, and the weight of difficult choices. But even in that place, something in him refused to give up. He made the decision to change his life.

Sobriety became his foundation, and with it came the long, difficult process of rebuilding. Matthew committed himself to growth not just for his own future, but for his children. He is a proud father of three children from Leech Lake including his twin daughters and his oldest son, who has since made him a grandfather and two young boys in White Earth. Rebuilding those relationships has been one of the most meaningful parts of his journey. Today, he is present in their lives, working to be the father and role model they deserve, creating new memories and strengthening bonds that once felt out of reach.

Coming to White Earth from Leech Lake, Matthew didn't know what to expect. What he found was more than a fresh start he found a community. Along the way, he built lifelong friendships with people he now considers family, relationships he holds close to his heart. He believes that without coming to White Earth, he would not be the person he is today.

Along the way, Matthew also found love and support in his partner, Raven, who has been an important part of his journey forward. Together, they are building a life grounded in stability, healing, and hope.

Today, Matthew is focused on his future. He is nearing completion of his current studies and has been accepted to attend Bemidji State University this fall. His journey from homelessness and addiction to higher education reflects not only determination, but a deep commitment to growth, leadership, and giving back. Those who know Matthew describe him as someone who leads with heart, stays grounded in his values, and uses his story to inspire others who may be facing similar struggles.

Matthew Bowstring Sr.'s story is one of sobriety, perseverance, and second chances a reminder that no matter how far someone falls, it is always possible to rise again. I live this motto everyday of my life and that motto is "one day at a time" aho many miigz.



Photo by Shannon Eck / Lens Lilly Photography

Students from Page 21

defined by participation across courts, fields, tracks and stages. At one point, he balanced boxing, soccer, track and cross-country at the same time.

“It would get hectic a lot, balancing three sports at one time,” he said, adding that the recognition, which came with a scholarship, was a validating moment. “Getting the award, getting a \$500 scholarship was really nice, and it shows how that dedication is really, really rewarding.”

From childhood, Belland said he gravitated toward staying active. He spent much of his time outdoors and eventually channeled that energy into sports, joining baseball, basketball and especially soccer teams. Over time, he added track, as classmates encouraged him to try it. Basketball remained in the picture for eight years, but soccer has been the longest-running thread — he said he has played for nearly 14 years.

The schedule behind that level of involvement required intentional structure.

“Valuing that downtime and making sure you’re using all of that downtime you have to regroup is important,” he said. “I started scheduling my day, and that has really helped a lot more. But this year is a lot busier for me with sports and activities.”

Belland is also an accomplished musician, having picked up the saxophone in elementary school.

“I just grew up around a lot of music,” he said. “My uncle used to have a guitar collection, and I’ve always been around music with my mom blasting music, same with my uncle.”

Looking ahead, Belland plans to play soccer at the University of Minnesota Morris while preparing for a business career. The financial support available to enrolled tribal members was a major factor.

“I want to do accounting or finance when I’m older, if soccer doesn’t get me anywhere,” he said.

Belland also traces much of his motivation back to his Ojibwe culture and family traditions.

“Ever since I was young, my mom would take me to powwows,” he said. “All the funerals I’ve been around have been the traditional Ojibwe funerals. I got my Ojibwe name when I was about nine or 10, I think, and that’s a ceremony, too.”

His name was given to him by Swan: Giniw, meaning golden eagle.

“I gave him tobacco. He dreamt of a golden eagle flying around, and he knew that was probably for me,” Belland said.

Belland stays connected through activities like the Native American Quiz Bowl team, which helps spread culture and language throughout the district.

“When we do (Quiz Bowl) meets, that spreads our Ojibwe culture. We welcome anybody to attend, and we also go to the younger kids to have them join,” he said. “You don’t have to be Native or Ojibwe or anything. We want people to keep joining, to keep spreading the culture.”

He also looks forward to marking graduation with the Eagle Feather ceremony.

“Being able to wear (an eagle feather) to graduation on your cap is really significant,” he said.

*Ninanda-Gikendaan
Niinindib*
**ANISHINAABEG
MENTAL HEALTH EVENT**

A Community Event open to All Adults

8:30am Breakfast and Registration begin (registration is open til noon)
Noon Lunch followed by Breakout sessions
3pm Closing and traveling song

Professor of Anishinaabeg Language and Culture at White Earth Tribal and Community College
Naabek Liberty
returns with *Roots of Resilience: an Ojibwe Mental Health History, the rest of the story and more.*

Afternoon sessions offer a balance of education and wellness

Cedar Teachings
Brain Injury and Stroke Information
Tobacco Pouch making
SPMI Roundtable
Traditional Anishinaabeg hand games
and More!

At The Shooting Star Casino
May 27th, 2026
please email PublicHealth@whiteearth-nsn.gov
to register for CEU's to register a program table* to register a group of 4 or more



Income-qualified buyers may access rates up to 1.5% below market.

Find out if your are eligible:



Deerwood Bank NMLS# 408174

White Earth Food Shelf May 2026 Delivery Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1
				Closed
4	5	6	7	8
Closed	Callaway	Rice Lake	NTW	Closed
	11am-1pm	11am-1pm	11am-1pm	
	Nijii Radio	ENP Site	Sports Complex	
11	12	13	14	15
Closed	Elbow Lake	Pine Point	Closed	Closed
	11am-1pm	11am-1pm		
	ENP Site	ENP Site		
18	19	20	21	22
Closed	White Earth	Ogema	Closed	Closed
	11am-1pm	11am-1pm		
	Congregate	M&W Gas Station		
	ENP Site			
25	26	27	28	29
Closed	Waubun	Mahnomen	Closed	Closed
	11am-1pm	11am-1pm		
	Community Center	College parking lot		

Applications are available at Community Centers, ENP sites and Naytahwaush Complex
 Hours are subject to change due to weather and holidays
 Feel free to contact the White Earth Food Shelf at 218-935-6313 or 218-935-6314
 Please note you may go to any of our stops to pick up a food box, you don't have to reside in that area
 White Earth Food Shelf Hours are 10 a.m. to noon

DDP helps reinstate driver's license

The Minnesota Department of Public Safety Driver Diversion Program (DDP) was developed to support participants in paying outstanding citations and fulfilling state designated requirements necessary to reinstate a driver's license.

To determine if you are eligible to participate, contact Diversion Solutions:

Phone: 651-385-4341

Website: www.diversionsolutions.net

Mail: 301 South 4th Ave, #670-N, Minneapolis, MN 55415

Minimum requirements

- Approved by Driver and Vehicle Services (DVS)
- Payment plans for fines and fees
- Participate in training
- Acquire and maintain insurance
- Must not have any major violations while in program

Program ineligibility

- Cannot be enrolled in Partial Pay Program to be eligible for DDP
- Criminal Vehicular Operation (CVO)
- Owe child support without payment plan

- Judgments must be paid to enter program
- Fleeing an officer
- Canceled IPS (Inimical to Public Safety)
- 5th degree felony
- Theft of motor vehicle
- DUI or DWI - before hard revocation is complete

WE General Election Board

White Earth Election Office
 777 SE Casino Drive
 Mahnomen, MN 56557

electionboard@whiteearth-nsn.gov

218-936-5622 or 1-866-211-9154

Hours: Monday through Friday
 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Absentee Ballot

PO Box 99,
 Mahnomen, MN 56557

Phone and Internet Discounts Available to CenturyLink Customers

CenturyLink participates in a government benefit program (Lifeline) which makes residential telephone or qualifying broadband service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers may qualify for Lifeline discounts of \$5.25/month for voice or bundled voice services or \$9.25/month for qualifying broadband or broadband bundles. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits (up to an additional \$25 of enhanced Lifeline support monthly and a credit of up to \$100 on their initial installation charges) if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs.

The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone or qualifying broadband service per household, which can be on either a wireline or wireless service. Broadband speeds must be 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload or faster to qualify.

A household is defined for the purposes of the Lifeline program as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline service is not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in the program. Consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain a Lifeline discount can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from the program.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, please call 1-800-201-4099 or visit centurylink.com/lifeline with questions or to request an application for the Lifeline program.





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?
Call us!
218.844.7029



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

(Sample)

**White Earth
Absentee Ballot Request Form**

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

Full Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

District 1 _____ District 2 _____ District 3 _____

FIRST TIME VOTERS; you may select a District.

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

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

District 1: North of State Highway 200

District 2: From State Highway 200 to State Highway 113

District 3: South of State Highway 113

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

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

Send submissions to:
White Earth Election Board
PO Box 99
Mahnomen, MN 56557

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

**White Earth
Election Board**

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

Email: electionboard@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Or by mail at:
White Earth Election Board
PO Box 99, Mahnomen, MN 56557

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

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

GENERAL ELECTION NOTICE

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

CANDIDATES FOR SECRETARY-TREASURER - 4 Year Term
Michael "Mike" LaRoque (incumbent), and Jacob McArthur

CANDIDATES FOR DISTRICT I COMMITTEEPERSON - 4 Year Term
Henry G. Fox (incumbent), and Andy "Jack" Auginaush

CANDIDATES FOR DISTRICT II COMMITTEEPERSON - 4 Year Term
Alrick "Son" Accobee, and Sheri Kay Snetsinger

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

ABSENTEE BALLOT VOTING
PO Box 99, Mahnomen, MN 56557
Absentee Request cards may be sent to: electionboard@whiteearth-nsn.gov

POLLING PLACES:

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

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

DISTRICT III:
Callaway - Community Center, Highway 59
Ogema - VFW Hall, Main Street East
White Earth - Community Center, Martin Drive
Elbow Lake - Elderly Nutrition Center, (Elbow Lake Village)
Pine Point - Community Center (old school)

MARBLE, MN
Marble City Hall (Community Center)
302 Alice Avenue

MINNEAPOLIS
American Indian Center
1530 East Franklin Avenue

CASS LAKE, MN
White Earth Family Office
220 2nd Street NW

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

Voting eligibly for White Earth Primary Election

1.6(A) Judging Qualifications

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

1.6 (B) Eligibility to Vote: Generally

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

1.6 (C) Eligibility to Vote: Absentee

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

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

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

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

Meet the Candidates for White Earth Secretary-Treasurer

Michael "Mike" LaRoque (Incumbent) ←

Boozhoo White Earth Nation,
 Since June 2022, the Tribal Council has taken steps to strengthen financial management, expand direct benefits to members, and advance Tribal sovereignty through land, natural resources, and infrastructure development. I want to share some of the work that has been completed during this term.



White Earth maintained balanced budgets for two consecutive years (2024–2025) without requiring amendments. This has allowed programs and services to operate consistently while supporting long-term planning. As a result of that work, the Nation was able to provide a \$300 health and safety distribution to every enrolled adult tribal member in 2025.

Support for elders has also been expanded. In 2025, elder benefits included a \$100 yearly holiday gift, \$50 monthly casino credits, free trash service, and \$25 monthly food coupons.

In November 2025, the Tribal Council adopted a formal financial data request procedure. This process allows members to request information securely while protecting sensitive business data.

Support for urban members has continued as well. Transportation assistance was provided to help members attend community events, and annual funding was directed to off-reservation community councils to support youth programming and cultural activities.

The Nation has also made progress in land recovery and natural resource management. Since 2021, White Earth has

purchased over 4,500 acres of land, including both on-reservation and off-reservation acquisitions.

In February 2026, the Nation entered into a co-management agreement with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for the White Earth State Forest, with additional work underway related to the Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge.

The Reservation Business Committee also established the White Earth Regional Taskforce to address water monitoring and enforcement across a seven-county region. In addition, the Tribal Utilities Commission was established to oversee electric, gas, and telecommunications infrastructure within reservation boundaries.

Economic development and infrastructure projects have continued across multiple sectors. White Earth Builders completed several major projects, including the Men's Acute Care Facility, Pine Point Clinic, and multiple Elder Tiny Homes in Rice Lake, NayTahWaush, White Earth, and Pine Point.

At the March Reservation Business Committee meeting, the Council updated the Tribal TERO prevailing wage to support tribal member-owned businesses and strengthen the local economy. The Nation has also supported workforce initiatives such as Bam'idizowigamig Creator's Place in Pine Point, which provides hands-on training and employment for tribal members in areas like construction and small business development. Programs like this help remove barriers to employment and support long-term economic stability for individuals and families.

The Nation also continued to expand its business operations, including Waabigwan Mashkiki and the Mashkode Bizhikii (bison herd). During the 2025 wild rice season, over 300,000 pounds of manoomin were purchased from local

harvesters, returning more than \$1.7 million to the community.

Investments in infrastructure and technology have also been made, including new phone systems, server updates, and expanded Wi-Fi access at the NayTahWaush and White Earth powwow grounds. A new public transit facility is also under development.

In the area of community services, the Nation opened the first tribally operated Child Advocacy Center in Minnesota and expanded childcare facilities. During the COVID-19 response, the Nation coordinated emergency operations and provided approximately \$2.8 million in rental and utility assistance to more than 800 households.

Cultural preservation efforts have also continued, including Ojibwe language signage and support for traditional healing and language programs.

At the state and federal level, the Nation secured funding for tribal programs and supported efforts to expand tribal land rights.

Over the past four years, the Tribal Council has worked together in a collaborative and respectful way to move projects forward and make steady progress for the Nation. When leadership is able to communicate and stay focused, it allows programs to grow, infrastructure to develop, and long-term plans to take shape. Continuity in leadership plays an important role in maintaining that progress. As this work continues, it is important to keep moving forward in a way that builds on what has already been accomplished and avoids unnecessary setbacks that can come with disruption or delay.

Miigwech,
 Michael (Mike) LaRoque
 Secretary-Treasurer

→ Jacob McArthur

Boozhoo! I want to say miigwech to all who supported me in the primary election where I emerged as the top candidate for Secretary Treasurer. I am so grateful for all your support. Let's keep this momentum going into the general election in June! I encourage you all to vote early, and to request your absentee ballots as soon as you can. For those who voted for other candidates, I ask that you give me another chance to change your mind. Together we can affect positive change and bring back transparency, sound financial stewardship, and open government to White Earth.



About Me

I am Jacob "Giniw" McArthur and I am a lifelong resident of the Naytahwaush community, where I was raised by my mother, Darla Kier, and my aunt and uncle, LaVerne and Dennis Hisgun Sr. I am a dedicated father of two, Jacob and Hazel, and I am an avid outdoors enthusiast and photographer.

Education

I graduated from Waubun High School and subsequently continued my education at the White Earth Tribal and Community College (WETCC), obtaining an Associate of Arts degree in 2020. In 2021, I earned both a Bachelor of Business Administration and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) at Bemidji State University. During this period, I gained a deep understanding of the importance of higher education and its broader implications for the

future of our band.

Work and Leadership Experience

My work experience began at the Shooting Star Casino, after which I joined the White Earth RBC, where I was employed for 16 years from September 2007 to August 2023. During my tenure, I gained experience in tribal housing, human services, RBC IT, WETCC IT, and served most recently as Economic Development Director from September 2022 to August 2023. I then transitioned to the University of Minnesota Crookston (UMC), where I held a dual appointment as Director of the University EDA Center and Associate Director of the Veden Center for Rural Development. In this leadership role, I drove economic and workforce development in the state's northwest region by building partnerships and innovative programs for students, entrepreneurs, businesses, rural communities, and tribal partners. I am excited to bring my business and finance experience to this elected position.

In addition to my professional background, I possess extensive experience serving on tribal, regional, state, and national boards. For the past three years, I have held the position of Vice-Chair for the White Earth Tribal Utility Commission, and I've also represented White Earth on the State Department of Commerce's Tribal Advisory Council on Energy. My previous board experience includes membership on the WETCC Board of Trustees, West Central Initiative Board of Directors, White Earth Enterprises and Waabigwan boards, and other appointments.

I have served as a Student Ambassador for the American Indian College Fund, and I've also had the distinction of being a member of the Native Governance Center's Native

Nation Rebuilders Cohort 12. These were both formative and invaluable multi-year experiences that have helped shape me into the leader I am today.

My Platform and Priorities

My platform is rooted in a commitment to honest financial stewardship, open communication with our people, creating opportunities for others, and bold investments in our tribe's future. I stand for trust, transparency, and tribal prosperity. I will ensure that every dollar is accounted for, that tribal members have clear access to financial information, and that we prioritize budgets and policies that support:

- business development and job creation
- education and youth program development
- elder, workforce, and transitional housing
- healthcare
- renewable energy
- sustainable food systems
- cultural revitalization
- safe and vibrant communities

Open government: We will put out full agendas for our monthly RBC meetings and that include time for public comments and minimizing the use of closed-door executive sessions. This includes community engagement meetings and requests for public comment when it comes to making big decisions that affect our band.

Transparency: I support our membership's right to know the band's financial position. What is the state of all tribal enterprises, including Waabigwan? What is the return on our investment into these businesses? How are decisions

[See McArthur Page 35](#)

Meet the Candidates for White Earth District I Rep.

Andy "Jack" Auginaush ←

BOOZHOO Everyone,

Andy "Jack" Auginaush here with a update,

I want to say Miigwetch to everyone who supported and voted for me in the primary election. I truly appreciate all of you including all those who helped in different areas.

As we move forward to the general election, I hope to continue building support from our members. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns, I am always open to listening and learning. My contact information is listed at the bottom.



My passion for running is to serve ALL our District 1 members and ensure our people have a voice at the table and that our members are treated equally and fairly in all areas and that our elders are heard.

We may be the smallest district, but I will make sure our voices are heard, both on and off the reservation, while respectfully working with the council as a whole for the betterment of the White Earth Reservation.

Advocating for Rights, Transparency & Accountability

- Upholding the MCT Constitution and protecting Article 12 and Article 13 member rights
- Defending members' rights to access information and transparent decision-making
- Advocating for public agendas, meaningful participation, and open monthly RBC meetings
- Speaking out against unconstitutional amendments that weaken member voice
- Standing up for members when voices are challenged at RBC meetings
- Supporting strong checks and balances in tribal government
- Advocating for working-class members to attend RBC meetings and exercise Article 13 rights without fear of

retaliation

- Supporting amending the employee policy and removing the "At Will Policy"

Transportation & Access

- Advocating for a tribal driver's license support program
- Helping members overcome licensing and transportation barriers
- Expanding transportation options for work, school, medical care, and off-shift workers
- Reservation Uber Drivers
- Strengthening transit services, including advocating for 24/7 transit routes

Advocating for Community, Culture & Opportunity

- Protecting treaty rights to hunt, fish, gather, and rice
- Supporting member-driven input on regulations
- Strengthening Ojibwemowin language and cultural curriculum
- Supporting elders, youth, veterans, and working families
- Advocating for a monthly per capita support for elders and disabled Adults
- Ensuring access to traditional foods for elders

Wild Rice Advocacy

- Fair treatment and pricing for harvesters
- Protecting wild rice as a treaty resource
- Supporting stronger markets for future generations
- Advocated in 2019 that sparked the market for a top price on rice for our members

Economic & Community Support

- Fair access to tribal economic opportunities including band members to join the cannabis industry or any other industry our tribe establishes (Article 13 – equal participation in our economic resources)
- Better member discounts at our dispensaries
- Expanded use of community centers
- Support for members returning from treatment/incarceration

ceration

- Expanded childcare and prevention programs
- Supporting community gardens

Open Door Commitment

"Representation does not end after Election Day or after 4:30 pm. If you have a concern, need help, or are facing an emergency, I will listen and do my best to help or connect you with the right resources." – open door policy

- Held over 100 support groups in District 1
- Helped Established PRESS pages for transparency, accountability and outreach
- Pending constitutional challenges for member rights
- I take pride in being an ojibwemowin hymnal singer
- Established community clean ups with adults and youth

Our members have constitutional rights to access information, understand decisions being made, and participate in meaningful ways especially our elders. "Our tribal businesses are our band members businesses."

Transportation continues to be a barrier for many, I support efforts to expand transportation options and help members overcome challenges related to licensing and mobility so that our members have that extra advocacy to help our members overcome transportation barriers. This is essential.

Protecting our culture and supporting our adult and youth is a priority. Our treaty rights to hunt, fish, gather, and rice must be respected and protected for future generations including helping implement more culture based activities in our youth and adult programs. I support strengthening Ojibwemowin language in our schools, including the Minnesota Chippewa tribe constitution and By laws to be taught to our kids in our schools. Ensuring that our elders, youth, and working families feel supported and valued. "Our elders carry knowledge and deserve

[See Auginaush Page 35](#)

→ Henry G. Fox (Incumbent)

Boozhoo, as the tribal election approaches, I, Henry Fox, the current District 1 Representative, am seeking reelection with a continued commitment to serving our community and strengthening the future of our tribe.



Building on my time in office, I want to highlight the work I have accomplished while continuing to move forward with a vision focused on accountability, service, and community well-being. During my candidacy and throughout my time in office, I have made it a priority to help community members in any way I can. I have worked to remain accessible and responsive, connecting directly with individuals and

families to ensure their needs are heard and addressed. I believe in taking a hands-on approach and stepping in to find solutions whenever possible, because leadership means being present and involved.

One of my key accomplishments during my first term was working with Dynamic Homes to successfully place and fill 10 elder tiny homes within our community. This effort provided safe and comfortable housing for our elders, ensuring they have a secure place to live while staying con-

nected to the community. I believe housing remains a critical need, and I am committed to continuing efforts that support stable and accessible living options. I have also been actively involved in the Elder Homeowner Repair Program. Through this program, I have helped many elders improve the condition of their homes by addressing necessary repairs and ensuring safer living environments. Supporting our elders in maintaining their independence and quality of life is something I take great pride in. In addition, I have worked to help many families repair or replace furnaces so they could stay warm during the winter months.

I continue to stress the importance of investing in both our youth and our elders. I support expanding programs that create opportunities for young people while maintaining strong support systems for elders. Our youth are our future, and our elders are the foundation of our culture and knowledge. Strengthening both is essential to preserving our identity and building a stronger future.

In addition to my role as District 1 Representative, I have served on the 1855 Treaty Board as Vice-Chair since 2023 and on the Mash-Ka-Wisen Treatment Center Advisory Board since 2022. I am honored to represent our people in these roles and to advocate for their needs, rights, and well-being.

Economic development remains an important part of

my platform. I support responsible growth that creates job opportunities while respecting our tribal values and land. By encouraging local entrepreneurship and building strong partnerships, I aim to help create a more sustainable and self-sufficient economy.

Transparency and communication are central to how I lead. I am committed to keeping community members informed and involved in decision-making. I believe leadership should always be accountable and reflective of the people it serves, and I will continue to prioritize open communication.

I also recognize the importance of addressing social challenges within our community. I support initiatives focused on mental health, substance abuse prevention, and family wellness, and I believe building strong support systems is essential to our overall well-being.

I am honored by the trust community members have placed in me and will continue working hard to serve District 1. As election day approaches, I encourage all eligible voters to participate. With proven experience and dedication, I am seeking reelection to continue the work we have started and help build a stronger future for our community.

Miigwetch

Meet the Candidates for White Earth District II Rep.

Sheri Kay Snetsinger ←

Boozhoo, Gaa-Waabaabiganikaag Anishinaabeg, My name is Sheri Kay Snetsinger, and I am asking for your informed vote at the polls this General Election – June 9, 2026. I will respectfully serve the voices & values of



District 2 and the White Earth Band with not only my heart but with my honesty, dedication and moral courage. While building strong relationships alongside our community, Tribal, state and federal leaders, I will strive to create safer, healthier communities throughout the reservation & our urban spaces. I have experience at the local, Tribal and state level advocating for our people, housing, & justice. I

believe in open communication, open doors and honest accountability. As your representative, I will always:

- Defend Tribal Sovereignty
 - Advance Safety & Justice
 - Respect & Support Elders
 - Empower & Educate Youth
 - Honor & Secure LGBTQIA2S+ Rights
 - Preserve & Protect Language & Culture
 - Advocate for Unsheltered & Housing Stabilization
 - Promote Entrepreneurship & Economic Development
 - Protect Sacred Sites, Niibi, Lands & Natural Resources
 - Support Prevention, Treatment & Ongoing Recovery Wellbriety
- Due to my employment at the Shooting Star Casino, working as Student Success Coach at the White Earth

Tribal Community College and my 10+ years within the White Earth RBC Human Service Dept, I am fully aware of the programs which are assisting, which need adjustments to better serve our members, and which supports need to be developed. I am aware that we as a tribe do not have all the answers, but I know how to listen & serve our members who are navigating these difficult times. I regularly network with staff to learn more about programming, funding opportunities and the resources needed to best serve our membership. I will support their safety, work-life balance, professional development & competitive pay while providing key mentorship opportunities, a positive, inclusive environment and supportive management. Staff will also have an open-door policy with me.

Aside from working full-time for the Tribe, I'm dedicated to supporting & empowering our families as a volunteer in our communities. Identifying & addressing public concerns aimed at improving our quality of life increases our pride in ourselves as well as strengthening our sovereignty. My past & current volunteer positions include:

- Mahnomen County Salvation Army Board - 2018-2026 (Current)
- Naytahwaush Community Council – 2020-2026 (Current)
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Detroit Lakes & Perham volunteer - 2018-2026 (Current)
- Boys & Girls Club of White Earth Reservation Board – 2023-2026 (Current)
- Twin Lakes Township Board Supervisor B – 2024-2026 (Current)
- White Earth Program & Community Advisory Board – 2025-2026 (Current)

- Naytahwaush Community Charter School Full-Service Team - 2025-2026 (Current)
- Lived Experience Advocacy Network member – 2025-2026 (Current)
- Northwest Mn Continuum of Care – 2026 (Current)

Our culture, traditions & ways of life will thrive if we stand by the fact that Tribal Sovereignty is non-negotiable. Treaty rights & Indigenous rights must be applied and upheld so that all Indigenous peoples, children, and Elders are able to live a full life free from violence, intimidation and fear on & off reservation. We must work towards stopping the pandemic of MMIR. Our Indigenous LGBTQIA2S+ relatives must be treated with dignity & free from targeted violence & discrimination. I am currently consulting with the Dept of Public Safety because we need to be at every table that affects our lives advocating for justice & our safety. I will always push for mandatory trainings, additional funding & investigations.

I will work to restore traditional matriarchal leadership in community health and development through community programming. Our women are sacred & we must strengthen our connection to the caregivers of our community, who paved the way for resilience and strength for our survival. Respecting our grandparents as they hold the knowledge of generations past means protecting them, safely housing them, providing healthcare to fit their needs, community engagement, providing adequate/affordable transportation, and financial planning. Developing Elder hubs & housing in communities for our aging members to connect with supports & programming is key.

See Snetsinger Page 35

→ Alrick "Son" Accobee

Boozhoo, My name is Alrick Accobee; most of you know me as Son. My parents are Rick and Kitty (Londo) Accobee of Naytahwaush. I am a proud father of four children and one grandson. I am a life-long resident of White Earth Reservation and I currently reside in Naytahwaush. For the



past 16 years, I have been employed at Naytahwaush Community Charter School where I have taken on various roles including classroom para, building operations manager, boiler operator, redirect room supervisor, and currently, Indian Education Coordinator. This experience has given me knowledge into the daily challenges our families face. Outside of work, I am passionate about the outdoors and enjoy sharing our cultural traditions with younger generations. I hope to create more opportunities for our youth and elders to connect with our heritage.

I am running for District II because I believe our community deserves consistent, accountable, and strong representation at the RBC level. It is key to have someone who is dedicated to listening to the concerns of our members and advocating for their needs.

If elected as your District II Representative, I'd like to address:

- 1.) **Monthly meetings** - I would like to have monthly

informational meetings with District II members to inform them on upcoming projects. Members can voice their concerns at these meetings and I can bring these concerns to the RBC. With smaller meetings in the communities, members may feel more comfortable sharing concerns.

2.) **Tribal expenditures** - Members should be informed of any big expenditures BEFORE they are spent; they shouldn't have to find out from media outlets. Our elected officials should be taking the time to inform members as these decisions affect everyone.

3.) **Casino employment** - Our members often get overlooked for promotions. I would like to address this issue. Let's show our employees that we believe in them and we trust that they can get the job done. I would also like to see a program set up that teaches our members key skills needed to be successful in their interviews. Honestly, so many of our people struggle with interviews.

4.) **Housing** - We need to come up with a plan to renovate the boarded-up houses in every community. Vacant homes do not benefit our homeless population or families in need of housing.

5.) **Natural Resources** - I would like to establish a program using natural resources to supply traditional foods for our members during funerals, pow wows, naming ceremonies and other cultural events.

6.) **Native preference** - The issue of native preference should not be up for debate; it should be standard practice across our reservation. After discussions with community members, it has become increasingly concerning to hear

that our native-owned businesses are often overlooked for tribal job opportunities, sometimes not even allowed to submit bids. This must come to an end.

7.) **Communication** - I will vote against entering Executive Session for Tribal Business, except in cases concerning Personnel or Enrollment matters. In my opinion, Tribal Business should be conducted openly in front of our members, as this represents true transparency.

8.) **Elders** - Every election cycle we hear about the elders, however, once elected, they often become overlooked. It would be great to have a dedicated community center for elders in all communities on the reservation.

9.) **Youth** - We must collaborate to create programs for all youth, recognizing their interests in activities like basketball, softball, baseball, hunting and fishing. It is essential to offer a variety of options that resonate with them, as they represent our future.

10.) **Land Purchasing** - It is crucial for us to acquire as much land as possible that becomes available on the reservation. This land is vital as it offers essential resources for our community's well-being and sustainability. If we fail to purchase this land, it is likely that others will, leaving us with little to no opportunity to buy it in the future. Taking steps now is key to securing our resources for our future generations.

11.) **Waabigwan Mashkiki** - This has been a hot topic lately and there are a number of issues that need to be

See Accobee Page 35

Dave Snetsinger Sr. earns American Red Cross award



Submitted photo

White Earth member Dave Snetsinger Sr. was awarded the American Red Cross Serving Northern and Central Minnesota 'Leadership Volunteer of the Year' award recently at an event at Cedar Lakes Casino in Cass Lake, Minn. At the event one year prior, he was honored for 35 years as a Red Cross volunteer. Presenting the award is Dan Williams Executive Director, American Red Cross Serving Northern and Central Minnesota.

LIVINGWORKS ASIST

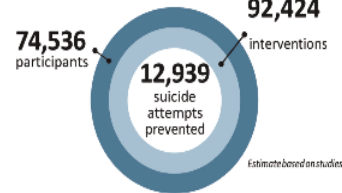
Learn the skills to provide a suicide first-aid intervention

LivingWorks ASIST is a 2-day interactive workshop that will provide you with the skills to intervene with someone who has thoughts of suicide.

You will learn to:

- Develop a safety plan to keep someone safe-for-now and connect them with further help
- Talk openly about personal and community attitudes and suicide
- Build confidence and capacity in providing suicide first-aid

LivingWorks ASIST's impact in 2022



People making a difference with LivingWorks ASIST

Over 25 years of research support the use of LivingWorks ASIST in the following settings:



Upcoming ASIST Training

Date: **May 28-29, 2026**
 Location: Shooting Star Casino
 Hosted by: White Earth Mental Health

Cost: **Free**
 Register: 218-935-3925 or
 martha.allen@whiteearth-nsn.gov

*Light breakfast and lunch included

*Participants are required to attend both full days to receive a certificate of completion.

Learn more about LivingWorks ASIST: livingworks.net/training/livingworks-asist

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



your heart beats for generations
 Made possible by Hennepin County

HennepinCounty.gov/heart-beats





SHOOTING STAR

NOW HIRING

We're looking for talented and energetic people to join the Shooting Star team! Find the perfect position for you in gaming, hospitality, facilities and more!

FIVE STAR REASONS TO APPLY

- Paid time off
- Retirement plan
- New living wage salary plan
- Free parking and meal discounts
- Medical, dental, vision, life and disability insurance

Apply now at StarCasino.com/Employment

LaRoque from Page 4

Security, Extraction Lab, Kitchen, Custodian, Maintenance. This also includes all Administration Staff.

Category	Q2 FY2026
Mahnomen Dispensary	
Quarterly revenue	\$600,283
Quarterly expense	\$460,905
Quarterly Net income	\$139,378
Moorhead Dispensary	
Quarterly revenue	\$3,645,945
Quarterly expense	\$1,388,861
Quarterly Net income	\$2,257,084
St. Cloud Dispensary	
Quarterly Revenue	\$1,732,145
Quarterly Expenses	\$962,441
Quarter Net Income	\$769,704
Chanhasen Dispensary	\$2.7M
Quarterly Revenue	0
Quarterly Expenses	\$38,982
Quarterly Net Income	(\$38,982)
East Grand Forks Dispensary	
Quarterly Revenue	0
Quarterly Expenses	\$46,295
Quarterly Net Income	(\$46,295)
Admin	
Quarterly Wholesale Revenue	\$719,600
Quarterly Admin Expenses	\$1,129,731
Quarterly Net Income	(\$410,746)
Summary	
Quarter Net Income	\$2,670,760
Consolidated Cash Balance At Quarter End	\$6,687,728

Upcoming General Election and Candidate Acknowledgement

I want to acknowledge and congratulate all candidates who have moved forward in the White Earth Nation upcoming general election scheduled for June 9. Putting one's name forward to serve our people is a meaningful commitment, and I respect every individual who is willing to take on the responsibility of leadership on behalf of our Nation and our families, both on and off the reservation.

I have worked collaboratively with the entire Tribal Council to address complex challenges, strengthen financial stewardship, advance strategic initiatives, and respond decisively when our members needed leadership. I believe that progress is made when we work together with transparency, accountability, and respect for Tribal sovereignty. I respectfully ask that all Tribal members get out and vote and make your voice heard in this general election.

Miigwech!
 Michael "Mike" LaRoque
 Secretary-Treasurer
 218-849-1140



OUR HEALTH IS SACRED

YOUTH WELLNESS NIGHT

MAY 8
 5:30pm - 11:30pm
 WAUBUN COMMUNITY CENTER

INDIGENOUS FOOD • CULTURE • GAMES • DOOR PRIZES

Join us for an event for students in grades 9-12 and their parents. Families are invited to start the evening by:

- Hearing from Guest Speaker: Tony Sinclair
- Visiting booths from many Tribal programs
- Sharing an Indigenous meal

Parents are free to leave after dinner, and youth stay for the following activities:

- Breakout Sessions: Medicine bag making, Handgames, Lacrosse, Vision boards
- Kickball Under the Lights
- Movie Night
- Don't miss your chance - enter to win prizes!

Registration is required for this event. Contact: 218.401.0707 or public.health@whiteearth-nsn.gov



PLANTING SEEDS OF RESILIENCE
 GIGITIGAADAAMIN MASHKAW'WIZIIMINAM

Monthly Gathering

WEDNESDAY
 MAY 20TH, 2026
 3:00 PM-6:00 PM

WETCC
 Community Extension
 Building
 2250 College Road
 Mahnomens, MN

Open to New Participants
 Seed cohort monthly meetings are ongoing. We invite new participants who are interested in learning about seed keeping and plant knowledge to join the group.

Our gathering this month will be open house style. Stop in and choose some seeds from our seed library and help Community Extension begin our planting season. Bring any questions you may have, and we will do our best to answer them.

For more info, call or email
 Maria Fatz: 218-936-8349
maria.fatz@wetcc.edu



Your job search ends here
www.whiteearth.com



22nd Annual
COMMUNITIES COLLABORATIVE
BRAIN DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

United for Children

United for Children

AUGUST 11-13, 2026 • MAHNOMEN, MN

CONFERENCE UPDATES & INFORMATION:
 To learn more about our speakers, session topics, and keep up to date on conference happenings, scan the QR code OR visit our conference website at <https://bit.ly/ccbdconference>

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

Obituaries

Wanda Alvarado

Wanda Alvarado, 79, of Naytahwaush, died on April 4 at her home.

Wanda was born on Oct. 6, 1946, in White Earth, to Charles and Pearl (Cain) Folstrom. She was raised in the Naytahwaush area, where she attended school and built the roots of a life centered on family and community.

As a young woman, Wanda worked at the Naytahwaush sewing factory while beginning her greatest and most cherished role of being a mother. In 1966, she was united in marriage to Ramiro Alvarado Jr. Though their marriage later ended in 1983, they remained good friends throughout the years. Wanda found her greatest joy in her family. She deeply loved being a mother and treasured every moment spent with her grandchildren. She lovingly helped raise and babysat for many of her grandkids, always offering a steady, gentle presence and a heart full of love.

Known for her quiet and kind nature, Wanda was a sweet and gentle soul who would help anyone in need. She enjoyed visiting with family and friends and could often be found spending hours on the phone catching up with loved ones. In her quieter moments, she enjoyed reading and watching westerns. She also had an eye for antiques and loved searching for hidden treasures while thrifting. Wanda will be remembered for her warmth, her kindness, and the love she gave so freely to those around her.

Wanda is survived by her daughters: Gina Alvarado, Lori Alvarado, and Kristian (Chad) Elliott; sons, Jesse Alvarado and Shiloh Folstrom; brothers: David (Kim) Folstrom of Manteca, Calif., Albert (Diana) Folstrom of Las Vegas, Robert Folstrom of Gonvick, Minn., Lawrence Folstrom of Mahnomen, and Harry Folstrom of Naytahwaush; sisters, Myrtle (Earl) Reed of Moatsville, W.V., and Rose (Jack) Thebo of Traverse City, Mich.; 18 grandchildren and many great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Charles and Pearl; sister, Edna Marie Merritt; brothers, Jim Merritt and Walt Biggness; great grandson, Kane Miller; as well as many extended family members.

Funeral services were held April 10 at Samuel Memorial Episcopal Church in Naytahwaush.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com



Ronald "Ron" Bellcourt

Ronald "Ron" Bellcourt, 70, of Minneapolis, died March 30 at Fairview Southdale Hospital in Edina, Minn.

Ronald Eugene Bellcourt was born on Dec. 18, 1955, in White Earth to Joseph and Grace (LaChappelle) Bellcourt. He attended school in White Earth, and following his father's passing, his family relocated to Minneapolis. Ron moved back to the White Earth area for several years and during that time, he had one of the proudest moments of his life - becoming a father to his son, Joseph. Ron later moved back to the Twin Cities area. Over the years, he worked a wide range of jobs in many different roles, earning a reputation as a true jack-of-all-trades.

Ron will be remembered for his upbeat spirit and the joy he brought to those around him. He had a way of lighting up a room and was often the life of the party. He loved telling long, drawn-out jokes that always ended with a great punchline, much to the delight of his family. Time spent together meant everything to Ron, and he especially enjoyed family gatherings. In recent years, he cherished living with his sister, Donna, and the time they shared.

Ron was always willing to lend a hand to anyone in need. He also enjoyed playing cards—whether it was a quiet game of solitaire or a lively round of poker with others.

Ron is survived by his son, Joseph Azure; significant other, Linda Azure; stepsons: Tom, Robert and Craig Azure; siblings: Raymond (Deb) Bellcourt, Donna Manypenny (Steve Wright), and Sharon (Simon) Day; and many nieces and nephews.

Ron was preceded in death by his parents; siblings: Leroy "Delray" Bellcourt, Wayne Bellcourt, Diane Bellcourt, and Richard Bellcourt; grandson, baby Roberts; and several extended family members.

An all-night wake was held on April 7 and continued until the funeral service on April 8, both at the White Earth Community Center.

The minister was Lowell Laudert and the pallbearers were Marvin Bellcourt, Raymond Bellcourt Jr., Jeff Azure, Mike Azure, Dean Manypenny, Lonnie Bellcourt, Tom Azure. Honorary bearers were Joe Azure, Robert Azure, Derick Manypenny, Gordie Bellanger, Bentley Jackson, Buddy Day, and all of his friends and family.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com



Lucille Ellen Sweet Nylund

Lucille Ellen Sweet Nylund, known lovingly as "Dolly," passed away on March 26 in Crescent City, Calif., after a battle with cancer. She was 88 years old.

Dolly was born on May 14, 1937, in Cloquet, Minn., to Harold and Veronica Sweet. She grew up in the northern woods and lakes of Minnesota. She graduated from high school in Virginia, and went on to marry John Nylund, with whom she had five children.

After her divorce, Dolly demonstrated the remarkable strength and determination that defined her entire life, working four jobs; delivering newspapers, magazine editor, furniture upholstery, and dinner theater waitress, simultaneously while returning to college to earn her Master of Science in Business Administration. It was a testament to the fierce resolve that everyone who knew her came to admire. Dolly was strong-willed, practical, and endlessly hardworking. She was steadfast in her beliefs, sometimes stubborn in holding them, and she never shied away from standing up for what was right. Her passions were many and rich.

She was an avid bird watcher who kept her feeders full and her binoculars close. In her younger years, she harvested wild rice from canoes from the lakes of northern Minnesota, rode horses, and spent tie camping. She traveled to Puerto Rico, Germany, and Austria. Living near the ocean in later years, she treasured her walks on the beach, lunch dates and gambling at the casino with daughter Janelle, and spending time with grandchildren and great-grandchildren when able. Dolly was a mother first and foremost and was always there for her children.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Harold and Veronica Sweet; brothers, James and Buddy Sweet; and sister, Shirley Taapa.

She is survived by her children: Joyce Bennett (Jerry Bennett), Tracy Nylund, John Nylund (Connie Nylund), Janelle Sweet, and Barbara Nylund-Ramos; sisters, Patsy Moyle and Rita Bodas; brother, Butch Sweet; as well as numerous grandchildren, extended family members, and friends whose lives she touched deeply.

In lieu of services, Dolly made the generous decision to donate her body to science through UC Davis in California, a final act of giving that reflects the practical and purposeful spirit she carried throughout her life. The family asks that those who wish to honor her memory consider spending time outdoors, feeding the birds or planting a tree in her honor.



Thomas John "Big Top" Giard Jr.

Thomas "Big Top" Giard Jr., 41, of Naytahwaush, died unexpectedly on April 2 at the Mahnomen Health Center following health complications which began last fall.

Thomas John, the oldest child of Thomas Sr. and Loretta "Pebbs" (Bush) Giard was born on Sept. 25, 1984, in Detroit Lakes, Minn. He grew up in Naytahwaush where he attended grade school.



Following high school in Mahnomen, Big Top joined the workforce. He worked as a cook for the Shooting Star Casino in Mahnomen for many years. Big Top was a wonderful cook, and he thoroughly enjoyed his time spent in the buffet department. In 2009, he was blessed with a son, Thomas, easily becoming the highlight of his life. A few years later, Big Top moved to Ohio where he worked a variety of jobs and independently made a life for himself. He returned to Naytahwaush in 2024, to be closer to family.

Big Top, big in stature, including his heart was so giving. He enjoyed cooking for his family, driving people to and from and was always willing to lend a helping hand when he could.

He enjoyed family get-togethers, working on cars and listening to all genres of music, but some of his favorite tunes were by ICP (Insane Clown Posse). He will be greatly missed by many.

Thomas is survived by a son, Thomas (Alex Tibbetts) Porter of Naytahwaush; sisters: Iris Giard of Fargo, N.D., Mariah Giard of Shakopee, Minn., and Claire (Cliff Sargent) Giard of Naytahwaush; brothers, Sonny Porter of White Earth, and Joe (Jenni Wichern) Keezer of Naytahwaush; grandma, Mavis Bush of Naytahwaush; several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins; and good friends, Charles Littlewolf of Mahnomen and Rob Goodwin of Naytahwaush.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents: Joe Bush, William and Helena Giard; parents, Tom and Loretta; brothers, Jesse "Jed" Giard and William "Chill" Giard; sister, Mavis Giard; and many extended family members.

An all-night wake began April 8 and continued until the time of the funeral service on April 9, both at the Naytahwaush Sports Complex.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Obituaries

Porsha Lorraine Keezer

Porsha Keezer, 19, of rural Waubun, died unexpectedly on April 23 at her home.

Porsha Lorraine Keezer was born Sept. 25, 2006, in Detroit Lakes, Minn., the youngest daughter of Shana and Jeffrey Keezer. Her elementary years started in Mahnommen, followed by Waubun-Ogema Elementary and she entered high school in Waubun. During high school, Porsha excelled at both volleyball and basketball until a devastating car accident in 2021 almost took her life. Throughout her trials and tribulations, Porsha fought hard to recover. With the loving help and support of her family, she remained steadfast in her recovery. Porsha was able to get back to school her junior year and proudly graduated from Waubun High School with the Class of 2025.



In her pre-teen years, Porsha enjoyed being outdoors. She loved going on 4-wheeler rides, swimming and attending the activities at the yearly Hope Camp in Elbow Lake Village. Porsha was pretty savvy on her phone with one of her favorite apps being Snap Chat. She was always snapping her friends and family keeping her streaks going. She also enjoyed playing a variety of games on her phone. When she wasn't on her phone, Porsha could be found just hanging out and chillin' with her family. She was exceptionally close with her dad, Jeffrey. She will be missed by so many people who loved her dearly.

Porsha is survived by her mom, Shana Keezer; sisters, Brenna Keezer and Brooke (Vinny) Keezer; brothers, Devan (Zeegwunikay Warren) Keezer and James Goodman; grandmas, Susan Keezer and Pauline Keezer; aunt, Terrie Sue Keezer; uncles: Rodney (Cassie) Keezer, Tyson (Misty) Keezer Sr. and Kenneth "Beep" (Lois) Keezer Jr.; and many great aunts, uncles and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her dad, Jeffrey Keezer; grandpas, Kenneth Keezer Sr. and LeRoy Fairbanks Jr.; brother, Derek Keezer; uncles: Timothy Keezer, Robert Keezer, and Matthew Fairbanks; and special friend, Kyla Jackson.

All-night wake services were held April 29 at her home and continued one hour prior to the funeral service on April 30 at Elbow Lake Lutheran Church.

Interment: Vernon Anderson Memorial Cemetery in rural Waubun.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnommen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Saige Adam Londo

Saige Londo, 26, of Fargo, N.D., formerly Naytahwaush, died unexpectedly on April 3.

Saige Adam, the son of Brooke Londo and Lee Opegard, was born on Feb. 2, 2000, in Detroit Lakes, Minn. He was raised in Naytahwaush, where he made his home with his grandparents, Corvin and Arlene, who played an important and loving role in his life. Those early years helped shape Saige into the kind, grounded, and caring person who many came to know and love.



From a young age, Saige felt a deep connection to the outdoors. He found peace and purpose in nature, spending countless hours ricing, leeching, hunting, and fishing. Whether walking through the woods or sitting quietly by the water, Saige was most at home surrounded by the beauty of the natural world.

Saige recently moved to Fargo where he was building his life and making his home. No matter where he lived, he carried with him the values and connections of his upbringing. He was known for his generous heart and his willingness to help anyone in need, never hesitating to lend a hand or offer support. He found meaningful work as a personal care attendant as he had a natural ability to connect with people. He took the time to listen, to visit, and to truly see others. His kindness was quiet but powerful, leaving a lasting impression on those he cared for and those fortunate enough to know him.

Saige will be remembered for his gentle spirit, his caring heart, and the way he made others feel valued and heard. Though his time here was far too short, Saige's memory will live on in the hearts of his family and friends.

Saige is survived by his parents, Brooke Londo and Lee Opegard; grandparents: Corvin and Arlene Londo, Gwendolyn Sargent, and Uncha Pong; sisters: Doreen, Dominique, Mikaih, Victoria, and Elsie; brothers: Terry, Dayton, Antione, and Lee Jr.; and uncles and aunties: Dillon, Simone, Serena, Dawn Lee, Michelle, Clifford, Emilita, Shawnee, Mike, Gene and Wanez. He was preceded in death by his grandpa, Michael Keezer; aunts: Harriett Londo, Loraine Londo, and Melissa Keezer; uncle, Adam Bunette; and several great aunts, uncles, and cousins.

A visitation and prayer service was held on April 23 and funeral services were held on April 24, both at St. Anne's Catholic Church in Naytahwaush.

Interment: St. Anne's Cemetery in Naytahwaush.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnommen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Darwin "BoyBoy" McArthur

Darwin "BoyBoy" McArthur, 87, of Ogema, passed away peacefully on April 1 at his home.

Darwin was born on April 30, 1938, in White Earth, to Samuel and Margaret (Andersen) McArthur. As a young boy, he attended White Earth Mission School and later Waubun High School. In his youth, he delivered the Grit newspaper to more than 60 households and served as the batboy for the White Earth baseball team, where he was given the nickname "BoyBoy," a name that stayed with him throughout his life.



At the age of 17, he convinced his father to sign for him, and he enlisted in the United States Navy. He proudly served four years aboard the USS Valley Forge aircraft carrier. Following his service, he returned home and married Marge Teiken on Aug. 1, 1959, at St. Benedict's Church in White Earth. Together they shared nearly 65 years of marriage until Marge's passing in 2024.

BoyBoy worked a variety of jobs throughout his life, including Lakes Plumbing and as a bartender at the Ogema Liquor Store. He later began a long and dedicated career with the Becker County Highway Department, where he worked for 35 years. During that time, he also served as a heavy equipment instructor at the Detroit Lakes Vo-Tech while also volunteering for the Ogema Fire Department. Even after retirement, Darwin continued to stay active, operating a road grader during the summers for Teiken (Bud Teiken) Road Maintenance.

He found great joy in hunting, fishing, wild ricing, and playing Old Timers softball. BoyBoy also spent time running a small hobby farm and took immense pride in maintaining his home—whether mowing the lawn or plowing snow.

BoyBoy and Marge raised four sons: Darwin "Darb" (Jean), Joseph (Diane), John (Lisa), and David (Natalie), all of Ogema. He is also survived by former daughter-in-law Theresa (Bud) Teiken of Waubun; sister-in-law MaryAnn Teiken of Ogema; as well as numerous grandchildren: Tanya (Travis) Gary, Tracy (Jesse "Horn") Lhotka, Justine (Jason) Wambach, Marie (Mike) Brevik, Kellen (Julia Heim) McArthur, Ryan McArthur, Caitlin (Jordan) Johnson, Rachael (Max Pinske) McArthur, Rylee McArthur, Cora McArthur, Lucas (Amy) McArthur, Chelsey (Keith) McArthur-Warren, Jordan (Paulette) McArthur, Maggie (Dylan Thompson) McArthur, Jenna McArthur (CJ Manning), and Dylan McArthur. He was further blessed with 40 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Marge; parents, Samuel and Margaret; brothers, Eugene "Didums" McArthur and Samuel "Bud" McArthur; and sisters" Catherine "Ainee" Clark, Gloria Berry, and Marcella "Doll" Berry.

Darwin will be remembered for his dedication to his family, his strong work ethic, and the pride he took in his home and community. His legacy lives on in the many lives he touched.

The family would like to thank HIA Hospice; nurses Joanna and Maia, White Earth Home Health; nurse Veronica Kuhlmann; and all of the family and friends for their sincere care of BoyBoy in the last months of his life. Extended thank you to White Earth ENP and drivers Connie and Chico for the daily meals he received.

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

Online: www.daviddonehower.com

MAY 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
MAY *		**		01	02	03
	*	H.O.W.A.H. WELLNESS EVENT LOWER LEVEL RBC		07	08	09
11 Register in Person TBCP 2:30 - 4:30PM WE Congregate Housing	12 Register in Person TBCP 2:30 - 4:30PM Pine Point Computer Lab	13 Register in Person TBCP 2:30 - 4:30pm Rice Lake Computer Lab	14	15	16	17
18 Register in Person TBCP 2:30 - 4:30pm NTW Workforce Center Computer Lab	19 Register in Person TBCP 2:30 -4:30pm NTW Complex Computer Lab	20 Register in Person TBCP 2:30 -4:30 pm White Earth RBC Cafe Computer Lab	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

TBCP

Phone 218-935-3059

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

Obituaries

Simon Dean Zornes

Simon Zornes, 55, of Bagley, Minn., died unexpectedly on April 15.

Simon Dean Zornes was born on April 30, 1970, to Charles Sr. and Suzanne (Oppegard) Zornes. He was given his Ojibwe name Genaawandang Ishkodekan, meaning "Keeper of the Fire." He attended Flandreau Indian School and graduated in 1989. After high school, Simon spent time traveling and visiting friends before attending college in Moorhead, where he earned a degree in agriculture in the early 1990s.

In his younger years, Simon was devoted to raising his blended family. He was married in 2000 to Carol Brook in Las Vegas and the couple later separated. Throughout his life, Simon held a variety of jobs including work at Shooting Star Casino, White Earth Land Recovery, with a traveling carnival, and as a firefighter. His favorite work, however, was anything that allowed him to be outdoors. He especially enjoyed wild ricing and collecting maple syrup, proudly carrying on the traditions of his ancestors and sharing that knowledge with younger generations. He worked at the rice mill at Mahkonce with his uncle Sunfish and Bob Shimek for many years.

Simon was a talented artist whose work can be found throughout northern Minnesota, and he was featured in articles and documentaries highlighting his creativity. He created many beautiful rock and wood carvings. He hosted the coolest booth at the farmers market, showcasing his many passions, and he loved to share his talents with friends and family. He also enjoyed canning, and playing guitar and singing while enjoying the sunset. Simon will be remembered for his laid-back, friendly nature, and his deep knowledge and passion for sharing it with others.

Simon is survived by his mother, Suzanne Zornes; children: Ellie Mae (Jose) Ramirez, Marissa (Anthony John Strong) Whirlwindsoldier, Miranda Whirlwindsoldier, Travis Walker, Jericho Zornes, Eon Zornes, and Marcus Lagarde; grandchildren, Siara Sargent and Jose Ramirez Jr.; siblings: Charles Zornes Jr., Tracy Zornes, Lisa (Sam Wadena) Zornes, Samantha (Mike Ray Littlewolf) Zornes, and Ann Zornes; grandpups, Wuppy and Peewee Baby; mothers of his children: Tammy Peterson, Christine Thauvin Colin, Angela Whirlwindsoldier, Zelda "Bee" Sargent, and Carol Brook; and many extended family.

Simon was preceded in death by his grandparents; father, Charles Zornes Sr., son, Peyton Zornes; grandson, Steven Warren; and many special aunts and uncles.

All night wake services began on April 22 and continued until the time of the funeral on April 23, both held at the Naytahwaush Sports Complex.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com



Deloris Peterson

It is with heavy hearts, we announce the passing of our beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and great-great-grandmother on Jan. 8 at the Mahnomen Care Center, enveloped by the love of her family.

Born on July 4, 1935, to John and Emma Kier. She had four brothers and five sisters all of whom predeceased her. Deloris grew up on the Island Lake area with her grandparents where she met and married James Fisher of Lengby, Minn., to which they have five children.



When widowed, she was united in marriage to Glen Peterson of Bagley, Minn., where they resided, together they have five children.

Deloris had various types of employment throughout her life, most notably known for her work as a CNA at the Bagley Care Center and the McIntosh Care Center. She was known for her quick wit and sense of humor, she loved to laugh. She loved spending time with family camping, fishing, and attending pow wows. She was an excellent cook and baker, she also gave the best hugs when entering or leaving her home.

Deloris was predeceased by her first husband, James Fisher, her second husband, Glen Peterson; son, Robert (Bobby) Peterson; grandchildren: Jeffery Fisher, John April and Leigh Sawyer; and great grandson, Torrin Peterson.

Her legacy of love and laughter lives on through her surviving children, John (Deb) Fisher of Lengby, Jim (Vicki) Fisher of Lengby, Jean (Mike) Philbin of Victor, Mont., Julie (Tom Rambeck of Thief River Falls, Minn., Joan Fisher of Arkansas, Terry (Jody) Peterson of Fosston, Minn., Charles Peterson of Ebro, Minn., Vicki Peterson of Bagley, David Peterson (Rebecca Flaherty) of Woodbury, Minn.; 22 grandchildren; 37 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

In our hearts, Deloris Mae Kier will forever remain a beacon of warmth, love, and laughter.

A celebration of Deloris's life will be held on June 6 with a 1 p.m. gathering at the Samuel Memorial Church in Naytahwaush.

Arrangements: Cease Family Funeral Homes of Bagley

Online: www.ceasefuneralhome.com

Renae Rebekah Pugh Graham

Renae Rebekah Pugh Graham, 61, of Tryon Courthouse Road, N.C., passed away April 1 at Caromont Regional Medical Center. She was born May 20, 1964, in Hennepin County, Minn., to the late John Pugh and late Dolores Loretta Mahalick Pugh Schrieber.

Renae was a member of the White Earth Nation – Band of the Chippewa. She was a graduate of Cardinal Newman High School of West Palm Beach, Fla., – Class of 1982.

During her high school years, she was very athletic and played both basketball and volleyball.



In 1986, she met her future husband, Greg, through an ad that he placed in the local paper. After she and Greg were married and had children, Renae became very active with her children. She was a Cub Scouts Den Mother and a Girl Scouts Troop Leader. Renae was very artistic and enjoyed crafts and painting. Renae was a true social butterfly who never met a stranger. She genuinely loved people and will be deeply missed by those who knew her.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother-in-law, Roland Graham; sisters-in-law, April Buonamici, and Elaine Graham; and her fur babies, Legend and Kagney.

Survivors include her husband of 39 years, Gregory Forrest Graham; children: Forrest Graham (Katherine) of Greenville, N.C., Bryan Graham of Cherryville, N.C., Dr. Lauren Nichols (Asa) of Los Alamos, N.M., and Jacob Graham of Greenville; grandchildren, Grayson and Evelyn Graham; brothers, Michael Pugh (Susan) of Oceanside, Calif., and John Pugh (Amber) of Independence, Va.; sisters, Eileen Schwartz (Glen) of Buckeye, Ariz., Marylou Rodgers (Steve) of Oceanside, Calif., twin sister, Lenae Stokes of Lenior, N.C., and Sherri Larsen of Black River Falls, Wis.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

All services will be private.

Condolences may be made to www.carpenterporter.com

White Earth Nation has a Facebook page!

www.facebook.com/WhiteEarthNation

Independence
LOANS

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

White Earth
INVESTMENT INITIATIVE

(218) 902-2069 | www.weii.website

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and lender.
*Subject to credit approval

WHITE EARTH TRIBAL COURT CHILDREN'S COURT

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of:

Fawn Roy,

Notice of Petition and Hearing

Court File No. **CP2026-00003**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on January 13, 2026, a Petition for Child in Need of Protection and/or Services was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your child in file CP2026-00003. A continued Admit/Deny Hearing on the matter is scheduled for May 28, 2026, at 10:15 A.M. You are asked to contact White Earth Tribal Court Administration located at the RTC in White Earth, Minnesota at 218-983-4648. If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order.

Dated: April 29, 2026

Tammy J. Swanson

Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

WHITE EARTH TRIBAL COURT CHILDREN'S COURT

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of:

Dale Warren Jr.,

Notice of Petition and Hearing

Court File No. **CP2024-00035, -00036**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on December 12, 2025, a Transfer of Permanent Physical and Legal Custody was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your children in file CP2024-00035, -00036. A continued Admit/Deny Hearing on the matters is scheduled for May 28, 2026, at 10:00 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: April 29, 2026

Tammy J. Swanson

Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

McArthur from Page 27

being made regarding large expenditures, such as land and real estate? I will call for a full forensic audit that will answer these questions.

TERO: I will ensure that the economic rights of our tribal members are protected through strict TERO compliance across all tribal entities. When it comes to tribal jobs and contracts, let's keep it local!

IHS 638: This process that affects something as important and fundamental as our healthcare should have been brought before the people of White Earth before it was ever put into motion. We need community meetings and the opportunity for tribal

members to learn about the process and be heard before anything is finalized.

I ask for your support in the election on June 9th. If you would like any additional information on my experience and qualifications, or have any questions for me where I stand on the topics and issues of the day, please reach out using any of the following channels:

(218) 401-0945

Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram

Miigwech,

Jacob McArthur

Auginaush from Page 28

respect, and our youth deserve guidance and opportunity."

Economic opportunities - I support opening up our land base for members to start small businesses within our reservation and strengthen our local economy. I also understand the importance of supporting members returning from treatment or incarceration and the need to maintain strong support systems. Looking into further childcare for working families is important, as many of our communities are in need of reliable childcare so our members can work to provide for their families.

I want to recognize all the candidates who ran in the primary election. It takes

courage to step forward and serve, and I see leadership in everyone who chose to run.

I respectfully ask for your continued support as we move towards the General Election on June 9th, 2026

Miigwech,

Andy "Jack" Auginaush

(10 years without drugs and alcohol as of April 20th)

Contact Information

Phone: (218) 368-2055

Email: auginaush4@gmail.com

Facebook: Jack Andy Auginaush

Website: <https://andyauginaushdistrict1.netlify.app>

WHITE EARTH TRIBAL COURT CHILDREN'S COURT

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of:

Dale Warren Jr.,

Notice of Petition and Hearing

Court File No. **CP2024-00035, -00036**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on December 12, 2025, a Transfer of Permanent Physical and Legal Custody was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your children in file CP2024-00035, -00036. A continued Admit/Deny Hearing on the matters is scheduled for May 28, 2026, at 10:00 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: April 29, 2026

Tammy J. Swanson

Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

WHITE EARTH TRIBAL COURT CHILDREN'S COURT

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of:

Lacy Clark,

Notice of Petition and Hearing

Court File No. **CP2026-00001**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on February 12, 2026, a Petition for Child in Need of Protection and/or Services was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your child in file CP2026-00001. A Pretrial Hearing on the matter is scheduled for May 28, 2026, at 10:30 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: April 29, 2026

Tammy J. Swanson

Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

WHITE EARTH TRIBAL COURT CHILDREN'S COURT

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child(ren) of:

Any Man Coming Forward as the Father of the Child of Monica Crowell,

Notice of Petition and Hearing

Court File No. **CP2024-00035, -00036**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on December 12, 2025, a Transfer of Permanent Physical and Legal Custody was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your children in file CP2024-00035, -00036. A continued Admit/Deny Hearing on the matters is scheduled for May 28, 2026, at 10:00 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: April 29, 2026

Tammy J. Swanson

Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

Month	Day	Time
JAN	08	6 PM
FEB	12	6 PM
MARCH	12	6 PM
APRIL	09	6 PM
MAY	14	6 PM
*JUNE	*18*	6 PM
JULY	09	6 PM
AUGUST	13	6 PM
SEPT	10	6 PM
OCT	08	6 PM
NOV	12	6 PM
*DEC	*03*	6 PM

2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH UNLESS NOTED DIFFERENT * @ NTW OLD CENTER QUESTIONS? REACH OUT TO A CURRENT NCC MEMBER OR EMAIL NTWCOMMUNITYCOUNCIL@GMAIL.COM

Snetsinger from Page 29

Investing back into our communities includes hiring local, hiring with Native preference and purchasing local. Creating a prosperous local economy is our responsibility to our ppl. We cannot thrive in poverty. Investing & building our tribal portfolio provides us opportunities in the future. To support local vendors, I admin a page, share funding/vendor opportunities, create gift certificates & help file for their Tribal LLC. I want to promote our tribal economic growth by diversifying our industries & exploring globally. We need to branch out from gaming into industry, arts, media, energy, tribal food sovereignty, and entrepreneurial supports.

Investing into our future leaders includes developing year-round youth pro-

grams. They belong at planning tables & deserve leadership development programming. I want to see our young lobbying for change with elected officials & policymakers. Their voices should be heard & respected.

If my values align with yours, please Vote Sheri Kay Snetsinger on June 9th as your future District 2 Representative. To learn more about me & my intentions, please reach out to me at:

Facebook: Sheri Kay for District 2 (<https://www.facebook.com/SheriKayforDistrict2WEN/>)

Email: SheriKayforD2@gmail.com

Chi-miigwech,

Sheri Kay Snetsinger

Candidate for White Earth District 2

Accobee from Page 29

addressed moving forward. Let's get the numbers out there for our people to see. I understand that we face competition and may not be able to disclose everything, but it is crucial for our members to have insight into what is happening. These are OUR dispensaries, not the RBC's.

Please keep in mind that these are only topics for discussion. I welcome any additional ideas and conversations.

I urge all members to get out and vote in the General Election on June 9. Early voting is open at the RV Park behind the casino from 8:00-4:30 PM.

If you seek change, let your voices be heard.

Miigwech!!

Alrick "Son" Accobee

District II Representative Candidate
218-204-0517 alrickaccobee2@gmail.com

Veterans from Page 2

gas masks just before the novices went into combat. The poor preparation of replacements often led directly to tactical failure and unnecessarily high casualties.” William deployed to Europe on Sept. 26, 1918, going into combat in the Meuse-Argonne offensive where he was Killed in Action Oct. 13 or Nov. 9, 1918 at the age of 22 in France. His remains were returned to Mahnomen County in August 1921 however, his grave has not been located.

Joseph David Paul [no photo found]

Pvt., Co. L, 23rd Inf., 2nd Div., U.S. Army. In June and July, 1918 during the Aisne-Marne Defensive, the 23rd was engaged in the Battle of Chateau Thierry, then at Soissons in the Aisne-Marne Offensive followed by the St. Mihiel Offensive by Sept. 12. The 23rd engaged in heavy combat in the Battle of Champagne during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive. On October 3 the 23rd Inf. attacked as part of the 4th French Army under General Henri Gouraud. They supported the 9th Inf. to the Medeah Farm Objective - Blanc Mont Road and then passed through them, storming the heights southeast of St. Etienne-aux-Arnes, France. The resistance was strong and the fighting more bitter than in any other engagement. It was in this advance that Joseph was Killed in Action on Oct. 5, 1918 at the age of 24. Joe is buried in Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery in Bemidji.

World War II

Richard Edgar Magnon

PFC, Co. L, 315th Inf., 79th Div., U.S. Army. The 79th landed across Utah Beach on June 14, 1944; attacked toward Cherbourg on the 19th capturing Fort du Roule June 26. They pushed down the west coast of the Cotentin Peninsula July-Aug. taking La Haye-du-Puits, Lassey, Laval, and then Le Mans where they established a bridgehead near Mantes-Gassicourt over the Seine. The 79th crossed the Belgian border Sept. 1-2, 1944 - the first American division to do so in WW II - and concentrated in the Joinville area with the 315th seizing Neufchâteau Sept. 13 in one of the fiercest attacks of the war. Despite intense assaults by the Germans from the Forêt de Parroy, the 79th moved forward with the 315th Inf. losing, then recovering, part of Lunéville Sept. 22.



The following day in heavy combat, the division entered the densely wooded Forêt de Parroy where the Germans had heavy cover. An all-out divisional assault forced a German withdrawal from the dense forest. The 79th next took Emberménil and battled for the high ground east of town Oct. 15-22. After 127 consecutive days in combat, the 79th spent the next 16 days at Lunéville, to rest and recover then 314th and 315th Inf. returned to attack out of the Mignéville-Montigny, département Meurthe-et-Moselle area. In this advance, Magnon was gravely wounded and died six days later on Nov. 18, 1944 at age 24 at the 9th Evac. Hosp. in the Lunéville vicinity. He is buried in Épinal American Cemetery, France.

Fred Theodore Littlewolf

Pvt., U.S. Army Air Corps. Fred was a waist gunner & radio operator on a B-17 Flying Fortress - a four engined heavy bomber. Fred spent several months with the 8th Air Force conducting submarine patrols along the west coast of England before taking part in the 1st all-American raid over France. Taking Fred's suggestion, their Fortress was named "Thunderbird."



Sent to north Africa, the crew on Thunderbird engaged in 50 combat missions. In a raid on a massively defended

German bomber airdrome Castel Benito near Tripoli, Libya, both her port engines were shot out. At a dangerous list, the crippled Thunderbird attempted to return to their base. A mountain range lied between them with the lowest pass documented at 1,600 feet. Desperately trying to gain altitude, the crew only managed to gain about 1,500 feet. With no other options, the crew chanced it miraculously making it through with only feet to spare. Though thought to be impossible, the crew kept Thunderbird airborne 4½ hours with a dangerous list while the crippled fortress limped an incredible 500 miles to their home airdrome near Biskra, Algeria landing with one fuel tank empty and only 20 gallons remaining in the other.

This exploit of Thunderbird and her crew reached legendary status across the U.S. and Europe due to having been documented by the famed WWII correspondent, Ernie Pyle. This story was one of President Eisenhower's favorite wartime stories, and it even inspired the wartime hit song "Comin' In On a Wing and a Prayer" by the Song Spinners, later recorded by other big name artists Kate Smith, Bing Crosby, Vagabonds, and Gene Autry.

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

Vietnam

Clinton "Boy" Louis McArthur Jr.

Machinist's Mate 2nd Class, U.S. Navy. From Ponsford, "Boy" enlisted in the Navy on June 24, 1958. He was first stationed on the destroyer USS Charles P. Cecil (DDR-835) and saw deployments during the Cuba missile crisis and throughout the Mediterranean. Clinton re-enlisted in Naples, Italy and later transferred to the aircraft carrier USS Benington (CVS-20) in the Pacific and later to shore duty at NAS Atsugi, Japan. There he met and married Kinue Yumi Oka. He reenlisted a second time but within a year developed the rapid onset of a severe illness. "Boy" was admitted to the U.S. Army Hospital, Camp Zama, Japan where he died five days later on Sept. 12, 1967 at age 26. Clinton is buried in Calvary Catholic Cemetery in White Earth.



Women Veterans



Gertrude McArthur
US Coast Guard / WWII



Marie Broker
Army Nurse / WWI



Irene Broker
Navy / WWII/Korea/Vietnam



Ruth Bunker
Army / WWII



Audrey Carr Williams
Navy / WWII / Korea



Martha Kahosed Boyle
Army / WWII



Eunice "Pam" Pemberton
Navy / WWII



Georgian Van Etten
Army / WWII



Rita Vizenor
Air Force / Korea Era

Thank you to the Collection of the Hampton University Archives, Hampton, VA for the courtesy photo of Marie Broker.

Spring Celebration

Circle of Life Academy Powwow

Date: May 15th
Time: 12:30pm - 3:30pm
Location: COLA Gymnasium

Open to the Public - Everyone Welcome!

Come join us for an afternoon of dancing, drumming, community and tradition

Royalty Contest (COLA Students only):
Jr. and Sr. Princess and Brave

Drugs, Alcohol, Vaping and Smoking is not permitted on school grounds

RIBBON CUTTING Ceremony

LIGHT MEAL PROVIDED

Please join White Earth Child Advocacy Center Staff and MDT as we host our ribbon cutting ceremony! Additionally, we are revealing our new name and logo as "Aakwade'ewin Child Advocacy Center!"

Aakwade'ewin CAC is "Bravery CAC", which represents the bravery it takes to advocate for children's rights and safety, the bravery it takes for a child to speak up, the bravery it takes for a family to navigate the system.

Friday, May 15th 2026 at 11:00am
3078 Workforce Center Road
Mahnomen, MN 56567
(First Building on the right by Workforce Center)

Tribal Wills Clinic

For Tribal members in Minnesota

MAY 18-22, 2026

White Earth Family Office
217 2nd St NW, Cass Lake, MN 56633

To make appointment call:
John Roach / 505-716-6788

The Tribal Wills Clinic is a group of volunteers including law students and licensed attorneys, who donate their time to help Tribal Members write wills.

What does it cost?

- ★ Our services are entirely free.
- ★ At a law firm in Denver, the cost for a will would be about \$6,000 and the process would take about two months.

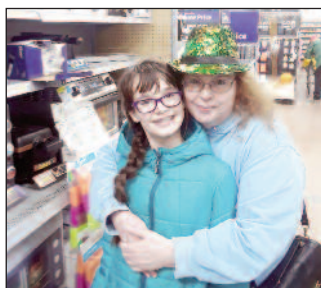
How long does the process take?

- ★ About two hours on two different days.

"Celebrate a well-lived life by making sure that your wishes are carried out by the next generation."

Howah Ads

Happy Mothers Day
Mama
Love Josie



Happy Birthday **Bobbi!**
From, Drake T & Jeremiah



Happy 1st Birthday **Devery**
& Happy 3rd Birthday
Genevieve!



Happy Birthday
Myah (18) & Maci (17)

We all love you two very much.



Stay Awesome!
- Family

Happy Birthday to my Beautiful Sister

Crystal Cogger

~Tiff



Happy 55th birthday
Mama

Love - Jeff and Josie



Happy 4th Birthday
Richard "Niswi" Smith III
We Love You

April 27th



Happy Birthday
Brother Jojo!!
LOVE YOU
April 27th



Happy Heavenly Birthday **Dad**

"If love could have saved you, you would have lived forever."

May 22

Love and miss you everyday.
Stacie

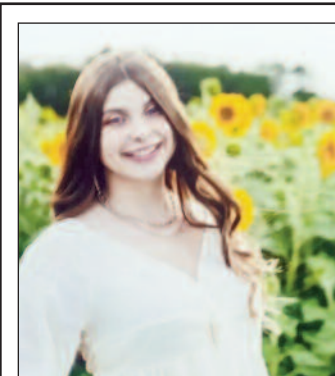
Happy Birthday
Lawrence Jackson
Auntie Val Loves you punkin!



Happy Birthday
Brianna

We all love you!

Dad and Family



Savanah Burrow

daughter of Mylinda Travis and Lonnie Burrow Jr, granddaughter of Mary Burrow is graduating from the University of Minnesota in Duluth for Social Work with a minor in Early Childhood Studies.

Proud of you, Love you!

Learn the Signs
Act Fast
Save Lives!

THE BRAIN EVENT

APRIL 29TH, 2026, 9-3PM
WETCC

MAY 7TH, 2026, 9-3PM
IHS

MAY 27TH, 2026
SHOOTING STAR CASINO, 8:30-3PM

White Earth Nation
TRIBAL PUBLIC HEALTH
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Memorial Service

Kenneth James Bellefeuille

Kenneth James Bellefeuille, 92, of Spokane, Wash., (formerly of Ponsford) passed away on Dec.13, 2025.

Memorial services will be held on Saturday, May 30 at 2 p.m. at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Mahanomen, with a Time of Gathering one hour prior at the church. Interment will take place at St. Michael's Catholic Cemetery in Mahanomen.

In lieu of flowers and memorials, honorariums can be given in Ken's memory to St. Michael's Catholic Church, St. Francis Cabrini Big Elbow Lake, or Assumption Catholic Church in Callaway.

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

NOTICE TO ALL TRIBAL LAND LESSEES, ASSIGNEES, AND ANY OR ALL OTHERS UTILIZING TRIBAL LANDS

The White Earth Land Office will be conducting periodic inspections of all sites, assignments, leases and contracts for any compliance issues on Tribal land.

Please call to update your contact information with our office as soon as possible. If you have any questions regarding compliance inspections or need to update your information, you may contact the White Earth Land Office at 218-983-4650.

Farm for Sale

13 acre hobby farm with house in Mahanomen County. Make an offer. Call Kevin at 218-935-2489. Leave your name and phone number and he will get back with you.

Diabetic Bingo

All are welcome and it costs nothing to play.

May 5 th , Tuesday	Naytahwaush
May 13 th , Wednesday	White Earth
May 27 th , 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 3 rd , Wednesday	Pine Point
June 10 th , Wednesday	Elbow Lake
June 23 rd , Tuesday	Mahnomen – Senior Meals

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 at the E.N.P. building after the 11:30 elder meal. Bingo at the Mahnomen County Service Center after the 11:30 Senior meals (About Noon)

July 1 st , Wednesday	Naytahwaush
July 8 th , Wednesday	White Earth
July 22 nd , 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.

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 May are...

Dr. Ung (foot Doctor) Clinic
 May 18th & 19th at the White Earth Tribal Health Building
 May 20th at the Pine Point Community Center
 To make an appointment call (218) 255-2204 or email public.health@whiteearth-nsn.gov
 For additional information please check the Anishinaabeg Today or Facebook for detailed information.



MAHNOMEN TALKING CIRCLE

BIINDIGEN! ALL ARE WELCOME!



TUESDAY'S 6 PM

MAHNOMEN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BUILDING
 224 N. MAIN ST.
 MAHNOMEN, MN 56557

Limited Transportation Provided:
 Dawn Basswood
 (218) 401-1216




INJURED? CALL JOE.

Personal Injury, Work Comp., Wrongful Death, Car Accidents, Medical Malpractice, Construction Accidents, Slip & Falls, and Dog Bites



218-736-5673

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



WHITE EARTH HUMAN SERVICES
 MAADAADIZH WORKFORCE CENTER
 3081 WORKFORCE RD
 P.O. BOX 69
 NAYTAHWAUSH, MN 56566
 PHONE: (218) 936-2444 FAX: (218) 935-0480

CALL FOR TERO COMMISSIONERS

White Earth's TERO Commission is vested with the general authority to implement the policy of Indian preference in employment and contracting on the White Earth Reservation, as established by the White Earth Reservation Tribal Council by ordinance in 1984.

Commissioners are needed at this time to:

- Establish and implement rules and regulations governing all activities and procedures of the commission.
- Meet with TERO staff at least quarterly for the purpose of securing updates relative to the operation of the TERO program.
- Hold and conduct informal hearings, including issuing notices thereof, subpoena witnesses and documents in accordance with the hearing procedures set forth in the ordinance, supplementary ordinances, rules, regulations, and/or guidelines promulgated by the commission.
- Impose sanctions and grant relief as authorized and prescribed by Chapter 12 of the ordinance and any and all supplementary ordinances.

Knowledge and experience needed in the following areas:

- Federal laws, regulations and statutes pertaining to Indian Preference policy, Indian Self Determination Act, WE TERO Ordinance, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Act, Affirmative Action policy, Buy Indian Act, MAP-21 Indian Reservation Roads policy, and construction on territorial jurisdictions of the White Earth Reservation.

Must be willing to:

- Adhere to the confidentiality policies of White Earth RBC
- Attend quarterly meetings with TERO staff
- Commit to serving for two years
- Hold and conduct hearings when needed
- Attend training and meetings as needed

Other requirements

- Must be an enrolled member of White Earth Reservation.

If you are interested in serving as a TERO Commissioner, please send your resume to:

Maadaadizh Workforce Center
 ATTN: TERO Office
 PO Box 69, Naytahwaush MN 56566

NEW SERVICE AVAILABLE!



VAPE DISPOSAL

Keep your community clean & protect the environment!

We now offer safe, responsible disposal for:

- ✓ Disposable vapes
- ✓ Vape pens
- ✓ Cartridges & pods
- ✓ Vape batteries

WHY PROPER VAPE DISPOSAL MATTERS

- Prevents toxic chemicals from entering landfills and water
- Keeps lithium-ion batteries out of the trash
- Promotes a cleaner, safer community

Cost: Free **Drop Sites:**
Location: White Earth **EZ One Stop**
Sanitation **M&W Stores**
Phone: 218-935-3234



Protect the planet. Dispose responsibly.

Elder Motivational Therapy Sessions

May 8, 2026 | Mahnomen Fire Hall Meeting Room, 124 East Madison Avenue, Mahnomen, MN 56557

Join us for a **free** motivational therapy session with Pam Matchie to strengthen your health and wellness.

Weight Loss or Anxiety: 1:00-2:00pm

Bring a blanket or a yoga mat to lie on if you would like to lie on the floor for better relaxation/ otherwise you can sit at the table.


REMINDER: Doors will close after the sessions start to get the best benefit with no distractions. Please be on time. You will not be let in after doors close.

We'll be holding gift basket drawing


Community Experiences

"My cravings for sugar and sweets have dropped to almost nothing. It makes it easier to choose healthy food and I notice a difference in how my clothes fit."

"I learned tools to use when I get anxious or nervous. When my brain starts to focus too much on things, I think about my breathing, the waterfall and other images we learned. It works."



Register for the session at: 218-401-3174 or 218-401-3120
public.health@whiteearth-nsn.gov



CHILD SUPPORT IS NOW AT PINE POINT COMMUNITY CENTER!!

Every Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday
 8am- 4:30pm
 218-935-3556

Child Support staff can assist with the application process, modifications, Provide Specific Forms, Genetic Testing, Public Notary, ETC.

WEN Child Support: PO Box 387, White Earth, MN 56591 218-935-3512

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



Photos by Romyn Hanks

White Earth held a ribbon cutting on April 28 at their new cannabis dispensary located in East Grand Forks, Minn. The store officially opened to the public on Friday, May 1.

Waagigwan Mashkiki opens third off-reservation dispensary in East Grand Forks

EAST GRAND FORKS — White Earth Nation is expanding its cannabis business to the northern Red River Valley.

They officially open a dispensary to the public in East Grand Forks on Friday, May 1.

The dispensary is located at the old Burger King just outside downtown near the corner of Central Avenue and U.S. Highway 2.

City and tribal leaders cut the ribbon on April 28, at Waabigwan Mashkiki, the tribe's third store off the reservation.

“Another large market and being close to a college area and a rural area, as well,” said Zach Wilson, Waabigwan Mashkiki CEO.

White Earth opened the state's first location off tribal land last year in Moorhead. There is also one in St. Cloud.

The new East Grand Forks location is nearly double the size of the Moorhead store. Tribe leaders would not disclose specific revenue numbers in Moorhead, but called them “overwhelmingly good.”

“We move anywhere from 150 to 200 pounds of flower a month out of that store,” Wilson said.

With the opening, East Grand Forks may soon have three cannabis operations in the city of about 9,100 people. City ordinance only allows two.

“Just being first to market, just like any industry, being first to market is key,” said Wilson.



White Earth's third off-reservation dispensary is located at the former Burger King just outside downtown East Grand Forks, near the corner of Central Avenue and U.S. Highway 2.

Don Dalve retires from RBC



Photo by Gary W. Padrta

White Earth member Don Dalve retired on April 30 after working 34 years with White Earth Finance. Family, friends and coworkers gathered for a ceremony in his honor at the RBC building. Don received a blanket from Curtis Rogers - White Earth Deputy Director and Tracy Lhotka - Finance Director.

Young Writers & Artists Competition



Courtesy photos

This year's Detroit Lakes Schools Young Writers & Young Artists competition brought forward incredible creativity from students across all grade levels and schools. **Top:** Athena Swiers earned 1st place in Beading (Elementary K-5). **Bottom:** Justuz Swiers took home 1st place in both Beading and Painting (Middle-High School 6-12). He also gifted his painting to the Detroit Lakes Indian Education Program in honor of the late Mike Swan from Pine Point.