


ANISHINAABEG TODAY



A Monthly Chronicle of the White Earth Nation

Vol. 30 No. 6 White Earth, Minn. today@whiteearth-nsn.gov Wednesday, June 4, 2025



157TH ANNUAL WHITE EARTH TREATY DAY CELEBRATION & POW WOW

This is a Family Event

JUNE 13, 14 & 15, 2025
White Earth, MN
Four **GRAND ENTRIES**
FRI, JUNE 13 | 7PM
SAT, JUNE 14 | 1PM & 7PM
SUN, JUNE 15 | 1PM

*All dancers must be in regalia to register.
All dancers must register prior to every grand entry.*

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

- Camping at your own risk
- Free campfire wood
- Showers are available on Saturday and Sunday between 6 and 10 a.m.
- 24-hour security on-site
- 11pm Curfew
- No fireworks, weapons, alcohol or illegal substances
- No unruly behavior
- No ATVs
- No Gang Colors/Cuts
- No Motorcycle Vests/Cuts
- No smoking of Marijuana around vendors or dancing arena
- The White Earth Reservation Business Committee, Police and Pow Wow Committee reserve the right to remove violators

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR | MIKE BUNKER WHITE EARTH
MCS | MICKEY HODGES WHITE EARTH, MN. & LONDEL SEABOY SISSETON SD
ARENA DIRECTORS | TOM MASON NAYTAHWAUSH, MN, & JEREMY CLARK PINE POINT, MN

HOST DRUM | BEAR CREEK, Batchewana First Nation, Canada


CO-HOST DRUM | LOCAL DRUM GROUPS
DRUM SPLIT | \$10,000 - No Drum Hopping
DRUM CONTACTS | Jon Weaver (218) 261-1433

SPECIALS: TO 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 - (218) 368-3320
Vendor spots are full. We will not be accepting any more vendor applications.

DIABETES MEMORIAL 5K RUN/WALK
SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2025
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.

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

WERBC, SSC, WEPAC 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.



Photo by Chris Flynn / The Forum

The White Earth Nation's cannabis products company, Waabigwan Mashkiki, opened May 24 in Moorhead, Minn.

Minnesota's first off-reservation tribal cannabis shop opens in Moorhead

By Robin Huebner
Fargo Forum

MOORHEAD — The first tribal cannabis shop in Minnesota not located on a reservation opened in Moorhead over the Memorial Day weekend.

With a Bob Marley & The Wailers tune playing on the speakers, people stood outside the Waabigwan Mashkiki dispensary along Highway 10 on Moorhead's east side for the 10 a.m. grand opening on Saturday, May 24.

CEO Zach Wilson said the line was there for hours, as people streamed in to buy cannabis flower, pre-rolled cannabis ciga-

rettes and whole-flower beverages.

Other products, including infused THC gummies, vape cartridges and concentrates will be available soon, once quality control tests are complete.

"We've had people steady all day come through here. We've had 200-300 people already come through the doors," he said, as of 1 p.m.

The opening was made possible when Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz signed a compact earlier in the week. The compact outlines how the state and the White Earth Nation will work together to regulate the sale of

See Open Page 8



WE welcomes officials

The White Earth Tribal Council and staff recently welcomed officials from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Tamarac Refuge. They met to discuss progress in the tribe's efforts towards an Annual Funding Agreement. WEDNR plans to assume Tamarac Refuge duties in water management, wild rice, forestry, and the cultural component of the Refuge's visitors services. The next step in the process is the negotiation phase.

Photo by Sage Thompson

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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

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- ♦ Minnesota Newspaper Association

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District 3 Representative

Editor

Gary W. Padrta

Future Issues *

Deadline	Issue Date
June 25	July 2
July 30	August 6
August 27	September 3
September 24	October 1
October 29	November 5

* Deadline and issue dates subject to change

Highlights of Mother's Day Pow Wow



Photos by Gary W. Padrta

The annual Mother's Day Pow Wow was held May 10-11 at the Shooting Star Casino in Mahnomen.



Tribal offices closed for holidays

White Earth RBC offices will be closed for the following holidays: **June 13 - Treaty Day** and will reopen on June 16. **June 19 - Juneteenth** and will reopen on June 20. **July 4 - Independence Day** and will reopen on July 7 Modified services will still be available. Dates are subject to change.

2025 Community Picnics

Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Rice Lake
Community Center

Thurs, May 22nd

Callaway
Softball Fields

Thurs, June 5th

Mahnomen
Mini Park

Wed, June 25th

Waubun
Community Park

Thurs, July 10th

White Earth
New Playground

Thurs, July 24th

Pine Point
Powwow Grounds

Thurs, August 7th

Elbow Lake
Elbow Lake Shelter

Thurs, August 21st

Ogema
Community Park

Thurs, August 28th

Naytahwaush
Sports Complex

Thurs, September 11th

Sponsored by Behavioral Health,
Public Health and the local
Community Councils.



DRUG & ALCOHOL FREE

Ages 55+

**WHITE EARTH ENP
INVITES YOU TO THE
2025 Elders Picnic**

Thursday, June 26th
**at the Rediscovery Center
in White Earth**
11am - 2pm



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

BUS SCHEDULE

Pine Point: 8:50
Congregate: 9:25
Roundhouse: 9:35
Bimaad Apts: 9:45
Ogema Store: 10:10
Rice Lake: 9:00
NTW Complex: 9:30
Mahn. Casino: 10:00
Evergreen Apt: 10:20

News From Chairman Michael Fairbanks

Aaniin Boozhoo Gaa-waabaabiganikaag
Niminwendam Waabaminaan!

Ode'imini-Giizis!

Aaniish inaa akawe ninga-gaagiizomaag aadi-
zookaanag.

Weweni-sago-na

Greetings White Earth Nation I am Happy to See
You!

It is already June the Heart Berry Month,
Strawberry!

Everyone Be Safe.

We have a big summer ahead of us; starting with
the 157th White Earth Treaty Celebration! Our pow-
wow is the second oldest annual powwow in the US,
with the other being Lake Traverse Nation-Sisseton.
We have a great little story from an elder this month
and actually it is a good reminder about teamwork as
the Animal Nation continually gives us, as
Anishinaabeg, life lessons of endurance and team-
work.

A long time ago, the earth was still young, and all
beings lived in close harmony. The animals spoke a
common tongue, and the trees whispered to those who
listened. One summer, the skies stayed dry. The rains
did not come. Then one day, fire sparked on the edge
of the great forest.

Flames leapt from tree to tree, and smoke rolled
through the land like dark fog. The animals gathered
in fear. Bear lumbered away. Deer leapt. Even the
quick fox and soaring eagle fled. Chaos swirled in
every direction.

The tiny hummingbird kept her cool. She zipped
to the river, dipped her tiny beak into the water, and
flew back toward the fire. A single drop, that's all she
could carry. She let it fall on the burning ground. Then
back again. Drop after drop.

The larger animals watched, puzzled and skepti-
cal.

"What are you doing?" Wolf growled.

"You'll never put it out," scoffed Beaver.

"I'm doing what I can," Hummingbird replied
simply. And she kept flying.

The Creator saw her. So did the winds, and the
clouds, and the ancestors. Inspired by her courage,
they sent a great rain to fall over the land. The fire
died. Life returned.

Nenookaasii teaches us the heart of mino-
bimaadiziwin—the good life. No matter how small
our actions may seem to us, like when we feel over-
whelmed every effort we make to protect our Nation,
our Land, and our Traditions matters. Whether you're
caring for a family member, showing up to community
action, events, or protecting our rice beds, your drop
matters. Let this summer remind us: together as a
Nation, our small drops can become a healing storm.

Waabigwan Mashkiki Celebrates Historic Grand Opening

On the day marked by the return of the warm
winds and new blossoms, Waabigwan Mashkiki-
Flower Medicine—opened its doors to the people. On
May 24, we made history as the first tribal cannabis
dispensary to operate off-reservation in the state of
Minnesota. This moment is not only a step forward for
White Earth but a strong message of sovereignty and
vision for all of Anishinaabe Country.

Since that first sunrise over our store, more than
5,000 relatives and guests have walked through our
doors. The lines stretched along with anticipation—
not just for the product, but for the meaning behind it:
that we, the Anishinaabe, continue to guide our own
future with strength and care.

I want to say Chi-Miigwech to the White Earth



Nation Tribal Council along with our amazing work-
force behind the whole process. As well as the
Waabigwan Mashkiki team, whose hands and hearts
brought this vision to life. To all of you: Gichi-
Miigwech to our commitment, discipline, and belief in
our Nation' potential lit the path forward. And to our
community—your support grounds us like the roots of
the wiigwaas (birch tree). You remind us that our
strength grows from within.

This is only the beginning. As we move forward
ahead of any tribe in Minnesota, we remember that
true growth takes patience, like the cedar growing in
quiet strength. Our work must be careful, our pace
steady. We carry the hopes of our ancestors and the
dreams of our grandchildren.

Let us continue to walk this path together—with
wisdom, humility, and purpose. The road is long, but
the journey is ours to make.

In the spirit of our Creator and resilience, we rise.

Chi-miigwech bizindawiyeg miinawaa anooj
ninda-gikinoo'amaadiwin

(Thank you for listening and continuing to learn
together),

Baamaapii wiingezin.

Gigawaabaminim naagaj.

Take it easy.

See you all later.

Chairman Michael Fairbanks

WILD ABOUT READING

**SUMMER READING PROGRAM AT THE
MAHNOMEN PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Go wild at your library this summer! Read to win prizes and
attend fun events throughout the summer. All events will be held
at the Mahnomen Public Library unless noted otherwise.

FREE EVENTS AT THE MAHNOMEN PUBLIC LIBRARY

WILD ABOUT GARDENING
Wednesday, June 4 at 12:30 p.m.

DISCOVER PRAIRIE LIFE WITH NATIVE PLANT SAMPLES
Wednesday, June 11 at 12:30 p.m.

**WILD ABOUT MOTION FEAT. JACKIE HAUGO
(WHITE EARTH TRIBAL PUBLIC HEALTH)**
Wednesday, June 18 at 12:30 p.m.

CHALK DRAWING FEAT. EXTENSION DIRECTOR TAMMY BELLANGER
Wednesday, June 25 at 12:30 p.m.
at the Farmers Market Pavilion

DAZZLING DAVE YO-YO MASTER
Tuesday, July 1 at 12:30 p.m.

ANIMAL SIGNS FEAT. AN ITASCA STATE PARK NATURALIST
Wednesday, July 9 at 12:30 p.m.

JUNE 1 - JULY 31, 2025 WWW.LARL.ORG/EXPLORE

Mahnomen Public Library
203 Main St. S | 935-7843

**SHARE EVENT
INFO HERE**

News From Secretary-Treasurer Michael J. LaRoque

Aanin Boozhoo.

Greeting White Earth Members, I have the honor of providing you with the monthly report of the Secretary/Treasurer position for the White Earth Tribal Council. The monthly report consists of reports of the activities of each division within the White Earth Reservation Business Committee, these Division consist of Public Safety, Natural Resources, Human Services, Behavioral Health, Judicial, Indian Child Welfare, Cultural, Public Works, Health, Compliance, Economic Development, WELSA, and Enrollments.

I will be featuring the White Earth Health Department.

White Earth Health Department

This division is led by Health Director Lindsy Darco and Assistant Health Director Mina Spalla. This division has a total of 156 employees. The programs are Ambulance, Community Health Representatives, Elderly Nutrition Program, Public Health, Home Health, Harm Reduction, Long Term Care/Billing, and Living in the Family Environment (LIFE).

Ambulance

This department is led by interim Manager Sierra Milacek and has a total of 25 employees. They provide 24-hour emergency medical coverage to the citizens of the White Earth Reservation. They have a BLS (Basic Life Support) with a part-time Advanced Life Support license when they have a paramedic on duty. They have a base station in the village of White Earth and a substation in the village of Naytahwaush.

They are dispatched through the 911 system. They are a state-licensed Emergency Medical Training institute. Emergency Medical Responder and Emergency Medical Technician training are available to those who may be interested, they provide CPR training, first aid, Narcan administration, and stop and bleed.

Funding Sources: Medicaid and IHS Annual Funding Agreement and Supplemented by AFA carry-over.

Community Health Representatives

This department is led by Manager Kathy Clark and has a total of 19 employees. They provide medical transportation to individuals. They also assist clients with personal care, arranging medical appointments, and assisting with medical forms. Program qualifications include Tribally enrolled or be on Medical Assistance and live within reservation boundaries.

Funding Source: Medicaid and the IHS Annual Funding Agreement.

Elderly Nutrition Program

This department is led by interim Manager Danielle Sutherland and has a total of 22 employees. Elderly programs that promote better health by providing accurate and culturally sensitive nutritional meals for our Elders, RDA (Recommended Daily Allowance), Health-conscious consideration to overall wellbeing, daily guidelines, for food choices from each food group, dairy, vegetables, bread-cereal, fruit rice pasta, meats, poultry. Eligibility includes Elders 55+, Qualified Elders that are home bound will be required to have a medical assessment completed. They have five sites where the Elders have a choice of dine in or take it to go, White Earth, Naytahwaush, Pine Point, Elbow Lake and Rice Lake.

Funding Sources: Title 3: Used to reimburse for congregate and home delivered meals served. Title 6 Part A/B, Part: Used for two employee wages, Title 6 Caregivers: Used for one employee wages, Title 6 MIPPA: Used for events like Christmas party and picnic, to educate Elders about Medicare, Title 6 NSIP:



About 25K, used for food costs, CSBG/MCAG: Used for two employee wages, Medicare, General fund.

Public Health

This department is led by Public Health Coordinator Cyndy Rastedt and has a total of 14 employees. They are committed to preventing, promoting, protecting, and strengthening culturally grounded health and wellness in our community through the programs and services we provide. They serve our reservation through education and outreach, by administering health prevention programs and services, and through community engagement to understand our community's health needs and priorities.

Funding Sources: Medicaid, IHS Annual Funding Agreement, State and Federal Grants.

Home Health

This department is led by the Director of Nursing Mina Spalla and has a total of 36 employees. There overall objective of this agency is to provide client-oriented, efficient services, and education to individuals, families, and the communities of the reservation. A variety of home and community-based services are available for our agency. Home Health Aide and Companion Care services are available for those that need additional assistance with personal care and socialization, which has proven to help with mental emotional mood and state.

The White Earth Home Health Agency accepts physicians, hospitals, friends, and self.

Funding Sources: Medicaid and IHS Annual Funding Agreement.

Harm Reduction

This department is led by Harm Reduction Nurse Manager Rachel LaFrinier and has a total of four employees. They are a syringe access program (SAP) which is a public health initiative designed to provide individuals who use drugs access to sterile syringes and other injections equipment. Since our inception in 2014, our goal has been to reduce the transmission of bloodborne diseases (such as HIV and Hepatitis C), decreased the risks associated with drug use, and connect individuals to appropriate healthcare services.

Key Components of syringe access program includes distribution of sterile syringes, safe disposal, education, health services, and community outreach.

Funding Sources: Medicaid.

Long Term Care/Billing

This department is led by Long Term Care and Billing Coordinator Ronda Amundson and has a total of 17 employees. They are long-term care programs that support people with a variety of disabilities, including developmental disabilities, chronic medical

See LaRoque Page 30

Car Seat Clinics 2025

White Earth Home Health

Car Seat Inspection

This is a great opportunity to get your child's car seat checked to make sure that your child is in the proper car seat! A team of safety specialists will be on hand to provide technical assistance and an appropriate car seat if eligible.

Naytahwaush Head Start

Tuesday, June 3 from 2-4 pm

White Earth MW Gas Station

Wednesday, June 25 from 11 am-2 pm

Mahnomen B&G Club:

Wednesday, June 25 from 3:30-5:30 pm

Elbow Lake ENP :

Wednesday, July 9 from 1-3 pm

Rice Lake Community Center:

Tuesday, July 22 from 12-3 pm

Waubun City Park:

Monday, August 4 from 4-6 pm

Pine Point (Location and time TBD)

Thursday, August 7

Callaway Park:

Tuesday, August 19 from 4-5:30 pm

*** To qualify, the child's legal guardian must attend, have custody of child/children, live on the White Earth Reservation, and bring the child/children along. Legal guardians will receive one car seat per stage of development as needed. ***

Any questions please contact Bryanna Chilton at 218-983-3286.



White Earth Diabetes Memorial

5k Fun Walk/Run

Saturday, June 14

Registration: 8-9 a.m.

Race starts at 9 a.m.

- ❖ All ages and physical activity levels are welcome
- ❖ No registration fees
- ❖ Bring your friends for a nice walk

The 5K Walk/Run starts and finishes at the White Earth Health Division parking lot at 26246 Crane Road in White Earth

The 1st 50 who complete the 5K will receive a \$5 Wal-Mart gift card and a T-shirt. If there are more than 50 run/walkers we will mail your gift card. More details to come.



IN NEED OF SEPTIC PUMPING

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

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

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

White Earth Business - \$115

Non-enrollee (any age) - \$185

Businesses - \$225

(You must reside on the White Earth Reservation)



Photo by Gary W. Padrta

The White Earth Natural Resources Division received the Blazing Star Award from Conservation Minnesota on May 21 in Mahanomen. Avery Hildebrand (center) presented the award to Jessica Johnson.

White Earth Band of Ojibwe receives Conservation Minnesota Blazing Star Award

The White Earth Natural Resources Division received the Blazing Star Award from Conservation Minnesota on May 21 at their office in Mahanomen.

The award acknowledges exceptional local government projects that advance conservation, climate resilience, environmental protection, or outdoor recreation opportunities. The Blazing Star is a perennial flower native to Minnesota prairies and known for its hardy and adaptable characteristics.

The Natural Resources Division received a Blazing Star Award for its outreach to area youth, providing kids with the skills necessary to safely enjoy a wide variety of outdoor activities in a culturally significant way. They provide lessons in wild rice harvesting, firearm safety, fishing, snowmobiling, and more to empower area youth with the knowledge to fully enjoy their natural surroundings. This program is open to all youth in the area and includes pathways to careers in natural resources management.

“To see such commitment to ensure future generations have the knowledge and skills to safely enjoy the Great Outdoors in a culturally significant way is inspiring. White Earth Nation is setting an example for how to lead on regional youth outreach,” said Avery Hildebrand, Public Engagement Program Manager at Conservation Minnesota.

Over the winter, Conservation Minnesota solicit-

ed applications from cities, counties, Tribal nations, and other local government entities across Minnesota. In total, 28 projects were submitted. A panel of five judges reviewed applications and chose three communities from across the state that showed innovation in their projects and a commitment to future generations.

In addition to White Earth, Bloomington received the award for its impactful home energy disclosure reports and energy efficiency mapping, and Woodbury received the award for its robust Environmental Stewardship Plan and inspiring carbon reduction goals in eight major city sectors.

“This year’s Blazing Star Awardees highlight how local governments lead positive change. Whether that’s setting ambitious carbon reduction goals or making sure youth have the skills to enjoy the outdoors,” said Avery. “By lifting up these important projects for all of Minnesota to see, we hope to inspire others to implement similarly innovative projects in their own communities.”

Conservation Minnesota is a nonprofit organization committed to protecting people and places from the adverse impacts of pollution and climate change while ensuring that everyone who calls Minnesota home has access to the Great Outdoors and opportunities to enjoy it.

White Earth Wisdom Steps program highlights

By Lucille Silk
Wisdom Steps Board Vice-Chair

The 25th anniversary conference for Wisdom Steps will be held June 10-12 at the Shooting Star Casino in Mahanomen.

Please be advised that there are currently 14 White Earth members that will be attending the conference as they have met the requirements of the program. We are now recommending that any new members wanting to be involved see a provider for

medical needs and fill out the health cards. Also, a walk card of weekly activities must be submitted no later than Dec. 31, 2025 in order to attend next years conference.

Here is the list of persons that will be able to attend this years conference: Norma Baaka, Coleen Blattenbauer, Barbara Thompson, Bobbi Jo Thompson, Yvonne Estey, Amelia Roy, Janet Hanks, Doris Metzger, Emily Annette, Pat Fineday, Kevin Fineday, Donna Stevens, Joan Thompson and Lucille Silk.

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Thank you for your business!

White Earth

Indigenous Education for All

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROJECT

Community Meeting

JUNE 26TH 2025

**SHOOTING STAR CASINO,
MAHNOMEN MN**

3 - 5 PM

We want to hear from you!
We know that our White Earth communities are rich in knowledge, culture, and history.

We want to hear from you:
Oral Stories, Family History, Cultural Knowledge, Family Traditions.
Any ideas you have that will help us navigate through history.

**SNACKS AND REFRESHMENTS
WILL BE AVAILABLE**

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:
(218)935-6249 OR (218)935-3783

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MMCDC is an equal opportunity employer, provider and lender.

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.

WHITE EARTH ANNUAL RECOVERY PARADE

June 12th, 2025



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

Join us for a meal after the parade! Food will be served inside the Community Center, elders served first. Door prize drawings held after the meal.

Sponsored by: White Earth Behavioral Health, Public Health, and Maintenance divisions.

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

Boys & Girls Club Summer Hours

Beginning May 27, the summer hours started at the following sites:

Mahnomen, Naytahwaush, Waubun & White Earth sites:
8 am to 4:30 pm

Rice Lake: 8 am to 4 pm

Beginning June 16, the summer hours will start at the following site:

Pine Point: 8 am to 4 pm

Breakfast will be served from 8:30-9:30 am

Lunch will be served from 12:30-1:30 pm

Snack will be served in the afternoon

Valleyview Commons

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

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

Tenant is responsible for electric and heat.

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



CREATING BETTER LIVING
Equal Housing Opportunity

TTY711



News From District 3 Rep. Laura Lee Erickson

Aaniin Anishinaabe.

As we welcome the month of June, I want to share updates on the continued work happening across our Tribe. Flowers are blooming, trees are full and the warmth of summer nights is beginning to settle in. Pow wow season is upon us with our 157th Annual White Earth Treaty Day Pow Wow on June 13, 14 & 15. I am grateful for the dedication of our staff and community members who continue working hard to support our people and move our Tribe forward. I look forward to seeing many of you at events throughout the summer!

MAY 2025 Updates

Events/Meetings

5-3 I attended the Hubbard County Town Hall-Let Your Voice Be Heard meeting, an opportunity to represent our Tribal Nation and engage in important conversations with community members and local officials. The meeting focused on educating others about the potential impacts of federal and state funding decisions including impacts on our Tribe. I listened to a wide range of concerns, particularly around critical areas such as energy assistance, education and healthcare services that are essential to the well-being of our people.

By participating in these forums, we ensure that Tribal voices are included in policy discussions and we continue advocating for the resources and support our communities deserve.

5-5 I attended the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT) Natural Resources and Legislative Subcommittee meetings held at Fortune Bay. Topics of discussion included budget planning, project timelines and enrollment book policy. An update was shared regarding the "Clean Water Over Nickel" initiative highlighting ongoing environmental efforts. The Chief Financial Officer (CFO) position will be re-advertised.

5-6 MCT Tribal Executive Committee meeting was held with discussions about quarterly reports, update from MCT Delegates, letter of support Re: Boundary Waters, federal funding update from Leonard Geshick. The MCT delegates emphasized the need for unified action and clear definitions to move forward effectively. Action items were identified to amend the constitution and enhance voter participation with a strong emphasis on maintaining tribal sovereignty and ensuring fair representation for all bands.

5-7 I had the opportunity to meet with Margaret Rousu at the White Earth Land Recovery Project in Callaway to learn more about the work they're doing in the community. We discussed several of their ongoing initiatives including the distribution of free meal kits, community garden tilling services and educational workshops.

I also had the chance to tour their on-site store and community radio station, both of which play important roles in promoting local food sovereignty and cultural outreach. We explored potential opportunities for future collaboration to support shared goals and enhance services for our community.

The White Earth Land Recovery Project will be hosting its Jump Into Summer event on Friday, June 6 from 4 to 8 p.m., a great way to kick off the season with community. Additionally, the Lakes Area YES Network Summer Program will once again be offered for students in grades K-9, providing activities and learning opportunities throughout the summer months.

5-8 Tiffany Swiers and I held a listening session



at the Biimaadiiziwiin Elder Unit in White Earth where we had the opportunity to engage directly with community members and hear their concerns. The session was open dialogue on a variety of topics including enrollment, financial transparency within White Earth, health/fitness and ongoing transportation challenges. The discussions were honest and thoughtful. We left the meeting with a clear to-do list and commitment to follow up on the issues raised. Listening and responding to our community is a vital part of our work and we remain dedicated to continuing these conversations and taking meaningful action. We plan to set up additional listening sessions throughout District 3.

May 12-15 I traveled with our team to Scottsdale, Ariz., to visit two tribes: the Gila River Indian Community and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community both of which have successfully completed the Indian Health Service (IHS) 638 self-governance process for their health facilities. Although this was a last-minute trip, it was an important opportunity to gain firsthand knowledge and insight into how other Tribes navigated and finalized the 638 process.

With White Earth having issued a notice to begin this journey, learning from the experiences of our sister tribes will be invaluable as we move forward in strengthening our own health services through self-governance. Our visits included: meeting Gila River staff at the Viola J Johnson Building, Gila River People's health center tour including behavioral health programs and learning more about traditional healing practices, toured Salt River Pima Maricopa Family Advocacy Center and other facilities at SRP-MIC, Native American Connections in Phoenix to tour the youth housing, shelter and adult supportive housing services including a presentation highlighting NAC's founding, growth and the range of behavioral health, housing and youth-focused services.

Toured Cedar Crossing facility Overview: Affordable housing community with supportive services, including independent living opportunities for youth. We had the opportunity to meet with the Gila River Health Care Authority and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Health Board. Each organization operates under a distinct governance and service delivery structure, offering valuable insights into different approaches to tribal health care systems.

I recall around 2018/2019, the tribe held a series of community meetings to gather input on the 638 process. I attended one of those meetings held in

See Erickson Page 29

White Earth, Red Lake, and Leech Lake secure nearly \$18 million in grant funding for housing

WASHINGTON — U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Scott Turner recently announced more than \$90 million in Indian Housing Block Grant funding for eligible tribal nations to carry out affordable housing activities.

Among the recipients are Leech Lake, Red Lake and White Earth Nations, which received \$6.5 million, \$6 million and \$5.1 million, respectively.

“From day one, HUD has been engaged in alleviating affordable housing challenges facing urban, rural and tribal communities,” Turner said in a release. “HUD has a strong partnership with tribal nations across the Midwest, and I look forward to collaborating directly with tribal leaders in Michigan,

Minnesota and Wisconsin to expand housing opportunities and remove burdensome regulatory barriers that impede progress.”

The IHBG program is a formula grant that provides a range of affordable housing activities in tribal communities. Eligible activities include housing development, operation and modernization of existing housing, housing services to eligible families and individuals, crime prevention and safety, and model activities.

A full list of the IHBG award winners can be found on the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development website.

Pride Month: Time to celebrate a diverse community

By Elizabeth St. Clair

WE Mental Health Project Outreach Coordinator

June is Pride month! A time to celebrate the vibrant and diverse LGBTQ+ Two-Spirit community. It's a month filled with affirmation of identity. It's also a time to recognize and address the mental health challenges the many of our LGBTQ+ Two Spirit relatives face.

The term Two-Spirit is a translation of the Ojibwe term Niizh manidoowag. It indicates a relative whose body simultaneously houses a masculine spirit and feminine spirit. Before European contact, sexual and gender diversity was an everyday aspect of life among indigenous peoples. Since colonization, many of our Two-Spirit relatives have been denied and alienated from their Native identity.

Many of our LGBTQ+ Two Spirit relatives face unique mental health challenges due to discrimination, stigma, marginalization, and a lack of support. They may also face a lack of cultural identity, alienation, depression, rejection and are at higher risk for suicide.

As we celebrate Pride month, let's not forget the importance of mental health of our LGBTQ+ Two Spirit relatives. By acknowledging the unique challenges they face and actively working to support mental health needs, we can contribute to a more inclusive and compassionate tribal nation.

If you, or someone you know is struggling with mental health issues, please reach out. The White Earth Mental Health team is here to help. Please call 218-983-6325 or utilize the Becker County/WE Reservation Crisis line at 218-850-HELP.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month & Denim Day

By Taylor Benson

Sexual Assault Advocate

White Earth DOVE Program

The White Earth Dove Program would like to say a huge thank you to all of those that participated in the April Sexual Assault Awareness Month virtual event. And to all the businesses and programs that were able to donate to this event. There were 80 participants with 27 of them being randomly drawn as winners. Your support and involvement have been invaluable in raising awareness and promoting prevention efforts in and around the community.

From attending conferences and trainings to participating in marches and rallies, your active engagement has demonstrated a commitment to creating a safer and more supportive environment for survivors. It is through collective action and conversation that we can challenge harmful attitudes and behaviors, and ultimately, work towards eradicating sexual violence.

I would like to extend a special thank you to local businesses, organizations, and advocates who dedicate their time and resources to organizing events and initiatives throughout the year. Together, we can continue to make a difference in the lives of those who have been affected by sexual violence and build a community where everyone feels safe, empowered, and respected.

Sponsors:

Cedar Sense, Boozhi Brew, Gordan's Construction, Caribou, Ice Cracking, Andrea Carrier,

Dairy Queen, Cedar Crest, Pizza Hut, Brygge, Pinehurst, Sunlite Bar & Grill, USANA, Shooting Star Casino, Kim Benson, EZ1, Swedberg's Honey, Detroit Mountain, White Earth Behavioral Health, Barbara Ley, B&T Meats, Hub 41, White Earth DOVE.



Submitted photo

Staff from Tribal Court show their support for sexual assault awareness by forming a ribbon.

White Earth Council of Elders

By Tim Rindahl, Chairman

White Earth Nation Council of Elders

Aaniin!

With the weather getting nicer everyday and the growing season started, we are looking forward to getting fresh vegetables from White Earth Agriculture this summer. I would like to give a big shout out to Wade Jackson, Nicole LaFrinier, and Jordan Brown - thank you for all you do for the communities here on the White Earth Reservation, we love fresh veggies so keep them coming.

Every month we get closer to our goal of coming together as elders from every community to gather in a good way and make plans for events that get us out to enjoy the beautiful weather. This month we met on Tuesday, June 3 at the Elbow Lake ENP site to get program updates and make plans on what sounds like a fun summer. There is so much to choose from like pontoon rides, BBQs at one of the parks or if you have some thoughts let us hear them, the more we get to join in on some fun the better. Thank you to Shirley Holzgrove who gave NARCAN training at our meeting.

Still working on sub-communities for event planning - Pow Wows and Bylaws. We have seven signed up to work on the Bylaws and sign-up sheets for the event planning and Pow Wow communities.

Still looking for some Mahnomen residents that would like to be involved so next year we can add Mahnomen to the meeting calendar. If you would like to be involved with setting this up, reach out to Pam Aspinwall at 218-850-7016.

We have the White Earth Powwow coming up on June 13-15, plus the Elders Picnic on June 26 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Rediscovery Center.

The Rice Lake Powwow and Memorial Walk on May 25-26 was a huge success. I talked with Alfred Fox who stated that the Rice Lake Community Council gave out a bunch of regalia and ribbon skirts - nice going Rice Lake Community Council.

Just a reminder that in December we will have our elections for the White Earth Elder Council seats and I encourage anyone to run. I believe that we are going in the right direction, but there is still a lot of work to do. Let's keep this going, maybe we can sit around and talk at the Elders Picnic later this month.

This is our meeting schedule for this year.

July 1: Naytahwaush ENP site

Aug. 5: Pine Point ENP site

Sept. 2: White Earth ENP site

Oct. 7: Rice Lake ENP site

Nov. 4: Elbow Lake ENP site

Dec. 2: Naytahwaush ENP site

Native American quote of the month

“Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect.”

If you have something exciting happening in your area let us know so that we can get the word out.

Miigwech.

Tim Rindahl (Chairman) 218-261-0182

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



3RD ANNUAL PRIDE PARADE & FEAST

Naytahwaush Community Council

FLOAT PRIZES
1st \$100
2nd \$75
3rd \$50

Tune into 101.5 KRJM

SATURDAY, JUNE 21ST 2025

PARADE starts @ SkS Park & ends @ Drumhall
PARADE LINE UP @ 2:45PM & BEGINS @ 3PM
FOOD CONTEST @ 3:45PM
Appetizers - 1st \$50 - 2nd \$40 - 3rd \$30
Entrees - 1st \$50 - 2nd \$40 - 3rd \$30
Desserts - 1st \$50 - 2nd \$40 - 3rd \$30
FEAST BEGINS @ 4PM
HONORED SPEAKERS & DOOR PRIZES FOLLOWING

28th Annual White Earth College and Career Fair



Photo by Gary W. Padrta

Amber Fox, White Earth Tribal and Community College, visits at her vendor table at the 28th Annual White Earth College and Career Fair on May 15 at the Boys and Girls Club in Mahnomen. Several college, military, and business vendors were available for students and community members to ask questions. The event was sponsored by White Earth Student Financial Services.

Looking for, or in need of Behavior Health services for your child?

The First Thunderbeing House has services available in the following programs:

Circle Back Center can provide Comprehensive Substance Use Assessments, and Adolescent outpatient (High and Low Intensities).

Juvenile Healing to Wellness Court can offer restorative justice work that can improve a child's court outcome and use a team approach to restoring a clean legal record.

Dually Involved Youth services (DIY): In DIY we offer supportive case management services to area youth in regards to school, mental health or substance use services.

If you have any questions or would like to get more information please call us at 218-983-4693 or 218-401-3973.

Our offices are open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Open from Front Page

cannabis.

Wilson said it's been a labor of love working through those negotiations over the past year.

"Yeah, it's taken a minute, but just a lot of prep and, you know, foresight," he said.

Wilson said 25 to 30 employees have been hired at the Moorhead location, most of whom were on hand Saturday. The company expects to open another dispensary in St. Cloud.

The cannabis sold at Waabigwan Mashkiki is grown at a cultivation facility in Mahnomen, on the White Earth Reservation, and transported to dispensaries on the reservation and now, off-reservation.

A visible security presence on opening day directed traffic, checked IDs to ensure customers are 21 or older, and generally kept an eye on things.

Shaun Hoffart, security manager for Waabigwan Mashkiki, said security employees will be on hand whenever the dispensary is open.

"It's just important to make sure that we keep the customer safe, as well as maintaining the security of the product and making sure it's getting to the customer's hands appropriately," Hoffart said.

Customer Jeff Weyland of Fargo said he has a medical marijuana card in North Dakota but wanted

to try something different.

A cancer survivor, he said he believes cannabis can prevent his cancer from coming back.

"They took a kidney out of me with a 5-pound tumor on it. Yeah, it's been working ever since," Weyland said, describing the cannabis flower, oils and vapes he uses.

With the dispensary opening, Clay County Sheriff Mark Empting has reminded people they still "cannot drive high."

To people who say making cannabis available this way might cause more crime or crashes in the community, Wilson said data doesn't support that.

"If you look at alcohol and other types of drugs, almost 99% of the time, alcohol is going to be more of a leading cause of death of some sort than anything else," he said.

He said he may be "biased" because he's a cannabis user, but he's passionate about the plant and the business.

"This is about creating revenue for the tribe and the community, and being able to have a brand that lasts, for longer than any of us," he said.

Waabigwan Mashkiki is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. each day, he said

21st Annual Communities Collaborative Brain Development Conference

Registration is Now Open!

Save the Date

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

More information coming soon... Scan me

Conference website: <https://bit.ly/ccbdconference>
White Earth Child Care and Early Childhood Programs
sueheisler@whiteearth-nsn.gov



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



NAYTAHWAUSH

FIREWORKS

JULY 3

8 PM COMMUNITY GATHERING

9 PM MEMORIAL ACTIVITY

9:45 PM FIREWORKS STARTS

CELEBRATION AT THE NAYTAHWAUSH POWWOW GROUNDS

EVERYONE WELCOME!

JOIN OUR SAFE & SOBER CELEBRATION

TUNE IN TO 101.5 KRJM

WHITE EARTH ABE SUMMER SCHEDULE 2025					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAHOMEN MAIN ABE OFFICE	Melissa all day Charlie all day Amy all day	Melissa all day Charlie all day Amy all day	Melissa all day Charlie all day	Melissa all day Charlie all day	Melissa all day Charlie all day
MAAADIZI WORKFORCE CENTER	Workforce Tutors all Day	Workforce Tutors all Day	Workforce Tutors all Day Amy all day	Workforce Tutors all Day	Workforce Tutors all Day
WHITE EARTH	Afternoons by appointment with Melissa, Amy, or Charlie	No Classes	No Classes	No Classes	No Classes
CREATORS PLACE	Lindsey Tutor 9:00-3:00 Kay by appointment	Lindsey Tutor 9:00-3:00 Kay by appointment	Lindsey Tutor 9:00-3:00 Kay by appointment Amy Afternoons	Lindsey Tutor 9:00-3:00 Kay by appointment	No Classes
PINE POINT COMMUNITY CENTER	No Classes	No Classes	Amy Mornings	No Classes	No Classes
RICE LAKE COMMUNITY CENTER	No Classes	No Classes	No Classes	No Classes	Mornings by Appointment with Melissa, Amy, or Charlie
VIRTUAL	Mornings by appointment with Amy	Evenings by appointment with Amy	No Classes	Evenings by appointment with Amy	All day by appointment with Amy

White Earth Adult Basic EducationMelissa Widner Managermelissa.widner@whiteearth-nsn.gov(218) 935-3576



WEUCC-White Earth Urban Community Council

11 am to 3 pm

Meal served at noon

Annual Community Picnic

Saturday, 7-12-25

WEUCC cordially invites White Earth Families & Friends to the Annual Summer Picnic where there will be great food, fun and door prizes.

We would love for you to let us know if you can attend so we can make sure we bring enough food.

You can call/text Sherri Loken at 612-423-6760 or text Annette Christensen at 612-508-4425



Minnehaha Park
Wabun Picnic Area Shelter D
4655 46th Ave So
Minneapolis, MN 55406

WE Sanitation now offers commingled recycling

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

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

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

ures at the recycling centers.

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

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

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

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

15th Annual NCCS 5K Run and Walk

Photo by Jackie Haugo

The Naytahwaush Community Charter School held their 15th Annual 5k Run and Walk on May 16. Despite the mist and rain, 230 people participated in this heart-health activity. White Earth Tribal Public Health helped sponsor this event.

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.

Honoring White Earth Veterans

Many of their stories are being remembered and re-told by their family and friends

By Budd Parker

White Earth Community member and Navy Veteran

Many veterans from here have passed away in the last 20-30 years – so very many of them: Dwight “Him-Him” Richardson, William “Billy Whiz” Brown, Duane “Chick” Jasken, Art Bevins, Bill Norcross, George “Mic” McDonald, Porgie Auginaush, Larry Cloud Morgan, Richard “Sarge” Cox, Edward “Tuh-bah” Jackson, Charlie Greene, Maynard Swan, Joe Percy...and the long list goes on.

It’s likely that some of their stories are still being remembered and re-told by their families and friends. But what of those who passed on 50, 60 or more years ago? Some of them survived the wars only to die tragically shortly after coming home. The many that made it home, wounded, damaged, and traumatized, yet never asked for recognition or praise because every serviceman, and civilian as well, sacrificed and gave all they could during World War II to defeat the greatest horrors and evil the modern world had seen.

Overwhelmingly, these soldiers and sailors became highly insulted and offended when someone called them a hero. These lost generations of combat veterans believed to their core, and unabashedly replied, that the only “heroes” were the ones who never made it home. To them, the true heroes were their comrades who left home in the spring of their lives only to return home in coffins and those that lie in overseas cemeteries...and the more anguishing were those whose bodies were never found and lie in watery graves deep on the ocean floors or in unknown locations in distant foreign lands.

This was a generation of Americans that knew what it was like to make do and to do without. Many never had running water or electricity in their homes and most had little money and few possessions. These were generations that struggled through the Great Depression when more than 12 million Americans could find no employment, millions homeless, and most working-class families knew hunger on a regular basis. Yet, although hoping and striving for a better future for their families, most knew what it was to be content and were grateful for even the smallest of things and big on community. As the clouds of war were gathering, especially after Pearl Harbor, Americans from all races and all walks of life – from cities, villages, farms and isolated homes in the brush – came to our country's defense.

Let us never fail to honor each one of them and to teach and instill in our younger generations the tremendous sacrifices they gave for every one of us here and for the generations yet to come.

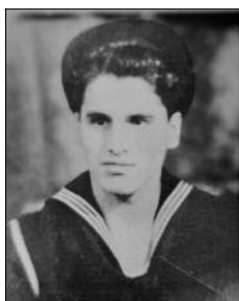
If anyone knows of photographs of veterans of the war eras, veterans that have been missed who died in the service, POWs, or female veterans please send an email: faircox@arvig.net or whiteearthhistory@gmail.com.

Killed in Action in World War II

Raymond Everett Severson

Gunner's Mate 3rd Class, U.S. Navy

The son of Margaret DuPuis of Beaulieu; foster-son and nephew of Angeline and Thos. Rice. Enlisting in the Navy Aug. 27, 1942, he was assigned to LCT(5) Flotilla 9 – a grouping of amphibious vessels classified as Landing Craft Tank which beached themselves in order to land tanks, jeeps, and GIs on beachheads. These were flat-bottomed, slow-moving vessels with shallow drafts that made them extremely vulnerable, as well as highly susceptible to rough seas, yet they were the workhorses of the Navy and absolutely essential to get tanks and troops ashore. With an average crew of only 12 officers and enlisted men, Raymond was a Gunner's Mate



Raymond Severson

assigned to the ship LCT-242.

As a gunner, he would have been required to be proficient in manning and maintaining the ship's 20 mm guns, .45 caliber Thompson machine guns, hand guns and line throwing guns. During General Quarters, Severson would act as pointer on port 20mm gun where he would train, point and fire at the target indicated by the officer or boatswain in charge. In cruising conditions, GM3 Severson stood port section watch alternating as lookout, helmsman or throttleman. These duties all required that Raymond not only be proficient with small arms, machine guns, and at pointing and training the 20mm guns staying on target by use of tracer control, but also be skilled in steering the ship, be thoroughly familiar with rules of the road and the number and character of lights carried by all types of vessels both under way and at anchor, as well as the ability to identify Allied and enemy warships and planes.

In July 1943, his ship LCT-242 participated in the Allied invasion of Sicily, a major campaign of World War II also known as the Battle of Sicily and Operation Husky. Beginning with a large amphibious and airborne operation followed by a six-week land campaign that drove the Axis land, air, and naval forces from Sicily, thus opening the Mediterranean's sea-lanes for the first time since 1941. This was a turning point initiating the Italian campaign which led to the fall of Mussolini and Italy's Fascist regime. The victory in Sicily set the stage for the eventual Invasion of Italy. On Sept. 3, 1943, the Allied invasion of Italy began. LCT-242 was in the main invasion force of Operation Avalanche landing at Salerno on the western coast of Italy.

In November 1943, Raymond's ship, LCT-242, was transferred to Flotilla 10. Operating in the Gulf of Naples, Italy on Dec. 2, 1943, GM3c Severson aged 19 yrs., and 16 of his shipmates were killed in action when LCT-242 was struck by a circling torpedo by the island of Nisida. He is buried in Fort Snelling National Cemetery, Minn.

Francis William “Bud” LeQuier Jr.

2nd Lieutenant, U.S. Army Air Forces

Bud LeQuier was the son of Francis W. and Pearl LeQuier. He attended high school in Duluth where he was the president of one group of Central High's Aircraft Club.

Upon graduation from high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Forces on June 12, 1943. He received training at Shephard Field, Texas; George Peabody College in Nashville, Tennessee as an aviation student; Santa Ana Army Air Base, Calif., and various other air fields out west. He received his commission in August and on Aug. 12, earned his wings as a Bombardier Navigator.

Afterwards, he was receiving specialized training preparatory to overseas duty with the 423rd Base Unit out of Walla Walla, Wash. While on a night training flight in the early morning hours of Sept. 30, 1944, in a B-24J four-motored bomber, 2nd Lt. LeQuier and the five other crewmen onboard were killed when their plane crashed into the side of Mission Peak about eight miles southwest of Wenatchee, Wash. He is buried in Fort Snelling National Cemetery, Minn.

Francis W. “Bud” LeQuier had a second cousin with the same name (Francis H. LaQuier) serving in the war with the 6th Army's elite Alamo Scouts.

Josephine (Durant) St. John Ottershaw had three of her sons serving overseas in combat during World War II – Emery St. John, George St. John, and Dean Ottershaw. George was gravely wounded in June 1943. Her youngest son Dean was killed in action the following year in the



Francis LeQuier Jr.

Pacific Theatre, and only three months later,

Her eldest son Emery was killed in action amongst the first troops that broke through the line and crossed onto German soil. The two brothers are buried near each other in Ft. Snelling National Cemetery. The St. John-Ottershaw family lived in and around the communities of Big Bend, Ebro, Lengby, Jack Pine, Rice Lake, and Pine Bend in LaPrairie and Island Lake Townships.

Dean Melvin Ottershaw

Pvt., 112th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Army

Dean was born June 14, 1923, in Ebro the son of Joseph and Josephine (Durant) St. John Ottershaw. Before the war, Dean was working in Ebro for Henry Murray who did road work and trucking.

Enlisting in the Army Jan. 20, 1943, and after basic training, Dean was assigned to Troop B, 112th Cavalry Regiment. After extensive training the 112th made it's first amphibious landing at Woodlark Island in the Solomon Sea. They met no opposition and set to work establishing a defensible perimeter in order to protect the Seabees building an airstrip. The 112th went to Goodenough Island for training before setting sail for their first action in the Battle of Arawe at New Britain. The regiment landed there Dec. 15, 1943, in three separate amphibious operations – from the USS Humphreys, “Troop B in 15 high speed rubber boats, landed at Pilelo Island meeting resistance from Japanese troops secluded in caves. Troop B destroyed one with a bazooka and another with a flamethrower – the first use of this weapon in the Southwest Pacific. With the Arawe Peninsula secured, they later linked up with the 1st Marine Division and the 112th was assigned to the 32nd Infantry Division in Aitape, New Guinea. The regiment fought in close combat defending the Driniumor River line during the Battle of Driniumor River, also known as the Battle of Aitape, for 51 days taking 62% casualties.”

On Oct. 1, 1944, the 112th Cavalry was combined with the 114th Field Artillery Battalion and became the 112th Regimental Combat Team (RCT). The 112th RCT departed Aitape, New Guinea for Leyte in the Philippines Oct. 31, 1944, arriving Nov. 14. They became attached to the 1st Cavalry Division for the Battle of Leyte. The 112th was operating in the mountains between Ormoc and Leyte Valleys assisting the rest of the 1st Cavalry Division in a drive to the southwest toward Highway 2. Patrolling the Mt. Minor area, the 112th received orders to move southwest from Mt. Minor toward the highway, where they met a strongly entrenched Japanese force. On Nov. 25, 1944, Pvt. Ottershaw was killed in action on Mt. Minor at the age of 21 years. He is buried near his brother Emery St. John at Fort Snelling, Minn.

Emery Eugene St. John

PFC, Rifle Co. B, 345th Infantry Regiment., 87th Infantry Division, U.S. Army.

Emery St. John stated that he was born Oct. 17, 1917, at Roy Lake, the son of David and Josephine (Durant) St. John. In Oct. 1940, he was living in rural Lengby. Emery enlisted in the Army Jan. 14, 1942. After basic, he was eventually assigned to Rifle Co. B, 345th Inf. Reg't., 87th Inf. Div. Because of their unit symbol of a gold acorn with the slogan of “Stalwart and Strong,” the 87th became famously known as the Golden Acorn Division. Historically an acorn symbolizes strength and before the war in Europe was done, the Germans came to realize this symbol was more than justified and that the Golden Acorn's slogan was more than accurate.

Embarking from New York, the 87th set sail for England. Upon landing in Le Havre, France in the first few



Dean Ottershaw

days of December, the 87th almost immediately went into action. Dec. 8, 1944, near Metz they captured Fort Driant which was surrendered to the 345th Reg't. As the 87th pushed towards Germany, they captured numerous towns before being thrust into the German offensive in the Ardennes Forest - the Battle of the Bulge. The 345th assisted in taking Amberloup, Bonnerue, G rimont, Jenneville, Pirompre, Remagne, Moircy, Vesqueville, Saint-Hubert and Tillet. During the fighting near Bonnerue, Belgium on Jan. 9th, Emery rescued a comrade under heavy enemy fire. Because of his quick and selfless act, he was posthumously awarded the Silver Star Medal for his valor and heroism:

RESTRICTED

General Orders) Number....259)
Headquarters 87th Infantry Division
APO 448, Fort Benning, Ga.
15 September 1945

I. AWARD OF SILVER STAR MEDAL (POSTHUMOUSLY). Pursuant to authority contained in AR 600-45, dated 22 September 1943, as amended, a Silver Star Medal is awarded (posthumously) to the following Officers and Enlisted Men:

Emery E. St. John, 37098060, Private First Class, Company B, 345th Infantry Regiment, for gallantry in action against an armed enemy of the United States near Bonnerue, Belgium, on 9 January 1945. When a comrade was struck by machine gun fire, Private First Class St. John unhesitatingly crawled forward in the face of this heavy fire to the wounded man. Clutching his comrade by the cartridge belt, Private First Class St. John pulled him from the area of enemy observation and fire. Private First Class St. John's prompt and positive action undoubtedly saved the wounded man's life and reflects most creditably upon himself and his training as a soldier. Entered military service from Minnesota.

On Feb. 6, 1945, the 345th Inf. breached the Siegfried Line, beginning the Division's campaign in the Rhineland and the Allied push across Germany. Emery was killed in action in this advance at the age of 27 years on Feb. 28, 1945, just south of Ormont at Neuenstein, Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany. He is buried near his brother Dean Ottershaw at Fort Snelling, Minn.

Forgotten Warriors

One young man from White Earth enlisted in the Army during World War II, qualified as a paratrooper and went on to volunteer for the most hazardous, secretive, and elite outfits the U.S. Army had ever had - the legendary Alamo Scouts. This young man was Francis Henry LaQuier.



Francis H. LaQuier

Francis H. LaQuier grew up in White Earth and before going into the Army was employed by Harry and Grace Hull in White Earth. On Jan. 15, 1942, he enlisted in the U.S. Army, completed jump school at Ft. Bragg, N.C., and became a paratrooper. Though not big in stature, 5'8" and weighing 138 pounds, Francis made up his mind to become one of the U.S. 6th Army's Alamo Scouts. Their mission would be to infiltrate enemy lines, conduct raider and reconnaissance work throughout the islands, beaches, and jungles of the Southwest Pacific and report back - all without being detected.

The men had to be in extremely good mental and physical condition with 20/20 vision. Their intensive six-week training course included survival, navigation, communications, intelligence collection, scouting and patrolling, hand to hand combat, survival skills in jungle environments, etc. More than 40% of the candidates were eliminated within the first couple of weeks.

The Star Tribune reported that they learned to eat grubs and snails, find precious water from vines, the secrets of jungle camouflage, and learned to dive into the surf while machine gunners sprayed the water with live ammunition.

Much of the training was conducted in enemy held territory.

Francis successfully completed the course and upon graduating was selected to the Rounsaville Team led by 1st Lt. Tom J. Rounsaville. Rounsaville Team member, Franklin B. Fox said, "the main thing was getting in and getting information...without being detected...We didn't realize how scary it was going to be... Once you have to get off of a submarine or PT boat and swim to enemy shore, to unknown territory, that's when you start getting scared. Your heart's right up in your throat."

According to Fox, their first mission was on the island of Java and was unauthorized. The Japanese imprisoned the local natives there for forced labor, using the young girls and killed the male babies. "It made us so mad. So we decided on our own and made a raid on them [and] got 66 prisoners out...That was our first mission, and we got reprimanded quite severely for doing this on our own without [authorization from] the 6th Army."

The mission the Alamo Scouts are best known for was the raid on the Japanese controlled POW camp in central Luzon, Philippines - the Cabanatuan Prison Camp. At least 4 books have been published about this mission. Thousands of American POWs had been housed there with many dying from being executed, tortured, from disease and starvation. Rounsaville's and another team volunteered and infiltrated 33 miles through enemy territory to gather intelligence. With too many Japanese for them to handle, one man backtracked and got 100 6th Army Rangers. With the combined effort of these two Alamo Scout teams and the Rangers, the raid was a success and more than 500 prisoners, mostly American survivors of the Bataan death march, were liberated.

The missions performed by the Alamo Scouts were classified Top Secret and most remained so until the 1980s with the most recent declassification occurring in 1993. Kirk Hovious wrote in The Forgotten Men of Cabanatuan "Everything about [the Alamo Scouts] was forgettable. Their mission[s] were cloaked in secrecy. Their uniforms were stripped of rank and identification." Laurie Harrington wrote in her 2001 Mature Times article, Remembering the Alamo, "This secret group of men who went on do-or-die missions were largely forgotten and returned home to no fanfare or parades."

Alamo Scout historian and author, Lance Q. Zedric, wrote that compared with the "modern Navy SEALs, Army Green Berets, Marine Force Recon, and Air Force Special Operations Forces, the 6th Army's Alamo Scouts have the best record of any unit in the history of the United States military - 108 known missions without losing a single man - killed or captured."

Sgt. Francis Henry LaQuier's wartime awards include the Silver Star Medal, the Bronze Star Medal w/ one bronze oak leaf cluster, Presidential Unit Citation, Combat Infantry Badge, and the Special Forces tab among others. It's unsure of where, but Francis died Sept. 15, 1982, and is buried in Port Hudson National Cemetery, La. Francis was born Nov. 1, 1921, in White Earth, the son of Francis Aloysius "Frank" and Lila (Caswell) LaQuier. He was a second cousin of 2nd Lt. Francis W. "Bud" LeQuier of the Army Air Forces who was killed in a night training exercise in 1944. Their fathers, Francis Aloysius LaQuier and Francis William LeQuier, were first cousins.

Many families had multiple children serving in combat - in some cases all of their children

The family that seems to have had the most children serving in combat at the same time were **Ernest and Carrie Brown** who lived far back in the brush in the McCraney Lake area. Six of their sons were serving overseas in World War II leaving only their two youngest boys home. However only few years later, those two served during the Korean War. Of the eight, all but one made it home, their son Sgt. Eddie Brown was Killed in Action in Italy.

- George Brown, Sgt., Army, WWII
- Lloyd Brown, PFC, Army, WWII
- Eddie H. Brown, Sgt., Army, WWII
- Herman W. Brown, PFC, Army, WWII

- Samuel J. Brown, Pvt., Army, WWII
- Daniel S. Brown, Pvt., Army, WWII
- John S. Brown, PFC, Army, Korea
- Ernest L. Brown, Pvt., Army, Korea

Fred and Amelia Belland had three of their sons in the Army serving in combat in World War II:

- Bob Belland was Killed in Action at Anzio Beachhead, Italy
- George Belland was wounded in action but made it home
- William Belland was a Prisoner of War in Germany in Stalag 7A

Jim and Maggie St. Clair also had three children serving in World War II - two sons and their daughter:

- Wayne P. "Buster" Parker, PFC, U.S. Army
- Aloysius Valerion "Kip" St. Clair, Sgt., U.S. Army
- Cecilia O. "Ceety" St. Clair, TEC 5, U.S. Army

William and Charlotte Bellanger had four of their sons serving during the Korean War.



Courtesy of the Detroit Lakes Record

Four Bellanger brothers served during the Korean War. From left are Lowell, Donovan, Darwin 'Chico' and Benard.

Other remembrances of those who served in wars

"13 White Earth Chippewas leaving for the Army in World War"

Both the Detroit Lakes Record and Detroit Lakes Tribune printed the photo below on March 20, 1941. The names of these men were out of order, so they were misidentified. Below are their names in the correct order. [No record has been located proving the service information of Lawrence Parker]. All but one of these men made it home from the War - Hubert "Red" Williams was Killed in Action in the Battle of the Bulge.



Courtesy of the Detroit Lakes Record

Standing from left are Robert "Waub" Jackson, Hubert "Red" Williams, Lawrence "Butts" Parker, George "Mic" McDonald, Lloyd "Rev." Brown, Paul "Toady" Bellcourt, Mitch Vizenor, and Raymond "Neige" Clark. Kneeling from left are Alvin Brunette, Earl J. "Skip" Brunette, Virgil Drake, Vernon Brunette, Eugene "Gene" Clark, Howard "Mouse" Anywaush, and Benjamin "Bennie" Bellanger.

Remembering our Servicewomen

And we will never forget the Servicewomen who served so bravely and answered the call when our country needed them. These photographs were located after last fall's article.



Joyce Beaulieu,
PFC, USMC, WWII

Ethel Bellefeuille,
Lt., Nurses Corps,
U.S. Army, WWII

Georgiana 'Bunny'
Brisbois, HN, U.S.
Navy, Korea

See Veterans Page 30



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White Earth Food Shelf June 2025 Delivery Schedule				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3	4	5	6
NTW	Callaway	Rice Lake	NTW	Cleaning, Inventory
Walk in's	10am-noon	10am-noon	Walk in's	CLOSED
Stocking Shelves	Nijiji Radio	ENP Site	Stocking Shelves	
9am-2pm	NTW CLOSED	NTW CLOSED	9am-2pm	CLOSED
9	10	11	12	13
NTW	Elbow Lake	Pine Point	Closed	CLOSED
Walk in's	10am-noon	10am-noon	Parade	CLOSED
Stocking Shelves	ENP Site	ENP Site	No pick up's	POW WOW
9am-2pm	NTW CLOSED	NTW CLOSED	Closed	CLOSED
16	17	18	19	20
NTW	White Earth	Ogema	NTW	Cleaning, Inventory
Walk in's	10am-noon	10am-noon	Junetenth	CLOSED
Stocking Shelves	ENP Site	Dream Catcher Homes	CLOSED	
9am-2pm	NTW CLOSED	NTW CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
23	24	25	26	27
NTW	Waubun	Mahnomen	NTW	Cleaning, Inventory
Walk in's	10am-noon	10am-noon	Walk in's	CLOSED
Stocking Shelves	Community Center	Vet's Building	Stocking Shelves	
9am-2pm	NTW CLOSED	NTW CLOSED	9am-2pm	CLOSED
30				
Walk in's				
Stocking Shelves				
9am-2pm				
applications are available at Community Centers, ENP Sites and Naytahwaush Sports Complex				
Hours are subject to change due to weather and closure's for Holiday's				
Walk in's are Monday's and Thursday's only at the Nay tah waush Sports Complex from 9am-2pm				
please feel free to contact the White Earth Food Shelf at 218-935-6313 or 218-935-6314				
please call ahead of time if picking up so that we have enough food for everyone thanks				



3rd Annual NAAME GIIZIS STURGEON MOON



SAVE THE DATE

White Earth Community Council Pow Wow

JULY 25, 26 & 27, 2025

White Earth, MN



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FOR MORE INFO:

 WHITE EARTH NATION
www.whiteearth.com

Dr. Bellware retires from IHS, Public Health Service

CAPT David Bellware, a senior officer in the United States Public Health Service, retired from Active Duty on June 1 with over 41 years of Federal Service.


Dr. Bellware began Federal Service by enlisting in the Ohio Army National Guard as a Combat Medic while still in high school. Prior to completing his Bachelor of Science Degree at Bowling Green State University, he completed Army Flight Training and he served in the Ohio and Arkansas Army National Guard as a Warrant Officer Attack Helicopter Pilot and Maintenance Test Pilot.

In 1996, after completing optometry school at the Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, Tenn.; Dr. Bellware was called to active duty as a Commissioned Officer in the United States Public Health Service.

During his nearly 29 years in the United States Public Health Service, he has achieved the rank of Captain (O-6) through his service in the Indian Health Service as: The Chief of Optometry, the Acting Clinical Director, and the Acting CEO of the White Earth Health Center.

He has also served as the Bemidji Area Chief Optometry Consultant, and he has assisted in the training of 80 Optometrists as an Adjunct Faculty Member or Preceptor with 14 different Optometry Colleges in North America.

In retirement, he plans to complete various on-going projects, visit family, remain active in the “outdoors” with conservation and invasive species eradication, and continue to utilize his acquired skills and training to help out wherever his journey leads.







Sue Trnka
WEII Community
Services Coordinator
218-844-7029



Jodi Lunde
WEII Community
Services Coordinator
218-844-7057

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The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission designated CenturyLink as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier within its service area for universal service purposes. CenturyLink's basic local service rates for residential voice lines are \$16.32-\$33.50 per month and business services are \$34.61-\$60.89 per month. Specific rates will be provided upon request.

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

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

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



MAHNOMEN COUNTY FAIR

June 26th-28th, 2025

Thursday June 26

4-H Day at the Fair

9am Livestock Entry
9am 4-H General Project Judging & Livestock interviews
Noon-7pm 4-H Food Stand Open
1pm Poultry/Rabbit Judging
2pm Horse show
2:30pm FARMily Feud Game Show
6PM: GRANDSTAND: BAJA RACING

Friday June 27

Noon – 7 pm 4-H Food Stand
10am Livestock Judging
Noon-Comedy Magic Show
12:45 Amazing Aerial Stunts
1pm-9pm Games Galore Inflatables
1pm Free Stage Music
2pm Lvstk Premium Auction
3pm Survivor Game Show
3:45pm Amazing Aerial Stunts
5pm FARMily Feud Game Show
5:30pm Amazing Aerial Stunts
4pm Free Stage Music
6PM GRANDSTAND: WOJO'S RODEO

Saturday June 28

7:30-10:30am Breakfast at the fair
Noon-7 pm 4-H Food Stand
Noon-Amazing Aerial Stunts
12:45pm Survivor Game Show
1PM GRANDSTAND: DEMO DERBY
1pm-9pm Games Galore Inflatables
1pm Free Stage Music
3pm Amazing Aerial Stunts
3:45pm Comedy Magic Show
4pm Free Stage Music
5pm Amazing Aerial Stunts
5:30pm FARMily Feud Game Show
6PM: GRANDSTAND: WOJO'S RODEO

* Garden Valley Gaming Trailer Daily

*UMC Crest Mobile Lab

*Food Vendors

*Malt Wagon

*Booths & Vendor Exhibits

*Kid's Car Safety

And more to come!



Visit our [Webpage-mahnomenmncountyfair.org](http://webpage-mahnomenmncountyfair.org) for more details or check us out on Facebook- Mahnomen County Fair!



WHITE EARTH
Community Farmer's Market
Growing Healthy Families & Communities

Thursdays from 3-6 pm

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

Thursdays, 3-6 PM

Begins June 5th through October 2nd (weather permitting)
South Main Street, Mahanomen, MN

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

Come join the fun!

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

LOOKING FOR VENDORS!

If you would like to be a vendor or have questions regarding the market, please contact:

MARKET MANAGER Eva Brakefield 218-983-3286 Ext. 1249 eva.brakefield@whiteearth-nsn.gov	or	CO-MARKET MANAGER Maria Fatz 218-935-6417 maria.fatz@wetcc.edu
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The market is a collaboration between the White Earth Nation Tribal Public Health, the City of Mahanomen, and the White Earth Tribal and Community College Extension Service.

Protecting Our Youth from Vaping: Honoring Traditions and Promoting Health

Tobacco Coalition & White Earth Nation-Tribal Public Health

As parents, caregivers, and relatives we honor the traditions of our Anishinaabeg culture, including the use of Asema (traditional tobacco). Asema is a powerful medicine used in spiritual ways and passed down through generations. But modern vaping products—like e-cigarettes, nicotine pouches, and marijuana vapes—are not the same. These products are created to deliver high levels of addictive substances and are marketed to young people using fun flavors, cool packaging, and messages that make vaping seem harmless. This puts our children at risk.

What is Vaping?

Vaping is more common than we realize because vape products are small and easy to hide. Vaping means inhaling vapor from electronic devices like e-cigarettes or vape pens. These vapors often include:

- **Nicotine:** A highly addictive chemical found in cigarettes.
- **Sweet or fruity flavors:** Designed to attract young people.
- **Harmful chemicals:** Such as formaldehyde (used in embalming fluid), acrolein (damages lungs), and metals like lead and nickel.

Why is Vaping Dangerous?

Vaping harms young people's growing brains and lungs. Many Native youth are starting to vape, and the numbers are concerning:

- In 2024, 8.1% of all students (2.25 million) reported using tobacco or vape products (National Youth Tobacco Survey).
- About 16% of Native American middle and high school students use e-cigarettes.
- In Minnesota, 32.2% of high school students and 12% of middle school students have tried commercial tobacco products.

Vaping marijuana is also a problem. Marijuana vapes contain THC, a chemical that can cause anxiety, depression, and even seizures.

It's important to know the facts:

Myth: Vaping is safe and is a safe alternative to smoking cigarettes

Fact: Vaping can damage lungs and brains and is highly addictive.

Myth: Nicotine pouches are safe because they don't contain tobacco.

Fact: Nicotine pouches still deliver high levels of addictive nicotine.

Myth: Vaping is just a phase.

Fact: Many young people who vape develop long-term addiction and health issues.

Signs Your Child Might Be Vaping

- Finding vape devices (they can look like pens or USB drives).
- Coughing or breathing problems.
- Changes in friendships or increased secrecy.
- Spending more time alone.
- Sweet, fruity, or minty scents on clothes, in their room, backpack, or car.
- Grades are dropping in school.
- Quitting activities and loss of interest in things your child used to enjoy.



How to Help If You're Concerned

If you think your child is vaping, here's what you can do:

- **Talk with them:** Stay calm and ask questions. Listen to their thoughts and avoid punishing them right away.
- **Learn more:** Research vaping products and how they are marketed to kids.
- **Seek support:** Reach out to school counselors, healthcare providers, or cultural or spiritual advisors.

Use resources:

- Visit *Keep It Sacred* at keepitsacred.itcmi.org to learn about traditional versus commercial tobacco.
- Teens can visit *Room to Breathe* at <https://a roomtobreathe.org/> to learn about vaping and mental health.
- Call or text 1-833-HEY-NORM or visit hey norm.org for more help and information.
- Visit *My Life, My Quit* at <https://mylifemyquit.org/en-US>

White Earth Delegate Announcement

A Run-Off Election for a White Earth Reservation Constitution Reform At-Large Delegate will be held on Saturday, June 14th during the 2025 White Earth Powwow. **MCT Tribal ID is required to vote.**

Candidates:

- Pam Aspinwall
- Chris Vanwert Jr.

Election Date/Time/Location:

- **Date:** SATURDAY, JUNE 14TH, 2025
- **Time:** 2:00-5:00 PM
- **Voting Location:** White Earth Powwow GROUNDS (table will be set up).

MUST SHOW A MCT TRIBAL ID TO VOTE

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White Earth Nation Urban Office Monthly Newsletter

Scan the QR code with your smart phone to see our June newsletter





Photos by Gary W. Padrta

Four seniors from the Circle of Life Academy graduated May 22. From left are Devlin Fineday, Nathan Richey, David Hoagland III, and Keagon Goodman.

Circle of Life Academy Class of 2025

May 22, Circle of Life Academy Gym

Graduates

Devlin R. Fineday
Keagon M. Goodman
David E. Hoagland III
Nathan W. Richey

Master of Ceremonies

Mike Bunker

Opening Ceremony and
Honor Song

COLA Singers

Welcome / Opening Remarks

Seth Houglum
Vince Olson

Presentation of Graduates

Seth Houglum

Individual Ceremony

- Introduction Speech
- Family Members Speak on Their

Graduate's Path of Education

- Maanaaji'wem Ingiw gaa
Kanawenimigooyaang
(Honoring Those That Helped Us)
- Diploma and Feather

Arvig Memorial Scholarship

Awarded to David Hoagland III

Parting Blessing

Vince Olson

Honor and Traveling Song

COLA Singers

Class Motto

"Your future is created by what
you do today, not tomorrow."

Class Colors

Blue and Black

Class Flower

Daffodils

White Earth Urban Powwow



Submitted photo

The 2nd Annual White Earth Urban Community Council Pow Wow was held May 17 at the Minneapolis American Indian Center.

Painting over graffiti on Rice Lake bridge



District 1 Representative Henry Fox stepped up when he received complaints about the graffiti on the bridge in Rice Lake.

Upper Left: Helping out with painting over the graffiti are Travis Fox, left, and Destin Goodwin.

Upper Right: Fox gives a helping hand to River Armstrong.

Left: Darnell Warren, left, and Richard Armstrong take time out from painting to have their picture taken.

Photos by Mikel Fox

White Earth Public Transit breaks ground for new building in Waubun



Photo by Sage Thompson

The White Earth Tribal Council, staff and invited guests broke ground for a new Transit building on Friday, May 30. This building, located across from the Waubun High School along Pleasant Ave/Hwy 113, will house a bus wash bay, mechanic bays, bus storage, indoor transfer and passenger waiting area, administrative offices and dispatch center. White Earth Transit would like to extend a huge thank you to all who have supported this project and made this possible from the City of Waubun, White Earth Reservation Business Committee, White Earth Land Office, Federal Transit Administration, Minnesota Department of Transportation, White Earth Builders, White Earth Public Works and staff, White Earth Finance Department, EAPC, KLJ, and other various contractors, Rob Tibbetts and the drum group. White Earth Public Transit looks forward to serving the people of White Earth and surrounding areas with your transportation needs. The building is expected to be completed in early or late fall of 2026.



Photos by Gary W. Padrta

WETCC Graduates

Back row from left are President, Anna Sheppard, Asondra Weaver, Brittney Bellanger, Leah Jackson, Sandra Lindstrom, Haley McGregor, Lauri Zupan, Joy Tasmia, Frankie Papasodora-Clark, and Raeanna Connor. Front row from left are Loretta Hoagland, Precious Hoagland, Mykee Brown, Isabel Wilde, Tiana Roy, Sierra Stillday, Devin Donovan-Larson, and Madelynn Fain.



ABE/GED Graduates

Front row from left are Hunter Boudreau, Nakota Christianson, and Chard Burnette. Back row from left are Alexandra Nessman, Annisa Jones, and Candace Watson. Not pictured are Heather Burnette, Niklaus Hanks, Brooke St. Clair, and Blake Zephier.

White Earth Tribal & Community College
Class of 2025 Commencement Ceremony

May 15 - White Earth Tribal and Community College Drum Hall

A.A Degree -

Humanities, Arts, and Social Science

Brittney Bellanger / Mykee Brown
Raeanna Connor / Devin Donovan-Larson
Gwenyth Fain * / Madelynn Fain *
Loretta Hoagland * / Precious Hoagland
Leah Jackson * / Haley McGregor *
Frankie Papasodora-Clark / Tiana Roy
Sierra Stillday * / Joy Tasmia
Asondra Weaver * / Isabel Wilde *
Lauri Zupan *

Certificate Recipients

Brittney Bellanger - Office Administration
Glen Bunker - Office Administration
Raeanna Connor * - Ojibwe Language
Nicole Goodwin - Office Administration
Precious Hoagland - Office Administration
Sandra Lindstrom - Ojibwe Language
Lauri Zupan * - Office Administration

* Graduate with Highest Honors 3.5 and above

White Earth

Adult Basic Education Graduates

Hunter Boudreau, Chad Burnette, Heather Burnette, Nakota Christianson, Niklaus Hanks, Annisa Jones, Alexandra Nessman, Brooke St. Clair, Candace Watson, Blake Zephier

Ceremony Program

Opening Song - Maanomin Singers

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

Flag Song - Maanomin Singers

Opening Prayer

Naabek Liberty - Ojibwe Language Faculty

Welcome - Dr. Laura Driscoll / Provost

Opening Remarks

Anna Sheppard - WETCC President

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Katherine "Kat" Campbell

AICF Student of the Year

Raeanna Connor

WETCC Student Senate President

Deidra Berg

Presentation of Degrees

Anna Sheppard

Presentation of Diplomas

Melissa Widner - ABE Program Director

Conferring of Degrees

Dr. Allen Derks - Science Faculty

Honor Song, Closing Remarks

Traveling Song





Photo by Richard Hanks

District 1 Representative Henry Fox assists with the Ceremonial Jump Ball to kick off action during the 2nd Annual Spring Fever Basketball Tournament in Mahnomen.

Teams compete in Spring Fever Basketball Tournament

By Richard Hanks

MAHNOMEN — The 2nd Annual Spring Fever Basketball Tournament brought high-energy competition and regional pride to Mahnomen High School on May 3–4, with 19 Men’s teams participating from across four states. Unfortunately, this year there wasn’t enough women’s teams to hold a tournament, but we hope to bring them back next year!

Organized into two divisions — Commercial (11 teams) and Recreational (8 teams) — the tournament featured players of varying experience levels. The Commercial Division included athletes with college basketball experience within the last 10 years, while the Recreational Division welcomed players with no recent or past college-level play.

Teams hailed from across Minnesota, North

Dakota, Wisconsin, and Arizona, representing communities including Mahnomen, Waubun, Fertile, Willmar, Ada, Lancaster, Cloquet, Bemidji, Cass Lake, Clearbrook, Fargo, Devils Lake, Hillsboro, and Bayfield.

Tribes represented include our very own White Earth Nation, as well as Leech Lake, Red Lake, Fond du Lac, Red Cliff, Navajo, Bad River, Standing Rock, and Turtle Mountain.

The event highlighted both competitive spirit and community connection, continuing to grow as a spring sports tradition in the region. This was a great opportunity for community members to support some of their local “legends” and former fan-favorites as well as see some high-level basketball as both division Championship games went to overtime.



Photo Riley Hanson

Recreational Division Champions – “Garter Snakes”: From left are Casey Carlson, Travis Dow, Aaron Norland, Zach Theis, Riley Hanson, and Richard Hanks. Not pictured: Mark Bagaason and Dave Ramsey.

Celebrating five generations



Submitted photo

The John B. Buckanaga family recently gathered to celebrate five generations. Bottom row from left are Nita Fetzer and Donna Buckanaga. Back row from left are Tate McAllan, Oliver McAllan, and Heather McAllan. John was a former Chairman of the White Earth Nation.

Mike Bunker retires from COLA



Photo by Gary W. Padrta

A retirement ceremony was held for Mike Bunker on May 21 at the Circle of Life Academy. Mike started teaching at the old Circle of Life School in 1988. After 37 years in the classroom as a teacher or as Dean of Students, his last official duty was Master of Ceremonies at the COLA senior graduation on May 22. In addition to teaching full time, he was a Mahnomen County Deputy, an EMT for the Mahnomen Ambulance, and was a certified rescue diver for Becker County.

Obituaries

Charles Michael Ketchmark

Charles Michael Ketchmark, 72, of Inver Grove Heights, Minn., died March 23 at Regions Hospital in St. Paul, Minn. Known as Charlies, Chuck, or Chuckie to family and friends, he was born on Oct. 6, 1952, in St. Paul. He joined the Ketchmark family at a few days old and was adopted by Frank and Catherine Ketchmark and family.



He grew up in St. Paul, attended St. Matthew’s grade school and Humboldt High School. He went on to school and received his welding certificate. He worked as an excellent welder for many years until his respiratory health declined and he could no longer weld.

In 2012, he moved to White Earth and lived in Congregate Housing. Chuck immersed himself in his Native American culture and made many friends who became mentors and guides for him. Due to an increase in his medical problems, he moved to Inver Glen Senior Living in Inver Grove Heights, where he was closer to family. He received excellent care from the staff there.

Charles was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Ted; brother-in-law Jack; and sister-in-law, Carolyn.

He is survived by his daughters: Krista, Katie, and Jennifer; two grandchildren; siblings: John, Fran (Doug) Steen, Mary Deeth, Helen (Gary) Sigmeth, Karen (Pat) Kachel, and Diane (Rick) Bruecker.

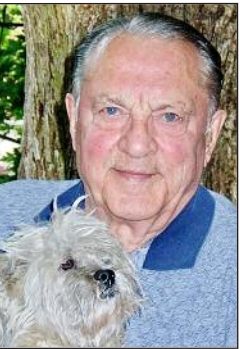
Services will be held June 18 at St. Benedict Catholic Church in White Earth with visitation at 10 a.m., and a Funeral Mass at 11 a.m. A luncheon will be served at the Congregate Housing community room following the services.

Interment: Calvary Cemetery in White Earth.

Neon Bruno Houdek

Neon Bruno Houdek, of St. Louis Park, Minn., passed away on April 25 at the age of 98. He was born on Aug. 17, 1926 in Veselyville, N.D. He grew up in that area, moving with his family to other nearby towns during his youth.

He attended high school through the 12 grade, but joined the service before graduating.



He served in the Navy during World War II. After being honorably discharged, he returned to Minnesota. He married his sweetheart, Lorraine (Fussy) Walz, in December 1946.

He worked as skilled carpenter for most of his working life, from new construction, to remodeling high end homes with an architecture firm. He did other smaller remodeling as well, for his own home and many others.

He was also clever and innovative problem solver. We all started him calling “MacGyver” for all the solutions he would have to fix the problem. One of his “MacGyver” projects was how to keep mom’s ring after she passed. His clever and loving solution was to cut a section off of both his ring and “Fussy’s” and rivet them together. He wore this ring until he went on to join her.

Dad and mom were actively involved in many activities while raising the family. The family visited close relatives so often in northern Minnesota, we started designating the families as the “City Houdeks” and the “Country Houdeks.” Many activities and holidays were shared this way, piling the kids in the car and driving up to the Mahnomen area or driving down to “the Cities.”

After retiring he and his wife, traveled with other family members across much of the U.S. He enjoyed hunting, spending many falls hunting pheasant, duck and deer in Minnesota and hunting deer, elk and antelope in the open spaces of Montana. He enjoyed the many family gatherings, usually including cards and a beer or two.

He is preceded in death by his beloved wife, Lorraine, aka “Fussy;” and his daughter, Kay Marie.

He is survived by his children: daughter, Gale, son, Roderick (Linda Larson), daughter, Karen (Jim, aka “Bo”), daughter, Theresa, aka, “Bambi” (Duane, aka “Dewey”), daughter, Nancy; brother, Al Houdek; sister, Irene Couch; and many nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

The family would like to thank Brenda and Mike Murtha, next door neighbors, for the many years they helped Neon with yard work, snow shoveling, checking on him daily to be sure he was “ok” living alone ,and keeping his kids appraised if something was not quite right. To his caretaker, Steve (Synergy Home Care) for all the help and companionship. To his nurse, Kim (Senior Home Health Care), in the past few years. For the skilled and compassionate care he received through Park Nicollet Hospice in his final days, at Covenant Living in Golden Valley, Minn.

Family and friends living in northern Minnesota are invited to a memorial service on Aug. 2 at St. Michael’s Catholic Church in Mahnomen. A Mass will be said at 10 a.m. with a lunch immediately following in the church hall (downstairs).

A private family interment will follow at St. Michael’s Cemetary.

Marilyn Rose Ericson

Marilyn Ericson, 79, of Detroit Lakes, Minn., passed away on April 21 at Essentia Health in Fargo, N.D.

Marilyn Rose Greene was born on July 26, 1945, in White Earth to Charles and Dorothy (Jackson) Greene. As the eldest of 10 siblings, Marilyn naturally took on a nurturing role from an early age, a trait she carried with her throughout her life. Marilyn began her education at White Earth Elementary School before her family relocated to Detroit Lakes, where she graduated from high school in 1963.



After graduation, Marilyn moved to Minneapolis to pursue cosmetology and became a licensed stylist. She returned to Detroit Lakes and opened her own salon which she proudly ran for many years. She continued to further her education in cosmetology attending the Wadena technical school in Minnesota.

Over the years, Marilyn held various jobs—including working on harvesting wild rice, dealing blackjack at the casino, and even painting and housekeeping during her time in Las Vegas. In the late 90s, Marilyn and her loved ones returned to the Detroit Lakes where she spent the last two decades surrounded by family, creating cherished memories.

Marilyn had a deep love for the outdoors. She found peace and joy in tending her lush gardens, canning produce, and harvesting wild rice. She especially loved sitting around a bonfire with her family, sharing stories and laughter. A wonderful cook, her homemade wild rice hotdish was a family favorite, and she took pride in preparing meals for deer hunting season, using freshly harvested meats. She was a proud and devoted Minnesota Vikings fan, an animal lover, and enjoyed playing solitaire. Marilyn was also deeply proud of her Native American heritage and remained connected to her culture by attending the White Earth pow wow and celebrating native tradition with family.

Above all, Marilyn was the heart of her family. Her door was always open, and her home was a place of comfort, care, and love. She had a gift for making others feel welcomed and cherished, and her legacy lives on in the many lives she touched.

Marilyn is survived by her children: Jason (Stacey) Ericson, Robin Ericson and Jon-Henry (Silvia) Ericson; grandchildren: Leslie, Chelsie, Jason, Nikolas, Lyanna, and Kayla; great-grandchildren: Oliver, Henry, and Ivy-Lynn; brother, David Greene; sisters, Linda (Barry) Hjelsand and Wanda Greene; and many nieces, nephews, and extended family.

Marilyn was preceded in death by her parents; siblings: Deborah Greene, John Greene, Anthony Greene, Lillian Greene, Gary Greene, and Pamela Bellcourt; and other beloved family members.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, June 6 at 2 p.m., with a visitation starting one hour before, at Saint Columba Episcopal Church in White Earth.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Employees get healthy at HOWAH event



Photo by Jackie Haugo

The HOWAH event (RBC employee wellness) was recently held at the RBC headquarters and 230 RBC employees attended. Jan Syverson was the guest speaker who shared his/her sense of humor and experiences growing up on the rez. Employees got to check their weight and have Public Health nurses perform healthcare checks. Numerous door prizes were drawn, and employees were asked to take a selfie at the HOWAH photo booth to be entered in a prize drawing. Ellisa Morson and Paulie Neisen (above) were given exercise equipment for submitting their selfies.

Obituaries

Anthony Marqus Montoya

Waase Binesi (Glowing Thunderbird), Anthony Montoya, 25, of West Fargo, N.D., formerly of Mahnomen, passed away unexpectedly at his home on May 3. Though his time with us was far too short, Anthony filled every moment with kindness, laughter, and a deep love for life.

Born on Dec. 28, 1999, in Bagley, Minn., Anthony Marqus was the beloved son of Jiichiibikamigookwe, Indosa (Harder) and Hector Montoya. Anthony’s early years were spent in California, where his father served in the military. Even as a young child, Anthony’s energetic spirit and zest for life were apparent. He immersed himself in youth sports, particularly football and basketball.



In 2011, Anthony and his family returned to Minnesota, settling in Mahnomen. There, he continued to grow into the vibrant and compassionate young man his loved ones knew and cherished. He graduated with the Mahnomen High School Class of 2018 and later attended White Earth Tribal and Community College. Anthony was a bright, tech-savvy individual with a deep love for gaming and electronics. He also had a taste for thrills and fun, finding joy in amusement parks, roller coasters, and bowling nights. A fan of underground music, he often found solace and connection in the music of his favorite artist, Juice WRLD.

Anthony’s heart was truly his greatest gift. He was known for his ever-present smile and his unwavering kindness. He was especially patient with children and had a close bond with his younger siblings and cousins. Whether offering a helping hand or making someone laugh, Anthony gave his love freely and without hesitation. His joyful presence made a lasting impact on everyone lucky enough to know him.

Anthony is survived by his father, Hector Montoya and mother, Indosa Montoya of White Earth; siblings: Hector Montoya Jr., Alyssa Montoya, Charlie Montoya, and Alexander Montoya; grandparents: Judy Harder, Tamara Cloud, and Donald Melina; great grandmother, Jean Harder; aunts and uncles: Kimberly Melina, Kristy Melina, Ariel Melina, Phillip Cloud, Christopher Montoya, Aaron Stevens, Erik Stevens, and Anissha (Logan) Cloud-Peters; and many cousins.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandpa, Charlie Montoya.

Traditional Native American services began with an all-night wake on May 7 at the Rice Lake Community Center and continued until the time of the service on May 8, both held at the community center.

Interment: St. Philips Cemetery in Rice Lake.
Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.
www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Marlon Solomon Roberts

Marlon Roberts, 38, of Fargo, N.D., died unexpectedly on May 7.

Marlon Solomon Roberts was born on Nov. 8, 1986, in Detroit Lakes, Minn., to Julie Roberts. Marlon attended school in Detroit Lakes and later went on to get his GED. Over the years, he took various college classes. Marlon’s favorite career was his work with a sheet rocking company in Fargo, a job he held for many years and truly enjoyed.

Known for his vibrant spirit, Marlon was the life of the party and had a unique ability to always make friends. He was a gifted artist with a passion for drawing, and he shared his creativity through both giving and receiving tattoos—each one a story in itself. Marlon also had a sharp sense of humor. Above all else, Marlon cherished time with his family. He especially adored his nieces and nephews, who brought him immense joy. Marlon’s presence was unforgettable, and his absence will be deeply felt by all who knew and loved him.



Marlon is survived by his daughters: Cadence, Olivia, Briley, Meadow, and Emily (Franky); brother, Eldon (Kathi) Bellanger; sisters: Robin (John) Jones, Terra Roberts, Skye (LeRoy) Roberts, and Ambrosia (RonDel) Roberts; uncles: Gerald “Jeep” (Lorraine) Roberts, Lyman “Butch” (Carleen) Roberts, and Raymond “David” (Cheryl) Roberts; aunt, Janelle Johnson; and a grandbaby on the way; and many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Marlon was preceded in death by his mother, Julie; brother, Kevin Roberts; aunt, Sharon Roberts; uncles, Gregory “Moon” Roberts, Gerald Adams, and Mike Chesley; grandparents: Lyman Roberts, Carol Jones, and Thomas Jones; and beloved great-grandmother, Georgiana Adams.

Traditional funeral services were held at the old Pine Point School. Visitation began May 20 and continued until the funeral on May 21
Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.
Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Alfred Louis Adam

Alfred Louis Adam, also known as Bob, was born in White Earth. He grew up in Pine Point near the Froggy Pond area.

He went on to work in the lumber industry; eventually leaving for St. Paul, Minn., going into tech school for welding. He then went on to help build the Mall of America and bridges, but not bridge 35W. Alfred relocated to Jordan, Minn., in 1991 until moving back home to Pine Point in 2020.



He was married to Irene Adam’s for 30 years and welcomed many grandchildren into the world. He was the life of the party always celebrating holidays by cracking open a cold one with family up north. Known as Holiday Bob due to his wedding anniversary, birthday, and Father’s Day all rolling into one weekend. He loved to live life to the fullest playing his favorite music, going on road trips, working on his cars, going to the casino, pow wows, and participating in demolition derby’s which he loved.

He started his journey to the Spirit World on May 3 surrounded by loved ones on a beautiful early morning. He was a kind man loving others and being there for them in their time of need, he will be greatly missed by so many.

Those greeting Alfred in the Spirit World are his parents, John, and Mary Adams; sons, Robert Bonga and Jerry Bellanger; grandson, Steven Bellanger, Rex Robbins Sr., Ronald Butcher; siblings: Sullivan “Red” Adams, Mary Jane “Shega” Butcher, Darlene Robbins, Geneva “Gin” Adams, Rexine Adams, and George Adams.

Those left behind to cherish his memories are his loving wife, Irene Adams; sons, Harvey Bonga and Dion Bellanger; daughters, Rebecca Gotchie and Nicole Bellanger; numerous grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

A one-day wake for Alfred began May 7 with his traditional service starting on May, all at the old Pine Point School. His spiritual advisor was Mike Swan. Those helping to lay him to rest were Humberto Adame, Rex Robbins Jr., Trulo Adams, Dion Bellanger, Harvey Bonga, Keone Adame, Roland Ellis, and Shane Bellanger. Honorary pallbearers are all his family and friends who knew and loved him.

Interment: Episcopal Pine Point Cemetery in Pine Point.
Arrangements: Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker, Minn.
Online: www.northernpeace.com

Donovan David Guinn

Donovan Guinn, 53, of Mahnomen, passed away unexpectedly on May 1 at the Mahnomen Health Center.

Donovan David Guinn was born May 17, 1971, in Bagley, Minn., to Roy and Joyce (Bush) Guinn. He was raised in the Rice Lake area and graduated with the Class of 1989 from Circle of Life School Academy in White Earth. After high school, Donovan began working as a server at Shooting Star Casino. He later pursued his interest in electrical work and earned several certifications as an electrician. Donovan stayed active throughout the seasons by harvesting wild rice and cutting balsam boughs—traditions he looked forward to each year.



Donovan had a playful spirit and loved games of all kinds. He especially enjoyed cribbage and had recently taken up chess. He was a skilled pool player and a natural at tossing cornhole bags. Donovan also enjoyed listening to music. Above all, Donovan was a talented and passionate artist. He created many meaningful drawings that he generously shared with his family and friends,

each one a heartfelt gift.

Known for his quick wit and good-natured humor, Donovan brought smiles and laughter wherever he went. He had a warm presence and made friends easily. His creativity, kindness, and playful personality will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Donovan is survived by his siblings: Darlene (Robin) Baldwin, Denille Thompson, Thomas Guinn, and Dylan Guinn; nieces and nephews: Alana, Louise, Kaitlynn and Taylor Thompson, Phillip Boswell, Helen and Mae Anderson, and Jayzee and Alicia VanPelt; great nieces and nephews, Matthew and Braylyn; aunts: Lucy Knoll, Rose Hooper, and Anita Guinn; and many close friends.

Donovan was preceded in death by his parents; grandparents: Elsie and John Bush, and Alice and Ted Guinn; brother, Roy Guinn Jr.; sister, Maria Guinn; uncles, Donald Bush and Ivan Bush; and great nephew, Reminton Thompson.

A funeral service was held May 9 at Anderson Family Funeral Home in Mahnomen. Donovan’s family would thank everyone for their support at the service and for donating food for the feast afterwards.
Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.
Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Special Events

- Diabetes Bingo**
June 4th: Pine Point
June 11th: Elbow Lake
June 18th: Valley View
- WECOE Meeting:**
June 3rd: Elbow Lake

Elderly Nutrition Program Information

*Daily Menu includes 1% milk, and provides 1/3 of the Recommended Daily Allowance (RDA) set by USDA guidelines, with health conscious and cultural consideration to overall well-being.

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

Guest Meals \$6
Elders Suggested Donation \$4

Questions or comments please contact :

White Earth ENP Site (218) 983-3744
Site Supervisor ~ Jeanie Rogers

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

Pine Point ENP Site (218) 573-2210
Site Controller ~ Zachary Adams

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

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

Danielle Sutherland Uran, Nutrition Coord.
(218) 983-3286 ext. 1266
Danielle.Sutherland@whiteearth-nsn.gov

White Earth Elder Nutrition Program

Gaawaabaabanganikaag Ogikaag Miniwanjige

“White Earth Elder Eating Good”

Ode’imini-giizis (Strawberry Moon) June 2025

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2 Spaghetti w/ meat sauce Cali blend veggies Breadstick Pineapple	3 BBQ chicken Cornbread Potato salad Baked beans Fruit salad	4 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable and/or salad Fruit Bread Milk	5 Meatloaf Wheat bread Baked potato Glazed carrots Grapes	6 Chefs salad French roll Fresh fruit Cookie
9 Baked fish Manoomin pilaf Brussel sprouts Wheat bread Pears	10 Chicken teriyaki Brown rice Sitr fry veggies Egg roll Mangoes	11 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable and/or salad Fruit Bread Milk	12 Sloppy Joe Sweet potato fries Cucumber salad Melon	13 Closed for Treaty Day Bag Lunch
16 Chicken fajitas Peppers and onions Spanish rice Corn/black beans Mandarin oranges	17 Boiled ham dinner Crackers Spinach salad Cake w/ berries	18 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable and/or salad Fruit Bread Milk	19 Closed for Juneteenth	20 Oven fried chicken Mashed potatoes Zucchini Wheat roll Grapes
23 Tuna noodle hotdish Breadstick Mixed veggies Spinach salad Tropical fruit	24 Bratwurst Bun Sauerkraut Roasted potatoes Peaches	25 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable and/or salad Fruit Bread Beverage of choice	26 Elders Picnic 11am-2pm @ Rediscovery Center in White Earth	27 Turkey and Swiss on Croissant bun Lettuce and tomato Manoomin/veg. soup Fresh fruit
30 Chicken/rice hotdish Steamed broccoli Wheat roll Pickled beets Fruit cocktail	27 Sliced ham Au Gratin potatoes Hawaiian roll Green beans Salad Rhubarb crisp	28 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable and/or salad Fruit Bread Beverage of choice	29 Birthday lunch Ribs Mac n cheese Garden salad Birthday treat	30 Liver and onions Boiled potatoes Peas and carrots Manoomin bread Yogurt berry parfait

White Earth Food Distribution June 2025 Store Hours

Mon-Thurs 8:30-3:30

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

June 2025 Home Delivery Schedule (Subject to Change)

Nutrition Education w/Shirley: June 2nd, 9th, 16th and 26th.

June 6th: Bagley, Ponsford & Naytahwaush

June 9th: Biimaadiiziwiin, Mahnomen & Waubun

June 13th: Treaty Day, closed

June 19th: Juneteenth, closed

June 27th: Detroit Lakes & White Earth

June 30th: Store closed for inventory

No Store hours on Fridays

If you receive home delivery service and will not be home on your scheduled route, please notify us ASAP.

White Earth WIC



June 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
WIC follows RBC Schedule for closings	*Locations and times are subject to change*	This institution is an equal opportunity provider.				
1	2 White Earth Tribal Health 8:30-4:00	3 White Earth Tribal Health 8:30-4:00	4 White Earth Tribal Health 8:30-4:00	5 Pine Point Community Building 9:30-3:00	6 White Earth Tribal Health 8:30-4:00	7
8	9 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:30	10 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:30	11 White Earth Tribal Health 8:30-4:00	12 CLOSED	13 CLOSED	14
15	16 White Earth Tribal Health 8:30-4:00	17 Bagley Elementary School 10:00-3:00	18 White Earth Tribal Health 8:30-4:00	19 CLOSED	20 White Earth Tribal Health 8:30-4:00	21
22	23 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:30	24 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:30	25 White Earth Tribal Health 8:30-4:00	26 Naytahwaush Health Center 9:15-3:30	27 White Earth Tribal Health 8:30-4:00	28
29	30 White Earth Tribal Health 8:30-4:00	Please call 218-204-0399 or 218-401-4247 to contact our department.				



SPRING TO SUMMER: A TIME FOR FRESH STARTS AND HEALTHY LIVING

Summer is coming, bringing longer days, warmer weather, and new opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. Many of us feel happier and more energized as the season changes. This is the perfect time to leave winter behind, get outside, and enjoy the sunshine. Activities like walking, gardening, or spending time in nature can lift your mood and keep your body healthy. Consider offering asemaa “tobacco” in thanks for making it through the winter. Celebrate the transition of renewal with fresh starts.

Spring/summer is also a great time for spring cleaning—not just at home but in your habits too. Clearing out clutter can create space for new, healthy routines. Use this time to refresh your surroundings, organize your living space, and make room for activities that support your well-being. Along with cleaning, think about your health goals. Start small by adding more fruits and vegetables to your meals, going for daily walks, or trying new healthy recipes. Don’t forget to schedule a checkup with your doctor to stay on top of screenings, vaccinations, and your overall health.



For families, spring is a good chance to build healthy habits together. Spend time outside as a family by walking, going fishing, or starting a garden. You can also involve kids in cooking fresh meals with seasonal foods. These activities teach healthy habits while giving you time to connect. Spring cleaning can also be a family project—cleaning and organizing together can be fun and helpful for everyone. When parents make healthy choices, kids are more likely to do the same.

The lighter days of spring and summer are also great times to connect with others. Community and cultural events, picnics, movie nights, or Indigenous foods workshops bring people together and give you a chance to share ideas about healthy living. Spending time with friends and family—whether it’s walking, gardening, or cooking together—can improve your mood. Seasonal foods are easier to find now, so enjoy cooking and sharing meals with the people you care about. Honor the change of seasons by feasting together or offering a “spirit dish” to give thanks.

As summer approaches, let’s use this time to make positive changes. Plan family activities, attend a fun community event, or explore new ways to stay active and healthy. Whether it’s spring cleaning, eating better, or staying active, small steps can lead to big improvements. Together, we can welcome the new season with healthier bodies and happier minds. By working together, we can build a healthier, stronger community.



Obituary

Dr. Carson Timothy Gardner

Dr. Carson Gardner, 72, of White Earth, passed away on May 9 after a long battle with cancer.

Born on July 1, 1952, in St. Paul, Minn., Carson dedicated his life to the care of others, blending deep compassion with a sharp wit and an unwavering respect for the people and communities he served.

Both of Carson’s parents had died by the time he was 9 years old. He was raised by his widowed grandmother with help from an uncle and aunt. As he was growing up his grandmother Jenny Carson told him stories about life in the early settlement of Bemidji. His grandfather Evan Carson was the second child born in the settlement. Evan’s much older brothers established the Carson Brothers Trading Post, the first business in Bemidji. When Evan got older he went away to train as a printer. He returned to Bemidji with a wife, Jenny, who was also a printer and they worked on the local newspaper. Evan and Jenny’s two children grew up in Bemidji, and graduated from Bemidji High School.

Carson’s wife Gail joked that when she met him in college he had “I am going to live in northern Minnesota” written on his forehead. Carson attended medical school and Gail attended graduate school in Southern California. While their classmates went to the beach on weekends for sun and surf, Carson and



Gail drove up into the mountains to play in the snow and dream about returning to Minnesota.

After medical school Carson did his residency in Family Practice at Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis. In 1981, he joined the Park Rapids Clinic, where he worked for 18 years. During this time he had a key role in establishing the Park Rapids Area Hospice, a reflection of his commitment to dignified and compassionate care

In 1999, he began his service with the Indian Health Service at the White Earth Clinic. His deep respect for Annishinaabe culture, traditions and language enriched his work and relationships there. After retiring from the Indian Health Service in 2011, Carson continued his service to the community as Medical Director of the White Earth Tribal Health Programs and Ambulance Service, a role he held until his passing.

Known for his storytelling, quick puns and a laugh that could brighten any room, Carson brought warmth and humor wherever he went. His kindness, curiosity, and lifelong dedication to learning and healing will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 50 years, Gail Nelson Gardner.

In honoring Carson’s memory, may we carry forward his legacy of compassion, respect, and joy.

A Celebration of Life will be on July 8 from 2-4 p.m., at the Shooting Star Casino in Mahanomen.

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

Online: www.daviddonehower.com

Jane Grey retires after 23 years as a counselor



Submitted photo

A retirement ceremony was held Friday, May 30 for Jane Grey at the Oshki Manidoo Center in Bemidji, Minn. Jane served as counselor for the tribe for 23 years. Jeremy Syverson, Oshki Manidoo Center CEO, honored Jane with a blanket.

Howah Ads

Happy 21st Birthday
Morgan Rose!!
Love Mom & Brothers
June 18th



Happy Birthday **Wanda Jackson!**
Your one of a kind, but your mine!
Thank you for everything you do.
I love you Stisser! **June 2**



Happy Heavenly Birthday
Mantha
Forever in our Heart
~Swiers Smith Family



Happy Birthday
Matthew Cogger
I Love you Brother
~Tiffany



Happy Fathers Day!
Joe T.
Love,
Melanie and Joe

Happy **10th** Birthday
Azalea
Love, Mom, Dad & Jordan
June 12th



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

No exceptions

Happy 1st Birthday
Tyrese Jr!
Love Auntie Lyssa & Tia
June 11th



Happy Birthday
Terri

Love,
Joe, Melanie & Ben,
Joe Jr. & Sabrina,
and ALL your grand-babies

June 16th

Happy Fathers Day
Ben
Love,
Melanie and your girls

Happy Fathers Day
Joe
Love,
Sabrina and your babies

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!

WE TRIBAL COURT
CHILDREN’S COURT

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child of:

Randi Doxsee

Summons of Petition and Hearing Notice

Court File No. **CP2025-00006**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on May 15, 2025, a Petition for Child in Need of Protection and/or Services was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your child in file CP2025-00006. An Admit/Deny hearing on the matter is scheduled for July 11, 2025, at 9:30 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: May 27, 2025
Tammy J. Swanson
Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

WE TRIBAL COURT
CHILDREN’S COURT

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

Deondra Bellanger

Summons of Petition and Hearing Notice

Court File No. **CP2023-00023**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on January 8, 2025, a Petition for Suspension of Parental Rights was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your child in file CP2023-00023. A Pretrial Hearing on the matter is scheduled for June 30, 2025, at 11:00 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: May 27, 2025
Tammy J. Swanson
Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

WE TRIBAL COURT
CHILDREN’S COURT

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child of:

Any Man Coming Forward as the Father of the Child of Brooke Keezer

Summons of Petition and Hearing Notice

Court File No. **CP2025-00003**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on April 16, 2025, a Petition for Child in Need of Protection and/or Services was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your child in file CP2025-00003. A Pretrial hearing on the matter is scheduled for July 11, 2025, at 9:45 A.M. You are asked to contact White Earth Tribal Court Administration located at the RTC in White Earth, Minnesota at 218-983-4648. If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order.

Dated: May 27, 2025
Tammy J. Swanson
Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

WE TRIBAL COURT
TRAFFIC COURT

In the Matter of **Joseph Michael Malmø**,
DOB: 03/22/1982

Summons to Appear in Court

Court File No. **CO2025-00005**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on July 2, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. an Initial Hearing on the conservation citation will be held at the White Earth Tribal Court at 35500 Eagle View Road Ogema, MN 56569. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the Court may find you in default and/or held in contempt of Court. You may contact Court Administration at (218) 983-3285.

Dated: May 23, 2025

WE TRIBAL COURT
TRAFFIC COURT

In the Matter of **Misty Marie Malmø**, **DOB: 08/17/1977**

Summons to Appear in Court

Court File No. **CO2025-00006**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on July 2, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. an Initial Hearing on the conservation citation will be held at the White Earth Tribal Court at 35500 Eagle View Road Ogema, MN 56569. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the Court may find you in default and/or held in contempt of Court. You may contact Court Administration at (218) 983-3285

Dated: May 23, 2025

WE TRIBAL COURT
CHILDREN’S COURT

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child of:

Gage C. Sargent

Summons of Petition and Hearing Notice

Court File No. **CP2025-00006**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on May 15, 2025, a Petition for Child in Need of Protection and/or Services was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your child in file CP2025-00006. An Admit/Deny hearing on the matter is scheduled for July 11, 2025, at 9:30 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: May 27, 2025
Tammy J. Swanson
Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

WE TRIBAL COURT
CHILDREN’S COURT

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

Dillon Londo

Summons of Petition and Hearing Notice

Court File No. **CP2025-00005**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on May 2, 2025, a Petition for Child in Need of Protection and/or Services was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your child in file CP2025-00005. A Pretrial Hearing on the matter is scheduled for June 24, 2025, at 9:45 A.M. You are asked to contact White Earth Tribal Court Administration located at the RTC in White Earth, Minnesota at 218-983-4648. If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order.

Dated: May 27, 2025
Tammy J. Swanson
Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

WE TRIBAL COURT
CHILDREN’S COURT

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

Any Man Coming Forward as the Father of the Child of Deondra Bellanger

Summons of Petition and Hearing Notice

Court File No. **CP2023-00023**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on January 8, 2025, a Petition for Suspension of Parental Rights was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your child in file CP2023-00023. A Pretrial Hearing on the matter is scheduled for June 30, 2025, at 11:00 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: May 27, 2025
Tammy J. Swanson
Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

WE TRIBAL COURT
CHILDREN’S COURT

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

Abdulaziz Ahmed

Summons of Petition and Hearing Notice

Court File No. **CP2023-00023**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on January 8, 2025, a Petition for Suspension of Parental Rights was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your child in file CP2023-00023. A Pretrial Hearing on the matter is scheduled for June 30, 2025, at 11:00 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: May 27, 2025
Tammy J. Swanson
Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

WE TRIBAL COURT
CHILDREN’S COURT

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

Any Man Coming Forward as the Father of the Child of Racquel Boswell

Summons of Petition and Hearing Notice

Court File No. **CP2025-00005**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on May 2, 2025, a Petition for Child in Need of Protection and/or Services was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your child in file CP2025-00005. A Pretrial Hearing on the matter is scheduled for June 24, 2025, at 9:45 A.M. You are asked to contact White Earth Tribal Court Administration located at the RTC in White Earth, Minnesota at 218-983-4648. If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order.

Dated: May 27, 2025
Tammy J. Swanson
Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

WE TRIBAL COURT
CHILDREN’S COURT

In the Matter of the Welfare of the Child of:

Vincent Beaulieu

Summons of Petition and Hearing Notice

Court File No. **CP2025-00003**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on April 16, 2025, a Petition for Child in Need of Protection and/or Services was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your child in file CP2025-00003. A Pretrial hearing on the matter is scheduled for July 11, 2025, at 9:45 A.M. You are asked to contact White Earth Tribal Court Administration located at the RTC in White Earth, Minnesota at 218-983-4648. If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order.

Dated: May 27, 2025
Tammy J. Swanson
Attorney for White Earth Indian Child Welfare

Notice
Regarding
Cemetery
Memorials

Many people visited St. Ann Cemetery (Waubun), St. Anne Cemetery (Naytahwaush), and St. Agnes Cemetery (Lengby), over the Memorial Day week-end. We join our prayers to theirs for the repose of their loved ones. We wish to honor your loved ones by maintaining their resting places.

In order to facilitate mowing, weeding, etc., please remove potted plants, artificial arrangements, and other items placed on graves for Memorial Day by Sunday, June 15. Memorials left after June 15 will be removed by cemetery volunteers.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

The Annual WE Treaty Day Celebration and Pow Wow is June 13-15

Tribal Canoe Drawing

Wed, July 23, 2025

5 Canoes and Paddles will be given away!

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

Rules and Eligibility

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

No Exceptions!

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

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

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

Submit Entries:

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

Must be post marked or dropped off by Wednesday, July 16, 2025.



Proudly owned and successfully operated by the White Earth Nation, © 2025 White Earth Reservation

Tribal Canoe Drawing Entry Form

There will be drawings for 5 canoes and paddles on Wednesday, July 23, 2025. Drawing will be recorded and posted to the White Earth YouTube Channel and Facebook page. Winners will be notified via phone.

Rules and Eligibility

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

No Exceptions

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

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

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Submit Entries:

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

Entry must be dropped off or postmarked no later than Wednesday, July 16.


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

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

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

Phone #

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

Site Name	Site Address	Dates and Days of Operation	Meals with Service Times
Mahnomen Boys & Girls Club	416 US Hwy 59 Mahnomen, MN	June 2nd-August 29th, 2025 Mon – Friday	Breakfast 8:30-9:30 Lunch 12:30-1:30
Naytahwaush Boys & Girls Club	2531 310 th Ave Naytahwaush, MN	June 2nd-August 29th, 2025 Mon – Friday	Breakfast 8:30-9:30 Lunch 12:30-1:30
Pine Point Boys & Girls Club	48580 Pow Wow Hwy Ponsford, MN	June 16th- August 2nd, 2025 Mon – Friday	Breakfast 8:30-9:30 Lunch 12:30-1:30
Rice Lake Boys & Girls Club	13830 Community Loop Rd Rice Lake, MN	June 2nd-August 29th, 2025 Mon – Friday	Breakfast 8:30-9:30 Lunch 12:30-1:30
Waubun Boys & Girls Club	1041 Dutch St Waubun, MN	June 2nd-August 29th, 2025 Mon – Friday	Breakfast 8:30-9:30 Lunch 12:30-1:30
White Earth Boys & Girls Club	35233 Misson Road. White Earth, MN	June 2nd-August 29th, 2025 Mon – Friday	Breakfast 8:30-9:30 Lunch 12:30-1:30

*Hours are subject to change due to staffing.

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

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

Submit your completed complaint form or letter to USDA by:

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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Event highlights importance of good mental health



Photo by Gary W. Padra

White Earth Tribal and Community College Professor Naabek Liberty gave an opening prayer at the Mental Health Awareness event on May 22 at the Shooting Star Casino. He also spoke on the Roots of Resilience: Ojibwe Mental Health History. Those in attendance listened to other speakers and could sit in on several different sessions throughout the day. The event was sponsored by White Earth Tribal Public Health and White Earth Mental Health.

Two Native-led renewable energy nonprofits team up to fight 'energy poverty' in Minnesota

By Mathew Holding Eagle III
MPR News

Native American households spend a disproportionate amount of their incomes on energy costs. According to the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, the typical energy burden for Native Americans is 45 percent higher compared to white households.

"There are reports from the Department of Energy and other sources that do find this systematically across the country, that is the costs are higher," said Corrie Grosse, an associate professor of environmental studies at the College of St. Benedict and St. John's University. She's also the author of "Working Across Lines," a book about how people can work together to resist extreme energy extraction.

"The cost of electricity on reservation is sometimes many times higher than just right off the reservation," she said.

To top it all off, many folks in Indian Country use propane to heat their homes, which is more expensive than natural gas.

"The proportion of people's incomes — tribal members who are paying these costs — it's a very high proportion of their income," she said. "So, very difficult to pay those bills."

That's where 8th Fire Solar enters the picture. It's been producing solar thermal panels in Osage since Spring 2018. Gwekaanimad Gasco is the program coordinator.

"Solar thermal is a technology used to generate heat," Gasco said. "We build these panels that go on the side of a house or a building, and they recirculate air and heat it up and use the forced air system, so a fan and some ducting to push the air to wherever in the house or the building you would like it."

Unlike photovoltaic systems, which are expensive and generate electricity, solar thermal panels are cheaper and more accessible. The systems can save up to 35 percent in heating costs. As a White Earth Ojibwe and Little Traverse Band Odawa citizen, that's paramount to Gasco.

"It's supplementary heat but has the ability to offset the usage of your main heating system, so it can save you a good chunk depending on the size of your system," he said. "It's a really important technology in Indian Country, especially around here where, you know, heat is less for being comfortable, it's more for survival."

8th Fire Solar's work caught the attention of Native Sun Community Power. It's a much larger organization based in the Twin Cities.

Native Sun executive director Robert Blake is a Red Lake Nation citizen. His organization works to advance renewable energy infrastructure — with solar and electric vehicles — on tribal lands. It also does a lot of environmental advocacy and trains workers in renewable energy industries.

Blake said the chance to work with 8th Fire Solar, a White Earth Nation-led organization, was a no-brainer.

The two nonprofits announced a merger earlier this year.

"We're fighting energy poverty, we're making our community stronger. And so that's the way I see how they're a part of this," Blake said of 8th Fire Solar. "And they're doing what they're doing, and they're doing it well."

Native Sun will continue to focus on its own

projects and programs like Electric Nation — an inter-tribal EV charging network through the Upper Midwest. But it will also help guide and expand 8th Fire's reach throughout Indian Country.

"We're coming together from two different tribal nations and two different businesses and we're working together for a common goal," Blake said.

And they're doing it amidst a lot of changes under the Trump administration, which has been scaling back or eliminating big parts of the Inflation Reduction Act, which funds climate initiatives.

"The Inflation Reduction Act was a huge benefit to Native communities, particularly around renewable energy. So billions and billions of dollars were available, and now those dollars are at risk," Grosse said. "Trump is trying to roll the IRA back. It's unclear exactly how that's going to play out, but tribes and tribal-led organizations are not really able to count on that funding anymore."

Native Sun's Robert Blake said his organization has seen funding whiplash in the renewable energy sector firsthand.

His new colleague Gasco said challenges like these are nothing new.

"It's going to be a tougher time, for sure. But we were born through resilience," Gasco said. "We've always been used to this fight, so it's just a matter of keeping our heads down and keeping our people together, and keeping moving."

But Grosse stressed relief could be on the horizon by way of the Alliance for Tribal Clean Energy and the NDN Collective.

"They're actually kind of making themselves, grantmaking organizations, because they're attracting such large sums of money," Grosse said. "So I think it's a really hopeful time, even though there's a lot more challenges than we had under the Biden administration."

Michael Childs Jr., a Prairie Island Indian Community Tribal Council member is co-chair of the newly formed Tribal Advocacy Council on Energy. TACE is unique because it is not a state established council but a tribal nations advocacy council with appointees from 10 of Minnesota's 11 tribal nations.

Childs said he looks forward to the potential impacts of the merger of Native Sun and 8th Fire Solar on Indian Country.

"I'm excited because Bob does bring a business background," Childs said.

He said Blake's connections will help 8th Fire Solar. "I think that's really what I'm expecting to see out of it, and I think I will."

8th Fire Solar will soon begin their biggest job to date. It's a 20-home solar thermal project spread across four reservations in Minnesota. Native Sun, will provide expertise and resources.



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WHITE EARTH VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Dedicated to providing services for people with disabilities on or near White Earth Reservation. WEVR program is designed to assist with reducing barriers to employment, advocacy between employees and employer, to ensure that all reasonable accommodations are being met that fit your disability, referrals, and more.

Must be enrolled in a federally recognized tribe

Must reside on or near the boundaries of the White Earth Reservation

Employed at least 20 hours per week/or a fulltime student

Individual must have a physical or mental impairment which results in a substantial impediment to employment

Presumption that applicant can benefit from VR services

WE VR Program
PO BOX 7
Naytahwaush, MN 56566

218-935-3816
Fax: 218-935-3013

AT Readers

Please let us know if you recently moved, or have moved in the past few years so we can cancel your old address.

Many papers are still being sent to old addresses!

Call the **AT** at 218-935-3569
or email today@whiteearth-nsn.gov



Your job search ends here

www.whiteearth.com



WHITE EARTH TRIBAL & COMMUNITY COLLEGE
GAANWAABAGANIKAAK GAGSININDAASOWISAGANIG

WETCC is delivering education & ice cream this summer!

Ice Cream Socials

12:30 - 2:30 PM

June 3 - Callaway

June 24 - Mahnomen

July 8 - Waubun

July 9 - White Earth

Watch WETCC's Facebook page or call 218-935-0417 ext. 8330 for locations.


All are Welcome!

WETCC.edu



White EarthUrban ELDERS

WHITE EARTH URBAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Elder Bus Trip to White Earth Rediscovery Center for White Earth ENP Elder Picnic On June 26th (Trip June 25 - 27, 2025)

➤ **Wednesday, June 25, 2025 departure**

10:00 AM Departing MCT Building

1:00 PM Stopping in Little Falls for a half hour break

4:00 PM Arriving at Shooting Star Casino at 4:00 pm for room check in.

➤ **Thursday, June 26, 2025**

9:30 AM Depart Shooting Star Hotel for Picnic at Rediscovery Center

➤ **Friday, June 27, 2025**

11:00 AM Departure for Twin Cities

6:00 PM Arrive at MCT Building

Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Building
1308 East Franklin Ave
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404

Contact Sherri Loken at 612-423-6760 to register

WHITE EARTH URBAN OFFICE

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

Erickson from Page 6

White Earth. Unfortunately, the turnout at that particular meeting was quite low. I remember being the youngest attendee in the room, sitting alongside respected elders, Lucille “Teedo” Silk and Emma King. Their presence and insights were powerful reminders of the importance of community involvement in shaping the future of our programs and services. Moments like these highlight the need for greater participation and engagement, especially from our younger generations, as we move forward in self-governance and decision-making for our people.

5-21 I started the day with a meeting the Natural Resources staff to discuss the Elbow Lake area and the potential development of a designated swimming area. We also reviewed the status of the Ice Cracking property which was purchased several years ago. Natural Resources will be bringing forward various options to the tribal leadership for consideration on how to best move forward with both sites. The vision is to create a safe space where community members can come together to swim, camp, grill out and enjoy time with family and friends in the outdoors.

Following our meeting, the White Earth Natural Resources Department received an award from Avery Hildebrand, Public Engagement Program Manager, Conservation Minnesota to acknowledge their work. The NR Division received a Blazing Star Award for its outreach to area youth, providing kids with the skills necessary to safely enjoy a wide variety of outdoor activities in a culturally significant way. Thank you to our team for the work you all do with our youth.

Following the listening session, I made my way to the Circle of Life Academy to attend a retirement ceremony honoring Mike Bunker. Mike began his teaching career at the old Circle of Life School back in 1988 and for the past 37 years he has been a dedicated educator, mentor and positive influence on generations of students. His commitment to COLA has left a lasting legacy within the school. In addition to his work in education, Mike also proudly served with the Mahnomen County Sheriff’s Department and on the local ambulance crew. Miigwech, Mike, for your decades of service and leadership. We thank you for all you have given to our youth and our communities. Wishing you a joyful and well-deserved happy retirement!

Last event of the day was the Waubun High School Senior Scholarship and Awards event. Congratulations to senior class of 2025!

5-22 I had the privilege of joining the staff for the opening of the Mental Health Awareness event held at the Shooting Star Casino. The event aimed to raise awareness and provide valuable resources to support mental wellness within our community. It was inspiring to see the dedication of staff and participants coming together to promote healing, understanding and hope.

Tribal leaders recently met with staff from the Shooting Star Casino for a Special Finance Meeting held at the casino in Mahnomen. The meeting provided a review of financial matters, updates and strategic planning.

5-29 Alongside tribal leaders and staff, I virtually participated in the Indian Affairs Tribal Consultation on Workforce Efficiency/Productivity and Emergency Permitting, held in response to Executive Order 14210. This consultation focused on the Department’s emergency permitting procedures outlined in the EO. During the discussion concerns were raised regarding the federal government’s fail-

ure to consistently uphold its trust and treaty responsibilities to Tribal Nations. It was emphasized that any changes to permitting processes must fully respect tribal sovereignty, safeguard treaty rights and ensure meaningful tribal consultation throughout. Budget cuts will negatively impact tribes.

5-30 Regular RBC monthly meeting

Project Updates/Upcoming Events
White Earth Community Cleanup

A huge thank you to all the staff who came together for the recent community cleanup across our reservation. This important work is no small task and your teamwork and care for our land and community do not go unnoticed. Your efforts have made a visible difference and reflect the shared responsibility we all hold in keeping our homelands clean and safe. We appreciate your hard work!

We are planning another community cleanup in the fall. By having cleanups twice a year, we aim to create a more consistent impact across our reservation. Regular efforts like these will help maintain the health of our lands.

Transit

On Friday, May 30, the White Earth Transit held a groundbreaking for the new transit building that will include a service center, wash bay, offices, breakroom, meeting room and dispatch center. The new building will support the growing needs of the transit system, enhance operations.

The 2025 Summer Picnic schedule is out! We’re excited to bring the community together with picnics planned in villages across the reservation. It’s a great time to visit and enjoy good food. I look forward to seeing you all there!

Congratulations to all the 2025 graduates! As you celebrate this milestone, you pave the way for yourself and future generations.

It is an honor to represent our community and families. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Miigwech

Contact information:

Laura Lee Erickson

Office: 218-935-6238

Cell: 218-401-1153

laura.erickson@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Facebook: VOTE LAURA LEE

Assistant for District 3

Tiffany Swiers

Office: 218-935-6235

Cell: 218-997-9124

tiffany.swiers@whiteearth-nsn.gov

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



FATHER'S DAY IS FOR EVERY GUY WHO HOLDS NOTHING BACK...WHO GIVES HIS HEART, SOUL, AND ENERGY TO THOSE HE CARES ABOUT AND STILL FINDS A WAY TO LOVE THEM MORE EVERY SINGLE DAY.

MIIGWECH, DAD!!

LaRoque from Page 4

conditions, acquired or traumatic brain injuries that provide flexible, cost-effective home and community-based services.

White Earth Nation is a state-licensed lead agency. The LTSS team conducts MN CHOICES assessments to determine a person’s eligibility for these programs and services. They assist with referrals for services based on a person’s assessed needs.

Services LTSS programs can assist with: Life alert phones, Meal services Elderly Nutrition Program (ENP), Home -Delivered meals.

Funding Sources: Medicaid and State and Federal Funding.

Living in the Family Environment (LIFE)

This department is led by Life Coordinator Bryanna Chilton and has a total of 11 employees. The Nurse Family Partnership is an evidence-based home visiting program that helps support families. Nurses provide home visits to families living within the reservation boundaries. The LIFE nurses visit with expecting moms and families with children under 2 years old. During the home visit nurses provide education, developmental screens, and immunizations. Nurse home visitors work with the family to set goals.

Programming under Life program: Anger Management, Car Seat Program, Parents as Teachers, Additional Services provided include-Hearing and vision screens, Child and Teen Checkups, immunizations, and lactation support.

Funding Sources: Medicaid, State and Federal Grants.

This is a complete update on the White Earth Health Division. This division also

receives funding from the Federal 1051 lease program for operational and maintenance costs for each of their buildings that qualify.

Updates

I would like to give a brief update on the Cannabis Compact that was recently signed for the White Earth Nation to operate off reservation cannabis dispensaries. The Chairman and the Minnesota Governor signed this compact, and the White Earth Nation was the first Tribal Nation to open an off-reservation dispensary in Minnesota. Our first location is in Moorehead, Minn. Coming soon is the St. Cloud, Minn., and Rochester, Minn., sites.

I would like to inform all membership that you can submit any Financial Data request to me at mike.laroque@whiteearth-nsn.gov or call me at 218-849-1140.

I would also like to congratulate all graduates from Head Start to the college level and everyone in between. I would like to say you are all our future leaders and I would like to quote our former Chairwomen Erma Vizenor by saying “Education is Key to our Future.”

I hope everyone had a happy and safe spring season and look forward to a great summer with pow-wow season in full swing. We are moving forward into the future with another successful year ahead of us.

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

Michael J. LaRoque
Secretary-Treasurer

Veterans from Page 11



Melba Buckanaga, HN, U.S. Navy, WWII



Beatrice P. Fairbanks, 1st Lt., U.S. Army, WWII



Doris "Dubby" Heisler, U.S. Navy, WWII



Gladys Shingobe
U.S. Army, Korea



Wilma Brown,
Pvt., USMC



Ruth LaVoy,
U.S. Navy

* Still looking for a photos of Ruth Bunker - U.S. Army / WWII, Evanelle Swan - US Army / WWII, and Rita Vizenor, U.S. Air Force / Korea.

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

JUNE 2025

Ode'imini-giizis / Strawberry Moon Cultural Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 WE Mats 10-12 Berry Fast Grad. 5pm NTW	4 WE Wesa Sweat 12pm NTW IOP 10-12	5 NTW Wesa 1012	6	7
8	9 OMC Tobacco Ceremony 9-12 Women's Sweat 1pm	10 Mahnomen AFT 1 NTW Moms 10-12	11 Rescheduled: Pine Point Healing Feast 5-7pm	12 Acute Care 1-3pm Circle Back Youth 4- 6:30pm	13	14
15	16 OMC Tobacco Ceremony 9-12	17 WE Mats 10-12	18 WE Wesa 10 12 NTW IOP 10-12	19 OMC Talking Circle 9-11am	20 Mpls. Urban Cedar Healingam & Sweat pm	21
22	23 OMC Tobacco Ceremony 9-12 Youth Sweat 1pm	24 Mahnomen AFT 2 NTW Moms 10-12	25 White Earth Healing Feast 5-7pm	26 Acute Care 1-3pm Circle Back Youth 4- 6:30pm	27 Mpls. Urban AFT 1 10-12	28
29	30 OMC Tobacco Ceremony 9-12					

The White Earth Behavior Health Cultural Team has met and would like to inform you of decisions regarding upcoming Sweat lodges. Due to the fluctuation of participants in attendance at recent sweat lodge ceremonies, the White Earth BH Cultural staff will begin combining the Men's and Women's community Sweat lodges in a co-ed fashion. To ensure safety of our relatives that will attend, both male and female staff will also be in attendance and safety protocols will be followed. We will accommodate Male or Female only Sweat lodges. Please consider Asemaa/tobacco with any request.

Miigwech, BH Cultural Team

Naytahwaush Community Charter School Job Opportunities

Special Education Teacher

Summary

Join our team as a dedicated Special Education Teacher, where you will play a crucial role in providing tailored support and educational services to students with diverse learning needs. We are seeking a passionate individual who is committed to creating an inclusive and supportive learning environment that fosters academic growth and personal development.

Description

Naytahwaush Community Charter School is located in the beautiful lakes area north of Detroit Lakes and South East of Bemidji. We are a community school with focus on the whole child and integrating culture into learning.

Duties:

- Develop and implement individualized education plans (IEPs) that cater to the specific needs of students with disabilities
- Utilize behavioral therapy techniques to support students in managing their behaviors effectively
- Implement specialized teaching strategies to educate students with various learning challenges
- Collaborate with parents, caregivers, and other professionals to ensure a holistic approach to student welfare
- Utilize learning technology and resources to enhance the educational experience for students with special needs
- Foster a positive and inclusive classroom environment that promotes student engagement and participation
- Implement effective behavior management techniques to create a conducive learning atmosphere
- Provide physical education opportunities tailored to the abilities of students with disabilities

Skills:

- Proficiency in behavioral therapy and behavior management strategies
- Experience in educating children with diverse learning needs
- Strong classroom management skills
- Familiarity with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs)
- Knowledge of child welfare practices
- Ability to incorporate learning technology into teaching practices

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Special Education or related field (Master's degree preferred)
- Valid teaching certification/license in Special Education
- Experience working with children with special needs
- Passion for promoting the holistic development of students with disabilities

Join our team of dedicated educators and make a meaningful impact on the lives of students with special needs. Apply now to be part of a rewarding educational environment where you can inspire young minds and contribute to shaping a brighter future for all learners.

Please email a letter of interest, resume, license and three letters of reference to Nicole Jesness at nicolej@ntwschool.org. If you have questions please contact Director Beth Zietz at 218-936-2112. More information about our school can be found at ntwschool.org. Open until filled.

Special Education 1:1 Paraprofessionals

Summary:

Assist one or more students with special education needs with academics, personal cares, redirection and intervention of behavior, and other tasks identified within assigned students' special education plans. Student personal care may include: assisting students with dressing, personal hygiene, physical management; administering medication and medical needs under direction of school nurse; performing student transfer/mobility and mobility assistance; providing bathroom assistance and toileting of students.

Qualifications:


- High School Diploma or equivalent with 2 years experience working with children, preferably children with disabilities or AA degree with 1 year of experience working with children
- Personal Care Assistant certification (can be completed upon hire)
- Strong reading, writing and math skills
- Ability to communicate effectively verbally and in writing
- Ability to follow verbal and written instructions
- Ability to work in a team environment
- Ability to relate to students including those with disabilities
- Ability to maintain confidentiality of student information at all times

Starting wage: \$18.50

Monday through Friday

8 hour shift

Benefits: 401(k), Life Insurance, Health Insurance, Dental Insurance, Vision Insurance, Paid Time Off



Diabetic Bingo

All are welcome and it costs nothing to play.

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

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

July 2nd, Wednesday	Naytahwaush
July 9th, Wednesday	White Earth – Congregate
July 23rd, 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.

August 6th, Wednesday	Pine Point
August 12th, Tuesday	Elbow Lake
August 27th, Wednesday	Mahnomen – Valley View

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

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

Other Public Health Events that are coming up in June are...

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

June 23rd in White Earth at the Tribal Health Building

June 24th in the Shooting Star Casino Event Center

June 25th in the Shooting Star Casino Event Center

Every Thursday in June a Farmers' Market will be at the Mahnomen Pavilion from 3-6pm

June 12th The Annual White Earth Sobriety Parade will start between 10:30-11:00

June 18th Mahnomen Library is hosting a Wild About Reading Event at the Pavilion.

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



VENDOR'S MARKET & ARTIST LUNCHEON

BOOZHOOD, R2ARTS WELCOMES YOU ALL TO

VENDOR'S MARKET & ARTIST LUNCHEON

All are invited to this Vendor's Market & Artist luncheon! Over a meal, we will discuss the importance of creativity and the arts to individuals and to the community. We hope to encourage and support creators to share their art and try to apply for grants, as well as encouraging individuals to share their work.

AFTERNOON AGENDA

- 9:00 - Vendor's Market Opens
- Noon - Prayer
- 10:00-2:00 - Photographer TJ Turner will be offering a portfolio photography session.
- Introduction to Region 2 services while people are making their plates (meal provided)
- 12:30 - community discussion led by a panel of Indigenous Artists
- Presentation of R2Arts Grants, services, and other opportunities.

WHAT ELSE?

We will be discussing grants and fellowships of up to \$25,000

There will be a **giveaway** for gifts with a total value of \$500.00

WHEN? WHERE?

June 7th (Saturday) at 9am in the Naytahwaush Sports Complex, Naytahwaush, MN.

QUESTIONS/RSVP

patrick@r2arts.org

218 751 5447

Hosted by Shane Burnett and the Naytahwaush Community Council.

This activity is made possible by the state of Minnesota through a legislative appropriation from the Clean Water Land & Legacy Amendment.



WHITE EARTH TRIBAL & COMMUNITY COLLEGE

GAAWAABAAIBAGANIKAAAG GABEGIKENBAADOWIGAMIC

ROBOTICS CAMP

JULY 28 - AUGUST 14, 2025

Mondays-Thursdays, 9 AM - 3 PM

2250 College Rd, Mahnomen, MN

UNLEASH YOUR INNER INNOVATOR

Join us for an unforgettable summer with three weeks of hands-on learning and fun.

- **INTERACTIVE LEARNING:** Build and program VEX robots and perform exciting challenges.
- **INTERESTING FIELD TRIPS:** Visit local industry & research leaders and learn about STEM careers.
- **ANISHINAABE CULTURE:** Participate in cultural activities and hear Indigenous perspectives.

FREE LUNCH PROVIDED DAILY



Open to students entering grades 11 & 12, recent HS grads. & those newly admitted to WETCC

Camp is FREE!

Space is limited so scan QR code & apply today!

Students who complete ALL camp activities will receive a \$1,200 stipend!



This work is supported by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration under Award Number 80NSC24P0025.



ANISHINAABE EDUCATION

Contact: 218-935-0417
allen.darks@wetcc.edu
nicole.dusjarlais@wetcc.edu
amber.faw@wetcc.edu



Bi-Gaawayikeg!

Come Do Quill Embroidery



Learn Quill Embroidery with Petrina Arnold June 6-7, 10 a.m. Naytahwaush Drum Hall

Sponsored by the White Earth Cultural Division



Email petrina218@icloud.com to register. Space is limited.



Congratulations Class of 2025!

Graduation is the conclusion of one chapter and the beginning of another.

Best of luck wherever your next chapter takes you!



WHITE EARTH TRIBAL & COMMUNITY COLLEGE

GAAWAABAAIBAGANIKAAAG GABEGIKENBAADOWIGAMIC

NEW HIGH SCHOOL GRADS:

There is still time to start your next chapter close to home. Apply now to join WETCC's future Class of 2027, 2028 or beyond.

Contact us at info@wetcc.edu or 218-935-0417 for details.

White Earth Indian Child Welfare Foster Care

CHILDREN IN YOUR COMMUNITY NEED YOU.

BECOME A TRIBALLY LICENSED FOSTER PARENT

For more information please call 218 983 4647

JoAnn Keezer -Licensor
joann.keezer@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Patricia Dawn Racine -Coordinator
patricia.racine@whiteearth-nsn.gov



The Callaway Event Center offers different rental options for your convenience

- Rehearsals - Receptions - Showers, Anniversaries - Dances - Reunions - Meetings, Retirements - Graduations

Full rental.....	\$450
Front dinning area (4 hours).....	\$125
Front dinning area (6 hours).....	\$150
Front dining area (over 6 hours.....	\$175

For additional rental information contact the Callaway City Hall at 218-375-4691
www.callawaymn.gov
clerk@callawaymn.gov

2018 ELKHART 4500 ESERIES CHEVROLET BUS



SOLD AS IS Gas Engine, Mileage: 211,106
Repairs needed, & Front windshield damaged

NO MINIMUM BID

Please use this bid sheet to place your bid. (return or e-mail to)

Cassandra Hoban, White Earth Finance

PO Box 270 , White Earth, MN 56591

(218) 935-3411 Cassandra.Hoban@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Bidding will close on June 26, 2025 @ 4:30 pm

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

BID AMOUNT: _____

Ganawendandaa Nibiikaangi
LET’S PROTECT OUR WATERS

Help Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers

To avoid spreading aquatic invasive species do the following:

BEFORE launching and **BEFORE** leaving.

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

It’s **unlawful** to transport aquatic plants, and zebra mussels.

NEED MORE ENERGY?
JOIN STAR FITNESS
CENTER TODAY!

Located in the Manitok Mall, Mahnomen

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

UPDATED KEY CARD HOURS:

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



White Earth Nation
TRIBAL PUBLIC HEALTH
Prevent. Promote. Protect

Dawn Wann’s
Gardens

Plants grown with love

OPENING MAY 1ST
CLOSING FATHER’S DAY

Come
check us out!

Find us online & on Facebook at
DawnWannsGardens



OPEN 10AM-7PM
EVERYDAY

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We are worth the drive!

>>>Watch for signs!<<<

20248 203rd Ave • Bagley, MN

Open Job Listing at the Niibi Center

Job Description: Co-Executive Director, Operations and Development

The Niibi Center is a repository of Anishinaabe culture and knowledge to protect and advance our prophecy, sovereignty, and cultural survival. The Niibi Center is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization, based on the White Earth Reservation and serving all Anishinaabe people.

Reporting to the Board of Directors, the Co-Executive Director (ED) of Operations and Development will share overall strategic and operational responsibility for the Niibi Center’s staff, programs, expansion, and execution of its mission with the Co-Executive Director of Strategy and Partnerships. She or he will initially develop deep knowledge of field, core programs, operations, and business plans.

This position requires a 60/40 mix of in person work on White Earth at the Calaway office and/or surrounding area and virtual engagement. Regional travel will be required. The salary for this position is \$70,000 per year and does not currently include benefits.

Qualifications

The Co-Executive Director of Operations and Development will be thoroughly committed to the Niibi Center’s mission. All candidates should have proven leadership, coaching, and relationship management experience.

Specific requirements include:

- o Senior management experience; track record of effectively providing leadership for long-term leadership and infrastructure development in a tribal context
- o Deep networks and relationships within Anishinaabe communities
- o Demonstrated experience with budget development and management, including working with grants and contracts and coordinating with contracted accountants
- o Demonstrated experience in raising and leveraging funding from multiple sources to ensure organizational sustainability and impact
- o Experience in developing, implementing, supervising, and evaluating and reporting on programs to ensure their impact and relevance to organizational mission
- o Ability to manage organizations, including coaching and management of staff; setting and achieving strategic objectives; managing budget and organizational operations

If you are interested in applying, please first familiarize yourself with the full job description on our website: <https://niibicenter.org/open-job-listing-at-the-niibi-center/> and then email amy.myszko@niibicenter.org with your CV.



INJURED? CALL JOE

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



218-736-5673



Lawn Mowing Provider(s)
White Earth Tribal Elders Program

District II & an On-Call position opening

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

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



ANNUAL USA FLAG RETIREMENT CEREMONY

FRIDAY, JUNE 14TH

10:30 AM - OGEMA BALL PARK

COFFEE/JUICE/DONUTS SERVED

PUBLIC INVITED

If you have tattered and faded American Flags and don't know how to discard them in a respectful manner please bring them to one of the following drop-off places:

Deerwood Bank - Ogema

Midwest Bank - Waubun

White Earth Administration Bldg - White Earth

(Flags will be picked up through Thursday, June 12).

This event is sponsored by Ogema VFW Post 9880 & Auxiliary

PP School Meeting Minutes

Pine Point Regular School Board Meeting
Monday, April 7, 2025 @ 4:30 p.m.
Pine Point School Staff Room

1.0 Roll Call – Meeting called to order by Chairman John Swan at 4:36 p.m.

Members present – Michael Swan, Gerald Roberts, Sara Hunt, Allison Jones, John Swan, Marva Aitken
Ex-officio – Christopher Schulz, Principal

2.0 Recognition of Visitors – Bonnie Meeks

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

4.0 Approval/Amendment of Minutes – Motion by Marva Aitken to approve the March 3, 2025 minutes as submitted, seconded by Gerald Roberts. All in favor. Motion carried.

5.0 Finance

5.1 Treasurer's Report – Motion by Sara Hunt to approve the Treasurer's Report for March 2025 as submitted, seconded by Allison Jones. All in favor. Motion carried.

5.2 Payment of Bills & Electronic Funds Transfer & Debit Card Transactions – Motion by Marva Aitken to approve the payment of bills for the month of March 2025 in the amount of \$50,745.92 for check #34105 through check #34168 and the EFT for Federal/State/TRA/PERA Payroll Tax & Debit Card Transactions, seconded by Allison Jones. All in favor. Motion carried.

6.0 Unfinished Business

6.1 No unfinished business

7.0 New Business

7.1 2024-2025 School Calendar Change – Motion by Sara Hunt to approve the calendar change of March 14, 20025 to Staff In-service and add June 16, 2025 as the last day of school, seconded by Marva Aitken. All in favor. Motion carried.

8.0 Principal's Report – Discussion on Fastbridge Training; Solar Panel Meeting; Holmes Theatre field trip for 4-8 grade; MCA Testing 3-8 grade; Easter break; Pow Wow; Family Fun Day; Redhawks game for 4-8 grade; 4th quarter student count; Science Fair. No action needed.

9.0 Public Participation – Community Easter baskets, Education funding, community cleanup

10.0 Adjournment – Motion by Marva Aitken to adjourn the meeting at 5:00 p.m., seconded by Allison Jones. All in favor. Motion carried.

Thank You

Thank you to the Ogema VFW Post #9880 and Auxiliary for the dignified and beautiful Memorial Day services you conducted at the 12 cemeteries here Monday (May 26) morning. Year after year you dedicated men and women sacrifice part of your holiday weekend away from your families to honor the hundreds of veterans buried in our cemeteries and for our communities. This doesn't go unnoticed. The appreciation of the veteran's families and members of these communities cannot be fully expressed. Know however, we are incredibly grateful to each and every one of you. Chi Migwetch!

Anishinaabeg Today Readers

Please let us know if you recently moved, or have moved in the past few years so we can cancel your old address.

Many papers are still being sent to old addresses!

Email: today@whiteearth-nsn.gov

SERVING CARSONVILLE FIRE SINCE 1977

46th Annual FATHER'S DAY Hog Roast

Join us for our Annual Father's Day Hog Roast at Station 1!
All proceeds benefit the Carsonville Firefighters Relief Association.

Sunday, June 15, 2025
12:00 Noon - Free Will Offering

Our Location
48605 County Highway 26
Ponsford, MN 56575

Visit Our Website
www.carsonvillefd.com

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

JOIN US FOR FREE 2-DAY EVENT
OJIBWE LACROSSE STICK MAKING WORKSHOP
Led by: Thomas Howes
(Fond du Lac Band Lake Superior Chippewa)

FRIDAY JUNE 20TH & SATURDAY JUNE 21ST.
9-00AM - 5-00PM.
LOCATION: TBD

Participants 14+ are welcome.

Participants will create two sticks-one to keep and one to give away.

BREAKFAST, LUNCH, LIGHT SNACKS AND BEVERAGES WILL BE PROVIDED.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER CALL: 218-401-1933

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

WHITE EARTH TRIBAL & COMMUNITY COLLEGE
GAAMAAABANISANIKAG GAGGIBENDAAWISAGANIG

STEM TRANSPORTATION SUMMER CAMPS
JUNE & JULY 2025

GET READY TO GO GO GO!

- **INTERACTIVE LEARNING:** Try fun, hands-on activities that focus on vehicles and transportation.
- **EXCITING FIELD TRIPS:** Visit local businesses that utilize innovative transportation technologies.
- **ANISHINAABE CULTURE:** Learn about traditional approaches to sustainability and environmental stewardship.

FREE LUNCH PROVIDED DAILY

Camp is FREE!
Space is limited so scan QR code & apply today!

Grades 4-8
JUNE 9-12, 2025
Monday-Thursday, 9 AM - 3 PM

Grades 9-12
JULY 7-10, 2025
Monday-Thursday, 9 AM - 3 PM

White Earth Tribal & Community College
2250 College Rd, Mahanomen, MN

Contact: 218-935-0477
allen.darke@wetcc.edu
nicole.donjarlais@wetcc.edu
amber.john@wetcc.edu



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.

Kat Thompson retires from ENP



Submitted photo

A small retirement gathering was held for Katherine “Kat” Thompson on May 21 at Ice Cracking Lodge. She started with the White Earth Elderly Nutrition Program (ENP) as the Manager in 2019. She’s had a career as a chef for over 45 years after graduating from a Culinary Arts program when she was 20. She worked at the Shooting Star Casino for many years, and she owned the Restaurant in White Earth for six years. Kat looks forward to spending time with her husband Jeff, riding motorcycles, spending time with her grandkids, working in her garden, and crafting. From left are Monica Perrault, Katherine “Kat” Thompson, and Lynn Tibbetts.

MMIP Awareness Day



Photo by Adam Woltjer

An MMIP Awareness Day Event and Walk was held May 5 at the Shooting Star Casino in Mahanomen. In addition to the walk, there was a BCA speaker, feast, program booths, and a “Say Their Names” play presentation. The event was sponsored by the Mahanomen Tribal Community Council, WE Tribal Public Health, WE DOVE Program, and the WE Tribal and Community College.

School royalty are ready for the powwow trail



Photo by Neegone Brunner



Photo by Gary W. Padrta

It’s that time of year where Royalty represent their schools on the powwow trail. **Left:** The Pine Point school Princess is Cielito Diaz and the Prince is Scott Arthur. **Right:** The Circle of Life Academy selected their Royalty last October. From left are Gregory Hagen - Junior Brave, Honey Dewey - Junior Princess, Kaylene Dewey - Senior Princess, and Glen Hagen - Senior Brave.

Narcan Pop-Up events educate community members



Tim Rindahl, left, visits with Darrell Fox at a Narcan Pop-Up event in Rice Lake on May 7. Community members received Narcan training (and Narcan Nasal Spray if they wanted) and were treated to burgers, hot dogs and chips. More Narcan Pop-Up events will be scheduled at different communities on the reservation. Visit the White Earth website at www.whiteearth.com for upcoming events.

Photo by Gary W. Padrta

Reservation students graduate from welding school



Submitted photo

Students recently graduated from a Basic Welding class at the Workforce Center in Naytahwaush. The class started in November 2024 and was paid for by the Drive for Five grant in partnership with Alexandria Technical College, which also funded Computer Networking, Cyber Security and Carpentry. From left are Sandy St.Clair - Maadaadizi Workforce Center, Sean Johns - Alexandria Technical College Dean of Students, Ben - Welding Instructor, Shannon Londo, Joe Bush, Sonny Goodman, Daryl Moran, Robert Bobcat Keezer, Marcus St. Clair, and Michael Anderson. Not pictured is Linda Muchow - Customized Training.

Highlights of the annual Rice Lake Pow-Wow



Photos by Gary W. Padrta

The annual Rice Lake Memorial Walk and Pow-Wow was held May 25-26. The host drum was Smokey Hill and the co-host drum was Manoomin Singers. The walk was held May 26 from Roy Lake to the Rice Lake Powwow grounds.

