



Bois Forte NEWS

VOL. 47 NUMBER 7

COMMENT PERIOD ON LEASING POLICIES EXTENDED

The comment period for the Bois Forte Draft Leasing Policies has been extended until July 31st.

You can view the current policy by visiting the Bois Forte Tribal Government website at www.boisforte.com.

Please be sure to send any comments by mail to 5344 Lakeshore Drive, Nett Lake, MN 55772 Attn: Executive Assistant or via email at: executiveassistant@boisforte-nsn.gov

Donald has no plans for slowing down

LAKE VERMILION—Every evening when former Bois Forte Tribal Chairman Gary Donald decides to turn in, he offers a prayer for those he knows are sick and need help.

“I tell the Great Maker, now that I’ve prayed for them and my relatives and family, I want to pray for the whole world,” explained Donald from his home on the shores of Lake Vermilion. “I do that every night because I believe in the power of prayer.”

Perhaps that is one reason the 90-year-old Donald has been blessed with a rich life, including 62 years of wedded bliss to his bride, Joanne, who unfortunately passed away eight years ago. Donald said he doesn’t plan on slowing down any time soon as he enjoys his life, and he loves to stay involved with what is going on with his fellow Bois Forters.

That’s why you’ll see Donald at community meetings, State of the Band celebrations, and fundraisers like the one held earlier this year for former Bois Forte District I Representative Brandon Benner, who is now on his road to a full recovery.

“I want to know what’s going on, and I want to make sure our youth today have it better than we had it,” said Donald, who was born and raised in Cloquet before making his way to the Nett Lake Reservation. “I want our youth to be able to find employment with Bois

Forte so they can be successful and pave the way for future generations to have even more success.”

Donald’s commitment to the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa has long been admired by current Tribal Chairwoman Cathy Chavers, who appreciates his leadership and knowl-

edge through their 40 plus years of professional relations.

“Gary has the ability to inspire and create future leaders for Bois Forte through his dedication, compassion, experience and love for Bois Forte,” said Chavers. “He is truly one of our greatest leaders. His work has been helpful to me in my

capacity not only as a former employee but also as Tribal Chairwoman.”

Donald’s own path in life was not an easy one. It included personal challenges, uncertainty, prejudice, and stereotypical incidents that he overcame. Despite enduring pain and

See Donald page 3



CONTENT AS EVER— Former Bois Forte Tribal Chairman Gary Donald keeps an active schedule as he likes to stay involved with what is going on with the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa. He says staying active keeps him young. “I like to see people and to make sure they are Ok,” said Donald. “If they are feeling bad, I like to build them up a little bit. And if I am feeling down, they can build me up. You need to have those personal interactions as it helps keep your spirits up.”

Chairwoman Cathy Chavers



Boozhoo!

What a great victory for tribes and sovereignty in the Haaland vs. Brackeen case! The Supreme Court upheld the Indian Child Welfare Act, which is widely regarded as the gold standard of child welfare. ICWA is crucial for the safety and well-being of Native children and families and the future of Tribal people and Tribal nations. The impact of this decision will be felt across the country for generations.

Bois Forte undeniably supports the Supreme Court's decision because

it recognizes the sovereign status of tribal governments and the fact that our children are incredibly vital to our continued existence as a tribe.

For nearly two centuries, federal policies promoted the forced removal of Indian children from our families and communities through boarding schools, foster care, and adoption. Those policies were a deliberate, targeted attack on the existence of tribes, and they inflicted historical trauma on children, families, and communities that people continue to feel today.

This decision also reaffirms what tribes have known and said for so long, tribal nations are sovereign nations, like state or foreign countries. Tribes have the inherent powers of self-government and the right to provide for their citizens' social, economic, safety, and cultural needs.

During the past Minnesota Legislative session, I had the opportunity to testify at the legislature regarding the 1854 Treaty and the agreed-upon formula for this agreement to Bois Forte and Grand Portage.

When the agreement was signed in 1988, there was a base payment plus a formula applied to the funding to all three tribes in the agreement at that time: Bois Forte, Grand Portage, and Fond du Lac.

Since the original agreement, Fond du Lac has pulled out of this agreement, so only Bois Forte and Grand Portage remain.

Since 1988, the base formula has remained the same. Inflation and other indicators have increased costs. This has been a discussion for years within the 1854 Treaty Authority Board for many years; however, there was only an opportunity to approach this within the legislature this year

with the trifecta of the three branches of government. The House, Senate, and Governor's office all being Democrats. I am pleased to say that Bois Forte and Grand Portage did receive a 1.5 million dollar increase to our base payment, which will now be 3.1 million per tribe.

The other half of the formula will still be based on the number of fishing licenses etc., being sold within the year, and we will not know the total amount of our 1854 payment to band members until July, when the check is received from the Dept of Revenue. Once it is received, we will announce the total per capita payment amount. We know that with approximately 3,600 band members divided by 3.1 million, the BASE PAYMENT will be approximately \$860.00. This does not include the second part of the calculation formula. The Tribal Council will not be garnishing any per capita checks this year but has already discussed garnishment for next year, so just letting you know ahead of time.

This now 3.1 million base payment amount is for 2024 and 2025 only. We (Bois Forte and Grand Portage) will have to re-negotiate for the 2026 payment with the State and Department of Natural Resources, but we will begin those negotiations as soon as possible as this process can be long and drawn out.

In closing, the tribes in Minnesota did exceptionally well this legislative session. We are all incredibly proud as our voice is being heard and action is being taken to include tribes in funding, adding tribes to legislative language for funding, and much more.

Take care, and have a great summer!

Chi Miigwech



BOIS FORTE AMBULANCE SERVICE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Join Our Team & Help Give Back To Your Community!

Bois Forte Ambulance is always looking for members.
We offer on-call pay, run & meeting stipends.

NOT LICENSED AS AN EMT OR EMR? IT'S OK. WE WILL PROVIDE TRAINING.

THINK YOUR NOT OLD ENOUGH? WILL WORK WITH ANYONE 16 AND OLDER.

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Contact Nikki Irving @
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ambulance@boisforte-nsn.gov



*Howah, you did it, you graduated! I sincerely wish you all the best and success in your in your future endeavors!
Congratulations to you and the rest of our graduates!"
Sincerely, District I Representative Shane Drift*

Donald from page 1

humility from those experiences, Donald said he became stronger because of the trials and tribulations he faced during his formative years.

That included dropping out of high school and getting his parents to sign off on him enlisting in the United States Army as a 17-year-old, putting up with a foreman in Aurora who would offer coffee breaks to non-Natives but then grilled Donald when he tried to take a break.

"He would yell at me and say, 'Hey sonny, you didn't come here to take a vacation, you came here to work,'" recalled Donald. "He kept riding

me, so I remember dropping my wheelbarrow that was full of crushed rock, and I walked off the job."

The foreman tried to get Donald back to work by yelling at him, but Donald firmly told him no.

Ironically, Donald was soon looking for a guiding gig in Nett Lake early one morning to make some extra money, and the guy he took out happened to be the project manager of the same company Donald walked away from. The two men enjoyed a successful day of hunting, and a few days later, Donald, who had moved back to Nett Lake, received a message that he was wanted on the phone.

"There was only one phone in the village, so I hurried up and took the call," recounted Donald. "It was the project manager who told me to show up at the gates at 8 a.m. Monday, so I did, and I got the job, and 3-4 months later, I was promoted to foreman and later to general foreman."

He credits his time spent in the U.S. Army for giving him the discipline and character to turn an ugly chapter in his life into one that proved that he had what it took to be successful. He carried those vital attributes with whatever path he chose next in his life and one that he hopes young and upcoming band members embrace.

Again, that is why Donald wants our youth to take advantage of the opportunities in front of them. That includes jobs at Fortune Bay Resort Casino or the Bois Forte Tribal Government that can be used as a stepping stone to a management role.

"I remember as a young man how I really paid attention to what our tribal leadership was doing, and I followed everything they were doing," said Donald. "I listened to those people and told myself, 'Boy, if I have a chance, I'd like to become a leader of this reservation.'"

Those wishes would eventually ring true as Donald, who had a handful of jobs off and on the reservation, eventually served 16 years as the tribal chair. When he was in office, he wanted to be known as a fair man and didn't like to pull rank. However, one time he recalls being asked to step in to talk with an employee who would rarely show up on time and then leave early. It wasn't the example he wanted anyone to be using, so he agreed to bring the employee in to have

The story behind Big Nose

If you happen to see former Tribal Chairman Gary Donald pull up in his Ford Taurus, you'll undoubtedly see his personalized plates that read Big Nose.

To many curious onlookers, Big Nose was taken literally and Donald laughs at when people would drive next to him looking into his car to see if in fact, he had a Big Nose.

"I saw one guy at Walmart and was looking at me and said, 'Hey, you don't have a Big Nose, but I sure do love your plates,'" said Donald.

Truth be told, Big Nose would have been Gary's last name, but his father did not like it, so it was changed to Donald. That didn't keep Donald from proudly displaying Big Nose on his truck of so many years ago or today with his personalized plates on his Ford Taurus.

"I actually had a guy pull me over in Duluth. He kept flashing me so I thought there was something wrong with my car," recalled Donald. "Well, all he wanted was to see if I would sell him my plates for \$300, but I turned him down. I'll never sell these!"

Life lesson learned the hard way

While Gary Donald has always lived an honored life, there was a time when he strayed off course as a youngster.

As he recalls, he had a paper route in Duluth and he would find discarded cigarette butts on the sidewalks, so he would smoke them.

Well, he saw a pack of smokes in his mom's bedroom and just as he was reaching for them, his mom caught him and asked what he was doing. He told her he wanted to smoke and she told him you may not and you will be telling your dad what you did when he gets home tonight. So all day, Gary was worried about how his talk was going to go. His father told him to pull his bridges down so he could get a belt to his backside. Well, Gary had other ideas and he decided to challenge his dad to a fight.

"I raised my dukes up and he said, 'Oh that's the way you want it. Well, go ahead, I'll give you the first punch,'" said Donald. "Well, before I could get a punch off, he punched me right between the eyes. I was seeing stars."

Donald said his father told him to go to the cold storage room and wait until he was called. So about an hour later, he was told to come out.

"My dad said, 'Gary, I'm going to tell you something right now, we don't need a thief in this family. If you want to smoke, buy your own cigarettes—we don't want you stealing from us.' Those words are ones that I still think about today. I made up my mind that day, that I would never steal again because I wanted to live a good life."

a talk.

"She looked at me and said, 'I thought we were working on Indian Time?' recalled Donald with a smile as he recalled how that opening line quickly diffused the situation. "So, I told her—no, we work from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. I don't want to get rid of you, so start working from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m."

About a week later, the person who asked Donald to step in reported that the employee, who was always tardy, was getting to work before 8 a.m. and staying until 4:30 p.m.

"She also told her boss that she was glad he had me to talk to her because she said I saved her," said Donald. "I always believed that an employee should be given the time to correct themselves."

As chairman, Donald prided himself on reserving the first part of council meetings as a time to let band members air any concerns. He said the tribal council let them speak their peace, and then the regular business was tended to.

"We had to listen to them

because they put us into office," said Donald. "You are there to serve them, and you have to listen and see if you can help them with any problems. If they have a valid concern, they should be heard."

Now that Donald is sailing toward his 91st birthday later this year, he often spends time alone, looking out onto Lake Vermilion. He reflects a lot on the life he and his wife carved out for themselves. He fondly talks about what his wife meant to him and their family. For Gary, Joanne was not only his wife but also his best friend, companion, and soul mate.

"I keep her memory alive by remembering everything we did together from the day we got married until today," said Donald, who raised four children with Joanne. "She was a very traditional Native woman. Joanne did everything. She not only kept up our home, but she would clean fish with me; she would help skin furs from trapping. I miss her dearly, but I look forward to the day we will be reunited once again."

Sunrise or sunset photos needed for new exhibit

SOUDAN—New interpretive exhibits are being designed for the visitor center at Lake Vermilion – Soudan Underground Mine State Park in Soudan, Minnesota. The exhibit includes

an area highlighting the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa's deep connection to this area and the land that became the Soudan Mine. This area of the exhibit will feature a large photo mural of



Onamani-Zaagaigan (Lake Vermilion) at sunrise or sunset.

The exhibits are in need of a beautiful sunrise or sunset photograph of Lake Vermilion. We are asking Bois Forte Band members or descendants to submit sunrise or sunset photographs with the winning submission to be included in the new interpretive exhibits.

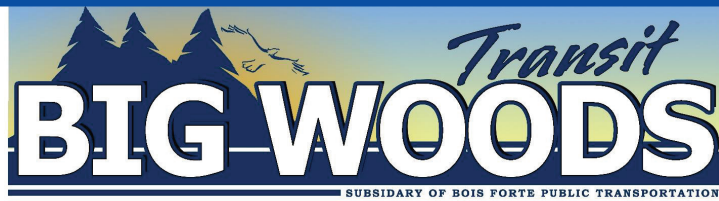
If you have a camera that takes high-quality photographs, here are the minimum specifications needed: TIFF Format; Dims: 21,600 Pixels wide by 9,000 Pixels high (minimum). If you have further questions about photo requirements or resolution, please email Jaylen.strong@boisforte-nsn.gov

All photo submissions need to be emailed to Jaylen.strong@boisforte-nsn.gov by Friday, September 1, 2023, at 4:30pm CST. When submit-

ting, please include the photographer's name, telephone number, and address.

The photographer's name associated with the photo will remain anonymous during the selection process. The "winning" photo submission will be selected by the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Tribal Council based on the overall quality of the photo. The Council plans to announce the selected photo on or before September 20, 2023.

The winning photographer will receive \$200 and photo credit on the mural. By submitting a photo for consideration, the photographer authorizes the Bois Forte Band to use the photograph in the new interpretive exhibitions designed for the visitor center at Lake Vermilion – Soudan Underground Mine State Park in Soudan, Minnesota, and for all other purposes.



NIBI ROUTE

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TO ANGORA TO GET SPRING WATER
BY THE LOG CABIN**

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SUNDAYS**



PRODUCTIVE MEETING— Minnesota Secretary of State Steve Simon visited the Iron Range this past month and took time out of his busy schedule to meet at Fortune Bay Resort Casino with the Bois Forte Tribal Council. Pictured left to right are District I Representative Shane Drift, District 1 Representative Travis Morrison, Secretary-Treasurer Tara Geshick, Secretary Simon and Tribal Chair Cathy Chavers. Not pictured District II Representative Robert Moyer, Jr., who was unable to attend the meeting.

Why National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month is important

National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month is recognized each July to bring awareness to the unique struggles that racial and ethnic minority communities face regarding mental illness in the United States.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health encourages state, tribal, and local leaders, community-based organizations, faith leaders, healthcare providers and individuals to educate their communities regarding mental health stigma.

According to data from the CDC, suicide was the third leading cause of death for African Americans ages 10-24 in 2020. The suicide rate is four times greater for African American men than women. African American females in grades 9-12 were 60% more likely to attempt suicide than

white females.

In 2020, suicide was the second leading cause of death for Native Americans ages 10-24. The overall rate of death from suicide for Native American adults is about 20% higher than for white adults. Native Americans had the highest suicide rate of any ethnic group in 2021. In 2019, adolescent Native American females, ages 15-24, had a death rate that was five times higher than white females in the same age group. In that same period, Native American males 15-24 had a death rate by suicide that was twice that of white males in the same age group.

In 2020, suicide was the second leading cause of death for Hispanics ages 10-24. Suicide attempts for Hispanic girls, grades 9-12, were 30% higher than that of white girls of the same age.

From 2018-2021, suicide

rates among youth aged 10-24 increased by 36% among African Americans, 16% for Native Americans, and 8.2% for Hispanics. By comparison, the suicide rate for white Americans decreased by 3.9%.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness reports that despite the need, only one in three African American adults with mental illness receive treatment. Socioeconomic factors can also play a key role. In 2020, 10.4% of African American adults had no health insurance. Among Native Americans, suicide remains highly stigmatized

and may be affected by myths and misunderstandings such as: talking about suicide will make it happen, suicidal ideation is a cry for attention, and the belief that a person with a strong family would never end their life. Each of these are false. More than 1/2 of all Hispanic adults ages 18-25 will not receive treatment for mental illness. Reasons for this may include language barriers, less health insurance coverage, legal status, the stigma that goes with mental illness, and acculturation.

For more information about National Minority Men-

tal Health Awareness Month, please visit National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month — Health Disparities (hhs.gov).

The Jason Foundation is also a valuable resource. The Jason Foundation is dedicated to the prevention of suicide prevention through education and awareness programs. For more information on how you can help a loved one or friend struggling with mental illness or suicidal ideation, please visit www.jasonfoundation.com. All programs that The Jason Foundation offers are available at no cost.

Help Bois Forte better understand its housing needs

Submitted by Erin Danielson

Input from professionals and community members will help the county identify housing needs and supports. Completing the survey helped me think about who else should provide input. <https://s.surveyplanet.com/638lvu21>

Take a few minutes to complete the survey. Pass the survey along to your staff and other professionals not in the CCT

Share the link with your clients, neighbors...

Help your clients complete the survey

This survey helps to shape community needs and community solutions toward ad-

ressing housing instability. I know your time is valuable and I appreciate your donated time to this process. Please share broadly with your co-workers or collaborative partners and if possible, complete the survey with individuals/families with lived experience as you see fit. The voices of those with lived experience are crucial in identification of barriers to their housing stability.

<https://s.surveyplanet.com/638lvu21>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. Thanks!!! -Heather Lindula kanervaconsulting@gmail.com



COMMUNITY MEETING

Chance for Band Members to address any issue(s) they may have.

Scan this code or email executiveassistant@boisforte-nsn.gov to submit any agenda items



Wednesday 7/12

6:00 p.m.

Fortune Bay Resort Casino

More information will come when closer to date. Also will be live streamed.

Band members play key role in state robotics team!

Editor's note: The Northeast Range High School Robotics team, which includes members from Ely, North Woods, and Mesabi East, made it to the state tournament, so we decided to do a Q and A feature with their Advisor, Ryan Lindsay. Congrats to all of the team members and mentors!

Please provide a little background on yourself, i.e., how long have you been with the school, and how long have you been the Robotics coach?

I started teaching around 20 years ago in Tower as a science teacher. My background is in genetics. I made the rounds in the district and taught in Orr, Cook, and Cherry before getting to Babbitt. Around nine

years ago, I started teaching computer science, got volunteered into coaching robotics, and was hooked. Since then, I have picked up a manufacturing license.

Who came up with the school nickname of Iron Mosquitoes, and what was the reasoning behind the name?

We started as NERobotics based on the school. NERO didn't last as a positive mascot, so we had a brainstorm and voted for a new name the following season. I can't remember which team member came up with it. The idea was to represent the Iron Range with the Iron part. The Mosquitos part represents us as we are small, persistent, and surprisingly ef-

fective.

For those who do not know much about robotics, please give an overview of the activity.

Robotics is described as a varsity sport for the mind. Many people think of Battle Bots on TV. FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) is a bit different. Battle Bots compares to Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) fighting as FRC is to basketball. The point is not to destroy but rather compete on a field to score points in different ways. Each year in the first weeks of January, a new game is released worldwide. The students then start studying the 140-page game manual, strategizing, and prototyping. They have around seven weeks to build and program a robot from scratch. The competition season runs for six weeks. Teams usually attend 1 or 2 regionals a couple of weeks apart during that season. A few teams will qualify for World's and are invited to the Championship.

I was told your season runs from October to May—how often does the team get together to work on their robot and do team activities to prepare for your competitions?

Our typical schedule from January to March is Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday for 2 to 5 hours after school and Saturdays for 12 hours. Not all students are there all of that time, but most of the leaders are there for a good chunk of it. We have a scrimmage on a Sunday before a competition with a few other teams. We meet once or twice a week in the fall and have a couple of weekend training sessions. We will host the Northern Minnesota Robotics Conference Championship

in Babbitt this October. That is an off-season tournament and great for getting everyone re-energized and helping rookies see what it is all about.

How many competitions did you have throughout the year, and what was your record en route to making it to state?

We competed in Duluth and Central Illinois. Our record was 12-17 in qualification matches. The important thing is to individually perform well and get selected for an alliance. Robotics matches work as alliances of 3 teams vs. another three teams. We designed our robot to be a cube specialist, a support role. We were one of if not the best in the World at cubes. At each competition, the top alliances had us on their pick list as an ideal 3rd partner. Our alliances finished 4th at Duluth, 3rd at Central Illinois, and 4th in our division at the world championship in Houston. We were in the playoffs at state, too, finishing 4th. We experienced an unlucky popped cube penalty and a match with sup par alliance strategy execution in the playoffs, but it felt great to have a chance to win it all!

What are the tools a kid needs to possess to earn a spot on your team?

A willingness to learn and persist in the work required is critical. There are roles for anyone. The obvious interest areas are computer programming, metal fabrication, CAD design, electrical, mechanical, and driving. A successful team also needs artists for design and branding, communication experts for telling your story to judges and networking with other teams, business and finance, planners for events,

video editors, young leaders for outreach to youth, sewing, etc. The more challenging parts of the team to recruit for are those with non-technical skills; Many students think they can't do programming or build a robot and, therefore, would have no role. Try getting a student that likes to program to design a color-coordinated team outfit or a moving season video to market what you do... Those things are just as, if not more important, than the actual robot. If you have the interest, check it out. You will grow into a role, and we can teach you the skills.

How did the team come together to determine what robot they would build and ensure it was good enough to make it to state?

It was a struggle this year to finalize a concept. At the start, one strategy identified by Ryan Denzer-Johnson, a math teacher and robotics coach, was to specialize in cubes and many cycles of them. We kept that as a priority but still tried to do everything. We had an arm built for cones (a second game piece) and spent lots of time trying to design our robot to pick up both objects. After our first competition, it was apparent the original strategy suggestion was our niche. We tore off the cone arm, redid the intake, and kept making improvements until Worlds.

What was the experience at the state like for the kids and yourself?

It was a lot of fun. We had so many iterations of our robot; it was robust and well-tested. We just went and competed. Last year, a major system broke. The state is a one-day event with little time between matches to fix things. That was super

Continued on next page



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF BOIS FORTE

Boys & Girls Club Parent Portal!

WE WILL DO A DRAWING FOR BGC PARENTS THAT SIGN UP THEIR CHILD/CHILDREN IN THE PARENT PORTAL. THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB IS OPEN TO ALL YOUTH AGES 5-18.

You can sign by following the steps below and letting Wendy Deatherage or Jessi Lambert know that you have completed the signup process. Or if you need assistance please call in advance for an appointment and staff can help you.

How to sign up using our parent portal

- Step 1: Go to our BGC website - <https://www.bgcbouisforte.com/s/>
- Step Two - Click Parent Portal
- Step 3 - Click Need a login and create an account
- Step 4 - Verify your email, Log in
- Step 5 - Click the membership tab (Browse membership)
- Step 6 - Select a membership category, membership type
- Step 7 - Select each child or add a child to sign up
- Step 8 - Fill out all the questions and make sure to submit when done!

Please sign up by July 7, 2023 to be entered into the drawing.

If your child is not signed up in the parent portal your child/children will not be able to attend the BGC until they are signed up.



TALENTED TEAM!— Pictured here are members of the Northeast Range Robotics team, which includes several Bois Forte band members and descendants. Pictured in the top row, left to right, are: Chris Dougherty, Hailey Lindquist, Matt Bock, Ryan Denzer-Johnson, Alex Niles, Owen Koivisto, Greyson Reichensperger, Isaiah Johnson, Leo Mckrahl, Ryan Lindsay, Raiden Pratt, and Aaron Donais. Pictured in the middle row, left to right, are: Walter Harrier, Makana Bodas, Noah Axelsson, Ian Sundahl, Brandon Hancock, Natalie Backe, and Rafael Marroquin. Pictured in the front row, left to right: Connor Doyle, Samantha Dougherty, Amaya Johnson, Molly Lindsay, Tuuli Koivisto, Eva Morgan, and Simon Bartnick. Submitted photo.

hard, and we struggled all day. This year, we just put in a fresh battery, chatted a little with alumni, other teams, and parents, and had fun matches. The students are developing a brand, and recent success helps them connect with other teams.

The alliance partnership aspect of robotics really fosters relationships with all the other teams. One day you compete against them, but the next, you need them to succeed with you. In the robotics pits at competition, teams share parts and tools to ensure everyone can

go out and have a good match. It is just fun to be a part of this big robotics family. You want to win, but it differs from traditional sports, where winning is everything in the competition. Students were so pumped at worlds and state to cheer on other teams they knew. One team that won the world championship competed with us in Central Illinois. In fact, a mom from that team grew up in Babbitt and actually babysat my wife! It's a small world.

BOIS FORTE TRIBAL COURT WARRANT RESOLUTION EVENT

Thursday July 27th 2023

From 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

*Attend virtually via Zoom or
in-person at the Tribal Court*

To Join Zoom Meeting

Go to zoom.com

Enter meeting ID: [305 416 1983](https://zoom.com/join/3054161983)

Or via phone by calling [1 \(312\) 626-6799](tel:13126266799)

REPRESENTATIVES AVAILABLE:

- CHIEF JUDGE, MEGAN TREUER
- BENJAMIN PACHITO, PROSECUTOR
- HEIDI DROBNICK, PUBLIC DEFENDER
- WES MARTINS, INDIAN LEGAL AID

DO YOU HAVE A WARRANT?

View the Bois Forte Warrant List at www.boisforte.com on the Judicial Tab located under the Government Directory

For more information about your case, or to request the Zoom invitation via email, please contact the Bois Forte Tribal Court at (218) 757-3462



CONCERT & TEACHINGS

ROCK THE LAKE SHORE

FEATURING



SIHASIN

**JULY 15TH
2023**

WAR BONNET



SPECIAL GUEST!
World's Ugliest Dog
Mr. Happy Face!

@ NETT LAKE SCHOOL CIRCLE AREA
YOUTH RADIO WORKSHOP 1PM TO 2PM
FRY BREAD COOKING - 2PM TO 3PM

@ NETT LAKE POWWOW GROUNDS
ROCK CONCERT - 5PM

Prepare yourself to dance and enjoy the music!
See you there!

Questions call 218-757-3261 option 4
Visit www.kbft.org



Ceremony ensures Goodsky's legacy will live on

NETT LAKE— Community was always important to Gene Goodsky, so it was fitting when the Bois Forte Tribal Council dedicated the Eagle room in his name this past month.

“Dad was always about community, and community is a part of our family,” said Gene’s daughter, Dianna Good Sky, who goes with two words for her last name, as she looked around the Eagle room at the Bois Forte Tribal Government Building. “... if you were fortunate enough to know him, you were fortunate enough to be a part of his family.”

The event, which drew about 120 friends and family and included a luncheon afterward to continue celebrating Goodsky’s legacy, was highlighted by the unveiling of a stunning portrait of Goodsky, who passed away in February of 2022, just four days past his 80th birthday.

The portrait was framed on a large piece of beautifully stained wood with his Indian name, “De taa gii koo neb,” birth date, and the date when he died. An inscription also read, “In dedication of his many years of devotion, commitment, service, and generosity to the community and band members of the Bois Forte Band of Ojibwe.” The portrait will be hung outside the Eagle room at the Reservation Tribal Government building in his memory.

“When I think of Dad being around, he’s still here,” said Good Sky. “He’s encouraging us all to be good, to be kind, and to have unconditional love, so thank you all for participating in this event today.”

The Bois Forte Drum group performed several songs as they were led by Rose Berens and longtime spiritual advisor Gilbert Smith, who spoke of how much Goodsky meant to him and how much the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa has always



GETTING READY FOR THE BIG MOMENT— Tribal Chair Cathy Chavers gets ready to have members of the Gene Goodsky family, including Dianna Good Sky, far left, and Tom Spears, far right, unveil a portrait of the former spiritual advisor for the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa.

meant to him.

Smith talked fondly of how Bois Forte’s veterans made him an honorary veteran and how his ties to Bois Forte ran deep. He also paid homage to the Bois Forte Honor Guard for their continued service to the community. While the day was meant to honor Goodsky, Smith mentioned that June 2, 2023, marked 41 years of sobriety for himself, which drew a round of applause and a simple pound of the drum.

The Goodsky family was genuinely touched by the special day, and they thanked everyone for being part of the event. Three of Gene’s children, including Dianna, Lela, and Tom, were on hand for the ceremony, as were many of his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Good Sky spoke of how difficult it was for her to communicate with her father as he was on a ventilator due to his battle with COVID that eventually caused him to pass away. She talked about Gene’s ability to forgive people even when they did not deserve forgiveness, such as the time when he held

the door for two ladies in Virginia. She said they looked at Gene as if he was supposed to hold the door and did not thank him for that kind gesture.

“I got a little upset and told my dad, ‘Gosh, that was rude,’” recalled Good Sky of the slight.

Rather than get annoyed, Gene told his daughter that the slight was their problem and had nothing to do with him.

“That’s just who they are, and I just wish them well,” recounted Good Sky as to what her father said. “So, I said, ‘That was about love then?’ and he said, ‘Yeah.’”

Good Sky said she then realized what her father’s teachings were all about, and it was unconditional love. When she told him that she finally grasped that teaching, she could see a tear form in his eyes, and he nodded his head.

“Everything was about unconditional love,” said Good Sky, who added the ceremony was a lasting nod to her father on behalf of the Bois Forte people. “I finally got all the teachings he was trying to give—it’s more than the act—it’s about courage



FITTING TRIBUTE— This is the portrait of Gene Goodsky that will be hung outside the Eagle room in the Bois Forte Tribal Government Building in Nett Lake.

and forgiveness. It was deeper than that. When you carry the love inside, that other stuff comes naturally.”

What a powerful message, and it was one Bois Forte Tribal Chair Cathy Chavers said Gene Goodsky embodied so well. He did it regularly by always being there for someone who needed guidance or advice or someone who was on their journey after leaving this world.

“One thing Gene instilled in all of us was a sense of community, and he always talked to us about that,” said Chavers. “He talked about how we got together to do things as a community. When Gene passed, we really felt like this was a fitting honor for him.”

After all, the Eagle room has been used countless times for community gatherings, both in

happy times and times of sadness. She said that Gene always looked to bring the community together, and she recalled during COVID-19 when it was he who suggested a Zoom meeting to bring people together to get through the pandemic.

“He wanted all the medicine men and spiritual advisors to come together and asked, ‘How can we battle this as one?’” said Chavers. “He was always thinking about others before himself. What better way for us to hold this special ceremony today. Chi Miigwech to the family for allowing us to do that. He was so much a part of our lives, and he will be for many, many years to come. He’ll always be in this room with us. Chi Miigwech to the family and everyone who came here today to celebrate Gene.”

LVTPW provides a chance to reconnect with family and friends

When people flock to the Lake Vermilion Pow wow grounds, some of them talk about being home again.

But for one Bois Forte band member, walking onto the pow wow grounds is literally home again and not just a clique.

“I grew up here, my house was right over there,” said Cheryl (Chosa) Krotzer as she pointed in the general direction of the Lake Vermilion Clinic. “When I get back here, I think of all the people I knew and the fun times we had. I remember Ray Boshey, Alex and Mary Pete and the Curries too. The homes were built in the 50s and 60s and now they are all gone, but the memories are still with me.”

Krotzer, who now lives in Luverne, Minnesota, said she looks forward to coming back home every year. The 70-year-old said she always enjoyed dancing, but now arthritis in her knees have made that task too difficult.

“I had been a dancer for many, many years until arthritis got to me,” said Krotzer as she watched her husband Bill and son, Scott, set up a booth for the regalia they would be selling.

“It is killing me not to dance—I hear the drums and boy, I want to go.”

The powwow grounds were bustling with activity Friday afternoon as vendors worked at a brisk pace setting up their booths for the weekend’s activity. The smell of food cooking permeated the air while others were pounding stakes into the ground to set up their booth for the weekend.

“We do this powwow every year and look forward to it,” said Fond du Lac band member Jon Wright as he grilled burgers that would either be served American style or with a piece of fry bread. “I believe this is the 16th year we’ve done it and it is always a good time.”

All told there were over a dozen vendors prepping for the weekend and every one of them was looking forward to what lie ahead.

Except, that is, the dousing of much needed rain that swept through the area Friday evening was relentless but failed to break the spirits of those at the pow wow grounds. The rain lightened up an hour or so later and then revisited the event sporadical-

ly throughout the weekend, causing some of the events to be moved inside.

While not ideal, Lake Vermilion Traditional Pow wow Committee (LVTPW) member Tracey Dagen said the 2023 LVTPW did not disappoint.

“Howah! Another good LVTPW in the books,” wrote Dagen in a Facebook post after the event wrapped up. “One of the tougher ones, but we made it through. Thanks to those who stepped up and did some double shifts and extra duties! Miigwech to our staff, singers, dancers, security, kitchen crew and spectators! Chi Miigwech to Muriel Deegan and Blondie (Bessie Medicine)! Greatly appreciate you!”

Deegan echoed those sentiments Friday afternoon and talked about how exciting it was going to be to reconnect with family and friends and watch all of the activities unfold.

“Everyone looks forward to this weekend every year,” said Deegan, who serves on the LVTPW Committee with Dagen and Medicine. “This event keeps growing and we expect that to be the case again this year.”

Dagen helped spread the word

by handing out over 100 flyers at the White Earth Powwow and also helped publicize the LVTPW at the Nett Lake Pow wow earlier in the month.

“We have several new vendors signed up and we’re hoping some of the drum groups from White Earth will show up too,” said Dagen. “Not that they need extra incentive, but we’ve been known to have the best breakfast on the pow wow trail with our oatmeal and bacon grease breakfast—everyone loves it.”

Meanwhile, Krotzer continued to arrange regalia near her booth and talked again how special it was for her to be home.

“I get so much enjoyment from this,” said Krotzer. “Once the dancers start, I know I’ll want to be out there, but I can’t. But I always remember when I was a dancer, they said, ‘Dance hard for those who can’t.’ Now I’m on the other side of the fence, but I’m going to enjoy this. I always tell my husband that we need to make it back home, because you never know when it’s going to be your last.”



ALMOST SHOW TIME!— Bois Forte band member Cheryl Krotzer rearranges some regalia that would be sold through the 2023 LVTPW. Krotzer and her family grew up on the shores of Lake Vermilion on what now houses the Lake Vermilion Clinic.



PREPPING FOR THE BIG EVENT!— LVTPW Committee members Muriel Deegan, left, and Tracey Dagen, right, were busy preparing for the 2023 LVTPW Friday, June 23rd. Great job to you both and thank you for your dedication to this time honored tradition!



WONDERUL SMELL!— Jon Wright was working the grill to perfection in preparation of the LVTPW Friday afternoon, June 23rd. Wright's booth, Wissini, meaning, "Come on let's eat," is a big hit at all of the pow wows he and his family from Fond du Lac travel to throughout the year.

Join the BGC today!

The Boys and Girls Clubs (BGC) of Bois Forte—Nett Lake and Vermilion— are off to a good start for the 2023 summer session.

The clubs opened in early June and have already been on fishing field trips with the Life Skills Program, Archery, Pontoon fishing, and Knocking Stick making with the 1854 Treaty Authority, Canoe lessons with Native Hearts, and Indigenous Games with Mr. Bajan.

Memberships must be renewed each year. If you have been a member in the past but have yet to renew online, please consider doing so.

Membership may be completed online at bgeboisforte.com. Step 1: Go to the website. Step 2: Click Parent Portal. Step 3: Click Need login and create an account. Step 4: Verify your email,

and log in. Step 5: Click the membership tab (browse membership). Step 6: select a membership category and membership type. Step 7: select each child or add a child to sign up. Step 8: fill out all the questions and make sure to submit them when done.

We are looking to expand our membership to include new members! Please share this information with your friends, family, and co-workers.

Our membership is open year-round for all youth ages 5-18. There is no minimum attendance requirement, and they are no fees.

Our hours are 7:50 a.m. to 4:40 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7:50 a.m. to noon on Fridays.

We offer BGC and locally developed programming. We serve a healthy breakfast, lunch, and snack in a safe and fun environment!

BOIS FORTE FORESTRY FIRE RESTRICTIONS

MN DNR and USFS have placed fire restrictions across their Forests due to the increased fire potential and occurrence we are experiencing this summer.

TO REPORT A FIRE: CALL 911

As of 6/16/2023 Bois Forte Forestry will no longer be issuing burn permits and all recreational fires will not be allowed.

Ceremonial and Spiritual fires will be allowed. Please reach out to Forestry to let us know when and where these fires will be happening. All efforts must be made to maintain and secure these fires when burning.

(Keep a supply of water nearby and tools like a shovel)

Email: Cody.Swanson@boisforte-nsn.gov

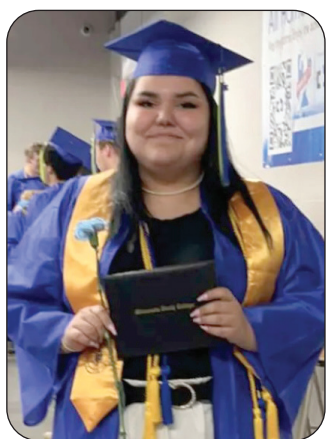
Office Phone: 218-757-3177 ext.1 Cell Phone: 218-750-0226



**CONGRATULATIONS
MY BABY GIRL,
KIA LEE JEANETTE
DEEGAN!!**

Your momma is beyond proud!!
I love you forever and always.
Love, Mom

CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations!
YOU DID IT

Congratulations to my beautiful daughter, Monique Benner, on graduating with honors as a Phi Theta Kappa from Minnesota North-Mesabi. We are bursting with pride of her accomplishment!

Love always,
Mom, Kalvyn and Makayla

Congratulations

**Congratulations Everly Adams
on your graduation from
Head Start 2023!**

Parents: Tyla Adams & Steven Rabbit Jr.



News for Bois Forte Elders

By Millie Holmes

Well, we had the first cook-out and it went well. We only had one glitch: the company changed our order by sending bratwurst patties instead of links. When informed of the debacle, images of patties encased in hot dog buns floated around my mind's eye.

Happily, the cook informed me she had extra hamburger buns. I am so glad she plans in advance for some

things. She avoids panic and mad dashes to town or, at the very least, to the store and cleaning out their supply.

Well, apparently, I was wrong in that she actually did buy out the hamburger buns at the store. So, we ended up with a supply of hot dog buns for the next cook out. And a slightly annoyed store manager who now would have to deal with unhappy customers

looking for the hamburger buns they forgot in their own mad dashes for forgotten items. Par for the course in the life of a very small rural reservation in the midst of the great "up north."

Other news, Elder Round Table is held the first Monday of the month in Nett Lake, first Thursday in Vermilion. Jaylen Strong or Perry Drift will be quite happy to answer any questions you might have. They can be contacted at 218 753 6017.

Wednesdays are scheduled for Elder Fitness. Please call Dave Morrison Jr at 218 757 0087 to let him know you

will be taking part or if you'd prefer an alternate time.

And Wisdom Steps are active once again. Gloria Love and David Morrison, Jr. have the forms you need to track your steps or use the steps conversion chart to fulfill requirement for attending next year's Annual Dinner.

This year's dinner has been done, dusted and in the happy memories of those who attended this year.

Until next month, take care, stay safe and have fun.



Minute with Millie

After the thunderstorm at the pow-wow last month, I ordered five yards of waterproof material to make the waterproof cloak my son asked me for years upon years ago. I got the spray stuff and was waiting for what? I don't know. Just read all the directions, watched a few YouTube videos, consulted with the experts at the company. Not sure why I haven't waterproofed the cloak.

Perhaps it's cause I think I might ruin it somehow. And the disappointment in my son's eyes would be too much to deal with after the feeling of my own disappointment and the failure. Ahh, the life of a perfectionist who is trying to reform.

T'any rate, I got the material and leaped right into measuring, marking and cutting. Next came the sewing. Ahh, the sewing part. I had vague notions of the seams in the waterproof cloak needing to be sealed somehow. I put those aside until it came time to sew. Yep. I investigated various finishes for seams in the hope of finding something that didn't involve sealant.

A plan emerged that involved sewing the seam such that when the water collected in the seam, it would run straight down thereby enabling my first-born child to walk safely through the rain on his

way to work.

Well, sad to inform you that such a seam never did evolve



from all the convoluted plots and schemes I checked out. Nope, I just sewed a straight seam after reassuring myself by asking my son if he minded a bit of rain if he had to walk to work. He gave me such a funny stare...mayhap envisioning the very thing I had envisioned whilst planning and sewing this. Visions of him, back bent into the wind and rain whilst heading up the hill to his place of employment during one of the very rare wind, and hail thunderstorms we get perhaps once in two, three decades.

Here is the Elder Nutrition Program's (ENP) menu for the month of July. 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.

July 5: Chef Salad, Garlic Breadstick, Chef's Choice Assorted Fruit

July 6: Roasted Chicken, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Capri Vegetable

July 7: Bison Stew (Chili) Multigrain Bun, Chef's Choice Assorted Fruit

July 10: Hamburger Gravy, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Tossed Garden Salad, Dinner Roll, Chef's Choice Assorted Fruit

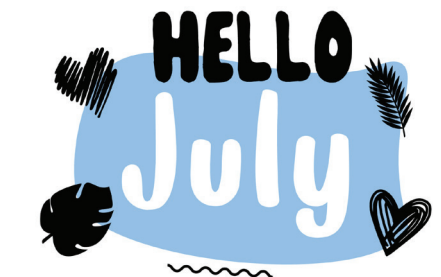
July 11: Chicken Penne Alfredo, Broccoli Florets, Chef's Choice Assorted Fruit, (Chicken Penne Salad)

July 12: Wild Rice Meatballs & Gravy, Sweet Potato Fries, Chef's Choice Assorted Fruit

July 13: AuGratin Potatoes, Country Ham, Wheat Roll, Chef's Choice Assorted Fruit

July 14: Pork Loin, Garden Blend Rice, TWC, Diced Beets, Chef's Choice Assorted Fruit

July 17: Teriyaki Grilled Chicken, Brown Rice, Oriental Vegetables, Chef's Choice Assorted Fruit (Philly



For more information, call 218-757-3790.

Cheesesteak)

July 18: Roast Turkey Slice, Poultry Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing

July 19: Rigatoni Hot Dish, Tossed Garden Salad, Chef's Choice Assorted Fruit (Cabbage Roll Hot Dish)

July 20: Grilled Chicken Breast, Spanish Rice, Sliced Zucchini, Chef's Choice Assorted Fruit

July 21: BBQ Port Ribette, AuGratin Potatoes, Broccoli Slaw, Chef's Choice Assorted Fruit

July 24: Baked Pork Chop, Rosemary Baby Red Potato, Cauliflower, Chef's Choice Assorted Fruit

July 25: Beef Lasagna, Green Beans, Garlic Toast

July 26: Stir Fry Chicken, Stir Fry Vegetables, Brown Rice

July 27: Holiday Cook Out Menu, Hamburgers, Brats, Beans, Potato Salad, Fruit Veggie Tray

July 28: Bison Stew, Multigrain Bun, Chef's Choice Assorted Fruit

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

Date of Notice: 16 June 2023
 Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Planning Department
 5344 Lakeshore Drive, Nett Lake, Minnesota 55772, (218) 757-3261

On or about July 7, 2023 the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Department of Planning will submit a request to the Eastern Woodlands Office of Native American Programs (EWONAP) for the release of Vermilion Reservation Public Works program facility development funds under Indian Community Development Block Grant FY21 to undertake a project known as Vermilion Reservation Public Works Facility Construction Project for the purpose of construction a maintenance, storage and office building for Public Works and Facility Maintenance program use in efforts to provide public services to Vermilion Residents and visitors to Vermilion Reservation. The construction will occur at 1655 Eagle Point/Farm Road, Vermilion Reservation. Construction is a 10,656 ft² rectangular pre-cast wall, one-level slab-on-grade building. The purpose of the structure is to provide secure office to support administrative needs for up to five (5) persons and to provide secure storage and work space for public works and maintenance vehicles and equipment. A portion of the building will also support safe food storage and handling associated with Bois Forte's active food shelf program provided to Bois Forte residents and the general public. The anticipated footprint of the constructed building is anticipated to be approximately 0.25 acre. The building construction will be suitable for year-round use and will be connected to municipal water, sanitary sewer and storm sewer using existing service infrastructure previously installed near site. Facility design and specifications are provided as an attachment to this proposal. The building will include:

- Drive-through vehicle bays to accommodate up to eight (8) service vehicles
- mechanical shop/bay areas to perform vehicle maintenance
- Mezzanine area and tool room for mechanical operations, storage of supplies and equipment
- Office space to accommodate up to five (5) program administrative staff persons
- Common space including a break/meeting room, conference room, office supplies storage room, vestibule/entrance area, janitorial supply, restrooms
- Dedicated space for food shelf activities including food-grade freezer/cooler rooms; open warehouse space with food storage racks; customer admittance/check out area with food scales.
- Construction will commence in 2023. Anticipated completion time is 12 months, and anticipated cost of the project is \$5,146,805.00.

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements or alternative #2: comprise a project for which a Finding of No Significant Impact on the environment was determined by the the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, offices of Natural Resources, Cultural Resources and Planning on 1 June 2023. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at Bois Forte Planning Office, Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, 5344 Lakeshore Drive, Nett Lake, Minnesota 55772 where the record is available for review and may be examined weekdays 8 A.M. to 430 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Bois Forte band of Chippewa Planning Office. All comments received by July 7, 2023 will be considered by the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Chairperson prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Bois Forte Band of Chippewa certifies to HUD that Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council in its official capacity as Governance Executive of the Bois Forte Band consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the Bois Forte Band's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Bois Forte Band; (b) the Bois Forte Band has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Eastern Woodlands Office of Native American Programs (EWONAP) at 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Room 2404, Chicago, Illinois 60604-3507. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Cathy Chavers, Chairperson, Bois Forte Band of Minnesota Chippewa

BIG WOODS TRANSIT

WAABOOZ ROUTE

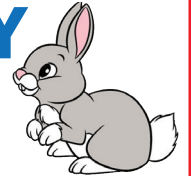
(WEEKDAY ROUTE NETT LAKE, ORR & COOK TO VIRGINIA)

MONDAY-FRIDAY

DOOR TO DOOR SERVICE

CALL 1-888-757-1540

TO REQUEST A RIDE



BOIS FORTE TRIBAL JUSTICE SYSTEM COMMUNITY QUESTIONNAIRE 2023

The Bois Forte Tribal Court was awarded a grant from the Office of Justice Programs to create a 5-year strategic plan with a vision of improvement, safety, sovereignty, and incorporating culture to our Justice system.

The following departments included within our justice system strategic plan are:

- Tribal Court and Probation
- Indian Child Welfare
- Law Enforcement
- Victim Services
- Substance Use Department
- Behavioral Health Services

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

We are asking for the community's input on how we can improve our Justice System. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey.

TO ACCESS AND COMPLETE THE ONLINE SURVEY
 PLEASE SCAN THIS QR CODE WITH YOUR CAMERA PHONE



ALL SURVEYS NEED TO BE COMPLETED
BY FRIDAY JULY 28TH 2023

IF YOU WOULD RATHER FILL OUT THE SURVEY
 ON A PAPER COPY
 PLEASE CONTACT KRISTINA ISHAM

MIIGWETCH FOR YOUR TIME!

Any questions or concerns please contact:
 Kristina Isham or Melissa Wright
 218-757-3462 or
 Kisham@boisforte-nsn.gov

