



# Bois Forte NEWS

VOL. 45 NUMBER 11

## Don't Wait..VACCINATE

The Bois Forte Clinics have openings for the following vaccinations:

- Pfizer -available to ages 12-17 years old
- Moderna-available to ages 18 and older
- Johnson/Johnson-Available to ages 18 and older

**Call and schedule your appointment today!**

### Nett Lake Clinic

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

### Vermilion Clinic

Thursdays & Fridays  
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Tower, MN 55790  
(218) 753-2182



**FRIENDLY STAFF!**— Bois Forte Health Services employees were a busy crew Wednesday as they had given eight vaccinations by noon. By the end of the day nine employees and four guests received their first vaccination. Pictured in the back row, left to right are, Brenda Edmundson and Amanda Goggleye. Pictured seated, left to right, are Corey Strong, Jr., Danielle Lampa and Ericka Cote.

## Vaccine mandate takes effect November 1st

The countdown is on for Fortune Bay Resort Casino, Bois Forte Tribal Government, and Bois Forte Business Development employees to get their first COVID-19 vaccine by November 1. Those employees who do not get the vaccine will be terminated or they can resign from their position.

Employees will be allowed to request exemptions for medical and religious reasons and Fortune Bay's Human Resources Department is working with its legal counsel for guidance in reviewing these requests. A similar scenario is playing out for Bois Forte Development Corporation employees and those employed at

the Tribal Government.

The vaccine mandate was approved by the Bois Forte Tribal Council in late September as rising cases of the delta variant have caused great concern as a record 27 COVID-19 cases were reported in less than two weeks. Furthermore, Chavers said that Native Americans are at higher risk of being admitted to the ICU or dying from COVID-19 as opposed to non-Natives.

"It's alarming," said Bois Forte Tribal Chair Cathy Chavers at a recent meeting. "We have to protect our communities in both Nett Lake and Lake Vermilion. We want everyone to respect our wishes and to

take steps to turn around the disturbing trend we're seeing with this pandemic. I wish it would just go away, but that's not going to be happening anytime soon."

And hence the reason, Chavers and others on the Tribal Council decided on the vaccine mandate.

"We know that there are employees out there that will not vaccinate and that is their choice as an individual," said Chavers. "But we're doing this to help keep our community safe."

However, there could be some fallout with this order at Fortune Bay as there currently to 10 to 15 employees who

have told their managers or directors that they will not be getting the vaccine.

"The numbers of those who said they will not get vaccinated have dropped, but any loss of staff will be tough to deal with," said Director of Gaming Elizabeth Deegan, who recently served as Interim General Manager at Fortune Bay. "We'll assess the numbers again next week and see if we'll have to alter our hours of operation. Hopefully, we won't have to make that decision, but we also have to be realistic."

The staff has already been stretched thin for many  
*(continued on page 2)*



## COVID is spiking on the reservation.

## Native Americans have the highest COVID death rate of any ethnic group.

Native Americans are dying at 2.5 times the rate of the majority from COVID-19. We need to be extra cautious to protect our community.

The loss of elders and fluent indigenous language speakers is both a cultural tragedy and a personal one. The most at-risk members of our community are our loved ones, parents, grandparents, and our children who cannot receive the vaccine. As of September 27, in the past two weeks we have had our highest number of cases— 27.

This virus is not like other viruses. It is not just a cold. It can cause abnormal blood clotting, which can be fatal. It can cause organ damage. It can cause stroke. It can cause symptoms which last long-term, including heart palpitations, changes in menstrual cycles, and brain fog. It can permanently alter your life.

During this time, it is necessary to take all the precautions that you can to protect yourself, your family, and your community from COVID-19. Wear your mask. Stay 6 feet apart. Avoid large gatherings. Sanitize your hands. Most importantly, get the vaccine. You could save someone's life.

We must do all that we can to keep our community safe. If you are experiencing symptoms, quarantine. Stay home, and avoid contact with others. Make a plan for if you get sick, and make a plan for if you must visit the ER.

For the vaccine, visit the Nett Lake Clinic or the Vermilion Clinic.

*(continued from page 1)*

departments since Fortune Bay reopened June 1, 2020, after COVID-19 ceased operations in March of that year. That means many employees were asked to do more, which led to sagging employee morale and a tired staff that just couldn't keep up. Eventually, some of our amenities were forced to go with reduced hours of operation, which meant staff would field many complaints from guests asking why that was. However, this scenario played out across the Iron Range, Region, State, and Nationally.

"These are certainly trying times,"

said Director of Human Resources Beth Adams. "Vaccine mandates have been imposed at several larger companies and as one of the largest employers on the Iron Range, we are not excluded from having to make hard decisions like this."

In the meantime, those who do want to get vaccinated will have several chances to do so during October as the Bois Forte Mobile Vaccine Unit will be on-site to have staff administer the first dose. Ten employees received their first vaccination Wednesday, October 13th. Another 9 employees received their first dose on Thursday,



**HELPING OUT—** Bois Forte Health and Human Services Director Lynette Tahtinen goes over a questionnaire with Fortune Bay employee Ralph Friesner during the first Mobile Vaccination Clinic, which took place at Fortune Bay Resort Casino. Two more Mobile Vaccine Clinics have been set up for those employees who want to get vaccinated prior to the November 1st deadline.

October 21st. The third clinic took place after the Bois Forte News went to press.

Depending on the type of vaccine received, the second dose will be administered one month after the employee receives the first dose. To ward off too many employees who may feel the effects of the vaccine, a staggered model will be used to ensure departments are adequately staffed. In other words, no more than a couple of employees from one department would be scheduled on the same day in case of any adverse side effects from the vaccine.

Meanwhile, Fortune Bay directors will continue to closely gauge the departments that may be impacted by employees who are not planning to get

vaccinated.

Adams said Fortune Bay employees had until this past Monday to submit their resignation letters, but can wait until the 1st to let management know they won't be vaccinated. If employees do not give proper notice, their record will show they were terminated for misconduct due to not following company policy.

Adams said these are not easy decisions to make, but added that management has to follow the directives of the Tribal Council.

"They too have tough decisions to make," said Adams. "As Chairwoman Chavers said, we all thought we'd be done with this pandemic by now, but unfortunately no one knows when we'll get back to a sense of normalcy."



# Mayan Beltran hired as General Manager at Fortune Bay

As an enrolled band member of the Winnebago Tribe in Nebraska, new Fortune Bay Resort Casino General Manager Mayan Beltran is well aware of how important he will be to the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa.

After all, he's joining the Fortune Bay team at a critical time as we are still dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, plus the deadline is looming for the vaccine mandate that will take effect November 1st.

"This has been a very difficult time for our nation and the world," said Beltran, who began his new job in mid-October. "I have been heavily involved throughout this pandemic from the beginning and have had a great support network throughout the nation discussing these challenges and how others are dealing with it."

Beltran, who served during Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm and with the 101st Airborne Division of the U.S. Army, said he understands that we must be prepared to deal with this pandemic for an undetermined amount of time. In regard to the vaccine mandate, he said it will be important for the team to continually adjust its strategy.

"That is especially true when it comes to staffing levels," said Beltran, who has been busy meeting with staff to get a better handle on the day-to-day operations at Fortune Bay. "I will do my best to communicate the importance of keeping our community safe from this deadly virus while keeping up with developments from the WHO, CDC, local medical facilities, and the Tribal Government. We must communicate effectively and immediately to everyone with any updates and changes."

While Beltran's military background will serve him well in his new role, so too will his many years of casino experience. Most recently, Beltran served as general manager at WinnaVegas Casino Resort in Iowa for nearly seven years. He also had stints

with 7 Clans Casino in Oklahoma, Tulip Casino & Resort in Washington, Pechanga Resort & Casino in California, Northern Lights Casino & Resort in Minnesota, and 7 Clans Casino & Resort in Minnesota.

"I started my casino career when I went home on Christmas leave while serving in the military and my tribe had a casino that had just opened that year and I realized that's what I wanted to do with my future," said Beltran. "I began in the Table Games area and learned to deal all live games including Craps, Roulette, Blackjack, Carnival games and all Poker games."

He said the reason he is so impassioned about the gaming industry is the enjoyment he gets from working with and meeting so many great people from diverse backgrounds. He added that he loves to learn so when he had opportunities to absorb all aspects of the casino business, he soaked it all in.

Over the years, he found that he enjoyed sharing what he learned by mentoring, coaching, and motivating his teams to excel in their professional and personal lives. A big part of how that all melds together is keeping the lines of communication open.

"People need to know the vision and mission, then they must know the strategy of how we accomplish those goals," said Beltran. "Effective communication amongst all levels of an organization inspires loyalty, hard work, builds teamwork, improves customer service and it has an important impact on making everyone feel heard, respected, and valued."

Statements like that are what endeared Beltran to members of the Bois Forte Tribal Council, who were given the final say in whom they decided to hire as general manager.

"He is well versed in all areas of casino operations, plus the hospitality field as well," said Bois Forte Tribal Chairwoman Cathy Chavers of Beltran. "He is very professional,



**READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**— Mayan Beltran is the new general manager at Fortune Bay Resort Casino. He has extensive casino experience and operates as a consultant and a gifting and promotions company.

well-spoken, and will be a great asset to the Fortune Bay team and the Bois Forte community. We're fortunate to have found such a talented man to lead us through this next period in our history."

Beltran's drive and desire to make an immediate impact were already on full display at Fortune Bay's Guest

Appreciation Lunch, where he could be seen holding court with longtime guests. He instantly struck up conversations with total strangers and could be seen talking to those same guests five minutes later. It's that type of charisma and personality that shows Beltran has what it takes to make an

*(continued on page 4)*



# Chairwoman Cathy Chavers — Mayan Beltran hired as General Manager at Fortune Bay



Boozhoo!

I went to St. Paul to federal court to read the Victim Impact Statement in the Boutto case. She was sentenced to federal prison for eight months, one year of supervised probation, and ordered to pay full restitution for stealing more than \$315,000 from Fortune Bay. At a recent RTC meeting, Boutto was banned from the reservation, businesses, etc. We also had our attorney and lobbyist Reid LeBeau explain the sentencing. If you want more details, please go to the Bois Forte website or YouTube to get more of an explanation.

We had our community meeting in The Woodlands Ballroom at Fortune Bay regarding a possible business venture in Eveleth for a convenience store. We presented a feasibility and marketing study that was done already. We will be mailing out the information to all band members with a return postcard for a yes or no vote and any comments. We will be extending the comment period to allow mail-in comments from all band members that choose to.

We also welcomed Mr. Mayan Bel-

tran, who is enrolled in the Winnebago tribe, along with his wife, Alicia, to Bois Forte. Mayan is the new General Manager for Fortune Bay! We are excited and look forward to Mayan's leadership at Fortune Bay! We will also be interviewing CEO candidates in November for our businesses/enterprises.

We had members of the House of Representatives and the Speaker of the House at Fortune Bay for Tribal-State Relations Training in the last week of October.

The Tribal Council recently went to Grand Portage to join Grand Portage in meeting with the U.S. Forest Service. It was also a discussion to let the U.S. Forest Service know that our 1854 area is getting smaller to access for hunting, fishing, and gathering. Preliminary estimates show that we can only use 20 percent of the 1854 area to exercise these rights for our band members.

We also received the five-year information on band member employment and will get it posted to the website. This includes Fortune Bay and the Tribal Government.

I would like to recognize three band members who are Tribal Liaisons within the state agencies. They are Corey Strong for Minnesota Housing, Billie Isham for Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation, and Jenna Lehti for Public Safety. We are proud of their accomplishments! Bois Forte has many band members in extremely important positions such as Tadd Johnson, Robert Anderson, and many more. Having our tribal members in various positions in agencies allows us an opportunity to find out about additional resources, funding, etc.

On November 8, there will be a Tribal Leaders Summit with the Governor to discuss various issues, Bois Forte specific issues, and all tribes issues.

Miigwech!

*(continued from page 3)*  
immediate impact at Fortune Bay. "I know that what I do is very important to the tribes that I work with," said Beltran, who has already been establishing solid work relationships with his managers and directors via one-on-one meetings. "The revenue that is generated creates many opportunities that weren't possible before gaming. I believe in economic development and job creation, and I strongly believe in self-sufficiency."

This falls into line with what he recently told his staff at a Division Director's meeting when he told them that he doesn't believe in micro-managing, rather he likes to observe his staff and give advice on how they can do their jobs better. He described his leadership style as very flexible where he adapts and adjusts by incorporating the 8 leadership styles for Organizational Success.

"I believe that the culture and vision of the tribe and organization determine the most suitable style," said Beltran. "Furthermore, I believe in working well with others, leading by example, being available, mentoring, coaching, and having a positive attitude play an important role in my success."

Beltran, who is married and has two adult children, said he did a lot of research online about the Bois Forte

Band of Chippewa and Fortune Bay Resort Casino before his interview. After all, moving from Iowa to north-eastern Minnesota isn't a decision that can be made without knowing exactly what he would be walking into. In the end, Beltran said he had a great feeling about the Tribal Council and the Casino Executives that he spoke with and thus the decision just felt right for him.

"There was much discussion with my family about the opportunity before accepting," explained Beltran, who credited his family for allowing him to make this career move. "I have such an incredible support system at home, and I wanted to ensure my family was on board with such a change in environment. After that, we then had that 'This is the new chapter in our life,' moment."

And that new chapter has already begun with much promise and positive feedback from everyone Beltran has crossed paths with thus far.

"I would like to express my gratitude to the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa and Fortune Bay Resort Casino for the opportunity to work with them," said Beltran. "I'm very excited about being part of the leadership and the future of this great nation and business. I look forward to meeting and working with everyone in our community."

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# Harvest Nation President addresses State Employees



Harvest Nation President Dani Pieratos' message is as urgent as it was uplifting: We need food sovereignty to heal and protect our communities.

Earlier this October, Pieratos met over Zoom with 275 State employees as part of their Tribal-State Relations training.

"This is about food sovereignty," said Pieratos. "Food Sovereignty is a phrase coined in the '90s by a group of grassroots farmers in South America. It has four pillars, and it is at the heart of who we are as Indigenous people."

Pieratos went on to describe each of the four pillars:

- 1: Local production and local access to healthy food.
- 2: Culturally appropriate food.
- 3: Education and outreach.
- 4: Environmentally sound principles.

"We identify with the foods we eat," she explained. "Food is a basic connector of people. Food wins and loses wars. A lot of our spiritual identity is tied to food."

Minnesota State employees are required to attend this Tribal-State Relations training to learn the history of local Native tribes, including how land was stolen and how children were forced into boarding schools. This part of history is disturbing to most, and some members of the audience have not learned about it until they take the training. Speakers like Pieratos

are invited to demonstrate the resilience, ambition, and strength of Native Americans, to show attendees of these trainings how we come back from tragedy. Pieratos and Harvest Nation are certainly exemplifying these principles in the work they do.

Harvest Nation is an indoor aeroponic community-supported farm, currently in the prototyping stage. They have long-term goals to protect the food security of Bois Forte and help Indigenous people from all over take back their food sovereignty, which they are striving to accomplish by growing healthy food for the community.

"The fourth principle is using environmentally sound principles: Sustainability, regeneration— these are indigenous concepts. It's everyone's right to have a planet, fresh water, healthy food," said Pieratos. "Big Ag is destroying soil all over the world. We have a rising population. It'll keep growing. We need to think sustainably and work with the planet & people."

Pieratos was excited for the chance to talk to agents of the state about food sovereignty.

"It's an interdisciplinary effort," she said after the training. "The Health Department needs to be involved, Social Services, etc., if we mean to treat historical and intergenerational trauma through food sovereignty."

Pieratos emphasized her belief that the State should provide tribes with funding in lump sums so that they can use them as the tribes determine how they should be used.



Dani Pieratos, Harvest Nation President

"It's about having trust in Ojibwe people to decide our best use of funds for ourselves," she said. "You know that our grandmothers were praying for us. We may not know their names, but they were praying for us. How can we be more like them? I'm a single mom, thinking about my kids' future health. We need many more programs, initiatives, and projects working on clean food, clean water, and clean energy. We believe in our people. We invite everyone to work together to improve our future."

Pieratos and her colleagues at Harvest Nation are in the prototyping stage of their plan to provide sustainable, local, healthy food to the region. You can learn more about their work at [www.harvestnationinc.com](http://www.harvestnationinc.com).

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



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

## Legal Notice

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

In the Matter of the Welfare of, D.R.D. DOB: 05/04/2012 and D.R.D. DOB: 04/07/2015, Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Department of Family Health Services, Petitioner, v. Donald Raymond Dupree and Jeralyn Jean Smith, Parents. Court File No. 19 521JV.

To: The above-named Respondent Jeralyn Jean Smith

It is Ordered and Notice is Hereby Given that a Petition to Transfer Legal and Physical Custody was filed in the Bois Forte Tribal Court on October 22, 2021. A hearing on the above petition will be held on December 7, 2021 at 11:20 a.m. Central Standard Time, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, at the Bois Forte Children's Court, Bois Forte Reservation, 12907 Palmquist Road, Nett Lake, MN 55772. All appearances will be by telephone or Zoom.

**YOUR APPEARANCE AT THIS HEARING IS REQUIRED, FAILURE TO APPEAR FOR THE HEARING WILL RESULT IN A DEFAULT JUDGEMENT BEING ENTERED AGAINST YOU AND TRANSFER OF PERMANENT LEGAL AND PHYSICAL CUSTODY OF THE ABOVE-NAMED CHILDREN TO OCCUR.**

By the Court Megan Treuer, Chief Judge

Janell Smith, Clerk of Court  
Rebecca McConkey-Greene, Attorney for Petitioner, ID 0388656

12907 Palmquist Road | P.O. Box 25  
Nett Lake, MN 55772  
218-757-3462



**Legal Notice**

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

In the Matter of the Welfare of K.S.B, DOB: 06/12/2019 and J.G.B. DOB: 04/15/2020, Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Department of Family Health Services, Petitioner, v. Janessa White, Parent. Court File No. 21 849JV.

To: Janessa Andrea White

It is Ordered and Notice is Hereby Given that a Petition to Transfer Legal and Physical Custody was filed in the Bois Forte Tribal Court on July 27, 2021. A hearing on the above petition will be held on November 9, 2021 at 11:20 a.m. Central Standard Time, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, at the Bois Forte Children's Court, Bois Forte Reservation, 12907 Palmquist Road, Nett Lake, MN 55772. All appearances will be by telephone or Zoom.

**YOUR APPEARANCE AT THIS HEARING IS REQUIRED, FAILURE TO APPEAR FOR THE HEARING WILL RESULT IN A DEFAULT JUDGEMENT BEING ENTERED AGAINST YOU AND TRANSFER OF PERMANENT LEGAL AND PHYSICAL CUSTODY OF THE ABOVE-NAMED CHILDREN TO OCCUR.**

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

## *Boutto receives an eight-month stint in federal prison and must pay restitution*

Jen Boutto, who admitted to embezzling more than \$315,000 over a six-year period from Fortune Bay Resort Casino, received her sentence in U.S. District Court on Monday, Oct. 18.

Boutto had previously pleaded guilty to one count of embezzlement and theft of Tribal funds.

She will serve an eight-month federal prison and then be on supervised probation for one year. She will also have to repay the money she stole.

According to court documents, in 2008, Boutto, now 33, began working as a reservationist at the Fortune Bay Resort Casino. Boutto later received a promotion to Front Desk Supervisor, a position that allowed her to issue cash refunds without direct supervision. Between January 2013 and October 2019, Boutto used her position at Fortune Bay to steal money by issuing false cash refunds against the invoices of previous Fortune Bay customers. Boutto would then access the Fortune Bay vault and retrieve the falsely re-

funded amount. In total, Boutto executed the scheme 2,994 times and stole \$315,739.87.

Acting U.S. Attorney W. Anders Folk for the District of Minnesota made the announcement after U.S. District Judge Eric C. Tostrud sentenced the defendant.

This case is the result of an investigation conducted by the FBI and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, with significant assistance from the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Jordan L. Sing.

The following are comments made by Chairwoman Cathy Chavers regarding the sentencing.

"Far too often crimes are committed against tribes in Indian Country and the punishment is a slap on the wrist," said Chavers. "We applaud Judge Tostrud for realizing the seriousness of the crime committed by her. Boutto serving time in federal prison reinforces the fact that crimes



like these won't be tolerated."

Chavers also commended the U.S. Attorney's Office for staying the course and not being quick to negotiate any sentence that would not involve jail time for Boutto. She noted that the Band worked hand in hand with the U.S. Attorney's Office throughout this process.

"It's been frustrating at times to not be able to say more, but we didn't want to interfere with the investigation or harm the chances for a conviction," said Chavers. "She will also be forced to pay full restitution and will go on supervised release once she serves her time in federal prison. The U.S. Attorney's Office was thorough in doing their job to ensure that our voices were heard and that justice would prevail in this case."

Chavers said the case has weighed heavily on the Bois Forte Band and it will be nice to put this dark chapter behind us.

"We are relieved to put an end to this matter and are now able to breathe a bit easier seeing justice done," said Chavers. "Now our community can begin the process of healing and ensuring this never happens again."

**LEGAL NOTICE**

In the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Indians Tribal Court  
Civil Division

Minnesota Chippewa Tribe

In the matter of Geraldine Evelyn Deegan, petitioner vs Aidan James Strong, respondent, case number OP-2021-0094.

TO: The above-named respondent, Aidan James Strong,

You are hereby notified, and notice is hereby given that a temporary order for protection was granted in the above-named case and a hearing has been set for December 8, 2021, at 10:00 am to hear testimony of why the order for protection should or should not be ordered permanently.

By the Court  
Megan Treuer, Chief Judge  
Janell Smith, Clerk of Court  
12907 Palmquist Road, Suite B  
Orr, MN 55771  
Tel: 218/757-3462



# Nett Lake students celebrate their successful manoomin harvest

A group of Nett Lake students recently gathered for a “Miigwech Manoomin” celebration at the powwow grounds. They sat on the bleachers together as David “Squidg” Morrison, Jr. gave them a short quiz on what they had learned.

He asked the kids who were in attendance how to say Nett Lake in Ojibwe. The answer, *Asabiikone-zaaga`igan*, translates to “The lake for netting.”

This season, however, it is the lake for ricing. The 5th and 6th grade class took part in this year’s wild rice harvest, and the kids were involved in the parching as well.

Morrison related the story of the original Ojibwe people who first came here. Sent by a vision, they traveled west until they found a lake with fields of food. He gestured to Spirit Island, where the spirits brought the Ojibwe—the island they saw as they approached the place for the first time. There was plenty of food here for them. Most notably, bountiful manoomin.

“What is *manoomin*?” Morrison asked the kids.

“Rice!” They responded. They knew all about these things—after all, many of them had been learning about the ins and outs of harvesting wild rice for the whole harvesting season. The 5th and 6th grade got to go out ricing, learning how it is done, collecting canoes full of ripe manoomin for parching.

Morrison then quizzed them on the Ojibwe names of the tools used to harvest rice. There was the *jiimaan*, the canoe that is used to collect and carry the rice back to shore, and there is the *bawa`iganaak*, the ricing stick, which is used to knock the manoomin into the boat, and *gaandakii`igan*, the pole used to push the canoe. He also talked about jiggling the rice.

Bois Forte Elder Karen Drift, who is a language teacher, came to tell the children some traditional stories. She used Ojibwe and English in her storytelling, teaching the kids the names of animals and objects through her story about a boy who is lost in the forest, looking for food.

After the lesson and stories, there was a mini powwow. The drummers played and sang as the kids danced around the grounds, moving around the circle somewhat more briskly than is the norm—they were full of energy and happy for the chance to dance.

The kids passed out bags of wild rice—which they harvested and parched—to the guests at the event, starting with elders first. There were delicious wild rice dishes and cedar tea for everyone to enjoy.

The kids at Nett Lake had a fantastic time celebrating the long cultural history of the harvest season.

“How do we say thank you, wild rice?” Asked Morrison.

The kids were enthusiastic in their reply: “*Miigwech Manoomin!*”



IT'S QUIZ TIME!— David “Squidg” Morrison, Jr. asks a question during a recent “Miigwech Manoomin” celebration at the powwow grounds in Nett Lake. Also pictured, from left to right are, Lance Kingbird, Darren Landgren, Karen Drift, and Angelo Kingbird.



Karen Drift tells a story, using Ojibwe and English words.

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For a list of current job opportunities,  
go to: [www.boisforte.com/jobs](http://www.boisforte.com/jobs)





## It's Vaccination Season

Call Bois Forte Medical Clinics to schedule your family.

**Nett Lake Clinic: 218-757-3650 Vermilion Clinic: 218-753-2182**

All **FLU VACCINES** will be starting Oct 1ST. Call today to schedule.



**Pfizer Booster Doses** are also now available if you have completed your primary series at least 6 months ago, and you qualify under the CDC recommended guidelines found on the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/booster-shot.html>

To schedule your Pfizer Booster Dose please ask to speak with the RN at the Nett Lake or Vermilion Clinic.

\*\*\*If you received the MODERNA or J&J/JANSSEN vaccine\*\*\*

Per the CDC these vaccines will likely need a booster shot. The CDC will keep the public informed with a timely plan for Moderna and J&J/Janssen booster shots.

The ACIP & CDC are bound by what the FDA authorization allows. Currently, the Pfizer-BioNTech booster authorization ONLY applies to people whose primary series was Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine.



## PURCHASE REFERRED CARE MEDICARE PART D ENROLLMENT



### SCHEDULE

**OCTOBER 15<sup>TH</sup> – NOVEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>**

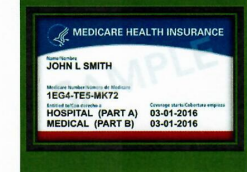
**9:00 AM to 2:30 PM DAILY**  
at the Nett Lake or Vermilion Clinic  
with Destinie or Kristal

Please call Destinie at (218)757-3650 or Kristal at (218)753-2182 to schedule an appointment to review your Medicare Part D drug plan. Appointments for these days are not necessary but appreciated. If you cannot attend on any of these days, please make sure you get in to see Destinie or Kristal prior to **December 3rd, 2021** as the open enrollment period closes at that time.

**Miigwech!**

Please bring your **MEDICATION LIST** and **MEDICARE CARD** with you.

We will be reviewing your medication (prescription) drug coverage and enrolling you in a prescription drug (PART D) plan



**NETT LAKE CLINIC**  
5219 St. John's Drive  
Nett Lake, MN 55772

**VERMILION CLINIC**  
1613 Farm Road South  
Tower, MN 55790



## Recipe Corner

### Balsamic Roasted Winter Squash and Wild Rice Salad

- 1 cup wild rice
- 3 ½ cups water or stock (chicken or vegetable)
- Salt to taste
- 2 pounds butternut squash, peeled and cut in small dice (about 3 cups peeled and diced, weighing 1 1/2 to 1 3/4 pounds)
- Salt to taste
- 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
- 3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice (more to taste)
- 1 garlic clove, minced or puréed
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 3 tablespoons walnut oil, or substitute extra virgin olive oil
- ½ cup chopped fresh herbs, like parsley, chives, tarragon
- ½ cup diced celery
- 1 5- or 6-ounce bag baby arugula or spinach

Rinse the wild rice. Bring the water or stock to a boil in a medium saucepan, add salt to taste and the rice. Bring back to a boil, reduce the heat, cover and simmer 45 minutes, until the rice is tender and has begun to splay. Drain through a strainer, return to the pot and cover the pot with a clean dishtowel. Return the lid to the pot and let sit for 10 minutes

Meanwhile, preheat the oven to 425 degrees. Line a baking sheet with foil. Place the squash in a bowl or directly on the baking sheet and toss with salt to taste, the balsamic vinegar and 1 tablespoon of the olive oil. Spread on the baking sheet in an even layer and make sure to tip all of the liquid remaining in the bowl over the squash. Roast for 20 to 30 minutes, stirring every 10 minutes so that the squash browns evenly. The squash should be tender all the way through. Remove from the heat

In a small bowl or measuring cup, whisk together the lemon juice, garlic, salt to taste and mustard. Whisk in the remaining olive oil and the walnut oil. Combine the wild rice, squash, herbs and celery in a large bowl. Toss with the dressing. Add salt and pepper to taste. Line a platter, individual plates or a wide salad bowl with the baby spinach or arugula. Top with the salad and serve



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

In the Matter of the Welfare of N.I. a/k/a N.G.B, DOB: 11/08/2012, Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Department of Family Health Services, Petitioner, v. Starr Lanham and Brandon Bearheart, Parents. Court File No. JV-2022-0004

To: The above-named Respondents

It is Ordered and Notice is Hereby Given that a Child in Need of Protection or Services petition was filed in the Bois Forte Tribal Court on October 14, 2021. A hearing on the above petition will be held on **December 7, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.** Central Standard Time, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, at the Bois Forte Children's Court, Bois Forte Reservation, 12907 Palmquist Road, Nett Lake, MN 55772. All appearances will be by telephone or Zoom.

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

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

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

In the Matter of the Welfare of J.D.I, DOB: 09/29/2016, Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Department of Family Health Services, Petitioner, v. Starr Lanham and William Isham, Parents. Court File No. JV-2022-0005

To: The above-named Respondents

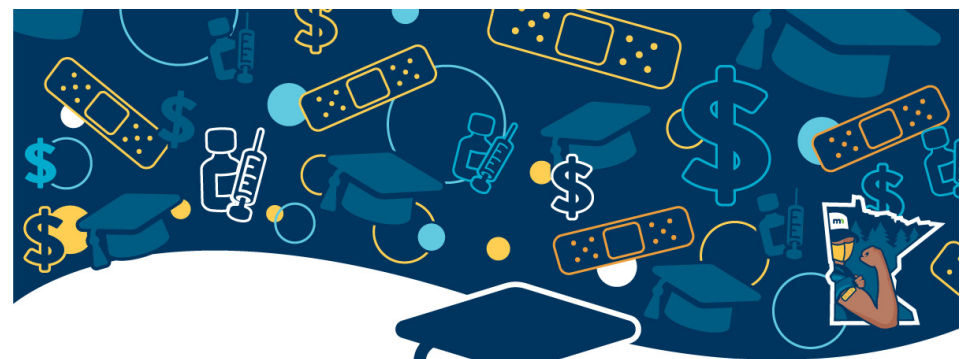
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12907 Palmquist Road | P.O. Box 25  
Nett Lake, MN 55772  
218-757-3462



**BUSY DAY!**— Fortune Bay Director of Marketing Jake Aune, left and Assistant Director of Marketing Hannah Chosa, right, serve a guest during a Guest Appreciation Lunch held Thursday, October 21 in The Woodlands Ballroom. Over 200 guests showed up for the free lunch, which was held in conjunction with Fortune Bay's 35th Anniversary Celebration.



**\$100,000**

Enter for a chance to win a college scholarship!

Get vaccinated. Get a \$200 Visa gift card.



# Obituaries



**FRANCIS "TUNA" DAVID CONNOR** passed away on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at his home in Tower, MN. He was born January 26th, 1960 in Cook, MN to Lawrence and Olive (Villebrun) Connor.

Tuna was a bright spirited individual and would befriend almost anyone he would meet. He had an infectious smile and was always cracking jokes and laughing like a mallard. Tuna served in the US Army for four years and spent most of his time stationed in Germany. He worked over 20 years as a Heavy Equipment Operator

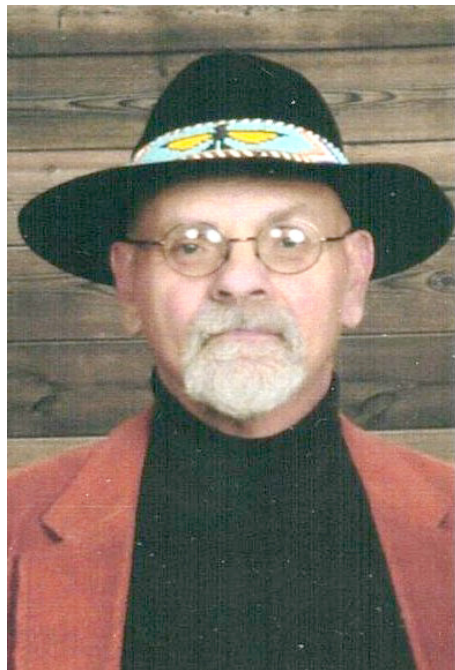
with the local 49ers. Tuna's hobbies were fishing, watching sports with friends, and playing bingo. He enjoyed going to concerts. Most importantly, he was a great son, father, sibling, uncle and friend.

He was preceded in death by his father Lawrence Connor Sr.; his brothers: Loren "Hawk" Connor, and Alden "Ottie" Connor; and nephew Josh Rutar.

Tuna is survived by his mother Olive Connor; children: David Connor and Vanessa Connor; step children: John Kingbird and Dylan Fee;

granddaughters: Andreanna and Kylie; siblings: Lawrence "Tejon" Connor Jr; Lois "Coke" (Howard "Daddy Dean") Graham, Annamarie Dorr, Darrell "Pete" Connor, Karen Connor, Kay Connor, Kelly Rutar, Ruth Connor; and many nieces, nephews and friends.

A wake was held on Monday, October 25, 2021 at the Bois Forte Government and Service Center. A traditional service was held the next day on Tuesday, October 26, 2021, also at the center.



**TERRY ALAN KING** of El Dorado, KS passed away September 16, 2021 at 1:49 PM in Wichita KS surrounded by his Family. Terry was born in Cook, MN on April 15, 1947 to Warren and Marianne (Hoffer) King. Terry attended school in Orr, MN. Terry married the love of his life, Bonnie Lee Stolberg, September 1, 1967. They spent most of their marriage in Virginia, MN. During

that time, he worked at Minntac. Terry then went to Anoka Technical School for golf course greens, and went on to work for Wilderness Golf Course at Fortune Bay. He enjoyed music (playing in the Hutter Bunch band), golfing, hunting, watching baseball and football, firearms shooting and reloading, ricing, and spending time with his family. Terry was proud to be a member of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa. He always loved being outdoors, whether on the reservation or in the backyard.

Terry is survived by the love of his life Bonnie Lee Grey and three sons: Bill (Sally) King of Belton, MO; George (Tonja) King of Oskaloosa, IA; and John (Sabreena) King of El Dorado KS, as well as 11 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren: siblings Rocky (Glory) King of Cook, MN, Susan King of Virginia, MN, Katherine (James) Farnham of Side Lake, MN, Margaret (Brian) Roth of Cloquet, MN, Robin King of Eveleth, MN, and several nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents Warren and Marianne, nephew Elias Quentin Swanberg, and granddaughter McKayla Dawn King.

**To submit an obituary for the Bois Forte News, please email:**  
[news@boisforte-nsn.gov](mailto:news@boisforte-nsn.gov)

**BOIS FORTE  
HEALTH &  
HUMAN  
SERVICES.**

**INVITES YOU TO  
ATTEND OUR  
COMMUNITY DIABETES  
CONFERENCE.**

---

Join us for an in-person and/or virtual diabetes conference, watch for posters for update.

Come learn about topics:

Sleep apnea, taking meds and how they work, body & mouth's connection with high blood sugar and the importance of exercise, Invited guest speakers, Nutrition and Heart Health.

Lunch, prizes will be provided.

**MONDAY,  
NOVEMBER  
29TH, 2021.**

**10AM-2PM**

QUESTIONS CALL DAVID @ 757-0087.



# BIG WOODS TRANSIT

**COMMUTER 2 ROUTE** ELY TO VERMILION  
**MONDAY -- FRIDAY**

## AM COMMUTER 2

DEPARTS @ 7:00 AM – Ely Recycling Center Parking Lot

**START DATE NOV 1**



## PM COMMUTER 2

DEPARTS VERMILION @ 4:30PM

RETURNING ALONG

THE SAME ROUTE

**PLEASE CALL 1-888-757-1540**

**NO MASK NO RIDE**

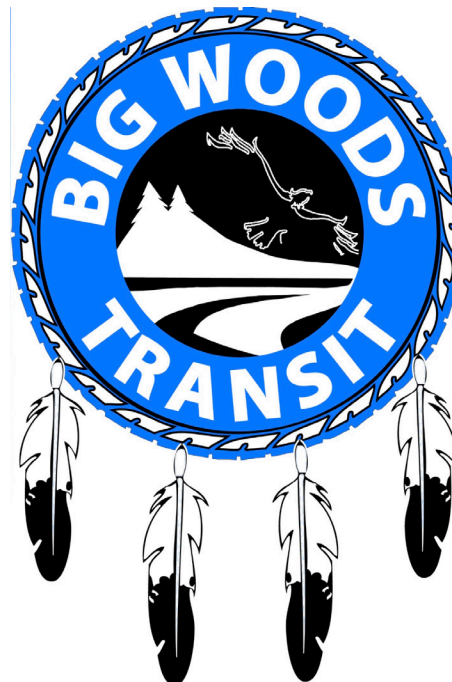
TSA (Transportation Security Administration) has extended the public transportation mask mandate through January 18, 2022

**SOCIAL DISTANCE WHILE ON THE BUS**

**No Charge DUE TO COVID**



Check out our new billboard on Highway 53 in Gheen, featuring kids from the Bois Forte community!



## WANTED!

Want to make a couple hundred bucks driving elders to appointments?

**Volunteer Drivers needed!**

If interested, Please contact Kristen Holmes at 1-888-757-1540.



# Bois Forte NEWS



**Deadline for the Dec. 2021 issue is Nov. 20, 2021.**

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

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

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

From the archives... A look back at the November 1998 edition of the *Bois Forte News*



## Bois Forte News

Back Page  
Page 8  
Or. Mn. 65771

VOL. 13, NO. 4

NETT LAKE, MINN., NOVEMBER 1998 EDITION

### A Report by Doris...



Doris Adams, RTC Chairwoman

The elections are over, and there have been some surprises, both here in Minnesota and across the nation. Jesse Ventura, a Reform Party candidate, shocked many political analysts by winning the Minnesota governor's race. Minnesota also saw its House of Representatives change from Democratic to Republican control. The Senate, which was not up for re-election, keeps its Democratic majority.

In the rest of the country, Democrats did better than expected, given President Clinton's recent troubles. However, Republicans still maintain control of both houses of Congress.

What all this means for Indian Country is unclear. For the first time in history, Minnesota will have a Senate controlled by one party, a House controlled by another, and a third party in the governor's office. Some people are predicting government gridlock; others are saying the tension could result in creative new ideas.

One thing is certain, however, the men and women who have been elected will have a profound influence on Indian issues and Indian People.

The RTC's first priority is our community and our local issues. However, I have learned over and over again how important it is for the Bois Forte Band to also work for - and sometimes fight against - proposals in the state legislature and in Congress.

This will not change. We must continue to stay involved in critical issues such as education, housing, health care, treaty rights, and

gaming rights. If we do not, we let other people make decisions about our lives.

Because what happens in the state and federal governments is so important to us, I've asked the Bois Forte News staff to begin regular coverage of Indian issues that are being debated in St. Paul and Washington, D.C. Please let me, other RTC members, or Bois Forte News staff know what you think about the new column. My goal is to ensure that our government is well run and serves you effectively, and I always want your feedback on how the RTC is doing. Miss greatch.

**Listening to You**  
"Fair is the clear sky, and green grass, yet more fair is peace among men."

These words, from a ceremony performed by the Onnaha people, beautifully sum up the value American Indians place on harmony. We strive to live in harmony with the earth, because it gives us life. And we strive to live in harmony with each other, because our relationships make our lives happier and more meaningful.

One of the ways we find this harmony with others is by communicating clearly and honestly. We share what we know or think or feel, and ask others to share their knowledge, thoughts and feelings in return.

The Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council is working hard to ensure this kind of open, honest communication between tribal government officials and Band members. We write regular columns for this newspaper to let you know what the RTC is doing. And we've started publishing the *Bois Forte Pride* newspaper to keep you updated on the progress our People are making.

We're also creating new ways for RTC officials and Band members to get together and discuss different topics. For example, we've started holding public meetings. At one of these meetings, a pot luck supper held on September 22 at the Nett Lake Community Center, we asked for Band members' input on changes to the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe's Constitution. Over the next

(Continued on Page 6)

### Gordy and an RTC report.



Gordy Adams, District I Rep.

I would like to begin this article by listing some of the tribal council's major accomplishments since our assumption as your leaders. These last four months have been very progressive in many ways, it is good to work with a council that works as a "team". This "teamwork" has accomplished the following benefits to you as individuals, as well as the entire Band:

We have now signed the Reciprocity Agreement with the State of Minnesota to develop our own Motor Vehicle Licensing Program. We should begin to start

gaming rights. If we do not, we let other people make decisions about our lives.

We developed this ordinance to include Band members who reside off-Reservation who wish to register their personally owned vehicle. The ordinance also eliminates any state taxes for purchases made for any vehicle bought, sold, or transferred on the reservation. A flat fee of \$20.00, plus any incidentals should be the average cost of registering vehicles. We can now proudly display our own license plates! (Special thanks to Dave Danielson for doing the major leg work for us.)

We have formally passed the revised "by-laws" of the Bois Forte RTC. The old by-laws, formally known as the 145 Ordinance, were changed to mainly update an old outdated ordinance. The new ordinance clearly spells out the job duties of the tribal council. We should begin to start

"There have been problems in Indian Country because so many governments do not have a system of checks and balances to prevent people or departments from gaining too much power," Isham said. "Our new by-laws and ethics code will help guard against any abuse of power in our government."

(Continued on Page 6)

Part of Continuing Effort to make Tribal Government More Accessible

In October, the Reservation Tribal Council approved new by-laws that govern the duties of all RTC officials and committees. The RTC also adopted the first-ever code of ethics for RTC officials and employees.

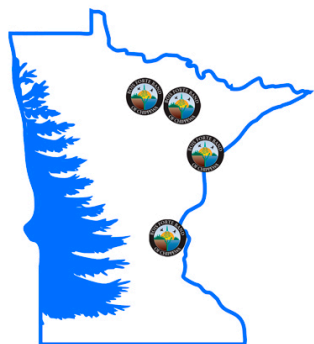
The new by-laws and ethics code are part of the RTC's ongoing efforts to make the Bois Forte Band's government more effective, efficient and accountable, according to RTC Chairwoman Doris Isham.

Bylaws Revised for First Time in Nearly 35 Years

The by-laws that govern the duties of RTC members and meetings had not been revised since 1964, according to Band Attorney Mark

Chapters 5 & 6 of the Bois Forte Criminal Code are printed on pages 12-17 of this issue.

The RTC plans to approve Chapters 5 & 6 30 days after posting.



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

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

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\*wdrift@boisforte-nsn.gov

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1308 East Franklin Avenue  
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Minneapolis, MN 55404  
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Cell: \*612-747-5247  
\*urbanoffice@boisforte-nsn.gov



### Bois Forte Tribal Council

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