



# Bois Forte NEWS

VOL. 48 NUMBER 5

## MEMORIAL DAY CLOSING

*In observance of Memorial Day, the Bois Forte Tribal Government offices and clinics in Nett Lake and Vermilion will be closed, Monday, May 27th.*

*Never forget the sacrifices of our men and women in the armed services.*

*Have a safe and happy Memorial Day Weekend.*

## Fledgling Smoke Shop closes doors New slot machines will fill former retail space

TOWER—Less than a year after opening, the Smoke Shop at Fortune Bay officially closed its doors at the end of the business day on Saturday, April 20th.

There were a number of factors that led to the decision, but mostly it came down to financials and it just wasn't feasible to continue operations. Finding employees to adequately staff the business, which was located on the main floor of the casino, also played a key role in why the business never made it past its first anniversary.

"When the smoke shop was first presented to the council it looked like it was going to make money," said District I Representative Shane Drift. "After it opened, I would ask for financial updates on how it was doing. After seeing that the smoke shop was not doing as good as expected, I pushed for it to close by May 1. I sincerely hope that our marijuana business will be profitable for years to come."

The hype for the Smoke Shop peaked early on, but delays to open the business made it impossible to keep the momentum going and despite a smattering of successful days, the writing was soon on the wall that this was a venture that just wouldn't work out for the Bois Forte band.



**CLOSING TIME**— Smoke Shop employee Tony Norcia rings up a sale while Retail Sales Manager Melissa Abts answers a question from a customer on Friday, April 19th. The store closed after its big 4/20 sale the next day.

The closing follows other failed business models such as bringing in a Tim Hortons Coffee Shop to Fortune Bay and then another Tim Hortons Coffee Shop to the Y Store. Despite the presence of heavy traffic at both locations, these businesses also folded. The Fortune Bay location eventually made way for a guest lounge featuring free coffee, while the Y Store location was used to expand its own bait shop operations.

The idea to close the fledgling Smoke Shop business surfaced at last month's Bois

Forte Business Development Corporation meeting when Drift asked for a financial report to see if the numbers justified keeping the shop opened. While Drift was not given the report at the meeting, it was no secret he and other members of the council realized, it wasn't worth keeping it open.

The initial plan called for the shop to be closed in May, however, new CEO Drew Ebert announced at a staff meeting April 17th that the shop would be closing after Saturday's big 4/20 sale. It was bittersweet the

4/20 sale, coupled with 50% off deals for employees, that the business experienced one of its best days ever.

"It comes with mixed feelings, but I know it's for the best," wrote Retail Sales Manager Melissa Abts in an email to the Fortune Bay team Monday, April 22. "I will ALWAYS be proud of my team for all that we had accomplished. I would like to thank my Director, Rebecca Stahl, for all your help and support. There were some long days and nights spent trying to get the store opened. Thank you, Rebecca!"

Abts, Stahl and other members of the Fortune Bay team were busy Monday loading up boxes of unsold edibles, mostly gummies and infused beverages, that would be brought to the Y Store to be sold at the adjoining Ledge Liquor Store. Manager Paula Bozicevich had reported strong sales at her location for the past several months as did Nett Lake C Store Manager Greg "Chesty" Strong.

Once the Smoke Shop is cleared out, including the removal of display cases, wall fixtures, etc., Fortune Bay's Maintenance team will install new carpeting and then new slot machines will be brought into the spacious area. Initial plans had called for the area to

**See Shop page 3**

# C Store staffing to be scaled back beginning May 11th

NETT LAKE— In an effort to reel in monthly losses experienced at the Nett Lake C Store, Bois Forte Management made the difficult decision to start streamlining staffing at the convenience store.

The move, which goes into effect May 11th, means daily staffing will go from four to two employees per shift. This obviously means a reduction in hours and pay for the C Store employees.

Not surprisingly, C Store Manager Greg “Chesty” Strong said employee morale is down, and some of the deli

workers aren’t sure they’ll continue working at the C Store. If that were to happen, Strong said trying to coordinate larger lunch orders for the Reservation Tribal Government employees would be tough.

“I don’t know how to put this, but a lot of them felt like they were slapped in the face,” said Strong at a recent Bois Forte Development Corporation meeting about his employees.

To complicate matters, Strong said that only three of the employees have driver’s licenses because most of them live in Nett Lake and can walk to their

jobs.

“That’s why they work here; they don’t have to drive anywhere,” said Strong.

Bois Forte Development Corporation CEO Drew Ebert was sympathetic with Strong’s staff, but added that solutions are being worked on to help the employees find other employment.

“There are positions here as well as on the government side,” said Ebert of jobs open at Fortune Bay and the Reservation Tribal Government Building in Nett Lake. “Hopefully, the impacted employees can fast-track into some positions.”

Fortune Bay’s Director of Human Resources Beth Adams reminded Strong that all current positions are posted on the Fortune Bay website ([www.fortune-bay.com](http://www.fortune-bay.com)) and the Bois Forte website ([www.boisforte.com](http://www.boisforte.com)).

Despite that, Strong surmised that it would not be ideal for those employees who land a job at Fortune Bay would now have to commute two-plus hours a day to and from work. On the plus side, Fortune Bay does provide complimentary transportation through Big Woods Transit.

Strong also believes employees will be asked to do more now that staffing will be reduced for each shift. However, Adams reminded him that job descriptions will remain the same, and they won’t be asked to do more.

District I Representative Shane Drift wasn’t thrilled with the action because he didn’t want to see any band members lose their livelihood.

“I am hearing the same about morale,” said Drift regarding Strong’s comments about employee morale. “That’s

*See C Store on page 3*

JOIN US FOR

# COMMUNITY CONNECT

10:00am - 2:00pm

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**Wednesday, May 22, 2024**

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**Hibbing Memorial Building**  
400 E 23rd St, Hibbing, MN 55746

**EVENT DETAILS**

Food, Clothing, Hygiene Items, Hair Trimming, Crisis Information, Housing Supports, Children & Family Services, Health Insurance Info, Substance Use Disorder Resources, Mental Health Resources, Warrant Resolution Event, Vaccine & Disease Education and More!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

**THE BOIS FORTE ENROLLMENT OFFICE IS LOOKING FOR THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO UPDATE ADDRESS OR SEEKING INFORMATION REGARDING:**

CALDER, LUCILLE A	JENKINS, SUSAN	RUSZCZEWSKI, DOROTHY
CALLICO, BILLIE S	JOHNSON CANDICE M	SAMM, ALEXANDER O N
CLOUD, RONIN B	JORDAN, KRISTINA L	STRONG, JULIAN M
DAY, STANLEY	KEPHART, BONNIE J	SWAN III, VICTOR J
DAYDODGE, CLARENCE R	KNOWLTON, DEBORAH L	TAYLOR, CARA P
GATZ, TONY E	MCKENZIE, VALERIE E R	THOMPSON, DOROTHY G
GESHICK, DENNIS W	NEVITT, DIANE V	VILLEBRUN, VINESSA D
GRUENHAGEN, STEVEN A	PASCUAL, ELIZABETH F	WAGNER, LE ANNE J
HARDING, ALTON	PETE, STEVEN B	WEBB, AMANDA
HUSMANN, VANESSA R		

Please contact the Bois Forte Enrollment Department at 218-757-3261 ext. 1162, or email [kathie.holman@boisforte-nsn.gov](mailto:kathie.holman@boisforte-nsn.gov)

Address Updates can be hand delivered or mailed to:  
Bois Forte Tribal Government: Attn: Enrollment  
5344 Lakeshore Drive • Nett Lake, MN 55772

**All written address updates must contain the following information:**  
**Name, Address, DOB, Signature, Date**



**SPACE WILL BE REPURPOSED**— The expansive retail store space that housed the former Smoke Shop will be emptied out to make room for more slot machines.

#### *Shop from page 1*

be a high slots area, but the key right now is to amp up the number of slot machines the casino carries. Prior to COVID-19, Fortune Bay boasted over 800 slot machines, but social distancing dropped those totals to 550 and then another 50 plus machines were pulled to make way for the Smoke Shop.

While the Smoke Shop revenue was expected to offset the loss of those ma-

chines, that goal never materialized. However, Director of gaming E.J. Deegan is hopeful the new machines can help with Fortune Bay's bottom line.

"It will be nice to get some additional machines on the floor," said Deegan. "I think that is a great way to repurpose the area. While the concept for a smoke shop sounded promising, it never came to fruition."

#### *C Store from page 2*

on us. What we change or don't change that's on us. If people are leaving, that's on us as a council. We need to change that."

Both Drift and Tribal Chair Cathy Chavers agreed that more must be done to market the store. Drift said he had previously brought ideas to the table to increase profits and decrease expenses, but added that nothing had been done. He agrees that tough decisions have to be made but also cautions that Fortune Bay can't keep absorbing the losses of other businesses.

Chavers concurred.

"We have to make these cuts because each year we are losing more and more," said Chavers of the C Store. "...it just keeps growing each year."

Ebert said he and his team will look at stepping up marketing efforts but

added that he's not overly optimistic that people will drive 16 miles one way down a County Road to visit a convenience store.

"It's not like we have a magic trick that can divert the people off the highway and right to you," said Ebert, referring to driving more traffic to the C Store.

Even so, Ebert understands the decision to streamline staffing at the store and realizes it puts staff in a difficult situation.

"The upside is that we have people who want to work with us," said Ebert. "They are band members, and we do have positions open on the government side and the (Fortune) Bay side for them. It's sad that this had to happen, but again, the positive is that we have a team in place to onboard people quickly."

## ***Kids enjoy their visit to hatchery!***



**CURIOS MINDS!**— The Bois Forte Head Start class at Vermilion recently went to the Pike River Fish Hatchery, which is located on County Road 77. "They showed the children how they sort the fish and milk them for eggs and how they mixed the eggs with sperm to make the baby fish. We also saw where they keep the eggs until they hatch," said Bois Forte Head Start's Christopher Shuster. Submitted photos.



# Important facts to know about Purchase/Referred Care

NETT LAKE— Purchase Referred Care (formerly known as Contract Health) is a program funded annually by the United States Congress to help eligible tribal members and their families with payment of medical and dental costs. These costs may include co-pays, deductibles and other cost of services that Bois Forte cannot perform at our local facilities. This is not a medical insurance program.

If you would like information or would like to sign up for this program, please contact Corey Strong at the Nett Lake Clinic or Kristal Strong at the Vermilion Clinic.

## **Purchase/Referred Care vs. Contract Health- What is the difference?**

The term Contract Health originated under BIA when the

medical health care services were contracted out to health care providers. In 2014, the Consolidated Appropriation Act of 2014 renamed the Contract Health Services program to the Purchased/Referred Care program, also known as PRC. Besides the change in title, all policies and practices remained the same. Remember, the PRC Program is not health insurance.

For more information on the PRC program, please contact Corey Strong at the Nett Lake Clinic or Kristal Strong at the Vermilion Clinic.

## **Purchase/Referred Care- Why is it important to maintain my medical insurance while in the program?**

There is a set amount of money that the PRC program receives each year. If a PRC

member has no health insurance, PRC will have to pay the entire cost, which is very costly to the PRC budget. If the PRC budget runs out, medical priorities may take effect. It is also a requirement of the Purchase Referred Care program to maintain an active medical insurance. If insurance is not maintained, you may be removed from the program until insurance is reactivated.

If you need help signing up for health insurance, please contact Kristal Strong or Corey Strong.

## **Purchase/Referred Care- Why do I need insurance if I can go to our local tribal clinic and get free services?**

In order to stay in the Purchase/Referred Care program, you need to maintain a health insurance plan. Although services to you as a patient are free, they are not always free to us as a tribe. By having no insurance, the clinic has no one to bill for your services. These costs then

have to be adjusted and paid for by the tribe. Costs to the tribe leave less money available for other services and programs.

If you need help signing up for health insurance, please see Corey Strong or Kristal Strong.

## **Purchase/Referred Care- Why do I need to send my medical bills to Corey or Kristal?**

Sometimes facilities bill the patient in error, which is why all bills need to be turned in to Corey or Kristal. All medical bills need to be sent to us to ensure that they are being paid. Also, by turning the bills into the PRC program, it ensures that all payments are being received by the facilities.

If you have received a paper bill at home or an electronic bill in your MYCHART, please turn those in as soon as you can. You may have to download it and then print it or you can download it and email it to either Corey or Kristal.

In October 2022, Essentia Health went to “paperless bill-

ing”. If your MyChart was active at that time, you were automatically enrolled in “paperless billing”. We have found a glitch with their system as it no longer bills the Bois Forte PRC program for your bills. You will need to check your MyChart on a monthly basis and/or turn off the paperless billing feature in your MyChart app.

To turn bills into the Purchase/Referred Care program, please contact Corey Strong or Kristal Strong.

## **“I don’t go to the doctor so why do I need health insurance?”**

Although you may not go to the doctor often, emergencies do arise. Emergency room bills can cost around \$1,000 or more per visit which will be your responsibility if you don’t have insurance. Minnesota offers health insurance to low income families through the MNSure system and Medical Assistance can go back 3-months to pay outstanding medical bills. The MNSure system offers a variety of options to families looking for insurance. To sign up, please contact Destinie or Kristal for help. You will need to bring income information and social security numbers for those signing up. These appointments can take as little as 15 minutes.

For more information on obtaining health insurance, please contact Corey Strong at the Nett Lake Clinic or Kristal Strong at the Vermilion Clinic.

Nett Lake Clinic  
5219 St. John Dr.  
Nett Lake, MN 55772  
(218)757-3650

Vermilion Clinic  
1613 Farm Road South  
Tower, MN 55790  
(218)753-2182

See Care page 5

IF YOU WANT *to get your*  
**HEART  
PUMPING**  
*try looking at a \$20,000*  
**MEDICAL BILL**

Protect your financial health. Go to [MNSure.org](https://MNSure.org) today to see if you can enroll in affordable health coverage.



**MNSure**

Call 651-539-2099  
or 855-366-7873  
Visit [MNSure.org](https://MNSure.org)

Covered by Medical Assistance or MinnesotaCare?

**m**  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Agency Name  
123 Main Street  
Anytown, MN 54321

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Your Name  
4567 Your Road  
Yourtown, MN 56789

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ENCLOSED**

**Don't risk a gap in your health insurance**

**Care from Page 4**

Help us help you by:

- Maintaining your medical & dental insurance;
- Providing your medical & den-

tal facilities with your current address, phone number and health insurance numbers; and

- Turning in your bills within 30 days so we can begin processing them.

Here is the Elder Nutrition Program's (ENP) menu for the month of May. Services offered include nutritious meals served daily, Monday through Friday at the Nett Lake and Vermilion Community Centers from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with home-delivered meals available to Elders who are unable to get to the ENP sites.

**May 1:** Meat Balls w/Spagetti, Green Beans, Garlic Toast, Choice of Fruit

**May 2:** Teriyaki Chicken, Rice Medley, Green Beans, Chef's Choice of Fruit

**May 3:** Picnic Lunch - Cook's Choice

**May 6:** Pork Loin, Garden Blend Rice, Diced Beets, Chef's Choice of Fruit

**May 7:** Beef Soft Taco, Refried Beans, Shredded Lettuce/Diced Tomato/Cheese, Tortilla Chips, Fruit

**May 8:** Beef Pot Pie, Salad, Chef's Choice of Fruit

**May 9:** Grilled Chicken Breast, Yellow Rice, Sliced Zucchini, Chef's Choice of Fruit

**May 10:** BBQ Pork Riblette, AuGratin Potatoes, Broccoli Slaw, Chef's Choice of Fruit

**May 13:** Baked Pork Chop, Baby Red Potatoes, Cauliflower/Broccoli Slaw, Chef's Choice of Fruit

**May 14:** Beef Lasagna, Green Beans, Garlic Toast, Chef's Choice of Fruit

**May 15:** Beef/Bean Soup/Potato Soup, Relish Plate, Chef's Choice of Fruit



**May 16:** Stir Fry Chicken/Egg Roll, Stir Fry Vegetables, Steamed Brown Rice, Chef's Choice of Fruit

**May 17:** Bison Stew, 7 Grain Bread, Chef's Choice of Fruit

**May 20:** Shepherd's Pie, Biscuit, Steamed Broccoli, Chef's Choice of Fruit

**May 21:** White Chicken Chili with Beans, Corn Bread, Chef's Choice of Fruit

**May 22:** Roast Pork, Baby Baker Potatoes, Roasted Butternut Squash, Chef's Choice of Fruit

**May 23:** Chicken Wild Rice Soup, Garden Salad/Coleslaw, Chef's Choice of Fruit

**May 24:** Bison Meatloaf, Baker Sweet Potatoes, Brussel Sprouts, Chef's Choice of Fruit

**May 28:** Beef Barley Vegetable Soup, Chef Salad, Whole Grain Dinner Roll, Chef's Choice of Fruit

**May 29:** BBQ Pulled Pork, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Chef's Choice of Fruit

**May 30:** Sweet and Sour Meatballs, Steam Rice, Broccoli Florets, Egg Roll

**May 31:** Black Bean Burrito Bowl, Salsa, Sour Cream, Chef's Choice of Fruit

# LAKE VERMILION TRADITIONAL POW WOW JUNE 28, 29 & 30

Lake Vermilion Pow Wow Grounds  
Lake Vermilion Reservation - Tower MN

Co-Hosts: Lake Vermilion Singers & Night Sky Singers

Spiritual Advisor: Darrel Kingbird

MC: Terry Goodsky

Arena Director: Corey Goodbird

FRIDAY: Warm ups

SATURDAY: Grand Entries 1pm & 7pm

SUNDAY: Grand Entry 1pm

TWO STEP CONTEST - SATURDAY EVENING

Win \$500 + a big trophy & belt

MUSICAL CHAIRS CONTEST - ADULT & YOUTH DIVISIONS

TROPHIES FOR WINNER IN EACH CATEGORY

HEADS OR TAILS CONTEST - ALL WEEKEND LONG

CAMPING AVAILABLE

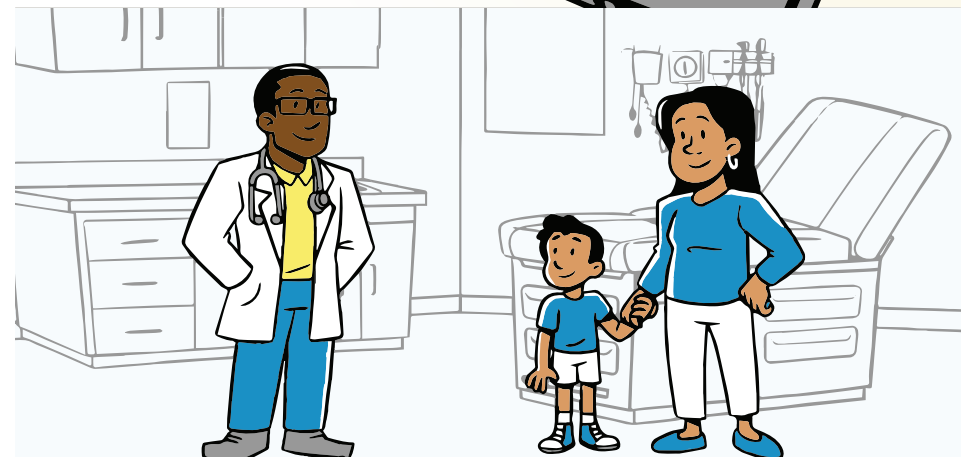
Contact: Muriel 218-750-7772 or [murieldeegan@yahoo.com](mailto:murieldeegan@yahoo.com)

Tracey 218-780-1478

Drug and alcohol-free event. Smoking is allowed 50 feet away from arena.

Look up when your  
Medical Assistance  
or MinnesotaCare  
renewal takes place

**m** DEPARTMENT OF  
HUMAN SERVICES



# New CEO sees a bright future for Bois Forte

## Kansas City native is a firm believer in an open-door policy

TOWER—Despite only being on the job for a few weeks, Bois Forte Business Development Corporation's new CEO Andrew Ebert is already making a significant impact.

Not only is Ebert immersing himself in the inner workings of Bois Forte Tribal Government operations, but he is also soaking up as much information as he can about Fortune Bay Resort Ca-

sino, the economic engine that drives programming for Bois Forte band members.

To help with his transition, Ebert has spent a lot of time getting to know employees and guests by walking the casino floor and gleaning as much information as possible to get up to speed on what works for Fortune Bay and what doesn't. He has also stepped in to help

man the Gold Mine Grill when it gets overly busy, as he is not one to stand around and watch others do all the work.

In Ebert's eyes, Fortune Bay, which boasts a 172-room resort, casino, full-service marina, RV Park, golf course, dining options, and much more, has a lot of potential that still needs to be tapped. He's also fully aware that the property, which is now over 38 years old, will need some renovations and expansion to truly position itself as a destination getaway.

A lot of the elements are already in place, as the property is located on one of the state's largest and most popular lakes, which is home to great fishing and recreational activities. The Wilderness at Fortune Bay Golf Course, which is ranked as one of the state's best public courses, draws in visitors from all over the region and country.

So, in many ways, the canvas is already set for Ebert to start painting his vision of how Fortune Bay and its staff can step up their game to help Bois Forte prosper for years to come. But he also realizes he's only one person and will look to his leadership team and front-line staff for input in the process.

"I am big on having an open-door policy," said Ebert at a recent meeting with his managers and directors. "So, if anyone has comments, questions, concerns, or great ideas to run with, I want to hear about them."

Ebert, a Kansas City native, added that it doesn't matter if those suggestions to improve our operations are immediate and small or entail mid-range or long-term goals. The crucial element is that he wants to start compiling a game plan in which proactive thinking trumps reactive thinking.

"We're going to end up getting into strategic and capital planning very soon," said Ebert, who most recently worked as the Executive Director for the Ponca Economic Development Corporation in Lincoln. It sounds like we've already had a lot of talks in the past about



WELCOME!— Drew Ebert is the new CEO for the Bois Forte Development Corporation (BFDC). Ebert will oversee the BFDC, which includes Fortune Bay Resort Casino, The Wilderness at Fortune Bay, the Y Store in Tower and the C Store in Nett Lake. In addition to having an office at Fortune Bay, Ebert will be spending time at the Reservation Tribal Government Building in Nett Lake.

vision but not any execution."

However, Ebert is confident he, along with the help of his new team, will have a clear vision for Fortune Bay and, ultimately, the Bois Forte Band of Chipewewa.

"These things I am talking about are not my ideas; I am getting them because I am talking to the people who do the work," said Ebert, who was a self-employed Business Consultant for 13 years before his stint for the Ponca Tribe. "That's what we need to do. There are a lot of good ideas here, a lot of good experience."

Having said that, Ebert told his staff that he wanted to help them in any way possible to grow the enterprise beyond the casino into new types of businesses.

"We need to take the pressure off the casino, so it's just not the casino funding everything," said Ebert, who briefly discussed forthcoming plans for Bois Forte to enter the marijuana business, which

*See Ebert page 7*

## VOTE FOR PERRY DRIFT, SR!

Aniin Bois Forte Band Members:

It is with great gratitude that I would like to take this time to thank everyone who voted for me and supported my campaign platform. Making it past the primary election was a major accomplishment, but there is still a lot of work to do leading up to the Bois Forte General Election, which takes place on June 11th, 2024.

We, as a tribe, are in pivotal times. The "Land Back" movement is crucial to our tribe. Gaining what land we can go back to the tribe without the harsh restrictions that the state and federal government impose on us is vital.

I must also mention that the 1854 payment increase to band members has to become permanent, and I will work toward that goal. However, I know there will be times when I could potentially vote in unity with the tribal council and other times when I could be voted against on important subjects concerning the tribe.

I want you, the Bois Forte Band Members, to know that you will be at the forefront of my thoughts each time I vote on decisions. My grandparents, Karen and Lester Drift, enjoyed the elder trips the tribe used to provide. The elderly units also need better insulation and minor repairs to locks on the entryways. Their happiness and well-being are especially important to me.

Regarding the cannabis industry and planning, I have scheduled meetings with Eugene Sommers of The White Earth Nation. White Earth Nation is opening another dispensary, and I want to see and learn as much as I can about that business venture for the tribe. Eugene is an incredibly ambitious young leader and someone my family has known for a while. How he serves his people passionately is how I wish to lead in the future, given the right chance.

The tribe's best interest is always on my mind and will never change. Total transparency, band-member employee first, fiscal responsibility, and integrity are the values and principles on which my platform is based. With the closing statement, I would very much like to wish all candidates the best of luck. Be sure to get out and vote. Your vote and voice do matter greatly. Miigwetch to you all.

Sincerely,  
Perry Lee Drift, Sr



*Ebert from page 7*

he believes can be an economic boon for the tribe.

One of Ebert's first directives was to take the lead from the Bois Forte Tribal Council and announce the closure of the Smoke Shop at Fortune Bay on Saturday, April 20th. Before the shop's construction, the area was part of the gaming floor, and Ebert envisions it being repurposed that way.

"We are working together to find the best possible outcome," said Ebert, who commended Director of Gaming E.J. Deegan and her staff for their work in reshaping what's next for the closed retail shop. "Putting slot machines back will pump our dollars back up to where they should be."

And in Ebert's eyes, the sooner, the better because you can't just sit back and let things happen on their own.

"We need to start making decisions," said Ebert. "We can't let things stand in the way of our progress, or else we'll never grow."

For Bois Forte Tribal Chair Cathy Chavers, that forward thinking is what led the Tribal Council to select Ebert to lead Bois Forte to a promising future.

"He really stood out amongst the other candidates because he is a go-getter with a proven track record," said Chavers of Ebert, who received a Bachelor of Communications and Master of Public Administration from the University of Missouri. "We feel that Drew will be the perfect addition to our entire team, and we look forward to having much success under his leadership."

**LEGAL NOTICE In the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Indians  
Tribal Court Civil Division - Minnesota Chippewa Tribe**

In the matter of Probate Petition, Joanna L. Boyer, Petitioner, vs the Estate of Leigh Ann Donald, Decedent.

Family members of the Estate of the Decedent, Leigh Ann Donald are hereby notified, and notice is hereby given that a Virtual Court Probate Hearing will be held on the 29th day of May 2024 at 10:20 a.m. CST, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard. The hearing is being seen before Chief Judge Megan Treuer at the Bois Forte Tribal Court 12907 Palmquist Road, Suite B, Orr, MN 55771, on the Probate Petition filed in this court on March 13th, 2024. This hearing is to determine if the temporary personal representative of Decedent. The court will review the petition and will decide if order should be permanently granted or denied for the appointment of Joanna L. Boyer, whose address is 1455 Cemetery Road, Tower, MN 55790, as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent.

To join Zoom meeting go to <https://boisforte.zoom.us/j/3054161983>

Meeting ID: 305 416 1983 (there is no passcode)

Or to join via telephone only dial 1-877-853-5247

Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate located at 13068 Westly Drive, Nett Lake, Minnesota, 55772, including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes, and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

By the Court

Megan Treuer, Chief Judge

Kristina Isham, Clerk of Court

12907 Palmquist Road, Suite B, Orr, MN 55771 • Tel: 218/757-3462

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



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

# VOTE CATHY CHAVERS



Boozhoo band members!

Here is an overview of the progress made since 2016 when I became your chairwoman. I will not take credit for this progress as it was a team effort among our

great staff and former members of the Bois Forte Tribal Council and our current Tribal Council.

We all did the work and effort together. I am a firm believer in the "team" concept. As everyone knows, there's no "I" in the team. We all have different ideas, views, and visions on guiding Bois Forte's direction. I am currently just the "captain" of our team. My job is to ensure we all work together and put our personal differences aside as we move Bois Forte forward, not backward.

Here are some of the highlights of the progress we've made:

- Bois Forte weathered the longest federal shutdown in U.S. history.

- Began using YouTube so that band members could watch our meetings and keep informed on important issues facing Bois Forte.

- Presented a 15-year financial report on Fortune Bay distributions to the Tribal Government.

- Cut Fortune Bay's distribution from \$5 million to \$3.5 million to Tribal Government for programs and services. This enabled Fortune Bay to continue reinvesting in its facilities and workforce to ensure its long-term success.

- Approved life estates for band member leases with non-Indian spouses.

- Approved an updated Code of Ethics since it was first written.

- Ensured Tribal Council salaries remained the same base salaries since 2006 with no salary increases from 2016 to today.

- Began 477 program focusing on education and workforce development for our band members.

- Joined Native American Boys and Girls Clubs.

- Sold WELY Radio station.

- Ended our agreement with Kemper Sports at The Wilderness Golf Course.

- Implemented 1052 leasing under BIA and IHS.

- New Tribal Court Building and BIA conducted Tribal Court Review.

- New homeless shelter in Nett Lake.

- Updated and approved (30 years) of Bois Forte Tribal Criminal Code.

- Worked together with our staff and healthcare experts to keep our band members safe during the historic COVID-19 pandemic.

- Worked together tirelessly in securing over 28 million dollars in CARES Act and ARPA funding.

- Band members received \$3,200 in general welfare payments to help get through the pandemic.

- New dam constructed on Nett River.

- New food shelf in Nett Lake.

- Approved Blight Ordinance.

- Historic 28,000+ acres returned to Bois Forte from the Conservation Fund.

- Historic MOU with U.S. Forest Service, Bois Forte, Fond du Lac, and Grand Portage.

- First ever increase to base payment of 1854 Treaty per cap payments.

- Implementation of MMIR Tribal Plates.

- Opened CBD shop at Fortune Bay.

- Became the first tribe in the nation to offer Public Health Vending machines—one at the Nett Lake C Store and one at Fortune Bay.

There have been other success stories, too, but as you can tell, we have updated ordinances, are growing in all areas, and will continue to grow under my leadership.

In my next article, I will make you all aware of current projects being worked on. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at my contact information below.

Miigwech!

Cathy Chavers  
218-780-2898  
[cchavers07@yahoo.com](mailto:cchavers07@yahoo.com)

*This political advertisement was prepared and paid for by Tribal Chairwoman Cathy Chavers.*

# Carnivals are a big hit with Bois Forte kids

TOWER—Bois Forte children were treated to a carnival-like atmosphere at two special events that took place in April.

The Spring Carnivals were made possible thanks in part to the efforts of Bois Forte Community Wellness Coordinator Becca Adams, who oversees a grant funded by The Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP) and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) program. Both agencies provided financial support to sponsor the Spring Carnival.

A planning team, which consist-

ed of Bois Forte Programs & RTG staff, were able to plan the Spring Carnival for the Bois Forte youth at both Nett Lake and Vermilion Sectors of the Bois Forte Reservation. The Carnivals took place on April 10th and April 11th, included food, fun, games, and a chance to visit with animals brought in from the Cook Country Connection, which includes a petting zoo.

David “Squidg” Morrison said the carnivals were hits as evidenced by lots of positive energy both inside the Vermilion Wellness Center and outside as the kids had a great time interacting

with goats, llamas, and even a big sheep-dog.

“We love working with the kids,” said Cook’s Country Connection owner Lois Pajari as the Vermilion event wrapped down. “We’re doing exactly what we’re supposed to be doing, and that is bringing smiles to the kids’ faces.”

Inside the Vermilion Wellness Center, Muriel Deegan and Jim Morrison were busy entertaining the kids with a mixture of games and handing out prizes. Roughly 75 kids showed up for the Vermilion carnival, while Morrison estimated 85 kids attended the carnival in

Nett Lake the day before.

Morrison said the Bois Forte RTG Programs and staff supports events by offering games and prizes for participants and were fortunate to have some community members donate generous cash prizes out of their pockets for a good cause.

“This was our first year doing the spring carnival and have been doing the Halloween carnivals for the past two years for the Bois Forte Youth,” said Morrison. “The kids are running around having fun, playing games, and winning

*See Carnival page 9*

**BOIS FORTE HEAD START**

## EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS ENROLLMENT

**ENROLLMENT STARTS MAY 20TH AND 22ND FOR RETURNING CHILDREN**

**NETT LAKE DATES: JUNE 4TH 9-3 PM & JUNE 18TH 12-8 PM**

**VERMILION DATES: JUNE 6TH 9-3 PM & JUNE 20TH 12-8 PM**

**0-5 YEARS OLD**

- Experienced and caring educators
- Engaging Curriculum
- Safe and Nurturing Environment
- Well Equipped Classrooms & Facilities

- Full-day Programs Monday-Thursday
- Nutritious snacks and meals provided
- Exciting Field Trips and Special events
- Parent Teacher Conferences

**Enrollment Paperwork needed!**

- Household proof of income
- Health Insurance Cards
- Child’s birth certificate
- Child Up-to-Date Immunizations
- Food Stamp/Commod Numbers
- Child’s Physical & Child’s Dental
- TANF/MFIP Numbers

(Application will not be accepted without all)



EASY DOES IT—Bois Forte’s Chance Rose reaches out to pet a goat at the Spring Carnival, which took place on Thursday, April 11th.

**LEGAL NOTICE In The Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Indians Tribal Court Civil Division - Minnesota Chippewa Tribe**

In the matter of Trudy King, petitioner vs Roger King, respondent.  
 TO: The above-named respondent, Roger King.  
 You are hereby notified, and notice is hereby given a Zoom hearing will be held on the 15th day of May 2024, at 11:50 a.m. CST, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, at the Bois Forte Tribal Court, Bois Forte Indian Reservation, 12907 Palmquist Road, Suite B, Orr MN 55771, on the Harassment Restraining Order filed in this court on April 11th, 2024. This hearing is to determine if the Harassment Restraining Order should be granted or denied.  
 You have a right to attend this hearing to either agree or disagree, failure to appear will result in a default against you and the Harassment Restraining Order being granted. If you are unable to join via zoom or by phone, you will be required to attend in person at the Tribal Court.  
 To join Zoom meeting go to <https://boisforte.zoom.us/j/3054161983>  
 Meeting ID: 305 416 1983 (there is no passcode)  
 Or to join via telephone only dial 1-877-853-5247

By The Court  
 Megan Treuer, Chief Judge  
 Kristina Isham, Clerk of Court  
 12907 Palmquist Road, Suite B, Orr MN 55771 • Tel: 218-757-3462

**CONTACT CHRISTINE LUNDEMO OR SARAH HOWE AT 218-757-3261 OPT 3**





**HAVING A GOOD TIME**— Tessa Porter, left, holds onto an anxious Teagan Boshey, while Monica Porter and Dion Porter, far right, pose for a quick photo at the Spring Carnival outside the Vermilion Wellness Center.

### *Carnival from page 8*

prizes. We are very thankful to the programs and staff that continue to show their commitment to serving the Bois Forte Communities for the businesses that make donations for these events.”

For those kids who might have missed the carnivals, Pajari said the Cook Country Connection Petting Zoo will be open to the public on weekends beginning in May. The Petting Zoo is located one mile outside Cook on County Road 24.

“We offer a variety of activities,” said

Pajari. “We have live music, day camp for the kids, field trips, and more.”

Pajari was assisted at the Vermilion Carnival by Nancy Leek, who is a volunteer at Cook Country Connection.

“I am just like a big kid,” said Leek, who fell in love with the animals at the Petting Zoo during a visit and subsequently began volunteering shortly after that. “I love seeing how much enjoyment the kids get as they visit with the animals. We really enjoy doing these types of events.”



**SAY CHEESE!**— This group of children were enjoying the Petting Zoo at the Spring Carnival, which took place Thursday, April 11th. Pictured, left to right, are an unidentified girl, Ezreal “Ezzy” Morrison, Kayla Drift, Elius Strong and William Isham.



## Minute with Millie

SahGiiBahGah, Moon of the Bursting Buds. When I was growing up back in the last century, this month was a time of annual ear beatings for tracking in mud and leaving wet coats and sometimes socks and shoes laying all over the house. Most of the time these items were in the front of the door. Yep, a pile of stuff that made an interesting mound of fun.

Least til Mom or Dad, mostly Mom though, walked by and suddenly, that pile wasn't as fun as we thought. 'Cept for Brother, who had to take a final dive into the pile, earning another round of words for the rest of us. Brother had a gleam of mischief in his eyes for the bit of excitement he'd created for himself. He'd gotten the last dive and felt the ear beating was worth it. The rest of us didn't.

We'd grumble to ourselves whilst picking up the wet, cold, and faintly mucky smelling items and taking them outside to the porch. We'd come in shivering because we'd gotten our dry clothes wet again. This in turn earned the mama look as we traipsed up the stairs to our beds to wait for supper.

Looking back at those memories from my adult perspective, it's



easy to see why parental disapproval descended upon our ears often. And sometimes, I can imagine the smile upon those very same parental faces after they'd managed to keep the stern papa and mama look long enough for us to learn a (hopefully) valuable lesson.

Now, there's paved roads all around the village and the lake shore. Sidewalks line the main road and up to the clinic. Very little chance of tracking in mud. Less one works extra special hard at it. Hmmm, methinks my garden needs some pavers round about. Don't particularly feel like mopping the floors.

### **LEGAL NOTICE In the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Indians Tribal Court Civil Division - Minnesota Chippewa Tribe**

In the matter of Probate Petition, Gordan Terrance Adams, Petitioner, vs the Estate of Sidney Orville Adams, Decedent.

Family members of the Estate of the Decedent, Sidney Orville Adams are hereby notified, and notice is hereby given that a Virtual Court Probate Hearing will be held on the 29th day of May 2024 at 10:40 a.m. CST, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard. The hearing is being seen before Chief Judge Megan Treuer at the Bois Forte Tribal Court 12907 Palmquist Road, Suite B, Orr, MN 55771, on the Probate Petition filed in this court on April 24th, 2024. This hearing is to determine if the temporary personal representative of Decedent. The court will review the petition and will decide if order should be permanently granted or denied for the appointment of Gordan Terrance Adams, whose address is 1471 Cemetery Road, Tower, MN 55790, as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent.

To join Zoom meeting go to <https://boisforte.zoom.us/j/3054161983>

Meeting ID: 305 416 1983 (there is no passcode)

Or to join via telephone only dial 1-877-853-5247

Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate located at 13068 Westly Drive, Nett Lake, Minnesota, 55772, including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes, and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

By the Court

Megan Treuer, Chief Judge

Kristina Isham, Clerk of Court

12907 Palmquist Road, Suite B, Orr, MN 55771 • Tel: 218/757-3462

## Sharyn Maria Strong



Sharyn Strong, traditionally known as "Yellow Feather Woman," was a beacon of resilience and joy whose life journey began on November 15, 1950, in the serene town of Nett Lake, Minnesota. Her story, woven with the threads of love, courage, and dedication, came to a peaceful close on April 12, 2024.

Born into a world brimming with possibilities, Sharyn embraced every moment with a vigor that was nothing short of inspirational. Her early education at Hibbing High School laid a solid foundation for a future that would see her making a significant impact on those around her. Sharyn's life was a testament to the belief that dedication and hard work are the cornerstones of a legacy that lasts.

Sharyn's professional life was marked by her admirable service in law enforcement. She concluded her career journey as a data entry clerk at the RTG, where her meticulous nature and unwavering professionalism were held in high esteem. Her colleagues often spoke of her with admiration, remembering her as a pillar of strength and a source of sage advice.

Beyond her professional achievements, Sharyn's heart beat strongest for her family. She was a devoted mother to her sons, Lee Clewette (Gina) and Chaz Wagner; and her daughters, Rhonda Kukk (Roger) and Tara Wagner (Cory). Her role as a mother was one she cherished above all, instilling in her children the values of kindness, perseverance, and unconditional love.

Sharyn's legacy continued to flourish through her beloved grandchildren: Kiara Moore, Angel Moore, Raymond

Boshey Jr., Taylor Clewette, Tiara Sauter (Clewette), Elijah Clewette, Aleks Lessman; and her adored great-grandchildren: Zoey & Zayda Jensen, Zayda Wagner, and Ethan Sauter. Her eyes sparkled with pride at their accomplishments, and her wisdom was a cherished gift that she passed down to each generation.

An avid fan of the thrills of NASCAR and the competitive spirit of the Minnesota Vikings, Sharyn found joy in the excitement of the race and the camaraderie of the game. Her enthusiasm was infectious, and it was in these moments of shared passion that memories were made and bonds were strengthened.

Sharyn's zest for life was not confined to the grandstands; it was in the quiet moments spent with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren that her spirit shone the brightest. Each moment was an opportunity to laugh, to teach, and to cherish. She understood that the true value of life lies in the love we share and the time we spend with those who mean the most to us.

As we remember Sharyn Strong, "Yellow Feather Woman," let her life be an encouragement to us all to live fully, love deeply, and leave a mark on this world that cannot be erased. She walked through life with an unwavering grace, and left behind a trail of light for all of us to follow.

Her journey may have reached its sunset, but the warmth of her spirit continues to radiate through each life she touched. Sharyn's story is not one of an end, but a beautiful reminder that our impact lives on through the lives we inspire. Let us honor her memory by embracing each day with the same passion and purpose that she did.

Sharyn Strong's life was a brilliant tapestry of love, strength, and legacy. Her spirit, forever etched in the hearts of her family and friends, will continue to guide and inspire. Though she has taken her leave from this earthly realm, her light remains, a guiding star in the vast sky of memories, urging us all to live a life as strong and as meaningful as hers.

Services were held on Thursday, April 18, 2024 at the Nett Lake Baptist Church with the visitation being held one hour prior. Pastor Steve Yatcoske officiated. Burial followed the service at the Nett Lake Cemetery.

## James Walter Gawboy "Waasagiizhik "Animikii Aanakwad"



James Walter Gawboy "Waasagiizhik "Animikii Aanakwad", age 87, died in his wife's arms on April 4, 2024.

He was born in Cloquet and lived his early life on Vermilion Reservation, later moving to his grandmother's farm near Ely after her passing. He graduated from Ely High School in 1953 where he was a renowned swimmer. He then enrolled in the University of Minnesota where he swam sprints and ran cross country for the U of M. After graduating from the U of M with a degree in anthropology and zoology, he was drafted into the Army where he served for 2 years.

He then went on to work as a game warden for the Minnesota DNR for 30 years. In 1990, Jim moved to Kugler Township, and together with his wife Becky, created a working farm. After his retirement, he taught American Indian studies at Mesabi Community College for two years. He and Becky then became licensed foster parents. Over a 10-year period, they fostered nearly 100 children and went on to adopt 12. When people asked why he adopted so many kids, his reply was "no one else would and be-

sides I never learned to play golf."

During their 34 years together, Jim and Becky were inseparable. They traveled with their kids to Pow-Wows throughout Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan and Ontario. Together they took cruises, train trips and traveled often to the Yucatan in Mexico, and drove their camper out west several times and to North Carolina to visit family there. On a trip to Ireland, Becky bought a tin whistle that Jim learned to play, which then led him to play the piano at age 62. Although he had no musical experience, he became an accomplished pianist. Jim also built a dozen saunas, the family home on Lake Vermilion Reservation, and added a large addition to the farmhouse that he was remodeling. Jim was well known for his sense of humor, his brilliant intellect and his creativity.

He was preceded in death by his parents; 6 siblings; and his oldest son Galen; granddaughter Amy; and his first wife Kathleen.

Jim is survived by his loving wife Rebecca; his children Linden Gawboy, J.T. Gawboy, Briita (Donnie Swartz) Noyes, Sigurd Noyes, Rolando Noyes, Jordan Gawboy, Ann Gawboy, Shawn Gawboy, Miranda Gawboy, Naomi Gawboy, Isaac (Angel Day) Gawboy, Timothy Gawboy, Jasmine (Trystan Day) Gawboy, Desmond Gawboy, Juanita Gawboy, Roger Gawboy, Lorenzo Gawboy, Victor Diaz; beloved foster son Steven Isham; and son of his heart, Ryan Bajan; brother: Carl (Cindy Donnes) Gawboy; brother and sister-in-law John and Amy Holm; 30 grandchildren including Rollin Burba, Liam Burba, and Blair Noyes; and many nieces and nephews and great-nieces and nephews.

A Traditional Service was held Monday, April 8, 2024, at the Vermilion Wellness Center. Online condolences to [www.mlakerfuneralhome.com](http://www.mlakerfuneralhome.com)



# Manahan takes over the helm at The Wilderness at Fortune Bay

TOWER— When The Wilderness at Fortune Bay opens Friday, May 10th, there will be a new manager at the helm in Bill Manahan.

Manahan, who most recently worked at the Cloquet Country Club as its general manager, also worked at the Black Bear Resort Casino golf course in a similar capacity. He replaces Joe Wisocki, who was terminated in January due to his ongoing legal battles with the Willmar Community Golf Club.

"I'm excited to be here," said Manahan at a Director's meeting this past month. "Things are going really well and the staff is looking forward to a great 2024 season as the course made it through winter very well."

Manahan thanked his staff for their hard work prepping for the season, especially his grounds crew, under the leadership of Superintendent Trevor Rintala. Manahan reported that the course will be in better shape than 2023 and far better than 2022 when the course was under different leadership.

Manahan said the grounds crew has been sprucing up the course by trimming trees, working on bunkers, fertilizing the greens and fairways, etc. Meanwhile, his pro shop staff

have been busy answering the phones to book individual foursomes as well as group bookings.

"There are already over 10,000 rounds booked for the year and that number keeps going up," said Manahan, who lives in Barnum, but will be renting an apartment in Virginia until he can find a permanent housing solution.

While Manahan's staff will continue to work hard filling the tee-sheet for 2024, he is also encouraging non-golfers to stop by The Wilderness Grill to try out some of Chef Mitch Kerfeld's culinary creations.

"He has a lot of creativity and talent that will resonate with our guests," said Manahan of Kerfeld, who is entering his second year heading up The Wilderness Grill. "We have a Mother's Day special lined up,

so if you haven't made plans for mom yet, stop out and spend it with us."

The Wilderness Grill will be open Wednesday through Sunday for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The patio grill will still be open Mondays and Tuesdays and will feature burgers, brats and hot dogs.

Manahan's golf experience dates back to the late 1970s and aside from his stints at the Cloquet Country Club and Black Bear, he also served as the General Manager and PGA Head Golf Professional at Grand National Golf Club for the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe from 1995 to 2004. He is a graduate of Rochester Lourdes High School and attended the University of Minnesota before transferring to the Rochester Area Vocational School to receive his degree in Banking and Finance.


"Bill has fit in very well with the staff at The Wilderness at Fortune Bay," said Tribal Chair Cathy Chavers. "His vast experience at other well-known golf courses across the state is invaluable and we feel he will be the perfect manager to lead his team."

Aside from booking smaller groups, The Wilderness at Fortune Bay will also be hosting a number of larger tournaments during the 2024 season, including the upcoming City Auto Glass Walleye Classic tournament, the Dave Tomassoni fundraiser for ALS, UMD Alumni group and the annual Indian Summer Classic.

"Those events will give us a chance to showcase our course and the entire Fortune Bay property," said Manahan.



**NEW LEADER**— Bill Manahan has been hired as the new manager at The Wilderness at Fortune Bay. Manahan, a Rochester, Minnesota native, has held several jobs as general manager and PGA Head Golf Professional.



## Older Americans Month EVENTS

Thursdays

- May 2nd- 12:00**  
**Learn about Cultural & Diabetic Friendly Foods**  
(Recipe provided with goods to make at home)
- May 9th- 1:00**  
**Create a Mother's Day Craft**
- May 16th-1:00**  
**Stroke Awareness Presentation & Social Security Basics**
- May 23rd-1:00**  
**Learn about "Wisdom Steps" Program**
- May 30th- 1:00**  
**Learn about Health Care Directives**  
(materials available to create your own)

PRIZES & SNACKS AT EACH EVENT

- Attend 2 Session and be entered into a drawing.
- Attend 4 sessions and be entered into a GRAND PRIZE DRAWING

Register for sessions by calling:  
**Kristen @ 753-4542**  
• Indicate which location & Event

Events will be held at both Nett Lake ENP & Vermilion Community Center)

**C-STORE**

218-757-3268

NETT LAKE

**PHARMACY**

218-757-0230

**Y-STORE**

218-753-3868

VERMILION

**PHARMACY**

218-753-2182

## 2024 SAH GII BAH GAH POW WOW

### JUNE 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup>

NETT LAKE POW WOW GROUNDS  
CAMPING & SHOWERS AVAILABLE

Head over to "Nett Lake Powwow" on Facebook for Info & Updates

\*\* BUTTON RAFFLE - 50/50 Drawing

\*\* RAFFLE: Size 10/12 Jingle Dress  
Proceeds help with Pow Wow Costs

**HOST DRUM: GAH GII GE IKWE**

**CO-HOST: LAKE VERMILION SINGERS**

**INVITED DRUM: LAC LA CROIX TRADITIONAL**

**SPIRITUAL ADVISORS: DAN GEYSHICK & VERN ADAMS SR**

**ARENA DIRECTOR: JOEL BOSHEY**

**MC: TERRY GOODSKY**

**FRIDAY: WARM-UPS**

**SATURDAY: BREAKFAST 7AM - 9AM**  
**GRAND ENTRY 1PM & 7PM**

**Feast 5 PM**

**SUNDAY: BREAKFAST 7AM - 9AM**  
**GRAND ENTRY 1PM**

**Feast 5 PM**

**FIRST 5 DRUMS TO REGISTER WILL SPLIT (AMOUNT TBD)**

Must have 5 people registered on drum to be part of split.

**\*\*Anyone inquiring about having a ceremony is to see Dan Geyschick via the Ceremonies are to be done by Noon Saturday & Sunday**

Contact: Kerie Porter @ 218-404-5093 or nettlakepowwowcommittee@gmail.com

**VENDOR CONTACT Eric King @ 218-410-2579**

**DRUG AND ALCOHOL-FREE EVENT**

**POW WOW COMMITTEE IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANYONE SHORT ON TRAVEL FUNDS**



*Lutheran Social Service*

# COMMUNITY CARE CLOSET


Community Care Closet is a free resource for community members in need!

Stop by to check us out or find us on Facebook for weekly updates!

We accept all sizes of clothes for men, women, and children - as well as hygiene products, feminine care products, household products and more!

**Location**  
The Family Resource Center  
507 S 9th Ave W  
Virginia, MN 55792

**Hours**  
10 am - 2 pm  
Every Wednesday



Questions?  
[savannah.parisien@LSSMN.ORG](mailto:savannah.parisien@LSSMN.ORG)

## GENERAL ELECTION REMINDER

Polls for the upcoming Bois Forte General Election will be open from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. on June 11th at the Bois Forte Tribal Government building, Vermilion Social Center, and the Duluth and Minneapolis Urban offices.

Voters will elect a new District I Representative as Travis Morrison decided not to run for another four-year term. The top two candidates from the April 2nd Primary were Perry Drift, Sr. and Ed Villebrun.

The two top vote getters for the Tribal Chair were incumbent Cathy Chavers and challenger Hannah Lehti-Chosa.

For those who cannot make it to the polls, they can request an absentee ballot by mailing a request to the Bois Forte Election Board at P.O. Box 23, Nett Lake, MN 55772. The deadline to turn in your absentee ballot is the day before the general election, which is June 10th.

Band members can also come to the Election Board to vote absentee in person if they are not able to come to the voting locations on the day of the election. Band members can also visit the Bois Forte website ([www.boisforte.com](http://www.boisforte.com)) for more information.

# EMPOW(HER) GIRLS IN THE TRADES

## FREE SUMMER DAY CAMP

**8:30AM-1:30PM (LUNCH PROVIDED)**  
**AGES 14-17**



**JUNE 10-13**  
**MINNESOTA NORTH COLLEGE HIBBING**  
515 E 25TH ST, HIBBING

Hands-on Projects in:

- Automotive
- Heating and Cooling
- Electrical Maintenance & Construction

**SPACE IS LIMITED**



**JUNE 17-18, 20-21**  
**MINNESOTA NORTH COLLEGE EVELETH**  
1100 INDUSTRIAL PARK RD.

Hands-on Projects in:

- Electrical Controls
- Industrial Mechanical Technology
- Welding

**REGISTER BY  
MAY 15**

[bit.ly/Empower-Camp-2024](https://bit.ly/Empower-Camp-2024)



Transportation available  
if needed

Questions contact:  
[Angela.Heikkila@minnesotanorth.edu](mailto:Angela.Heikkila@minnesotanorth.edu)



**JUNE 24-27**  
**THE FORGE- IEDC**  
1201 7TH AVE SE GRAND RAPIDS

Hands-on Projects in:

- Carpentry
- Solar Power
- Welding

## Mental Health **FIRST AID**

from NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR MENTAL WELLBEING

### Mental Health First Aid Class slated for May 15th

TOWER— Bois Forte Behavioral Health and the Bois Forte 477 Program is sponsoring a Mental Health First Aid Class at Fortune Bay on Wednesday, May 15th.

This class will run from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Sumac room. Attendees will learn about early prevention—recognizing warning signs of a mental health or substance use crisis and how you can help.

The class is limited to 30 attendees. Pre-registration is required. Please email Chrissy Fairchild at [chrissy.fairchild@boisforte-nsn.gov](mailto:chrissy.fairchild@boisforte-nsn.gov)



This event is for all students from ALL religions, race, ethnicities, ages, genders, sexual orientations LGBTQ+, socio-economic status, physical ability and national or regional origin.