



McINTOSH

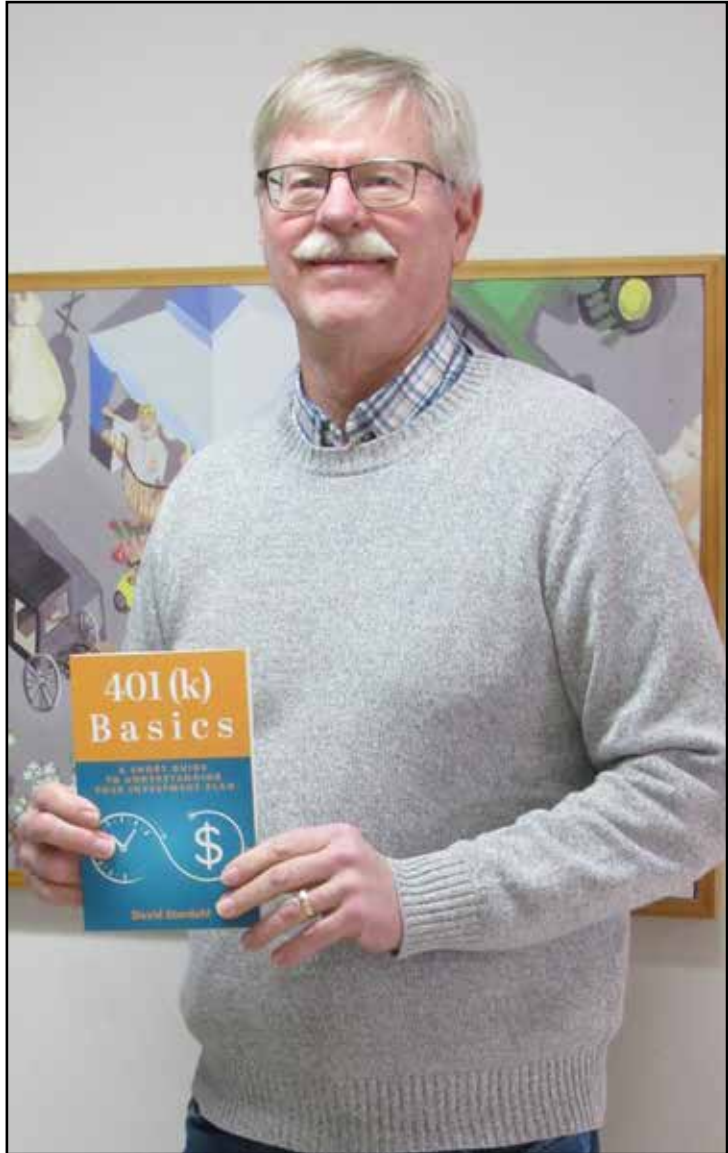
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Times

Hub of the Thirteen Townships

McIntosh, Minnesota



Dave Stordahl with his new book, 401k Basics, He will have a book launch and signing event at Minnesota Rust on Tuesday, December 10th from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

Book signing for new book authored by Dave Stordahl

It was a dark and stormy night...or, it was at least a rain day. New, local author, Dave Stordahl has written a book about something he knows a lot about, 401k retirement investing.

After his semi-retirement, Dave said he was looking for something to do on rainy days. Those are days he wasn't able to play golf. So, he chose to write a book about something that he knew.

Going into this upcoming tax season, Dave, a seasoned accountant, will have prepared taxes for the past 44 years.

Dave was the owner and operator of Stordahl Tax, Inc. where he specialized in individual and business taxes, accounting and payroll. He also represented a major investment firm and sold mutual funds, variable annuities, and small-business retirement plans.

The books goal is to educate people, mainly the younger generation, in an easy to read, conversational text. The book, although geared toward the younger crowd, is a valuable resource to anyone looking toward their retirement future.

There are actual stories, from actual clients, which made it fun for Dave to write and offers real situations for the reader.

Dave states that even though the subject manner isn't fascinating, he hopes his writing style will make it a

better read for those interested in learning more about how to save for their retirements.

Dave is a McIntosh native, and he currently resides in town with his wife, Wanda. Though he is semi-retired, he still works part-time at Farm-Chek Services, in McIntosh. When it is not raining, you can find Dave on a golf course.

If you are unable to attend the release event at Minnesota Rust next Tuesday, you can purchase Dave's book at Itascabooks.com or on Amazon. You can learn more about the book and Dave at davidstordahl.com.

Win-E-Mac School Food Drive

The 2024 Win-E-Mac Food Drive has begun and will last until Friday, December 13th.

During this time, students will compete by having their classes donate acceptable items.

Acceptable donations include non-perishable food in jars, cans, and sealed packages.

The class with the top donations in the Elementary school will win a donut party with root beer floats.

The top three high school student donors will be rewarded with gift cards.

A Very Merry McIntosh will feature Santa Claus and a parade this weekend

The Christmas season in McIntosh will swing into gear this Saturday, December 7th with a full afternoon of events happening downtown.

Join the Shoppes of McIntosh for an old-fashioned, small town Christmas Celebration including shopping, food, tree lighting, Santa, sledding, hay rides, music, hot cocoa, bonfires, s'mores, a parade and so much more.

Cardboard Sled Competition

The excitement starts with a fun event as, The Clubhouse Childcare Center and Icesaw.com will host a Cardboard Sled Competition at the old football field big hill behind the bank starting at 4:00 pm. There will be prizes for the sled that travels the furthest in each age group: 1 - 3 years old; 4 - 6 years old; 7 - 10 years old; 11 - 15 year old; and 16 - 99 years old.

The rules are that only cardboard and tape can be used underside of cardboard sled and the sled must be primarily cardboard.

Winter Light Pole Decorating Contest

The McIntosh Community Club will have a holiday light pole decorating contest on Main Street of McIntosh. Area businesses, clubs, or residents can adopt and decorate a light pole to beautify our Main Street for the holiday season.

Decorating needs to be completed by noon on December 7th. There will be voting held during A Very Merry McIntosh

for the People's Choice award.

The light pole adoption fee is \$20, and will be donated to the Win-E-Mac Christmas Giving tree, helping to spread some holiday joy to area children in need this Christmas.

Please contact Megan Rock at 218-280-9663 or meganrudbeck@yahoo.com to register. Adoption fees can be dropped off at First National Bank in McIntosh.

A visit with Santa Claus

Santa Claus will visit McIntosh from 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm and is sponsored by the McIntosh Community Club. There will be a tent set-up near the Shoppes for Santa to sit for pictures. There will also be hot dogs for the kids and a special bag of goodies as well.

Mini-Session Photo Shoots

The Win-E-Mac Senior Class will be offering mini-sessions from 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm on Saturday, December 7th at Minnesota Rust. There will be 3 backdrops to choose from and 5 photos will be emailed to you following the photo shoot. This is a fund-raiser for the Senior Class Trip. This is a first come, first served event.

Christmas Parade

The evening will end with a spectacular parade down Main Street of McIntosh. Any licensed adult driver can enter a fish house, ATV, side-by-side, golf cart, bicycle, motorcycle, etc., decorated with or without lights in holiday fashion. The parade lineup will start at 6:30 pm on the south side of the



bank. No need to register.

The parade will start at 7:00 pm and proceed down Main Street, over to McIntosh Senior Living and then to Poplar Meadows Senior Living.

There will be a special prize for the best decorated vehicle.

Bring your family and friends and come and experience the magic of Christmas in downtown McIntosh this Saturday, December 7th starting at 4:00 pm with A Very Merry McIntosh.

Breakfast with Santa in Winger

The Winger Lions will host their annual Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 14th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at the Winger Community Center.

There will be a pancake breakfast starting at 9:00 am with Santa Clause arriving

around 10:00 am. Santa will be bringing a goodie bag for each of the kids in attendance.

Along with the breakfast, there will also be a silent auction with the proceeds benefiting the Winger Playground Project.

Louie's Mercantile offers an Angel Tree gift giving

This holiday season you can stop into Louie's Mercantile to help brighten the lives of a family in need.

When you stop and choose and angel from the tree, pick a gift, bring it home to wrap and return to Louie's, the staff will deliver your gift to a family in need.

This is an opportunity to spread joy to someone from our community, in need, this Christmas season

Icesaw.com celebrates 5 years of Spears, Beers and Decoys, along with expanded and new product lines

It has been 3 years since Jordan Gunufson purchased Fish's Folding Ice Saw from Wayne Benbo, who invented, produced and distributed the famous blue ice saw for over 30 years.

The saw was re branded to Icesaw.com when Jordan took over, and since that day 3 years ago, Jordan has developed new saws and accessories for the darkhouse spearing sports enthusiast.

The original ice saw was Fish's 42". Jordan has expanded the line and now you can purchase not only the 42" blue saw, but a 28" Shorty, a 51" Freedom, and the Big, a 60" Icesaw.

He also expanded into accessories to help with the darkhouse spearing experience. You can now purchase an Icesaw case, ice tongs, and Icesaw.com is also a dealer in Belle River Spears as well.

Jordan also has become a dealer of fish houses. He offers AlumaLite houses and now expanding into The Shak fish houses as well. Need a trailer to haul that fish house to your favorite fishing spot? Jordan has you covered offering Drive brand utility trailers, a sister company to Fallon Trailers in Sauk Rapids, Minnesota.

If you were able to stop into



Wayne Benbo and Jordan Gunufson during the Spears, Beers, and Decoys Show in Bejou, Minnesota on November 23rd. Take note of Jordan's shirt, made for him by artist Tony Roed.

the Spears, Beers and Decoy's show held on Saturday, November 23rd in Bejou, Minnesota, you were able to see

all the new fish houses and trailers that are now available though Jordan at Icesaw.com.

Wayne was at the Spears,

Beers, and Decoy's show as well. He still is a great supporter of Jordan's and still enjoys the sport of darkhouse spearing.

You can purchase an icesaw by visiting icesaw.com or at Burggraf's Ace Hardware in Fosston, or Scheel's Sporting Goods, If you already own a saw and need it sharpened, visit the website to learn how to send it to Jordan for hand sharpening.

Jordan, and his son, Dawson, travel to many darkhouse spearing shows throughout the Midwest.

The show featured over 30 artisans and vendors that carried all you would need to start the sport of darkhouse spearing, plus much more. Each year the show has grown, so much that now, Jordan, and his wife Kelsi, who plans much of the show, have spread the show into the two venues in Bejou, Peachy's Pub and The Lean To Tavern, plus vendors on the street between.

If you are interested in learning more, you can check out Jordan's website at Icesaw.com. If you want to learn more about the sport of darkhouse spearing, you can visit the Pine to Prairie Chapter of Minnesota Darkhouse and Angling Association Facebook.



On Friday, November 8th, Win-E-Mac students from grades 9 through 12 has a chance to participate in a career exploration morning. These students were able to see how some local companies and organizations operate. Here they visited the Erskine Fire Department.

Going above and beyond using
drones for conservation efforts

By: Julia Dellick, Minnesota
Department of Agriculture
By giving a bird's-eye
view of hard-to-reach areas,
drones are providing access
to valuable data.

The growing use of drone technology in conservation is transforming how we monitor and protect our natural resources and ecosystems. By giving a bird's-eye view of hard-to-reach areas, drones are providing access to valuable data. Sam Seybold, Buffer Specialist at the Aitkin County Soil Water Conservation District (SWCD) has been incorporating drones into his work efforts over the past four years.

One key application of drones that Sam and Aitkin SWCD have used is invasive species monitoring. Drones can be flown over areas with known weed infestations to assess their extent, providing valuable imagery that informs management strategies. This preliminary data can then be compared with follow-up images taken after treatment to evaluate management effectiveness.

In addition to assessing known infestations, drones can be used to find new ones. For example, Sam and his team used their knowledge of non-native Phragmites, an extremely tall wetland grass, to fly over areas while it was blooming.

By analyzing the images, they can distinguish non-native Phragmites from native species. Non-native Phragmites can be spotted because



Advancement in drone technology is opening doors to new weed management techniques.

of darker seed heads. These images are paired with GPS coordinates, enabling the team to pinpoint and target the new infestations more efficiently.

Drones not only assist in invasive species management, but also play a role in reintroducing native plants. This year, the Aitkin SWCD acquired a seeding drone. After treating an area of buckthorn, the drone disperses seed of native, fast-growing plants that compete with buckthorn seedlings emerging from the seedbank. This promotes the restoration of native plant communities.

In addition to weed management, the Aitkin SWCD also used drones to map the entire shoreline of Lake Mille Lacs, spanning over 80 miles. This has allowed for plans to restore many areas of shoreline to improve lake health. These efforts will focus on re-

ducing runoff, stabilizing the shoreline, enhancing plant diversity, and expanding wildlife habitat. With the continued success of this project, Aitkin SWCD hopes to carry out similar efforts on other surrounding lakes.

Drones are rapidly transforming the way we approach land management, offering new possibilities for efficiency, accuracy, and data collection. Whether it's tracking invasive species, restoring shorelines, or supporting habitat restoration projects, drones are proving to be an indispensable tool on the path to healthier ecosystems. As technology advances and drone capabilities expand, the potential for drones in natural resource work will only continue to grow, making the future of conservation brighter and more accessible than ever before.



Strategic Farming: Let's Talk Crops 2025

By Liz Stahl, Extension
Educator – Crops and Phyllis
Bongard, Content development
and communications specialist

Pull up a chair and join in or bring the conversation with you as you go about your day. Whatever works best for you, join us this winter to discuss some of the key issues and questions around commodity crop production facing

Minnesota farmers today through the "Strategic Farming: Let's Talk Crops" webinar series.

This live, online program will provide up-to-date, research-based information to help optimize your crop management strategies for 2025. Sessions will be held over Zoom, which can be accessed via your computer, phone,

or other mobile device, and will run from 9:00 to 10:00 am Wednesdays, January 8 through March 26, 2025.

Sessions will be very informal and open to all interested.

Each session will start with a brief presentation by the discussion leaders for the day, followed by discussion framed around farmer/participant questions on the topic.

Topics and speakers:

• January 8: N management given current crop & input economics

Fabian Fernandez, Extension nutrient management specialist and Brad Carlson, Extension educator-water quality

• January 15: Targeted Spray Technology
Rodrigo Werle, Weed scien-

tist, University of Wisconsin

• January 22: LIVE at the MN AG EXPO - Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF) Anna Cates, State soil health specialist, and other Industry and Commodity Group representatives

• January 29: Soybean crop modeling to help farmers make successful decisions Seth Naeve, Extension soybean agronomist and Annibal Cerudo, Visiting Professor (Argentina)

• February 5: Managing weeds with more than just herbicides

Debalin Sarangi, Extension weed scientist, Tom Peters, Extension sugarbeet agronomist, and Eric Yu, Extension educator-Crops

• February 12: Navigating



Top to bottom: Boxwood Blight, Round Leaf Bittersweet, and Elongate Hemlock Scale.

Holiday greenery precautions

Insects and diseases can hitchhike on trees and holiday greenery brought into Minnesota from other states. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) inspects holiday products for elongate hemlock scale, boxwood blight, round leaf bittersweet, spongy moth, and many more pests. You, as a consumer, should still be on the look out.

Elongate Hemlock Scale

Elongate hemlock scale (Fiorinia externa) is found almost exclusively on the underside of conifer needles. Given their small size and inconspicuous appearance, the elongate hemlock scale may appear to be dirt or debris to the untrained eye.

Round Leaf Bittersweet

Round leaf bittersweet (Celastrus orbiculatus, formerly known as Oriental bittersweet) vines have been used in

holiday decorations and other crafting items for many years. Fruiting branches, which have red berries and yellow fruit capsules, make wreaths charming but easily spread seed. Round leaf bittersweet is listed on the Minnesota Noxious Weed List and cannot be sold or grown in Minnesota. If craft arrangements, such as wreaths, are placed outside, birds can eat the fruit and move the seed to new locations.

Spongy Moth

Spongy moths (Lymantria dispar) lay their eggs in protected areas on both natural and artificial surfaces. Christmas trees can have egg masses on trunks and branches. Egg masses are quarter-sized fuzzy, tan colored, and contain 500 - 1,000 eggs.

Boxwood Blight

Holiday wreaths, garlands, and planters often contain

shoots from boxwood plants. Boxwood is an evergreen shrub with dark green, rounded leaves. Boxwood blight is caused by the invasive fungus Calonectria pseudonaviculata. This disease causes leaf spots, stem lesions, and leaf drop in boxwoods.

Spotted Lanternfly

Spotted lanternflies (Lycorma delicatula) lay their eggs on both natural and artificial surfaces. Christmas trees and holiday greenery can have egg masses on trunks and branches. Egg masses are yellowish-brown in color, covered with a gray, waxy coating, and are difficult to see.

Making the holidays extra festive with Christmas trees, wreaths, and other greenery is something many of us love. However, invasive insects and noxious weeds can be hiding in our beautiful décor.

cator, University of Nebraska, and Angie Peltier, Extension educator-crops

• March 19: Drones- a multifaceted management tool for row crop agriculture Ryan Huffman Sr. research manager ISU Digital Ag Innovation Lab, Doug Houser ISU Digital Ag Extension specialist, Jorden Kuntz, Founder of Biosphere Drone Solutions

• March 26: Seasonal forecast & considerations for 2025 crop success Dennis Todey, Director, USDA Midwest Climate Hub, Seth Naeve, Extension soybean agronomist and Jeff Coulter, Extension corn agronomist

To register, go to z.umn.edu/SF2025. For more details on the program and recordings of previous sessions, go

to <https://z.umn.edu/strategic-farming>.

There is no charge to participate, thanks to generous sponsorship from the Minnesota Soybean Research and Promotion Council and the Minnesota Corn Research and Promotion Council. Not able to attend a day? No problem. Sessions will be recorded and posted for viewing later at your convenience.

We hope you will take this opportunity to join with U of MN Extension in discussing crop topics at our "Strategic Farming: Let's Talk Crops!" program in 2025!

Ad deadline:
Noon Friday



The Spears, Beers, and Decoy's show, held in Bejou, Minnesota on Saturday, November 23rd, was a great draw for winter fishing enthusiasts who were able to search for all the things to make your next fishing trip a success. There were over 30 vendors available to outfit anyone wanting to get on the ice to spear some pikes this winter.

Win-E-Mac Junior High School Band and Choir Fall/Winter Concert

The Win-E-Mac Music Department is pleased to announce the Junior High Band and Choir concert on Thursday, December 12th. The concert will begin at 7:00 PM and will take place in the Win-E-Mac School Arts and Events Center. The concert will feature the Junior High Band and Choir performing several selections, including some holiday music. Please come out and enjoy an evening of music!

Win-E-Mac Elementary Holiday Program

Win-E-Mac students in grades Kindergarten through Sixth Grade will be presenting their annual holiday programs on Friday, December 13th. The

programs will take place in the Win-E-Mac School Arts & Events Center.

THE K-3 PROGRAM WILL BEGIN AT 12:45 PM, AND THE 4-6 PROGRAM WILL BEGIN AT 2:00 P.M.

The K-3 program under the direction of Amanda Shultz will feature many holiday songs for you to enjoy.

The 6th grade band will be performing holiday music in the auditorium commons before the grades 4-6 program. The grades 4-6 program under the direction of Charity Salmonson will begin at 2:00 pm with all students in grades 4-6 performing the play "Holly Jolly Jukebox". It will feature many acting and speaking parts. What a great way to kick off the holiday season!.Hope to

see you there!

Win-E-Mac Senior High Band/Choir Fall/Winter Concert

The Win-E-Mac Music Department is pleased to announce the Sr. High Band and Choir will be presenting their annual Fall/Winter concert on Tuesday, December 17, 2024, beginning at 7:00 P.M. The concert will take place in the Win-E-Mac School Arts & Events Center. This concert will feature the Sr. High Band and Sr. High Choir performing a wide variety of music for your listening enjoyment, including several holiday songs. As traditional, the concert will conclude with the singing of "Peace, Peace" by candlelight.

Come and enjoy an evening of musical entertainment!

7 facts about the attack on Pearl Harbor

On the morning of December 7, 1941, just before 8 a.m., the United States naval base Pearl Harbor near Honolulu, Hawaii, was the scene of a surprise attack by Japanese forces.

The aerial attack precipitated the entry of the United States into World War II, and helped cement worsening relations between the U.S. and Japan.

In remembrance of the attack, here are seven facts about this infamous day in American history.

1. Hundreds of Japanese fighter planes descended on the base. The first wave of 189 launched at 7:55 am and the second wave of 170 aircraft launched at 8:40 am.

2. The Wickes-class destroyer USS Ward was the first to fire shots on December 7, 1941. The minesweeper Connor spotted a Japanese sub's

periscope in the waters near the base, and the USS Ward sank the Ko-hyoteki-class midget submarine near the entrance to the harbor.

3. Prior to the Pearl Harbor attack, economic sanctions and trade embargoes were established by the United States against Japan in response to Japanese expansion into China's import market and the Japanese attitude toward that country. The Pearl Harbor attacks were likely retribution against these sanctions and due to an apparent standoff in negotiations between Tokyo and Washington, D.C.

4. The attack on Pearl Harbor lasted one hour and 15 minutes.

5. The attack killed 2,403 service members and wounded 1,178 more. Six U.S. ships were destroyed or sank, and 169 U.S. Navy and Army Air Corps planes were destroyed.

6. Although the attack was a surprise that morning, the base knew that something could be coming. Admiral Husband E. Kimmel and Lieutenant Walter C. Short, who shared command at Pearl Harbor, were previously warned three times of the possibility of war on October 16, November 24 and November 27. The dispatched "war warning" said to "execute an appropriate defensive deployment," according to Britannica.

7. President Franklin D. Roosevelt addressed a joint session of the U.S. Congress on December 8, the day after the Pearl Harbor attack. He called December 7, 1941, "a date which will live in infamy." The same day Congress approved Roosevelt's declaration of war on Japan. Three days later, Japanese allies Italy and Germany declared war on the United States.

By: Catherine Dehdashti

White Earth 4-H youth, families, elders, volunteers and community members joined together during the summer of 2024 to undertake the momentous task of building a 15 ½ foot birchbark canoe or jimaan, in the Ojibwe language.

Over two weeks at Little Elbow Lake Tribal Park in Naytahwaush in June, 250 people visited and participated in the canoe building camp, including two schools holding summer programming.

Cultural activities included lacrosse games, art, learning about wild traditional foods, fishing, smoking fish, language and more.

On the first day of the canoe build, during a storm, the youth named the canoe Buffalo Thunder.

Canoe as harvester

The canoe build was initiated as an engineering project through Minnesota 4-H STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), a University of Minnesota Extension youth development program.

"White Earth 4-H teens also chose to learn about Indigenous foods and Indigenous plant identification," says Dana Trickey, Extension 4-H youth development educator. "Building a canoe was a next step because it is an essential tool for harvesting many foods on and near the abundant water systems in our northern country."

Food accessibility is a broader issue for these youth, as American Indians are more likely to live in areas with low or no access to fresh foods than any other group, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This food insecurity and related issues contribute to health problems, shortened life spans and reduced quality of life.

Into the woods

The 4-H'ers didn't go to the lumber yard for this project. The dedicated canoe crew of youth and volunteers harvested the supplies and materials from the woods themselves over the two months prior to the build, cutting bark from birch trees for the skin of the canoe, gathering cedar for the ribs and gathering spruce roots to hold the canoe together. No nails or screws are used.

"It was a lot of time learning in the woods and some bug bites," says Trickey.

Off to the fair

On August 18, the 4-H'ers and their adult leaders loaded the canoe onto the bed of a pickup truck to head to the Minnesota State Fair. Each year, Extension hosts more than 4,000 young people at the 4-H Building and barns as they showcase the knowledge and skills they've gained throughout the year and receive recognition and feedback. The canoe crew, including Deja Jackson, 11 years old, greeted the audi-

ence in Ojibwe and described the process and learning.

Of the whole experience, Deja says, "My favorite part was speaking on stage, next to building the canoe, of course."

Youth continue to use the canoe and teach about it, including through a PBS documentary that will air in 2025, highlighting a fall excursion on the lake to demonstrate the wild rice harvest.

Learning and leading

Just days after the fair, members of the group boarded a plane to Washington, D.C., to present at the True Leaders in Equity Institute youth conference, an inclusive teen National 4-H Council event.

Teens presented on the evolution of their work serving the community, including the canoe as it is an important tool for harvesting traditional foods.

"Whether they are building a canoe or doing any other project, teens and younger 4-H members learn alongside one another, providing connection and leadership," says Trickey.

"Of all the importance achieved by this enormous project, the canoe build gave the youth a deep understanding and pride in their Anishinabeg culture and a realization of their ability to achieve whatever they set out to do."

Funding was provided by a USDA-NIFA Women and Minorities into Science Grant, and generous donors to the White Earth 4-H Program. White Earth Natural Resources and White Earth Nation provided the site for the build at Little Elbow Lake Tribal Park. White Earth Public Health added value by teaming up with White Earth 4-H on seasonal camps, Indigenous foods and food accessibility.

Story to Share?

If you have a story or photos you want to share, please send to: mcintoshtimes@gmail.com



Buffalo Thunder hits the water for the first time. Pictured from left: Nate Johnson, canoe building guide; Mariah Parisian, volunteer/4-H alumnae; Dana Trickey, U of M Extension White Earth 4-H youth development educator; Ana Kircher, White Earth Public Health partner.



Students from Win-E-Mac High School grades 9-12, were able to visit several local businesses and organizations, including Garden Valley Technologies in Erskine during a career exploration morning on Friday, November 8th.



The Win-E-Mac High School choir performed during the Veterans Day program held at the school on Monday, November 11th.