



# Bois Forte NEWS

VOL. 46 NUMBER 3

## Don't Wait..VACCINATE

The Bois Forte Clinics have openings for the following vaccinations:

- Pfizer -available to ages 5 and older
- Moderna-available to ages 18 and older
- Johnson/Johnson-Available to ages 18 and older

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Tuesdays & Wednesdays  
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Nett Lake, MN 55772  
(218) 757-3650

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Tower, MN 55790  
(218) 753-2182

## Goodsky's legacy will live on in future generations

By Brian K. Anderson  
For the Mesabi Tribune

NETT LAKE—As a Spiritual Advisor for the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Gene Goodsky touched countless lives with his wisdom, knowledge, and compassion for his fellow humankind.

He was a man who could be counted on, day or night, to be there for people who were struggling with problems in their own lives or for those suffering from a terminal illness who sought comfort when it was needed most.

So, when word spread of Goodsky's own struggles surfaced due to failing health, the outpouring of love was given back tenfold to the man who had given so much to so many.

While that love, respect, prayers and admiration lifted the spirits of Gene, he ultimately lost his battle with Covid and passed peacefully earlier this month at the age of 80.

"Tonight, in true dad fashion, Dad took control and decided he was done," wrote Gene's daughter, Dianna, on her Facebook page, called Warrior Spirit Rising, which is named after a book she wrote about her father. "He was probably the most awake and aware tonight... he took his last breath at 1:22 a.m. on February 9, 2022, surrounded by all the family the hospital would allow and full of so much love, still giving so much love."

Goodsky is survived by her children, Dianna, Lela (Fred), Curt (Mel), and Tom; 14 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren; one brother, Henry; one sister, Ellen; numerous nieces and nephews; students who were like his children; friends that were family and his "most beautiful woman ever" PJ.

Dianna's Facebook page had been bustling with activity for several weeks of her father's illness as she gave updates



LOVE FOR THE WATERS— Gene Goodsky was a fixture at the ever-popular Take A Vet Fishing event on Lake Vermilion. Here he is shown waving goodbye as he was leaving the docks for a day of fishing this past August. Also pictured with the Lake Vermilion Guides (Mike Levy and Dennis Highby at the front of the boat) are Sharon and Duane Columbus, and Gene's grandson, Craig Goodsky.

and asked for continued prayers. The well-wishes were heartfelt and meant the world to Gene and his entire family and circle of friends.

However, that outpouring of love and support came as no surprise to Bois Forte Tribal Chairwoman Cathy Chavers. "Bois Forte has suffered a great loss," said Chavers. "Gene touched many lives, young and old. We lost not only a teacher, healer, friend, and relative— but a person with an extraordinary place in our hearts and our memories."

Bois Forte District I Representative Shane Drift echoed those sentiments and talked glowingly of how well respected Goodsky was in many aspects of life, including as an elder, veteran, Spiritual Advisor, teacher, mentor, medicine man, and friend.

He recalled how Goodsky was there for him when his grandmother passed away in May of 1999. He also recalled when our country was devastated by the event surrounding September 11, 2001.

"Gene and I were out ricing," said Drift. "We talked about what was going on, and he thought about the people right away. He suggested that we do a ceremony up at the small gym so that people could share how they were feeling, offer support and encouragement."

No matter what the situation was, Drift said Goodsky always had a calming effect that let people know that things were going to be OK even in the darkest of times.

"Gene would always say a prayer before the council meeting, and then he

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## Goodsky's legacy will live on in future generations

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would push his walker down the hallway," said Drift. "He would stop by my office window—stand straight up and salute me. He was showing me respect! Please keep in mind that I never served in the military, and I would salute him back to show him respect."

Chavers was always impressed with how important community was to Goodsky and his teachings. He was a man who never sought the spotlight but cherished his role as a Bois Forte Elder, where people from all walks of life sought him out for advice, guidance, and direction.

She said that Gene's words and wisdom resonated at Bois Forte, in the elementary and high schools, at ceremonies and pow wows, and each council meeting when he gave his invocations. He had a strong presence at the Bois Forte State of the Band event and was always a welcome sight when he paid visits to the Bois Forte Heritage Center & Cultural Museum.

"He was a teacher both on and off the reservation in various schools, but he was a teacher to us all," said Chav-

ers. "He was also a healer. It didn't matter if you were native or not. He was willing to help anyone that asked him. I know that one of those individuals was my father... Gene was called upon to help those who passed away to begin their journeys to see our relatives who left before them."

Chavers said Goodsky was extremely proud of his military service to his county and others who served.

"A lot of us parents went to Gene for guidance after an offering of assema (tobacco) for answers on what our dreams meant, naming ceremonies, how to do something in a traditional way and do it correctly," said Chavers.

Chavers said Goodsky's legacy not only encompassed the Bois Forte community, but it also extended well beyond the boundaries of the Nett Lake or Lake Vermilion sectors. She talked of the sadness Goodsky felt when the pandemic forced people into isolation and broke the spirits of many.

"He was always stating how our communities need to come back together, people helping people again," said Chavers. "Gene was always say-

ing that there is no color in people, no black, white, or others. He stated we are all humans, and we need to respect each other and help each other."

During the pandemic, Chavers said it was important for Goodsky to get all the traditional healers together from all the reservations in the state of Minnesota, and he made that happen.

"He had Dakota and Ojibwe healers together to discuss what they could do to get us through these troubling times," said Chavers. "That as the type of man he was—he was always looking for ways to make things better for everyone."

Goodsky was born in Nett Lake on February 5, 1942. According to his daughter, Dianna, he joined the Navy at 17 as a Machinist Mate, serving on the USS Princeton during the atomic bomb testing in the South Pacific. Later, he would be classified as an "Atomic Vet."

After a brief break in service, Goodsky rejoined the Navy but this time a Seabee as a Builder, doing what he loved, which was honing his carpentry skills and serving this country.

According to Dianna, Goodsky was honorably discharged in 1976, and he returned home to Nett Lake to enjoy life with his family and friends. Four years after returning home, Dianna said her father had a Spiritual Awakening, known as a Near Death Experience, and soon was leading AA Meetings, and he became the culture leader at Nett Lake and Orr Schools.

She recalled how he spent the next 33 years teaching, loving, guiding, mentoring his students and fellow staff while also helping to bridge the cultural gaps and helping to ease racial tensions with the integration of all students, in all schools in the Northland.

"There is a void left behind that will never be filled..." Dianna told those in attendance at her father's funeral, which took place at the Bois Forte Governmental Center's ballroom in Nett Lake.

She continued by telling those



**WALKING TOWARD HIS BOAT—** Gene Goodsky is shown walking to the docks at Fortune Bay Resort Casino to participate in the 2021 take A Vet Fishing event.



**READY FOR A GREAT DAY!—** Gene Goodsky is shown with Take a Vet Fishing Volunteer Betty Calabrese this past August.

gathered to celebrate his life that while this was a time for mourning, it was also a time to reflect on her father's impact on the Bois Forte Community. She talked about his "booming voice," especially at sporting events that commanded attention, but yet deep down; he was a soft person.

"He was always giving big hugs and providing a shoulder to cry on to so many friends. His light always shone brightly through his kind eyes and smiling face," said Dianna. "Dad's gifts were many and his impact is too far-reaching to list, but we know that his legacy will be felt for years to come."

That is something Drift believes as well, and he is hopeful Goodsky's life lessons will carry on for future generations.

"I would like to say "Chi miigwech" (Big thank you) to Gene for always being there for our people, our tribe, for my family and me," said Drift. "Chi miigwech for the traditional teachings, laughs, and good times we had sitting around the drum. While he is gone, his legacy will never be forgotten."

It will be a busy election year for the Bois Forte Tribal Council as three of the five available positions are up for grabs. All three seats are for a four-year term.

Long-time Secretary/Treasurer David C. Morrison will face off against Tara Geshick and Tracey Strong Dagen.

Meanwhile, District I Representative Shane G. Drift is being challenged by Mildred R. Holmes, David H. Villebrun, Jr., and Simona Benner.

District II Representative Pete Boney will face a full field of challengers in Robert H. Moyer, Jr., Hannah Chosa, Timothy D. O'Leary, and Robin Geshick.

The primary election takes place Tuesday, April 5. The top two candi-

## Timothy "Woody" O'Leary



Boozhoo, Aniin, and Hello. My name is Timothy "Woody" O'Leary. I am asking for your votes to become the new District II Representative. I was born in Duluth MN, the youngest of 9 children born to Donald and Sharon O'Leary. My parents grew up in Nett Lake MN. Like my family before me, I am an avid hunter on our hunting grounds in Nett Lake. I enjoy my time in the woods very much.

My early years were spent between union jobs and Casino employment. For the last 14-15 years, I have worked at Fortune Bay Resort and Casino and in my union jobs laying concrete slabs as well as curb and

dates will then face off in the general election, which is slated for Tuesday, June 14. However, if one candidate receives 51 percent of the votes in the primary, that candidate will win their particular race. Winning candidates will then take office Tuesday, July 12, unless there is an appeal, and then the determined winner would take office Friday, July 22.

Each candidate was allowed to submit a photo and biography for this month's Bois Forte News. Please see page XX for more information on those candidates who took advantage of this opportunity to tell voters more about themselves. Miigwech— and best of luck to all of the candidates!

gutter. In between those years, I have taken time to lay the foundations and block as well as brick on our Elementary school, our Clinic, and our new Government Center, all in Nett Lake. I take great pride in knowing that what I helped build benefits our children and people of our Reservation to this day.

I am a strong advocate for a healthy Police force to protect our band members. Heavy drugs still somehow get into our lands and kill our people and make them dependent on them and horribly disrupt there lives. This is a big issue.

I am also hoping to make our elders lives a little easier in any way possible. I know there are many issues on every body's minds, I hope to address as many as I can.

I would like you to seriously consider my bid to better our community and those around us.

Thank you,  
Sincerely  
Timothy O'Leary.  
(218-780-3445)  
chfwdnhd@yahoo.com, e-mail

## Mildred Holmes



Mildred R Holmes  
for District I Representative 2022!

Niiganabiik indizhinikoz M akwa indoodem Asabiikone Zaagaa'iiganing indoonjibaa. I graduated from Orr High School. I've attended college, held several jobs on and off the reservation, and I've made beadwork and sold these items at powwows around Minnesota. Since 2018, I've been involved with the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitutional Convention as a Delegate.

We, as a Band, have been faced with many crises during our lifetime with the Covid Pandemic being the latest. We've had financial crises several times. The last was the shutdown of the Casino at the beginning of the pandemic. I'd like to address the lack of business knowledge generally. I'd like to establish some classes for Band members to educate them on what being in business entails. Oh, not the detailed subjects you get in college courses. What I'd like to see is some sort of mentoring process based on one my sons and I attended several years ago on how to write a

business plan.

Yes, there are resources available that not everyone takes advantage of. I'd like concepts of wholesale vs. retail prices, tax situations, and employee definitions explained so when discussions come up about business enterprises the Tribe wants to investigate as possibilities to own, we can have an actual discussion to determine the merits. I'd like education on what happens once the Band does buy a business, what it takes to stay in business.

We, as a Band, need to know exactly what is entailed in these types of projects or at the least understand enough to let the experts deal with it. I've done enough research to know when I need help in the course of my endeavors to publish a book. I've learned enough in the sales of crafts to know that much depends on the treatment of customers and clients to keep them coming back.

Yeah, profit and loss are terms not really used in personal, household finances. Perhaps they should be. Debit means simply have and credit is wishes/wants for the consumer whilst for the business owner Debit is pay out and Credit is money coming in. Two sides of the same accounting coin referring to cash only.

A longwinded explanation for my position that I'd like to bring more business to the Band members as well as for the Tribe.

Niiganabiik Babaamizi!  
(Does business, goes about your business)

If you have a news item or announcement you'd like put in the Bois Forte News, please send it to: [news@boisforte-nsn.gov](mailto:news@boisforte-nsn.gov)  
**Our deadline for the April 2022 edition is March 20, 2022**

## Hannah (Lehti) Chosa



Boozhoo Bois Forte Anishinaabeg:

My name is Hannah (Lehti) Chosa, and I would be honored if my fellow band members voted for me as your next District II Representative on the Bois Forte Tribal Council.

I grew up on the Iron Range but moved to the Vermilion sector of Bois Forte when I was 18. My father is John Lehti, and my grandmother was Emma Columbus (Geshick) Lehti. I am happily married to Brent Chosa and, together, we have five children. My husband and I teach our children the cultural traditions of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa. We encourage them to honor the seven teachings to help guide them through life.

I have worked for Fortune Bay Resort Casino for almost 18 years. I started my career in 2004 as a busser in the Tamarack dining room. Through hard work and dedication, I was able to work my way up in the company. Over the years, I have learned HR and accounting functions, operation and department management, and marketing. I am now the Assistant Director of Marketing at Fortune Bay.

I recently graduated with my Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing and Business Management from the University of Minnesota-Crookston. I believe that a good work ethic, combined with integrity, passion, and education/training are the keys to success.

When deciding to run for office, I did so based on the following bullet points that I feel are needed to serve our people better.

- Band members matter —We need to invest in our people by hiring and promoting more band members. In addition to hiring more members, we need to help them succeed through education and training.

- Better business decisions – I believe with my experience and knowledge of business, specifically businesses within Bois Forte, I can help move our tribe forward to better prepare for future generations. This means improving what we already have and making smart investments for the future.

- Tribal Programs— There are so many programs, but there are many times we, as band members, are unaware of the benefits of these programs, or the benefits are outdated and need to be revisited. Some of these programs include Tribal housing, Human Services, Elder Services, Disability Services, and Veteran Services.

I am asking for your vote and support in electing me as your Bois Forte District II Representative. If elected, I will work hard for the best interests of District II. For more information, please visit my Facebook page: Hannah Chosa – Bois Forte District II Representative Candidate.

Miigwech!  
Hannah Chosa

## Adrienne Whiteman

Hello (Boozhoo) Band members!

I would like to introduce myself and announce my Candidacy for District 1 Representative Bois Forte. My name is Adrienne Rose Whiteman I am of the Lynx clan (GiZhaKaMiGook In di zhin ni caz, Bi Zhou Ni doo Tern) My parents are Jerome and Clara (Strong)Whiteman. My Grandparents are Herbert and Emma (Boness) Strong and Eugene and Angeline (Wein) Whiteman. I have 4 daughters: Arianna Rose (Mike Smith) Zapata, Amber Rose Oeffery Harman) Zapata, Alliyah Rose (Corben Eggelston) Zapata, and my baby Abbi Rose Zapata, and my heart, my grandson Jeffery Thomas Harman Jr. I call him Taddy! And not to forget another grandson on the way!

(Nii oh gi maa kaa neew, Nii go chi bi mi ba to) means I want to be on Council, I am going to try to run! I believe learning our language is very important, it makes us Anishinabe. Anishinabemowin is language from the heart and very spiritually connected to things around us. It makes us who we are. I will continue to learn the language as I hope all of you try or continue to learn it as well.

I am proud to be from Nett Lake, I was born in Cook, Minnesota. I grew up in Nett Lake. I graduated from Orr High School. I tried school at NDSU in Fargo, ND but the university was way too big for me! I joined the US Navy, with very strong influencing from my Dad. After years in the military, I came home. I went back to school and started working in Nett. I am very happy that I had the opportunity to work in most of the departments we have under the Tribal Government. Each position I held, I gained expe-

rience that has positively influenced and shaped me into the person I am today which has led me to run for election and hope to become your future council member. I love our reservation and I will commit to helping our band members living on and off the reservation.

For years leading up to this decision, I had to make sure that my life was at a balance, that I was at peace with my past, that my house is in order, and that I would be committed to this endeavor for the positive as well as the negative. I have accepted this commitment and it is in my heart to run for tribal council to make a positive change for our community. It is in my path to make a change for us or start a change for progress for however long. This is our community and we all matter!

I have three main topics of concern which I feel need more attention and can be better for our band members which are Human Services, Education, and Housing. I will be addressing these topics in detail through my brochures, letters and my Facebook Page postings. I appreciate those who support and want to get to know me and talk to me about ideas of improvement. So, let's make it happen together!!

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with your questions and concerns or just talk about what we can do better together. I have a Facebook page, please review and share! Also, here is my email address: district-1candidateboisforte@gmail.com for direct correspondence.

Thank you! (Miigwetch!)  
Adrienne Whiteman  
Bois Forte District 1 Candidate

## Tracey Strong Dagen



My name is Tracey Strong Dagen, and I'm asking for your vote to be our next Bois Forte Secretary-Treasurer. We need a NEW voice from someone with the heart for our people, a good track record in our community, and the financial insight to make good economic decisions that benefit our greater Bois Forte community.

A little background information about me:

I'm currently employed as Bois Forte's Registrar & Programs Manager. I have lived and worked on the Lake Vermilion Reservation most of my life, and graduated locally at Tower Soudan as Vermilion Reservation's first Honor Student. I have two successful children that I'm very proud of and am currently foster care certified. I know what band members not living on the Rez experience, as I also lived and worked off the reservation too. I've gained experience with the gaming industry while working at Fortune Bay Resort Casino in the HR department, and administrative experience while working the Bois Forte Tribal Government in the Health, Planning and Education departments. I have also worked for the state of Minnesota

for 20 years in various capacities from Radio Dispatcher to Parts Runner to Survey Crew to Paving Crew to Driver's License to Titles. Together with my experience and knowledge, I am an ideal candidate for our Bois Forte Secretary-Treasurer who will listen to you and your concerns.

We need NEW ideas for growth and can't rely on gaming revenue anymore. We need to provide training for our band members and workforce. My knowledge and human relations experience are natural complements to further serve our Bois Forte community.

The social and economic welfare of Band members will be my number one priority. I bring the necessary skills and education to the table, along with my passion, to do the Secretary-Treasurer position justice. Some of my platform includes greater fiscal responsibility, greater business development and opportunities for entrepreneurship, having more communication and demanding more accountability.

My current activities include:

Lake Vermilion Traditional Pow Wow Committee  
Bois Forte Constitution Reform Delegate Committee  
Bois Forte Utility Advisory Committee  
Lifelong Jingle Dress Dancer  
Lifelong Wild Ricer  
Water Protector  
Together we can make things possible

We need a NEW Voice, Our CHOICE for our tribal council  
VOTE TRACEY STRONG DAGEN for Bois Forte Secretary-Treasurer  
TraceyStrongDagen@gmail.com  
218-780-1478 call or text

## Simona Benner



Boozhoo Band Members!!

My name is Simona Benner, daughter of Shirley Benner and the late Simon Fisher Sr. I have 3 beautiful children-- Monique, Kalvyn and Makayla Benner-- who I enjoy spending my time with. I am seeking your support/vote in the upcoming primary elections on April 5th, 2022.

A little bit about myself, I am currently working on my AA degree in Business Administration. I've worked in the Human Resources department at the Tribal Government office from May of 2006 until August of 2021. Starting out as an Administrative Assistant until 2007, I then moved into the Human Resources Generalist position. In 2010 I became the Benefits Coordinator and stayed in this position until I obtained the Human Resources Director position in June of 2020. Prior to working for the Tribal

Government, I was employed at the Nett Lake School district as a Teacher's Aide from 2002 until 2006.

Some of the things that I would like to address if I'm elected:

- Encourage Band member employment in management positions, at both the Tribal Government and Bois Forte Development Corporation levels
- Support band member businesses
- Education
- Acknowledgment of our off-Reservation band membership and provide them more support
- Recreate that community feeling both on and off the reservation
- Human Services

If elected, I will have an open-door policy, so that you, the band member will be able to bring me your concerns. I am not here to make promises, nor do I have a personal agenda. I am not in this for any personal gain, I believe that our band members need to be encouraged, supported, and heard.

Thank you for your time and I hope that I have gained your support/vote. If you have any questions, concerns, ideas or comments, please feel free to call at: (218) 410-9520 or email 01mone43@gmail.com. I am always down for a chat

Respectfully,  
Simona Benner

Visit Bois Forte Band of Chippewa on these social media outlets.



[www.boisforte.com](http://www.boisforte.com)

# David H. Villebrun Jr.

Boo-zhoo, my name is David H. Villebrun Jr, and I am a candidate for district one in the upcoming tribal election on April 5th. My parents are the late David Sr (Fox) and Edith Villebrun (Morrison), I have 3 amazing children, and we have lived on the reservation for most of our lives. I have worked for the reservation in different capacities for over 25 years: Fortune Bay, police department, housing, DNR, sawmill, forestry, accounting, maintenance, and various youth programs. I've learned a lot from each department and the great people I've

worked with over the years. Having said that, I think there are ways that we can improve the services that we provide for our people. Here are some of the things we can improve on. I'm not ranking these from most important to the least. I think they are all important to the success of our future generations.

Language/Culture/Traditions

They are vital to who we are as a people, and I think we need to start with our youth. Instilling our language, stories, beliefs, culture, powwows, ceremonies, and our way of life

at a young age will be beneficial to them as they grow into adults.

Upper management

We need more Natives in these positions. We need to start leading ourselves. We have the people we need right here. Too many in the past have been looked over.

Economic development

We need to look at ways to improve our revenue and not to be so reliant on federal funding. We need to start businesses that not only boost our revenue but also create jobs that our band members can fill.

Housing

We need more housing for our people. Our waiting list shouldn't take 2 to 3 years, but with more housing we need more job opportunities available.

Education & Career Development

We need to find ways to improve funding for the education of our

young people to give them the opportunity that they need for success.

Stimulus payments

The payments we received from the federal government and our own reservation were a great help to many people. I would like to explore ways to make this happen not just during a pandemic but every year. Maybe quarterly instead of just one lump sum once a year.

These are just a few of the issues I wanted to address, and I look forward to meeting with many of you in the coming weeks while campaigning to discuss these topics and many more. Thanks in advance for your support and vote in the coming election.

I can be reached at my cell: 218-404-3945 or davidhvillebrun@gmail.com

Sincerely,

David H Villebrun Jr.

## Big Woods Transit is in need of VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

Please Call  
1-888-757-1540

Volunteer Drivers Are Reimbursed  
@ .585¢ Per Mile

Here is what can potentially hit your bank account if you become a volunteer driver!

If you are scheduled for 3 rides during the week

1. Nett Lake to Virginia round trip miles 124 X .585 = \$72.54
2. Vermilion to Duluth Round Trip Miles 182 X .585 = \$106.47
3. Nett Lake to Cook Round Trip Miles 66 X .585 = \$38.61

Total Reimbursement for the week = \$217.62

### Maple Pie

It's the coldest part of winter as I write this, but despite how it seems this time of year, the sap will start running soon, and sugarbush season will begin. If you want to turn your maple syrup into a tasty & impressive pastry that will delight your friends and family, turn to an old Canadian treat: Maple Pie. This pie is popular on the East coast, and you can find recipes from Vermont to Quebec. This indulgent dessert is a great way to celebrate an ancient Northwoods ingredient.

2 tbsp cornstarch	2 tbsp flour
1 egg	1 1/2 cups maple syrup
1/2 cup heavy cream	1 ready-made pie crust
Salt (optional)	

Preheat the oven to 400\* F. Use the lowest rack!

In a medium bowl, whisk together the cornstarch and flour. Add the maple syrup and whisk until smooth and the starch has dissolved. Add the heavy cream and the egg, and whisk until smooth. Pour into the crust.

Bake for 45 minutes, or until the filling has set. If desired, sprinkle a little salt over the top of the pie. Let it rest at room temperature until completely cool before slicing and serving!

If you have a recipe you would like to share, email it to:  
[news@boisforte-nsn.gov](mailto:news@boisforte-nsn.gov)

# Council to look at C Store operations

After another slow month of sales, the Bois Forte Tribal Council realizes now is the time to really dive in to see what changes need to be made to stop the financial bleeding at the Nett Lake C Store.

The most practical solution may include reducing inventory on grocery or beverage items that just don't sell, while more complicated decisions like streamlining hours of operation may also come into play.

"It's getting worse and worse," said Tribal Chairwoman Cathy Chavers during a recent BFDC meeting. "We should have a report that shows what's selling and what isn't selling and make our decisions based on the findings of that report."

Chavers and others on the council agreed that it is convenient to have a wide variety of offerings, but the status quo can't continue. Simply put, it doesn't make sense to carry items that rarely sell, and it becomes a process of replacing dated items with the same fresh items that invariably won't sell again.

"I agree," said District II Representative Shane Drift after Chavers



File photo of Nett Lake C Store

broached the subject of making changes. "We need to do something."

Drift knows making changes isn't always easy and is aware that the C Store is there for band members to buy necessities in the village instead of driving to Cook, Orr, or Virginia. He is also mindful that the C Store is a place for residents to buy gas for their vehicles and also a place to hang out to do their laundry, have a bite to eat from the deli, or to pick up a cup of coffee and visit.

ourselves, 'Do we need to start cutting back on orders so we're not sitting on so much inventory?'"

According to financial records, the C Store averaged a loss of \$22,107.55 per month for FY 2021, which ran from October 1, 2020, through September 30, 2021.

The best performing month for the C Store in FY 2021 was October when the store finished \$15,493.00 in the red. The worst month was January when the store lost \$26,286.00. Even the busier summer months didn't lead to better sales as June lost \$26,087, while July and August had losses exceeding \$22,754 each month.

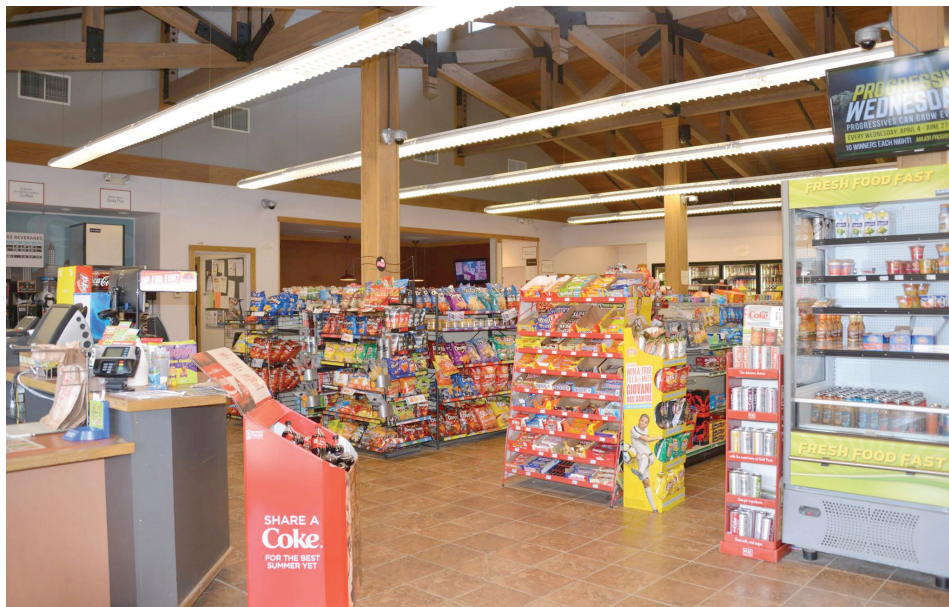
Chavers suggested that a survey be put together to see what products/grocery items are essential to Nett Lake residents and Bois Forte governmental employees who use the C store regularly.

"Changes will have to be made," said Chavers. "We'll have to set up a planning meeting and start brainstorming ideas on how we can turn this trend around."

"But," cautioned Drift. "We can't keep losing money. We also need to do a better job of inventory control, and I don't know if that is in place yet."

Drift gave an example of the store selling 100 packs of cigarettes but only showing that 75 sold.

"Where are the 25 other packs?" asked Drift. "I'm not implying employees are stealing—it's just that we need to know what is being sold and how much is being sold. Then we have to ask



CUTLINE Here

## Bois Forte Ambulance Service

### Volunteers Needed



We offer on-call pay and Run Stipends, and Training/Meeting stipends.

We will provide training.

Contact us to learn more about becoming either an EMR or EMT.

Must pass a background, have a valid drivers license and RTC insurable.

Contact Nikki Irving to learn how you can help.

218-780-9047 or

nirving@boisforte-nsn.gov





**Learn about Lifestyle Change through our Diabetes Prevention Program**

Get support, take control of your health, and start making positive lifestyle changes with the help of trained lifestyle coaches

**Recruiting New Class Members NOW!**

Join us on Zoom for weekly classes aimed to help you eat and cook healthier food, increase your physical activity, manage your stress, and more! Please contact Amber Zapata or Jenna Porter at 218-248-0148 or David "Squidg" Morrison Jr. at 218-757-0087 TODAY to learn more. And, if you need help figuring out Zoom, let us know! We're happy to help.

**American Indians are at higher risk for prediabetes.**

Prediabetes means your blood sugar level is higher than normal, but not high enough to be diagnosed as diabetes.

Having prediabetes puts you at higher risk for developing type 2 diabetes, a disease that comes with serious health problems.

That's why it's important to know the risk factors.



AGE 45 OR OLDER



OVERWEIGHT



FAMILY HISTORY OF TYPE 2 DIABETES



DIABETES WHILE PREGNANT



**1 IN 3 ADULTS IN THE UNITED STATES HAS PREDIABETES.**

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**Legal Notice  
In the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Tribal Children's Court**

In the Matter of the Welfare of D.W.J., DOB: 02/18/2017, Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Department of Family Health Services, Petitioner, v. Patricia Lien and Stephen Boshey, Jr., Parents. Court File No. JV-2022-0012

To: Stephen Boshey Jr.,

It is Ordered and Notice is Hereby Given that a Child in Need of Protection or Services petition was filed in the Bois Forte Tribal Court on November 29, 2021. A hearing on the above petition will be held on February 8, 2022 at 11:40 a.m. Central Standard Time, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, at the Bois Forte Children's Court, Bois Forte Reservation, 12907 Palmquist Road, Nett Lake, MN 55772. All appearances will be by telephone or Zoom.

**YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED BY THIS SUMMONS AND NOTICE THAT YOU ARE REQUIRED TO APPEAR AT THIS HEARING AT THE ABOVE DATE, TIME AND PLACE. YOUR FAILURE TO ATTEND THIS HEARING MAY RESULT IN A DEFAULT JUDGMENT BEING GRANTED FOR THE PETITIONER.**

By the Court Megan Treuer, Chief Judge  
Janell Smith, Clerk of Court  
Rebecca McConkey-Greene, Attorney for Petitioner, ID 0388656  
12907 Palmquist Road | P.O. Box 25  
Nett Lake, MN 55772  
218-757-3462

**Legal Notice  
In the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Tribal Children's Court**

In the Matter of the Welfare of D.W.J., DOB: 02/18/2017, Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Department of Family Health Services, Petitioner, v. Patricia Lien and Darrin Jenkins, Parents. Court File No. JV-2022-0013

To: Darrin Wayne Jenkins,

It is Ordered and Notice is Hereby Given that a Child in Need of Protection or Services petition was filed in the Bois Forte Tribal Court on November 29, 2021. A hearing on the above petition will be held on February 8, 2022 at 11:40 a.m. Central Standard Time, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, at the Bois Forte Children's Court, Bois Forte Reservation, 12907 Palmquist Road, Nett Lake, MN 55772. All appearances will be by telephone or Zoom.

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Janell Smith, Clerk of Court  
Rebecca McConkey-Greene, Attorney for Petitioner, ID 0388656  
12907 Palmquist Road | P.O. Box 25  
Nett Lake, MN 55772  
218-757-3462



# Bois Forte author's newest novel is full of heart

Linda Legarde Grover talks *Gichigami Hearts*

On February 8, a group of fans and literary folk gathered together on Zoom to listen to stories, poems, and discussions brought to them by author Linda Legarde Grover, a Bois Forte Member whose new book *Gichigami Hearts* hit shelves this winter.

"It's a great honor to me to think that my way of telling a story has similarities to the traditional ways of passing knowledge. With the old-time stories—the Nanaboozhoo stories, the creation stories—they can be really long or really short. Nobody really knows exactly where they begin or where they end, or the exact order of the stories," Grover said during the question-and-answer portion of the event. *Gichigami Hearts* is a collection of memoirs, fiction, poetry, history, and legends from the Duluth area—Misaabekong.

During the event, which was hosted by Birchbark Books & Native Arts, Grover read passages from her novel and poetry, and answered questions from members of the audience.

Several audience members had questions about her writing style, which blends and bends genres and, one audience member said, somewhat reflects the style of traditional Ojibwe storytelling.

"Nobody knows all the stories," Grover said, describing traditional storytelling practices. "I think it was planned that way by the creator, that many people would have a piece of the knowledge that weaves a big picture... I think that's how I got into the rhythm of telling stories, backtracking, reminding, continuing from there. Spatially, I think of it as a spiral. It just goes on and on and on."

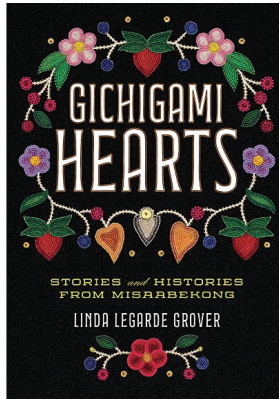
"Many things I write turn out different from what I thought in the beginning. I may have a plan—often I don't. The story is an entity, it has its own existence. It will work itself into what it was," she explained.

*Gichigami Hearts* tells the story of Grover's ancestors at the American Fur Post in West Duluth more than two hundred years ago, and shows how history creates the present for their modern descendants. The prose and poetry weave old legends and modern history together to tell stories which weave into one overarching story. This weaving of legends, stories, fact, and fictionalization together is reflected in Grover's blending of both Ojibwe and English in her writing.

"It's important for me, my children, my grandchildren, to have some kind of relationship with the language," Grover explained. "As a boarding school family, we pretty much lost the language. As a girl, you didn't hear it that often. When you heard it, it was older people speaking it in what they thought was out of earshot of the children. They really suffered the squeezing of their language out of them at school. They didn't want us to suffer what they had to suffer."

The usage of Ojibwe vocabulary and Ojibwe storytelling are only a few of the elements which make *Gichigami Hearts* a uniquely Anishinaabe novel. The novel is deeply rooted in the region and its people. It is a must-read for those interested in local history and culture.

The full event is available to watch on Birchbark Books & Native Arts' YouTube page. *Gichigami Hearts* is available for purchase from the University of Minnesota Press or anywhere else you buy your favorite books.



## Letter from the editor

Last month, the Bois Forte Community came out to help me when I needed it most. As I drove up to the Nett Lake reservation on a particularly icy day, I found myself in peril as I spun out and landed in the ditch. A cloud of small birds, which I later decided were probably house sparrows, had startled me by flying up in front of my car. To avoid hitting all of these little birds, I instinctively swerved out of the way. Don't worry—I checked, all the birds were okay, thanks to the fact that I skidded into a ditch and crashed my car instead.



The snow broke my descent, and I found myself in a snow pile. In my impractical business shoes, I attempted to dig myself out of there with the little car shovel I keep, knowing it would be hours until I made any substantial progress. My cell phone had no service. My only hope was somebody driving by and coming to save me.

Luckily, they did.

Two members of the Nett Lake community arrived to help me almost immediately. A very kind man whose name I did not get slowed his car and asked if I needed help. Behind him was Panda Whiteman, who offered me a ride into town.

Once I was safely in town, I was immediately offered help by everyone I spoke to about my situation. Robbie Goggeye brought his truck out to help un-stick my car from the snowy pile, and Public Works helped out by getting all the ice out from the insides of my vehicle. I thanked them all profusely.

I was a little surprised by how gracious, helpful, and kind everyone was. I suppose I shouldn't have been surprised, after getting to know the area these past few seasons. "That's how people on the rez are," my dad kept telling me when I recounted my story at home. And that's what everyone said to me as they helped me out of the ditch. "This is just how we do things around here."

That may be true, and it may also be true that helping somebody out who needed help is just part of the culture up here. But that doesn't change the fact that when I needed help the most, the people at Nett Lake volunteered their time to help me, and they didn't have to, and not every community would have done that for me, and I will remember that for the rest of my life.

So chi'miigwech to everyone who helped me that snowy day. Chi'miigwech to the Nett Lake community, and to Bois Forte.

Madeline Miigwan Johnson  
Bois Forte News

## When to Stay Home Calculating Quarantine

The date of your exposure is considered day 0. Day 1 is the first full day after your last contact with a person who has had COVID-19. Stay home and away from other people for at least 5 days. Learn why CDC updated guidance for the general public.

### If You Were exposed to COVID-19 and are NOT up-to-date on COVID-19 vaccinations:

#### Quarantine for at least 5 days

- Stay home and quarantine for at least 5 full days.
- Wear a well-fitted mask if you must be around others in your home.
- **Do not travel.**
- Get tested.
- Even if you don't develop symptoms, get tested at least 5 days after you last had close contact with someone with COVID-19.

#### After quarantine

- Watch for symptoms until 10 days after you last had close contact with someone with COVID-19.
- Avoid travel until a full 10 days after you last had close contact with someone with COVID-19.
- If you develop symptoms, isolate immediately and get tested. Continue to stay home until you know the results.
- Wear a well-fitted mask around others.

#### Take precautions until day 10

- Wear a mask
- Wear a well-fitted mask for 10 full days any time you are around others inside your home or in public. Do not go to places where you are unable to wear a mask.
- If you must travel during days 6-10, take precautions.
- Avoid being around people who are at high risk

### If You Were exposed to COVID-19 and ARE up-to-date on COVID-19 vaccinations

#### No quarantine

- You do not need to stay home unless you develop symptoms.
- Even if you don't develop symptoms, get tested at least 5 days after you last had close contact with someone with COVID-19

#### Watch for symptoms

- Watch for symptoms until 10 days after you last had close contact with someone with COVID-19.
- If you develop symptoms, isolate immediately and get tested. Continue to stay home until you know the results. Wear a well-fitted mask around others.

#### Take precautions until day 10

- Wear a mask
- Wear a well-fitted mask for 10 full days any time you are around others inside your home or in public. Do not go to places where you are unable to wear a mask.
- Take precautions if traveling
- Avoid being around people who are at high risk

### If You were exposed to COVID-19 and had confirmed COVID-19 within the past 90 days (you tested positive using a viral test)

#### No quarantine

You do not need to stay home unless you develop symptoms.

#### Watch for symptoms

- Watch for symptoms until 10 days after you last had close contact with someone with COVID-19.
- If you develop symptoms, isolate immediately and get tested. Continue to stay home until you know the results. Wear a well-fitted mask around others.

#### Take precautions until day 10

- Wear a mask
- Wear a well-fitted mask for 10 full days any time you are around others inside your home or in public. Do not go to places where you are unable to wear a mask.
- Take precautions if traveling
- Avoid being around people who are at high risk

### March 2022 ENP Menu

**March 1:** Beef Barley, Salad, Breadstick, Fruit

**March 2:** BBQ Pulled Pork, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Fruit

**March 3:** Ham, Au Gratin Potatoes, Cauliflower, Berry Yogurt, Fruit

**March 4:** Spaghetti and Meatballs, Green Beans, Fruit

**March 7:** Chicken Marsala, Roasted Baby Red Potatoes, Smothered Squash, Fruit

**March 8:** Turkey Cheddar Casserole, Sliced Carrots, Tossed Garden Salad, Fruit

**March 9:** Chicken Penne, Broccoli, Diced Beets, Fruit

**March 10:** Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Capri Vegetable, Fruit

**March 11:** Country Ham, Au Gratin Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Fruit

**March 14:** Pork Stew, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Fresh Fruit

**March 15:** Tuna Noodle Casserole, Garlic Breadstick, Sliced Carrots, Fresh Fruit

**March 16:** Chili with Beans, Salad, Fresh Fruit

**March 17:** Cabbage Soup, Ham and Cheese Sandwich, Fruit

**March 18:** Pork Loin, Rice Pilaf, Broccoli, Fruit

**March 21:** Baked Pork Chop, Wild Rice, Cauliflower, Fruit

**March 22:** Lasagna, Green Beans, Garlic Toast, Fruit

**March 23:** Split Pea Soup, Country Ham, Green Beans, Fresh Fruit

**March 24:** Stir Fry Beef, Steamed Rice, Stir Fry Vegetables, Fruit

**March 25:** Herb Chicken Breast, Mashed Potatoes, Broccoli, Fruit

**March 28:** Shepherd's Pie, Hot Spinach, Fruit

**March 29:** Chef Salad, Breadstick, Fruit

**March 30:** Sliced Beef with Au Jus, Baby Baker Potatoes, Corn, Fruit

**March 31:** Chicken Wild Rice Soup, Garden Salad, Fruit

## Bois Forte Community Food Shelf

12831 Nett Lake Road Nett Lake, MN 55772

### Open Thursdays 1 to 3 pm

*Changes to Delivery dates.*

*Delivery available the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month.*

*Call 218-753-4542 each month to arrange delivery.*

All Eligible Bois Forte community members are welcome to use the food shelf one time per month



**SELF DELCARED, NO PROOF NECESSARY**

I am eligible if I receive or participate in the following services and programs:

MA (Medical Assistance)MFIP (Minnesota Family Investment Program), Child Care Assistance, GA (General Assistance), Head Start, SNAP (Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program), Section 8, NAPS (Nutritional Assistance Program for Seniors), Public Housing, WIC (Women, Infants, and Children), Energy Assistance, Free and reduced breakfast and lunch, Weatherization

**OR**

My household income is 300% or less of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

Weekly		Monthly		Yearly	
1	\$743	1	\$3,220	1	\$38,640
2	\$1,005	2	\$4,355	2	\$52,260
3	\$1,267	3	\$5,490	3	\$65,880
4	\$1,529	4	\$6,625	4	\$79,500
5	\$1,791	5	\$7,760	5	\$93,120
6	\$2,053	6	\$8,895	6	\$106,740
7	\$2,315	7	\$10,030	7	\$120,360
8	\$2,577	8	\$11,165	8	\$133,980

**\*\*Eligibility is granted to all persons in situations of emergency and distress due to disasters.**

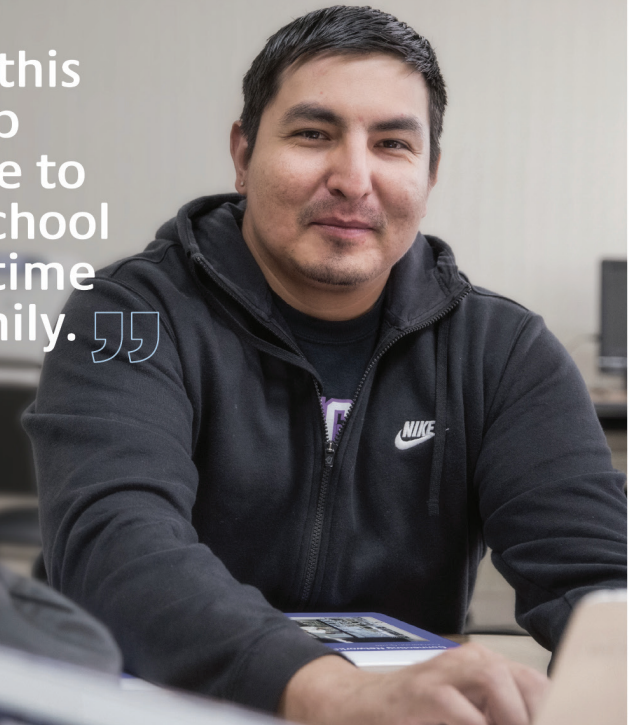


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**PHARMACY**  
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# Bois Forte NEWS

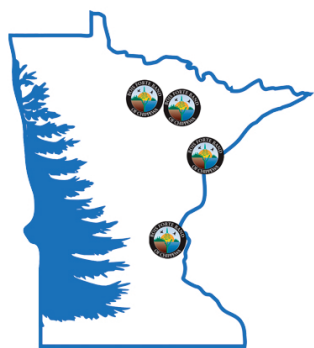


The *Bois Forte News* (BFN) is published monthly by the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa. The BFN encourages submission of articles, community announcements, recipes, and photos.

Send to:  
[news@boisforte-nsn.gov](mailto:news@boisforte-nsn.gov)

Contributions are subject to editing for grammar, length, and malicious/libelous content. BFN will attempt to include all material submitted by Band members and guests. Multiple contributions from the same source may be excluded or rotated to future issues to ensure equal access to all. For information on paid ads, please contact us.

**Deadline for the April 2022 issue is March 20, 2022.**



**Nett Lake Sector**  
 5344 Lakeshore Drive  
 Nett Lake, MN 55772  
 Phone: 218-757-3261  
 Toll Free: 800-221-8129  
 Fax: 218-757-3312

**Vermilion Sector**  
 1610 Farm Road South  
 Tower, MN 55790  
 Phone: 218-753-4542  
 Fax: 218-753-4055

## Bois Forte Tribal Government Offices

**Urban Office - Duluth**  
 206 West 4th Street  
 Suite 204  
 Duluth, MN 55806  
 Phone: 218-336-1048  
 Cell: \*218-206-5629  
 Fax: 218-336-1049  
 \*[wdrift@boisforte-nsn.gov](mailto:wdrift@boisforte-nsn.gov)

**Urban Office - Minneapolis**  
 1308 East Franklin Avenue  
 Suite 112  
 Minneapolis, MN 55404  
 Phone: 612-871-6618  
 Cell: \*612-747-5247  
 \*[urbanoffice@boisforte-nsn.gov](mailto:urbanoffice@boisforte-nsn.gov)

From the archives... A look back at the March 1997 edition of the *Bois Forte News*



## Bois Forte News

VOL. 11, NO. 9

NETT LAKE, MINN., MARCH 1997 EDITION

... on next page — 306 Elsewhere

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### Bois Forte Honor Guard...

The Bois Forte Honor Guard was a sight to see. They made their debut at the Mid-winter pow-wow on February 21, 1997. At the first Honor Guard meeting, there were only four members present, since that initial meeting on October 5, 1996, the Guard has grown and is made up of seven committed members at the present. They are as follows: Captain William Light, Co-Captain Richard Wilkie, Member Jerome Whitman, Member Eugene Goodsky, Member Bruce Isham, Member Barry Peter, Member Alvin "Pumper" Villabona, Patti Wilkie, Treasurer and Effie Drift, Secretary/Organizer.

Initially, Effie had made efforts to include the Elder men in activities for the elderly. Most of the time when activities are scheduled for the Elderly Nutrition program, the participants are mostly the Elderly women. So she decided to organize the Honor Guard for the men. In so doing, other Veterans became interested. At one point in time, she was told it wouldn't happen and she would have a difficult time getting anyone to participate. But, as many of the pow-wow participants found out, she proved them wrong and the Honor Guard made a spectacular performance. In Effie's words, "I don't know if anyone will ever take something, because I know I can." She said, "This makes me try that much harder to make it work." Well Effie, you did and have done a wonderful job at that. Although she has been very instrumental in the organization of the group, she said it couldn't have been accomplished without the legal advice and help of these dedicated members.

Some of the activities and functions they are looking to be involved in are of course pow-wow parades, band/drum presentations at schools and school activities. Special occasions will include Veterans Day activities and Memorial Day activities. Some of the upcoming functions they will be participating in are, March 1 they will be having a fund raiser. They will be having an Indian Taco Sale. The fund raisers will help offset the costs of their uniforms and also provide money in the event they must travel. Watch for the posters and give them your support.

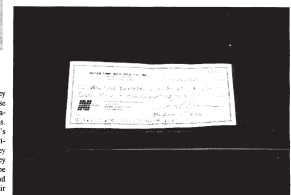
Another event is the upcoming pow-wow in April in Virginia, and an event they have already participated in was the "Honor the Wolf" pow-wow held in Ely on February 15, 1997. One activity that was intriguing was the fact that this Honor Guard has dreams of possibly competing on a national level **GO FOR IT GUYS!**

The group has ongoing practice to sharpen their skills. In their words, they are a silent precision drill team. It looks like they are off to a great start. The Guard is continually seeking and recruiting new members, so if you would like to be a part of this group, you can contact either the Captains, Co-Captain or the Secretary. For further information again, you can contact the above mentioned persons. These men represent the Ojibwas of our people as well as the widows and children of those warriors who have already gone on during battle or more. Congratulations, the community is very proud of all of you.

### A \$\$\$\$ deal...

A \$12,131 check, made out to the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council, was handed to Clint Landgren, Chairman of the RTC, by Tom O'Leary, a Bois Forte band member, for 2,200 lbs of wild rice. This represents the culmination of a wild rice deal made with Mr. O'Leary who was the middle man in the arrangement to find a market in Europe. A Finnish company was first contacted and through their advertising efforts a market was found in Germany. David Diaz, reservation planner, reported the arrangements in the February issue of

the NEWS. The rice was placed in storage while arrangements were being made and all expenses, i.e., storage, insurance, transporting, as well as business expenses such as phone calls, faxes, etc., to overseas contacts were paid for by Mr. O'Leary. The RTC investment to buy green and finish the rice amounted to \$7,961 and with a 50% profit above and beyond guaranteed, the \$12,131 check proved a wise investment. Mr. Diaz looks forward to a continued market in Europe, and notes that their advertising there is not just for "Wild Rice" but for "Nett Lake Wild Rice". It is his hope that the marketing plans for the 1997 crop will be made in the very near future.



First check ever for Nett Lake wild rice sold in the European market. (More pictures on Page 7.)

### Doris w/R.T.C. news...



**Doris Isham, RTC Representative**  
 This article will highlight a few of the meetings I've attended during the past few months. On January 21, 1997, I attended the Indian Affairs Committee which was held in St. Paul. State Commissioners and staff were introduced to the board, and each gave a brief outline of departmental activities and legislative issues. Of particular interest was Commissioner David Doh's presentation on the proposed Welfare Reform bill. Commissioner Doh shared his view and expressed support of the inclusion of language relevant to tribes

in the proposed bill. Time has passed quickly these past few months, as tribal entities formed a task force to develop language and meet the deadline for inclusion to the proposed bill. A total of twelve tribal governments, including the six bands within the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Red Lake and Sioux Communities, along with representatives from the Department of Human Services, Department of Children, Family and Learning, Department of Social Security and Ms. Ann Glanac, liaison to the Governor's office, have developed the final draft for legislation to the tribes. I'd like to recognize Gary Adams, Henry Besauky and Judy Anderson for their dedication and commitment put forth on behalf of Bois Forte people in working with the task force. I believe that in just a few short years we all will have felt the effects of Welfare Reform on a personal level. But by having language that recognizes tribes in the legislation, our work as tribal leaders will be made a little easier. However, there still remains the overwhelming issues of housing, employment, health care and potential implementation of a cash assistance program that tribal govern-

(Continued on Page 6)

**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER HONORED, SEE PAGE 3**



**Bois Forte Tribal Council**  
 Shane Drift - District I Representative  
 Peter Boney - District II Representative  
 Cathy Chavers - Chairwoman  
 David C. Morrison Sr. - Secretary/Treasurer  
 Travis Morrison - District I Representative