

ANISHINAABEG TODAY



A Monthly Chronicle of the White Earth Nation

Vol. 30 No. 1

White Earth, Minn.

today@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Wednesday, January 1, 2025

Elders gather for annual Christmas Party




The White Earth Elders Christmas Party was held Dec. 10 at the Shooting Star Casino.

More than 350 Elders attended the annual event. The Elders were treated to a meal, Christmas songs sung by Naytahwaush Community Charter School students, door prizes, and bingo.

Top: District 2 Rep. Eugene Sommers and District 3 Rep. Laura Lee Erickson welcome Elders. **Right:** Carrie Kier and Leonard Roy.

Photos by Gary W. Padrta

**5th Annual
WHITE EARTH NATION
ICE FISH'N DERBY**

North Twin Lake - Naytahwaush, MN
Saturday, February 8th, 2025
Tournament 11 AM - 3 PM
Registration 8 AM - 12 PM

Over \$10,000 in Tournament Prizes!


Admission Wristband (Adults) \$10
Admission Wristband (17 and Under) Free

Door prizes for registered attendees!
Admission wristband required to win and to register fish in tournament.
First 500 youth receive gift at admissions.
First 500 kids receive \$10 cash for their first fish entered.

Enrolled White Earth members must follow tribal regulations with a 4 hole limit.
Non-members must follow state regulations.

Drug & alcohol free event. Not responsible for accidents.

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 White Earth Natural Resources,
 White Earth CSOs, and White Earth Public Health



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Santa helps distribute toys on reservation

The RBC Christmas Toy Program was truly a success this year!

The White Earth Reservation Tribal Council, Walking Shield, and Toys for Tots were able to provide the gifts needed to fulfill our community's children with a Happy Holiday Season.

Left: Chris VanWert helps sort toys at the White Earth Community Center.

Photo by Gary W. Padrta

Anishinaabeg Today

The *Anishinaabeg Today* (AT) is the official publication of White Earth Nation and is published once a month. Editorials and articles appearing in the AT are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion 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 or at military installations overseas. One paper per household. The cost of a newspaper subscription is \$12 per year for non-members (including descendants) living off the reservation. **Current and past issues of the AT can be read online for free at www.whiteearth.com.**

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

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Future Issues *

Deadline	Issue Date
January 29	February 5
February 26	March 5
March 26	April 2
April 30	May 7
May 28	June 4

* Deadline and issue dates subject to change

Tribal Advocacy Council on Energy established for Tribal-State energy issues in Minnesota

The Tribal Advocacy Council on Energy, or TACE, has been formally established by Tribal Nations in Minnesota and has approved Michael Childs Jr., Prairie Island Tribal Council member, as TACE co-chair. A second TACE co-chair is expected to be appointed at an upcoming meeting.

“The Tribal Advocacy Council on Energy will strengthen our Tribal communities’ efforts to build energy sovereignty. Our Tribal communities are coming together to find collective strength in our relations with the State of Minnesota, to work as allies who recognize the need for a just transition to clean energy, and to create a legacy of energy independence,” said TACE Co-Chair Childs. “The Tribes are already creating clean energy jobs, reducing our energy costs, and enhancing our quality of life. Our advocacy is not simply about the power of clean energy. It is about sovereignty, self-determination, resilience and long-term well-being.”

“The Tribal Advocacy Council on Energy is an important step in strengthening Tribal-State relations on energy issues and supporting Tribal Nations’ critical need for energy independence,” said Commerce Commissioner Grace Arnold. The Minnesota Department of Commerce, through Tribal consultation and state legislation, has provided administrative and developmental support to Tribes to establish TACE. Commerce will also provide, at Tribal request, technical assistance from Commerce’s Energy Resources Division.

The mission of TACE is committed to bringing forward recommendations for improving Tribal energy on Reservations, Adjacent Territories, and Ceded Territories through meaningful consultation, effective collaboration, partnerships, policies, and legislation.

The idea for a Tribal Advocacy Council on Energy was put forward by Tribal Elected Leadership in Tribal consultation with the Minnesota Commerce Department in 2019. During the 2019 Tribal Leader Summit with Governor Tim Walz and Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan, TACE was identified as a priority.

In 2020, the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council passed a resolution of support for establishing TACE. In its resolution, MIAC stated, “...there are profound inequities in energy costs and choices, a disparate energy burden experienced by American Indians and the energy and weatherization assistance models alone have proven ineffective to reduce these inequities ...”

MIAC’s resolution further stated, “...the eleven Tribal Governments sharing geography with Minnesota have identified a critical need to be energy independent, provide alternative options for tribal members, reduce the energy burden of Tribal members, create a clean and energy efficient future for the generations to come...” (MIAC’s full resolution on TACE)

In 2023, in consultation with Tribal Nations, the Minnesota Commerce Department was established by the Minnesota Legislature to provide support to establish TACE. For ongoing support, Commerce is hiring a Tribal liaison to support TACE and advise Commerce on the development of a culturally responsive clean energy grants program based on the priorities identified by TACE.

TACE is comprised of a primary appointee from each Tribal Nation, as well as an alternate. Ten of the 11 Tribal Nations in Minnesota have chosen to participate. TACE is not a “state established” council. It is established as a “Tribal Nations” advocacy council.

Zitkala-Ša

Native American rights activist, honored on new quarter

By Michelle Delaney
Smithsonian Magazine

Zitkala-Ša (1876–1938) worked throughout her lifetime to give voice and rights to Native Americans, including Indigenous citizenship and women’s suffrage. For two decades, I have had the honor to research her life and impact in American history through Smithsonian collection photographs. More recently, I nominated Zitkala-Ša for the American Women Quarters Program. Her story was selected for the 2024 quarter series.

Portraits of Zitkala-Ša from the Smithsonian’s National Portrait Gallery and National Museum of American History were consulted for the design of the coin with the intent to (re)focus attention on giving her a rightful place in American women’s history. The words “Author, Activist, Composer” were included in the design to amplify her role as a teacher, musician, and writer, and to consider the social and intellectual connections that fostered her success.

Zitkala-Ša, which translates in English to “Red Bird,” was also known as Gertrude Simmons Bonnin. She was a Yankton Sioux woman born in South Dakota to a Native American mother and German American white father, who quickly left the family. She was educated at many schools, including White’s Manual Labor Institute (Wabash, Indiana, Quaker School), Earlham College (Indiana), and the New England Conservatory of Music (Boston). With strong convictions, she became a teacher at the United States Indian Industrial School in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. She later became an accomplished author, musician, composer, and dedicated worker for the reform of American



Image courtesy of the U.S. Mint

The design of the current 2024 Zitkala-Ša quarter.

Indian policies in the United States. Zitkala-Ša lived and worked in two worlds, navigating Native American culture and Western society to make an impact on her world and future generations.

By 1896, Zitkala-Ša was a strong-minded student scholar and celebrated orator, and she firmly opposed to the

See Quarter Page 20



2nd Annual
Heart Health/MMIWR Event
February 13, 2025
2 to 6 PM
Shooting Star Casino Event Center

This event is a public health fair focused on empowering individuals to take control of their heart health. Nothing can hurt our hearts more than not knowing what has happened to a loved one. This event is dedicated to honoring all our stolen community members and learning about healthy ways to protect our hearts, emotionally and physically.


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



Bibooni-
aadizookewin
Winter Storytelling
 with Mary Moose & Jo Sutherland
Thursday & Friday
January 9 & 10, 2025
5 - 8 PM
WETCC Drum Hall
 • 2250 College Rd. •
 Mahnomen, MN •

Traditional winter legends
told in Ojibwemowin

FREE and Open
to the Public
Food Provided

To register, contact Ian Anderson
 ian.anderson@wetcc.edu or text 507-404-9994





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News From Chairman Michael Fairbanks

Aaniin Boozhoo Gaa-waabaabiganikaag
 Niminwendam Waabaminaan
 MINO-OSHKI BIBOON!
 Gichimanidoo-Giizis
 Aaniish inaa akawe ninga-gaagiizomaag aadi-
 zookaanag.
 Weweni-sago-na.
 Greetings White Earth Nation I am Happy to See
 You!



HAPPY NEW YEAR!
 It's January.
 Everyone Be Safe.
 As we welcome the new year, let us remember an
 ancient Ojibwe creation story that teaches us about
 beginnings, renewal, and the balance of life.

In the beginning, the world was dark and empty.
 The Creator, Gitchi Manidoo, decided to bring life
 into the world. The first to appear were the animals,
 each given a special gift to help the world grow. The
 wolf was given strength and courage, the eagle was
 given the ability to soar, and the beaver was given the
 power to build.
 But it was the Creator's gift of the sacred tree that
 truly brought balance to the earth. The Great Tree was
 planted in the center of the world, and from it, all the
 plants and trees of the earth grew. The Creator then
 called upon the people, the Anishinaabe, to take care
 of the earth and live in harmony with all beings.

ensure the forest lands on the White Earth State Forest
 are managed in an environmentally sensitive, sustain-
 able, and economically viable manner. And manage
 the forest land in balance with the conservation of nat-
 ural, aesthetic, and our own Anishinaabe cultural val-
 ues.

As the new year begins, let us remember the
 sacred tree and its teachings — that life is intercon-
 nected, that we are all caretakers of the earth, and that
 every beginning brings a chance for renewal and
 growth.

On March 7, I provided testimony at the State
 Capital in St. Paul., advocating for the return of the
 White Earth Forest. Notably, the proposal faced oppo-
 sition from Clearwater, Becker, and Mahnomen
 County.

As we enter into 2025, I'd like to thank everyone
 for a successful 2024. Looking back last year we dealt
 with land issues, gained a new member on the
 Council, addressed housing and homeless issues, put a
 high priority on cultural programs, moved forward
 with our Waabigwan Mashkiki business, expanded
 our Mashkode Bizhiki, Bison heard, plus much more!

The reservation was established in 1867, while
 the State established the Forest in 1933, conveniently
 located within the reservation boundaries. Passing this
 bill would ensure that the Forest is returned to its
 rightful owners and remains accessible for everyone
 to enjoy equally.

2024 has been a landmark year for the
 Gaawaabaabiganikaag, our White Earth Nation! It
 is marked by significant strides toward sovereignty, land
 restoration, and community empowerment. Gaawaabaabiganikaag
 successfully reclaimed vital
 ancestral lands, expanding its territory and reinforcing
 its cultural and environmental stewardship. These
 achievements are part of a broader movement that
 includes revitalizing traditional practices, enhancing
 economic self-sufficiency, and investing in education
 and wellness for future generations.

Tamarac Refuge
 We have made great strides in clarifying the
 White Earth Band's treaty rights and regulatory
 authority in the entirety of the Tamarac National
 Wildlife Refuge, including both the portion located
 within the White Earth Nation and the portion within
 the 1855 Treaty Territory.

The White Earth Nation's commitment to pre-
 serving its rich heritage while building a prosperous
 future is evident in our continued efforts toward land
 back, environmental justice, and expanding initiatives
 for tribal members. As we reflect on these milestones,
 the progress made in 2024 exemplifies the strength
 and resilience of the White Earth Nation.

The Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge encom-
 passes approximately 42,724 acres. A little over half
 of the Refuge (24,162 acres) is located within the
 White Earth Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe's
 Reservation, and the rest of the Refuge is located
 within the 1855 Treaty Territory wherein the Band
 retains hunting, fishing and gathering rights.

Gaawaabaabiganikaag Aki Land Back Movement
White Earth State Forest
 Earlier this year, at the Minnesota legislature,
 Senator Mary Kunesh introduced HF 3480, which
 would return the 160,000-acre White Earth State
 Forest to the White Earth Band of Anishinaabe. This
 follows a land return to the Lower Sioux in mid-
 March and represents a way to begin healing the
 wounds of Minnesota's past and complying with the
 law.

On June 4, leaders from the White Earth Nation
 (WEN) and representatives of the U.S. Fish and
 Wildlife Service (USFWS) gathered at a community
 ceremony at Shooting Star Casino to celebrate the
 signing of a significant Memorandum of Agreement
 (MOA). The historic agreement, a testament to the
 strong partnership between the two governments,
 strengthens the enduring conservation partnership
 between the White Earth Nation and the Tamarac
 National Wildlife Refuge.

White Earth Nation's goal is the management and
 return of the White Earth State Forest to protect the
 resources in an environmentally positive manner for
 the benefit of present and future generations and to

The MOA simplifies the permitting process for
 various treaty-protected activities. This means that
 under the terms of the MOA, Band members will no
 longer have to acquire separate permits from WEN
 and the USFWS. The WEN will align its Conservation
 Code consistent with federal standards, sovereignty,
 and treaty rights and be able to issue a single permit,
 making important cultural and sustenance activities
 more accessible. This agreement also ensures the
 preservation of the Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge,
 a vital ecosystem for future generations.

This agreement signifies a significant milestone in
 our longstanding relationship with the Tamarac

See Chairman Page 19

News From Secretary-Treasurer Michael J. LaRoque

Aanin Boozhoo,

Greeting White Earth Members, I have the honor of providing you with the monthly report of the Secretary/Treasurer position for the White Earth Tribal Council. This month I will be providing an update on RBC building and vehicle assets, and an update on the Angelo Medure property.

RBC building and vehicle assets

The White Earth RBC has a total of 126 buildings on inventory that are occupied and unoccupied within the Reservation and surrounding areas such as the Urban offices, Cass Lake, Duluth, Bemidji, Moorhead, and Bagley. These buildings provide essential services to our membership in a vast numbers of areas.

The White Earth RBC has 384 vehicles on inventory that are used for each division within the Reservation Business Committee. These vehicles are insured and maintained by each division. The vehicles provide essential services for our membership.

In 2016, the White Earth Band reached a settlement agreement with Angelo Medure after a multi-decade litigation over Angela's intent to defraud the Band in gaming management contracts. As part of the 2016 settlement, ownership of the Medure property in Lawrence County, Penn., was transferred to the White Earth Band and Zenas Baer - the Band's attorney in the litigation.

Also, pursuant to this agreement, the White Earth Band would buy out Baer's ownership-essentially deferring payment of attorney fees owed to Baer. The White Earth Band is moving forward with this buy out and an update will be provided when the



transaction is complete.

I hope everyone had a happy and safe Holiday season and continue to have a great winter with the beginning of the Pow-Wow season starting with the New Years Eve Pow-wow at the Naytahwaush Complex. We are moving forward into the future with another successful year ahead of us.

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

Michael J. LaRoque
Secretary-Treasurer

Warnsholz named new MCT Executive Director

Cass Lake, MN – As an enrolled band member of White Earth Nation, Luke Warnsholz brings a deep connection and a forward-thinking vision to his role as the Executive Director of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT). With a commitment to preserving cultural traditions while embracing modern advancements, Warnsholz is poised to lead the MCT into a new era of growth and innovation.

His journey to becoming the Executive Director

of the MCT is rooted in his dedication to his community and his extensive experience in tribal governance. As a member of the White Earth Band, Warnsholz has always been passionate about advocating for the rights and well-being of band members. His leadership is characterized by a blend of respect for traditional values and a keen understanding of contemporary challenges.

Warnsholz holds a Master's in Business Administration from Bemidji State University and is currently going into his final semester of completing his Doctor of Business Administration degree from Walden University. His academic achievements underscore his commitment to continuous learning and excellence in leadership.

Before assuming his current role, Warnsholz served as the Executive Director for the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa. His extensive experience includes positions with the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, White Earth Tribal and Community College, White Earth RTC, Shooting Star Casino, and collaborating with numerous state, federal, and non-profit organizations nationwide. This diverse background brings a wealth of knowledge and perspectives to his leadership.

Modernizing the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe

Under Warnsholz's leadership, the MCT is embarking on a comprehensive modernization plan aimed at enhancing the quality of life for its members and ensuring sustainable development for the next seven generations. This plan is structured around five strategic priorities:

See Warnsholz Page 10



WHITE EARTH RESERVATION
FORESTRY AND FIRE MANAGEMENT

White Earth Reservation Forestry and Fire Management will be accepting applications for emergency firefighters for the 2025 wildland fire season. Applications may be picked up at:

- White Earth Tribal Forestry, 254 County Road 4, Naytahwaush, MN 56566
- Maadaadizi Workforce Center, 3081 Workforce Road, Naytahwaush, MN 56566
- White Earth Tribal and Community College, 2250 College Road, Mahnomen, MN 56557
- White Earth Natural Resources, 102 3rd St. NE, Mahnomen, MN 56557
- White Earth Tribal Human Resources at the RTC headquarters, 3550 Eagle View Rd, Ogema, MN 56569

You can also find the application by scanning the QR code:



Requirements:

- Must be 18 years of age or older.
- Must pass pre-employment drug test.
- Must obtain medical clearance per the Department of Interior Medical Standards for arduous duty.
- Must be able to pass a physical fitness test which includes carrying a 45 lb. pack for 3 miles in less than 45 minutes.



Please note that this is not a White Earth Reservation Job. The Bureau of Indian Affairs is the employer. Selected candidates will attend basic firefighter training after all tests are completed. This employment is not guaranteed. Emergency Firefighters are employed on an on-call basis as needed. Possible times of employment are during spring fire season (which usually ranges from early April through middle to late May), Fall fire season as conditions allow, and possible off unit fire assignments during the summer months.

Applications will be accepted until February 10th, 2025

If interested and have questions please contact: White Earth Forestry @ 218-935-5967 or email Jeremy.londo@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Check us out on Facebook:
@WhiteEarthFireMgt



Join us for a night out with the guys!
There will be a speaker on Men's Health & Wellness, Q/A session, an excellent meal and door prizes

February 5, 2025

Shooting Star Casino Event Center from 5 to 7:30 pm with registration starting at 4 pm

MUST BE PRE-REGISTERED TO ATTEND EVENT

Pre-register by calling 218-401-3241

The last day to register is 1/24/25



IN NEED OF SEPTIC PUMPING

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

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

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

White Earth Business - \$115

Non-enrollee (any age) - \$185

Businesses - \$225

(You must reside on the White Earth Reservation)

Valleyview Commons

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

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

Tenant is responsible for electric and heat.

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



CREATING BETTER LIVING
Equal Housing Opportunity

TTY711



News From District 2 Rep. Eugene Sommers

Boozhoo Anishinaabe,

This month has been filled with consultations with various agencies as we get ready for this upcoming legislative session. During these consultations, we've made progress in Landback initiatives and built relationships with other Tribal Nations. I also want to acknowledge Carter Hanks for his performance at the 2025 Silver Gloves boxing tournament in St. Cloud. Carter secured two big wins and moved on to the finals! Congrats and good luck!

MN Department of Labor and Industry

The RBC started this month consulting with the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry to discuss workforce center programming. The focus was on expanding job training opportunities, improving access to employment services, and ensuring resources are available to support career development for our community members.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Discussions with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources focused on co-management strategies for the White Earth Forest. These discussions emphasized preserving natural resources, enhancing conservation practices, and incorporating traditional Anishinaabe knowledge into forest management.

Special TEC Meeting:

Enrollment Ordinance and Blood Quantum

A special meeting was held at Grand Casino Hinckley to discuss the enrollment ordinance and the acceptance of all "Minnesota Chippewa Indian Blood." While no decisions were made, the meeting provided valuable insight into how potential changes to the ordinance could impact the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT). The TEC announced that an enrollment ordinance amendment will be called for a vote in the January meeting.

Grand Council Meeting

During the Grand Council Meeting, Tribal Nations shared updates on their ongoing initiatives. The Prairie Island Indian Community discussed their Trust Application and efforts to relocate their Reservation due to nuclear threats. These discussions emphasized the importance of sharing information and supporting one another.

RBC Christmas Party

The RBC Christmas Party was very well attended this year. It was a time for team members to come together, celebrate the holiday season, and reflect on our shared accomplishments. We extend our gratitude to everyone who contributed to making this event a success.

Lac Courte Oreilles Meeting

The Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe visited White Earth Nation to learn more about our Cannabis program. During their visit, the LCO Council presented



Chairman Fairbanks with a Proclamation recognizing White Earth Nation's leadership and innovation in the Cannabis industry. LCO also shared plans to lead the Cannabis industry in Wisconsin, aiming to set a standard for growth and development in the region.

As we approach the new year, we remain committed to advancing our legislative priorities, strengthening partnerships, and preserving our cultural heritage. We encourage all community members to stay informed and engaged as we continue to advocate for the needs of our Nation.

Miigwech for your continued support and involvement.

Contacts

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Cell Phone: 218-850-2533



Top: Carter Hanks, right, secured two big wins at the Silver Gloves boxing tournament in St. Cloud, Minn.

Left: Members of the White Earth Nation Boxing Team from left are William Boswell, Harland Hagen, Randy Hagen (assistant coach), Noah Sargent, and Dustin Fanning.

Submitted photos

Rez Briefs

RBC offices closed for holiday

White Earth RBC offices will be closed on Jan. 20 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day and will reopen on Jan. 21 at 8 a.m. Modified services will still be available.

Iron Range Area Community Council

The Iron Range Area Community Council will now hold their meeting on the **first Thursday** of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Marble City Hall in Marble, Minn. The Council encourages everyone to attend.

Anishinaabeg Today correction

In the Dec. 4 Anishinaabeg Today article, "Honoring the men and women from White Earth who served during World War I, World War II, Korea, and Vietnam eras," author Budd Parker was listed as a White Earth Member. It should have said he is a White Earth Community Member. Sorry Budd.

Waubun School Forest Information

The Waubun School Forest Ski Hut will be open daylight hours on weekends and school holidays as long as there is snow on the trails. Trails and hill are always open. See our facebook page - Waubun School Forest Information for updates.

AA meeting times and locations

Thursday night - Shooting Star AA meeting, Mahnomen - 7 p.m. (The room will be listed on the event center teleprompter.)

Friday night - Rising Sun AA meeting, Circles of Faith Church, Waubun - 7 p.m., **also the last Friday of the month.** Features a potluck at 6 p.m. followed by a speaker meeting.

White Earth Urban Office

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

Anishinaabeg Today Readers

Please let us know if you recently moved, or have moved in the past few years so we can cancel your old address. **Many papers are still being sent to old addresses!** Call the *Anishinaabeg Today* at 218-935-3569 or email today@whiteearth-nsn.gov.

URBAN NATIVE COMMUNITY:

The White Earth Urban Office in Minneapolis is creating a new communication platform to share information about the events and programs we offer. If you would like updates from us, please share/update your contact information using the QR code below.



White Earth Urban Office
1730 Clifton Place, Suite 100
Minneapolis, MN 55408
612.813.1590

White Earth tribal offices closed for the holidays

White Earth RBC offices will be closed on Jan. 20 for **Martin Luther King Jr. Day** and will reopen on Jan. 21. Modified services will still be available.

News From District 3 Rep. Laura Lee Erickson

Aaniin Anishinaabe,

I hope this message finds you in good health and spirits. As we wrap up the month of December and enter into the New Year, let us move forward with gratitude for all that we have learned and with hope for the growth yet to come. Below are some events/meetings that took place in the month of December.

12-5 I had the pleasure of attending the Iron Range Community Council's Christmas Party at Marble City Hall in Marble, Minn. Guests enjoyed a delicious holiday meal together. During the event, tribal members discussed ongoing issues in the 1855 treaty area and shared efforts to arrange a meeting with the Regional Director of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to address these concerns. Additionally, the Iron Range Community Council is encouraging more tribal members to get involved and participate in the council's activities moving forward.

12-10 The White Earth Elder Christmas Party was held at the Shooting Star Casino Event Center in Mahnomen, where community members gathered for a festive celebration. The event featured a delicious meal, program tables, a lively performance by local youth, an ugly sweater contest, bingo and prize drawings. A surprise guest, the Grinch made an appearance, adding to the fun. Students from Mahnomen School participated by serving coffee/drinks to elders and guests and helping where needed. A special Miigwech goes out to the staff from the White Earth RBC, Shooting Star Casino, the students from Mahnomen School and all others who helped make this event truly unforgettable!

12-12 Tribal leaders and staff attended several meetings in Hinckley, Minn. The first meeting brought together White Earth representatives and Minnesota DNR Commissioner Strommen, along with DNR staff to discuss the White Earth Forest. The meeting proved to be productive, with a clear plan developed to move forward on key issues related to the forest.

I briefly attended the Association of Minnesota Counties meeting with Tribal leaders, where we discussed ways counties and tribes can support and collaborate with each other. The meeting also focused on identifying barriers and outlining legislative priorities for the coming year.

Minnesota Chippewa Tribe held a Special Tribal Executive. They introduced MCT's new Executive Director, Luke Warnsholz. Next agenda item: Discussion of enrollment ordinance amendment. Proposed changes to the enrollment ordinance to align with the Constitution. Present TEC members had an opportunity to share thoughts and concerns about the proposed changes. The proposed ordinance changes will be brought to the upcoming January TEC meeting for a vote. If you would like a copy of the proposed ordinance changes, please let me know or reach out to the White Earth Constitutional Reform Delegates.

Tribal leaders and staff attended the Minnesota American Indian Chamber of Commerce's annual fundraising dinner, which featured a tradeshow, networking opportunities, an award ceremony, a meal, a silent auction, and the Rez Star Indigenous Performing Arts Competition. Congratulations to our White Earth Rez Stars who advanced to the next round!

12-13 Tribal Leaders met with the Grand Council (11 Minnesota Tribes) and then attended the White Earth Employee Christmas party at the



Shooting Star Casino Event Center.

12-18 Another busy day with several different meetings. I started the morning by attending the White Earth Housing Authority Board meeting at the Shooting Star Casino Event Center. White Earth Community Councils attended to give updates for each village including culture camp, summer events, powwows, Halloween events and upcoming events. I departed the meeting to attend the directors meeting.

A meeting was held with program directors to discuss Strategic Planning and the integration of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) across divisions. Each program provided updates on their current SOPs, outlined necessary revisions and shared ongoing projects. The group also discussed upcoming legislative changes that could impact SOPs, their implementation and overall operations.

William Trepanier, Secretary-Treasurer of Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe, visited for a follow-up meeting and to tour the Waabigwan Mashkiki facility.

I attended a meeting with Waubun Superintendent Jordan Spaeth and School Board Chairman Nick McArthur to discuss topics such as education, truancy and potential collaboration between the Tribe and the school. We shared ideas on how to work together and agreed to identify key stakeholders before regrouping for further discussions.

12-19 I attended a meeting along with White Earth DNR staff and the Intertribal Agriculture Council staff to discuss opportunities for tribal collaboration on Environmental Protection Initiatives.

White Earth Community Council distributed Toys for Tots and Walking Shield to families. Miigwech for all your hard work.

12-21 The Pine Point Community Council Christmas party was well attended. The meal was amazing. The Grinch made an appearance followed by Santa Claus. Miigwech to the Pine Point Community Council and others that made the holiday party a success!

12-23 The Pine Point Elder Christmas Bingo was held at the ENP site, where every attendee went home with a prize!

Tribal leaders and staff met with MnDOT Tribal/State Relations staff to coordinate the upcoming Government-to-Government: Tribal-State Relations Training, set to take place at the Shooting Star Casino Event Center at the end of January. White Earth hosted this training in August 2023 and is excited to welcome it back.

Duluth Area

Tribal leaders discussed the plan for staff to trav-

See Erickson Page 20

NAYTAHWAUSH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH
UNLESS NOTED DIFFERENT *
@ NTW OLD CENTER

2025 REGULAR MEETINGS



09
JAN

NCC 6PM

13
FEB

NCC 6PM

13
MAR

NCC 6PM

10
APR

NCC 6PM

08
MAY

NCC 6PM

19
JUN

NCC 6PM

10
JUL

NCC 6PM

QUESTIONS? PLEASE MESSAGE
NAYTAHWAUSH COMMUNITY
COUNCIL FB PAGE

14
AUG

NCC 6PM

04
SEPT

NCC 6PM

09
OCT

NCC 6PM

13
NOV

NCC 6PM

04
DEC

NCC 6PM

MORE



Spring Enrollment Extended!



Apply online before
January 3, 2025
or come to campus
to apply in person
on January 2nd or 3rd.

2250 College Road, Mahnomen, MN | wetcc.edu/apply

Iron Range Area Community Council

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

PROTECT Act

Sen. Tina Smith introduces bill to boost tribal law enforcement power

WASHINGTON — U.S. Sens. Tina Smith, D-Minnesota, and Steve Daines, R-Montana, have introduced the bipartisan Protection for Reservation Occupants Against Trafficking and Evasive Communications Today (PROTECT) Act to combat drug trafficking in tribal communities.

According to a news release, the bill would expand the Special Tribal Criminal Jurisdiction program to allow tribal nations to prosecute non-Native American offenders for drug crimes and gun crimes in furtherance of drug trafficking and other STCJ crimes.

It would also grant tribal courts parity with state courts to execute warrants for electronic material and allow offenders prosecuted under STCJ to be incarcerated through the Bureau of Prisons Tribal Prisoner Program.

For decades, drug traffickers have exploited the complexity of the criminal jurisdiction in Indian Country, which has contributed to American Indians and Alaska Natives being two and a half times more likely to become victims of violent crime and more likely to die of an overdose than other demographic groups, the release said.

“For years, tribal leaders in Minnesota have raised the alarm that drug traffickers are exploiting

complex legal jurisdiction on tribal land, making Native communities some of the most harmed by the opioid and fentanyl epidemics,” Smith said in the release. “The PROTECT Act would help tribes fight back against these drug traffickers. This proposal is bipartisan and common sense, and it respects and upholds tribes’ inherent sovereignty and right to protect their people.”

Tribal leaders across the nation voiced their support for the legislation, including Red Lake Tribal Chairman Darrell Seki Sr.

“This bill is an important step in helping us protect our community,” he said. “We applaud Senator Smith’s continued leadership and efforts to strengthen tribal sovereignty. We need to be able to protect our own community from the predatory drug dealers that are wreaking havoc on our families. The future of the Red Lake Nation relies on it.”

Cathy Chavers, chairwoman of the Bois Forte Band, added her appreciation.

“We thank Senator Smith for her continued commitment to law enforcement and Indian Country,” she said. “Protecting our most vulnerable members is the fundamental goal of all governments. The PROTECT Act enhances tribal sovereignty and public safety and is an idea whose time has come.”

2025 brings a fresh start to improve your health

By Lisa Braun, RN

White Earth Nation Tribal Public Health

Every New Year, there is some pressure to declare a New Year’s Resolution. Every year, they are hard to do. Sometimes, you just want to forget about setting yourself up for failure. You are not alone; most resolutions don’t make it past the one-month mark.

If you are diabetic or not, there are changes that you should be making to improve your life. Let’s call them goals. They need to be **SMART**; Specific-Measurable-Achievable-Relevant-Time-bound. For example, if you want to eat healthier. Set a goal of-I will eat an apple instead of ice cream for my bedtime snack four days this week. The goal isn’t eating healthier or eating more fruit. This is Specific-fruit instead of ice cream; Measurable-did I do it four times; Achievable-yes-I didn’t set my goal to do this every day, just four days; Relevant-yes-better nutrition is good for anyone and Time bound -1 week.

SMART examples of realistic goals:

- I will drink eight ounces of water, three times a day

- I will walk briskly for 30 minutes five times per week

- I will reduce my soda intake to no more than three cans per week

- I will sleep at least seven hours a night three times per week

- I will take 10 minutes a day, four times a week to be still and silent

Smaller goals are easier to attain. Don’t set yourself up for failure, be kind to yourself and give yourself a break. If this week’s goal wasn’t met, try setting it a little lower and doable for the next week.

Setting realistic goals can improve your chances of success. Don’t set too many goals at once, possibly change it up from week to week. Once you can make your goal easily, it is time to step it up or change it up a bit. Eat an apple a day for my bedtime snack. Ice cream is for a special occasion, so don’t deprive yourself of things you love-just don’t have them every day if they are not the healthiest thing for you.

Good Luck achieving your goals.

Find more help at <https://diabetes.org/about-diabetes>

White Earth Council of Elders

By Tim Rindahl, Chairman

White Earth Nation Council of Elders

Boozhoo,

The month of December was a very busy one and a lot of things were happening close to Christmas.

They got the Elder Christmas Cards in the mail so everyone should have by now. Thank you Tribal Council, it is so much appreciated, and we hope everyone had a great Christmas and a safe New Year’s Eve. If by any chance you did not get your card please reach out to Nicole Kent in Tribal Health.

Our last meeting of the year was Dec. 3 with a pretty good turn out. We talked about having more bingo in each village with one of the Elder’s from that village putting it on. Joan Thompson volunteered to put one on in White Earth, Sam Crowell will be putting one on in Pine Point, and I will be doing Elbow Lake so we will need a Elder from the Naytahwaush area and the Rice Lake area to help out. So if you would like to volunteer just reach out to one of us and we can get you all set up.

Brent Gish had some visitors from the Duluth area come and give us some information on Alzheimers on Dec. 16. They would like to return in the spring in case anyone missed it. The information was great plus they brought out cheesecake and that was really good.

ENP hosted the Elders Christmas Party on Dec. 10 at the Shooting Star Casino. I am pretty sure that they had a little more than 400 elders show up. What a fun time it was just getting to visit with all my old friends and just having a great time so thank you to all the ENP staff! There are way too many to name but we know who you all are and once again we appreciate all the hard work that your team does for us, so next time you are dinning please let them know.

See Elders Page 9



Submitted photo

Sam Crowell, left, and Tim Rindahl visit with the Grinch at the White Earth Elders Christmas Party on Dec. 10 at the Shooting Star Casino.



WHITE EARTH NATION FITNESS CENTERS

Mahnomon | White Earth | Naytahwaush | Rice Lake | Pine Point

📞 **218-401-2421 OR 218-401-3079**

\$1.8 million DOE grant will fund new energy jobs training at WE Tribal and Community College

A new energy jobs training program will be launched by the White Earth Tribal and Community College (WETCC) through a partnership with the Minnesota Department of Commerce, which was awarded a \$1.8 million grant with the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Auditor Training Program.

The Minnesota Commerce Department partnered with WETCC to address the growing need in north-west Minnesota for more skilled professionals trained in energy efficiency work as energy auditors. Energy Auditor Training program participants will receive classroom training, credentials, job shadowing experience, and wraparound services.

Students will receive classroom courses aligned with Building Performance Institute certifications, which will broaden paths to clean energy careers that don't require a 4-year college degree. Students will also benefit from hands-on job training with organizations across northwestern Minnesota, including utility companies, cities, and the White Earth Tribal Nation. The new program will start with residential energy auditor training, with the goal of expanding in the future. WETCC has selected Everblue as the Interstate Renewable Energy Council accredited training partner to deliver the grant's programming.

"This grant to initiate our Energy Auditor Training Program enables us to dive into critical work, training a new generation of energy auditors who will play essential roles in promoting energy efficiency and sustainability within our communities," said White Earth Tribal and Community College President Anna Sheppard. "We're looking forward to starting this meaningful work and are grateful for the support that makes this program possible."

Bridget Guiza, WETCC Customized Education Coordinator, said, "This opportunity took a regional team effort and grew from significant relationship building across multiple partners. Collectively, we are one step closer toward achieving Tribal energy sovereignty."

Commerce Commissioner Grace Arnold said, "These kinds of training programs are crucial for building a workforce that serves communities across the state to create good-paying jobs, to save money on energy costs, and to reduce energy use. The federal funds coming to Minnesota are helping us to build our clean energy economy."

The regional impact of the energy auditor training program would bring opportunities for more energy efficiency efforts on White Earth Reservation and other communities in northwestern Minnesota. The City of Crookston is among the ongoing and developing partners across the region for the training. "We have a goal to improve energy efficiency for at least 600 homes in our city, and the first step to achieve that goal is to have energy audits," said Karie Kirschbaum Crookston Community Development Director and Executive Director for Crookston Housing and Economic Development Authority. "Making homes more energy efficient helps save our residents money and reduces our energy costs."

Otter Tail Power Company, which serves Crookston and other areas in northwest Minnesota with electric power, is one of the businesses planning to offer hands-on training to students. "We're excited about the new program at White Earth Tribal and Community College as an important opportunity to both help our customers save money by using less energy and to expand the energy workforce in our region," said Otter Tail Power Retail Energy Solutions Manager Jason Grenier.

The Minnesota Department of Commerce was one of 16 state selectees for the DOE's Energy Auditor Training Program. Funds for the DOE program came from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

The White Earth Tribal and Community College (WETCC) is an institution of higher learning dedicated to academic excellence grounded in Anishinaabe culture, values, and traditions. WETCC is dedicated to providing quality education and training that meets the needs of the White Earth Nation and surrounding communities.

Valley View Manor

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

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

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



CREATING BETTER LIVING
Equal Housing Opportunity

TTY711



Native American Youth Science And Engineering Fair

Pine Point School
48075 Pow Wow Hwy,
Pine Point Mn. 56575

March 6th 11:30 -3pm
Competing Grades
4th-8th

We will provide a meal 11:30
Awesome Prizes in different catagories

MC: Rob Fairbanks
Guest Speaker: Mike Swan
contact : Neegonee Brunner (612) 327-1774

Winter Schedule


Nurse on Site
WECare Staff on-site

Pine Point and Rice Lake Communities

Pine Point Nurse Hours
from 1-3:30 pm
Dates...1/7, 2/4, 3/4 and 4/1

Rice Lake Nurse Hours
from 9:30-12 pm
Dates...1/22, 2/18, 3/11 and 4/8

Wednesdays
WECare staff will be in Pine Point from 9-12
Tuesdays/Thursdays
Rice Lake from 9-11



White Earth Nation
TRIBAL PUBLIC HEALTH
Prevent. Promote. Protect



A Nurse will be available for blood sugar testing, vital signs, weight, cholesterol screenings and ABI testing and scheduling.

WECare Staff will be available to help with WECare assessments



Questions? Call 218-255-2204 or 218-280-6283

MAHONMEN COMMUNITY EDUCATION

GROUP FITNESS CLASS

December Dates: 18th
January Dates: 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th
5:15PM - 6:00PM in the Cafeteria

Cost is \$15 for the series or \$3 per session
Enter through Door #2
Bring a mat & waterbottle!
limited mats are available


877-410-8550

anonymous crime and elder abuse tip line

MINO OSHKI BIBOON!

FROM THE NAYTAHWAUSH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

A H G W E S Q R Z F O E U W T C P R T V
 N G A D J A D S B W Z G H L U I N U G I
 I S N L A X K Q A K Y Q T J M M C F E L
 S I I N Z B M A N A A J I I D I W I N L
 H Y B L A H A N G P K O M D Y R C B C A
 I D W H A W K S B I R Y E P G U O O H G
 N R A O G D N N E W W O H K O J M O A E
 A U A R I B E A A N N A J L K V P Z R D
 B M K S I A V B H Y D E N E M L L H T F
 E H A E D B I A W K T I I I C G E O E Z
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 X P N F O R E S T R Y A J O I W T H A X
 G W A Y A K W A A D I Z I W I N R Z G Q
 N H V F I R E H A L L K C X C L V U D R
 H E A D S T A R T I S A N D P I T S M W

NAYTAHWAUSH	SANDPITS	ZAAGIIDWIN
DEBWEWIN	MANAAJIIDIWIN	BABEACH
CORNER	HEADSTART	ZOONGIDEEWIN
CHARTER	COMPLEX	FORESTRY
DABASENDIZOWIN	GIWANIKIMIN	PROJECTS
VILLAGE	MAADAADIZI	GWAYAKWAADIZIWIN
ANISHINABE	DRUMHALL	VALLEY
HORSESHOE	FIREHALL	NIBWAAKAAWIN

Elders from Page 7

Shane Burnette held an Elders only surprise bingo at the complex on Dec. 17 and had some pretty good stuff from what I hear. A Big Thank you to Shane - he really goes all in when he does anything.

We would like to start planning on things to do local so that many more can attend the events. We are working on a calendar of events and would like to have some volunteers with the planning if you are interested in joining in and having some fun feel free to reach out to any of us to sign up. Maybe fishing, walking in the parks and having a BBQ - I mean who doesn't like a good BBQ in the park and a nice walk afterwards to enjoy the beautiful surrounding mother nature at it's best. Plus, if you have any great ideas on other things to do let us know.

It would be nice if we had a board at each ENP center and the community centers where we could

post our calendar of events. There is a lot of things some of us miss out on because we didn't know that they were taking place so if there is a event that is happening in your area you can call one of the calendar event committee members when we get some elders working on the calendar. It would be nice to have a couple from every community that way we can make sure that it gets on all the boards in every community share the information. And don't forget that the Elders of White Earth Facebook page is a good place to check out once in a while lots of information.

Remember to check in on family and friends just to make sure that they are doing good.

Sincerely,
 Tim Rindahl (Chairman) 218-261-0182
 Sam Crowell (Vice Chair) 218-252-9390
 Colleen Blattenbauer (Treasurer) 218-204-0134
 Missy Fairbanks (Secretary) 218-401-0553

THE DOCTOR'S CORNER

**Blink and You'll Miss It:
 The Hidden Struggle of Dry Eye**

By Jordan Thomas, Optometry Extern
 and David Bellware, OD
 White Earth Health Center

Dry eye, a common and often frustrating condition affects over 16 Million Americans according to the National Eye Institute. It occurs when the eyes do not produce enough tears or when the tears evaporate too quickly. This results in discomfort, irritation, and sometimes vision problems. Although dry eye can affect people of all ages, it is more prevalent among older adults, women, and individuals with certain medical conditions.

Dry eye occurs when there is an imbalance in the tear film, which consists of three layers: the oil layer, the water layer, and the mucin layer. The tear film provides lubrication to the surface of the eye, which helps maintain comfort and clear vision. When the tear film is disrupted, it leads to dryness and irritation. There are two main causes of dry eye:

1. **Decreased Tear Production:** The tear glands (lacrimal glands) do not produce enough tears, which can happen due to age, medical conditions (such as rheumatoid arthritis or diabetes), or side effects of certain medications (like antihistamines or antidepressants).

2. **Increased Tear Evaporation:** Even if tear production is adequate, the tears may evaporate too quickly, often due to poor eyelid closure or environmental factors (such as wind, smoke, or air conditioning). A disruption in the oily layer of the tear film, produced by the meibomian glands, can also contribute to excessive evaporation.

In addition to these primary causes, autoimmune diseases and hormonal changes, especially in women, are well-known risk factors for developing dry eye. Several external factors can worsen the symptoms of dry eye, some of which include exposure to wind, smoke, dry air, or air conditioning, spending long hours in front of a computer screen, and contact lenses.

Treatment for dry eye largely depends on the severity of the condition. In many cases, lifestyle changes and over-the-counter products can alleviate symptoms. Here are some of the most common methods for managing dry eye:

1. **Artificial Tears:** Over-the-counter lubricating eye drops are the most common treatment for mild cases of dry eye. These drops help to lubricate the eyes and reduce discomfort.

2. **Lifestyle Modifications:**

- **Taking Breaks from Screens:** The 20-20-20 rule is recommended for individuals who spend long periods in front of screens. This involves taking a 20-second break every 20 minutes by looking at something 20 feet away. This helps encourage blinking and tear distribution.

- **Improving the Environment:** Using a humidifier can help prevent the evaporation of tears. Wearing wraparound sunglasses outdoors can shield the eyes from UV Rays, wind and other irritants.

- **Hydration and Omega-3s:** Staying hydrated is essential for maintaining healthy tear production, so drinking plenty of water throughout the day can help keep the eyes moist. Additionally, omega-3 fatty acids (fish oil), found in foods like fish, flaxseed, and walnuts, are known to improve the quality of tears and reduce inflammation, which can be beneficial for those with dry eye. Not a fan of the fishy taste? Try Nordic Naturals!

3. **Warm Compresses:** Applying a warm compress to the eyes for 10-15 minutes twice daily can help open the blocked oil glands, allowing the tear film to stabilize and reduce evaporation.

4. **Eyelid Hygiene:** Regular cleaning of the eyelids can help

See Eyes Page 11

Warnsholz from Page 4

Being Anishinaabe: Embracing and celebrating Ojibwe culture and heritage by integrating traditional teachings, cultural practices, and the Ojibwe language into everyday life. This includes initiatives such as implementing an Ojibwe word of the day, scheduling monthly learning lunches, and supporting cultural immersion opportunities.

Securing Relevancy: Uniting the efforts of the MCT to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness. This involves creating a comprehensive funding plan, advocating for legislative support, updating the mission and vision statements, and enhancing self-governance to increase synergy among the member Bands.

Empowering Human Capital: Fostering a supportive and engaging work environment by updating policies and procedures, providing training and development opportunities, and establishing dedicated Human Resources support. This aims to improve job satisfaction, retention, and accountability.

Actively Engaging Each Other: Strengthening internal communication and collaboration across the MCT's departments. This includes redefining the mission and vision, implementing team-building exercises, and creating opportunities for cross-training and learning.

Enhancing and Updating Technology:

Modernizing the technological infrastructure of the MCT by evaluating IT and software needs, standardizing operating procedures, and exploring digital solutions to improve efficiency and security.

Warnsholz emphasizes that for the MCT to achieve its goals, the six bands must come together as one to move forward. Unity and collaboration are essential to realizing the tribe's vision for the future.

A Vision for the Future

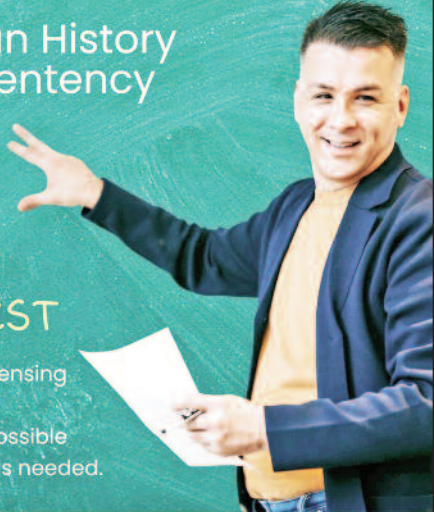
Luke Warnsholz's leadership is marked by a clear vision for the future of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. By blending traditional values with modern strategies, he aims to create a thriving, resilient community that honors its past while embracing the possibilities of the future. As the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe moves forward under Warnsholz's leadership, the community can look forward to a future of growth, prosperity, and cultural preservation for the next seven generations.

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

IMPORTANT ONLINE DISCUSSION

TOPIC:
American Indian History Cultural Competency for Minnesota K-12 Teachers


**Thursday
Feb. 27, 2025
1:00 to 2:00 PM CST**



The Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board (PELSB) is considering a number of possible rule changes and your input is needed.


Read the proposed changes online at: mn.gov/pelsb/board/rulemaking

Hosted via Teams by WETCC Customized Education and MN PELSB.



WHITE EARTH TRIBAL & COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CUSTOMIZED EDUCATION

Contact Us for Meeting Link:
bridget.guiza@wetcc.edu
218-935-0417 ext. 8327
c.robison@wetcc.edu
218-935-0417 ext. 8326



MINNESOTA
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATOR
LICENSING AND STANDARDS BOARD

Attention New Homeowners & Existing Homeowners

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


Requirements to qualify for the grants are:

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

Contact us at 218-983-3202

HAVE YOU BEEN INJURED:





Nycklemoe & Ellig
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Call **JOSEPH R. ELLIG & VAN R. ELLIG**
"Our family helping your family since 1925"

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

*Licensed in Minnesota and White Earth Tribal Courts

January
2025

**Gichi manidoo giizis
Cultural Calendar**
White Earth Cultural Activities
Monthly Schedule



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6 OMC (All) Tobacco Ceremony 9-12	7 MAH Culture 10-12pm	8 WE Wesa Aft 5 10-12pm Gwayako Aft 5 10-12 NTW staff sweat @ noon	9 WETC-MB 9am Acute Care 1-3 Circle Back 4-6:30pm RL/NTW Wmn's Sweat 4:30pm	10	11
12	13 OMC (All) Tobacco 9-12 Wm's Sweat @ 12 WE Women's Sweat 4:30pm	14 NTW Mom's Ceremony 10-12	15 WE Mats Culture 10-12 NTW School 1:30-3:30pm WE Men's Sweat 4:30pm	16 PP Women's Sweat 4:30pm NTW Men's Sweat 4:30pm	17 Mpls: Aft Trng. 11am - 3pm Gimikwenimin "I Remember you" 6-10pm	18
19	20 OMC (All) 9-12 Youth Sweat @ 12 PP Men's Sweat 4:30pm	21 MAH Culture 10-12pm	22 WE Wesa Aft 6 10-12pm	23 Acute Care 1-3 Circle Back 4-6:30pm	24 WETC-MB 9am	25
26	27 ICW 11am OMC (All) Tobacco Ceremony 9-12	28 NTW Mom's Ceremony 10-12 DOVE Sweat @ 12	29 WE Mats Culture 10-12	30	31	

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

Notice to all tribal land lessee(s), and all others utilizing tribal lands

The White Earth Land Office is conducting in-depth file reviews and periodic inspections on all sites, assignments, leases and contracts as it relates to compliance on all tribal land. All those occupying or residing on tribal land must update their information in-person or by completing and submitting an Address Update form. If you are residing on or occupying tribal land and **do not** have a current lease, assignment, and/or contract you must contact our office immediately to avoid further action. Please contact the Land Office at 218-983-4650 if you need additional information or have questions. Miiqwech!

Eyes from Page 9

manage conditions like blepharitis, which can worsen dry eye. Eyelid scrubs or wipes, such as OCuSOFT, can be used to remove debris or oil buildup around the eyelids.

5. **Surgical Options:** Punctal Occlusion - Punctal Plugs non-permanent or Cautery permanent

Dry eye is a multifactorial condition that can significantly impact a person's quality of life, causing discomfort and

affecting daily activities. Thankfully, many cases of dry eye can be managed with simple measures, such as artificial tears, lifestyle adjustments, and eyelid hygiene. With early detection and appropriate treatment, most people with dry eye can work with their Eye Doctor to find effective ways to manage their daily symptoms and improve their eye comfort and quality of life.



SAVE THE DATE .
Friday January 24th

White Earth Tribal and Community College





1.24.2025 9:30am-2pm

A Second event held for White Earth Nation youth interested in a Health or Science Career. A partnership with The White Earth Tribal Community College, Medica Foundation, The University Of Minnesota Medical School and the Center of American Indian and Minority Health.

White Earth Food Shelf January 2025 Delivery Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1	2	3
		CLOSED	NTW	Cleaning, Inventory
		NEW YEARS	Walk in's	CLOSED
		DAY	Stocking Shelves	
			9am-3pm	CLOSED
6	7	8	9	10
NTW	Callaway	Rice Lake	NTW	Cleaning, Inventory
Walk in's	10am-noon	10am-noon	Walk in's	CLOSED
Stocking Shelves	Niijii Radio	ENP Site	Stocking Shelves	
9am-3pm	NTW CLOSED	NTW CLOSED	9am-3pm	CLOSED
13	14	15	16	17
NTW	Elbow Lake	Pine Point	NTW	Cleaning, Inventory
Walk in's	10am-noon	10am-noon	Walk in's	CLOSED
Stocking Shelves	ENP Site	ENP Site	Stocking Shelves	
9am-3pm	NTW CLOSED	NTW CLOSED	9am-3pm	CLOSED
20	21	22	23	24
Closed	White Earth	Ogema	NTW	Cleaning, Inventory
Martin Luther	10am-noon	10am-noon	Walk in's	CLOSED
King Day	ENP SITE	Dream Catcher Homes	Stocking Shelves	
	NTW CLOSED	NTW CLOSED	9am-3pm	CLOSED
27	28	29	30	31
NTW	Waubun	Mahnomen	NTW	Cleaning, Inventory
Walk in's	10am-noon	10am-noon	Walk in's	CLOSED
Stocking Shelves	Community Center	Vet's Building	Stocking Shelves	
9am-3pm	NTW CLOSED	NTW CLOSED	9am-3pm	CLOSED
HOURS OF OPERATION		7AM--- 3:30PM	Monday--Friday	
applications are available at Community Centers, ENP Sites and Naytahwaush Sports Complex				
Hours are subject to change due to weather and closure's for Holiday's				
Walkin's are Monday's and Thursday's only at the Naytahwaush Sports Complex from 9am-3pm				
please feel free to contact the White Earth Food Shelf at 218-935-6313 or 218-935-6314				
please call ahead of time if picking up so that we have enough food for everyone thanks				
PLEASE TAKE AT PICTURE		SAVE A TREE		

White Earth Tribal Land Office

Address Update Form

Occupant(s)	
Full Name: _____	
Date of Birth:	Enrollment No.:
_____	_____
Mailing Address:	Phone No.:
_____	_____
Physical Address:	

Name of Closest Relative:	Phone No.:
_____	_____

The Land Office requires all those occupying or residing on Tribal Land to update their information for our records. If you do not have a current lease or land assignment, you must come in to complete a Land Application immediately to avoid further legal action. Also, if you have had a name change you will need to submit, along with the Address Update Form, a copy of a legal name change document such as a Divorce Decree, Driver's License or Tribal ID.

You may contact our office at (218) 983-4650 if you have any further questions or need additional information.

Please mail your completed Address Update Form along with a copy of your legal name change documents, if required, to:

**White Earth Reservation Natural Resources
Land Office
P.O. Box 495
White Earth, Minnesota 56591**

Land.Office@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Signature: _____ Date: _____

I hereby acknowledge with my signature that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I further acknowledge with my signature, any misrepresentation, falsification, or omission of the above information may result in but not limited to site cancellation, eviction, denial of applications, fine and fees.

2025

Mino Oshki Biboon!

You'll never get bored when you try something new. There's really no limit to what you can do.



From all of us at:
Naytahwaush Community Council
Brian Clark, Joe "Duke" Bush, Donnie Brunette,
Autumn Oppgaard & Sheri Sneltinger



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WINTER RUSH

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Sundays, January 5, 12, 19 & 26
5PM-8PM

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White Earth Reservation Tribal Enrollment Elder Snow Removal Application

Date: _____

Name: _____ Spouses Name: _____

Physical Address: _____

Permanent residency is required.

Mailing Address/P.O. Box: _____

Telephone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Alt Contact: _____

Birthdate: _____ Spouse's Birthdate: _____

Enrollment ID # _____ Spouses Enrollment ID # _____

Attach a color copy.

Do you own the home: Yes No if no, landlords name: _____

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 (new applicants only): _____

Estimated length of driveway (new applicants only): _____

*** Snow plowing will be done only when snowfall accumulation exceeds 4" inches or more.

*** Driveway needs to be cleared of vehicles and debris prior to plowing.

*** Snow shoveling of driveway or sidewalk will not be done.

*** Signatures from elder's will be required on Snowplow Provider's timesheets.

White Earth Water & Sewer Department

PO Box 418, White Earth, MN 56591 Phone: 218-983-3202 Fax: 1-888-228-3650

Email: lisa.donovan-larson@whiteearth-nsn.gov or Burnham.tibbettsIII@whiteearth-nsn.gov

White Earth Band of Ojibwe

SMALL BUSINESS CREDIT INITIATIVE LOANS

AND COLLATERAL SUPPORT

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218-983-4020

www.weii.website

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



22nd Annual Wild Rice Round-Up

"Lose your winter blues"

January 31- February 2, 2025
Shooting Star Hotel & Event Center



AGENDA

Friday, January 31, 2025

3:00pm Registration opens

4-6:45pm Hospitality Room – SSC Event Center
Waubun room, light refreshments

7:00pm AA Speaker: Gina L. Moorhead, MN

9:00pm Memorial Talking Circle: Stephen M.

9:00pm Al-Anon Meeting: Host

9:00pm Recovery Talking Circle: Host

Saturday, February 1, 2025

6:30am Morning Meditation/Stretches: Kevin M.

7:30am BREAKFAST (on your own)

9:00am AA Workshop: Kevin M., Mpls

10:30am AA Speaker: Anonymous Twin Citian

11:30pm LUNCH (on your own)

1:00pm Al-Anon Workshop: Vickie F. Mandan, ND

3:00pm Al-Anon Speaker: Dan P., Waubun

5:30pm Banquet

7:00pm AA Speaker: Andrea A., McCloud, OK

8:45pm Fun Night hosted by Dan P. & Dan B.
Bring your acoustic instrument for singalongs & games

Sunday, February 2, 2025

10:00am AA Speaker: Steve P., Moorhead

11:15am Raffle, closing ceremony and goodbyes

Contact Information:
Pam A. 612.250.1171
Email: pamroseasp@hotmail.com
Dan P. 218.401.0585
Email: drgrain@arvig.net

Website: www.wildriceroundup.com
Pre-Register by mail **Jan 15, 2025**

Pre-Registration fee: \$40.00
Banquet fee: \$15.00
Pre-Registration + Banquet: \$55.00

ON-SITE REGISTRATION is \$50.00 with Banquet tax \$15.00 (as available) for a **total of \$65.00**.
The Pre-Registration fee & banquet purchase must be received no later than Jan 15, 2025. Call Pam or Dan PFI.

[Use back side for other registrations →](#)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____ Phone# _____

Home Group _____

AA Al-Anon Alateen Other Banquet Total enclosed \$ _____

Mail PRE-REGISTRATION FORM with payment to: Wild Rice Round-Up, PO Box 203, Mahnomen, MN 56557
Your cancelled check is your receipt.



FREE FINANCIAL WELLNESS COUNSELING

DO YOU WANT TO:

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

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

Call 218.844.7057 to schedule your appointment today!



A QUICK GUIDE TO PLASTICS RECYCLING

PLASTIC NUMBERS



→ These numbers indicate what type of plastic an item is made of, not that it is recyclable in your local program. Check your local recycling guide for accepted items.

RECYCLABLE PLASTICS

→ These plastics are relatively non-toxic and are the most easily recycled.



#1 PET
INCLUDES BEVERAGE BOTTLES AND CLEAR PLASTIC CLAMSHELLS



#2 HDPE
MILK JUGS, DETERGENT BOTTLES, PLASTIC COFFEE CONTAINERS



#5 PP
YOGURT TUBS, COLD DRINK CUPS, SOME DELI CONTAINERS

NON-RECYCLABLE PLASTICS

→ These plastics are not easily recycled – do not place in your recycling bin. #3 and #6 are also more toxic and should be avoided if possible.



#3 PVC
PLUMBING PIPES, INFLATABLE POOLS OR FLOATIES, SHOWER CURTAINS



#6 PS
SOME CLAMSHELLS, EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE (STYROFOAM), SOLO CUPS



#7 OTHER
REFILLABLE WATER BOTTLES, SIPPY CUPS, MIXED PLASTICS



Home Stretch

Homebuyer Education Class

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

December 11
January 8
February 12

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

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

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

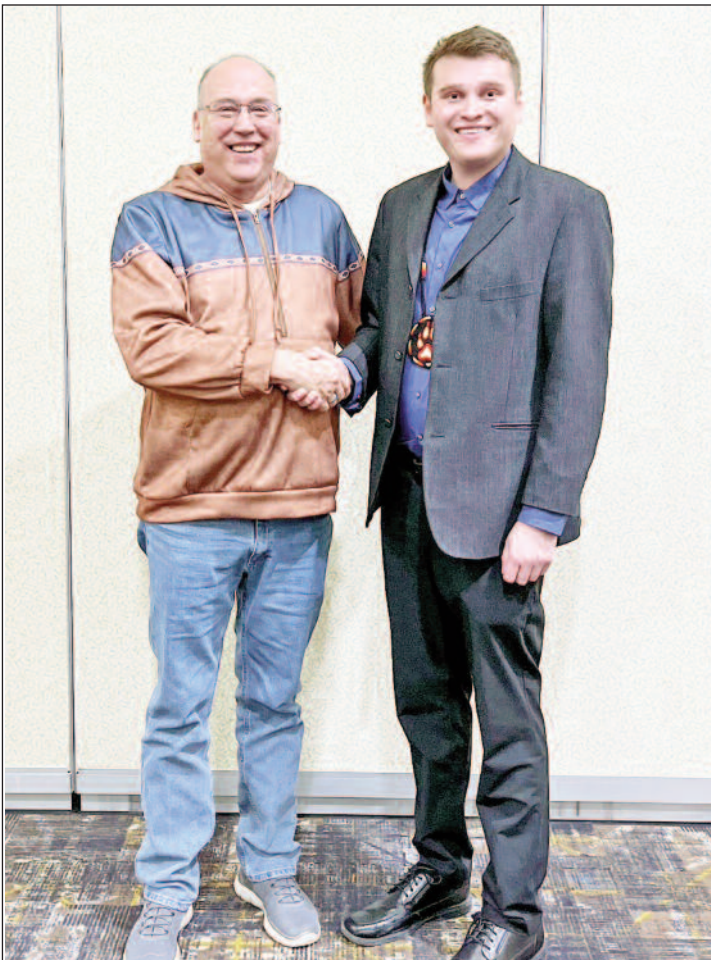
Urban employees Christmas party



Submitted photo

White Earth Urban RBC employees gathered for a Christmas party on Dec. 6 at the Mystic Lake Casino in Prior Lake, Minn.

New MCT Executive Director



Submitted photo

White Earth Secretary-Treasurer and Minnesota Chippewa Tribe President Michael LaRoque, left, congratulates Luke Warnsholz on his new position as MCT Executive Director at a recent TEC Special Meeting in Hinckley, Minn. Luke is a White Earth member and graduated from Mahnomen High School.

25 Years!

RBC employees are honored for their hard work, dedication



The White Earth RBC honored 15 employees for 25 years of dedicated work for the White Earth Nation at a Years of Service Recognition Ceremony held Dec. 12 at the Shooting Star Casino.

The employees enjoyed a plated meal and received a blanket and certificate.

The employees recognized were: Angela Soyring, Shane Burnette, Ronda Amundson, Jamie Auginaush, Kenneth Bevins Jr., Bruce Engebretson, Susan Heisler, Sarah Lefebvre, Maxine Rousu, Tina Starkey, Verna Thompson, Raymond Waukazo, Jean Weaver, Brenda Weaver, and Desiree Weaver. **Left:** Maxine Rousu receives her blanket and certificate.

Photos by Gary W. Padrta

White Earth Police take reservation youth shopping



Submitted photo

The White Earth Police Department had the pleasure of taking two students from each school on the reservation on a special shopping trip! Thank you to the members of the Juvenile Wellness Court for helping us transport the students to Walmart in Detroit Lakes. We want to extend our gratitude to Walmart for making the event special. They shut down a checkout lane just for us and Santa even made a special appearance! Thank you to the staff from the Naytahwaush Community Charter School, Mahnomen Elementary School, Waubun-Ogema Elementary School, Pine Point Elementary School, and Circle of Life Academy for selecting the students. We are looking forward to doing this event again next year!

RBC Employee Christmas Party



Photos by Gary W. Padrta

The annual RBC Employee Christmas Party was held Dec. 13 at the Shooting Star Casino. More than 900 employees and guests were treated to a plated meal, free-play coupon, entertainment and door prizes. **Top:** Waiting for the party to start. **Middle:** The entertainment was provided by Rock & Roll Xmas Spectacular. **Bottom:** District 1 Representative Henry Fox thanks employees for all the work they do throughout the year.



File photo

Members of the White Earth Tribal Utilities Commission from left are Jacob McArthur, Joe Tonihka, Christie Haverkamp, Melinda Iverson, Nate Mathews (TUC Executive Director), and Gerald "Mike" Smith.

White Earth TUC recognized as first Tribal Associate Member of National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners

By Nate Mathews
Executive Director
White Earth Tribal Utility Commission

In November, the White Earth Tribal Utility Commission (TUC) was welcomed as an Associate Member to the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC). This is the first time a Tribal entity dedicated to public utility and policy formation, implementation, and planning, has joined NARUC as an Associate Member.

Founded in 1889, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to representing the state public service commissions who regulate the utilities that provide essential services such as energy, telecommunications, power, water, and transportation.

NARUC's members include all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Most state commissioners are appointed to their positions by their governor or legislature,

whereas commissioners in 11 states are elected by the public and in two states by the general assembly. The White Earth Tribal Utility Commission was created under the White Earth Tribal Utility Code in 2023 and Commissioners are appointed by the Tribal Council. The following individuals have been appointed by the White Earth Tribal Council:

- Melinda Iverson, Chair
- Jacob McArthur, Vice Chair
- Christie Haverkamp, Commissioner
- Mike Smith, Commissioner
- Joe Tonihka, Commissioner

The mission of NARUC is to serve the public interest by improving the quality and effectiveness of public utility regulation. Under state laws, NARUC's members have an obligation to ensure the establishment and maintenance of utility services as may be required by law and to ensure that such services are provided at rates and conditions that are fair, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory for all consumers. More information about this organization can be found at www.naruc.org

Waadookodaading Ojibwe Language Institute receives \$1.5 million gift from MacKenzie Scott to advance language revitalization efforts

The Waadookodaading Ojibwe Language Institute (WOLI) is excited to announce a transformative \$1.5 million donation from philanthropist MacKenzie Scott. This generous gift will support the construction of a Community Language Revitalization Center, a crucial step in advancing WOLI's mission to preserve and promote the Ojibwe language.

Founded in 2000, WOLI has been a leader in Ojibwe language revitalization, partnering with the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa to run an Ojibwe language immersion school and offering a variety of community language programs. These initiatives play a vital role in ensuring the

Ojibwe language thrives, not just within the Lac Courte Oreilles community, but across the region.

Lisa LaRonge, Executive Director of WOLI, expressed her gratitude and excitement: "This generous gift from MacKenzie Scott comes at a pivotal moment in our journey."

The new Community Language Revitalization Center will serve as a hub for language immersion, cultural events, and community gatherings, creating a space for intergenerational language transmission and cultural enrichment. This state-of-the-art facility will help accelerate language acquisition and increase opportunities for cultural engagement for all ages.



Food Distribution

2205 271st Ave., Mahnomens, MN 56557
 Hwy. 200 – 13 miles east of Mahnomens
 218-935-2233, phone - 218-935-2235, fax

WHO MAY BE ELIGIBLE:

All persons residing within the White Earth Reservation boundaries, as well as any persons enrolled in a federally recognized Indian tribe residing near the reservation boundaries. Enrollment must be verified. Food Distribution is an alternative to SNAP (supplemental nutrition assistance program).

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025

Household size	Monthly net income
1.....	\$1,459.
2.....	\$1,908.
3.....	\$2,356.
4.....	\$2,817.
5.....	\$3,303.
6.....	\$3,788.
7.....	\$4,236.
8.....	\$4,685.

Each additional member add \$449.

DOCUMENTATION MUST BE VERIFIED FOR ALL HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS WHEN APPLYING FOR USDA FOODS:

- a. ADDRESS – must verify residency
- b. INCOME – most current taxes, check stubs, etc. – **AND – applicable deductions below that apply**
- c. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS
- d. TRIBAL ID (if applicable)

DEDUCTIONS:

- 20% deduction for household's gross earned income
- Actual childcare expenses paid to non-household members
- Legally required child support payments **paid** to non-household members, documentation required
- Medicare, Part B (Medical Insurance) and Part D (Prescription Drug Coverage Premiums)
- Medical expense for elderly or disabled who incur out of pocket expense in excess of \$35
- **Shelter/utility expense – Households that incur the cost up to \$712 -OR- the actual shelter/utility expenses, up to 50% of net monthly income.**

OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Fri 8:00 – 4:30

STORE HOURS

Mon – Thurs 8:00 – 3:30

Over 100 nutritious food items to choose from.

NO DISTRIBUTION FRIDAYS AND THE LAST WORK DAY OF THE MONTH (inventory)

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<http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdpir>

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Greg Wagner
 Director of Business & Economic Development

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 or visit www.wcif.org/loans/loan-applications



That sense of calm you get when you watch the sunset from your new home?

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White Earth Investment Initiative offers affordable home loans for those living in Native American communities. Apply at www.weii.website/home-loans/



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WE TRIBAL COURT TRAFFIC COURT

In the Matter of **Yvonne Denise Weaver, DOB: 03/14/1993**

Summons to Appear in Court

Court File No. **CO2024-00020**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on **January 22, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.** an Initial Hearing on the conservation citation will be held at the White Earth Tribal Court at 35500 Eagle View Road Ogema, MN 56569. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the Court may find you in default and/or held in contempt of Court. You may contact Court Administration at (218) 983-3285.

Dated: December 2, 2024

WE TRIBAL COURT TRAFFIC COURT

In the Matter of **Carissa Jean Coleman, DOB: 07/20/2001**

Summons to Appear in Court

Court File No. **T2024-00161**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on **January 22, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.** an Initial Hearing on the traffic citation will be held at the White Earth Tribal Court at 35500 Eagle View Road Ogema, MN 56569. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the Court may find you in default and/or held in contempt of Court. You may contact Court Administration at (218) 983-3285.

Dated: December 18, 2024

WE BAND OF OJIBWE TRIBAL COURT

In the Matter of: **White Earth Housing Authority vs. Joseph Sudar**

Summons to Appear for Retrial

Court File No. **H2024-0006**

YOU ARE HEREBY notified that on December 3, 2024, a Complaint in Unlawful Detainer was filed with the White Earth Tribal Court. A pretrial hearing on the complaint is scheduled for January 22, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. which will be held at the White Earth Tribal Court at 35500 Eagle View Road Ogema, MN 56569. You are asked to contact Court Administration at 218-983-3525 to receive a copy of the complaint in unlawful detainer. If you fail to appear for this hearing, the Court may find you in default and enter an order against you, and/or you may be found in contempt of Court and fined civilly.

Dated: December 27, 2024
 Veronia Newcomer
 Attorney for White Earth Housing Authority

UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS

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

Many papers are still being sent to old addresses!

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

9th Annual: White Earth Tribal 4-H Cultural Winter Camp

January 18th & 19th, 2025
10:00am-3:00pm each day

White Earth Rediscovery Center, 29401 400th St, Waubun, MN

Celebrate Learning and Growing through Traditional Anishinaabeg Values



Everyone is welcome to come and bring your families for an introduction to 4-H Youth & Family Winter Activities: fishing, traditional arts and/or crafts (all ages), language, storytelling, games, food, and winter fun. Dress for the weather! Youth, please bring your parent or guardians (No youth drop off please). **This event is a collaboration between the White Earth Tribal 4-H Program, White Earth Nation Tribal Public Health, and White Earth Tribal and Community College (WETCC) Extension.**

The University of Minnesota Extension, Office of Youth Development, offers 4-H Community Programming serving the communities of the White Earth Nation. 4-H provides youth opportunities to learn, explore, and grow through leadership.

For questions on this event, please contact: Dana Trickey at 218-289-1193, tric0014@umn.edu



White Earth Tribal 4-H Community & Youth Program
www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H

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WE Water & Sewer offers cold-weather tips

1. The most likely spot for water lines to freeze is where it enters the house/trailer home/building. Make sure warmer air can reach pipes where water enters the house/trailer home/building. If you have **heat tape wrapped around your pipes, make sure it is plugged in.**
2. Check around your home for areas where water supply lines are in unheated areas and take measures to prevent the flow of cold air in these areas. Common locations include: basement, crawl space, attic, garage, and under kitchen and bathroom cabinets.
3. Determine where your water shut-off valve is in your house and learn how to use it. For most homes the shut-off valve is located near the water meter at the point where the water line comes into your home, which is usually in your basement. If a pipe freezes and breaks it will be important to know where the shut-off valve is located.
4. Keep the thermostat set to the same temperature both during the day and at night. By temporarily suspending the use of lower nighttime temperatures, you may incur a higher heating bill, but you can prevent a much more costly repair job if pipes freeze and burst.
5. **Do not plow or drive over the area where your water and sewer lines are buried.** Doing so

pushes the frost further into the ground, increasing the risk of freeze ups.

6. **Make sure the roof vent is not covered** with snow or blocked. Snow build up over the vent will cause the sewer drain to slow down. This prevents the warmer air in the sewer system from venting up the house and keeping the line above from freezing.

7. **Make sure sewer cleanouts or riser (white pipes in the yard) are capped** so none of the cold air can enter the sewer system causing a freeze up.

Please contact the White Earth Water and Sewer department in the event of your water or sewer system freezing at 218-983-3202. The community water systems will monitor water temperature to prevent community freeze ups.



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NORTHERN LIGHTS FIGHT NIGHT

CLARK vs **FINN**
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WALKER, MN

It's White Earth versus Leech Lake in this lightweight battle when Kevin Clark (White Earth) collides with Eli Finn on Saturday, Jan. 25 at the Northern Lights Casino in Walker, Minn. Tickets start at \$45 and can be purchased at northernlightscasino.com



WHITE EARTH CALLAWAY Community Council

Join the White Earth Callaway Community Council.

Are you passionate about making a difference in your community? We are excited to announce the formation of the White Earth Callaway Community Council and we need your voice!

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING

Contact:
Laura.erickson@whiteearth-nsn.gov
218-401-1153
tiffany.swiers@whiteearth-nsn.gov
218-935-6235

Miigwetch

Must Live
2 Miles From City Limits
Within the Reservation Boundaries

Did You Know...

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



Health plans
to fit every
lifestyle.

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

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



Chairman from Page 3

National Wildlife Refuge. We are taking crucial steps to protect and support our citizens' rights to engage in treaty-protected activities. We deeply appreciate the support and collaboration that has made this endeavor possible. On Oct. 1, U.S. Fish and Wildlife signed a Tamarac co-stewardship agreement with White Earth. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the White Earth Nation will collaborate in several areas on management of Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge. The co-stewardship agreement lays out specific areas where tribal and federal resource managers will collaborate.

The next step is to discuss a possible annual funding agreement to provide federal funding to White Earth for natural resource management.

Ship named after White Earth band member

I had the privilege to attend a ceremony at the National Museum of American Indian in Washington, D.C., honoring my relative and White Earth Anishinaabe James Fairbanks. A future Navajo-class Navy ship will bear his name — USNS James D. Fairbanks and will carry his legacy of service forward and symbolize his dedication to the Seabees. Fairbanks was the first Native American to serve as Force Master Chief Petty Officer, the highest-ranking enlisted Navy Seabee. Force Master Chief James Fairbanks was in our language an Ogiichidaa, a Warrior and Protector for our People - the Anishinaabeg, and the citizens of the United States. He served with distinction and valor. Due to his exemplary leadership, he has earned the right to have a ship named in his honor.

Culture/Community

Our Anishinaabe- Native culture and villages that form our communities are essential to our people. We continue to support our traditions and promote harmony through community, Mother's Day and Veterans Powwows and our annual 156th Annual White Earth Celebration. We held picnics in the villages throughout our Nation over the summer that welcomed newly constructed playgrounds in each community. We also had picnics in the Urban areas which brought us all together for amazing summer fun. The tribe also hosted several cultural camps that taught members many traditional ways passed down to us by our ancestors. Our Language and Culture Department leader Rob Tibbetts has made significant progress in teaching and learning events throughout our summer. My wife and I also had some fun, amazing wiigwaas makak - birch bark classes also.

Housing and Shelter

Affordable housing is an ongoing need for our people. White Earth Housing Authority is making improvements, and we see fewer boarded homes and more being used. In Mahnomen, 24 single-family units were built by the Tribe with the support of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency. The units are supportive sober living apartments for our relatives. In Rice Lake, tiny homes have been built and tiny homes for our relatives are in the works for White Earth and Pine Point. In Bemidji, we plan to build new, affordable, safe housing for our members where the old Ridgeway once stood. We opened a homeless shelter in Mahnomen through our Human Services program in May.

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.

Strawberry Lake Wellness Campus

The final stages of development of the former Christian retreat facility are rapidly progressing, marking a significant step forward in expanding essential healthcare services for the White Earth Nation. Remodeling of the existing facility is in its final stages, preparing it to provide much-needed space for youth- and family-based behavioral health services, and family opioid use disorder treatment services. We are also nearing completion of the final stages of development for the residential or inpatient treatment facility, which will further enhance our capacity to provide comprehensive care. This comprehensive and culturally sensitive program, rooted in Anishinaabe culture and language, is designed to address substance use disorders and promote healing within the community, with a particular focus on family-centered care. It utilizes holistic

approach, integrating indigenous wisdom with evidence-based practices. In summary, the near-complete development of the former retreat facility will soon provide expanded, culturally relevant behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment services, with a strong emphasis on youth- and family-focused healing and well-being through the White Earth Behavioral Health Division.

Election

I want to personally thank everyone for re-electing me to my second full term as your Chairman. It's been an honor to lead this great nation for the past five years, and I look forward to continuing to work with the Council on your behalf. We have moved forward in many areas, but we still have a lot to do, and I will fight hard to ensure we meet our objectives and goals. Welcome, Laura Lee Erickson, to the new District 3 Representative position. Laura has worked tirelessly for the tribe for many years, and it has been a smooth transition for her to the Council. I want to thank former District 3 Representative Cheryl "Annie" Jackson for all her work with the Council.

Mashkode-Bizhiki Bison

Our White Earth Agriculture Department reports that more bison have arrived! Thanks to our success in caring for our first group of four heifers received last November for our Phase 1 Bison Operation, the White Earth Agriculture Department moved forward with Phase 2 and applied for more bison through the Intertribal Buffalo Council (ITBC). These surplus bison are an intact family unit of 15 to 20 cows, calves, and heifers that came from Yellowstone National Park.

Wild Rice

Once again, White Earth had a successful harvest season! This is the time of year when we gather our food and begin our preparation for the winter months. It is the time of year when families and community members gather to share our knowledge and skills about traditions that have been passed down through generations. It is the time of year to celebrate our connection with Mama Aki, Mother Earth. The Wild Rice Department started buying rice from our members on Aug. 23. As usual, our members start the ricing season south of the reservation in the Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge, where record pounds of rice came off lakes.

This season, we purchased an impressive 281,824 pounds of green wild rice, with more than 200,000 pounds harvested from Lower Rice Lake alone. In total, we paid our hardworking wild rice harvesters \$2,079,000, marking yet another record-breaking year!

Waabigwan Mashkiki

The White Earth Waabigwan Mashkiki retail store has moved to a more visible location on Highway 59 across from the Shooting Star Casino in Mahnomen. The cultivation facility in Mahnomen underwent renovations to expand its product line. White Earth already provides wholesale products to two Native American dispensaries and is in the process of creating deals with three others. The business has more than 88 employees and continues to have a successful expansion of products and retail.

Red Lake Blood Criteria

The White Earth Nation Reservation Business Committee has passed a resolution supporting amending the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT) Enrollment Ordinance to align with what is written in the MCT Constitution. This would be beneficial in recognition of the inclusion of the Red Lake Nation Ojibwe blood in determining enrollment eligibility. This resolution reflects the RBC's commitment to advocating for the many children who are descendants of White Earth Nation and Red Lake Nation but currently do not meet the current enrollment criteria for White Earth Nation.

Recognizing Red Lake Nation's ancestry for enrollment would strengthen ties between descendants of the two Nations while ensuring fairness for families with dual heritage.

Supporting this amendment is about fairness and honoring the shared lineage of our communities. It is our duty to ensure that children with both White Earth and Red Lake ancestry have the opportunity to connect with their tribal roots and identity, even if they don't meet current criteria.

IHS 638 Process

The White Earth Band is actively taking control of its healthcare through several ongoing initiatives that align with the self-governance process with Indian Health Services. Leveraging our Title I Self-Determination contract with the Indian Health Service, we are currently operating 638 programs to serve our tribal citizens. Recognizing the increasing complexity of Tribal health, behavioral health, and traditional healing services, we have established a workgroup to function as an interim Tribal Health Board. This group is currently working to develop necessary standards for oversight of all our health services, manage our healthcare finances, and develop an annual strategic plan to address our community's needs, using expert advice in areas like finance and law. The Health Board will also provide annual reports to tribal members on program status. This work group will be developing a White Earth Health Regulatory Code to provide a strong framework for healthcare governance, ensuring quality and culturally relevant care. These steps will guide funding priorities and help us determine which healthcare services we should provide directly. These are ongoing efforts to build a stronger, more responsive healthcare system run by White Earth, for our Nation, securing a healthier future for our people.

New openings

The Mahnomen Boys and Girls Club held their grand opening at the old Shopko building on Highway 59. It's a safe place for our youth to gather, learn and socialize. The new club features an indoor basketball court, computer lab, full kitchen and cafeteria, and plenty of room for various activities.

White Earth Child Care Early Childhood Program move their Early Childhood classrooms, infants, toddlers, preschoolers and program staff to their newly constructed building. The new Child Care site is located south on Eagle View Road next door to the RBC headquarters. An announcement will be made at a later date for an open house event.

The Shooting Star Casino Section 5 remodel opened on May 24. It features new machines, a vibrant atmosphere, and a new sports bar with contemporary restroom facilities. This remodel provides a refreshing update with modern machines, card tables, and additional dining options. The renovation also includes a smoking room equipped with state-of-the-art ventilation systems to accommodate all guests.

Conclusion

As we reflect on the successes of 2024, we also look ahead to a future full of promise and potential. We remain focused on strengthening our tribal sovereignty, expanding economic opportunities, and ensuring that future generations inherit a White Earth Nation that is resilient, prosperous, and deeply connected to our Gaawaabaabiganikaag Anishinaabe roots.

We will continue to advocate for our rights to manage our lands, natural resources, and cultural heritage and remain at the forefront of opportunities that enhance our ability to provide for our people. Whether through the Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge or White Earth State Forrest, we are always moving forward.

I am grateful for your support, our membership. We are stronger because we are continuing to expand our horizons as a Nation building a bright future for generations to come. Together, we are shaping the future of White Earth Nation, which honors our past while embracing new opportunities for growth and success.

I want to wish everyone a safe and successful 2025 New Year.

Baamaapii wiingezin.

Miigwech bizindawiyeg.

Gigawaabamininim naagaj.

Take it easy.

Thank you for listening to me.

See you all later.

Chairman Michael Fairbanks

Erickson from Page 6

el to Duluth, providing White Earth tribal members with the opportunity to obtain tribal IDs and purchase wild rice. A date for this event is currently being coordinated. Once a date is set, it will be posted on our Facebook page, website to notify the public.

Tribal Broadband

White Earth Nation has been awarded a Tribal Broadband and Connectivity grant, which will fund the purchase of computer workstations. Each workstation will include a study carrel, chair, desktop computer, monitor, keyboard, and mouse. These workstations will be made available to the public at various locations across the Reservation. District 3 will receive 12 workstations at the White Earth Tribal Headquarters, 12 at Pine Point and 12 at Congregate Housing.

I hope everyone had a joyful holiday season. As we close one chapter and welcome a new year,

together we shall continue to support one another and celebrate our shared journey. Miigwech for your continued support and involvement in our community. If you need assistance or have any questions, feel free to reach out at anytime.

Contact information:

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

Assistant for District 3

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

Quarter from Page 2

“Americanization” of Indigenous people. She penned articles in Atlantic Monthly, Harper’s Weekly, and published short stories and books that contained both autobiographical writings and American Indian legends. In 1921, her book American Indian Stories was published, further establishing her recognition as an American author and strengthening her position as an advocate for Indigenous rights.

In addition to being a writer, Zitkala-Ša also trained and performed as a concert violinist and composer, including co-writing the first Native American opera, The Sun Dance Opera, completed in 1913.

From 1900 to her death, Zitkala-Ša worked tirelessly for American Indian citizenship rights, independence, and tribal sovereignty. She joined the Society of American Indians in 1907 and became co-editor of the American Indian Magazine. Through her leadership in the Society of American Indians and respect across Indigenous communities, she influenced Congress towards the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924 and the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934.

She also co-founded the National Council of American Indians to advance voting rights, healthcare, legal status, and land rights, and she started the Indian Welfare Committee within the General Federation of Women’s Clubs, expanding the recognition of the rights of Indigenous women more broadly in U.S. society.

Zitkala-Ša lived in and around Washington, DC, and northern Virginia from 1911 to 1938. She and her husband, Raymond Bonnin, worked in Washington, DC, to advance the rights of Native Americans. They continued working within Native American organizations advocating for reform and lobbying for full citizenship rights through World War I, the Pandemic of 1918, and into the years of the Great Depression. Finally, Congress passed legislation for American Indian Citizenship in 1924 and new land rights legislation in 1934.

Zitkala-Ša lived an independent, motivated, and quite accomplished life, but her story is almost forgotten today. Research for the 2019 Smithsonian American Women book brought me back to reconsidering Zitkala-Ša’s remarkable life and relentless activism for American Indians rights in the early 1900s. In the lead up to the centennial of the 19th Amendment in 2020, focus on Zitkala-Ša’s achievements and her story have been recognized more fully. Her first biography was published in 2016, her and her husband’s archives are now being researched at



Courtesy photo

Brigham Young University, and many museum collections and Tribal Cultural Centers are reinterpreting Indigenous women’s history collections. T

he creation of the Smithsonian American Women’s History Museum in 2020 also created renewed interest in Native American Women’s History at the Smithsonian. Through my efforts and other Smithsonian colleagues, I hope that Zitkala-Ša’s legacy will continue to have a prominent place in history, so others may come to understand her aspirations, her accomplishments, and to be inspired by her drive for the best for her family, community, and for the nation.

Did You Know?

You can read the current and past issues of the *Anishinaabeg Today* online at www.whiteearth.com for free!

The online issues feature more color and you can read them right away when the paper comes out on the first Wednesday of each month.



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

B & T Meat's products are from your local community

We have steaks, ground beef, roasts, sausages, brats, meat sticks, pork chops, bacon, summer sausage...plus much, much more!

Order your holiday hams and special cuts soon!

Store Hours:

Monday- Friday: 9 am - 6:30 pm / Saturday: 9 am - 4 pm

Meat Bundles are available, including our new “Maggie & Mary’s Soup Bundle” that includes a variety of meats and soup mixes!

“Have a beef or hog you need butchered? Give us a call to schedule a date. Want to purchase a whole, or half hog or beef? We can help you with that too!”

Facebook: **Benson + Turner Foods, Inc.**
Website: btmeats.com
Address: 3145 US Hwy 59, Waubun, MN
Phone: 218-473-2822
Now accepting EBT




MRRA
MINNESOTA REHABILITATION AND REINVESTMENT ACT
Using today to improve tomorrow

MRRA ROAD MAP

INCARCERATED PERSON → **INTAKE AND ASSESSMENT** → **REHABILITATION PLAN CREATION** → **TRANSFER TO APPROPRIATE FACILITY FOR PROGRAMMING**

PRE-RELEASE JOB-READINESS TRAINING → **EARNED INCENTIVE RELEASE REVIEW** → **ENGAGE IN IDENTIFIED PROGRAMMING**

UPDATED REHABILITATION PLAN (INCARCERATED PERSON, CASE MANAGER, AGENT) → **REINTEGRATION, GOAL ATTAINMENT, AND COMMUNITY SUPERVISION** → **EARNED COMPLIANCE CREDIT AND SUPERVISION ABATEMENT** → **SUPERVISION DISCHARGE**

MRRA Roadmap
(from start to completion)

An **Incarcerated Person (IP)**, committed to the Minnesota Department of Corrections, goes through the **Intake and Assessment** process. Based on their assessment results, they will work with a team to develop an individualized **Rehabilitation Plan**. From there, the person will be transferred to the **Appropriate Facility for Programming**. During their incarceration, they will **Engage in Identified Programming** which can lead to earning **Early Incentive Release** credits. Individuals will attend **Pre-Release Meetings** and if appropriate, participate in **Job-Readiness Training**. Prior to release, the individual, along with the case manager and assigned agent, will create an updated individualized **Rehabilitation Plan**. This plan will support their successful **Reintegration, Goal Attainment, and Community Supervision**. As individuals realize the goals in their supervision plan, they can begin earning **Compliance Credits and**, ultimately, **Supervision Abatement**. From intake through **Supervision Discharge**, the focus is on providing support to promote improved outcomes.



Ojibwemodaa.2!

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

Abinoojiwin•Infancy

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

- "Aaniin ezhi-ayaayan noongom? Nimino-ayaa." ("How are you today? I am well.")
- "Niminwendam, biidaasamoseyan." ("I am happy, when you walk here.")
- "Mizhakwad. Zhiibaayaabin!" ("It is clear. See through a scope!")
- "Giwaabamaa na dibiki-giizis?" ("You see him/her ? moon?")
- "Giwaabamaa na anang?" ("You see him/her? a star?")

Abinoojiyens(ag)-Baby(s)
Waabandizo -S/he sees self.
Waabam! - See him/her!
Niwaabamaa.- I see him/h.
Giwaabamaa.-You see h/her
Abinoojiiyag - Children
Waabimoning-In the mirror.

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

Giiwedim
Anang
North Star
Waawaate(g)
Northern Lights

Bemismagak-Airplane

Giizhig -Sky, Giizis-Sun
Aanakwad(oon) - Cloud(s). **Aki - Earth**
Akiwan. - It is Earth.

Oshki-nitaawigiwin•Young Adult•Teen

Boozhoo! Aaniin waa-izhichigeyeg? **Gidojibwem ina?** Greetings. How/what way will-you all be doing? **You** speak Ojibwe? There are students in N. MN learning Ojibwemowin in school - Howah! Miigwech Garrett for sharing words you are learning! **Dakininji.**-S/he has cold hands. **Oshki-minjikaawane.**-S/he has new mittens. **Iskidoo.**- Snowmobile. **Odaabaanaak.**- Sled, Sleigh. **Ziigwanaabi** -S/he is snow-blind. **Mamaangipon.**-There are big snowflakes. **Aagim.**-Snowshoe.

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

Double Vowel Sounds!
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

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

- Ojibwewi-ikidowinan (words):
- Goon-** snow. •**Bwaan.**-Dakota/Sioux.
- Makizin.**-Shoe/Moccasin. •**Ganibaj-** Perhaps.
- Gashkibidaagan-Bandolier** Bag. •**Naabikawaagan(ag)-Necklace(s),** Necktie. •**Minochige.**-S/he does good.

Nitaawigiwin

• Grownup

Eya'? ina gemaa **Gaawiin?**

>>>>>=====>>>>>
Yes, ? or No?

- Niibaabizo na?** _____
- Zhigaagawanzh ina?** _____
- Aniibiishaaboo na?** _____
- Biiboon ina?** _____
- Giwiidige na?** _____
- Aanikoobijigan ina?** _____
- Bakiteji'igewin ina?** _____
- Gidagindaas ina?** _____
- Gijiibaakwe na?** _____
- Ozaawaa na?** _____
- Ozhaawashkwaa na?** _____
- Gimaa'ishkam ina?** _____
- Makade-mashkiki-waaboo na?** _____ **Miigwech!-Thanks!**

- Gichi-Manidoo-Giizis wa'aw Giizis -JAN Great-Spirit-Moon this moon.
 - Namebani-Giizis wa'aw Giizis -FEB Sucker Moon this moon.
 - Onaabani-Giizis -MAR. -Crust on the Snow
 - Iskigamizige-Giizis -APR -Sugar Moon
 - Waabiwanii-Giizis -MAY -Flower Moon
 - Ode'imini-Giizis -JUNE -Strawberry Moon
 - Aabita-Niibino-Giizis -JULY -Halfway Summer moon.
 - Manoominike-Giizis -AUG -Wild rice...
 - Waatebaga-Giizis SEPT-Bright leaves.
 - Binaakwe-Giizis -OCT -Combing...
 - Gashkadino-Giizis wa'aw giizis. -NOV -Freezing over moon.
 - Manidoo-Giizisoons -DEC -Little Spirit-Moon
- Aki - Earth**

Yes or No — Eya' gemaa Gaawiin.
Maybe. — Ganabaj., Iidog.
Perhaps. Might. -Maagizhaa gaye.

- 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: wclipart.com

Gichi-aya'aa•Elder

Aaniin ezhimikaazod wa'aw giizis? What/how is s/he called this moon/month? *Aabita-Bibooni-Giizis wa'aw giizis.* -S/he's called Halfway-Winter Moon. *Gichi-Manidoo-giizhis wa'aw giizis.* Great Spirit Moon this moon. (January). Zoogipon/snows. Mino-bimaadiziwin Gichi-ayaa'aag. Bimaaji'g, mashkikiwininiwag! Daga giziiyaabide'odaa abinoojiiyag! Miigwech gikinoo'amaagewikweg! Agindaasodaa! Ojibwemodaa! Good-life Elders. Save a life, doctors, miigwech! Please let's brush teeth children! Thanks teacher women! Let's all read! Let's all speak Ojibwemowin! That's all! *Gichi-Miigwech! Big Thanks!*

1. Nindonaabaanan _____ I pick them **strawberries.**
2. _____, nindagindaas. **When it is winter.** I read.
3. _____, Nimiigwechiwendaanan iniw wiisiniwinan! **Thank you.** I am thankful for those foods!
4. Apegish menoseyan. Waawaateg ina?! _____! I wish you good things. They are the Northern lights?! **Yes!**
5. Ojibwemo _____ ina? Midaaso-ikidowinan noongom! **They speak Ojibwe ?** Ten-words now!

Ojibwemodaa! - Let's all speak Ojibwe! December ©2024 Shelly Ceglar

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

Sugarbush Residents Notice of Township Filing

Notice is Hereby Given to the residents of Sugar Bush Township that the annual filing for election of offices open Dec 31, 2024 and continue through January 14, 2025.

The following positions are to be filled at the election on March 11, 2024

**SUPERVISOR / 3-YEAR TERM
TREASURER / 2-YEAR TERM**

If you wish to file for candidacy, please file with the township clerk at her Residence in the evenings or by appointment. If you would like to make an appointment or need further information call 651-302-1479. The clerk's office is (33724 County Road, 143 Ogema, MN 56569) will be open for filing starting January 2, 2025 from 1 until 5 pm.

Deb Chilton, Clerk
Sugar Bush Township

2018 FORD CUTAWAY T450 TRANSIT BUS #3



SOLD AS IS. Propane Bus, mileage: 267,417
(Runs and Drives, may need minor repairs)

Minimum Bid : \$2,000.00

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

Cassandra Hoban, White Earth Finance,

P.O Box 270

White Earth, MN 56591

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

Bidding will close on January 27th, 2025 @ 4:30pm

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

BUS #3 Bid Amount: \$ _____

2019 FORD CUTAWAY T350 TRANSIT BUS #2



SOLD AS IS. Gas Engine, mileage: 188,311
(Runs and Drives, may need minor repairs)

Minimum Bid : \$3,000.00

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

Cassandra Hoban, White Earth Finance,

P.O Box 270

White Earth, MN 56591

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

Bidding will close on January 27th, 2025 @ 4:30pm

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Bus #2 Bid Amount: \$ _____

2019 FORD CUTAWAY T350 TRANSIT BUS #1



SOLD AS IS. Gas Engine, mileage: 217,755
(Runs and Drives, may need minor repairs)

Minimum Bid : \$3,000.00

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

Cassandra Hoban, White Earth Finance,

P.O Box 270

White Earth, MN 56591

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

Bidding will close on January 27th, 2025 @ 4:30pm

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

BID AMOUNT BUS #1: _____

Diabetic Bingo

All are welcome and it costs nothing to play.



January 8th, Wednesday Naytahwaush
January 22nd, Wednesday White Earth - Congregate
January 29th, Wednesday Rice Lake

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

February 5th, Wednesday Pine Point
February 19th, Wednesday Elbow Lake
February 26th, Wednesday Mahnomen - Valley View

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

March 5th, Wednesday Naytahwaush
March 12th, Wednesday White Earth - Congregate
March 26th, Wednesday Rice Lake

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

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

Other Public Health Events that are coming up in January

Dr. Ung Clinic
January 13th & 14th in White Earth 9-4pm
January 15th in Naytahwaush 9-3:30pm
January 16th in Rice Lake 9-Noon

Updated 12/3/2024

NAYTAHWAUSH
Talking Circle
NAY TAH WAUSH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BUILDING
FIRST DOOR AFTER NEW CLINIC
2469 310TH ST.
MAHNOMEN, MN 56557
WEDNESDAYS: 6-8 PM
LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED
CONTACT: HEIDI GOODWIN
(218) 401-4693

WHITE EARTH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Our White Earth Nation fitness centers provide opportunities for all members of our community to strengthen their health and wellness.

Our Services:

- Free personal training is available in all centers (call to schedule an appointment)
- Diabetes Prevention classes

For questions, please call:
218-401-2421 OR 218-401-3079

WHITE EARTH FITNESS CENTERS

Because exercise is medicine!

PINE POINT FITNESS CENTER
[Located in the new Community Center]

CENTER HOURS: (may vary)
Key fob access - available by appointment
Staff may be available by appointment Mon-Fri (8am-4:30pm)

Phone number: 218-401-3079

STAR FITNESS CENTER - MAHNOMEN
[Located in the Manito Mall]

CENTER HOURS:
Key fob access: 24/7 Mon-Fri
Staff may be available by appointment Mon-Fri (8am-4:30pm)

Phone: 218-401-2421

RICE LAKE FITNESS CENTER
[Located in the Community Center]

CENTER HOURS: Mon-Fri (8am-4:30pm)
Staff may be available by appointment Mon-Fri 8am-4:30)

Phone number: 218-401-2421

WHITE EARTH FITNESS CENTER
[Located at Tribal Health]

HOURS:
Key fob access - Mon-Fri - 24/7
Sat & Sun - (6am-6pm)

Phone number: 218-401-3079 or 218-983-3286 ext. 1416

NAYTAHWAUSH FITNESS CENTER
[Located in the Sports Complex]

CENTER HOURS:
Open during RBC hours
Staff may be available by appointment Mon-Fri (8am-4:30pm)

PHONE NUMBER: 218-401-3079

Special Events

- **Diabetic Bingo**
 January 8th —NTW
 January 22nd— White Earth
 January 29th —Rice Lake

White Earth Elder Nutrition Program

Gaawaabaabanganikaag Ogikaag Miniwanjige

“White Earth Elder Eating Good”

Manidoo-giizis(Spirit Moon)- January

Elderly Nutrition Program Information

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

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

Guest Meals \$6

Elders Suggested Donation \$4

Questions or comments please contact :

White Earth ENP Site (218) 983-3744
 Site Supervisor ~ Angie Clark



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

Pine Point ENP Site (218) 573-2210
 Site Controller ~ Thor Smith

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

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

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

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			2 Turkey tetrazzini Steamed peas Garlic bread Berry parfait	3 Beef roast Mashed potatoes Corn Wheat Fresh fruit
6 Tuna noodle hotdish Mixed veggies Pickled beets Breadstick Apricots	7 Chicken fajitas w/ fixings Corn & bean salad Spanish rice Pears	8 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	9 Sloppy Joe Potato wedges Creamy cucumbers Fruit salad	10 Creamy manoomin soup French roll Spinach salad w/ raspberry vinaigrette Fresh fruit
13 Chicken parmesan over pasta Cali. blend veggies Garlic toast Pineapple	14 Hamburger gravy Mashed potatoes Brussel sprouts Croissant roll Cranberries	15 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	16 Bratwurst and kraut Seasoned potatoes Wheat bread Apple crisp	17 Chicken noodle soup Saltine crackers Fresh veggies w/ dip Angel food cake with berries
20 Closed 	21 Chicken & rice hotdish Italian blend veg. Garden salad Wheat roll Fruit cocktail	22 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	23 Birthday Lunch California burger w/ fixings Sweet potato fries Tropical fruit Birthday treat	24 Egg salad sandwich w/ lettuce and tomato Potato soup Fresh fruit
27 Brunch Biscuits and gravy Roasted potatoes Pastry roll Cottage cheese with peaches	28 Beef stew WR cranberry bread Spinach salad Cherry cobbler	29 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	30 Baked fish Manoomin pilaf Squash Wheat roll Plums	31 Ribs Au gratin potatoes Mixed veggies Wheat bread Bananas and pudding w/ wafers

White Earth Food Distribution January Store Hours

Mon-Thurs 8:30-3:30

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

January 2025 Home Delivery Schedule (Subject to Change)

Nutrition Education w/Shirley: Jan 6th, 14th, 22nd & 30th.

January 1st: Closed – New Years Day

January 10th: Bagley, Ponsford & Naytahwaush

January 13th: Mahnomen & Waubun

January 17th: White Earth

January 20th: Closed – Martin Luther King Holiday

January 24th: Detroit Lakes

January 31st: Store closed for inventory

No Store hours on Fridays

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



White Earth WIC January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 CLOSED	2 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	3 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	4
5	6 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	7 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	8 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	9 Naytahwaush Health Center 9:15-3:00	10 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	11
12	13 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:00	14 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:00	15 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	16 Naytahwaush Health Center 9:15-3:00	17 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	18
19	20 CLOSED	21 Bagley ECFE 10:00-3:00	22 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	23 Naytahwaush Health Center 9:15-3:00	24 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	25
26	27 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:00	28 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:00	29 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	30 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00	31 Available by phone 8:15-4:00	

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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

Obituaries

Pamela Louise Green

Pamela Louise Green, born on April 12, 1956, in White Earth, passed away peacefully at her home on Nov. 26. Pamela was a resident of Detroit Lakes, Minn., where she grew up and graduated from Detroit Lakes High School in 1974.

Pamela enjoyed a fulfilling career that spanned 25 years, beginning with Northwestern Bell Co., and culminating in her retirement from Qwest Communication Co. Throughout her professional journey, she displayed remarkable adaptability and excelled in many non-traditional roles.



Outside of her work life, Pamela cherished spending time with her family, particularly during holidays when gatherings brought everyone together. She had a deep affection for animals, taking pride in her dogs, and found joy in their companionship. In her leisure time, Pamela loved being in nature; she indulged in horse-back riding, went fishing and ice fishing, and committed herself to gardening.

Pamela is survived by one brother, three sisters, and many nieces, nephews, and extended family members, all of whom will deeply miss her presence and the joy she brought to their lives.

She reunites in memory with her parents, her son Cordell Belcourt Jr., and her siblings, including three brothers, two sisters, and a niece, as well as other family and friends who have gone before her. Pamela will be remembered not only for her professional accomplishments but also for her loving spirit and the memories she created with those she cherished.

Services to be determined at a later date in Spring.

Arrangements: David-Donhower Funeral Home of Detroit Lakes.

Online: www.daviddonehower.com

Edward "Jr." Allen William Soyring

Edward Allen William Soyring Jr., 83, of Coon Rapids, Minn., passed away on Nov. 27 on the birthday of his brother and best friend, Donnie. In the days leading up to his passing, Jr. often remarked, "Donnie is coming to get me to head up North," a sentiment that will forever resonate with those who loved him. His brother Donnie, whom he adored, had passed in June 2021.



Born on Feb. 8, 1941, Jr. was the son of Edward and Ina Soyring, raised on the family farm in Becker County, Minn. He attended county school through the 8th grade before dedicating himself to the family farm. At age 18, Jr. left the farm to work for Glendenning Motor Works. His career would later take him to St. Paul, where he eventually retired from Yellow Freight in 1994 after many years of hard work and dedication.

On May 19, 1962, Jr. married Sharon Brunette, the love of his life, and together they raised a family in Coon Rapids. Later, they moved to Strawberry Lake, where Jr. spent many happy years with his brother Donnie. They could often be found sharing coffee, tinkering around outside, golfing, fishing, hunting, and going for 3-wheeler rides. The two brothers also shared an unbreakable bond over their love for the Minnesota Vikings, and they would never be bothered while watching the games. Jr. was also a passionate boxing fan, and he took great pride in coaching others in the sport.

Jr. adored his grandchildren and the neighborhood children, always making sure to share ice cream and offer a kind word. He and Sharon enjoyed their yearly trips to Las Vegas and the Shooting Star Casino, and Jr. had a love for games like cribbage, poker, bingo, and Sequence.

In 2014, Sharon and Jr. moved back to Coon Rapids to be closer to their family, where they continued to enjoy the love and support of those around them.

Jr. is survived by his devoted wife of 62 years, Sharon; children: Steve (Jawanda), Kristina (Jessie), and Kari (Ken) Schmoll; grandchildren: Steven, Erika, and Anika Soyring, and Sam and Kaci Schmoll; as well as many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and countless friends who were blessed to know him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Edward and Ina; sisters: Helen Rosbacka, Alice Kivi, and Doris Cogger; and brothers: Harold, Eino, Carl, Raymond, Gene, Donnie, and Larry.

A memorial service was held Dec. 13 at Kozlak Radulovich Blaine Chapel in Blaine, Minn. In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to No Child Should Go Hungry - Minnesota or Detroit Lakes Boys and Girls Club in Jr.'s name.

Arrangements: Kozlak-Radulovich Funeral Chapel

Online: www.kozlakradulovich.com

Neftali Alfonso Fuentes-Rios

Neftali Fuentes-Rios, 34, of Grand Rapids, Minn., died Dec. 1, at the Emeralds at Grand Rapids care facility, in Grand Rapids.

Neftali Alfonso Fuentes-Rios was born on Dec. 11, 1989, in San Jose, Calif., to Neftali Fuentes and Amparo "Ida" Rios. He was raised in a family that instilled in him a love for life, and he spent much of his childhood alongside his nieces and nephews. He grew up especially close to Renee, George, and David, whom he cherished like siblings.



While attending Yerba Buena High School, Neftali began working in the food industry, starting as a dishwasher. Through hard work and motivation, he quickly worked his way up to prep cook, chef, and into the catering profession. His career was driven by his passion for making people happy, and he found joy in sharing his love of food with others. Neftali had an irresistible personality, and he easily lit up any room he entered, bringing laughter and warmth wherever he went. His generosity and sense of humor made him beloved by all who knew him.

His friendships were deeply important to him, and he greatly enjoyed hanging out with his best friends, David, Ozzi, and Daniel. Neftali was also an outdoors enthusiast who loved spending time fishing and hiking.

In March 2020, Neftali, along with his mother, relocated to Naytahwaush, to be near his sister, Paulette. Shortly thereafter, his health began to decline as he battled a severe infection and over the next several years, Neftali bravely suffered many ongoing health issues. In his final years, Neftali relocated to Grand Rapids, where he made his home. Though his health challenges were great, his gentle smile, kind heart, and unwavering spirit remained an inspiration to those around him. He will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Neftali was welcomed home into the embrace of his twin baby girls, Renee and Jade; all of his grandparents; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins who passed before him.

He is survived by his mother, Ida Rios of Naytahwaush; father, Neftali Fuentes of San Jose, Calif.; sisters, Stephanie (Doug) Rios of Chandler, Ariz., and Paulette (Rock Keezer) Nelson of Naytahwaush; brother, Alberto "Ernie" Fuentes-Rios of San Jose; 12 nieces and nephews; and several aunts, uncles, and cousins.

No local services are being held at this time.

Arrangements: Anderson FamilyFuneral Home of Mahanomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Gina Faye Lang

Gina Lang, 58, of Naytahwaush, died on Dec. 1.

Gina Faye Burnette was born March 31, 1966, in Mahanomen, the daughter of Edward J. and Ada (Beaulieu) Burnette Sr. She attended elementary school in Naytahwaush followed by Mahanomen High School. In her earlier years, Gina worked at Star Fireworks, while living in Hunter, N.D. Gina then furthered her education at the vo-tech receiving her secretarial degree. She also took some blackjack and poker training, implementing her skills at the Shooting Star Casino. Gina worked several years at the casino working as a cocktail waitress and a blackjack dealer before her declining health forced her into an early retirement.



Gina enjoyed leeching in the spring, listening to all kinds of music, playing cards, and working on cross word puzzles. She loved taking trips to try her luck at the casino and baking, her specialty was peanut butter cookies. Gina was a quiet individual yet very outgoing in her own way with a great sense of humor. She had a huge heart with an open door to anyone in need. Over the years, she looked after many of Gene's friends, especially Matt, who spent more time at her house than at home. She loved her friends and family, with her grandchildren being her pride and joy. She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Gina is survived by her son, Gene (Courtney) Lang of Mahanomen; grandchildren: Jesse, Joseph, Julian and Genevieve; brothers, Terry Burnette and Shane Burnette both of Naytahwaush; sister-in-law, Mary Burnette; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; son, Wallie; brothers, Edward "Butchie" Jr. and Shannon; and sisters: Julie Burnette, Cheryl Brown and infant, Noreen Burnette.

Blessed be the Memory of Gina Lang.

Funeral services were held Dec. 5 at Samuel Memorial Episcopal Church.

Interment: Samuel Memorial Episcopal Cemetery in Naytahwaush.

Arrangements: Anderson Family of Funeral Home of Mahanomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Obituaries

Kevin “Nates” Lee Mahto

Kevin “Nates” Lee Mahto, beloved son, father, brother and uncle began his journey to the Spirit World on Nov. 22. After a short battle with cancer, he passed quietly in his sleep.

Kevin was born on Nov. 24, 1950, to Eunice Marie Mahto (nee King) and Teddy DeWitt Mahto Jr., in Ft. Yates, N.D.

As a junior in high school he was the high point man in basketball scoring 49 points in one game. He was also good in football and baseball lettering in all three sports.



After graduating from high school in 1969, Nates went to Macalester College in St. Paul, Minn., and Austin State College in Austin, Minn. He played basketball for Austin State and became good friends with “Bud,” a relationship that lasted 40 plus years. Nates was clean and sober 20 plus years when he passed away. He was very proud of this accomplishment and gave thanks to Creator and marijuana for it!

After he left college life, Nates worked in many different arenas. He fixed Ronson cigarette lighters, mopped floors and settled on being a warehouseman for many years. Nates had a good mind for numbers, making him very good in this field. He retired from gaming at 65.

Nates enjoyed anything to do with motorcycles, grilling out, fishing, family, country and western music, NBA, NFL, MLB, NASCAR, and horse racing. The nurses at Sanford said he was always flirting!

Kevin was preceded in death by both of his parents; sister, Toni; and special friends, Chip and Mike.

He is survived by his 1967 Triumph Royal 750; a very beautiful Native art collection; daughters, Simone Ann Ericson and Antoinette Marie Mahto; sister, Lori DeFoe; brothers: Jamison, Sean and Robin Mahto; several nieces and nephews; and honorable mention goes to his nephew, James Manspeaker.

Services to be held at a later date.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Carol Jean Bellanger

Carol Bellanger, 59, of Waubun, met the Creator on Dec. 19 at her home in Waubun, surrounded by her family.

Carol Jean was born Feb. 16, 1965, to Wallace and Helma (Tweten) Knapp in Racine, Wis. Growing up and attending school in Kenosha, Wis., later moving to Thief River Falls, Minn., when she was 18. She would then be blessed with motherhood at the age of 19, mothering four children of her own and later taking in others. In winter 1992 (Detroit Lakes, Minn.) she met the love of her life, Roland Bellanger, marrying on Sept. 18, 1993 - a union lasting 31 years.



Carol held various careers throughout her life - but at heart, her true calling and passion was a wife and mother - valuing family and love above all. Devoting herself to the care of others - often putting herself last. She was filled with courage, forgiveness, understanding, and strength- while rejecting the judgement of others. Not only was she the root and protector of the family but she was its carrier.

Carol was known as a strong, sassy, humorous lady. Disdaining nonsense and valuing genuinity. And despite the many obstacles and hardships of life - her spirit never wavered. She carried many hobbies. Some of them being: Native artwork, plants, music, coloring, games, movies (especially thrillers), and a good laugh - above all, she enjoyed the good company of her family and loved ones - adoring her grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her father, Wallace; brother Jeffery; grandparents: Grace and Howard Tweten and Margaret and Archie Knapp Sr.; along with many aunts and uncles.

She is survived by her children: Jade Hansen (Wayne), Mark Hansen Jr. (Naddhapol), Fawn Hansen (Josue), and Fox Bellanger (Crystal); grandchildren: Matthew Jr., Damien, Rihanna, Aria, Nevaeh, Alejandra, Kaelyn, Benjamin, Jazzalyn, Aiden, Rylie, and Kennedy; mother, Helma Knapp of Red Lake Falls, Minn.; siblings: Karena Marie Yockey (Jeremy) of Grovetown, Ga., Wallace Arthur Knapp Jr. (LeAnne) of Andrews N.C., and Janelle Elseth (Brent) of Ada, Minn.

Ma, the heavy burden has been lifted - you can finally be at rest and forever in peace, you deserve it. We will forever miss and love you.

Until we meet again.

Arrangements: David-Donohewer Funeral Home of Detroit Lakes.

Online: www.daviddonehower.com

Caroline Kari Boswell

Caroline Kari Boswell, 50, of Mahnomen, died unexpectedly on Dec. 25, 2023, at the Mahnomen Health Center.

Caroline Kari Boswell was born June 8, 1973, in Minneapolis, the daughter of Richard Boswell Sr. and Sandra Thompson. She grew up and attended school in the metro area.



As a young lady, Caroline entered the workforce trying out various jobs, with the most favorable employment at Mystic Lake Casino. She battled some health problems early on which led to her declining health. She has spent the past 15 years calling Mahnomen home. She was blessed with three children and three grandchildren.

Caroline loved spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren but her nieces and nephews were pretty special to her as well. She was very outgoing with a great sense of humor. In her spare time, she enjoyed playing bingo, going to the casino and coloring. Caroline was also a great cook and baker, making many delicious meals and sweets for her family and friends. She will be missed by many who knew and loved her.

Caroline is survived by her children: Aaron Boswell, Racquel Boswell and Sandra Boswell; grandchildren: Sebastian, Ashton and November; sister, Ursula Boswell; sister-in-law, Sarah Anton; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Frances Thompson; brother, Richard “Cricket” Boswell Jr.; special nephew, Andrew Boswell; and two of her favorite uncles, Frank Thompson and John Thompson.

Blessed be the Memory of Caroline Boswell.

Memorial services were held Dec. 12 at the Naytahwaush Complex.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Dustin “Dusty” Shawn Rock

Dustin “Dusty” Rock, 22, of Mahnomen, died unexpectedly on Dec. 20 at his home.

Dustin Shawn Rock, lovingly known by his family as David Shawn Rock Jr. was born Sept. 22, 2002, in Fargo, N.D., the son of Michelle Carter and David Rock Sr. He grew up in the Mahnomen-Waubun area where he attended school. During high school, Dusty



excelled at sports participating in basketball, football and wrestling. Following his schooling, Dusty joined the National Guard. After his honorable discharge, he returned to the White Earth Reservation and worked part time at the Shooting Star Casino.

Dusty enjoyed spending time with his friends, listening to loud music, and playing X-Box. He also liked ice fishing, ricing, bowling, dancing at pow wows and that boy could eat, he loved to eat! He was the goofy kid with the great sense of humor, always making you laugh.

Dusty was pretty easy going but very protective when it came to his family, especially his grandma Jacky. They shared a special bond and he even helped her to decorate her home with lights and garland as Christmas time was his favorite season. Although gone from this life too soon, he will live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him.

Dusty is survived by his mom, Michelle (Carter) Rock; father, David (Rachelle “Rooney”) Rock Sr.; grandmas, Jacky Larsen and Beverly Gallup; sisters: Arien Monroe, Laurena Jackson, Brittany Rock, Devin Rock and November Carter; brothers: Tyler Rock, Jason Carter and Arden Carter; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his great grandparents and grandpas: David Sam, Glenn Carter and Kim Larsen.

All night wake services and ceremony began the evening of Dec. 26 and continued until the time of Traditional services on Dec. 27, both at the White Earth Community Center.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

RBC offices closed for holiday

White Earth RBC offices will be closed on Monday, Jan. 20 for **Martin Luther King Jr. Day** and will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 21. Modified services will still be available.

Obituary

Janet "Missy" Lee Grove

Janet "Missy" Lee Grove, 58, passed away on Dec. 3 at St. Mary's Hospital in Madison, Wis. She was born on Feb. 8, 1966, to Leroy and Judith (Gordon) Krapohl in Detroit Lakes, Minn.

Janet grew up in Northwestern Minnesota before making Wisconsin her home for most of her life. Her career was rooted in the food industry, including a meaningful period working as a lunch server at Franklin Middle School in Thief River Falls, Minn., alongside her beloved mother, Judy. Later, she found joy working in bakeries, where she formed many cherished friendships along the way.



Janet treasured time spent with family and friends, nurturing relationships that brought her immense happiness. A woman of faith, she found comfort and pride in her Native American heritage, which was a source of strength and identity throughout her life. She also loved reading and listening to music, finding beauty in life's simple pleasures.

Janet will be deeply missed by all who know her. Her spirit, kindness, and love will forever remain in our hearts.

She is survived by her sons, Chris (Emily) and Mike (Karissa); grandchildren: Michael, Leah, Erica, Arthur, and Simon; siblings: Lee (Julianne), Tony (Karlene), and Nikki (Nick); nieces: Arielle, Michelle, Bailey, Rayna, Paige, Piper, and Taylor; and her stepfather, Rod.

A Celebration of Life will be held March 15, at 2 p.m. at Otsego Town Hall in Otsego, Wis.

Online: www.jensenfuneralandcremation.com

Howah Ads

Happy **40th** Birthday
Hoggie
Love Fran Sam & Kids
January 14th



REMINDER!

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

All payments must be made in advance.

No exceptions

Happy Heavenly Birthday
Maya Jade!!
Love, Mariah & Kids!!
January 11th



Happy **29th** Birthday
Sydney Renae

Love,
Aunt
Fran,
Sam
&
Kids

Jan.
23rd



Happy **35th** Birthday
Sergio!

Love always, Mariah Lynn!
January 25th



Happy **9th** Birthday
Miss Kali DeFoe

"We love you so much!"

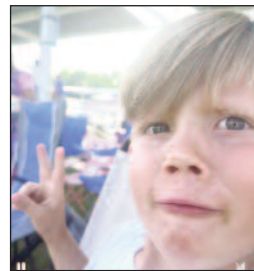
From Mom, Dad, sisters and brother



Happy Birthday
Kyle Jr.

Love, Mom Dad and siblings

Dec.
26th



Happy **15th** Birthday
Baby Girl

Love, Mom Dad and siblings
January 25th




Happy **18th** Birthday
Son

Love, Mom Dad and Siblings


Jan.
25th



ServSafe Training



WHITE EARTH TRIBAL & COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CUSTOMIZED EDUCATION



APPLY NOW

Monday, March 3, 2025
8:30 am to 5:00 pm

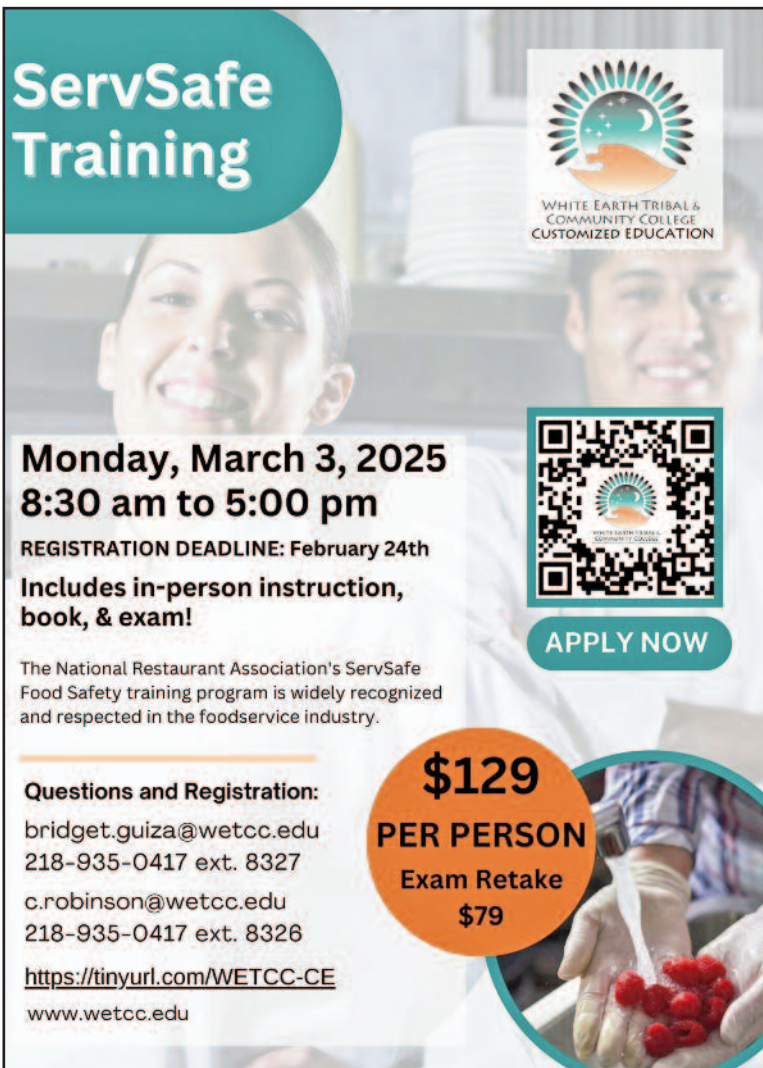
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: February 24th

Includes in-person instruction, book, & exam!

The National Restaurant Association's ServSafe Food Safety training program is widely recognized and respected in the foodservice industry.

Questions and Registration:
bridget.guiza@wetcc.edu
218-935-0417 ext. 8327
c.robinson@wetcc.edu
218-935-0417 ext. 8326
<https://tinyurl.com/WETCC-CE>
www.wetcc.edu

\$129 PER PERSON
Exam Retake \$79



Happy **18th** Birthday
Jacob Robert Littlewolf

From mom, dad, Julisa, Ayme, Jr, Rainey

January 4th

Happy **15th** Birthday to my Granddaughter

Aleigha Jackson

From Grandma and cousins in Minneapolis!

We love you precious!

Happy **Sweet 16** Birthday
Taylee Nalai

Love, Mom

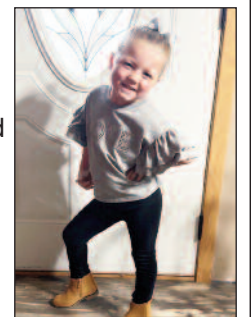
Jan. 3rd



Ayzlee Sage
Happy Birthday Baby Girl

Love, Mom Dad and siblings

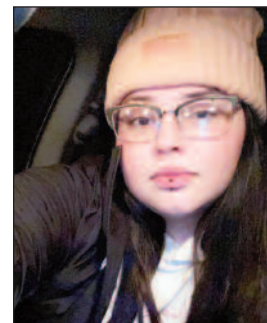
Dec. 19th



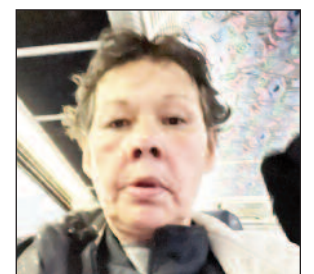
Happy **25th** Birthday
Taylor Nichelle

Love, Mom

Jan. 5th



Happy **62nd** Birthday
Aunt Brenda
Love Fran, Sam & Kids
January 22nd





877-410-8550

anonymous crime and elder abuse tip line

NCCS Community Liaisons for Full-Service Community Schools Grant

Position Description: NCCS is seeking up to five NCCS Community Liaisons for the Full-Service Community School (FSCS) Grant (FSCS). These positions will be needed February through March and will be part-time with flexible hours late afternoon and into the evenings. NCCS Community Liaisons will work closely with the FSCS grant Director/Coordinator to interview Naytahwaush families for a community needs and assets survey.

Desired Qualifications: Strong connections to the Naytahwaush community; good communication skills; ability to maintain confidentiality, friendly disposition and ability to work late afternoon and evenings.

Work Location - On-campus and in the Naytahwaush Community visiting families.

Wage: \$25 an hour

Application Process: Please fill out the NCCS Community Liaison Application available at ntwschool.org under employment forms in the drop down menu or pick up an application in the office.

White Earth Talking Circle
 White Earth WESA Building
 35703 County Rd. 21
 Ogema, MN 56569
 Tuesdays 5:30 PM
 Local Transportation Provided
 Contact:
 Judd Brown (218) 401-3091

MAHNOMEN TALKING CIRCLE
 MAHNOMEN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BUILDING
 216 N. MAIN ST.
 MAHNOMEN, MN 56557
MONDAY'S 6-8 PM
 Local Transportation Provided!
 Contact:
 Dawn Basswood: 218-401-1216

Counselor & Wellness Center Director

Position Summary: To direct and coordinate a comprehensive college wellness program, including health and wellness coaching services and educational programming. This position reports directly to the Dean of Academics/Student Services. The Director will provide a healthy vision in promoting health and wellness, and strategic leadership utilizing a professional and ethical model of coaching and service delivery, promoting optimal professional development opportunities for the emotional and physical health of the campus community. The Director will provide a range of services such as health awareness, safety, and prevention strategies, intervention mitigation, aid in crisis management solutions, and be a wellness consultant to faculty, staff, and students. This position will focus on fostering and supporting a comprehensive approach to student and employee wellness. All services will be provided in accordance with the MN professional ethics and professional standards for anyone working as a licensed counselor in the state of MN and for WETCC.

Work Schedule: Monday – Friday, 12:00pm – 8:30 pm (August 01 – April 01)
 Monday – Friday, 08:30am – 4:30pm (April 02 – July 31)

Disclosure: If the individual applying for the position is not currently licensed to practice as a counselor in the state of MN, WETCC will grant a 3-year probationary period for which the individual must complete the required education and licensure requirements set forth by the state of MN to obtain counseling licensure.

Advertised Salary: \$69,472.00/year.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Bachelor's or Master's degree (or working towards a degree) from an accredited institution of higher education in Mental Health Counseling, Social Work, Counseling or Counseling Psychology, or related field.
- Documented experience of working with at-risk/high risk populations.
- Knowledge of HIPAA, PHI, and ADA guidelines and practices.
- Experience with extracting, analyzing, and preparing data for compliance/regulatory or accreditation reporting.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Ability to read and understand clinical reports and professional literature.
- Ability to handle stressful situations with sound judgement.
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills.
- Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) with Automated External Defibrillation (AED) and First Aid Certification. (Or able to complete this training within the first 90 days of employment).
- Knowledge of client database and reporting systems.

Visit www.wetcc.edu for the full job posting as well as the application and background check form.

NEED MORE ENERGY?
JOIN STAR FITNESS CENTER TODAY!

Located in the Manitok 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
 Present. Promote. Protect

Recycling Underway
 NEARLY 1000LBS OF RECYCLABLES DIVERTED FROM LANDFILL TO DATE

ACCEPTED ITEMS: 1&2 PLASTICS, TIN/STEEL, ALUMINUM, PAPER, GLASS

**PLEASE NO TRASH BAGS
 LOOSE ITEMS ONLY**

Bins Now Located Behind Naytahwaush Complex

PP School Meeting Minutes

**Pine Point Regular School Board Meeting
 Monday, November 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 – Michael Swan, Marva Aitken, John Swan, Allison Jones, Gerald Roberts
 Members absent – Sara Hunt
 Ex-officio – Christopher Schulz, Principal
- 2. Recognition of Visitors** – Bonnie Meeks, Winona LaDuke
- 3. Approval/Amendment of Agenda** – Motion by Michael Swan to approve the agenda as amended: Add 7.1 Water Softner, seconded by Allison Jones. All in favor. Motion carried.
- 4. Approval/Amendment of Minutes** – Motion by Michael Swan to approve the September 30, 2024 minutes as presented, seconded by Marva Aitken. All in favor. Motion carried.
- 5. Finance**
 - Treasurer's Report – Motion by Michael Swan to approve the Treasurer's Report for October 2024 as presented, seconded by Allison Jones. All in favor. Motion carried.
 - Payment of Bills & Electronic Funds Transfer & Debit Card Transactions – Motion by Michael Swan to approve the payment of bills for the month of October 2024 in the amount of \$54,365.51 for check #33806 through check #33863 and the EFT for Federal/State/TRA Payroll Tax & Debit Card Transactions, seconded by Allison Jones. All in favor. Motion carried.
- 6. Unfinished Business**
 - Microgrid Solar Panel Project Ownership – Motion by Michael Swan to have the school take ownership of the project, seconded by Marva Aitken. All in favor. Motion carried.
- 7. New Business**
 - Water Softner – Motion by Michael Swan to accept Al's Water Systems quote, seconded by Allison Jones. All in favor. Motion carried.
- 8. Principal's Report** – Discussion on new students for 2nd quarter; Picture Day on November 13th, Solar Panel Meeting on November 13th; Holmes Theater field trip for Grades 4-8 on November 20th; Plains Art Museum field trip for Grades 4-8 on November 26th; Thanksgiving Feast on November 27th; Veterans Day activities in classrooms on November 11th
- 9. Public Participation** – Toys for Tots forms
- 10. Adjournment** – Motion by Marva Aitken to adjourn the meeting at 5 p.m., seconded by Gerald Roberts. All in favor. Motion carried.

Lake Grove Township Residents Notice of Filing

Notice is hereby given to the residents of Lake Grove Township that the annual filing for election of officers opens on Dec. 31, 2024. The following positions are to be filled at the election on March 11, 2025.

Supervisor– 3 Year Term

If you wish to file for candidacy please file with the township clerk at her residence or call for further information at 218-841-4963. The deadline for filing is Jan. 14, 2025 at 5 p.m. The clerk's home will be open for filing on Jan. 14, 2025 from 1-5 p.m.

Lori Tibbetts, Clerk
 Lake Grove Township



Submitted photo

White Earth Tribal and Community College students recently competed in the first phase of the TCU Energy and Food Sovereignty Nexus Prize. From left are Brittney Bellanger, Ira Keezer, Lauri Zupan, and Adrian Olson.

WETCC students compete for TCU Energy and Food Sovereignty Nexus Prize

On Dec. 3, students from White Earth Tribal and Community College (WETCC) Geoscience Today class competed for the honor of advancing to the first phase of the national TCU Energy and Food Sovereignty Nexus Prize. The winning team, Noodin Gaa'Ozhichiigang included Ira Keezer, Madelynn Fain, Gwen Fain, Lauri Zupan, and Brittney Bellanger.

According to the teams' faculty advisor, Allen Derks, the TCU Energy and Food Sovereignty Nexus Prize is intended to build the capacity of Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCU) students to use clean energy to grow food self-sufficiently with sources on Tribal lands. One student team from each of the 35 TCUs is eligible to apply for the prize.

The winning team's project proposal included a real-world model using vertical axis wind turbines (VAWT) for energy capture, alongside deep winter greenhouses for the communities on the White Earth Reservation.

"Our unique approach balances power generation and minimalism, enhancing efficiency while

minimizing land impact," said Keezer, team lead. "This project aims to foster consistent gardening practices, promote renewable energy, and provide economic relief, all while creating valuable educational opportunities. It is also in harmony with our cultural values of environmental stewardship, community engagement, and self-reliance."

Phase 1 winners will be announced January 13, 2025. Winning teams will receive a \$40,000 cash award for their college and advance to the second of three phases of competition to plan, permit, and construct their proposed projects

About WETCC

White Earth Tribal and Community College (WETCC) is two-year college dedicated to academic excellence grounded in Anishinaabe culture, values, and traditions. The college strives to provide quality education and training that meets the needs of the White Earth Nation and surrounding communities. WETCC is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is open to all, regardless of tribal affiliation.

MDH 988 and FirstLink visit WE Mobile Crisis Team

Gaa-waabaabigaanikag (White Earth Nation) Mobile Crisis Team (WEN MCT) recently hosted the MDH 988 Suicide Prevention Team and FirstLink 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline Center for a visit and tour.

The visit included sharing program and services overviews, detailing local resources and partnerships. Topics included existing mental health and suicide prevention related trainings and needs; existing cultural education trainings and needs; existing cultural and Tribal resources available and offered throughout communities; cultural and Tribal educational needs for non-Native allies; program updates and upcoming events.

The tour of White Earth Reservation included

Crisis, Mental Health, and Behavioral Health locations, Behavioral Health and additional Tribal partner programs, Indian Health Services locations, and reservation schools and villages.

The partners also had the opportunity to visit the Reservation Business Council headquarters and the Wild Rice Market.

The collaborative gathering is an ongoing effort in suicide and crisis prevention partnerships working toward wellness together. Chi miigwech, a big thank you, to the WEN MCT for hosting and providing a reservation tour with additional Tribal partner program visits and information to best serve those reaching out to 988. This gathering helped acclimate MDH and 988 Lifeline staff with the White Earth Nation.

Christmas in Pine Point



Submitted photos

The Pine Point community recently held their annual Christmas Celebration. They had 176 adults and kids who were treated to a roast beef dinner, games, and gifts.

Top: Joanne Annette won first place in the Christmas lights contest. Second was Bets Robbins and third place went to Dayton Jones. They had an online poll in selecting a winner.

Middle: Monica Annette, left, won the ugly sweater contest. Debbie Brunner took second and Adalynn Goodman was third.

Bottom: The kids got to visit Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus, along with the Grinch!