

ANISHINAABEG TODAY



A Monthly Chronicle of the White Earth Nation

Vol. 29 No. 2

White Earth, Minn.

today@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

White Earth Nation Election News

The White Earth 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

The following candidates filed during regular business hours from Jan. 12-22 at the White Earth Compliance Department.

Uncertified candidates for Chairperson:

Michael Allen Fairbanks (incumbent), Justin Anthony Keezer, Donovan George Burnette, Eugene “Umsy” Raymond Tibbetts, Karen Marie Manypenny

Uncertified candidates for District III Representative:

Laura Lee Erickson, Cheryl “Annie” Jackson (incumbent), John Howard Smith

Candidates were **not certified** by the time this paper went to press. They must be certified by Feb. 12. Challenges to certification matters will be due by Feb. 14.

Each certified candidate will be offered the opportunity to submit an article and photo expressing their views and platforms in the March 6 *Anishinaabeg Today*.

Election Board members.

The White Earth RBC appointed the following members to the General Reservation Election Board. Gary Frazer - Chair, Laverne “Vernie” Hisgun - Vice Chair, Beverly Smith, Mindy Wolbert, Sherald Hanks, Robert Thompson (alternate) and Mykee Brown (alternate).

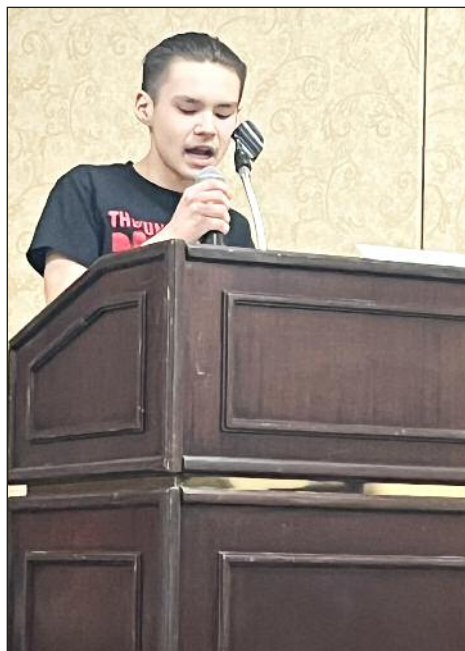
MCT Tribal Election Court of Appeals Judge

The White Earth RBC selected Judge Robert Blaeser to serve as the Judge representing the White Earth Band on the MCT Tribal Election Court of Appeals.

Election Contest Judge and Alternate

The White Earth RBC has appointed Judge Andrew Adams III to serve as the Election Contest Judge and has appointed Judge Robert Blaeser to serve as the alternate.

The March 6 newspaper will have more election information as well as White Earth Facebook and website at www.whiteearth.com



WE Boys & Girls Club Youth of the Year

The Boys & Girls Clubs of White Earth held their Youth of the Year banquet on Jan. 11 at Shooting Star Casino in Mahanomen.

Silas Neeland from the Rice Lake Club, left, was judged the winner and will advance to the State Youth of the Year competition on March 19-21 in Egan, Minn. He and other youth will attend State Advocacy Day on March 21 at the Minnesota State Capital.

Top: From left are Laura Lee Erickson (judge), District III Rep. Cheryl “Annie” Jackson (judge), Travis Bevins (Waubun Club), Silas Neeland (Rice Lake Club), District II Rep. Eugene Sommers (judge), and Chris Vanwert Jr. (judge).

Submitted photos



Area students complete snowmobile safety class

White Earth Natural Resources held a Snowmobile Safety Class for 21 students on Jan. 28.

Although the snow was minimal, there was enough to create the field day course all students maneuvered though successfully.

Submitted photo

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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 |
|-------------|------------|
| February 28 | March 6 |
| March 27 | April 3 |
| April 24 | May 1 |
| May 29 | June 5 |
| June 26 | July 3 |

* Deadline and issue dates subject to change

Indigenous Winter Traditions event is a success

By Amy Myszko

Niibi Center Program Manager

The Niibi Center was excited to sponsor an Indigenous Winter Traditions event last December in conjunction with Apple Blossom Village, a Waldorf-inspired outdoor immersion school serving Preschool through 4th grade in Bemidji, Minn. The event focused on sharing Ojibwe and Indigenous foods, crafts, games and traditions with the larger community, and to let folks know about the scholarship fund for Native students that will be now available for spring 2024 and going forward.

Despite inclement weather and icy roads, we were happy to host seven families with about 15 kids participating throughout the day. Activities included making a small birchbark basket, creating a corn husk doll, string games and learning about snaring and processing rabbits. The yurts were cozy and smelled of delicious food, wood fire and herbal teas, with children, parents and elders sharing space, skills and stories.

We distributed information about Apple Blossom Village and the event allowed the school to begin spreading the word to Indigenous families who may be interested in taking advantage of the scholarship fund. Apple Blossom has immediate openings in pre-K and kindergarten and a waitlist for 1st-4th, please contact Dacia Dauner at natural-childhood@gmail.com for more information.

Ultimately, this event was a time of connection between folks from Bemidji and surrounding communities including Leech Lake, Red Lake, and White Earth. A huge miigwech goes to presenters Dan and Susan Ninham, Josh Red Day, Michelle Marion, and Mary Cross. Alexandra Staudt and Dacia Dauner helped host the event as Apple Blossom staff, and Amy Myszko and Joe Lagarde attended from the Niibi Center. We look forward to hosting more



Photo by Dacia Dauner

Crafts and foods all setup for learning in Apple Blossom's cozy yurt.

collaborative events in the future in support of Apple Blossom Village because the children truly are the future and when we teach them to be stewards of the land at an early age, we ensure that they will become adults who continue to work to protect and preserve the earth.

When do I need a research permit?

By Carson Gardner, MD

White Earth Nation Tribal Health Medical Director

You guys all remember "Terry T"—Terry Tibbetts, one of our esteemed past Tribal Chair's. He's in the star world now, working there to help us here on Gaa-waabaabiganikaag. Well, back in 2017, Terry T's administration wrote and approved a law called the White Earth Ojibwe Research Code. Some of you guys already know about it, but some of you don't. Terry and his government leadership team wrote the law to protect White Earth citizens, resources, culture, history, language, and spirituality from being hijacked or hurt by unethical researchers. Terry T also formed the White Earth Research Review Board, the RRB, to regulate safe research on White Earth lands.

Since 2017, the RRB has reviewed, authorized, and supervised over 60 research projects on White Earth lands. Owa! That's a lot. Why let anybody do research here at all? Because Gaa-waabaabiganikaag has beautiful, practical, Anishinaabe lifeways and good Anishinaabe healing knowledge to share, to help all human beings and to help protect land, water, sky, inner fire, language, true history, creatures, and to respect helping spirits. Also, because many Tribal programs and agencies need to do research to improve the health and safety of community members and community resources. It is good for us to share the truths we have and learn, in order to leave Aki Nookomis and Gaa-waabaabiganikaag better, healthier, safer places than we found them.

When researchers on Native Nation lands, working with Native Nation people and resources, are not responsible, humble, respectful, and honest; disasters can happen.

You guys may have heard of the "Havasupai disaster." The Havasupai Nation is a Southwest Turtle Island Native Nation. They agreed to let an Arizona university research team draw citizen blood samples to study Diabetes. That was fine. But years later, the Arizona university researchers gave those blood samples, without Havasupai citizen knowledge or permission, to another research group who used the blood to do genetic tests that their disrespectful agenda claimed to prove Native Nation people had migrated to Turtle Island recently instead of being here where Creator put us from time immemorial.

When the Havasupai government and citizens found out their blood had been used without permission by disrespectful researchers, they were really, really...well, you know the word. They sued the University and won a big damage award and the university's promise to never do unethical research with Native Nation resources or people again. The US government agreed with the Havasupai Nation. That's why we have the RRB and the White Earth Research Code. Terry T's team knew we needed protection, too. Here are a few facts about the Terry T team's responsible, safe research protection for us all:

- The White Earth Research Code rules apply to everybody, outside researchers and even White Earth citizens doing data-collection research here including facts or survey opinions.

- Right now, the RRB has eight members; Carson Gardner—chair, Monica Hedstrom, Clinton Alexander, Counselor Veronica Newcomer, Dana Goodwin, Amy RedCloud, Frank Johnson Jr., and Rob Tibbetts. They rep-

See Permit Page 26

White Earth tribal offices closed for holiday

White Earth RBC offices will be closed on Monday, Feb. 19 for **Presidents Day** and will reopen on Tuesday, Feb. 20 at 8 a.m.



CIRCLE OF LIFE ACADEMY

35223 Mission Road
PO Box 447
White Earth, MN 56591
P:(218) 983-4180 F:(218) 983-3767

Job Vacancies for the 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

TEACHING POSITIONS

Elementary Teacher
Music Teacher
Physical Education Teacher
Special Education Teachers (2-EBD, DCD)
Short Call Substitute Teacher

TRANSPORTATION

Substitute Bus Drivers

OTHER POSITIONS

Paraprofessionals
IT Coordinator

Circle of Life Academy Offers:

*Full Benefits
*Intercession Calendar

*Competitive Wages
*Sign-on Bonus for both
Certified and non-certified staff

Please Come Join Our Team at Circle of Life Academy

Call or email to request an application: Carol Zortman at 218-983-4180

Email Address: carol.zortman@col.pvt.k12.mn.us

All persons selected for employment must submit to a background check and drug testing.

Applications can be found at circleoflifeacademy.org
Click on Employment tab

News From Chairman Michael Fairbanks

Aaniin Boozhoo Gaa-waabaabiganikaag
Niminwendam Waabaminaan!

Namebini-Giizis!

Aaniish inaa akawe ninga-gaagiizomaag aadi-
zookaanag.

Weweni-sago-na.

Greetings White Earth Nation I am Happy to See
You!

It is already February!

Everyone be safe.

Gaawaabaabiganikaag indawemaaganag, my
White Earth relatives I would like to announce I am
reentering the election for chairman of
Gaawaabaabiganikaag, once again. I have had a very
successful term in office. I would appreciate your
vote and if you have any questions or concerns please
reach out to my office. The rest of the election infor-
mation hasn't yet been released; and as soon as it
does, Gaawaabiganikaag and the White Earth Nation
Election Committee will release it.

Namebini-giizis is the month makwag; bears,
give birth to the makoonsag, cubs when the awan,
fog is thick is a sign that many makoonsag are being
born.

Nanaboozhoo lived in a village; he built two
lodges, one for himself and another for two elderly
brothers who were blind. He tied a rope from their
lodge to the water's edge so they could follow the
rope to get water when they needed. One day Esiban,
Raccoon, decided to play a trick on the brothers, he
saw the one brother coming down the path to fetch
water; Esiban quickly untied the rope and threw it up
near the trees.

When the brother got to the end of the rope, he
discovered there was no lake there like the rope had
led him to before. Esiban laughed. The brother
returned to the lodge and said he couldn't find the
water; the other brother took the pail and began to
follow the rope to the lakes edge. Esiban saw the
other brother coming, he quickly grabbed the rope
and placed it back in the water, and brother found the
water, retrieved some and walked back to their wigi-
wam, home.

When brother returned, he said, "Your lazy
brother, you wanted me to get the water," the other
brother replied, "I could not find the water, I'm glad
you did, let's have some tea." As the brothers were
sitting down to drink their tea, Nanaboozhoo entered
their lodge and announced he'd brought them some
fresh waawaashkeshiwi-wiyyaas, nabob gaye man-
daaminag, deer meat stew and corn. So the brothers
were pleased, Nanaboozhoo made sure each brother
had two pieces of waawaashkeshi and mandaamig in
each of their bowls.

Esiban had smelled the waawaashkeshiwi-
wiyyaas nabob and followed Nanaboozhoo to the
brother's lodge, after Nanaboozhoo left, Esiban crept
up upon the table, took the wiyyaas from one brother's
bowl, he scurried to the corner of lodge where he
quickly enjoyed his fresh waawaashkeshiwi-wiyyaas.
As the brothers began to eat, the one brother said,
"Your greedy brother, you've taken my
waawaashkeshiwi-wiyyaas," the other brother
exclaimed, "I have done no such thing, Nanaboozhoo
gave us two pieces each brother."

While the brothers were arguing, Esiban crept up
on the table and took the last two pieces of
waawaashkeshiwi-wiyyaas; he happily ran to the cor-
ner of the lodge and enjoyed his deer meat. When the
brothers resumed eating, the other brother yelled,



"Now you took my waawaashkeshiwi-wiyyaas!" The
other brother yelled back "I did not, you must've
eaten them already." The brothers began to yell loud-
er and began to put up their dukes and began to fight,
Esiban was very happy to watch the brothers fight.

Nanaboozhoo had heard the yelling and ran over
the lodge to find the two-brothers wrestling on the
floor, Esiban saw Nanaboozhoo coming and tried to
leave the lodge without being seen. Right then and
there Nanaboozhoo saw Esiban and grabbed him by
the scuff, "What have you been up too!"

Nanaboozhoo listened to the brother's story, he
was angered by Esiban's behavior and the troubles
he'd started with the brothers.

Nanaboozhoo decided the world would know of
Raccoon's misery, he told Esiban, "I am going to take
away half your eyesight, you will see but not very
well, you will only be able to hunt at night, when you
do find food, you will have to find water to wash it
before you eat."

Nanaboozhoo took some burnt ashes from the
fire and rubbed it across Esiban's face; he took more
and wiped it across Esiban's tale. "From now on,
people will see your mask and know to be weary of
you; the four stripes on your tail will remind you of
the wiyyaas you took from the brothers." Miigwech
to Richard Jaques for sharing the story.

We hope my newsletter finds you in good health
and high spirits. As we continue our collective jour-
ney towards "Land Back" and reclaiming our
Anishinaabe ancestral lands, we are excited to share
the latest updates and progress in our ongoing efforts.
The resilience of our Gaawaabaabiganikaag ishkonig-
an, White Earth Nation and the commitment to
restoring our heritage lands remain at the forefront of
our mission as your leaders. I will keep you informed
of the progress as it is available.

Tamarac Refuge Update

We have made great strides in clarifying the
White Earth Band's treaty rights and regulatory
authority in the entirety of the Tamarac National
Wildlife Refuge, including both the portion located
within the White Earth Nation and the portion within
the 1855 Treaty Territory. We hope to finalize our
first memorandum of agreement with the U.S. Fish
and Wildlife Service this winter, which will clarify
scientific and permitting roles and responsibilities
and improve access for Band members.

It will also begin the process of identifying and
returning tribal property removed from Tamarac.
Moving forward into the spring, we will be working

See Chairman Page 29

SAVE THE DATE!

WHITE EARTH URBAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

April Election

(Day to be Determined for April, 2024 Election)

Please take note of the White Earth Urban Community Council
Election for Open Officer Seats

Chair
Vice-Chair
Treasurer
Community At Large Board Member

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



Please come to the White Earth Urban Community Council meetings on
Tuesday, February 13, 2024 & March 12, 2024 (6:00 PM-8:00 PM): to
gain insight to the White Earth Urban Community Council Business
Meetings and learn more information on the Election Process. Q & A

(Flier to follow in March on the April Election date and Election Process)

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

News From Secretary-Treasurer Michael J. LaRoque

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

Fiscal Year 2024 Budget

The RBC has approved a general fund budget for the fiscal year 2024 in September of 2023. The budget adopted accounts for revenues in the amount of \$16.71 million which consists of State of Minnesota Tax revenue and expenditures in the amount of \$22.46 million. These expenditures are incurred for departments that operate for the benefit of band members, and not for profit. These include education, public safety, general government, human services, public works, economic development, and culture amongst others. This allows for a budget deficit of \$6.34 million which will be funded by distributions from the Shooting Star Casino. This deficit includes all capital expenses.

Fiscal Year 2024 1st Quarter Report

General Fund

This first quarter FY24 budget for governmental activities ending Dec. 31, 2023, is at \$1.54 million with expenses at \$3.70 million with a remainder of \$1.57 million.

Gaming

Consolidated revenue for Mahnommen, Bagley, and all other gaming revenue for the 1st Fiscal Quarter of FY2024, ending Dec. 31, 2023, was \$28.7 million. The consolidated expenses for the 1st Quarter were \$22.9 million. Consolidated net income for the quarter was \$5.8 million; Mahnommen is at \$5 million, and Bagley is at \$791,000.

The budget through the 1st Fiscal Quarter was \$25.8 million in revenue and \$23.8 million in expenses for a budgeted net income of \$1.9 million for the first quarter of FY2024. YTD Revenue was \$2.9 million higher than the budget while expenses were \$0.9 million lower than budget resulting in net income being \$3.8 million higher than budget.

The Bagley Casino for 1st quarter ending December 2023, earned \$2.8 million in revenue with expenditures of \$2 million. Bagley Casino has a net income for the quarter of \$791,000.

Shooting Star Casino cash on hand on Dec. 31, 2023, was \$81.1 million. The cash on hand at the close of the last fiscal year, Sept. 31, 2023, was \$77.2 million. After Shooting Star Casino capital improvement spending and distributions to the White Earth RBC, cash has increased by \$3.9 million during the first quarter of the fiscal 2024.

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

ARPA

In this first quarter of FY2024 the ARPA funds



are \$33.32 million in revenues, and \$9.37 million in expenses. These funds are used for all capital projects and filling in gaps in the general fund. The cash balance is \$25 million.

Other Grant Funds

In this first quarter of FY2024, we have recorded \$135.90 million dollars in other grant funding while recording \$81.20 million in expenditures. The other grant funds consist of grants from federal, state, and local funding agencies. The funds are meant for a specific program, service, or activity and must be budgeted as such. The cash balance is \$32.03 million.

Behavioral Health

In this first quarter of FY2024, we have accounted for \$10.89 million in revenue while recording \$8.26 million in expenditures. The ending cash balance in Behavioral Health funds is \$47.93 million and we also have an investment account of \$15 million.

Youth and Elder Funds

In the first quarter of FY2024 the fund sits at a cash balance of \$275,342 with \$121,73 in expenses with an overall revenue of \$396,514.

The RBC did approve a general fund budget for the fiscal year 2024 on Sept. 29, 2023, and I will be updating everyone on that approved budget in next month's report.

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 White Earth Nation is moving forward with great progress, and optimism, and I hope we can work while working collaboratively with one another for a brighter future. Miigwech!

Michael J. LaRoque
Secretary-Treasurer

Native artists, crafters needed for April conference

The White Earth Agriculture Department's Buffalo program is looking for Native American artists and crafters to display and offer for sale their works at an upcoming bison educational conference held April 6 in Detroit Lakes, Minn.

This Bison conference is being hosted by the Minnesota Bison Association (MBA). The MBA contacted our office looking for Native American vendors to display/sell their crafts.

The Minnesota Bison Association expressed

interest in Native American artists displaying /selling paintings and drawings, pottery/ceramics, basketry, weaving/textiles, quill work, birchbark, bead work, leather, antler, and bone art.

No vendor's fees will be charged. It is free. Please reach out to your artist friends and let them know about this.

For more information, they may call Wade or Jack at 218-936-4024.

SAVE THE DATE!

WHITE EARTH URBAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

1ST ANNUAL METRO TRADITIONAL POW WOW

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024

American Indian Center
1500 East Franklin Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404



Grand Entry: 1:00 PM & 6:00 PM
Feast: 5:00 PM
Payouts at 8:00 PM

Staff to be announced
Vendors Welcome (Fee charge)
Sponsored by White Earth Nation

Inter-Tribal Dancing
Honor Guard TBD
Invited Drums Split
Men & Women Specials
Youth & Tiny Tots Specials

Everyone is Welcome to join in celebrating the 1st Annual Urban Pow Wow
Drug and Alcohol Free
For More Information, please contact Char Lee @ 651-262-7602
(Flyer to follow)

Healing

Feast-Giveaway

28 February, 2024
Naytahwaush
Behavioral Health Building

Speaker: Amanda Brown
Spiritual Advisor: Rob Tibbitts
Drum: Waabooz Point

More Info: 218-401-4357

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

News From District II Rep. Eugene Sommers

Boozhoo Anishinaabe,

This month we joyfully embraced the arrival of the New Year alongside our loved ones and neighbors at the Naytahwaush Sports Complex, where the New Year's Powwow took place. Chi Miigwech, to our dedicated Powwow Committee, Honor Guard, Community Council and all community members for orchestrating such a great celebration to inaugurate the New Year.

TEC Education/Health and Human Services Subcommittee

Education Report: Billie Annette provided updates on Social Studies Standards, and the report was approved.

Human Services Report: Evie Campbell provided updates on Treatment Center Licensing, and the report was approved.

Guest Speaker: Anita Fineday delivered an update on the establishment of a new State Agency, the Minnesota Department of Children, Youth, and Families, scheduled for launch in July 2024.

Mahnomen-Waubun Thunderbird Mascot

In mid 2023, collaborative efforts were underway with Mahnomen and Waubun High Schools concerning new legislation prohibiting the use of Native American Mascots in Minnesota schools. While recognizing that a Thunderbird is not a Native American person, it holds significant cultural importance to the Ojibwe people. In response, the White Earth Education Department and RBC provided recommendations to local schools, encouraging the teaching of the Thunderbird/Bensi's cultural significance.

The RBC, in partnership with its Education Department and the Tribal Nations Education Committee (TNEC), garnered support from various Tribal Nations. Through testimonies and letters of endorsement submitted to the Minnesota Department of Education, they sought an exemption. In late December 2023, it was announced that the Mahnomen-Waubun Thunderbirds had been granted their exemption.

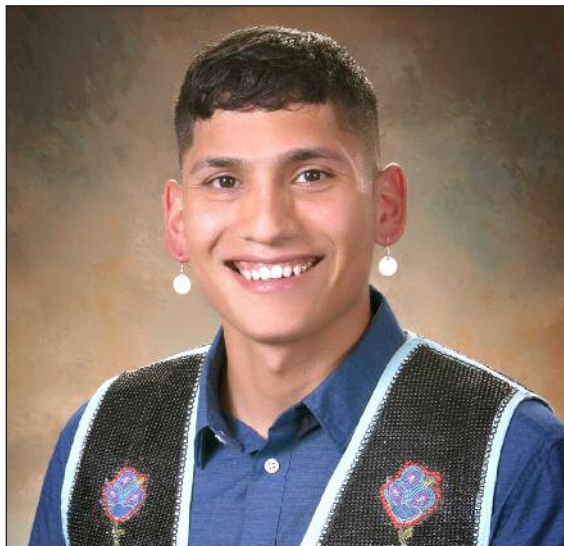
I understand that there has been controversy surrounding this issue and various rumors have circulated. To clarify, the RBC has consistently backed the mascot and, in testimony, emphasized how it fostered greater unity between our two communities. #RollBirds!

Government Consultations

Minnesota Natural Resource Conservation Service: Attended the Plant Materials Center annual meeting. Discussed the services provided by Plant Material Centers and their absence in Minnesota. Tribes had the chance to articulate their demographic and natural resource requirements, emphasizing the implementation of regenerative farming practices.

Minnesota Department of Health: The RBC met with Commissioner Brooke Cunningham to discuss legislative priorities concerning Cannabis and Medical Billing. Commissioner Cunningham demonstrated proactive engagement in supporting White Earth and provided updates on the Office of Medical Cannabis.

Minnesota House of Representatives: The RBC convened with Speaker of the House Mellissa Hortman to discuss bonding requests concerning the Mahnomen Medical Center and a Detox/Withdrawal Management Center. The RBC endorsed bonding funding for the Mahnomen Health Center. Additionally, conversations revolved around sports betting legislation, outlining potential implications if



new legislation is enacted.

Minnesota Department of Public Safety: The RBC convened with Commissioner Bob Jacobson to discuss Tribal and State Law Enforcement Agreements, as well as inquiries from the White Earth Nation regarding the expansion of Tribal DMV services into a Deputy Registrar. This expansion would enable the White Earth DMV to provide services such as State vehicle licensing, issuing State IDs, and conducting driver exams.

Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives Office: The RBC held a meeting with Judy Rudy, Director of the Missing Murdered Indigenous Relative Office, who provided updates on the new MMIR license plate. Additionally, discussions were initiated about White Earth's potential involvement in designing and issuing their own MMIW awareness plate.

Mahnomen County Commissioners: The RBC convened with Mahnomen County Commissioners to discuss infrastructure projects within the city of Mahnomen. The RBC expressed support for the County's bonding request for the Mahnomen Hospital. Additionally, discussions included considerations for a potential Detox Facility and deliberation on permitting authority within the City.

Naytahwaush Food Shelf

At the onset of Fiscal Year 2024, the RBC faced the challenging task of discontinuing funding for the Feeding Our Families Program due to its unsustainable operational costs. However, I'm pleased to share that our Economic Development and Human Service divisions have successfully secured a \$1 million grant. This grant will facilitate the renovation of the pool area at the Naytahwaush Sports Complex, transforming it into a permanent Food Shelf facility. Construction is anticipated to commence this summer, during which time services will be temporarily administered in the gymnasium.

We have acknowledged concerns from community members expressing a desire to revitalize the pool at Naytahwaush Sports Complex to its former glory instead of converting it into a food shelf. We understand that achieving this revitalization would necessitate significant investments in new pool machinery, piping, and filtration systems. However, it's important to note that the cost of such renovations would be more than triple the amount required for the food shelf renovation. Thus, we must carefully weigh these options and consider the best use of available resources in alignment with community needs and priorities.

See Sommers Page 26

Rez Briefs

White Earth RBC offices closed for holiday

White Earth RBC offices will be closed on Monday, Feb. 19 for Presidents Day and will reopen on Tuesday, Feb. 20 at 8 a.m.

Eagle View Township annual meeting

Eagle View Township will hold its annual meeting March 12, at 7 p.m. in the Elbow Lake Community Center at 39944 N. Elbow Lake Drive.

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.

Valleyview Commons

Valleyview Commons in Mahnomen is accepting applications for 1 bedroom units

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

Tenant is responsible for electric and heat.

Currently all ages and incomes welcome to apply!

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



CREATING BETTER LIVING
Equal Housing Opportunity

TTY711



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

News From District III Rep. Cheryl 'Annie' Jackson

Boozhoo Everyone,

I first want to send my condolences to all that have lost a loved one. Know that I continue to pray for all.

January was a busy month. Below is what I was up to all month. I leave out all the phone calls, I don't want to write a book.

Meetings attended:

Jan. 4 – Tribal Consultation with Waubun/Ogema School
 Jan. 4 – MIGA Meeting
 Jan. 8 - Debriefing
 Jan. 8 – Speaker Hortman
 Jan. 8 – COLA Meeting
 Jan. 9/11 – MCT Meeting
 Jan. 11 – Boys & Girls Club Youth of the Year Event
 Jan. 12 – Federal Lobbyist
 Jan. 16 - Debriefing
 Jan. 17 – Minnesota Dept. of Transportation
 Jan. 18 – Housing Board Meeting
 Jan. 22 – Behavioral Health / Boys & Girls Club
 Jan. 24 – Gaming Commission
 Jan. 25 – Waabiigaan Board Meeting
 Jan. 26 – RBC Quarterly Meeting
 Jan. 29 – Minnesota Housing Finance Funding Opportunity Meeting
 Jan. 30 – DII and DIII Meeting with Finance/Land on Elder Tiny Homes

Tribal Consultation for Impact aid funding with area schools has begun. This is to meet with the schools to ensure our Anishinaabe students' needs are being met with the funds that are received. There is a lot of discussion on programming and many other areas. Elected officials are included in these meetings and our education staff, along with School Board members and relevant staff. These are critical meetings as our students deserve to have the opportunity to have the best education that can be provided.

In the Minnesota Indian Gaming Association (MIGA) meeting we discussed 2024 Legislative Gaming Issues, Sports Betting, then open discussion for tribal leadership and MIGA chair. There is momentum that sports wagering will be passed this legislative session. What tribes are working on is to find an agreement among stakeholders that leads to the successful passage of tribally exclusive sports wagering legislation. We need to protect and preserve our work to limit game features that mimic slot machines. There is also work to be done on racetracks as we need to support efforts to rein in the grey areas that racetracks use for expansion. There is more to come on this as more developments arise. Another meeting is scheduled for Feb. 6.

Debriefings - an update was given on Path Finders. Finance came in and did a short contracting summary. It was to explain the processes that they follow and to make sure we were up to par in what they do. Was very informative.

The Creators Place was discussed and we have found ways that we can support this workforce center. It is a very good thing for our Pine Point community and we do not want to see it closed. Our staff will be working with them to update on what we have to offer. Discussion was held on what to do with the old Naytahwaush clinic, it was brought up to put programming in there. We must get it transferred to us from IHS first. A meeting will be set up with IHS officials, to ensure the process is moving forward.

The meeting with Speaker Melissa Hortman went well. Discussion was held on Cannabis Legislation, sports betting, detox funding and White Earth State Forest Transfer.



During the RBC meeting with the COLA School Board, many updates were given, which included staffing recommendations, ways to increase enrollment, communication with parents, lack of substitute teachers, and posting of COLA events/activities/programs in advance. 24-25 School year to begin this process, having committee meetings, teacher pay scale, safety training, contracts, budgets and positions.

The MCT Finance Committee was a good meeting. I also attended the Education/Health and Human services subcommittee and the Legislative subcommittee meetings. A lot of information and updates are given at these meetings. They can be attended by members in person or via zoom, all except the Finance Committee meeting as there is personal information on members that cannot be disclosed to everyone, other elected tribal officers can attend though.

It was my honor to be asked to be a judge for the White Earth Nations Boys & Girl Clubs Youth of the Year. There were two candidates that were interviewed and had to give a small speech - Travis Bevins and Silas Neeland. Both young men did well in both the interview and the speech. It was a tough decision for all the judges, but Silas Neeland will represent White Earth at the State Boys and Girls Club Youth of the Year event at the state level. I want to say congratulations to both and good luck to Silas at the state level.

Our federal lobbyist gave us updates on the upcoming NCAI meeting that will be held in Washington, D.C., on Feb. 12-16. They also updated us on meetings with legislatures that they are setting up, funding package, farm bill and possible changes in Public Law 280.

We had a consultation with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Commissioner Bob Jacobson, Tribal Liaison Wendy Spry and MMIP Office Judy Rudy. We discussed many issues, including priority issues for the White Earth Nation, Deputy Registrar Agreement – this was only discussion, MN Crash Website, Department of Children, Youth and Families – which is a new department, Juvenile Justice, Tribal Traffic Safety Summit (April 3 in Hinkley, Minn.) and the DPS Tribal Consultation policy. State tickets given out by Tribal Police was also discussed, White Earth would like to get half of the dollars that is taken in by the state when these tickets are paid.

A Housing Board meeting was held on Jan. 18. Staff come in and give updates on their departments, budgets, housing issues, tenant issues and any other business that is added.

The Boys & Girls Club met with Behavioral

See Jackson Page 28



**4th Annual
WHITE EARTH NATION
ICE FISH'N DERBY**

Changed to

Shooting Star Casino

Saturday, March 2nd, 2024

11 AM - 3 PM

Over \$8,000 in tournament prizes!

Tournament prizes will be drawn from attendee wristbands
Free Admission For All!
 Adult & youth admission prizes
 First 500 youth receive gift bag at admissions

MORE INFORMATION TO COME

Raffle ticket & Merchant Prizes (\$5 tickets) need not be present
 and will be drawn from the blue stub kept when sold.
 Drug & alcohol free event. Not responsible for accidents.

Chi-Miigwech to our sponsors

| | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
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Thank You!

Brought to you by White Earth:
 RBC, Natural Resources, Public Health, CSO's, & Behavioral Health

White Earth Student Financial Services

(Formerly White Earth Scholarship Program)

27th Annual College and Career Fair

SAVE THE DATE

Location:
Shooting Star Casino
Mahnomen, MN

APRIL 10TH
2024
Tentatively
10am - 2 pm

Registration will be sent February 7th, 2024

Any questions can be sent to Kimberly Scott-Neisen
 at kimberly.neisen@whiteearth-nsn.gov
 or call (218)935-3515, or fax (833)774-1324

Iron Range Area Community Council

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

Heart Strong: Prioritizing your heart health for a better life

By Amy Elfering, Tribal Health RN
White Earth Public Health

February is recognized as Heart Health Month, a time to raise awareness about heart health and the importance of caring for your heart. Your heart is the most vital organ in your body, pumping blood and oxygen to all parts of your body. Taking care of your heart should be a top priority. Maintaining heart health involves making healthy lifestyle choices and adopting practices that can significantly impact your health and well-being.

Maintaining a healthy diet is one of the most effective ways to keep your heart healthy. You should incorporate more fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean proteins, and healthy fats into your diet while limiting your intake of processed foods, saturated fats, and added sugars. Regular exercise is also crucial for heart health, and it can improve your overall health and well-being. Aim for at least 30 minutes of moderate exercise, such as brisk walking, cycling, or swimming, five days a week. Exercise can help lower blood pressure, improve cholesterol levels, and reduce the risk of heart disease.

Stress can also impact your heart health, so it's essential to manage it effectively. Consider practicing relaxation techniques such as meditation, yoga, or deep breathing exercises to reduce stress levels. Avoiding smoking is another vital aspect of maintaining heart health. Smoking can significantly increase your risk of heart disease and other health problems. Quitting smoking can dramatically improve your overall health and well-being.

Heart disease is a serious health concern that

affects millions of people worldwide. Recognizing the signs and symptoms of heart problems is crucial in preventing heart disease. It's essential to take immediate action if you experience any of the common signs and symptoms related to heart health.

1. **Chest pain or discomfort:** This is one of the most common signs of heart problems. Chest pain or discomfort can be a sign of angina, a heart attack, or another heart condition.

2. **Shortness of breath:** If you experience shortness of breath during everyday activities, it can be a sign of heart disease. This symptom can also be accompanied by chest pain or discomfort.

3. **Rapid or irregular heartbeat:** If you feel like your heart is racing or fluttering, it could be a sign of a heart arrhythmia.

4. **Fatigue:** Feeling tired or exhausted even after getting enough rest can be a sign of heart problems.

5. **Dizziness or lightheadedness:** Feeling dizzy or lightheaded can be a sign of low blood pressure or heart arrhythmia.

6. **Swelling in the legs, ankles, or feet:** Swelling in the lower extremities can be a sign of heart failure, a condition in which the heart can't pump enough blood to meet the body's needs. If you experience any of these symptoms, it's important to speak with your doctor right away. Don't Wait!

Remember, Heart Health Month is a reminder to prioritize your heart health every day of the year. Making small changes to your daily routine, can significantly impact your heart health. By making healthy lifestyle choices and adopting practices that promote heart health, you can lead a longer, healthier, and happier life.

Cold weather tips still needed with mild winter

1. The most likely spot for water lines to freeze is where it enters the house/trailer home/building. Make sure warmer air can reach pipes where water enters the house/trailer home/building. If you have **heat tape wrapped around your pipes, make sure it is plugged in.**

2. Check around your home for areas where water supply lines are in unheated areas and take measures to prevent the flow of cold air in these areas. Common locations include: basement, crawl space, attic, garage, and under kitchen and bathroom cabinets.

3. Determine where your water shut-off valve is in your house and learn how to use it. For most homes the shut-off valve is located near the water meter at the point where the water line comes into your home, which is usually in your basement. If a pipe freezes and breaks it will be important to know where the shut-off valve is located.

4. Keep the thermostat set to the same temperature both during the day and at night. By temporarily suspending the use of lower nighttime temperatures, you may incur a higher heating bill, but you can prevent a much more costly repair job if pipes freeze and burst.

5. **Do not plow or drive over the area where your water and sewer lines are buried.** Doing so pushes the frost further into the ground, increasing the risk of freeze ups.

6. **Make sure the roof vent is not covered** with snow or blocked. Snow build up over the vent will cause the sewer drain to slow down. This prevents

the warmer air in the sewer system from venting up the house and keeping the line above from freezing.

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

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

Bakken earns National Indian Realty award

The 26th Annual National Indian Realty Awards (NIRA's) will be held Feb. 26 in Santa Ana, Calif. The awards will be presented to the top 20 Indian Land Professionals in the nation and the top 15 Realty Offices.

Megan Bakken, White Earth Nation Land Manager, finished in 10th place.

The Indian Land Professional of the Year will be awarded to Darnell Day of the Shawnee Field Office.

Muscogee Nation, Okmulgee, Oklahoma will receive the award for Indian Land Office of the year.

The NIRA awards will be presented by Lela Beckwith, President of ICC Indian Enterprises.

White Earth Council of Elders

By Tim Rindahl, Chairman
White Earth Nation Council of Elders

With January already over and with the beautiful weather we have been having, some of us are getting spring fever and thinking about gardening and spending time outside. This is a good thing but remember with the early thawing we get ice in the morning so be careful, it gets really slippery.

Each year we get more and more young elders. I remember when I first joined I was full of excitement and energy and trying to help where ever I could I still am lol. But all kidding aside, we have a small group that goes around visiting and checking in on our elders so if you have spare time on your hands get out and start visiting and see if they need anything. I know a lot of this is taking place already and thank you.

Recently, I had the pleasure of helping Sam Crowell in Ponsford with the food pantry. I had a blast, this helps out the community and is needed not only in the Ponsford area but all the villages. Sam has the connections, all we need are some volunteers from their community to see if this works. Sam has been doing this for a long time and he does deliveries, even to White Earth. Big thanks to Sam.


Remember along with food we need shelter and sometimes that shelter needs some repairs so if you see your neighbor struggling with repairs reach out with a little help. It's karma and will come back to you and also makes you feel better. A big thank you to all who make life a little easier for your fellow neighbors and friends.

We didn't get much snow this year and that makes spring cleanup a lot easier. Whenever I see people picking up trash it makes me proud of them and where I live, let's chip in and help make our villages beautiful.

The first meeting is coming up quickly in April so keep an eye out for time and date. I do know that our first meeting will be in Ponsford and the board is still working on a time that's good so that the Elders that work can attend without missing time from work.

Be safe and have fun. Thanks

Tim Rindahl (Chair)
Sam Crowell (Vice Chairman)
Colleen Blattenbauer (Treasurer)
Monica Perrault (Secretary)



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White Earth DOVE addresses stalking, strangulation & sexual assault

The DOVE program (Down On Violence Everyday), located on the White Earth Reservation, serves victims of domestic violence crimes including stalking, strangulation, and sexual assaults. All are serious crimes and subject to prosecution under state laws, and in some cases, federal laws - interstate stalking in particular.

DOVE has noted a growing number of these crimes across the homelands, and the surrounding area. The work to provide education, safety and advocacy is ongoing to victims.

There was a time when these three crimes were not addressed by law. The first stalking law was passed in California in 1990. At present, anti-stalking laws encompass all 50 states but it was a long road to get to this point. The main objective of the anti-stalking laws is to intervene in suspected stalking cases before stalking behavior results in physical harm.

Anti-stalking laws reflect an understanding that stalking is fundamentally different from other harassment crimes and offer victims protection from behavior previously unregulated. According to a report to congress the two most immediate interventions are arrest and protection orders.

Stalking is defined as intentionally and repeatedly following or harassing another person. Minnesota statute 609.749 prohibits harassing another person by engaging in conduct that causes a person to feel frightened, threatened, oppressed, persecuted or intimidated regardless of the relationship between the harasser and the person being victimized.

The federal interstate stalking law under Title 18, 2261A, Stalking, provides penalties and punishments as follows for "...whoever enters or leaves Indian Country, with the intent to kill, injure, harass, intimidate, or place under surveillance ..." with fines and imprisonment for the person who violates the statute. Terms include life or any term of imprisonment if death of the victim results, as well as not more than 20 years if permanent disfigurement or life-threatening bodily injuries to the victim results; not more than 10 years if serious bodily injury result or if the offender uses a dangerous weapon and not more than 5 years if any other case, in a federal prison or maritime and territorial jurisdiction.

Stalking behaviors by themselves may or may not be illegal. It is the context of the behaviors and the impact they have on the other person that are key. Are they behaviors or actions not wanted by the other person? Do they threaten or cause fear? If so, this is considered stalking.

Stalking behaviors may also change over time. Most stalkers engage in multiple tactics to scare their targeted victim. In addition to following or surveillance, unwanted letters or cards, there may be unwanted phone calls, texts or messages that could be found threatening, due to the victim's perception or dependent on what is said.

However, for a stalking behavior to be classed as stalking, the victim must fear that he or she, a member of immediate family, or partner is at risk of serious injury or death; show that he or she has suffered or will suffer significant emotional distress.

Over time stalking behavior will often escalate. Damage to property, breaking into the home or car of the victim, inappropriate approaches or confrontations are common. Hacking into social media, spreading rumors online and in person, collecting information via the family members, friends or coworkers and other people to obtain information

about how to gain access are all examples of stalking. Physical assaults and sexual assaults are examples of predatory stalking, which sometimes ends in death.

It is important to document the details of each stalking incident. Keeping track of dates and times, what the stalker said or did, when law enforcement was called (it would be helpful to get the responding officer's name or badge number). Recording how you felt at the time of the incident is valuable during prosecution as it shows how the stalking has caused suffering and significant emotional distress. It will also help the victim get a civil protection order. Resources are available at the DOVE office, to help with documentation, and for civil orders, both Orders for Protection (OFP) and Harassment Restraining Orders (HRO).

The difference in the type of order that may be granted is dependent on whether the stalker is a former intimate partner (IP) or a stranger. IP stalkers are more common, and the victim may feel the incidents are not as urgent or harmful. But they can be.

While stalking is often directed at someone from a previous or current intimate partner relationship, a person can also be stalked by former friends, roommates, classmates or someone they have occasionally or never met before, including matches from dating apps.

One must take all threats seriously. End all contact. It is crucial for everyone involved to understand the importance of not appealing to the stalker to stop, threatening the stalker or retaliating against the provocation. Call law enforcement for immediate help. They should be the only ones to confront the stalker.

Inform family, friends, and coworkers of the situation. Doing so alerts them to the significance of any events they may witness and reduces the chances of them providing information to the stalker.

DOVE advocates can file court documents, as well as research the criminal history of the stalker to help ascertain the proper course of action. All stalking cases are different and require an individual approach. DOVE can provide support and advocacy at court hearings, help with relocation, if that becomes necessary, the cost for replacement of documents lost during the stalking crime(s), to name a few of the things DOVE can help with. Call the DOVE office at 218-983-4656, or the toll free crisis line at 1-877-830-DOVE.

White Earth State of the Nation

Thursday, April 4
Shooting Star Casino

The community is invited to this annual event. There will be tribal program information booths and a lunch will be served.

More details will be in the March *Anishinaabeg Today*, White Earth Facebook, and the White Earth website at www.whiteearth.com



HEART HEALTH/ MMIW EVENT

FEBRUARY 14, 2024
2:00PM-6:00PM
SHOOTING STAR CASINO & EVENT CENTER

The The Heart Health/MMIW Event is a public health fair, focused on empowering individuals to take control of their heart health.

We will offer free health screenings that include smokalyzers, blood pressure checks, cholesterol testing, oxygen level and glucose monitoring. We will also have interactive demonstrations from a variety of exhibitors.

Nothing hurts our hearts more than the epidemic of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women in our communities. This event is also dedicated to honoring all of our stolen community members and learning about healthy ways to protect our hearts emotionally and physically.

>>> Hourly breakout sessions with speakers

>>> Exhibitor booths

>>> Demonstrations

>>> Vendor booths



SAVE THE DATE! FESTIVAL FOR FATHERS & FAMILIES 2024



SAVE THE DATE March 23rd at
Shooting Star Casino

White Earth Early Childhood Program & Partners Sponsor this event.
Watch for vendor registration & details to come!
White Earth Childcare EXT: 1408



Your job search ends here
www.whiteearth.com



WE Housing Authority

provides updates on grants, classes, work order system

Michael Heisler, Executive Director
White Earth Housing Authority

Boozhoo White Earth Nation!
I hope you all had a great holidays.

I would like to update you all with what we have been working on at the White Earth Housing Authority (WEHA).

As far as staff go we have filled all our maintenance positions and we are looking to better our operations by getting an updated work order system. We are also looking into getting tenant preventive maintenance classes started by the end of February.

Our tenant service staff will be in each community at least once a month to help assist in completing annual recertifications for those that need assistance. Times and locations will be updated at another time. Please watch our Facebook page for times and locations.

A few grant updates that we have been working on:

- **FHLB (Federal Home Loan Bank).** This

work is focused on exterior/interior remodels in Elbow Lake and a few homes in Naytahwaush.

- **MHFA (Minnesota Housing Finance Agency)** is getting funds called Stable Housing Organization Relief Program (SHORPS) which will be geared to focus on installing new siding and windows for some of our low rent houses.

- **Healthy Homes.** This funding will be geared to improve our roofing situation starting this summer.

- **ARPA grant** will be bringing 12 new homes in to our communities, there will be four going into each district.

WEHA is excited to implement these funds to help improve our tenants living conditions.

Once our software is updated our tenants will have the ability to complete applications/recertifications online.

Our monthly meeting minutes will be posted on our facebook page for the public to view.

I wish everyone well, and have a great month. Miigwech!

THE DOCTOR'S CORNER

Allergic Conjunctivitis

By Justin Bohnsack, Extern and David J. Bellware, OD
White Earth Health Center

We are rapidly approaching “Allergy Season.” According to the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, about 81 million Americans suffer with seasonal allergies. Allergies occur when the body reacts to an offending agent – an allergen. Allergies can occur during all four seasons, but they are most common in the spring when tree pollen returns to the environment.

It is important to note that there are many different allergens that can cause a reaction in people. Some allergens other than pollen are pet dander, dust, mold, foods, medications and petroleum products. The most common symptoms of allergies include runny nose, sneezing, coughing, hives, rashes, and itchy, watery, irritated, red eyes. When the eyes or conjunctiva (the lining of the front of the eye) is involved; this is called allergic conjunctivitis.

Allergic conjunctivitis is due to the immune system reacting to an allergen. The immune system produces a reaction to allergens. An allergen triggers a mast cell to respond by releasing histamine. The histamine then causes the allergic reaction to occur at the local tissue sites: For example the conjunctiva of the eye.

Allergic conjunctivitis is a common condition that occurs in about 30-40% of the population, as described in an article by Shad Baab and the National Library of Medicine. In general, allergies require a prior exposure to an allergen that the body recognizes and the allergic reaction occurs at a later exposure. Therefore, allergies can occur at any time during someone’s life (at any age).

The most common symptom that can be a key indicator of allergic conjunctivitis is itchy eyes. There can be a watery discharge that can lead to crusting of the eyes upon waking up in the morning, and there may also be a stringy, white mucous discharge found in the eyes. Some other signs and symptoms include swollen eye lids, redness of the eyes, a burning sensation, and a dry, gritty sensation that may feel like something is in the eyes. It is important to avoid rubbing or itching the eyes as this can lead to the release of more histamine and a worsening of the inflammation or allergic reaction. Rubbing the eyes can also cause mechanical injury to the eyes, which will complicate or delay improvement of this condition.

There are many treatment and management options for allergic conjunctivitis using topical eye drops. The goal of allergy treatments is to reduce the symptoms involved and to reduce inflammation. These treatments can target the effects of histamine on the “front side” through mast cell stabilization; or on the “back side” with a histamine blocker (anti-histamine). Your eye doctor can examine the eyes to verify the presence of allergic conjunctivitis, and then determine the best course of action based on your symptoms.

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.

February

2024

Namebini-giizis Cultural Calendar

White Earth Cultural Activities Monthly Schedule

*This Calendar is subject to change as cancellations and additions occur.



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|------------------|--|---|--|--|--|-------------------------------|
| | | | | 1 PH-SSC mtg 9am DD | 2 Crafty Friday 10-3pm | 3 |
| 4 | 5 OMC Ceremony 9am | 6 MAH AFT 2 10-12 Men's Mat OMC Sweat 11am | 7 OMC/MAT Ceremony 9am Rice Lake W-Sweat 5pm | 8 Jean YOUTH 10-12 Acute Care 1pm | 9 Inini/Kwe Camp 9-4:30pm | 10 Inini/Kwe Camp 9-4:30pm |
| 11 | 12 OMC Youth 7am OMC Women's Sweat 1pm | 13 NTW MOMS 10-12 NTW Men's Mats Sweat 5pm | 14 Rice Lake Men's Sweat 5pm MMIW Health Fair @ SSC 2-6 | 15 NTW Women's Sweat 5pm PP Men's Sweat 5pm | 16 NTW MOMS Crafty 10-2pm PP Women's Sweat 5pm | 17 |
| 18 RBC Closed | 19 | 20 Dorene & Staff away... Ceremonies | 21 Ceremonies | 22 Ceremonies | 23 Ceremonies | 24 Ceremonies |
| 25 Ceremonies | 26 Cultural Staff off | 27 MAH AFT 3 10-12 NTW MOMS 10-12 WE Women's Sweat 5pm | 28 NTW Healing Feast 5-7pm WE MAT Women Staff Sweat noon | 29 Jean YOUTH 10-12 Acute Care-1pm WE Men's Sweat 5pm | | |

www.wetcc.edu | 218-935-0417

WHITE EARTH TRIBAL & COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Find Your Why
We asked students to share why they chose WETCC or what they are going to college for. We loved seeing each student's unique reason for being at WETCC!

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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

Lisa Fabre receives VFW award

Contest recognizes teachers who promote civic responsibility, patriotism

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Minnesota is proud to announce Lisa Fabre, an elementary grade teacher at Ogema Elementary as a winner of the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award. Lisa was selected from entries submitted to VFW Posts across the state.

Sponsored by Ogema VFW Post #9880 and its Auxiliary in Ogema, Fabre received the award Jan. 13 at the Annual Midwinter Grand Banquet in Minneapolis.

"We are so appreciative of Lisa and every teacher who participated in this year's program. Their commitment to teach the value of citizenship and patri-

tism to their students will greatly benefit our communities as these students grow into involved adults," said VFW Department of Minnesota Commander Dan Meyer.

The VFW Teacher of the Year award program was enacted in 1999 as a way to identify and recognize America's best educators who instill a sense of national pride in students by teaching citizenship education topics regularly and promoting America's history and traditions effectively. The program continues to exceed expectations and program administrators expect the number of participants will continue to grow each year.



Submitted photo

VFW Commander Dan Meyer presents Lisa Fabre with her award.

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.

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

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

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.

Healthy for you. Helpful for all.

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



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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.

VOTE LAURA LEE



White Earth Gaawaabaabiganikaag District 3

Primary Election April 2, 2024

General Election June 11, 2024

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[218] 204-1008

Paid for by Laura Lee Erickson

Facebook: [VOTELAURALEE](https://www.facebook.com/VOTELAURALEE)

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January 10
February 20
March 20


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

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Scan QR code to register:



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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>



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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



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

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.



WE Mental Health promotes self-care ideas

By Jackie Jacobson
Mental Health Clinical Trainee
White Earth Mental Health

The 2024 year has kicked off with a number of outreach activities involving White Earth Mental Health. The program hosted an ASIST workshop for RBC staff. ASIST is a two-day face-to-face workshop where individuals will learn how to prevent suicide by recognizing signs, providing a skilled intervention, and developing a safety plan to keep someone alive and safe for that time. Another workshop took place on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1.

White Earth Mental Health also collaborated with Mahnomen Public Schools for their annual Winter Feast. Participants had the opportunity to make sugar scrubs to promote engaging in self-care on a regular basis. Another collaboration occurred with Public Health at Pine Point School promoting positive self-talk.

As the month of February begins, many people

often associate this time of year with Valentine's Day. For those that are not in an intimate relationship, this time of year can lead to feeling of loneliness, despair, and hopelessness. However, Valentine's Day can also be a time to practice self-love, reflect on other meaningful relationships within our lives that bring us joy, and create our own meaningful traditions.

Valentine's Day Self-Care Ideas

- Start a new book/finish an old one
- Listen to your favorite music
- Go out and try something new
- Take time out to do something you enjoy
- Start a gratitude journal
- Practice positive affirmations
- Take a social media break
- Treat yourself to something nice
- Take a long bath
- Set an early bedtime so you can get restful sleep
- Call and check in with a loved one
- Forgive yourself for the past

Pride Tribe hosts first-ever drag show at Shooting Star

On Jan. 21, the Pride Tribe of White Earth Reservation hosted the first ever Grand Drag Show on White Earth Reservation at the Shooting Star Hotel and Casino Event Center,

Eight performers displayed their moves and unique beauty, four of these performers are Native American and several grew up here on the White Earth Reservation. Deja Duvalle, from Leech Lake, opened the show in Ojibwemowin.

More than 350 people attended the first event. The Pride Tribe will be hosting another Drag Show, as well as other events including education amongst the community in the future.

The Pride Tribe is a local organization made up LGBTQIA+2 and allies, who have come together to create a more welcoming and understanding community for all. Events, education, and inclusivity are the core values of the Pride Tribe.

On Dec. 29, 2023, the Pride Tribe was officially recognized by the White Earth Reservation Business Committee as an official Tribal Organization.

The Pride Tribe would like to thank Debwe MC and DL Area Pride for your support! Thank you to all of those who came out and attended as history was made at the first Drag Show!



Photos by Shannon Eck



On Jan. 21, the Pride Tribe of White Earth Reservation hosted the first ever Grand Drag Show on the reservation at Shooting Star Casino.

**White Earth Fleet
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WE donates for K-9 training



Photo by AmiJo Wadena

The Mii-gii-way-win Advisory Board recently donated \$2,000 to the Becker County Sheriffs office to help with expenses for adding a new K-9 to their department. The dog will be used to track and locate individuals such as lost children, mental health victims, lost hunters, elderly, and offender fleeing law enforcement. From left are Secretary-Treasurer Mike LaRoque, Becker County Sheriff Todd Glander, Mii-gii-way-win Advisory Board member Ayecia Kemp (presenting check), Deputy Adam Winter, and Deputy Ben Bruce and his K-9 partner Derman. Winter grew up on the reservation and currently resides in Ogema, He will meet his new dog soon and go through 17 weeks of training down in the Twin Cities. Winter is assigned to patrol the reservation on every shift.

New Year Sobriety Powwow



Photo by Jeff Burnette

The Gaawaabaabiganikaag New Year Sobriety Powwow was held Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 at the Naytahwaush Sports Complex. The MC was Frank Stech and the host drum was Lake Vermillion. The event was sponsored by the White Earth RBC and White Earth Behavioral Health.



Submitted photo

Members of Paul's Passion from left are Cindy, Courtney, Lisa and Penny. The photo on the table is Paul Hutchinson who passed away in 2020.

Paul's Passion dedicated to helping animals on Rez

Paul's Passion held a rummage sale and free dog/cat food giveaway on Jan. 27 at the Gizhiigin Building in Mahanomen. The money raised from the rummage will be used by Paul's Passion to help animals on the White Earth Reservation.

Paul's Passion partners with programs to help bring pet food to the community at no cost to community members.

They transport stray, abandoned, or animals that people are no longer able to care for to animal organizations throughout Minnesota.

The group also provides education for communi-

ty members through Facebook, by hosting events in the community, and one-on-one with community members.

In August 2020, Paul Hutchinson passed away. Paul helped so many animals of the reservation and by doing so sparked so many other people's need to help as well. This was the program's way of honoring his legacy.

They have forged partnerships with animal control and animal organizations off the White Earth Reservation that help us with their efforts in the community.

Motorcycle club donates \$\$\$ to Rez boxing youth



Submitted photo

Debwe MC White Earth recently donated a check for \$1,000 to the White Earth Nation Boxing Club for equipment, supplies and fees. Club president Lew Murray presented the check and said the club was proud to support community youth.

Urban members welcome new year with gathering

By Char Lee
White Earth Urban Community Council

The White Earth Urban Community Council held a New Years party for White Earth Urban families on Dec. 30, 2023, at the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Building in Minneapolis.

Even though the weather was colder than we had hoped, there were many in attendance to enjoy the delicious food, drawings and always a big hit, was a variety of music/karaoke by Matthew Shun (Book of Matthew Entertainment). White Earth does have tal-

ented members that did sing.

We were all blessed with Ogima Benaise (Mattias Bigbear), 7 years old, who shared his amazing abilities in hoop dancing. As you see in the picture below, he had many hoops that he maneuvered in and out of. Ogima is an enrolled member of White Earth. Chii-miigwech for blessing us on this day.

Chii-miigwech to the Mii-Gii-Way-Win Advisory Board for their monetary donation for this event.

Many blessings to all for the New Year from the White Earth Urban Community Council.



Photos by Char Lee

The White Earth Urban Community Council held a New Years party for White Earth urban families on Dec. 30, 2023, at the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Building in Minneapolis.

Preparing wild rice for USDA



Photo by Laura Lee Erickson



Photos by Tracy Goodwin

Thanks to a successful wild rice harvest, the White Earth RBC approved to sell 60,000 pounds to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The rice was taken down to Aitkin, Minn., to be packaged, boxed and palletized per the USDA contract. The rice will then be sent to Kansas and Idaho where Food Commodity programs can order the rice.



Even if you are not required to file a Minnesota income tax return, you may be eligible to receive the **new and refundable Minnesota Child Tax Credit** up to \$1,750 per child dependent under age 18. Find out today!

Questions?
Call us!
218.844.7029



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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. •“Awakwaan. Odaabii'aagan. Awesiinh.”

“Domestic animal. Draft animal. Wild animal.”
•“Ningikinootawaa na bizhiki?” Gikinootaw!
“What does s/he say ? cow? Imitate him/her!”
•“Ganabaj, gikinootaw a'aw bineshi!”
“Maybe, imitate him/her that bird!”
•“Noongom, a'aw baaka'aakwe!”
“Now, that chicken!”
•“Giwawiyazhiitagoz!”
“Gi wa wi ya zhii ta goz!”
“You sound funny/cute!”
Bedowe.-S/he has soft voice.
Gibedowe.-You have soft voice.
Gizhiwe.-S/he speaks loud.
Gigizhiwe.-You speak loud.
Bangitoo.-S/he quiets down.
Gibangitoo.-You quiet down.
Nimbangitoo.-I quiet down.

Bineshi, Bizhiki, Bebezhiigoogaanzhii, Waawaabiganoojii, dash Baaka'aakwe.
Bird, Cow, Horse, Mouse, and Chicken.

Gizaagi'in.
I love you.

Animosh, Gookoosh, idash Gaazhagens.
Dog, Pig, and Cat.



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

Oshki-nitaawigiwin•Young Adult•Teen
“Noongom, **gigikinoo'**amaagoz ina? **Gigikinoo'**maagozim ina? **Ningii-gikinoo'**amaagoz. **Ningii-minwendaan.** Ningii-tazhiikaan imaa. Gaye giinawaa omaa. **Giginzhizhawizim.** >Ojibwemodaa! -O ji bwe mo **daa!** “Today, do **you** go to school? Do **you all** go to school? **I did-go** to school. **I did-like** it. I worked on it/involved in it there. Also you all, here. **You all** are a competent hard workers. >**Let's all speak Ojibwe!**”
Online exploration: <https://www.mnhs.org/ojibwematerialculture>

Pencil(s)- Ozhibii'iganaak(won) Desk- Apibii'igan
Door(s)- Ishkwaandem(an) Paper- Mazina'igan
Lunch- Naawakwe-wiisini, Bell- Godotaagan
Boozhoo! Aaniin! - Greetings!
Gichi-miigwech! - Great-thanks!
Anishinaabeg: Daga Ojibwemodaa! It is in your DNA-speak! It is a gift of yours! Write on your packs, hats, & posters. Listen/Speak with dictionary online! Make flashcards! Start+Share!

B J A A G
A G S W N O
N I A ' A W O
G Z D B O K ' K
I A B E D O W E O
T A Z H G O B A W O
O G H L A T I ' A W S
O I B I N E S H I N I H
I ' W O A N H N I E J O
' I T O B S A A N K O H
A N K S A B I Z H I K I
S M I D J E O O G N O W

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

Nitaawigiwin • Grownup

Bagwana. -Random Ojibwe-ikidowinan. -Words.
>>>>>=====>>>>>
Wiikobijigan. Wii ko bii ji gan
Dakwanjigan(an)
Gagiibaadizi.
Mewinzha (May win zha)
Zhigaagawanzh(iig)
Zhigaag(wag)
Anishaa

Nimbakade! Gibakade na gaye? Wiisinidaa! Niwii-naajimijime. Niwii-jiibaakwe. Naawakwe noongom. Bangii ninga-wiisinimin. Onaagoshi-wiisiniyang, niwii-chiibaakwaadaan baaka'aakwe-naboob. I am hungry. You hungry? also? Let's all eat! I will go get some food and I'll cook. It is midday now. A little bit, we all shall eat. When we eat supper, I will cook it chicken soup. Manoomin ashi! Rice +! Baaka'aakwe-wiyyaas -chicken meat Wiishkobizid bakwezhigan-cake-bread. Doodooshaaboo-milk Mandaaminag - corn Mishiimin-apple Yum:)

Gichi-aya'aa•Elder

Aaniin ezbinikaazod wa'aw giizis? What/how is s/he called this moon/month? Izbiniikaazo Namebini-Giizis wa'aw giizis. - S/he's named February, Sucker(fish)-Moon this moon. •Mazinibii'igewinini dash Mazinibii'igekwe! Niminwendaanan anooj gegoo ozhichiganan. Anaakanan, biizikiganan, idash waabigani-kaade. Zhizhoobii'igewininiwag idash zhizhoobii'igewikweg,-Mino-anokiiwin! Howah!” “Artist man and Artist woman! I like the variety of handmade things. Woven rugs, clothing, clay casts. Men painters & women painters -Good-work! Alright!”
Mii'rw.-
That's all.

omaa
Gigii-
-yan
Nim
Nind

Minidoominens(ag)-Bead(s)
Asabaab(iin)-Thread(s)
Moozhwaagan(an)-Scissors (pl.)

•WE Resources

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

Mii'iw. ____ That's all. ____
Key: Aaniin ezhi-ayaayeg?
...Chest of drawers (N)
...Pliers (plural, NI)
...S/he is foolish. (root VAI)
...A long time ago.(PC)
...Onion(s)(NA-animate noun)
...Skunk(s)(NA)
...Just for nothing, in fun

1. ____-ojibwem ina omaa noongom? **You did**-speak ojibwe here today?
2. Niminwendam Ojibwemo_____. I am happy/glad **when you** speak Ojibwe.
3. ____bakade noongom. Gaye naano-diba'iganek, niwii-pakade. **I am hungry now/today.** Also when it is five-oclock, I'll be hungry.
4. Onaagoshi-wiisiniyaan _____, niwii-miijin manoomini-naboob. When I eat supper **here**, I want to eat it wild rice soup.
5. _____ikid, “Daga, miziwekamig, minode'edaa noongom!” **I say it, “Please, all over the world, let's all be kind/generous now!”**
Ojibwemodaa! - Let's all speak Ojibwe!

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

Voting eligibly for White Earth Primary Election

1.6(A) Judging Qualifications

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

1.6 (B) Eligibility to Vote: Generally

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

1.6 (C) Eligibility to Vote: Absentee

Whenever, due to absence from the reservation, illness or physical disability, an eligible voter is not able to vote at the polls and notifies the General

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

WE Police help take 'tranq' dealer off the streets

John Alan Gordon, 34, of rural Waubun was sentenced Jan. 3 in Wadena County to 80 months in prison for 1st degree Drug Sales.

On Sept. 20, 2022, at the direction of the White Earth Police Department, a traffic stop was conducted by the Wadena County Sheriff's Office on a vehicle driven by Gordon. During the investigation of the traffic stop approximately 362 grams of Fentanyl was seized.

The Fentanyl seized from Gordon was sent to the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension's Lab. The lab concluded that the Fentanyl was mixed with Xylazine.

Fentanyl mixed with Xylazine is also known as "Tranq." Xylazine is a non-opioid animal tranquilizer. Naloxone (Narcan) does not reverse an overdose of Xylazine. Due to Xylazine being mixed with Fentanyl and other opiates when someone is overdosing on "Tranq," they should still be given Naloxone.

White Earth was assisted by the Paul Bunyan

Drug Task Force, Headwaters Safe Trails Task Force, West Central Drug and Violent Crime Task Force, Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, Becker County Sheriff's Office, Mahnomen County Sheriff's Office, Wadena County Sheriff's Office, Wadena County Attorney's Office, and the United States Attorney's Office.

The White Earth Police Department would like to thank their partnering agencies for their assistance.

Multiple individuals were arrested and are pending trial/sentencing as a result of this case.

If you would like to speak to someone about receiving help, please contact WEPD or White Earth Behavioral Health.

The WEPD encourages the public to utilize our dispatch center and our tip lines to report criminal activity in their communities.

Anyone with information about any ongoing case or narcotics trafficking can contact the White Earth Police Department at 218-983-3281.

Syverson named All-Academic with Distinction Award winner

The Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference recently announced its 2024 NSIC Myles Brand All-Academic with Distinction Award winners with 16 student-athletes from Bemidji State University (BSU) earning the award.

One of the BSU students named was Abby Syverson, a White Earth Nation descendant. Her parents are Dana Syverson and the late Ryan Syverson from Pelican Rapids, Minn., and her grandparents are Ed and Barbara Syverson from Waubun, and Colette and Mike Kemper from Mahnomen. Abby is on the Track and Field team and she is a senior majoring in Elementary Education.

The 15th annual all-academic award is bestowed to NSIC student-athletes with a cumulative grade point average of 3.75 or higher, are exhausting their eligibility and are on track to graduate (student-athletes can only earn the award once).

"I am filled with pride on how our student-athletes in the NSIC continue to excel in the classroom, in the community and on the playing field. These are characteristics in which Dr. Myles Brand emphasized. I am extremely proud of all these student-athletes for their devotion to their universities, the NSIC and to

their personal academic and athletic goals. I have no doubt these student-athletes will continue to achieve success in life well beyond the classroom and the competition venues," said Lind.

Dr. Myles N. Brand, visionary leader, educator and reformer, served as the President of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) from 2003-2009. He presided over passage of the most comprehensive academic reform package for intercollegiate athletics in recent history – a package that refocused the attention of student-athletes, coaches and administrators on the education of student-athletes.

Brand also changed the national dialog on college sports to emphasize the educational value of athletics participation and the integration of intercollegiate athletics with the academic mission of higher education.



Abby Syverson

Are you that person that has a lot of heart for children and looking to start a business?

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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



White Earth Nation
TRIBAL PUBLIC HEALTH
Prevent. Promote. Protect

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TEST TO TREAT
PROGRAM

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eMed

Access free COVID-19 and flu at-home tests and telehealth care.

Need at-home COVID-19 / flu tests?

Anyone who is uninsured or enrolled in Medicaid, Medicare or VA / IHS healthcare is eligible to receive free at-home COVID/flu tests.

If you start to have symptoms, these tests can determine if you have COVID-19 or flu. If positive, you can access free telehealth care and treatment, if eligible.

Positive for COVID-19 or flu?

Regardless of insurance status, anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 or flu qualifies for free telehealth care. If prescribed, you may be able to access medication at no cost.

To learn more and sign up, visit
www.test2treat.org or call
1-800-682-2829



About Home Test to Treat

Home Test to Treat is a nationwide program providing free testing, telehealth and treatment. Findings will be used to inform future public health programs for the American people. NIBIB supports Home Test to Treat through the RADx Tech program under contract #75N92022D00010 with additional support from CDC and ASPR.

Special Events

- **Diabetic Bingo**
 February 8th—Shooting Star
 February 15th—Pine Point
 February 22nd—Elbow Lake
 February 29th—Valley View

White Earth Elder Nutrition Program
Gaawaabaabanganikaag Ogikaag Miniwanjige
“White Earth Elder Eating Good”
Namebini-giizis (Suckerfish Moon)- February

Elderly Nutrition Program Information

*Daily Menu includes 1% milk, and provides 1/3 of the Recommended Daily Allowance (RDA) set by USDA guidelines, with health conscious and cultural consideration to overall well-being.
 *Menu is subject to change depending on product availability and/or schedule changes




Elders Suggested Donation \$4
Guest Meals \$6

Questions or comments please contact :

White Earth ENP Site (218) 983-3744
 Elbow Lake ENP Site (218) 734-2315
 Pine Point ENP Site (218) 573-2210

Naytahwaush ENP Site (218) 935-5554
 Rice Lake ENP Site (218) 694-2795

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 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable and/or salad Fruit Bread 1% milk | 1 Meatloaf Mashed potatoes Glazed carrots Wheat bread Grapes | 2 Chef Salad w/ the fixings Artisan roll Banana pudding w/ wafers |
| 5 Chicken parmesan over pasta Cali. blend veggies Garlic toast Pineapple | 6 Baked ham Scalloped potatoes Steamed peas Croissant roll Pears | 7 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable and/or salad Fruit Bread 1% milk | 8 Beef stew Biscuit Garden salad Apple crisp | 9 Brunch for Lunch Chefs Choice  |
| 12 BBQ chicken Sweet potatoes Baked beans Cornbread Fruit salad | 13 Manoomin hotdish Dinner roll Roasted brussels Berry parfait w/ granola | 14 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable and/or salad Fruit Bread 1% milk  | 15 Pork chop w/ gravy Mashed potatoes Green beans Stuffing Wheat bread Fruit cocktail | 16 Tuna salad sandwich w/ lettuce and tomato Broccoli cheese soup Cookie Fresh fruit |
| 19 Closed  | 20 Teriyaki chicken Brown rice Oriental veggies Fortune cookie Mangos | 21 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable and/or salad Fruit Bread 1% milk | 22 Birthday Lunch Ham and bean soup Manoomin bread Garden salad Angel food cake with berries | 23 Fish sandwich w/ lettuce and tomato Creamy cucumbers Brownie Fresh fruit |
| 26 Beef Stroganoff over egg noodles Country blend veg. Croissant roll Tropical fruit | 27 Tator-tot hotdish Dinner roll Corn Cinnamon spiced peaches | 28 Chefs Choice Main Entrée Vegetable and/or salad Fruit Bread 1% milk | | |

White Earth Food Distribution February 2024 Store Hours

Mon-Thurs 8:30-3:30

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

February 2024 Home Delivery Schedule (Subject to Change)

February 5th: Mahnomen & Waubun

February 9th: Bagley, Ponsford & Naytahwaush

February 16th: White Earth

February 19th: Closed – President’s Day

February 23rd: Detroit Lakes

February 29th: 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 February 2024

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|-----------|
| *WIC follows RBC schedule for closings | *Dates and times are subject to change | | | 1 Pine Point Community Building 9:30-5:00 | 2 Naytahwaush Waabinoakwe Health Center 9:15-3:30 | 3 |
| 4 | 5 Naytahwaush Waabinoakwe Health Center 9:15-3:30 | 6 Bagley Elementary School 10:00-3:00 | 7 Naytahwaush Waabinoakwe Health Center 9:15-3:30 | 8 Naytahwaush Waabinoakwe Health Center 9:15-3:30 | 9 Naytahwaush Waabinoakwe Health Center 9:15-3:30 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:30 | 13 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:30 | 14 Naytahwaush Waabinoakwe Health Center 9:15-3:30 | 15 Naytahwaush Waabinoakwe Health Center 9:15-3:30 | 16 Naytahwaush Waabinoakwe Health Center 9:15-3:30 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 CLOSED | 20 Bagley Elementary School 10:00-3:00 | 21 Naytahwaush Waabinoakwe Health Center 9:15-3:30 | 22 Naytahwaush Waabinoakwe Health Center 9:15-3:30 | 23 Naytahwaush Waabinoakwe Health Center 9:15-3:30 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:30 | 27 Mahnomen Tribal College 9:30-3:30 | 28 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00 | 29 White Earth Health Center 8:15-4:00 | | |

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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.





GAA-WAABAABIGANIKAAG

PRIMARY ELECTION HELD APRIL 2, 2024

Re-Elect Chairman Michael Fairbanks

**EXPERIENCE
LEADERSHIP
WATER PROTECTOR
GRAND PARENT**

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

paid for by vote fairbanks campaign

Obituaries

Sherlene (Tootsie) Elizabeth Warren

Sherlene (Tootsie) Elizabeth Warren, 86, died on Jan. 2 at the Havenwood Nursing Home in Bemidji, Minn. She was born on May 1, 1937, in White Earth. She was the daughter of Lioba Cogger.

Sherlene Warren (Fairbanks) married to Warren (Dude) Warren celebrated 62 years of marriage together. They had six children: David Warren of Bemidji, Terri Boyer (Dale Boyer) of Callaway, Beverly Warren of Bemidji, Michael Warren of White Earth, and Debra Warren of Bemidji. She had 13 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren; and nieces and nephews. She also has a sister, Verenda Cogger from Toledo, Ohio.



Sherlene (Tootsie) worked as a Certified Nurse Assistant at the St. Mary's Hospital and at the Emmanuel Nursing Home in Detroit Lakes, Minn., a job that she dearly enjoyed helping people. She loved living on White Earth Lake and liked watching the wildlife on the lake and around her home. She liked to have coffee in the mornings on her deck and enjoyed family gatherings over the holidays and all the laughter and funny stories we all shared. She so enjoyed her grand-children and great-grandchildren and her great-great grandchildren. She liked to go to bingo and to the Shooting Star Casino and do some gambling. She liked to go shopping. But most of all she just enjoyed it when her family would come to visit.

In addition to her mother, (Lioba Cogger), she was preceded in death by her husband, Warren (Dude) Warren; son, Thomas Warren Sr.; grandson, David King; sisters, Lucetta Doepke and Annette Johnson; and brothers, Richard Fairbanks and Ronald Cogger.

A service of remembrance was held Jan. 5 at St. Benedict Catholic Church in White Earth.

Interment: Calvary Cemetery in White Earth.

Arrangements: David-Donhower Funeral Home of Detroit Lakes

Online: www.daviddonehower.com

RikkiLyn Marie Koppang

RikkiLyn Koppang, 54, of Mahanomen, died Jan. 3 at her home.

RikkiLyn Marie Lund was born Sept. 4, 1969, in St. Paul, Minn., to Harry and Denise (LaDoux) Lund. Rikki attended school in St. Paul before transferring to Fargo South High School, Fargo, N.D., where she proudly graduated with the class of 1987. Following graduation, she kept busy working in house-keeping and other occupations.



Fate intervened when Rikki met the love of her life, Kevin Koppang, and they had an instant connection. After several years of dating, the couple were married in April 2012. Initially residing in Fargo, they later moved to Mahanomen in 2019.

Rikki was known for her kindness, often welcoming stray cats and dogs into her home, offering them warmth, love, and care. This kindness extended into the community as she was always willing to give to others in need. She truly had a heart of gold.

Her interests included ancestry and family history, and she expressed her creative side through beadwork, crafting beautiful keepsakes for family and friends. Rikki's home was a sanctuary where she enjoyed cooking, baking, and relaxing with her pets while watching TV. Family was a priority for Rikki, and she loved her husband and family wholeheartedly. Her life was marked by simple joys, a compassionate spirit, and a strong connection with those she cared about.

Rikki is survived by her husband of 11 years, Kevin Koppang; daughter, Briana Osowski; grandchildren, Kevin and Jax; father, Harry Lund Sr.; mother, Denise (Bernie) Deichert; brothers, Harry Lund, Jr. and Blaine Deichert; sisters, Gail Madson and Crystal; brother-in-law, Rodney Koppang; and sister-in-law, Tammy (Kevin) Shower.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Kayla Marie Lund.

Funeral services were held Jan. 9 at Anderson Family Funeral Home in Mahanomen.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Patricia Ann Little

Patricia Ann Little passed away gently in her sleep on Oct. 2, 2023. She was 91 years old.

Pat was born March 16, 1932, in Cloquet, Minn., to James B. and Mary Ann "Coonie" (Monroe) Sweet. Pat was an enrolled member of the Mississippi Band Chippewa tribe. She lived with her family at Nisswa and Cass Lake, Minn., until attending school at St. Benedict's Mission in White Earth, and Flandreau Indian School in Flandreau, S.D. After her marriage to Russ, Pat settled with her husband and children in Britt, Minn., for a period of time. In 1963, they moved to Wisconsin, and eventually made the St. Croix Falls area their permanent home.



Pat was a devoted mother, proud grandmother and beloved auntie to many children, whether by blood or by heart. She enjoyed inviting others into her home, so her younger relatives enjoyed their summer vacations in the country. In the winter, Pat loved to sew, crochet, and put jigsaw puzzles together. She was always delighted to play board games or a game of cards, especially with her grandchildren. Pat also enjoyed holiday gatherings where she could help prepare a proper feast for all. She will be truly missed by her family, friends and neighbors. May the loving arms of the Creator embrace them all.

She is survived her daughter, Denise; son, Raymond; and daughter-in-law, Cindy. Grandma Pat was also so very proud of her grandsons: Damon and Vaughn, Sean, Shannon, and Shane Tretsven; and her great-grandchildren: Natawhis, Jasmine, Bazile, Sophia, Emma, Larry, Clarry, and Yelhsa. She also had three great-great children: José, Juana, and Dean. Pat also leaves behind her faithful companion, Garfield the Cat.

Pat was predeceased by her parents, Mary Ann (Monroe) Sweet and James Big Bear Sweet; brothers: Raymond, Bernard, James, George ("Bud"), and baby brothers, Bernard Arthur and George Henry (both also named "Tum-Ah-Dee"). She was also predeceased by her husband, Russell E. Little, and her daughter, Carol Ann.

In lieu of flowers or gifts, family, relatives, and community friends may make a tribute donation to the Dementia Society of America. Her friends and relatives will remember and celebrate her life at a gathering in Spring 2024. Her family will post a public notice and on social media.

The family would like to acknowledge the loving care and attention that was provided by her caregivers at St. Croix Hospice, the Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Frederic, Wis., the Osceola Medical Center, and Regents Hospital in St. Paul, Minn. We would like to especially thank Drs. Potek and Belisle. Your kindness will always be remembered.

You are invited to leave condolences, memories, and photos at www.rowefh.com. Arrangements are entrusted to Rowe Funeral Home in Luck, Wis.

Wesley Robert LaFriniere

Wesley LaFriniere, 50, of Bejou, died Jan. 11 at his home under the loving care of his family and Hospice of the Red River Valley.

Wesley Robert LaFriniere was born Aug. 6, 1973, in St. Paul, Minn., to Edith LaFriniere and Wesley Neeland Sr. After briefly living in St. Paul, Minneapolis, Mahanomen, Roy Lake, at The Ranch, and Pine Bend, the family settled in Bejou. Wes graduated from Mahanomen High School in 1992. He then worked alongside his mom, Edith, at the Shooting Star Casino as a blackjack dealer and a slot technician. Wes was also a welder and really enjoyed that career until an accident ended his welding days. His last job was spent working with his longtime friends, Ben and Brandon Bendickson at Northern Quality Sheetrock.



Wes was an avid hunter and fisherman. In his spare time, you would often find him on the shoreline fishing. He shared this passion with his best friend and brother-in-law, Tim Spahr. They caught many sharks and stingrays in the San Francisco Bay, where he lived for a few years. If Wes wasn't hunting or fishing, you would find him gaming on his computer. He built a large inventory in World of Warcraft during his 20+ years playing and was very proud of that.

Wes had a love of football, which starting in high school when he played for the Mahanomen Indians football championship team. It wasn't hard to figure out who his favorite professional team was as Wes wore purple and yellow most of the year. Like all the other Viking fans, he held onto the hope that they would someday be Superbowl champions.

Wes is survived by his children: Dalton Benson of Erskine, Minn., Raven Jensen of Fargo, N.D., and Aurora Prior of Portland, Ore.; grandsons, Lukas and Elijah Prior; sisters: Bernadette Spahr of Bejou, Neomonie LaFriniere of Duluth, Minn., Angel (John) Saeland of Bemidji, Minn., Tabitha (Brandon) Kielas of the Twin Cities area, Sonja Neeland also of the Twin Cities area and Annie Lyons; brothers: Daniel (Robin) Nefzger of Watertown, S.D., Terrance (Kim) Nefzger of Moorhead, Minn., and Aaron Neeland of the Twin Cities area; as well as many nieces and nephews. Wes also had a special place in his heart for his grandnephew, Dakotah Jr.

He was preceded in death his parents: Edith and Ron Nefzger, and Wesley Neeland Sr; his grandparents; as well as several aunts and uncles.

A family-led Celebration of Life was held Jan. 20 at the Bejou Community Center.

Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahanomen.

Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Obituaries

Noah Jackson Bevins

Noah Jackson Bevins, beloved son of Kayla Bevins and Gary W. Jackson, was born sleeping at Sanford Medical Center in Bemidji, Minn. Although his time here on Earth was not long enough, Noah's family is grateful for the brief moment they were given with him.

Noah is survived by his loving parents, Kayla Bevins and Gary Jackson; siblings: Raila, Nikolai and Trayton; maternal grandparents, Gary Bevins Jr., and Priscilla Bevins; paternal grandfather, Gary Anderson; aunts and uncles: Kenny, Nick, Tammy, Kailene, Timothy, Miranda, Tiana, and Joseph; great aunts, Becky and Tina; great uncles: Chris, Duane, and Joe; and many extended family members.



Noah was welcomed into heaven by his paternal grandmother, Debra Ann Jackson; great-grandpas, Gary Bevins Sr. and Franklin H. "Cowboy" Jackson Sr.; great-grandmothers, Jacqueline Jackson and Susan Jackson; uncle, Jamie Bevins Jr.; great aunt, Christie Jackson; as well as other beloved family members.

Funeral services for Noah were held Jan. 19 at St. Columba Episcopal Church in White Earth.

Interment: Calvary Cemetery in White Earth at a later date.
 Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahanomen.
 Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

Ross Thomas Dodd Jr.

Ross Thomas Dodd Jr., loving dad, son, brother, and uncle passed away Jan. 18 at the age of 43 in his home.

Ross Jr. was born on April 4, 1980, in Detroit Lakes, Minn., to Ross Sr. and Lola (Libby) Dodd. Ross was raised in the Strawberry Lake Community on the White Earth Reservation with his five siblings and extended family.



On Oct. 22, 2006, Ross and Tina Bosch welcomed their brilliant son Carson Thomas Dodd into the world! Carson is Ross's greatest blessings and accomplishment in his time here on earth, there is nothing that made him more proud or happy than being Carson's dad.

Ross loved the outdoors, this love started as a young man hunting with his dad Ross Sr., his brother Matthew and mom Lola, along with his best buddy Peter Thompson Jr. and his dad Peter Sr. Ross also LOVED fishing, whether it was casting offshore with his uncle Milton, on the boat with his dad, Matthew, Caleb, Tim, Chris or whoever was wanting to cast a line or drill a hole.

If you knew Ross you wouldn't be surprised to see greasy hands as he was always fixing something, cars, dirt bikes, snowmobiles ... anything with a motor and ALWAYS willing to turn a wrench to help a friend or family member with their car or frozen pipes or leaky roof, pull a well pump – he was your guy. There wasn't anything he couldn't do or figure out. He was our own "MacGyver." Ross was one of the most generous people I knew, he would give you the shirt off his back if he thought you needed it.

This is just a tiny glimpse of the amazing person Ross was, the beautiful soul and spirit that dwelled in human form that we are going to miss every moment of every day and see in every sunrise and sunset. We praise God that we were a part of his life, to love him to laugh with him to hug him in the hard times as Ross persevered many storms in his life, it goes without saying that the trials and tribulations Ross endured also touched many lives, in many different places and walks of life. I know Ross would want to say to his brothers out there to find themselves before it's too late and to love your kids and families and know that there isn't anything greater than the love of family.

Ross will be deeply missed and mourned by his dad, Ross Sr.; son, Carson; brother, Matthew; sisters: Mary, Heather, and Holly; nieces: Anna, Lola, Brandi, Kylie, Heidi, Brianna, Haley, and Lily; nephew, Caleb; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Ross was preceded in death by his sweet mom, Lola; older sister, Jenise; and precious niece, Annabell.

Blessed be the memory of Ross.
 A funeral service was held Jan. 23 at the White Earth Community Center.
 Arrangements: David-Donohewer Funeral Home of Detroit Lakes.
 Online: www.daviddonohewer.com

Randy Scott

Randy Scott, 65, of Naytahwaush, passed away Jan. 19 at his home surrounded by family after a two-year battle of pancreatic cancer.

He was born on June 1, 1958, in White Earth, to Elmer and Glendora (Bellanger) Scott. Randy attended school in Naytahwaush and proudly graduated from Mahanomen High School. He furthered his education at the Detroit Lakes Vocational Technical College, where he earned a degree in electrical technology. He worked odd jobs that included electrical and leeching. He dedicated over eight years of his life to the American Crystal Sugar Company before transitioning to a role as a security guard at the Shooting Star Casino when it opened.



During this time, he met and married Carol Wright, later divorcing as they went their separate ways. Randy worked at Bagley Lumber for a period of time before working for the White Earth Nation in building maintenance, finally retiring in May 2023 after 10+ years of service. Randy shared the last six years of his life with Teresa Harper.

Throughout his life, Randy exhibited a deep commitment to community service. Known for going above and beyond, he willingly extended a helping hand to neighbors, friends, and fellow community members. Randy's pride was evident in his efforts to beautify Naytahwaush—whether cleaning up litter, mowing grass in the Village, or engaging in various community projects. In his leisure time, Randy enjoyed cruising around with his loyal furry companion, Blaze, reconnecting with friends, and testing his luck at the casino and slot machines. His warm presence and dedication made him an invaluable member of our community, and his absence will be felt by all who knew him.

Randy is survived by step-daughters, Tia (Tony) Wadena and Sophia Wright; 21 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; sisters: Lorna Nelson of Rogers, Minn., Jean Clark, Sandy Scott and Betty Scott all of Naytahwaush; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Randy was preceded in death by his parents; son, Brandon McArthur Sr.; step-daughter, Misty Wright; grandchildren, Brandon McArthur Jr. and Kylee McArthur; sister, Yvonne Kaste; and nephew, Patrick Scott Sr.

Services were held Jan. 24 at the White Earth Sports Complex.
 Arrangements: Anderson Family Funeral Home of Mahanomen.
 Online: www.andersonfamilyfh.com

White Earth Mother's Day Powwow

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

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

Emcees:
 TBD

Arena Directors:
 TBD
 Feast on Saturday at 5PM

MOTHER'S DAY GIFT TO FIRST 150 MOTHERS
 Host Drum | TBD
 Co-Host Drum | TBD
 Drum Split - \$4,000
 No drum hopping

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

Vendor Contact
 Charles Littlewolf | 218.902.1267
 Autumn Auginaush | 218.368.3320

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

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

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

Sommers from Page 5

Shooting Star Casino Mahnomen Renovation

Shooting Star Casino has been approved for upgrades, with ongoing construction focusing on enhancements to Section 5. This includes the introduction of more dining choices, a renovated bar, and an upgraded gaming floor featuring both slot machines and card tables.

These improvements are aimed at enhancing this section and optimizing traffic flow throughout our main gaming area. Additionally, we are thrilled to announce the upcoming addition of a VIP lounge and



an indoor smoking room, catering to the preferences of our guests.

Contacts

Eugene Sommers

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Cell Phone: 218-396-9502

Christopher Vanwert Jr

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



Permit from Page 2

resent most White Earth Tribal Services Divisions.

- Anybody collecting any kind of group data, facts, about White Earth—citizen’s lives, health, families, and even their survey opinions, White Earth resources, culture, language, family stories, or spirituality—must contact the RRB and ask if they need a research permit.

- Having a permit from an outside academic, corporate, or government IRB—Institutional Review Board—does not authorize research on Gaa-waabaabiganikaag unless the researchers also have a White Earth research permit.

- The research team has to have a White Earth Tribal Services Division Director as a sponsor of the research, in advance of any research permit being granted.

- If the RRB, after permit request review, agrees that a permit is necessary then the researchers have to apply for one. They must explain their plan, how they will protect Gaa-waabaabiganikaag during the research, that their past record proves they walk their talk of respectful, ethical research, and that they have taken and passed a research ethics class.

- The RRB then reviews all the application materials, meets to discuss the request, and either grants a permit or declines to grant one.

- Permits are for one year, and the research team has to send in regular reports on what they are doing, how it is going, any problems, and a final report. One-year renewals are possible for long research projects.

- Any research papers, classes, seminars, or video conferences using research data from White Earth have to be ok’ed in advance by the RRB. If the researchers go ahead and publish or air a hurtful report, the Tribal Government can protest, and can take legal action.

- The RRB, on behalf of all White Earth citizens and the White Earth Government, owns copies of all the original research data—made anonymous so no specific White Earth citizen can be identified from the data—and gets to keep the data in a White Earth research archive.

- White Earth Nation gives the researchers credit for their original research; but White Earth Nation can use the original data as it needs to for benefit to the White Earth citizens, resources, culture, history, language, and spirituality—such as doing teaching or applying for grants.

- White Earth department employees doing routine quality improvement research—for example, the White Earth Reservation Ambulance Service, WERAS, asking community members for ideas on how the ambulance service can do a better job of helping Gaa-waabaabiganikaag families—don’t usually need a research permit. But departments are encouraged to check with the RRB to be sure they don’t need a permit for department quality improvement studies.

- The RRB has a White Earth Tribal website that contains a FAQ and all necessary application forms.

Why not just ignore the whole White Earth research permit thing and go rogue? Because bad research can keep hurting Anishinaabeg the same ways that 500 years of past intergenerational traumas have hurt all Native Nation people. The Gaa-waabaabiganikaag Tribal Government has supported the Research Code and the Research Review Board ever since Terry T’s administration.

Mino-ayaa, it is good to protect White Earth from unfair, inaccurate, hurtful research; and to stop the wounding. Please contact the RRB, by emailing any of the members, if you plan to do any research project on Gaa-waabaabiganikaag. We do our best to keep Gaa-waabaabiganikaag Anishinaabe citizens, resources, and cultural truths safe. Miigwech. Mii’iw. Gakina Indinawemaaganag.

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.

20th Annual
**Communities Collaborative
Brain Development Conference**
Save the Date

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

Watch for more information coming soon.
White Earth Child Care and Early Childhood Programs
sueheisler@whiteearth-nsn.gov

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Home Base

Prenatal Mom – 3years old

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

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

Howah Ads

REMINDER!

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

All payments must be made in advance.

No exceptions

Happy Birthday to my fishing guide!

From your Hunny



Feb. 26

Happy Birthday to my Beautiful Wife

DELIA "BOOG" BELLANGER

Your loving husband

February 8, 1966

Happy Heavenly Birthday Gramma Marge!

Love, Josie, Gabby and boys February 13th



HAPPY 30TH BIRTHDAY SON

JUSTIN FINCH

WE LOVE YOU SO MUCH!

LOVE MOM, DAD ALL THE FAMILY

FEBRUARY 7TH

Happy 3rd Birthday We love you!

Grand-mom, Dom, Leigha, Daycion



Happy 8th Birthday

Eevi

Love, Papa, grandma, Mom - Melanie, uncle Joe, Ella, Emani, Westion and Hanna

February 28th

Happy Birthday to my beautiful sister

Lisa Kvas

Feb. 4th



Happy Birthday Bob

Love, Mom



Benjamin Jesse Sullivan

20 years old 02/13/2004

Happy Birthday son!

Love, Mom, Khaos, Alissa and Ruth-Ann



Happy Heavenly Birthday

~ Paige Brown / Feb. 5th ~ Shiann Coleman / Feb. 4th ~ Esperanza Kier / Feb. 16th

Miss You Ladies Love - Tiff

Happy 11th Birthday to my beautiful grandcub Amelia



Happy 9th Birthday to my Darling ESIBAN-IKWE ATHENA ALEX Feb. 3rd



Happy 15th Birthday

Hanna T.

Love, Papa, grandma, Mom - Melanie, Eevi, Ella and Weston

February 12th

Did You Know...

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

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

SUNDAY FUNDAY SUPERBOWL LVIII GAME SUNDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2024 WHITE EARTH COMMUNITY CENTER 4:00PM TO 9:30PM KCCHIEFS VS SF49ERS 4:00-5:00 CHECK IN 5:00-5:30 FOOD WILL BE SERVED 5:30 KICK OFF PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE VIEWING OF THE SUPERBOWL GAME, WE WILL HAVE A LIGHT MEAL, CRIBBAGE BOARDS, AND BEAN BAG TOSS AVAILABLE TO PLAY. THIS EVENT IS A SOBER EVENT HOSTED BY WHITE EARTH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

White Earth Band of Ojibwe SMALL BUSINESS CREDIT INITIATIVE LOANS AND COLLATERAL SUPPORT APPLY NOW White Earth INVESTMENT INITIATIVE 218-983-4020 www.weii.website This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. The Small Business Credit Initiative program is operated under the funding requirements of the US Dept of the Treasury. White Earth Investment Initiative is the SSBCI Contracted Entity for the White Earth Band of Ojibwe.

877-410-8550 anonymous crime and elder abuse tip line

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

Jackson from Page 6

Health on funding and other issues. I was able to attend some of the meeting. My issues are a B&G Club in Callaway and getting Elbow Lake Club renovated and opened for the children.

We still need some applicants for the Elbow Lake Club, so please, if you are interested then apply and make sure you mention your parental duties as those are requirements that we all seem to forget we have. Callaway will be getting a club; we have to look at what the community wants and a timeline. For all of us, the sooner the better. Watch for updates on this please.

The Gaming Commission meets once a month. We get updates and updates from Backgrounds and Licensing, Compliance, Surveillance and if there are any issues.

The RBC quarterly meeting was held on Jan. 26 and as usual many things were discussed. This can be viewed on the White Earth Nation YouTube page if you weren't able to attend the meeting. There were some computer difficulties and we do apologize for that. In the future, these problems should be taken care of.

A few of us joined in on an informational meeting with Minnesota Housing Finance. They gave updates on many RFP opportunities. Hopefully we can apply and receive some grants for our members. They also give a lot of support to the tribes when grants are submitted, that is so awesome.

Representative Eugene Sommers and I met with Finance and Land on Elders Tiny Homes. We are excited as District II and III will be getting some. We do have to find the land and they will be placed in one area. Pine Point will also be included. There is still more information needed and we will update as soon as we can.

I hope everyone is enjoying our warm weather. Get out and get some fresh air - does the body, mind and soul good!

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

Until next month...

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

Funding will help White Earth Tribal and Community College and other tribal institutions support students

ST. PAUL — The Minnesota Office of Higher Education has announced recipients of 2024 Emergency Assistance for Postsecondary Students grant funding. Over \$900,000 in EAPS funding will help White Earth and nine other Minnesota tribal and private, nonprofit institutions provide campus-run emergency assistance support to students.

"The cost of attending college is more than tuition and fees," OHE Commissioner Dennis Olson said. "When students experience unexpected emergency situations, this funding ensures they have the support necessary to stay enrolled in their degree program and focus on their number one priority: learning."

Students can apply to receive up to \$1,500 for rent payments, utilities, groceries, transportation or other basic needs.

Since the program's inception, the number of colleges seeking EAPS funding has grown each year. During the 2023 legislative session, Gov. Tim Walz's historic Higher Education Omnibus Bill secured \$1

million over the 2024-25 biennium to expand the EAPS program, while increasing the maximum annual award amount to \$75,000 per institution.

Many lower-income students lack financial support or family resources to meet unexpected expenses while attending college. Support provided to students through EAPS-supported emergency grant programs is meant to provide "just-in-time funds" to overcome a personal financial crisis, so that students no longer have to choose between paying an unexpectedly large bill and staying in college.

EAPS allows institutions to create or supplement their own institutional emergency grant programs, while taking a holistic and community-based approach to support students.

The increased funding helps to offset the recent expiration of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund federal grant, enacted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as inflation and rising housing costs, and is projected to assist an additional 1,400 students at awarded institutions.



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. 20: 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. 23: 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 24: Record of Contest forwarded to Court of Election Appeals. (At least 2 days prior to the hearing date)

April 29: Last Day for Hearing on Appeal. (Hearing within 7 days of appeal)

May 9: Last Day for Decision on Appeal. (10 days from hearing on appeal).

May 10: Notice of General Election (or earlier if no appeal)

May 10: TEC provides ballots for General Election (or earlier if no appeal)

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



Chairman from Page 3

to finalize a co-stewardship agreement and negotiating for increased federal funding to support a larger conservation and management role for the White Earth Department of Natural Resources in the Refuge. Over the coming year, we will also continue productive conversations with Congress regarding return of Refuge lands to be held in trust for the Band. We are making rapid progress on multiple fronts and look forward to a future visit from Secretary Haaland celebrating our efforts and the Band's commitment to protecting treaty rights and

treaty resources in the Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge.

Baamaapii wiingezin.
 Miigwech bizindawiyeg.
 Gigawaabamininim naagaj.
 Take it easy.
 Thank you for listening to me.
 See you all later.

Chairman Michael Fairbanks

White Earth enrollee pens newly released book highlighting Anishinaabe songs

In *Anishinaabe Songs for a New Millennium*, Marcie R. Rendon summons her ancestors' songs, and her poem-songs evoke the world still unfolding around us, reflecting our place in time for future generations. Bringing memory to life, the senses to attention, she breaks the boundaries that time would impose, carrying the Anishinaabe way of life forward in the world.

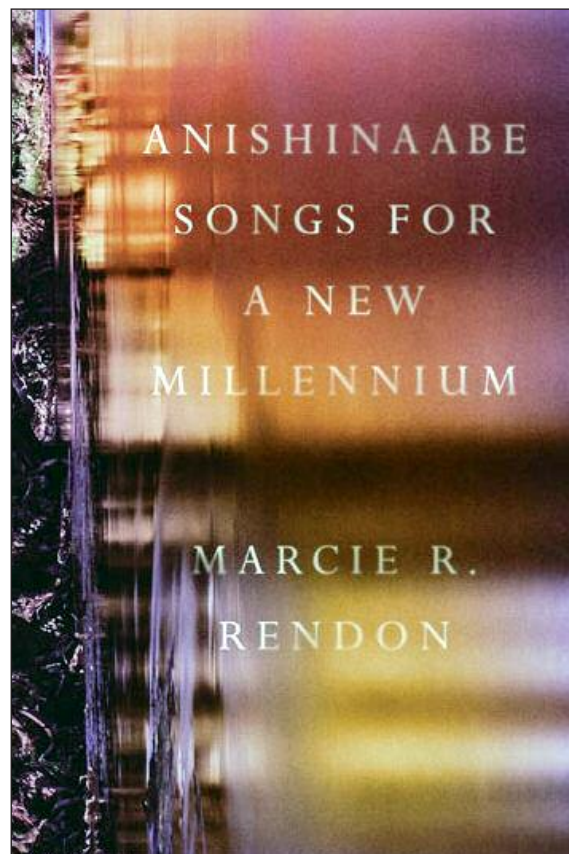
About the Author

Marcie R. Rendon, White Earth Ojibwe, was included on Oprah Winfrey's 2020 list of 31 Native American authors to read. She has written numerous works of fiction and nonfiction, including the Cash Blackbear mystery series, the third volume of which, *Sinister Graves*, was a 2023 Minnesota Book Award finalist. In 2020, she received Minnesota's McKnight Distinguished Artist Award, and in 2017, with poet Diego Vazquez, she received the Loft Spoken Word Immersion Fellowship for their work with incarcerated women in the county jail system.

Praise for Rendon Book

"This collection undoubtedly sings through and for generations to come! These powerful poems ask us to trust the wind to catch and carry our songs and prayers. Through each page, Marcie R. Rendon guides us to radically dream a future of strength and reminds us that 'Win or lose, there's dancing to be done.'" — Tanaya Winder, author of *Words Like Love*

"Marcie Rendon is tired, too. But not too tired to do the hard labor of loving other human beings, and the earth, and the songs of her ancestors. As a fellow poet from the Phillips neighborhood of Minneapolis, I could say that this collection is essential to the complicated song that is Minnesota, and that would be true, but also everyone, everywhere, needs to spend time with this book and find their own way to sing along with it or sit quietly and listen deeply to its



songs." — Bao Phi, author of *A Different Pond* and *Thousand Star Hotel*

For more information, visit the book's webpage: <https://www.upress.umn.edu/book-division/books/anishinaabe-songs-for-a-new-millennium>

Anishinaabe Songs for a New Millennium
 By Marcie R. Rendon
 University of Minnesota Press
 88 pages | June 25, 2024
 ISBN 978-1-5179-1743-2 | paperback | \$16.95

Sponsored by White Earth Gizhawaaso Program

SAVE THE DATE
GIZAAGI'IN ROUND DANCE
02.10.24

FOOD, SPOT DANCES, DANCE SPECIALS AND MORE!

4PM - 12AM
SHOOTING STAR CASINO
MAHNOMEN, MN

Contact:
 Cera Swiftwater-Hayes
 Cera.Swiftwater@whiteearth-nsn.gov

10 Vendor Spots Available
 Vendor Contact: Dana Goodwin
 Dana.Goodwin@whiteearth-nsn.gov

Sunday Afternoon

TALKING CIRCLE
12PM-2PM

Open to the Public

TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED IF NEEDED

TRICIA JONES 218-401-4695
 COMMUNITY HEALTH OUTREACH
 ACCESS TO RECOVERY
 LOCATION: PINE POINT CC

877-410-8550
anonymous crime and elder abuse tip line

Eagle View Township

Eagle View Township will hold its annual meeting on March 12, 2024, at 7 p.m. in the Elbow Lake Community Center, 39944 N. Elbow Lake Drive.

Gail Gardner, Clerk
Eagle View Township

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



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



Accepting Bids

The White Earth LTCC program is accepting bids for a ramp to be done at an individual home located on the White Earth Reservation.

Construction must be performed by a Minnesota licensed contractor and per MN State Code. All contractors must pass both White Earth RBC background and drug testing. Modifications must follow State guidelines, including cost effectiveness. Payment will be made in full after final inspection, review of receipts, and approval of completed job. Bid specifications and locations are available at the White Earth Tribal Health Building, 26246 Crane Road, White Earth, MN 56591.

All BIDS submitted MUST include a diagram/blueprint of the proposed project and a list of materials, labor, equipment, etc. or they will be considered incomplete and will not be accepted. Due to client confidentiality the bid description must be picked up in person at the White Earth Tribal Health Building. We are open Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm. Bids will be accepted until 4:30pm on 2/28/24.

Contact Carolyn Cossette at 218-983-3286 Ext. 1372

Thank You

I would like to extend a huge thank you to White Earth Animal Control and the Ogema Fire Department for rescuing a large dog who went through the ice on a swamp across from my house on Saturday, Jan. 20. After hearing the dog bark and whine for an hour or so I determined that it was in the same spot but I could not see it and thought perhaps he got caught in a trap so I called dispatch and they sent out Animal Control who got the dog out of the water. Fortunately they knew who the dog belonged to and the family came down and got the dog.

Again thank you!

Mary Walk

French Toast Breakfast Bake Sale

Sponsored by St. Ann's Church - Waubun

Sunday, February 11th

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Waubun Community Center

Serving: French Toast,
'Ketters' Sausage, Scrambled Eggs,
Orange Juice, Coffee

Cost – Adults \$10.00
Children (10 & under) - \$5.00

Proceeds benefitting St. Ann's Church

Thank you for your support!

NEED MORE ENERGY?

JOIN STAR FITNESS CENTER TODAY!

Located in the Manito Mall, Mahnomen

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

NEW KEY CARD HOURS:

Monday-Friday 6 a.m.-10:00p.m. (age 15-17)
Saturday &-Sunday 6 a.m.- 6:00 p.m. (age 15-17)

Adults (18 & older) get 24 hour access 7 days a week.



White Earth Nation
TRIBAL PUBLIC HEALTH
Prevent. Promote. Protect

Car For Sale

1993 Mercury Grand Prix, 117,000 miles. New tires, brakes, oil, plugs, antifreeze. No rust. \$6,000 OBO. 218-694-3268. Serious call only.

Pine Point Community Council Winter Culture Camp

Saturday, February 10
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Pine Point Community Center

Tobacco Making - Karen Jones

Shirt Making - Katie Robbins

Beading - Nikki Dewey

Moccasin Making - Mike Swan

Teas and Salves - Terri LaDuke

Belts - Neegonee Brunner

Snowshoe Making - TBD

Storytelling - TBD

Hand Drum Making - TBD

Lunch will be served
No drugs or alcohol

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

MAHNOMEN TALKING CIRCLE



MAHNOMEN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BUILDING
216 N. MAIN ST.
MAHNOMEN, MN 56557

MONDAY'S 6-8 PM
Local Transportation Provided!
Contact:
Dawn Basswood: 218-401-1216
Heidi Goodwin: 218-401-1328




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

Diabetic Bingo 

All are welcome and it costs nothing to play.

February 2024

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Feb. 8 th , 2024 | Shooting Star Casino Event Center |
| Feb. 15 th , 2024 | Pine Point |
| Feb. 22 nd , 2024 | Elbow Lake |
| Feb. 29 th , 2024 | Valley View, Mahnomen |

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

April 2024

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Apr 4 th , 2024 | Shooting Star Casino Event Center |
| Apr 11 th , 2024 | Pine Point |
| Apr 18 th , 2024 | Elbow Lake |
| Apr 25 th , 2024 | Valley View, Mahnomen |

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

Happy Valentine's Day 

On Feb 8th 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 1/31/2024



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




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

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 - Licenser Ext: 5542
Joann.keezer@whiteearth-nsn.gov
 Patricia Racine - Licenser 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.

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 | Large Items |
| Aluminum | Soiled Containers |
| Paper | ABSOLUTELY NO HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE!! |
| Glass | |

 218-935-2188



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

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)

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

WE Tribal 4-H Cultural Winter Camp



Submitted photos

The 8th Annual White Earth Tribal 4-H Cultural Winter Camp was held Jan. 20-21 at the White Earth Rediscovery Center. Activities included fishing, traditional art and/or crafts (for all ages), language, storytelling, games, food, and winter fun. This event was a collaboration between the White Earth Tribal 4-H program, White Earth Nation Tribal Public Health, and White Earth Tribal and Community College Extension Service.

Goalie mask designed by Native artist and worn by Minnesota Wild goaltender acquired by MNHS

ST. PAUL, Minn. – A piece of hockey history is now part of the collections of the Minnesota Historical Society. MNHS purchased a goalie mask designed by Mdewakanton Dakota artist Cole Redhorse Taylor and worn by Marc-André Fleury during warmups of the Minnesota Wild's Native American Heritage Night in November 2023.

Wild goaltender Marc-André Fleury wore the mask to honor his wife, Véronique Larosee Fleury, who is an Indigenous person of Canada. MNHS purchased the mask at auction for \$35,100, with the money raised supporting the Minnesota Wild Foundation and the American Indian Family Center.

"This mask is at the intersection of contemporary Native arts, sports memorabilia, and current discourses on the tension between sports and politics," said Angelica Maier, curator of 3D objects at MNHS. "Bringing the mask into the MNHS collections will further our ongoing effort to bring forward, tell, and preserve Minnesota's stories."

Cole Redhorse Taylor served as a Native American-Artist-in-Residence (NAAIR) in 2014.

The nationally renowned program, run by MNHS's Native American Initiatives Department, engages with Native people and nations throughout the state, ensuring Native voices, stories, and histories are addressed in MNHS's work.

"Cole is a valued partner of the work that we do with Native American Initiatives and across MNHS," said Dr. Amber Annis, director of Native American Initiatives at the Minnesota Historical Society. "This contemporary piece is representative of the unique histories here within Minnesota and the importance of representation of Dakota art, language, stories, sports, and how they connect to Minnesota history."

About the Minnesota Historical Society

The Minnesota Historical Society is a non-profit educational and cultural institution established in 1849. MNHS collects, preserves and tells the story of Minnesota's past through museum exhibits, libraries and collections, historic sites, educational programs, and book publishing. Using the power of history to transform lives, MNHS preserves our past, shares our state's stories, and connects people with history.



Photo courtesy of the Minnesota Historical Society

Mdewakanton Dakota artist Cole Redhorse Taylor (left) designed a Native-theme goalie mask for Marc-André Fleury. Fleury wore the mask during warmups at the Minnesota Wild's Native American Heritage Night in November 2023. Also pictured is Angelica Maier of the Minnesota Historical Society. She is the curator of 3D objects.