



Bois Forte News

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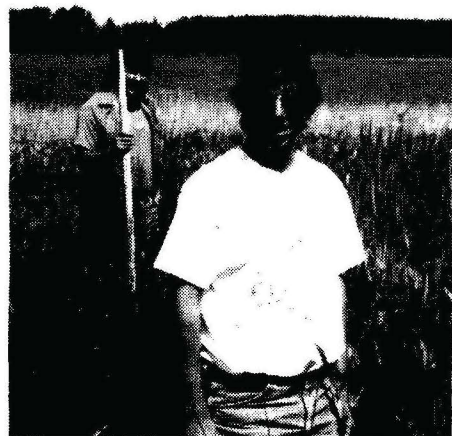
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NETT LAKE, MINN., JUNE 1997 EDITION

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1854 Authority news...



Millard "Sonny" Myers, Director NIN MADJIADJIMOIWE (I send word)

I sure hope it is spring where you live. Signs of spring are certainly limited in the Duluth area. In fact I saw a flock of geese heading back south the other day (that would be humor). On the serious side, I have a couple of housekeeping notes that pertain to the upcoming *tagwagi* (fall). Due to some logistical problems encountered the last couple of moose hunting seasons, we are in the process of revising the 1854 Ceded Territory Moose Hunting Information Booklet and Application. When finished, it will be an all encompassing booklet and will contain everything you should need to know in order to apply for a moose permit this upcoming season. The application booklet will be available June 20, and we will move the application deadline back to August 15, 1997. Along similar lines, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will be conducting a special muzzle loader *wawashkeshi* (deer) hunt in Jay Cooke State Park (near Duluth)

November 29-December 7, 1997. We have permits and information available if you desire to participate in this hunt.

In other news due to increased space requirements, we should soon be making a locational move to the Airpark Square, just past the Mall area in Duluth. As of this writing, the move is not official, but barring unforeseen complications, we should be in a new location by July 1, 1997.

I recently attended the Native American Fish & Wildlife Society's Annual Conference in Bozeman Montana the week of May 5th. I would like to make a general observation that my attendance at the conference brought to light. I found it extremely interesting to hear the state of treaty issues that are going on in other parts of the country. It is of my observation (albeit biased) that we are doing quite well in regards to issues both on and off the reservation, and I hope everybody involved in pursuing tribal initiatives in our region continues to work hard in order for this effort to continue. Although our working relationship with the State of Minnesota is not perfect, there are many tribes that have no relationship at all.

One last note before I go. I have finished developing a short term strategic plan for the 1854 Authority. Our main focus for the remainder of 1997 will be to meet the goal of "providing an organization capable of delivering Authority programs to it's qualified participants". That would be you. It is my conviction that we need to make sure our own ducks are in a row before we head out to deal with someone else's ducks (not a classic quote, but I hope you get my point).

Megwitch.

Doris Isham's column....



Doris Isham, RTC

I recently had the privilege of presenting the Bois Forte Tribal Academic Scholarship to a very deserving young lady, Eugena Boshey. Gina earned the scholarship based on the highest grade point average among Bois Forte member graduates. Her demonstrated leadership qualities and involvement in extra curricular activities has set an excellent example for those who follow. Through her sacrifice and hard work, Gina has brought honor to her people. Congratulations again, Gina! And also to your parents, Barb and Darrell Brodeen.

As I sat on stage with the rest of the presenters and watched ten (10) other Bois Forte tribal students receive their diplomas, I felt very proud of each one of them. They, too, are deserving of special recognition for their academic achievements. Each graduate has successfully completed one phase of their education. This accomplishment has historically been rare among Indian people, but has obviously changed these past few years.

So, congratulations to each of you and to your parents.

In other news, recognizing that Health Care is one of our pressing concerns, some of the Tribal Council members have been meeting with the Health division staff to provide direction and support in the re-organization and re-establishment of the provision of quality health care to clients of the Nett Lake and Vermilion clinics. After the community survey is completed, it will be compiled with the evaluation done by IHS staff in the development of a management plan. It will then be made available for community comment and input.

We have had problems in the past and continue to experience difficulty in recruiting professional staff to come to Bois Forte. A number of circumstances contribute to this problem, including the remote location of our community, scarcity of housing, lack of employment opportunities for a husband/wife and a shortage of recreational opportunities for young people. However, Jeneal Goggleye and Cathy Chavers are aggressively pursuing the recruitment effort for professional health staff. In the meantime they have made alternative arrangements to meet the health needs of the Bois Forte community. We are concerned that as many people have had to get medical attention through other clinics, there has been a huge flow of contract health care dollars leaving the reservation. This will ultimately affect the availability of health dollars toward the end of the contract year. We will have to wait and see to what extent.

This past week-end was our annual Sah-

(Continued on Page 8)

Bois Forte Chairman defends himself at public gathering....

The following article by Marshall Helmberger in the *Timberjay* of 7 June 1997 is reprinted by permission.

Embattled Bois Forte tribal chairman Clint Landgren, Saturday, defended himself at a public meeting of the reservation tribal council (RTC) at the Nett Lake community center against allegations raised by some band members in a petition that calls for his removal.

Landgren called the meeting following the tribal council's May 22 decision to accept the petition. That decision, on a 3-1 vote, sets in place a process that could lead to his removal from office within a few weeks.

But Landgren says he has no intention of going quietly and he maintains he is innocent of the charges against him, calling them "trumped up." Landgren, along with tribal council member and supporter Ramona Villebrun, answered questions and offered evidence of his innocence to about 50 band members who attended the Saturday meeting. But three council

members who have differed with Landgren - David Morrison, Doris Isham, and Phyllis Boshey - did not attend.

Landgren spoke about his efforts to raise questions about tribal government and Fortune Bay Resort and Casino operations. He said a controversial review into the tribal health services revealed that clinic director Ray Hawk had been operating without a state license. Hawk acknowledged that he does not possess a state license as a physicians assistant, but said such a license is not required for federal health services. Hawk said he did have the necessary national certification required for his position - something he said Landgren knew at the time. Hawk said he chose to resign rather than fight for the position he held for 16 years.

Landgren has also asked for an accounting of an estimated \$3.4 million cost overrun during construction of the Fortune Bay hotel and he has suggested a possible conflict of interest there, because he said top officials there are all closely related.

"This entire reservation has been controlled by a handful of people for 20 years. When I started asking questions, they made up these charges against me," said Landgren. "We need people power to fight them. Each person has to go home and tell others about what's going on" he told band members Saturday.

"While Landgren has gone public with his defense and invited the *Timberjay* to attend the most recent public meeting, critics of Landgren say they are not going to discuss the charges against the chairman until a June 24 hearing, at which point both Landgren and his accusers will have an opportunity to speak.

In May 29 open letter to band members, Morrison, Boshey, and Isham wrote that they were not attending last Saturday's public meeting because "there was nothing to discuss with regard to the petition."

"The RTC has not addressed the merits of the charges in the petition, and cannot until hearing the Chairman's response. It

would be inappropriate and a violation of due process for the RTC to comment on the charges prior to a hearing," the letter stated. The RTC has forwarded the petition to the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe for certification.

Landgren opponents list six charges against the chairman, including that he had improperly provided for educational and other travel expenses for his administrative assistant Sherry Erickson. A copy of a check for \$937.53 made out top Erickson was the main exhibit, according to Landgren, when supporters solicited signatures on the petition. But Landgren said the reservation has a clear policy that permits reimbursement to employees for job-related education and training.

Landgren said Erickson had filled out the proper forms for reimbursement of a paralegal course, and that the funds-totalling \$564-were approved. Landgren read a letter from the course instructor confirming that Erickson had attended the course and had received a 98 percent mark on her exam.

The check also included reimbursement for airfare and other expenses to attend the National Congress of American Indians convention in Phoenix, Arizona, held last October 20-25, according to Landgren, "It

(Continued on Page 5)



School News

A Reminder...

Cisco Isham; ISD #707

Good Morning everybody !!!! I thought today would be a good day to jot down some thoughts that have been with me throughout the month. When people are in a rush to get things done----do you ever notice that they will take their hat off and rub their forehead. Or maybe if they have three things to get done in fifteen minutes, their eyebrows tend to form a frown? That person will also begin to get irritable (cranky) and talk very fast or to stutter. That person does not understand how to handle stress. Are you having a stressful month? Well I hope after reading this newspaper that you feel less stress. May is a very fun month!!!!

With the thoughts of up-coming graduations, awards banquets, and teachers being happy that their group of young minds have passed into a newgrade ...and yeah school is out for the summer!!!!

THE MINNESOTA GRADUATION STANDARDS are changing. As I see these changes they are definitely for the better. The changes one individual makes from the time he or she enters kindergarten until that little mind graduates high school, is immense. All these changes are a step in the right direction for the better! !!!!

The statewide K- 12 expectations for learning and system of assessments that nurture a student's development in the five areas of Comprehensive Goals. These five task management areas are:

A) Resource Management--meaning to access information efficiently and effectively. To properly use and care for materials, equipment and facilities. To

share materials appropriately.

B) Time Management--meaning to be able to prioritize tasks and complete work according to a plan. Also to monitor and adjust work plans when needed. Mainly to use time, space and movement efficiently. To meet deadlines on time.

C) Perseverance--meaning to focus on the task for appropriate length of time. To continue to try despite frustration, distractions and obstacles. To attend to details and check for errors.

D) Teamwork--meaning contribute to group with ideas, suggestions and effort. To work productively in various group role assignments. To collaborate with a variety of people from diverse backgrounds. and

E) Respect for Others--meaning to use appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication. To behave in a manner that does not distract others. To manage conflict appropriately with others.

The learning expectations and assessments consist of three major academic components: The Basic Standards (required in state rule), the High Standards in the Profile of Learning (requirements to be determined), and Standards of Distinction (voluntary).

These are just a few reminders of the up-coming changes that our young high school students have to look for in the future. Our students will not be passed on to another grade for the fact that they SHOULD HAVE learned the text. Each student will have to prove that he has learned what is expected of him (or her) for that school year.

HeadStart & Early Childhood



Judy Anderson, HeadStart Director

Our school year is over at Nett Lake and will be in 2 weeks at Vermilion. Now comes the busy time, writing the 5 grants due in this summer, as well as making headway on the three year Head Start grant due early fall. In addition this is when we do the year's plan for administration of all the grants we operate.

One of our grants is the Child Care Development Fund, which requires a public hearing. Vermilion's is set for June 18th at 9:00 AM at Ke Zha Wus So and Nett Lake's will be June 19th at 9:00 am at the ECFE Room at Nett Lake School.

We STILL need medical and dental visits, etc. done and will continue to bug parents, and will gladly give out the rings as items are completed. We had only 9 children complete as of June 1 st, and 4 of those are Home Based.

We are now arranging parent training and meeting input sessions for the new Performance Standards. Hopefully parents will give thoughtful assistance to help us make our new program a success.

I have been accepted for the July session of the Johnson and Johnson Masters Management Fellows Institute at UCLA. There are a limited number of Directors accepted each year and it should be very helpful in making changes in our program. In addition, program specific problems will be addressed. I look forward to this intense school (which is totally paid by the National Head Start Program).

OUR OSPRI (FEDERAL PROGRAM ASSESSMENT) WILL BE DECEMBER 1-5,1997! We will gear toward that.

I hope your summer will be as productive as ours should be, and let's hope for a warm, sunny one!

Tribal Education news...

We are completing another fiscal year for the Tribal Education Program for 1996-1997. Bois Forte Enrollees who have graduated are:

Angie Kay Harper, Cornell College, Mt. Vernon, Iowa. Major - Secondary Education, English and Ethnic Studies. HONORS - Magna Cum Laude

Gerald Wayne Chicag, Jr., Universal Technical Institute, Phoenix, Arizona. Major - Automotive and Diesel Technology.

Fay Walcome, Portland State University, Portland, Oregon. Major - Masters of Social Work.

Adrienne Rose Zapata, Mesabi Range Community and Technical College-Eveleth Campus, Eveleth, Minnesota. Major - Phi Theta Kappa

I scheduled a meeting with Frank Annette- Executive Director, Donna Hoffer-Personnel director and Mick Bateson-Accounting Department on May 27, 1997 concerning the Negative balance in the Salaries, Fringe and Indirect Cost Category, for the Bois Forte Tribal Education Department. There isn't enough money to fund the three staff employees on a full time basis, between now and the end of our fiscal year, September 30, 1997.

Kim King, Career Education Specialist transferred to the Tribal Office to work as a TERO Officer for a 90 day period, Kelly will take the summer off and I will work on

a 20 hour week schedule to make sure the students applications continue the process of funding with the Minnesota Indian Scholarship Program for Fall,97.

Bertha Graue, who is a General Secretarial student at the Mesabi Range Technical College in Eveleth is working in the Tribal Education office for the summer months. She is being paid by the Northeast Minnesota Office of Jobs and Training in Virginia, John Haugen is the training specialist for the Adult work experience program.

The new proposed Education budget for Fiscal Year 98, beginning October 1, 1997 will have an administrative revenue of \$75,000.00. This will pay for one employee, fringe benefits, office supplies, travel, rental of space, telephone and the Indirect Cost . The proposed budget will be \$75,000 plus the compacts \$99,244 for Higher Education, \$42,569 for Vocational Ed, which totals \$216,813.00. Compare this with the \$337,961 that we had to spend for last fiscal year. This is a \$121,148.00 cut in our budget, starting October 1, 1997. We sent out 8 out-of-funds letters for 1996-97 school year. We funded a total of 75 Higher Education Students, 38 Adult Vocational students, 9 eligible Bois Forte Enrolled High School graduating Seniors from the Orr High School and 10 Emergency Medical Trainees.

For the BF News, by Joanne Donald.

TRIBAL EDUCATION PROGRAM FINANCIAL REPORT

Joanne Donald-Tribal Education

May 20, 1997

REVENUE:	BUDGET	H.E. SCHOLARSHIPS	A.E. SCHOLARSHIPS	R.T.C. SCHOLARSHIPS	F. BAY SPECIAL NEEDS	
FY97 S.G Compacts	141,813	99,244	42,569			
FY 96 Carry over	55,148	29,133		26,016		
1854 Treaty Fund	124,000	124,000				
Fortune Bay	17,000				17,000	
TOTAL	337,961	337,961	252,377	42,569	26,016	17,000
EXPENDITURES:						
Salaries	82,814	49,507	49,507			
Fringe Benefits	22,482	14,142	14,142			
Other Direct	10,933	9,287	9,287			
Indirect Costs	33,125	18,914	18,914			
Scholarships	218,209	218,209	110,238	72,281	19,190	16,500
TOTAL	367,563	310,060	202,089	72,281	19,190	16,500
REVENUE OVER/UNDER						
	(29,602)	27,901	50,288	(29,712)	6,826	500
OVER ()						

Notice !!!

There will be a new A.A. group starting up in Nett Lake. Meetings are on Thursday nights starting at 7:00 p.m. beginning June 12, 1997. Meetings are at the trailer house out at the Bois Forte Sawmill



Over the course of this past year, I have been reading a number of articles written by Judge R. A. Randall. Especially have I read Sylvia Cohen v. Little Six where Judge Randall was the dissenting voice in this case.

I have read also articles which he has written for the Native American Press and the New White Earth Anishinabe Paper.

I find startling language throughout his writing. We as Native Americans should be alarmed by the implication of Judge Randall's writing for it contains language of termination. By termination I mean the taking away of any and all lands held by the tribes and the taking away of the sovereignty by which we have some control in our life and affairs.

"We took this land by fire and sword, from its owners of record, the British, who took part of it from the Indians and the French. We then took all the rest." What Judge Randall omits on his list of how they took the land is the word treaty. What Judge Randall omits from his list of how they took the land is by deceit and fraud. What Judge Randall omits from his list of how they took the land is the word intimidation. Not all the Native People were people conquered by fire and sword, many were victims of treaties, deceit, fraud, lies and intimidation. We haven't even mentioned attempted genocide by disease or alcohol. It is not at all a noble undertaking as Judge Randall would have the public believe. His opinions of Native Governments are speculative and hypothetical and usually contrary to existing law, statutes and policy. His views are personal in nature and not within the realm of reality as we know it today. His personal opinions and his personal beliefs cannot in any way shape or form, override the dictates of established law.

The Native people are different from other minorities in this country by way of how we were dealt with. We were a landed people unlike any other minorities. This is why there were special categories of treatment for us. Treatment like genocide, removal, termination, disease, alcohol and psychological oppression. These were the ignoble means of procuring the land by any other means less costly than by fire and sword.

The only time the dominant culture will pay any attention to us is when they want something we have. First it was our lands, we never got so much attention, political or military, than when it was time to take away the land from us to make way for a "civilized people" who could not live with native people in their midst. What is it that people like Judge Randall want? Why all of a sudden are we the center of attention again? We do not have much land anymore. We do not have great resources within the land we do have. What is it that is attracting attention? We do have casino's. We do have it within our means to be a people which is no longer dependent as Judge Randall is so quick to point out repeatedly. We do have it in our means for the first time in history to truly fulfill a destiny of our own choosing. What is it that makes public servants like Judge Randall want to make everything right at this particular junction in history? Is it a truly a noble attempt to make matters right with the Native Peoples by removing us of our sovereignty?

The sovereignty we have as Native Peoples is ORIGINAL, meaning we have held it since time immemorial and it can never be destroyed, especially through the eyes and personal opinions of one person of a different culture. Native American

People remain sovereign regardless of how people of other cultures attempt to reshape, redefined or limit this original sovereignty. This original sovereignty can never be destroyed.

We have lost the integrity of tribal self government by these tactics. Who is to say if the foundation of sovereignty of Indian People can ever be replenished by the dictates of constitutional law? It certainly does not seem likely at this point in history.

Judge Randall's language is attacking Indian People, by using this language he is attacking me and the remnants of my land and the remnants of my freedom as an Indian person! He is attempting to use the color of his judgeship to be the New Interloper. He is not Indian, nor can any experience he has had ever change that fact! He cannot claim true understanding because he has never lived our lives. He

set us apart. He also does not say, why it is now, when the Indian People for the first time in history have the opportunity to be truly competitive, using the system thrust upon us, that he and others now argue for its demise. This makes us angry. This deepens the debilitating cultural anger at a system which keeps us perpetually the loser for some mysterious reason of its own! We see this as harassment on the basis of race and a violation of our basic human rights.

My understanding of the Ethics in Government Act, Minnesota Statutes, chapter 10-A, is designed to promote public confidence in the state government and the integrity of state government. Judge Randall's actions do not help either intentions of the act.

"A true sovereign has the ability to declare war, to have their own currency, to

MARSHALL RAMSEY



"AFTER WE STEAL YOUR LAND AND BREAK OUR TREATIES, WE'LL TAX YOUR CASINO."

does not have the vision that we see through our eyes, and if he did, he would feel our pains and our victories, but all I see from him is what he writes about, the how to's and the opinions of one person!

If this situation is not dealt with properly, then the attempted murder of tribal sovereignty will be seen in the eyes of the rest of the world as evidence of how the United States government treats the original people of this land!

Tribal governments, as stated in Cohen's Handbook of Federal Indian Law, are part of the, "the settled doctrine of the law of nations" this doctrine states that a weaker power does not surrender its independence-its right to self government-by associating with a stronger, and taking its protection. (XXIV B.)

"The myth of tribal sovereignty being the same as an Elvis sighting," as Judge Randall would have us believe, has another side to it. On the reverse side of this myth, is the myth that congress has plenary powers over the tribal governments. The truth is that the Federal Government has constitutionally endowed itself with the plenary powers to make treaties with tribes. (Cohen XXIV C.)

If there is another endowment of plenary power over tribes, then indeed, Randall must be speaking about second endowment within the United States Constitution, that being the power to regulate commerce with tribes. Any other power would have to be the piece-meal additions to and modifications of past legislation.

Every time Judge Randall speaks and writes about "Red Apartheid" and compares it to black apartheid, if he is not of either race or entity, then he is speaking purely out of prejudice. He also omits the fact of who it was who drew the original boundary lines of the reservations which

control borders. There is not that kind of sovereignty for Indian Tribes." What is Judge Randall trying to say? My thoughts concerning this statement is: fear, terror, panic, hysteria, by willful conduct to portray Indian people as a threat to the dominant cultures. As I said earlier, a nation of weaker power does not surrender its independence by taking protection from a stronger power. If this is not correct, then international law must be written.

From the voice and startling language of Judge Randall, it is unclear what his true intentions are. The judge has an impressive background. He is almost a scholar if only his vast knowledge were used to apply the law to cases as it should be. What else is not clear is why would he be in association with the Tribal Accountability Legal Fund. This new agency has at least one member of questionable background, which involve tribal governments and sovereignty most specifically with the Fort Mojave Indian Reservation in Needles, California and The State of Minnesota cases: 04-11-1002174, 01-41-3-002650, and 04-11-2-002649 in Beltrami County. The Tribal Accountability Legal Fund without tribal input and consent is like forming a group to safeguard a cause within the boundaries of another country. One can have opinions but no real power.

Judge Randall writes, "Progeny that purports to treat Indian Tribes as sovereign or quasi-sovereign entities was mush when it was written, and is mush today 'dependent', yes, 'sovereign' not now, not ever, I do not care what we have said or put in writing. Our actions speak louder than our words." Does this reiterate the words of taking the land by fire and sword? Yes, it certainly does.

In Judge Randall's dissenting language, on February 13, 1996, on page 396, he

writes, "without the aid of the U.S. Attorney in collateral criminal proceedings proclaims to the state of Minnesota and the United States, that at least two Minnesota Ojibwe Reservations do not deserve the respect of sovereign entity." (Meaning the Prior Lake and White Earth Reservations, emphasis mine.)

On June 26, 1996, two days after the convictions of three tribal council members of the White Earth Reservation, Judge Randall was at White Earth to swear in an "interim" tribal council at 9 a.m. claiming this to be an emergency situation. This emergency was fabricated to cover up the resignation of Darrell Wadena on June 25, 1996 in light of his conviction. If they did not complete the swearing in ceremony at the time they did, the press would have had received Darrell Wadena's resignation statement, then Judge Randall and the legal counsel, Miles Lord and Zenas Baer, for the interim government, would not have any basis of proving that an emergency situation existed.

In recent history the Judge went out of his jurisdiction, the State Judicial System, and became a politician, using his State Judgeship to facilitate the swearing in of a tribal government who was acting outside of its own constitution. In our eyes this denying of the existence of sovereignty on one hand, then coming forward to participate in the swearing in of a tribal government official, verges on hypocrisy in its basest form as defined in The American Heritage Dictionary, Second College Edition page 341. "The professing of virtues and beliefs that one does not possess."

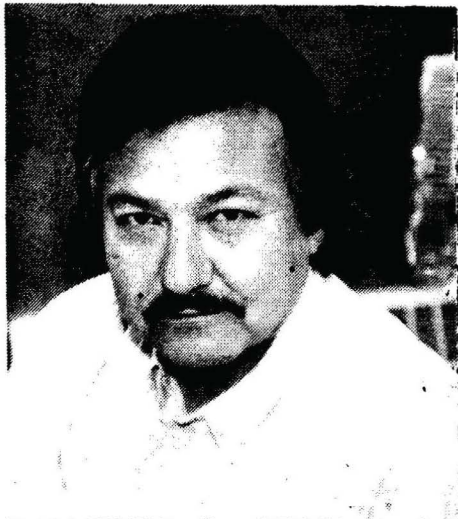
This action pronounces the judge's prejudiced view of Indian People. In my perception, by his ultra jurisdictional action, Judge Randall has prejudiced his office and virtually insured that any future case involving Indian issues which may come before him will certainly suffer the loss of law and equity in his court. Please do not let my concerns fall upon deaf ears. It is of utmost importance to the legal well being of my people.

**Special Meeting
of the RTC
to consider the
petition has been set
for Tuesday,
June 24, 1997,
in the Nett Lake
Village at 9 a.m.**



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NETT LAKE, MINN. 55772
TELEPHONE: 757-3261
Axel J. Holmes Sr. — Editor
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Latest on Welfare Reform...



Gary W. Adams, Human Services

Most recent update from Dept. of Human Services....

Minnesota's 1997 welfare reform bill: work, responsibility and families.

A statewide Minnesota Family Investment Program. Minnesota's 1997 welfare reform law is a historic, bipartisan initiative that will transform the state's welfare system. Its core is the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), a comprehensive state/county welfare reform efforts, which the bill modifies for statewide use to more quickly move families to work and self sufficiency. As a demonstration pilot in eight counties, early results show MFIP is one of the most effective efforts in the country at moving long-term welfare recipients into work and out of poverty.

The bill allows Minnesota to meet federal deadlines to begin implementing a new welfare program by July 1, and maximize all available federal block grant dollars. Statewide MFIP will expect, support and reward work to help lift children out of poverty and prevent welfare dependency. Key components:

Expecting Work. Parents will be expected to begin supporting their families within strict time limits or their benefits will be reduced.

* Two-parent families will be required to immediately work to receive assistance.

* Single-parent families will be required to work within six months of receiving assistance to continue receiving aid. Counties have the option of requiring parents to go to work sooner.

* Parents who fail to go to work or follow through with other activities to support their families will face swift sanctions of losing first 10 percent, then 30 percent of their grant. Those facing the 30 percent penalty will have their rent paid directly to their landlord.

* There will be a 60-month lifetime limit on the time parents can be on assistance.

* Those over age 60, ill, with disabilities, caring for family members with disabilities or experiencing a crisis are exempt from work requirements. Parents of newborn children may use a one-time 12-month exemption.

* Domestic abuse victims following safety plans will be temporarily exempt from time limits.

Supporting Work. Working families will receive help with subsidized child and health care.

* Families moving from welfare to work will get help paying for child care.

* Rules making it difficult for two-parent families to stay together are eliminated.

* Families will receive help with quick job placement to gain work skills.

Rewarding Work. Working families will receive an income supplement as they work their way out of poverty, leaving public assistance when their income is 20

percent above the 1996 poverty level.

Simplifying Welfare. Aid to Families with Dependent Children, Family General Assistance, food stamps and employment and training programs will be replaced with MFIP, simplifying and streamlining program administration.

Strict Residency Requirements. These will make welfare a neutral factor for those moving to Minnesota

* Most newcomers to Minnesota will not receive benefits for the first 30 days in the state, as they establish residency.

* Most newcomers will receive the benefit they would have received in the state they previously lived.

* Newcomers will have the time they received benefits in another state applied to the 60-month limit or, if they reached their limit in another state, they will receive no aid.

Employment and Training Help. Parents will receive assistance to find and keep jobs. The emphasis will be on quick job placement with job supports. An additional \$26 million over the biennium is provided for employment and training. State spending will total \$70 million.

* Recipients, with help from a job counselor, will develop a job search plan.

* Recipients will be expected to take the most direct path to a job.

* Recipients will have a one-year limit on welfare-supported post-secondary education. A second year will be allowed only in exceptional cases if it is the most direct path to work.

* Counties will have more flexibility and additional options to meet federal work requirements, including using private employment and training providers.

* Employment and training providers will be more accountable for outcomes.

Welfare Prevention. By making sure that work instead of a welfare check will support a family, many families will never become dependent on welfare. Prevention efforts and supports for working families include:

Diversion Efforts. These efforts will help families receive the help they need rather than go on welfare. Families will get-up front help and connections to community resources (both government and non-government).

* The strong emphasis on work will also prevent many families from ever applying for welfare.

* Each family will be screened before they can apply for welfare and, if possible, given referrals to other programs to avoid the need for welfare.

* Some families may be eligible to receive a one-time grant of up to four months of the MFIP grant to meet a financial crisis. They will be ineligible for MFIP or Emergency Assistance for that period of time. (This diversion program can be used only once in three years.)

Supports Outside the Welfare System. All families moving from welfare to work and working families trying to avoid welfare will have access to supports outside the welfare system, including:

* Child Care. State funding for child care is substantially increased. Families going from welfare to work will have access to subsidies through the Basic Sliding Fee program under the Department of Children, Families and Learning.

* Strong child support enforcement efforts, state-subsidies health care through MinnesotaCare and tax credits to augment earnings will also help families avoid welfare dependency.

Responsible Spending. Statewide MFIP

will not require additional funding.

Living within our means. Over a four year period, statewide MFIP will balance in the state budget. Statewide MFIP will be financed through:

* **Federal Block Grant.** Minnesota's welfare reform law takes full advantage of federal funding. The state's share of the federal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families block grant totals \$268 million a year.

* **Project welfare spending.** About \$180 million a year is reserved by the state for cash grants, work programs and administration under current law.

* **MFIP changes.** These include quicker job placement, stricter time limits for parents to work and tougher sanctions for those who do not go to work.

* **Fair distribution of benefits.** Families living in public housing (about one-third of those receiving public assistance) will have a portion of their housing assistance subsidy and for stamp benefits counted as income, beginning July 01, 1998. This will provide benefits more equitably to all welfare families.

* **Budget changes.** Funding for both state and county administration will be frozen and fraud prevention efforts will be strengthened.

Investing in child care. With the expectation that parents will work, increased funding for child care will be the

key to welfare reform. Substantial increases in state funding for child care to help move welfare families to work and help low-income families continue working are proposed in funding bills for the Department of Children, Families and Learning.

* State funding for MFIP families is proposed to increase by \$50 million.

* For low-income families not on welfare, funding in the Basic Sliding Fee program is proposed to increase by \$43 million.

* Total proposed state funding for child care is \$193 million for the biennium, more than a 445 percent increase from \$35 million in the 1990-91 biennium.

Key Welfare Reform Dates

May 1, 1997 - Minnesota submits state welfare reform plan to U. S. Department of Health and Human Services.

July 1, 1997 - 60-month lifetime limit begins. Residency requirements start. Working families eligible to receive transitional income supplements until statewide MFIP begins.

January 1, 1998 - Statewide MFIP for all new applicants begins. Implementation to statewide MFIP for current recipient begins.

March 31, 1998 - Statewide MFIP phase in for all recipients completed.

June 30, 1998 - MFIP demonstration trail ends.

Open Letter to Band Members

May 29, 1997

Open Letter to Members of the Bois Forte Band:

We, the undersigned members of the Reservation Tribal Council, want to explain why we will not attend the meeting scheduled for Saturday, May 31, 1997, at Nett Lake. First, we have not been told what, if any, tribal business is to be conducted at the meeting. At our previous meeting on May 22, 1997, our numerous attempts to proceed with the business agenda were ignored and we see no purpose in attending another non-productive meeting.

Second, there is nothing to discuss with regard to the petition that was submitted to the RTC last Thursday. The Constitutional process has been put in motion and, as resolved last week, the RTC has asked the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe to determine its sufficiency under the Constitution. If and when the time comes to make decisions about the allegations in the petitions, we will do so in a manner that is both rational and respects the rights of all.

Third, we believe that all Band members have a right to be treated with courtesy, respect, and dignity. Last Thursday's meeting was not conducted in that manner, and we see no reason to participate in another session filled with baseless accusations and half-truths. Finally, twelve of our Band members recently graduated from high school, and many of their families have opened their homes to friends and relatives on Saturday. We believe it is important to attend those celebrations. The interests of the Bois Forte Band will be better served by honoring the achievements of our youth than by participating in the gathering scheduled for Saturday morning.

Perspectives on Petition

- Members of the Band have the constitutional right to petition the tribal government.
- The RTC members took an oath to uphold the Constitution.
- The Constitution requires the RTC to determine whether or not a petition for removal of a Council member is supported by at least twenty percent (20%) of resident eligible voters.

- The constitution requires the RTC to set a date for a hearing within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a petition.

- A hearing will be held only if the petition has enough signatures - that count is being done now by the MCT.

- A hearing is for the purpose of allowing the accused member an opportunity to answer the charges in the petition.

- The petition sets in motion a process under the Constitution, and the RTC has a duty to follow that process. Refusal to comply with the Constitution is itself grounds for removal under the Constitution, and failure to act on a petition would be a denial of petitioners' rights.

- The RTC has not addressed the merits of the charges in the petition, and cannot until hearing the Chairman's response. It would be inappropriate and a violation of due process for the RTC to comment on the charges prior to a hearing.

- It is unfortunate that some Band members either fail to understand the Constitutional process or fail to recognize that the RTC is obligated to comply with the Constitution.

/s/ David C. Morrison Sr.

David C. Morrison, Secretary-Treasurer

/s/ Doris Isham

Doris Isham, District I Representative

/s/ Phyllis Boshey

Phyllis Boshey, District II Representative

Fortune Bay celebrates grand opening of resort and conference center

The following article appeared in the 24 May 1997 issue of the *TIMBERJAY*, written by Jodi Summit, and is reprinted with their permission.

One hundred eighteen rooms, banquet facilities for 350, eight conference rooms, RV park, marina.....

What this new \$12.6 million facility will mean for the area is more than a sum of these parts. With the opening of the new Fortune Bay Resort and Conference Center, the Lake Vermilion area is now ready to compete for a bigger piece of the tourism pie. Building on the successful base of a gaming casino, The Bois Forte band has expanded their vision for creating a stable base of jobs not directly dependent on gaming.

"People are really excited... We have boats at the marina, RV's in the RV park, people in the hotel, and people running on our trails. It's just like a real resort," Rick Anderson, General Manager, Fortune Bay

Fortune Bay celebrated the Grand Opening of its new resort and conference center last weekend. The weekend started out with a pow wow and free fish fry, on Friday. Public Relations Director Bill Tibbetts was part of a team of Fortune Bay staff who served up fried fish, wild rice, fry bread and fixings to over 600 people as drummers and dancers celebrated the opening of the state-of-the-art facility with the traditional sounds and songs of the Chippewa people.

Saturday evening, tribal officials, the board of directors, Fortune Bay staff, local dignitaries and politicians, business people and project contractors came together for a special banquet, after which tribal chairman Clint Landgren, Fortune Bay manager Rick Anderson and several board members spoke of the importance and significance of the project.

Over 4,100 people visited the casino for the Grand Opening weekend, and Fortune Bay gave out \$12,000 in prize money during special drawings the three days. The resort was busy too, with an estimated 75 to 85 percent of the rooms booked for the weekend.

The resort and casino now employ 365 people, many of them Indian people from Bois Forte and other bands. Two boards of directors, one for the casino, the other for the resort, oversee the enterprises, all owned by the Bois Forte band. Board member Chris Anderson, an attorney for Minnesota Power in Duluth, and also a Chief Judge for the Tribal Court of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, has been on the board of directors since 1994.

Anderson said one of the express goals of the band is to promote educational opportunities and to open up employment opportunities in all phases of the operation, including management.

The new resort is opening up a new set of challenges for the board, he said, "The building is up... Now we have to make it work." Anderson said the board is focusing on generating repeat business. "We wanted to make sure our facility is a fine place to come to and then come back to." A new service being offered for

families is resort daycare, where registered guests can use an on-site day care service. The resort's new running and biking trails have already become popular.

"People are really excited," said people in the hotel, and people running on our trails, It's just like a real resort."

"It's a whole new business," emphasized Chris Anderson. The board hopes that Fortune Bay will be a leader in the effort to bring more tourism to the area. He said they now have a vested interest in promoting the entire region. "There are other reasons to come up here besides the casino," he said.

Chris Anderson stressed the need for the Bois Forte band to shape its own future, and how the construction of this facility was part of that vision. He said the success of the project so far rests mainly with the management staff at Fortune Bay, who worked grueling schedules to shepherd the project to its completion.

More students continuing their education.

Tribal Education Director Joanne Donald said the new facility has opened up opportunities for band members. The Tribal Education Office offers scholarships for band members pursuing college and vocational education after high school. They also offer support services and help with the financial aid process for students in school. This year, they have 86 students in college programs and 49 students in adult vocational programs. Twelve reservation students are attending Mesabi Community College and six are attending Eveleth Vo-Tech this year. Three of the students in the vo-tech program made the Dean's List this year, she said. They also award a \$500 scholarship to the band members who graduates with the highest grade-point-average from the Orr and Tower High Schools. This year Eugenia Boshey was awarded this scholarship in Orr. There are no band members in the graduating class in Tower this year, she said. Donald is also very excited about eight band members who are graduating from the Orr High School this year, John Barto, Wendy Drift, Angeline Whiteman, James Boney, Frances Irving, Jarrod Whiteman, Eugenia Boshey, Wes King, and Joe Whiteman.

Other improvements part of the project.

In addition to building the new resort and conference center, the construction at Fortune Bay included the construction of a new sports bar, expansion of office space, new cashier cages, a renovated deli in the casino, additional gaming areas, construction of the new Tamarack Restaurant, an indoor pool, hot tub/jacuzzi, and children's pool, an arcade room, an exercise room, and a large deck which overlooks Lake Vermilion.

The marina, which is being managed by Aronson Boat Works offers fuel, bait and tackle, as well as boat rentals and rides for resort guests. The RV Park is now open, with a dump station. Electrical service will soon be completed for the 24 sites.

First conference booked for June.

Fortune Bay will host its first conference in June, when over 250 members of the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority meets for a three-day statewide convention. Gloria Emery, who has worked at Fortune Bay since 1986 as the accounting manager is a member of the sorority and is clearly excited about the opportunity to bring women from all

across the state, plus Canada and some neighboring states to the area. "Most of these women have never been to this area," she said, and they are hoping that many of them will bring their families back for vacations. With trips planned to the Land of the Loon Festival, the Soudan Underground Mine State Park and to Ely's International Wolf Center, the women will get a good glimpse of what the area has to

offer for visitors.

Other bookings for the new Woodlands Ballroom include weddings, day meetings, and evening receptions. Some weekends, the ballroom will host live entertainment. The resort is also booking pool parties, and hopes to be hosting outdoor parties on their large deck once the landscaping is completed.

John V.'s column.....



John L. Villebrun, Natural Resources Technician

Hello Bois Forters! For those of you who read my articles, you know that I always start off with a reference to our editor. This holds true this month as he was in my office the other day requesting another article. He must be getting desperate for space this month. I know most of you still remember my last article and probably cut it out and have it hanging on your wall somewhere, so here's an update on those projects mentioned.

The maps for Darin's Pollution Prevention Grant are finished. There were four maps for this project. Nett Lake Village, Forestry Area, Palmquist Area, and one of the entire reservation. They were completed earlier this year. Each map displayed most of the well sites and underground storage tanks on the reservation.

I am patiently waiting for the U.S. Geological Survey to complete the Digital

Orthophoto Quads for St. Louis and Koochiching counties. They are expected to be finished around mid summer. The DOQ's look like overhead photos taken from a plane (basically they are). They will come on CD-ROM'S and can be brought up on the computer screen with our mapping software called ArcView. I had an opportunity to use DOQ's at a training seminar last year and I can think of many uses for this type of data here on the res.

I reported in my last article that the Land Ownership map is finished, but that is not entirely true. The Koochiching County part of the Reservation is finished. But the St. Louis part still needs to be updated. The Planning department and Jackie Villebrun are checking to see which part of the map needs to be changed. I believe the areas around the Village and over by Lost River are the parts that need the corrections.

Finally, I can't finish an article without mentioning Basketball. After the mighty Lady Braves Varsity season was over, I helped run the Orr 5th and 6th grade girls Basketball program, their season ended last month. I am very proud of these players and they all improved over the season. If they know it or not, they all made contributions to the team in their own way when we played a game. I want to thank not only the players that stuck out the season, but the parents who gave and showed us their support over the season. In next month's edition of the *Bois Forte NEWS*, I hope to have an article and pictures of these girls in action.

For those of you who have taken the time to read this entire article, I thank you.....

• Chairman

(Continued from front page)

was an authorized payment," he said.

Band members also heard from Lyle Lumbar, who was to have served as joint general contractor with Krause/Anderson construction, a large Twin Cities construction firm. The company had originally been retained to build the Fortune Bay hotel, but they were eventually replaced. Lumbar said the joint contract his company offered to Fortune Bay, set the guaranteed maximum price at \$9.6 million, but that the contract was rejected. The hotel project went on to cost between \$13 and \$14 million, according to Lumbar. "The resort and casino are owned by the people. They have a right to know where the extra money went," said Landgren.

Landgren said there may be a conflict of interest among top Fortune Bay officials, because the general manager, Rick Anderson and Fortune Bay attorney Mark Anderson are brothers. In addition, he said hotel construction superintendent, Dave Anderson, is a cousin to the Andersons.

Three members of the board of directors are also cousins, he said.

But tribal council member David Morrison said he doesn't see any conflict of interest. He said the board of directors have done a good job and that meetings are open to tribal council members. "The tribal council has final approval anyway on the big decisions," he said.

Morrison said that Landgren and other council members did receive an accounting of cost overruns at a meeting with the board of directors held in January. "They've already presented that information to us," he said.

As for Landgren's call for an internal audit of Fortune Bay operations, Morrison said that was approved by the RTC on May 22.

Landgren said he has tried to become involved in casino operations, but that three members of the tribal council approved a resolution blocking him from doing so. Landgren's refusal to sign the resolution became one of the charges against him on the petition.

On Trust Funds.....

TRIBAL LEADERS IN SUPPORT OF TRUST REFORM

We are a group of tribal leaders whose tribes have been deeply involved for many years in the effort to correct the Interior Department's gross mismanagement of our trust funds and trust assets. The Special Trustee has recently submitted his strategic plan for trust reform to the Congress. We have carefully reviewed the plan and have concluded that, after 150 years of gross mismanagement by the Interior Department, his plan offers us an opportunity to have our trust funds and trust assets managed at the high fiduciary standards required by law. We therefore strongly endorse moving the plan forward.

The Special Trustee has responded positively to the comments tribal leaders made on his draft plan at the regional consultation meetings. Under the revised plan, day-to-day management of our trust assets will remain in the BIA. Management of trust funds will be moved to a new entity outside the Interior Department that reports directly to Congress, called the American Trust and Development Administration (AITDA). AITDA would also oversee the BIA's trust asset management activities, holding them to the legally mandated trust standards. AITDA would have the right to "fire" any local BIA office that failed to comply with those standards. In such cases, the tribe would have the option to assume management of those functions. Otherwise, AITDA would hire and oversee a private trust asset service company, just the way every bank trust department hires and oversees service companies to manage the assets of its trust beneficiaries. The revised plan also reinforces the self-governance and self-determination policies.

The plan would fully maintain the Federal Government's trust responsibility to Indians, but would put it in a structure where the trust responsibility would, for the first time, be managed properly. We believe the plan has a great deal of merit and deserves serious consideration as an alternative to the demeaning and incompetent system the Indian people have been forced to live under for the past 170 years. We understand the concerns about termination. However, we have been subject to a slow insidious termination for the past 170 years as the Interior Department has let our assets deteriorate and has lost billions of dollars of our trust funds. We believe it is time for a change so that the term "trust responsibility" finally has some teeth to it. At the very least, it is time for a serious discussion that does not seek to play on our fears by crying termination in order to maintain a system that has been so inadequate over the years.

This is not a criticism of the hundreds of dedicated BIA employees who continue to work hard to hold together the present inadequate and under-funded system. But the proposed approach offers an opportunity to have our trust funds and assets managed with the professionalism, dignity, and accountability that we deserve and that the millions of non-Indian account holders expect and receive from their financial institutions every day.

A Trustee is legally obligated to comply with numerous and specific legal requirements when managing trust funds and trust assets. However, under the present structure, which forces the trust management to compete for funding with hundreds of other Interior Department programs such as National Parks, the management has grossly failed to meet its

legal obligations to the Indian account holders. To insure the government finally meets its legal trust responsibilities, the trust management needs to be placed in a separate institution that is controlled by the Indian people and that operates according to the same high standards that all of the private trusts do. We think of the Arthur Andersen finding that the BIA cannot properly account for over \$2.4 billion of our money. This would never happen under the proposed approach because it will be monitored by the Federal Comptroller of the Currency, who monitors all of the national banks in this country.

Secretary Babbitt has come out in opposition to the plan. This is not surprising since he has opposed every effort to reform the trust system. He unsuccessfully tried to kill the 1994 Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act, and during his four years in office, he has not met once with tribal leaders on the trust issue. Nor does he have an alternative plan to bring the Interior Department into compliance with its trust responsibilities.

You should soon be receiving a copy of the plan from the Special Trustee, along with his responses to the questions tribal leaders asked at the first round of consultation meetings. (We believe his in-depth responses to tribal input far exceeds anything the BIA has ever shown in its consultation activities.) The Special Trustee has said that the first round of meetings and the submission of this plan to Congress is just the beginning of his consultation with tribes. We will be working with him to insure the plan is fully and openly debated in Indian country. Please let one of us know if you would like one of us and/or the Special Trustee to provide a briefing for your tribe or intertribal organization.

/s/ **Elouise C. Cobell**
Official Representative on Trust Assets
Blackfeet Nation 4/9/97

/s/ **Earl Old Person**
Chairman and Chief
Blackfeet Nation 4/10/97

/s/ **Greg Boudand**
Chairman
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe 4/14/97

/s/ **Ivan Makil**
President
Salt River Pima
Maricopa Indian Community 4/15/97

/s/ **Edward K. Thomas**
President
Central Council
Tlingit and Haida 4/10/97

/s/ **Dale Reislings**
Chairman
Hoopa Tribe 4/18/97

In the last issue of the Bois Forte NEWS we printed a statement by Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt concerning his opposing views to forming the special trustee's strategic plan for reform. We now print the special trustee's plan for reform.

SUMMARY OF THE SPECIAL TRUSTEE'S STRATEGIC PLAN FOR REFORMING THE MANAGEMENT OF INDIAN TRUST FUNDS AND TRUST ASSETS

1. MANDATE

The 1994 Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act instructed the Special Trustee to "develop a comprehensive strategic plan for all phases of the trust management business cycle that will ensure proper and efficient discharge of the Secretary's trust responsibilities to Indian

tribes and individual Indians in compliance with this Act." Thus, his mandate was to address both the trust funds and the trust assets.

2. SPECIAL TRUSTEE'S BASIC FINDINGS

a. The existing trust fund and trust management systems are grossly deficient and

fail to meet the basic standards that the Federal government requires every bank trust department to meet in order to stay in business.

b. That because of the lack of support within the Interior Department and the lack of trust management professionals within the BIA, the Indian trust systems will never be able to be brought into compliance with the basic trust standards so long as management responsibility remains within the Interior Department.

3. BRINGING THE TRUST SYSTEM INTO COMPLIANCE WITH BASIC TRUST STANDARDS

The first portion of the plan provides a detailed blueprint for correcting the existing deficiencies in the trust management system. Its objective is to insure that the Indian trust system is able to comply with the management, investment and audit standards that the Federal Government has imposed on bank trust departments. It involves installing such basic components as an accounts receivable system, so that the Indian land-owners can determine whether the trustee has collected all of the lease money that is due on a particular piece of land. It also involves new hardware and software so that the systems are efficient and can be properly audited. No private trustee would ever have been permitted to let the basic records become so deficient. Therefore, one critical task is to clean up 170 years worth of errors. It would eliminate the backlog in the probate system, bring the land title system up to date and correct the many errors in the ownership records. It would provide extensive training for the BIA local employees to assist them manage the trust functions according to basic trust standards. Effectively, the new system would be similar to the trust system that is used by virtually every bank trust department in the country. All trust systems, including the proposed one, provide for sensitivity to the cultural, religious and environmental concerns of the trust beneficiary, as when a trustee manages land for a religious organization, a historical society or an environmental organization.

4. THE IMPACT ON TRIBES

Under the new system, tribes would have full access into the trust system, including dedicated computer terminals that would enable them to immediately access information on the status of their trust funds and assets. Self-Governance tribes would continue to have the right to assume management of the tribe's trust functions. They would be held to the basic trust standards discussed above, which is a requirement under the existing law as well. Since the tribal governments respect their fiduciary responsibility, they would want to manage the trust functions according to proper standards, since it is the Tribe and its members who suffer if the trust management responsibilities are not properly carried out. There would be no impact on the Tribal Priority Allocation System.

5. CREATION OF A NEW TRUST MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

The plan calls for the creation of a new entity, the American Indian Trust and Development Administration (AITDA). This would be a government-sponsored entity like the Federal Reserve Board, which would be outside the Interior

Department and would report directly to Congress. AITDA would have a five person board of directors, no fewer than three of whom must be Indian. It would have a chief executive officer who had expertise and experience in trust management. AITDA would directly administer certain trust functions and oversee others.

a. The Office of Trust Fund Management and the BIA Lands, Title and Records office would be transferred from the Interior Department to AITDA, where they would be under the direct supervision of its CEO.

b. The present BIA, MMS and BLM offices and the Tribal Self-Governance Tribes involved in the management of Indian trust assets -- land management, timber, minerals, etc. -- would remain where they are now. However, the appropriations for these functions would go to AITDA, which would contract with these offices to provide the trust management services at the local level, just as a bank trust department contracts with a trust asset management service bureau. AITDA would establish standards for these offices, would provide training to help them meet those standards, and would audit them to insure they were carrying out their activities in compliance with these standards. If AITDA found that a particular local BIA, MMS, or BLM office were not managing in compliance with these standards, AITDA would fire that office and offer the tribe the opportunity to serve as the service bureau. If the tribe chose not to do so, AITDA would hire a private service bureau to do so. Thus, unless they prove incapable of performing the work, no BIA employees will lose their jobs and no offices will be closed.

c. AITDA would manage the trust fund program according to the prudent investor rule, which controls all other trustees. This would permit it to invest in equities as well as fixed income investments. Presently, OTFM is limited in its investment options to government-secured bonds and CDs. No other trust is subject to such a limited range of investment options. Tribes and IIM account holders have earned much less than a normal trust beneficiary should earn as a result of these limitations.

6. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Trust Fund Management Reform Act also instructs the Special Trustee to develop approaches that can help to promote Indian economic development. The Strategic Plan proposes that once AITDA is fully operational, an Indian Trust and Development Bank be established. It would not use trust funds for economic development. It would manage the trust services in a banking environment. In addition, it would provide full banking services to the trust beneficiaries, so, for example, IIM account holders would have checking accounts. Also, with capital provided through settlement of the Government's historic mismanagement of trust funds for that portion for which the loss cannot be identified to a particular tribe, the bank would have a pool of capital with which to make loans and equity investments in Indian economic development projects. It would also have a loan pool that tribes and individuals could use to purchase fractionated heirship interests, in order to resolve the fractionated heirship problem, which adds significant expense to the trust fund and lands records management program.

7. COSTS

The Strategic Plan estimates that it would cost \$166 million to bring the trust management functions into compliance with trust standards. Almost all of these costs would have to be incurred whether or not trust functions were transferred to AITDA. \$48 million would be devoted to cleaning up the defective titles in the land

records and probate backlogs and converting data now on manual records into computer files. \$61 million would be spent on installing the trust accounting management, and land title and records systems, and providing the software and hardware for them. This includes a terminal at every tribe so the tribe can directly access information on its trust activities. \$52 million would be spent on training, setting up archives, and other record management systems. \$5 million would be spent on overall management development.

8. THE TRUST RESPONSIBILITY

The Federal government's trust responsibility would not be diminished in any way.

Answers to frequently asked questions..

1. *Did the Special Trustee exceed his mandate when he proposed reforms for trust asset management as well as trust fund management?*

No. The 1994 Trust Fund Management Reform Act instructed the Special Trustee to develop a "comprehensive strategic plan for all phases of the trust management business cycle in order to ensure a proper and efficient discharge of the Secretary's Trust responsibilities." One of the reasons the tribes strongly supported enactment of the Reform Act was that it addressed the entire trust management problem. While the BIA's mismanagement of our trust funds has been horrible, we probably have lost even more money because of the Government's mismanagement of our trust assets - our land, oil and gas, coal, timber, etc. We believe the entire trust system needs to be reformed and this is what the strategic plan proposes to do.

2. *Is it true that the Special Trustee has no experience managing trust assets, that all of his experience is in managing trust funds?*

No. The Special Trustee, Paul Homan, managed trust departments for number of large financial institutions. Every large trust department manages assets as well as money. It does so by hiring private companies called service bureaus to do the actual day-to-day work of looking after the timber, the land, the oil wells, etc.. Therefore, he has extensive experience overseeing the management of trust assets and has proposed an approach that is modeled on the one used by financial institutions. The better question is what trust asset management expertise have the officials now in charge of our trust assets. The last two Assistant Secretaries have been social workers, yet they are the ones who have to make the critical decisions about our trust assets. Under the strategic plan approach, our trust funds and trust

assets would, for the first time in 170 years, be administered by trust professionals, just the way all other trusts are managed and are required to be managed by trust law.

3. *Will the approach set out in the Strategic Plan undermine Self-Governance and Self-Determination?*

No. Several of the tribal leaders who signed the letter supporting the plan are leaders of tribes that have been in the forefront of the Self-Governance and Self-Determination movement, and have been aggressive in assuming management of the trust funds and assets of our tribes and tribal members. We would not support any initiative that would undermine Self-Governance and Self-Determination. Under the Strategic Plan, tribes would continue to have the right to assume management of their trust funds and assets under the Self-Governance and Self-Determination Acts. As now, we would be required to manage those funds and assets according to trust standards. The only difference is that we would be working with the American Indian Trust and Development Administration, which will be in a position to provide us with professional assistance to help us design our trust systems so they reflect our own goals. AITDA would have the authority to remove us as managers if we failed to meet trust standards. But if we are not meeting our fiduciary obligations to our tribe and tribal members, we should not be managing the trust functions. Also, since AITDA will be headed by a majority Indian board, we will for the first time, really have control over the management of our trust funds and assets.

4. *Will reform of the trust system be expensive; and where will the money come from?*

The Strategic Plan estimates that it will cost approximately \$150 million over 5 years to bring the trust systems up to the

trust standards established by the Trust Fund Management Reform Act. These are the same standards the Federal Government imposes on every private bank trust department. It is unacceptable that we have tolerated a system that is so inferior to what any private person gets when he walks into a bank trust department. In the present budget climate, it will be difficult to find the \$150 million, but if the Secretary really wanted to meet his trust obligations, he could do so. For example, while he proposed only \$5 million in new appropriations for trust reform in FY 98, he proposed over \$100 million in new money for one of his pet environmental priorities. So it is really a question of the Secretary's priorities; not whether the money is there. We strongly oppose any effort to take the money for trust reform out of any existing Indian programs.

5. *Will the proposed system treat our lands as just financial assets and not take into account the important cultural and religious importance of the lands to us?*

Our initial response is to ask when was the last time the Secretary of Interior showed any sensitivity to the cultural and religious significance of our lands when carrying out his duties as trustee. However, it is common for trustees to be given responsibility for managing assets in ways that focus on non-monetary values, such as land put in trust for environment, cultural or historic protection. It is up to us as the owners of the land to direct the trustee on how we want it managed; he then follows our instructions. This is clearly provided for under the Strategic Plan. If we want the cultural importance to have a higher priority than the economic factors, AITDA will respect our wishes.

6. *Will any BIA employees lose their jobs under this new approach?*

No BIA employees at the local level will lose their jobs. The agency offices will remain as they now are. However, the funding will be appropriated to the AITDA which will "hire" the local BIA offices to manage the trust assets just the way a bank trust department hires service bureaus. AITDA will establish trust standards that those offices will have to meet and advocate for funding so there will be the staff and other resources the local offices need to meet those standards. If a local BIA office fails to manage the assets according to these trust standards, AITDA will have the right to fire that office and ask the tribe if it wanted to assume the management. If the tribe chooses not to assume management, AITDA will hire a private service bureau.

7. *What will happen to the BIA if this new structure is put into place?*

There will be no change at the local level. However, overall management, policy, and oversight for all trust fund and trust assets matters will move from the BIA Headquarters to the AITDA. This will enable the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs to focus on such key issues as the government -to-government relationship, advocacy on behalf of tribes, and social programs. Perhaps, with a more focused agenda, the BIA will be able to improve its performance in these areas.

8. *What will be new approach do to the Federal Government's Trust responsibility for Indians?*

The Federal Government's trust responsibility for Indians is much larger than just its responsibility for management of trust funds and assets. That larger responsibility rests with every Federal agency. That will not change with the new structure. In regard to trust funds and assets, up until now, Congress has delegated management responsibility for this aspect of the trust relationship to the BIA (and MMS and

BLM); it will not be delegated to AITDA, but there will be no decrease in the trust responsibility. To the contrary, one of the reasons we support the plan is that it will insure that the trust fund and trust asset portion of the trust responsibility finally is done properly, rather than talked about in grandiose phrases but grossly mismanaged in practice, the way it has been for the past 170 years.

9. *Why is Secretary Babbitt opposing the plan?*

We wish we knew. In fact, we wished we knew why Secretary Babbitt has opposed every effort to clean up the trust mismanagement over the past four years. He has never proposed any initiatives of his own and refuses to meet with tribal leaders to talk about trust reform. He seems determined to sweep this issue under the rug. It appears that he is trying to cover something up, but we have no idea what that might be.

10. *Does Secretary Babbitt or the BIA have an alternative plan for correcting the trust mismanagement?*

No. One of the reasons we believe we must move forward on the Special Trustee's plan is that it is the only game in town. Neither Secretary Babbitt nor the BIA has done anything, as far as we know, to develop a trust reform strategy. The Special Trustee has concluded that because every Secretary for the past 150 years has traded off our trust rights for other priorities, our trust rights will never be properly managed so long as responsibility remains with the BIA. We agree. This is not to criticize the hundreds of hard-working BIA employees at the local level. But, at the highest levels, the Interior Department has simply ducked this problem for 170 years. We have concluded that it is time for a change. We have no other choice.

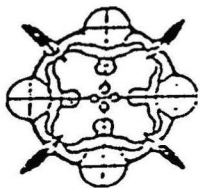


Jr. Brave
Peter Drift Jr.

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.



Indian Legal Assistance Program

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218-727-2851

PROVIDING REPRESENTATION FOR NETT LAKE RESIDENTS IN:

CRIMINAL CASES (ADULT or JUVENILE):
In Tribal, State and Federal Court

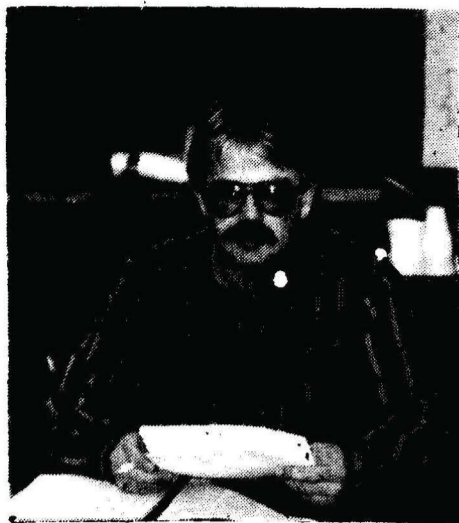
CIVIL CASES (ST. LOUIS COUNTY ONLY):
Dependency/Neglect (CHIPS)
(Indian Child Welfare Act)

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

Planning news....



David Danz, Reservation Planner

You will see from Andy Datko's article that he has moved on to another job. We had a send off get together for Andy last week. A kick in the --, and a "don't come back!" Just kidding.

Actually it was a nice little appreciation gathering with some folks from Nett Lake and Lake Vermilion. You know; kind words, gifts of wild rice and a plaque. Andy was great to work with, contributed significantly to development efforts at Bois Forte and will be missed.

Prior to a respite in the island of Jamaica (ye man), I submitted a pre-application to IRRRB for a supplemental grant on the Senior Assisted Living Center Project. This was an \$80,000 request with a full application due in July. I also submitted a Local Law Enforcement Block Grant to the State in the amount of \$10,000. Captain Wilkie indicated he would use this money for training and equipment.

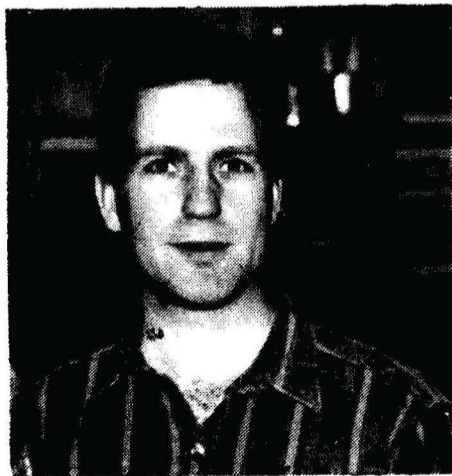
A meeting of Tribal Planners sponsored by the U of M Center for Urban and Regional Affairs was held at Fortune Bay recently. Some of my proteges from other Reservations were in attendance. A number of issues of interest to this august

group were discussed. The highlight I believe was the presentation by Andy D and Bill W on the land use planning efforts that have been done at Vermilion and now at Nett Lake.

Two public hearings were just held on road projects at Nett Lake and Lake Vermilion. The BIA is in the final design phase of projects that will result in paving Indian Point, Sugarbush, and Hard Hat roads along with an extension to Tibbetts Trail. Although attendance was a bit sparse in Nett Lake, there were about a dozen folks at the Lake Vermilion hearing. Also discussed at this meeting was the planned water and sewer extension for Hard Hat, Farm Point and Cemetery roads. A number of concerns were raised, among them the poor condition of the roads at Vermilion. JR Landgren was in attendance and he indicated that plans are in the works to provide some improvements to the lakeshore roads. We are scrutinizing the roads budget to see what can be done.

A decision was made to move the administration of the Rural Development Self-Help Housing and the Bois Forte HOME Program projects over to the Housing Authority. This will help bring Reservation housing programs under one roof. We are in receipt of a \$10,000 pre-development grant under the Self-Help Housing Program. With this money a full application will be written. An independent non-profit firm will be coming to Nett Lake in June to provide technical assistance on writing the grant application. The target is to find 18 families at Nett Lake and Lake Vermilion interested in this rather unique program. Identifying and recruiting families interested in working together to get their homes built is part of the development of the application. There will be widespread notification to the community about this project at that time.

Andy Datko says 'So Long'



Andy Datko, Assistant Planner

This will be my last column for the illustrious Bois Forte News. I have accept-

ed the position of Executive Director of the Grand Rapids Housing & Redevelopment Authority. By the time you read this, I will have already left Bois Forte and begun my new job in Grand Rapids. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the wonderful people I have met and had the pleasure to work with over the past 3 years. This has been a great place to work, and making the decision to leave was very difficult.

I am leaving for an opportunity that is much closer to my home, and that will allow me to spend more time with my family. I am confident that my colleague, Dave Danz, will make sure that the projects I have started here will continue to fruition. There are many exciting things happening on the Reservation and I feel proud and honored that I was able to be a part of it. Good luck and best wishes!

01 - John L Arbuckle, Luanne Drift, Verna L King, Conrad A King, John R Maurus III, Kyle J Morrison, Bessie V Moyer, Linda L Pete

02 - Marcella Drift, Mavis L Drift, Tyler J Fuller, Lecia G Mesabe, Edna E Whiteman

03 - Burton B Day, John W Grauman, Charles E Mohler

04 - Eileen M Brown, Ruth D Connor, Jeneal Goggeye, Faye M Hernandez, Kenneth Lyons, Brian D Stillday Jr, Richard A Wakemup, Shirley J Wickner

05 - Edward D Chavers, Kevin W Geshick, Kiana R Goggeye, June J Osborne, Lance A Pete, Mary J Raudloff, Sasha G Santa, Marsha M Thompson

06 - Sharon M Bass, Ronald A Day, Annette Marie Howe, Christopher Isham, Alan W Porter, Mari J R Quan, Trevor A K Rintala

07 - Francis L Goodridge, Dennis V Hilmas Jr, Heather A House, Ben F Isham, Cheryl A Johnson-Botkin, Kelly A King, Kimberly D Konczak, Pamela Z Ostrander

08 - Sylvia J Astolfi, Andrew J Chaballa, Patrick J Engrav, River A S Woman, Diane F Lightfeather, Ryan J O'Leary

09 - Theda F Drift, Veronica K Laitinen, Arlene M Morrison, Angela F Villebrun

10 - Philip D Boness, Jacqueline V Branstrom, Leo E Chosa, Sandra L Christensen, William G Kopp, Michelle M Landgren, Darrell L Larson, Benny W Taylor

11 - Marie E Anspach, Amanda V Bryant, Carolyn F Donald-Day, Dean W Guenther, Dianne L Howard, Heather A Munnell, Marvin Rich, Douglas A Schell Jr, Wade S Shock, Rebecca L Swan, Shelley M Villebrun

12 - Cheryl M Averill-Bowman, Tiara M Drift, Beverly M Frizzle, Bradley D Goodsky, Rosie Hedlund, Leah M Jordan, Mark A Klug, Michael J Kornezos, Barry A Porter, Corrine R Rich

13 - Michael R Anderson, Angela K Adams-Boshey, Mark A Brezinski, Peggy A Connor, John M Jerman Jr

14 - Teresa N Adams, Timothy D Chavers, Ashley R Goodsky, Carol J Koger, Alina M Konczak, Aimee M Morrison, Samuel L Porter, George J Strong

15 - Michael G Drift, Lori D Guenther, Fred M Jordan, Jake E Miller, Connie J Priebe

16 - Arika L Arn, Eileen R Barney, Geraldine M Carlson, Maurice J Champagne, Gordon E Cook, Dorthea L Kletschka, Rachelle A Norton

17 - Kathleen A Adams, Keith B Boshey Jr, James Chavers Jr, Charlynn A R Norton, Charlene J Sampson, Ruth Ann

Strong, Danial F Zika

18 - Lorri A Bissell, Ward A Chosa, Leanna L Chosa, Mark I Connor, Carol F Donahue, Theresa A Hermanson, Richard Lumbar, Thomas A Mee Jr, Kathryn H Powell, Cecile M Strong, Jason G Strong, Russell M Strong Jr, Jennie Woodenfrog

19 - Barbara M Brown, Candice J Drift, Lawrence Geshick Jr, Margaret C Pete, Peter Pete Jr, Ruth W Porter, Thomas A Sheehy, Gary E Strong, Michael L Thompson, Lisa M Vidal

20 - Timothy M Brown, Kelly B Goggeye, Mona R Goggeye, Leon F Goodsky, Julie A Isham, Wayne A King, *Keith L West, *Kevin L West, Jacqueline K Yount

21 - Robert Anderson, Jack E Benedix, Peter F Boney, Emily M Brown, Katrina R Chosa, Johathan Connor, Joseph F Geshick, Derrick L Geshick Jr, Julius V Rodriguez, Kyle S Shock, Anthony J Strong

22 - John N Asmus, McKinley Boness, Elmer J Boshey Jr, Robin A Caroon, Frances E Janeksela, David G Rabbitt, Kristopher T Strong

23 - Raina L J Columbus, Vernon K Connor, Patricia L McCue, Travis A Shock, Rita M Strickland

24 - Eugene C Goodsky, Eric L King, John C Lehti, John A Marotta, David K Medicine, Lorraine M McCarroll, Benjamin A Samm\

25 - James E Kopp, Donna Lee, Adrian R Loaiza, Rodney J Ranum, Ateekea L Roy, Stanley Strong, Thomas J Tolrud, Milo D Villebrun Jr, Allan M West

26 - Joey L Day, Matthew W Klug, Congetta N Pearson, Mary A Plesha, Keith A Strong, Carolyn A Willis

27 - Jeffrey R Chosa, Knute Graue, Bradley A King, Travis J King, Katherine M Laitinen, Terry S Landgren, Patricia A Van Vickie, David E Wardas, William G Whiteman, Robin R Wilde

28 - Rachael L Howe, Frank L Lumbar, Jon W Nystrom Jr

29 - Norman G Adams, Lucille A Boshey, Jared Busse, Dianna M Goodskly, Lance A Hill, Tammi L Olson, Ramona J Timmerman

30 - **Sharon M Anderson, **Sheila L Anderson, Janet Day-Solis, Annabelle Mattson, Betty J Schauf

* Twins, evidently.

** More twins, evidently.

The most popular day in June to be born? The 18th, with 13.

The least popular day? The 28th, with 2.

If your birthday is in June and is not listed, please notify the NEWS- (218) 757-3261.

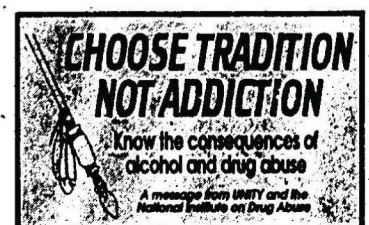
• Doris Isham

(Continued from front page)

gi-bah-gah traditional pow-wow. It turned out to be one of the better pow-wows we've had. The weather was cooperative with just enough breeze to keep the bugs away. The pow-wow committee should be commended for a job well done. It was nice to see all the people that came from miles around. We were honored with the presence of four (4) highly respected medicine men who did various ceremonies for our people, such a naming ceremonies, healing ceremonies, blessing of feathers, coming out first time dance outfits, give aways, etc. The community again provided the generous feasts that are known throughout the pow-wow trail. Many thought that the week-end passed too quickly.

The 1854 Authority has not met since March, however you may be interested to

know that the United States vs Terry Anderson case has been dismissed by the district court in Duluth. Terry Anderson, a Bois Forte band member, was given a citation by the U.S. Forest Service for operating a snowmobile in the BWCA while fishing last winter. The 1854 Authority has wanted to deal with this issue for some time now, but has been unsuccessful in getting the U.S. Forest Service to the bargaining table. Meanwhile, every time a band member is cited for a violation, it gets dismissed in court. It would make sense to acknowledge the rights of 1854 band members and not issue any citations. Will keep you informed.



Bois Forte Transfer Station Hours

April 1, 1997 - October 1, 1997

Monday - Wednesday - Saturday
2-6 p.m.

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

Parenting, Past & Present.



Katy Laitinen, CD Counselor

Compared to years gone by, parenting has changed. However, children are still very important to the family system. This brings us to a very crucial change in the AFDC and Medical Assistance Program, which is now known as WELFARE REFORM effective July 1, 1997. Parents that are on AFDC will be affected by this new program.

One way to prevent our children from entering into the welfare reform system is to take a close look at traditional child rearing and reimplement this which would indeed prevent our children from entering into this system. My research into traditional child rearing indicates the following:

In the history of Indian peoples, parenting was not left to chance. Through well-defined customs, values, and practices, which were handed down from generation to generation, parents and other care-takers nurtured, protected, and guided children. Children were taught the right way to do things, how to get along with others, and how to have self-control. Different tribes did this in different ways, but each tribe had very positive values about children that helped keep the group strong. A general underlying belief was that children were as much a part of the group as anyone else and should be respected.

The spiritual beliefs of many tribes about children helped protect children and are good indicators of just how important children were. In some tribes children were seen as gifts from the creator who might be taken back if they were not treated well. In other tribes it was believed that children's spirits were loosely connected to their bodies and that they should be treated kindly and gently so that the spirits would stay. Another belief was that because children were such recent arrivals from the spirit world, they possessed a special wisdom and they should be listened to. Children were not talked down to, and some eastern tribes believed that a child would die of shame if punished too harshly.

It was taught in some tribes that the creator was saddened when children did not receive proper care and that the whole extended family or clan should make sure that all children received care.

A teaching that existed in many northwest tribes as well as others was that aunts and uncles were to be called mother

and father, cousins were brothers and sisters. In this extended family system everyone shared the responsibility for a child's needs. No one person had sole responsibility for a child. Grandmas and aunts kept a watchful eye to make sure children were treated in the proper way. Children could be corrected by anyone in the community, and so child supervision was everyone's job. The community acted as parent.

Indian parenting traditionally was characterized by patience and kindness. Relationships were very important. Children were kept close to the parent through the use of cradleboards or blanket carrying. Communities celebrated children in naming ceremonies, first-kill ceremonies, and at dances and pow-wows. Elders praised children with their eyes and words, often making prophecies about a child's positive future. Children were breast-fed and weaned only when ready.

Indian teaching about children included ideas about child development. In some tribes pregnant mothers were told, "don't look at bad things" or "don't be angry, your baby will learn these things." Parents learned that their child is always growing, developing, and learning, even before birth.

Children were given the freedom to develop at their own pace and given many opportunities to learn from nature, adults and other children. Different ceremonies recognized a child's growth. Names changed in some tribes as children grew.

Discipline was never separated from teaching the right way to do things. Self-control was as important as social control in most tribes and children were taught to have good judgement skills early in life. Children knew what was expected of them because the rules were clear and consistent, most often defined by the community as a whole. For example, the whipman tradition in many northwest tribes made sure that all of the children in the community learned what was expected of them and that all received the same consequences for wrong-doing.



River St., Cook

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\$2 Matinee every Saturday at 2 pm

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New Lives Collaborative...



Margaret "Banoon" Benner

Ahneen! It's time for the article in the Bois Forte news again! I guess I'll start off with some very important news.

When I started my position as New Lives Collaborative/MCH Coordinator, I decided to take a survey around to all my families enrolled in the program. The survey consisted of what kind of reading material/handouts would they like? Are they interested in CPR/First Aid? Would they be interested in Prenatal Classes if offered on the reservation? And besides the Parenting Class and Nutrition workshops which are held monthly, what other "Family support meetings" would they be interested in? The last very important question was "Would they like a workshop on Welfare Reform-Update".

I had most all families interested, so I set-up one for July 9, 1997 at Vermilion Center from 10:00a.m.-12:00p.m. and in Nett Lake Community Center on July 10, 1997 from 10:00a.m.-12:00p.m. There will be posters around to remind everyone and this is for the Community members interested in finding out more about the Welfare Reform. Some of the other responses to my

questions, I will be setting up workshops in the near future. I would also like to mention that on June 2, 1997 the Ke-Zha-Wus-So Center Staff will start their Infant/Toddler Training, and we are looking at having them earn their CDA (Child Development Associate) certificate in Infants/Toddlers.

The presenter's will be Maureen Litman, M.Ed. - she teaches Child Development at Duluth Technical College. She has 27 years of teaching experience with young children. She has taught at UMD and has been a presenter at numerous workshops and conferences for family day care providers.

I have worked for Head Start Program for several years, and I received my CDA in Infants/Toddlers in December, 1992. Following receiving this credential, I was selected to participate in a State-wide Infant/Toddler Training Intensive program, there are four (4) Modules and I received my certificates in Module 1, Module 2, and Module 3. I am still waiting to hear on the Module 4. I am very excited in starting these workshops, but at the same time I'm nervous.

We will also be doing these workshops in Nett Lake, we started them last year but only a few attended and we decided to cancel them.

The next dates for Parenting & Nutrition workshops are: for Nett Lake in the E.C.F.E. room of the school on June 17th from 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. and at the Vermilion Center on June 25th from 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. The presenters are Ann Dreshar, Nutrition Educator from the Mn. Extension Service, Virginia, Mn. and Brenda Dettman, Community Organizer, from the Duluth Clinic. Everyone is welcome to come! We do have a Door prize for both sites.

Well that's all the news I can think of for now, so until next time!.....

Crime Prevention News...



Farrah Drift, JTPA Worker

Hi! My name is Farrah Drift and I am currently working on the New Futures Program for J.P.T.A. This program gives High School students and young adults the opportunity to experience positive working habits, while making money. My goal is to work in Law Enforcement and I am fortunate enough to be working with the Crime Prevention Program.

I work with Rosemary King, as the Crime Prevention Coordinator Assistant. With the program just getting started it's pretty hectic. We will be coming out with a calendar of events soon, but here's a little peak at what we will be doing!

1. Identification Project-
May 27- Nett Lake School / HeadStart-DayCare
May 28 - Tower School
June 5- Ke Sha Was So

An appearance by McGruff the Crime dog!

This project is a little kit that has a place for the child's fingerprints, photo, blood type, eye color, date of birth, hair color, height, weight, race, and sex. This information is for the parents only, in case your child may be abducted, or lost, this information will be helpful.

2. Self-Defense class for women-hopefully to start in June.

3. Drum group lessons on Mondays & Wednesdays at 6:30-8:00 p.m. At the pow-wow grounds or community center if it rains. Males any age are welcome.

4. McGruff Safe House Project- A program to provide help in neighborhoods for kids in an emergency or scary situation.

5. We are looking into taking a trip in July sometime! **Watch for notices.**

We will be scheduling community meetings to get your input or any ideas you might have, and to let you know what we will be doing. If you have any questions feel free to call Farrah or Rosemary at 757-3462. Also, I just attended a seminar at the Black Bear Casino and Hotel on Gangs & Drugs.

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Bullfrogs and Butterflies...



Marilyn Rabbitt

There's a fun little song called 'Bullfrogs and Butterflies' that our children loved to sing when they were little. It has a wonderful message of the new birth. I can remember as a child myself finding a pond in the spring and watching tadpoles swim around like little fish and as the days went by they began to sprout legs, lose their tails and they were transformed into frogs. We looked forward to this strange happening every spring. They were changed into new creatures.

The butterfly didn't look like a butterfly to begin with. It was a worm or caterpillar. Some of them I thought were cute and fun to watch like the "Wooley Worm" caterpillar and the "Inch Worm." Something very extraordinary and amazing happens to those crawly little creatures and when our children were young, they would find caterpillars and put them in a container with twigs and leaves to watch the process of metamorphosis take place. That caterpillar would wrap itself up in a cocoon-kind of like being put in a tomb, and after the appropriate amount of time, what emerged from the cocoon was not at all like it had been. It had beautiful, colorful wings and was set free from its tomb to soar into the sky. (I think about how artistic God is when I look at the colors and patterns on the wings of butterflies and moths.) The butterfly was literally born again.

We can compare this phenomenon with the new birth or re-birth of a person when he accepts the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior.

Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature, old things are passed away, behold, all things are become new. (II Corinthians 5:17).

A man named Nicodemus, who was a teacher and a member of the Pharisees, a group of religious leaders, came to see Jesus at night. I guess he didn't want any of his fellow Pharisees to see him talking with Jesus. Nicodemus was a learned man but he was searching. He knew about Jesus, but he wanted to find out for himself if the things he heard were true and if Jesus was really who He said He was. He could have sent someone to ask questions for him but Nicodemus had to see for himself. That's a good lesson for us. If we want to see and know Jesus, we have to go ourselves. No one else can do it for us. Jesus is waiting for each one of us to come to Him and talk with Him.

One of the things Nicodemus said to Jesus was, "Rabbi, we know you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him."

Nicodemus knew about all the teachings and miracles Jesus said and did and knew He was not an ordinary man.

Jesus told him, "unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." That was a confusing statement for Nicodemus

and he asked Jesus, "How can a man be born again when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Jesus was speaking of a spiritual birth and not a physical birth and He went on to explain what being "born again" meant.

Although Nicodemus was a religious leader, he only had head knowledge of the scriptures, it never got to the heart. Many people are going around today with much head knowledge of the scriptures but more of it has gotten to the heart. Many people are going around today with much head knowledge of the scriptures but none of it has gotten to the heart. The only way to get heart knowledge is to go to Jesus. Head knowledge cannot save us. Only by admitting we are sinners (I John 1:8), believing in the Savior (John 3:16), and confessing and forsaking our sin (I John 1:9) can we be saved.

Do you know what happened to Nicodemus? He went away a changed man. He was born again. His story is in the Gospel of John, Chapter 3 and I noticed that reading on through the book of John, Nicodemus' name was brought up a couple more times and it showed me he was growing in the Lord.

In Chapter 7 Jesus was arrested by the religious leaders and Nicodemus spoke up for Him, risking his reputation and high position. Then in Chapter 19, Nicodemus brought spices for Jesus' body after the crucifixion. That was a bold move on his part and what ever happened to him after that I don't know, maybe he lost his high position as a religious leader but life is short in this world and we know he has eternal life with Jesus, everlasting life, never ending life, and I'm quite sure he has never regretted sneaking off that night to see Jesus and asking Him questions that would determine where he would spend eternity.

Are you wondering about eternity? Where you will be after death? Is there really life after death? Have a talk with Jesus and allow Him to show you how to be born again.

When you see a tadpole turn into a frog or a caterpillar turned into a butterfly, remember Nicodemus and his desire to find out on his own who Jesus really is.

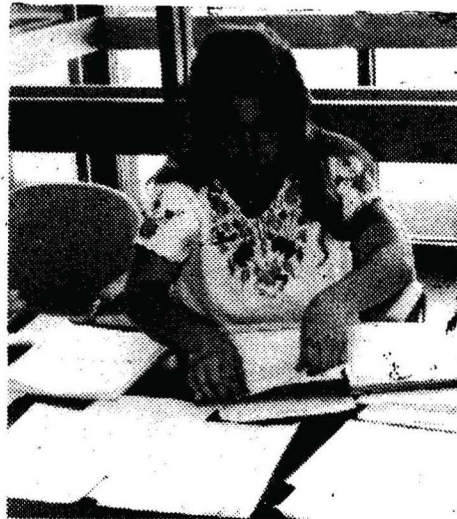
There is a wonderful freedom in the new birth, peace and joy indescribable. When the butterfly broke loose of its cocoon it was no longer confined to the earth, it was set free as you will be when you confess your sins before the Lord and receive a new life in Him.

You must be born again!



Capt. Wilke making change at the Honor Guard stand.

Child Care Resource news...



Joni Whiteman

Hello everyone, I'm back! I have been hired for the Community Child Care Resource Project Planner at the Early Childhood Program (Head Start). While I am in this position I will be conducting an assessment of the demand for ChildCare and identify the existing supply in and around our area. From the information compiled, a plan for implementation will be developed to meet child care needs. The areas I will be surveying and researching will include Nett Lake, Indian Point, Orr, Cook, Vermilion, and Tower. Much of the survey will be conducted during the three celebrations coming up this summer in our areas, Timber Days, Heritage Days, and the Tower 4th of July Celebration. We will have a table set up for several hours each day of the events hoping to capture most of the families who currently utilize child care and those who will be needing child care in the near future (next 1-2 years). With Welfare Reform a reality and more parents entering the work force due to cut-backs in assistance child care is going to be a big issue for some of our local families. Please watch the papers prior to the forementioned celebrations as we will be advertising the dates and times before each communities gatherings. I hope you will look for our table (look for a colorful banner) and stop by to fill out our survey, it will only take a few minutes of your day. We will be having several drawing for prizes to be given to those completing the survey.

I am very happy to back up at Nett Lake. I have missed the community while doing



Sr. Princess Rebecca Adams

two years at Mesabi Community College. I just received my 2 year A.A.S. Degree in Human Services. Thank you to those of you who encouraged me to go to college, I loved it. But remember, I am now working for the Head Start, so when you see me coming to your house its for the survey not 'old business'.

Have a great day and until later....

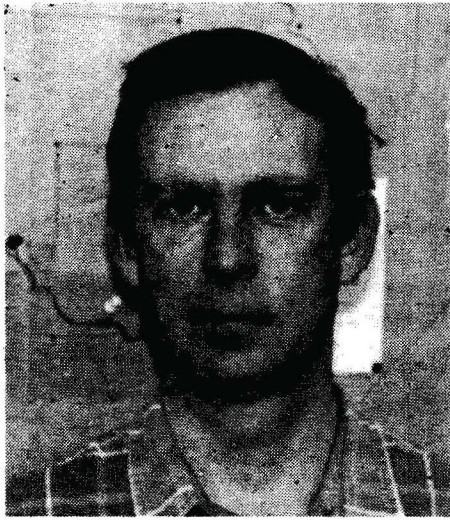


Jr. Princess Daanis Chosa



Sr. Brave Brent Chosa

ELDERLY FUNDRAISER
Every Thursday at 6 p.m.
Smear
at ENP Kitchen



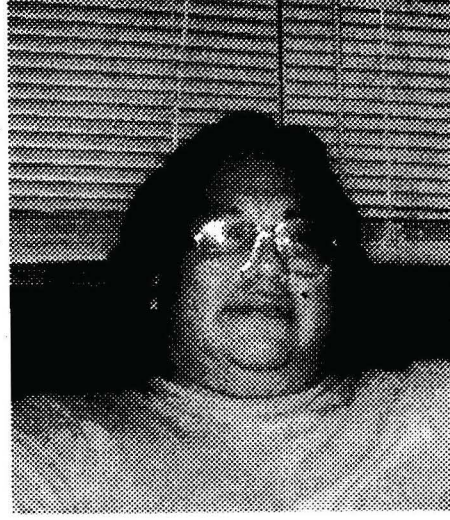
Chuck Whitmore, Reservation Forester

It's been a while since I last had an update on forestry news so here goes! Our fire crew came on board April 21 and already have had an off reservation fire assignment - one week on detail to Little Falls to assist the DNR with fire suppression activities. They dry up faster than we do each spring so it was high fire danger down there while up here it was still low. Crew members this year include Dave M. Villebrun (squad boss), Dion Porter, Damon Day, Ron Day and Eric Strong. We also had five future firefighters trained this spring down on the Fond du Lac Reservation and these included Ed Chavers, Robbie Gogleye, Mike King, Wes King and Keith Roy.

Upcoming tribal timber sales include a package of six sales (aspen, jack pine and red pine) to be offered to tribal loggers only in an oral auction. Other sales will be prepared and offered to tribal loggers later this summer.

Elsewhere in this paper, you will see an introductory article from the new allotment forester. There is a very important need in this area of allotment timber resource management and this added position should get us on the right track.

Later this spring or early summer, I also hope to have several forest development projects advertised to tribal members so be looking for them or give us a call if you are interested. These are usually contracted out on a per acre basis and include plantation release, pre-commercial thinning, pruning and planting. Also, if you have any questions at all about the forestry program or some concerns, please give us a call or stop in - the coffee's usually on!



Wm. Whiteman, Land-use Planner

Howdy. Work on the Bois Forte Land Use Plan is progressing steady, although with a few hitches from time to time (computer failure & additional duties). For the benefit of those who are unfamiliar with the goals and objectives of the Bois Forte Land Use Plan, allow me to explain.

Hopefully this plan will reflect the ideas and needs of the residents of the BFIR and concerned Band members. Those who wish to express their concerns about future land use practices on the BFIR can do so at the next Land Use Planning meeting. Besides being a forum for the public to express their needs and desires it will also be an informational session about techniques used and current land use practices on other locales.

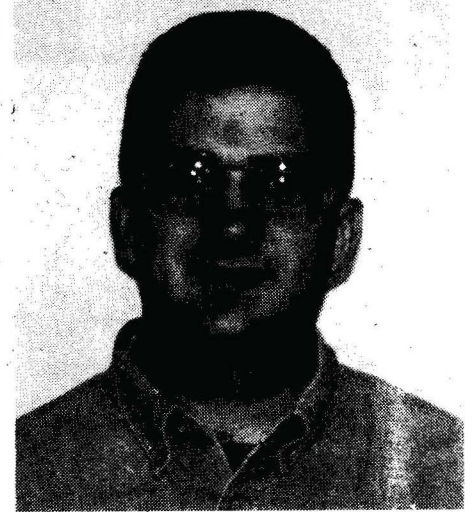
In the near future I will be placing maps in public places that will show locations of proposed land use districts. These designations reflect my own concerns and ideas, in addition to the limited number of people who I have been in contact over the past few months. The important thing to remember is these designated land use districts can be changed to suit the needs of the public and not just a few.

As an example, one of the more prominent proposed land use districts is *Cultural and Historic areas*. Currently this designation only includes churches and other areas of religious significance, but I've selected three additional sites in the village which fall into this category. The maple sugaring area on the Big Point road adjacent to the former HeadStart building

is one, for obvious reasons. Another one is the area surrounding the former Frank Benner residence on the end of Ridge Road. This area was a former site of the old long house years ago. The third area is in the middle of town near the former CAP office where the old round house used to be located. I've selected these sites because I believe people will agree that these sites should be acknowledged as being of historic and cultural significance. It would be up to the public to determine how these areas should be used. If anybody has any knowledge of other areas of historical or cultural significance please give me a call or write me a note. In order to maximize the effectiveness of this document, input from the public is vital.

Other land use designations include; industrial, residential, commercial, recreational, public works, cemeteries, gravel pits, wetlands protection, and natural resource protection areas. Hand in hand with selecting these is determining how these areas shall be used, if at all. Since I'm not as long winded as my able colleague Dr. Holm, I'll cut this article short and hope that the public contacts me with some more ideas on how to make this Land Use Plan a document by, of and for the people. Just as old Abe said years ago, "Until next time, Good Day."

Allotment Forester



Bill Meyer, Allotment Forester

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Bill Meyer and I am the new Allotment Forester for the Bois Forte Reservation.

I am a native to Wisconsin. I grew up in a town called Oconomowoc in the South-eastern part of Wisconsin. It is located about halfway between Milwaukee and Madison. I attended college at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point where I received my Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Management in December of 1996. I was employed as a Forestry Technician by the USDA Forest Service North Central Experiment Station in Rhinelander until I was hired by the Bois Forte Forestry Department in late March.

The task of managing allotments appears to be an extremely big project and it is going to require a lot of time researching the names and addresses of the allotment owners. If anyone has any information that they feel might be useful to me, or knows someone who is an allotment owner, please drop a note to me at the Forestry office. The allotments that I am currently working on include: A85, A98, A125, A292, A319, A455, A527, A564, A681, A140, and A142. I look forward to meeting and working with many of you, especially those people who have shares in the allotments.

ADOPTION NOTICE!!

There are many Native American children available for placement. These children need adoptive homes and/or long term permanent homes. Traditionally, no Native American children were ever placed outside or apart from the Native American communities. When placement became necessary, these children were cared for by extended family members, clan members or other members of the community. Let's keep this tradition alive.

Native American children need to grow up in Native American communities. Children become adults. Adults become Leaders who will take care of us in our later years. We need to continue to involve all of our children in our culture and traditions to learn our ways so that we as Anishinabeg will continue to exist on Turtle Island.

Give our children a home, keep the Anishinabeg strong, healthy, and forever.

If there are any questions please contact:

Minnesota Chippewa Tribe
Human Services Division
Fred E. Isham, Jr.
Adoption Coordinator
Tel. (218) 335-8585

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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!



Jane Whiteman and Victoria Holmes at their beadwork stand.

Family based Worker...



Debra Geyer-Smith, Family based Worker

Following is the article you requested. Thanks.

Family-Based Services is a program offered through the Human Services Division. I work cooperatively with our Indian Child Welfare Program as well. Although I am not a social worker, I do work primarily with families helping them to reach their goals. I assist families by making suggestions, giving guidance and support. Following are some common goals for in-home service: completing a parenting program, providing personal support and encouragement, improving positive communication, helping parents take charge of children, improving housekeeping, being more affectionate and

encouraging to children, helping parents identify sources for financial aid to return to school, help in improvement of marriage communication, learning how to talk respectfully to each other, learning about temper tantrums and what to do. Other concerns may be health concerns or family safety. I can provide you with safety tips on household hazards and what to look for. Sometimes just a simple awareness of potential hazards can prevent heartbreaking accidents.

Understanding family dynamics is usually the first step to change and improvement in the family. My role is simply to help you look at what's going on and what is happening in your family and to explore possibilities for positive change and improvement. I can assist you in helping you to identify your family roles, values, and traditions and what it is you would like to change and how. Although I am not a therapist, part of my role is to listen to your concerns, your worries, your hopes and your fears. I can provide you with resources such as literature, support groups or professional services. Family Based Services is here for any family or family member who wants to work toward healing and recovery. It is my responsibility to be of assistance to you in this process. I urge you to contact me if you have a need for any of these services. Have a great month!

Letters to the Editor

June 5, 1997

Mr. Axel J. Holmes, Sr.

Bois Forte News

P. O. Box 16

Nett Lake, MN 55772

Dear Editor:

I am writing in response to an unsigned letter that was sent to you from a "very concerned resident." I have an idea who wrote it, and I am wondering why she doesn't have the "guts" to sign it. Despite the fact that no one seems to have the backbone to claim ownership to the letter, I would like to address the issues of concern raised in the letter.

First of all, I do not believe that the "Chairman" and the "District I Representative" are a "laughing stock" of this reservation, just because they are investigating things and trying to instill some sort of accountability for Reservation operations. In addition, a lot of Band members both on and off the reservation, do not really know what is going on here, and unfortunately being uninformed has been RTC protocol for sometime. On the contrary, I think the Chairman and District I Representative should be commended for their willingness to promote an attitude of "open door policy."

The Chairman and the District I Representative do listen to the people, both on and off the reservation, that is the reason for the inquiries and evaluations into some of these programs. Consequently, their inquisitiveness has caused some disturbance, which leads one to wonder what there is to hide. Furthermore, the fact that they put in a 40+ hour work week at the office, just proves that they are not representing us just for monetary gain. Hopefully, their work ethics will be a shining example for our other Council members to emulate.

As for the nepotism concern, this has been a blatant violation over the past twenty years! One should stop and ponder at

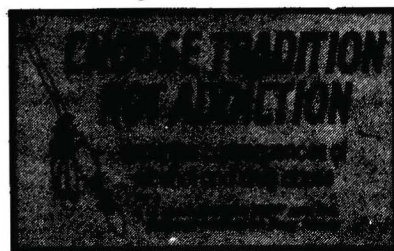
whose "families" and "friends" are mainly employed at the Reservation - regardless of their qualifications. They're the ones driving the brand new cars, and owning the new houses, whereas, the majority of us are barely making ends meet.

Incidentally, he has four years of job related technical college education and sixteen years of on site work experience for an outside organization, this coupled with being a Band member should qualify him.

Now I am going to tell you about an incident that happened at Fortune Bay this past Christmas. A relative of one of the Council members, from the cities, came from Mystic Lake in a limo to Fortune Bay and stayed a few days, he then proceeds to charge all of his expenses (\$700) off to the Tribal Council, claiming authorization under "nepotism." Our Chairman caught this violation and had him arrested. No fan fare or applause, this incident was kept quite.

I know first hand the treatment of elected officials who try to right that which is wrong. My late husband, Wendell, experienced the same rhetoric, rigged balloting, and terroristic treatment. When new people hold office for the first time, there is always some complaining about how bad things are being run and they are often blamed for the preexisting mess. The time has come for a change, not just on our reservation, but on others as well. It is time to speak up for what is right, and support our Chairman and Council who seek to serve the people instead of themselves. They should be commended for being "points of light" in this time of darkness.

Sincerely,
/s/ Mavis Drift



UofM June Starwatch...

June serves up a full moon and summer solstice just hours apart, plus the summer staples of Scorpius, Sagittarius, Hercules and the Summer Triangle. On the planet side, things don't look as bright. Venus and Mercury take the summer off, while Jupiter and Saturn come up in very late evening and early morning, respectively. Also, the darkness doesn't last very long. But at least the dedicated skywatcher will find the nights relatively nice and balmy.

Mars comes out in the southwest after sunset, a fading reddish speck between the bright stars Regulus, to the west, and Spica, to the east.

Jupiter rises in the late evening and radiates its royal splendor from high in the south at dawn. Saturn rises a few hours behind Jupiter and appears fairly well up in the east at dawn. Viewers with telescopes should get a nice glimpse of Saturn's rings. Saturn, like Jupiter, is rising earlier as the months go by; in fall, both planets will be easy to spot in the evening sky.

The inner planets are both too close to the sun to be worth much bother. Venus sets little more than an hour after the sun and never gets high enough to unveil its glory. Mercury begins the month very low in the morning sky and drops behind the sun on the 25th, after which the speedy planet belongs officially to the evening sky. Neither Venus nor Mercury will make much of a splash for many months.

The full moon of June typically follows a low trajectory across the heavens. Full moons are opposite the sun in the sky, so if it's summer and the sun is far to the north, the full moon must be far to the south. But in every lunar cycle, the moon's path across the sky strays as much as five degrees north or south of the sun's path (the ecliptic), and June's full moon will be well north of the ecliptic when it rises on the 20th. Nevertheless, our "rose moon" or "strawberry moon" should present a picture of subdued beauty against a softly lit blue background.

The summer solstice arrives at 3:19 a.m. CDT on the 21st. At that moment the sun will reach a point directly over the Tropic of Cancer, marking the middle of its sojourn through the northern sky.

The summer stars include Hercules, an

hourglass-shaped figure very high in the south after sunset. East of the Greek hero, the Summer Triangle of bright stars is easy to find because these are among the first stars to come out at night. Vega, a superbright star close to Hercules, dominates the tiny parallelogram of stars known as Lyra, the lyre. East of Vega, Deneb ornaments the tail of Cygnus, the swan. To the south, Altair marks another celestial bird, Aquila, the eagle.

Low is the southeast, Scorpius with its red heart Antares crawls into the sky. Now that Mars is also up and fairly bright, Antares, the "rival of Mars," can be directly compared to its planetary counterpart. Behind Scorpius, Sagittarius the archer enters the sky but won't be a really good evening object until later in the summer.

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

OBITUARIES

ARCHIE GOODSKY

Tribal rites for Archie Goodsky, 67, of Nett Lake/Orr, were conducted Monday at the Nett Lake Social Center. Tribal rites were given by Buddy Friday. Military honors were accorded by Bois de Forte Honor Guard. Burial was in Sugar Bush at Pelican Lake.

Arrangements were by Range Funeral Home of Virginia. Mr. Goodsky died Friday, May 30, 1997.

He was born June 24, 1929, to William and Irene Goodsky at Indian Point/Orr. He was a U.S. Marine Corps veteran having served in the Korean War.

Surviving are five nieces, Florence Huisentruit and Alma Lumbar of Orr, Ellen Adams of Cass Lake, Myrna Kelsey of Minneapolis and Bonnie Guenther of Minneapolis; three nephews, Eugene Goodsky of Orr, Hank Goodsky of Tower and Harold Goodsky Jr. of White Earth; many great nieces and great nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Norma Boness Elk Goodsky; four brothers, Henry, Harold, Alfred and Wesley Goodsky; two sisters, Elsie Jordan and Dorothy Konczak; and his parents.

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