



BOIS FORTE

# NEWS



NETT LAKE, MINNESOTA - SEPTEMBER 2007

VOL. 22 NO. 1



## NETT LAKE IS HOME TO A NEW FIRE TRUCK, WHICH ROLLED INTO TOWN THIS SUMMER.

The Fire Truck arrived in July and was on display during an all staff picnic. Members of the community also took this celebrating the arrival of a much-needed public safety service vehicle.

## TEENS LEARNING LANGUAGE

Donald Chosa Teaches Classes to Summer Youth Participants

Bois Forte teens who participated in this year's Summer Youth Program not only served their community but learned about their Anishinaabe culture. The annual program which had always focused on reservation work projects broadened its scope to include hours studying the Ojibwe language.

The thirteen students met in Nett Lake and where taught by Band member Donald Chosa. It was obvious to all involved that his love of

the language runs deep. He shares his motivation, "I want to help our kids get to know themselves by dedicating time for them to learn more about their Anishinaabe culture. Once they learn to speak a little bit of the language, I'm hoping they'll be hooked. Ideally some of them may be inspired to pursue further language training in college."

Instruction combined high and low tech means to help the children

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Donald Chosa (standing) assists the Summer Youth teens with rehearsal for the community puppet show. The puppet show included three original skits performed in Anishinaabe and English.

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## BIOFUELS BASICS

*Editor's Note: The 2007 legislature appropriated \$300,000 to Bois Forte to conduct a study examining the feasibility of developing a biofuels demonstration project in Nett Lake that would produce renewable energy.*

*A community meeting will be held August 28th in Nett Lake to learn more about the project. In the meantime, some of our Elders suggested that the newspaper should reprint a story we ran in May that*

*provides basic background for Band members on renewable energy and biofuels.*

### What is renewable energy?

First things first – just what, exactly, is renewable energy? It is energy that comes from resources that replenish, regrow or replace themselves. That means renewable energy cannot be depleted; we can always have it, if we manage it properly. By contrast, so-called fossil fuels like oil and coal cannot be replenished; once they are gone, they're gone.

Besides being readily available, renewable energy sources offer another important benefit: they do not pollute as much as fossil fuels. With the increasing awareness of the dangers of greenhouse gases and global warming, the environmental appeal of renewable energy is growing.

Renewable energy may sound like a new phenomenon, but it's not. Humans have a long history of capturing the power of the wind, water and sun. What is new is

the increasing focus on mass-producing large amounts of energy, such as electricity, with renewable sources. Here is a brief overview of the major types of renewable energy that you might hear about in the months and years to come:

- Biomass – plant and animal matter used as fuel or in industrial production.
- Biofuels – fuel made from biomass, usually plant matter.
- Hydropower – energy obtained from moving water.
- Geothermal power – energy obtained from geothermal heat (heat sources within the planet).
- Solar power – energy obtained from the sun.
- Tidal power – energy obtained from tides and open ocean currents.
- Wave power – energy obtained from ocean surface waves.
- Wind power – energy obtained from the wind.

### Biofuels 101 – what, where, why and who

#### • What would the biofuels be made from?

Biofuels can be made from a wide variety of plant matter, including corn, soybeans, flaxseed, sugar cane, and many others. The Bois Forte Band's proposed biofuels demonstration facility would focus on woody biomass and wood waste, which are known as "cellulosic biomass" because they contain cellulose, the main part of the cell walls in plants. Sources of cellulosic biomass could include logging residues, forest trimmings, saw dust, and perhaps even a portion of processed municipal waste – all of which are plentiful in northern Minnesota.

#### • What kinds of fuels would be created?

The cellulosic biomass would be made into clean-burning fuels such as ethanol, butanol or biodiesel.

#### • Where would the biofuels be made?

The demonstration facility would be located on the reservation in Nett Lake. A specific location has not been chosen.

#### • Why is this the right time for biofuels at Bois Forte?

The market for biofuels is growing quickly, and biofuels are emerging as a vital technology for our state and our nation. Congress voted in 2005 to promote renewable fuels, and last year President Bush said that he wants 75% of fuels currently coming from the Middle East to be replaced by 2025.

The 2007 Minnesota Legislature has already passed a bill into law requiring that by the year

2025, the state utility companies must achieve a standard of 25% alternative fuels for our energy consumption.

Also, the technology for creating biofuels has become much less expensive. That means biofuels will soon be priced to compete with other energy sources.

#### • Who will have a say in this project?

You will. Band leaders will seek the input of community members and will only proceed if the project will benefit the people of Bois Forte. The Band will also involve the local public in the discussions, and we will work with landowners, saw mill and logging operators, and other potential suppliers of cellulosic biomass.

### How would biofuels benefit Bois Forte?

The Bois Forte RTC has outlined several key goals for the proposed biofuels demonstration:

- Create new jobs for Band members. The proposed facility offers the potential for a dynamic new industry on the reservation, one that could allow Band members to make significant wages, develop technical and scientific careers, and remain close to their ancestral lands.
- Strengthen the Band's economy. The demonstration facility would complement the Band's ongoing efforts to diversify our economy, such as our retail stores, radio station, and car wash systems business.
- Strengthen the region's economy. Surrounding communities would benefit from the increase in employment and the resulting increase in the purchase of goods and services.
- Reduce dependence on foreign energy sources. Like the rest of the country, the Band gets transportation and heating fuels from distant sources. That means forces beyond our control could threaten our economic future.
- Improve energy self-sufficiency. Making more efficient use of our resources would be one more way that our sovereign nation directs our own destiny.
- Protect the environment. In keeping with our long tradition of caring for the environment, we could reduce a modern threat: harmful carbon emissions.
- Strengthen ties with our neighbors. This project could strengthen partnerships among the Band, the state, the federal government, and local counties and towns – and that kind of collaboration could lead to more economic growth in the region.

We have already received a \$25,000 grant from the Iron Ranges Resources agency for planning, and we are working with area legislators to seek \$300,000 in state funds for a detailed technical and feasibility study that will determine how the entire Arrowhead Region can benefit from the biofuels project.

*BIOFUELS continued on page 3.*

## Learning Language

*continued from page 1.*

learn. Donald elaborates, "We focused on everyday terms. Each kid received their own language CD to bring home and practice." The group was given written lessons as well as oral exercises. Laptop computers were used to project words and images and interactive programming designed by Shelley Ceglar of the University of St Scholastica was also employed.

They made use of Ojibwe Mowim language lessons developed by Judith and Thomas Bollum created through Vermillion Community College in Ely. This was of special interest to the learners as its sources are Bois



*Summer Youth participants practice for the Community Puppet Show, which was held later that afternoon. Donald Chosa cheers on the youth from the crowd.*

Forte Band members.

One of the highlights for Summer Youth participants was the creation of a puppet show that was performed for the community on August 2. The kids built the puppet stage and used animal puppets to entertain the audience and showcase

their creativity and the vocabulary they've learned in the summer language program

Donald knew the kids would be more likely to learn the language and other cultural lessons if they really wanted to be at the classes. So he designed the program to

not have a traditional summer school feeling. Donald made an effort to shake things up with a varied curriculum, instructors of various ages, and inserted locations which took the kids out of the classroom.

"I know that when I was a kid the last place I

wanted to be in the summertime was back at school, so my mother-in-law [and Bois Forte Elder] Karen Drift met with the kids in her backyard to share her knowledge and appreciation of the language."

Karen was thrilled to help out. "It's been a lifelong dream of mine to have a program where people are paid to study the language. In a way, that's what was happening with these kids because they'd usually be paid for their work in the Summer Youth Program. This way they worked in the morning and learned in the afternoon.

*D.Chosa Language & Summer Youth Puppet Show continued on page 15.*

## Biofuels Basics

*continued from page 2.*

### Unique advantages for Indian tribes

The United States government has made its biofuels research available to all interested parties, along with technical and financial assistance. Indian tribes in particular have been targeted for a substantial share of the Department of Energy's renewable energy development grants and low-interest loans. The Band has already applied for one of these grants to conduct an assessment of the renewable energy resources on the reservation.

### Proposed project timeline

The biofuels project has been divided into three phases. Each new phase is dependent on the completion of the prior phase.

- **Phase one** – scoping report (January-February 2007). The report, which is finished, identifies specific technologies to be examined in greater detail so that we can select the most appropriate technology to develop a demonstration plant.
- **Phase two** – technical and economic feasibility study (July 2007-May 2008). This study will look at types of biomass, costs, estimated rev-

enues, possible sites, and permits needed by a demonstration facility. Phase two would also include a financial and business plan for the project.

- **Phase three** – demonstration project (2008-2010). This is when the actual design, permitting, site preparation, construction, hiring and training of personnel, and operation of a demonstration biofuels facility would happen. Band leaders anticipate be able to capitalize on the state's and Band's commitment to the project to obtain federal funds for the demonstration plant. Grants and low-interest loans will minimize the Band's financial risk.

## NETT LAKE FOOD SHELF



We are located in the Food Distribution Building in Nett Lake, across from the Community Center

**Hours of Operation:**  
 Tuesday, Wednesday,  
 Thursday 8-4 pm,  
 closed from 12-1 for lunch.  
 Available Monday and Friday  
 by appointment.

For further information or to make a donation, please contact Theresa Drift, Bois Forte Community Nutrition Educator, 218-757-3504.

## NUTRITION EDUCATION PROGRAM EARNS 'CHAMPIONS FOR HEALTHY KIDS' GRANT

Dollars Targeted for School Community Garden and Exercise Program

The General Mills Foundation and the American Dietetic Association Foundation, in partnership with the President's Challenge for physical fitness, awarded Bois Forte a \$10,000 grant that is being used to create and sustain a school garden and walking club. The grant funds innovative programs that help children develop lifelong nutrition and physical fitness habits, which is also a priority for the Bois Forte Health Department.

Theresa Drift oversees the Nutrition Education Program, funded by a grant from the United State Dept. of Agriculture and administered through the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. It has always been a focus of Theresa's job to help people eat healthier and make better lifestyle choices. She made creating a community garden one of her goals. The RTC was unable to fund it during their last budget cycle,

but Theresa was undeterred and decided to apply for the *Champions For Healthy Kids* grant.

"The program takes a grassroots approach that calls on community groups and schools to champion the future health of our young people by focusing on nutrition and fitness programs that can have a life-long impact," said Chris Shea, president of the General Mills Foundation. Theresa knew the competition would be tough and that the selection committee would be utilizing its nutrition experts to evaluate the grant proposals. So she enlisted the help of Teresa Strong at Nett Lake School, Registered Dietician Peggy Hiestand-Harri, Rebecca Bundy of Native Hearts Fitness Club, and Leanne Barto the Summer Youth Coordinator.



They emphasized that their strategy for a community garden offered numerous benefits:

- + Gardening itself is good exercise
- + Kids who grow vegetables are more willing to eat them
- + Inviting the community to be apart of the effort would encourage the program's success
- + Positive peer pressure among kids promotes good nutrition and walking for exercise

The grant was submitted in January, notification would occur in May. No news came throughout the month of May, so the committee decided to begin planning a small, simple garden to at least get the project moving forward.

Food Distribution Clerk, Wendy Zika didn't know what to make of the shout she heard coming from across the room Friday Morning, June 1. Turns out, it was Theresa letting out a joyful noise while reading the e-mail that Bois Forte had won

the grant.

This year, over 1,300 applications were submitted for the fifty

General Mills grants. Our \$10,000 award went to purchase plants and seeds, quality soil, hoses, garden tools, fencing, and a tool shed. Planting began in mid-June.

Nett Lake

School Cook, Joanie Whiteman will post photos of the garden's plants and produce in the lunchroom to remind students that what they're eating is a direct harvest of their effort in the community garden.

The decision to locate the garden behind the Native Hearts Fitness Center was an easy one,

for it served dual purposes: creating a sunny place for veggies to grow, while visually reminding the community to eat well, exercise and maintain a healthy lifestyle and heart. The school has also established a walking club.

At season's end, the children will help prepare and serve a feast for the community from the fruits of their labor, or in this case, the vegetables of their labor. The celebration will include hats, t-shirts, and door prizes for the kids who donated the most volunteer hours over the summer. This year's Summer Youth did most of the garden preparation and planting and have already had an excellent first harvest. The garden would not have been as successful without the assistance and diligence of the Summer Youth Program participants.

## INDIAN SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE ON ITS WAY BACK TO BEMIDJI

A public meeting was held at the Minnesota Office of Higher Education staff discussed the status of the Minnesota Indian Scholarship Program and future plans for the new office to be located at Bemidji State University's Center for Research and Innovation.

The program, and its office, was moved to Roseville during former Gov. Jesse Ventura's tenure, operating as part of the Minnesota Department of

Education.

But legislators voted this past session to incorporate the program into the Minnesota Office of Higher Education, which plans to open an office in Bemidji, once a new staff person has been chosen to help oversee the program.

This office is welcome home," said Larry Aitken, a professor at Itasca Community College in Grand Rapids. "A lot of native people are breath-

*continued on page 5.*



Summer youth workers secure fencing around the garden

## MEET YOUR NEW PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Marty Connor, New Public Works Director as of July 2007

Has some animal been digging up piles of dirt along Highway 23 between Deer Lodge Resort and the Village of Nett Lake?



No – but the Band has. Under the supervision of its new Public Works Director, Bois Forte Band member Marty Connor, the Band is working with St. Louis County on designs for reconstruction of the highway. He credits outgoing director Carl Dagen for building working relationships with the county and surrounding communities and looks forward to continuing “this spirit of collaboration.”

Connor also took on quite a few other projects that had been in process, such as the O’Leary Bridge construction on the reservation’s west end, and the Farm Point Road extension in the Vermilion sector, and a road inventory to help in applying for federal road and bridge funds.

“Our priority is to complete the work that has been started,” Connor said. “Once we get these projects completed, which serve a large group or community, then we can look at individual projects.”

The son of Marcella and Leslie Connor Sr, Marty Connor worked at the Band’s school and in its Department of Natural Resources before moving on to the Roads Crew for three years. “I learned about road construction, surveying, and Public Law 638 – the ‘bible’ of contracting.”

When he isn’t working, Connor loves to fish, hunt, travel and spend time with his growing family: wife Charlotte Jordan, a Navajo, and children Jordan, 10; Joy, 8; Sharla, 6; Tate (TJ), 4; and 4-month-old Nazhoni.

## Indian Education

*continued from page 4.*

ing a lot easier.” Rep. Frank Moe, DFL-Bemidji, was the author of the bill in the House of Representatives. “I’m very excited; this is an important day for us,” he said. “It’s been a long time coming bringing the office back to Bemidji.”

The program, which provides scholarships to American Indians attending a Minnesota college or university, was headquartered in Bemidji since its inception in 1954. Ventura relocated the office to Roseville in 2002 to save costs.

“It never made sense to move it out of Bemidji in the first place,” Moe said.

Eighty percent of scholarship recipients live in and around the Bemidji area as part of the Leech Lake, Red Lake and White Earth Tribes, Moe said.

“The end result will be a more successful system than we had in the past,” he said, adding that the Office of Higher Education is equipped to deal with scholarship administration.

The Office of Higher Education was allotted \$75,000 to take over the Minnesota Indian Scholarship program. Of that amount, \$45,000 will be paid to a not-yet-chosen person to perform outreach and assist in packaging scholarship applications; \$5,000 also has been set aside to cover this person’s expected travel costs.

“We really see the person up here as the eyes and ears of the community,” said Susan

Heegard, the program director, referring to the American Indian community in Minnesota. “This person’s job is going to be to work with the Tribes and work with the schools.” Staff have been transitioning the program since July 1. Because the scholarship program in the past was very much a “paper process,” staff is working as quickly as possible, but are still reviewing and entering documentation, said Ginny Dodds, the program manager.

Dobbs said 800 applications were entered before July 1 and another 200 are waiting to be entered.

“More and more applications are being completed,” she said.

### To be eligible for the scholarships, students must:

- be verified one-fourth or more Indian ancestry/blood quantum.
- be a Minnesota resident attending an accredited Minnesota institution.
- be eligible for a need-based grant or Federal Pell Grant.
- be a full-time or three-fourths-time student.
- make satisfactory progress toward a degree, diploma or certificate.
- not be in default status on student loans.

There is a five-year limit on those students seeking a four-year bachelor’s degree and an additional five years for graduate students. As with past practice, there also is a three-year limit on two-year degrees or certificate programs.

### Current Job Postings [www.boisforte.com](http://www.boisforte.com)

To view current job openings with the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Government visit [www.boisforte.com](http://www.boisforte.com)

Click on *Job Openings* to view job announcements, check opening and closing dates, and print an application.



## BOIS FORTE VICTIM SERVICES

### Collaboration with Local Programs

*Editors Note: Over the past year I have had the opportunity to attend meetings and presentations offered by Bois Forte Victim Services, Range Women's Advocates, and the Virginia Sexual Assault Program.*

*All three programs share a similar goal of helping people, but each does it in different way. In a first of its kind collaboration, the three independent agencies have collaborated so as to serve more people with faster response times and more efficient services.*

*In addition to strengthening their programs for the people who come to them for assistance, the three agencies are providing a model of collaboration for other agencies to consider as a means of improving the services they offer to the public.*

*The Bois Forte News would like to thank Shane Drift, Victim Services Supervisor, for answering questions regarding the collaboration between the three area programs represented by Debbie Hendrickson, Executive Director of the Virginia Sexual Assault Program and Pat Dunlevy, Volunteer Coordinator for Range Women's Advocates.*

#### **BFN - What is the reason for this collaboration and why?**

SD- The way I see it, the collaboration between Victim Services, Range Women's Advocates, and the Virginia Sexual Assault Program provides a unique opportunity for both our individual programs and the Bois Forte Reservation. Together, we are increasing our network, resources, and services for domestic abuse and sexual assault victims both on and off the reservation – this includes band members and non-band members.

Range Women's Advocates and the Virginia Sexual Assault Program both wanted to understand native people and culture better, so as to improve how they work and serve native people who come to them. I presented information on our traditional ways, language, culture, and customs.

We talked about historical trauma from the boarding schools and other social injustices that have severely impacted our way of life, and the role this plays in incidents of domestic abuse and sexual assault. We also discussed Public Law 280, the Indian Civil Rights Act, Tribal Sovereignty, the Major Crimes Act, Indian Child Welfare Act, and jurisdictional concerns. Two of the positive outcomes of these discussions were a better



*The RTC and staff members Kim Greiner and Corey Strong met with Carl J. Artman, Assistant Secretary of the US Department of the Interior on July 10 at Fort Snelling in Minneapolis to discuss a broad range of issues including the Nelson Claims Settlement, Water Resources, Law Enforcement and Self Governance.*

understanding of each topic and also identifying ways to bridge gaps in services to all of our clients.

#### **BFN - How will this effort benefit Bois Forte people on and off the reservation?**

SD – Let me give you one important example. The Violence Against Women Act passed in 2000, required County and State Courts to honor and enforce "Orders for Protection" issued by Tribal Courts. Despite the clear requirement in the law, this wasn't being done. Victims were expected to

appear again in a County or State Court and request a second Order for Protection.

Thanks to our new spirit of cooperation with one another, we resolved this problem. Now we simply send a signed copy of our Tribal Court Order to St. Louis County Court House and it's entered into the system.

#### **BFN - What are the long-term goals and benefits?**

SD- The other program coordinators told me, "We knew that Bois Forte had their own Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Program, but we

really never worked with Victim Services as closely as we do now. You have really opened up the doors for us – thank you."

I think long term, those "open doors" will empower us to work smarter and stronger in addressing the challenges and barriers we run into as we try and treat, reduce and hopefully, eliminate domestic abuse and sexual assault both on and off the reservation. Our goal is to continue to enhance our services, resources, and networks for the benefit of the individuals that we serve.

## DIABETES IN SCHOOL

Kids Share Their Hopes, Fears, and Tips for Managing Diabetes in School

A typical school morning for six-year-old Eleanor includes getting dressed, eating breakfast, brushing her hair and teeth, and grabbing her backpack as she trots out the door to the bus.

Sometimes Eleanor eats breakfast on the way out the door and sometimes her mother gives her lunch money rather than packing her lunch. Eleanor doesn't have diabetes.

Noelle, age 8, of Oregon, does.

Her morning starts at 6:00 a.m. with a finger prick to check her blood sugar. While Noelle is getting dressed, her mother gets her breakfast and insulin shot ready. Noelle's lunch is carefully packed with the proper amount of carbohydrates. When she leaves, Noelle makes sure she has all her school items plus her waist pack, which holds her glucose monitor and her emergency stash in case she has low blood sugar.

Sound familiar?

Being a kid is supposed to be about playing baseball, finding that perfect outfit for the school dance, playing tag at recess, going to sleepovers, or having a crush on the boy or girl next to you in math class. But sometimes it seems like having type 1 diabetes ruins all that. You always have to worry about



*Many students have to take their insulin before school.*

checking your blood sugar and taking the right amount of insulin and having enough snacks—and then you worry what other kids will think when they see you doing all these things.

Life with type 1 diabetes requires a lot of planning and preparation—and yes, some worry. But, guess what? You can still have lots of fun and do the things you enjoy. Kids all across the country are proving every day that diabetes doesn't have to stop them from following and achieving their dreams.

What about you?

Even if you are the only kid in your school with diabetes, you are still not alone. We talked to some kids and teens with diabetes to see how they deal with the disease, especially when it comes to school situations. Read on to find out what they had to say.

### Being "the kid with diabetes"

Most kids would be thrilled to get out of

class early or be late for a class without getting in trouble, but that isn't the case for kids with type 1 diabetes. It makes them feel different, and reminds them that they have extra responsibilities other kids don't have. Emily, 14, of New Jersey, hates to be late for lunch because she's checking her blood sugar and dosing insulin. Not only does she miss out on fun time with friends, she's also late for her classes after lunch, which draws unwanted attention and causes her to miss important information.

Henry, age 6 and newly diagnosed with diabetes, doesn't like to miss class time either. It gets him down when he has to go to the nurse's office for his shots. Eight-year-old Noelle's advice to Emily and Henry is to remember that they are not alone and there are a lot of kids out there to offer support. "Although your life seems crazy right now, things will get easier," she says.

But it's not just about being late or leaving class. For Leah, 17, it is about not using her diabetes as an excuse, because she doesn't want anyone to treat her differently. Okay, she admits, she might occasionally use the "diabetes card" to get out of an undesirable task, but very, very rarely.

A couple of years ago, Leah prepared for her first homecoming date. She had her hair and nails done professionally.

## Diabetes Back-to-School Survival Guide

Tips from former Diabetes Educator of the Year Sherry Trunnel, a registered nurse and certified diabetes educator at Blank Children's Hospital, Des Moines, Iowa:

### Stay Supplied.

Make sure you have all the supplies you need at school. Keep strips in their original vials and not in a plastic baggie or other container, which can cause them to deteriorate. "If you don't have a second meter to leave at school, talk to your educator," Sherry says. Sometimes, through special offers, you can get one.

### Give Kits for Low Blood Sugar and Emergency to Your School.

Include items you're most comfortable using—like glucose tabs or juice boxes—and complex carbohydrates, such as packets of cheese and crackers. Your parents should include a written note from your physician telling when and how to give glucagon. At least one person at the school should be able to administer it.

### Wear Your Medical I.D.

These are especially important for activities outside of school, where people might not be aware that you have diabetes. Wear a necklace under your shirt if you are self-conscious, or try a Medic Alert ankle bracelet!

### Pre-Plan for School Parties.

Discuss your options with your doctor and parents beforehand. "Remember that you always have choices," says Sherry.

### Get Your Parents and Teachers Together.

In addition to the other topics here, they should discuss field trips, strenuous activity or exercise, when your parents should be contacted, and any other special needs.

See <http://kids.jdrf.org> for more information.

She bought a new formal dress. She was full of excitement. As she was getting ready, questions went through her head like, "What kind of dancer is he?" and "What will we talk about at dinner? Will I have fun?" She also considered when she'd be able to sneak away to check her blood sugar. She had to ask herself, "What if I get low when I am dancing?" and "What if my level is too high and I need water?" Leah explains these thoughts and fears by

comparing her life to an onion: she has all these layers of things that complicate her life, like going to dances, parties, and school, getting her homework finished, and dealing with her parents. "Then there's diabetes," she says, which adds an extra layer to everything. She has the worries of every other teenager and then the added worries of diabetes. Looking at her diabetes as just another layer helps her put her life into perspective.



## BOIS FORTE BAND HELPING U.S. PROTECT MINNESOTA'S LAKE ISLANDS

The land of 10,000 lakes is also the land of lake islands rich in archeological sites and resources important to our state's heritage. Bois Forte is collaborating with the federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the 1854 Treaty Office to safeguard islands in northern Minnesota lakes.

Last year, the partners began a five-year cooperative stewardship program to evaluate, stabilize, manage and protect the islands, which suffer

from damage caused by recreational use, erosion, litter, and vandalism.

Inventories of 86 islands in the Lake Vermilion Recreation Area have already been completed, and 28 archaeological sites – some at least two thousand years old – have been identified.

Bois Forte Band member George Mehelich and his son Michael spend several days during the spring, summer and fall photographing and documenting their findings on the islands. The Band

has also provided in-kind services and contributions to the project.

"The Bois Forte people have a legacy of caring for the lands and waters so they remain healthy for the generations yet to come," said Kevin Leecy. "We also have a track record of collaborating with other government entities to protect the natural resources that we all share. We welcome the opportunity to work with others who are committed to preserving these islands."

## SPOTLIGHTS

### BOIS FORTE NEWS REDESIGN

The Bois Forte News is working on a redesign of the paper, which will begin next month. One of the new features will be a section called Spotlights. Each Spotlight will focus on a different topic suggested by readers. To kick off the Spotlights we will discuss Tribal Government Operations and 1854 Treaty Authority.

The Bois Forte News invites readers to submit any ideas for our paper redesign or topics that you feel would be a good Spotlight for future issues.

Contact:  
The Bois Forte News  
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## AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

"My grades went way up." "It was fun."  
"They took time to help me understand."  
"Last year I mostly got Cs and Ds on my report card. This year it was filled with As and Bs."

These are a few of the comments offered by Tower School students who were part of last year's new after school program at the Vermilion Community Center. The students pictured to the left pose with the after school program facilitators Mike Thyen and Pam Biehoffler are ready to begin another successful school year.

## C-STORE CONSTRUCTION

Mark Isham is one of the many Band members employed on the construction of the Nett Lake Store. Mark is working on the water and sewer hookups as an employee of Gruska Construction.

When the store is finished, Mark will move over to a construction crew working on the major school remodeling project.



## BOIS FORTE BASKETBALL CAMP

The Vermillion Wellness Center held a basketball camp for Band members from August 7th through the 10th. The camp was organized by Brandon Benner who rounded up a few excellent instructors; Dan Ninham, Head Coach Lake Bena (State Class A Runner Up). Dan's assistants included Byron Ninham, a Junior Varsity basketball player at UMD and Cory Mountain a Sophomore who plays Varsity for Mesabi Range (State 3pt. shooting champion). The camp was a great success.



Left to right: Brandon Benner, Kenda Benner, Paxton Goodsky, Dan Ninham, Nicholas Hayes, Levi Villebrun, Aries Ballwina, Jordan Villebrun, Ge-Waden Dunkley, Corey Two Crow, Donald Wakemup, Kristen Correa, Sandy W., Destinee Villebrun, Byron Ninham.

## HUMAN SERVICES HOST COMMUNITY DANCE & KARAOKE CONTEST NIGHT

On Friday, August 3rd Bois Forte Human Services sponsored a community dance and karaoke contest at the Nett Lake School. During the event Human Services offered information booths for guests. Music was provided by Prosound & Magic Show. Over 200 people attended the event, making it a success and a fun night for everyone. Human Services is considering offering another community night in the future.



## VERMILION BOYS & GIRLS CLUB HOSTS 'NIGHT OUT'

The Vermilion Boys & Girls Club hosted a community 'Night Out' event.

The weather was perfect as children and adult members of the community gathered for BBQ and games.



### Vermilion Wellness Center

The Vermilion Wellness Center is a wonderful fitness facility that includes an exercise room with a full line of Cybex exercise equipment and weights to help you achieve a great workout. The facility is equipped with locker rooms, a beautiful gymnasium and sauna. The Wellness Center also houses a Boys & Girls Club. For further information on the facility, current and upcoming events call the Wellness Center at 218-753-2843.

#### Membership Fees:

Free to all Bois Forte Band Members & Reservation Residents.

	Single	Family
General Public	\$40.00	\$70.00
Native Americans & Bois Forte Dev. Corp.	\$30.00	\$50.00
Employees	\$30.00	\$50.00
Daily Fee	\$7.00	

#### Available Now!

Circuit Training: 5 - 7pm Tuesday & Thursdays  
 Tuesdays' Youth Night 6 - 7pm  
 Adults 5 - 6pm & 7pm.  
 Training time approx. 45min. per session.

#### Coming Soon!

Volleyball Tournament, Children's Track & Field Day, Speed Training

The Wellness Center is available for rent. Call 218-753-2843.



Please join in the fun at the

**School Ground Breaking Celebration  
 Community Lunch & Back to School Carnival**  
 Nett Lake School, 10:30 am  
 Tuesday, September 4, 2007  
 Community Invited!

## NLPD UPDATES

Greetings Everyone,

We hope that everyone is having a fun and safe summer. We would just like to update all of you on the activities of the Bois Forte Police Department.

On Sunday May 20th, 2007, Police Officers Brent Chosa and Donovan Strong in partnership with Bois Forte Human Services Multi-Generation Program Coordinator Vondalee Carr hosted a bike safety rodeo at the Vermilion Social Center. There were seven children that participated in the event in which all received a bike helmet and certificate of participation. The children enjoyed the safety course and were provided with snacks and beverages.

Since we are a proactive police department utilizing Community Oriented



Vermilion Bike Safety Graduates

Watch Program and Operation ID. Informational meetings were held at the Vermilion Social Center on June 20th with 31 residents in attendance and also at the Nett Lake Community Center with 28 residents in attendance. Free lunch of Subway sandwiches, chips and McDonalds Hi-C was provided for those in attendance.

We still have time slots available for volunteers in the Neighborhood Watch Program, please do not hesitate to con-

Friday/Saturday night. The Neighborhood Watch Program runs until September 15th.

We are very proud to announce that we have two Bois Forte Youths, Donald Chosa III and Parker Drift, have been selected to attend the National Indian Youth Police Academy (NIYPA) in San Bernardino, California. In addition to being selected for the academy, airfare, lodging, meals, uniforms, training materials and tuition is covered so Donald and Parker can attend for free. The National Indian Youth Police Academy is funded by the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Program, U.S. Department of Justice and several other sponsors.

The National Indian Youth Police Academy provides an excellent opportunity for Tribal youth to explore law enforcement and other criminal justice careers. NIYPA students participate in a variety of activities that model the experiences of an adult police academy.

Classroom and hands-on learning connects students with practitioners who provide instruction, serve as counselors during the academy, and answer questions about criminal justice careers.

Each year native youth from North America apply to attend the academy. Sixty students are selected to participate through the competitive application process. To date, NIYPA trained 360 students representing

also bore the names of the 2007 GREAT Program Graduates from Tower/Soudan 5th/6th grade Classes. Police Officers Donovan Strong, Brent Chosa, Marcus Knife Chief and their families/volunteers gave out informational bags, key chains and candy to the parade goers. A special appearance of Vince and Larry, the "Crash Test Dummies" marched in the parade alongside the float. A special Thank You to the



NLPD at Tower 4th of July Parade

118 tribes in 29 states, as well as 2 Canadian provinces and Mexico. Once again we are very proud that we have two outstanding young men to be selected for this academy.

In other news, the Bois Forte Police Department had a parade float in the Tower 4th of July parade. The parade float was designated to educate people on our Community Oriented Policing Strategies we offer to residents and neighboring communities of Nett Lake, Orr, and Tower/Soudan. The float

Minnesota Department of Public Safety for the use of the costumes. Vince and Larry were a hit with all the children!

In closing, just two friendly reminders. Have a safe and fun summer!

**CLICK IT OR TICKET**  
It's your choice!

**AND IF YOU ARE DRINKING, PLEASE DO NOT DRIVE.**



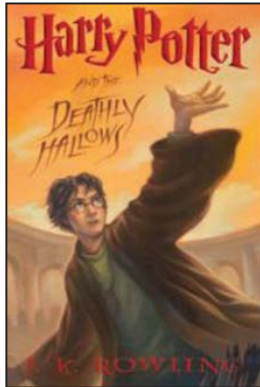
Summer Neighborhood Watch Program and Operation ID informational meeting Vermilion

Policing Strategies (COPS), we hosted community meetings to give information on the Summer Neighborhood

tact the Bois Forte Police Department if you would like to sign up. All we ask is a commitment of one hour minimum on a



MOVIES • DVD • MUSIC • ART • BOOKS • FUN



RECOMMENDED READING

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows

The brilliant, breathtaking conclusion to J.K. Rowling's spellbinding series. The heart of Book 7 is a hero's mission - not just in Harry's quest for the Horcruxes, but in his journey from boy to man - and Harry faces more danger than that found in all six books combined, from the direct threat of the Death Eaters and you-know-who, to the subtle perils of losing faith in himself.

A spectacular finish to a phenomenal series, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* is a bittersweet read for fans. The journey is hard, filled with events both tragic and triumphant, the battlefield littered with the bodies of the dearest and despised, but the final chapter is as brilliant and blinding as a phoenix's flame, and fans and skeptics alike will emerge from the confines of the story with full but heavy hearts, giddy and grateful for the experience. — Review by Daphne Durha, Amazon.com.



DVD PICKS



IN THEATERS

- Balls of Fury
- Death Sentence
- Halloween
- 3:10 to Yuma
- The Brothers Solomon
- Resident Evil: Extinction
- Shoot 'Em Up
- The Brave One
- Dragon Wars



WHEN IN DOUBT, ALWAYS SHARE THE LAST PIECE OF FRYBREAD

IN THE PAST  
September

- In 1877, Oglala Sioux Chief Crazy Horse died. He was mortally stabbed in the abdomen by a soldier at Fort Robinson, Nebraska.
- In 1889, the Cherokee Nation in Oklahoma changed its Tribal flag. A seven-pointed black star was added as a reminder of Cherokee people who lost their lives on the Trail of Tears.
- In 1990, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act was signed into law. NAG-PRA provides a process for museums and federal agencies to return to Native American Tribes sacred items, human remains, relics and artifacts that originally belonged to the Tribe.
- In 2004, the National Museum of the

American Indian opened its doors in Washington, D-C. Thousands of people, including a group from Bois Forte attended the grand opening. Since then, millions more have toured through the museum on the National Mall. Last month they hosted the National Pow-Wow.



HOT GAMES SEPTEMBER



PS2 - Guitar Hero Encore

Guitar Hero Encore: Rocks the 80s is a music video game and the third installment in the popular Guitar Hero series.

The game features an 80s theme with bands such as RATT, Twisted Sister, Poison, Skid Row & more!



TRIBAL MINUTES

Minutes 5.2.2007 - 6.20.2007

**Minutes of a special meeting of the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council held June 20, 2007 at the Lake Vermilion Sector of the Bois Forte Reservation, Minnesota.**

Meeting called to order at 9:19 a.m.

**Members Present:**

Kevin W. Leecy; David C. Morrison, Sr.; Ray Villebrun, Sr.; Mark Drift, Sr.; Ray Toutloff

**Members Absent:**  
None

**Others Present:**

Edith Villebrun; Mark Anderson; Gene Goodsky; Vicki Holmes; Jeneal Goggleye; Jan Connor; Rae Edstrom; Billie Mason; Carol Burr; Marty Connor; Marcella Connor; Marilyn Geshick; Marge Holmes; Jason Sherman; Pete Drift, Sr.; Brad Anderson; Terri Hill; Brandon Benner; Bill Whiteman; Lynette Villebrun; Corinna Wettlin; Dawn Benner; Jon Olson; Gary Gotchnik; Wendy Thompson; Donald Chosa; Rocky King; Frances Isham; Patti Wilkie; Jeanine Whiteman; Miranda Lilya; Deanna Drift; Monica Nilsson

Moved by Ray Toutloff; seconded by Mark Drift, Sr.; to approve the agenda with the following additions: 1) FY2008 State Head Start Funding Application, 2) Clarification under TERO Program, and 3) Indian Point Water and Sewer. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Ray Villebrun, Sr.; seconded by Mark Drift, Sr.; to approve the minutes of a special meeting held June 8, 2007 at Nett Lake, Minnesota. Carried 4-0-0. Ray Toutloff suggests that in the future when any agenda items are added,

they be submitted with information so the items can be reviewed prior to discussion. Mark Drift, Sr. feels Council members can add or delete any agenda items.

Elders Committee: Marge Holmes said there were 311 surveys mailed out in regard to the use of the Band logo, 15 were returned and those want the thick border used, and the logo to say Bois Forte Anishinabe, otherwise, could wait for more responses to come back. In regard to the elders trip, 311 surveys were mailed out with 100 returned. Nashville had the most votes with 56. The elders haven't had a meeting yet to discuss the use of the Band logo by the 4-H camp but will get to that as soon as possible.

New tribal government staff: Edith Villebrun introduces Lynette Villebrun who is the Administrative Assistant in the human resources department. The health department has a new employee but that employee is on a transport today. Billie Mason introduces Pete Drift, Jr. who is the Summer Youth Coordinator.

Jon Olson gives an update on the reorganization of the fire department. They will be electing officers for that department. They will be having an open house during the next Council meeting for anyone who wants to attend. Jon goes over the equipment list and they need a new fire truck and a tender, and Jon has a quote for a used one, which the Council will review. They also need safety equipment to fight fires, right now they can't enter buildings, they can only do surround fire-fighting. Jon also asks who his supervisor is and he is

told his supervisor will be the Commissioner of Public Works and right now that is Jan Connor as she is the acting commissioner. Jon said they will also be updating the bylaws of the fire department.

Moved by Ray Toutloff; seconded by Mark Drift, Sr.; to approve the proposal from Range Reliable Agency, Inc. for commercial property insurance from July 1, 2007 to July 1, 2008 with the deletion of earthquake coverage, and Rae Edstrom to check on the flood coverage to see if waterbreaks are covered. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Mark Drift, Sr.; seconded by Ray Villebrun, Sr.; to approve the priority list of the Sanitation Deficiency Systems list as recommended by the Utility Advisory Committee, and the submission of the list to the Indian Health Service. Carried 4-0-0.

Mark Drift, Sr. asks about the contract for the Indian Point water and sewer project. Jan Connor informs him that Darin Steen is the contact person for that project, but it will start in either July or August.

Moved by Mark Drift, Sr.; seconded by Ray Villebrun, Sr.; to approve the Reinstatement Fee Guidelines which is a program under the TERO Program that assists Band members with driver's license reinstatement fees. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Ray Villebrun, Sr.; seconded by Ray Toutloff; to adopt resolution #231-2007, modification to Donald Chosa lease to add Lester and Karen Drift to the lease. Carried 3-0-1. Mark Drift, Sr. silent.

Moved by Ray Toutloff; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to approve the departmental procedures that are required by the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC) MICS and the Tribal

MICS. Carried 4-0-0.

Mark Anderson and Brad Anderson are to respond to the compliance report received from the NIGC in regard to the gaming facility license, that Bois Forte is in compliance because it is valid until revoked.

Moved by Mark Drift, Sr.; seconded by Ray Villebrun, Sr.; to adopt resolution #232-2007, amendment to the 401(k) Plan to provide loans to active participants without restriction except those required by the Federal Tax Code and Treasury Regulations. Carried 3-1-0. Ray Toutloff against. Ray Toutloff against because he feels it defeats the purpose of setting up a retirement plan in that it allows a person to borrow half of their retirement plan for any purpose at all, that they can already get loans for hardship.

Moved by Ray Toutloff; seconded by Ray Villebrun, Sr.; to appoint Alan Sam, Doris Isham, Brandon Benner, Curt Sheehy, and Danny Lambert to the Conservation Committee; to appoint Jeneal Goggleye and Michael Connor as alternates to the Conservation Committee; to appoint Marcella Connor and Marge Holmes as elder representatives to the Conservation Committee; and to appoint Ed Villebrun as the conservation officer non-voting advisory member of the Conservation Committee. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Mark Drift, Sr.; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to approve the FY 2008 State Head Start Funding Application. Carried 4-0-0.

A request was received from Marcus Knife Chief, Jason Lawrence, and Mike Hayes to attend the Meth Training Conference to be held July 16-20, 2007 in Bismarck, North Dakota. Moved by Mark Drift, Sr.; seconded by Ray Villebrun,

Sr.; to approve out of state travel for Marcus Knife Chief and Jason Lawrence, with the exception of Mike Hayes to attend the Meth Training Conference to be held July 16-20, 2007 in Bismarck, North Dakota. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Ray Toutloff; seconded by Ray Villebrun, Sr.; to approve out of state travel for Pete Drift, Sr., Brent Chosa, and Donovan Strong to attend the Meth Training Conference to be held July 9-13, 2007 in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Carried 3-0-1. Mark Drift, Sr. silent.

Moved by Ray Toutloff; seconded by Mark Drift, Sr.; to approve out of state travel for Geraldine Polasky and Darla Flett to attend the National TERO Convention to be held July 22-26, 2007 in Niagara Falls, New York. Carried 4-0-0.

Dawn Benner is asked if Sydney Adams can be made a voting member because he is present at all the meetings. Dawn Benner said they will be revising the TERO Bylaws and Ordinance at the TERO Convention to address the issue of TERO Commissioners being absent too much from their meetings, and also to make the Ordinance stronger.

Moved by Mark Drift, Sr.; seconded by Ray Villebrun, Sr.; to approve out of state travel for Chris Holm to attend the Lake of the Woods Foundation Watershed Meeting to be held July 11, 2007 in Kenora, Ontario. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Mark Drift, Sr.; seconded by Ray Villebrun, Sr.; to approve out of state travel for Corey Strong and Bill Whiteman to attend the 2007 BIA Regional Realty Conference to be held July 9-13, 2007 in Green Bay, Wisconsin. Carried 4-0-0.

*continued on page 14.*

**Minutes**

*continued from page 13.*

Moved by Mark Drift, Sr.; seconded by Ray Villebrun, Sr.; to approve out of state travel for Barb Brodeen, Kim Greiner, Corinna Wettlin, Terri Hill, Edith Villebrun, Billie Mason, Jeneal Goggleye, Carol Burr, Deanna Drift, and Wendy Thompson to attend the Women Empowering Women for Indian Nations Conference to be held July 11-13, 2007 in Temecula, California, with the cost to

come from their programs. Carried 4-0-0.

Dawn Benner is asked if there is a procurement policy under the TERO Ordinance in regard to federal procurement with minority contractors to help minority businesses. Dawn said yes there is, and when it is an RTC project, it is up to the Council who gets the contracts because the Council is the owner. Mark Anderson said under the current procurement policy it does make provisions for

Indian owned businesses providing goods or services to the tribe, and they don't have to be the low bidder, they have to come within a certain percentage of the low bidder. Dawn Benner asks if the Council would consider assessing the vendors that come on the reservation a TERO fee. She will bring this up at the TERO Convention to see what other tribes do this.

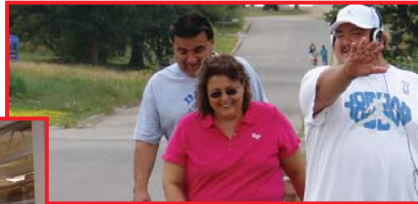
Moved by Mark Drift, Sr.; seconded by David Morrison, Sr.; to table the

Bois Forte Athletic Camp Scholarship Guidelines because there are unanswered questions on it (audience questions), such as income guidelines, can golf be included, age limit – are both elementary and high school students included, can non-Band member students be included, and what Brandon Benner's involvement should be and his job duties. Billie Mason was going to transfer funds to Brandon Benner so he could administer this pro-

gram. Also, Brandon Benner feels the coaches teach them the same thing they would learn at the camps, and also he can ask people to put on camps up here instead of sending students out to other camps. Billie Mason and Brandon Benner to review and bring back recommendations. Carried 4-0-0.

Moved by Mark Drift, Sr.; seconded by Ray Villebrun, Sr.; to adjourn the meeting at 11:33 a.m. Carried 4-0-0.

**THE NATIVE HEARTS FITNESS CENTER HOSTS 'HEALTH WALK'**



**ATTENTION BAND MEMBERS**

PLEASE UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS CHANGES WITH THE ENROLLMENT OFFICE TO RECEIVE IMPORTANT INFORMATION MAILINGS SUCH AS: TOWN MEETINGS, ANNOUNCEMENTS ETC. ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT THE ENROLLMENT OFFICE. BOIS FORTE ENROLLMENT - (218)757-3261 EXT. 121



**Mushkawaysee Equay "Strong Women" Gathering**

Every Tuesday at the Nett Lake Community Center at 6pm.

More info: 218-757-0111.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

The Pebble Spa at Fortune Bay is now hiring receptionists, massage therapists, estheticians and nail techs. Therapist training will be provided if interested. Please contact Wendy at 218-365-0809 or email [elypebble@gmail.com](mailto:elypebble@gmail.com)

**NOTICE MSC CUSTOMERS**

**NEW CHECK POLICY**

- ALL CHECKS NEED A DRIVER LICENSE NUMBER
- IF SENDING A CHECK PLEASE INCLUDE DRIVER LICENSE NUMBER.
- ALL CHECKS WILL BE PROCESSED ELECTRONICALLY
- CHECKS MAYBE WRITTEN UP TO \$20.00 OVER THE TOTAL PURCHASE PRICE

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**John Villebrun**

We are very proud of your recent graduation from Bemidji State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education & passing your state tests.

You are officially a teacher!!!

We love you! Rae, Nicholas, Alexander, Patia, Ian

## Donald Chosa Language

Continued from page 3.

It demonstrated to the kids that keeping our language and traditional way-of-life going is so important that we're willing to invest in it."

Their students got the message and were impressed by their instructors, which is evident in their evaluation comments. "Karen was uber cool. I really respect her. She is so wise." "Donald was repetitive and in-depth about everything he taught. That made it fun and interesting."

The program recognized that people learn in different ways and the children appreciated the variety. "I liked playing language games on the computer with Karen helping us." Another student adds, "Doing the puppet play was great because it helped me learn our language and made me more comfortable to get up in front of a crowd of people."

Donald's niece and



*Perry Drift, Donald Chosa Jr., Raven Isham, and Kateri Day introduce themselves in Ojibwe*

nephew who are Karen's grandchildren also helped teach the program. Peter Drift is a sophomore at Bemidji State University and Daanis Drift, is a sophomore at Northern Michigan University.

This is not the first ground for Donald who also taught the Anishinaabe culture at the University of Michigan. He has also developed a children's language booklet and two board games, one where players roll the dice then say the number or word they land on and translate it into English. If they can answer the question cor-

rectly, they get another turn. The other is a Trivial Pursuit type game in Ojibwe.

It didn't require too much arm twisting to enlist Donald's wife Karlene Drift Chosa to help out too. Donald knew she'd have a lot to offer, "We used to counselor together at a Native American group home for adolescents. In order to build kids' self-esteem we started teaching them that there's an alternative to the way they were living in the inner city surrounded by drugs, gangs and prostitution." Donald adds, "Together we helped them learn about their culture and language through stories, dance, making powwow regalia. It really had an effect." He reminisces, "It is through the experience of working with kids in treatment that I became inspired to teach and work with adolescents."

At that time, people at Michigan Tech. heard of Donald's methods and invited him to teach a college course. His moth-

er Martha (Durand) Roy's tribe the Keweenaw's paid for him to go to Lake Head University in Thunder Bay and to become certified as an educator. Donald also attended four years of schooling at Bay Mills College on Sugar Island in Sioux St Marie, Michigan which included nine week of emersion when nothing but Ojibwe was spoken.

Donald can trace back his love of language from his grandparents to his father Donald Chosa Sr. When Donald Jr. was born their family was

young people to practice with when he was growing up."

Donald has high hopes for the cultural aspect of the Summer Youth Program. "I feel that the introduction of these lessons has only strengthened the summer program and I'd like to see it grow even stronger. Hopefully some of the kids will be motivated to continue studying our language as part of their college curriculum."

"Elders like Gene Goodsky and my mother-in-law Karen Drift are to



*Chericia Villebrun, Dalene Chosa, Kathryn Rock, Peter Drit Jr translate the skit*

stationed in England. His father went onto became a WWII Air Force veteran. After retirement, they returned home and Donald Sr. served as the Bois Forte Tribal Chair, for four years, in the 1960s.

Donald remembers, "My dad didn't speak Ojibwe very often but he understood a lot of the language. Although my grandmother Annie Chosa and Aunt Mae Telkie were fluent there weren't many

be commended for establishing a foundation for language learning, affirms Donald. "We need to build on this foundation and do even more. I'd like to see more people become involved by taking classes and supporting their children's involvement. If I were a kid, I'd get a kick out of seeing my parents work at learning the language, right alongside me," Donald said.



*Sophia Lien, Parker Drift, Daanis Chosa, Marjorie Villebrun, Emilliano Connor take a bow after their performance*

## VERMILION SUMMER YOUTH BUILD A NIIBIN OZHIGAN

Summer Youth Assist the Heritage Center Staff in Building a Traditional Summer Shelter

This season, the Vermilion Summer Youth have been very busy within the community learning and practicing valuable work skills.

Every year the Vermilion Summer Youth tackle a large project, this year they built a Niibin Ozhigan with the Bois Forte Heritage Center staff. These young ambitious teens were able to learn more than just regular work skills, thanks to the mentoring by Rich Miller – Vermilion Summer Youth Advisor, Rose Berens – Heritage Center Director and volunteers they were able to learn more than just regular work skills.

The youth did everything from start to finish. They began by collecting birch bark, peeling poles and gathering ties. Each participant had a specific flair for different parts of the project; some were excellent at preparing

the birch bark, others at tying or peeling poles. This project produced valuable teamwork and leadership skills as well as keeping a bit of history and culture alive by stepping back in time, coming together and building bridge from the past to the present and into the future.

Vern Adams held a small ceremony once the Niibin Ozhigan was completed. Everyone took the opportunity to utilize the structure as it was used in the past, to prepare dinners during the hot summer months. This time though the food was a bit more contemporary, hot dogs and chips. After the dinner Rose Berens and Bev Miller held a talking circle with the young women, while the young men ventured through the trails around the Heritage Center.



*Team Niibin Ozhigan - Names are not in order: Ginew Dunkley, Ge-Waden Dunkley, Monica Porter, Geraldine Deegan, Paxton Goodsky, Cory Two Crow, Arielle Dagen, Darrick Deegan, Cassandra Hartland, Crysta Boshey, Brendon Villebrun, and Vermilion Summer Youth Advisor Rich Miller.*





# ANISHINAABEMOWIN



## Manoominike-Giizis (August) Ricing Moon

Language page created by Karen Drift & Donald Chosa

### Manoominike-Giizis Word Find

D X Z Z N W V T A A Y Q I Z S D N J B I  
 R G L A R O I G R T H Q S F E H Y O I N  
 A V R A Q S E I S G K J H C M Z O K N C  
 Y N X G F D N J K K W C K E F D O I G L  
 G P N I J Q O G S O N U O L A N K D H K  
 Z N B I J J K Q Z O N H D W A A D Z M C  
 G P Z G Q T I Q O H G D E I H S E B A G  
 J G T A K Y B M F C E N I Z U H J B A I  
 E F E N K W A Q M T K D O N W Y G V S B  
 E F C Y L D S E M A A Q E G G H E H N N  
 F E K F I Q K O R Z K K T J A T P C L A  
 V H I J F F H Y W A V H O H I I C S B A  
 S N A W R F K H G Z T J S X M I O R B Z  
 V E V O N O O S H K A A J I G E M I T A  
 G J E R B M A N O O M I N A W E G A I A  
 X L E J H Z S Q I V T G C B K A C C A M  
 E G I Z I P A A G N X B Q W X M B Z K N  
 H D O F M G O J P I G U H I N B O P V T  
 Z B S R R A A E B N Z L C W M N I A T O  
 V X E I W B G P K C A V O X S O G V M A

- |           |           |              |
|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| ABWI      | ISHKODE   | NOOSHKAAJIGE |
| AGONGOS   | ISHPIMING | SABIKONE     |
| AJIDAMOO  | JIIMAAN   | SEMAA        |
| ANOKII    | MAAZAAN   | WIKONDING    |
| BAWISHKAM | MANOOMIN  | ZAAGIIGAN    |
| BOODAWE   | NIKA      | ZHEDE        |
| GAAPIZIGE | GABESHI   |              |

### Vocabulary List

Wiikonding	First harvest ceremony	Abwi	Paddle
Sabikone Zaagi' igan	Nett Lake	Gaapizige	He/she parches rice
Semaa	Tobacco	Bawishkam	He/She jigs rice
Jiimaan	Canoe	Nooshkaajige	He/she fans rice
Anokii	He/She works	Zhede	Pelican
Ishkode	Fire	Nika	Canadian goose
Boodawe	He/She builds fire	Ajidamoo	Squirrel
Gabeshi	He/She camps	Agongos	Chipmunk
Ishpiming	Up above/in the sky	Biisim-manoomin	Broken rice
Manoomini-shkimod	Rice bag	Mazaan	Broken fine rice (chaff)
Bawa' am	He/She knocks rice		
Bawa' iganaak (oon)	Knocking stick (s)		

### Sentences to practice speaking

- Mii' izhi go gii-manoomike-min.  
We're almost ready to rice.
- Nigii-waabama-na nika bimise ishpiming.  
I saw a Canadian goose flying.
- Gidaasa semaa jibwaa manoominike-in.  
You put tobacco before you harvest rice.
- Nigii-waabama agongos gii-giimod bangii manoomin.  
I saw a chipmunk stealing a little bit of wild rice.
- Gida biiskaan makizanan jibwaa bawishkamon.  
You put on moccasins before you jig rice.
- Jibwaa ni-miijinimin maanomin indaa-wiikonge kawe.  
Before we eat wild rice we have a ceremony first.



### 2007 Pow-Wow List for August - September

**Aug. 31-Sept. 3:**  
 35th Annual O-Bah-Shing Labor Day Traditional Pow-Wow.  
 Location: Ponemah, MN. Pow-Wow Grounds.  
 Info: 218-554-7474 or 218-554-7347

**Aug. 31-Sept. 3:**  
 Wee Gitchie Ne Me E Dim Contest Pow-Wow.  
 Location: Cass Lake, MN. Veteran's Memorial Grounds.  
 Info: 218-335-7400

**Sept. 10:**  
 2nd Annual Spirit Feast Two Worlds Lodge Traditional Pow-Wow.  
 Location: Hewitt, MN. Hyatt Farm.  
 Info: 218-924-4018 polttwil@wcta.net

**Sept. 21-23:**  
 Mah-Kato Traditional Pow-Wow.  
 Location: Mankato, MN. Land of Memories Park.  
 Info: 507-388-3418 rmrolfes@charter-mi.net

**Oct. 12-14:**  
 Miigwetch Manomin Traditional Pow-Wow.  
 Location: Nett Lake, MN. Elementary School Gym.  
 Info: 218-757-3261

# SPORTS SCHEDULE

## FOOTBALL • VOLLEYBALL

TOWER-SOUDAN "GOLDEN EAGLES" & ORR "BRAVES"



### ORR VOLLEYBALL

TUE.	AUG. 28	COTTON	AWAY
WED.	AUG. 29	T-S	HOME
TUE.	SEPT. 4	LCA 4:30 7/8	HOME
THUR.	SEPT. 6	ELY 7/8	HOME
MON.	SEPT. 10	BIF FORK 5:45/7:00 7/8	AWAY
THUR.	SEPT. 13	B-F	HOME
THUR.	SEPT. 20	ALBROOK	HOME
SAT.	SEPT. 22	CHISHOLM TOURNEY	AWAY
MON.	SEPT. 24	CHERRY	AWAY
TUE.	SEPT. 25	MESABI EAST 7/8	HOME
THUR.	SEPT. 27	COTTON	HOME
TUE.	OCT. 2	COOK	AWAY
THUR.	OCT. 4	MIB	AWAY
SAT.	OCT. 6	BIGFORK TOURNEY 9:00	AWAY
TUES.	OCT. 09	INDUS	HOME
THUR.	OCT. 11	B-E	AWAY
MON.	OCT. 15	LF/BF 5:45/7:00	AWAY



### TOWER VOLLEYBALL

WED.	AUG. 29	ORR	AWAY
TUE.	SEPT. 4	COTTON	HOME
THU.	SEPT. 6	N-K	AWAY
SAT.	SEPT. 8	SILVER BAY TOURNEY	AWAY
MON.	SEPT. 10	COOK	HOME
TUE.	SEPT. 11	LFBF	AWAY
THU.	SEPT. 13	MIB	HOME
TUE.	SEPT. 18	I-FALLS	HOME
TUE.	SEPT. 25	ELY	AWAY
THU.	SEPT. 20	COTTON	AWAY
THU.	SEPT. 27	LCA	HOME
SAT.	SEPT. 29	VIRGINIA TOURNEY	AWAY
TUE.	OCT. 2	B-E	AWAY
THU.	OCT. 4	MESABI EAST	HOME
THU.	OCT. 11	ALBROOK	HOME
MON.	OCT. 15	CHERRY	HOME

### TOWER FOOTBALL

THU.	AUG. 30	CHERRY	AWAY	7
FRI.	SEPT. 7	B-E	HOME	3:30
FRI.	SEPT. 14	LFBF	AWAY	7
FRI.	SEPT. 21	COOK	HOME	3:30
FRI.	SEPT. 28	ORR	HOME	3:30
THU.	OCT. 4	BIGFORK	AWAY	7
FRI.	OCT. 12	SILVER BAY	HOME	3:30
WED.	OCT. 17	MIB	AWAY	7

### ORR VARSITY FOOTBALL

THU.	AUG. 30	COTTON	AWAY	7:00
FRI.	SEPT. 07	COOK	HOME	7:00
FRI.	SEPT. 14	BIGFORK	AWAY	7:00
FRI.	SEPT. 21	LFBF	HOME	7:00
FRI.	SEPT. 28	TS	AWAY	3:30
FRI.	OCT. 5	B-E	HOME	7:00
FRI.	OCT. 12	ALBROOK	AWAY	7:00
WED.	OCT. 17	MA	HOME	7:00

### ORR JUNIOR VARSITY FOOTBALL

TUE.	SEPT. 4	COOK	HOME	5:00
MON.	SEPT. 10	L-BF	HOME	5:00
MON.	SEPT. 17	B-E	HOME	5:00
THU.	SEPT. 20	T-S	AWAY	4:30 2:45
THU.	SEPT. 25	L-BF	AWAY	5:00 3:00
MON.	OCT. 1	B-E	AWAY	5:00 2:40
THU.	OCT. 11	T-S	HOME	5:00

**OBITUARY**

**Currie "Clarice" L. Geshick**

Currie L. "Clarice" Geshick, 47, of Hibbing, former resident of Nett Lake, died on Thursday, July 19, 2007, at the University Medical Center-Mesabi in Hibbing.



Funeral services were held at 10:30 AM on Wednesday, July 25, 2007, at the Nett Lake Community Center. Visitation began after 6:00 PM on Tuesday at the Community Center. The Spiritual Advisor was Gene Goodsky. Rev. Arthur Dale will co-officiate. Casket bearers were family and friends. Interment is in the Nett Lake Cemetery.

She was born in Cook on November 6, 1959, the daughter of Clarence and Dorothy (Curry Wilson) Geshick. She grew up in North Dakota where she lived for many years. She later moved to Nett Lake where she found family. She also resided in the Cook and Orr area, most recently in Hibbing. She was a member of the Bois Forte Band of

Chippewa. She enjoyed playing slot machines and spending time, going for walks and playing with her grand nieces and grand nephews.

She is survived by one son and two daughters, 1 sister, Elaine (Frank Sr.) Villebrun of Orr, 2 brothers; William "Bill" Smith Jr. and Ray Wilson both of Minneapolis and her special friend Dusty Rhodes of Hibbing, along with many nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents, 3 brothers, Gary, Darrell and Michael Smith; 2 sisters, Lucille King and Veronica Dale.

Funeral arrangements were with the Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook.

**OBITUARY**

**Judy M. Drift ("BidaaniKay")**

"Brings Water to the People" "Thunderbird Woman" Judy M. Drift, 48, of Grand Rapids, formerly of Nett Lake, died Thursday, August 9, 2007.

**SERVICES:** Tribal Rites were held at 10:00 AM Tuesday at the Nett Lake Community Center. Billy Blackwell was the Spiritual Advisor. Visitation was after 4:00 PM Monday at the Center. The casket bearers were: Lucky Isham, Jason Drift, Ernie "Junior" Drift Jr., Mike Drift, Curt Drift, Tom Drift, Linda Isham, Waylon Drift and Justin Boness.

The alternate bearers were Louis Drift and John Isham. Interment was in the New Nett Lake Cemetery.

Judy was born in Cook on April 13, 1959, and grew up in Nett Lake

and Minneapolis. She had resided in the Twin Cities for many years, and Grand Rapids the past 4 years.

She was a member of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, and was an advocate for Women's Chemical Dependency Programs and was a strong believer in helping other women achieve and maintain sobriety. She loved to bead, was a creative artist, and loved to cook and bake.

She is survived by her father and step mother, Ernie and Betty Drift of Orr; her mother, Joyce Skadheim of Blackduck, MN; 2 sons, Devery Drift of Grand Rapids and Derek Lowry of Red



Wing; 2 daughters, Christy Drift and Patty (Bob) Drift, both of Grand Rapids; 4 brothers, Ernie "Junior" Drift of Orr, Mike Drift of Grand Rapids, Jared (Sherri) Ballinger of Mille Lacs, and Jason Drift of Orr; 3 sisters, Debbie Drift of Cass Lake, Terry (Vinni) Hill of Orr and Kelly (Mike) Dunkley of Tower; 7 Grandchildren, Special friend, Pat Drift of Grand Rapids, along with numerous other relatives and friends.

Arrangements were with the Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook.



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## REWARD OFFERED FOR INFORMATION ON ARSONS

Crime Stoppers of Northwestern Ontario and Northern Minnesota, along with the Nett Lake Police Department, are seeking anonymous information from the public regarding two unsolved cases of arson.

The first occurred on April 3 between the hours of 12 and 1 a.m. when someone went to an abandoned house approximately a mile east of the Nett Lake village on Highway 23 and set it on fire.

The second occurrence was on June 13, sometime between 1 and 2:30 a.m., someone illegally set an abandoned trailer house on fire. The trailer house was situated on St. John Drive within the Nett Lake village.

Crime Stoppers will offer double the cash reward of up to \$2,000 for anyone who provides anonymous information that helps solve these cases of arson.

Those providing information are not required to give their name, address or any information that could identify them. You never have to speak to police or attend court when you contact Crime Stoppers.

Crime Stoppers has solved more than 1 million crimes and has paid out over \$100 million in cash rewards worldwide.

Contact Crime Stoppers at **(800)222-TIPS**

## TRIBAL VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER [OFFICE IN NETT LAKE]

A Tribal Veteran Service Officer is now available in Nett Lake to assist you with  
**ANY QUESTIONS or ANY PAPERWORK** you may have. Feel free to call or stop in anytime!



**Ernest Steel**  
Tribal Veterans' Service Officer  
218-757-0111 or 800-747-1218  
Fax: 218-757-0109 | Cell: 218-290-1472  
E-mail: [esteel@boisforte-nsn.gov](mailto:esteel@boisforte-nsn.gov)

Bois Forte Human Services  
13090 Westley Drive, Suite B  
Nett Lake, MN 55771

## THE 2007 BOIS FORTE ELDER TRIP

### UPDATE!

Dear Elders, The 2007 Bois Forte Elder Trip is just a couple of months away. Below are some key facts to take note.



Where are we going? Nashville, Tennessee  
When are we going? October 18 - 24, 2007  
Where do we get on the bus? Fortune Bay Resort Casino

Information packets are being mailed, please watch your mailbox.

-Terri Drift-Hill, Director of Communications

## THE BOIS FORTE NEWS

The Bois Forte News (BFN), is published monthly and is brought to you by the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa. The BFN reserves the right to reject any advertising or materials submitted for publication. The submission of articles, poetry, artwork and photos is encouraged, however, they are subject to editing for grammar, length, malicious and libelous content. BFN will not assume any responsibility for unsolicited material nor will the BFN guarantee publication upon

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The BFN is distributed for free to Band members and is available to non-Band members for \$4.00 a year. The BFN is available online [www.boisforte.com](http://www.boisforte.com).

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### DEADLINES

October - September 10  
November - October 10  
December - November 10

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