# NAhtAsuutaaka' (White Shield) News Journal

February 19, 2021 Volume 5 | Issue 1 Dorreen Yellow Bird, Editor E-mail address Sahnish65@gmail.com/701-421-2876

# Chairman Mark Fox, WS Representative Fred Fox present resolutions to ND Legislature



(For more information on Legislation see page 5)



From the desk Fred Fox, Councilman, East Segment, White Shield, ND 58540



Hello community members, relatives, elders, and friends -

It's been awhile since we had a newsletter, I believe since the middle of this pandemic. A lot has happened and I would like to touch on a bit of everything. I know it's been a very hard year for everyone and we had a lot of losses with all of our relatives. I would like to send condolences to all the families and the ones who are currently struggling with family members having severe side-effects from COVID-19.

I'm very pleased with how the COVID-19 vaccinations are going with frontline workers and elders, I believe the 2nd part of the vaccinations for the elders is starting this week. The positive cases have significantly decreased but it's still out there and we all still need to keep using the masks, social distancing, and washing hands.

During the Covid-19 period the Tribal Business Council has been operating at safe levels with work force and meetings. Currently we are back 100% workforce level and with the precautionary measures needed. During Tribal Council meetings and Committee meetings we only allow the people presenting in the chambers. In the beginning we were having a lot of Zoom meetings, now we are back to normal face-to-face meetings.

The Tribe currently has a few bills with the State Legislature, SB 2318 - Alcohol Tax Agreement, which is splitting the alcohol tax with the State. From the beginning of time on the Reservation the Tribe has not collected a dime for any alcohol tax to date. The Tribe would use the money for services such as law enforcement, drug enforcement, domestic violence, and drug and alcohol programs.

The 2nd bill is SB 2319 - Include Straddle Wells in the Oil and Tax Agreement. This bill is concerning oil wells that drill into the reservation and drill outside the reservation. Currently the Tribe don't receive any tax from Oil Wells drilling into the reservation. The Tribe believes that the amount of revenue per year would be up to \$20 million per year add to the Oil and Gas Tax agreement with the State of North Dakota.

The 3rd bill is SB 2296 - Gaming bill related to electronic pull tabs. Right now the state has no limit on the E-Tab machines in establishments and it is affecting the North Dakota Tribal Casinos revenue with machines disguised as slot machines. Currently right now the only one that has passed the Senate is SB 2319 Straddle Wells. I'll keep you updated on if it passed on the next newsletter.

We have a few projects to update in the White Shield community, the first one is the new Elder Building. It is 100% completed but we haven't fully moved into it due to COVID-19 and elders not having meals. I'm hoping we can be working out of there by the end of March. It has so much more to offer such as a fitness center, therapy pool, arts and crafts room, beauty salon, and many more amenities. If you haven't been to it, let us know we can give you a tour. The Public Safety Building is around 60% complete and it will have the law enforcement offices, satellite Tribal detention center, ambulance and fire protection services all in one. There will be a state-of-art training room, several overnight rooms, showers, washer/dryers, kitchen and dining room. The funding for the building will come out of the CARES act budget. The Public Safety building will be completed June of 2021. This will be the first of its kind on the reservation. I believe adding public safety for our community is a very high priority and will definitely be an asset for all of us. We need all of our law enforcement agencies, fire department, and ambulance to have good communication to protect White Shield.

The Community building is about 40% complete and will be completed by November 2021. The community building will be the heart of the community. The highlights of the building will be a swimming park, sauna rooms, theater, concessions, fitness center, weight room, 2 golf simulators, full size basketball court/track on top, and community room with large modern kitchen. We will still keep the name of Ralph Wells Jr. on the building. The complex was the longest serving community building on the reservation. So the name will carry on and keep the same identity of the first community.

The White Shield Little Warrior Head Start is complete and will be ready for school in the Fall of 2021. I know it did take some time to get this project completed but we wanted to make sure this building was assessed by a 3rd party engineer for safety. I'm so happy our little ones will have a new building to enjoy.

The community will have a new apartment building that will be completed in May of 2021. The apartment building will be 10 2-bedrooms and 10 1-bedrooms, that will include washer and dryer. The apartment will also include a fitness center, office, and elevator that is handicap accessible.

We have 2 more projects that are shovel ready for spring, the White Shield School Sports complex and the White Shield Clinic.

The White Shield sports complex will include a football field, track, baseball field, skate board park, water splash pad, ice skating rink, basketball court, 2 volleyball sand courts, and a concession warming house. We believe this will be a project that will keep our community busy along with the community building for generations.

The White Shield Clinic is a shovel ready project and there are so many updates needed to our old clinic but yet still serves the purpose. The WS clinic project will have 4 exam rooms, dental, optical, 2 chair dialysis unit, physical therapy, behavior health, larger pharmacy and waiting room. This will bring all aspects of health care to the White Shield community which is severely needed. I will keep you more informed about the project as we move forward.

We have been developing a Home Health Care Service for the White Shield community, we are

currently working with Young Morning Star LLC Health Care owned and operated by Jody Ann Fox originally from White Shield. She has already started handing surveys out and greeting elders out in the community. We will keep you updated as we go along with the program, currently she has an office at the East Segment Administration Building.

One of the projects that has been moving along is the Ree Ranch south of White Shield. We are close to completing the indoor rodeo arena. This will open up a lot of horsemanship activities once this is fully completed. I believe this will be good for our youth and also it can be used for healing for our drug addiction in the community. I'm hoping to have a grand opening late spring or early summer. We will keep you posted.

We been enjoying a very exciting basketball season here in White Shield. The boys basketball team is very promising and they are making a lot of noise in the state of North Dakota. Not only is the team making noise, we have one of the best scorers in North Dakota basketball history. Jessie White will mark his place in history and will lead his fellow basketball team in cracking into the State Tournament. We will keep our fingers crossed and hope we get a berth into the State Tournament. The district tournaments will be starting February 26th in Watford City, so let's cheer for our boy's and let them know we are behind them.

The girls basketball team wrapped up their season and had an awesome year, I would like to congratulate all of them. They worked hard and they represented White Shield School and the community the best way they could. It takes a lot of courage and discipline to hang with the team when they're struggling but they pulled through and were all very proud of every single one of the girls.

As time goes by, I'm hoping we can have a community update around late spring. We want to be safe and still give the community an update on what is happening in White Shield and also the entire reservation.

There are a few issues we need to fix on the National level for the Tribe, the first is the River Bed Minerals. We are still at odds with the State of North Dakota and we will be pressuring the Biden Administration for a new Solicitor opinion on ownership.

The other is the Biden Administration suspension of drilling on federal lands. Although he lifted the suspension on Federal Indian Lands, we still need to develop federal lands that are adjacent and within the Reservation. This would create Tax revenues for the Tribe for the next few years. Well I want to let everyone know my office is always open and my phone will always be on. I try and take everyone's call and visit as much as I can with community members. Everyone be safe on the roads where ever you are traveling and please use precautionary measures with COVID-19 still being very dangerous to us all. Take care and God Bless.

Fred Fox, White Shield Segment Tribal Business Council Executive Secretary

# Chairman Fox and Rep Fred Fox support Legislation in Bismarck Senate Bill No,. 2318 - Alcohol Tax Agreements

BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 4 of section 57-39.10-01 and sections 57-39.10-02, 57-39.10-03, and 57-39.10-05 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to state-tribal agreements for the administration and collection of alcoholic beverages wholesale tax and alcoholic beverages gross receipts tax within the exterior boundaries of a reservation in this state; and to provide for application

https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.legis.nd.gov%2fassembly%2f67-2021%2fdocuments%2f21-1033-01000.pdf&c=E,1,cAt8\_2LvAA7SkMe8X3LK-UoVIwErdpWw-81EuJTHTEh69y4cU3ZU2rnVfPnJU8\_xdu\_H24Yr\_MCxt3LmvvrDdgajkoydlgmrsubzH2MFlytxjnWeaLgpgwnqcg,, &typo=1 (The above address will give you the bill in its entirety. It is six pages lone and too large for the newsletter.)

### Senate Bill No, 2319 – Relates to Oil and gas agreements and to

provide an effective date. A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 1 of section 57-51.2-02 of

the North Dakota Century Code, relating to oil and gas agreements; and to provide an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

**SECTION 1**. AMENDMENT. Subsection 1 of section 57-51.2-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows: 1. The only taxes subject to agreement are the state's oil and gas gross production and oil extraction taxes attributable to production from wells located within the exterior boundaries of the reservation and wells located on trust properties outside reservation boundaries. For purposes of this chapter, "trust: a. "Trust properties outside reservation boundaries" means land in this state located outside the exterior boundaries of a reservation which are held in trust by the United States for any Indian tribe or owned by an Indian tribe or tribal member subject to a restriction against alienation imposed by the United States. b. "Wells located within the exterior boundaries of the reservation" includes wells with one or more horizontal laterals that penetrate the reservation.

**SECTION** 2. EMERGENCY. This Act is effective for agreements entered after July 31, 2021.

# Senate Bill No.2296 Relating to charitable game and tribal-state

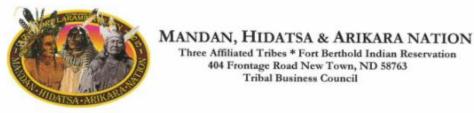
### gaming compacts

A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 53-06.1, a new subsection to section 53-06.1-11, and two new subsections to section 53-06.1-15.1 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the regulation of electronic pull tab devices; and to amend and reenact section 53-06.1-01, subsection 1 of section 53-06.1-01.1, subsection 1 of section 53-06.1-08, sections 53-06.1-08, 53-06.1-08.2, and 54-58-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to charitable gaming and tribal-state gaming compacts. SB2296 - Gaming bill related to electronic pull tabs <a href="https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.legis.nd.gov%2fassembly%2f67-2021%2fdocuments%2f21-0986-03000.pdf&c=E,1,lj72YpWNtrSCMIE3jh2UV-5i5wGsUzMmYDinDpjU0RKZUfWGgejpFNb0IYoK32o87NdRXqq5ItN\_NYE0GFv7SYRq638f-uRSbA26K1yFcYs&type=1</a>

# Letters to Interior supporting Bill 3395 on Oil and Gas

### Agreements.

Three Affiliated Tribes \* Fort Berthold Indian Reservation 404 Frontage Road New Town, ND 58763 **Tribal Business Council** 



Office of the Chairman Mark N. Fox

January 25, 2021

Scott de la Vega Acting Secretary of the Interior Department of the Interior 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20240

### Re: Secretary of the Interior Order No. 3395

Dear Acting Secretary de la Vega,

The Mandan Hidatsa and Arikara (MHA) Nation respectfully requests that you immediately authorize the Acting Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs to exclude Indian trust lands within the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation from the reach of Order No. 3395. These are not public lands and resources. Unlike federal lands, they must be managed by the United States as a fiduciary in accordance with the federal trust responsibility, treaty rights unique to different tribal nations, and consistent with tribal selfgovernment and self-determination. Federal public land polices are often directly at odds with these interests when tribal nations like MHA are engaged in developing their lands to raise revenue for tribal government purposes.

Royalty and tax revenue derived from oil and gas development accounts for over 80% of our Nation's annual budget. Suspending approvals of rights-of-way, leases, and other trust land transactions for any period of time is not acceptable, and in some cases could injure our environment. Bureau line officers are already understaffed and behind on processing trust land transactions. Including Indian lands and resources in Order 3395 will have a severe negative impact on the ongoing development and management of our tribal oil and gas resources, which the United States is supposed to manage solely for our interests.

The United States has treaty and trust obligations to protect our trust resources. It also has an obligation to consult with us before taking any action that could impact our trust resources. Please act immediately to prevent further injury to our interests and expressly exclude our trust resources from this Order 3395 directed at public lands.

Sincerely,

Mark 7 For

Mark N. Fox, Chairman

404 Frontage Road \* New Town, North Dakota \* 58763 Phone: 701.627.4781 \* Ext. 8203 \* Fax: 701.627.3503



### United States Department of the Interior OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR Washington, D.C. 20240

January 25, 2021

### Memorandum

To:	Darryl LaCounte, Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Exercising Delegated Authority of the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs
From:	Robert T. Anderson, Senior Counselor to the Secretary, Exercising Delegated Authority of the Solicitor Robert T Anderson
Subject:	Non-application of Secretarial Order 3395 to Actions Relating to Indian Lands

Secretarial Order 3395, Temporary Suspension of Delegated Authority, ("S.O.") reserved some decision-making authority for a subset of Department actions to agency leadership.

The purpose of this guidance is to clarify that the temporary suspension of delegated authority for the list of actions described in the order applies to non-Indian federal lands and does not apply to actions taken with respect to Indian tribal and individual trust and restricted lands, including approval of any activities on those lands required by existing law.

This guidance is consistent with the S.O., which explicitly provides that it shall be "consistent with all legal obligations and policy goals to uphold trust and treaty responsibility to tribal nations[.]" These obligations include the consultation requirements set out in prior Executive and Secretarial Orders. Furthermore, because Indian tribal trust lands and individual trust lands are not "public lands," the Order is not intended to apply to actions involving those lands, including but not limited to actions related to developing any resources on such lands.

Please take appropriate steps to communicate the above information to your bureaus and to tribes, as necessary.



MHA Flags brought into meeting at capitol. Fred Fox on left.



Tribal council Chairman and Representatives: Mark Fox, chairman; Judy Brugh, Four Bears Segment; Cory Spotted Bear, Twin Butts Segment, Dr. Monica Mayer, New Town, Segment, Fred Fox, White Shield, Segment; and Sherry Lonefight, Mandaree Segment.

# **New Buildings Near Completion**

### **New Community Buildings**



**Ralph Wells Community Center** 

Currently in construction, the new 60,400 s.f. precast concrete community center incorporates the heritage of the MHA Nation and will help to provide a sense of community. The facility will include two golf simulators, a gymnasium with an elevated walking track, fitness room, aquatic facilities, theater, commercial kitchen, various community spaces, and offices. The new community center is designed to be functional, flexible able to accommodate activities of all types for the community. It is approximately 75 % complete.



**New White Shield Sports Complex** 



White Shield Sports Complex located on map above. There is a red dot indicates location.

Scheduled to begin construction in the spring of 2021, the White Shield Sports Complex site covers over 10 acres. The sports complex is comprised of both a football and baseball field with bleachers and press box, an ice rick and warming house, concessions, an outdoor splash pad, two sand volleyball and basketball courts, skate park, and a full spectrum of track and field sporting events. The design for the site was to create a shared athletic and leisure space that can accommodate outdoor activities of all types for the community. Architectural details at the entry trellis and warming house draw inspiration from natural elements and the heritage of the Mandan Hidatsa Arikara Tribes.



The White Shield Medical Clinic has not broken ground yet. It will be located near Elder Center and Administrative building



Dental Clinic will be located near Medical Clinic. Ground has not been broken for it.



The community will have a new apartment building that will be completed in May of 2021. The apartment building will be 10 2-bedrooms and 10 1-bedrooms, that will include washer and dryer. The apartment will also include a fitness center, office, and elevator that is handicap accessible.

Information and photos were provided by builders, Marita Abe, Project Manage; and Fred Fox, White Shield Council Representative. More information on new building will be provided in a later News Journal.

# Marita Abe, Project Manager for White Shield Uses Architect Degree with Projects



Many outstanding people with major degrees from colleges throughout the United States have found work off the reservation in their fields of education. They are to be commended. There are, however, people who choose to work on the reservation. Marita Abe is one of those people. She earned a master's degree in architecture. That is a field that is sorely needed on the reservation and particularly in White Shield. It was a great opportunity that she could work for the tribe as a project manager utilizing her education in architecture.

After she graduated from North Dakota State University, she worked as an architectural intern to begin her registration certification. Meanwhile, the tribe's project development was on the rise, and she was hired on as a project manager for the MHA Nation.

Needless to say, there were no MHA architects working on these projects.

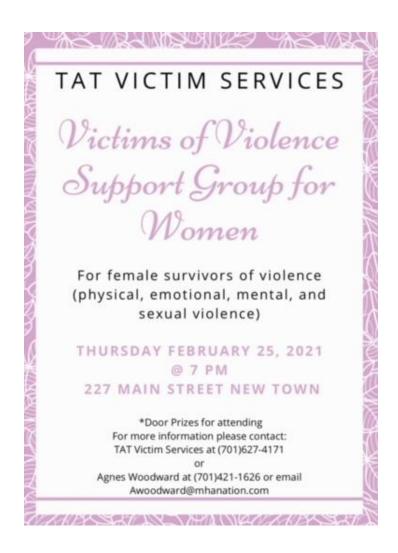
Although she has her master's degree, she hopes to become a fully registered architect one day. For now, Abe has decided to continue working as a project manager because she found it rewarding to work with her people at home. Also, she was encouraged to work with the many projects around the reservation that need her experience as an architect as well as her life experience in the Sahnish.

Project development has continued to grow by leaps and bounds across Fort Berthold. Abe serves as a tribal liaison to the architect and building firms. She knows and understands the people and culture of the community. She found her place. Abe helps involve the community in the style and use of the buildings by breaking down each building type and space.

Her current position is project manager for approximately 15 building projects in White Shield. She was brought on as project manager for projects in White Shield in 2014. White Shield has more than 15 projects percolating in the area. Abe enjoys talking with the community to find out their desires and needs for the buildings while maintaining a working relationship with the architecture and building industry.

Abe is the daughter of Jonelle and her late father, Thomas Abe.

# **IMPORTANT NOTICES**



# **PUBLIC HEALTH NOTICE**

Issued Tuesday, February 16, 2021

This is a Joint Public Health Notification from Elbowoods Memorial Health Center, MHA COVID-19 Task Force, MHA Emergency Operations Center, the Office of MHA Tribal Chairman Mark Fox, and the MHA Tribal Business Council

The MHA Tribal Council issued a Mask Mandate Policy on October 22, 2020, requiring all individuals two (2) years of age and older within or entering the exterior boundaries of the Three Affiliated Tribes to wear a mask at all times while in or preparing to enter public indoor places.

This notice is a reminder to continue wearing your face masks and follow all prevention measures. Currently the authorized Moderna vaccine provides up to 95% immunity against COVID-19. That means 5 out of every 100 people can still become infected and are capable of spreading COVID-19 when not taking proper precautions.

For herd immunity to help stop the spread of COVID-19, enough people would have to become immune, to the virus that causes the disease. It's unknown at the moment what percentage of the population would need to get vaccinated to limit the spread of the virus this way.

The following are attributes of masks needed to fulfill the requirements of the Order.

- A properly worn mask completely covers the nose and mouth. Cloth masks should be made with two or more layers of a breathable fabric that is tightly woven
- Mask should be secured to the head with ties, ear loops, or elastic bands that go behind the head. If gaiters are worn, they should have two layers of fabric or be folded to make two layers.
- · Mask should fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face.
- Mask should be a solid piece of material without slits, exhalation valves, or punctures.

Although we are getting closer to the recovery phase, it's still important to continue wearing your masks to protect yourself and your family. For updated information about the virus in our area, visit the MHA COVID-19 Task Force Facebook Page or MHA Nation's tribal website (mhanation.com). If you have any concerns about possibly having the virus, call Elbowoods Memorial Health Center at 701-627-7641.



### **Three Affiliated Tribes Enrollment Report**

### Thursday, February 11, 2021

8,692
8,081
16,773

2021 Reported Deaths		
Male	13	
Female	9	
TOTAL	22	

Age Categories (ALL)			
0-17	5,390		
18-59	9,814		
60+	1,569		
TOTAL	16,773		

2021 Average Lifespan (YEARS)

47.154

66.777

55.182

Male

Female

Avg. All

2021 New Enrollments		
01/14/2021	26	
02/11/2021	22	
TOTAL	48	

Segment Population by Age				
Segment	0 - 17	18 - 59	60+	TOTALS
New Town	701	1,163	227	2,091
Mandaree	323	456	101	880
Four Bears	338	388	72	798
Parshall	243	435	73	751
White Shield	221	405	109	73
Twin Buttes	142	205	52	399
ON FBIR	1,968	3,052	634	5,654
OFF FBIR	3,422	6,762	935	11,119
TOTAL ALL	5,390	9,814	1,569	16,773

Full Name	Enroll Dt.	Res. No.	Res. Dt.
Amezcua Yellowbird, Aniya Angelica	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Amezcua Yellowbird, Ava Andrea	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Baker, Kashton Norman	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Brugh, Miakota Kruz	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
D'Agostino, Barbara Ann	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Fettig, Holden Zane	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Fevold, Siv	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Flores, Trista Niksen	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Flying Horse, Emiliano Javier	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Fox III, Karmen Charles	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Hopkins, Aysa Reign	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Howling Wolf, Sage River	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Howling Wolf, Serenity Grace	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Jetty, Airees Jean	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Jetty, Jasmin Kateri	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Parisian, Noah Sebastian	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Powell, Jacob Sunny Sky	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Powell, Leiara Tavey	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Powell, Michael Thomas	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Schell, Luna Stella	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
Thompson, Luka John	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021
YoungBird, Paige Marie	02/11/2021	21-016-FWF	02/11/2021





Front row (L to R) Carson Calhoun (12<sup>th</sup> grade); Cash Draper (11<sup>th</sup> grade); Jesse White (12<sup>th</sup> grade); Wambdi LaCroix (9<sup>th</sup> grade); Xavier Ennon (121th grade); Back row (L to r), Daryn White (12<sup>th</sup> grade); Oscar Felix (9<sup>th</sup> grade), Bryant Wells (10<sup>th</sup> grade), Alex Foot (10<sup>th</sup> grade), Jase Dickens (10<sup>th</sup> grade).

Coach Brad Kroupa says the Warriors will be losing Jesse White next year, but they have three team members Oscar Felix, 9<sup>th</sup> grader, Jamie Dickinson and Brian Well 10<sup>th</sup> graders "who are really good<u>."</u> Coach Kroupa will be leaving White Shield to teach in Bismarck where he lives. As much as he likes White Shield and working with the Basketball players, it has become difficult to commute to and from White Shield for practice and games especially in bad weather. He is also gone some weekends for games.

Kroupa said he wants to thank Sheldon "Duckie" Rush, assistant coach for the great job he did this year.

### **Up-coming Games and Tournaments**

White Shield Warriors have two games left to play this year: The schedule is Solen, Friday, 5:30 February 19<sup>th</sup> at Solen. It is Varsity boys with on 80% capacity general admission.

Last game is White Shield vs Garrison, Saturday, February 20 at White Shield. 3:30 jv boys, 5 p.m. varsity boys 5:30. Parents Night at half-time of varsity game. Jv and varsity boys and their parents will be honored. General admission and 75% capacity.

District Tournament, February 26 and 27<sup>th</sup>. Will be held at Watford City. White Shield will get a "by" because of their win record.

State Tournament March 6 and 7. The site of the tournament has not been determined. It will probably be Grand Forks or Fargo.

### Tournaments will be last games for Jesse White, leading player in state

In a Parshall versus White Shield, the game was close. But a two-pointer at end of the game, put Parshall in the lead by 2 points with 4 seconds left in game, Deloris White said. Almost simultaneous with that basket,



Jessie got the ball and made a long, three-point attempt. The ball hit the backboard then dropped straight in the basket, White said. The game went into over-time. The overtime was the same scene with warriors coming from behind and Jesse White again sinking a 3 pointer to win the game.

Jesse's Coach Brad Kroupa, has been guiding and supporting the Warriors for several years. He watched Jesse become one of the leading players in the state.

Jesse baskets are currently 2,647 which means he needs only 67 points to make the list of leading basketball scores in the state. Rush said he should be able to make that number in the next games.

That will put him in in second place for leader scoring of basket ball players in the state. He can never be on top, Rush said with a laugh, because the high is 10,000 points, but he will be a good second.



"I would like to thank our Lady Warriors and Coaches Shaunna, Jake and Shaun Knife on a great season.

Our gals improved with each practice and games which is a reflection on our coaches and their knowledge and ability to translate those instructions to our Warriors. Our gals really listened and respected the coaching staff! We lost a tough one at the district tournament, but our Ladies did not quit and played with tremendous heart until the buzzer sounded! Good luck to our seniors in all their endeavors of life. To our up and coming Lady Warriors: put in the work and watch the results, said Sheldon Rush, Athletic Director.

During the tournaments, these young women were selected for their skills as outstanding players. Each player was given an award. From White Shield they were Haley Bearstail, Lexus Fox, and Idy Fox.



# Sahnish Culture Items

# Family honors cavalry Veteran

# "Finally going to get headstone"

### **BY LUANN FLEGEL**

November 20, 1982 – Article from the Bismarck Tribune He was a sharpshooter for the Eighth Regiment Cavalry during the time just after the Spanish-American War. And if family research is correct, he is the only Spanish-American War Veteran from the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation.

Despite Eli (Bear Robe) Perkins' distinctive service, his family who are from the White Shield area, only discovered their relative's background recently.

It was through the research of Perkins niece, Grace Flute, that the family discovered that Perkins had actually served in the cavalry from 1902 to 1910.

Perkins, who dies in 1949 at the age of 70, only mentioned that he had served in the cavalry to his family. His talk of the facts, however, was so vague that "no one ever believed he was in the service," Flute said.



Eli Perkins sharpshooter

When Flute's mother, and Perkins' sister, passed away about a year ago, Flute went through her mother's personal belongings. She came across a picture of Perkins proudly sitting on a horse, dressed in a uniform. On the back was a short message written to Perkins' sister that he expected to be home for Christmas of that year.

Flute went to a cousin to begin her research on Perkins' service. The cousin directed her to Tom Sorensen, Veteran Service Office in Washburn. Through Sorensen, the family now has Perkins' discharge papers, a flag to drape over his casket and a head monument, which is on its way from Washington, D.C.

The flag is a 9- by-5-foot flag with 48 stars. "His flag would have been 34 stars," nephew Sibert Yellow Bear said, but that type was not available so the family instead received a flag which was symbolic of the service of Perkins' brother, Henry. Perkins had five brothers and sisters.

Yellow Bear said the family held an honorary ceremony in Perkins' memory on Sunday, Nov. 10. He is buried at White Shield.

Yellow Bear remembers Perkins as an excellent marksman, who did not often show off his skill. Once he shot an animal using a mirror and shooting backwards over his shoulder. He would not repeat the exhibition of skill despite pleas of those who saw it the first time, Yellow Bear said. Perkins picked up his skill with a rifle in the cavalry, as he was recognized as a sharpshooter in 1910.

Perkins' service began on Dec. 27, 1902 when he enlisted in the cavalry for four years. In 1907 he served a second enlistment, and was honorably discharged on Dec. 26, 1910.

He served as a private of Troop E of the Eighth Regiment Cavalry at Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

His military record included remarks of "honest and faithful" service and "excellent character."

While the Spanish-American War was fought from 1898 to 1902, Sorensen believes Perkins could have served in the



Felix was a Renown Native American Print Maker and Drawing Artist who did the drawing on a sacred skull. The skull is located in the office of the White Shield Representative, Fred Fox.

war. Furlough may not have been included in the length of service on the military records, he said.

Flute is pleased that the family has been able to find her uncle's past in the cavalry. "Our uncle is finally going to get a headstone," she said. Felix and his twin brother, Hans, were born on October 28, 1946, to Benjamin and Jessie Young Bird, Nishu, North Dakota, Fort Berthold Indian Reservation. During this period of time tribal members were experiencing a very difficult time in providing for their families, because of the fact that the Corps of Engineers were invading our sacred land and building a Reservior that would encompass most of our sacred homeland.

Our grandparents, mothers and fathers would have to move from their most sacred homes, and the schools in Nishu and Elbowoods would be destroyed, closed. Because there were no schools on the reservation, the majority of the children Arikara, Hidatsa and Mandan had to attend boarding schools off the reservation and out of the State of North Dakota. At a very early age, 5 years old, Felix and his twin brother Hans attended the Elbowoods Indian Boarding School until the school was closed from there, Felix attended Wahpeton Indian Boarding School, Wahpeton, ND.

Felix returned back to White Shield an attend the new White Shield school that had been built. After his parents passed into spirit, he lived with his sister Teresa Young Bird Danks. Teresa's husband, John Danks

worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Cheyenne River Indian Reservation where Felix Graduated from High School, in 1966. Fresh out of High School, Felix moved to Washington, D.C. and worked there for the Bureau of Indian Affairs as a mail clerk for the Property and Supply and Education Department. Felix lived in Washington DC during the four days of rioting following the assassination of Martin Luther King. His account of the horrendous destruction of the Capitol City was mentally and physically unsettling, so he transferred to The Bureau of Indian Affairs in Aberdeen, SD.

In 1981 Felix transferred to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Billings, Montana as a Tribal Enrollment Officer. Felix left Montana and returned to the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation to attend the Nueta, Hidatsa, Sahnish Community college.

After completing his studies at the community college he decided to attend the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, ND where he earned double majors in Social Work and Indian Studies. He graduated in 1995.

After his graduation from the University of North Dakota he accepted a position at the Adolescent Treatment Center as a drug and alcohol counselor in Sisseton, South Dakota. In 1996 he accepted a Position as school counselor at the Circle of Nations School, Wahpeton, ND. After 22 years of dedicated service, he retired in 2018.

Felix enjoyed drawing and creating sculptures out of wood and stone. Over the years Felix studied and developed his artistic skills on the acrylic transfer process. In May 2019, Felix suffered a major stroke limiting his sculpting abilities. However, while he has challenges it did not destroy his creative spirit.

Felix has been utilizing his talents to create his Buffalo Skull Portraits honoring Native American Indian Veterans for their Military service. The Work is healing and an important piece of his recovery. Felix is married to: Laura Young Bird, Grand Portage

Marilyn Young Bird, who is White Shield elder; builds Safe Haven Homes for the reservation. She is a world traveler and also a well-known photographer. She is interested in gathering stories about elders and the culture. She said she wants to remind people of our outstanding people who we have forgotten. This is the first in this series.



Wayne Flute, grandson of Eli Perkins



Skull in Fred Fox office.

# **Elders and Seniors**

# **Elections for Elder Board Officers**

Where: Old Elder's Center (near clinic)

When: Wednesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> 2021

Time: 1:00 pm

Positions to be filled:

**Chairman position (Deloris White)** 

Vice Chairman (Aldine Rush)

Secretary (Leone White) Must contact Leone if you are running.

**Treasurer (Glenise Bears Tail)** 

At Large (To be filled)

### Basketball Runs in the Yellow Bird family



Elder Grover Yellow Bird, poses with grandsons, Gage and Ashton and his son, Dominick Yellow Bird.

Gage, who graduates this year, will be attending Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. He is thinking about law as a career. Ashton plays on the Garrison High School basketball team and does well.

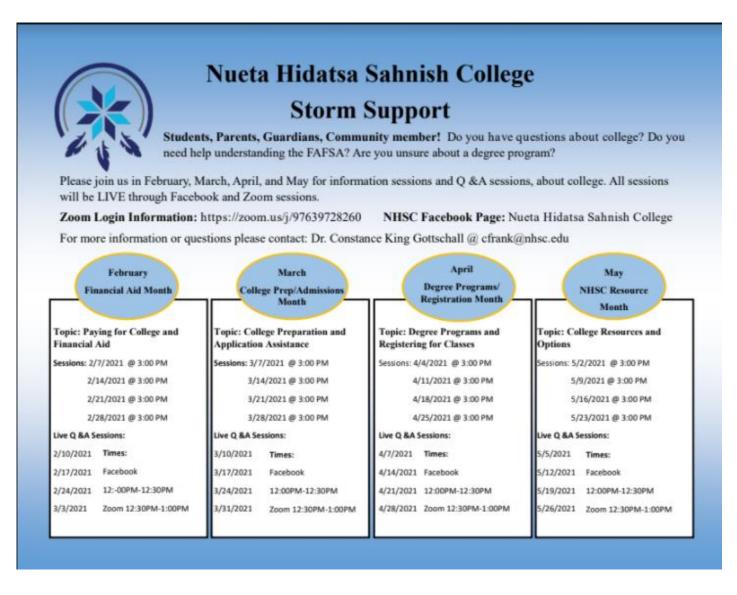
It brought back memories for me, Grover said. He remembers his days playing basketball Marty Mission, SD. (the picture is Grover in his basketball days.) They won the Marty State Catholic tournament in SD, Yellow Bird said.

# **Elder Birthdays**

Thomas Eagle Jr.	03-15
Leonard Hosie	03-24
Sidney Howard	03-21
Delvin Jay Rogers	03-16
Bernadine White Bear-Hall	03-11
Delilah Yellow Bird	03-10
Bonnie Red Fox	02-21



# School, College and Education News



### **Other Items at Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College**

 NHSC will be working with KMHA on a College Talk show which will cover campus wide topics and events. Our first session will be held on Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> on KMHA.
 We are now accepting applications for our Summer term. Our application deadline for Summer is April 30<sup>th</sup>; however, students will have until May 21<sup>st</sup> to get all of their documentation into NHSC and to register for their classes.
3) We are also accepting applications for our Fall term. Our application deadline for Fall is July 30<sup>th</sup>; however, students will have until August 18<sup>th</sup> to get all of their documentation into NHSC and to register for their classes.

4) NHSC has just announced that they will be offering Golf as our newest edition to our Athletic program. Golf will start with our Fall 2021 semester. For additional information, folks can reach out to Kyle DeCoteau at <u>kdecoteau@nhsc.edu</u>
5) The NHSC campus is currently closed due to COVID through March 21. Staff will re-evaluate our campus closure status by the end of Spring Break (March 19) to determine if we will remain closed through

the rest of the Spring semester. For additional information about our COVID procedures and protocols, you can view our COVID page on <u>nhsc.edu</u>.

Stephanie Packineau, MBA, CCMP, who is Director of Institutional Researach & Effectiveness at Nueta Hidatsa Sahnish College in New Town.

# **Summer Applications are now being accepted**

### Final day to submit Summer applications is April 30

### What documents are required as a NEW student to NHSC?

- Official High school/GED Transcripts
- Official College Transcripts (if you are going to transfer from another college to NHSC)
- ID (Driver's license, Tribal ID, Identification Card)
- Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB) (if Native American)
- Social Security Card
- FERPA form
- FAFSA/Financial Aid

### Questions? Contact Admissions@NHSC.com



2D Central Main St. Roseglen, ND 58540 701 421-7251/701 897-1392/743-4430 Fax: 701 743-4433



Hello to all our Veterans, Elders, Community Members and young Community Members. My name is Bernadette White Bear-Hall and I am the new White Shield Veterans Office Director. Pending COVID-19 restrictions on public gatherings and travel, I am working on becoming a certified Veterans Service Officer.

My office is located in the old Senior Center (blue) building. We are working on getting the building ready so Veterans/Auxiliary Members/Old Scout Society Members/Dead Grass Society Members can have a place to hang out, visit, watch TV, take care of military/health related business, as soon as the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted for public gatherings. One-on-One visits are available now. If a Veteran cannot come to the office, I can come to your home.

I am here to help Veterans with the following:

- 1. Fill out and submit a request for eligibility of Veterans Benefits (Determination is made by the Veterans Administration, not this office or the Three Affiliated Tribes)
- 2. Assist in filling out and submitting military benefits claims
- 3. Assist in requesting a DD-214 (Discharge papers)
- 4. Assist in requesting a military Headstone for a deceased Veteran
- 5. Military Headstone placement
- 6. Coordinate with our Veteran Posts to conduct Military Honors for a Veterans' funeral (per TAT COVID-19 protocol)
- 7. Give Veterans a ride to medical appointments (Veterans only. Masks must be worn)
- 8. Give Veterans a ride to buy food (No alcohol runs), pick up medication (Masks must be worn)
- 9. Make copies of documents for Veterans
- 10. Young Hawk/Bear Post 253 Business
- 11. Young Hawk/Bear Post 253 Ladies Auxiliary (place to conduct business, store their inventory)
- 12. Old Scout Society (place to conduct business, store their inventory)
- 13. Dead Grass Society (place to conduct business, store their inventory)
- 14. Above list is not all inclusive. Open to suggestions on ideas, wants, needs
- 15. A few future goals: One-on-One Counseling/Group counseling, host a military standdown

To our Veterans: You are all familiar with the expression "Hurry up and wait". Some of your requests will take longer due to COVID-19 and government offices being minimally staffed or closed, but we will get our requests take care of. I am trying to reach out to as many of our Veterans as possible; if you know a Veteran who needs/might need help tell them about my office, or give me call. Phone #s and address listed at the top of this article. Our Veterans have earned and deserve our honor and respect,

Respectfully submitted, Bernadette White Bear-Hall