



Bois Forte News

25¢ at Nett Lake — 30¢ Elsewhere

Bulk Rate
Permit 8
Orr, Mn 55771

VOL. 11, NO. 8

NETT LAKE, MINN., FEBRUARY 1997 EDITION

757-3261

Lodging tax issue...

In response to articles which appeared in the TimberJay and the Cook News Herald which cast an unfavorable light on the Bois Forte RTC's decision not to participate in the 3% lodging tax with the Joint Powers Board, Chairman Clint Landgren sent the following letter to the Editor of the TimberJay, setting forth the RTC's views on the lodging tax issue.

January 28, 1996

Mr. Marshall Helmlinger
Managing Editor TimberJay
414 Main Street, Box 636
Tower, MN 55790

Dear Editor,

The Bois Forte Tribal Council is concerned about the misconceptions regarding the Bois Forte Tribal Council and Fortune Bay that have recently surfaced in the news media. We want to set the record straight regarding our lodging tax and the way we manage our enterprise.

It is important to recognize that the Reservation Tribal Council was acting in its governmental capacity when it adopted the lodging tax and dedicated the revenue to funds which will help pay for the improvements at Fortune Bay. Like all governments, the Reservation Tribal Council has many demands on it and must set priorities when it appropriates tribal funds. While the state legislature has limited the use of local lodging tax revenue to marketing and promoting tourism, the Reservation Tribal Council has adopted a tribal law which directs that those tax revenues be used to meet the Band's financial obligations. The Reservation Tribal Council believes that assuring a strong foundation for its new facility today will provide both jobs and economic growth in the future for the Reservation and the neighboring communities.

The legislative decision made by the Reservation Tribal Council has not in any way foreclosed Fortune Bay's participation in the promotion of the Lake Vermilion area and neighboring attractions. In fact, the Reservation Tribal Council remains committed to using resources at Fortune Bay to support cooperative marketing efforts with area tourism associations. Fortune Bay has been an active member for the Lake Vermilion Resort Association and has on many occasions participated in cooperative promotional efforts and will continue to do



Clint Landgren
Bois Forte Tribal Chairman

so. The Reservation Tribal Council has chosen to direct lodging tax revenues to another need, but that does not mean that Fortune Bay's cooperation or participation will end. To the contrary, Fortune Bay will continue to promote the entire area in its advertisements, at trade shows, and in other marketing efforts. The governing body of the Bois Forte Band has made great investments in its marketing and sales department at Fortune Bay, and as before, that asset can be used to reduce the cost of cooperative marketing to all parties involved.

Although Fortune Bay's contributions to marketing tourism presently will not consist of direct cash payments, it is anticipated that the value of its "in-kind" services will exceed the lodging tax revenue. Fair minded observers will recognize - as has the Reservation Tribal Council - that Fortune Bay will remain the leader in promoting this area and that others will continue to realize the benefits of Fortune Bay's efforts.

We would welcome anyone to take the time to visit our establishment and the surrounding area to find out for themselves that Fortune Bay Resort & Casino does enhance the Lake Vermilion region by being one of the area's largest employers.

Sincerely,

/s/ **Clint Landgren**

Clint Landgren
Bois Forte Tribal Chairman



Grade 3-4, "Healthy Snacks" — Left to right: Gordie Adams, Mark Connor, Davis Chosa and Aaron Villebrun.

1st Annual School Health Fair

The Nett Lake school students held a health fair on Wednesday, January 29, 1997 in the Nett Lake School gym. Each classroom chose a topic and developed a presentation. It was the first time any of the students have done something like this and the results were great!!!!

A wide range of health issues were on display in the gym Wednesday afternoon. The kindergarten made posters about their five senses. Each poster depicted a different sense. The first and second grade class shared "germs" of glitter and reminded everyone not to share germs but, to wash up quick and don't get sick, instead. The third and fourth grade class prepared tasty healthy snacks for everyone to taste. They also had cookbooks of their favorite healthy snacks to hand out. There are some promising chefs emerging from Mrs. Long's room!!!! The fifth and sixth grade class demonstrated the effects of smoking on the nervous system, respiratory system and cardiovascular system. Mrs. Strong's class sincerely will convince

non-smokers not to start and encourage smokers to try to quit smoking.

All of the students ended the afternoon with a jump rope for heart activity. The American Heart

Association donated a large box of new jump ropes to the Nett Lake School and jump rope curriculum materials to encourage all students to exercise for healthy hearts. Everyone's heart in kindergarten through grade six received a good work out!!!! A Jump for Heart I-shirt was given to the best jumper in each classroom. The winners were Krystal LaRoque in Mrs. Fogelberg's class. Natalie Smith in Mrs. Fink's class. Billie Jean Drift in Mrs. Long's class and Lance Mitchell in Mrs. Strong's room.

The students of Nett Lake School would like to remind everyone that February is National Heart Month. This is a good time to remember to take good care of our hearts with lots of exercise, healthy food and please don't smoke!!!!



Left to right: Kevin Strong, Lyle Connor and Andrea Day at the "Smoke in Your Lungs" exhibit.

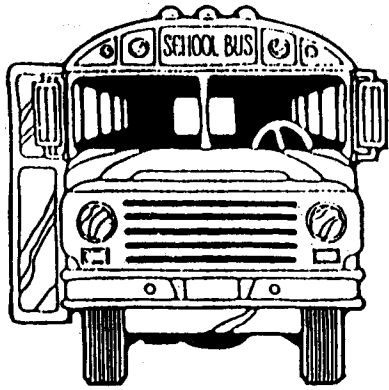
FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOP

Date: February 26, 1997

Time: 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Lisa LaFreiner from the
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe
will be available to assist students

LOCATION: RTC Conference Room



School News

HeadStart & Early Childhood



Judy Anderson, HeadStart Director

Because of the Holidays, then so much going on in January, it seems like I just wrote this column. But Axel has been on my case to do this again. I do look forward to sharing our news with the community so it really isn't a nuisance.

Several dates to remember:

February 17 - President's Day, No Head Start/ Day Care at Nett Lake Center & No Head Start at Vermilion Center

March 10-14- OSPRI (Federal Head Start Review)

April 13-19- Week of the Young Child

Last week I was privileged to have been invited to attend a national meeting of state advocates for children. This was in regards to what was happening in states to families revolving around child care issues because of Welfare Reform. Head Start was invited for the first time because of the necessary collaboration that must now happen everywhere. Since we've always had child care, we're ahead of most of the nation's Head Starts, but still have a long way to go

as far as meeting the changing needs of families in terms of Welfare Reform and it's work requirements for assistance.

I also attended a grantswriting training specific to Early Head Start (0-3). It would be a wonderful opportunity for our communities to have this grant, but it is a highly competitive grant open to all Head Starts, as well as any non-profit. We will try for it if we have the necessary help before it is due at the end of May.

Our New Lives Collaborative and the Maternal Child Health grants had a fruitful meeting around planning for the 1997 year, setting goals and clarifying our vision of how all the programs on the Reservation that serve young children will work together.

We did receive the hoped for Child Care Planning Grant that will allow us to explore all child care options available in the area, as well as assess the needs of parents in the Nett Lake - Orr, and the Vermilion - Tower areas in the next year. The result will be the best working plan that can be obtained.

Reminder: We are STILL missing necessary information from records, especially medical and dental paperwork on our Head Start children. If you know that this pertains to you, please help us be in compliance for our federal review. In the end it is for the benefit of your child, not just our program.

The children are working on several projects, and we'll soon send out valentine lists of names for our families. Otherwise, February is on the downslope towards Spring, and the nice weather today as I type this reminds me that each season comes so quickly.

KE ZHA WUS SO news...



J. Kay Davis, Director

It has been a while since writing about the happenings at the KE ZHA WUS SO Family Resource Center. We have about 40 children enrolled in the day care portion, and 15 in Head Start, all using the building. The multi-culture curriculum used by the day care continues to offer new experiences for the children. In December we celebrated candle holidays, beginning with

Hanukkah where the children learned about lighting the candles with a "shamish" or main candle. Our guest *who* grew up in a Jewish home that celebrated the holiday, talked to the children and brought Hanukkah "gelt" (candy in the form of gold coins) from New York, special for the occasion. We then moved on to Christmas, and the tree that originally had candles to light it, and still does in Germany. Then the candles of Kwanzaa, the red and black and green significance of remembrance of those whose heritage is from Africa, but now live in the United States.

In January we celebrated the Russian Snow Festival, coloring the snow with squirt guns, making snowmen, throwing snowballs, and making cabbage soup, a traditional Russian favorite. We are now completing Chinese New Year. The children and teachers made egg flower soup, and the children had several servings, a favorite of all. (However, they seem to like all the foods in which they participate in the preparation, and that is at least every 2 weeks.) In February we will be celebrating Valentines Day, and having

fun with the letter "V"

Besides the curriculum, we are working on some prospective grants to help us formulate a program for language retention for the tribe. We continue to teach words and phrases, but need a more intense program with the families beginning to implement the language as well. You will be hearing more about it. We also would like to have more children able to participate and are looking into ways to do that, some in grant money, and some by perhaps lowering some rates for low income families.

Our center will be feeding the Vermilion elderly beginning February 1st, so we hope to have more interaction between the children and the elderly, hoping to put the Foster Grandparent Program into action as well. It benefits both age groups to interact, so we have high hopes.

In November when I attended the National Association for the Education of

Young Children, I returned, enthused about some thoughts on non-intervention of young children's disputes. As I taught the KE ZHA WUS SO staff how to implement it, we have had great success. By non-intervention, but protecting the children to prevent injury to one another, the children have been empowered to solve their own problems, and generally have made fonder friends than if we had intervened. The teachers, after some uneasiness at first, are now sold on it, and we are now finding it so beneficial to the children at KE ZHA WUS SO.

That is the goal of our center: to empower the children from the curriculum we offer and methods we, ourselves, have learned, to venture out and feel confident in their knowledge. As we watch the children learn, we delight in their progress and successes. We come full circle in protecting, nurturing, teaching and watching. What joys we find here at KE ZHA WUS SO.

Tribal Ed...

Kim King, Career Education Specialist is part of the Minnesota Indian Financial Aid Education Team representing the Bois Forte Reservation, in making financial aid presentations throughout the State of Minnesota. We attended the first workshop at the Leech Lake Bingo Palace on January 22, 1997. Kim is doing well, in making her presentations to the students in their respective areas, on the Bois Forte Program. An Indian Public Health Service Professions Scholarship Workshop was held on the Bemidji State University Campus on January 23, 1997. Kim and I attended this and we received valuable information for the students who are involved in or entering the Health Care Profession, for the first time. Les Connor, who is majoring in Biology and is an outstanding student is graduating from the Bemidji State University this Spring, 1997.

Our department is working on a one to one basis with counselors at the area votech's and colleges. Some contracts were made and signed by some of the students who were having problems in achieving their Grade Point Average of 2.00. we are ready to monitor the students GPA's at the end of Winter Quarter, 1997. I called Kim Griener of the accounting department, and we are not going to release the students checks until this department receives their grades.

I attended a committee meeting of the Curry Scholarship on January 27, 1997 at the Bingo Palace in Cass Lake, Minnesota. We reviewed the criteria again but we ran out of time, so it was decided to continue our work at the Kelly Inn in St. Paul, Minnesota on February 5, 1997. This monetary gift was given to the Minnesota State Indian Scholarship Program and was put into a dedicated account and will be managed by the State's Investment Team. We were working towards making our first award for Spring Quarter, 1997, but constant delays were caused by time limits on our meetings. The committee will be receiving the qualified student recommendations and they will be making their first awards for Fall Quarter, 1997.

Submitted by: **Joanne Donald, Education Division**

3rd & 4th...



Katie Long, 3rd & 4th grades

Winter greetings from the 3rd/4th grades. It is hard to believe that the year is half over. Time sure flies when you are having fun - learning! We now have 14 students in 3rd/4th. Rocky King, a third grader, is our newest addition to our class. Welcome Rocky!

In reading both classes are finishing their themes on fantasy. We will wrap up this unit on fantasy by writing our own fantasy stories.

In math the 4th graders are learning how to multiply a 2-4 digit number by a 1 digit number. This is where it really helps to have our multiplication facts memorized. The 3rd graders just finished a unit of addition and are now working on a unit of subtraction with borrowing.


We are doing an exploration unit in science on magnets. Magnets offer students many opportunities to learn science in a relatively simple exciting way. They are also fun to work with.

Each week a student will be selected to be our V.I.P. (very important person). A poster that they made with their parents help will be displayed in the classroom. Also the class will do a writing assignment listing all the special qualities of our V.I.P.

This activity promotes positive self-esteem. It also helps the students learn that everyone is unique and this makes our class interesting and special.

Remember, parents are always welcome to visit our classroom.

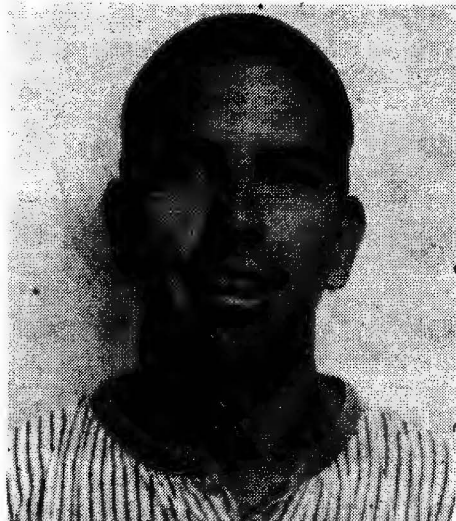
**Tired of
throwing
your weight
around?**



**American Heart
Association**
Fighting Heart Disease
and Stroke

Exercise.

The Lady Braves....



John Villebrun, COACH

Hello Bois Forters, as you know, the Mighty Lady Braves Basketball Team is in high gear and improving with each game. In the next couple of issues of the *Bois Forte News*, I will be profiling each member of the team, from the Varsity to the C-team, and even our manager Kate Hoffer, because she does such a good job. In this month's issue we feature members from the Varsity. Next month I hope to introduce the members of the Junior Varsity.



Name: Janella Whiteman
Height: 5'8"
Year: Sophomore
Position: Shooting Guard, # 45
Nickname: "PEEZ"
Favorite Players: Michael Jordan & Dennis Rodman
 Awesome defender, and very quick. Janella will "take it to the hole" if the defense gives her the opportunity. Loves to shoot the 3-pointers. Away from the basketball court, "Peez" likes talking on the phone and hanging out with friends. She is involved in FLA, Volleyball, Choir, S.O.R.A. Club, Cheerleading, Peer Helpers, Knowledge Bowl, Drama Club, Student Council, Track (maybe) and is on the Honor Roll. The highlight of her season was the season opener in Tower where she scored 21 points to lead the Lady Braves to a 55-35 victory. Janella would like to join the Navy or become a Lawyer.



Name: Karis Flom
Height: 5'9"
Year: Sophomore (Captain)
Position: Center, #21
Nickname: "Flommer"
Favorite Player: Shaquille O'Neal
 Great rebounder, can handle the ball when called upon, and is developing good inside moves. Oh yeah, and she always hustles. Her school activities include Volleyball, Track, Knowledge Bowl, Band, and is on the Honor Roll. Karis impressed me early in the interview when she said her favorite player was the "Shaq". When Karis isn't playing basketball she hangs out with her friends, has a teddybear collection, and plays piano in church and she says "everybody sings". Flom's career highlight happened last season in Hill City when she stole the ball and actually made a layup. Karis is undecided about college, but would like to play college basketball.



Name: Kristen Strong
Height: 5'8"
Year: Junior (Captain)
Position: Forward, #33
Nickname: "SLEEPY"
Favorite Players: Lisa Leslie and Dennis Rodman "He's cool"
 Our "3-Point Specialist", Sleepy can shoot from the outside. She also has good defensive skills and is one of the leaders out on the floor. Kristen enjoys snowmobiling, playing a game of Basketball with the "neejs", "21" is her favorite game. Sleepy also likes to babysit because she likes to be with kids. Her school activities include S.O.R.A. Club, Letterman's Club, and Volleyball. Her favorite musicians are Rapper Tupac Shakur and Rage against the Machine. Kristen is a candidate for Homecoming Queen this year, and I wish her the best of luck. Kristen plans to go to college for Nursing.



Name: Erynn Morrison
Height: 5'9"
Year: Freshman
Position: Power Forward, # 51
Nickname: "BAGS"
Favorite Player: Dennis Rodman
 Has great rebounding skills, "Bags" isn't afraid to get into the middle of the action and take care of the dirty work. She likes to spend her free time hanging out with her friends, listening to music, and talking on the phone with friends from other schools. Her other school activities include Volleyball and she is considering going out for Track in the Spring. Erynn is a little superstitious as she plays ball with her "lucky pictures" stashed away in her jersey. The highlight of her basketball career is playing in the season opener in Tower. After high school Erynn would like to become a Physician.



Name: Carmen Harsch
Height: 5'6"
Year: Sophomore
Position: Forward, # 35
Nickname: "BAM-BAM"
Favorite Player: "Penny" Hardaway
 In her first year with the team, she has steadily improved over the season and gained more confidence. She is developing a great 10-15 foot shot. Her hobbies include swimming, playing volleyball and belching (wow). Extra Curricular activities include Volleyball, FLA, Band, Football Cheerleader, French Club and is on the Honor Roll. During the interview Carmen revealed that she has a false tooth (and she even pointed it out), and always orders happy meals at McDonald's when the team stops after the away games. The highlight over her basketball career is yet to come. Carmen plans to go to college to become an architect.



Name: Valerie King
Height: 5'3"
Year: Junior (Captain)
Position: Guard, # 53
Nickname: "Peater"
Favorite Player: Charles Barkley
 "The little general", Val is a very smart player, good on defense. Our editor doesn't have enough space for all of Val's school activities, but here are a few, Volleyball, Football Cheerleader, FLA, Upward Bound, Drama Club, Peer "Mediator" and is on the Honor Roll. The most colorful character on the team. Claims her bedroom is all decorated with Pocahontas stuff like blankets, pillows, etc. She brings a "Barney" doll out on the bench. Likes oldies music, Elvis is her favorite. Whenever she and her friends go out, they all have to do the "chinese fire drill" when the car stops at red lights (you can ask Val for the explanation on that one).



Name: Stefanie-Theres Tecka
Height: 6'1"
Year: Senior
Position: Center, #41
Favorite Player: Erich Tecka
 Stefanie has rapidly improved her game over the season. She is turning into a defensive force for the team. Stefanie is an exchange student from Pukersdorf, Austria, which is a suburb of Vienna. Stef says she misses the big city, the population around that area is around 2 million (according to Stef). Her school activities include Knowledge Bowl, Math league, French Club, Choir and is on the Honor Roll. Starting a Varsity game is the highlight of her season, so far she says. Her favorite thing about the U.S. is you can get a drivers license when you're 16. Stefanie wants to become an architect when she returns to Austria.

Girl's Basketball

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	BUS
Feb 13	Int'l Falls	Home	
Feb 18	Albrook	Home	
Feb 20	Cherry	Away	3:30
Feb 22	Tournament	Miner's	TBA
Feb 26	Tournament	Miner's	TBA
Mar 1	Tournament	Miner's	TBA

* Health News

Human Services news..



Gary Adams, Human Services Director

Well, here is some of the latest information on Welfare Reform issues with recommendations from the Welfare Reform Task Force along with the Indian Advisory Council. Its a serious law and complicated, but keep reading, keep discussing.

Background: American Indian and Alaska Native nations were pledged many promises for the millions of acres of land ceded to the United States government in formal treaties; the underlying promise common to all treaties was to provide for the welfare of Indian people as long as needed. This promise was reaffirmed in the Snyder Act and in subsequent Federal legislation. Today, there are serious threats to the welfare of sovereign AI/AN nations in the latest version of welfare reform, the *Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Act (TANF)*.

Tribal and Urban Concerns: The TANF Act does not fully consider the geographic, social, and economic isolation of the tribes located in rural areas. However, urban areas where many of the urban Indian families were placed through relocation were also isolated and caused many relocatees to return to their reservations to seek family support and assistance from familiar service providers. Underlying the inclusion of tribes under the TANF Act is the assumption by many congressional members that all AI/AN tribes benefit from the gaming industry. Some tribes benefit from the gaming industry. However, these tribes augment health and human services to their tribal members.

Tribal members living in urban areas, do not usually benefit from tribal or gaming revenues even if they are enrolled. As states are subject to Federal changes via welfare reform, they are also making their own changes as Minnesota has done in its 1115 Waiver approved by the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) in May 1995. The Minnesota version of TANF is known as the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP). MFIP is a short-term remedy to a long-term problem. Those involved in the initial demonstration, such as Hennepin County, will be waiting to see if beneficiaries in training programs secure and sustain employment that provides a living wage and health insurance benefits.

Both the state and federal laws require employment be available to welfare recipients within two years of receipt of benefits. Unless the Tribes are able to preserve existing industry while they receive additional appropriations for

economic development, employment, and basic skills training for Tribal members Tribes will not meet the provisions of the TANF Act. The interests of the Tribes and State are the same, to insure that all residents are living up to their potential for the betterment of Tribes and society.

Recommendations:

1. Minnesota Tribes recognize that geographic isolation plays a role in private industry's willingness to relocate industry onto reservations. Tribes states and leaders of private industry should be encouraged to legislate incentives to address the need for enhanced employment options to tribes beyond minimum wage jobs.

2. Multiple generations of families have been raised on AFDC benefits. Additional support is needed to provide these individuals with basic skills training as well as employment training to sustain long term employment with the potential for advancement. Tribes recommend additional state and federal appropriations for tribal colleges and off-reservation technical colleges to support such training with emphasis on basic and employment skills to aid participants for job-readiness.

3. The multiple generations of families raised on welfare require services beyond the basic skills and employment training. There is a need to address the fears, anger, and adjustment to the new order in addition to the family of origin issues. How many employers including tribal employers will retain employees, that exhibit high absenteeism, poor work attitudes, or who are unable to cope in the work environment. Without culturally appropriate counseling and support services aimed at building self-esteem and personal development, MFIP will be a failure. Tribes recognize the need for additional state funds to support culturally competent counseling and support services to MFIP recipients planning to enter the workforce to ameliorate personal/behavioral obstacles to job-readiness.

4. The two year period prior to employment may not be sufficient time to prepare welfare recipients for the job market. If there are disproportionate opportunities for training or extended benefits on the reservation, this may result in mass migration or a return of enrolled Indian families back to the reservation which may in turn be unable to support this unplanned influx of new residents needing services. Tribes recommend any benefit extensions provided for tribal communities be extended to tribal enrolled members residing in urban areas so that tribes may not suffer unplanned return of the unemployed members to the reservation.

5. The healthcare industry on Minnesota's three largest reservations is a major employer for the tribes. It offers long-term careers for Indian people seeking career advancement and training. However, this industry is threatened through the implementation of PMAP in all Minnesota counties. PMAP is a threat due to the forced assignment of all Medicaid recipients regardless of their residence to prepaid health plans. Tribal members and urban Indians enrolled in health plans must go to the assigned Primary Provider in order for that provider to receive any Medicaid reimbursement. Tribes and IHS service units have experienced the loss of

Medicaid reimbursement for services to tribal members who sought out-of-plan services. Tribes and IHS service should not be penalized for providing services to their tribal members. Health plans are managing dollars rather than services. Tribes insist the State should address this issue as provided for in the Oklahoma plan which provides payment for healthcare services to enrolled members of tribes at IHS, Tribal and Urban Indian health facilities.

6. The Federal agreement between IHS and HCFA allows tribes to bill at the federal rate. Tribes recommend that IHS, Tribes, and Urban Indian Health Programs be exempt from the PMAP-full out of network plan - and be able to participate in ongoing demonstration programs that allows tribes to bill HCFA directly for Medicaid reimbursement.

7. Furthermore, tribes recognize that Medicaid reimbursement is an essential component of their operating budgets to continue the current level of healthcare services to their communities. Therefore, prior to any planned implementation changes to Medicaid reform at the state level an economic impact study of the effect of these changes to service delivery and employment opportunities must be made by the state

Tribes request that these recommendations be included in the plan sent to the Minnesota Senate and House of Representatives to set forth in law and establish as an integral part of the preliminary and final welfare reform.



Cathy Chavers, Contract Health

Contract Health

The Bois Forte Contract Health Program is the absolute payor of last resort and if a person is eligible for an alternate resource such as medical assistance then they need to apply to that resource.

There are major changes with medical assistance and one of these changes deals with signing up for health plans. For persons NOT living on the reservation, you are required to sign up for a health plan under the medical assistance program. Some of the names of these plans are; Medica, U-Care, First Plan, Blue Plus, etc. When signing up with a health plan, you can only go to medical providers who are under your plan. If you go to a clinic that isn't under the plan you signed up for, then your medical assistance will NOT cover your bills at that clinic and these would then be your responsibility. MAKE SURE you see providers that participate.

People who live ON the reservation ARE NOT required to sign up with a health plan under medical assistance. The reason for this is that the State has to deal with the tribes separately. I have noticed that there are individuals on the reservation who have signed up for health plans and this is wrong. Individuals who have signed up for health plans and who live on the reservation need to contact their county financial worker immediately and tell them that they live on the reservation and were incorrectly signed up with a health plan.

If anyone has any questions on this, please feel free to contact Cathy Chavers at 218 757-3295.

NOTICE

Please do not send children to the clinic to pick up medications as the medical staff **WILL NOT** dispense medications to them for delivery to adults.

If you have any questions or problems, call Ray Hawk at 757-3650.

Shop Locally . . .
it helps!!!

M.S.C. Foods
Nett Lake

Due to costs involved in preparing, printing and mailing the BOIS FORTE NEWS we find it necessary to charge a subscription fee. We have estimated our costs and are asking the lowest price we can afford: \$4.00 a yearly subscription.

SUBSCRIPTIONS — \$4.00 per year

Enclosed is a check for \$_____. Please begin sending the Bois Forte News for the next _____ year(s) to:

Mail check or money order payable to:
Bois Forte News, c/o Axel J. Holmes Sr., Editor,
P.O. Box 16, Nett Lake, MN 55772

Frank Connor's report...

Boo shoo,

There is a misunderstanding of the title/term "mental" in the Human Services Division of Bois Forte. It is most people's view that "mental" is associated with being negatively abnormal in some way or being, and I feel that in this news article an explanation is needed to help clarify this. Firstly, Webster's dictionary defines mental as "of or pertaining to the mind" with the mind being human consciousness. Human consciousness originates from the physical brain and is manifested in thought, memory, perception, feeling, will and imagination. Without consciousness we would be only a piece of flesh and tissue with no thoughts, feelings or sight. The consciousness does get impaired in certain conditions such as depression. An example of depression might be if a close relative dies and the despair of your loss lingers for a prolonged period you would be in depression. Deeper depression would result if it affected your work or everyday living. If the person didn't seek help with getting over the depression they might eventually lose their physical health, job or family. Depression can be treated in a number of ways from talking to someone, finding support networks or in more drastic cases medication is prescribed by a Psychiatrist. The mind, or consciousness, also heals just any physical part of the body. When you cut your finger the blood starts to flow with thousands of white

blood cells to fight infection, red blood cells to coagulate and "seal" the puncture. The mind operates in a similar fashion. When you are depressed you feel sad and at times like crying, or maybe you recognize that you are often tired or "lazy". These are symptoms that there is something wrong and your mind is telling you to do something about it. Just as the thousands of healing cells are in the blood of a cut there are other parts of the consciousness helping the impaired part to heal.

While the consciousness is from the brain, the brain is a physical part of our body just as our heart or lungs and therefore there is a need for it to stay healthy. There are many ways for the brain to stay healthy like exercise, both physically and mentally (reading, writing, strategic thinking), proper diet and healthy lifestyle. Well, I didn't mean to write so much on depression, there is much more to the condition than I discussed, I just wanted to write a little on the word "mental" and its negative connotations. I think "mental" was used in slang as being psychologically deficient when all it really means is "associated with the mind". Maybe Human Services Division should change 'Mental Health' title to 'Mind Health' program...that might provoke the perception of some english syntax critics.

Mii gwitch

by Frank Connor

Mental Health Specialist

Community Health news...



Barbara Richards, R.N.

We conducted our first Diabetic Support/Education group at the Vermilion Social Center on January 23rd. It was an excellent group with promises for it to only get better. Ade and Sam prepared several food items to sample so diabetic people can have a chance to taste various products before they purchase them. This will be a feature each time we meet - something new to try.

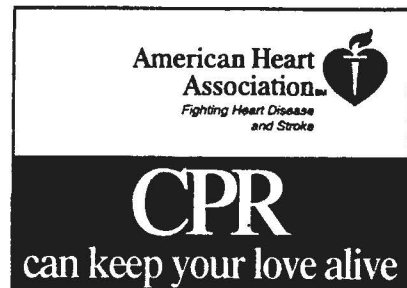
The group decided they would like to have an educational component each time - as well as a chance to discuss the ups and downs of diabetes. We have scheduled these groups for every other Thursday from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. All diabetics are welcome and encouraged to attend. February dates are the 6th & 20th. March will also be on the 6th and 20th.

We also conducted our first Diabetic Support/Education group at the Nett Lake Community Center on January 28th. We were not so fortunate with food samples but we promise to have them next time. Meetings will be every other Wednesday with the times 2-4 p.m. at the Community Center. February dates will be the 12th and the 26th. March will also be the 12th and 26th.

There is a lot of interest by people who want to be better at managing their

diabetes. This is a good place to come and discuss questions and feelings related to diabetes. We will be scheduling lab work and other diabetic testing as needed.

Community health staff attended Nett Lake Schools Health and Science Fair and were very pleased with all of the information the students were able to share. There were also many healthy snacks to sample and demonstrations that were creative and fun to look at. Thanks to all the staff and students for a wonderful time.



1st Annual School Health Fair



Left to right: George Strong, Dave Villebrun and Peter Drift.

Fortune Bay Casino board of directors

Fortune Bay Casino of Tower is seeking one qualified applicant for its board of directors. Applicants must be members of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, be at least 21 years of age, have either business experience, general administrative or management experience, or demonstrate knowledge of business principles, accounting and financial transactions.

Applicants should submit letter of interest and resume to: Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council, P.O. Box 16, Nett Lake, MN 55772 by Feb. 16, 1997.

Title I...

A letter to parents from your child:

Here are some ways to help me do my best work.

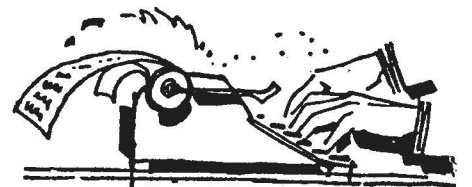
1. Please send me to bed on time.
2. Ask what I did in school today.
3. Let me show you my work.
4. Ask what my homework is (and help me if necessary).
5. Read to me and listen to me read.
6. Remind me to dress for weather conditions.
7. Get me up on time.
8. If I get home late or am tardy to school, ask where I've been.
9. Tell me when you are proud of me.
10. Let me help at home and learn to accept responsibility.

You know that I won't always remember that you do these things for my own good and safety. I am only a child so I can't be as wise as you. You are the most important people in the world. What is important to you is important to me. Will you help me do my best?

Love always,
Your child.

TITLE I GOALS.

1. To help a student maintain gains without continued help.
2. To reduce future need for additional help.
3. To improve reading and mathematics achievement.
4. To develop and improve work habits.
5. To develop a good self-image.
6. To develop self responsibility.



The Facts.... by Ax

My man, the good doctor Hawk, is on cloud nine. The reason? Well, this past week he has filed another notch on his pliers. Several weeks ago I noticed that he was not his natural, ebullient self and in order to cheer him up I phoned his office and hinted that it might just be possible to let him do another of my toe nails. You can't imagine the change in his demeanor. I had even given some thought to letting him do it this time without benefit of novocaine, but perhaps that would have been too much for him. As it was, he was all smiles when I appeared at 9 sharp the morning of the great day. He seemed a bit disappointed when I told him to use the usual amount of novocaine so I must have been thinking out loud about that no novocaine business. The reason for his disappointment was that he would have been able to talk about it in the great lodge when he goes home to his own reservation out there in the Dakotas. Everyone knows that the Indians there still live in teepees and ride horses. I know, because I saw a movie, "Dances with Wolves", and that's how they live.

Anyway, my toenail had been plagued with fungus and somewhat resembled a mudturtles shell, and proved to be quite a task for him. At one time I thought he was going to give it up as a bad job but he persevered and, after him and the nurse agreeing that this was the worst toe nail case ever encountered, success was his. Later I was sorry that we didn't tape the occasion, it would have been nice to watch a re-run of it now and then, sort of a departure from watching the Green Bay tapes.

There's been lots of good cigarette articles making the rounds. One article stated that the tobacco companies said that even if a lot of people were dying from smoking, it was saving the country a lot of money for social security because of them dying so young. Can you imagine? And they also claim that smoking isn't a habit... that it is not addictive.... Can you imagine that too? Good grief! There are commercials on TV every day promoting Nicorette.. or Nicotine Gum or some other such claiming to HELP you quit the habit!

In the for what it's worth department, I haven't smoked for 26 years. In that time as a two pack a day addict, I would have smoked 18,980 packs of Pall Malls, or 379,600 cigarettes. At today's rate of, \$2.00 a pack, that would have cost \$37,960. They didn't always cost \$2.00 a pack, but those of you who pay it now and smoke that much, that's what it'll cost you in the next 26 years. Provided you don't make an ash of yourself before then, ha. ha. ha.

Our buddy Floyd, who is scoreless against O-wah-shkay-see the Deer, made headlines again this past week. It seems that he had an asthma attack and coughed so hard that he passed out. Well, he wound up in the hospital in Virginia, but we are pleased to report he has recovered nicely and is back on the job. Local wags, rising to the occasion, stated that he was heard singing....

"Fill my boots up with sand...
Put a roll of nickles in my hand...
And prop me up
by the slot machine
If I should die..."

AmeriCorps news...



Kelly King, AmeriCorps Coordinator

Greetings from AmeriCorps! As you may have noticed we are currently looking for a few part time members. We are a little short handed, but will be filling the positions soon. Here is some general info on AmeriCorps; full-time basis is a requirement of 1700 hours of community service with a monthly living stipend that equals out to be \$4.67/hour, educational award-if hours are completed will equal \$4725 toward furthering their education, part-time basis is a requirement of 900 hours of community service with a living stipend of \$4.67/hour, educational award-if hours are completed will equal \$2363 toward furthering their education.

The chief goal of AmeriCorps is to achieve three types of impacts: "getting things done" in communities, strengthening the ties that bind the communities together, and improving the citizenship and skills of participants.

National and state service programs must meet **educational, public safety, human, and environmental needs** in the community served, and provide a direct and demonstrable benefit that is valued by the community. Service that provides a direct benefit includes physical projects such as renovating low-income housing or creating a playground in a vacant lot, and human

service projects such as tutoring, mentoring, or conflict resolution. In all cases, service activities must result in a specific identifiable service or improvement that otherwise would not be provided with existing funds or volunteers, and *that does not duplicate the routine functions of workers or displace paid employees.* Support activities that do not provide a direct benefit to the community, such as clerical work or research, may be performed if they are in support of direct service.

Prohibited activities; any effort to influence legislation; organize protests, petitions, boycotts, or strikes; assist, promote, or deter union organizing; impairing existing contracts for service or collective bargaining agreements; engaging in partisan political activities, or activities designed to influence the outcome of an election to any public official; engaging in religious activities. These activities are prohibited during AmeriCorps members' time, but may be engaged in on their own personal time.

Child care-Programs must provide child care or child care allowance to any full-time participant who needs such assistance in order to participate. Guidelines for AmeriCorps*Care; total family income of the participant must be less than 75% of the State median income; the participant must reside with and be a parent or guardian of a child under the age of 12 and; the participant must not receive child care assistance from another source.

Health care must be provided to participants that are uninsured. Programs must provide reasonable accommodations for qualified people with disabilities.

These are just a few of our guidelines that we have to follow, so when we are deciding on projects or asked to do a specific task we must keep these in mind. I would be glad to hear any ideas, comments, or projects you might have in mind. Until the next time, thanks for reading.....

News from Housing...



Cindy Glasel, Housing Authority Director

In order for the Housing Authority to better service the members of the Bois Forte Reservation, we are now taking new applications for 2, 3, and 4-bedroom homes in Nett Lake, Palmquist and Vermilion for rent or purchase through the Mutual Help Homeowners Program.

For 1997 the Housing Authority has many opportunities for various housing grant applications. Therefore we need your help Are you thinking of, or planning to, return to Bois Forte? If so, please call toll free 1-888-833-7337 and we will mail you the application and a self-addressed, stamped envelope for your convenience.

We will also be conducting site visits to the Vermilion Center on Wed., Feb. 19th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or in Nett Lake during regular office hours.

The Bois Forte Housing Authority, The Board of Commissioners and Staff would like to thank the following organizations & individuals whose donations made "People Helping People for the Holidays" a HUGE SUCCESS.

The Housing Authority, Resident Elders and Children, seventeen years and younger, received gifts. The first years goal was 100%, completely fantastic.

- Old Howard
- McDonalds, Virginia
- Pelican IGA
- Range Academy of Dance, Virginia
- Eichorn Furniture, Virginia
- Mesabi Family YMCA, Virginia

- Mt. Iron Carquest -Sunrise Bakery, Hibbing
- Perpich T.V. and Music, Virginia
- Pam's Hallmark, Hibbing
- Hardee's, Virginia
- Lakes Gas Co., Cook
- Jeanne's Cards and Gifts, Tower
- Wally's Auto, Orr
- Timberjay, Tower
- Human Touch Stores, Cook
- Godfather's Pizza, Virginia
- Grande Ace Hardware and Appliance
- Timeless Reflections, Hibbing
- Pepsi-Cola Bottling, Grand Rapids
- Santa Helpers
- Girl Scout Troop #735
- Hibbing, Santa Helpers
- Girl Scout Troop #742
- Cherry, Santa Helpers
- Girl Scout Troop #201, Cook
- Santa Helpers, Beth Wolf and Angie Faticci

Celebrates 91st!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY PEARLY!!



Pearl Soreyes

Pearl Soreyes celebrated her 91st birthday on January 17, 1997. If Pearl could write a memoir of her life we would see the strength that could only come from a higher power within her being and living in her heart giving her courage and determination to overcome obstacles, and still maintain smiles, and happy words to those around her...We love you, and we are proud of you Aunt Pearl!!!!

We wish to thank Doris Isham for the beautifully decorated birthday cake that was shared with all the residence in the Cook Nursing Home. To Axel and Loretta Holmes for sharing in this occasion and taking pictures to record this memory. To Jeff Isham who "made Pearl's day" by being there. To Cathy Dybec Holm who played the piano, skillfully playing the old songs and hymns that we elders could relate to. Last but not least, thank you is a small reward for the diligent work of the nursing home staff.

Charles and Marybelle White

CPR
can keep your love alive

American Heart Association
Fighting Heart Disease and Stroke

The American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES) SUMMER WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM...

...tracks to the future

What:

A ten week internship program that provides qualified American Indian/Alaska Native college students with opportunities to explore potential federal service careers. Interns receive a competitive stipend and round-trip travel expenses between home or school and the work site.

Where:

Interns work with United States Federal Government agencies in Washington, D.C. and other locations throughout the country. Under the guidance of mentors, who are knowledgeable professionals in their own fields, AISES summer interns work on projects relevant to their course of college study.

Who:

AISES interns are American Indian/Alaskan Native college students who are active in college and community activities, have demonstrated success in college and are recommended by their advisors or professors.

When:

June 2 through August 8, 1997

Why:

To help diversify the government workforce and to provide pre-career experiences for AISES students.

Eligible applicants must...

- have a GPA of 2.5 minimum (A=4.0);
- be enrolled and pursuing a degree in a college or university on a full-time basis;
- have at least sophomore class standing at the time assignment begins; and
- be a U.S. citizen

To obtain additional information about the program, application materials, or information about implementing an internship program within your agency, please contact: AISES-Jobs, Attn: Stephanie Paine, 5661 Airport Blvd., Boulder, CO 80301-2339; call (303) 939-0023, ext. 31; or email: stephanie.paine@colorado.edu. Application materials can also be accessed on the World Wide Web at <http://www.colorado.edu/AISES>.

Completed application materials must be received by April 11, 1997, however, review will begin as soon as applications are received.

COMET THEATER
RIVER ST., COOK

Show times:
Fri. 7 & 9 pm, Sat. 2, 7 & 9 pm, Sun. 7 pm
\$2 Matinee every Saturday at 2 pm

666-5814 FOR CURRENT MOVIE INFO.



"...ending welfare as we know it..."

Welfare Reform...

by **Bonnie Lowe**

This is the third article in a three part series on the 1997 welfare reform laws and their impact on tribes and tribal members.

In 1991, when President Clinton ran for the Presidential office, he made a promise "to change welfare, as we know it". In August of this year, President Clinton signed into law, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act. This law will go into full effect on July 1, 1997. Although welfare recipients will still be fed and children will not be placed in orphanages, poor people are no longer "entitled" to public cash assistance. The title of the law itself explains what the new welfare program consists of.

Congress and the President have made it clear that they expect people to be responsible for supporting themselves and their children. That if they choose not to do so, they will not be eligible for any assistance from the government. They are expected to go to work. If they have children, they will be expected to support them. If they choose not to support them, they will lose their driver's licenses, be turned into credit bureaus, have their wages garnished and possibly, if they do not have a job, they will be expected to do community service work.

If people do not have the skills to go to work, they may be eligible to attend a training program or go to school to develop the skills they need. Post secondary education however is limited to one year and only if it will lead to employment.

If they do not have a high school diploma or GED there will be limited opportunities for them to obtain them. Children whose families are on AFDC will be expected to go to school. If they do not, parents may lose their eligibility for cash assistance. Teen parents under age 18 will be expected to live with their parents or other adult caretaker and will be required to stay in school. AFDC recipients over age 18 may be able to continue to get their high school diploma or GED but only if it is required for the type of employment they are seeking.

Effective July 1, 1997, any person over the age of 18 who is on AFDC will only be able to receive a cash assistance grant for a maximum of five years. That is a lifetime limit.

States and Tribes who operate a cash assistance program will be expected to follow that limit in order to continue to receive federal subsidies. States and Tribes are required to have the ability to

track the length of time a person has received cash assistance from county to county and state to state.

Once an AFDC parent uses their five years of cash assistance, children in that household will no longer be eligible to receive assistance under their parents grant.

Under the new law, Tribes can operate their own cash assistance program and receive federal funding to do so. They would have to meet the same participation and reporting requirements as states. In addition, they would also have to comply with the time limits and operate in a manner similar to that of states. However, they would not have access to the additional 46% of the money that the state contributes to provide cash assistance grants to eligible persons.

One of the few programs that remained intact is the Tribal JOBS programs that were operating in 1995. Tribes are currently in the process of working with the Department of Health and Human Services to develop new guidelines and regulations that will take affect next July 1.

Currently, if you are on AFDC and meet the eligibility requirements, Tribal Jobs programs assist you in obtaining your GED, developing marketable job skills through vocational and post secondary education programs, assist you in learning how to compete for jobs and assist you with your job search. It is the intent of each Tribal JOBS program in the state of Minnesota to work with tribal members residing in their service areas and assist them in surmounting the difficulties presented by the new welfare reform laws.

At present, rules and regulations are still being developed in Washington and will be available as early as March for public review. The proposed rules and regulations must be consistent with the law and not subject to change, only to interpretation. It will take an act of Congress to revise or change the new law.

Welfare reform is a reality. We continue to have a republican majority congress, for the most part the President supports the new law. He would like additional funds allocated for economic development, wage subsidy programs and child care. He would also like the provisions for legal aliens revised, other than that, he supports the time limits and the theory that people should work. It is not expected that welfare reform under his continued administration will look much different.

If they fail to do so, they will not receive cash assistance. Exactly what the exemptions will be is not yet clear. States will have an option of exempting up to 20% of their caseload based on hardship.

Tribal members who reside on a reservation that has a population of less than 1,000 and an adult unemployment rate higher than 50% can be exempt during the time that the reservations falls in that category. It is not yet clear whose

unemployment rates will be used to determine the unemployment rate. It has been suggested that since the State Employment office keeps that data that tribal members start registering at their local job service to improve the accuracy of the data.

Every indication is that welfare has become a work first program. Emphasis will be placed on existing skills and obtaining employment.

Finally, the new law changed the name of cash assistance grants from "Aid to Families with Dependent Children" (AFDC) to "Temporary Assistance to Need Families" (TANF). The intent is clear, that cash assistance is to be viewed as temporary and not a long term source of assistance.

If readers would like more information on welfare reform they can refer to articles that were printed in the two previous issues of this paper. Both articles cover the content and requirements of the new law. They may also contact the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe's JOBS Program at 1-218-335-8586 or the Leech Lake, Mille

UofM February Starwatch..

As if clearing the stage for Comet Hale-Bopp, all the bright planets except Mars take a powder during February. With the comet in the morning sky and Mars not rising until late evening, most viewers will have to be content with the stars and two uncommon displays, the zodiacal light and the Gegenschein, this month.

Mars fattens a bit during February, getting almost as big as the maximum size it will attain this year. The red planet rises in mid-to late evening behind Leo, the lion, and appears high in the southeast at midnight.

Through a telescope Mars shows blotches of rock or dark soil, along with its trademark orangish sands. Its north polar ice cap is tilted toward us, but it may be obscured by a haze that often covers it in the Martian winter. Mars will be directly opposite the sun on St. Patrick's Day.

Saturn makes a brief appearance in the evening, but retires early into the western twilight. Venus, Jupiter and Mercury are in the morning sky, but much too low to be seen. This will remain pretty much the state of affairs during March, when both the comet and Mars come into their own.

Speaking of the comet, it appears to be doing nicely in the morning sky. Still rather low at the beginning of the month, Hale-Bopp will get higher and brighter as the days go by. Look for it in the east, above and to the left of the star Altair in the Summer Triangle group. The comet has a three-degree tail that extends away from the sun, and it is visible to the naked eye, but binoculars will certainly help. Hale-Bopp is a little less bright than predicted, but should be better than Hyakutake in two respects: it's expected to have a visible tail, making it look more like a comet; and it will be around longer. In March we'll see it at its best.

The moon begins February in the morning sky, waning to the new phase on the 7th. During the next two weeks, its waxing crescent glides past the thick field of bright winter constellations. Full moon comes on the 21st, rising below the bright star Regulus in Leo. American Indians called this the snow moon or the hunger moon.

The spring stars are already entering the evening sky. Leo leads the way, followed by Bootes, the herdsman, and its brilliant beacon, Arcturus. The winter stars are now moving into the western sky, on their way out for the season. Sirius, however, is almost due south in mid-evening, so this is the best time to see the brightest star in the

Lacs, and White Earth reservations who are currently operating JOBS programs.

Tribal leaders are making every effort to stay informed and involved in the welfare reform process and related rule making on both the state and federal level.

Welfare reform laws are established by Congress and interpreted by the Department of Health and Human Services to form the rules and regulations. Once they have become law, tribal leaders and program staff cannot change them.

However, there is still time for public comment recommendations prior to the printing of the final rules and regulations. Because the federal rules and regulations for welfare reform or Tribal JOBS have not been finalized people have an opportunity to make suggestions, recommendations or comments on proposed rules. If you have comments or recommendations please submit them in writing to the Tribal JOBS Program, attention Bonnie Lowe, P.O. Box 217, Cass Lake, Minnesota 56633.

night sky.

Late February is the best time to see the zodiacal light, a thin band of light extending along the ecliptic--the sun's path across the sky--near the sun an hour or two after sunset. Around midnight look for the Gegenschein, or counter glow, in the part of the ecliptic that's high in the sky, where a full moon would be. Both phenomena are caused by reflections of sunlight on dust particles that extend far beyond the Earth in the plane of the solar system.

Groundhog Day, celebrated on the 2nd, has its origins in astronomy. Also known as Candlemas, it's one of the four cross-quarter days, which fall between a solstice and an equinox. May Day will be next.

A bit of news: On Jan. 17 the world of astronomy lost the last person to discover a planet within our solar system. Clyde Tombaugh discovered Pluto in 1930 by noticing a 17th-magnitude speck of light that had shifted position on photographic plates. He also discovered a comet, several star clusters, a supercluster of galaxies and a nova.

Starwatch is a monthly guide to the night sky in the Upper Midwest. For a taped version from the University of Minnesota astronomy department, call (612) 624-2001. Contact: Deane Morrison, (612) 624-2346.

Not a sentence or a word is independent of the circumstances under which it is uttered.

—Alfred North Whitehead



BOIS FORTE NEWS

BOX 16

NETT LAKE, MINN. 55772

TELEPHONE: 757-3261

Axel J. Holmes Sr. — Editor

Printed by

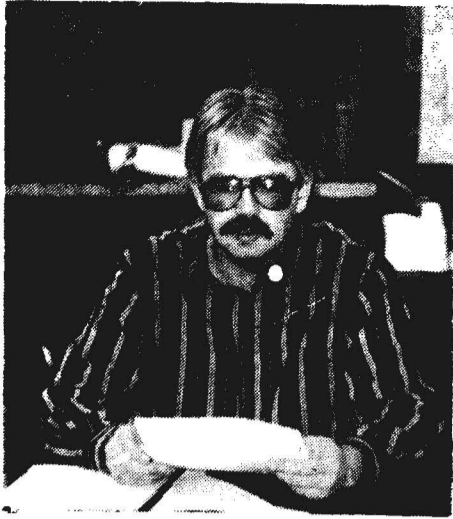
Cook News-Herald Publishing Inc.

**ELDERLY
FUNDRAISER**

Every Thursday at 6 p.m.

**Smear
at ENP Kitchen**

David Danz's column...



David Danz, Reservation Planner

At long last I can give readers a report on the wild rice marketing efforts of the Tribal Council. As this article goes to print, one metric ton (2,200 lbs) of Nett Lake wild rice is on its way to Germany. This order came from a German company with a selling price of \$20.00/kg or \$9.09/lb. This is obviously a very good price for rice, particularly by the ton. From this selling price comes a list of expenses including the cost of the green rice, finishing, containers, transporting, storage, insurance, export clearance, L/C charges, shipping etc. The RTC will profit on this sale. However, for those of you who finish and sell a bit of rice on your own, and whose mental calculators are working in overdrive, this type of sale has considerably more expense than sales of a few (or even a few hundred) pounds locally.

A brief history of this deal is probably in order. A couple of years ago, Band member Tom O'Leary approached the Tribal Council to discuss some form of arrangement between his company, Indian Time, and the Band to sell Nett Lake rice into the European market. Tom had developed contacts over a period of years who, in turn, had begun to educate the European public about the superior quality of Nett Lake wild rice. These contacts included visits from Denmark, the production of a book and video on wild rice and ricing in the Danish language and some initial sales overseas. During the 1995 and 1996 ricing seasons, the Tribal Council

Andy Datko's column...



Andy Datko, Planner

The new food commodities building opened this month, next to the Nett Lake Community Center. The contractor needs to return this spring to finish some site work and to correct some problems with the loading dock configuration, but the building is now open and functional. I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the organizations that provided the funding for this building: the Bois Forte Reservation

made the decision to enter an agreement with Indian Time, purchase and finish rice for the purpose of exploring this market. In 1995, a little over a ton of rice was finished and this past year another three tons were finished.

For over a year now contact has been maintained with individuals in Denmark and Germany. Many times things languished and disappointment reigned. We were given a strong sense of commitment from overseas to developing a European market and were asked to be patient while they did their homework. Of course commitment and patience does not always equate to cash, nor pay the bills. Well, in this case patience is paying off.

Concluding this first sale was likely destined to make or break future interest in an overseas market. I am happy to report on this positive outcome.

Bringing it all back home, the Environmental Assessment for the Community Development Block Grant is now complete. You will recall the CDBG grant has been funded towards the construction of the Senior Assisted Living Center project in Nett Lake. Copious narrative and other requested information is now sitting on the desk of Rural Development staff in St Paul as they consider financing the balance of this project. Rural Development is the Federal agency to whom the RTC has applied for a low interest community facilities loan, which combined with the CDBG grant, will provide adequate funding to construct this building. We should be hearing on this application soon.

In other exciting news, Bill W. and I are looking at private foundation funding to provide matching funds for an LCMR grant from the State. The LCMR funding was secured by Chris Holm to conduct some specific studies of millfoil in Nett Lake. You can check out Chris's articles for the details on this project. And lastly, the application for funding through the Administration for Native Americans for the second year of support to Bill's Nett Lake land use planning activities is now coming due.

Tribal Council, the McKnight Foundation, the Bush Foundation, the Otto Bremer Foundation, and Land O' Lakes Inc.

I have been working on several funding applications for various projects this month. The Self Help Housing application was submitted to U. S. D. A. Rural Development in December. Their initial review resulted in my needing to make several changes to the application to meet Rural Development's technical requirements. I am hopeful that we will be in a position to begin recruiting families wanting to participate in the program in March. Expect more on this in next month's column.

I have also been busy working with Rural Development on our funding application to extend water and sewer lines on the Vermilion Community. Originally, we were told that there was no money available under this program for the coming construction season, and that we would probably need to wait until 1998 to begin work on the project. I have recently been informed that there may be enough funds available to begin part of the project this year. The portion most likely to

proceed this summer would be Cemetery Road, five new lots on Farm Point, and possibly the Hard Hat Road area. This is all dependent on the availability of Federal funds, and we should know more about that over the next couple of months. The long range plan is to extend water and sewer service throughout the Vermilion community. I have also been working with JR Landgren and Darin Steen to develop recommendations and financing options to improve and extend water and sewer services in Nett Lake.

As I write this column, I am finalizing a grant application to the National Park Service, Historic Preservation Fund for money to conduct a phase 1 and 2 field investigation of the historic gold mine and fur post sites near Fortune Bay. With the

increasing tourism from the new Fortune Bay Resort, it is important to identify and protect the historic and cultural resources in the area. This is a very competitive grant program with less than one third of the applications funded in any given year.

Related to that application, next month I will also be working on funding applications for a Bois Forte cultural museum and heritage center. The State of Minnesota and the Reservation Tribal Council have previously committed funding for such a museum, but additional funding will be needed to make it happen. One private foundation has expressed some interest in the project and I am trying to identify other possible sources of funds.

Axel wanted a long article this time, but I'm afraid this one will have to do. So until next time, keep warm!

The Works...by J.R.



JR Landgren, Public Works Superintendent

Greetings from the Public Works division. The intent of this column is to give you a brief summary of what is happening in our communities in relation to public works.

As of lately, you may have seen a few unfamiliar trucks on our Nett Lake streets along with one familiar Mr. Floyd Morrison, our Wells & Septic Supervisor.

Floyd has been working extensively with Infratech and RL Shaw Company to inspect and repair our ailing sewer lines. This involves a process using a high tech probe with a light and TV camera to give us a "rats' eye view" of the inside of our piping. After locating problem areas the piping must be cleaned and/or rooted. Repairs are then made using a process by which a repair sleeve is inserted into the piping and expanded which makes repairs

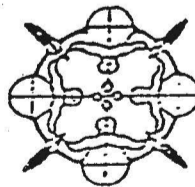
complete without requiring external excavation. This saves money and time along with extending the life of our sewer system a projected five to ten years. As for the water system, we are in the process of pursuing funding for new water lines. The current system is in need of repair due to deteriorating cement asbestos piping and nonfunctional valves.

Another area of the Public Works division includes the Roads Department. As you have probably heard some people had a lot of fun presenting Mr. Frank Villebrun with a new plow truck. Throughout Frank's many years of service in the Roads department he has never been issued a new piece of heavy equipment. In the past, Frank has dealt with well used equipment requiring many repairs. Speaking of such equipment the old plow truck is receiving a new clutch. Also we're happy to inform the elders that our snow removal equipment has been repaired and the snow removal service is once again available.

Besides all the repairs in our division there has been some new construction.

The contractors are nearing completion on our Food Distribution building and remodeling at the Tribal Council chambers in the old Headstart building. Also the Police Department is receiving new flooring. These are just a few events that have been happening in our communities and the Public Works division.

Our goal is to keep you safe, healthy and happy. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact us at the RTC office.



Indian Legal Assistance Program

107 W. 1st St. Duluth, Minnesota 55802

218-727-2851

PROVIDING REPRESENTATION FOR NETT LAKE RESIDENTS IN:

CRIMINAL CASES (ADULT or JUVENILE):

In Tribal, State and Federal Court

CIVIL CASES (ST. LOUIS COUNTY ONLY):

Dependency/Neglect (CHIPS)

(Indian Child Welfare Act)

Dissolutions

Public Assistance Terminations

(AFDC, GA, Food Stamps)

Social Security/Unemployment Denials

Landlord/Tenant

Consumer Problems (Contracts)

Wills

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY THRU FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

LOW INCOME ELIGIBILITY BASED ON USDA FOOD STAMP GUIDELINES

Environmental updates...



Darin Steen, Environmental Specialist

Another month has gone by already? It seems like only yesterday the illustrious Editor Holmes was gathering newsworthy material for the paper. I guess it must be a never-ending job when there are so many interesting people and things to write about here on the rez!!

As I mentioned in last month's article, Jessica Knott has started working in my office and has been doing a great job managing recycling and other issues. Jessica has been working on an office recycling program for the RTC office and is also assisting Health Services with their own recycling project. Did you know that as much as 50-90% of office waste is recyclable paper and fiber products? If we can get this material out of the waste stream and recycle it, we could save money on monthly garbage disposal fees and reduce the amount of waste going into the regional landfill. Health Services has gone so far as to remove their garbage dumpster and hauling service and now uses the transfer station for disposing of their waste. By recycling a majority of their waste and using the transfer station, Health Services saves over \$100 per month on their garbage disposal costs. Although it has taken a lot of coaxing, encouraging, and educating, the RTC office is recycling more and more waste every day and may also elect to follow this unprecedented example. With Jessica's help, we are trying to inform and educate people that recycling paper is just as easy as throwing

your waste in the garbage can and it makes economic and environmental sense. Hopefully, the efforts made by the office recycling program will have a greater impact as employees begin to recycle more in their homes and residents in the community also learn from this example. Another project that Jessica and I have been working on is developing a handbook of waste management and recycling information for the entire community which should also help to answer many specific questions on these issues and educate people on how to dispose of their waste properly, efficiently, and responsibly. Be on the look out for more interesting waste education and recycling information as Jessica continues to work on these important projects!

Do I have time for one more topic before Editor Holmes starts the printing press without me? Two weeks ago I hosted a special training workshop for reservation employees on Hazardous Materials Awareness. This was an eight-hour OSHA certified course designed for people who may come into contact with hazardous chemicals in their line of work. A total of 35 reservation employees attended, including representatives from Law Enforcement, Fire Department, EMT's, Health Services, Natural Resources, Maintenance, and the Housing Authority. We had an excellent turn-out and a I think everyone came away with a little better understanding of the regulations and requirements of dealing with hazardous chemicals and potential emergencies. I would like to personally thank everyone who attended and contributed to the success of this training workshop and I am looking forward to working with all of you on improving emergency response preparedness in the future. If I had more time, I would love to expand on these and other topics but Axel has threatened to beat me with his cheesehead if I don't submit this article in immediately. So, until next time, keep our Mother Earth clean...she's beautiful and worthy of our protection!

News from the Biologist...



Dr. Chris Holm, Ph.D., Biologist

(The following article by Dr. Holm missed the last issue of the NEWS by a gnat's whisker.....Ed.)

Here in Natural Resources, we spend considerable time researching and applying for funding to enhance existing programs and keep older programs going. We are constantly searching for new sources of funding, technical assistance, and equipment; sometimes these don't pan out, but nothing ventured, nothing gained. Let me

update you on some one-time possibilities that are fast becoming reality.

First, I have been told that our "Treatment-as-a-State" status to design and implement Reservation Water Quality Standards has been finalized by EPA. As you recall, we started this negotiation process with the state and the Feds about two years ago. Having this means that Bois Forte has taken back control over water protection that should always have been yours, but somehow got usurped and mandated by the Feds. Bois Forte is now one of relatively few Bands in the country that can develop and implement protective water standards that will be enforceable by tribal, state and federal laws. During this negotiation process, we were also applying for federal funding from EPA to allow us to complete our standards, once TAS had been received. It would be easy for the Feds to say "here's your program, now go do the work", but we believe that some money should follow this. We did manage to get about \$45,000.00 out of EPA this year to start up our sampling and analyses program, and we will certainly push for this much or more over the next several years.

By now you know that our federal Administration of Native Americans (ANA) application for \$465,000.00 came through; this is for a three-year continuation of the work that we started in 1994. We have brought two Band Members on board with this grant, and they are really doing a lot of good things. I'll leave it to them to introduce themselves and describe their work. As I may have mentioned in a past article, we also invested much time this past spring and summer getting state legislature money through the MN Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCMR). We did receive \$100,000.00 in funding (approximately one-half of what we pushed for) to be applied toward biological studies of Nett Lake to enhance rice production. This project is scheduled to begin next summer, and will cover a two year period. It will be necessary for us to come up with a 50% non-state match to the LCMR amount granted, so now I am searching out and applying other funding received or expected to make that match. We also anticipate that this project will mean jobs for I-2 Band Members for the two-year period.

I expect Bureau funding through our Circle of Flight and Noxious Weeds programs to be much increased next year. This year, we received essentially no funding for the noxious weeds program, ostensibly because "a shortfall existed in total program funds available for that initiative" - yeah, sure. Last week I had the opportunity to meet here with the BIA Coordinator of that program (also for the Circle of Flight Waterfowl Program). It wasn't pretty, but I think we came away from it well. What we're looking for next year will be equipment and supply funds in the range of \$50,000.00 - \$100,000.00 to create some large waterfowl feeding areas near and within Nett River, to fix the streambank erosion that is occurring at the dam outfall, and to support the rice enhancement project that I mentioned in the previous paragraph. Oh, and a "gentle reminder" to the US Fish and Wildlife Service about their trust responsibility to

us, has led to funds (about \$7,000.00) to help out with these projects as well. USGS is still plugging away for us; we corralled \$40,000.00 in BIA funds to permit these guys another year of gauging streamflows (necessary for proper dam function), water quality testing of our groundwater and testing of water that is entering the lake from beneath the sediments.

Well, that's it for now - short article because Axel wanted this ASAP. As Nett Lake closes in for the winter, we can all be grateful for a fine rice year (approximately 4.9 million pounds of rice produced). Now a well-deserved winter rest in is order. Sleep well, Nett!

(We continue on with Dr. Holm's contribution for this month....Ed.)

Well, it's 8:52 A.M. on Wednesday, January 29. The deadline for this article is at 9:30 A.M.. Needless to say (and probably much to your pleasure), this article will be very short.

Everything is OK with us in water resources. Curtis and Dave M. Jr. are fine, doing lots of interesting and important work. Lab programs are developing nicely. IRMP development is also progressing well. John is becoming quite a GIS expert - stop in and watch the map development process sometime; its very interesting. Winter water monitoring continues. We'll be clearing debris and blowdown trees from the streams and rivers during February. Wood will be dragged back here and will be available for your personal use. We're also investigating ways to remove bog mat vegetation from Lost River at the east end of Nett. This will help increase water flow rate through the lake and to the rice. We're still collecting spring water for Elders. Spring program development is in the works. We'll be doing lots of things: rice bed production work, control dam repair, waterfowl feeding area development, nuisance weed control, natural resource education programs, etc. The list is long and time is short, so I'll quit until the next dynamic issue if the BFN.

Water Lab report...



E. Curt Goodsky, Water Lab Technician

Well hello there, myself and a number of others have met in regards to the development of the "Youth Environmental Education Sessions" and some good project ideas have evolved. One project that the "Steering Committee" is developing, are campsite(s) around the lake for people to use. Participating departments would be Conservation/Forestry to locate an acceptable site, The AmeriCorps program and Community Service Representative (Welfare Reform-to provide projects that recipients need for meeting "work" or attempting to find work" requirements for aid) would supply the work force, the Natural Resource (W.Q.Lab) with I.S.D #707, and B.F Education Department

would coordinate the education resources for various projects. Also, working with the Elderly Nutrition Program we hope to increase opportunities for our elders to teach our younger ones the daily use of the Bois Forte dialect, instead of another areas "Ojibwe" language. Back to the Lab..Did you know we have really, really hard water? I mean lots of solids such as calcium, salts, iron etc... The reason I mention this is that we have a Still that produces distilled water, and basically this removes most of the solids I previously mentioned. This purified/distilled water I then use in Lab procedures. Well I've been making distilled water (about twenty gallons) over three months and have had to clean the still three times so far. If you ever put a pan of water on the wood stove for humidity, the white dust on the side of the pan is what I'm talking about. This is mostly calcium which is used in "TUMS" which absorbs excessive stomach acids. So this is actually not a bad thing. Another bit of information, the Bois Forte W.Q. LAB has completed physical and/or bacterial analysis of eighty-four (84) logged in, water samples collected from sites around the Rez. If you figure four samples per run to Cass Lake for the same information, you would have 21 trips to Cass, \$70 per trip - that adds up to \$1,470.00. Shaa - saving some money huh. Well, I better get going so have a nice day, sleep well and fair winds.

Minutes of the Reservation Tribal Council

Minutes of a special meeting of the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council held December 19, 1996, council chambers, Nett Lake, Minnesota.

Meeting called to order at 9:55 a.m.

Members Present: Clint Landgren; David Morrison Sr.; Doris Isham; Ramona Villebrun; Phyllis Boshey.

Members Absent: None

Others: Frank Annette; Mark Anderson; Sandy Hill; Sherry Erickson; Rick Anderson; Axel Holmes; Kim Greiner; Mick Bateson; Wes Martins; Benny Rider; Dave Danz Andv Datko; Donna Hoffer; Ernest Landgren Jr.; Tony Kirby; Ron Skunes; Norman Adams.

Moved by Doris Isham; seconded by Ramona Villebrun; to approve the minutes of a special meeting held on December 5, 1996, Fortune Bay Casino, Tower, Minnesota. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Doris Isham; seconded by Ramona Villebrun; to adopt resolution #84-97, formation of a new Bois Forte Conservation Committee. Carried 4-0-0.

Funding Request for Indian Legal Assistance. They provide services to Bois Forte enrolled members at Tribal and State Court throughout St. Louis County. Wes Martins states the paralegals do a very good job and are trained to handle the duties, they do have the attorney back up, and consult the licensed attorneys on cases they know about that are on the court calendar. The people on the reservation need proper representation.

There is discussion on the court system, Chairman Landgren does not like the way some of the cases were handled, the penalties were too lenient. The system needs to get tougher on the repeat offenders. Chairman Landgren also has a problem with the RTC contracting money for prosecution then in turn contracting money for defense attorneys.

Doris informs Wes Martins that the people are unhappy with having paralegal level attorneys when the prosecutor is a licensed attorney. There is also a problem with the lack of client/attorney time for discussing court cases.

Mark Anderson agrees with Wes Martins that the RTC is charged with providing justice for their people which included defense, prosecution and protection (police) as all other state and federal governments do. He also believes paralegals can offer defense services in consultation with attorneys and that many times court cases may be routine or so cut and dried there may not be much a full fledged attorney could do for their client.

Phyllis Boshey informs Wesley Martins that services are needed for the Vermilion people. The people feel that the Virginia police harass them and those that do have to appear in court do not have representation.

Wesley Martins informs the Council a brochure will be made to let the community know of the services they can provide and will also hold a community education meeting for the people.

Chairman Landgren advises Mark Anderson to help with the community education project and Frank Annette to find office space for Indian Legal to provide legal services to the Bois Forte community 1-2 days per month.

Moved by Phyllis Boshey; seconded by Doris Isham; to approve a \$15,000 contribution to Indian Legal Assistance. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Doris Isham; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to adopt resolution #85-97, NIDA funded research prevention

of alcohol and drug abuse among Native Americans. Carried 4-0-0.

Discussion was held on the Palmquist, Indian Point, Hardhat road, Tibbetts trail, and Sugarbush projects. The Council is informed that the Palmquist and Indian Point projects are on schedule. There is currently a winter shutdown but will resume in the spring. It was suggested that a user fee be imposed on the logging companies that use the B.I.A. roads because the trucks tear up the roads when they use them.

Recess at 12:10 p.m. for lunch.

Meeting reconvenes at 1:05 p.m.

Moved by Phyllis Boshey; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to adopt resolution #86-97, as an interim guidance document for use in decision making about land use and development issues on the Vermilion Lake community excluding Appendix A at this time, pending completion of the Nett Lake Land Use and Development Plan. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Phyllis Boshey; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to adopt resolution #87-97, to lease the property described as the NE-1/4 of the NW-1/4, Section 35, T. 62 N., R. 15 W., to the State of Minnesota, for the term of one (1) year in consideration of rent of one hundred dollars (\$100.00). Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Doris Isham; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to adopt resolution #88-97, to provide the necessary project engineering, design, and construction monitoring services associated with the Bois Forte Reservation water and sewage treatment services extensions on the Vermilion community of the reservation. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Ramona Villebrun; seconded by Phyllis Boshey; to adopt resolution #89-97, which provides that the Band's General Counsel will perform the necessary legal services and be compensated as provided in the General Counsel Contract. Carried 4-0-0.

Frank Annette introduces B.I.A. police officer Jim Pontiac to the Council. Officer Pontiac will be stationed in Vermilion.

Moved by Doris Isham; seconded by Phyllis Boshey; to renew coverage with Blue Cross/Blue Shield for 1997. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Ramona Villebrun; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to approve putting money in CD's with Mt. Iron State Bank of Orr. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by David Morrison, Sr.; seconded by Phyllis Boshey; to adopt resolution #90-97, to approve the First Amendment to Depository Agreement with Mt. Iron State Bank. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by David Morrison, Sr.; seconded by Phyllis Boshey; to adopt resolution #91-97, Lodging Tax Ordinance. Carried 4-0-0.

Norman Adams and Rick Anderson present a revision of Fortune Bay's employee manual. It is the same policy with minor revisions made and was reviewed and passed by the Board of Directors.

Moved by Doris Isham; seconded by Ramona Villebrun; to approve Fortune Bay's employee manual on an interim basis. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Phyllis Boshey; seconded by Doris Isham; to approve the hiring of David Riddle as the Assistant Hotel Manager at Fortune Bay Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Doris Isham; seconded by Ramona Villebrun; to approve the hiring of Andrea Maple as the Marketing Manager at Fortune Bay. Her salary will be

negotiated. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Ramona Villebrun; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to approve the Self funded Workers Compensation with Berkeley Administrators for 1997. Carried 4-0-0.

Discussion was held on the vacant position for the Fortune Bay Board of Directors. The position will be posted locally, and if no one apply's, it will be advertised publically for interested Band members.

There is discussion on the Honor Guard request, Frank is advised to work with Rick Anderson to get bingo packets for their bingo night fundraiser.

Moved by Doris Isham; seconded by Phyllis Boshey; to adopt resolution #92-97, the payment of dues for the National Indian Gaming Association membership of \$1500.00. Carried 4-0-0.

There is discussion on the law enforcement summit issues of improved working relations and cross deputizing the law enforcement officers from Bois Forte, Koochiching and St. Louis County. A meeting is set for January 16, 1997, at Fortune Bay at 10:30 a.m. Invitations will be sent to appropriate parties.

Moved by Doris Isham; seconded by Ramona Villebrun; to table executive session and adjourn the meeting at 3:55 p.m. Carried 4-0-0.

Minutes of a special meeting of the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council held January 9, 1997, Fortune Bay Resort & Casino, Tower, Minnesota.

Meeting called to order at 10:27 a.m.

Members Present: Clint Landgren; David Morrison, Sr.; Doris Isham; Ramona Villebrun; Phyllis Boshey

Members Absent: None

Others: Frank Annette; Mark Anderson, Legal Counsel; Vicki Holmes; Rick Anderson; Gary Gotchnik; Dave Anderson; Gordon Warrick; Vickie Hackey; Sherry Erickson; Norm Adams

Moved by Doris Isham; seconded by Ramona Villebrun; to approve the minutes of a special meeting held on December 19, 1996, Nett Lake, Minnesota. Carried 4-0-0.

Frank Annette gives the Council the following informational items:

There will be a meeting at the Vermilion Center at 1:30 p.m., Friday, January 10, 1997 to discuss the meal programs for the Vermilion Head Start Program, the Vermilion Elderly Nutrition Program, and the Ke Zha Wus So Center.

There will be a meeting with the Council and the Nett Lake School Board at 10:00 a.m., Friday, January 24, 1997, to discuss concerns the school board has.

Bois Forte was awarded \$41,000.00 (there is a 25% matching fund stipulation) under the COPS program grant which was submitted by Ray Villebrun. This was used to hire a game warden. Ray had informed

Frank that he sees no problem with transferring the money to the police department to hire a police officer, however, he needs to contact the granting agency for approval of a modification to the original proposal.

Moved by Ramona Villebrun; seconded by Phyllis Boshey; to hire a police officer under the COPS Program. Carried 4-0-0.

Frank is to post the job announcement for a police officer. Frank is also to check with Captain Wilkie to see if he is still pursuing the hiring of a woman police officer/dispatcher. Frank is to check on the cost of Midway providing dispatching service 24 hours a day.

Frank updates the Council on who will be attending the law enforcement meeting which will be held 10:00 a.m., Thursday, January 16, 1997, at Fortune Bay Resort & Casino. Invitations to the meeting are also to be sent to the County Attorney's offices in Virginia and Hibbing.

Frank asks the Council if the employee Activity Fund club needs to be approved by the Council to continue functioning each year. Frank is told this does not need to come before the Council.

Moved by Doris Isham; seconded by Phyllis Boshey; to ratify the hiring of David Riddle as Hotel Manager at the salary discussed. Carried 4-0-0. A letter is to be sent to Riddle under the Chairman's signature informing him of the Council's expectations of him as an employee, and that the organization's Personnel Policies & Procedures adopted by the Tribal Council do and will apply to all employees. The Council declined his request for a contract.

Moved by Ramona Villebrun; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to ratify the hiring of Andrea Maple as Director of Sales at the salary discussed. Carried 3-0-1. Doris Isham silent. Doris states she is silent because at the meeting of the Tribal Council held January 19th this same recommendation was proposed to the Council, and was tabled pending justification for the salary amount. She still has not seen justification such as employee wage scale, general comparison of regional Sales/Marketing wages, etc. She is not sure how the salary compares to various management/director positions at Fortune Bay and feels that there are discrepancies between the salaries. Rick Anderson states the discrepancies are due to the length of employment of each employee and the salary increases allowed each year. Rick Anderson is to provide the Council with information on every employee at the Casino and Resort (their positions and wages).

Anderson and Dave Anderson give a report on the resort construction and the justification of cost overrun. Information on Oxford Construction and Northland Rigging were not included and will be provided to each Council member.

Moved by Doris Isham; seconded by Ramona Villebrun to adjourn meeting at 1:30 p.m. Carried 4-0-0.

NEW TRANSFER STATION HOURS

October 1, 1996 - April 1, 1997

Monday - Wednesday - Saturday

7:00 a.m. - 11 a.m.

The Solid Waste Disposal Coupons are on sale at the receptionist's desk in the Tribal Offices or at the Multi-Service Center.



Art Holmes, Counselor

LOVE - MAKES THE WORLD GO ROUND

Love was a topic that was not discussed much nor explained very clearly to us when we were in our young and growing years. And after spending six of those growing years in the Tomah Indian school in Wisconsin my view of love was, largely, that it belonged with the category of those who were wimps in our society. I expressed this view in a group setting while in treatment back in 1971 at Meadowbrook Treatment Center in Minneapolis.

Before that, while I was in Bible school from 1947-52 I could attach no significance to such verses of Scripture as 1 John 4:7-11 "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God. For God is love. By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins, Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another."

I did not dare say it to anyone, but I held a secret conviction that God did have weakness and that it was in this area of love (which I did not understand or experience for most of my life). After World War II I was convinced that the world would be ruled, not by love, but by the powerful, the strong.

Whatever love I may have known as a child in our home was blotted out violently by the separation from our parents at age

six when we were sent away to the Indian schools. The pain I felt by that separation was the most intense, excruciating feeling I had ever known. Whatever love I may have had, especially for my mother was quickly replaced by a growing resentment for her for what I considered at the time as a betrayal. No one attempted to counsel us about those separations and why they had happened, and so I became an angry, bitter individual. This usually happens when we have been deeply wounded and have not been helped by a kind of healing therapy. We learned early in life how to bury our feelings, or repress them. We hold people at a distance. We don't let them get close to us because we do not want to get hurt by anyone ever again. It was a frustrating time. I wanted to have friends, but I wouldn't let anyone in close enough for friendships to develop. Some of us became "loners", by circumstance rather than by choice. While I may have developed some social skills since then Betty says that I still have a lot of ground to recover in that area.

The group that day, in the Treatment Center, told me that my rocky marriage might straighten out if I learned to love my wife just a little bit more. They said that I might be a little easier to get along with if I forgave some people who had hurt me, and took down some of the defenses I had put up, and let people move in a little closer. Shortly after that I read again for the umpteenth time, "Husbands love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her" I knew I didn't love her like that, and after some considerable deliberation on that matter, and having done what for the time, was a comprehensive study on the matter of love, the lights began to turn on, and one day I found myself praying a prayer like, "Lord, I have never loved Betty with the kind of love you speak of. By myself I don't think I can. With Your help I'll try. So if You'll fill my heart with that kind of love, I'll love her the way you want me to love her."

God heard and gave answer, not all at once, but there was enough love given to me to start a new life experience. It was exciting and uplifting from the very first!

Love has transforming power, I found to my great delight, and I will ever be grateful for that "eye-opener" that day in that Treatment Center

"Love is patient" (1 Cor. 13.4) and so I decided to see if I now possessed any patience that I could now show toward Betty. I was amazed at the patience I suddenly found I had, and so was Betty, to her great joy. I began a study on love which uncovered a lot of new stuff; - that there are several kinds of love. There is "family love" that the Bible calls "storge" in the Greek language in which the New Testament was written. It is the love that family members have for each other, and which binds them together. In the past, the culture had a ritual, or a way of separating a boy from his mother, (Usually around age 12 or 13), in order to break any tendencies toward becoming "tied to the mother's apron strings." I had a deep love for my family members until the separation to the Indian schools. I am sure that that love was still there but was now buried under the anger, resentment, and bitterness that had crept in and had become the strong emotions that then appeared and remained on the surface. Basically, "storge" is the love we have for our family members, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, children, grandchildren, etc..

Scripture speaks of "friendship" love, called "Phileo". It is the "affection" we have for those close to us. However, many are the "fall-outs" that separate good friends. Since I was an angry individual, making friends became difficult. I became a loner. I didn't like it but that is the way it turned out. It was confusing and frustrating. But it is the love with which we love our friends. The Jewish religionists added to it, "but hate your enemies."

The love that really rose above then, all was the "Love of God", called, in the Greek, "agape". It rises above the other loves like the Alps tower above all other mountain ranges

As I studied this "agape" love, I knew that this was something that could radically transform my life on every level. It has. It brought a lot of new adventure, romance, excitement, joy, satisfaction. It is enduring. It is a love which leads us into a maturity we have not known before. It is amazing how agape love develops strong character, and gives new meaning to life, changing our outlook on just about everything we do and say. When the song writers write that "love makes the world go round" -- they are correct. It is this love for/of God and for all other people that does it. It is the love with which we learn to love our enemies! If we all learned to love with this kind of love, what a changed world we would be living in today!

Charles Allen wrote of a very graphic illustration of this most excellent of loves: "Once I was preaching in a revival in a small rural church. In one of the morning services, I invited people to give their own testimony, to tell what the Lord had done in their own lives. I shall never forget one man in particular. He had spent his life working a small farm. He was not educated in a formal way, but he gave one of the best descriptions of Christian love I have ever heard."

He stood and said, "When I was a little boy I loved my mother. As I grew older I

felt I would never love anybody else but my mother. As a young man I met a girl and I came to love her and I married her. I then loved my mother and my wife but I knew I would never love anyone else. Then a baby was born into our home. As I held him in my arms, I knew that I loved him too. We never had any other children and those were the only three people I loved. Then during a service here in this church, the Lord Jesus came into my heart. When I came to know Jesus as my Savior, I loved him. Then a strange thing happened. Loving my mother and my wife and my son did not cause me to love anybody else. But when I loved Jesus, then I loved everybody."

This man had entered into the transforming experience of the "love of God" and no one has to ever feel sorry for him.

In the Gospel of John, the last chapter, there is an interesting conversation between the Lord and Peter, in which Peter is asked if he loved Jesus? He answered that he "liked" him. He was asked the question three times. He was confronted with his lack of love. Peter was learning an invaluable lesson. The Lord was leading him from "friendship love" into "agape" love, which Peter would need if he was going to shepherd the Lord's sheep faithfully and adequately. Tradition says that Peter, because of this transforming love, also gave up his life for the sheep he loved and cared for. Is there anything greater than that kind of love? The person who has this kind of love will be able to endure anything that life will bring his way. God is ready to fill you with this kind of love, but you have to ask Him.

Car hits bus; five injured

Two children and three adults were hurt Thursday afternoon, Feb. 6 when a car rear-ended a school bus that was dropping off children just north of Cook.

The children, an 11-year-old boy and a 16-year-old girl, were treated for minor injuries and released from the Cook Hospital later Thursday.

According to Minnesota State Patrol trooper Mike Flatley, the bus was stopped on U.S. Highway 53 just north of the intersection of Highway 53 and State Highway 1 when a car carrying three people struck the back end of the bus.

The three occupants in the car were injured.

Frances May, 41, was transferred from the Cook Hospital to the Virginia hospital; Janice May, 18, was in fair condition at Cook Hospital; and Donald Hoaglund, 43, was treated at the Cook Hospital and released. All three are from Nett Lake. It's unclear who was driving the car.

Flatley said the bus had its stop sign extended and lights flashing when the accident occurred. The Minnesota State Patrol is investigating.

Pelican Bay



(formerly Paul's IGA of Orr)

- Expanded Grocery Store with:
 - ✓ Complete Fresh Meat Dept.
 - ✓ Large Fresh Produce Section
- Bakery and Deli

Pelican Bay IGA is three times larger than the old Paul's IGA. You will find a well-stocked, fresh produce department, an extensive array of fresh meats for your selection, as well as row upon row of groceries and household items of your choice. A full-service in-store bakery and deli round out your shopping trip to Pelican Bay IGA where you can relax and enjoy some of our deli specialties while seated in a booth in the cheery coffee shop right in the store!

... A Family Helping Families

MLAKER FUNERAL HOME

COOK, MN 55723

- * Pre-planning and pre-financing
- * Cemetery markers and monuments

LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED BY WARREN MLAKER

AVAILABLE DAY OR NIGHT: 666-5298

