



### White Earth Mother's Day Powwow

**May 11 & 12, 2024**  
 Shooting Star Event Center  
 SHOOTING STAR CASINO, 777 CASINO ROAD, MAHNOMEN, MN 56557

**Grand Entries**  
 Saturday | 1pm & 7pm Sunday | 1pm  
 All dancers must be in regalia to register

**Emcees:**  
 Branden Bowstring & Wes Jourdain

**Arena Directors:**  
 Lucas Hisgun & Jimmy Uran  
 Feast on Saturday at 5PM

**MOTHER'S DAY GIFT TO FIRST 150 MOTHERS**  
 Host Drum | Littlebear  
 Co-Host Drum | Smokey Hill

Drum Split - \$4,000  
 No drum hopping

**Drum Registration Contact Information**  
 Orville "Casper" Bower | 218.204.0578  
 Jeffrey Coleman | 218.204.0679

**Vendor Contact**  
 Charles Littlewolf | 218.902.1267  
 Autumn Auginaush | 218.368.3320

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

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

### The WE General Election is June 11

Early voting begins May 6

The candidates are set for the White Earth General Election slated for June 11.

Incumbent Michael A. Fairbanks and Eugene Umsy Tibbetts will battle it out for Chairman. Fairbanks received 658 votes and Tibbetts gathered 605 votes in the April 2 Primary Election.

Only two candidates were certified to run for District III Committeeperson - incumbent Cheryl "Annie" Jackson and Laura Lee (Thompson) Erickson.

MCT election rules state that if only two candidates are running for an open position, they bypass the Primary Election and run in the General Election. So they will square off for the first time on June 11.

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

**Chairman**  
 Eugene Umsy Tibbetts  
 Michael A. Fairbanks (Incumbent)

**District III Committeeperson**  
 Laura Lee (Thompson) Erickson  
 Cheryl 'Annie' Jackson (Incumbent)

All candidates were given the opportunity to submit an article stat-

ing their views and platforms, and a photo for this issue. To read what they have to say turn to **Pages 18-19**.

More election information can be found on Page 25.

**Early Voting Begins May 6**

Monday-Friday  
 8 am-4:30 pm

**Additional Hours**

Saturday, May 11 (10 am-2 pm)  
 Monday, May 27 (8 am-4:30 pm)  
 Saturday, June 8 (8 am-4 pm)

**Location**

White Earth Election Board  
 Shooting Star Casino RV Park

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

**Upcoming Powwows**

**WE Urban CC Pow Wow**  
 May 18 (Grand Entry 1&6:30 pm)  
 Mpls American Indian Center  
 See more on Page 3

**RL Memorial Powwow/Walk**  
 May 26 (Grand Entry 1&7 pm)  
 May 27 (Grand Entry 2 pm)  
 See more on Page 32

**WE Treaty Day Pow Wow**  
 June 14 (Grand Entry 1&7 pm)  
 June 15 (Grand Entry 1&7 pm)  
 June 16 (Grand Entry 1 pm)  
 See more on Page 17

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### Firing up controlled burns

White Earth Tribal Forestry recently conducted their annual controlled burns throughout the reservation.

A controlled burn is a planned low-intensity fire that removes hazardous fuels such as low growing vegetation.

**Left:** Fireman conduct a controlled burn by the White Earth Head Start building, fire station, and the RBC building.

Photos by Josie Keezer

## Anishinaabeg Today

The *Anishinaabeg Today* (AT) is the official publication of White Earth Nation and is published once a month. Editorials and articles appearing in the AT are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion 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](http://www.whiteearth.com).**

For more information call 218-983-3285 Ext. 5903, email: [today@whiteearth-nsn.gov](mailto:today@whiteearth-nsn.gov), fax: 833-607-0776, or write to:

*Anishinaabeg Today*  
PO Box 418  
White Earth, MN 56591

### Memberships

- ◆ Indigenous Journalist Association
- ◆ Minnesota Newspaper Association

## WER Business Committee

Michael Fairbanks  
Chairman

Michael LaRoque  
Secretary-Treasurer

Henry George Fox  
District I Representative

Eugene Sommers  
District II Representative

Cheryl "Annie" Jackson  
District III Representative

## Editor

Gary W. Padtra

## Future Issues \*

Deadline	Issue Date
May 29	June 5
June 26	July 3
July 31	August 7
August 28	September 4
September 25	October 2

\* Deadline and issue dates subject to change

# Naytahwaush highlighted in exhibit coming to Gizhiigin Artist Incubator in Mahnomen

An exhibition entitled *Naytahwaush: Faces, Stories, and Artists* is coming to the Gizhiigin Artist Incubator in Mahnomen. This exhibition remembers and highlights some of the community members who have served this community for many years and recalls their stories of growing up in the small community of Naytahwaush.

The exhibit is also an opportunity to showcase some artists with family roots in Naytahwaush. Kent Estey, a retired educator and now a full-time artist, is the curator of this exhibition. Estey says this project came about because he wanted others to hear good news about his community.

"Sometimes, when you come from a small village like Naytahwaush, only the bad news is what you hear. So, I applied to the Minnesota State Arts Board and received a grant to showcase some of my community's wonderful people and feature their artistry. We are so much more than the bad things that happen to us," said Estey.

This exhibition highlights a few community people, such as Mary Turner, Karen Walz, Phyllis Bunker, Brent Gish, Ruth Foss, Lois Olson, and Pam and David Snetsinger. "We all have a story to tell, and these people have been important to our community and have been such

a positive influence that I wanted to share their stories," Estey added.

"Our village is full of talented people who paint, carve, weave, bead, sew and create music. Often, these talents are overlooked or only shared with a few families and friends. I want to showcase the beauty and talents of my community in an exhibition setting," says Estey. "I hope this exhibit will introduce you to an artist you never knew even created art," he added. "When you live in the woods, sometimes you are overlooked and don't have as many exhibition opportunities as others. I hope to change that, and hopefully, other communities will create places and spaces for the arts."

Along with the exhibition opening and reception on May 18, from 2 to 5 p.m., at the Gizhiigin Artist Incubator, Estey will unveil the [www.naytahwaush.com](http://www.naytahwaush.com) website, which features more than 1,000 photographs he collected over the years. These photographs were given to him by community members who wanted their memories shared with others.

*Naytahwaush: Faces, Stories, and Artists* begins Saturday, May 18, with a reception at 2 p.m. and will be on exhibition until July 30 in Mahnomen.

Estey is a fiscal year 2023 recipient of a Creative Support for Individuals grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board. This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

**Nashke Getigejig!** (ATTENTION GARDENERS!)  
**2024 SEED & PLANT START DISTRIBUTION**

<b>Tuesday, May 7, 2024</b> 2 PM – 6 PM *Pine Point Community Center *Naytahwaush Sports Complex *White Earth Tribal & Community College, Mahnomen *Knutson Store, Zerkel	<b>Wednesday, May 8, 2024</b> 2 PM – 6 PM *White Earth Community Center *Rice Lake Community Center *White Earth Tribal & Community College, Mahnomen *Knutson Store, Zerkel
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**Plant Starts**  
(Quantities Limited)

Broccoli / Cabbage / Cauliflower / Onion Sets / Ode'immin (Strawberry) / Raspberries / Asemaa (Tobacco)

**Miikaan (a seed)**  
(Quantities Limited)

Beans / Mandaamin (Corn) / Cucumber / Peas / Marigold / Sunflower / Beets / Okaadak (Carrot) / Kohlrabi / Parsnip / Radish / Rutabaga / Turnip / Cantaloupe / Watermelon / Summer Squash / Winter Squash / Kale / Lettuce / Mustard / Spinach / Swiss Chard / Basil / Cilantro (Coriander) / Dill / Parsley



For more information, please contact:  
 WETCC Community Extension / Email: [extension@wetcc.edu](mailto:extension@wetcc.edu) / Webpage: <https://www.wetcc.edu/extension/> / Phone: 218-935-0417 Ext. 8349 Maria Fatz-Community Extension Coordinator

**Nashke Getigejig!** (ATTENTION GARDENERS!)  
**2024 SEED & PLANT START DISTRIBUTION**

<b>Tuesday, May 21, 2024</b> 2 PM – 6 PM *Pine Point Community Center *Naytahwaush Sports Complex *White Earth Tribal & Community College, Mahnomen *Knutson Store, Zerkel	<b>Wednesday, May 22, 2024</b> 2 PM – 6 PM *White Earth Community Center *Rice Lake Community Center *White Earth Tribal & Community College, Mahnomen *Knutson Store, Zerkel
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**Plant Starts**  
(Quantities Limited)

Gichi-ogin (a tomato) / Gaa-wiisagang (a pepper)

**Miikaan (a seed)**  
(Quantities Limited)

Beans / mandaamin (Corn) / Cucumber / Peas / Marigold / Sunflower / Beets / Okaadak (Carrot) / Kohlrabi / Parsnip / Radish / Rutabaga / Turnip / Cantaloupe / Watermelon / Summer Squash / Winter Squash / Kale / Lettuce / Mustard / Spinach / Swiss Chard / Basil / Cilantro (Coriander) / Dill / Parsley & Asemaa (Tobacco)



For more information, please contact:  
 WETCC Community Extension / Email: [extension@wetcc.edu](mailto:extension@wetcc.edu) / Webpage: <https://www.wetcc.edu/extension/> / Phone: 218-935-0417 Ext. 8349 Maria Fatz-Community Extension Coordinator

Week of the Young Child  
"Beach themed"  
Teddy Bear Band Live!

\*Date: May 21st, 2024

\*Where: Shooting Star Casino Event Center

\*Registration & Booth Open: 4:00 pm

\*Event Ends: 6:30 pm

\*Teddy Bear Band 4:45pm!



Free family meal for the whole family.  
Meal time: 5:15-6:15pm

Free t-shirt for all registered kiddos ages 2-8

**Resilience building with fun, cultural engagement activities along with language modeling for families & children for ages 0-8 years**

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\*Must Pre-register to attend BY May 17th!

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ # Adult meals: \_\_\_\_\_ # Kid Meals: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please email [casey.francis@whiteearth-nsn.gov](mailto:casey.francis@whiteearth-nsn.gov)

\*Fax to 218-983-4106 or \*Call 218-983-3285 Ext: 1408



MINNESOTA EARLY CHILDHOOD INITIATIVE  
a campaign for our youngest children

**White Earth Nation has a Facebook page!**  
[www.facebook.com/WhiteEarthNation](https://www.facebook.com/WhiteEarthNation)



**NCCS ANNUAL 5K**

**FUN 5K RUN/WALK**

**REGISTRATION**  
12:30 P.M. IN THE LOWER PARKING LOT

**Start Time**  
1:00 P.M.

**Contact**  
ALEX JESNESS WITH ANY QUESTIONS @  
218-936-2131

**MAY 10TH, 2024**

**FREE**

**COMMUNITY WELCOME!**



**Ambe Nimiwin (Come Pow Wow)**  
**WHITE EARTH URBAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**1ST ANNUAL TRADITIONAL POW WOW**  
**May 18, 2024**

**White Earth Honor Guard**  
Encees  
Jerry Dearly  
Deanna Rae Standingcloud  
Spiritual Advisor  
Joe Bigbear  
**Arena Directors**  
Jesse Bigbear  
Tommy Butcher, Jr  
Male Head Dancer  
Herb Fineday  
Female Head Dancer  
Monica Fisher  
Junior Male Head Dancer  
Oglma Binase  
Junior Female Head Dancer  
Kimimina Day

**Inlets: Most Drums (Drum Split)**  
Hoka Hey  
Mississippi Ojibwe  
Little Earth  
Southside Ramblers  
Bear Runner  
**Specials (4 chosen each special)**  
Womens' Jingle (ages 18 and up)  
Mens' Woodland Traditional (ages 18 and up)  
Youth (ages 9-17)  
Royalty Contest  
Princess or Brave (ages 8-17)

**\*\*Grand Entry Saturday, May 18, 1:00 PM & 6:30 PM**  
**\*\*Payouts will be at the last grand entry for those in Regalia.**  
**\*\*Feast will be served at 5:30 PM.**

**Minneapolis American Indian Center**  
1530 E. Franklin Ave Minneapolis MN 55404

**FMI: PLEASE CONTACT CHAR 651.262.7602**  
**No alcohol, illegal substances or weapons**  
**Vendors' Welcome: Contact Sherri 612.423.6760**  
**Sponsored by White Earth RBC**

**A message from St. Columba Episcopal Church**

The gate at St Columba Episcopal Church will be open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. from May 12 to 27 (Memorial Day) to clean grave sites. You can discard old artificial flowers by the gate.

After these cleanup dates the gate will be open Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Please be respectful when on church grounds**

**News From Chairman Michael Fairbanks**



A Different Kind of Story This Month: Listening to Our Shared Concerns, Upholding our Values, and Highlighting My Accomplishments as Chairman.

Aaniin Boozhoo Gaa-waabaabiganikaag Niminwendam Waabaminaan! Greetings White Earth Nation I am Happy to See You!

Usually, I tell a traditional story to do what I can to help maintain our oral traditions and share our culture, but this month I'm telling a different kind of story related to the election for Chairman of White Earth Nation. Why am I running for Chairman? Everybody is living their lives to the best of their abilities, but there are individual struggles, external pressures and community problems that we can all overcome together. At the same time, we've got beautiful strengths in our people, villages and communities, culture, and connections that need to be nurtured and allowed the opportunity to continue to grow. I believe in our collective power to achieve great outcomes for the people of our nation and create a better future for our children and grandchildren. I'm committed to the values we all share.

I'm concerned about the same things you are; I get worried and frustrated just like you do about the things happening around us. However, while in the Chairman's role, I've gotten to take action to solve these problems. I'm fortunate to work with members of Tribal Council who are equally caring and together we've accomplished a lot. I haven't talked about these accomplishments while I've been Chairman enough because I was taught to be humbled and live by our Anishinaabe values, but as I'm coming up on another election and asking for your vote, I want you to know I've been a highly effective leader who remains committed to the things which impact us as White Earth Nation people.

**Shared Concerns and Needs of the Communities**

When talking to people in our communities, I've heard about the problems that we need to address:

- Housing and shelter
- Jobs, economic stability, and workforce/workplace issues and needs
- Economic concerns and food security
- Safety and Security, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives (MMIR)
- Tribal sovereignty, self-governance, infrastructure
- Drugs, addiction, treatment, and healing
- Mental Health, crisis response, and healing
- Environment, land, and our natural resources
- Youth services, elder services, and parent services
- Education, post-secondary education, and trade school opportunities
- Healthcare, access to healthcare, quality of services
- Individual issues raised by constituents
- Culture & Language, Immersion school

This list is in no particular order, but it covers the most commonly raised issues. I care about the things our voters care about. I share your values and want to solve issues. When I was elected to this first full term in office, I had a list of campaign goals I wanted to achieve and I'm proud to say all of those things have either been fully achieved or are nearing completion. When I campaign for office, I hear your concerns and make good on the things I set out to do. My parents taught me not to be disrespectful to anyone so I have always kept a mature campaign motto, never badmouthing my opponents or their families. Loud mouthing or immature behavior is not my style, however, just because I use a respectful way of doing things doesn't mean I'm not effective.

In this article, and the next, leading up to elections I'm going to walk through our shared concerns, and talk about the great accomplishments made, policy changes achieved at national/state/local levels, funding and resources secured, as well as the work left to be done during the next election cycle.

In this article I'm going to focus on the first eight bullets listed above that I know are our shared concerns.

In next month's article I'm going to talk about the rest of the issues in the bullet points, what I've worked on, and the work left to do.

**Housing and Shelter**

Affordable housing is an ongoing need for our people. White Earth Housing Authority is making improvements, and we see fewer boarded up homes and more that are being used. In Mahnomon, 24 single family units were built by the Tribe, with the support of Minnesota Housing Finance Agency. The units are supportive sober living apartments for our relatives. In Rice Lake we are supporting the construction of tiny homes and a partnership with a building company that could lead to additional tiny homes for our relatives in other communities. Renovations were made to Congregate elder housing in White Earth to improve quality of life for our relatives living there. In Bemidji we are planning to build new, affordable, safe housing for our members where the old Ridgeway once stood, with construction planned for 2024. We are set to open a homeless shelter in Mahnomon through our Human Services program in May.

These are substantial projects that took time, planning, and securing resources. Housing is a basic human necessity, and I continue to work on legislation and funding that addresses this need. Locally 23 elder homes were included in home repair bids to help our elders remain safely in their homes. In 2023, I supported legislation that provided grants for emergency shelter costs and hiring of housing resource specialists, expanded GRH housing funding access, provided tribal housing and homelessness aid funding from the Tax Bill, and in 2024 I am advocating for legislation to secure housing case management reimbursements which can help sustain our shelter costs and allow us expansion to meet our local needs. I understand these issues and would like to continue to fight for these resources to end homelessness.

**Jobs, economic stability, workforce/workplace issues and needs**

We were able to reinstate much of our tribal workforce following the layoffs instituted by the former administration. Those layoffs were extremely difficult on our local families relying upon the tribe as the largest local employer, and harmful to our constituents who relied upon our services. Our local businesses and economies suffered as well. We've achieved a level of job and economic security locally that provides opportunities for local people to earn a livable wage. Like many places, we've reached a point where we have a lot of job postings without enough people to fill them. We fully support Native preference in our hiring, training and advancement within the Tribe. We've worked hard to instill a sense of security and stability within the RBC for our employees so that they can perform at their high-

**See Chairman Page 28**

## News From Secretary-Treasurer Michael J. LaRoque

Aanin Boozhoo,

Greeting White Earth Members, I have the honor of being elected as the Secretary/Treasurer position for the White Earth Tribal Council and this is my 2nd Quarter report ending March 31, 2024. Our Fiscal year runs from Oct. 1, 2023 to Sept. 30, 2024.

### Fiscal Year 2024 Budget

Due to the fiscal year dates, the RBC must have a general fund budget in place by Sept. 30, 2023. This budget was approved by the Tribal Council and adopted by resolution on Sept. 30, 2023. The budget adopted accounts for revenues in the amount of 15.96 million which consists of State of Minnesota Tax revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$22.46 million. These expenditures are incurred for departments that operate more for the good of the band members than to make a profit. These include education, public safety, general government, human services, public works, economic development, and culture among others. This allows for a budget deficit of \$6.34 million which will be funded by distributions from the Shooting Star Casino. This deficit includes all capital expenses.

### Fiscal Year 2024 2nd Quarter

#### General Fund

Correction: the FY24 1st Quarter numbers for government activities ending Dec. 31, 2023, is \$22.4 million with expenses of \$3,299,990.35 with a remainder of \$19.1 million.

This quarter's FY24 budget for governmental activities ending March 31, 2023, is at \$22.4 million with expenses at \$7.9 million and a balance of \$14.5 million.

#### Gaming

Consolidated revenue for Mahnom, Bagley, and all other gaming revenue for the 2nd Fiscal Quarter of FY2024, ending March 31, 2024, was \$28.2 million. The consolidated expenses for the Quarter were \$21.9 million. Consolidated net income for the quarter was \$6.2 million; Mahnom is at \$5.4 million, and Bagley is at \$806,000.

The budget through the 2nd Fiscal Quarter was \$51.6 million of revenue and \$47.4 million in expenses for a budgeted net income of \$4.2 million for the first half of FY2024. YTD Revenue was \$5.2 million higher than the budget while expenses were \$2.6 million lower than budget resulting in net income being \$7.8 million higher than budget.

The Bagley Casino for 2nd quarter ending March 31, 2023, earned \$2.9 million in revenue with expenditures of \$2.1 million. Bagley Casino has a net income for the quarter of \$806,000.

Shooting Star Casino cash on hand on March 31, 2023, was \$79.3 million. The cash on hand at the close of the last fiscal year, Sept. 30, 2023, was \$77.2 million. After Shooting Star Casino capital improvement spending and distributions to the White Earth RBC, cash has increased by \$2.1 million during the first half of the fiscal 2024.

The unaudited preliminary numbers are subject to change as the numbers are finalized.

### ARPA (Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund)

The White Earth RBC received \$6 million allocation of LATCF funds for FY23. The FY23 funds were used to cover annual funding for the Tribal Utilities Commission. The FY23 funds will also be used to cover gaps in Government activities approved by the White Earth RBC.



### Other Grant Funds

In this quarter of FY2024, we have recorded \$53.22 million in other grant funding while recording \$35.74 million in expenditures. The other grant funds consist of grants from Federal, State, and local funding agencies. The funds are meant for a specific program, service, or activity and must be budgeted as such.

### Behavioral Health

In this quarter of FY2024, we have accounted for \$20.45 million in revenue while recording \$17.30 million in expenditures. This leaves us with \$3.5 million. The ending cash balance in Behavioral Health funds is \$34.10 million in addition there is an investment account of \$15 million.

### Youth and Elder Funds

The casino purchased 12 AGS machines, one-sixth of the gaming revenue from those machines provide the funding for the Youth and Elder Fund. Six of those machines are in the casino on the back wall near the Smoke restaurant. The remaining six machines are in the middle of the northern portion of the floor. All AGS machines on the casino gaming floor earn guest rewards points when playing with their player card. (This is not the case with AGS machines offsites.)

The funding in this program is designed to help assist with costs associated with group activities supporting enrolled youth and elder members of White Earth Nation. These donations are authorized by the Tribal Council.

In this quarter of FY24, we have \$396,514 in revenue while recording \$142,877 in expenditures. This leaves us with a cash balance of \$253,637.

I would also like to invite any White Earth Tribal Member who has a questions or concerns about the Tribal Finances on the Government side to reach out by putting a request in writing to myself at [mike.laroque@whiteearth-nsn.gov](mailto:mike.laroque@whiteearth-nsn.gov) or call me at 218-849-1140.

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

Michael J. LaRoque  
Secretary-Treasurer

**WHITE EARTH**  
*Community Farmers Market*  
Growing Healthy Families & Communities

Thursdays from 3-6 pm

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

**Thursdays, 3-6 PM**

**Begins June 6th through October 3rd (weather permitting)**   
South Main Street, Mahnom, MN

**Our market accepts:**  
SNAP/EBT; WIC; Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (FMNP); and Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP); and Hunger Solutions certificates

**Come join the fun!**

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

**LOOKING FOR VENDORS!**

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

<b>MARKET MANAGER</b> Eva Brakefield 218-401-3173 <a href="mailto:eva.brakefield@whiteearth-nsn.gov">eva.brakefield@whiteearth-nsn.gov</a>	or	<b>CO-MARKET MANAGER</b> Tammy Bellanger 218-935-0417 Ext. 213 <a href="mailto:tbellanger@wetcc.edu">tbellanger@wetcc.edu</a>
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The market is a collaboration between the White Earth Nation Tribal Public Health, the City of Mahnom, and the White Earth Tribal and Community College Extension Service.

**NAYTAHWAUSH CLINIC**  
2471 310TH AVE MAHNOMEN, MN 56557  
218-935-2238

**CLINIC & PHARMACY HOURS 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

Same day appointments now available!  
Physical & Occupational Therapy  
PT - Monday & Thursday  
OT - Tuesday & Friday  
Mammo - Thursday  
Dental - Thursday  
White Earth Behavioral Health Walk-in Clinic Tuesdays 8-12  
Patients can present any other week days and the mobile crisis team will be called  
WIC - Please call 218-204-0399 or 218-401-4247 to contact our department.

**HAVE YOU BEEN INJURED:**

**Nycklemoe & Ellig**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
Call **JOSEPH R. ELLIG & VAN R. ELLIG**  
"Our family helping your family since 1925"

**Hurt at work or in an auto accident?**  
**Slipped & fell or attacked by a dog?**

**Fergus Falls**  
**218-736-5673**

\*Licensed in Minnesota and White Earth Tribal Courts

**The WE General Election is June 11 - the polls are open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.**

## News From District II Rep. Eugene Sommers

Boozhoo Anishinaabe,

This month has been busy with activity. Firstly, I want to acknowledge that my on-site presence has been limited due to my engagements with local governments. These meetings have been focused on dispelling misinformation surrounding the return of the White Earth Forest, necessitating considerable travel on my part.

My State of the Nation report centered on legislative updates and the rollout of new infrastructure projects in District 2. Notable among these are road projects, trail systems, street lighting, sidewalks, and an Elder Village Project. For ongoing updates, please refer to my Facebook page and monthly reports.

### Becker County Commissioners Meeting

On April 9, the Becker County Commissioners Meeting saw the attendance of District Representatives (1, 2, 3) discussing the White Earth State Forest. The key points addressed were as follows:

**Land Access:** Reassurance was given that land access will remain unaffected, with trails slated for improvement and some rerouting to safeguard culturally significant areas and ensure easier maintenance. This approach also mitigates the risk of private landowners closing trails due to non-legally binding agreements.

**PILT Payments:** It was emphasized that the Tribe is a taxpayer and has the capacity to make property tax payments. It was also brought to light that the County would see an increase in PILT Payments if the Forest was returned to White Earth Nation.

**Economic Impacts:** The possibility of leasing land for individual development will create more economic opportunity and more recreational options for visitors. The overarching goal is to transform the White Earth Forest into an attractive recreational destination, benefiting local businesses.

### American Indian Senior Banquet

On April 17, I had the honor of speaking at the American Indian Senior Banquet hosted at the Shooting Star Casino. Notably, 37 students graduating from Mahnommen High School this year are Members and Descendants of the White Earth Nation. To our graduating students, I extend heartfelt congratulations on your academic achievements and eagerly anticipate your contributions to the White Earth Nation. I strongly urge our youth to pursue further education or consider joining our workforce, as there are numerous job opportunities within the White Earth Nation.

### Indigenous Trauma & Resilience Research Center

On April 18, I engaged with researchers from various Tribal Communities at the UND Indigenous Trauma & Resilience Research Center. Our discussions revolved around the critical role of Tribal Research Review Boards in addressing disparities within Tribal Communities, emphasizing the need to view data through a Tribal lens to avoid potentially harmful misrepresentations and to ensure researchers respect Tribe's Data Sovereignty.

### Wabigwan Mashkiki Cannabis Dispensary

On April 20, Wabigwan Mashkiki unveiled a new dispensary situated across from the Shooting Star Casino. This latest addition supersedes the smaller dispensary previously located in front of our Cannabis Grow facility. I closely monitored this sig-



nificant development and extended my gratitude to all our employees involved. The relocation demanded extensive time and coordination, with staff commencing the move days before the grand opening, working tirelessly until the early hours of April 20.

Attending the grand opening event myself, I witnessed a vibrant atmosphere bustling with local food vendors and numerous customers. Exploring our expanded product range, including new Cannabis Strains, THC Drinks, Zips (1 ounce of cannabis), and various smoking products, I observed a high level of interest. However, I noted a concern regarding the duration of order fulfillment. Assurances have been given that the fulfillment process will streamline as our staff become accustomed to the new procedures.

### Becker County Natural Resources Management Committee

I had the privilege of joining the Becker County Natural Resource Management Committee. This experience provided valuable insights into the operational dynamics of Becker County, unveiling numerous collaborative opportunities. I am enthusiastic about the potential for our partnership to flourish and contribute positively to both White Earth Nation and Becker County.

With shared objectives and a commitment to effective resource management, I believe we can cultivate a mutually beneficial relationship that fosters sustainable development and enhances the well-being of our communities. I'm excited about collaborative initiatives that lie ahead and am dedicated to nurturing a strong and productive partnership with all Counties.

### Native Americans in Philanthropy

I had the opportunity to attend this event, where I engaged with potential supporters for our Wellness Center and other infrastructure projects. While I made some initial connections, we haven't secured any commitments yet. However, I remain optimistic about the potential for future collaboration and support.

### White Earth Nation Boxing Club

I'd like to extend a special acknowledgment to our boxing team and our newly appointed Head Boxing Coach, Joe Morrones. With over a decade of experience in the sport, Joe has dedicated the past eight months to coaching in Naytahwaush, and I've never witnessed the gym as bustling as it is today.

Our boxing team is gearing up to compete at

See Sommers Page 30

## Rez Briefs

### Ogema VFW Post 9880 Auxiliary news

The next Ogema VFW Post 9880 Auxiliary meeting is May 13 at 9 a.m. at the VFW Hall. All members encouraged to attend. New members being recruited; if you would like information on membership please contact Carol Fabre, President, at 218-983-3443.

### Calvary Cemetery cleanup

Calvary Cemetery volunteers will be conducting the annual cemetery spring clean up on May 18 at 10 a.m. In the event of inclement weather it will be rescheduled for May 25. We would ask everyone to please remove all items, decorations, etc., that you wish to keep prior to these dates. Otherwise, all items left over will be removed and discarded. Your cooperation is very much appreciated. Thank you.

### White Earth Urban CC Traditional Pow Wow

The White Earth Urban Community Council Traditional Pow Wow will be held May 18 at the Minneapolis American Indian Center located at 1530 East Franklin Avenue in Minneapolis. The Grand Entry times are 1 and 6:30 p.m. and a feast will be served at 5:30 p.m. Please contact Char at 651-262-7602. No alcohol, illegal substances or weapons. Sponsored by the White Earth RBC.

## Valleyview Commons

Valleyview Commons in Mahnommen has immediate openings for 1 bedroom units

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

*Tenant is responsible for electric and heat.*

Currently all ages and incomes welcome to apply!

For more information contact DW Jones Management. 218-547-3307 or apply at [www.dwjonesmanagement.com](http://www.dwjonesmanagement.com)



CREATING BETTER LIVING  
Equal Housing Opportunity

TTY711



For All Your Financial Needs  
See Robin, your Commercial/Ag and Consumer Lender (NMLS 1987665)

- Commercial/Business Loans
- Home Loans
- Construction Loans
- ATV Loans
- Ag Loans
- Home Improvement Loans
- Auto Loans
- Boat/Snowmobile Loans

visit us at: [www.comdevbank.com](http://www.comdevbank.com)  
Community Development Bank, Ogema, MN



218-983-3241 • Fax 218-983-3243 • [comdevbank.com](http://comdevbank.com)



The 156th White Earth Treaty Day Celebration and Pow Wow is June 14-16

## News From District III Rep. Cheryl 'Annie' Jackson

Boozhoo Everyone,

We ended April with showers and now I look forward to the warmer days and the smell of fresh cut grass. As your District III Representative it is always my priority to do all I can to assist each one of you to the best of my ability.

### Tribal Council Quarterly Meeting

I was sick for this meeting, but I did attend via TEAMS. I lost my voice so I really couldn't respond too much. It was very hard for me not to be able to respond to some things that were being said. I will address those at next month's meetings.

We approved \$1 million for the homeless building in Mahnommen and also another \$500,000 for assisting with our huge homeless problem here. We are hoping this will help our members to get back on their feet and be able to find a home for themselves and their families.

Funeral assistance was also raised from \$2,000 to \$3,000 as we know the hardship that we all go through when losing a loved one.

This was much needed for our homeless and our families. Hoping that these programs can come sustainable and be able to grow over the next few years.

### State Forest Transfer Legislation SF3480

This is one of our biggest issues. Many things have happened through this fight for our land back. Neighbors who we thought were our friends came out against us in a rather unsettling way. I guess their true colors of how they feel about us as Anishinaabe came to light. Maybe this is what needed to happen?

During COVID we assisted all our neighboring counties with the COVID shots. These were given free not only to our members, but to those nonmembers that wanted to receive them. There were lines of cars at each site. Not only that, but we did also administered testing for all.

Now I will address the millions of dollars that go into our neighboring counties and towns. Our payroll is well over \$80 million and most of it goes out to these areas. So, let me ask, are we not good neighbors?

On to the care of the State Forest, we have already been assisting in the upkeep of the forest. We have many professional staff that will take care of it, not to mention our own DNR that are very knowledgeable about managing our forest and lands within. Will we shut it down, no, maybe if an area needs to be taken care of, but that is only temporary. The forest is ours and it was taken illegally like a lot of our lands, so it's time to do what's right and give it back. I always hear we can go back 200 years, well what if this happened to your people, would it still be OK?

We have several meetings on this, and they will continue. Our outcome is to have the State Forest returned to White Earth, as we are the rightful owners.

Please watch for updates from Chairman Michael Fairbanks.

### Becker County Commissioners Meeting

On April 9, we met with the Becker County Commissioners. This meeting went as well as we expected. We have no backing from them for the return of our State Forest. We were able to voice what we plan on doing when it is returned, still it fell on deaf ears.

I opened an invitation to them and the landowners to come to our homelands and meet with us. There was no response, but after the meeting a landowner did approach me and stated he would like



to come meet. So, I had him to talk to our governmental affairs person, to get that set up.

Another gentleman approached our Executive Director, he was a very kind man and wanted to set up a meeting with his group and the Council.

At this time, I have no notifications if these were going to be scheduled.

### State of the Band

State of the Band was held on April 4. This was well attended. All Tribal Council members gave very good updates. Shout out to all the programs that had tables with their information and prizes for all, the Shooting Star Banquets staff, Romyn Hanks, Gary Padrta, RBC Administration staff, MC Mr. Vince Beyl, and to all that were in attendance. Without all of you these events would not be possible.

### Debriefing

Our debriefings are usually held on Mondays and these are open to the public. There is no agenda, so it is not a Regular or Special RBC meeting. We all come together, get updates and plan what our week will look like. There is always so much going on. We get updates from the programs and from our lawyers, and our Federal and State lobbyists.

### Tribal Executive Committee Meetings

We attended the TEC meeting on April 22-23 in Grand Portage. I sit on the Finance Corporation Subcommittee. Our meeting is closed to the public, but other Tribal Council members can attend. The reason this is a closed meeting is that there is personal information discussed and personnel issues that may come up.

Other meetings that are held at TEC:

Education/Health and Human Services Subcommittee meeting – District II Rep. Eugene Sommers

Natural Resources and Environment Subcommittee meeting – District I Rep. Henry Fox

Legislative Subcommittee meeting – Secretary Treasurer Michael LaRoque

Tribal Executive Committee Meeting – Chairman Fairbanks and Secretary LaRoque

All these meetings are open to the public.

Every day we are all busy taking calls, providing assistance, attending meetings or any other matter that comes up.

In closing I want to send my prayers to all that may need them.

That's it for this month, until next month,

**Cheryl "Annie" Jackson**  
District III Representative

416 US HWY 59, MAHNOMEN, MN



# GRAND OPENING

MONDAY MAY 6, 2024

10 AM - 6 PM

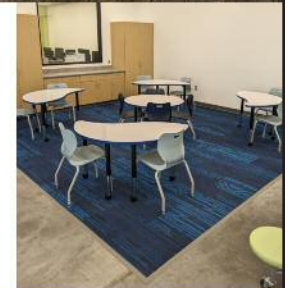
Boys & Girls Club of White Earth Mahnommen Site has a new remodel! We would like to invite you to come check out our new areas for the Mahnommen Youth that they can call HOME!

We will serve a small meal from 11 am - 1 pm.

Audra Walz - Unit Lead 218-936-3400

Carol Thompson - CEO 218-935-3517

James Hvezda - Asst CEO 218-935-3518



**Call For Move-In Specials!**

## WHITE EARTH CONGREGATE HOUSING

WAUBUN, MINNESOTA

White Earth Congregate Housing has immediate openings for 1 bedroom units

\* \$840/mo and All ages welcome to apply

\* Rent includes water, sewer, garbage and heat

\* Tenant is responsible for electric

For complete information call DW Jones Management, Inc. 218-547-3307 or

[www.dwjonesmanagement.com](http://www.dwjonesmanagement.com)

**CREATING BETTER LIVING!**

Equal Housing Opportunity TTY 711



## WEFO-Cass Lake Open House and ID / White Earth Apparel Event

Tuesday, May 7

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

217 2nd Street NW Cass Lake, Minn. (Old American Legion)

ID's will be made and White Earth clothing will be for sale

*Hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be provided*

## New exhibit is being unveiled at Giiwedining Treaty Rights & Culture Museum in Park Rapids

**Park Rapids, Minn.** — The Giiwedining Treaty Rights & Culture Museum announces the installation of “Not Afraid to Look” on the museum’s corner of 101 2nd Street W. and Highway 71. On May 16 the sculpture’s journey of 1,250- miles will arrive at Giiwedining, its new home, for installation.

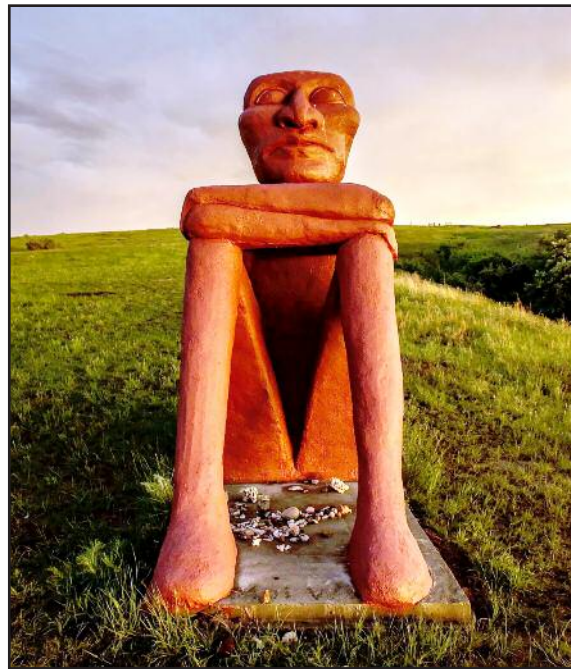
Join Charles Rencountre, the sculptor, and our team in celebrating this art installation, which symbolizes our collective efforts to protect the water. The museum showcases diverse exhibits, including historical and modern treaties, cultural art, and insights into our Anishinaabe way of life. We also proudly present prominent displays highlighting the Water Protector Movement.

“Not Afraid to Look” is a sculpture erected at the Sacred Stone Camp on the Missouri River during the Standing Rock resistance gathering. The 18-foot sculpture emerged from an “effigy pipe,” originally carved and used at the end of the 17th century. Art transforms the world we understand. “Not Afraid to Look” inspires change and represents generations of courage—we are not afraid to look. The sculpture serves as a powerful symbol of resistance and unity, embodying the strength and resilience of indigenous peoples. Its presence at the museum serves as a reminder of the ongoing fight for environmental justice and indigenous rights.

The sculptor, Charles Rencountre, explains why the sculpture was created:

“When I think of the time I lived at the Oceti Sakowin and the Sacred Stone resistance camps at Standing Rock in 2016. I am reminded of all the Water Protectors from all the nations of the world converging to make peaceful prayers for the water. A Wicasa Wakan once shared with us in an Inipi ceremony, as he was dipping a buffalo horn cap into the water and pouring it over the Grandfathers (tukans) that when we return to the spirit world, we are all the same color as the water.”

“We want people to recognize the courage of people to protect the water against polluters and also



Submitted photo

“Not Afraid to Look” sculpture created by Charles Rencountre.

hope that awareness of these issues sparks more action to protect the water,” Giiwedining Board Chair Don Wedll says.

The Park Rapids Arts and Culture Commission is pleased to partner with the Giiwedining Museum to celebrate and honor the creative work of sculptors participating in this year's Sculpture Trail.

Paul Albright, sculptor and commission member, described “Not Afraid to Look” as “a powerful sculpture that sits firmly grounded in message and physical beauty.”

By shedding light on uncomfortable truths and encouraging honest conversations, this piece serves as a catalyst for positive transformation and healing.

See **Sculpture Page 10**

## White Earth Council of Elders

By **Tim Rindahl, Chairman**

White Earth Nation Council of Elders

Aanin boozhoo everyone.

I sure hope everyone enjoyed April with the ups and downs of the weather, but overall there were some beautiful days to get yard work done for Clean Up Week. Please remember that if you are an Elder and have no way to get your junk to the dump call 218-473-4663 and sign up to have your items picked up at the end of your driveway.

### White Earth Community Clean-Up Dates

May 1 to 4 - Naytahwaush

May 8 to 11 - Elbow Lake

May 15 to 18 - Pine Point

May 29 to June 1 - White Earth

There was a lot of things going on in April. Our April 3 meeting in Pine Point was a good turn out. We got a new sound system with amp and microphones so everyone can hear what is being said. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, May 7 at Congregate in the White Earth at 5:30 p.m., so everybody can make it home before dark.

We are trying real hard to put together an elder group that will go around to help out other elders with the little things that we can't get other programs to do. I understand the programs only do bigger jobs but we need help with the smaller ones. So if you are or know someone that is retired or working (you don't have to be an elder to help out) and would like to join this awesome group please call 218-261-0182 (Tim) or 218-252-9390 (Sam) to sign up. We would like to have folks from every community volunteer to help with small repairs - nothing big. There is a lot to do.

We had a group of elders go to the TEC meeting in Grand Portage, Minn. We would like to see if there is some way to view it from the ENP sites for those of us that are interested in what's going on without having to travel. The next TEC meeting is in July in Bois Forte.

The Lower Sioux Community will be hosting the Wisdom Steps Conference in June at Jackpot Junction Casino Hotel in Morton, Minn. If interested I believe that you can contact Lucille Silk for more information.

Don't forget the Mother's Day Pow Wow is May 11 and 12 at the Shooting Star Casino.

We also have the White Earth Pow Wow in June. If you have any suggestions for a float for the elders feel free to contact one of us - we are looking for something different.

District II Rep. Eugene Summers is looking into a grant to help with home security systems for the elders. We are and will remain thankful to our Tribal Council for everything that they do and help us, as it is much appreciated.

Please remember stay safe and check in on our neighbors to make sure that they are ok.

Don't be afraid to ask for help if you need it. There has to be a way to get it so feel free to reach out to any of us on the council - that's what we try to do.

Miigwech!

Tim Rindahl / Chairman 218-261-0182

Sam Crowell / Vice Chair 218-252-9390

Colleen Blattenbauer / Treasurer

Monica Parrault / Secretary

### FIVE STEPS TO PREVENT ILLNESS

#### Respiratory Virus Guidance Snapshot

**Core prevention strategies**

<b>Immunizations</b> 	<b>Hygiene</b> 	<b>Steps for Cleaner Air</b> 	<b>Treatment</b> 	<b>Stay Home and Prevent Spread*</b> 
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**Additional prevention strategies**

<b>Masks</b> 	<b>Distancing</b> 	<b>Tests</b> 
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**\*Stay home and away from others until, for 24 hours BOTH:**

- Your symptoms are getting better
- You are fever-free (without meds)

**Then take added precaution for the next 5 days**

**Layering prevention strategies can be especially helpful when:**

- Respiratory viruses are causing a lot of illness in your community
- You or those around you have risk factors for severe illness
- You or those around you were recently exposed, are sick, or are recovering

White Earth Nation TRIBAL PUBLIC HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
CDC

**877-410-8550**

**anonymous crime and elder abuse tip line**

# Our Vision for White Earth State Forest



## PROTECT, PRESERVE, AND EXPAND ENJOYMENT FOR ALL

### Healing and Justice

- The State Forest is more than just trails and lakes. The health and sustainability of the White Earth Nation are tied directly to this land, which has provided them with physical, spiritual, cultural, and societal health since time immemorial.
- The land was taken from the Nation piece by piece. Within the first years of mandatory allotments, 80% of the land had been removed from the Tribe by often illicit means.
- Even so, the White Earth Nation has continued its commitment to care for this place, maintaining roads, stocking lakes, and contributing to its overall health.
- Return of this land is a just act promoting generational healing, identity, and self-worth.

### Preserve the Park

- White Earth Nation will ensure that all remaining land in the Forest will be available for the enjoyment of all forever.
- Section-by-section lands within the State Forest have been sold off, leaving the Forest only about one-third of its original size.
- White Earth Nation believes the earth is not a resource to be used and depleted. They are the only party committed to never selling this land or reducing the Forest's size.

### Expand and Improve Recreational Opportunities

- White Earth State Forest will remain open for all to enjoy hunting, fishing, gathering, hiking, and motorsports.
- Invest additional resources in improved maintenance of fisheries as well as motorsports and hiking trails.
- Continue to invest and promote Little Elbow Park, as well as expand day-use areas within the Forest
- Expand the network of hiking trails available to the public.

### Support Local Businesses and Economies

- Expanded recreational opportunities and improved management will support local businesses and governments relying on tourism.
- Forest maintenance logging in the Forest will remain open to all parties, regardless of Tribal affiliation, through a market-based, blind bid process.

### Protect Private Landowners

- Private landowners who access their property through the Forest will have no restrictions.
- Private landowners will benefit from enhanced maintenance and management of the Forest lands.
- Rapid response time by White Earth Wildland Firefighters will increase protection from fire damage to private lands.
- Water quality, invasive species monitoring, and relocation services for nuisance black bears will improve landowners' enjoyment of their property.



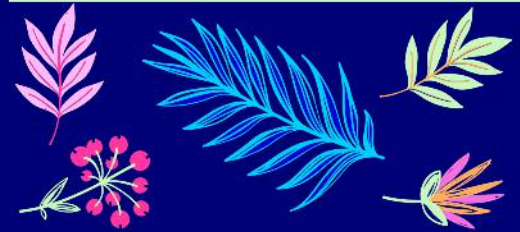
## Circle of Life Academy Graduation Class of 2023/2024

We will be celebrating the Circle of Life Academy Graduating Class of 2023/2024 on May 23 at 5:30 p.m. Weather permitting, we will be outside on the football field.

*All are invited*

Please come and share in our celebrating of Seniors

## WHITE EARTH HOUSING AUTHORITY



• MAY 15, 2024, •

• TIME 4:30 P.M. – 6:30 P.M. •

• NAYTAHWAUSH COMMUNITY CENTER •

### WOULD LIKE TO INVITE THE COMMUNITY MEMBERS

To join the Tenant Service Staff to come and complete past-due paperwork. A light meal will be provided and get a chance to a door prize

JUNE 20, 2024 | 8 AM-4 PM | SHOOTING STAR CASINO EVENT CENTER

### 2nd Annual

## DIABETIC CONFERENCE

- This conference is for anyone interested in diabetes. (pre-diabetics, diabetics, loved one of a diabetic)
- Must be pre-registered to attend. Registration closes on June 13<sup>th</sup>.
- You can register by calling 218-255-2204 or 218-401-3196. Leave a message with your name and phone number and someone will return your call ASAP.

TENTATIVE AGENDA TOPICS: diabetes and your feet, meal planning, spice instead of salt/sugar, CGM systems, living with diabetes and much more. Breakfast and lunch provided.

Hosted by:



### 'The State of the Water'

## White Earth Water Summit

Thursday, May 30th 8:30am-4:30pm  
White Earth Tribal and Community College  
2260 Mahnomon College Rd  
Mahnomon, MN 56557



Register here: <https://z.umn.edu/WhiteEarthWaterSummit>

Check out the agenda at: <https://z.umn.edu/WhiteEarthWaterAgenda>

For more information or to register by phone contact  
Extension Coordinator 218-935-0417 EXT 8349  
or email [extension@wetcc.edu](mailto:extension@wetcc.edu)

Sponsored by WETCC Community Extension, White Earth Nation, and University of Minnesota, with generous support from the Nature Conservancy



Food, Games, Contests, and Prizes!

### SAVE THE DATE!

More Details to Come!



## White Earth Urban Programs Annual Open House!

Friday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 12pm – 3pm

1730 Clifton Place Minneapolis



Featuring:  
Enrollments, Tribal IDs, Business Supplies LLC (Clothing), and Wild Rice both Friday and Saturday!

5/10: 12pm – 4:30pm  
5/11: 9am – 4:00pm  
(Staff break from 12p-1pm on Saturday)



For members obtaining Tribal ID's scan the QR code to pre-fill your request form prior to the event or call (612) 813-1590 for more info!



MAY



2024

zhaagibagaa-giizis  
(Budding Moon)

Cultural Calendar

White Earth Cultural Activities

Fire Lightening @ 6 PM for all Sweats, men are encouraged and welcomed to come and learn. More information, please call 218-401-4357



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday 1	Thursday 2	Friday 3	Saturday 4
				Acute Care 1-3 PM White Earth Drum Group 5-8 PM	Crafty Friday 10-3 PM	
5	6 OMC Tobacco Youth 9 AM Youth Sweat 12 PM Mahnomon Drum Group 5:30 - 7:30 PM	7 NTW MOMS MATS AFT 3 10-12 PM WE Congregate 5:30 PM	8 Pine Point AFT 10-12 PM OMC Tobacco Women 9 AM Women's Sweat 12	9 Circle Back Youth AFT 2 10-12 PM White Earth Drum Group 5-8 PM	10	11
12	13 OMC Tobacco MAT 9 AM Mahnomon Drum Group 5:30 - 7:30 PM	14 Mahnomon AFT 7 10-12 PM	15	16 White Earth Drum Group 5-8 PM	17	18
19	20 All Staff Out	21 All Staff Out	22 All Staff Out	23 White Earth Drum Group 5-8 PM	24 Detroit Lakes Relatives Cedar Healing 10-12 PM	25
26 Memorial Day - RBC Closed	27 Nay Tah Waush Sweat Lodge Renewal	28	29 Rice Lake Sweat Lodge Renewal Rice Lake Healing Feast 5-7 PM	30 Pine Point Sweat Lodge Renewal White Earth Drum Group 5-8 PM	31 White Earth Sweat Lodge Renewal	

For the Sweat lodge, you'll need to bring: Asemaa/Tobacco, a towel, and a skirt or dress.

Sing like no one is listening!  
Let it go!

Tobacco - Asemaa  
Cedar - Glizhilkondug  
Sage - Mashkodewushk  
Sweet grass - wiinggashk

Inga izhitchige nibi onji!  
I'll do it for the water!  
E'aangwaamizin!  
Go in a good way!

Fall - Daagwaagin  
Water - Nibi  
Medicine - Mashkiikii  
Fire - Ishkode  
Ceremony - manidooke

THE DOCTOR'S CORNER

Don't let ticks ruin summer

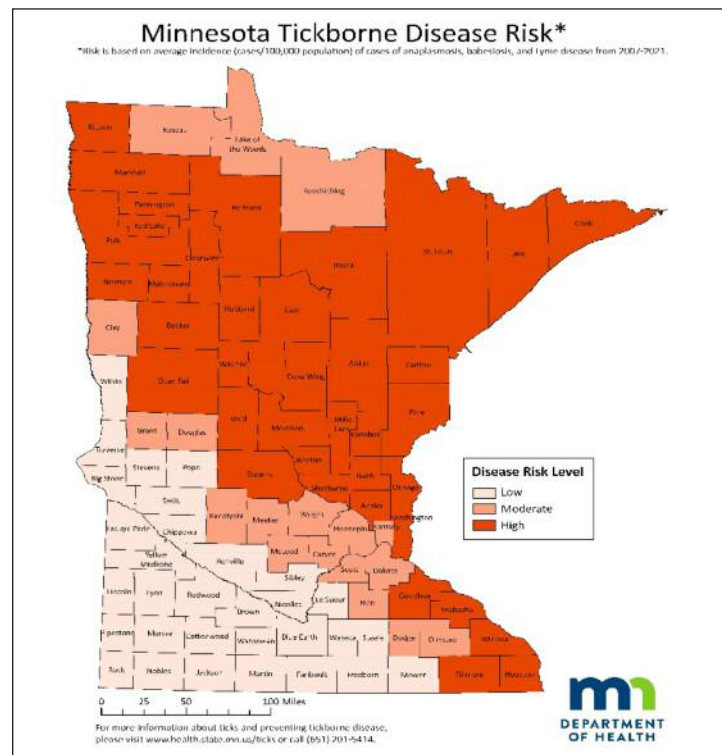
By Sandra Holmgren, GNP-BC  
White Earth Health Center

It's that time of year again when the snow has melted, swans, geese and loons are coming back to our beautiful lakes, temperatures are becoming warmer allowing us to be outside more. It seems over winter, we tend to forget about our Minnesota insects including mosquitos, flies, bees and don't forget wood ticks.

Ticks are a parasitic mite that lives off the blood of animals. They attach and feed on mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians. Ticks have eight legs, just like spiders, and are classified as arachnids. Nearly 900 species of ticks are known to exist worldwide.

According to the Minnesota Department of Health, there are approximately 12 different types of ticks in Minnesota, however the three most common types are the blacklegged tick (aka deer tick), the American dog tick (aka wood tick), and the lone star tick. The blacklegged tick causes most tick borne disease in Minnesota. Most of us have heard of Lyme disease, however ticks can carry other diseases such as Anaplasmosis, Babesiosis, Ehrlichiosis, to name a few.

The map below is showing areas that are most at risk for tick illnesses.



White Earth General Election

June 11, 2024

Early Voting Begins May 6

Monday-Friday  
8 am-4:30 pm

Additional Hours  
Saturday, May 11  
(10 am-2 pm)

Monday, May 27  
(8 am-4:30 pm)

Saturday, June 8  
(8 am-4 pm)

Location

White Earth Election Board  
Shooting Star Casino RV Park  
218-936-5622

**WHITE EARTH TRIBAL & COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**Celebrating Student Success**  
Congratulations to WETCC student Lauri Zupan on winning Student of the Year! Lauri was honored at the 2024 AIHEC Student Conference in March.

**Transform Your Future at WETCC**  
Are you ready to embark on a transformative educational journey that celebrates heritage, community, and personal growth? Discover a unique learning experience that empowers you to unleash your true potential at White Earth Tribal and Community College.

**APPLY NOW**

**Start Your Journey** [wetcc.edu/apply](http://wetcc.edu/apply)

So how do we avoid getting bit by a tick? Recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have tips to offer. First, know where to expect ticks such as grassy, brushy or wooded areas. It is recommended if you are in this type of environment, to use EPA (environmental protection agency) registered insect repellent or consider treating your clothing and gear with products containing 0.5% permethrin. One can also simply try and avoid contact with ticks by walking in the center of trails, avoid wooded, bushy, high grass areas.

How do you remove a tick if you find one? If you find a tick attached to your skin, remove the tick as soon as possible. A fine-tipped tweezers works well. After completely removing tick, clean bite area well with soap and water and wash hands. Never crush a tick with your fingers.

According to Minnesota Department of Health, in 2021 there were 1,033 confirmed Lyme's disease cases, 603 confirmed Anaplasmosis cases, 63 confirmed Babesiosis cases with Lyme's disease being the most prevalent. In most cases, a tick must be attached for 36-48 hours or more before Lyme's disease bacterium

See Ticks Page 32

THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE PRESENTS

# TITRONE

MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

**CLARK VS LORD**  
LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT BOUT

**MAY 18**  
TICKETS \$32 | \$52  
DOORS 6PM | FIGHTS 7PM

ALERUS CENTER

ticketmaster

U.S. AIR FORCE

EARLY HEAD START

## WHITE EARTH Early Head Start Home Base

Prenatal Mom – 3years old

**BENEFITS:**

- ✓ Weekly home visits
- ✓ Regular screenings to ensure proper child development
- ✓ Using evidence- based curriculum
- ✓ Age-appropriate materials
- ✓ Enhance Parental practices
- ✓ Provide cultural experiences
- ✓ Provides 2x a month socialization with other families in the community
- ✓ Support & Guidance to Parent/ Guardian

# WAABIGWAN

• MASHKIKI •

**Waabigwan Mashkiki**  
has now moved to their new  
dispensary across the street from  
Shooting Star Casino on Hwy 59 in  
Mahnommen.

*Check out our new location and see our deals  
on beverages, 1 oz zips, and flower!*

**Sculpture** from Page 7

Its impact extends far beyond its initial creation, making it a powerful messenger of social change.

The museum is dedicated to documenting not only the history of treaties and the Water Protector Movement but also a wide range of social movements, such as civil rights and environmental activism. The Standing Rock/Dakota Access Pipeline Trials continue. Indeed, in early March, Winona LaDuke, co-curator at Giiwediniing Museum, testified in Bismarck on behalf of the United States as North Dakota sought to secure \$38 million in funding from the federal government to cover the costs of their hyper-militarized response to Water Protectors.

**The Launch**

Friday, May 17 from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Exclusive invitation to our Founding Members and Water Protector communities to join us in celebrating this monumental achievement.

Join us for an evening with our special guest, Charles Rencountre, as we commemorate this historic milestone together.

Don't miss this opportunity to connect with like-

minded individuals and strengthen our community bonds. Together, we can continue to make a positive impact on the preservation of our environment.

**Saturday, May 18, from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

Join us for the opening ceremony with the City of Park Rapids, the Park Rapids Sculpture Trail group, the Park Rapids Arts & Culture Advisory Commission, and the public, featuring a drum group honor song and festivities. Native artists will also have tabling to showcase their art.

Let's unite in our efforts to safeguard our environment for future generations and make a positive impact together. Your presence at this event is crucial to showing your support for this important cause as we work towards igniting awareness, fostering respect, and driving meaningful change.

"Not Afraid to Look" sculpture on the museum's corner in Park Rapids, 101 2nd Street W., and Highway 71.

Kindly let us know you are coming by filling out the RSVP form <https://giiwediniing.org/rsvp-may>

DOVE & CAC Presents

# COMMUNITY FUN DAY

Spring Celebration

11:00AM - 3:00PM

Sunday May 5th, 2024

Games & Prizes  
Lunch! Hot Dogs & Chips  
Hand drum & Dancing

MMIW & Sexual Assault Speaker: Andrea Carrier

Dancers are invited to share their skills with those that are learning!

Wear your regalia if you have some!

Program Booths - register with Courtney Bunker @ 218.983.4656

In partnership with Behavioral Health and MTCC

## Boozhoo Relatives

The White Earth Behavioral Health Cultural Program is looking forward to re-building each Sweat Lodge at all seven locations in May and June.

**May**  
Nay Tah Waush, Pine Point, Rice Lake, White Earth

**June**  
Acute Care, Oshki, Circle Back

This is an opportunity for all relatives to learn about the Madoodiswan (Sweat Lodge)

**If you have any questions, please contact 218-401-4357**

**White Earth Sanitation, LLC**

3282 US HWY 59  
Suite 50  
WAUBUN MN 56589

218-473-3222  
218-935-3234

Attention White Earth Tribal Elders and Members:

What garbage service do you or would you like to use?

Fill out the below information and return by mail or call us to answer the survey questions.

- Currently on Route with Cans or Dumpster
- Current Self Hauler
- Would like Route Service
- Would utilize Transfer Station

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

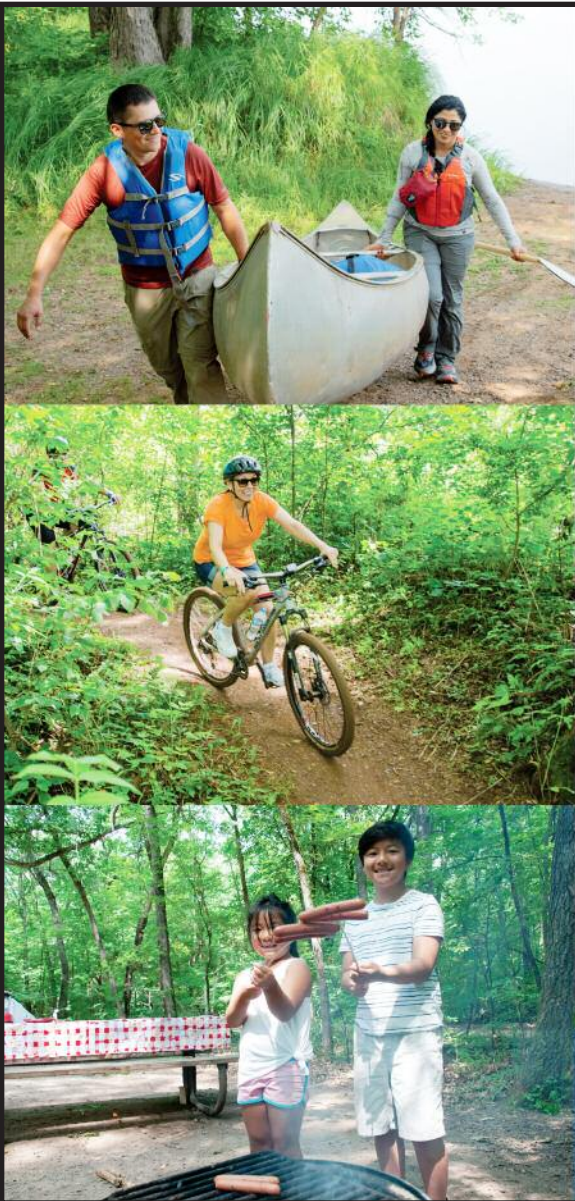
Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address, If different: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Enrollment Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Feel free to visit us at:  
[www.facebook.com/WhiteEarthNation](https://www.facebook.com/WhiteEarthNation)



## Come learn new summer skills in Minnesota state parks!

Join us at a program to learn how to camp, paddle, and even mountain bike!

- Designed for families to try any or all for the first time.
- Gear provided.
- Hands-on instruction from experienced and friendly crews.
- Free to unbelievably affordable.



Register today at [mnDNR.gov/ican](https://mnDNR.gov/ican)

**m** MINNESOTA  
STATE PARKS AND TRAILS



believe in **we**

# OUR COMMUNITIES ARE WORTH MORE.

As Minnesota educators, we believe all students should feel safe and welcome at our public schools. Yet districts across the state are facing staff shortages, impacting our students and the support they receive. We can change that together.

Know more about what our educators are facing:



**Tanis Henderson**  
School Counselor  
Grand Rapids



MAHNOMEN ✦ BAGLEY  
STARCASINO.COM ✦ 800.453.STAR

32 YEARS OF

LUCKY STARS

ANNIVERSARY DRAWINGS EXTRAVAGANZA



OVER \$125,000 IN CASH AND PRIZES!

Every Sunday in May + Memorial Day | 8PM

It's your chance to win one of three ATVs, a side-by-side or a new SUV. Start earning entries now.

CONCERTS

Roots & Boots | May 10

Nazareth | May 17

Little River Band | June 21

Nitty Gritty Dirt Band | June 28



Proudly owned and successfully operated by the White Earth Nation.  
©2024 White Earth Reservation



You are MORE than a babysitter.

When you care for the children of family, friends, or neighbors (FFN) while they work or go to school-- you are providing critical support in helping children, families, and the community thrive.



Please join our Indigenous FFN Childcare Network!

Scan QR code to register:



Indigenous FFN Childcare Member Advantages:

- Educational and cultural resources
- Mini-grants of up to \$1,200
- Training opportunities
- Assistance with becoming legally non-licensed or licensed
- Networking with other unlicensed FFNs, and more!



Contact: Doreen Lanoue, FFN Coordinator  
Indigenous Visioning/All Nations Rise  
218-850-4803  
doreenlanoue@allnationsrise.com  
http://www.indigenousvisioning.com



FUNDING PROVIDED BY A GRANT FROM: MN DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES



Register online at weii.website or call 218-844-7029

Home Stretch

Homebuyer Education Class

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

- April 16
- May 21
- June 18

All classes are 9am to 5pm

at

Shooting Star Casino Mahnomen MN

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



West Central Initiative is partnering with the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development to distribute **PROMISE Act Grants** in west central Minnesota.

# PROMISE ACT GRANTS

Eligible businesses and nonprofits can apply for grants ranging from **\$10,000 to \$50,000** to cover expenses such as payroll, rent, and more.

This program was created by the Minnesota Legislature to support businesses and nonprofits that did not receive state grants during the pandemic.

**APPLY BY MAY 31, 2024**  
Scan or visit [wcif.org](http://wcif.org) to learn more and apply



## White Earth Reservation Enrolled Elderly Lawn Mowing Program

**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): \_\_\_\_\_

Would you consider your lawn to be small, medium, or large? \_\_\_\_\_

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

White Earth Water & Sewer Department  
P.O. Box 418  
White Earth, MN 56591  
Phone #: 218-983-3202  
Fax #: 218-983-4350  
E-mail address: [Lisa.Donovan-Larson@whiteearth-nsn.gov](mailto:Lisa.Donovan-Larson@whiteearth-nsn.gov) or [Burnhamtibtettsiii@whiteearth-nsn.gov](mailto:Burnhamtibtettsiii@whiteearth-nsn.gov)

# 20th Annual Communities Collaborative Brain Development Conference

*"Continuing the Journey"*

## ~REGISTRATION NOW OPEN~

August 14th & 15th, 2024  
with Preconference August 13th, 2024  
Shooting Star Casino & Event Center Mahnomen, MN

Check out our conference site or scan the QR code for more details and information on registration:  
<https://sites.google.com/view/ccbdconference>



White Earth Child Care and Early Childhood Programs 218-983-3285

## White Earth Nation Expungement Clinic

Wednesday, May 8, 2024 - 10am-5pm\*  
Shooting Star Event Center, 777 SE Casino Rd, Mahnomen, MN 56557

If you have a criminal record for an offense that was prosecuted in a state court, we may be able to help you determine if you qualify for expungement at the Clean Slate Expungement Clinic hosted by our office. If you qualify, we may be able to help you get your record sealed by the Court at **no cost to you**. Sealing, or expunging, a criminal record can make it easier for you to obtain housing, get a job and certain types of job-related licenses.

**Scan this QR Code to Pre-Register**



**\*Walk-ins accepted until 4pm**


 The Office of the  
**Minnesota Attorney General**  
445 Minnesota Street, Suite 1400, St. Paul, MN 55101  
Twin Cities Calling Area: (651) 296-3353 • Outside the Twin Cities: (800) 657-3787 • Minnesota Relay: (800) 627-3529  
[www.ag.state.mn.us/Clean-Slate](http://www.ag.state.mn.us/Clean-Slate)

## Bemidji Expungement Clinic


Thursday, May 9, 2024 - 10am-5pm\*  
Northwest Indian Community Development Center  
1819 Bemidji Ave N, Bemidji, MN 56601

If you have a criminal record for an offense that was prosecuted in a state court, we may be able to help you determine if you qualify for expungement at the Clean Slate Expungement Clinic hosted by our office. If you qualify, we may be able to help you get your record sealed by the Court at **no cost to you**. Sealing, or expunging, a criminal record can make it easier for you to obtain housing, get a job and certain types of job-related licenses.

**Scan this QR Code to Pre-Register**



**\*Walk-ins accepted until 4pm**

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[www.ag.state.mn.us/Clean-Slate](http://www.ag.state.mn.us/Clean-Slate)

## White Earth Community Cleanup 2024

**TRIBAL ENROLLED SENIORS - 55 years and older**

IF YOU HAVE ANY ITEMS YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE PICKED UP:

PLEASE **CALL 218-473-4663** TO SIGN UP AND GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DAY OF SERVICE. PLEASE GIVE YOUR NAME ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER TO THE OFFICE ASSISTANT TAKING YOUR CALL. ALSO HAVE YOUR ITEMS AT THE END OF YOUR DRIVEWAY WEDNESDAY NIGHT

**WE HOUSING TENANTS** - CREWS WILL BE PICKING UP THEIR RENTAL UNITS THURSDAY AND FRIDAY **ONLY**. PLEASE HAVE UNWANTED ITEMS AT THE END OF YOUR DRIVEWAY THE WEDNESDAY NIGHT BEFORE.

YOUR AREA DATES ARE LISTED BELOW.

	<b>INCLUDED AREAS</b>
<b>Apr 24<sup>th</sup> thru Apr 27<sup>th</sup></b>	
Rice Lake Community	Riverland Apts, Riverland Housing, Perch Lake, Lengby,
Mahnomen Area	Ebro, Pine Bend and Roy Lake included
<b>May 1<sup>st</sup> thru May 4<sup>th</sup></b>	
Naytahwaush Community	Pinehurst to Mahkounce, Co road 6 from Hwy 59 to Co road 4
<b>May 8<sup>th</sup> thru May 11<sup>th</sup></b>	
Elbow Lake Community	Pinehurst to Hwy 113, McCraney Lake cut across, Snyder Lake area, Tamarac Resort on Hwy 35 back to Hwy 113
<b>May 15<sup>th</sup> thru May 18<sup>th</sup></b>	
Pine Point Community	LaDoux Road, Ice Cracking, Strawberry Lake & Mary Yellowhead
<b>May 29<sup>th</sup> thru Jun 1<sup>st</sup></b>	
White Earth Community	Callaway, Richwood Road, Goat Ranch Road

TV's, Electronics & 8 Car Tires per household accepted (**NO SEMI OR TRACTOR TIRES**). NO HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE OR HAZARDOUS WASTE ALLOWED



### Finding and hiring the right team to take your company to the next level?

**We've got a loan for that.**

White Earth Investment Initiative offers affordable business expansion loans for Native American businesses.



This institution is an equal opportunity provider and lender.

(218) 983-4020 | www.wei.website

## Phone and Internet Discounts Available to CenturyLink Customers

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

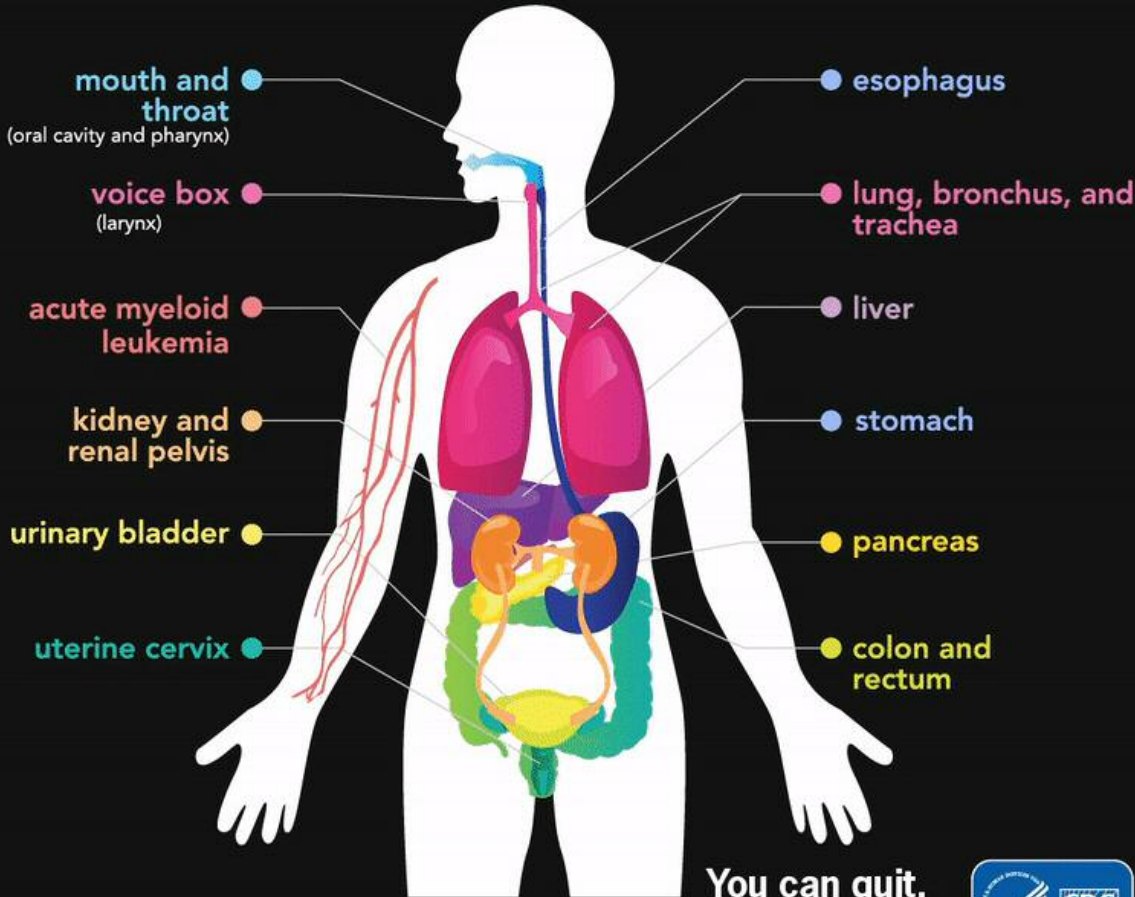
The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone or qualifying broadband service per household, which can be on either a wireline or wireless service. Broadband speeds must be 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload or faster to qualify.

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

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



# Smoking can cause cancer almost anywhere in your body.



**You can quit.**  
For free help: **1-800-QUIT-NOW.**



Bladder, Blood (acute myeloid leukemia), Cervix, Colon and Rectum (colorectal), Esophagus, Kidney and Ureter, Larynx, Liver, Oropharynx (includes parts of the throat, tongue, soft palate, and the tonsils), Pancreas, Stomach, Trachea, Bronchus, and Lung

**Smoking also increases the risk of dying from cancer and other diseases in cancer patients and survivors.**

**If nobody smoked, one of every three cancer deaths in the United States would not happen.**



## Donations needed to help upkeep Rez cemeteries

Please – kindly consider making tax-deductable charitable donations to preserve our historic and historic cemeteries.

All maintenance and upkeep are funded solely by donations to our cemeteries and by volunteer labor. Donations have become quite thin as the older generations pass on. With ever shrinking finances and volunteers, it has become more and more difficult to regularly maintain and care for these sacred grounds.

To all who have relatives and friends buried in our cemeteries, please consider donating to any of the cemetery funds to help continue with their preservation and upkeep. Also, persons willing to help physically – leveling sinking gravestones, trimming, etc. would be most welcomed and appreciated. Call the parish office to inquire about helping out.

Calvary and St. Columba are the two oldest and largest cemeteries on the White Earth Reservation. Many of us have ancestors buried in these cemeteries. Families include Fairbanks, Beaulieu, Bellanger, Roy, Vanoss, Hanks, Warren, Charette, Bellecourt, McDougall, Santwier, Parker, McArthur, Heisler,

Louzon, Jackson, Bisson, Bellefeuille, LaDue-LaDoux, Brown, Beaupre, Blue, Vizenor, St. Clair, Manypenny, Cogger, etc.

None of these donations will be used for the cemetery's associated churches. All donations will go strictly to the designated cemetery's fund to be used entirely and solely for the cemetery's preservation and maintenance expenses. Please make checks payable to the specified cemetery fund and mail to:

**Calvary Cemetery Fund**  
(St. Benedict's White Earth)  
PO Box 57, Ogema, MN 56569  
218-983-3261

**St. Columba's Cemetery Fund**  
PO Box 388  
White Earth, MN 56591

**St. Theodore's Cemetery Fund**  
(Pine Point/Ponsford)  
PO Box 57, Ogema, MN 56569  
218-983-3261

## White Earth Fleet Big Tire Sale!

Many different styles and brands



### 25% Off Tire Cost!

Goodyear, Cooper, Hancock, Falken, Firestone, Toyo, Kumho

White Earth Fleet | 36671 Martin Drive | White Earth Village

218-983-3296

Call for information. List of tires coming soon to Everyone Email



SHOOTING STAR

## NOW HIRING

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

### FIVE STAR REASONS TO APPLY

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

Apply now at [StarCasino.com/Employment](http://StarCasino.com/Employment)



## 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. The Council encourages everyone to attend and get involved.

You can reach the *Anishinaabeg Today* at [today@whiteearth-nsn.gov](mailto:today@whiteearth-nsn.gov)

### Child Care staff attend training



Submitted photo

The White Earth licensed Child Care Center staff recently attended an interactive Conscious Discipline training at the Rediscovery Center. Conscious Discipline is a scientific and developmental based research training that helps create a shift in the caregiver's understanding and responding to a child's individual needs with wisdom to increase self-regulation, sense of safety, connection, empathy and intrinsic motivation in both the child and adults.

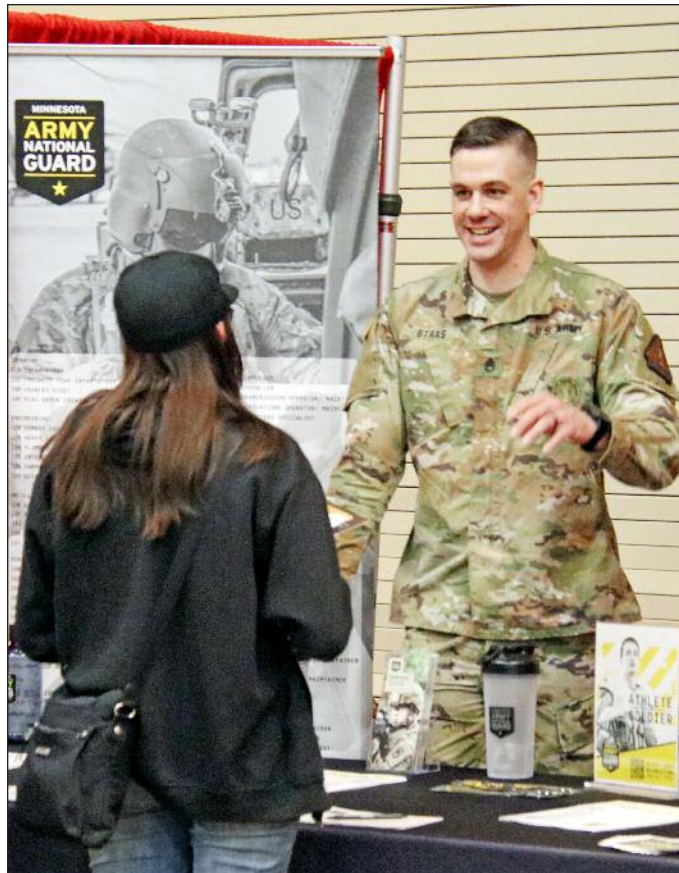
### Those 'crafty' Elders...



Submitted photo

The White Earth Elderly Nutrition Program (ENP) recently held a Craft Day in the Congregate dining area. The Elders and youth mentioned they had a fun time learning how to make a God's Eye and painting bird houses. They are looking forward to this again soon.

## Highlights of 27th Annual College & Career Fair



The 27th Annual College and Career Fair was held April 10 at the Shooting Star Casino in Mahanomen.

More than 330 students from the Circle of Life Academy, Clearbrook/Gonvick, Detroit Lakes, Mahanomen, Park Rapids and Waubun schools visited 54 vendors that included, businesses enterprises, Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota Colleges/Universities, military recruiters, and White Earth programs.

White Earth Student Financial Services, formerly, White Earth Scholarships, want to thank all the vendors and schools who participated in the event. We would not be successful without them. A special Thank You to Danessa Drift, Ann Fain, Dominick Neisen and Trevor Neisen for their help with the Career Fair. We hope to continue to grow the Career Fair each year.

Anyone wanting to participate in next years fair can email kimberly.neisen@whiteearth-nsn.gov, or call 218-935-3516.



### Native students honored at senior banquet



The American Indian Education program hosted their senior banquet on April 17 at the Shooting Star Casino. There were more than 170 people in attendance. The speakers were Mahnomen High School teacher Cassie Lefstad, White Earth District II Rep., Eugene Sommers, and White Earth Elder and Veteran Sharold Hanks.

American Indian Education Coordinator Desiree Linden was the MC for the night. The Opichi Drum sang a Welcome song, Honor song and Traveling song. Crystell Tibbetts and Phylis Wark honored senior Ava Graff with the late Terry Tibbetts Nii-Gah-Nii-Mosay Leadership Award.

**Top:** Sitting from left are Precious Spencer, Ebony Watson, Paris Moran, Danessa Drift, Camile Mahoney, Samantha Cooper, Kaylie Jensen, Payten Alvarado-Hintz. Middle row from left are Lyndsey Zornes, Faleisha Budreau, Mystic Sehlstrom, Ava Graff, Trevor Neisen, Dominick Neisen, Anthony Stone, David Boswell, Ignacio Swenson. Last row from left are Corbin Lhotka, Julian Londo, Bradan Melina, Christian Fox, Peyton Stock, Carter Clark, Michael Weaver, Dawson Darco, Tate Ose, Levi Rawley, Timothy Turner. Not pictured: Darian Chilton, Gabrielle Hisgun, Joseph Slette, Adrian Stevens, Iyan Swenson. **Left:** Crystell Tibbetts, Ava Graff and Phylis Wark.

Photos by Cassie Lefstad



Join us for a safe & sober family event

## RICE LAKE 26TH Annual Memorial Pow-Wow & walk

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

Host Drum- Manoomin  
Co-Host- Smokey Hill  
Area Direc. - Shawn Goodman

Spiritual Advis. - Luke Hisgun  
MC - Frank Stech  
Specials- TBA

May 26th (1:00 & 7:00)

& 27th (2:00)

Vendor Contact Autumn Auginaush 218-368-3320

Security Provided

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

Not responsible for any accidents, incidents, theft or short-funded travelers

### Chairman welcomes attendees

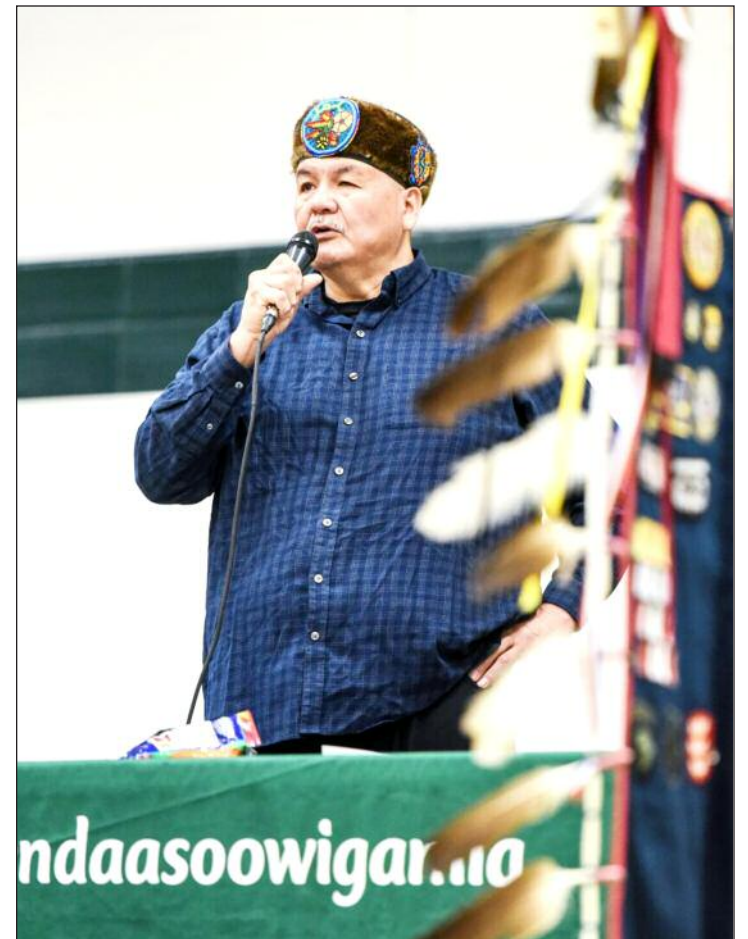


Photo by Madelyn Haasken / Bemidji Pioneer

White Earth Nation Chairman Michael Fairbanks welcomes attendees to the Council of Indian Students' 51st powwow event on April 20 at the Bemidji State University Gymnasium in Bemidji, Minn.

### Clark wins boxing debut



Submitted photo

White Earth member Kasey Clark, son of Kevin Clark Jr. and Deborah Troy, made his USA boxing debut on April 27. He won by Unanimous Decision and also received 'Bout of the Night' honors. He will be returning to the ring in June at Red Lake.

### WE General Election June 11, 2024

#### EARLY VOTING BEGINS MAY 6

Monday-Friday 8 am-4:30 pm

#### Additional Hours

Saturday, May 11 (10 am-2 pm)

Monday, May 27 (8 am-4:30 pm)

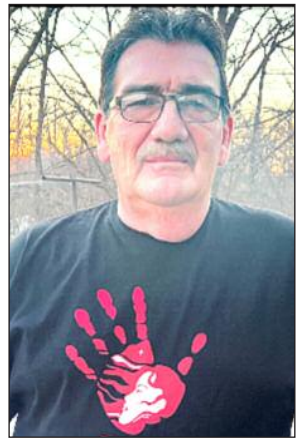
Saturday, June 8 (8 am-4 pm)

#### Location

White Earth Election Board  
Shooting Star Casino RV Park  
218-936-5622

## Meet the Candidates for White Earth Chairperson

### Eugene Umsy Tibbetts



Dear Fellow Members of the White Earth Nation, I am Eugene "Umsy" Tibbetts, and I am honored to stand before you as a candidate for Chairman of the White Earth Nation. With deep gratitude, I thank each and every one of you for your unwavering support for my candidacy in the upcoming Primary Election on April 2, 2024, and the General Election scheduled for June 11, 2024. To my fellow candidates, I extend my heartfelt appreciation for your courage and dedication in stepping up to serve our people. It takes profound bravery to advocate for change, and I commend your commitment to serving our people.

Having previously served as the District 3 Representative on the Tribal Council from 2016 to 2020, I have witnessed firsthand the transformative power of dedicated leadership. During my tenure as Vice-Chairman, we achieved significant milestones for the people of White Earth and the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, including providing crucial COVID assistance to our members, establishing a family center in Cass Lake, MN, and championing treaty rights with the 1855 Treaty Authority. Together, we invested in our veterans, supported our homeless population, and paved the way for sustainable growth and prosperity.

My vision for the future of our nation is rooted in dedication to our members, communities, and their families. As your Chairman, I am committed to prioritizing the following areas:

1. Elder Affairs Commission: Dedicating additional funding and resources to assist with Elder programming. Elders are the backbone of our communities.

2. Treaty Rights: Advocating for our 1855 Treaty Rights so that all of our members have the right to hunt, fish, and gather in the 1855 Treaty Territory.

3. Financial Accountability: Ensuring transparency and responsible stewardship of our resources, fostering economic growth, and safeguarding our financial future.

4. Indian Child Welfare (ICW) Accountability and Restructure: Advocating for reforms within the ICW Department to better serve our families and prioritize reunification.

5. Open Referendums: Supporting the membership by having them make key decisions and referendum votes on important matters

6. Land Reclamation: Working towards reclaiming ancestral lands such as the White Earth State Forest and the Tamarac Wildlife Refuge.

7. Prioritizing Tribal Businesses: Supporting the growth and success of Tribal enterprises to create jobs and foster self-sufficiency.

8. Expansion of Tribal Cannabis and Tribal Hemp Businesses: Investing in initiatives that promote health and economic prosperity for our community. I would like to license Tribal members to conduct this business as a Band.

9. Community Centers: Establishing educational and cultural hubs to nurture the growth and development of our youth and families.

Of particular urgency are the issues surrounding Tribal Cannabis and financial accountability. We cannot afford to delay action on these critical matters. We must be ready to license our members to operate their own cannabis businesses. The White Earth Nation has a duty to support Band members to grow their businesses and to not let government regulation stifle economic growth. Additionally, as we continue to grow our reserves and explore new avenues for economic development, it is imperative that we remain vigilant in protecting our resources and fostering sustainable growth for generations to come.

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve as your Chairman, and I humbly ask for your support and your vote for the Primary Election on April 2, 2024, and for the General Election on June 11, 2024. Whether you choose to cast your ballot in person or request an absentee ballot from the Election Board, your voice matters, and your vote will shape the future of our nation. Together, let us continue to build upon the legacy of our ancestors and create a brighter, more prosperous future for all members of the White Earth Nation

Miigwech for your unwavering support and faith in our shared vision. May our journey ahead be guided by strength, unity, and the enduring spirit of our people.

In solidarity and with deepest respect,

Eugene "Umsy" Tibbetts

### Michael A. Fairbanks (Incumbent)

Chi-miigwech for all of your support in this upcoming general election; our campaign has brought strong voices together, speaking from our hearts and we have been heard. I believe my professional experience, education and most importantly, how I live my life spiritually and culturally, offers the leadership qualities needed to be your Chairman once again as I am asking for your vote on June 11.



I think about my late parents every day, Juel Fairbanks Sr. and Elsie Fairbanks. They taught me the Anishinaabe values to lead us down minobimaadiziwin the Red Road - Good Life, through our Seven Grandfather teachings. They were community servants and prime examples of giving back to our people. My mother Elsie worked as an advocate to many Anishinaabe people in human services. My father Juel Fairbanks Sr. was the innovator who brought the original idea to the forefront to start an Anishinaabe group together in the early 1970s for chemical dependency and returning cultural traditions that were lost to many Anishinaabe men. He passed before the project was completed but his legacy lives on in the naming of the Juel Fairbanks Recovery Services Center in St. Paul.

My education consists of two Associate of Science degrees: Business Management and Nutrition, Bachelor of Arts in American Indian Studies and a Post Bachelor's in the Naadamaadiwin Special Education Program and a Master of Arts in Education from Augsburg University.

I have worked in tribal administration in various capacities

for 23 years, including White Earth Chairman since 2019. I established an expansive overview and gained valuable knowledge of the diverse programming and services provided for our members on and off the White Earth Nation. This experience gave me the opportunity to work alongside tribal, state and national leaders, which is critically important for any Chairman.

My education and experience have all given me an understanding of the importance of Tribal Sovereignty. Maintaining White Earth's Sovereignty is important to our survival as a nation and as a community. There are threats both internal and external to our sovereignty that we as Anishinaabe people must be knowledgeable of and be able to respond to. As your Chairman, I will work hard at not only maintaining our sovereignty, but whenever possible, expanding upon it. Which lead me to beginning the process of taking our Gaawaabaabiganikaag aki the return of White Earth Nation tribal lands back to our nation.

Our Ojibwe language is a priority and we hired a fluent White Earth band member who has Ojibwe immersion experience. Our band member population is 17,000, the largest tribe of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribes, yet we have a very low number of speakers at roughly 1% who are fluent Ojibwe speakers.

I would like to talk about something that is very personal to me yet is something that has shaped and defined my life in a very positive manner. That is my sobriety; it is one of the most important aspects of my life and one that combines my belief and faith in traditional Anishinaabe values, with my vision, goals and objectives for White Earth Nation. Our villages have many qualities that are good and positive, such as our children, our elders and how we treat one another. But it is also no secret that our communities

have an unhealthy side, which impacts the everyday lives of our families, friends and relatives. The disease of addiction, and abuse of alcohol and drugs have a negative imprint upon our communities and can be difficult barriers to our Anishinaabe struggling to find jobs, support families, find decent housing, and to living healthy lives.

One important lessons in my recovery has taught me is the use and abuse of drugs and alcohol does not mean a person is bad, it means they are struggling to live Mino-Bimaadiziwin, The Red Road - Good Life, through our Seven Grandfather teachings. Our White Earth Programming is one of the best at guiding our people to Minobimaadiziwin.

Family is a very important part of my life. I am a pipe carrier, drum keeper and traditional dancer, and find a strong sense of Mino-Bimaadiziwin, through our Seven Grandfather teachings of which I stay true to in heart, mind, body and spirit, endaaso giizhig-everyday. Throughout the past years as your Chairman, I have worked hard on issues that are important to me: healthy families, education, traditional Anishinaabe values and Land Back.

I believe in transparency and having an open door policy. Please feel free to stop by and visit.

I humbly ask for your vote on June 11.

#### WE General Election Board

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

[election.board@whiteearth.com](mailto:election.board@whiteearth.com)  
218-936-5622 or 1-866-211-9154  
Fax: 218-936-5623

# Meet the Candidates for White Earth District III

## Laura Lee (Thompson) Erickson ←

Boozhoo, my name is Laura Lee (Thompson) Erickson, I am running for White Earth District 3 because I want to see our Band thrive and give back to our communities. My parents are Harriet “Dove” Keezer-Thompson and the late Jerri Thompson. I graduated from Waubun High School, attended MSUM and Northland Community and Technical College. I enjoy hunting, fishing, sports and being with family and friends.



I am the Government Relations Coordinator for the White Earth Reservation Business Committee (RBC) working with county, tribal, state and federal government officials. I have worked in various capacities the last 23 years including: Legal Assistant for White Earth Legal Department, Administrative Assistant for our tribal leaders, a bartender and cocktail server at the Shooting Star Casino. Working in these different areas and capacities has given me the opportunity to gain valuable knowledge about our tribal programs. Throughout the years, I have worked directly with our members regarding a number of issues and with our programs to familiarize myself with how they operate on a day to day basis. I am uniquely qualified because I understand the inner workings of the Tribe and my experience has given me valuable knowledge of diverse programming. This experience would help me hit the ground running. I am committed to taking on the challenges, ready to bring ideas and find solutions to help move our Tribe forward.

I would like to see a strategic plan for White Earth to increase transparency and gain community feedback on priorities. By creating a strategic plan, prioritizing our projects, working with the community and management in setting goals, a timeline to meet the goals, we can measure results. A strategic plan is key to ensure we secure funding and have a plan to sustain our infrastructures also. By doing this, our community members will be involved. From strengthening diverse programming to creating new partnerships, together we can build a brighter future for generations to come.

Tribal Member Input Process/Government transparency. I would work to create an open and accessible government, where your voice matters, and your concerns are heard along with keeping you informed. I will work on creating an environment of transparency and communication to rebuild trust. I believe in collaboration through listening and seeking tribal member input to make informed decisions. One way to ensure community input and community involvement is to have surveys, community meetings, reaching tribal members by email, call in number, reaching our elders through Elderly Nutrition Program, Home Health program, Elder advocates. I understand communication and listening is important because some people are going through the most difficult times of their lives.

I believe we are protectors of Nimaamaa-aki (mother earth). I would like to see regular natural resource cultural camps to teach our children to trap, snare, hunt, rice, leech, properly process, make a meal, storytelling. This will help empower our youth with life skills to make them aware how important our environment is. I believe the future of our Reservation and communities is in the hands of our youth. We must build our youth for the future by equipping them with life skills, self-confidence and resilience. I support pro-

grams that invest in youth to promote healthy development and their success.

Cultural loss and historical trauma has shown to have adverse health effects throughout generations. Revitalizing our language/culture through mentorships, curriculum development, cultural camps while collaborating with our schools and community is necessary. I support improving education for all ages both on and off the reservation. We need to educate our youth with as much knowledge as possible.

Inadequate healthcare and lack of providers in our rural area is an ongoing issue. Our healthcare is underfunded. The U.S. government has a trust obligation to provide health care for our members. We need to ensure we are at the table so our voices are heard.

In conclusion, my candidacy is not about me- it’s about us and what we can accomplish together. I believe that our District has the potential to be a thriving and prosperous community. I am committed to working with you to make that vision a reality. Through innovative ideas, partnerships and listening to each other, we can build a community that is safe, strong and healthy. I look forward to listening to your ideas and concerns. I respectfully ask for your support on June 11. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions, concerns or want to visit.

Miigwech

Laura Lee (Thompson) Erickson  
 (218) 204-1008  
 Facebook: VOTELAURALEE  
 lauraflea23@gmail.com  
 #TogetherWeCanBuildABrighterTomorrow

## → Cheryl Annie Jackson (Incumbent)

Boozhoo, my name is Cheryl “Annie” Jackson, I am humbly asking for your support for re-election as your District 3 Representative for the White Earth Nation Reservation Business Committee.



The past 3 and half years, I have been a vocal and passionate advocate for all constituents, working to improve access to healthcare, education, and services. I will always advocate for tribal sovereignty and treaty rights. I grew up hearing and living with the struggles that our people faced in fighting for their rights and freedoms.

At a young age, I was very involved with all those that fought against the injustices and I continue to do so. I have gained knowledge from a plethora of teachers, not only their teachings, but also their fierce advocacy and love for our Anishinabe people. I would like to continue this fight and ensure that tribal members are acknowledged and heard and that our sovereignty and treaty rights are respected and upheld.

I am actively involved in the community, continually and consistently advocating for all constituents and work tirelessly to remove barriers and allow access to services for her people.

My dedication and commitment will always be to the constituents and communities of our beautiful White Earth

Nation, finding ways to move us all forward. There are so many great things happening to name a few, a new childcare center here in White Earth, a warming house in Pine Point, working on a Boys and Girls club in Callaway. One of my goals is a boys and girls club in each of the larger communities. Our children deserve to have a safe place to spend some time and be able to grow and learn with those in their own communities.

I will always fight for our District and those off reservation, as I was born and raised here with so many of you and throughout the years my employment history and life’s trials and tribulations have brought many of you into my life, for that I am beyond blessed.

**Qualifications:**

- Associates Degree in Human Services
- Tribal Governance and Administration Certificate
- Certification as a Mental Health Facilitator through the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC)
- Many years of experience through working with programs throughout the reservation, which includes, Circle of Life Teacher Aide, Elderly Nutrition, WIC, Headstart, Housing, White Indian Health Service

**Priorities:**

- White Earth Tribal Members – My main priority has been and always will be our members.
- Housing – Will continue to fight for more housing and to repair the stock we have.
- Drug Epidemic – This is a critical issue for me and our members, I will continue to fight for arrests and closure for our families.
- ICWA – There has been some changes to our ICWA,

but more is needed to assure that reunification is the final result.

- Education – We have many members in school and college, we need to support ALL our students. This also includes teaching of our History and Language in all schools and local classes in all communities and in our homes. This has been a huge priority for all of us for the last 3 1/2 years.

- Health Care – working closely with IHS and our Public Health to assure ALL members are getting the best possible medical care they deserve.

- Mental Health – Mental health services are very important, not only for our adults, but our children. We need more programming in this area, especially for our children.

**Accomplishments:**

- New Family treatment at Strawberry Lake
- ARPA payments to members
- Elders Home Repair Fund
- Homeless Shelter in Mahnomen
- Approved for members to receive funding for Training Certificates up to \$2,000 to cover costs.
- New Childcare Building in White Earth is being constructed.
- New Acute Care Building on Jack Haw Lake, which is now occupied.
- Congregate Kitchen Remodel
- Roads updated.
- Acquiring Land Back
- New playgrounds in communities

This is just the tip of the iceberg, there are many other

**See Jackson Page 30**



# 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? •Pronounce each syllable: Speak consonant & specific vowel sound.

•“Agwaajiing, Namadabidaa imaa desa’oning.”

“Outside, let’s all sit there on the bench.”

•“Ginoondawaa na iwidi a’aw bineshii?”

“You hear him ? over there that bird?”

•“Waabigwanii-adaawewigamigong ina?”

“In the flower-buying shop?”

•“Gaawiin. Animwewebizo.”

“No. S/he flew away making noise.”

•“Awi-odaminodaa na imaa?”

“Go over-let’s play ? there?”

- Nibaagan(an) - Bed(s)
- Apabiwin(an) - Chair(s)
- Nagaashkaan!-Stop moving!
- Noogibatoon!-Stop running!
- Giishkowen! - Stop crying!
- Gidayekoz ina?-You tired?
- Anwebidaa!-Let’s all rest!
- Gizaagi’in. I love you.



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

## Oshki-nitaawigiwin • Young Adult • Teen

“Aaniin ezhinikaazoyan? Anne nindizhinikaaz.” (How/what way you called? Anne I am called.) Noopiming, gaye bagwaje’iing ninga-izhaa noongom.- In the woods, also in the wild I shall go now/today. Miikanaang idash miikanensing inga-pimose. - On the road and on the trail I will walk along. Akiing, niwii-pabaamaadiz. - On the Earth, I want to travel about. Noongom nimbimi-ayaa omaa. - Today I travel along here. Niwii-gikinawaab. - I learn by observation. Mii’iw. - That’s all.

Relations are spoken as Mine//My..., Yours..., and His/Hers... Nimaamaa.-My mom, Gidede.-Your dad, Omaamaa.-His/Hers. Nindede.-My dad, Gimaamaa.-Your mom.. Odede.-His/H dad.

O I Z D G  
 A N N E B I  
 N N M S A D I  
 W E W A A K O Z  
 E H O E N J I O I  
 B J O A B G E I W S  
 I G D N I I H M N N A  
 D N A G A S D A Z G Z G  
 A M A A E G A A W I I N  
 A A O N ' D E S A ' O N  
 Z W I I G W A A S I G B  
 S B W M A O J I D A S H

Ojibwemon! - Speak Ojibwe!  
Ojibwemodaa!-Let’s all speak Ojibwe!  
Anishinaabeg: Daga Ojibwemodaa!  
Native Ojibwe: Please let’s all speak!  
Write on your packs, tees, & posters.  
Listen/Speak w/dictionary online.  
Goal: Learn one word a day. Make a poster & practice words

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

## Nitaawigiwin

### • Grownup

Aaniin ezhichiged?  
Izhichigewin. -Activity.

Biindigeshimo.

Nimbiindigeshim.

Gibiindigeshim ina?

Nimbwaanzhiwi’.

Niimin!

Niimidaa!

Dewe’igan(ag)

Dewe’iganaak(oon)

Key: What is s/he doing?  
S/he dances in (Grand Entry).  
I dance inside. You dancing in?  
I’m wearing a dance outfit.  
Dance!(to one person) Let’s all dance! Drum(s), Drumstick(s)

Anishaa: Random, Nibiikaang.- On the water  
Waawiyegamaa-Crooked River, a round lake.  
Dimiigamaa; dimiimagad -Deep river, lake  
Baagwagamaa; baagwaamagad.- It’s shallow.  
Ginwaagamaa. Ginwaamagad.- It is a long river.  
Agaasitigweyaa.-It is a narrow river.  
Niingidawitigweyaa.- It is a river that forks.  
River(s) - Ziibi(wan). Gichi-Ziibi-Big-River  
Mizi-ziibi.- Mississippi.- Spread All Over,  
Intact, whole River. Miziwezi- S/he is whole, intact. Zaaga’igan(iin) -  
Lake(s). Gichigami - Great Lake:  
Gichigamiing. - Lake Superior  
Aanikegamaa-Chain of lakes  
Nindizhaa naawij imaa.-  
I am going on the lake there.

Niimi’idii-nagamon.-Dance song.  
Niimi’idiwag.-They dance.  
Oshki-aya’aa - Someone young  
Oshki-aya’ii - Something new

#### •WE Resources

- <https://whiteearth.com/divisions/culture/services>
- Search/Listen: Ojibwe People’s Dictionary <https://ojibwe.lib.umn.edu>
- Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Comm. <https://www.glifwc.org/>
- Clipart: [wpcipart.com](http://wpcipart.com)

## Gichi-aya’aa • Elder

Aaniin ezbinikaazod wa’aw giizis? What/how is s/he called this moon/month? Iskigamizige-Giizis gemaa Zaagibagaa-Giizis wa’aw giizis.- S/he is named Maple Sap-Moon or Budding-Moon/ May this moon. “Howah! • Gidayaawaag ina ingiw bami’aagaansag? Animoshag ina gemaa gaazhigensag? Ningii-ayaawaa a’aw animosh. Niijii-ban. Gii-mino-ayaa. Miinawaa niwii-ayaawaa animosh. Nindaa-pimosemin endaaso-giizhik. Ninga-ganawenimaa. Do you have them? those pets? Dogs? or cats? I had her that dog. Niijii- is deceased,. She was-good. Again I want to have a dog. We could walk everyday. I’d take care of her.

1. Niwaakaa’igan, \_\_\_\_\_biinitoon omaa. My house, **I will**-clean it here.
2. Giwaakaa’igan, \_\_\_\_\_biinitoon imaa. Your house, **you did**-clean it there.

3. Biiijinaago, gii-ayaa mandaamini-gitigaaning. \_\_\_\_\_kitige. Yesterday, he was in the cornfield. **He was**-planting.
4. I’iw \_\_\_\_\_-kitigaan, michaabaminaagwad! Mandamin miziwe. That **great big**-field, it appears big! Corn all over.
5. Gitigewiniwag idash gitigewikweg ondamanokii\_\_\_\_\_.” Farmer men and farmer women **they** are busy working. Miigwech!”

Ojibwemodaa! - Let’s all speak Ojibwe!

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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!



# FOR DISTRICT III

**HONESTY • ACCOUNTABILITY • INTEGRITY**

Cell: (218) 204-1008

Facebook: Vote Laura Lee

Email: lauraflea23@gmail.com

### Transparency

Engage in effective communication and open-door policy; each member has a right to be heard

### Accountability

Create and implement a strategic plan to achieve realistic goals and tasks.

### Supporting Education

Promote education for all ages, every child deserves a good education, expand tradework/training opportunities

### Revitalizing Culture/Language

Revitalize our Ojibwe language and culture through teachings, mentorships, curriculum development, culture camps while collaborating with our schools and community.

### Other Issues

Enhance programming for elders who live both on and off the reservation, reduce homelessness, exercise our sovereignty, protect our treaty rights and natural resources

Paid on behalf of Laura Lee Erickson

## 2nd Annual HONOR THE ELDERS Barbecue

*May 26th 2024*

Bring out your elders for a picnic With your local Debwe MC

Bean Bags Cribbage Music PULLED PORK SANDWICHES SIDES, CHIPS & DRINKS SERVED • 2PM

Roy Lake Park

BIA Rd 20, Mahnomen, MN 56657

## 2024 Community Picnics

TIME: 4-6:30pm

RICE LAKE: THURSDAY MAY 23RD, 2024

- COMMUNITY CENTER

CALLAWAY TUESDAY JUNE 4TH, 2024

- COMMUNITY PARK

MAHNOMEN JUNE 27TH, 2024

- CORNER OF 5TH ST & BIRKETT

WAUBUN THURSDAY JULY 11TH, 2024

- COMMUNITY PARK

WHITE EARTH TUESDAY JULY 23RD, 2024

- COMMUNITY CENTER

PINE POINT THURSDAY AUGUST 8TH, 2024

- POW WOW GROUNDS

OGEMA THURSDAY AUGUST 29TH, 2024

- COMMUNITY PARK

ELBOW LAKE SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7TH, 2024

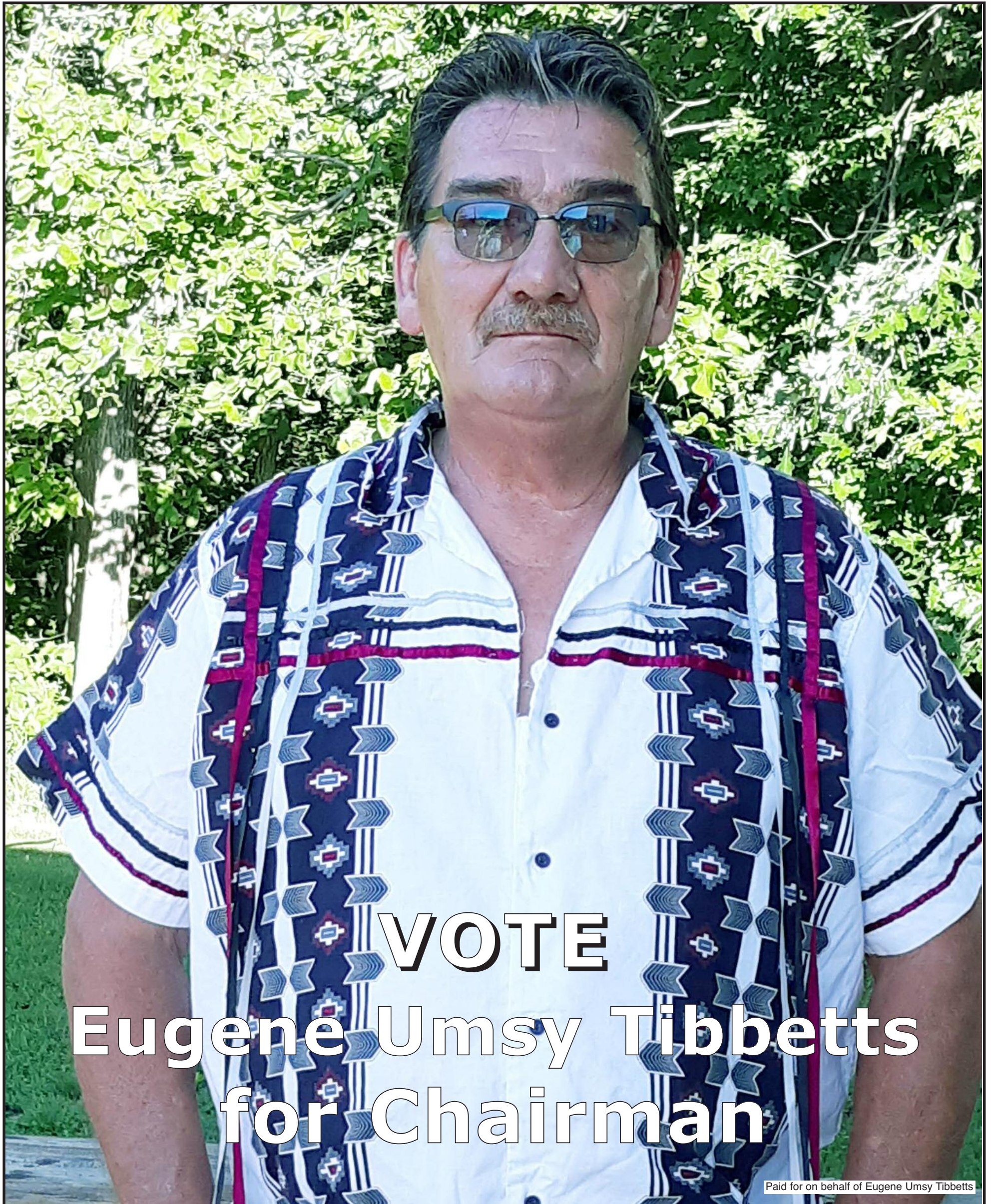
- ELBOW LAKE SHELTER

NAYTAHWAUSH- TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 10TH, 2024- POW WOW GROUNDS

SPONSORED BY: WE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CSO'S, CHOWS, AND OVERDOSE RESPONSE AND LOCAL COMMUNITY COUNCILS



**DRUG & ALCOHOL FREE**



**VOTE**  
**Eugene Umsy Tibbetts**  
**for Chairman**

Paid for on behalf of Eugene Umsy Tibbetts

**Special Events**

- **WECOE MTG**  
May 7th — Elbow Lake
- **Diabetes Bingo**  
May 2nd — Shooting Star  
May 16th — Naytahwaush  
May 23rd — White Earth  
May 30th — Rice Lake

**White Earth Elder Nutrition Program**  
**Gaawaabaabanganikaag Ogikaag Miniwanjige**  
**“White Earth Elder Eating Good”**

**Zaagibagaa-giizis (Budding Leaves Moon) - May**  
**Save the Date: June 27th, Elders Picnic @ Rediscovery Center**

**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  
Elbow Lake ENP Site (218) 734-2315  
Pine Point ENP Site (218) 573-2210  
Site Supervisors ~Angela Clark and James Bevins

Naytahwaush ENP Site (218) 935-5554  
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
<b>29</b> Tuna noodle hotdish Steamed veggies Breadstick Spinach salad Pineapple	<b>30</b> Sloppy joe Baked potato w/ fixings Coleslaw Peaches	<b>1</b> <b>Chefs Choice</b> Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	<b>2</b> Chicken pot pie w/ mixed veg. Beets Fruit crisp	<b>3</b> Chicken dumpling soup Egg salad on croissant Fresh fruit Cookie
<b>6</b> Ravioli w/ sausage marinara Garlic toast Green beans Pears	<b>7</b> Chicken wildrice hotdish Wheat bread Steamed veggies Fruit salad	<b>8</b> <b>Chefs Choice</b> Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	<b>9</b> Salisbury steak Mashed potatoes Stewed tomatoes Dinner roll Mangos	<b>10</b> Turkey and Swiss on a croissant bun Pasta salad Cookie Grapes
<b>13</b> Baked Italian chicken Seasoned rice Roast Brussel sprouts Artisan roll Apricots	<b>14</b> Fish sandwich French fries Broccoli salad Banana pudding w/ wafers	<b>15</b> <b>Chefs Choice</b> Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	<b>16</b> Liver and onions Potatoes Steamed peas Wheat bread Angel food cake	<b>17</b> Chicken fajitas w/ fixings Spanish rice Corn/black bean salad Melon
<b>20</b> Turkey gravy over Egg noodles French roll Cali. blend veggies Applesauce	<b>21</b> Tator tot hotdish Wheat bread Italian blend veg. Cinnamon peaches	<b>22</b> <b>Chefs Choice</b> Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	<b>23 Birthday Lunch</b> Beef roast Mashed potatoes & gravy Corn Manoomin bread Birthday treat	<b>24</b> Sub sandwich Baked chips Veggies and dip Fresh fruit
<b>27</b> <b>Closed for</b> 	<b>28</b> White chicken chili Cornbread muffin Garden salad Pistachio fruit salad	<b>29</b> <b>Chefs Choice</b> Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	<b>30</b> Ham Scalloped potatoes Wheat bread Peas and carrots Fruit cocktail	<b>31 Brunch for Lunch</b> 

**White Earth Food Distribution**

**May Store Hours / Mon-Thurs 8:30-3:30**

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

**May 2024 Home Delivery Schedule (Subject to Change)**

**May 8<sup>th</sup>: WECARE Assessments 10 am – 2 pm.**

**May 10<sup>th</sup>: Bagley, Ponsford & Naytahwaush**

**May 13<sup>th</sup>: Mahnomen & Waubun**

**May 17<sup>th</sup>: White Earth**

**May 24<sup>th</sup>: Detroit Lakes**

**May 27<sup>th</sup>: Closed – Memorial Day**

**May 30<sup>th</sup>: Store closed for inventory.**

**May 31<sup>st</sup>: Closed for Staff training.**

**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**  **May 2024**

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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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





**GAA-WAABAABIGANIKAAG**  
**GENERAL ELECTION HELD**  
**JUNE 11, 2024**

**Re-Elect Chairman Michael Fairbanks**

**EXPERIENCE  
LEADERSHIP  
WATER PROTECTOR  
GRAND PARENT**

Visit My Facebook Page: [Chairman Michael Fairbanks - White Earth Nation](#)  
Learn About My Priorities

paid for by vote fairbanks campaign



**(Sample)**

**White Earth  
Absentee Ballot Request Form**

Please send an Absentee Ballot for the upcoming White Earth election set for the 11th Day of June, 2024

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

District 1 \_\_\_\_\_ District 2 \_\_\_\_\_ District 3 \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST TIME VOTERS; you may select a District.

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

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

**District 1:** North of State Highway 200

**District 2:** From State Highway to State Highway 113

**District 3:** South of State Highway 113

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**  
\*Absentee voters in the Primary Election will automatically be mailed a ballot for the General Election held on June 11, 2024.

**Send submissions to:**  
White Earth Election Board  
PO Box 10,  
Mahnomen, MN 56557

**White Earth  
Election Board**

**Phone:** 218-936-5622 / **Toll-free:** 1-866-211-9154

**Fax:** 218-936-5623

**Email:** [election.board@whiteearth.com](mailto:election.board@whiteearth.com)

**Or by mail at:**  
White Earth Election Board  
PO Box 10, Mahnomen, MN 56557

The Election Board encourages you to come vote early in person. They are located behind the Shooting Star Casino in the old RV Park building.

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

**GENERAL ELECTION NOTICE**

A General Election of the White Earth Reservation Business Committee a/k/a Tribal Council will be held on **June 11, 2024** to fill the following positions:

**CANDIDATES FOR CHAIRPERSON - 4 Year Term**  
Eugene Umsy Tibbetts  
Michael A. Fairbanks (incumbent)

**CANDIDATES FOR DISTRICT III COMMITTEEPERSON - 4 Year Term**  
Laura Lee (Thompson) Erickson  
Cheryl "Annie" Jackson (incumbent)

**White Earth General Election Board**  
White Earth Election Office, 777 SE Casino Drive, Mahnomen, MN 56557  
218-936-5622 / [election.board@whiteearth.com](mailto:election.board@whiteearth.com)

**ABSENTEE BALLOT VOTING**  
PO Box 10, Mahnomen, MN 56557  
Absentee Request cards me be sent to: [election.board@whiteearth.com](mailto:election.board@whiteearth.com)

**POLLING PLACES:**

**DISTRICT I:**  
**Bejou** - Community Center, Main Street  
**Pine Bend** - Church Parking Lot  
**Rice Lake** - Community Center (Rice Lake Village)

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

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

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

<p><b>MINNEAPOLIS</b> MCT Urban Office (Ally Entrance) 1308 East Franklin Avenue</p>	<p><b>CASS LAKE, MN</b> White Earth Family Office 220 2nd Street NW</p>
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**POLLS OPEN: 8 a.m. / POLLS CLOSE: 8 p.m.**

**Voting eligibly for White Earth Nation Election**

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

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

**1.6 (C) Eligibility to Vote: Absentee**  
Whenever, due to absence from the reservation, illness or physical disability, an eligible voter is not able to vote at the polls and notifies the General Election Board consistent with this Ordinance, he/she will be entitled to vote by absentee ballot in the manner and under the procedures as provided by Section 2.2(B). To cast an absentee ballot for Committeeperson, an eligible voter must have resided within that district for a period of at least thirty (30) days as his/her last reservation residence. In the event an eligible voter has never resided on the reservation of his/her enrollment, he/she must declare in his/her request which district has been selected in which to cast the ballot for Committeeperson. If an eligible does not and has not previously designated a district, that eligible voter may cast an absentee ballot that includes only the at-large positions up for election. Once a voter has resided in or declared a district, the voter may not thereafter change his/her district for absentee voting purposes without actually residing within a different district on his/her reservation of enrollment for at least thirty (30) consecutive days immediately preceding the election.

## Obituaries

### Delores Jean "Dolo" Bellanger

Delores Jean "Dolo" Bellanger, 73, of Pine Point, died unexpectedly on April 15 at her home. She was born on Oct. 12, 1950 in White Earth to John (Johnny Bell) Bellanger and Elizabeth (Eliza) Jane Rock. Dolo grew up in Pine Point where she spent the majority of her life.

After graduating from high school, she attended the Minnesota School of Business. She was united in marriage to Delmar "Tonto" Basswood and later divorced. Together they had four children: Leroy, Calvin, Kevin, and Rochelle. Dolo worked in various capacities throughout her adult life, spending many years working as a CHR for the White Earth Reservation. Dolo enjoyed meeting new people, country and western music, baking in which she was known for her baked beans, sewing, 20/20 bingo, going for rides, photography, reading the news and being on her computer surfing the internet.

Dolo joins her mother, Eliza and dad, "Johnny Bell;" paternal grandparents, George Bellanger and Esther Jourdain; maternal grandparents: James Rock and Nancy Pennington Rock LaRose and John LaRose; brother Leonard "Boye" Bellanger; sisters, Katherine and Marcianna Bellanger; grandson, Kevin Basswood Jr.; uncles: Willis Rock, Emil Rock, William "Tip" Rock and Bernard Rock; aunts: Charlotte "Shun" Boswell, Katherine "Ga-deen" Wells, Florence Mountain, and Leona Johnson; half-sisters: Betty Lou King, Joyce Badboy, Christina Schwanke, Joann Wade, and Evelyn Lang; nephews: Jerry Bellanger, Jon "Rudy" Bellanger and Deron Ellis; niece, Charlotte Robbins; and great nephew, Stephen Bellanger.

Those she leaves behind are her sons: Leroy (Bonnie), Calvin and Kevin Basswood Sr.; daughter, Rochelle Basswood; grandchildren: Lee Basswood, Cora Jones, Jasmine Clark; sisters: Beverly Ellis, Geraldine Bellanger, Irene Adams, Theresa, Evelyn, Marlene, and Roberta Bellanger; and many nieces and nephews too numerous to mention.

A visitation and prayer service for Dolo was held April 18 and the funeral service was held April 19, both at the old Poin Point School.

Interment: St. Theodore's Catholic Cemetery.

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

Online: [www.daviddonehower.com](http://www.daviddonehower.com)



### Carol Ann (Phillips) Wolney, OFS

Carol Ann (Phillips) Wolney, OFS, 88, of North Minneapolis, Minn., passed away on Jan. 24.

Carol was born to Julia and Irving Phillips in 1935. She married Thomas Wolney in 1952 and they raised eight children. She will be remembered as a creative and loving mom, grandma and great grandma. She was an avid reader, loved puzzles and old movies.

She enjoyed singing, playing piano and sharing stories about her Ojibwe heritage. Her Catholic faith was paramount and her calling as a Secular Franciscan allowed her to touch many lives with her service. She had a sharp wit and a smile that lit up the room.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 50 years, Tom; sisters, Doris Lindboe and Florence Healy; and brother, Donald.

She leaves behind a multitude of family including her sisters, Marguerite Baye, and Jean (Arnie) Kunde; brother-in-law, Len Healy; children: Tom Jr. (Emelda), Julie Schleisman (George), Mona, Joe (Sue), Tim (Tamre), Maria Hamilton (Bob), Matt (Julie), and Jess (Giovanni); 24 grandchildren; 33 and counting great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Her legacy is one of faith, family and humor.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Feb. 1 at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Columbia Heights, Minn.

Interment: Gethsemane Catholic Cemetery

Online: [www.KapalaGlodekMalone.com](http://www.KapalaGlodekMalone.com)



### Melvina Teresa Johnson (Blue)

Melvina Teresa Johnson (Blue) was born on Sept. 10, 1933, in White Earth. She passed away on Feb. 1 at Regions Hospital in St. Paul, Minn.

Melvina, whose nickname was "Bunchie" when she was younger, was known for her ready smile and overall enjoyment of life. They called her "Bunchie" because she was a "bunch of fun" when with her friends and family.

She enjoyed traveling across the country with her husband, "Jerry," playing bingo and playing slots at the casino. She loved playing cards and was always up for a friendly game of poker at family gatherings.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Louis Leander and Ida Blue; husband, Lowell (Jerry) Johnson; son, Mark A. Johnson; and brother, Patrick (John B.) Fairbanks.

She is survived by her sons, Melvin Girling, (Mary), and Keith Johnson; sister, Patricia Fitzgerald, four grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild; and many nieces, nephews, and friends.

She will be greatly missed and forever remembered by her loving family. She will also be remembered by the many friends she met while residing at The Sanctuary assisted living facility in West St. Paul, Minn., especially her dearest friend, Nan, where she enjoyed living out her last years.



### Rodney "Kritter" James Stevens

Rodney "Kritter" James Stevens, 43, of Rice Lake, died on April 16 at his residence in Bagley, Minn.

Rodney was born on Nov. 20, 1980, to Brenda Hill and Bruce Auginaush in Bagley. He attended Bagley Schools and the Circle of Life Schools, going on to obtain his high school diploma. He resided in Rice Lake for most of his life. He worked as a Black Jack dealer at the casino.

Rodney loved fishing, berry picking, playing cards and working with Diamond Willow. He was a talented wood carver. Rod also loved taking walks and visiting with family. He would often walk over to his uncle Gary and aunt Celeste or his uncle Bam and aunt Barb just to chat. He had a fun sense of humor and could always make everyone laugh.

Rodney was on life support for 15 days in Fargo and had a near death experience where he went to a pow wow and all his loved ones who had passed away were dancing and his grandfather was playing the drum. After he came back to us, he had to go to many weeks of physical therapy and rehab to relearn many things. He never complained about his issues, he just worked hard to get better.

Rodney is survived by his mother, Brenda Stevens; brother, Randy Stevens; father, Bruce Auginaush; other brothers: Bruce Auginaush Jr., Brent Auginaush, Bradley Auginaush, Bryce Auginaush, Brody Auginaush, and Brendan Auginaush; step-father, Alan Oppegard; step siblings, Mike Bunker, Autumn Oppegard and Janelle Oppegard; nieces and nephews; and many aunts, uncles, cousins, and other family members.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents: George and Daisy Auginaush and Bert and Lucy Stevens; aunt Mona Stevens; uncles, Robert Stevens and Kenny Auginaush; and his cousin, Emily Stevens.

A wake began on April 22 and continued until the time of the funeral service on April 23, both at St. Philip's Episcopal Church in Rice Lake

Interment: St. Philip's Episcopal Cemetery.

Arrangements: Cease Family Funeral Home of Bagley.

Online: [www.ceasefuneralhome.com](http://www.ceasefuneralhome.com)



**DOVE & WETCAC**  
Present  
**MMIW AWARENESS DAY**  
*Community Phone*

Sunday May 5th, 2024  
Shooting Star Casino  
11:00AM - 3:00PM

MTCC is hosting a MMIW walk at 9:30am that will start at the Casino.

Games & Prizes  
Lunch! Hot Dogs & Chips  
Hand drum & Dancing  
Wear your regalia if you have some!

Dancers are invited to share their skills with those that are learning!

Speaker:  
Andrea Carrier,  
Sexual Assault Advocate

Program Booths - register with Courtney Bunker @ 218.983.4656

In partnership with Behavioral Health and MTCC

**MTCC**  
Mishishewa Tribal Community Council

**White Earth Reservation COMMUNITY MEETING**

**Date:** Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
**Time:** 5:00 – 8:00 P.M.  
**Location:** Shooting Star Casino – Event Center

All tribal members are invited to attend, the meeting is to update you on topics that the Constitution Reform delegates are working on and information on the upcoming Secretarial Election and other topics (MCT Membership, List Act, MCT Land, MCT Constitution).

Please plan on joining us, your opinion, suggestion and ideas are needed!

5:00 - 6:00 Meal  
6:15- 8:00 Updates and Audience Q&A

**This meeting is hosted by the White Earth Constitution Reform Delegates.**

**Obituaries**

**Kenneth James Carrabou**

Kenneth James Carrabou, 56, of Detroit Lakes, Minn., died unexpectedly on March 13 at the Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis.

Ken was born on Nov. 1, 1967, in Detroit Lakes to James and Mary (Chilton) Carrabou. As a child, he moved around quite a bit, but eventually the family settled in the Strawberry Lake area where he attended school in Callaway and later in Detroit Lakes. He met Gale Olson and they had three beautiful children: Heather, Karla and Nathan, who were his life, as he was for them.



After school, he began working for Sellin Brother's where he worked for 35 years, he became a member of the Local 49ers Union and was able to retire last year. In his younger years, no matter what it was he loved to go fast, he was into hot rods and racing his Mach Z. He had the trophies to show, but it's been said he won almost every race.

He was the most hardworking man and so generous, he would help anyone that needed anything. When he wasn't working he was having a cold beer and always busy doing something outside around the yard. He enjoyed riding his four-wheeler wherever it would take him. He could fix anything with just about nothing. He built his garage with the help of Robby, John, Nate, Charles and Brandon. He also bought a pickup, both of which he was so proud of. His pickup never spent much time outside and he always made sure it was kept clean.

He loved the Minnesota Vikings except most Sundays. He loved hunting and fishing with everyone, especially his kids. They took him on all their fishing trips and out hunting even when he would go back to the truck after five minutes because it was "too cold for ol pops." Pops got his nickname one summer while at work, he even referred to himself as pops, so it has stuck with him ever since. He would always say, "pops will take care of it!"

Although your dash was not long enough, just close your eyes and you will see all the memories you have of me.

He is preceded in death by his father, James Carrabou and his mother's significant other, Tony Brugman.

Ken will be deeply missed by his children: Heather, Karla (Jesse) and Nathan (Chace); mother, Mary; sister, Jacky (John); grandchildren: Carson, Brea and Braylee; nieces, Nicky and Cassie (god-daughter); nephew, Jack; his fiancé, Lyn; and everyone else who knew and loved him.

The memorial service for Kenneth Carrabou was held March 22 at David-Donohewer Funeral Home in Detroit Lakes, Minn., with Celebrant Becky Jackson officiating.

Arrangements: David-Donohewer Funeral Home of Detroit Lakes.  
Online: [www.daviddonehower.com](http://www.daviddonehower.com)

**Andrew "Andy Man" James Boswell**

Andrew "Andy Man" Boswell, 29, of Naytahwaush, died unexpectedly on March 30. Andrew James was born on March 8, 1995, in Minneapolis to Ursula Boswell and Jeremy Donovan. He attended grade school in the Twin Cities Metro area and his high school years were spent in Nebraska. Following his schooling, Andrew worked construction in Nebraska and spent a few years in Colorado. In 2007, he moved to the White Earth



Reservation and has made Naytahwaush his home, spending the past six years with Neka Sargent.

Andy Man loved the great outdoors. He enjoyed hiking, spearing, sugar bushing and just being one with nature. He had a good heart, a great sense of humor and a love for his family. Growing up, Andrew spent countless hours with his cousins, Aaron, and Nate Dog, and they were known to raise a little hell! He was always willing to be with family and enjoyed laughing and joking around. He also had a love for his native culture and his creative side allowed him to create many unique craft items showcasing traditional native elements. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

Andrew is survived by his mom, Ursula Boswell; father, Jeremy Donovan; fiancé, Neka Sargent; step-dad, Christopher Leslie; grandparents, Jane and Jerome Nelson; sister, Alexis Leslie; brothers, Angelo Boswell and Tristan Donovan; and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents; aunts, Caroline Boswell and Frances Thompson; uncle, Richard "Cricket" Boswell Jr.; and his best friend, Phillip Wade Jr.

Traditional Services began with an all-night wake and ceremony on April 4 and continued until the funeral on April 5, all at the Naytahwaush Sports Complex.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.  
Online: [www.andersonfamilyfh.com](http://www.andersonfamilyfh.com)

**Mary Ann Carrabou**

Mary Ann Carrabou, 78, of Detroit Lakes, Minn., died unexpectedly on April 18 at Essentia Health in Fargo, N.D.

Mary was born on Dec. 25, 1945, in White Earth. She was the daughter of George and Leona (Neuhalfen) Chilton. As a child she attended school in White Earth and Detroit Lakes. In 1964, she married Jim Carrabou and together they had two beautiful children - Jacky and Kenny. They later divorced but remained friends throughout Jim's life. In 1984, she met her soulmate, Tony, and they built an extraordinary life together, filled with love, laughter, travel and providing the happiest place for their six grandkids growing up.



She worked for Swifts, the Mink Ranch and Fair Hills Resort and over the years she was able to retire. She loved playing bingo, scratching lottery tickets and playing cards. She had the love and patience to teach her grandkids all at a young age Hand and Foot, as it became one of the card games they would play for many, many hours throughout her life. She took pride in being able to beat her sister Sherlene and Heather, when she would let her. There was always music playing and lots of dancing in the kitchen.

Tony enjoyed making crafts, so they started a small business together and as of recently she just finished tying 300 dream catchers to fill an order for Native Harvest in Callaway, but also filled many orders and sent them out to longtime friends in Montana. She kept her faith with the lord, loved all her dogs dearly, enjoyed the huge family gatherings and all the visits and phone calls she would receive.

Recently she enjoyed playing Canasta and Spades on the computer every morning, as well as her Facebook games she learned to play. She enjoyed going to Callaway or the casino every once in a while and although she didn't drink too often anymore, she would have a glass of beer. Nothing brought her more joy than being a mom, grandma, great grandma, sister, cousin and aunt to everyone she knew.

She will be remembered by her daughter, Jacky (John); grandkids: Nicky (Dan), Cassie (Robby), Jack, Heather, Karla (Jesse), and Nate (Chace); 11 great-grand kids; siblings: Bonnie, Dennis, Karen, Pat, Bill, Jerry, Deb, Sherl, Ronnie and Donnie; numerous nieces and nephews; and all who knew and loved her.

She was preceded in death by the love of her life, Tony; son, Kenny; parents, George and Leona; brother, Dave; and sister, Jamie.

The memorial service for Mary was held April 26 at David-Donohewer Funeral Home in Detroit Lakes, Minn., with Celebrant Becky Jackson officiating.

Arrangements: David-Donohewer Funeral Home of Detroit Lakes.  
Online: [www.daviddonehower.com](http://www.daviddonehower.com)

**Lynette Jean Straub**

Lynette Straub, 64, of Naytahwaush, died April 17 at the Mahnomen Health Hospital due to respiratory complications.

Lynette Jean Turner was born March 16, 1960, in White Earth, to Thomas "Barney" and Lucille (Bellanger) Turner. She grew up in Naytahwaush and graduated from Mahnomen High School. Lynette was blessed with two sons and later four grandchildren.



After her sons were older, she went back to school and received her degree as an LPN. Lynette worked as a nurse at Mahnomen Health Center and the Twin Valley Living Center before her declining health forced her into early retirement.

Lynette was helpful, had a great sense of humor and truly loved being around her family. She liked to keep her house clean and would often tidy yours up when she came to visit. Her spare time was spent doing crafts, mostly bead work. She made beautiful earrings, dream catchers and other detailed items. Lynette also loved to go to the casino and try her luck at the slots! She will be greatly missed by many.

Lynette is survived by her sons, Andrew (Rhonda) Straub and Thomas (Brandy) Turner; grandchildren: Trenton, Larissa, Thomas and Daiyana; sister, Patricia Turner; two brothers, Terence "Tux" Turner and Bruce Turner, Sr.; sister-in-law, Carol Turner; several nieces and nephews with Stephanie Turner, Aimee Turner and Bruce Turner Jr. holding a special place in her heart; and also several great nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother, Michael Turner Sr.; and nephews, Aaron Turner and Michael Turner Jr.

A Time of Gathering with visitation was held April 22 at the Anderson Family Funeral Home in Mahnomen.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.  
Online: [www.andersonfamilyfh.com](http://www.andersonfamilyfh.com)

**The WE General Election is June 11 - the polls are open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.**

## Chairman from Page 3

est levels. Externally we worked to include additional local contractors for bids and jobs. We supported our local ricers this year with wild rice rates that were higher than prior years. There's more to come next month regarding our support for CDL licenses and driver training, expansion and support for local people to enter into the trades. A solid portion of my professional background consists of job development and training, so I hope to continue to put these skills to good use as your Chairman. We're currently working on completing a new and improved RBC policy and procedure handbook for our employees, as this has been long overdue.

### **Economic concerns and food security**

I understand the economic impacts of inflated costs we're trying to cover with limited income. Food security is another basic human right. We were able to secure legislation in 2023 that provides tribal access to food shelf funding; and we were able to receive additional federal dollars that help cover local emergency food needs. Under this legislation, any federally recognized tribe gained access to state food shelf funds. We continue to look at elderly nutrition and improvements in 2024. Wild Rice protections have been and continue to be a priority for me each year I've been in office. In 2023, I was involved in legislation that provides tribal involvement and funding toward wild rice research. In 2023 and 2024, I was involved in White Earth's introduction of the buffalo program, and we are making future plans for when it will be available for sale or distribution locally.

Tribal Impact Aid dollars were secured during the 2023 legislative session. This is something that I worked hard for, to bring to our Tribe. Approximately \$35 million will be distributed among the 11 Minnesota tribes according to population base. This brings relief for our RBC, which relied upon self-governance dollars that were stretched too thin. This helps us with multiple programs and services needed by our people and I'm proud that I could be involved in this historic legislation. This was really groundbreaking.

Waabigwan Mashkiki our cannabis LLC created a pathway for White Earth Nation to be positioned statewide in the cannabis marketplace because of the vision and foresight we had. The facility is top of the line. It opens up a variety of products, job creation, building up the brand and marketplace, and could expand statewide.

In other areas of economic security, we have worked hard to reinstate our employee numbers to prior levels, provide opportunities to local contractors, support day labor initiatives as well as our local businesses. I understand, support, and proactively pursue business growth and development locally.

### **Safety and Security, MMIR**

Safety and security within our communities is an ongoing area of concern. Multiple issues contribute to this, but one way we can address it is through our law enforcement. A Joint Powers Agreement and concurrent jurisdiction for tribal law enforcement was secured in 2023, which brought expanded authority to our tribal law enforcement program, as well as millions in annual funding. This allows us to be less dependent on using self-governance funds so we can reallocate self-governance funds to other priority areas while still expanding our law enforcement division.

I was proud to be involved and supported this ongoing funding for our tribal law enforcement program. I also supported a legislative initiative that passed in 2023 for expanded broadband for rural areas, knowing that we have portions of our reservation and other rural communities where our constituents live, where we don't have decent broadband service. Many of our communities don't have decent cell phone service either or families can't afford it, so there's a reliance on broadband for free internet access to make calls, receive telehealth or other services, attend online school, allow our elders to keep in touch virtually with family and friends, among other communication needs. This bill provided a large amount of funding to improve rural broadband. There are other projects related to safety and security within our communities that we continue to work on to address the issues and remain committed to it.

The first Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives office was established in Minnesota, and in 2022-2023 was

able to add additional staff. I'm proud to have supported the recommendations coming out of the task force. While our Anishinaabe ikwewag, native women make up only 1% of the population in this state, approximately 9% of all murdered females in this state were Native American. Between 27-54 Anishinaabe ikwewag go missing on any given month in Minnesota, according to the MMIR Task Force. Nearly all our families have been impacted by this, and I'll continue to advocate for additional measures.

### **Tribal sovereignty, self-governance, and infrastructure**

These are critical issues voiced by our membership, and as your Chairman I've been one of the strongest voices for our tribal sovereignty and self-governance in a long time. It's landed me in some hot water at times and made me not very popular outside of White Earth, but this is at the heart of what our ancestors fought for. We support our treaty rights, resources, and our right and ability to self-govern. We hire our best and brightest tribal members to come back home and work for us, build our infrastructure to develop the programs and services needed by our members. We've been very successful when we have competent leadership who actually care about these issues and can clearly speak about them. I've defended these issues at a national level, testifying in Washington D.C., N.C.A.I., A.C.F., courtrooms, Minnesota Legislature and other venues. I hope that you'll give me the chance to continue to defend and advance our treaty and policy rights.

### **Drugs, addiction, treatment, healing**

The next areas are some of the most talked about issues facing us right now. I shared a lot in the State of the Band address about my own personal recovery journey, as well as how it impacted my family and most of our families. As a community we've been through rough times because of the cruelty of addictions, but also as a community we can heal together because I believe in the power of us figuring out how to offer Anishinaabe culturally based treatment, recovery, whole healing Mind, Body & Spirit a way that works for us. I am 100% committed to our tribal programs developing services that help to heal addictions. We have so many people working in our Behavioral Health programs who are in recovery and now helping others. That's encouraging.

We know where we have room to grow in these supportive programs. We are opening a second lodge at the Men's treatment facility east of White Earth. This will double the capacity of the current facility and provide low intensity residential treatment in a culturally based setting. We have plans to build a new Women's Wellbriety treatment facility in Bemidji that will also expand the number of women and children who can go into treatment and not see children placed into foster care while the mother goes to treatment. A first of its kind Family Treatment Center will be opening in 2024 outside of White Earth, which will allow couples with their children to go through treatment together, avoiding unnecessary foster care placements. These are large capital projects that we've been successful in building, as we continue to address the rest of our needs. As Chairman, and a person in recovery, I understand these needs and will always be invested in making sure we're providing the resources.

### **Mental health, crisis response, healing**

This has been another critical resource need that's been talked about the most. We currently have a workgroup led by a tribal member with an MSW, who is assisting in making recommendations for expanded access to treatment across the reservation, Bemidji, and Urban areas. We have a provider shortage and need for infrastructure development. We've also enlisted the help of our Tribal Youth Administrator, also a tribal member with an MSW, to make recommendations regarding expanded access for our youth and families. As your Chairman I am committed to ensuring our membership has access to mental health services as well as traditional healing. We are tripling the number of crisis response providers we have now and have posted positions for additional therapy providers for all communities and settings where needed. We're supporting paid internships and clinical supervision for our tribal members who've entered into graduate programs and are looking at student loan repayment and other ways to

bring tribal members in as service providers. This might include legislative proposals next session that could help support our local needs for providers, Native clinical supervisors, and Indigenous mental health training initiatives.

I've worked hard for the last four years in office to pursue a federal 1115 waiver for tribal traditional practitioners. This has been long overdue! Tribal nations in Arizona really deserve credit for the work they've put in for the last decade creating crosswalks from western medicine services to traditional healing services in pursuit of this waiver. White Earth has really pushed for this waiver on a national level as well, and I've provided testimony in support of it through the years. I'm happy to report that in 2024 it was finally granted, so it opens the door for our traditional practitioners to be recognized in the same capacity and allows us access to third party billing for services which in turn support our traditional practitioners. This is a large, national win for our people and traditional healing that's not been seen since the passage of the Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA) of 1978.

### **Environment, land, and resources**

If this isn't the most talked about issue among our membership, it certainly has been in the media. Unfortunately, much of the coverage has been distorted or one sided, whether they're talking about water protection or the state forest issue. The opposition has gotten good at using marketing to wage fear tactics about the tribe's intentions. This land means so much more to our tribe and local residents. When our treaty of 1867 was signed, the entirety of the land was to be allotted to tribal members to never be taxed nor leave tribal ownership. Through nefarious acts in the early portion of the 20th century, 95% of the land base was lost through fraud, illegal taxation, and unfair loans. Almost immediately after the passing of the Howard-Wheeler act which intended to empower tribes (IRA June 18, 1934) the State and Federal Governments created large refuges and state forests, ultimately ensuring the Band would never own that land again. Currently the Band owns/manages approximately 10% of its original land base.

White Earth Nation's goal is management and return of the Gaawaabaabiganikaag Noopiming, White Earth State Forest, to protect the resources in an environmentally positive manner for the benefit of present and future generations and to ensure the forestlands on the White Earth State Forest are managed in an environmentally sensitive, sustainable, and economically viable manner. Management of the forestland in balance with conservation of natural, aesthetic, and cultural values is highly important to us. Permanent easements have been promised as part of the proposal. Not many people know that our Tribe has managed several open recreational areas and parks across our Nation already, allowing access for everyone to use it. Those areas where weekenders drive their side by sides through could easily have been tribal land. Not many people know that many of the lakes they come here to fish have been stocked for decades by the tribe.

While federal agency officials and the Band are moving forward with co-stewardship agreement for the Tamarac NWR, federal agencies have been much more ambivalent regarding return of the underlying title for Tamarac NWR. Provisions in the National Wildlife Act seemingly prevent administrative action on title transfer without legislative action explains, at least in part, the reason for federal agencies' waffling on return of title to Tamarac NWR. A legislative fix proposed this year could alleviate federal agencies' concerns regarding their authority to transfer title to Tamarac NWR to the BIA to be held in trust for the Band.

In 2023-2024, I've pursued the transfer of the White Earth State Forest, as did many of our members who testified about the importance of the land to our future existence. This isn't an issue that we're giving up on, and will work to see this restored back to our nation. I've provided hours of testimony and know how to educate others about the significance of the transfer, so I'm in a good place to represent the people of White Earth in this and ask for your continued testimony, public education, and advocacy on this as well so that it can move successfully through the legislative process.

**See Chairman Page 32**

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

156th Annual White Earth Celebration

June 14, 15 and 16, 2024

Deadline for submission of completed applications with documentation is 12 p.m. (noon) on June 3, 2024 to allow for verification of eligibility

- All portions of the princess and brave contests will begin at the 1 p.m. Grand Entry on Friday, June 14, 2024. This includes but is not limited to: Interview, Verification of Eligibility, Self-Introduction at Powwow, and Dance Competition scoring. Please note that an introduction in our language is very helpful to the contestants. All applicants and their parents/guardians agree, through submission of their signed application, that the contestant: 1. Pledges to live a crime, drug and alcohol-free lifestyle at all times prior to and during their reign as princess or brave, including but not limited to their social media presence. 2. Continues with successful academics and maintains a positive role within their school and community, including social media. 3. Is unmarried may not have any pregnancies past, present or during the year that the participant holds the title of princess or brave. 4. Is an enrolled member or descendant of White Earth Reservation, documentation required.\* 5. Resides on or within 25 miles of the White Earth Reservation presently and during the reigning year, documentation required.\*\* a. If a princess or brave moves, it is the family/guardian's responsibility to contact the committee immediately. 6. Is age 9-12 for Junior title, or age 13-17 for Senior title. 7. Is willing to represent the White Earth Reservation throughout the reigning year by traveling to and dancing at other powwows.\*\*\* 8. Cannot hold any other title of royalty while applying for or holding the title of White Earth Princess or Brave. 9. Will only be awarded the title of White Earth Celebration Princess or Brave once in their lifetime. 10. Will immediately relinquish his or her title to the first runner-up if White Earth Pow Wow Committee finds princess or brave to be in violation of these rules. Relinquishment includes returning of crown and/or sash to the White Earth Pow Wow Committee. Applications are available at the White Earth RBC Headquarters, via email and in the Anishinaabeg Today newspaper. Application and documentation materials must be filled out completely and submitted to Dana Goodwin by noon on Monday, June 3 to be verified by the White Earth Pow Wow Committee and White Earth Enrollment Office. Please mail completed application and documentation to White Earth Pow Wow Committee, PO Box 418, White Earth, MN 56591. Contact Dana Goodwin at dana.goodwin@whiteearth-nsn.gov with questions or concerns. Do not rely on social media for communication.

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

Please Print Clearly

Full Legal Name Birth Date Clan

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

Phone number Additional phone number

School Grade in 2023/24

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

Full Legal Name Birth Date WE Enrollment #

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

Participant Signature Printed Name Date

Custodial Parent/Guardian Signature Printed Name Date

WEPC Only: Verified eligible by WE Enrollments: Date:

Howah Ads

Happy Belated 2nd Birthday

Weston Blaze Thompson

Love, Dad & Mom, Carter, Papa and Gramma, Auntie Melanie & the girls

April 12

Happy Birthday to all Madigan crew and graduates!

Rojas "Lele"

Tayden Degroat

Jacob Burkhart

Love, Diane M.

Happy Birthday

Mariah - May 10th

Monte - May 15th

Dad - May 19th

Serena & Sierra May 30th

Joeseeph - May 31st

Love Tia!

Happy Heavenly Birthday Dad

(April 25)

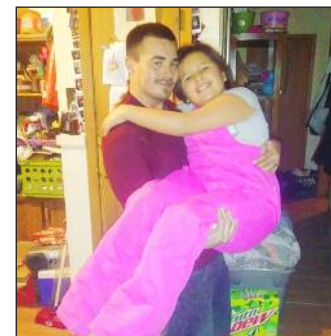


Happy Birthday son Adam Sullivan

05/02/2008



Happy Birthday Daughter! (May 17)



SAVE THE DATE!

DOWNTOWN MAHNOMEN, MN

WILD RICE DAY 2024

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24TH 10 AM - 3 PM

Artist & Certified Food Vendors must be from the local area of White Earth, Mahnomen County, & NW Minnesota.

\$20.00 Registration Fee

VENDOR Deadline: June 29th

Register: https://forms.gle/TBoFEtg759QbKA8Z6

FMI: wildricefest@gmail.com

Kent 218-902-0552 or Jes 218-401-1310



@Manoomin Arts Initiative @WildRiceDay

### Request for Proposals

The White Earth Contracting office is soliciting for proposals for general property management services for multiple Tribally owned properties.

Please contact White Earth Tribal Finance for a complete REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL by email at: [we.contracting@whiteearth-nsn.gov](mailto:we.contracting@whiteearth-nsn.gov)

Proposals are due by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, May 15.

### Thank You

We want to thank everyone for their kindness, condolences and support we received during Delores Bellanger's funeral.

We want to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to Melvin Goodman, Spiritual Advisor, Ojibwe Hymn Singers, Smokey Hills, Donehower, Laura Lee, Erma Vizenor, and her nephews and great-nephews for being her Pall Bearers, her nieces and great-nieces who did the cooking and serving of the food.

We also thank everyone that brought food, cards, and flowers. If we missed anyone, it was not intentional.

Basswood & Bellanger families

### Sugarbush Township

Sugarbush Township is changing their meeting times from the second Thursday of the month at 5 p.m. to the second Monday of the month starting at 7 p.m. and ending at 8 p.m.

The next meeting will be on May 13 at 7 p.m. at the Sugarbush Town Hall.

### Car For Sale

1993 Mercury Grand Marquis 117,000 miles. New tires, brakes, oil, plugs, antifreeze. No rust. \$6,000 OBO. 218-694-3468. Serious call only.

### Jackson from Page 19

issues that have been and are in the process of being worked on. As a Tribal Council we all work together to assure the best for our Reservation as a whole.

I am honored to have served as your Representative these past years; with your support I would be more than honored to continue to do so.

Miigwech,

If you need to reach out, please don't hesitate to contact me at:

218-401-0238 - Work

218-204-1160 - Personal

[annie.jackson@whiteearth-nsn.gov](mailto:annie.jackson@whiteearth-nsn.gov) - Work

[anniebubs67@hotmail.com](mailto:anniebubs67@hotmail.com) - Personal

### Sommers from Page 5

Leech Lake on April 27, hosted at the Cedar Lakes Casino. Best of luck to Harland Hagen, Michael Quinn, and Glen Sommers Jr.! Your dedication makes us proud, Ogichidaa! Giga-waabamin!

#### Contacts

##### Eugene Sommers

Email: [Eugene.Sommers@whiteearth-nsn.gov](mailto:Eugene.Sommers@whiteearth-nsn.gov)

Office Phone: 218-983-3285, Ext. 5921

Cell Phone: 218-396-9502

##### Christopher Vanwert Jr

[Chrstopher.Vanwert@whiteearth-nsn.gov](mailto:Chrstopher.Vanwert@whiteearth-nsn.gov)

Cell Phone: 218-850-2533

**Dawn Wann's Gardens**  
Plants grown with love

OPENING MAY 1ST  
CLOSING FATHER'S DAY

**Come check us out!**

Find us online & on Facebook at [DawnWannsGardens](https://www.facebook.com/DawnWannsGardens)

OPEN 10AM-7PM  
EVERYDAY

**(218) 657-2266**

**We are worth the drive!**

>>> Watch for signs! <<<<

20248 203rd Ave - Bagley, MN

**SOFTBALL**  
CO-Ed League

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS  
JUNE 19, 2024 - AUGUST 07, 2024  
START @ 6:00PM

**NAYTAHWAUSH FIELDS**

**\$250.00 PER TEAM**  
MINIMUM OF 4 WOMEN PER TEAM  
AND ON THE FIELD

**Concessions will be available**

*Awards to be given at the end of the season*

CONTACT: SUE HANKS @ (218) 401-0415

SPONSORED BY RAPID RESPONSE TEAM CSO'S, CHOW, AND ORSO  
DRUG AND ALCOHOL FREE

### Sexual Assault Healing Group

4:30- 6:30 pm / DOVE Building in White Earth

This will be a monthly support group on the last Wednesday of the month.

- Children **may not** attend.
- Refreshments will be provided.

Please contact Andrea Carrier with any questions, to set up transportation, and to confirm your attendance at 218-983-4656 or [andrea.carrier@whiteearth-nsn.gov](mailto:andrea.carrier@whiteearth-nsn.gov)

## Program Technician

**Mahnomen County Farm Service Agency (FSA)** is accepting applications for a permanent full-time Program Technician. Annual salary ranges from \$36,209 to \$63,733 (CO-4 through CO-7) depending on qualifications of the applicant.

This position is located at the Mahnomen County FSA Office, 200 N US Highway 59, Mahnomen, MN. Program Technician provides customer service assistance to farmers and landowners in administering government farm programs. On the job training will be provided.

Apply online at [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov) - Job Announcement: FSACO-12395517-24-MN-KM from April 29, 2024 through May 20, 2024. The entire announcement and all instructions can be found online.

For questions, please call Crystal Dibley at 218-935-2561 or [crystal.dibley@usda.gov](mailto:crystal.dibley@usda.gov).

FSA is an Equal Opportunity Provider, Employer and Lender.

**BECOME A FOSTER PARENT IN CRITICAL NEED!!!**

White Earth Foster Care is in critical need for licensable foster homes. If you or anyone you know is interested in opening your home to help out your family, friends, neighbors and community. Please reach out to our foster care team.

Office Phone: 218-983-4647

Roberta Roy - Coordinator Ext: 5516  
[Roberta.roy@whiteearth-nsn.gov](mailto:Roberta.roy@whiteearth-nsn.gov)

JoAnn Keezer - Licensor Ext: 5542  
[Joann.keezer@whiteearth-nsn.gov](mailto:Joann.keezer@whiteearth-nsn.gov)

Vanessa Spry - Licensor Ext: 5501  
[Vanessa.spry@whiteearth-nsn.gov](mailto:Vanessa.spry@whiteearth-nsn.gov)

Patricia Racine - Licensor  
[Patricia.racine@whiteearth-nsn.gov](mailto:Patricia.racine@whiteearth-nsn.gov)

It takes a village to raise a child.  
FIND A VILLAGE.  
ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER.  
&  
OPEN YOUR VILLAGE TO OTHERS.

## WE Election Board

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

[election.board@whiteearth.com](mailto:election.board@whiteearth.com)  
218-936-5622 or 1-866-211-9154

Fax: 218-936-5623

Hours: Monday through Friday  
8 am to 4:30 pm

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



## Diabetic Bingo

All are welcome and it costs nothing to play.

**May 2024**

May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024 Shooting Star Casino Event Center  
 May 9<sup>th</sup> 2024 NO BINGO THIS WEEK  
 May 16<sup>th</sup> 2024 Naytahwaush  
 May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2024 White Earth – Congregate Center  
 May 30<sup>th</sup> 2024 Rice Lake

Bingo at the Shooting Star Casino Event Center will be at 1:00pm  
 Bingo in Naytahwaush is at the Sports Complex, E.N.P dining hall after the 11:30 meal.  
 Bingo in White Earth is at the Congregate Center, Dining Hall after the 11:30am meal  
 Bingo in Rice Lake is at the Rice Lake Community Center after the 11:30 E.N.P meal.

**June 2024**

June 5<sup>th</sup> 2024 - Wednesday Shooting Star Event Center  
 June 12<sup>th</sup> 2024 - Wednesday Pine Point  
 June 20<sup>th</sup> 2024 - Thursday Elbow Lake  
 June 27<sup>th</sup> 2024 - Thursday Valley View, Mahnomen

Bingo at the Shooting Star Casino Event Center will be at 1:00pm  
 Bingo in Naytahwaush is at the Sports Complex, E.N.P dining hall after the 11:30 meal.  
 Bingo in White Earth is at the Congregate Center, Dining Hall after the 11:30am meal  
 Bingo in Rice Lake is at the Rice Lake Community Center after the 11:30 E.N.P meal.

**July 2024**

July 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024 - Tuesday Shooting Star Casino Event Center  
 July 11<sup>th</sup> 2024 - Thursday Naytahwaush  
 July 18<sup>th</sup> 2024 - Thursday White Earth – Congregate Center  
 July 25<sup>th</sup> 2024 - Thursday Rice Lake

Bingo at the Shooting Star Casino Event Center will be at 1:00pm  
 Bingo in Naytahwaush is at the Sports Complex, E.N.P dining hall after the 11:30 meal.  
 Bingo in White Earth is at the Congregate Center, Dining Hall after the 11:30am meal  
 Bingo in Rice Lake is at the Rice Lake Community Center after the 11:30 E.N.P meal.

On May 2<sup>nd</sup> starting at about 12:45, enjoy a cup of coffee or glass of water with a light snack. Topping it all off you can play Diabetic Bingo starting at 1pm

Schedule is subject to change without notice. If the R.B.C or the E.N.P. site is closed Bingo will be rebounded to another date, if possible. Updated 4/24/2024

## 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)*

## PP School Meeting Minutes

**Pine Point Regular School Board Meeting**  
**Monday, March 4, 2024 @ 4:30 p.m.**  
 Pine Point School Staff Room

- 1.0 Roll Call – Meeting called to order by Chairman John Swan at 4:35 p.m.  
 Members present – Marva Aitken, Gerald Roberts, Michael Swan, Sara Hunt, John Swan, Allison Jones  
 Ex-officio – Chris Schulz, Principal
- 2.0 Recognition of Visitors – Bonnie Meeks
- 3.0 Approval/Amendment of Agenda – Motion by Michael Swan to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Sara Hunt. All in favor. Motion carried.
- 4.0 Approval/Amendment of Minutes – Motion by Sara Hunt to approve the February 5, 2024 minutes as presented, seconded by Allison Jones. All in favor. Motion carried.
- 5.0 Finance
  - 5.1 Treasurer’s Report – Motion by Michael Swan to approve the Treasurer’s Report for February 2024 as submitted, seconded by Gerald Roberts. All in favor. Motion carried.
  - 5.2 Payment of Bills & Electronic Funds Transfer & Debit Card Transactions – Motion by Marva Aitken to approve the payment of bills for the month of February 2024 in the amount of \$62,759.92 for check #33233 through check #33305 and the EFT for Federal/State/TRA Payroll Tax & Debit Card Transactions, seconded by Allison Jones. All in favor. Motion carried.
- 6.0 Unfinished Business
  - 6.1 No unfinished business
- 7.0 New Business
  - 7.1 No new business
- 8.0 Principal’s Report – Discussion on Science Fair in Crookston; Snowsnakes postponed; Grades 5-8 Hygiene Classes-March 7; Pow Wow-March 8; MCA Testing-March 11-14; Teacher Inservice-March 15; Bridge Programming-March 18-April 4. No action needed
- 9.0 Public Participation – Culture Camp-March 3; Sugar Bush
- 10.0 Adjournment – Motion by Marva Aitken to adjourn the meeting at 4:50 p.m., seconded by Sara Hunt. All in favor. Motion carried.



## CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT (CNA) TRAINING

**Summer Training 2024** Training: May 13-June 28th  
**Accepting Applications** Orientation: May 6th

**ELIGIBILITY**  
 Must be 18 years and older and Not enrolled in K-12, and one or more of the following to qualify for eligibility:

- Individuals of color
- Individuals lacking stable housing
- Individuals with a criminal record
- Individuals without a high school diploma or equivalent
- Individuals with disabilities
- Individuals who have been unemployed for 28 or more of the past 52 weeks
- Individuals with limited English or math proficiency
- Individuals at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guideline


**COURSE DESCRIPTION**  
 This course introduces concepts of:

- basic human needs
- health/illness continuum
- basic nursing skills needed to work as a Nursing Assistant in long term care

Upon successful completion of classroom studies, this student will participate in supervised clinical experience in a long term care facility.

This class meets the objectives of the Federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) and Minnesota Department of Health Requirements as detailed for educating the nursing assistant.

**Customized Education**  
 Questions about eligibility?  
 Contact Us:  
 bridget.guiza@wetc.edu  
 218-935-0417 ext. 5327  
 www.wetc.edu  
<https://wetc.edu/CustomizedEducation>



## Lawn Care Provider(s)

### White Earth Tribal Elders Program

#### District III & an On-Call position opening

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

Deadline: Until filled  
 Contact: Lisa or Buck @ W&S Department @ 218-983-3202  
 Email addresses: [Lisa.donovan-larson@whiteearth-nsn.gov](mailto:Lisa.donovan-larson@whiteearth-nsn.gov) or [Bumham.TibbettsIII@whiteearth-nsn.gov](mailto:Bumham.TibbettsIII@whiteearth-nsn.gov)

## 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**

## NEED MORE ENERGY?

## JOIN STAR FITNESS CENTER TODAY!


Located in the Manito Mall, Mahnomen

Email Jackie.Haugo@whiteearth-nsn.gov or call 935-0808 or 218-401-2421 to fill out an application

**NEW KEY CARD HOURS:**  
 Monday-Friday 6 a.m.-10:00p.m. (age 15-17)  
 Saturday &-Sunday 6 a.m.- 6:00 p.m. (age 15-17)  
**Adults (18 & older) get 24 hour access 7 days a week.**



White Earth Nation  
 TRIBAL PUBLIC HEALTH  
 Prevent. Promote. Protect



Please join us as we honor those who have died in military service to the United States

**Monday, May 27, 2024**

### CEMETERY SERVICE SCHEDULE

Conducted by the Ogema VFW Post 9880 & Auxiliary

Assemble at Ogema VFW Hall.....	7:30AM
St. Columba’s Episcopal Cemetery, White Earth.....	8:15AM
Bethel Lutheran Cemetery, White Earth.....	8:30AM
White Earth Veteran’s Cemetery, White Earth.....	8:40AM
Assembly of God Cemetery, White Earth.....	8:50AM
Calvary Catholic Cemetery, White Earth.....	9:00AM
Aura Finnish Cemetery, Goat Ranch Road.....	9:30AM
Callaway Cemetery, Callaway.....	10:15AM
Ogema City Cemetery, Ogema.....	10:35AM
Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Cemetery, Ogema.....	10:40AM
Waubun City Cemetery, Waubun.....	11:20AM
St. Ann’s Catholic Cemetery, Waubun.....	11:30AM
Lake Grove Cemetery.....	12:00PM

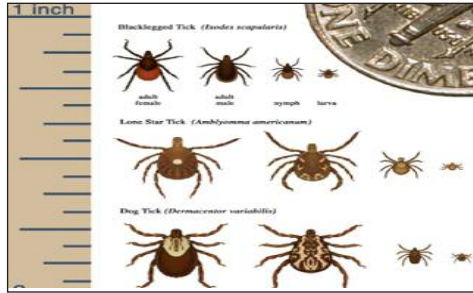
**Ticks from Page 9**

can be transmitted. If you remove a tick quickly (within 24 hours), you can greatly reduce your chances of getting Lyme disease.

Early Lyme's disease can occur a few days to 1 month after tick bite. In approximately 80% percent of people "Erythema migrans" or "bull's eye" rash may appear.

To note, not all rashes that occur at the site of a tick bite are due to Lyme disease. An allergic reaction to tick saliva can also occur and be confused with an erythema migrans rash. Allergic reactions to tick saliva usually appear within a few hours after the tick bite, usually do not gradually expand in size, and disappear within a few days.

Other signs and symptoms of Lyme's



disease can include fatigue, chills, fever, headache, muscle and joint pain or swollen lymph nodes.

People treated with appropriate antibiotics in the early stages of Lyme disease usually recover rapidly and completely. Early diagnosis and proper antibiotic treatment of Lyme disease can help prevent late Lyme disease.

Now that spring is here, it's good to have a refresher course on tick identification, measures to take to avoid tick exposure, recognizing signs and symptoms of tick borne illness and treatment for disease should this be needed. If you are concerned for tick exposure or have notable signs and symptoms, it is important to see your healthcare provider for further evaluation.

For more information please visit Minnesota Department of Health and Center for Disease Control and Preventions.



**White Earth Elders attend TEC meeting**



Submitted photo

The White Earth Nation Council of Elders recently transported local elders to the TEC meeting in Grand Portage, Minn. After the meeting, Mykee Brown met with the elders to discuss Constitution Reform details. All tribal members are invited to attend a Constitutional Reform meeting on May 15 from 5-8 p.m. at the Shooting Star Casino. There will be a meal, updates and audience Q&As.

# 156<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WHITE EARTH TREATY DAY CELEBRATION & POW WOW

**JUNE 14, 15 & 16, 2024**  
**White Earth, MN**  
**FIVE GRAND ENTRIES**  
**FRI, JUNE 14 | 1PM & 7PM**  
**SAT, JUNE 15 | 1PM & 7PM**  
**SUN, JUNE 16 | 1PM**

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

## FEAST - 5PM Fri & Sat

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

- Camping at your own risk
- Free campfire wood
- Showers are available on Saturday and Sunday between 6 and 10 am.
- 24-hour security on-site
- 11pm Curfew
- No fireworks, weapons, alcohol or illegal substances
- No unruly behavior
- No ATVs
- The White Earth Reservation Business Committee, Police and Pow Wow Committee reserve the right to remove violators

**SPIRITUAL ADVISOR | ROB TIBBETTS**  
**MCS | BRANDEN BOWSTRING, VINCE BEYL & WES JOURDAIN**  
**ARENA DIRECTORS | LUCAS HISGUN, JIMMY URAN JR & EARL FAIRBANKS**

**HOST DRUM | YOUNG SPIRIT**  
**CO-HOST DRUM | DECENDENTS**  
**DRUM SPLIT | \$10,000 - No Drum Hopping**  
DRUM CONTACTS | ORVILLE "CASPER" BOWER (218) 204-0578 OR JEFF COLEMAN (218) 261-1479

**SOUND SYSTEM: RC SOUNDS**  
**CONTEST: TBA**

**ROYALTY CONTEST**  
**CONTACT | DANA dana.goodwin@whiteearth-nsn.gov**  
Open to White Earth enrollees or descendants  
Junior Princess or Brave: 9-12 years old  
Senior Princess or Brave: 13-17 years old  
Living on or near the White Earth Reservation; additional qualifications apply.  
**APPLICATIONS DUE BY MONDAY, JUNE 3 AT 12PM.**  
*Applications available at WERBC Headquarters or via email.*

**VENDOR CONTACT | Autumn - (218) 368-3320 or Charles - (218) 902-1267**  
*The Vendor List is Full and there are No More Spots Available.*

**DIABETES MEMORIAL 5K RUN/WALK**  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2024**  
Registration: 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. | Race Starts: 9:00 a.m.  
Start at White Earth Health Division Parking Lot  
Open to everyone. No registration fee.

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

FOR ADDITIONAL INFO | **WHITE EARTH NATION**  
[www.whiteearth.com](http://www.whiteearth.com)

**Chairman from Page 28**

In 2023, I supported legislation that passed which included \$1,693,000 to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with the White Earth Band to conduct a policy analysis and assess aggregate irrigation impacts on water quality and quantity in the Pineland Sands region of the state.

As a Nibi-Ogichidaa, Water Protector, I have consistently stood up against MPCA and MN DNR encroachment on Tribal Resources. I held accountability to the Government-to-Government relations process. This includes Line 3, which runs through ceded territories. Many people work tirelessly to protect our land, our water, and natural resources. I hear you, and I stand with you.

Please Get Out and Vote!  
Gaawaabaabiganikaag daga Biinjwebinige-White Earth Nation

This election is equally as important as the last to continue to do the good work on behalf of our people and great Anishinaabe nation! I'm qualified to do this through

experience and integrity. Some of you might get mad at me for not getting back to you right away, or because you see me out there traveling but it's because I'm fighting hard on a national and state level for our rights and to secure funding for our Nation.

I'm going to continue to fight hard for the needs that you've identified and have a proven track record that I can do it. In the next tribal paper, I'll talk about the remaining issues, solutions identified and areas we still need to pursue.

If you'd like to hear more before then, have questions or things you'd like to talk about, please feel free to contact me or check out my other forums.

Facebook: @ChairmanFairbanks

Instagram: @Chairman\_Fairbanks

Gmail: fairbanks218@gmail.com

Baamaapii wiingezin. (Take it easy), Miigwech bizindawiyeg. (Thank you for listening to me), Gigawaabaminim naagaj. (See you all later.)

**Chairman Michael Fairbanks**