



Bois Forte NEWS

VOL. 48 NUMBER 7

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Please reach out to Jaylen Strong if you would like to be a part of Bois Forte's Language and Culture Revitalization Committee.

This opportunity is for on and off reservation band members, youth, or elders.

If you would like more information, please call Strong at 218-753-6017.

Heavy rains leave a path of destruction Band members might be eligible for relief

TOWER— Torrential rains wreaked havoc on the Lake Vermilion sector of the Bois Forte Reservation the evening of Tuesday, June 18th.

Not only were residents dealing with the heavy rains, but some homeowners had a double whammy as sewers were backing up as well. One homeowner on Whiskey Point Road had several inches of water in his basement and raw sewage shooting up out of his toilet and other drains.

Bois Forte's Water and Sanitation Supervisor George Mihelich was doing all that he could by letting residents know of the impending dangers, as the sanitary sewer system was being stretched to its limits. Not only that, but driveways were getting eroded and roads to local resorts were being washed away due to the relentless rains.

The threat of additional flooding had Bois Forte CEO Drew Ebert and Fortune Bay General Manager Josh Thurmes working the phones with their staff to get a game plan in place should residents need emergency housing.

The only problem with that plan was that Fortune Bay was hosting a large conference so finding rooms was difficult so Plan B went into place, which included two conference rooms being used as emergency housing, complete with roll away beds and anything else impact-



READY TO HELP— Governor Tim Walz visited Cook on Friday, June 21 to assess the damages caused by torrential rains Tuesday, June 18th. While not as severe as the flooding in Cook and Biwabik, the Vermilion Sector of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Reservation did experience some flooding issues.

ed residents would have needed. As it turned out, the heavy rains slowed down long enough for residents to stay the course and Plan B was not needed.

Even so, the emergency did result in Ebert realizing we need a more solid game plan for the "what ifs" that should be in place the next time an emergency surfaces.

"I am very proud of how we responded at the Bay and corporate side," wrote Ebert in

an email to Bois Forte and Fortune Bay teams. "Although we did not have many openings at the hotel, and only 10 cots, it was nice to see the teams come together. Hopefully, we can get more supplies in the case of an emergency from this."

Local homes weren't the only structure impacted by the rains as Fortune Bay had six of its rooms experiencing some type of water damage, whether it be leaks through windows

or floors on the lower portion of the 172-room resort. The Woodlands Ballroom also experienced damage due to a leaking roof and wet carpeting. The Hospitality room also sustained minor damage.

The silver-lining in the aftermath was that Bois Forte may qualify for emergency funding. In his email to staff, Ebert reminded staff to document any and everything that was damaged in the storm, plus additional hours worked, and materials used to combat the flood damage.

Bois Forte's staff met later in the week to do the same. Executive Director Luke Warnsholz reminded band members to be on the lookout for an instant alert whereby residents who experienced damage due to the flood can file claims that St. Louis County is willing to assist with.

"We need full legal names, addresses, a description of damages and pictures," said Warnsholz.

Meanwhile, damage was so great on the west end of Lake Vermilion that many resort owners were dealing with more than just flooded cabins and buildings caused by the floods. Officials with the Vermilion Lake Association sent out warnings to boaters to be on the lookout for floating

See Destruction page 3

Chairwoman Cathy Chavers



Boozhoo!

I want to say Chi Miigwech to the voters and all the candidates in this last election. I look forward to serving you as your Chairwoman for the next four years.

With the legislative session

being over for 2024, some bills passed, and others didn't. For Bois Forte, the Tribal Right of First Refusal: HF3783/SF3557, proposes a right of first refusal offer to affected Bands to sell tax-forfeited land, including land within the boundary of an Indian Reservation. This is the first time this language has been included in a statute. This change in the law now requires that the County provide notice when tax-forfeited lands within the boundary of the Reservation become available for purchase. This is the major bill that Bois Forte was advocating for.

While the sports betting bill did not pass this legislative session, we are optimistic about the future. The 1854 Treaty payment bill: HF3651/SF3693, a continuation of last year's

additional appropriations for the 1854 Treaty payments, did not get passed as this was not a budget year. However, we have received information that the DNR department plans to include this in its proposed budget next year, which is a budget cycle year. We are hopeful that we will be successful in getting this passed next year. As for the 1854 Treaty payment, this year will be similar to last year's, but it depends on the formula for fishing licenses, etc. We will be lobbying next year to ensure that this increase has a sustainable funding source to continue for years to come.

We are actively engaged in our Cannabis project, working closely with Minnesota Roots, our technical advisor, and Drew Ebert, CEO of the Bois Forte Development Corpora-

tion. We are making significant strides in our project, including the search for suitable sites for a dispensary and a grow facility here at Bois Forte. We are also in the process of establishing the GM and compliance department. We will continue to keep you updated on the progress of this important project.

For the first time, the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners met in Nett Lake at the Tribal Government Center and met at Fortune Bay about a year ago. This is what building partnerships and collaborations are all about. Some of the county commissioners have never been to or seen Nett Lake. It makes a huge difference when we have outside committees and agency representatives coming to see where we are located and the challenges

we face. We want to thank the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners for their continued support of Bois Forte.

Construction will start on the Vermilion Public Works/Food Shelf facility. We are looking forward to this new facility being built, as there is a great need for it in Vermilion. We are also looking at finishing our dock project, which includes four docks for Vermilion and one dock for Indian Point. We are continuing with our other projects, such as the DNR building and the new Transit facility.

There is a lot to do in the upcoming year, and as always, I will be submitting monthly articles to update you! Have a great summer, and be safe.

Chi Miigwech

District 1 Representative Shane Drift



Howah! Boozho, Bois Forte Band Members! First off, I would like to say "congratulations" to Cathy Chavers, Tribal Chairwoman, and also Perry Drift, the new District 1 Representative.

I am looking forward to working with the tribal council.

I would also like to say "Thank you" to the band members who exercised their right to vote in the Bois Forte 2024 general election. Thank you to the Nett Lake, Vermilion, Duluth, and Minneapolis election boards for your hard work and long hours.

We had an airplane land on our lake very recently. Thank you to Conservation Officer Tony Mason for handling the situation promptly and professionally. I asked for a resolution that would ban airplanes from landing on our lake and that we get our lake listed as a no-landing zone. The Tribal Attorney is working on the resolution.

Back in May, I submitted a grant request for \$25,000.00 to the Minnesota Department of Health Suicide Prevention Re-

gional Grant program through the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. The grant was to fund the June 2024 Nett Lake Powwow. I am happy to report that the grant was approved. The Saa Gii Bah Gah Powwow was awesome. The Powwow Committee did a superb job putting the Powwow on.

I submitted a BIA end-of-year funding request for culture and language events. If the funding request is approved, I will bring in an elder to share various stories about Bois Forte and traditional teachings. I will also bring a woman to share her knowledge about traditional medicines. I have been pushing for the tribe to develop some Anishinaabemowin books. The language books would help band members learn and pre-

serve our language. The Anishinaabemowin books would come with CDs and possibly MP3s. I plan to hold another event with local band members sharing their knowledge of traditional medicines and a tanning hide class.

I posted on my "Shane Drift District I Representative Updates" group page regarding the marijuana business. I recommended to the tribal council that they build a dispensary first. The tribe could contract with one of the other reservations that is growing or will be growing marijuana. Once the dispensary starts to make a profit, the tribe could consider building a growing facility. This way, the tribe would get a good idea of the supply and demand situation. Please keep in mind

that nothing is set in stone.

Now, regarding the 1854 treaty payment increase. This is the second year that the band members will receive the 1854 treaty payment increase. As for next year, the tribal council and the tribe's lobbyist will have to push for the 1854 payment increase to become permanent during the 2025 legislative session.

As always, I am not speaking for the tribal council or individual council members. I am looking forward to seeing you at the Duluth Urban Office Picnic and the Minneapolis Urban Office Picnic. Until next time, stay safe and take care. Mii'iw miigwech.

LeBeau gives overview of 2024 Legislative session

*Guest column
by Lobbyist Reid LeBeau*

Boozhoo!

The 2024 legislative session ended on May 20, 2024. We have had many crazy and unique endings to legislative sessions over the years that I have been privileged to work for the Band, but this one will be remembered as one of the most acrimonious and least productive I ever hope to witness. I have, however, always been a firm believer that life has a funny way of evening itself out, regressing to the mean, and the law of averages usually wins out. Where 2023 saw easily the most active legislature ever, this session saw a recalibration on the dial of expectation.

Session began mid-February and, from the beginning, leadership worked hard to set expectations low. Many parties, legislators and lobbyists alike, came into the session thinking it would be a continuation of the previous session, which saw nearly \$18 billion dollars spent. The second half of this biennium did not resemble the first half. Simply put, the money ran out. The second half budget contained nothing close to the dollar amount spent in the previous year. Additionally, since the budget was set, there was little left for the Legislature to do. They could pass a bonding bill, but even if they didn't, the government would still continue to function until the 25-26 biennium. This was the state of play for the 2024 legislative session.

Session ended at the stroke of midnight on May 19, 2024. The Constitution prohibits the Legislature from passing a bill on the "day set for adjournment" which was May 20 this year. In the end, the DFL-controlled Legislature created an omnibus-omnibus bill that included multiple subject matter areas ranging from taxes to energy policy. The Legislature passed this bill minutes before midnight struck. There was an attempt to include sportsbook legislation in the bill, but legislative leadership vetoed the idea.

Even with all these challenges, this session proved to be an active session for the Band's interest and tribal interests in general. Below, we outline legislation directly applicable to the Band, and leg-

islation that generally impacts tribal interests.

What Got Done Tribal Proposals

- Tribal Right of First Refusal: HF3783/SF3557. This bill proposes a right of first refusal offer to affected Bands in the sale of tax-forfeited land including land within the boundary of an Indian reservation. This is the first time this language has been included in statute. For nearly a decade we have included similar language in session law, when the Band has identified a parcel it seeks to acquire. This change in the law now requires that the County provide notice when tax-forfeited lands within the boundary of the Reservation become available for purchase. This language was included in the Omnibus Environment and natural Resources Omnibus bill.

- Cannabis Legislation: HF4757/SF4782. The cannabis bill this session accelerated the program ahead of full cultivation and retail legalization in spring of 2025. The Office of Cannabis Management will begin preparing for social equity applicants to apply for a lottery that will be held in the fall of 2024. The new legislation is meant to give social equity applicants an advantage over traditional applicants by awarding them licenses late fall/early winter 2024, although no retail will be allowed prior to spring 2025.

What Didn't Get Done 1854 Treaty Payment

- HF3651/SF3693. This bill was a continuation of last year's additional appropriations for 1854 Treaty payments. The bills were referred to Environment and Natural Resources in the House and Environment, Climate, and Legacy in the Senate. Our challenge in passing this bill was the ongoing nature of the funding and the lack of money budgeted for tails spending. We had positive hearings on the bills, but in the end the Chairs of the Environment Committees were not given budget targets that included tails money. We have received information that the Department will include this in its proposed budget next year. We think we will have success getting this passed the next budget cycle.

Sports Betting

Another chapter in the years-long saga of sportsbook is now complete. This year it came as close as it ever has to final passage. It was almost included in the final omnibus-omnibus bill on the last night of session but, in the end, this chapter ended like all the previous, no sportsbook this year.

This sportsbook bill (HF2000 /SF 1949) received multiple hearings in the House and Senate.

From the beginning of the year, we faced the same problem as the end of last year. Plain and three simple numbers. There are not enough Democratic votes by themselves to pass the Sportsbooks Bill without Republican help. Senator Marty, who is the Chair of the Senate Finance Committee, is vehemently opposed to the bill, and would not move it to the floor. In the House, we had a similar problem with around six House Democrats refusing to vote for the bill.

In the end, a negotiated version of the proposal, which would have given tribal government aid and racetracks similar amounts of state, gross tax revenues, failed to be included in the final bill to pass the session.

Other Legislative Proposals of Interest to Minnesota Tribes

The following legislation was proposed during this session but did not pass. However, a few of the bills did see considerable movement during session and we expect that many of these bills will reoccur in coming sessions.

- HF3903/SF3988, HF4551/SF4517, and HF3968/SF3833, measures requiring open season for wolves.

- HF4067/SF3609, a repeal of the American Indian Mascot Prohibition

- HF4064/SF3610, providing exceptions for the prohibition on American Indian mascots

- HF3418/SF3631, providing for the transfer, donation, or conveyance of bison to a governmental unit or nonprofit organization.

- HF3458/SF3434, prohibiting non-ferrous mining activities in the Rainy River headwaters watershed.

- HF4838/SF4480, a proposal to modify certain provisions of MIFPA.

- HF4420/SF4142, a proposal to mod-

ify the provisions of the elk management plan and Aquaculture Development Act.

- HF4354/SF4428, proposals to add the Public Utilities Commission to the list of agencies subject to obligations to Tribal governments.

- HF4935/SF4992, proposals to use grant funds for activities relating to planning of American Indian focused birth center.

- HF4888/SF4922, proposals to amend potential restrictions placed on funds appropriated for the Native American Community Clinic in Minneapolis.

- HF4957/SF2998, proposals to allow smudging ceremonies in public schools.

- HF4939/SF4916, proposals to prohibit an open season for elk during any year in which there is not a moose open season.

- HF4780/SF5080, a proposal to require conveyance of state land to the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians.

- HF5273/SF5405, proposals to establish cannabis business ownership requirements.

- HF5042/SF5074, proposals to appropriate funding for American Indian mascot removal and replacement costs for ISD 84.4

In all, there were over 500 bills between the House and Senate that were introduced that would have impacted Tribes or individual tribal members in some way. This past biennium we monitored and tracked every one of them. Some were just introduced. Some had a single hearing.

Others went the full distance and made it to the Governor's desk. It is our distinct pleasure to represent the Fond du Lac Band at the State Capitol. We take this trust seriously and we thrive on successfully passing legislation for you and stopping legislation you don't want passed. This past session was unlike any other for the sheer volume of bills introduced, amount of money spent, and how it devolved in its final days.

On behalf of the entire team, I thank you all for allowing us to be your voice at the Capitol and we look forward to much more success on behalf of the people of the Bois Forte Band.

Thurmes begins stint as Fortune Bay's General Manager

TOWER—One month after landing a new CEO, the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa has now added another key part of its team with the hiring of Josh Thurmes as the new GM at Fortune Bay Resort Casino.

"We're very happy to have you here," said Tribal Chair Cathy Chavers, who attended a recent Division Director's meeting with the rest of the council. "We welcome you and look forward to your leadership and ideas and working with our great team here."

"I'm super happy to be here and thank you for the opportunity," replied Thurmes, a Rochester, Minnesota native, who most recently worked at a property in South Dakota.

Although Thurmes just started his new job, he has been impressed with what he has seen thus far in his employees and the property in general. He said he plans to set aside time with all of the directors to get to know them better as well as what their needs might be.

"There's a lot for me to absorb right now, but that will be coming soon," said Thurmes of his meetings with staff. "I've been taking in as much as I can, but I've already seen great leadership. I'm excited to work with all of you and super thankful for the opportunity."

Thurmes, who received his degree in Tourism and Hospitality management

from Black Hills State University, is married and has two daughters, who are active in dance, cross country and softball. His wife, Crystal, is originally from Virginia, Minnesota and she still has a lot of family in the Quad Cities area.

"I started my gaming career in 2004 at Mystic Lake Casino. I have been in gaming ever since working in Iowa, Minnesota, and South Dakota," said Thurmes, who finished his MBA with an emphasis with an emphasis on Economic Crime and Fraud Management from Utica College in Utica, New York in 2021.

His work history includes a variety of positions that have prepared him to lead the Fortune Bay team. Those jobs include table games dealer, pit boss,



GLAD TO BE HERE!— Josh Thurmes is the new General Manager for Fortune Bay Resort Casino. Thurmes is a Rochester, Minnesota native, who brings a wealth of casino and hospitality experience to Bois Forte.

said he will soak in as much information as possible to find out what everyone is going through and working on.

"I will be making rounds and saying hi to everyone," said Thurmes. "There are already so many great people here and so many great things happening. I just need to absorb it all and learn as much as I can."

floor supervisor, table games director, Assistant General Manager and General Manager.

"I pride myself on innovation and teamwork," said Thurmes, who volunteers as a softball coach for his daughters. "I like to learn from others, and help others grow in their careers."

He said he will spend his first couple of weeks diving into the overall operations.

To make sure Fortune Bay aligned with his career path, Thurmes visited the property prior to formally accepting the position. Given that his wife grew up 30 miles away, he was familiar with the area, but didn't know the property and all of its amenities.

"When I arrived, I was blown away for many reasons. It is so beautiful here and the property is amazing," said Thurmes, who did a little secret shopping on his visit to see how staff oversaw its operations. "What I was most excited about was the team members. I was ecstatic about the service level that was delivered to me and how kind everyone was. I had great experiences around the resort starting with my check in experience. I wanted to be part of this team."

During his visit, Thurmes met with CEO Drew Ebert to gain some insight to what Fortune Bay team was all about.

"Quickly I knew that our leadership styles were similar, and he and I would do great things together supporting the employees, the community, and working tirelessly to take Fortune Bay to the next level," said Thurmes. "It all felt perfect, and I knew I had to be here. I am very humbled, and thankful for the opportunity. I am excited to meet everyone, and my door is open if you need anything."

Chi Miigwech from Bois Forte Tribal Chair Cathy Chavers



I would like to thank all the band members who voted for me in the election. I want to congratulate Perry Drift on his District 1 win!

I look forward to working with him. Also, thank you to my friends and family who helped with my campaign. I look forward to serving Bois Forte for the next four years!

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Bois Forte Tribal Government building and other offices will be closed beginning at noon on Wednesday, July 3rd and will reopen Monday, July 8.

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

Bois Forte Band members are eligible to use the Fortune Bay resort Casino pool any day during pool operation hours. Occupancy levels do not apply. A Bois Forte Band Member is eligible to bring a max of 4 guests with them. A parent or guardian must be present.

If you have any questions, please call Fortune Bay's Director of Hospitality Rebecca Stahl at 218-753-7838

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debris, mainly docks and posts that may have broken away in the storm or building materials due to damaged boat houses, etc. Similar damage was being reported on the east end of the expansive lake and docks could be seen floating in Pike Bay days later.

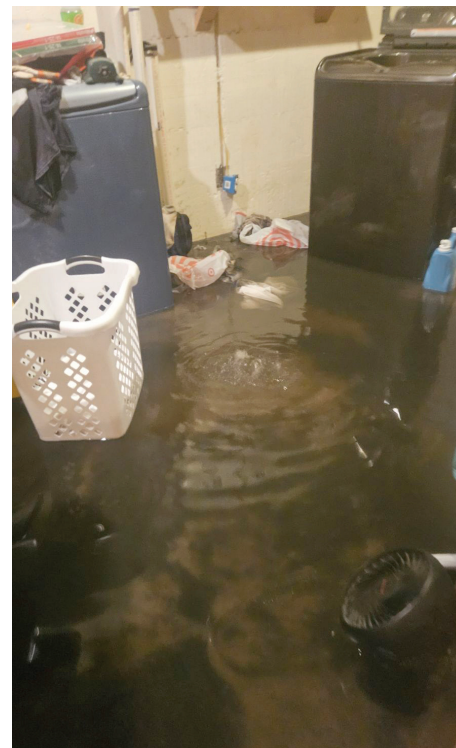
The City of Cook also suffered a lot of damage as homeowners and business owners alike dealt with flooded basements. The Little Fork River was overflowing and causing streets and avenues to flood. Businesses in the downtown area are scrambling to see if it is feasible to try to reopen their doors, amidst what was turning out to be a great start to the summer season. The Red Cross was called in and worked with local officials

to set up a command post in case the situation grew worse. Governor Tim Walz visited the town Friday 21st and assured the residents he would get them the help they needed.

“When it comes to Minnesota weather, we never know the hand we are going to be dealt. From last year’s summer drought and forest fires to the major flooding we are dealing with today, what remains consistent is the ability of our communities to come together in times of crisis,” said Governor Walz in a press release following his visit to Cook and Biwabik. “Here amidst the flooding, I am reminded of the strength and resilience of Minnesotans. Together we will build back, and the state stands ready to support.”

Great job to Marian and Jacque!

OFF TO NATIONALS!— Bois Forte band members Marian Holmes, left, and Jacque Wilson, right, traveled to Iowa in early June to participate in the Elder Games where they took home first place in the shuffleboard competition. With the win, the duo is off to the National Elder Games, which takes place in June of 2025. “It was fun, I had never tried shuffleboard before, but it was a good experience for both of us,” said Homes, who works in the Minneapolis Urban Office with Wilson. “We were both just really happy to win and we didn’t think we’d be in the newspaper for this, but it has been really exciting.”



AFTERMATH— The torrential rains from Tuesday, June 18th wreaked havoc throughout the region and on the Vermilion Sector of the Bois Forte Reservation. Shown above are two pictures from a residence on Whiskey Point Road, while pictured to the top is the Comet Theater in downtown Cook. The damage was so bad in Cook and Biwabik that Governor Tim Walz visited the communities to assure the residents they will receive the help they need to overcome the destruction caused by the storms.

Mattson takes over as manager of C Store

NETT LAKE— It's always nice to see a familiar face when going to your local convenience store, and that's precisely what will take place when customers see Jeff Mattson at the Nett Lake C Store

"It's going very well," said Mattson from the C Store on a recent Friday morning. "All the staff are very receptive to the changes we are making, and I'm adjusting to my new role pretty well."

Mattson, who worked at the Y Store under the tutelage of Paula Bozicevich for eight years, recently took over as the new manager of the C Store. His vast knowledge from being a supervisor and then a manager trainee when Bois Forte was contemplating a C store in Eveleth has made him the perfect fit for this store.

"Jeff will do just fine," said Bozicevich, who was working with Mattson on various tasks at the store. "He has a lot of good ideas, and we are here to support him in any way we can."

That includes looking at the bigger picture when it comes to ensuring the long-term success of the community store, which continues to struggle financially but serves a vital purpose to Bois Forte Band members.

"I'm hopeful we will see some improvements in the next fiscal year," said Mattson, a Bois Forte band member, who lives in the Vermilion Sector of the Bois Forte Reservation. "But one of my goals is to make this place break even within two years."



TALENTED DUO— The new C Store Manager Jeff Mattson, left, could not have asked for a better person in Paula Bozicevich, right, to help him learn the ropes in his new job. Bozicevich, who has been with the Y Store for 18 years, has worked with Mattson for over eight years and will continue to help him transition into his new job. Best of luck, Jeff!

To move forward on these lofty goals, Mattson and Bozicevich have been discussing them with Henry Foods out of Alexandria, Minnesota. The plan is for Henry Foods to come in and thoroughly analyze the store, including inventory and pricing.

Bozicevich said the full analysis, or "complete velocity report," won't be

done till the fall, but meetings will take place in the interim to start making changes that can help the store's bottom line.

Like Bozicevich, Mattson is looking forward to that assistance and expertise from Henry's Foods.

"There will be some price changes, but it won't be a huge jump," said

Mattson, who graduated from Tower High School and also spent a year working in the maintenance department for the Reservation Tribal Government. "We just have to make sure we are pricing accordingly as we don't want to be losing money on the products we sell."

Mattson said Bozicevich has been extremely helpful in his transition to store manager, which he says comes with more responsibilities and stress.

"She has been very good to me," said Mattson of Bozicevich. "I probably call her a hundred times a day with general questions like, 'Hey, what do you think if we did this? And she's like, 'Oh yeah, we can do that.'" It's nice to be able to lean on her for advice."

And for Bozicevich, that won't change. In fact, she envisions being able to use employees at both the Y Store and C Store for seamless transitions in case one store is short on employees one day or some other project arises that needs more manpower. She also said that products can be interchanged between the two stores, so that will be another nice benefit, as it can not only help one of the stores in a bind, but it can also mean less waste.

"If they have something with a long shelf life that isn't moving, we can try to move it at the Y Store and vice versa," said Bozicevich, who has been with the Y Store for 18 years. "It just makes more sense to utilize each other's resources."

Another goal is to get better signage for the store as people drive into the community, so they know there is a convenience store ahead. As it stands now, the billboards currently up are being overshadowed by unkept trees, making it hard to even read the signs.

"It would help if they were closer to the road as you can hardly tell they are there," said Bozicevich. "We also need to look at refreshing the messages to entice people to want to take the drive into Nett Lake."

Mattson agreed.

"I think we need to start marketing the store better, whether that's working

Now HIRING

Bois Forte always has job openings, so make sure to check out the Bois Forte website!



Position	Department	Location	Classification	Starting Pay	CLOSES
Patient Benefits Case Manager	Health & Human Services	Nett Lake	Full-Time	\$18.04	7/3/2024
Comptroller	Accounting	Nett Lake	Full-Time	\$37.85	7/5/2024
Heritage Center Srvs Manager	Heritage Center	Vermilion	Full-Time	\$17.41	7/16/2024
Bus Driver	Public Works/Transit	Nett Lake	On-Call, PT/FT	\$16.50-\$17.25 CDL	Until Filled

Go to: www.boisforte.com/jobs for more information.

See C Store on page 7



HAPPY CREW— Henry T. Thompson, left, poses for a quick photo with Aayanna Goodsky-Spears, right, at the C Store on a recent Friday morning. Thompson was making pizzas in the deli, while Goodsky-Spears was working cashier.



TOUGH TO SEE!— The Nett Lake C Store signage will need a little TLC, so look for some changes in the coming months on improving the billboards heading into the village.

Community CPR & 1st Aid Training to be offered!

Bois Forte's 477 program will be putting on a Community CPR & 1st Aid training on Monday, July 22nd from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Eagle Room at the Bois Forte Tribal Government Building.

Lunch and light snacks will be provided. Limited space available —please contact Chrissy to register by calling 218-757-3261, Ext. 1200, or email chrissy.fairchild@boisforte-nsn.gov

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with the Vince Shute Sanctuary or perhaps resorts that are on the road as you turn off Highway 53," said Mattson. "I'm excited about the opportunities we have here, and I think we can make some positive changes for the store with Paula's help."

One such change is getting rid of the seldom-used laundromat that is attached to the store.

"That's another main focus and one of Jeff's goals for the future," said Bozicevich. "He'd like to get it cleaned out and repurposed into something more profitable. We've had some discussions on what could be moved into that

space to make it more viable and what would make money instead of having it sitting there doing nothing."

In the meantime, Mattson will continue to learn what it takes to run a store that is open seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. He said he's already used to his long commute but added that he misses his short drive to work when he worked at the Y Store.

"One good thing is that I get to make phone calls to start my day before I even get here and then decompress on the drive back home thinking about what I'll be doing at the store the next day," said Mattson. "This is exciting for me, and I'm looking forward to the challenges this job will bring to me."



Minute with Millie

Oh Goodness. Just got done watching "the Birds" on Amazon Prime. Me thinks I shoulda kept the vague, half-formed memories from my first viewing of this movie. Yepper. Thought of those red stripe winged birds that me hopes is really a harbinger of good luck, prosperity and protection. The way those birds dived at us was very evocative of "the Birds."

Finally got an identification of that bird that has his nest right by the cattails at the entrance to the village. Yep, right where I have to walk by on my way up to the store. Far from being a rare bird, it is one of the most common in the states. Especially in marshes and other wetland areas.

T'any rate, as for "the Birds"...I shoulda left well enough alone Yeah. I had to go and research the story it was based on. No, I haven't bought it or even checked it out. I am pondering the wisdom of reading this as one of the tidbits I learned about it was that Daphne du Maurier based it on a true incident; she'd spotted a flock of sea gulls attacking a lone man plowing



a field.

And that image brought up my first reading of 'Salem's Lot by Stephen King. Man, oh man, so glad I don't read horror stories too often. Cause that reminds me of the Book of Revelations.

Oh Good Grief. Methinks I'd better not watch any more of those long gone tv shows, movies and other such offerings the Amazon Prime uses to suck in the Boomer generation to spending more of their hard-earned money...or should I?

Minutes of a Special meeting, regular session, of the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council held May 1, 2024, at Nett Lake, Minnesota, Hybrid.

Meeting called to order at 9:05 a.m. Vern Adams does invocation. Members Present: Cathy Chavers, Tara Geshick, Shane Drift, Travis Morrison, Robert Moyer, Jr. Members Absent: None Others Present: Luke Warnsholz, Frances Irving, Regina Howe, Kim Greiner, Vanessa Little, Daryl Nutinen, Dan Rabideaux, Chris Holm, Vondalee Carr, Warren Villebrun, Brian Whiteman, Carol Burr, Sarah Kinnunen, Teresa Drift, Lance Hill, Ed Chavers, Noah Buchholz, Jeneal Goggeleye. See attached for virtual attendees. Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Robert Moyer Jr.; to approve the agenda with the addition of the general election ballot draw and poll added to consent agenda. Carried 4-0-0 Moved by Robert Moyer, Jr.; seconded by Travis Morrison; to approve the RTC Regular Meeting, regular session meeting minutes held April 3, 2024. Carried 4-0-0 General Election ballot lottery draw for name placement on ballots.

Bois Forte Tribal Council Minutes

District I Representative

1. Perry L. Drift; 2. Edward Villebrun
Chairperson
1. Catherine Chavers; 2. Hannah Lehti-Chosa
Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Robert Moyer, Jr.; to approve the consent agenda as follows:
a) Approved Resolution No. 67-2024, amendment to Verizon Tower Lease 4-0-0
b) Approved Sole source request to Foundation Service Corp. for Geopier installation-Public Works/Maintenance/Food shelf building (\$132,000.00) 4-0-0
c) Approved Resolution No. 74-2024, cost match for GRID Grant (\$32,574.00) 3-0-0
Travis Morrison excused
d) Approved contract with Rebecca Schueller Training & Consulting, LLC for Ethical Conflict Management & Communication skills 3-0-0
Travis Morrison excused
e) Approved purchase approval agreement for court walk through metal detector (Paragon Complete kit ADA compliant) from Garrett (\$8,400.00) 3-0-0
Travis Morrison excused

f) Approved sole source to Ontario Systems, LLC DBA Finvi for 5 days onsite training for Full Court software (\$17,635.00) 3-0-0
Travis Morrison excused
g) Approved MOA between BF & FBI-CJIS for fingerprint submission 3-0-0
Travis Morrison excused
h) Approved Resolution No. 75-2024, adoption of the Bois Forte Cannabis Corporation Act 4-0-0
i) Approved Resolution No. 76-2024, Adoption of the Bois Forte Cannabis Regulatory Ordinance 4-0-0
j) Approve sole source request to Innovative for 2 FireKing cabinets (\$14219.06) 4-0-0
k) Approved request for Shane Drift to submit grant funding to Dr. Campbell at MCT. 3-0-1
Shane Drift abstains. Carried 4-0-0
Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Travis Morrison; to approve Resolution No. 81-2024, recommending Keiza Besemann for Tier 3 licensure. Carried 4-0-0
Chris Holm gives an update on the dam project.
Moved by Travis Morrison; seconded by Robert Moyer, Jr.; to approve the

contract and sole source request to RT Hawk Housing Alliance, LLC for Asset Management Services. Carried 4-0-0
Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Robert Moyer, Jr.; to approve the DSGW service order contract for housing. Carried 4-0-0
Moved by Robert Moyer, Jr.; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve Resolution No. 77-2024, Procurement-Delegation of Authority for approval of Tribal Government Expenditures. Carried 4-0-0
Moved by Travis Morrison; seconded by Robert Moyer, Jr.; to approve the construction bid for Vermilion Public Works Garage (Food Shelf/Headstart) to Hawk Construction. Carried 4-0-0
Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Travis Morrison; to approve the sole source request to National Public Radio (NPR) annual invoice. Carried 4-0-0
Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve the contract to the Association of Minnesota Public Educational Radio Stations (AMPERS). Carried 4-0-0
Moved by Travis Morrison; seconded

by Robert Moyer, Jr.; to approve the contract for Family Spirit additional services agreement with Johns Hopkins University. Carried 4-0-0
Moved by Travis Morrison; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve Resolution No. 78-2024, Issuance of residential lease to Marissa and Dusty Rose. Carried 4-0-0
Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve to submit extension letter to the Office of Head Start for FY 2021 audit. Carried 4-0-0
Moved by Robert Moyer, Jr.; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve Resolution No. 79-2024, adopting revisions to the Bois Forte TERO ordinance and appointing TERO Commission members. Carried 4-0-0
Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Shane Drift; to approve the bid to OJ's HVAC for replacement of A/C units at New Moon. Carried 4-0-0
Moved by Robert Moyer, Jr.; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve the amendment dates for the per capita garnishment schedule. Carried 4-0-0
Moved by Travis Morrison; seconded by Robert Moyer, Jr.; to approve the Per Capita date of August 9, 2024. Carried 4-0-0
Moved by Travis Morrison; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve the sole source request to F.I. Salter Appraisals for five (5) 105l lease eligible buildings. (OEO Shelter, Sawmill, Plesha Chiropractic, Quanset, and New Moon Duplexes) Carried 4-0-0
Moved by Shane Drift; seconded by Tara Geshick; to approve sole source request to Checkwriting Systems for the bond for checks. Carried 4-0-0
Moved by Tara Geshick; seconded by Shane Drift; to approve the sole source request to Tribal First insurance for annual renewal. Carried 4-0-0
It was suggested that a meeting be set up to discuss options for drivers eligibility.
Moved by Travis Morrison; seconded by Robert Moyer, Jr.; to approve the Conservation Committee funds (114) to be used for DNR purposes. Carried 4-0-0
Moved by Travis Morrison; seconded by Shane Drift; to approve Resolution No. 80-2024, supporting UM INMED grant application. Carried 4-0-0
Moved by Robert Moyer, Jr.; seconded by Shane Drift; to adjourn the meeting at 11:38 a.m. Carried 4-0-0
Prepared by: Frances Irving
Approved at Special RTC Meeting: May 15, 2024

LEGAL NOTICE

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

In the Matter of the Welfare of: A.N.J DOB: 07/15/2009. Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Department of Family Health Services, Petitioner, v. Melissa Marie Lightfeather and Charles Goggeleye, Respondents. Court File No. 17 719 JV
To: Charles Goggeleye
It is Ordered and Notice is Hereby Given that a Petition to Transfer Permanent Legal and Physical Custody was filed in the Bois Forte Tribal Court on May 20th, 2024. A hearing on the above petition will be held July 9th, 2024, at 10:20 a.m. Central Standard Time, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard via Zoom, at the Bois Forte Children's Court, Bois Forte Reservation, 12907 Palmquist Road, Suite B, Orr, MN 55771.
YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED BY THIS SUMMONS AND NOTICE THAT YOU ARE REQUIRED TO APPEAR AT THIS HEARING AT THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE NOTED ABOVE. FAILURE TO ATTEND THIS HEARING MAY RESULT IN A DEFAULT JUDGEMENT BEING GRANTED FOR THE PETITIONER.
By the Court,
Megan Treuer, Chief Judge
Kristina Isham, Clerk of Court
Attorney for the Petitioner, Tessa V. Jacobson
12907 Palmquist Road, Suite B
Orr, MN 55771
(218) 757-3462

LEGAL NOTICE

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

In the Matter of the Welfare of: N.S.L., DOB: 12/27/2014, O.L.J . Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Department of Family Health Services, Petitioner, v. Melissa Marie Lightfeather and Gwedinodin Lightfeather, Respondents. Court File No. 17 721JV.
To: Gwedinodin Lightfeather,
It is Ordered and Notice is Hereby Given that a Petition to Transfer Permanent Legal and Physical Custody was filed in the Bois Forte Tribal Court on May 20th, 2024. A hearing on the above petition will be held July 9th, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. Central Standard Time, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard via Zoom, at the Bois Forte Children's Court, Bois Forte Reservation, 12907 Palmquist Road, Suite B, Orr, MN 55771.
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By the Court,
Megan Treuer, Chief Judge
Kristina Isham, Clerk of Court
Attorney for the Petitioner, Tessa V. Jacobson
12907 Palmquist Road, Suite B
Orr, MN 55771
(218) 757-3462

Chavers and Drift, Sr. earn four-year terms Swearing in Ceremony to take place July 9th

NETT LAKE— Bois Forte voters have spoken and Cathy Chavers will be sworn in as the Tribal Chairperson for a third straight term on July 9th.

“I am extremely honored and humbled to have been given the opportunity to lead Bois Forte for the next four years,” said Chavers after she defeated challenger, Hannah Lehti-Chosa by a 252 to 246 tally in the Tuesday, June 11th General Election. “We can continue moving forward in areas that have broadened Bois Forte’s ability to lead in Indian Country along with diversifying our programs, services, and economic development.

Lehti-Chosa could have called for a recount, but she chose not to and will instead continue in her role as the Director of Marketing for Fortune Bay Resort Casino.

In a Facebook post after the election, Lehti-Chosa thanked all of the voters for their support.

“Even though I didn’t win, I thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the people I was able to meet whether it was in person, on the phone, or messaging,” wrote Lehti-Chosa in her post. “I have made some lasting friendships along the way and do not take this experience for granted. I am blessed to be surrounded by such a great community. Congratulations to the winners!”

Ironically, Lehti-Chosa took Nett Lake by a 69-60 count, while Chavers edged Lehti-Chosa 85-82 in the Vermilion Sector. Lehti-Chosa also won the Minneapolis Urban Polling Place by a slim 25-24 margin and the Duluth Polling Place by a 23014 mark. However, Chavers scored a 69-47 victory via Absentee ballots to earn her third straight term.

Chavers said the best part of the election process was the ability to meet and talk with the band members and get their comments, both negative and positive, plus hearing their ideas as well.

“When working in this position it is difficult at times to get the opportunity to do this due to the busy work involved daily,” said Chavers, who is also the President of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe.

While Chavers enjoyed meeting with constituents leading up to the elec-



tion, she was saddened to see many of Bois Forte’s younger people were not being educated on Bois Forte history, the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution, and understanding tribal government.

“Our young people are our future leaders, and we need to ensure that they are prepared for the future,” said Chavers, who hopes to change the aforementioned by getting the next generation of leaders ready to take leadership roles within the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Tribe.

As for the day of the election, Chavers said she spent time talking with voters, voting herself and just letting the process play out.

“Regardless of the outcome, I was happy,” said Chavers. “I have devoted my work to the band for over 40+ years and left it in the band members’ hands.”

In the other race, political newcomer Perry Drift, Sr. won the District I Representative race by a slim 158-152 margin over Ed Villebrun. Seeing as the race was so close, Villebrun asked for a recount. However, he only gained one additional vote via the recount.

Villebrun scored a 67-61 win in the Nett Lake Sector and also eeked out a slim 18-16 advantage in the Vermilion Sector. Drift’s 19-10 win in the Duluth Urban Polling Place and 43-37 Absentee win secured his seat on the council for a four-year term.

“At this time, I am absolutely filled with joy and appreciation to the people of Bois Forte who all voted,” said Drift, Sr., who will have to give up his job in early July to prepare for his first term in office. “I am excited to assume my seat and put in as much effort as possible for the people.”

See Election page 10



TAKING A CALL — General Election Board Chairperson Tammy Goodsky answers a call at the Nett Lake Polling Place. “We have seen an increase in the number of voters coming through today as opposed to the primary in April,” said Goodsky. “It’s going to be like a 16–18-hour day for us. We started at 7 this morning and won’t get done until 1 a.m. or 1:30 a.m. because we have to wait for Minneapolis to come in as well as the Duluth Urban office and Vermilion—and then we have to be back here early tomorrow to certify the results.” Little did Goodsky know the crew would have to come back again a week later to do a recount for the District 1 Representative, which Perry Drift, Sr. won by five votes over Edward Villebrun. The seat was open as Travis Morrison decided not to seek another term.



DOING HIS CIVIC DUTY— Curt Goodsky signs up for the general election with Election Clerk Wendy Morrison-Thompson shortly after 1 p.m. on Tuesday, June 11th. The other Election Officials in Nett Lake were Jordan Goodsky and Millie Holmes, who was the alternate. Tammy Goodsky was the General Election Board Chairperson.

Diablo Victor Strong

Diablo Victor Strong, 49, of Duluth, MN passed away on Wednesday, June 5, 2024.



Diablo was born on September 29, 1974, in Virginia, MN to Norman Strong Sr. and Roberta Morrision.

Diablo worked as a self-employed welder. He enjoyed tinkering with his bike in his spare time. Family and friends remember him as an outgoing person with good humor and who liked to joke around. He was also a thrill-seeking soul who never

passed up a chance for an adventure. He loved to fish and hunt and pick blueberries with his family. Most of all, Diablo enjoyed spending time with his family. He loved all his family and especially his children and grandchildren.

Diablo was preceded in death by his parents and his daughter, Precious Lynn Strong.

Diablo is survived by his children: Tawny Cross and Vincent Belanger; his siblings: Tom Nicolas, Chrystal Strong, Alice Strong, Ulysses Strong, and Joey Day; grandchildren: Gabriella Cross, Franklin Eagletail Jr., and Sage Strong.

A Memorial Service was held on Friday, June 14, 2024, at the Bois Forte Government and Services Center in Nett Lake. Online condolences to www.mlakerfuneralhome.com

Election from page 9

Like Chavers, Drift said the best part of the election process was getting to spend time with voters. He said he enjoyed getting to communicate with voters and understand important issues they have relayed to me.

“The most difficult part was keeping my communication open whether via cell phone, social media or email. It was a lot to get used to but that’s what my new position will be all about,” said Drift.

Drift added that the day of the actu-

al election and subsequent recount was a bit nerve wracking for him.

“I had to turn the live vote count off halfway through because of the emotions I had to process waiting for the results,” said Drift. “Now that the election is over, I just want to proceed in a positive direction and path of growth for all of us.”

The Swearing In Ceremony will take place Tuesday, July 9th at 10 a.m. in the Eagle room at the Bois Forte Tribal Government Building.

Going above and beyond!



DESERVING AWARD— Chief Burdick recently presented Tribal Officer Cory King with a Life Saving Award for this lifesaving action on the scene of a suicide attempt on April 6th, 2024. Thank you Officer King for your dedication to the Bois Forte Community. If you or a loved one are experiencing a crisis, please call or text 988, Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, or text HOME to 741741. Talk to trained counselors who care, 24/7/365.

SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY INFORMATION LEARNING SESSION

JOIN US TO LEARN MORE ABOUT:

- BOIS FORTE REGISTRY REQUIREMENTS
- BOIS FORTE SORNA PROGRAM
- STATE SIDE REGISTRY
- MEET SORNA COMPLIANCE OFFICER
- HOW TO REPORT A TIP

THERE WILL BE OPPORTUNITY TO ASK QUESTIONS RESPECTFULLY



SESSION DETAILS

TUESDAY JULY 30TH 2023

- Vermilion Social Center
 - Starting at 9:00am-10:00am
- Nett Lake Eagle Room RTC Building
 - Starting at 2:00pm-3:00pm

TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO ATTEND IN-PERSON PRESENTATIONS

THERE WILL NOT BE A VIRTUAL VIEWING OPTION FOR THIS EVENT. THIS IS AN IN-PERSON SESSION ONLY. WE WILL BE HOSTING A VIRTUAL ONLY SESSION IN THE FUTURE SO STAY TUNED. WE WILL SEND NOTICE OUT SOON.

SCAN THE CODE TO SIGN UP FOR COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION ALERTS!



TO REPORT ANY CRIMINAL ACTIVITY BY ANY SEX OFFENDER, PLEASE CALL 911

QUESTIONS? Contact BF SORNA COMPLIANCE OFFICER 218-757-3462 or visit <http://boisforte.nsopw.gov>

LEGAL NOTICE

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

In the Matter of the Welfare of: W.P.G DOB: 12/22/2010. Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Department of Family Health Services, Petitioner, v. Melissa Marie Lightfeather and Robert Gibbs, Respondents. Court File No. 17 720 JV

To: Robert Gibbs

It is Ordered and Notice is Hereby Given that a Petition to Transfer Permanent Legal and Physical Custody was filed in the Bois Forte Tribal Court on May 20th, 2024. A hearing on the above petition will be held July 9th, 2024 at 10:20 a.m. Central Standard Time, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard via Zoom, at the Bois Forte Children's Court, Bois Forte Reservation, 12907 Palmquist Road, Suite B, Orr, MN 55771. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED BY THIS SUMMONS AND NOTICE THAT YOU ARE REQUIRED TO APPEAR AT THIS HEARING AT THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE NOTED ABOVE. FAILURE TO ATTEND THIS HEARING MAY RESULT IN A DEFAULT JUDGEMENT BEING GRANTED FOR THE PETITIONER.

By the Court,

Megan Treuer, Chief Judge

Kristina Isham, Clerk of Court

Attorney for the Petitioner, Tessa V. Jacobson

12907 Palmquist Road, Suite B, Orr, MN 55771, (218) 757-3462

Homeowner Assistance Fund can help you catch up on bills

Are you behind on your Home Mortgage payments and/or utility payments from 01/21/20? Or could use assistance with current payments due to COVID-19?

Are your outstanding housing related expenses is due unemployment, illness, or another issue experienced after January 21, 2020, because of COVID-19?

If so, help is available for you or your family. You must be enrolled at Bois Forte or an adult with at least one minor BF band member enrolled who lives in your household. Tribal lease land must be your primary residence.

Currently Eligible Expenses Categories that the HAF program

(Housing Assistance Fund) can assist with are:

~Mortgage payment assistance:
~Payment assistance with utilities in arrears: ~Assistance with property taxes in arrears ~Assistance to reinstate mortgage: ~Payment Assistance with internet:

UP TO \$7,500.00 per eligible homeowner household or 12 months whichever comes first, or the funding has been expended.

PROOF OF OWNERSHIP OF YOUR HOME only (1) IS REQUIRED: types

of proof include: Current property tax statement (PREFERRED), Recorded Warranty deed, Recorded contract for deed, Certificate of title (manufactured homes), Tribal land lease MUST BE YOUR PRIMARY RESIDENCE.

PROOF OF INCOME REQUIRED FOR ALL INCOME SOURCES: Your household (FAMILY) must be at or below 150% of your median area income. Your adjusted gross income, as reported on your 2021 Federal Income Tax Form 1040 series. Or your current income using your most recent pay information, Pay statements your most recent 6 consecutive pay periods for all adults, Eligibility letters by government programs such as Social Security, Bank statements showing deposit amounts, other pay documents.

FUNDS WILL BE PAID DIRECTLY TO THE VENDOR OR UTILITY COMPANY: the fund will not distribute more than \$7,500 total between all the above program categories per primary resident. Homeowners may be eligible to receive assistance from other state programs in conjunction with this program but not duplicate the program category during the same month of assistance received.

A SUBMITTED APPLICATION DOES NOT GUARANTEE ASSISTANCE APPROVAL

Actual award assistance will depend on eligibility and available funding. Please be aware that other documentation may be required i.e., such as demonstrating a financial hardship after 01/21/20, utility bills in the Applicant's, Spouse's, or Co-owner's name with Account numbers, etc....

For the online application type the link into the search bar on your smart phone, laptop/computer and press enter:

<https://portal.laserfiche.com/u7744/forms/HAF>

For more information, please contact Theresa M. Morrison via phone at 218-285-8217 or you can apply online at boisforte.com under COVID-19 program and applications.

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 1: Bison Stew/Chili, 7 Grain Bun, Chef's Choice Fruit

July 2: Roast Beef, Garlic Mashed Potatoes or Roasted Root Vegetables, Garden Salad, Dinner Roll

July 3: Chicken Penne Alfredo, Broccoli, Chef's Choice of Fruit

July 4: Holiday - closed

July 5: Split Pea Soup, Country Ham, Red Cabbage Salad, Wheat Roll, Chef's Choice of Fruit

July 8: Picnic Lunch Cook's Choice

July 9: Roast Turkey Slice, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, French Cut Green Beans, Stuffing, Pumpkin Pie

July 10: MCT Elections - Closed

July 11: Grilled Chicken Breast, Yellow Rice, Sliced Zucchini, Chef's Choice of Fruit

July 12: BBQ Pork Riblette, AuGratin Potatoes, Broccoli Slaw, Chef's Choice of Fruit

July 15: Egg Salad Croissant, Potato Chips, Tomato Slices, Fruit

July 16: MCT Elections - closed

July 17: Beef/Bean Soup/Potato Soup, Relish Plate, Chef's Choice of Fruit

July 18: Holiday

July 19: Bison Stew, 7 Grain Bun, Chef's Choice of Fruit

July 22: Shepherd's Pie, Biscuit, Steamed Broccoli, Chef's Choice of Fruit

July 23: White Chicken Chili with Beans, Corn Bread, Chef's Choice of Fruit

July 24: Roast Pork, Baby Baker Potatoes, Roasted Butternut Squash, Chef's Choice of Fruit

July 25: Chicken Wild Rice Soup, Garden Salad/Cole Slaw, Choice of Fruit

July 26: Bison Meatloaf, Baked Sweet Potato, Brussel Sprouts, Chef's Choice of Fruit

July 29: Sausage Jambalya, Cheddar Biscuit, Chef's Choice of Fruit, Chef's Choice of Fruit

July 30: Beef Barley Vegetable Soup, Chef Salad, Whole Grain Dinner Roll, Chef's Choice of Fruit

July 31: Chili Frito Pie, Whole Kernel Corn, Tossed Salad with Dressing



Lyle Lumbar and daughter Katelyn Ashley Lumbar.

Congratulations
to
Katelyn Ashley
Lumbar!

You did it!
We love you, honey.
Keep being who you are, and good things will happen in your life my dear.
Mommy and daddy are so proud of you!

Native Summer Studies Workshop for Educators comes to Bois Forte

TOWER— The 477 Department collaborated with St. Cloud State University to bring the Native Summer Studies Workshop for Educators (NS-SWE) to Bois Forte. This event was held June 24-28 at Fortune Bay Resort Casino (FBRC) with several informative workshops, as well as a bus tour of both the Vermilion and Nett Lake sectors of the reservation.

There were approximately 65 educators from across the State of Minnesota to learn more about the Native culture with a focus on Bois Forte. Educators had the opportunity to also view demonstrations that include popped wild rice, ribbon skirts/shirts, and beadwork.

On Tuesday, June 25, the group traveled to Nett Lake to listen to an elder's panel, language panel and culture panel.

"Participants of the panel are our very own Bois Forte Band Members," said 477 Director Vonda Carr, who played an instrumental part in making the event possible and started working on the project back in February. "Theresa Morrison shared an art presentation of different bags that she has made relating to our Native American culture also as part of the event."

After spending a full day of workshops on Wednesday, the group was treated to a memorable day Thursday, complete with a traditional meal of wall-

eye, wild rice and fry bread. The meal was followed by a mini pow-wow in The Woodlands Ballroom with area dancers and one of our local drum groups.

"The workshop was wonderful, the participants showed interest and excitement to learn about the Native American culture," said Carr. "Our presenters were fantastic. It wouldn't have been such a great event without them. They shared their knowledge and some great stories. I'm so thankful that Darlene reached out to me coordinate such an awesome conference."

"The highlight has been working with community members to tell a fuller story of Bois Forte. We started the week off with prayer and song and will close in that way," said St. Clair, who is an Associate Professor and Multicultural Resource Center Director at

St. Cloud University, prior to Thursday's activities. "Our presenters have been so generous with all they know."

St. Clair said the group was thoroughly impressed with how Bois Forte band members care so deeply about their reservations on Vermilion and in Nett Lake.

"We learned about Maanoomin, experienced popped rice, had to opportunity to ask questions of a beadwork artist, and learned about the importance of ribbon skirts and shirts," said St. Clair. "We will also spend time focusing on how this wonderful experience will impact and improve our teaching. This group of educators that were hosted by the Bois Forte Band are committed to doing better while teaching Native students and teaching about Native Nations in Minnesota to all students."


Both Carr and St. Clair gave special thanks to the presenters, including Vern Adams, Nett Lake Singers, Shane Drift, Tracey Dagen, Jaylen Strong, Perry Drift, Karen Drift, Heart Warrior Chosa, Linda Tibbetts-Barto, Travis Morrison, David Morrison Jr., Theresa Morrison, Mari Barto, Black Eagle Drum, and the dancers, Corrine Whiteman and Bryan Whiteman, Jr.

"Working with Bois Forte this year has been a great experience," said St. Clair. "Vonda Carr has been a wonderful partner. She provided advice and support throughout the planning and has been making sure our experience here is a good one. This workshop relies on an active partnership with Native Nations. Bois Forte has been incredibly kind and generous. All of us involved with NSS-WE are tremendously grateful."





WONDERFUL JOB!— Bois Forte's Theresa Morrison explains her beadwork expertise to the group of 65 educators who were captivated by her talents. Pictured to the right is Darlene St. Clair, who organized the weeklong event with Vonda Carr.

Ganawenimaa Anishaanabeg



Bois Forte 477

Adult Basic Education

Online & in-person classes are available


- GED study & prepare
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- English Language Learners
- Basic Computer skills

- Free Classes
- Free practice tests*
- Free GED tests*

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To make an appointment



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