



2024 Elections

Eligible candidates can begin filing for office on January 12

The White Earth Reservation Business Committee hereby announces that a General Election will be held June 11 on the White Earth Reservation.

This General Election provides for a April 2 Primary Election in the event there are more than two eligible candidates for the open position.

Elected positions to be filled are as follows:

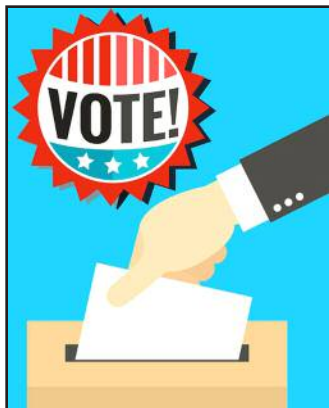
A. **Chairperson** – White Earth Reservation Business Committee – for a Four (4) Year Term.

B. **District III** - White Earth Reservation Business Committee – for a Four (4) Year Term

Candidates shall file during regular business hours beginning Jan. 12 at the White Earth Compliance Department located in the Golden Eagle Bingo Hall next to the Shooting Star Casino in Mahnomen. Filing will close on Jan. 22 at 4:30 p.m. Eligible candidates will be certified by Feb. 12. Challenges to certification matters will be due by Feb. 14.

The Election Ordinance provides that if a candidate receives more than half of the votes cast for that position in the primary, that candidate is the winner and no further election is required for that position.

A copy of the 2024 election calender is available on Page 28. More election information will be available in future editions of the *Anishinaabeg Today*, White Earth website at www.whiteearth.com and the White Earth Facebook page.



Gordon Construction golf tournament raises \$\$ for WE Veterans Association and Honor Guard

Gordon Construction’s fourth annual charity golf tournament recently held at the Mahnomen Country Club raised \$30,983 for the White Earth Veterans.

The White Earth Veterans Association and Honor Guard is a non-profit organization comprised of a group of dedicated Veterans on a voluntary basis. The group provides military services that are second to none in the community. They will provide services to any community event whether it be youth or elder alike that is requested of them which include military funerals, high school, college, or university

events. Also, any dedications, tribal events, and Powwows.

Funds raised for the group will be used for youth and elder requests and donations to fund raisers.

“Being a member of an organization that represents all the military services brings pride to our culture and our future. In the hopes that we can recruit new young and aspiring men and women to carry on a tradition to protect our way of life in the United States of America,” said Robert Durant, historian and member of the White Earth Veterans Association and Honor Guard.



Submitted photo

Pictured from left are Robert Durant, Gordon Construction owner Matt Gordon, Sherald Hanks, Bob Pawlitschek, Rebecca McCradie, Everett Goodwin III, Gordon Construction Founder Butch Gordon, and Curt Pawlitschek.

Elders gather for annual Christmas Party

The White Earth Elders Christmas Party was held Dec. 14 at the Shooting Star Casino.

More than 640 elders and caregivers attended the annual event.

In addition to a plated meal, door prizes and bingo, the elders were entertained with Christmas music by students at the Naytahwaush Community Charter School.



Photo by Gary W. Padrta

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Anishinaabeg Today

The *Anishinaabeg Today* (AT) is the official publication of White Earth Nation and is published once a month. Editorials and articles appearing in the AT are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the AT staff or the White Earth Reservation Business Committee.

The AT reserves the right to reject any advertising or materials submitted for publication. The submission of articles and photos is encouraged, however, they are subject to editing for grammar, length, and malicious/libelous content. The Editor makes the sole decision of what is published in the AT and will not assume any responsibility for unsolicited material nor will the AT guarantee publication upon submission. **Deadlines are strictly enforced!** Deadline dates are printed below in each issue.

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

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

Anishinaabeg Today
PO Box 418
White Earth, MN 56591

Memberships

- ◆ Indigenous Journalist Association
- ◆ Minnesota Newspaper Association

WER Business Committee

Michael Fairbanks
Chairman

Michael LaRoque
Secretary-Treasurer

Henry George Fox
District I Representative

Eugene Sommers
District II Representative

Cheryl "Annie" Jackson
District III Representative

Editor

Gary W. Padrta

Future Issues *

Deadline	Issue Date
January 31	February 7
February 28	March 6
March 27	April 3
April 24	May 1
May 29	June 5

* Deadline and issue dates subject to change

DOVE: 'Down On Violence Everyday' programs

Submitted by the White Earth DOVE Program

The DOVE Community Advocacy Program and the DOVE Omiimii Wadiswan Equay shelter are programs of the White Earth Reservation. Operating to provide safety for survivors of domestic violence, the Omiimii Wadiswan Equay shelter for women and the children under 16 years old. The DOVE program has been in operation since 2006, with the current site opening in 2012.

If someone has a child over 16, whether male or female, DOVE shelter staff will help to find a suitable and safe place for the family to stay.

When someone has fled domestic violence and contacts the shelter, there is a process that has to be followed. The survivor is asked to complete an intake with the shelter advocate. Once that is completed, the best possible remedy will be found for the situation. Altogether, the shelter has 7 rooms. 5 have double beds and a bunkbed, a handicapped room and one "double" room for a larger family. In the double are two double beds in one room, and bunkbed and crib in adjoining room.

The cycle of violence disrupts the members of families from the youngest to the eldest and weakens communities. Native women are more likely to be victimized than any other race. Nationally, statistics show that native women are victimized by members of a different race at a rate of 70% higher than any other interracial violence. While those statistics may be correct on a national level, the statistics do not apply here. The reality is that our own people are victimizing each other.

In 2018, the White Earth Reservation Tribal Council passed a resolution enabling the development of a Domestic Violence Order for Protection code (OFP). This is in part due to the ongoing violence within families and the victim's need for safety.

Other actions to address the ongoing issues faced by our people include the development of the Anishinaabe Sexual Assault Response Team, and the current development of the Domestic Abuse Response Team. The teams are comprised of advocates, health providers, mental health providers, county and reservation law enforcement, and tribal court county court administrators.

In addition, there is a Sexual Assault Healing Group held at Dove on the 3rd Wednesday of each month open to men and women survivors of sexual assault, molestation and exploitation. Survivors do not have to be working with

a DOVE advocate but are welcome to seek direct services. A meal is provided for group members, but childcare is not available. There is limited space, so call to reserve a place at the table. The number is at the end of this article.

Both the Omiimii Wadiswan Equay shelter and DOVE Community Advocacy program staff have been trained in providing survivors with safety planning, completing Orders for Protection and Harassment Restraining Orders in tribal and county jurisdictions and courts. Staff can also provide referrals and assistance to obtain services elsewhere, if the survivor wishes to do so or is outside of the service area that DOVE serves.

If one wishes to do so, a survivor does an intake session with an advocate, answering a series of questions designed to illustrate the type of services needed by the survivor. It may seem intrusive, however, we maintain strict confidentiality. There are things advocates need to know so that the best plan may be designed for the survivor. Sometimes this is called a crisis intervention and support session so that an advocate can help you understand your situation in greater detail.

Persons applying to the DOVE Community Advocacy Program for financial help must have documents to back their claim, such as vehicle title, have a police report or sign a release of information so that DOVE can get the report. The victim must also complete an intake form with advocacy staff. Most property loss or damage is covered under this direct services program for the clients of DOVE. In addition, DOVE can help a survivor to move, from our relocation funds. Help with deposits for the rent and utilities can be paid from this line item. Speak to an advocate if relocating is the best possible path for safety.

Financial help for other types of crimes can be accessed when speaking with an advocate through the crime victim reparation board. This is a separate application. A DOVE advocate can get the application and help you prepare the forms.

Other services DOVE can help with are transportation for medical and legal appointments related to crime, lethality assessments and safety planning, support for victims after a sexual assault, and trafficked people regardless of gender. After a sexual assault, an advocate will be called to meet the victim at hospitals for an evidentiary exam and provide legal support and advocacy for the survivor should

See DOVE Page 27

'Star Wars' to be translated into Ojibwe language

The galaxy of Star Wars is expanding once again as plans take shape to translate the original 1977 Hollywood hit into the Ojibwe language.

Lucasfilm, the Dakota Ojibway Tribal Council and the University of Manitoba said they've reached an agreement to record a dubbed Ojibwe version of Star Wars: A New Hope.

The first film in George Lucas' popular sci-fi series introduces many of the beloved characters, including Jedi Knight Luke Skywalker, Princess Leia and Han Solo and his Wookiee co-pilot, Chewbacca.

It's only the second time the original Star Wars has been officially translated into an Indigenous language

Main script translator for the Ojibwe version and assistant professor at the University of Manitoba, Patricia Ningewance, said the first time was in Navajo.

Producers say Ojibwe was chosen because it is the most spoken Indigenous language in Manitoba, Ontario and Minnesota, with about 320,000 speakers across Canada and the United States.

Ningewance said the significance of this on future generations should not be minimized.

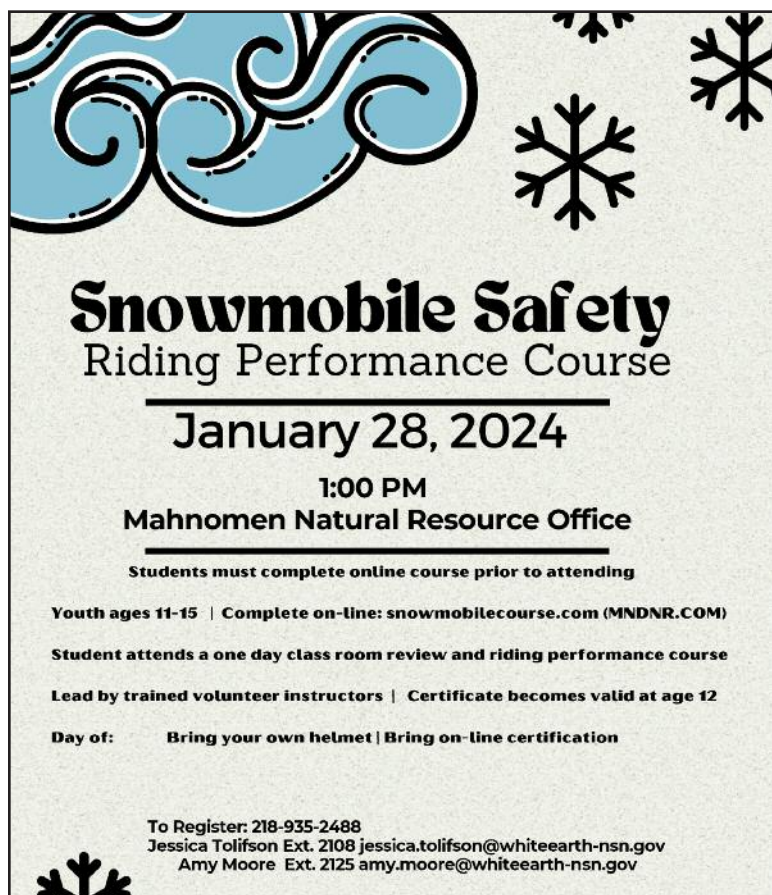
"We need to have a lot of material like this made while we still have fluent speakers, because we're losing fluent speakers all the time," she said. "We need to have material like this so that when my generation is gone, the young people will have things to look at where they can hear the language said."

The Ojibwe teacher and professional translator said hearing real conversations with intonation is important to learning the language.

She added learning how to read and write in Ojibwe is also critical because not many are literate in it, even though they may be fluent. "I'm hoping that after this, there will be more literacy," she said, hoping script readings will be incorporated into the project.

Producers said anticipate the Star Wars translation will happen this year with plans for a premiere in Winnipeg, theatrical screenings across Canada and an eventual television showing on APTN.

Voice actor auditions are expected to take place in Winnipeg where the recording sessions will be held. An open call is being made through StarWarsOjibwe.com.



Snowmobile Safety Riding Performance Course

January 28, 2024

1:00 PM
Mahnomen Natural Resource Office

Students must complete online course prior to attending

Youth ages 11-15 | Complete on-line: snowmobilecourse.com (MNDNR.COM)

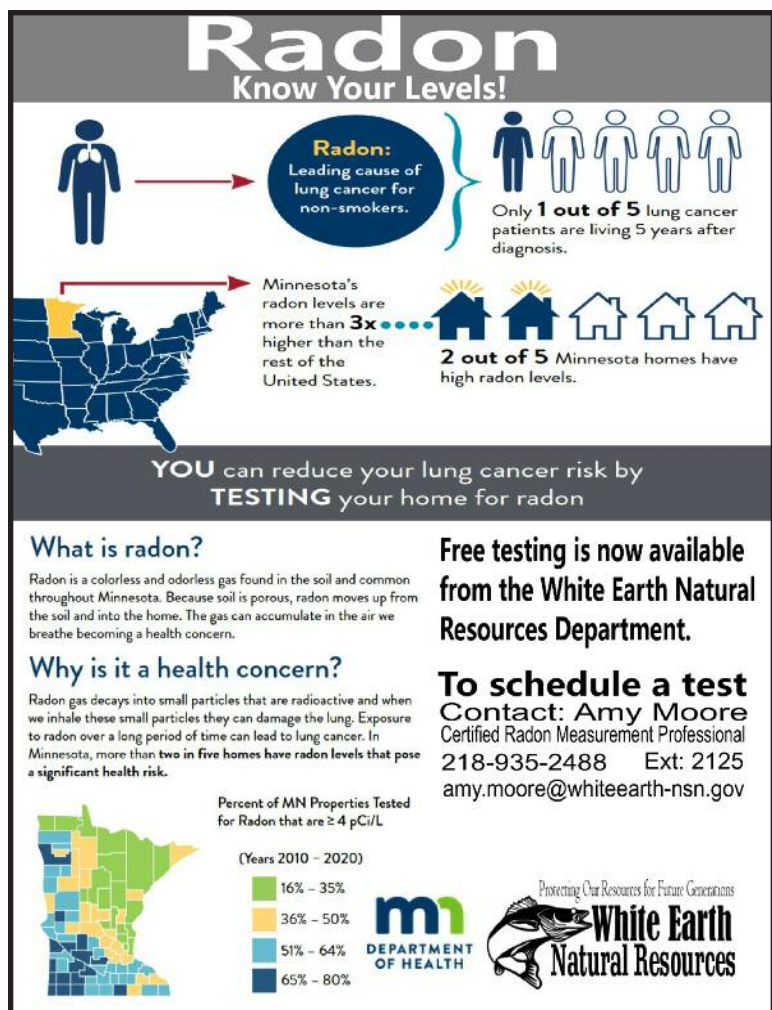
Student attends a one day class room review and riding performance course

Lead by trained volunteer instructors | Certificate becomes valid at age 12

Day of: Bring your own helmet | Bring on-line certification

To Register: 218-935-2488
 Jessica Tolifson Ext. 2108 jessica.tolifson@whiteearth-nsn.gov
 Amy Moore Ext. 2125 amy.moore@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Radon Know Your Levels!



Radon: Leading cause of lung cancer for non-smokers.

Only **1 out of 5** lung cancer patients are living 5 years after diagnosis.

Minnesota's radon levels are more than **3x** higher than the rest of the United States.

2 out of 5 Minnesota homes have high radon levels.

YOU can reduce your lung cancer risk by TESTING your home for radon

What is radon?
Radon is a colorless and odorless gas found in the soil and common throughout Minnesota. Because soil is porous, radon moves up from the soil and into the home. The gas can accumulate in the air we breathe becoming a health concern.

Why is it a health concern?
Radon gas decays into small particles that are radioactive and when we inhale these small particles they can damage the lung. Exposure to radon over a long period of time can lead to lung cancer. In Minnesota, more than two in five homes have radon levels that pose a significant health risk.

Free testing is now available from the White Earth Natural Resources Department.

To schedule a test Contact: Amy Moore
 Certified Radon Measurement Professional
 218-935-2488 Ext: 2125
amy.moore@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Percent of MN Properties Tested for Radon that are ≥ 4 pCi/L (Years 2010 - 2020)

- 16% - 35%
- 36% - 50%
- 51% - 64%
- 65% - 80%

mi DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH **White Earth Natural Resources**

News from the Circle Back Program

Starting later this month, the Circle Back Program will be moving youth assessments to Direct Access mode (assessments same day as requested) for youth Substance use Comprehensive Assessments.

Any treatment services recommended may start the same day of receiving the assessment. So parents/guardians need to be present at the time of assessment so that all necessary paperwork may be signed and completed with proper signatures.

For any questions please contact us at 218-983-4693.

News From Chairman Michael Fairbanks

Aaniin Boozhoo Gaa-waabaabiganikaag Niminwendam Waabaminaan!

Minawaanigozi Oshki Gikinoonowin nindinawe-maaganidog!

Aabita-Bibooni-Giizis

Aaniish inaa akawe ninga-gaagiizomaag aadi-zookaanag.

Greetings White Earth Nation I am happy to see you!

Happy New Years my relatives!

It's January and an exciting start to our new year!

We have an awesome story for this month.

Zhingibis & Manidoo Biboon:

The Helldiver & the Spirit of Winter:

Endaso-biboon bineshiinyag ayanimibizo zhaawanong. Every winter, the birds fly south.

One winter, Zhingibis, the hell-diver or grebe, told all of the other birds he would stay for the winter to take care of two of his friends who had been injured and couldn't fly south. Both of his friends, Ajijaak, Crane and Ininishib, Mallard duck had broken wings. To feed them, he got fish by diving through a hole in the ice. But the Spirit of Biboon got jealous of his success at fishing and froze the water after Zhingibis had dived through his hole below the ice. But Zhingibis swam to shore where there were a lot of reeds and bulrushes. He pulled one of them down through the ice with his bill to make a hole in the ice, and so he got out and flew home.

When he got home, he saw that someone was peeking in the door of his wigwam. It was Manidoo Biboon, who did not like him and who was trying to freeze him out. Zhingibis got a big fire going, but it was still cold in the wigwam because the Manidoo Biboon was right there making it cold. But Zhingibis tricked the Manidoo Biboon by mopping his face with a handkerchief and saying, "Gee, but it's hot in here!" The Manidoo Biboon thought the fire was hot enough to melt him, so he ran away.

One day Zhingibis decided to have a feast. He got some mahnomen, wild rice and sent zhiishiib, duck to invite Manidoo Biboon, but it was so cold poor zhiishiib froze to death before he even got there. Then, he sent Partridge, Bine with the invitation. She got very cold, too, but she dove under the snow to warm up and then went on again. She reached the Manidoo Biboon and invited him to Zhingibis's feast.

When the Manidoo Biboon came to the feast, it was like a blizzard coming in the door of the wigwam. He had icicles on his nose and face. Zhingibis built the fire higher and higher, and it began to get warm inside the wigwam. The icicles began to melt on Manidoo Biboon's face. He was getting way to warm, but he loved the mahnomen Zhingibis had at his feast and wanted to keep eating.

Zhingibis said, "Whew! It's very warm in here. It must be spring already." Manidoo Biboon got scared and grabbed his blanket and ran out of the wigwam. With his fire, Zhingibis had brought the Ziigwan, spring, and outside, agwajiiing things were already melting and there were just patches of snow here and there. Old Manidoo Biboon had a hard time getting back to his home to giuwedonong, north where there is always snow.

Our nation's Human Services and Behavioral Health has a remarkable summery of 2023. In the realm of Human Services at the Maadaadizi Workforce Center, significant strides were made in 2023. TERO Construction and Giizhaa successfully placed over 160 clients into full-time positions, resulting in \$679,006.50 in wages across various RTC



departments and construction projects. The 477 Employment and Training initiative positively impacted 311 clients by providing diverse training and employment services, helping them achieve goals such as obtaining driver's licenses, securing full-time employment, acquiring new skills, and retaining employment. The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) achieved record participation with 74 youths in both summer sessions and year-round implementation, with notable successes in driver's education, driving permits, and permanent part-time employment.

Financial Services demonstrated commendable achievements in 2023. The SNAP Management Evaluation (ME) Team's meticulous evaluation revealed that the White Earth Nation met the application processing goal of 95% or higher in both Expedited five Business Days and Regular 30 Day SNAP for the second quarter of 2023. This accomplishment reflects the dedication of our staff to ensuring accurate and timely issuance of SNAP benefits. Looking forward to 2024, a key goal is to hire and build a specialized SNAP team to enhance our capacity for timely service without staff burnout.

In the White Earth Child Support realm, the program exhibited notable performance measures for the fiscal year 2023, including the establishment of support orders for 79% of the cases, an increase from the previous year. The program collected \$641,823.80 in fiscal year 2023, marking a substantial increase from the previous year. Moreover, collaborative efforts and partnerships with the State of Minnesota in various grants and advisory boards underscore the program's commitment to providing efficient and up-to-date services to children and families. Noteworthy initiatives include the elimination of the tribal non-federal share match, making strides in the federal approval process.

In the Vocational Rehabilitation domain, the White Earth VR Project has served 213 clients, with a focus on providing culturally appropriate services to eligible American Indians with disabilities. Staff achievements include completing the Certificate in Vocational Rehabilitation Studies and ongoing educational pursuits. The program has successfully collaborated with the state Vocational Rehabilitation Program, the State Board for the Blind, and the State Board Rehabilitation Council. As the Food Shelf prepares to commence operations in January, it marks a significant addition to our efforts in addressing community needs. I want to say gichi-miigwech our Behavioral Health and Human Service Divisions you all are doing an amazing work!

We are doing remarkable in our Waabigwan

See Chairman Page 27

News From Secretary-Treasurer Michael J. LaRoque

Aanin Boozhoo.

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

I will be featuring the White Earth Land Settlement Act Division and Boards & Commissions.

WELSA

The White Earth Land Settlement Act (WELSA) Department is responsible for the settlement of claims on certain lands within the boundaries of the White Earth Indian Reservation. Collaborating with the Office of Hearings and Appeals for the probate process. The location of heirs for the issuance of Monetary Compensation.

The WELSA Department is headed by Jolyn Donnell as the WELSA Administrator with eight employees and is funded by the Land and Water Claims Settlements and Miscellaneous Payments to Indians, in accordance with Public Law 99-264.

The total budget is \$625,000 for operating and fringe.

Medical Cannabis Control Commission

At the Medicinal Cannabis Control Commission, thier mission is to responsibly regulate and over see cannabis cultivation, distribution, and use within our community. Grounded in our cultural heritage and guided by respect, integrity, and community, they prioritize the safe and ethical implementation of cannabis regulations. They strive to promote well-being by providing access to cannabis as medicine and wellness.

General fund budget is \$722,508 for operating and fringe.

White Earth Council of Elders

The purpose of the White Earth Council of Elders is to improve the economic, physical, and spiritual lifestyles of American Indian Elders on the White Earth Reservation. To restore the Tribal Elders to the traditional position of respected advisors and leaders, and to enable Tribal Elders to have access to needed services.

General fund budget is \$5,000 a quarter with a total of \$20,000 per year.

White Earth Constitutional Delegation

The White Earth Constitution Reform Delegates group was established in 2018 and are representatives of the White Earth Reservation. White Earth Delegates and Alternates are selected by the White Earth district community members.

Delegates represent each district on the Reservation, the Iron Range, Metro, Leech Lake, and At-large areas.

District Constitution Reform delegates establish meetings and educational sessions in respective districts.

General fund budget is \$59,508 total for operating and meeting stipends.

White Earth Gaming Commission

The White Earth Gaming Commission was established in 2018 by the Tribal Council to conduct regulatory oversight to ensure compliance with the Gaming Ordinance and all applicable Tribal, Federal, and State laws and regulations. The Gaming Commission promulgates the regulations and guidelines as it deems appropriate to implement the provi-



sions of the Gaming Ordinance to all gaming operations within the exterior boundaries of the White Earth Reservation. The Gaming Commission is made up of enrolled members of the White Earth Nation which makes decisions regarding all aspects of the gaming regulation.

General fund budget is \$63,276 total for operating and meeting stipends.

White Earth Veterans Association

The White Earth Veterans Association provides services to all branches of services for the membership of the White Earth Reservation.

General fund budget is \$6,000 a quarter with a total of \$24,000 per year.

Mii-Gii-Way-Win Advisory Board

The purpose of the Mii-Gii-Win Advisory Board is committed to serving our communities, through economic opportunities, that promote the enhancement of the quality of life for our membership and their families. The Mii-Gii-Way-Win Board will work diligently to serve the needs of the organization and charities requesting a donation, through a fair and effective manner to ensure the preservation and respect of our Native American culture.

General fund budget is \$100,000 annually

Tribal Utility Commission

The Tribe and the Tribal Utility Commission (TUC) exist to ensure reliable, safe, affordable, and environmentally sound utility services to our Tribal Members and non-members living within the boundaries of the White Earth Reservation. The TUC is also charged with securing the Tribals long-term energy and economic development goals and policies, specifically including the objectives of promoting energy efficiency, and the use of renewable energy resources while reducing carbon emissions.

The total budget is \$375,000 funded from the ARPA budget.

Tribal Elections

The Tribal Council provides funding for all Tribal Elections every two years.

General Fund budget is \$254,887.

I hope everyone had a happy and safe holiday season. W look forward to a great new year while moving forward into the future for 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

White Earth tribal offices closed for holiday

White Earth RBC offices will be closed on Monday, Jan. 15 for **Martin Luther King Jr. Day** and will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 16 at 8 a.m.

WHITE EARTH NATION FISHING DERBY

SAVE THE DATE

4TH ANNUAL

FEBRUARY 3RD 2024

NORTH TWIN LAKE
Naytahwaush MN



More information to come!
White Earth Natural Resources

DOORS 7PM
SHOW 8PM

DANCE PARTY
10PM

VIP TABLES
\$100

\$15 TICKETS

LONDON DEFY
DARKHORSE-ESCADA

SUMMER FUN

CYBERSOTA

ADEJA DUVALLE

MIA STARR

CAI CONTROVERSY

TAYKEN KING

A GRAND DRAG SHOW
HOSTED BY TONY VILLEBRUN
SATURDAY JANUARY 20TH 2024
@ THE SHOOTING STAR EVENT CENTER
MAHNOMEN, MN

18+ SHOW

News From District II Rep. Eugene Sommers

Boozhoo Anishinaabe,

This month, we dedicated time to honor our elders and longstanding employees (25+ years) through two special events held at the Shooting Star Casino. The first gathering was the Elders Christmas Party, featuring musical performances from Naytahwaush Community Charter School. The Elderly Nutrition Program added excitement with fantastic prizes and bingo. The event drew a significant crowd, prompting us to plan for more seating next year.

The second occasion was the Employee Recognition Party, celebrating 64 RBC employees with over 25 years of dedicated service. Each employee, accompanied by guests, received a letter of recognition and a blanket. Chi Miigwech to all our Employees/Team and our Elders; your contributions are deeply appreciated!

Minnesota Attorney General Consultation

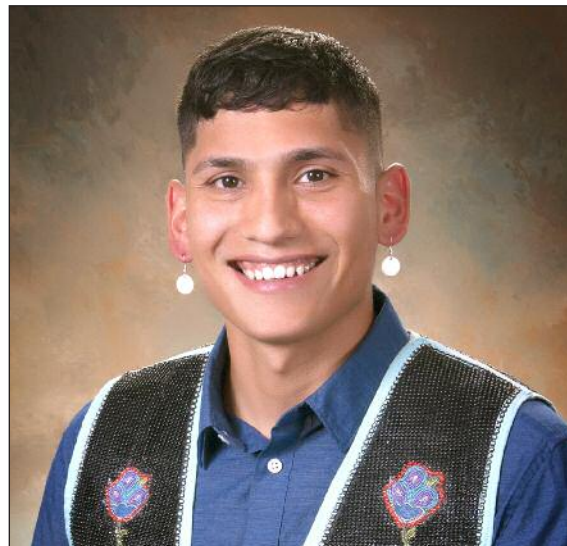
On Dec. 12, the RBC engaged in a meeting with Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison. The focus of the discussion revolved around the diverse jurisdictions encompassed by the reservation boundaries, emphasizing the importance of upholding due process. Additionally, talks centered on White Earth's plan to host an "expungement clinic," wherein the Attorney General's Office would collaborate to aid eligible individuals in clearing their criminal records.

Minn. Public Utility Commission Consultation

On Dec. 13, the RBC convened with the Minnesota Public Utility Commission, joined by the White Earth Tribal Utility Commission. The meeting included a dialogue on potential funding avenues for solar projects. Additionally, participants delved into talks about broadband infrastructure grants, exploring opportunities for collaboration with local service providers.

Minnesota Silver Gloves Tournament

White Earth's young athletes participated in the State Silver Gloves Tournament, showcasing their skills and determination. In the 145lbs Championship



bout, Harland Hagen of Naytahwaush faced off against Issac Wunderlick from St. Cloud Boxing. While both fighters exhibited impressive performances, Wunderlick emerged as the victor. Harland is anticipated to return to the ring next month for another bout.

In the 138lbs Championship bout, Glen Sommers Jr. of Mahnomen took on River Diaz from Element Boxing. Sommers successfully defended his title, securing a second consecutive championship. As a result, he advances to the 4 State Tournament scheduled for next month in Hinckley, Minn.

I trust that everyone had a delightful holiday season, cherishing moments with their loved ones and family. Thank you for entrusting me with the responsibility to serve you, and I look forward to the continued journey together. Gigawabamin Menawaa!

Contacts

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Cell Phone: 218-396-9502

Christopher Vanwert Jr.

Christopher.Vanwert@whiteearth-nsn.gov
Cell Phone: 218-850-2533



Submitted photo

Pictured from left are Eugene Sommers (coach), Harland Hagen, Glen Sommers Jr., Joe Morones (coach), William Boswell, Glen Sommers Sr. (coach), and Tyric Boswell.

Rez Briefs

White Earth RBC offices closed for holidays

White Earth RBC offices will be closed on Monday, Jan. 15 for **Martin Luther King Jr. Day** and will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 16 at 8 a.m.

Waubun School Forest trails are open for walking

No snow but the trails are open for walking. A notice will be posted on the Waubun School Information facebook page when there is enough snow to ski. You can call Loree at 218-473-2575 for information.

WIC announcements

White Earth WIC has permanently relocated their Naytahwaush location to the Waabinokwe Health Center located at 2471 310th Avenue in Mahnomen. They have temporarily relocated the White Earth location to the Tribal Health Building at 26246 Crane Road in White Earth. This will be in effect for the next few months while the clinic is renovating. Please contact WIC with any questions at 218-204-0399 or 218-401-4247. Thank you!

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.

Ogema VFW no longer available for rent

Effective immediately the Ogema VFW will no longer be available for rent due to insurance reasons. Thank you.

Iron Range Area Community Council

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

Announcement from the White Earth Education Division

Please contact our **NEW** Student Finance Program for questions regarding:

- White Earth Scholarship Program**
- White Earth Johnson O'Malley Program**
- White Earth Education Assistance**

Staff is also available to answer questions regarding financial aid, FAFSA, scholarship opportunities, and other assistance available.

Stop in the RBC Education Office or call 218-983-3285 Ext. 5302 or 5309

Valleyview Commons

Mahnomen has immediate openings for 1 bedroom units

\$500 Visa gift card move-in special!!!

Qualification Changes!

Rent is income based.

All ages welcome to apply

No income restrictions

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 III Rep. Cheryl 'Annie' Jackson

Boozhoo Everyone,

Hoping you all had a great Christmas holiday with family, loved ones and friends. Also, Happy New Year to all. My New Years wish for all is that 2024 brings happiness, good health, prosperity, and good memories to all.

This past year has brought us all happiness and sadness. Sending hugs and prayers to all that need them.

Meetings attended:

Dec. 4 – RBC Debriefing

Dec. 6 – RBC and COLA School Board

Dec. 12 – RBC and Attorney General Keith Ellison

Dec. 13 – RBC/TUC and Public Utility Commission

Dec. 15 – RBC and Representative Zach Stephanson

Dec. 18 – RBC Debriefing

Dec. 27 – RBC Debriefing

In the Dec. 4 and 27 debriefing we discussed Creators Place in Pine Point. We have our programs working with them to obtain funding to keep this open. We were updated that they have 23 employees that work every other week and their funding will end at the end of December 2023. As Pine Point is in a very rural area and the members are very happy to be able to work there, we will do what we can to assist this workforce center to remain open.

On Dec. 4, the Elderly Nutrition Program was present and gave an update on the program. Sites are open 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Some days may differ, but they are trying to keep to the schedule as much as possible. ENP all head back to the main sites at or before 3. The temperature on the food is taken when they leave the main sites and when they get to the sites. These are documented each day. They also stated that more warmers are being ordered. They are trying to accommodate to each community the best they can so if there is more time needed at the sites, please let them know. Meetings were scheduled with the Elder Commission and the White Earth Council of Elders to explain the changes and for open questions and discussions.

The White Earth Housing Authority Executive Director was also present, he gave an update on the ARPA funds. They will be amending the number of pre-manufactured homes that will be purchased with this funding as infrastructure was not included and availability of homesites was unavailable. There will be 12 units instead of 15 units. There will be four units placed in each of the three districts.

The Circle of Life Academy School Board was able to give us many updates on the direction that they see the school going. They are all very focused on making our school a better place for all students and the faculty there. It is always good to have these meetings, to get updates on changes, issues, and if there are any problems that they may need assistance with. Another meeting will be scheduled in the new year. I look forward to updating on more after our next meeting.

The Tribal Consultation with the Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison went well. Many different topics were discussed. One being getting our Anishinaabeg brothers and sisters out to vote. This is very important as those that are elected are major decision makers on many issues that affect us all. So please vote if you are able. Another subject was expungement or sealing of some criminal activities on a person's record. It was decided to have an expungement clinic here on White Earth. A couple of our staff will be working with Attorney General Ellison's staff to get this scheduled. If you have something on your record that is holding you back, please attend this clinic, when it gets scheduled, it may help you get it



sealed. The Attorney General is a very down to earth man, it is a pleasure to be able to meet with him and his staff and hear all the work that they do.

The Public Utility Commission meeting went well. This was a tribal consultation. They gave us an update on what is happening in our area. Our Tribal Utility Commission was able to give updates on what they have been working on and what we would like for our members. The PUC stated that they have authority over power companies, but very little input on member owned cooperatives, the cooperative's boards have the authority over them. They stressed that it is very important to get our members involved with these boards as they make the policies, procedures and set rate amounts.

Representative Zach Stephanson came for a Tribal Consultation. This was good. We were able to talk to him on the return of the State Forest and Tamarac. He had several questions, as well as many good things to say about the work we do. He stated he would do what he could to assist in the return of our lands.

I must give a shout out to our Administration staff, other staff and all our Community Councils. There was an overwhelming amount of work that went into the toy/gift card giveaway. Cannot forget about all the volunteers that assisted and of course Santa and in some cases Mrs. Clause, they all did an amazing job.

I have word that Edith Smith retired on Dec. 29. Edith has been an asset to our reservation for many years, no matter what her job title was. I want her to know that all her hard work and commitment to our members has not gone unnoticed. I am sending her nothing but well wishes and I hope she enjoys the time she has now to spend anyway she wants. A little bird told me she wants to focus on her family, which to me is time spent very well. Congratulations on your retirement and want her to know that she will be greatly missed.

In closing, I have decided to run for District III reelection. I want to say that it has been my pleasure and blessing to be your voice these past three years and four months, it seems that time has flown by. I would like to continue to do so. I will be out asking for your support in the New Year and if you want to come see me or set up a time or place to visit, please reach out. Again, Miigwech to you all.

As usual my love to all and extra ((hugs)) and prayers that may need them.

Until next month...

Respectfully,
Cheryl "Annie" Jackson
"Noodinance"
District III Representative
218-401-0238

FIVE SKIES EMPOWERMENT TRAINING

WHO: WHITE EARTH NATION MEMBERS
WHAT: EMPOWERMENT TRAINING SCHEDULED
WHERE: MAADAADIZI WORKFORCE CENTER
WHEN: FEBRUARY 5, 2024 – MARCH 1, 2024

WHAT IS EMPOWERMENT TRAINING:

THIS PROGRAM INCLUDES THE FIVE SKIES' PROPRIETARY EMPOWERMENT TRAINING THAT COVERS A WIDE VARIETY OF TOPICS INCLUDING MENDING BROKEN HEARTS, LESSONS FROM THE MEDICINE WHEEL, FINANCIAL LITERACY, INTERVIEWING AND RESUME SKILLS AS WELL AS MANY OTHER SKILLS SUCH AS COMMUNICATION, LISTENING, CRITICAL THINKING AND MUCH MORE. WE ALSO PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AND OSHA 30 AND FIRST AID/CPR. YOU WILL BE ABLE TO MEET AND ASK QUESTIONS DIRECTLY OF THE CONTRACTORS AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS UNIONS AND CONTRACTORS. CLASS NORMALLY RUNS MONDAY – FRIDAY FROM 8:30 AM TO 3:00 PM EACH DAY TO ACCOMMODATE FOR THOSE RELYING ON TRANSIT. CLASS IS LIMITED TO 20 PEOPLE.

Contact the Maadaadizi Workforce Center for more information and to apply for the next class. The Maadaadizi Workforce Center may have certain eligibility criteria that must be met prior to attending class.

Maadaadizi Workforce Center: 219-936-2444 Ext. 3215

Mask required for everyone not Vaccinated/Boosted against Covid-19.

8th Annual: White Earth Tribal 4-H Cultural Winter Camp

January 20th & 21st, 2024
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



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
EXTENSION

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

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Bins Now Located Behind Naytahwaush Complex

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**

News From District 1 Rep. Henry George Fox

Boo-zhoo,

Hope the Holidays were good for all. I would like to take the time for an update on the Elder Tiny Homes in the Village of Rice Lake. We are a little behind schedule. We have three of the houses on site and are waiting for the appliances and power to hook to them up.

There will be an application for the units. We have five for those 55 years and older and five for 65 and older. We have five with one bedroom and five with two bedrooms so when it is getting close we will send out the application. I'm a kind of guy that wants to get it done as soon as possible so that's called 'hurry up and wait.'

I have an emergency contact list: White Earth RTC 218-983-3285, White Earth Health Center 218-983-4300, White Earth Homeless 218-935-5554 Ext. 3212, White Earth Dispatch 218-983-3201, White Earth DOVE Program 218-983-4656, White Earth Elders Program 218-935-5554 Ext. 3261 or 3264, White Earth Constituent Services 218-935-5554 Ext. 3218, White Earth Energy Assistance 218-473-2711, and White Earth Human Services 218-935-5554 Ext. 3260 or 3214.

I can help with any problems to get it taken care of and guide you in the right direction.

We all know of our drug epidemic - being this is my career for many years I will help anyway I can to



get the help you need. Just call my number below anytime.

It will be a busy 2024 and will do everything I can to get what's needed to get things done for the good of our people.

Henry G. Fox

District 1 Representative
218-407-2729 or 218-850-0753

Dr. Susan La Flesche Picotte

was the first Native American to earn a medical degree

Dr. Susan La Flesche Picotte was the first Native American to earn a medical degree. A pioneer at a time when she had few rights, either as a woman or as an American Indian, a child.

She was the youngest daughter of Mary Gail and Joseph La Flesche, who was of French and Indian descent and was the last recognized chief of the Omaha.

She was born in 1865, more than a decade after her father signed a treaty with the government giving up much of the Omaha's ancestral home. They'd been moved to a reservation in northeastern Nebraska.

As white settlers pushed the frontier farther and farther west, her father saw assimilation as the key to survival. Many Omaha rejected that, but his children took it to heart. Embracing heritage, Susan ventured into the world of white America, confronting prejudice along the way.

She graduated second in the class of 1886 at what is now Hampton University, a historically black school in Virginia. And at a time when women were considered ill-suited to be physicians, she enrolled at Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, the nation's first medical school for women.

She completed the three-year program in just two, graduating at the top of her class. She was now a doctor, though as a woman she could not vote, and as a Native American, U.S. law did not consider her a citizen.

Then 24 years old, she chose to return to the Omaha reservation, becoming the sole doctor for 1,200 people across more than 400 square miles, including the Winnebago Reservation. Armed with formal medical training, she pushed for better hygiene and food sanitation, including window screens to keep out disease carrying flies.

She tackled the health disparities facing Native

Americans, including widespread disease, suicide, mental illness and alcohol abuse. She led temperance campaigns persuading the government to ban liquor sales on reservations.

Her own husband, Henry, a Yankton Sioux, died in 1905 of tuberculosis, aggravated by alcoholism. In 1913, even as her own health faltered, she opened the first privately funded hospital on a Native reservation.

The Walt Hill, Nebraska facility treated all people in need, not just those from the reservation. The hospital closed in 1940, and today the building is a national historic landmark. More than a century after her death in 1915 at age 50, the modern day fruits of her efforts can be seen in health facilities on reservations.

But it's also not hard to imagine her among those who complain that the U.S. Indian Health Service is understaffed and underfunded. Her determination is reflected in the face of a bronze sculpture in downtown Lincoln, Nebraska. And in her words inscribed next to it, I shall always fight good and hard, even if I have to fight alone.



Dr. Susan La Flesche Picotte

White Earth Council of Elders

By Tim Rindahl, Chairman

White Earth Nation Council of Elders

December has come and gone with a lot of new ideas, I hope everyone enjoyed Christmas and got lots of presents for being good. We had a good turnout for the Elders Christmas Party held Dec. 14 at the Shooting Star Casino. A big thanks to all the staff from the casino and ENP, you all did a really fantastic job. Everyone was very happy and a special thanks to the Urban Elders Council for making the trip from Minneapolis.

A lot has happened in December. We held Elders Council elections and the results are as follows:

Chairperson

Tim Rindahl - 20

Lucille Silk - 14

New Chair is Tim Rindahl

Vice Chairperson

Sam Crowell - 20

Susan Hanks - 16

Sam remains as Vice Chair

Secretary

Missy Fairbanks - 14

Monica Perrault - 19

New Secretary is Monica Perrault

Treasurer

Colleen Blattenbauer - 24

Pat Fineday - 11

Colleen remains as Treasurer

We would like to thank Lucille for all the years she has put into helping out the elders and fighting for our rights as elders. She has done some amazing things and we look forward to her input on issues that we are facing as we get older. Thank you Lucille.

We would also like to thank Missy for all the work she has done. Monica has some big shoes to fill - you wouldn't believe how much work it is to be the secretary. Thank you Missy.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact any one of us on the council.

We had our first executive board meeting on Dec. 18 to discuss and start a plan for the upcoming year. We have a Facebook group called Elders of White Earth where we will post upcoming events and information that needs to get out there. We are also working on a way to put the meeting minutes on there to view because we know that all elders can't make it to the meetings for many reasons. You shall not be excluded because we believe that as an elder you are already a member and your voice shall be heard and so will your input.

We will be asking for help with building our committees. We will need elders for an election committee, planning committee, financial committee and a bylaw committee.

I would like to see more of our young people help those elders who need it I have talked with some people about this and it looks very promising.

We would like to hear from any programs that will benefit us in anyway possible, maybe some elders would like to volunteer help to some of these programs once again feel free to contact any one of us.

Please be careful when walking outside or getting out of a vehicle. It is and will remain slippery for the next couple of months also remember to reach out to your neighbor and friends if nothing else just to say hi remember to positive and always say something nice.

Thank you.

Tim Rindahl Chair / 218-261-0182

Sam Crowell Vice Chair / 218-252-9390

Colleen Blattenbauer / Treasurer

Monica Perrault / Secretary



Healthy for you. Helpful for all.

Visit helpfulforall.org to see a list of participating pharmacies.



GET VACCINATED TO HELP SAVE LIVES

Sanford Health is partnering with your neighborhood pharmacy to provide easy access to important vaccines. Together, we are making it easier than ever for you to protect yourself and help prevent the spread of these diseases.



This program is supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)) through USAging as part of a financial assistance award to USAging totaling \$74,999,835 with 100 percent funding by ACL/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official view of, nor an endorsement by, USAging, ACL/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

White Earth welcomes State Representative



Photo by Laura Lee Erickson

The Tribal leaders recently met with State Representative Zach Stephenson to discuss sports betting and cannabis legislation. From left are Chairman Michael Fairbanks, Rep. Zach Stephenson, District III Rep. Cheryl "Annie" Jackson, Secretary-Treasurer Michael LaRoque and Tribal Lobbyist Bill Haas.

CIRCLE OF LIFE OPEN ENROLLMENT NOW ACCEPTING NEW STUDENT APPLICATIONS.



Opens January 3rd
Closes January 18th
Circle Of life Academy's open enrollment starts beginning of the third quarter. Applications available at COLA if you would like an application mailed to you please contact us at 218-983-4180.

Circle of Life Mission statement: Our Circle of Life Academy is immersed in Anishinaabe Mino-Bimaadiziwin for our children and community while providing the highest quality of education.

Make A Difference as a Caregiver Support Volunteer



Feel the satisfaction of giving back! We are seeking volunteers to meet with older adults.
No prior experience required, and training is provided.

866.787.9802 • caregiverservices@lssmn.org
lssmn.org/volunteer/caregiver

White Earth tax sites open January 29 at Shooting Star Casino in Mahnomen

White Earth Investment will open its Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site on Monday, Jan. 29 at Shooting Star Casino. The tax site will be open Mondays through Thursdays, Jan. 29 through March 8, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and then Mondays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. from March 11 - 27. Appointments are required and can be made by visiting the weii.website or calling 1-800-752-6579 beginning on Jan. 22.

White Earth Investment Initiative has been providing free income tax services since 2006. In 2023, its tax service filed more than 500 federal returns and facilitated the return of nearly \$1 million to the community by way of federal tax refunds while also saving taxpayers more than \$100,000 in tax preparation fees. In addition to operating its tax site at Shooting Star Casino, WEII also operated tax sites in Detroit Lakes.

“We are very excited about providing tax preparation services again this year,” said Sue Trnka, WEII

Community Services Coordinator. “I am excited to welcome Jodi Lunde as WEII’s newest Community Services Coordinator as well as a few new volunteers who will be assisting with tax preparation at our sites. We love seeing everyone each year and helping them with the tax filing process.”

Taxpayers using WEII’s VITA services must bring photo IDs, originals or copies of Social Security cards for all persons listed on the tax return, and all tax documents (e.g., W2s, 1099s) along to their tax appointment.

WEII’s VITA tax sites are a service of White Earth Investment Initiative and are made possible by Shooting Star Casino Hotel & Event Center, Boys & Girls Club of Detroit Lakes, Midwest Minnesota Community Development Corporation, Internal Revenue Service, Minnesota Department of Revenue, Wells Fargo Foundation, and Oklahoma Native Assets Coalition. WEII is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Calendar
Shooting Star Event Center Site / Mahnomen
January-February-March 2024

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
January 29	January 30	January 31	February 1	February 2
OPEN 11am-7pm	OPEN 11am-7pm	OPEN 11am-7pm	OPEN 11am-7pm	SITE CLOSED
February 5	February 6	February 7	February 8	February 9
OPEN 11am-7pm	OPEN 11am-7pm	OPEN 11am-7pm	OPEN 11am-7pm	SITE CLOSED
February 12	February 13	February 14	February 15	February 16
OPEN 11am-7pm	OPEN 11am-7pm	OPEN 11am-7pm	OPEN 11am-7pm	SITE CLOSED
February 19	February 20	February 21	February 22	February 23
SITE CLOSED	OPEN 11am-7pm	OPEN 11am-7pm	OPEN 11am-7pm	SITE CLOSED
February 26	February 27	February 28	February 29	March 1
SITE CLOSED	SITE CLOSED	SITE CLOSED	SITE CLOSED	SITE CLOSED
March 4	March 5	March 6	March 7	March 8
OPEN 11am-7pm	OPEN 11am-7pm	OPEN 11am-7pm	OPEN 11am-7pm	SITE CLOSED
March 11	March 12	March 13	March 14	March 15
OPEN 11am-5pm	SITE CLOSED	OPEN 11am-5pm	SITE CLOSED	SITE CLOSED
March 18	March 19	March 20	March 21	March 22
OPEN 11am-5pm	SITE CLOSED	OPEN 11am-5pm	SITE CLOSED	SITE CLOSED
March 25	March 26	March 27		
OPEN 11am-5pm	SITE CLOSED	OPEN 11am-5pm—Last Day!		

To make an appointment, visit weii.website or call 800.752.6579 after January 22
 For assistance after March 27, call Sue at 218.844.7029 or Jodi at 218.844.7057

weii.website • 800.752.6579

WE Reservation organizations begin new dog obedience classes free for local communities

Niiyogaadejig (the 4-legged ones) is a new program that White Earth Tribal Public Health is facilitating along with Vindictive K-9, WE Public Safety, WE Behavioral Health, WE Youth Administrator, and WE R Furr.

Amanda Wadena, owner of Vindictive K-9 is a community member in Naytahwaush. She has graciously volunteered her dog training abilities for this endeavor. The basic obedience classes will be six sessions long with classes being weekly.

To begin with, we are starting in three communi-

ties that have showed interest in classes. We hope to bring these classes - which are free of charge - to all of our reservation communities.

All dogs must be up to date on rabies, distemper and bordetella vaccines. Proof of vaccination must be provided prior to starting class.

For vaccine questions please call or text WERFurr at 218-401-4398. To get enrolled in a class near you, or with any questions regarding classes, please contact Public Health at 218-983-3286 Ext. 1373.

THE DOCTOR'S CORNER

January is Cervical Cancer Awareness Month

By Deanna Pepper, WHNP-BC
 White Earth Health Center

January is Cervical Cancer Awareness Month. What is cervical cancer? Cervical cancer is cancer that starts in the cervix, the narrow opening into the uterus from the vagina.

More than 12,000 women in the United States will be diagnosed with cervical cancer each year, and more than 4,000 women will die. Cervical cancer is the second most common type of cancer for women worldwide, but because it develops over time, it is also one of the most preventable types of cancer. Deaths from cervical cancer in the United States continue to decline by approximately 2 percent a year. This decline is primarily due to the widespread use of the Pap test to detect cervical abnormalities and allow for early treatment. Most women who have abnormal cervical cell changes that progress to cervical cancer have never had a Pap test or have not had one in the previous three to five years.

Did you know there is a virus called the HPV or human papillomavirus that is found in about 99% of all cervical cancers? There are over 100 different types of HPV, most of which are considered low-risk and do not cause cervical cancer. High-risk HPV types may cause cervical cell abnormalities or cancer. More than 70 percent of cervical cancer cases can be attributed to two types of the virus, HPV-16 and HPV-18, often referred to as high-risk HPV types.

HPV is estimated to be the most common sexually transmitted infection in the United States. In fact, by age 50 approximately 80% of women have been infected with some type of HPV. The majority of women infected with the HPV virus do NOT develop cervical cancer. For most women the HPV infection does not last long; 90% of HPV infections resolve on their own within 2 years. A small number of women do not clear the HPV virus and are considered to have “persistent infection”. A woman with a persistent HPV infection is at greater risk of developing cervical cell abnormalities and cancer than a woman whose infection resolves on its own. Certain types of this virus are able to transform normal cervical cells into abnormal ones. In a small number of cases and usually over a long period of time (from several years to several decades), some of these abnormal cells may then develop into cervical cancer.

Precancerous cervical cell changes and early cancers of the cervix generally do not cause symptoms. For this reason, regular screening through Pap and HPV tests can help catch precancerous cell changes early and prevent the development of cervical cancer.

The Pap test finds changes in the cells of the cervix (the mouth of the womb) that are not normal. When a female has a Pap test, she is positioned on an exam table and a device called a speculum is gently inserted to open the vagina. The speculum allows the healthcare provider to view the cervix and upper vagina. Once the provider can see the cervix, a “broom” device or a brush/spatula combination will be used to collect the cells. While the technique is a little different depending on the device chosen, in general, the provider will gently rotate the device in the cervical canal to collect cells. The cells are sent to a laboratory where they are prepared and evaluated under a microscope.

When a female gets Pap test, she is being screened to make sure that there are no abnormal or precancerous changes in the cells on her cervix. HPV tests can find any of the high-risk types of HPV that are most commonly found in cervical cancer. The presence of any of these HPV types in a woman for many years can lead to cell changes that may need to be treated so that cervical cancer does not occur. The HPV test is done at the same time as the Pap test by using a small soft brush to collect cervical cells that are sent to the laboratory, or the HPV testing sample may be taken directly from the Pap sample. The HPV test is used as part of a Pap/HPV co-test in women age 30 and older.

If you haven’t had a pap smear recently or if you have questions about having a pap smear, please feel free to call the clinic. We are happy to answer your questions.

New Year brings in new opportunities - *and stress*

By Deondra Jackson, LSW
White Earth Mental Health

Boozhoo and Happy New Year from White Earth Mental Health!

In December, White Earth Mental Health hosted a mental health connections group for participants to create beaded ornaments. The group was hosted by Wendy Roy in the White Earth community and was open to all community members. Miigwech to Wendy Roy! Stay tuned for more community events being offered in 2024.

The New Year can be a great time of reflecting upon the last year and our achievements and where we fell short. The great thing about the New Year is, we can look forward to the promise of a new year and a new beginning. Many people love setting "goals or New Year resolutions." If you are someone who loves to set new year resolutions, great! If you are taking the new year, day by day, great! Both are great outlooks to have!

The New Year also means new opportunities, goals, and tasks. Getting back into the swing of things after the holiday season can be challenging! Here are some tips and tricks to reduce stress in the New Year:

Take Time for Hobbies

Reading, listening to music, watching your favorite show or movie, spend time with family or friends, and taking time to yourself can reduce feelings of stress!

Organizing, Prioritizing, and Learning to Say "No"

Organizing and prioritizing what you need to accomplish in the next few months, can reduce stress by feeling prepared.

It is okay to say "No." We are often afraid to say no because we don't want to seem rude or selfish, we feel obligated, we want to please the asker, etc. If you say yes, all the time, or even most of the time, you can increase your stress levels. By saying yes, you are

putting your priorities and obligations on the back burner. But, at some point, you will have to go back to them, and if you end up without enough time for your priorities and obligations, you are sure to get stressed out. But you don't need to be rude when you say no. Just let the other person know that while you appreciate them asking you, but you cannot take on their request.

Practice Relaxation Techniques and Mindfulness

Relaxation techniques can reduce symptoms of stress. Some techniques include yoga, deep breathing, and meditation. There are many great meditation apps to get you started!

To practice mindfulness is to simply tune into yourself and be fully present in the moment. Relaxation and mindfulness can often go hand in hand. Take a second and be present in the moment. We can practice this by deep breathing, aromatherapy, journaling, or positive thinking.

Finding Humor

Having a sense of humor and finding ways to include laughter in your life, such as watching funny movies or laughing with family and friends can reduce stress.

Rest

We may find ourselves not getting enough sleep. One of the best ways to decrease stress and keep your mind and body operating at peak performance is to get between 7-9 hours of sleep each night. Getting enough sleep can help us feel and perform, but also helps with our memory, energy levels, and ability to learn.

Although, the new year can represent a "new beginning" it can also be stressful! We can experience stress for many reasons such as new or additional responsibilities, new living arrangements, or daily schedules. However, if you find that stress is still getting to you after trying these tips, it is okay to ask for help!

Donating blood is an act of kindness & generosity

Did you know that January is National Blood Donor Month? It's a great time to consider donating blood to help save lives. Blood donations are always needed, especially during the winter months when inclement weather and illnesses can lead to a decrease in donors. If you're able to donate, it's a simple way to make a significant impact and potentially save someone's life. Did you know that donating blood is an incredibly compassionate and impactful way to help others?

When you donate blood, you provide a life-saving resource that can help individuals going through challenging times. Blood transfusions are often necessary for individuals who have experienced a traumatic injury, undergone surgery, or are living with a medical condition. By donating blood, you can help ensure that these individuals have access to the care and support they need during their time of need.

I understand that the idea of donating blood can be intimidating for some people. But please know that the process is safe, and the staff at blood donation centers are committed to making your experience as comfortable as possible. They'll guide you through the process and answer any questions you may have.

If you're interested in donating blood, the first step is to find a blood donation center or blood drive in your area. You can check with your local hospital, the American Red Cross, or other blood donation

organizations to find a location that works for you. Before you donate, you'll need to meet certain eligibility requirements, such as being in good health, being a certain age, and meeting weight requirements. You'll also need to answer some health screening questions to ensure that it's safe for you to donate and that your blood can be used.

Once you're cleared to donate, the actual process is relatively simple and takes about an hour. You'll be asked to lie down while a sterile needle is inserted into your arm to collect blood. The amount of blood donated depends on the organization and your eligibility, but it's typically around one pint. Afterward, you'll be given snacks and beverages to help replenish your fluids and blood sugar levels.

Donating blood is a safe and straightforward process that can make a significant impact on the lives of others. If you're interested in donating, I would encourage you to contact a local blood donation center or organization to learn more.

At its core, donating blood is an act of kindness and generosity. It is a way to give back to your community and help those facing difficult circumstances. Whether you donate blood regularly or are considering donating for the first time, know that your contribution can make a significant difference in the lives of others. Thank you for considering this vital act of compassion and empathy. - Submitted by White Earth Public Health



WHITE EARTH TRIBAL & COMMUNITY COLLEGE





Celebrating Student Success
Congratulations to WETCC student Natalie Manyenny on finishing her jingle dress for AART133 Regalia Making!

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

APPLY NOW



Start Your Journey wetcc.edu/apply



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

Free Health Motivational Therapy Sessions

2 days to choose from: **NOTE: 2 different locations each day**
Thursday, February 15th, 2024 Shooting Star Casino Event Center Mahnomen
and Friday, February 16th, 2024 White Earth Tribal and Community College Mahnomen MN

Three sessions both days as follows:
Note: Anyone can attend. Space is limited.
Cessation: 10:00 a.m to 11:00 a.m
Anxiety: and 11:30 noon-12:30 p.m
Weight loss (nutrition) 1:00-2:00

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

REMINDER: Doors will close at 10:00 am sharp/11:30 am Sharp/1:00 sharp

Please be on time. You will not be let in after doors close.

Pre-register by calling: 218-983-3286 Ext 1357 or 218-983-3286 Ext 1270

Leave your name, and phone number and we will put you on our list. Tell us what and which specific session or sessions (cessation/weight loss/anxiety) you are going to. You can attend as many session as you wish.



Your job search ends here
www.whiteearth.com



TIPS TO KEEP YOURSELF SAFE AND HEALTHY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON



White Earth Nation
TRIBAL PUBLIC HEALTH
Present. Promote. Protect



As we approach the holiday season, it's important to prioritize your safety and well-being. The holidays bring lots of joy and excitement, but they can also pose certain risks, especially for elders. Taking proactive measures to stay safe and healthy during this time is essential. By following some simple tips and guidelines, you can enjoy a wonderful holiday season while also safeguarding your health.

Protect Yourself from Respiratory Viruses

- Many viruses spread more during the holiday season, so getting all recommended vaccines, including flu, COVID-19, and RSV, as soon as possible is essential. This will protect you against these respiratory diseases. These vaccines will also make your illness less severe if you do get sick.
- CDC recommends an RSV immunization for some groups at higher risk for severe RSV illness. For adults ages 60 and older, talk to your healthcare provider to see if the RSV vaccination is right for you.
- If you are sick, try to stay home to avoid putting others at risk. If you have severe symptoms or they are getting worse, call your healthcare provider. Handwashing is a good first line of defense against sickness. Washing often with soap removes most germs, including respiratory viruses from your hands. If soap and water are unavailable, using a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol can kill many germs.
- If you have signs or symptoms of a respiratory virus, like a cough, runny nose, or fever, tests can help figure out which illness you have. Remember, free at-home COVID-19 tests are available.



MAHNOMEN + BAGLEY
STARCASINO.COM + 800.453.STAR

FROSTY ADVENTURE



CHANCE TO WIN CASH OR A NEW SUV

Sunday, January 28 | 3PM-7PM

Start off your 2024 right at Shooting Star and have a chance to win over \$38,000 in cash and prizes including a new SUV.

CHECK OUT OUR APP



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You are MORE than a babysitter.

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



Please join our Indigenous FFN Childcare Network!

Scan QR code to register:



Indigenous FFN Childcare Member Advantages:

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



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



FUNDING PROVIDED BY A GRANT FROM: DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES



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

Home Stretch

Homebuyer Education Class

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

January 10
February 20
March 20

All classes are 9am to 5pm

at

Shooting Star Casino
Mahnomen MN

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

Senator Mary Kunesh elected chair of National Caucus of Native American State Legislators

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Senator Mary Kunesh (DFL-New Brighton) was recently elected by her peers to serve as chair of the National Caucus of Native American State Legislators during a NCNASL business meeting held in Denver, Colo.

The NCNASL consists of 89 members from 21 states. As chair, Senator Kunesh will act as an advisory body for the National Conference of State Legislatures and the National Congress of American Indians on issues that affect Native populations.

“I am so honored to have been chosen by my peers at the national level to lead the work of

American Indian legislators across the nation,” said Senator Kunesh. “I look forward to collaborating with state legislators to build upon the network of existing Native legislators, advance legislation to serve diverse and Indian populations at the state level, and elevate those priorities to our Federal partners.”

The NCNASL supports the establishment and maintenance of the state-tribal communication and policy processes to eliminate barriers to achievement of a better quality of life for Native people.

Her grandfather and mother were enrolled citizens of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe.

During cold and flu season don't share germs

With cold and flu season upon us, it's important to take steps to protect yourself from getting sick. Here are a few tips to keep in mind:

1. Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
2. Avoid touching your face, especially your mouth, nose and eyes.
3. Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze, ideally using a tissue or your elbow, to prevent the spread of germs.
4. Stay away from people who are sick, and if you are sick, stay home to avoid spreading illness.
5. Eat a healthy diet, exercise regularly, and get plenty of rest to boost your immune system.

Following these simple steps can reduce your risk of getting sick during cold and flu season and keep yourself healthy. Want to know how effective the tips I mentioned are at protecting you against colds and flu? Here are a few examples:

1. Washing your hands with soap and water is one

of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of germs. Studies have shown that regular hand washing can reduce the risk of respiratory infections by up to 20%.

2. Avoid touching your face: A study found that the average person touches their face 16 times per hour. By avoiding touching your face, you can reduce the risk of introducing germs into your body through your mouth, nose, or eyes.

3. Covering your mouth and nose: The CDC recommends covering your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing to prevent the spread of germs. Using a tissue to cover your mouth and nose can reduce the spread of droplets that contain germs by up to 75%.

4. Staying away from sick people: The CDC recommends avoiding close contact with people who are sick to reduce your risk of getting sick yourself. People who have close contact with someone who has the flu are up to six times more likely to get sick themselves. - Submitted by White Earth Public Health

Tribal leaders meet with Dept. of Labor Commissioner



Photo by Laura Lee Erickson

White Earth Tribal leaders recently held a Tribal Consultation with the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry Commissioner Nicole Blissenbach (second from left) and her staff. They discussed the White Earth Workforce Center, SYEP Program, Department of Labor and Industry Agency-wide and legislative updates, and White Earth Nation Legislative priorities and Interest areas. They ended the visit with a tour of the White Earth Tribal and Community College.

Call For Move-In Specials!

WHITE EARTH CONGREGATE HOUSING

WAUBUN, MINNESOTA

White Earth Congregate Housing has immediate openings for 1 bedroom units. Must be 62 years of age or 18 years of age with a disability.

Rent includes water, sewer, garbage and heat. Rent is based on income. Certain restrictions apply

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



CREATING BETTER LIVING!



Equal Housing Opportunity TTY 711

Update your information with White Earth Enrollments

The White Earth Enrollments staff is asking members to please update your address. If you don't have an address change, you **DO NOT** need to resubmit your information.

For any further questions regarding this matter, please reach out to White Earth Enrollments at 218-983-4643 and they will be best suited to assist you.

The White Earth Tribal Enrollments Address/Update Form can be downloaded at www.whiteearth.com and completed forms should be emailed to:

shannon.heisler@whiteearth-nsn.gov

shelley.scheler@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Volunteer in Your Community

Lutheran Social Service of MN is seeking volunteers age 55 and over in your area to provide companionship to older adults. Volunteers commit to regular weekly hours for a tax-free stipend and mileage reimbursement. Please contact us at 888.205.3770 or www.lssmn.org for more information and to make an impact in your community.



Anishinaabeg Today Subscribers

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 218-983-3285 Ext. 5903 or email today@whiteearth-nsn.gov

2024 MCT ELECTION TIMELINE

December 27, 2023:

Last day for sitting RTC member to give notice of resignation to file for other RTC office.

January 8, 2024

Last day for sitting RTC member to give notice of resignation to file for vacated RTC seat.

ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT

January 11, 2024

CANDIDATE FILING PERIOD

January 12, 2024-January 22, 2024

PRIMARY ELECTION

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

Polls open: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

GENERAL ELECTION

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

Polls open: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.



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White Earth Reservation Tribal Enrollment Elder Snow Removal Application

DATE: _____

Name: _____ Spouses Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Physical Address: _____
Permanent residency is required.

Telephone # _____ Cell # _____ Work # _____

Birthdate: _____ Spouse's Birthdate: _____

Enrollment # _____ Spouse's Enrollment # _____
Attach a colored copy.

Do you own the home: Yes ___ No ___ if not, name your landlord? _____

Do you live in a Housing home? _____, as they plow for their own Residents/Units.

Which district do you reside in: District I _____ District II _____ District III _____

Detailed directions to your residence (only for new applicants): _____

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

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

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

*** Signatures from the elder will be required this year on the plowers timesheet.

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



GAA-WAABAABIGANIKAAG

PRIMARY ELECTION HELD APRIL 2, 2024

Re-Elect Chairman Michael Fairbanks

**EXPERIENCE
LEADERSHIP
WATER PROTECTOR
GRAND PARENT**

visit my website votefairbanks.com:
Learn About My Priorities

paid for by vote fairbanks campaign

Thank you ENP staff



Photo by Gary W. Padrta

The White Earth Elders Christmas Party was held Dec. 14 at the Shooting Star Casino. More than 640 elders and caregivers attended. These WE Elder Nutrition Program staff members helped Santa put together an event that was appreciated by all.

Ugly sweater contest



Photo by Gary W. Padrta

It was a wild time at the recent White Earth Elders Christmas Party. There was food, door prizes, bingo, and a Ugly Sweater Contest! Judges agreed that Missy Fairbanks, second from right, indeed had the ugliest Christmas sweater.

Naughty or nice?



Photo by Gary W. Padrta

Looks like Santa is deciding if Sam Crowell has been naughty or nice at the recent White Earth Elders Christmas Party.

Tribal Utility Commission assigned to preserve and protect the White Earth Nation's resources

Over the past few years the White Earth Tribal Council has taken major steps forward to preserve and protect the White Earth Nation's resources both now and for the next seven generations. In response to concerns brought forward regarding private utility operations and investments, inadequate and poor utility service, utility rate disparity across the Reservation, climate change, and an overarching vision for Tribal Energy Sovereignty, the Tribal Council created the White Earth Nation Tribal Utility Commission (TUC).

The TUC was formed when the Tribal Council adopted a new Tribal Utilities Code in 2022. The TUC serves to regulate and communicate directly with all utility industries on the Reservation, facilitate and support clean renewable energy projects across the Reservation, and to take steps forward to help the White Earth Council and Departments achieve clean energy goals.

There are other tribes in other States that have established Tribal Utility Authorities and Commissions for various reasons, and during the TUC's development the Council and staff met with these tribes, studied their organizational makeup, and learned from their projects and initiatives.

The White Earth Tribal Utility Commission is proud to be the first Tribal Utility Commission to be established in Minnesota. The TUC will be working with all electric service providers, internet service providers, gas/utility providers on the White Earth Reservation, as well as the Tribal Council, Tribal Departments, and people who live on the Reservation. The White Earth Nation and TUC is also a member of the Midwest Tribal Energy Resource Association (MTERA), a non-profit inter-tribal organization comprised of Midwest Tribes.

Who exactly is the TUC?

At the end of 2022 and early in 2023, five members of the White Earth Nation were appointed by the Tribal Council as Commissioners: Melinda Iverson (Chair), Jacob McArthur (Vice Chair), Christie Haverkamp, Gerald "Mike" Smith, and Joe Tonihka.

These members serve staggered two and three year terms.

Throughout 2023, the Commission developed its foundational documents (bylaws, a code of ethics, policy and permit documents) and hired an Executive Director, Nate Mathews. A copy of the Tribal Utilities Code may be found on the White Earth Nation's website. If anyone has questions, ideas, concerns regarding the TUC, Nate can be reached at 218-401-2043 or Nathan.mathews@whiteearth-nsn.gov.

Current and future initiatives of the TUC

Presently the TUC is administering two Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Department of Mineral Development (DEMD) grants that will help guide the TUC and Council on how and when to create a Tribal Utility Authority. A Utility Authority would manage both the generation and distribution power on the Reservation. Additionally, our BIA-DEMD grants are studying how to establish larger Tribal Photo Voltaic/Solar arrays in the Mahnomen area, as well as a Combined Heat and Power plant for the Shooting Star Casino. In 2023, the Tribe was awarded a \$2.3 million grant from the Department of Energy to construct two larger 500+ kW solar arrays, and the TUC will be working to ensure that project's success.

The TUC is also partnering with the Tribal College, the Headwaters Regional Development Commission (HRDC), and the MN Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTS) to support a Regional renewable energy assessment, inventory, and planning process over the next many months. This initiative will assist the Tribal College to strategize and develop renewable energy workforce training in and around the entire White Earth Reservation area, in partnership with Tribal renewable energy projects.

In addition to work with the electricity industry, the TUC has been working with our internet service providers, as enhanced broadband speed and

[See TUC Page 28](#)



Photo by Laura Lee Erickson

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.

Tribal Council honors employees with ceremony

The White Earth Tribal Council and Human Resources recently held a Years of Service Recognition Awards Ceremony for 64 RBC employees with 25 or more years of service with the tribal government at the Shooting Star Casino in Mahanomen.

Employees had a plated meal and each staff member was recognized with a blanket and a certificate.

40-50+ Years of Service

Toni Weaver, Susan Snetsinger, Gloria Goodwin, Elizabeth King

30-40 Years of Service

Christine Fairbanks, Lisa McArthur, Sheree Millage, Leah Hvezda, Carol Zortman, Katherine Clark, Pauliann Neisen, Paulette Clark, Dale Pederson, Timothy LaFiniere, Patricia Anderson, Shari Korte,

Carla Soyring, Shelley Scheler, Sherry Halberg, Patricia Moran, Mike LaChapelle, Christie Haverkamp, Donald Dalve, Donna Dakota, Grace Jackson, Cynthia Bunker, Michael Bunker, Lynn Tibbetts, Sandra Mertens, Wendy Harstad, Desirae Stalberger, Richard Heisler

25-30 Years of Service

Patrick Stalberger, Elizabeth Smith, Geri Burnette, Jolyn Donnell, Dennis Hisgun, Gina Boudreau, Monica Hedstrom, Tammy Wadena, Jennifer Scott, Jeri Jasken, Douglas McArthur, Edward Snetsinger, Alfred Fox, Elizabeth Andersen, Ann Meyer, Tiffany Thompson, Jody Kent, Devon Green, Mary Tenorio, Diane Madigan, Felicia Finch, Debra Weaver, Dwayne Cooper, Katie Olson, Christine Dickinson, Shelly Weaver, Mary Kier-Cox, Pam Keezer, Kay Sunram, Raegan Hendrickson, Gary Padrta, Delia Bellanger



40-50+ Years

The White Earth Tribal Council and Human Resources recently honored employees that have worked for the tribal government for 25-50+ years at a ceremony held at the Shooting Star Casino in Mahanomen.

Photo by Gary W. Padrta



Photo by Gary W. Padrta

30-40 Years



Photo by Jeffrey Burnette

25-30 Years

WE helps Santa deliver toys



Photos by Gary W. Padrta

White Earth Administration, Maintenance, and volunteers recently helped Santa deliver toys to reservation youth. The toys came from Walking Shield and Toys for Tots. Volunteers sorted the gifts into groups for community councils to pick up and distribute in their communities.



SAINT PAUL, MN – The National Cancer Institute’s (NCI) Smokefree.gov initiative and the Indian Health Service (IHS) have announced the availability of SmokefreeNATIVE, a free text messaging program to help American Indian/Alaska Natives (AI/ANs) quit smoking commercial tobacco.

The American Indian Cancer Foundation (AICAF) in collaboration with the University of Minnesota School of Public Health, supported NCI and IHS in their efforts to create a culturally aligned digital resource to improve access to evidence-based smoking cessation support for AI/ANs. This project supports new actions federal agencies are taking to advance the mission of the White House Cancer Moonshot.

Traditional tobacco has been used for spiritual and medicinal purposes by AI/ANs for generations and is central to culture, spirituality and healing. This lifeway was prohibited until the American Indian Religious Freedom Act was passed in 1978, which led to increases in commercial tobacco use as a replacement for traditional tobacco. Due to cultural shifts, commercial tobacco use is a driver of health inequities among AI/AN populations.

SmokefreeNATIVE is a 6–8 week (depending on when a quit date is set) texting program that braids together evidence-based smoking cessation support with key themes and content reflecting Native cultural experiences, worldviews, and traditions. People who are ready to quit smoking commercial tobacco can enroll online or by texting NATIVE to 47848.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the organizations that have played a pivotal role in achieving this significant milestone, making the journey to quit commercial tobacco more accessible to our relatives across Indian Country. Together, we can heal with culture and reclaim Indigenous health.

For more information and enrollment, visit SmokefreeNATIVE or text NATIVE to 47848.





Ojibwemodaa.2!

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

Abinoojiwin•Infancy

Bilingual: To speak two languages-Give their gift of Ojibwemowin. Speak daily to our Nation's youngest. Birth to age five best promotes bilingualism! Pronounce by syllables: Boo zhoo! Aa niin e zhi -a yaa yan. - Greetings! How are you? Nimino-ayaa, giin dash?. I am well, you also?

•Pronounce syllables: Speak the consonant & specific vowel sound.

•“Ambe omaa! Jiibaakwewigamigong nindizhaa.”

“Come here! In the kitchen/cooking room I go.”

•“Gidizhaa na imaa? Giga-chiibaakwe na?”

“You going ? there? You shall cook?”

•“Ganabaj. Azhigwa na gibakade?”

“Maybe. Now ? you are hungry?”

•”Niibowa. Ningawaabaagwe.”

“A lot. I am thirsty.”

•“Mishiiminaaboo na?

Nibi na? Doodooshaaboo na?”

“Cider? Water? Milk?”

Apabiwin(an)-Chair(s)

Adoopowin(an)-Table(s)

Waazakonenjigan - Light

Makak(oon) - Box(s)

Ishkwaandem(an)-Door(s)

Waasejigan(an)-Window(s)

Michisag(oon) - Floor(s)

Ozhichige.
S/he builds it.

Bakite'gaans(an)
Nabagisag(oog)
Zaga'igan(an)
Hammer(s)
Board, Plank(s)
Nail, Spike(s)

Mazina'igan(an)
Paper, Book(s)

Zhizhoobii'iganaatig (oon)
Paintbrush(es)

Aakwaandwaagan(an)
Ladder(s), Stairway(s)

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

Oshki-nitaawigiwin•Young Adult•Teen

Recent graduate, Garrett G., works to learn more Ojibwemowin! We speak together to remember words and phrases. He loves dekaag (ice cream). His favorite Ojibwe words now are “Mino-aabita-biboon!” (Happy Halfway-Winter! Happy New Year!). Zoogipon.-It is snowing. Wewebanaabiiwin.-Ice fishing. Fish-Giigoo. Beaver-Amik. Muskrat-Wazhaashk. Otter-Nigig. S/he is skiing.-Zhooskwaagime. Sledding-Odaabaanaak. Snowsnake -Goon-ginebig. Soft drink.-Zhiwaabo.

Mikwam.-Ice. Zaaga'igan.-Lake. When we spoke these words, we both felt proud to be by a lake - Biiboong-When it is Winter. Howah!-Wow!

Boozhoo! Aaniin! - Greetings!
Gichi-miigwech! - Great-thanks!

Like other young Anishinaabeg: Daga-Ojibwemodaa! Please-let's all speak Ojibwe! Write on T-shirts and posters.

Use the dictionary online!
Make flashcards! Share!

HOWAH!

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

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

Nitaawigiwin

• Grownup

Aaniin ezchigeyan?
Izhichigewin. -Activity.

Ningiziibiiga'ige.

Ningiziibiigazhe.

Ningiziyaabide'.

Nimbinaakwe'.

Ningichi-zaagi'aag.

Ningichi-baap!

Aabita-Biboon.

Maajipon.

Key: What are you doing?

...I wash clothes.

...I take a bath.

...I brush my teeth.

...I comb my hair.

...I am laughing big & loud!

...It is a New Year & midwinter.

...It starts to snow.

VII's -“It is” verbs. Verb, Inanimate, Intransitive

Ishkwaa-anama'e-giizhigad.-After praying day,

or Nitam anokii-giizhigad. - It is 1st work day.

Niizho-giizhigad.- It is 2nd work day/Tuesday.

Aabitoose.-It is halfway/Wednesday.

Niiyo-giizhigad. - It is 4th day/Thursday.

Naano-giizhigad. - It is 5th day/Friday.

Giziibiigisaginige-giizhigad. It is floor

washing-day/Saturday.

Anama'e-giizhigad.-It's prayer day/Sunday.

In earlier times, through economic trade

needs and worldwide contacts, patterns

of speech and writing evolved. Read

more about the fur trade era when

Ojibwemowin was the inter-

national trade language.

Adaawaagan. -Fur &

goods for trade.

Minwadowe.-S/he has nice fur.

Waadadowe.-S/he has grey fur.

Miskwadowe.-S/he has reddish fur.

•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: wpclipart.com

Gichi-aya'aa•Elder

Aaniin ezbinikaazod wa'aw giizis? What/how is

s/he called this moon/month? Izhinikaazo Gichi-

Manidoo-Giizis (gema Bibooni-Giizis) wa'aw giizis.-

S/he's January, Great Spirit-Moon this moon.

•“ Noongom maajitaadaa! Mino-giizhigad,

made'ookiiyan. Anokaajigan. Anokaajiganan!

Wiigwaas, wiigob, asigobaani-mazinichigan.

Makakoken. Gitigaazh! Howah!”

“Now/Today, let's all start it! It's a good day

when you share/give. A craft item. Craft

items/goods! Birchbark, Basswood

inner bark, basswood bark doll.

Make a birch bark basket.

Plant a tree! Alright!”

Mii'rw.-That's all.

1. Aaniin ezhi-ayaa_____?

How/What way are you?

2. Izhinikaazo Gichi-_____Giizis.
S/he's named January/Great-Spirit-Moon.

3. _____minwaabandaan. Gooniwan. Eya'. Nindanaadiz omaa.

I like the look of it. It is snowy. Yes. I stay around here.

4. Aandi _____atoonamaan biitookizinan? Goonikaa, zhakipon.

Where did-I put them overshoes? There is a lot of snow, wet snow.

5. Bezhigo-ikidowin. Niizho-ikidowinan. Minode'e_____ noongom!

One-word. Two-words. **Let's all** be kind/generous today!

Ojibwemodaa! Let's all speak Ojibwe!

©2024 Shelly Ceglár

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!

VOTE LAURA LEE



**White Earth
Gaawaabaabiganikaag
District 3**

Primary Election April 2, 2024

Together WE Can Build a Brighter Tomorrow

(218) 204-1008
Facebook: VOTELAURALEE

Honesty • Accountability • Integrity

Paid for by Laura Lee Erickson

Aaniin & Boozhoo White Earth Members!

I am writing this to share with you my intent in running for White Earth District 3 in the upcoming tribal election.

I would like you all to know that I intend to run for White Earth District 3 in the upcoming tribal election. Check out my Facebook page VOTE LAURA LEE for more information about my prior run for Secretary/Treasurer in 2022.

As a lifelong member of this community, I am committed to serving you and ensuring that our district thrives. I believe in the power of transparency, compassion and proactive measures to keep our community safe and vibrant. One of my top priorities is government transparency. I would work to create an open and accessible government, where your voice matters, and your concerns are heard along with keeping you informed.

In conclusion, my candidacy is not about me- it's about us and what we can accomplish together. I believe that our district has the potential to be a thriving and prosperous community. I am committed to working with you to make that vision a reality. I humbly ask for your support and vote in the upcoming election on April 2, 2024.

This is very early yet, and I just wanted to announce my intentions. Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

Miigwech

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



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See what Child Care Licensing has to offer YOU!

White Earth Child Care/Early Childhood Program who works to support child care providers with the process of licensing their home or a child safe facility while building their own personal business ownership through resources available for the following:

- ❖ START-UP GRANTS FOR CHILDREN'S EQUIPMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY COMPLIANCE
- ❖ CHILD DEVELOPMENT/EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATIONAL TRAININGS
- ❖ POLICY PROCEDURE & CONTRACT DEVELOPMENT
- ❖ ANNUAL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS
- ❖ BUSINESS PLANNING & ADVERTISEMENT
- ❖ HEALTH & SAFETY TRAININGS
- ❖ CHILDREN'S PLAY-SCAPES
- and much more.

Just Call and we will come for a visit to HELP answer your questions.

Contact Kim at 218-983-3285 x1215 or email
Kim.Lage@whiteearth-nsn.gov

White Earth Child Care Licensing for the White Earth Reservation

Thank you White Earth programs for all you do

Boozhoo ahniin.

I am Lori D., a member of the Great Red Lake Nation. I currently reside at Biimaadiziwin with my partner, Mike G.

I have lived here on the White Earth Reservation for over a year now and I am writing to you so that the governing agency, it's programs and services can hear from an outsider about what an amazing place the Great White Earth Nation truly is. In the time I have lived here I have had only two uncomfortable interactions when calling an agency or service provider. That's an A+ in my books.

So, if you are employed in any service type position please know that we think you are doing a great job at what you do.

We are patients at IHS and though there is always room for improvement (and health care nationally needs major improvements), you are doing a good job. After many years of pain and suffering I am now getting dentures as my teeth are dying from having kissed a windshield, Miigwitch.

As the main entity on the reservation, the WERBC is doing an amazing job of governance. The

Treaty Powwow, the elders picnic and the elders Christmas party were all excellent. And not to disrespect those that are the worker bees who make these events so amazing, Miigwitch.

Seeing the Chief, Secretary Treasurer and District Representatives present at these functions, talking and eating with the membership is something that is very important, Miigwitch.

The icing on the cake, made an old lady cry, enrolling in Beginners Ojibwemowin Class at White Earth Tribal and Community College recently. Better than excellent and totally amazing, an Elder waiver that provides free tuition and books for over 55. We can't wait for orientation on Wednesday, Jan. 3.

I ride the transit free of charge because I'm a veteran. I am also involved with the Behavioral and Mental Health clinics here and am enjoying and comfortable in those service agencies as well, Miigwitch.

Also, I enjoy Nijii Radio and it's excellent programming, love me some stupid jokes, Miigwitch.

Please know that you help the machine of the WERBC work, a big Miigwitch!

Lori D. and Mike G.



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

Special Events

- **Diabetic Bingo**
 January 4th— Shooting Star
 January 11th —NTW
 January 18th — White Earth
 January 25th —Rice Lake

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

**Elders Suggested Donation \$4
 Guest Meals \$6**



Questions or comments please contact :

White Earth ENP Site (218) 983-3744
 Elbow Lake ENP Site (218) 734-2315
 Site Supervisor ~ Tanya Heinonen

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

Naytahwaush ENP Site (218) 935-5554
 Rice Lake ENP Site (218) 694-2795
 Site Supervisor ~ Sherry Halberg

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

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1 	2 Closed for the New Year Holiday	3 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit	4 Pork roast w/ gravy Mashed potatoes Manoomin stuffing Corn Croissant roll Tropical fruit	5 Chicken noodle soup Wheat crackers Garden salad Angel food cake with berries
8 Tuna noodle hotdish Mixed veggies Pickled beets Breadstick Apricots	9 Chicken fajitas w/ fixings Spanish rice Baked pears	10 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	11 Sloppy Joe Potato wedges Steamed carrots Fruit salad	12 Creamy manoomin soup Artisan roll Spinach salad w/ raspberry vinaigrette Fresh fruit
15 Closed 	16 Spaghetti Breadstick Seasoned cauliflower Mandarin oranges	17 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	18 Bratwurst w/ bun Sauerkraut Roasted potatoes Apple crisp	19 Brunch Biscuits and gravy Roasted root veggies Pastry roll Cottage cheese with peaches
22 Baked fish Rice pilaf Squash Dinner roll Plums	23 Hamburger gravy Mashed potatoes Brussel sprouts Wheat roll Cranberries	24 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread	25 Birthday Lunch Ribs Mac and cheese Baked potato Wheat bread Birthday treat	26 Turkey/swiss sandwich w/ lettuce and tomato Potato soup Fresh fruit
29 Chicken/Rice hotdish Steamed broccoli Wheat roll Pickled beets Fruit cocktail	30 California burger w/ fixings Sweet potato fries Berry parfait	31 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable Fruit Bread		

White Earth Food Distribution January 2024 Store Hours

Mon-Thurs 8:30-3:30

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

January 2024 Home Delivery Schedule (Subject to Change)

January 1st: Closed – New Years Day

January 5th: Bagley, Ponsford & Naytahwaush

January 11th: Mahnomen & Waubun

January 15th: Closed – MLK Day


January 19th: White Earth

January 26th: 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 2024


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

*Locations and times are subject to change

*WIC follows RBC schedule for closings

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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



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Obituaries

Bradford "Brad" Neal Estey

Bradford "Brad" Estey, 68, of Mahanomen, passed away Dec. 11, 2023, at Sanford Health Center in Bemidji, Minn.

Bradford Neal Estey was born Nov. 18, 1955, in Mahanomen to Clyde and Lucille (Robinson) Estey. Brad attended elementary school in Naytahwaush and later attended Mahanomen High School.

He began working for the White Earth Tribal Ranch and later the sawmill in Waubun.



While continuing to work, Brad went on to earn his GED and obtain a degree in Forestry. Fueled by his passion for nature, he found his calling with the Tribal Forestry Department, contributing significantly to the establishment of the White Earth Wildland Fire Department. Brad also served as assistant chief at the Twin Lakes Fire Department, a role he proudly held until his retirement in the late 2010s.

Known for his infectious laughter and playful demeanor, Brad was cherished and respected by his community. Actively involved in various community projects, he was always ready to extend a helping hand. Brad instilled his values in his children

and grandchildren, leaving an enduring legacy. In his youth, Brad shared his knowledge by teaching classes on tracking, nature identification, and black ash basket making. His love for the outdoors encompassed activities such as hunting, fishing, leeching, ricing, woodcutting, and trapping. He passed on these skills and appreciation for nature to his family. Brad's big heart, joyful spirit, and countless lessons will continue to resonate in the hearts of his family and friends.

Brad is survived by his fiancé, Lorelei Morales; sons: Travis (Lisa), Ryan, and Heath (Tonya); grandchildren: Kelsey, Miranda, Taustin, Maddie, Avarie, Breckan, Jack, and Peter; great-grandchildren, Kenni and Cam; siblings: Karen (Jerry) Walz, Cindy (Lee) Amundson, Rebecca Estey, Pam (Dave) Snetsinger and Kent (Becky) Estey.

Brad was preceded in death by his parents; and brothers, John Estey and Clyde "Junior" Estey.

Funeral services were held Dec. 19 at the Naytahwaush Sports Complex.

Arrangement: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahanomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Alan "Sonny" Wichern Sr.

Alan "Sonny" Wichern Sr., 57, of Waubun, died unexpectedly on Dec. 11, 2023.

Alan Fred Wichern was born Dec. 10, 1966, in Mahanomen, the only son born to Bert and Victoria (Littlewolf) Wichern. He grew up east of Waubun and attended school in Waubun.

As a young man, Sonny entered the workforce helping with the family logging business. In 1983, he met Delia Rickey and the two were united in marriage on June 10, 1989.

The young couple was blessed with four daughters. Although they later divorced, Sonny and Delia remained friends throughout the years. He later met Laurel Fairbanks and to this union came two additional daughters. After a number of years, he and Melanie LaGue completed Sonny's family with a son, Alan Jr.

Over the years, Sonny has always worked in the woods. He enjoyed the great outdoors and the activities it offered both work and play. Whether it was cutting wood, hunting deer or just taking in its natural beauty, he loved it all. Other activities that Sonny enjoyed were snowmobiling, fishing, going to auction sales and the less strenuous things like watching YouTube videos and perusing Facebook Marketplace.

Sonny liked to joke and terrorize the ones around him, but he was also always willing to lend a helping hand when it was needed. He was loyal to his family and loved spending time with family. He will be greatly missed by many.

Sonny is survived by his father, Bert; son, Alan "Peanut" (Brittany Spry) Wichern Jr. of Ogema; daughters: Brandi (Duane Axdahl) Wichern of Ogema, Victoria Wichern of Minneapolis, Jenni (Christopher Rogers) Wichern of Mahanomen, Heather (Cassidy) Johnson of Audubon, Minn., and Nikki Wichern of Fargo, N.D.; 24 grandchildren; one great grandson; sister, Peggy (Philip Brunner) Olson of Waubun; two aunts and several nieces and nephews and extended family.

He was preceded in death a daughter, Landa; grandparents; mom, Victoria "Vicky;" sister, Lorna LaGue; and a great niece, Cora.

Blessed be the Memory of Alan "Sonny" Wichern Sr.

Memorial services were held Dec. 16 at Anderson Family Funeral Home in Mahanomen. Fellowship with a potluck meal was held at the Waubun Community Center immediately following the service.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahanomen

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Charles "Punkin" Hanks Jr.

Charles "Punkin" Hanks Jr., 83, of White Earth, died Dec. 4, 2023, at Moorhead Rehabilitation and Health Care Center in Moorhead, Minn.

Charles Louis Jr. was born Feb. 1, 1940, in White Earth to Charles Louis Sr. and Margaret (Ahbdaush) Hanks. He grew up in the White Earth area where he attended school.

Following high school, Punkin entered the workforce and began as a lumberjack in Grand Portage. He traveled all over the country working a wide variety of jobs. Over the years, Punkin worked for Hellgrin Brothers, Peterson Truck Farm, as a ride operator for the carnival, driving truck for the sugar beet campaign, building houses in addition to many others. After several years he returned to the White Earth Reservation to put down roots.

At age 35, he quit drinking and smoking and became a single parent of two children. Punkin became a traditional and spiritual man and a huge advocate against drinking among his native people, especially the youth. He furthered his education with carpentry classes at the Detroit Lakes Vo-Tech. An unfortunate on the job injury prohibited him from continuing a life of manual labor and he

turned his work to helping through the church and the youth. He spoke to the youth at many schools and substance abuse programs and started a Talking Circle in Waubun for the youth. He taught them respect, beading, gardening, and maple syruping.

Punkin was the Chairman for the Johnson O'Malley program for two years and the Chairman for the White Earth Community Council for 18+ years. He became very involved with St. Columba Episcopal Church in White Earth serving as both Jr. and Sr. Warden, lay minister, helping with readings and leading wake services until they were able to get a full time Priest. Punkin learned to sing Ojibwe from his elders, and he's been singing for over 50 years. He was part of the group, "The Ojibwe Singers," who sang at many events like funerals, wake services, graduations, and Christmas songs at the casino. Their group traveled all over singing and were honored to sing at the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville and the Smithsonian in Washington, DC. Punkin was also honored to be featured in two books, Honoring Elders: Aging, Authority, and Ojibwe Religion, and Ojibwe Singers, written by Michael McNally.

In his younger years, he played football, basketball and enjoyed berry picking. In more recent years, he liked playing cards, word search puzzles, watching old westerns and WWE on television and attending pow wows. Above all, Punkin loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren. Throughout his many travels, he met many people and always parted ways as friends. He will be missed by everyone who was lucky enough to have known him, but his spirit will live on in their hearts.

Punkin is survived by a daughter, Brenda (Tim) Antell of Mahanomen and their children: Courtney (Joshua), B, Drake, Kaitlan, Jordan (Brianna) and Dradan; and grandchildren: Elijah, Elias, Ethan, Drake Jr., John, Azalea, one arriving in 2024, Alexis, Peyton, Mackenzie, Karen, Michael, Joshua Jr., and Manny; a son, Charles Louis III of White Earth and his children: Scott, Shayleigh, Devon, Miya, Meya, Alisea, Conner, Chasity, Sophie, Sonnoma, Sheldon, Charlie, Ciara, Bunny, Alawna, Betty, Bella, Jimmy and PatPat; and grandchildren: Scott "Junebug" Jr., Lilia, Jeremiah, Michael, Violet, Mathew, Niishime, King, Braxten, Gracelynn, Esperenza, Khaleesi and Arlo; sisters, Ethel (Bob) Davey of Finley, ND, and Marilyn Teiken of Mahanomen; brothers, Richard "Wayne" (Susan) Hanks of White Earth and LeRoy Hanks of Waubun; in addition to many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded by his parents; brothers: Julius "Rat," Ronald "Duck," Robert "Otis," Dallas "Kiddo," Elvis "Beaver," and John "Gook;" sisters: Marge Bellanger, Goldie Hanks and Laverne Hanks.

Blessed be the Memory of Charles "Punkin" Hanks Jr.

A funeral service was held Dec. 13 at St. Columba.

Interment: St. Columba Episcopal Cemetery in White Earth

Jerome Gorton

Jerome Gorton of Elk River, Minn., passed away in his home on Nov 22, 2023, after battling cancer. Jerome was born Nov 20, 1946, in Minneapolis.

He is preceded in death by his mother, Dorothy; father, Chester; brothers, Chet and Gary; and sisters, Margaret and Joanne.



Jerome is survived by his spouse, Linda; sons, Jerald (Heidi) and Scott (Kim); grandsons, Nicholas and Noah; sister, Isabelle Lundmark; and brother, Gordon.

Jerome had a career as a Soil Scientist for USDA, and was an alumnus of the University of Minnesota. He enjoyed the outdoors, hunting and camping. A member of the White Earth tribe, he enjoyed making Native crafts.

A private family memorial service was held at Hillside Cemetery to honor him and his memory.

Online: www.Washburn-McReavy.com

Obituaries

Michael "J.D." L. Heisler

Michael "J.D." L. Heisler Jr., 52, of Ogema, passed away surrounded by his loving family on Dec. 25, 2023, at his home.

J.D. was born on Oct. 24, 1971, to Michael and Dawn (Englund) Heisler and attended school in Waubun. He had a sense of humor like no one else, up to the end of his life. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, watching the Minnesota Vikings, going to Net Lake, spending time with friends, and riding in his side-by-side. His favorite thing to do was to be around his family, whom he adored.



Left to cherish his memory is his wife, Kelly; children: Desirae, Devin, and Delayna Heisler; parents, Michael L. Sr., and Dawn Heisler; grandchildren: Carter Heisler, Jalissa and Zayna Goodman, Audreama and Jayidalyn Lopez, and LeRoy Jr., and Cain Wadena; sisters: Tina Heisler, Annie (Jeff) Haverkamp, and Lynn Heisler; uncles: Brad (Julie) and Ken Heisler; as well as many cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

Preceding J.D. in death was his grandson, Lucas Alan Heisler; grandparents: Warren and Phyllis Heisler and William and Betty Englund; uncles: Steven and Warren, Jr. Heisler; and aunt, Kathy Bevins.

Visitation was held Dec. 28 at the White Earth Community Center. Funeral Mass was held on Dec. 29 at St. Benedict Catholic Church in White Earth.

Interment: Calvary Cemetery in White Earth.

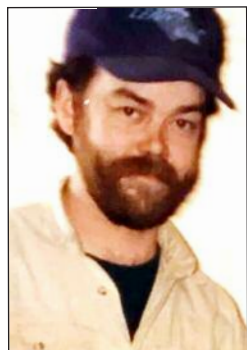
Arrangements: David-Donohewer Funeral Home of Detroit Lakes.

Online: www.daviddonehower.com

Jon Leigland

Jon Leigland, 56, of Ponsford, died unexpectedly on Dec. 2, 2023.

Born on Nov. 1, 1967, to Gini Anderson Oines in Park Rapids, Minn., Jon attended Park Rapids High School before embarking on a new chapter in Alaska. Eventually returning to Minnesota, he crossed paths with the love of his life, Melissa Clark, in the late 1980s.



Making their home in Pine Point, Jon found joy in a variety of careers, showcasing his versatility as a jack-of-all-trades. Yet, his most cherished "job" was being a devoted and loving father, and later grandfather to his six children and 10 grandchildren.

Known for his great sense of humor, Jon had a knack for brightening any room with comments to make his family laugh. He was skilled at cooking, he often prepared the fish and wild game he caught, ensuring his family was well-provided for. The great outdoors held a special place in Jon's heart, offering a peaceful haven for his passions – hunting, leeching, and fishing. His bold personality and generous heart will forever be etched in the lives of those who knew him.

Jon is survived by his mother, Gini (Ronnie) Oines; children: Kimberly (Willis), Matthew (Alexandria), Shaelyn, Alayna, Ryan, and Timothy; grandchildren: Aleigha, Makaela, Matteyah, Miika, Aubrey, Zayden, Shyleah, Melissa, Willis Jr., and Zachary; siblings: Eric (Christine) Leigland, Tami (William) Walker, and Jamie (Liscia) Oines; half-siblings, Jean (John) Ortiz and Bonnie (Burt) Conway; sisters-in-law: JoAnne Annette, Edie Smith, and Betty Robins; many nieces, nephews, and extended family.

Jon was preceded in death by his life partner, Melissa Clark; granddaughter, Amiyah Leigland; brothers-in-law, Douglas Clark and Jr. Clark; and sister-in-law, Barbara Clark.

A visitation and ceremony was held Dec. 7 and continued until the time of the funeral on Dec. 8, all at the Pine Point Community Center.

Interment: Breck Memorial Episcopal Cemetery in Ponsford.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Caroline Boswell

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

Service will be held at a later date.

Arrangement: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahnomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Trula Ann (Caye) Teiken

Trula Ann (Caye) Teiken was born June 27, 1933, to Forrest and Mae (Lambert) Caye at her home in Callaway Township of Becker County. She passed peacefully in the presence of her daughter on Nov. 29, 2023, at Golden Manor - Memory Care in Detroit Lakes, Minn.

As a child, Trula was raised and attended country school on County Road 109 up until the 8th grade. She attended Waubun High School graduating with the class of 1951. While attending school, Trula fell in love with Henry "Hank" Teiken Jr., who also grew up on County Road 109. On Sept. 15, 1951, Trula and Hank were united in marriage at St. Benedict's Catholic Church in White Earth. They made their home right next door to where Trula was raised. Their union was blessed with love and devotion. They worked side by side as they farmed the land, raising a variety of farm animals and also grew a garden each year. They were true keepers of the land. They loved the farm, wildlife, playing cards and raising their family.



In 1952, Trula and Hank welcomed their first son, Daniel "Dan," and another son in 1954, James "Jim." In 1961, they welcomed a daughter, Patricia "Patsy." When Patsy was three years old, Trula started working full time in the Becker County Assessors Office as the head Office Manager. She held this position for 25 years. Trula began working as a Certified Assessor and continued in this capacity for 48 years. She was proud of the fact she was the first assessor to be elected by popular vote. During her time as an assessor, Trula worked closely with the townships of White Earth, Spring Creek, Riceville, as well as the cities of Ogema, White Earth and Callaway.

Trula took great pride in serving and helping her communities. After 48 years, she retired in 1991 from the Becker County Assessors Office. After a few years of retirement, Trula went back to work, working part time as a bailiff for 15 years in Becker County.

Trula was a lifelong member of St. Benedict's Catholic Church and the church lady's sodality. Her devotion to prayer, her rosary and spirituality was perpetual. She was a proud member of the White Earth Nation.

Trula loved music of all genres. Fond memories of her dancing with her children in her living room gave them an appreciation for music as well. She instilled in her children a hard work ethic and values of love, faith, respect, and wisdom. She nourished her family and her community with many loaves of freshly baked bread. She was a wonderful cook, baker, and quilter. Her dishes were always a treat during the holidays and her quilts were always a welcomed gift. She cherished her role as grandmother and loved spending time with each one of her grandchildren. Trula enjoyed playing bingo, the occasional trip to the casino with her husband and friends.

Trula is survived by her son, Dan Teiken; daughter, Pat (Russ) Hanson; grandchildren, JoJo, Nathan, MaeAnn, Daniel Jr. (Emily), Bobbi, Jesse, Jody (Patrick), and Jedidiah (Kayla); 19 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Hank; son, James; grandsons, Shawn Teiken and Ronnie Henderson; brothers, Eugene "Gene" Caye and Lambert Caye; daughter-in-law, Carol Henderson; sisters-in-law, Lorraine Caye and Betty Caye.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held Dec. 11 at St. Benedict's Catholic Church in White Earth.

Interment: Calvary Cemetery in White Earth.

Arrangements: Korsmo Funeral and Cremation Service of Moorhead, Minn.

Online: www.korsmofuneralservice.com

Gordon A. Peterson

Gordon A. Peterson, 85, of Mahnomen, passed away at his home on Dec. 7, 2023.

Gordon was born and raised in St. Paul, Minn. Later, he made his home in White Earth with his wife, Joan, before moving to Mahnomen, where he spent the remainder of his time. He enjoyed spending time with his "Big Crew". Gordon spent a majority of his time outdoors playing softball, cutting wood, and fixing cars. One of his favorite past times was reading and having cookouts with his grandchildren. Having a garden was a hobby of his.



Preceding him in death were his parents, a son, and two very special furry friends.

Gordon leaves behind his wife, family, and dear friends that he held close to his heart.

Funeral services were held Dec. 12, 2023, in Gordon's home in Mahnomen.

Special music was provided by Manoomin Drum Group. Casket bearers were Gordon's family and friends and honorary casket bearers were his grandchildren. Military Honors were provided

by American Legion Post 31 from Mahnomen.

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

Online: www.daviddonehower.com

White Earth Nation has a Facebook page!
Visit us for the latest updates
www.facebook.com/WhiteEarthNation

Howah Ads

REMINDER!

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

All payments must be made in advance.

No exceptions

Happy **12th** Birthday to my Buh-Buh Babygirl
Alissa Bruguier



Happy **10th** Birthday to my Tiny Woman
Ruth-Ann Bruguier
January 8th



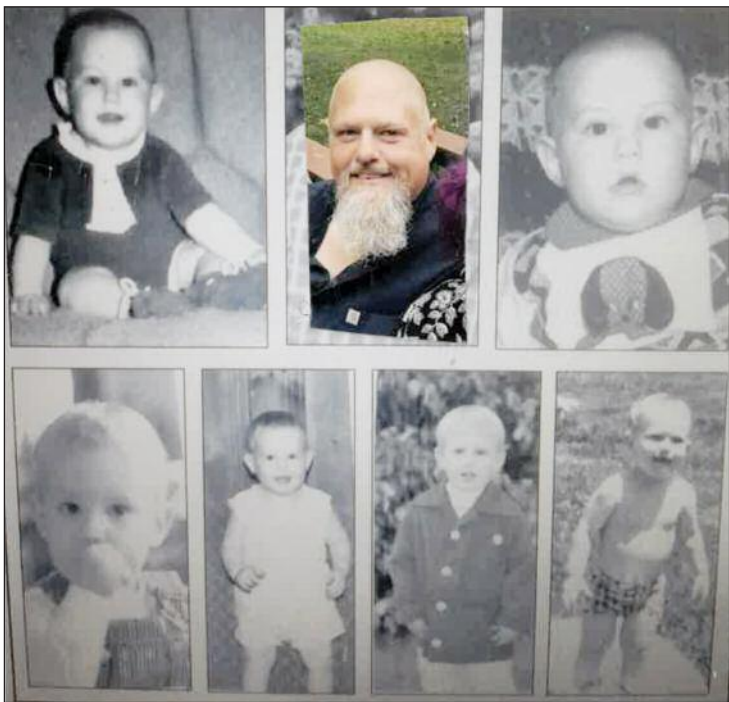
Happy **17th** birthday to my Beautiful Babygirl
Anissa Sullivan
January 13th



THE ANISHINAABEG TODAY NEWSPAPER STAFF WISHES EVERYONE A SAFE, HAPPY, AND HEALTHY 2024

Happy 50th Birthday Milek Kivi

Love, Mom
1-9-24



DOVE from Page 2

criminal charges be pursued. This includes advocacy within courts. Advocates will follow the case, and provide help with questions a survivor may have, and could accompany or respond to court proceedings too.

Dove advocates can help with notification from the jail or prison when the person who assaulted you is released from custody. The paperwork is easy, but must be completed in full for this service to work as it should. Any change in address or phone number should be updated as soon as possible.

DOVE can assist with costs incurred for victims of general crime too. Car stolen or damaged by someone during a dispute? Provide Dove with the documentation regarding ownership, a police report, and if it's been impounded, an estimate from the tow company; that is one example.

Another financial help is safety equipment such as door locks, window alarms, security cameras, and security door jam. An intake is required to receive this help. It does not mean that you have to get a court order, although dependant on circumstances that is sometimes advised.

Domestic violence can happen to anybody

Domestic violence knows no gender or age, or belief system, but the most common victims are women and children. It is characterized by any pattern of behavior involving intimidation, threats, coercion or physical force to gain or maintain power and

control over an intimate partner or family member. Domestic violence occurs in current or former dating relationships, married or cohabiting relationships, LGBTQ relationships and all racial, ethnic, religious or socioeconomic classes.

The cycle of abuse

Many relationships follow common patterns and cycles that don't result in violent confrontations or abusive behavior. But, some do. The cycle of violence may happen all in one day, or it can take many weeks or months to build. It's different in every relationship. Not all relationships follow the cycle—but many relationships become a constant state of siege, ending in violence, maiming, or death.

The phases most recognized are:

Tension building phase: walking on eggshells, appeasing and pleasing.

Acute battering episodes or the explosive phase is unpredictable and out of control.

After the violence comes the honeymoon phase. There will be an apology and promises that it will not happen again. There will be kindnesses. But this will not last.

The cycle repeats, over and over.

If you know someone who could benefit from the DOVE program, please call 218-983-4656. The toll free number to the DOVE offices is 877-830-3683.

Happy Birthday Nephew
Lytic Cogger
-Love Aunty Tiff



Happy **10th** Birthday
Molly Kivi
Love, Grandma Helen



Chairman from Page 3

Mashkiki Cannabis Store. It has made amazing strides in creating almost 50 new jobs and growing upon opening last summer. Our Waabigwan Mashkiki has created a new path to healing from over 20 health conditions and recreationally safer than alcohol. It is for medical and recreational use.

Over this last 2023 year we have endured some tough times and lost some of our family members and friends, of which will never be forgotten. We have also welcomed our new generation of babies and friends into our circle at the same time.

Our 2023 was an amazing year as our nation's programming has improved membership's health and wellbeing in just about every capacity. We as Gaawaabaabiganikaag Anishinaabeg are resilient and determined through our commitment to preserve our culture, traditions and our way of life. May we walk together into 2024 with our ancestor's spirits by our sides creating bigger and brighter futures for all. We are the generations our ancestors prayed for. They hear, see, and speak though us; their descendents. Gichi-manidoo be with us as we make strides into

making our ancestors proud and improving our future with positive, compassionate aspirations throughout this 2024 year.

Mi'iw

Baamaapii wiingezin.

Miigwech bizindawiyeg.

Gigawaabaminim naagaj.

Take it easy.

Thank you for listening to me.

See you all later.

Chairman Michael Fairbanks

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!

Happy Birthday
Hunny
-Love Tiffany & Kids



Happy Birthday to my
Beautiful Cuznt Shelly
Love you!



Coin commemorates 100 years of citizenship for Native Americans

To commemorate the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924, the U.S. Mint will use Native American citizenship as the theme of the 2024 Native American \$1 coin.

The U.S. Mint annually releases a Native American coin that celebrate the contributions made by American Indian tribes and individual Native Americans to the history and development of the United States. The Mint issues one new reverse design each year. The program is authorized by the Native American \$1 Coin Act (Public Law 110-82).

The 2024 Native American coin was designed and sculpted by U.S. Mint Medallist Artist Phebe Hemphill. The coin's reverse shows an eagle staff, an American Indian symbol of respect, honor, and patriotism, together with an American flag to represent the dual citizenship of Native Americans.

Around the image are inscriptions of UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, \$1, and INDIAN CITIZENSHIP ACT OF 1924.



Background

On June 2, 1924, President Calvin Coolidge signed the Indian Citizenship Act, which stated "all noncitizen Indians born within the territorial limits of the United States be, and they are hereby declared to be, citizens of the United States: Provided that the granting of such citizenship shall not in any manner impair or otherwise affect the right of any Indian to tribal or other property."

TUC from Page 16

service remains a key concern on the Reservation. Furthermore, in the fall of 2023 the TUC permitted a new cell tower to be constructed in the Naytahwaush area, supporting the Tribal Council's work to enhance the areas of the Reservation that traditionally have poor to little or no cell service. It our understanding that this new Naytahwaush cell tower will be constructed in 2024.

The TUC is excited about the future and will have a busy 2024. Grants through the Biden Administration's Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) such as the Solar for All Program have been applied

for and the Tribe is awaiting word on these in the spring. The TUC anticipates hiring additional staff to facilitate projects, ongoing communication, and project/grant compliance assistance.

The TUC looks forward to assisting the Tribe in regulating and formally working with all utility providers on the Reservation in partnership with the State Public Utilities Commission and Minnesota Department of Commerce. The TUC and Tribal Council are eager to work toward making long term investments in energy across the Reservation that will help the White Earth Nation achieve energy sovereignty.

Need a loan?

Program supports Native American owned businesses

A new program has been established to provide loans and collateral support for eligible Native American businesses on White Earth Reservation.

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

Eligible borrowers

- Businesses located on the White Earth Reservation
- Businesses owned / controlled by Native Americans in Minnesota

Eligible uses of funds

- Start-up costs
- Working capital
- Equipment
- Inventory
- Purchase, construction or renovation of real estate (must be majority owner occupied)

Financing for small business (target is less than 500 employees; must be less than 750 with all affiliates except those owned and controlled by a tribal government)

- Portion of funding for very small businesses (fewer than 10 employees)
- All applications are subject to WEII's Lending Policy and WEII's loan underwriting procedures

- Approval based on availability of funding
- Certain businesses prohibited
- Other limits apply

Loan Terms

- Loans of up to \$1 million
- Fixed interest rate; rate based on underwriting plus .5% reduction for White Earth tribal member-owned and controlled businesses
- Collateral – required
- Working capital loans
 - 1 year term
- Inventory & equipment loans
 - 3-10 year term
- Real estate loans
 - Up to a 10 year term (may have longer amortization period with balloon payment due in 10 years)

For more information call the White Earth Investment Initiative at 218-983-4032 or go to www.wei.org

WE Urban Office

The White Earth Urban Office is located at 1730 Clifton Place, Suite 100 in Minneapolis.

612-813-1590

Office hours: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

2024 Election Calendar

Jan. 8: Last day for a sitting RTC member to give notice of resignation to file for vacated RTC seat.

Jan. 11: Election Announcement

Jan. 12: 8 a.m. - Opening of period for filing for office

Jan. 22: Close of filing period

Jan. 31: Selection of Election Court of Appeals Judge (For certification of candidate)

Feb. 12: Deadline for Notice of Certifications to TEC

Feb. 14: Challenge certification or non-certification to MCT by 4:30 p.m. on the second business day following receipt of certification.

Feb. 15: Deadline for appointment of Election Boards.

Feb. 15: Deadline for appointment of Election Contest Judge and alternate Election Contest Judge.

Feb. 16: Complete record of all documents related to challenge submit to Minnesota Chippewa Tribe by 4:30 p.m.

Feb. 18: Answer to challenge from the person whose certification is being challenged to the MCT by 4:30 p.m.

Feb. 22: Deadline for the Decision of certification or non-certification by Tribal Court of Appeals

Feb. 24: Notice of Primary Election and Posting

Feb. 28: TEC provides ballots for Primary Election

March 29: Notify MCT on choice of appellate forum

April 2: Primary Election (Polling place open from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m.)

April 3: General Reservation Election Board certifies Primary Results. (Prior to 8 p.m.)

April 4: General Reservation Election Board publishes Primary Results.

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

April 5: Deadline to Post Regular Election Notice without Primary.

April 9: 4:30 p.m. - Deadline for Contest of Primary Election. (Filed with Reservation Election Judge and Executive Director of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe).

April 10: Deadline for Decision on Request for Recount and Results of Recount, if allowed. (If allowed or 8th or 9th if earlier request)

April 19: Deadline for Decision on Contest

April 22: 4:30 p.m. - Deadline for Appeal to Court of Election Appeals. Filed with the Executive Director of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and with Reservation Tribunal rendering Decision. (Or within 3 days of decision on Contest)

April 29: Record of Contest forwarded to Court of Election Appels. (At least 2 days prior to the hearing date)

May 1: Last Day for Hearing on Appeal. (Hearing within 7 days of appeal)

May 11: Last Day for Decision on Appeal. (10 days from hearing on appeal).

May 12: Notice of General Election (or earlier if no appeal)

May 12: TEC provides ballots for General Election (or earlier if no appeal)

June 11: General Election (Polling Place open from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.)

Do not miss out on the new Child Tax Credit!



Even if you are not required to file a Minnesota income tax return, you can still file to claim valuable Minnesota tax benefits.

The new and refundable **Child Tax Credit** is available to Minnesotans who have children under age 18. By filing a Minnesota tax return, you may qualify for \$1,750 per child with no limit on the number of children.

Claim the Child Tax Credit using Schedule M1CWFC, *Minnesota Child and Working Family Credits*, available in the 2024 tax filing season.

You may also qualify for free tax return preparation! Go to www.revenue.state.mn.us and enter **free tax preparation** into the Search box.

English - Rev. 9/23



Bagley Laundromat under new ownership

By Pamela Hagen-French
Farmer's Independent

This past August the Bagley Laundromat was purchased by Tom Krenz of Zerkel, Minn.

Tom is a 21 year Army veteran, graduate of North Dakota State University, and played football for NDSU during his college days.

Since taking ownership Tom has made multiple upgrades to both the laundry area and the car wash. Hours of business have also changed.

The laundromat is now open 7 days a week from 9 a.m. to midnight. Safety is a priority to the new owner. The building is under 24 hour off-site security. The car-wash areas now accept credit cards and

paper bills.

The laundromat has two-quadruple (#40) washers, 1-quintuple (#50) washer, a #65er, and eight -triple loaders. These are in addition to the existing single loaders. Soap/fabric softener/dryer sheet dispenser has been stocked.

Additional updates planned include completing the installation of the triple loaders, automating the car wash doors, painting the inside of the laundry area, replacing the seating and adding flood lights to the outside.

It is hoped that these upgrades and changes will help ease any travel and financial burdens caused by residential all over having to travel great distances in order to wash laundry.



Submitted photo

Tom Krenz is the new owner of the Bagley Laundromat. Krenz, of Zerkle, Minn., is a 21 year Army veteran and a graduate of North Dakota State University,

Bryson Jourdain enlists in U.S. Army

Bryson Jourdain, of Redby, Minn., recently enlisted with a four-year tour in the U.S. Army. Private Jourdain is currently stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., with Bravo Company, 35th Engineer Battalion.

He is the son of Daniel Jourdain of Bemidji, Minn., and Madonna Strong of Redby, maternal grandmother, Melodie Strong of Redby, maternal grandfather, Ron Perkins, paternal grandmother Linda J. Buckanaga of Waubun, grandfather, Arlan Jourdain, hereditary chief of Red Lake,

Minn., and Timothy St. Clair of Ogema, great-grandfather, John B. Buckanaga and Donna Buckanaga and the late William and Elsie Jourdain.

Private Jourdain expects to graduate March 22. He would also like to mention a special auntie in heaven, Mallory Strong.



Bryson Jourdain

Sugar Bush Residents Notice of Township Filing

Notice is Hereby Given to the residents of Sugar Bush Township that the annual filing for election of officers opens Jan. 2, 2024 and continues through Jan. 16, 2024. The following positions are to be filled at the election on March 12, 2024.

SUPERVISOR / 3-YEAR TERM

CLERK / 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 218-849-0882. The clerk's office (32566 Mary Yellowhead Road, Ogema, MN 56569) will be open for filing starting Jan. 2, 2024 from 1 until 5 p.m.

Janice Chilton, Clerk
Sugar Bush Township

Accepting Bids

Loeffler Construction & Consulting invites prospective bidders to submit subcontractor bids for the Shooting Star Casino Area 5 Remodel and Addition project located at 777 S Casino Road, Mahnomen, MN 56557. The Project consists of the renovation of Area 5 as well as an addition to the current casino. Construction is expected to commence in January of 2024.

Electronic Project Files can be obtained by emailing Eric Prettyman at Loeffler Construction (eprettyman@loeffler-construction.com) and requesting a unique document download link. Bids will be received via email (eprettyman@loefflerconstruction.com) until 4:00pm, January 5th, 2024. Bids received after this date and time may be rejected.

This project will be tax exempt. Loeffler is seeking competitive bids for all scopes of work. Native American companies and individuals are encouraged to reach out to Loeffler for opportunities on this project.

The subcontractor must be a responsible bidder as defined in the bid documents. The Owner and Loeffler Construction & Consulting reserves the right to reject any and all bids received and to waive informalities or irregularities in the bidding.

Loeffler Construction & Consulting is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

Mahnomen Country Club Winter Wonderland Rules:

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

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



Thank You

The Peterson Family would like to thank WEPD Peter Drift Jr. for responding the night our father left us and his phone calls to the Mahnomen Ambulance (Carl/Mike.) We appreciate your professionalism and respect for not only for my mother and family and respecting my dad's wishes to not be bothered anymore. Thanks to the guy who delivered the wood in a very quick time - unbelievable. Thanks to David-Donehower Funeral Home for their services. A special thanks to the council members that came and paid their respects to our family not to mention the help and supplies through this hard time. Cheryl, Eugene, Chris many Mii Gwechs to all three of you.

Special thanks to Puggy Goodwin and the Manoomin Drum Group for the songs and speaking for my father and the Traveling Song as we carried our father out. Thanks to my sister for putting her own prayers together to read the Eulogies. Dad would be so proud if he knew you did that yourself - proud of you sis (Micki Peterson).

A very special thanks to the Mahnomen VFW Honor Guards that came to do the Honors for my father - a very big salute to you all.

A very special thanks to the granddaughters Crystal Kiehl for cooking all the food for her Grandpa's funeral and Shelbe Fairbanks for making her Grandpa's favorite banna cake. He always said her cake was the best ever.

Special thanks to Frank and Medina very special friends of mom and dad. Thank you for the food and all the blessings and making sure everything was blessed and smudged daily. Special thanks to Todd Thompson for the tobacco and blessings and being there to show your support. Thank you all for the prayers and condolences from friends and family near and far who came to be with the family and make it unforgeable. And thanks to all the Fire Keepers for keeping the fire burning.

Sincere thanks to all for the ongoing support and prayers - we all very much appreciate everything and everyone.

A special note to ma and dad's lifelong friends Gordy Evgan and Beaty. Thank yous for coming at the drop of a dime - that sure made them happy. God bless and we love you both.

Chi-Miigwech,
The Peterson Family

BECOME A FOSTER PARENT IN CRITICAL NEED!!!

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

Office Phone: 218-983-4647

Roberta Roy -Coordinator Ext: 5516
Roberta.roy@whiteearth-nsn.gov

JoAnn Keezer -Licensor Ext:5542
Joann.keezer@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Patricia Racine - Licensor Ext:5526
Patricia.racine@whiteearth-nsn.gov

It takes a village
to raise a child.

FIND A VILLAGE.
ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER.
&
OPEN YOUR VILLAGE TO OTHERS.

For Hurts, Habits, and Hang-ups

CELEBRATE Recovery

Mahnomen Fire Hall
104 E Madison Ave.

Thursdays--6:30PM
Beginning November 16th

Contact information:
Lisa 218-261-2971
Curt 218-261-0916

FOR RENT HOMES IN CITY OF MAHNOMEN

2 or more bedrooms.
218-847-5641 or
www.mmcdc.com



White Earth Mental Health

WALK IN SCHEDULE

**White Earth Behavioral
Health Building:**

Monday: 8am-4:30pm
Tuesday: 8am-4:30pm
Wednesday: 8am-4:30pm
Thursday: 8am-4:30pm
Friday: 8am-4:30pm

Pine Point:
Monday: 12pm-4:30pm

**Naytahwaush Behavioral
Health Building:**

Tuesday: 8am-12pm

Bagley/Rice Lake:
Wednesday: 1pm-4:30pm

**Mahnomen Behavioral
Health Building:**

Thursday: 1pm-4:30pm



Diabetic Bingo

All are welcome and it costs nothing to play.

January 2024

Jan 4th 2024 Shooting Star Casino Event Center
 Jan 11th 2024 Naytahwaush
 Jan 18th 2024 White Earth - Congregate Center
 Jan 25th 2024 Rice Lake

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

February 2024

Feb. 8th, 2023 Shooting Star Casino Event Center
 Feb. 15th, 2023 Pine Point
 Feb. 22nd, 2023 Elbow Lake
 Feb. 29th, 2023 Valley View, Mahnommen

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

March 2024

Mar 7th 2024 Shooting Star Casino Event Center
 Mar 14th 2024 Naytahwaush
 Mar 21st 2024 White Earth - Congregate Center
 Mar 28th 2024 Rice Lake

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

On January 4th starting at about 12:45, enjoy a cup of coffee or glass of water with a light snack. Topping it all off you can play Diabetic Bingo starting at 1pm

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

Updated 12/22/2023




ANONYMOUSLY SUBMIT A TIP

If you have any information regarding violent crime or drugs, submit a WeTip anonymously.

1 WAY TO REPORT




SCAN

WHITE EARTH RESERVATION

LIUNA Construction Industry Career Fair

Tuesday, April 2, 2024
 3 pm - 6:30 pm
 Radisson Hotel Duluth-Harborview
 505 W Superior St. DULUTH, MN

Attention:
 Experienced and New to the Industry Construction Workers
 Meet UNION CONTRACTORS on Site at This Career Fair who are Screening and Hiring for Laborers and Other Positions for the Upcoming Season!

Register:
 Or Visit BuildTheNorth.com
 Registration is Recommended
 Save time at the door

Learn:
 FREE TRAINING
 Learn about the Laborers Apprenticeship Program and Free Training for life as a LIUNA Member.

Earn:
 \$25 to \$39 Per Hour
 Depending on Experience

Plus Benefits Including:
 Family Health Coverage, Pension, Dental, Vision, Employee Assistance Program

Union Contractors are hiring Skilled Construction Laborers in these sectors:
 Public Building | Infrastructure | Sewer / Water | Energy / Refinery | Roads & Bridges

LECET MN + ND | LIUNA! MINNESOTA & NORTH DAKOTA Feel the Power | BUILD THE NORTH

NEED MORE ENERGY?

JOIN STAR FITNESS CENTER TODAY!

Located in the Manito Mall, Mahnommen

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

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



White Earth Nation
 TRIBAL PUBLIC HEALTH
 Prevent. Promote. Protect

Attention New Homeowners & Existing Homeowners

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

Requirements to qualify for the grants are:

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

Contact us at 218-983-3202

Recycling Bins in Naytahwaush



Recycling Bins are now available for public use located behind the Naytahwaush Sports Complex. There are 2 bins. The plastics, metals & glass can go in the same bin (no separation needed). Paperboard, mailings and office paper go in the flat slot of the second bin. For cardboard, please use the designated cardboard bins

Acceptable Items	Un-Acceptable Items
Plastics 1 & 2	Plastics NOT labeled 1 or 2
Tin Steel Aluminum	Large Items
Paper	Soiled Containers
Glass	ABSOLUTELY NO HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE!!

White Earth Natural Resources
 218-935-2488

IN NEED OF SEPTIC PUMPING?

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

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

(You must live on the White Earth Reservation)



HEALING BRIDGE WELCOMES A NEW PRACTITIONER IN

NAYTAHWAUSH

TAKING APPOINTMENTS FOR ENERGY HEALING SESSIONS STARTING DECEMBER 18TH

CONTACT WE MENTAL HEALTH TO SCHEDULE 218-983-6325



HEALING BRIDGE WELCOMES A NEW PRACTITIONER IN

PINE POINT

TAKING APPOINTMENTS FOR ENERGY HEALING SESSIONS ON THURSDAYS STARTING JANUARY 11TH (1/11)

CONTACT WE MENTAL HEALTH TO SCHEDULE 218-983-6325

Donation for ICW Foster Care



Submitted photo

White Earth Indian Child Welfare Foster Care was donated \$820 by the American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees Local 4001 Statewide Organization. White Earth Foster Care Coordinator Roberta Roy is presented with \$820 in gift cards by Joel Hoffman. The gift cards went to families that ICW work with for Christmas.

Ogema Santa Days



Submitted photo

Thanks to all the helpers, elves, Santa and Mrs. Clause for helping make Ogema Santa Days a fun event. Happy New Year from the Ogema City Council.

Art-infused utility power boxes add splashes of color to Detroit Lakes

By Vicki Gerdes
Detroit Lakes Tribune

DETROIT LAKES — It's been a couple of months since a series of seven brightly-covered public utility power boxes began showing up around Detroit Lakes, and the unusually mild winter weather that's been hovering over the lakes area for the past month or so is a great opportunity for visitors and residents alike to go on a little scavenger hunt around town to find them all.

To assist in that endeavor, the Detroit Lakes Tribune will be featuring a different utility box in the coming weeks, and profiling the artists.

First up is Naytahwaush artist Kent Estey (White Earth), whose work is featured on the power box located in the city parking lot between Bremer Bank, the Lincoln Professional Building and McKinley Plaza in downtown Detroit Lakes. The vinyl wrap on the box is a replica of two of Estey's acrylic paintings, "Summer Sunset No. 1" and "Best of Times." As with the majority of his works, they were both landscape pieces, each depicting a brightly colored sunset.

"They're definitely bright," Estey said of the two art pieces that he submitted for the project. "I love to use lots of color in my work."

The original artwork, which was previously featured during a summer 2022 exhibition of Estey's work at the New York Mills Regional Cultural Center, has now been purchased by a family in Scotland — but because Estey keeps high-quality digital images of all his art pieces on file, he was able to use those images for this project.

"I wasn't able to meet the party that purchased them, but it sure was an honor to have those two pieces selected," said Estey, adding that he was happy to ship the paintings from Minnesota to Scotland.

He felt those two landscapes would be a good fit for the theme of the "Detroit Lakes Energy" project.

"They were both selected, which was a shock," he added. "I just knew that there would be a lot of people that would be submitting pieces. I thought, 'There's probably going to be lots of artists from the

Detroit Lakes area (submitting their work), and maybe it'll be more of a Detroit Lakes theme.'

"I don't care how long you've been doing this," he continued, "I just think, at least for me, there's an apprehension, and a little bit of, 'Oh, I don't know if this is good enough.' Even if I've been painting for 40 years."

Estey, who is 63, lives on the same piece of property where he grew up. "I paint what I see every day," he said. "This property, this land, these lakes, these trees, that's what I'm all about. I've visited lots of places, but I've always lived on the same piece of property, so what I paint is about this land, this area. I just appreciate it so much. It's just such a beautiful, beautiful spot. We're very fortunate to live here.

"I've always painted some form of landscape," he continued. "My head just always goes there. I have to consciously tell myself, 'Kent, you're not doing a landscape today,' because if I just let my hands go, that's what I'll paint."

Estey says he uses fluorescent acrylics to create the bright hues that dominate his landscapes. "It's just so bold and eye-popping," he said, adding that some of the original works will even glow in the dark when displayed under a black light (though the utility box does not). "I'm not afraid to use these colors in my work; they're important to me. You'll find them in a lot of my work, but sunrises and sunsets, those are my favorites."

Estey, who taught in the Naytahwaush school up until his retirement a few years ago, now pursues his art on a full-time basis. His wife, who will retire from her teaching job at the end of the current school year, is planning to join him in his art business.

"We helped establish the local charter school in Naytahwaush almost 20 years ago," he said. "We're proud of our community, and the kids and residents of this area."

Anyone who would like to see more of Estey's artwork should check out his exhibit at the Miikanan Art Gallery in Bemidji's Watermark Art Center. His exhibit, titled "Endanakiyaan — 'Where I am on the Earth,'" will be on display there through Feb. 9.



Photo by Vicki Gerdes / Detroit Lakes Tribune

Kent Estey stands next to his acrylic painting replicated on a vinyl wrap for the Detroit Lakes Public Utilities power box located in the parking lot between Bremer Bank and McKinley Plaza in downtown Detroit Lakes.