



JANUARY, 21ST 2023
4:00-11:00PM

White Earth Nation's 2nd Annual
HEALTH & WELLNESS
Round Dance

SHOOTING STAR CASINO EVENT CENTER
MAHNOMEN, MN

FEAST 4PM • HAND DRUM CONTEST 5PM • ROUND DANCE STARTS 6PM

EMCEE - DAVE NORTHBIRD	WHIPMAN - CRAIG BOWER	STICKMAN - TBT	SOUND BY RC SOUNDS
BEST WOMANS RIBBON SKIRT \$150	BEST MENS RIBBON SHIRT \$150	BEST WOMANS SIDESTEP \$150	BEST MENS SIDESTEP \$150
HAND DRUM CONTEST 1ST - \$900	(can have up to 3 singers) 2ND - \$600	3RD - \$300	PRIZES TBT
MUSICAL CHAIRS	PRIZES TBT		

INVITED SINGERS:
FAWN WOOD
DALLAS WASKAHAT
THOMAS BUTCHER
JOE RAINEY SR.
JOEL WOOD
FRANK STECH
ANTHONY BUCKANAGA JR.
RODNEY JOHNSON

Sponsored by: WE Public Safety, Mahnomen Tribal Community Council, WE Behavioral Health, SSC Donations Committee, WE Cultural Department, WE CSO Program

Niibi Center

shines spotlight on Historical Trauma Healing program

By Amy Myszko
Niibi Center Program Manager

Many of you know about the work that the Niibi Center has been doing in our community. If you're not yet familiar, the Niibi Center is an Indigenous-led non-profit based on White Earth that aims to protect niibi (water) and manoomin (wild rice) through protecting and preserving Anishinaabe culture. We have programs that support language, protect manoomin through rights of nature work, and uplift women's leadership and spiritual growth.

Our Historical Trauma Healing program focuses on preserving historical information/records, sharing stories around the effects of boarding school trauma, forced removal and other generational and current manifestations of colonization, and taking steps to help individuals and the community heal from the effects of this trauma. The Niibi Center is very excited to welcome Angel Stevens, from the local village of Rice Lake, as our new Director of Historical Trauma Healing.

In 2022, the Niibi Center worked with two primary funders to accomplish work related to Historical Trauma Healing. With support from the Medica Foundation, the Niibi Center hosted two Historical Trauma Healing events at the Shooting Star Casino where we shared information and collected interviews from elders and family members of boarding school survivors in order to assess the needs for this type of story sharing and round table discussion in the community. The consensus was that getting together to share these stories and talk about how to address generational trauma is both healing and necessary.

The Medica Foundation is also supporting the

Niibi Center to send six White Earth band members to become trainers for "Mending Broken Hearts," a two-day workshop created by White Bison to directly address the current grief and generational trauma affecting indigenous communities. These individuals have committed to hosting the Mending Broken Hearts training in our local community, with an emphasis on making it accessible to the various villages on White Earth in 2023 and beyond.

Through funding from the McKnight foundation and in collaboration with St. Benedict's College, the Niibi Center will continue to host community conversations around boarding school trauma. In an effort to make things right, St. Benedicts, which is historically tied to the Catholic order that ran the White Earth boarding school, is collecting interviews with the few remaining nuns who were involved in either the Day School or the boarding school here on White Earth. In conjunction with the White Earth Tribal Historical Preservation Officer Jaime Arsinault, St. Benedicts has also been working steadily to catalogue and return all boarding school records to the White Earth tribe.

As a community partner, the Niibi Center is helping to collect interviews with White Earth elders and family members who have been affected by the White Earth boarding school. These interviews will be the sole property of the individuals who give them, and can be kept private for family use or permission can be given for the interviews to be held in the White Earth Archives. For those that desire their interview to be public, with express permission we can share it on the Niibi Center's new website, which is a repository for interviews, language resources,

[See Trauma Page 11](#)

Thunderbirds are 2022 Section 8A Football Champions



Photo courtesy of Hallie Clark

The Mahnomen-Waubun Thunderbirds Football Team defeated Red Lake County 32-0 on Nov. 3 at the Fargodome to become the Minnesota Section 8A Football Champions. Thier season ended with a loss to Deer River on Nov. 11 in Brainerd, Minn. They finished the season at 9-2.

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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 or attitude of the AT staff or the White Earth Reservation Business Committee.

The AT reserves the right to reject any advertising or materials submitted for publication. The submission of articles and photos is encouraged, however, they are subject to editing for grammar, length, and malicious/libelous content. The Editor makes the sole decision of what is published in the AT and will not assume any responsibility for unsolicited material nor will the AT guarantee publication upon submission. **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. One 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 218-983-3285 Ext. 5903, email: today@whiteearth-nsn.gov, fax: 218-983-3641, or write to:

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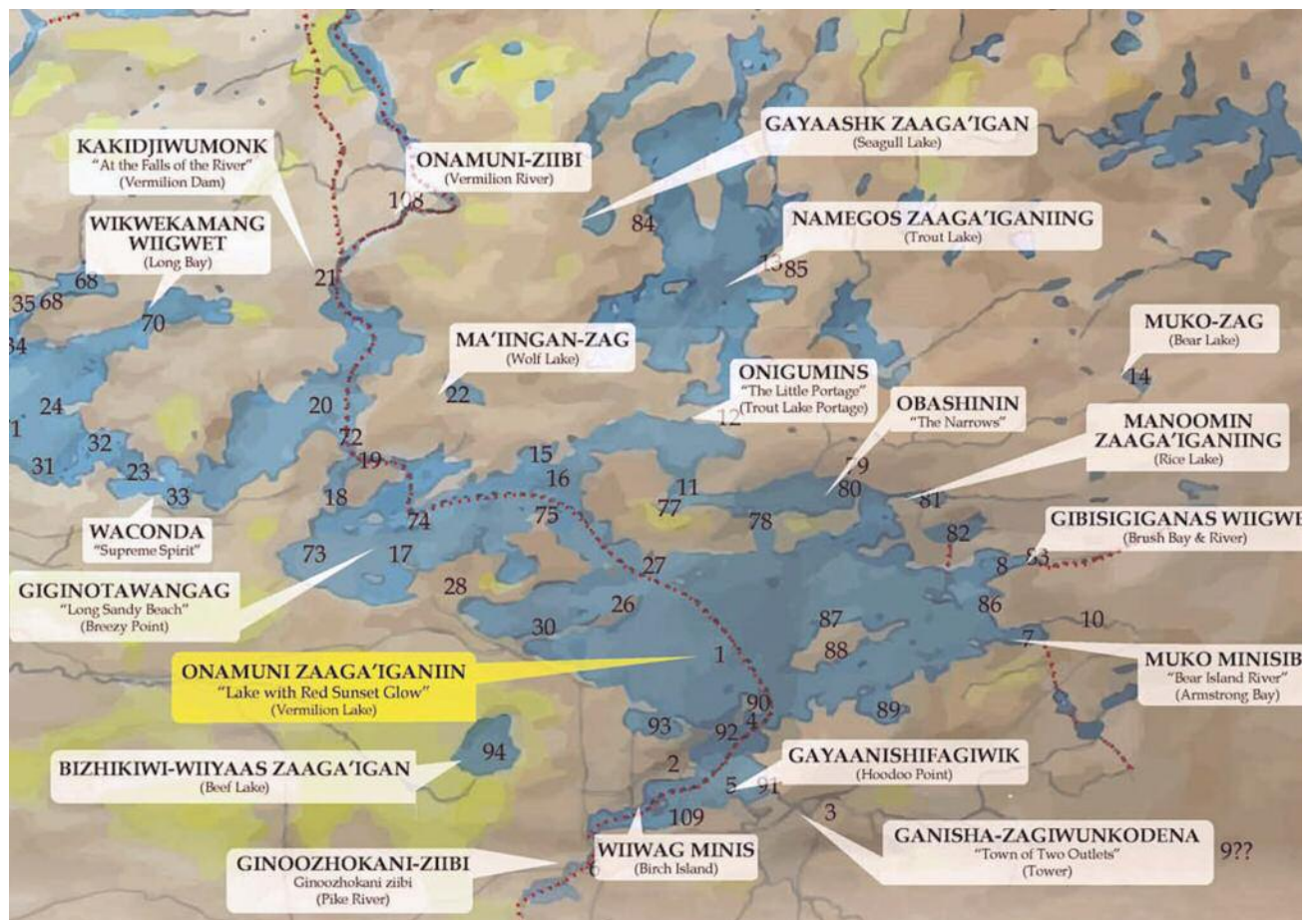
Editor

Gary W. Padrta

Future Issues *

Deadline	Issue Date
December 27	January 4
January 25	February 1
February 22	March 1
March 29	April 5
April 26	May 3

* Deadline and issue dates subject to change



Courtesy of Bois Forte Band of Chippewa

An excerpt of a new handmade map that details the traditional realm of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa in northern Minnesota, along with original Ojibwe names. Numbers indicate locations described elsewhere on the map.

New map reclaims Ojibwe names in northern Minnesota

By Jana Hollingsworth
Star Tribune

DULUTH — Ziinzibaakwutakaming is “the place for making maple sugar” on the south shore of Nett Lake. Ginewigwasensikag is the “long promontory of birch trees” on Lake Vermilion, also known as Birch Point.

These Ojibwe names and meanings and more than 100 others are translated on a new handmade map of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa’s traditional realm, extending 100 miles between the eastern shores of Lake Vermilion to Nett Lake, encompassing about 7,000 square miles.

The map, more than two years in the making, is intended to restore Indigenous names to rivers, lakes, islands and other points of interest found in the boreal forests inhabited by the Bois Forte tribe for hundreds of years.

“Those people really had a sense of place and a sense of belonging to the land,” which is reflected in naming practices, said Rick Anderson, a Bois Forte citizen who worked on the project.

The names are descriptors, many for food sources like rabbits and geographic identifiers. Some are likely for something witnessed and passed down through storytelling.

A bay described as “Young porcupine swimming place” is an example of that, Anderson said.

The new map is a reminder “that people were here before, and we share the love and respect of the land as they did,” he said.

Helmed by the Ely Folk School and the Bois Forte Band, the idea of the map formed when a folk school group that made birch bark canoes made its annual paddle of Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness lakes to a Lac La Croix First Nation pow wow along the Ontario-Minnesota border. The tribe in 2019 had displayed a map made of native place names for Quetico Provincial Park, made by retracing oral histories of its elders.

It inspired the folk school to create one for northern Minnesota, said Paul Schurke, a board member of the non-profit.

Research came from conversations with elders, Ojibwe-

filled missionary and anthropologist diaries from Smithsonian Institution archives, a 1922 pre-Boundary Waters recreation area proposal by Arthur Carhart and Leo Chosa and Warren Upham’s “Minnesota Geographic Names.”

The greatest concentration of Indigenous names were found where Bois Forte made its home, in that expanse of forestland between Lake Vermilion and Nett Lake.

Bois Forte artist Louise Isham and Arden Hills, Minn., artistic cartographer Keith Myrmel volunteered their services to create the map.

Myrmel, who has hand-drawn maps of the Boundary Waters and the North Country Trail, said the map “is really taking a step back in time.”

“You are seeing what really drew people to this area,” he said, of the scores of lakes and other bodies of water that aided travel and provided manoomin, fish and other food. “It’s almost a survival kind of map.”

Such maps make people think more deeply about Minnesota’s history, she said, and understand how it extends beyond borders, offering a window into Indigenous ways of thinking.

“It reminds us that before Americans arrived, there was a very different view of the land,” Annis said.

The folk school, having found native names for places throughout the Boundary Waters and the Arrowhead region, hopes to eventually expand the map to include them.

An number of northern lakes are named for women, stemming to lumberjack surveying of the area, Schurke said, noting they were likely named for their love interests.

The map was unveiled Nov. 30 at the Bois Forte cultural museum. It includes historical information about the band, its chiefs and traditions, along with its migration story. Copies of the map will eventually be sold, and a grant from the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board will cover map production for area schools.

Bois Forte Tribal Chair Cathy Chavers said the project “underscores our voice and our history in the region.”

“This map will serve as a tribute to all who came before us and to the future generations,” she said in a news release.

News From Chairman Michael Fairbanks

Aaniin Boozhoo Gaa-waabaabiganikaag Niminwendam Waabaminaan!

Bibooni-giizis gemaa Manidoo-giizisoons.

Aaniish inaa akawe ninga-gaagiizomaag aadi-zookaanag.

Greetings White Earth Nation I am Happy to See You!

It is already December!

December has a few names, Biboon translates to winter and giizis always to month in this context, Manidoo-giizisoons translates to little spirit moon which is primarily used here.

Creation stories traditionally are told only when Mother Earth is covered by goon or snow; because they are sacred stories of our Ojibwe history and creation. It is said if they are told outside of winter when snow isn't on the ground the aadizookaanag can take them away making them disappear forever; we would never know their existence.

Many moons ago the Ojibwe people were excellent hunters and gathers for many plants and food for medicines and minobimaadiziwin - the red road healthy way of life. There was this one group of Ojibwe which had a great abundance of mandaaminag (corn). It was so bountiful the village became arrogant and began to waste it by throwing it out anywhere and leaving much of the crop of corn to rot because they had already harvested a huge supply. It was so abundant they allowed their children to waste it by letting them play freely with it day after day the children didn't care about. They threw it at each other whipping it around like it was nothing.

So during this time the village would eat all the corn they could then go bury the leftovers in the ground instead of only taking what they could eat they took more than they could eat day after day repeating this cycle. Until one day they went out to hunt and saw a lot of game thinking this will be easy. But, they were totally stumped unable to catch or harvest any meat because the animals seemed stronger and faster than usual. The animals could dodge any arrows with ease they didn't know what was happening. Soon the village people were dwindling down to their last meat supply they had in storage, they knew they wouldn't survive without it. So they thought, "OH we have an abundant supply of mandaaminag (corn) in our winter stash." So they sent someone after it to bring out to their hunting lodges. After the man got back to the village he went to where they stored the mandaaminag but mice and other critters ate it all. The people became worried when he returned with no mandaaminag as he told them what had happened.

Many of the people began the question themselves and others, "What have we done to deserve this?" Not even realizing their part in this dilemma. They began to dance and sing praying about it for an answer. As the people danced there was a man in a distance who had observed how the village misused the corn which made him very upset. They were greedy and wasteful it changed them as a people. He could hear them singing and praying for forgiveness from the manidoog-spirits they had angered.

He was walking though the forest and noticed a wiigwaas-wiigiwaam, birchbark lodge hearing someone in the lodge groaning in pain. As he entered the lodge concerned for whoever was moaning he noticed an ininiins- little man lying on some old dirty dusty hides in the center of the lodge appearing boney and pale. The little man noticed him walking



in. The little man said, "I thought I was one of the best things in life for them and is why I sacrificed a huge abundance this year but it quickly backfired because they began to abuse me not letting me fill their stomachs, throwing me out to the animooshag (dogs) who tore me apart leaving me in the fields to spoil going bad. This is why they are in great despair now, our Creator was watching them. The man who witnessed all of it was also feeling worried because he now realized just who he was talking to. The sick man continued to talk.

"I am glad you came when you heard me suffering; for you can see how they have mistreated me and I appreciate how you stuck to our values no being like them. I don't have water in my jug or leaves to protect me- weeds are all around me as insects are eating off all the corn. NOW GO BACK TO THE PEOPLE TELL THEM WHAT YOU HAVE WITNESSED!" "I AM THE MANIDOO OF MANDAAMIN!" The spirit of corn hollered.

So he told his people of the sick manidoo mandaamin. Their uncaring wastefulness brought on the spirit of corn. The mandaamin said this is the reason you are suffering because he has suffered greatly. After he told them the people ran back to the village to make right all they had done to mandaamin. They had a huge ceremony sacrificing to the mandaamin manidoo placing it in the soil praying as they did it. Afterwards the mandaamin manidoo felt much better and this taught the Anishinaabeg to only take what they could eat and carefully handle it with love as it is a living being.

This story reminds us to not be wasteful of everything and not play with food or water carelessly. These days many people are being very wasteful not thinking about the long-run of our children and great-grandchildren's future. Some years ago in my undergrad back during my student teaching I noticed the kids started a phase of leaving their water/pop bottles 1/4th full and throwing it around like a toy not realizing we are going though water wars fighting for clean water and our nibi is living.

I also notice many people choosing to buy paper and styrofoam plates throwing them out in the garbage instead of teaching the children individually to wash their own plates. I know it gets tedious to ask them to do that chore because most kids put up a fight if they have to wash them all but someone can teach them to "individually" wash just their own plate and silverware making it not be such a long grueling task. They will have a cleaner future because of

See Chairman Page 27

Bemidji City Council to display tribal flags at City Hall

By Nicole Ronchetti
Bemidji Pioneer

BEMIDJI — After a brief discussion on Nov. 14, members of the Bemidji City Council unanimously agreed to move forward with displaying the flags of Leech Lake, Red Lake and White Earth Nations within Bemidji City Hall.

The flags, which have been discussed on and off since 2021, would aim to recognize the relationships between the city and the three nations' governments, as well as bring more visibility to Bemidji's Native American residents, which account for over 10% of the city's population.

"I believe this is very significant to our tribal neighbors," said At-large Councilor Daniel Jourdain. "We're building bridges and showing respect. It's very important that we honor them at city hall."

Jourdain, who is a member of Red Lake Nation, has been an advocate for the display of tribal flags since he was first elected, along with Ward 1 Councilor Audrey Thayer, who is a member of White Earth Nation.

"Our nations have been overlooked and not properly told in the history books, it creates a lack of knowledge in our communities," Thayer shared. "Our lands and our resources built this nation, built our community. I can do nothing but support bringing those tribal flags into city hall."

Other council members have also been consistently in support of displaying the nations' flags, including Ward 4 Councilor Emelie Rivera, who noted that the flags serve as a visual confirmation of Bemidji's commitment to supporting Indigenous peoples.

"I agree we should be doing more, but I think this is a step and we should all get behind it," Rivera said.

The council's opinions on displaying tribal flags have not always been unified. Back in the initial discussions on the topic in 2021, previous Ward 5 Councilor Nancy Erickson argued that only the three flags representing the city, state and nation were

appropriate for city hall.

A public hearing was eventually held that brought forward strong opinions for both sides of the proposal from community members. Since then, the topic only came up sporadically until Jourdain raised it once again in early October.

"It's long overdue in coming, speaking from my background as an Ojibwe person," Jourdain shared.

Every member of the current council supported the possibility of displaying the three tribal flags. The only questions raised were about where they would be displayed in city hall, how soon they could be put up, and what the city's official flag policy would be.

"I have no issue bringing tribal flags into city hall," said Mayor Jorge Prince, who brought up concerns over how decisions should be made for other flags. "My sole concern is, what's the policy?"

City Attorney Katie Nolting shared with the council that Bemidji currently does not have a flag policy, but that one could be crafted to accommodate the tribal flags and provide guidance for any future considerations.

The council agreed to move forward with displaying the flags as quickly as possible, and tentatively scheduled formal approval for the move for Nov. 28. The current goal is for the flags to be displayed by the end of the year, if possible.

This timeline is so that Councilor Jourdain, whose term will end alongside the year, will be able to attend the ceremony and take part in the vote.

"It would be important for you to participate in this vote," Prince said to Jourdain.

Several of the neighboring nations have already expressed that they would be in favor of having their flags displayed at city hall, both to recognize the relationship between the city and their governments and to honor their members who call Bemidji home.

"This is an opportunity to show that we are in unison with our neighbors, and we want to walk towards a better future," Jourdain said. "Not only for the constituents currently here, but also to show that this is current treaty land."

White Earth Energy Assistance Program Notice

The White Earth Energy Assistance Program has sent out new 2023 applications to the clients that applied last heating season. For those of you that did not apply, check our website at www.whiteearth.com and go into Divisions or call our phone number.

Please keep in mind to fill out your application clearly and completely, with all necessary documentation. This makes for a faster process.

Homeowners, please call if you are having furnace problems, we may be able to help you. Please remember to change your filters once a month for adequate maintenance.

Always keep in mind to check your tanks. Running out will adhere to more problems. Summer

prices are at there low. This time of year call, your company to set up payment plans or arrangements if suitable.

Any questions on the program or need to send in information see the information below.

Phone: 218-473-2711

Fax: 218-473-2719

Toll Free: 1-866-885-7656

Email: Chris.Fairbanks@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Location: Across from the Housing Authority office in Waubun

Mail: PO Box 418, White Earth, MN 56591

Website: www.whiteearth.com

Lake Agassiz Regional Library offering free COVID tests

Just in time for the holiday season, libraries across Lake Agassiz Regional Library's seven county region are offering free COVID-19 tests through a partnership with the Minnesota Department of Health. The tests are available while supplies last in Lake Agassiz Regional Library's branch libraries, which are located in Ada, Bagley, Barnesville, Breckenridge, Climax, Crookston, Detroit Lakes, Fertile, Fosston, Hawley, Mahnomen, McIntosh and Moorhead.

COVID-19 tests will also be available in the library systems LINK sites, which can be found in Cormorant, Frazee, Gonvick, Halstad, Hendrum, Lake Park, Rothsay, Twin Valley and Ulen.

Lake Agassiz Regional Library is a consolidated public library system comprised of 13 branch libraries and nine LINK sites. For more information contact the Lake Agassiz Regional Library office at 218-233-3757 or online at www.larl.org.



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Fax: 218-983-4350

Contact Matt or Betsy
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Betsy.Smith@whiteearth-nsn.gov

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Photo by Drew Arrieta / Sahana Journal

8th Fire Sales and Marketing Director, Gwe Gasco in Osage, Minn., showing the internal parts of a thermal panel on Oct. 26.

Native-run solar firm aims to lower heating emissions, costs

By Andrew Hazzard
Sahana Journal

OSAGE, MINN. — Neat stacks of aluminum sheets, insulation, and dark metal frames sit atop long tables in a quiet northern Minnesota manufacturing facility. A group of Native American workers here is assembling the components into a green energy technology with the aim of lowering heating bills and emissions across tribal lands and beyond.

An Anishinaabe-run nonprofit based on the White Earth Nation Reservation, 8th Fire Solar, produces and installs solar thermal panels, a lesser-known sun-powered technology used to help heat homes and buildings.

The firm is part of a growing effort to expand solar power on tribal lands in Minnesota, which advocates say taps into belief systems that call for working in concert with nature, while saving people money and pursuing tribal energy independence.

“We can honor our traditional beliefs with the new technology,” said 8th Fire sales and marketing director Gwe Gasco.

Unlike rooftop photovoltaic solar, solar thermal panels mount on the southern side of a structure, absorb heat from the sun, and pass it through to the inside. For a typical household, it can lower heating bills between 30 and 40 percent, Gasco said, which means using less fossil fuels for heat.

That’s particularly important this year because experts say heating prices are likely to be high. The price of natural gas remains high due to the war between Russia and Ukraine, and global markets resetting from the COVID pandemic, according to Annie Levenson-Falk, executive director of the advocacy nonprofit Citizens Utility Board.

“I think folks are really feeling the pinch,” she said.

Meeting the need

Indigenous people in Minnesota feel the heating and energy bill pinch disproportionately, data shows. The state’s reservations are in colder, rural areas that are less frequently on standard natural gas grids, meaning more people have to heat with pricier fuels like propane. The housing stock also tends to be older

and less energy-efficient.

In Minnesota, Native Americans on federal energy assistance had the highest bills and the lowest household incomes during the 2021-2022 heating season, according to the Minnesota Department of Commerce.

Last winter, 127,638 households across the state received energy assistance totalling \$206,133,387. Native American households on energy assistance paid \$2,691 annually on average to heat and power their homes, much more than any other group, state data shows, and received an average \$2,337 in assistance. Other racial groups on energy assistance averaged just over \$2,000 per year in heating and electric costs and received an average around \$1,600 in assistance.

“We see fuel costs as an equity issue,” said Kevin Lee, deputy commissioner of energy resources with the Minnesota Department of Commerce.

Applications for energy assistance are now open in Minnesota, and it’s better to sign up earlier to receive benefits when needed, Lee said. Households of four can earn up to \$58,000 and still qualify for energy assistance, which is a federal program administered largely by local Community Action Partnership agencies. Signing up for energy assistance also puts families in the application process for weatherization assistance, which can lead to energy audits that result in new furnaces or insulation that bring long term savings. (Tips for saving on energy year round.)

Many households who qualify for energy assistance don’t apply, Levenson-Falk said. Families may not realize they qualify, or that such funds are available. Making the process easier could result in more families enrolling, she believes.

Native Americans are more likely to be energy burdened—meaning they pay a higher percentage of their income on power and heating— than other groups, according to data from the United States Department of Energy. The average Minnesota household spends 2 percent of its income on energy, compared to 7 percent on White Earth Reservation and 6 percent on the Red Lake Reservation. Heating costs

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Rez Briefs

RBC offices closed for the holidays

White Earth RBC offices will be closed Monday, Dec. 26 for the Christmas holiday and will reopen on Tuesday, Dec. 27 at 8 a.m. They will also be closed on Monday, Jan. 2 for the New Years holiday and will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 3 at 8 a.m.

White Earth Public Transit closed Dec. 9

White Earth Public Transit will be closed on Friday, Dec. 9. Thank you and they apologize for the inconvenience.

Ogema VFW 9880 Auxiliary news

Ogema VFW Post 9880 Auxiliary will meet on Monday, Dec. 12 at 4 p.m. in the VFW Hall. All members are encouraged to attend. Please bring any extra Christmas cards that you may have. These cards will be given to veterans. If you are interested in joining our post auxiliary and have questions please contact Carol Fabre at 218-983-3443 or 218-401-1219.

Waubun School Forest Hut opens up

The Waubun School Forest Hut will be open weekends and Christmas vacation if there is enough snow to pack trails for skiing. There are snowshoes and sleds too. You can check the school web site or call volunteer Loree at 218-473-2575 for information. The Hut is located at 2541 State Hwy 113 (9.2 miles east of Waubun).

COLA School Board meets second Tuesday of the month

The Circle of Life Academy School Board meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 4:30 p.m. at the school. For more information call 2180983-4180.

White Earth Building Supplies change to winter hours

White Earth Building Supplies have changed to thier winter hours. Monday-Thursday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday: 8 a.m. to noon.

White Earth Urban Office

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

Anishinaabeg Today readers

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



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HEAD START PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

The purpose of the Head Start Partnership Program (HSPP) is to increase the number of qualified early childhood educators with indigenous knowledge and cultural understanding in communities of the White Earth Reservation and Northwest Minnesota.

Contact Tammi:
tammi.jalowiec@wetcc.edu
218-935-0417 ext. 8370

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JAN. 9, 2023



This opportunity is made available through a US Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Children & Families - Office of Head Start - Tribal Colleges & Universities Head Start Partnership Program.

Volunteers needed for tax site

Since 2006, White Earth Investment Initiative has hosted a free Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site at the Shooting Star Casino where taxpayers can have their returns prepared for free by trained community volunteers.

In 2022, WEII's VITA sites filed more than 500 federal returns and facilitated the return of nearly \$1 million to the community by way of federal tax refunds while also saving taxpayers more than \$100,000 in tax preparation fees. In addition to operating its site at the Shooting Star Casino, WEII also operated tax sites in Detroit Lakes.

Community volunteers are key to the success of the VITA program. Volunteers help community members meet their tax obligations quickly and easily. Many VITA clients qualify for important tax credits – such as the federal Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit – as well as the Minnesota Working Family Tax Credit. VITA volunteers work hard to ensure taxpayers receive all the credits they are eligible for.

“More than anything, our sites strive to help taxpayers understand their tax returns and navigate the filing process. We want tax season to be as worry-free and easy as possible,” said Cindy Sperl, WEII's VITA Coordinator. “When community members volunteer at our sites, we are able to provide the best help possible to the taxpayers who come to us.”

White Earth Investment Initiative is seeking new

community members to assist with tax preparation in 2023 at its locations in Mahanomen and Detroit Lakes. After receiving specialized tax training, volunteers work directly with community members to complete tax returns accurately and confidentially. All training is provided by WEII. In addition, tax volunteers receive reimbursement for mileage to training and the tax sites.

“The tax returns prepared at our sites are not complex, so volunteers do not need to have any prior tax knowledge or training. Our staff provides thorough training and is always present at the tax sites to offer support when volunteers have questions. Our volunteers have a lot of fun and have an enormous impact in our communities,” said Sue Trnka, Community Services Coordinator for WEII.

Training dates have not yet been scheduled, but WEII anticipates offering in-person training in early January. Anyone interested in volunteering at WEII's tax sites should contact Cindy Sperl at 218-844-7057 or csperl@mmedc.com.

The tax site is a service of the White Earth Investment Initiative and is made possible by Shooting Star Casino, Hotel & Event Center, Midwest Minnesota Community Development Corporation, the Internal Revenue Service, Minnesota Department of Revenue, Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition, and Oweesta Corporation. WEII is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

White Earth INVESTMENT INITIATIVE



Cindy Sperl
WEII VITA
Coordinator

VITA
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

Volunteer
with us!

218.844.7057



Sue Trnka
WEII Community
Services Coordinator

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

UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS

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

Many papers are still being sent to old addresses!

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Gaa-miinigowiziyang exhibit features Native artists at Bemidji Watermark Center

Bemidji, MN - The exhibit Gaa-miinigowiziyang “What We were Given,” created by the artists and allies of the Bemidji-based grass roots organization Manidoo Ogitigaan (Spirit Garden), opens Thursday, Dec. 8 in Watermark Art Center’s Miikanan Gallery.

Together with the Great Lakes Lifeways Institute in Michigan, Manidoo Ogitigann works to revitalize art forms and cultural knowledge in a meaningful way in order to rebuild cultural legacy. Their focus is to teach and relearn traditional Indigenous life skills rooted in Anishinaabe culture including birch bark canoe building, basketry, wood-working, and weaving.

The exhibit features the work of community members from various backgrounds who have participated in their artist collective activities. Artists gather and process materials in a manner akin to the original inhabitants of the land with the mindset of protecting the land and its resources.

The exhibit runs through Feb. 18, 2023 and will include an open house with the artists to be announced at a later date. Watermark galleries are free and open to the public Monday - Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and located at 505 Bemidji Avenue N. in Bemidji, Minn. Visit WatermarkArtCenter.org for detailed event, class and registration information or call 218-444-7570.



Submitted photo

An artist works on a cedar bark mat.

Kent Estey is recipient of 2022-23 Artist Fellowship

The Region 2 Arts Council has announced contemporary Native American artist Kent Estey and bassoonist Miriam Brack Webber as the recipients of the 2022-2023 Artist Fellowship.

These Artist Fellows were selected on Oct. 11 when a committee consisting of established area artists, including the past Artist Fellows and two Region 2 Arts Council board members, convened to review eight applications for the Artist Fellowship award, a release said.

This award is intended for dedicated artists who have created a substantial independent body of work, have received recognition for their work, and whose work has been selected for solo exhibitions, commissions, presentations, readings or performances.

Kent Estey is an enrolled member of the White Earth Nation and his lineage includes many self-taught artists where black-ash basketry, beading, birch-bark and fiber artistry were everyday occurrences in his home. His preferred art form is painting

with oils, acrylics and inks.

His paintings reflect feelings and emotions through his use of color and movement on the canvas. Some of his most recent work incorporates rock, metal, and collage on canvas and board.

Estey’s work has been exhibited in Minneapolis, Saint Paul, Bemidji, Grand Rapids, Wahpeton, North Dakota and other regional exhibitions and galleries in Minnesota.

He has been an educator for most of his life, living and working in his hometown of Naytahwaush.



Applications are being accepted for low-income individuals and families seeking to purchase or repair a home in a rural area

The Direct Home Loan program offers financing to qualified very-low and low-income applicants that are unable to qualify for traditional financing. No down payment is required, and the interest rate could be as low as one percent with a subsidy. Applicants must meet income and credit guidelines and demonstrate repayment ability. The program is available in rural communities of generally 35,000 people or less.

The maximum loan amount is \$40,000 at a one percent interest rate, repayable for a 20-year term and can be used to improve or modernize homes and do essential repairs. Grants of up to \$10,000 are available to homeowners 62 and older and must be used to remove health or safety hazards, such as fixing a

leaking roof, installing indoor plumbing, or replacing a furnace.

Contact a USDA Rural Development Housing Specialist in your area today, to see if you qualify.

USDA Rural Development loans and grants provide assistance that supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community services such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural areas.

For more information contact Claire Jackson, USDA Rural Development, 809 8th St SE, Detroit Lakes at 218-530-3314 or email: claire.jackson@usda.gov or visit www.rd.usda.gov/mn

White Earth Council of Elders

By Lucille Silk, Chairperson

White Earth Nation Council of Elders

This month is a time to reflect on our attributes and make sure that we begin each day in the right way through our spirituality. Our ancestors tried to teach us that it is important to remember our cultural beliefs of love, trust, honesty, courage, humility, respect and honor so that we can experience, (Bimadiziwin), ‘The Good Life.’ Thanksgiving was a time for families to gather, pray, eat, and spend time together. Often, families are miles apart but we hope you were able to gather together on Thanksgiving and share. We sincerely pray that all families were able to enjoy the time together and that they returned to their homes safe.

On Nov. 11, we honored all Veterans both living and deceased. It was a day to remember our Veterans, especially our Natives who entered those varied armed services on short notice. May the Great Spirit grant them all peace and love.

Thank you to all our Native people that voted in this year’s election. It is important to know that your vote does count, so please keep up the practice.

This is the month to advise all the Wisdom Steps members, both new and old, to complete your health and walk cards in order to attend the annual conference on June 13-15, 2023 at Shooting Star Casino. The health cards have four requirements that are mandatory, but we encourage filling in as many of the health preventive measures as possible. On the walk cards, weekly entries are encouraged and totaled as best you can. **Both cards must be completed by Dec. 15** and returned to myself, since Bev Karsten is no longer with us. We hope to have a table to collect those cards at the Christmas Party on Thursday, Dec. 15 at the Shooting Star Casino. If you have any questions prior to that date regarding Wisdom Steps, please call 218-983-3768.

Thank you to Darrell Bellanger and his weatherization program, especially for Elders that live in their own homes to put plastic on windows or to get the materials to do their own inside window coverage. All Housing homes are to be done by White Earth Housing Authority.

Both the White Earth Community Council and the White Earth Council members want to apologize for not providing a Thanksgiving meal to the White Earth area Elders, families, and shut-ins. Normally about 300 meals would be made for this area for those alone or without family. Our cook became ill and was unable to do this project as in past years and we want to wish her Blessings in her recovery. Also, the stove at White Earth is not functioning. Not all was lost, a couple Elders made meals for those at Congregate and a few in the community. The spirit of what Thanksgiving is all about is alive and well! Thank You!

So far, our weather has been alright, but we do not want to get complacent. For all those folks that drive to and from work, please be sure to have a winter survival kit in your car. These can be made up on your own or purchased. One thing to have in your car is a blanket. Maybe you can hide your treats in your car so they can be used for safety! Our Elders will not have meetings during the months of January, February and March for their safety. Any business will be handled by our executive committee.

At this time, we want to thank all programs for their assistance in whatever way to our Elders this year and to wish all a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year. We pray for our ill and homebound and their families. Our Blessings to those that are afflicted with drugs and the homeless, and we hope for recovery.

See Elders Page 27



Celebrating, giving thanks, and taking care of each other are year-round traditions.

As American Indian and Alaska Natives, we know the importance of good health. By taking care of ourselves, we are protecting our communities and generations to come.

Today we must continue to do our part. Updated vaccines are available for everyone 5 and older. Get your updated COVID vaccine to protect yourself and those you love against the original virus and Omicron.

Find updated COVID vaccines for everyone 5+ at [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov)





Photo courtesy of Sam Olbekson

Sam Olbekson (White Earth Nation), right, working on a mood board for a design project.

Sam Olbekson is decolonizing design, one building at a time

By **Kate Nelson**
Architectural Digest

When Sam Olbekson was four years old, he witnessed the Minneapolis American Indian Center being built, with one of his uncles on the construction crew. Now, 48 years later, the Native American architect (White Earth Nation) is overseeing the large-scale renovation of the aging structure to amplify its cultural relevance and enhance its services. It's a full-circle moment for the founder of the aptly named Full Circle Indigenous Planning + Design. And it's just one example of how Olbekson is shaping contemporary Indigenous design.

"Right now, there are so many movements to revive Native culture focused around language, arts, and land issues; architecture has been a forgotten part of that," explains the 52-year-old grad of Harvard's lauded Master of Architecture in Urban Design program. "But culture and architecture are inextricably linked, because the way a community is arranged can help or hinder bonding, development, and prosperity."

Tribal nations have historically faced numerous obstacles in creating culturally appropriate spaces, including legal, political, financial, and infrastructure issues. All too often, this results in one-size-fits-all buildings that don't take into consideration a community's unique needs.

But Olbekson views architecture as both a powerful expression of Indigenous cultural identity and a critical component of sovereignty. For more than 25 years, he's put that ideology into action, working with 40 some tribes on master planning for Indian reservations and designing key public structures like schools, clinics, and housing, typically using sustainable, regenerative practices and materials.

"I've been told I'm decolonizing architecture

one building at a time," Olbekson says. "Many tribes are just starting to become thriving communities again after centuries of colonialism and oppression. In working with Native communities, I help them express a contemporary vision of who they are today and also who they want to be in seven generations."

The impact of culturally relevant design goes far beyond aesthetics. "If you walk into an Indigenous clinic and see your culture on the walls, you know you're going to be healing within the context of your own culture," Olbekson notes. "Or when students walk into a school and see themselves in the architecture, they're learning about those important parts of who they are." His own upbringing—raised by a single mom in poverty conditions and splitting his time between urban and rural tribal communities—influences his work today.

The design process on Indigenous projects can be long and arduous, involving many community leaders and governed by limited tribal budgets. Construction will finally begin next month on the Minneapolis American Indian Center (part of the larger American Indian Community Blueprint revitalization plan) after 10 years of preparation. Olbekson often helps spearhead community engagement and fundraising initiatives with these projects too.

While these efforts extend beyond those typically expected of an architect, Olbekson sees it all as his life's calling: "I serve communities by helping them define themselves, define their culture, and define how architecture aligns with that," he says. "In that way, a new building or neighborhood becomes a part of their own self-determination and sovereignty, a part of their cultural fabric and history."

Other notable projects of Olbekson's include the

See Building Page 10

THE DOCTOR'S CORNER

New Community Dental Hygiene Program

It's fall and back to school time, which means we are in full swing in after school sports practices, concerts, game days, and homework all while trying to find time to cook dinner, do laundry, and take care of the pets. Life is busy, and making time to see the dentist is just another thing on the to-do list. White Earth Health Center is pleased to announce our new Community Health Dental Hygienist, Alyssa Rowe.

One program Alyssa will initiate is the school-based dental programs for White Earth Nation. We are partnering up with Circle of Life Academy, Pine Point School, Naytahwaush Community Charter School, Mahnomen School, and Waubun-Ogema Schools to provide onsite oral screenings for cavities, infections, or anything dentally abnormal. Then we will be able to do cleanings, counseling on dietary habits, topical fluoride varnish, dental sealants, and temporary fillings if needed.

If you would like your child to participate in the program, we will need a signed consent form by the child's legal guardian. Consent forms are sent home with the students at the beginning of the school year or at the school's office. You will have the option to give permission for all services, or just particular ones. Afterwards, a letter is sent home to communicate what procedures were done and if there were any significant findings. We always recommend making an appointment with your regular dental provider for a follow-up.

White Earth Dental Department also provides the annual dental screenings required for Head Start children. It's such a great experience to bring oral hygiene kits to the children and teach them to take care of their teeth. Letters are sent home to inform the parents/guardians about their children's oral health status. It is a great way to bring preventative dental services to area youth while being able to screen for any urgent needs, especially for those who have not been to their primary dental clinic in a while.

Alyssa, the Community Health Dental Hygienist will be out in the community as much as possible to provide oral health education to tribal members. We plan to have oral health education events for the diabetic clinics. This past summer, she attended many of the tribal picnics to engage with the community and make learning about dental health fun. In the future, we hope to include local powwows, Boys and Girls Clubs, elder centers, daycares and more to the outreach program. We understand it's hard to make time to get to the dentist with the demands of everyday life, that's why we are excited to be able to bring preventative dentistry directly to you!



Submitted photo

White Earth Health Center is pleased to announce their new Community Health Dental Hygienist, Alyssa Rowe.

WE Land Recovery Project receives \$50,000 Blandin Foundation Leadership Boost Grant

The White Earth Land Recovery Project will use a recently awarded \$50,000 Blandin Foundation Leadership Boost Grant to promote wellness, wellness of the land, wellness of the body, and wellness of the mind.

This funding will go to support two projects - The Great Lakes Indigenous Farming Conference and the Mind Body Medicine Project. The conference brings together like minded people from across Turtle Island who believe the wellness our world can be promoted through indigenous thinking and practice.

The Mind Body Medicine Project is currently working on certifying qualified trainers to offer Center for Mind Body Medicine curriculum across the White Earth Reservation. Mind-body techniques encourage relaxation, improve coping skills, reduce tension and pain, and often lessen the need for medication.

Leadership Boost Grants were launched to encourage Minnesotans living in rural and tribal communities to be visionary and creative as they move their communities forward after two years of snowballing challenges.

"The last two years of complex crises have taken a toll on leaders across rural Minnesota," said Sonja Merrild, director of rural grantmaking at Blandin Foundation. "In times like this, of great challenge and opportunity, the resilience and fortitude of rural people and places shines through. Yet, we recognize the critical need for more resources to move small communities from where they are to where they want to go."

More than 300 Letters of Interest were submitted for funding, far more than anticipated. Based on the type of requests received, Blandin Foundation opened three grant rounds for Community Planning, Capital Projects in small towns under 3,000 people, and Creative Placemaking. To better support the many strong requests, the total amount of funding available increased from \$1 million to \$5.5 million after Blandin Foundation's board approved an additional \$3 million in June and a \$1.5 million grant was secured from Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies.

"Rural and tribal places simply don't get their fair share of funding and resources," said Merrild.

Building from Page 9

recent rebuilding of Migizi, an educational nonprofit empowering Native youth, whose Minneapolis headquarters burned down amidst the unrest following the 2020 police killing of George Floyd. The organization holds a special place for Olbekson not only because he had designed the building that went up in flames, but also because he was a participant in the program as a kid. Full Circle also designed the newly opened affordable housing Mino-Bimaadiziwin Apartments in Minneapolis for the Red Lake Ojibwe Band—the first housing project developed by a tribal government in a major US city.

Olbekson's work spans beyond Minnesota, and he always endeavors to understand each Indigenous community and its specific needs and history. "Many people think of Native Americans as much more monolith than we actually are, with 574 federally

"When we see stats like only 5 percent of philanthropic dollars and 10 percent of federal small business loan funds go to rural, this creates resource roadblocks to future opportunity. While the leaky pipes intended to bring resources into rural communities need a complete overhaul, Leadership Boost Grants are one way we can spark energy and action toward sustainable rural futures."

White Earth Land Recovery Project was invited to submit a full application for a Creative Placemaking grant.

This grant will support the Great Lakes Indigenous Farming Conference. This conference will provide useful new information that will aid in ongoing research. It will grow connections amongst farmers, ranchers, researchers, and likeminded community members. This conference will encourage youth to connect to Aking (the land to which the people belong) in a positive healthy way. It will bring together like minded individuals to work toward policy development for the benefit of Indigenous farmers. Attendees will gain new techniques, skills, and novel ideas to further their farming careers. The GLIFC is an avenue for educators to present findings, and to the wider community, it will be a venue to brainstorming, networking, and making connections that can lead to new initiatives.

The second project funded through the Blandin Boost Grant is The Mind Body Medicine Project. This project will provide more certified MBM practitioners to serve the Anishinaabe of White Earth. It will help more people to understand the connection the mind has to the body. More people will practice relaxation, improve coping skills, reduce tension and pain, and lessen the need for medications.

"The projects of White Earth Land Recovery Project encompass wellness, wellness of the land, wellness of the body, and wellness of the mind. Through our projects we work to bolster community wellness overall by creating spaces for innovation, connection, and balance," said Maggie Rousu, WELRP Executive Director

For more on Blandin Foundation's Rural Leadership Boost Grants, and to see other grantee projects, visit <https://bit.ly/RuralBoostGrants>.

recognized tribes," he explains. "But each culture is very different. I work with tribal nations all over the country, and tribes in the Northwest have totally different considerations than tribes in the Southwest. There's a huge responsibility to really listen and respect the unique identity of each culture."

And that, Olbekson affirms, is where self-determination comes into play. "For so long, Native Americans didn't control what our future looked like," he concludes. "Now, there are so many futures to imagine: What do we want our children to see in 10, 20 years? What do we want our grandchildren to see? It goes back to seven-generational thinking and the Native American idea that everything is related—the earth, the environment, our communities, and of course architecture."



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Wild Rice Round-Up gathering at SSC

The 20th Annual Wild Rice Round-Up “Lose Your Winter Blues” conference will be held Jan. 6-8 at the Shooting Star Casino Event Center in Mahnomen.

Friday, Jan. 6

3 p.m. - Registration opens
 4-6:45 p.m. - Hospitality Room - Shooting Star Event Center (Waubun Room), light refreshments
 7 p.m. - Drum Opening - Richwood Room
 7:30 p.m. - AA Speaker: Don C., Colorado Springs, Colo.
 9:30 p.m. - Memorial Talking Circle, Richwood Room
 9:30 p.m. - Al-Anon Meeting, Waubun Room
 9:30 p.m. - NA Talking Circle, Beaulieu Room

Saturday, Jan. 7

6:30 a.m. - Morning Meditation/Stretches: Kevin M.
 8:30 a.m. - Al-Anon Workshop: Mary T., Waubun
 10:30 a.m. - AA Speaker: Colin C., Onamia, Minn.
 12:30 p.m. - AA Workshop: Sharyl W., Lac Courte Oreilles, Wis.
 3 p.m. - Al-Anon Speaker: Kathy B., Eagle Bend, Minn.
 5:30 p.m. - Banquet
 7:30 p.m. - AA Speaker: Sandy W.,

Sicangu Lakota, Rosebud, S.D.
 8:45 p.m. - Dance to the “Mooseknuckle Bros” with special guests.

Sunday, Jan. 9

10 a.m. - AA Speaker: Jay L., Sacramento, Calif.
 11 a.m. - Closing Ceremony

Registration Charges:

Registration fee: \$35
Banquet fee: \$15
Registration+Banquet: \$50
 Register by mail or in person only
Rooms: For reservations call 1-800-453-7827 and ask for Block #13603 by Dec. 27. Rooms are \$85 plus tax.

Information contacts:

Email: pamroseasp@hotmail.com
Website: www.wildriceroundup.com
Write: Wild Rice Round-Up
 PO Box 203
 Mahnomen, MN 56557
Call: Fred at 218-849-1357 or Pam at 612-250-1171.

* Pre-registration assures purchase of banquet tickets.
 *We will accept your registration and payment onsite.
 *Please note: Banquet tickets for sale are based on availability

Pre-Registration Form

Pre-registration forms must be received no later than Dec. 27

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Home Group _____

___AA ___Al-Anon ___Alateen ___Other ___Banquet Total enclosed \$ _____

Mail this form with payment to:
Wild Rice Round-Up
PO Box 203
Mahnomen, MN 56557

Trauma from Front Page

articles and videos related to our work in the community.

In our Historical Healing work, the Niibi Center aims to create spaces where stories can be shared in safety and where there are cultural resources present through traditional language and prayer to facilitate collective processing.

The White Earth community is invited to another gathering for round table discussions and to collect stories (interviews) from boarding school survivors and their family members on Dec. 18 at 10 a.m. (and all day) at the Rice Lake Community Center. We will come together to share food, stories and ideas around collective healing. Stipends will be provided for participants and anyone interested in giving an interview will receive the final edited version of their interview, as well as a stipend.

Questions can be directed to Angel at angel.stevens@niibicenter.org or 218-407-5517.



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Concerts | Mahnomen | 8PM

VINCE NEIL | Fri, Dec 2

TANYA TUCKER | Fri, Dec 16

Mustang Lounge | 8PM

NASHVILLE'S LUCAS HOGE | Fri, Dec 30 & Sat, Dec 31



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Searching for Elder Cultural teachings

Looking for elders to teach their cultural knowledge in group settings in the villages on the White Earth Reservation. These chosen helpers will be on a contract under White Earth Public Health for a limited amount of sessions.

The teachings can be; Ribbon Skirts, beading, fishing skills, wild rice knockers and poles and harvesting knowledge.

Elders will be teaching cultural skills that will last a lifetime.

For more information please contact Eva Brakefield at 218-983-3286 Ext 1249 or Eva.Brakefield@whiteearthnsn.gov

Will need your name, contact information and skill you want to provide.

LaDuke: The seventh-generation amendment

Opinion by Winona LaDuke

Now that all the politicking is over, and the polls have closed, it's time to make a better future for all of us. That means whether we are poor or rich, brown, or white, urban or rural.

That also, from my perspective, means caring for our relatives who have wings, fins, roots, or paws and the water which gives us all life. We all live here, omaa akiing. I believe it's time to make decisions for the seventh generation ahead.

Indigenous peoples have a long history of representational democracy, consensus building, and sustainability — that is until the military, church and germ warfare leveled most of our villages and attempted to erase our history. Those teachings and some of those institutions, however, remain.

The Six Nations Confederacy, or Haudenosaunee, have the longest-standing representational democracy in the western hemisphere, a thousand or so years of working together. The Nations in the confederacy include the Iroquois, Onondaga, Mohawk, Tuscarora, Oneida and Seneca, spanning much of the northeast, or a territory the combined size of Germany and France. Long ago, they found what is called the Tree of Peace, burying weapons, and looking to create a peace which would last for centuries.

Really, as America continues to watch and participate in continuous wars, it is a gift to think of peace.

Indeed, the “Founding Fathers” of America — Ben Franklin, Thomas Jefferson and others — spent much time learning from the Iroquois, as those early Americans had little or no experience with democracy; they came from monarchy and oppression. Those Founding Fathers missed some important parts of the creation of a democracy, notably, the idea of peace, and that the only ones who could vote were white men who owned lands, those would be most likely stolen. Those fathers also missed that in the Haudenosaunee, women approved the leaders. In America, women had no vote until the 20th century.

The teachings of sustainable democracy and government are profound and complex.

One of the most profound is the intergenerational responsibility of leaders. Six Nations speak of a principle called the seventh-generation teaching, where leaders are instructed to “consider the impact of their decisions on the seventh generation from now.” That's a profound teaching, and a stark contrast to America's current political promises, four-year terms, special interest lobbying and decisions based on quarterly profits. How about if we thought long term?

In 1996 and 2000, I ran for vice president of the United States. I ran as Ralph Nader's running mate, a Green Party candidate. There are many reasons for this decision, but foundationally, the seventh-generation amendment was one of the most basic. Walter Bresette, a Red Cliff Anishinaabe man, led the Seventh Generation Committee of the Green Party. There are many principles of Indigenous governance, but perhaps one of the most salient is the seventh-generation teaching, embraced by the Green Party.

Consider this: The Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution provides some protection for private property, but there is no protection for common property — the air, the water, the soil. That's the basis for the seventh-generation amendment: Someone must protect the commons. The proposed amendment

read, “... The rights of the people to use and enjoy air, water, sunlight, and other renewable resources determined by Congress to be common property, shall not be impaired, nor shall such use impair their availability for the future generations.”

Why is this important? Agricultural runoff destroys lakes and those lakes do not belong to the hog farm owners. They belong to the commons. Or in the thinking of many, they belong to the Creator, or Mother Nature. Some 47% of the lakes in Minnesota are contaminated. Agriculture is the primary culprit. Companies and countries dump garbage in the ocean. The ocean is not their personal waste bucket. And fossil fuel companies pollute the air and spill oil. The fires and contamination impact us all. Superfund sites, of which there are thousands left by corporations, are really a tragedy of the commons.

And, what's worse, is that we often don't make corporations clean up the messes they made, we just pay for it ourselves, through our tax dollars. Land, air, and water do not belong to private interests and there's no protection for Mother Earth or future generations.

Indeed, the taking of common property through abuse of private property use should be illegal: it's a theft from present and future generations, who all have a right to clean water. This constitutional amendment, as proposed, is really an evolution of the American legal system, and it's an essential one. At the same time, the foundation or basis for this amendment is well within the preamble of the constitution.

“We the People of the United States ... secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity ...” Posterity is for the seventh generation from now. Indeed, Indigenous legal canons are very applicable in modern day America. As we witness political crises in the democracy, from the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection to the corruption at many levels of governance, it's time to look to those who have long-time experience with living in peace. Now that election season is over, how about we look at caring for the future generations. Let's take care of the seventh generation from now.

Winona LaDuke is executive director, *Honor the Earth*, and an Ojibwe writer and economist on Minnesota's White Earth Reservation. She is also owner of Winona's Hemp.

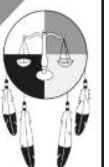
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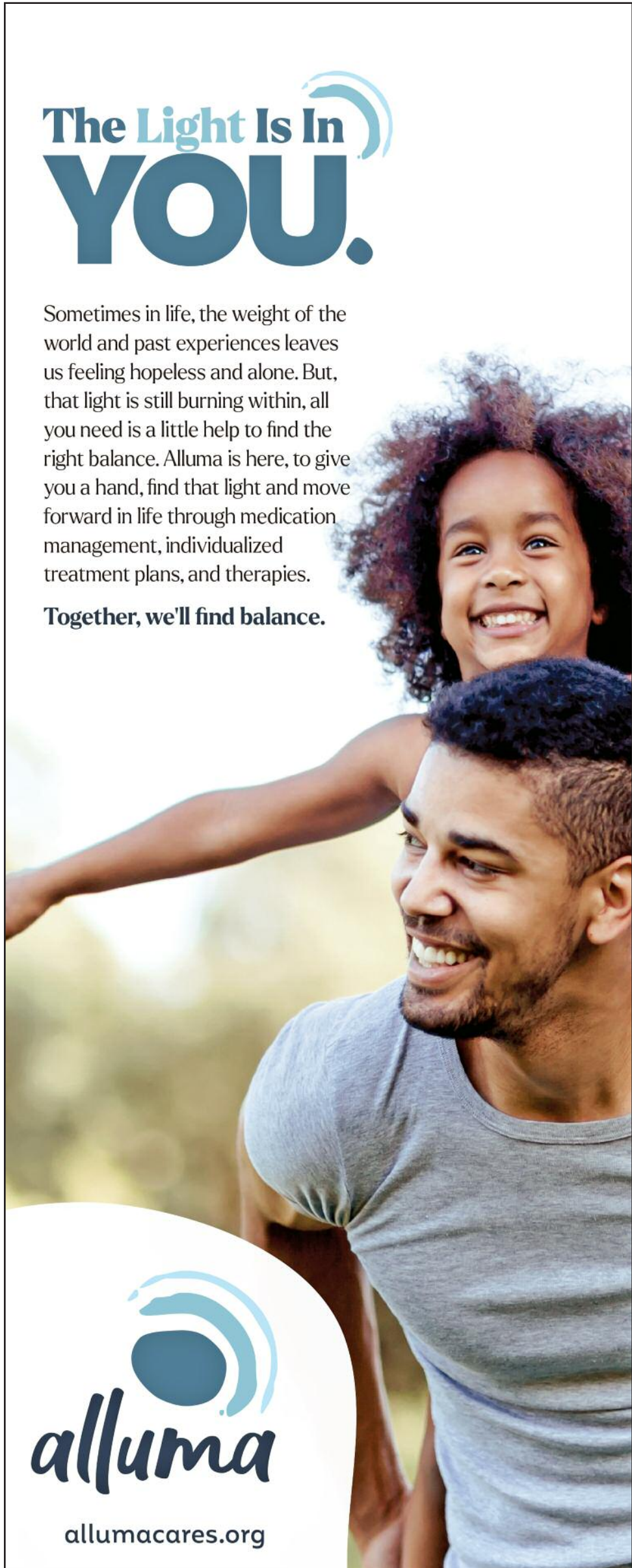
Sometimes in life, the weight of the world and past experiences leaves us feeling hopeless and alone. But, that light is still burning within, all you need is a little help to find the right balance. Alluma is here, to give you a hand, find that light and move forward in life through medication management, individualized treatment plans, and therapies.

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Preserving White Earth historical photographs



Photo by Gary W. Padrta

Rita Walaszek Arndt (White Earth Nation), Program and Outreach Manger for Native American Initiatives with the Minnesota Historical Society (MNHS) discusses resources available to people during the Preserving Photographs Event and Open House on Nov. 7 at the Shooting Star Casino. Topics included Preservation Methods for Photos, Digitation How-to for Your Own Photographs, and Resources at MNHS on Indigenous Content and Programs.

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White Earth Natural Resources encourages ice safety

Recommended Minimum Ice Thickness
(Rough Guidelines for New Clear Ice Only)

2" or less
STAY OFF!!

4 Inches Ice Fishing	5 Inches Snowmobile or ATV	8 - 12 Inches Car or Small Pickup	12 - 15 Inches Medium Truck
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© Department of Natural Resources

Courtesy illustration

With overnight temperatures dropping and ice forming on our lakes, fishermen are excited to get out on the lakes. White Earth Natural Resources would like to remind fishermen and other outdoor enthusiasts to practice safety when venturing out on early ice.

Here are some general guidelines from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for safe ice travel: Please keep in mind, these **guidelines are for good, clear ice**. Any cloudy or gray colored ice should be avoided. If ice travel is a must during the early season, don't go alone, carry a chisel, and check the ice thickness often as you go. Always carry a rope, floatation device and ice picks with you as you venture out. This will help to free yourself in an emergency.

White Earth Child Care, White Earth Public Health & DL Rotary's Holiday book giving!

Thursday December 15, 2022

2:00pm to 6:00pm
***White Earth Community Center**

Ages 0-12 books / 1 set per child
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Upper Red Lake walleye regulations change for winter season

Anglers fishing during the winter season on Upper Red Lake in northern Minnesota will have a three-walleye bag limit, with only one walleye longer than 17 inches allowed in possession. The new regulation became effective Nov. 1.

The fall fisheries assessment on the Red Lakes found the walleye population to be at a healthy, sustainable level with a wide range of sizes. This winter's walleye regulation on Upper Red Lake is based on the abundance of mature female walleye, or spawning stock, in "optimal" condition. The fall numbers indicated that a regulation that allows a moderate amount of harvest is most appropriate to maintain spawning stock at a level that is both sustainable and promotes the consistent success of new year classes.

Last winter, the bag limit was four fish in an effort to reduce "surplus" spawning stock to a level that is more likely to encourage success of young fish and relive some pressure off the walleye population's primary forage, yellow perch.

"We are actively managing for optimal spawn-

ing stock to maximize the likelihood of strong year classes, which bodes well for future fishing," said Edie Evarts, Bemidji area fisheries supervisor with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. "Our fall survey indicated that the walleye population is healthy and there should be an abundance of harvestable fish just under 17 inches, and always an opportunity to catch a larger fish."

The Red Lake Nation and the DNR manage the walleye harvest on Red Lake under a joint harvest plan that the Red Lakes Fisheries Technical Committee revised in 2015.

The DNR will determine next year's open water harvest regulations after the winter fishing season. An Upper Red Lake Citizen Advisory Committee reviews walleye harvest totals and regulation options and provides recommendations for regulations for the state waters of Upper Red Lake.

Upper Red Lake fishing regulations are available at the DNR website (mndnr.gov/fishing/upper-red-lake-regulations.html).

WHITE EARTH NATION COMMUNITY WELLNESS & RECOVERY NAVIGATORS & Community Health Outreach Workers "OSHKAABEWISAG" (HELPERS)

Mahnomen Navigator & C.H.O.W

CSO-Jedediah Desjarlait
(218) 401-3829

C.H.O.W- Dawn Basswood
(218) 401-1216

N.T.W. Navigator & C.H.O.W

CSO-Dustin Keezer
(218) 401-0576

C.H.O.W-Heidi Goodwin
(218) 401-4693

White Earth Navigator & C.H.O.W

CSO-Sue Hanks
(218) 401-0415

C.H.O.W-Anthony Malmo
(218) 401-1141

Outreach

Cassandra Hanks
(218) 401-1173

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Members for Programs

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-Access to Mental Health.

-Access to Narcan

-Housing Resources

-Assist with Ceremonies

-Host Community Events

Community Service Manager & C.H.O.W Manager

CSO- Craig Bower
(218) 401-1263

C.H.O.W- Edith Smith
218-401-3682

Rice Lake Navigator & C.H.O.W

CSO-Shawn Goodman
(218) 401-1989

C.H.O.W-Frank Stech
(218) 401-4668

Pine Point Navigator & C.H.O.W

CSO-Allison Jones
(218) 401-0561

C.H.O.W-Karen Jones
(218) 401-4702

Overdose Response Coordinator

Ralph Goodman
(218) 401-3198

Overdose Response Officer

Michael Weaver
(218) 401-4695



Rice Lake Community Center



Healing Stories

A Safe Space for Sharing Around Trauma Caused by Boarding Schools

White Earth community members are invited to participate in another gathering focused on healing historical trauma caused by the boarding school era. Elders and family members of survivors are particularly invited to participate in a discussion around boarding school experiences and to give video interviews if desired. Food is provided and stipends are available. Email angel.stevens@niibicenter.org or call Angel at (218)407-5517 for more information.



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White Earth well represented in softball touney



The 2022 USSSA Native American/First Nations/Pacific Islander World Series Softball tournament was held on Nov. 10-13 in Las Vegas. More than 140 registered teams came from all parts of North America and White Earth Nation was well represented! Lady War Chiefs placed 13th out of 32 teams with a record of 2-2. Back row left are Britta Finley - Yankton Sioux, Kristina Brooks - non-native, Anika Topsy - Chippewa-Cree, Taytum Weaver - White Earth Nation, Kris Manning - White Earth Nation, Mercedes Bellanger - White Earth Nation, Cara Donnell - Red Lake Nation. Front row left are Ivy Longie - Spirit Lake Sioux, Nicole Brown - Spirit Lake Sioux, Lauryn Manning - White Earth Nation, Shelly Weaver - White Earth Nation, Maddisen Bellanger - White Earth Nation.



Norm's Dream Team (co-ed) placed 17th out of 49 teams with a record of 2-2. The team was created in honor of Ed Miller Sr., and his love of softball. Back row left are Kris Manning - White Earth Nation, Taytum Weaver - White Earth Nation, Shelly Weaver - White Earth Nation, Shaiyan Davis - Turtle Mountain, Lauryn Manning - White Earth Nation, Wayne Bradley - MHA Nation. Front row left are CJ Manning - White Earth Nation, Luke - non-native, Tyler Manning - White Earth Nation, Jonny Belland - White Earth Nation, and Matt Osborne - non-native.



Submitted photos

War Chiefs took first place in their division out of 32 teams with a record of 8-1. Team members from left are Lance Shoulderblade - Northern Cheyenne, Jordan Manning - White Earth Nation, Kyle Quigg - non-Native, Josh Standing Elk - MHA Nation, Skylar Keplin - Turtle Mountain, Sampson Funmaker - Ho-Chunk, Jared Doxey - Ho-Chunk, Jared Doxey - Ho-Chunk, Kevin Cumbie - non-native, Tyler Manning - White Earth Nation, Fabian Houghton - Ho-Chunk, and Cody Two Bears - Standing Rock.

Fox presents White Earth flag to Bagley HS



Photo by Perry Nelson

White Earth District 1 Representative Henry Fox recently presented Bagley High School with a White Earth Flag. From left are Wenesdai Goldstein - Indian Education Cultural Liaison, Brittany Nattress - Indian Education Cultural Liaison, Amanda Barras - Director of Indian Education, Mark Olson - School Board, Henry Fox - White Earth District 1 Rep., Mark Bensen - Principal, Haylee Hanse - Indian Education Cultural Liaison, and Palmer Olson - Student Council President.

Gloria LaFriniere retires from Voc Rehab



Photo by Mindy Iverson

Gloria LaFriniere recently retired from the White Earth Reservation Business Committee. She was manager for the Vocational Rehabilitation program since 1997. Presenting Gloria with a Pendleton blanket are District III Representative Cheryl "Annie" Jackson and District I Representative Henry Fox.

Highlights of the White Earth Nation Veterans Pow Wow



Photos by Gary W. Padrta

More than 200 registered dancers and 15 drums attended the annual White Earth Nation Veterans Pow Wow held Nov. 12-13 at the Shooting Star Casino in Mahanomen. The host drum was Little Bear. The emcees were Brandon Bowstring and Wes Jourdain, and the arena directors were Lucas Hisgun and Jimmy Uran. Alan Hardy was the spiritual advisor.



White Earth Financial Services Wiidookodaadiwin – “We Assist Each Other”

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

Phone: 218-935-2359 or Toll Free: 1-844-282-6580

Mailing Address: PO Box 100, Naytahwaush, MN 56566

Family Cases contact: Tina Swenson Ext. 3265, Jeana Ketter Ext. 3291, Lori Savoie Ext. 3274, Jennifer Scott (Coordinator) Ext. 3313

Adult Cases contact: Shellie Racer Ext. 3307, Lori Drift (Coordinator) Ext. 3312, Christy Wadena Ext. 3709, Aimee Hisgun Ext. 3275

Aged, Blind, Disabled contact: Crystal Fineday Ext. 3306

Administrative Assistants: Wendy Johnson Ext. 3305, Teresa Kappedal Ext. 3715, Amanda Midbo-Niesen Ext. 3258

Concerns or Comments:

Financial Service Manager, Amy Littlewolf Ext. 3290

We have four fax locations to receive documents

Naytahwaush Sports Complex / Fax: 218-936-3104

Detroit Lakes Workforce Center / Fax: 218-844-5811

Bagley Financial Services / Fax: 218-694-6507

Mahnomen Riverland Apts / Fax: 218-935-2508

****Pine Point Satellite Office**** Open Thursday and Fridays
Location: 48036 Pow Wow Highway in Ponsford.
Fax: 218-983-4687

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Or call our office and we will guide you through the application process.

Solar from Page 5

have risen in recent years, and as 8th Fire Solar has grown, it's hearing more demand from tribal members fed up with high bills.

“It's getting crazy. People are getting sick of it and thinking more about alternatives,” Gasco said.

More than half of 8th Fire's installations are on reservation land, a goal for the organization.

While 66 percent of Minnesotans use natural gas for heating, some 11 percent use propane or another delivered fuel source, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. Natural gas prices more than doubled from August 2021 to August 2022, according to government trackers. While propane costs are more stable, the fuel source is generally more expensive. Propane is primarily used in rural areas off the natural gas grid, and rural areas of Minnesota, and is more polluting than natural gas.

Harnessing the sun

Solar thermal uses the sun strictly to produce heat. The technology is affordable, and fairly simple to install, according to Joshua Pearce, a professor of electrical and computer engineering at Canada's Western University in London, Ontario. Pearce studies solar and renewable energy, with a focus on how the technology can be used to heat cold weather environments.

Solar thermal first boomed in the United States during the energy crisis of the late 1970s, Pearce said. But because it was known for being simple to install, many people tried to build their own systems, and failed. The technology got a bad reputation.

But solar thermal works and is very efficient, Pearce said. The technology is common in Korea, and the cost remains relatively low. Pearce favors combining rooftop solar with an electric powered heat pump for a total clean energy system, but said solar thermal is a good way to lower fuel consumption and emissions.

“If you're just looking at pure efficiency, you can easily have a solar thermal system,” Pearce said.

In Minnesota, there are large thermal solar installations at the Minneapolis-St.Paul International Airport and the Camp Ripley Minnesota National Guard campus.

“Not only are people using these panels to significantly reduce their heating needs for their homes, we're seeing examples of using them on unheated garages and bringing those temperatures up well above freezing. It's a simple, effective technology,” said Joel Haskard, co-director of the University of Minnesota Extension Clean Energy Resource Teams.

8th Fire Solar is a partner organization of Honor The Earth, a Minnesota-based nonprofit that advocates for Native environmental issues and sustainable communities. It started in 2017, after partnering with the northern Minnesota nonprofit Rural Renewable Energy Alliance. The Rural Renewable Energy Alliance had developed a highly-efficient solar thermal heating technology, and transferred its model to 8th Fire, which officially launched in spring 2018.

Unlike photovoltaic solar, which features several small rectangles on a panel, solar thermal panels use one large, coated aluminum absorber plate to create a solar powered furnace.

The sun hits the plate and heat it generates passes through layers of space and insulation. The interior of the panel is connected by a duct to a structure at each end. Air enters through an intake manifold, passes through the absorber plate to absorb heat, and is pushed into the structure by a fan that is linked to a controller and thermostat. The solar thermal system works in tandem with a structure's existing heating infrastructure.

The panels are 4-foot wide and come in 8-foot and 6-foot lengths. They look a bit like big screen televisions. The panels are mounted onto south facing walls using an aluminum racking system. A weather-tight seal is formed using foam insulation and gaskets.

The panels alone will get a structure up to 40 to 50 degrees, and people can use their fuel source to heat the remainder of the structure if desired. A typical, two-panel system costs about \$5,500. The system can pay for itself in about five years, 8th Fire says.

For barns, greenhouses, or work sheds, the panels really shine and can take care of all heating needs, Gasco said.

Building a workforce

The name 8th Fire refers to Anishinaabe prophecies, Gasco said. Currently, humanity is in the time of the 7th Fire, when the Anishinaabe believe people must choose between the worn down, scorched-Earth path and a green, new path. Moving toward the green path will light the 8th Fire, and a chance for a better future.

The 8th Fire facility in Osage sits across the road from Smoky Hills State Forest, with ample birch trees showing golden leaves in late autumn. The workshop is full of insulation sheets, aluminum absorber plates, and rubber gaskets.

Gasco, a tall 22-year-old who worked as an installer for three years before transitioning to 8th Fire's sales and marketing coordinator, is proud to build the panels with a Native workforce.

8th Fire currently employs 10 people, but increased demand is driving more need for workers. Mostly, the existing staff wants to train installers so they can focus on building more panels. They've had training sessions with various tribal nations, and have future training events planned with colleges from Leech Lake and Mille Lacs Ojibwe bands.

The nonprofit is hosting a green jobs conference on Dec. 16 at the Shooting Star Casino in Mahnomen.

The group is trying to spread its knowledge around tribal communities in Minnesota so that Native people can build out more green infrastructure and have more job opportunities.

“We want to stimulate the tribal economies,” Gasco said.



Photo by Drew Arrieta / Sahan Journal

8th Fire Solar produces and installs solar thermal panels, a lesser-known sun-powered technology used to help heat homes and buildings.

5 Ways to Care For Your Feet

Foot health management is good for everyone and is especially important for people living with diabetes. Because people with diabetes are more susceptible to foot complications, it's important to set up a routine that will help prevent or manage foot complications.

Use this easy list to keep on top of your foot health and manage your diabetes well.

- 1 Manage Your Weight**
Being overweight can impact your feet and increase health risks such as foot arthritis, foot pain, or other foot complications. You can also run the risk of poor blood circulation, diabetes, and other health issues that may lead to loss of feeling in the feet.
- 2 Wear Good Shoes**
Uncomfortable shoes may cause skin irritation or other foot health risks. The right shoes can be one of the best preventative measures you can take to aid in foot health. Choose a shoe that's comfortable, supportive, and fits you properly.
- 3 Choose the Right Time for a Shoe Fitting**
Since feet can swell throughout the day, it's recommended that you try on shoes later in the day when your feet are at their largest. This will help ensure that they are comfortable when you wear them daily. Be sure to measure both feet and always order the larger size.
- 4 Wear Proper-Fitting Socks**
Make sure to wear socks that fit your feet. Pay attention to the foot and ankle width and find socks that do not cut off circulation. Also, wearing seamless socks can help prevent skin irritation.
- 5 Do Foot Stretches**
Throughout the day, take a few moments to do foot stretches and exercises. A periodic ankle flex, toe wiggle, and calf stretch can help maintain proper blood circulation in your feet.

Learn more at
<https://www.diabetes.org/living-with-diabetes/complications/footcare>

Educational content provided by Dr. Conforti

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Obituaries

Victoria Ann Wichern

Victoria Wichern, 80, of Waubun, died Oct. 29 at her home under the loving care of her family and Hospice of the Red River Valley.

Victoria Ann Littlewolf was born Oct. 15, 1942, in Naytahwaush to Julia (Johnson) and Isaac Littlewolf Sr. She grew up attending school in Naytahwaush and Mahnomen.



As a young girl, she met the love of her life, Bert Wichern. The two were united in marriage on July 11, 1964, in Mahnomen. The young couple made their home east of Waubun and were blessed with three children: Lorna, Alan and Peggy. Over the years, Bert and Vicky continued to live in the Waubun area where they raised their family and owned and operated their logging business. Vicky was an intricate part of the business, working alongside Bert on site and was known to outwork some of the hired men, in addition to keeping up with all the bookwork and day to day operations of the business. She proudly helped in any way she was able right up until her retirement.

In her retirement years, Vicky enjoyed canning the produce from her garden, shopping with her granddaughter, Jessica, and using her riding lawn mower as her main mode of transportation. She didn't actually mow all the time, but used it more to travel from one project she was working on to the next. Vicky also had large flower and vegetable gardens she meticulously tended to which in turn produced beautiful flowers and abundant produce year after year.

In her spare time, Vicky could be found reading westerns and romance novels or playing video games. Vicky had a great sense of humor and after decades of time and bushels of apples, Halloween just won't be the same without her there to hand out her delicious caramel apples or caramel potatoes, which she has been known to do to the unexpected trick or treaters. Vicky was a hardworking, dedicated and loving wife, mom, grandma and friend to many and will be greatly missed by many.

Vicky is survived by her husband of 58 years, Bert; son, Alan "Sonny" Wichern Sr.; daughter, Peggy (Phillip Brunner) Olson all of Waubun; 16 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; sisters, Linda Littlewolf of Naytahwaush and Germaine "Dolly" Johnson of Ada, Minn.; sister-in-law, Meredy Littlewolf of Naytahwaush; and several nieces and nephews and extended family.

She was preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Lorna LaGue; granddaughter, Landa Wichern; sisters: Ada (Edward) Burnette, Cora (Ernest) Briggs, Nora Garbow, Waurine "Pinky" Littlewolf and Sally Littlewolf; brothers, Isaac "Bug" Littlewolf Jr. and John Surbeck.

Memorial services were held Nov. 2 at Anderson Family Funeral Home in Mahnomen.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Duane (Dewey) Thunstrom

Duane (Dewey) Thunstrom died Nov. 5 at Emmanuel Nursing Home in Detroit Lakes surrounded by loved ones. He was 78.

Dewey was born April 16, 1944, to Gus and Marion Thunstrom. He married Dorothy Smith in 1964 and raised his family in Detroit Lakes. Dewey worked for the Pepsi-Cola Company, Hamm's Beer Distributing and retired from Dynamic Homes of Detroit Lakes after 30 plus years of service. He also loved his 20 years of being a Beer Booth Manager at WEFEST!



Dewey loved to hunt and fish, but his true passion was golfing. He was known for having the best kept yard in the neighborhood and rode his lawn mower with pride. Dewey built over a thousand picnic tables for family friends and businesses in the area. Dewey was a devoted husband, father and mentor to many.

Dewey is survived by his children: Tina (Rick) Jurina, Lisa (Todd) Linden and Todd (Heather Granvold) Thunstrom, 13 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren and one more on the way; one sister and three brothers; and many nieces, nephews and extended family members that will miss him dearly.

He is preceded in death by his wife; parents; and his brother, Jerry Thunstrom.

Dewey's family would like to express their deep gratitude to the staff at Emmanuel Nursing Home and to Hospice of the Red River Valley for their compassion and excellent care of Dewey.

Services were held Nov. 11 at West-Kjos Funeral Home in Detroit Lakes.

Interment: Egelund Lutheran Cemetery in Rochert, Minn.

Arrangements: West-Kjost Funeral Home.

Online: www.westkjos.com

Jamie Lynn Sargent

Jamie Sargent, 52, of Naytahwaush, died Oct. 27, at the Mahnomen Health Center.

Jamie Lynn Sargent was born July 29, 1970, in Mahnomen to Avonelle Sargent and James Burnette Sr. Jamie attended elementary school in Naytahwaush followed by Mahnomen High School.



Over the years, Jamie worked on and off at the Shooting Star Casino as a blackjack dealer and as a server. She raised her son, Tyson, and her bonus son, Dayton, and her bonus daughter, Sharon "Dolly Girl" Sargent in the Naytahwaush area. The majority of her life was spent on the White Earth Reservation, with the exception of a few years she lived in the Minneapolis/St. Paul metro. While living in the Cities Jamie attended college but returned to the area last year to be closer to friends and family.

In her free time, Jamie enjoyed reading romance novels, writing, and journaling. She had a huge personality with a great sense of humor. Jamie had a special bond with her sister, Mel, and best friend, Cheryl, and they loved putting on makeup and getting all dolled up and going out, usually singing some Lorretta Lynn at karaoke. Jamie also liked to spend time in the great outdoors, doing all the seasonal activities like leeching, and sugar bushing, usually with her father. Jamie was a great person with a big heart, and she will be missed by many.

Jamie is survived by her sons, Tyson Sargent and Dayton Smith; sisters: Kathy (Nick) Wadena and Cheryl Sargent of Mahnomen, Brenda Sargent of Bemidji, Minn., Eleanor Sargent and Shari (Kevin "Baldy" Durant) Burnette of Naytahwaush, and Effie Burnette of Minneapolis; brothers: John "Hoggman" (Michelle) Sargent Sr. of Naytahwaush, Simon and George Burnette of Waubun, and James "Jim" Burnette Jr. of Minneapolis; aunt, Mavis Bush of Naytahwaush; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents; parents; sisters: Lois Brown, Melanie Sargent, Janelle Sargent and Sasha Burnette; and brothers: Brian Sargent and Darrell "Boone" Wadena.

A funeral service was held Nov. 2 at Wings as Eagles Church in Naytahwaush.

Interment: Free Gospel Alliance Cemetery in Naytahwaush.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Leroy James Bellcourt Jr.

Leroy James Bellcourt Jr. was born on Jan. 11, 1966, in Minneapolis to Leroy Sr. and Doris (Jackson) Bellcourt. He was raised in south Minneapolis and worked various jobs throughout his life. In 2005, he moved to Ogema to live closer to family.



Leroy was a very hard worker and would help anyone that needed help. He was an excellent artist and was the biggest Vikings fan ever. He loved playing cribbage, cards, doing puzzles and he was excellent at trivia. Leroy loved telling stories to his nieces and nephews or whoever would listen. He would watch cartoons which rated right up there with watching the Vikings.

Left to mourn Leroy's passing are his children, Shavaughn Ulven and Jaron (Ayana) Smallwood; grandchildren: Annabelle, Ezreal, Joseph, Jaden and Jaxon; sisters: Shari Bellcourt, Valerie Bellcourt, Kari (Rowland) Bellcourt, Laura and Lanay; brother, Brian Bellanger; special friend, Joan Warren; and numerous nieces, nephews and extended family.

Preceding Leroy in death are his parents, Leroy Sr. and Doris; grandparents: Joe and Grace Bellcourt, and Frank and Hazel Jackson; brother, Vincent Jackson; nephew, Jeffrey James Bellcourt; and favorite dog, Al Capone.

Lee will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Arrangements: David Donehower Funeral Home of Detroit Lakes.

Online: www.daviddonehower.com

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Obituaries

Leigh Nicole "Leigha" Fineday (Carlson)

Leigh Nicole "Leigha" Fineday (Carlson), "Sah Kah Tay Aanakwad" which means "Light in the Sky," 32, of the Mukwa Clan and of Cass Lake, Minn., journeyed to the Spirit World on Oct. 3 from the Cass Lake IHS Hospital. She was born on March 21, 1990, in Bemidji, Minn., to Sheila and Darrin "Tony" Fineday.



Leigha graduated from Park Rapids (Minn.) High School in 2010, after graduating she moved to Moorhead, Minn., to live with her "Gma Pat." She moved to Cass Lake in 2016. Leigha was always smiling and making those around her laugh. She loved listening to music and singing along. She had many hobbies, drawing, sewing, painting, and DIY projects, fixing things up and looking for rocks was her favorite lately. She loved being around her brother, sisters, nieces, nephews, friends and family. Leigha made friends everywhere she went. The paranormal always interested her, she loved watching Ghost Adventures, Ghost Series, and anything related to the paranormal. Leigha will be dearly missed by all who knew her. Leigha was engaged to James "Jim" Bellanger and

was to be married on Oct. 28, 2022.

Those welcoming Leigha to the Spirit World are her grandpa, Duane Fineday Sr.; uncles: Duane Fineday Jr., Donovan J. Fineday Sr., Donald J. Wind Jr.; and numerous aunts and uncles.

Those left behind to cherish the memory of Leigha are her father, Tony Fineday; mom, Sheila Lyons; fiancé, James Bellanger; daughters, Gabriella and Isabella Carlson; brother, Codi (BeeJay) Brown; sisters: Lisa (Henry) Fineday-Fisher, Melissa (Eli) Wakonabo, Darress Graves; grandmothers, Patricia Fineday and Karyn Wind; grandpa, Donald Wind, Sr.; best friend/sister, Autumn Bowstring; special niece, Harleigh Fayth; and numerous other family members and friends.

A two-night wake for Leigha began on Oct. 7 and continued until a traditional service on Oct. 9, all held at the Veteran's Memorial Building in Cass Lake.

Leigha's Spiritual Advisor was Melvin Goodman, assisted by Diane Fineday. Those helping to lay Leigha to rest were Faron Fineday, Koda Fineday, Codi Brown, Darryl Adams, Henry Wakonabo and Eli Raisch. Alternates are Scott White and Silas Blue Jr. Honorary pallbearers are all Leigha's family and friends.

Interment: Porcupine Lane Cemetery in Cass Lake.

Arrangements: Northern Peace Funeral Home of Walker.

Online condolences: www.northernpeace.com

Joan "Joni" May Petersen

Joan "Joni" Petersen, 81, of Fosston, Minn., formerly of Mahanomen, died Oct. 26 at Essentia Health in Fargo, N.D.

Joan May LaDuke was born May 15, 1941, the youngest child to Philip and Josephine (Vezina) LaDuke. She grew up in the Ebro area and attended school in Bagley, Minn.



Following her schooling, Joni entered the workforce and soon moved to the Minneapolis/St. Paul area. While working in the metro, she met Bruce Petersen. The couple was united in marriage on Dec. 30, 1961, at St. Luke's Church in St. Paul. Together, they welcomed two sons, Timothy and Terrance into the world.

In 1981, Bruce died tragically in a work-related accident and Joni remained in the Cities for a few years before moving to Fosston. She made her home in Fosston for several years, then moved to Mahanomen for quite a few years before relocating back to Fosston. Over the years, Joni worked in Fosston baking pies and also at the Shooting Star Casino until her retirement.

Joni enjoyed playing bingo, watching television, working cross word puzzles and activities that kept her close to home. She was a private person, but she had a great sense of humor. Joni had a soft spot in her heart for animals, especially cats. She will be missed by many.

Joni is survived by her son, Terry, of Blaine, Minn.; grandchildren: Bruce, Brandi and Thomas; great-grandson, Nate; great-granddaughter, Naiomi; sisters, Frances Johnson and Phyllis Skala both of Bagley; and nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Bruce; son, Timothy; and seven siblings.

A memorial service was held Nov. 5 at the Anderson Family Funeral Home in Mahanomen.

Interment: Fort Snelling Cemetery at a later date.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahanomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Robert Lawrence Roy

Robert L. Roy, 54, of rural Waubun, journeyed to the Spirit World on Nov. 2 in Naytahwaush.

Robert Lawrence Roy, the son of Robert "Dubby" Roy and Margaret "Peggy" (LaRoque) Roy, was born June 17, 1968, in Minneapolis. He grew up in South Minneapolis where he attended school. Although he spent much of his life in the cities, Robert also traveled to the White Earth Reservation often to spend time with his loving father, Dubby and brothers, Christian and Frank and his mother, Peggy.



As a young man, he worked various jobs. While living in Mahanomen, Robert worked for the Shooting Star Casino and studied the electrical trades at Detroit Lakes Technical College. For several years, Robert shared his life with Darla Bruce, and in the late 80s they were blessed with two children, Brandon and Terra. Then not long after, Robert moved to South Dakota where he made his home. He married a wonderful woman, Liz Bruguier Roy. With that love, Robert gained stepsons: Gary Jr., Raymond, and baby, Dave Jackson. They were a family for many years and when they decided to end their relationship, they remained close and very good friends. Robert worked as a blackjack dealer at Ft. Randall Casino until recently, when he returned home to Minnesota to help care for his brother.

Robert enjoyed having his party time with beers/drinks with family and friends and going to the casino. He became a great blackjack dealer. He liked sports and was a huge fan of the Vikings, cheering every game and supporting his favorite team as he wore his Vikings jersey. In his younger years, he played softball, basketball and was excited to attend a Vikings game last season and cheer them on in person, a true highlight of Robert's year.

Even though he lived far from home, he loved his children and would walk miles and miles to come see them. For a hug, a smile, for small emergencies to big emergencies, for whatever reason, in any weather he would walk 600+ miles, 5,000 miles, he would walk another 5,000 miles. He had them boots that's what he'd do... walk just for his kids and loved ones. He was very brave. He also got his family nickname "Bubba" which was lovingly shared between Robert and his son, Brandon. As years went by, Brandon got bigger and taller and Bubba would challenge Brandon by wrestling him. Trying to take Brandon down was always a fun bond they had when Bubba came to visit, and even though Robert tried, he failed every time. Their time together was always filled with love and laughter. Robert's heart was truly broken with the death of his first and only son, Brandon. They had a special bond that couldn't be broken. No more heartache, Bubba, you are now at peace and together again.

Robert is survived by his daughter, Terra Roy; grandchildren: Isaiah Roy, Izaak Roy, Brandon Roy, Alaina Bruce, Douglas Eagle Jr., and Damoni Eagle; Nikeo Roy; father, Robert "Dubby" Roy; brothers, Christian (Mary) Roy and Frank LaRoque; sisters: Roberta Roy, Rochelle (Talin) Richard, Rain Richard, and Sandra Dominguez; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his mother, Margaret "Peggy" LaRoque; stepmother, Katherine Roy; son, Brandon Roy; and his grandparents.

Robert Lawrence Roy left a wonderful mark in our lives. He was and always will be an amazing person nobody can ever forget. His love, his laugh, his smile, his legacy has passed down to his lovely grandchildren. *Love you, Bubba, now and forever more. Lovingly written by his daughter, Terra.*

Services were held Nov. 7 at the White Earth Community Center.

Interment: Samuel Memorial Episcopal Cemetery in Naytahwaush.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahanomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Joseph Dutton Fairbanks Jr.

Joseph Dutton Fairbanks Jr., 60, of Bemidji, Minn., passed away Oct. 28 at Sanford Bemidji Medical Center after battling cancer.

Joseph was born July 7, 1962, in Chicago to Joseph and Delores (Ashing) Fairbanks.



He attended grade school at Ascension Catholic School in North Minneapolis and graduated from North Community High School in 1980. He then attended Dunwoody Institute for welding. Joseph worked for a time in Oklahoma as a welder and trained in underwater welding. He returned to Minnesota, working as a welder for Stenberg Welding of Fosston, Minn. Joseph loved the woods, hunting small game and deer and spending time with family.

Joseph is survived by his brothers, Ronald (Sheryl), Todd (Sharon Lovejoy), Michael (Amy) and Kyle Fairbanks; son, Kevin Brown; nephews: David Rodriguez, Luke Fairbanks, Todd Fairbanks Jr. and Kyle Purty; nieces: Amanda Fairbanks, Chelsea Fairbanks and Miranda Nickaboine.

He was preceded in death by his parent; and brothers, David and Martin Fairbanks.

A memorial service was held Nov. 4 at the Olson-Schwartz Funeral Home in Bemidji.

Obituaries

Suzanne Rose Bishop

Suzanne Bishop, 75, of Waubun, passed away on Nov. 18 at her home surrounded by loved ones and under the care of Hospice of the Red River Valley.

Suzanne Rose McDougall was born on Dec. 19, 1946, in White Earth; one of 10 children born to Leonard J. and Katherine (Morgan) McDougall. She attended Naytahwaush Elementary School followed by Mahnomen High School. In December 1963, Suzanne met the love of her life, Dean Bishop. The couple would later be united in marriage on Jan. 2, 1965, in Mahnomen. The couple has made their home together in Waubun since 1968. Suzanne began working as an Adult Educator for the White Earth Reservation and State of Minnesota in 1977, making a huge impact on many lives. She proudly worked there until she was hospitalized for a stroke, which ultimately took her life.



Suzanne had a compassionate heart and caregiving was her life passion. She enjoyed helping others at work and at home and was like a mother to so many in the community. She loved spending time with her grandchildren and family. Suzanne enjoyed watching

The Waltons, working in her garden raising vegetables, and caring for her cats. Suzanne and Dean looked forward to yearly trips to Vegas and went fishing together in the summers. She had a strong, devoted faith in God and filled her time reading her Bible and praying for her loved ones. She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Suzanne is survived by her daughter, Sandra (Rick Archer) Bishop of Fargo, N.D.; sons: Larry (Suzanne) Nattress of Mahnomen, Keith (Sandy) Bishop of Waubun, and Vernon (Naome) Bishop also of Waubun; 14 grandchildren: Brittany Nattress, Derek Nattress, Heather Beaulieu, Erica Fahleen, Jesse Dellaneva, Rayvn Dellaneva, Ryan Smith, Vella Bishop, Cami Bishop, Jessica (Kris) Sundquist, Nicholas Sundquist, Erin Carpenter, Tommy Harthan, and Tyler Harthan; and 12 great-grandchildren: Zeph, Dexter, Norah Rose, Keira, Bentlee, Levi, Skylar, Brodie, Ryder, Nash, Ensley and Ruth; brother, Earl "Boy" (Eileen) McDougall of Naytahwaush; sisters, Norma Fitzgerald of Pittsburgh, and Gloria "Bibsy" Goodwin of Bagley; and many extended family.

Suzanne was preceded in death by her husband, Dean; grandson, Josh Beaulieu; granddaughter, Jeri-Lyn Beaulieu; brothers, Vernon "Fulla," and Leonard Jr. "Sonny," and sisters: Verna "Girly" Johnson, Katherine "Honey" Goodwin, Maxine Boswell and Janice Goodwin.

A funeral service was held Nov. 26 at St. Anne's Catholic Church in Naytahwaush. Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen. Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Dr. Nyla J. Imler

Dr. Nyla J. Imler, 70, of Amity Ark., formerly of Detroit Lakes, died Oct. 31 at Twin Rivers Nursing and Rehab Center in Arkadelphia, Ark. The courage she demonstrated facing the day-to-day challenges of advanced Multiple Sclerosis was an inspiration to many.

Born Jan. 26, 1952, in Burlington Iowa, she was the daughter of Willis and Helen (VanTuy) Stigge. In 1995, she married Dr. Toby Imler, White Earth Dentist from 1980-2001.



Nyla graduated from Oak Park Academy in 1970, Union College, Lincoln, Neb., in 1973 as an RN, Loma Linda University in 1976 as a Nurse Practitioner, and from University of Texas Austin with a Ph.D in 1983.

She spent her most of her career as a professor in nursing education at University of North Dakota, and Universities of Minnesota Moorhead and Bemidji. She also worked at White Earth as a WIC nurse from 1998-2001. Her passion for teaching endeared her to many students who have remained longtime friends. She was a lifetime member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Her love for Jesus was profound and there is nothing she would not do or give for His service.

Survivors include her husband, Toby of Amity; children: Korine (Nick) Jensen of Longmont, Colo.; Toby Jr. (Tanya) Imler of Fairbanks, Alaska, and Kristal (Daniel) Ikpeama of Lincoln; grandchildren: Heather and Andrew Jensen of Longmont, Eilef and Henrik Imler of Fairbanks; sisters: Doris Semadeni of Calimesa, Calif., Janene (Mike) McGuire of Aylmer, Ontario, and brother, Merwin (Dr. Joyce) Stigge of Quemado, N.M., formerly of Detroit Lakes.

She was preceded in death by her parents; first husband, Richard Juhl; daughter, Heather Juhl; sisters, Lois Walker and Marla Morgan; and brothers-in-law, Gordon Walker and John Semadeni.

The memorial funeral service for Nyla was held Nov. 2 at the Amity SDA Church, with Pastor Robert Neall officiating. Grave-side service was held at Sweet Home Cemetery in Amity.

Raymond Peter Fox

Raymond Peter Fox, 19, of Bagley, died unexpectedly on Nov. 17 in Minneapolis.

Raymond was born June 8, 2003, in Minneapolis and grew up in the White Earth Nation area. In 2005, he was baptized at St. Phillip's Episcopal Church. He graduated from Bagley High School in 2021. Raymond was currently working for UPS in distribution in Minneapolis with plans to keep working for UPS when moving back home.



Raymond was in Boy Scouts until 2016. In elementary and middle school, he enjoyed football and baseball. He loved fishing and spending time with his many siblings. He had fun playing Xbox. He always looked forward to going to the family cabin and to Disney.

He is survived by his parents, Alfred E. and Evette E. Fox; siblings: Nicole Christensen of Maple Grove, Minn., Monique Reed of Big Lake, Minn., Cote Fox of Big Lake, Minn., Brian (Alexis) Rasmussen and Tristian Fox of Bagley, Tanisha Fox of Bemidji, Minn., and Aria Fox, Mariah Fox, Maddisyn Fox, Olivia Fox, Khloe Terry and Leonardo Cole all of Bagley; nieces: Ana, Niyah, Marley, Ella, Evelyn, Izzy and Zeria; and numerous uncles, aunties, cousins and other loved family.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Alfred and Bernadine Fox and Pauline and John Hietala, and Gordon English; and numerous great aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services were held Nov. 23 at the Rice Lake Community Center.

Arrangements: Cease Family Funeral Home of Bagley.

Online: www.ceasefuneralhome.com

Cameron J. Stevens

Cameron J. Stevens "Cmore," 22, of Bagley, died Nov. 21 at his home in Bagley.

Cameron was born March 7, 2000, in Bemidji, Minn., to Sheila Stevens and Michael Fox. Cameron grew up in south end and attended Bagley Elementary School and Bagley High School.



He met and fell in love with his high-school sweetheart, Haylee Hanse. They were blessed with two beautiful girls, Stella and Nova and they were his world. Their family was happily living in Bagley. Cameron loved his family very much and they were his life which filled with him happiness. He was also blessed with a handsome son, Ashton, whom he loved very much as well.

Cameron loved anything to do with the outdoors. Hunting, fishing, camping, especially spending a week in Cass Lake every year with family. He also enjoyed ricing, snowmobiling, 4 wheeling, and leeching. When he was younger, his uncles would cut balsam boughs and Cameron would collect and stack the boughs for them. His uncles always paid him in candy bars, pop, and chips.

He was currently working for Klemmetsen Concrete. Cameron was a hardworking young man and was very family oriented. He was a handyman and loved working on cars. He could fix almost anything and would give the shirt off his back to anyone who needed it.

Cameron loved his family and would work very hard to provide for them. He loved being an uncle and took pride in showing them everything and anything they wanted to learn. Cameron loved to joke around and laugh with family and friends. He had the best and most contagious laugh. His smile lit the room up every time he entered. He made everyone's lives better that knew him and will be missed by many.

He is survived by the love of his life, Haylee Hanse of Bagley; daughters, Stella and Nova of Bagley; son, Ashton Michael of Mahnomen; mom, Sheila Stevens of Bagley; dad, Michael (Melissa) Fox of Dilworth, Minn.; grandma, Veronica Wells of South Haven, Kan.; sisters, Mallory (Jake) Stevens and Emily (Dylan) Fox; brothers: Brandon Stevens, Gage Stevens and Christian Fox; uncles: William Stevens, Daniel Ortley, Ernest Ortley, and Eric Fox; aunts, Josette (Ralph) Thunder and Liza Stevens; six nieces and nephews and one on the way; Haylee's parents, Shawn and Kim Hanse; and Haylee's sisters, Brandi (Ryley) Hanse and Mariah Hanse.

He was preceded in death by grandparents, Ernest Stevens and Francis Fox; grandmother, Charlotte Ortley; and uncles, Mike Stevens and Wayde Stevens.

Funeral services were held Nov. 29 at the Rice Lake Community Center.

Pallbearers were Mallory Stevens, Brandon Stevens, Gage Stevens, Damien Stevens, Dustin Rhineberger, Emily Fox, Christian Fox and Craig Thunder.

Honorary pallbearers were Kyle Klemmetsen, Mark "Doc" Klemmetsen, Shawn Hanse, Dylan Hvezda, Wesley Neeland, Jake Neeland, Jake Stringfield, Dallas Thunder, Deovion Stevens, Skylar LaFriniere and Kanion Aurthur.

Interment: Pine Bend Cemetery at Lengby.

Arrangements: Cease Family Funeral Home of Bagley.

Online: www.ceasefuneralhome.com

Obituaries

Adam “Kat Dog” James Roy

Adam “Kat Dog” Roy, 39, of Naytahwaush, died unexpectedly on Nov. 3 at his home. Adam James Roy “Waabishki-ma’ingan” was born July 7, 1983, in Detroit Lakes to Timothy Roy Sr. and Elaine Kier. Growing up, he attended school at Mahnomen Public School and graduated from Circle of Life Academy.



Following high school, Kat Dog entered the workforce. He later furthered his education with some college classed specializing in carpentry and continued to work various jobs including at Minnesota Dehydrated Vegetables Inc., in Fosston, Minn., and at the Homeless Shelter in Mahnomen. Adam also worked on and off at the Shooting Star Casino, first in Maintenance, then Buffet Department and was currently working with the Banquets Department. He enjoyed his co-workers in banquets and even met some famous people like Willie Nelson and Kenny Rogers.

Kat Dog will be remembered as a friendly person with a big personality. He had a great sense of humor and was usually luckier than most! He was also known to tease his nieces and nephews, almost to the point of no return. However, Adam truly loved his family, friends and co-workers, usually getting along with most everyone. In his spare time, Kat Dog enjoyed spending time in the great outdoors. He liked fishing, ricing and also singing with his brothers on the drum. Although gone from this life too soon, he will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him.

Adam is survived by his daughter, Juanita Lopez of Callaway; father, Timothy Roy Sr. of Naytahwaush; brother, Timothy Roy Jr. (Jessica Goodwin) also of Naytahwaush; four nieces and nephews; and many loving aunts, uncles, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents; mom, Elaine; and several aunts and uncles.

Public wake services began Nov. 6 at the Naytahwaush Sports Complex and continued through Nov. 7. Traditional NAC services were held the evening of Nov. 7 followed by burial in the Roy Family Homestead Cemetery on Nov. 8.

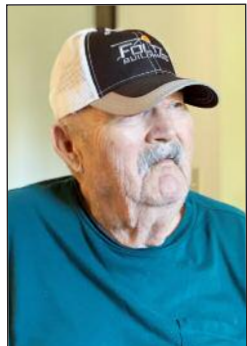
Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

William “John” Heisler

William “John” Heisler, 93, of Waubun, passed away at his home on Nov. 17 surrounded by his loving family.

William “John” Heisler was born April 13, 1929, to Stella (Warren) Heisler and William “Pa” Heisler in White Earth. He was raised and spent his childhood with his 11 siblings in White Earth, where he attended school at the Mission.



On March 13, 1949, John married his sweetheart Martha Mina DeGroat. Together they had eight children and made their home in Ogema. John worked for the Johnson Bee Farm, White Earth Roads Department, and held various jobs in between. He worked hard to support his family and was a hands-on dad and loving husband to his wife. Martha and John moved to Waubun in 2015 to spend their last years together.

John enjoyed life to the fullest, laughing with his loved ones, and telling stories. He was always teasing one of his many grandchildren. He was a simple man who loved going to the casino, playing baseball as a young man, and being surrounded by his eight children, 22 grandchildren, 66 great grandchildren, 21 great great grandchildren, and all of their families. He was the patriarch of a close, loving family and was one of the kindest, funnest, and most generous man that many were blessed to know. He will be deeply missed.

John is survived by his children: Bonnie Badboy, Julie Steichen, Carolyn (Poncho) Williams, William (Charlene) Heisler, Sandra (Paul) Mertens, Wilbur (Sue) Heisler, and Patti Anderson; son-in-law, Terry Dorman; and numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Stella and William; wife, Martha Mina (DeGroat) Heisler; daughter, Mary Lou Dorman; sons-in-law, Daniel Steichen, Ron Spry and Ken Badboy; brothers: Warren “Jiggs,” Vernon “Dumpling” and Franklin “Bud;” sisters: Pearl Fabre, Doris “Dubby” Drinkwine, Harriet “Sis” Stech and Jeanette “Jane Webb” Christofferson; and grandchildren: Jamie Kay, Michael Anderson and Gilbert Iceman.

A memorial service was held Nov. 26 at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Callaway with Pastor Matthew Myers officiating.

Interment: Ogema Lutheran Cemetery in Ogema.

Arrangements: David-Donahower Funeral Home of Detroit Lakes.

Online: www.daviddonehower.com

Richard “Rick” Koenig (Jackson)

Richard “Rick” Koenig (Jackson), 60, of Mahnomen, died Nov. 2 under the loving care of family and Hospice of the Red River Valley.

Rick was born Nov. 20, 1961 to Raymond Jackson and Georgiann Stitche in Detroit Lakes. Rick was adopted by Joseph and Marcella Koenig who raised him alongside their children.



As a young man, Rick served as an alter boy at St. John’s Catholic Church in Union Hill, Minn., and graduated from New Prague (Minn.) High School. He furthered his education at technical school where he studied auto mechanics. In his 20s Rick reconnected with his birth parents and siblings, which brought him great joy. Over the years, Rick worked a variety of jobs, often dealing with auto mechanics. Rick moved to White Earth in the early 2010s and later to Mahnomen where he has made his home since.

Rick loved to socialize and with his great sense of humor, he became a friend to many. He was always acting silly, telling a joke, or saying his catch phrase “There now, how that be?” Rick had a talent for tinkering with machinery and could take anything apart and reassemble it, especially when it came to cars. In his free time, he could be found in nature, walking the woods, hunting, and camping. Rick’s compassionate heart and friendly demeanor will be greatly missed by his loved ones.

Rick is survived by his biological siblings: Lyle Stitche, Ronald (Kathy) Koenig, Raymond Jackson Jr., Roger Jackson, and Stella (Alfredo) Devine; adopted siblings: Karl (Brenda) Koenig, Mary (Paul) Mullenmeister, and Trudy Koenig; uncle, Jim Jackson; many nieces, nephews, great nieces, nephews, and friends.

Rick was preceded in death by both sets of parents; adopted siblings, John and Margaret; sister-in-law, Tammy Jackson; and special friend, Ken Crane.

Services began Nov. 8 with a prayer service at the White Earth Community Center and continued until the time of the service on Nov. 9.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Gerald “Jerry” Eugene Adams

Gerald “Jerry” Eugene Adams, 63, of Ponsford, passed away peacefully on Nov. 28 at Essentia Health Hospital in Fargo, N.D., surrounded by his loving family.

Jerry was born on May 3, 1959, to Sullivan and Georgianna (Chesley) Adams, in White Earth. He attended school at the Pine Point School and then Park Rapids High School. Jerry went on to a career as a conservation officer for the White Earth Reservation. Likewise, he worked at Wilson Mill beside his friend, Roger Wilson. He also served for 26 ½ years as a firefighter for the Carsonville Fire Department. Jerry was also active in his community and served as member of the school board, Elder’s Committee, and the Pine Point Community Council.



Jerry enjoyed helping his community. He was an avid sports fan who loved softball, Twins baseball, Minnesota Vikings, and the Gophers. He was always up for an adventure or a car ride and liked going to the casino. Jerry was fond of crossword puzzles.

He is survived by his soulmate, Sara Hunt; daughters, Kristine (Tom) Adams and Tiffany Adams; step-children: Jolene Craig, Susan (Josh) Hunt and William (Kelsey) Hunt; brothers, Wayne and Mike Chesley; sisters, Maryann Columbus and Mary (Dolly) Harper; and 18 grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Sullivan and Georgianna; son, Scott; sisters: Carol Jones, Jaqueline Adams and Laura Wind; baby brother, George Richard Adams; and step-son, Robert Craig.

A funeral service was held Friday, Dec. 2 at the Pine Point School.

Interment: Saint Theodores Cemetery in Ponsford.

Arrangements: David-Donahower Funeral Home of Detroit Lakes.

Online: www.daviddonehower.com



877-410-8550

anonymous crime and elder abuse tip line

WE TRAFFIC COURT

In the Matter of **Ronald Simon Butcher**;
DOB: 06/12/1977

Summons for Appear in Court

Court File No. CO2022-00512

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on December 21, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. an Order to Show Cause Hearing on the conservation violation will be held at the White Earth Tribal Court at 35500 Eagle View Road Ogema, MN 56569. You are asked to contact Court Administration at 218-983-4648, Ext. 5757 to receive a copy of the citation. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the Court may find you in default and/or held in contempt of court.

Dated: November 14, 2022

WE TRAFFIC COURT

In the Matter of **Travis Michael Wilkins**;
DOB: 05/19/1989

Summons for Appear in Court

Court File No. T2022-00536

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on December 21, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. a Continued Initial Hearing on the traffic citation will be held at the White Earth Tribal Court at 35500 Eagle View Road Ogema, MN 56569. You are asked to contact Court Administration at 218-983-4648, Ext. 5757 to receive a copy of the citation. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the Court may find you in default and/or held in contempt of court.

Dated: November 16, 2022

WE TRAFFIC COURT

In the Matter of **Samantha Jo Fox**; **DOB: 06/19/1985**

Summons for Appear in Court

Court File No. T2022-00533

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on December 21, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. a Continued Initial Hearing on the traffic citation will be held at the White Earth Tribal Court at 35500 Eagle View Road Ogema, MN 56569. You are asked to contact Court Administration at 218-983-4648, Ext. 5757 to receive a copy of the citation. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the Court may find you in default and/or held in contempt of court.

Dated: November 16, 2022

WE TRAFFIC COURT

In the Matter of **Delilah Rose Sommers**;
DOB: 08/16/1990

Summons for Appear in Court

Court File No. T2022-00525

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on December 21, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. a Continued Initial Hearing on the traffic citation will be held at the White Earth Tribal Court at 35500 Eagle View Road Ogema, MN 56569. You are asked to contact Court Administration at 218-983-4648, Ext. 5757 to receive a copy of the citation. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the Court may find you in default and/or held in contempt of court.

Dated: November 16, 2022

WE TRAFFIC COURT

In the Matter of **Kathleen Mattraea Beaupre**; **DOB: 01/17/1991**

Summons for Appear in Court

Court File No. T2022-00538

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on December 21, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. a Continued Initial Hearing on the traffic citation will be held at the White Earth Tribal Court at 35500 Eagle View Road Ogema, MN 56569. You are asked to contact Court Administration at 218-983-4648, Ext. 5757 to receive a copy of the citation. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the Court may find you in default and/or held in contempt of court.

Dated: November 29, 2022

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 Shannon Mae St. Clair

Summons of Petition and Hearing Notice

Court File No. CC21-0023, -0025, -0026, -0027

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on September 23, 2022, an Amended Suspension of Parental Rights and/or Transfer of Legal and Physical Custody Petition was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your child. A continued Pretrial on the matter is scheduled for December 29, 2022, at 10:30 A.M. You are asked to contact White Earth Tribal Court Administration located at the RTC in White Earth, Minnesota at 218-983-4648. If you fail to appear for this hearing the Court may find you in default and enter an order.

Dated: November 30, 2022

Veronica Newcomer
Attorney for WE Indian Child Welfare

WE TRIBAL COURT CHILDREN'S COURT

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

Summons of Petition and Hearing Notice

Court File No. CC21-0522

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on November 22, 2022, a Transfer of Physical and Legal Custody Petition was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your child(ren) in file CC21-0522. An Admit/Deny hearing on the matter is scheduled for December 29, 2022 at 1:00 P.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: November 29, 2022

Veronica Newcomer
Attorney for WE Indian Child Welfare

WE TRIBAL COURT CHILDREN'S COURT

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

Summons of Petition and Hearing Notice

Court File No. CC21-0023, -0025, -0026, -0027

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on November 22, 2022, a Transfer of Physical and Legal Custody Petition was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court regarding your child(ren) in file CC21-0522. An Admit/Deny hearing on the matter is scheduled for December 29, 2022 at 1:00 P.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: November 29, 2022

Veronica Newcomer
Attorney for WE Indian Child Welfare

Veterans Crisis Line

The Veterans Crisis Line connects veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring responders through a confidential toll-free hotline, online chat, or text.

Veterans and their loved ones can call 1-800-273-8255 and press 1, chat online or send a text message to 838255 to receive confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

**WHITE EARTH RESERVATION
ENROLLED ELDERLY SNOW REMOVAL PROGRAM**

**No need to complete this application if we have been plowing for you in the past.
Call us and update your information.**

DATE APPLYING: _____
Name: _____ Spouses Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Physical Address: _____
Permanent residency is required
Telephone # _____ Cell # _____ Work # _____
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): _____

Estimated length of your driveway (only for new applicants): _____

*** Snowplowing will be done **only when snowfall accumulation exceeds 4" inches or more.**
*** Snow shoveling of driveway or sidewalk will not be done.
*** Due to COVID no signatures are required at this time. If we missed you, let us know ASAP.

White Earth Water & Sewer Department
PO Box 418, White Earth, MN 56591
Phone #: 218-983-3202 / Fax #: 218-983-4350
E-mail address: Betsy.Smith@whiteearth-nsn.gov or Matt.Smith@whiteearth-nsn.gov



Your job search ends here
www.whiteearth.com



You can reach the AT at
218-983-3285 Ext. 5903 or email
today@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Special Events

- **Diabetes Bingo**
 December 6th—Elbow Lake
 December 7th — Pine Point
 December 8th —Valley View
- **Elder Christmas Party 15th 10-2**
 9am-2pm at the
 Shooting Star Event Center

Gaawaabaabanganikaag Ogikaag Miniwanjige
“White Earth Elder Eating Good”
White Earth Elder Wellness Program
Manidoo-Giizisoons (Little Spirit Moon)- December

Elderly Nutrition Program Information

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

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

Elders Suggested Donation \$4

Guest Meals \$6

Questions or comments please contact :

White Earth ENP Site (218) 983-3744
 Site Supervisor ~ Tanya Heinonen

Pine Point ENP Site (218) 573-2210
 Site Supervisor ~ Angela Clark

Elbow Lake ENP Site (218) 734-2315
 Naytahwaush ENP Site (218) 935-5554
 Site Supervisor ~ Tim Rindahl ext. 3238

Rice Lake ENP Site (218) 694-2795
 Site Supervisor ~ Sherry Halberg

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

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1 Beef Stroganoff Egg noodles Dinner roll Corn Mandarin oranges	2 Chef salad w/ the fixings Artisan roll Banana Cookie
5 Chicken alfredo Breadstick Steamed broccoli Tropical fruit	6 Tuna salad sandwich w/ lettuce & tomato Manoomin soup Wheat crackers Pineapple	7 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable and/or salad Fruit Bread	8 Roast Green beans Mashed potatoes Wheat bread Banana	9 Chow Mein Oriental veggies Brown rice Plums Fortune cookie
12 Porcupine Meatballs Baked Potato Mixed vegetable Dinner roll Pears	13 Chicken pot pie Beets Bread stick Apricots	14 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable and/or salad Fruit Bread	15 Closed for the Elders Christmas Party @ Shooting Star Event Center 9am—2 pm	16 Pulled Pork Sandwich Potato Wedge Coleslaw Baked Beans Orange
19 Salmon loaf Rice pilaf Squash Wheat bread	20 Tomato tortellini soup Wheat crackers Berry yogurt parfait	21 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable and/or salad Fruit	22 Birthday Lunch White Bean Chili Frybread Spinach salad Birthday Treat	23 Chicken sandwich Baked beans Cali blend veggies Peaches
26 Closed For Christmas 	27 Turkey tetrazzini Wheat roll Steamed broccoli Jell-O fruit salad	28 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable and/or salad Fruit Bread	29 Manoomin hotdish Glazed carrots Wheat roll Fruit cocktail	30 Chicken parmesan over spaghetti Steamed cauliflower Fruit salad

White Earth Food Distribution December Store Hours

Mon-Thurs 8:30-3:30

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

December 2022 Home Delivery Schedule (Subject to Change)

December 2nd: Bagley, Ponsford & Naytahwaush

December 5th: Mahnomen & Waubun

December 12th: White Earth

December 19th: Detroit Lakes

December 26th & 30th: Closed

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 December 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5			8	9	10
11	12			15	16	17
		20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27			30	31
	CLOSED					

Due to COVID-19, all appointments are being completed by phone at this time. Please call 218-204-0399 or 218-401-4247 to contact our department.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Unsure if you are eligible? Please fill out the online application on the Minnesota WIC Website.

*Times and dates are subject to change
**If the RTC is closed for holidays or weather, WIC is also





Ojibwemodaa.2! Lets all speak Ojibwe! Aaniin, Boozhoo.; Greetings.

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

Abinoojiwin•Infancy Bilingual: To speak two languages-Give their gift of Ojibwemowin. Speak daily to our Nation's youngest. Birth to age five best promotes bilingualism!

Pronounce by syllables: Boo zhoo! Aa niin e zhi -a yaa yan. - Greetings! How are you? Nimino-ayaa, giin dash?. I am well, you also?

••“Zoogipon ina? Noodin ina? Ganabaj ina wii-piiwan?”

“Is it snowing? Is it windy? Maybe ? it will be blizzard?”

••“Niwii-miijinan ziinzibaakwadoosan.

“I want to-eat them some candies.”

••“Gimiikawaadiz. Gigichi-miikawaadiz.”

“You’re beautiful. You’re very-beautiful.”

••“Giwii-gikinjigwenin niniijaanis.”

“I want-to hug you my child.”

••“Niimidaa miinawaa!”

“Let’s all dance again!”

••“Gimino-anokiim.”

“You all do good work.”

Gibizindam. - You listen.

Ginoogishikaa. - You stop.

Giganawaab. - You look.

Gigojipijige. - You taste.

Giwiisin ina? - You eat?

Gidoodamin ina? You play?

Mamaangdepon.
It snows large flakes.

Mino-nibaa-anama’e-giizhigad! ^^
Good-sleeping-prayer-day!

Ziinzibaakwadoos (an)
Candy (Little sugars/Candies)

Wiiwakwaan(an)
Hat(s)

Gigiwiiwakwaan! Find ten (10) underlined Ojibwe words in the wordfind.
Wear it a hat!

Oshki-nitaawigiwin•Young Adult•Teen

Chi-miigwech to HS student, Hailey, for sharing words she has learned. “Giigooyike.-S/he fishes. Niimi.-S/he dances. Nagamo. - S/he sings. Also, the Anishinaabeg teachings: Debwewin - Truth, Dadaadendiziwin - Humility, Zaagi’idiwin - Love, Nibwaakaawin - Wisdom, Minaadenidiwin - Respect, Aakode’ewin - Courage, Gwayakwaadiziwin - Honesty. People spoke more before the children were taken and put into residential schools. I

learn Ojibwemowin so I can make my ancestors proud and speak it to the younger generation. Ojibwe is a very unique

language, and that is why I think it is cool to learn.”

Miigwech to all who are speaking, listening, reading & writing Ojibwemowin!

*Longer voiced vowels:
AA (baa), E (cafe’),
II (teen), OO (moo)
*Short voiced vowels
A (about), I (tin), O (only)
A glottal stop ‘ is a voiceless nasal hesitation as in: oh-oh

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

Nitaawigiwin •Grownup

Noongom mazina’iganing. Today/now in the paper... When it is winter -Biiboong... >>>>>=====>>>>> Daga dash Miigwech...

Miijin o’ow naboob!

Mikan i’iw emikwaan!

Ninaadin giizidoone’igan.

Ginaadin onaagaans.

Gimiijin ina wiyaas?

Eya’. Nimiijin wiyaas.

Key: Please and Thank you...
... Eat it this soup!
... Find it that spoon!
... I get it a napkin.
... You get a cup.
... You eat it ? meat?
... Yes. I eat meat.
... Ojibwemon! -Speak Ojibwe!

VTI’s-Verbs, Transitive, Inanimate

One of niwin/4 verb groups. The verbs’ action or feeling always refers/transfers to and is used with inanimate/non-living objects.

Nimikaamin makak.-We (exclusive -just some of us) find a box.

Gimikaanaawaan iniw adoopowinan.- You all find those tables.

Ginaadimin desinaagan.-We’ll fetch a plate.

Gimikaamin wiyaas.-We all find meat.

Ginaadinaawaa mizise-wiyyaas. You all go get turkey-meat.

Gimiijimin miijiman.-We all eat foods.

VTI root-command verbs conjugations ending in -in!, & -oon! differ somewhat from -an! endings.

Nimikaan. Gimikaan.- I find it. You find it.

VTI’s, Verbs, Transitive(action transfer to NI’s)
NI’s, Nouns, Inanimate(non-living things)
Verbs’ B-form suffixes can mean:
When/if/while aVTI. Miijimaan, When I eat it,

•WE Resources

- <https://whiteearth.com/divisions/culture/services>
- Use the Ojibwe People’s Dictionary <http://ojibwe.lib.umn.edu>
- Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Comm. <http://www.glifwc.org/>
- Clipart: wpclipart.com

Gichi-aya’aa•Elder

Aaniin ezbinikaazod wa’aw giizis? What/how is s/he called this moon/month? Izbimikaazo

Manidoo-Giizisoons wa’aw giizis.-S/he is named

Little-Spirit Moon (Dec) this moon. •“Gichi-miigwech ogichidaag idash gichi-aya’aag.

Gaye, miigwech mashkikiwininiwag, gaye

mashkikiwininiikweg idash mashkikiwikweg.

Miigwech wiibidaakewininiwag. Gichi-

miigwech gichi-dakoniwewininiwag &

dakoniwewikweg. Howah!-Alright!

•Great thanks veterans/service members,

and elders. Also thanks drs./nurses/

medicine-men, also doc/medicine

women, & female nurses.

Thanks all dentists. Big-

thanks policemen &

police women

- 1. Miikanaakewininiwag anokii____. Road-worker-men **they** work. Miigwech!
- 2. Adaawewigamigong nin____-anokii. At the store, I **did**-work.

- 3. Miigwech gekinoo’amaagejig gikinoo’amaadiiwigamig____. Thank you those who teach **at/in the** knowledge places/schools.
- 4. _____mikaan. _____naadin. _____miijin. Ikidon “Miigwech!” **You** find it. **You** go get it. **You** eat it. Say it, “Thanks!”
- 5. Mino-nibaa-anami’e-giizhigad. Gizhoozi____! Miigwech. Good-sleeping-praying-day. **Let’s all** be warm. Thank you.

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

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

Chairman from Page 3

it. So our land fields are quickly getting bombarded the last few years with them. The wastefulness has been immeasurable. I pray for a clean healthy future for all of our children and their great-grandchildren.

Here is an update on the situation of COVID-19 and Respiratory Syncytial Virus Infection (RSV).

Although, COVID-19 data reports a low incidence of infection in Becker, Mahnomon, and Clearwater Counties it is important to continue with COVID-19 protective measures such as hand washing, masking when you are sick, and if you wanted to get the vaccine.

It is also important to raise awareness about Respiratory Syncytial Virus Infection (RSV) and Influenza. RSV and Influenza are common respiratory viruses that typically cause mild, cold-like symptoms and can affect all ages. Most individuals will recover from the virus in one to two weeks, but both can lead to severe complications for infants, elders, and those considered immune-compromised. Symptoms include runny nose, coughing, sneezing, fever, decrease in appetite, and wheezing. Just like COVID-19 the best way to protect yourself is to use proper hand washing, cover your cough, stay home

when you are sick, and get your yearly influenza vaccine if needed.

There have been many children and babies catching RSV lately. Babies and children are at greater risk of complications from RSV, so it is important to take protective measures to avoid close contact when you are not feeling well. Most individuals will be infectious prior to exhibiting symptoms. Let's do our part in protecting our future.

White Earth Tribal Health Division continues to hold weekly vaccination clinics on Fridays from 8 a.m. to noon. Please call 218-983-3286 to schedule an appointment. They will be happy to assist with all vaccination needs or questions. Also the White Earth Indian Health Center has them available just call them to set up an appointment if needed.

Stay safe and stay healthy!
Baamaapii wiingezin.
Miigwech bizindawiyeg.
Gigawaabaminim naagaj.
Take it easy.
Thank you for listening to me.
See you all later.

Chairman Michael Fairbanks

Elders from Page 7

Please contact wisdomsteps300@gmail.com for the Mom's and Granny cookbook if living off Reservation. For those living on White Earth Reservation, you may contact either Paulie Neisen at 218-983-3286 or myself at 218-983-3768.

Please know we have limited supplies, so get your orders in right away. These cookbooks are fundraisers for our annual conference in June.

The December meeting for this Council was

held on Tuesday, Dec. 6 at the White Earth Elder Nutrition site (Congregate) and right after lunch we had our Christmas party! Thank you to all members that are so devoted to the health and welfare of our Elders of the White Earth Nation.

Mii Gwetch,
Lucille Silk, Chair, 218-983-3768
Lawrence Crowell, Vice Chair, 218-252-9390
Missy Fairbanks, Secretary, 218-401-0553

BIA, FBI sign agreement to improve law enforcement in Indian Country

WASHINGTON – The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) recently announced an agreement that updates guidelines to provide for the effective and efficient administration of criminal investigations in Indian Country. This is the first update since the early 1990s to a memorandum of understanding between the bureaus.

The agreement was highlighted by Attorney General Merrick B. Garland during remarks at the 2022 White House Tribal Nations Summit and was discussed during a panel featuring Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland and Associate Attorney General Vanita Gupta. The Summit provides an opportunity for Administration and Tribal leaders from the 574 federally recognized Tribes to discuss ways the federal government can invest in and strengthen nation-to-nation relationships as well as ensure that progress in Indian Country endures for years to come.

“Interagency coordination is absolutely critical given the complexities of jurisdiction in Tribal communities. This agreement supports an all-of-government approach to addressing federal responsibilities and Tribal needs in Indian Country,” said Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Bryan Newland. “All federal agencies share a treaty and trust responsibility to protect Tribal sovereignty and revitalize Tribal communities. This partnership will further support our efforts to keep Native people safe in their homes and communities.”

Under the agreement, the BIA Office of Justice Services and the FBI will cooperate on investigations and share information and investigative reports. The agencies will also establish written guidelines outlining jurisdiction and investigative roles and responsibilities for investigators from the BIA, FBI and Tribal law enforcement agencies. The agreement also requires that all BIA, FBI and Tribal law enforcement officers receive training regarding trauma-informed, culturally responsive investigative approaches.

This agreement supports the unified response to the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples crisis, and the Missing and Murdered Unit launched by Secretary Haaland. It defines responsibilities for FBI, BIA and Tribal investigators to ensure that missing person cases are entered into the National Crime Information Center, National Incident-Based Reporting System, and other appropriate federal criminal databases and that DNA is submitted to the National Missing Person DNA Database when appropriate and available.

The agreement also specifies that the FBI will take an initial primary role in the investigation of any BIA or Tribal law enforcement officer-involved shootings and in-custody death incidents. The BIA will concurrently conduct separate internal administrative investigations of any BIA or Tribal law enforcement officer-involved shootings and in-custody death incidents.

Howah Ads

Happy **3rd** Birthday Son
Love Mom & Dad
December 15th



Happy Birthday
Melanie

To my beautiful baby girl
We wish you all the best!
Love,
Dad, Mom, Brother and
your little family

Happy Birthday
**Joe
Thompson Sr.**

“The best of everything.”
Love,
Eevi, Ella Fern, Emoni,
Hanna, Mom, Dad

REMINDER!

Howah Ads are \$5 with a picture or \$4 without.

All payments must be made in advance.

No exceptions

Happy **8th** Birthday to my
Grandcub Emma

Love,
Gma!



**Dec.
30th**

Happy Belated Birthday
**Joe
Thompson Jr.**

Nov. 14

Love,
Your family and friends



How does tribal child support work?

Child Support is payments one parent makes to their child's other parent or legal guardian to help with the costs of raising the child.

Here are the services our tribal child support program provides:

- **Find the other parent** — We can try to find the other parent to establish parentage and a support order.
- **Establish parentage** — We can help parents establish a legal relationship with their child through a quick and easy form or genetic testing.
- **Establish and enforce a support order** — We can establish an order that provides support for your child. When the other parent doesn't pay the full amount or doesn't pay at all, we can use enforcement options like withholding child support from their paycheck.
- **Review or modify the order** — We can review your order and, if appropriate, modify it based on your income or situation.

Our program also has culturally specific elements:

- **Cultural understanding** — Our program knows the community and works to help children financially, emotionally, and holistically. We can make referrals to community and culturally-based programs.
- **Hands on experience** — We're uniquely positioned to walk you through our tribal child support process and family-centered approach.
- **Non-cash support** — Our court can order non-cash child support payments, such as firewood, childcare, home repairs, or other services approved by the tribe. Both parents must agree to the non-cash payments.

Did you know?

Our office can help parents who have cases with other tribal and state programs.


Have questions?

We're here for you! Contact us to learn more.

White Earth Nation Child Support Program

Phone: 218-983-4641 PO BOX 387 White Earth, MN 56591





Home Stretch

Homebuyer Education Class

January 2023

- Session 1: January 10
- Session 2: January 17

Classes begin at 3pm and end at 7pm. Both sessions to be held at MState, 900 Highway 34 East, Detroit Lakes MN.

Participants must attend Sessions 1 & 2 to receive a Homebuyer Education Certificate.

Register online at weii.website

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



FREE FINANCIAL WELLNESS COUNSELING

ARE YOU:

- THINKING ABOUT BUYING YOUR OWN HOME?
- EXPECTING A TAX REFUND AND WANT TO PLAN AHEAD HOW TO BEST USE IT?
- READY TO CREATE A HOUSEHOLD BUDGET?
- IN NEED OF HELP ESTABLISHING OR REPAIRING CREDIT OR SETTING FINANCIAL GOALS?

We can help! Homebuyer education and financial wellness counseling are services provided by White Earth Investment Initiative and made possible by support from the State of Minnesota, Minnesota Housing, Minnesota Homeownership Center, Greater Minnesota Housing Fund, Family Housing Fund, and the Oweesta Corporation. White Earth Investment Initiative is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Call 218.844.7029 to schedule your appointment today!



WE officials meet with EPA administrator



Submitted photo

White Earth officials recently met with Debra Shore, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regional Administrator for Region 5 at the Cedar Lakes Casino and Hotel in Cass Lake, Minn. They talked about several environmental issues that are important to White Earth to include protecting our water. Region 5 includes six states (including Minnesota) and 35 tribes. From left are Will Bement - White Earth Natural Resources (WENR), Renee Keezer - WENR, Debra Shore - EPA, Michael Fairbanks - White Earth Chairman, and Dustin Roy - (WENR)

Mahnomen Country Club Winter Wonderland Rules:

- * Ski, snowshoe or walk with a partner. **One adult (18 or older) must be present**
- * Activity must occur during the daylight hours.
- * Stay away from the river water and areas marked with poles and tape.
- * Plan ahead, use the restroom before arriving, dress appropriately and bring a cell phone for emergencies.
- * Unauthorized motor vehicles, ATV's and snowmobiles are NOT allowed.
- * Take litter home with you.
- * Drugs and alcohol are prohibited.
- * Adult Cross country ski and snow shoe lessons are provided by White Earth Tribal Public Health. Make an appointment by calling 218-401-2421 Monday-Friday 8 until 4:30.
- * Have fun enjoying the fresh air, beautiful scenery and outdoor exercise!

Bonus: Monthly draw prizes will be awarded if you find the 7 foot Sasquatch on the property and take a picture of yourself with it every time you visit the MCC in the winter months. Text or email the photo along with your contact information to **218-401-2421** or Jackie.haugo@whiteearth-nsn.gov



White Earth Nation
TRIBAL PUBLIC HEALTH
Prevent. Promote. Protect

JOIN STAR FITNESS CENTER TODAY

FREE ACCESS WITH EXTENDED HOUR KEYCARD ENTRY

Located in the Manito Mall, Mahanomen
Email Jackie.Haugo@whiteearth-nsn.gov or call 935-0808 or 218-401-2421 to fill out application

NEW KEY CARD HOURS:
Monday-Friday 6 a.m. until 10:00p.m. (age 15-17)
Monday-Friday 24 hour access (age 18+)
Saturday & Sunday 6 a.m. until 6:00 p.m.



CHILD SUPPORT IS NOW AT PINE POINT COMMUNITY CENTER EVERY THURSDAY!!

Every Thursday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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

WEN Child Support: PO Box 387, White Earth, MN 56591 218-983-4641

JOIN THE WHITE EARTH FITNESS CENTER TODAY!

BECAUSE EXERCISE IS MEDICINE



Located in the dialysis wing of the White Earth Tribal Health building
Email Gail.Borgurd@whiteearth-nsn.gov or call 218-983-3286 ext. 1342 or 218-401-3079

HOURS STAFFED:
Monday-Friday 8am-4:30pm (Except RBC Holidays)

Key Fob access: (application required)
Monday-Friday 6a.m. until 10p.m. for age 15-17
Monday –Friday 24 hour access age 18+
Saturday-Sunday 6am-6pm everyone

763-221-8834

Confidential TeleHealth Counseling
for Adults, Individuals and Couples

Anxiety
Anger Issues
Depressed Mood

Seek the Truth Counseling



WHITE EARTH TRIBAL ELDER SNOW REMOVAL PROGRAM

Position: On Call Snow Removal Provider
Location: District I – District II – District III
Closing date: Until filled

- Must be a W.E. Tribal Enrollee or W.E. Descendant
- Must have a truck and a plow
- Must have a valid Minnesota Drivers License
- Proof of Insurance (liability-coverage) for personal plow truck
- Must be able to pass a criminal background check and drug screening
- Knowledge of area highways and roads in each District
- Must be able to communicate with elders
- Must sign a contract and liability form upon hire

Apply at: White Earth Water & Sewer Department
P.O. Box 418
White Earth, MN 56591
Phone: 218-983-3202
Fax: 218-983-4350
E-mail address: Matt.Smith@whiteearth-nsn.gov or Betsy.Smith@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Contact Matt Smith or Betsy by telephone or email if you have any questions

Attention New Homeowners & Existing Homeowners

If you are in need of a Well and Sewer System for your house/ trailer home you can contact White Earth Water & Sewer for an application as we receive grants.

Requirements to qualify for the grants are:

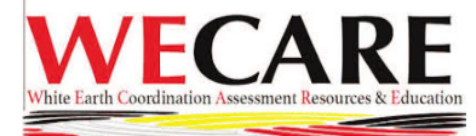
- * Tribal Enrolled member
- * Reside on the White Earth Reservation
- * Show proof of land (Land Deed/Tribal Land agreement) and proof of homeownership
- * 18 years of age or older
- * Must have electricity, heat source, and interior plumbing to the home
- * Income verification (some existing home owners grants require)

Contact us at 218-983-3202

Thank You

A big shout out and thank you to the Ogema Elementary School staff and students for the beautiful Veterans Day Program. These 3rd graders, directed by Anne Champa, and the audience joined to sing the Star-Spangled Banner and didn't miss a beat. Following the "Honor Our Veterans" recognition these students performed the Armed Forces medley, along with Oh, I Love America and You're a Grand Old Flag. Programs like this don't "just happen." Thank you Anne Champa, Lisa Fabre, Mr. Peterson and all that worked so hard organizing this program.

Ogema VFW Post 9880 & Auxiliary



Do you have needs in Housing, Food Support, Employment, Mental Health, Early Childhood, Etc.?

Contact a WECARE Navigator to complete an assessment to get you connected to services!

Contact Information:
White Earth Tribal Health
Phone: (218) 983-3286
Ask to speak to WECARE


Kali Lhotka – WECARE Navigator
Phone: 218-401-3185 or (218) 983-3286 ext. 1413

Page Lhotka – WECARE Navigator
Phone: (218) 401-1976 or (218) 983-3286 ext. 1359

Taylor Vonderharr – WECARE Navigator
Phone: (218) 401-3210 or (218) 983-3286 ext. 1341

Lori Fairbanks – WECARE Navigator
Phone: (218) 401-0550 or (218) 983-3286 ext. 1370

Taylor Soyring – WECARE Navigator
Phone: (218) 401-3208 or (218) 983-3286 ext. 1350



SUPPLEMENTAL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM
Winter - SYEP 2023

CURRENTLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS
DEADLINE: DECEMBER 23, 2022

Eligibility:

- Open to Enrollees and Descendants
- Living on the White Earth Reservation
- Ages 14-21

Applications can be found on the White Earth Nation website under the Human Services Forms tab or requested from the Maadaadizi Workforce Center. Completed applications must be submitted to the Maadaadizi Workforce Center.

Maadaadizi Workforce Center
3081 Workforce Rd.
P.O. Box 69
Naytahwaush, MN 56566
SYEP Coordinator
218-936-2444 ext. 3215

ADVERTISEMENT



How to avoid spinning your wheels when shopping for a used car

Used cars have gotten more expensive during the pandemic. It pays to do some work up front, so you'll feel better driving out. In fact, start by researching the price of cars you're interested in. Then, before you shop for the car, shop for financing. Check with banks, credit unions, and finance companies — you don't have to finance a car through the dealer.



When you think you've found the car you want:



- **Call the dealer.** Make sure the car is really on the lot and get the out-the-door price in writing, before you head to the dealership.



- **Get a vehicle history report and check the Buyer's Guide.** The report will tell you that car's history, and the Guide will tell you if it has a warranty or is being sold "as is."



- **Discuss the out-the-door price first if you want to talk financing with the dealer.** That means the total price, before financing, including taxes and fees.



- **It's ok to say no to add-ons, or at least ask the price.** Add-ons are extra things dealers offer along with the car, like extended warranties and service contracts. Make sure you know what they are, how much they cost, and how they'll change your monthly payment.



- **Review the terms before you sign for the purchase and financing.** Make sure everything you agreed to is in writing. Spoken promises are hard to enforce.



FEDERAL TRADE
COMMISSION

To learn more, visit [ftc.gov/usedcars](https://www.ftc.gov/usedcars). If you spot a scam, report it to the Federal Trade Commission at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/ReportFraud).



Diabetic Bingo

All are welcome and it cost nothing to play

December
 Dec. 1st, 2022 Shooting Star Casino Event Center – **Cancelled**
 Dec. 6th, 2022 Elbow Lake
 Dec. 7th, 2022 Pine Point
 Dec. 8th, 2022 Valley View, Mahnomen

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

January
 Jan. 3rd, 2023 Naytahwaush
 Jan. 4th, 2023 Rice Lake
 Jan. 5th, 2023 Shooting Star Casino Event Center & Mini Health Fair
 Jan. 11th, 2023 White Earth

Bingo in Naytahwaush is at the Sports Complex, conference room behind the front desk at 12 Noon.
 Bingo in Rice Lake is at the Rice Lake Community Center Gym after the 11:30 E.N.P meal.
 Bingo at the Shooting Star Casino Event Center will be at 1:00pm
 Bingo in White Earth in at the Congregate Center, dining hall after the 11:30am meal

February
 Feb. 1st, 2023 Pine Point
 Feb. 2nd, 2023 Shooting Star Casino Event Center & Mini Health Fair
 Feb. 7th, 2023 Elbow Lake
 Feb. 8th, 2023 Valley View, Mahnomen

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

If the R.B.C or the E.N.P. site is closed, Bingo will be rebooked to another date, if possible.
 At the Mini Health Fair starting at 12:00 Noon, you will be able to get an ABI* done, have your Blood Pressure, pulse, Oxygen, and blood sugars checked, do a WECARE assessment, check your lungs CO2 levels, schedule your Covid Booster and or flu shot, all while enjoying a cup of coffee or glass of water and enjoying a light snack (January Mini egg rolls**) Topping it all off you can play Diabetic Bingo starting at 1pm!
 *ABI checks the blood flow to your legs ** subject to availability
 Schedule is subject to change without notice.

Updated 11/29/2022



Mental Health Connections

CANVAS ART WORKSHOP

with Kent Estey

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2022
 5:00PM-7:00PM
 NAYTAHWAUSH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BUILDING

Contact Jackie Jacobson to register:
jacqueline.jacobson@whiteearth-nsn.gov
 Space is limited. All materials are provided.

Sponsored by White Earth Mental Health and MN Department of Health



****STILL AVAILABLE****
Gaawaabaabiganikaag
White Earth Nation
 Two-Year Access to Rosetta Stone
 Ojibwemowin Level 1 License
 Developed by the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe

Native languages and cultures are at a critical point in their existence...
 We know our language is a core part of who we are.

~Learn at your own pace~
 ~Improve your pronunciation using our exclusive speech recognition technology~
 ~Log in to learn anytime~

Applicants Must:
 • Be 18 years of age or older
 • Have a current email and access to a computer or smart phone
 • Provide proof of enrollment in any federally recognized tribe or First Nations, proof of descentancy, or proof of employment at WERBC or Shooting Star Casino

How to Apply:
 Go to: www.whiteearth.com > Community > Ojibwe Language
<https://whiteearth.com/community/ojibwe-language>

All applicants must apply via the online application.
 Please allow 7-10 business days to receive your login information.
 Priority will be given to enrolled members.
 Applications will be accepted until funding is depleted.
 Licenses are non-transferable.

For more information on the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Rosetta Stone Project, go to <https://www.culture.aanj.org/language/ojibwe-rosetta-stone/>

Made possible by White Earth Education Division and Minnesota Indian Affairs Council (MIAC) grant funding. Funding comes from the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council's Language Revitalizations grants which originate from the Arts and Cultural Heritage fund





24 HOUR WORKOUT PRIVILEGES

Monday through Friday *Must be 18 or older
 Star Fitness & White Earth Fitness Centers
 Saturday & Sunday 6 a.m. until 6 p.m.

- A recent fitness center application & waiver must be on file before exercising. (within 3 years) On July 1, 2022, active keycards/fobs will be automatically given 24 hour access if member is 18 or older.
- To enter the fitness center, you must be at least 15 years of age. Please have a parent sign our liability waiver if you are under age 18. Contact Jackie.haugo@whiteearth-nsn.gov or Gail.borgrud@whiteearth-nsn.gov
- Age 15 to 17 can still workout Monday-Friday 6a.m. to 10p.m. Saturday-Sunday 6a.m. to 6p.m. or after hours with a parent present.
- This is a trial period and keycards and/or badges will be de-activated if rules are not followed.



White Earth Nation
TRIBAL PUBLIC HEALTH
 Prevent. Promote. Protect

Talking Circle

Time: 2:30PM-3:30PM

Starting November 12th Every Saturday!
 White Earth Behavioral Health Building
 (WE. MATs Building)

EVERYONE is Welcome to Join Us! Light meal and drinks will be provided

If you have any questions, feel free to call
 Lacey Littlewolf # 218-401-5143
 Justin Brown # 218-401-3091
 Duane Murray # 218-401-3147



Noojimo'iwewin Aazhogan
HEALING BRIDGE
ENERGY-BASED SERVICES
 Bridging the gap between westernized medicine & traditional Anishinaabe healing practices

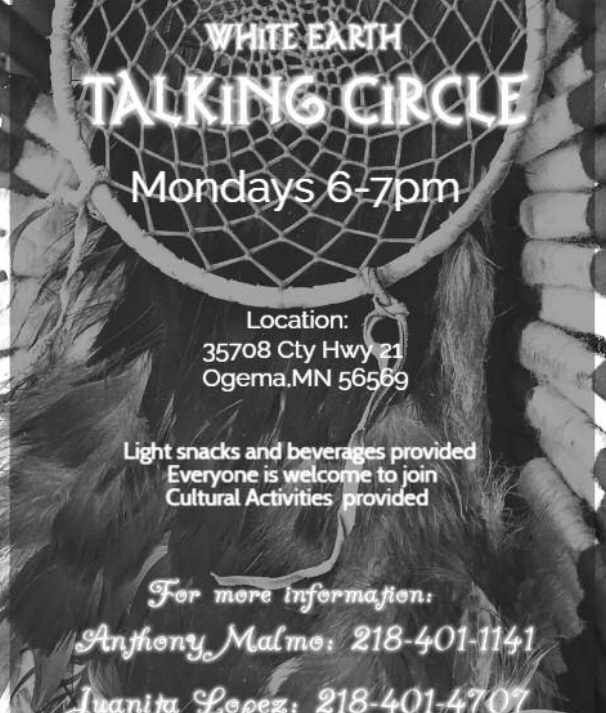
Energy Therapy, Herbal Teas, & Salves
 White Earth - Pine Point - Naytahwaush
 Mahnomen (temporary) - Oshki Manidoo Center

To schedule a session, please call White Earth Mental Health at 218-983-6325
 Services are free to White Earth Reservation community members and employees

IN NEED OF SEPTIC PUMPING?

If you need your sewer system pumped call the White Earth Water & Sewer Department at 218-983-3202

Tribal Enrolled Elders (55 & older) - \$25
 Tribal Enrolled Members (54 & younger) - \$80
 Non-enrollees (any age) - \$115
 White Earth Businesses - \$115
 Other Businesses - \$120
 (You must live on the White Earth Reservation)



WHITE EARTH
TALKING CIRCLE
 Mondays 6-7pm

Location:
 35708 Cty Hwy 21
 Ogema.MN 56569

Light snacks and beverages provided
 Everyone is welcome to join
 Cultural Activities provided

For more information:
 Anthony Malmo: 218-401-1141
 Juanita Lopez: 218-401-4707

Lake Grove Township Monthly Meeting Notice

Notice is hereby given to the citizens of Lake Grove Township, County of Mahnomen, State of Minnesota, that the monthly Township meeting will be held **December 20**. The meeting will commence at 7:30 p.m. at the Jerome Wolbeck residence.

Lori Tibbetts, Clerk - Town of Lake Grove

Iron Range Area Community Council

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

Todd Wise retires from WEPD



Photos by Gary W. Padrta

Sargeant Todd Wise, #805, recently retired after 22 years with the White Earth Police Department. **Top:** Wise is gifted a Pendleton blanket from Secretary-Treasurer Michael LaRoque, left, and interim Public Safety Director Merlin Deegan. **Bottom:** Wise and his wife, Sarah visit with Lt. Jeremy Cossette and Sierra Weaver.



Submitted photos

White Earth Veteran sends warmest regards

Boozhoo aaniin.
Greetings and well wishes from your friends and relatives off the rez, down here in the tall grass prairie of Illinois.

I'd like to share some of the wonderful things that occur as people reacquaint themselves with our shared heritage - powwows. Midwest Soaring Foundation (MSF) hosted their 26th Harvest Powwow on Nov. 12-13. This gathering was enjoyed so much by so many that I wish to share with our relatives up there (pointing lower lip) on the rez.

I would like to share my perspective. My name is Richard Holstein. I am a humble 72-year-old Native from White Earth. I had the honor of being the head Veteran at this Harvest Powwow. Alongside me were many others who made the Powwow happen. Joseph Standing Bear (MSF founder and president) and Mark LaRoque (arena director) are two fellow White Earth Natives who made this event possible. My apologies to any other White Earth Natives who participated, volunteered, organized, etc. that I was unaware of!

So, from all your relatives and friends down here in the flatlands of Northern Illinois, we send our warmest regards of high hopes, dance, and healthy blessings. From good hearts, with good intent, share

a bit of the good life. It is our honor to share a little of our dance. Mino-bimaadiziwin.

Niigaani biitung, or Richard Holstein



Richard Holstein (White Earth Nation), right, was the head Veteran at a powwow in Illinois.

WE Natural Resources share recycling tips with Mahnomen students

On Nov. 15, Mahnomen Elementary students participated in American Recycles Day. The American Indian Education program along with the White Earth Natural Resources staff worked in partnership for the day's activities to include making crafts from everyday items that otherwise would be thrown in the trash.

The kids made elephants and lions from paper plates along with jellyfish and whales from plastic cups. The activ-



Mahnomen Elementary students make crafts with recyclable items.

ities encouraged the students to share their ideas on how other things they use every day can be reused.

The children were also excited to share with the staff the ways in which their families reduce, reuse, and recycle their waste. Students in high school were challenged to send in a photo of how they recycle at home or of an item they reused in a creative way. All entered had a chance to win Thunderbird gear.

How did America Recycles Day begin?

Also known as National Recycling Day, this day began in 1994 after two employees of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality suggested the idea to the Nation Recycling Coalition. The first America Recycles Day was officially held on Nov. 15, 1994, and had at least 40 states taking part.

Why is recycling important?

Recycling is important to ensuring our planet remains healthy. There are many great reasons and benefits to recycling which include:

- Reduces landfill waste
- Conserves natural resources such as oceans and forests
- Helps lessen the burning of fossil fuels which can decrease the emission of greenhouse gas

What can be done on America Recycles Day - and every days - to reduce waste?



Submitted photos

White Earth Natural Resources recently visited Mahnomen Elementary students to share recycling ideas.

It all starts with having less things. Before you shop, think about whether you really need that item. If you do need the item, then you can determine if it is a "green" product. Is it eco-friendly, has it passed standards for energy savings and is it something that is built to last?