

JAMES WHITE

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This is the dedication and unveiling of the plaque erected in memory of the Indians slain at the Whitestone Hill battle. This picture was taken July 4th, 1942. Basil Two Bears, 3rd from the right and grandson of Chief Two Bears

who commanded the Yanktonai at the battle, accepted the plaque for the Indians. Alberta Two Bears, his granddaughter, standing in front, unveiled it. Others, left to right: Agnes Looking Horse, James All Yellow, Mrs.

Basil Two Bears and Frank Young Bear. This photograph was taken by H.A. Porter and the plaque was made by Clinton Hess. —Courtesy of Whitestone Park Museum.

Alberta Two Bears, James' mother, lives on Standing Rock Reservation and is seen throughout history books. James, aka Jimmy by family and friends, is the great grandson of survivors of a massacre before the turn of the 19th century.

Jimmy's mother, Alberta Two Bears, is the young girl seen in this picture and his grandmother, Basil, is seen second from the Right.



Pat Jiggins 1972

Mrs. Basil Two Bears, seen in the picture in slide 2 on the right. She's Alberta Two Bears' mother.



James White's mom lives in North Dakota in stable, long term housing.



Jimmy has been building since he was a boy. He began with this coop as his community contribution, which he built when he was a very small boy.



His mother's home offers beautiful views and his culture and people offer beautiful connections to ceremony and the land.

Much of James' life is rooted in ceremony. He's been an integral part of the annual Chief's Ride, a weeks-long mid-winter horse ride to honor Lakota chiefs and ancestors, coordinating horses and safety watch over the caravan for nearly 20 years with his son and Elder men.



His mom has lived where she does for a long time, a stable place for Jimmy and his boy, Jesse. She is supported physically by Jimmy but not financially.



The United States flag in front of James' mother's home on the reservation.



James' Lakota name translates to "Bad Horse" since he was always given the most difficult horses to rear given that the "bad horse"s took a liking to him.



He lives in Fort Yates in the middle of the community and has for many, many years. This is something that has been important for him and his family over time.



His family lives in the small trailer.

22/6
Details, 6B

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Tribune Awards 2006

There are among us those who go well beyond the minimum requirement for being a good neighbor. They give of themselves liberally. They do so without much regard for return. On the first day of each new year, the Bismarck Tribune publishes the Tribune Awards, a way in which the community and the newspaper can join in acknowledging these good people.

The award winners were chosen from nominations by readers and by reporters and editors in the newsroom.

The criteria for nominations are for people who volunteer, are heroic or are inspiring. Among those who are named Tribune Award winners for 2006 there are a those who saved lives, those who have given hours of their time and made great effort in volunteering, and several who volunteer, give of themselves and are inspiring. The Tribune Awards are a way for us all to say, "Thank you!" And a way to give honor, where honor is due.



After his diagnosis of Parkinson's disease, Jim White has directed his energy to the youth of the Fort Yates area with the positive activity of youth rodeo. (MIKE McCLEARY/Tribune)

Help for future rodeo stars

Jim White seems too old to be jumping fences and wrestling steers.

He seems too young to have Parkinson's disease.

But, both things have become major parts of his life. White, 41, was scared by the fear into doing more of the former. The latter president was working on a competition site when the shaking got to him

about a year and a half ago. A week later the was laid up in the hospital with tremendous headaches, diagnosed with Parkinson's and worried he could no longer work the only job he knew.

He had almost completely given in to self-pity when he was struck by a revelation. He decided, on his 12th day in the hospital

See Rodeo, Page 7A

FROM 1A
that he hadn't been involved enough in his son's life. And he knew how to change that.

It was in the hospital in Bismarck that White came up with the idea of the Future Champions Rodeo Club. And it's been in the dirt and corral of the Standing Rock Indian Reservation that he's put his idea to practice. More than 300 children from the reservation's eight districts have joined the club, which

Rodeo: Priority change

last summer held its first jackpot rodeo. Another rodeo followed, and White hopes to start regular rodeos in each district.

White's 8-year-old son, Jesse, gets to see a lot more of his old man now.

"I decided ... to change my life around," White said in June. "My priority now is these kids. Somebody has to step in and show them the ropes."

— Tony Spitzer

James started the youth rodeo some years ago to benefit local area youth who he saw as needing additional places to learn and grow in.



He and his son Jesse do many rides together. This one seen here was to honor missing women. Jesse won.



In the 1990s, Jimmy was honored by the Rainbow Family for the work he did as lead on search and rescue for a missing young boy.

He used his Army ground scouting skills to locate the boy's body and return him home.



There's always someone coming by to pay a visit and to enjoy James' company.

Here his cousin came by with some tools and out front of the trailer all three of the men repaired young Jesse's Subaru.



James is always working to update the inside of his trailer. Here is a feature wall he built using reclaimed/recycled corral wood to both insulate and make a space for his feathers, something he's been honored with over his lifetime.



Smokey White, 18, is shot with a sponge grenade and tazed off his horse as riot police move through a camp set up by protestors in the path of the Dakota Access Pipeline near Standing Rock, North Dakota, on Thursday, Oct. 27, 2016. "This is modern war," said Smokey. "The only difference is we don't have assault rifles - our weapon is our prayer." (Photo by Angus Mordant/GroundTruth)

James' son Jesse was shot off his horse. Four shots were fired with non-lethal ammo, three hit Jesse, one hit his horse. He was and remains unarmed. This shooting really bothers James, who hates seeing his boy has suffered.



Jesse and Jimmy have gone on rides to honor their ancestors for nearly 20 years.

When he was young, with the help of Jimmy, Jesse scaled up a tree to retrieve a harmed Eagle, earning his Lakota name, “Catches Eagle”, a very honorable name.



This hill is called Turtle Island. It is a burial mound that holds some of James' ancestors. Officers trampled it.



This is the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Water Protectors thank you parade and honoring ceremony in October 2017.

Jimmy was invited up front because veterans always lead the parade, for protection just as akicita do.



Jesse learned to handle horses from his dad.



In Jesse's very successful career (he's a top in his class youth rodeo champion and won in 2019 at the Indian Relay held in Shakopee, the highest a rider can win) he often rides with his dad and they partner up to make a very strong team and bond.



Jimmy and Jesse won in the father/son relay at the Standing Rock Rodeo this year.



Together they took home a small winnings...



... and a high honor gift, a star quilt.



Rearing horses is something the Two Bears family James is a part of has done for hundreds of years.



The community loves and supports the work he and his son do with the horses and youth.



Lake Oahe, which has the Dakota Access Pipeline running under it now, has cows drinking from it.



The pipes go to Texas and Louisiana, where they are equally as opposed because of their implicit danger to safety. The pipes create a risk of contaminating the land and water across the country and contribute to the danger and contamination of refineries. All resulting from our dependence upon oil.



Flora and fauna are still present at the campsite.



This is James on top of a horse raised on Standing Rock. His cheerful, selfless, and welcoming demeanor paired with good looking, fun horses that he broke made him well loved around Oceti Sakowin Camp and makes him well loved even still by his community.