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Bois Forte News



NETT LAKE, MINNESOTA - June 2011

VOL. 34 NO. 4

www.boisforte.com

Thousands rally at Capitol against gambling expansion

In April, about 3,000 people rallied in a cold rain at the State Capitol building to protest lawmakers' consideration of bills that would expand gambling at racetracks and in bars and restaurants.

The rally included tribal leaders, several legislators who oppose the proposed expansion, national Indian gaming industry leaders, and employees of Minnesota's Indian casinos, including three busloads of people from Fortune Bay Resort Casino and Nett Lake.

Bois Forte Chairman Kevin Leecy kicked off the rally, telling the crowd, "It seems unbelievable that you should have to be here, fighting for your jobs. But apparently some lawmakers think that you and the 41,000 other people employed directly and indirectly by tribal gaming don't matter all that much, because they are willing to cash in your jobs to create a racino."

Tribal casino employees echoed this sentiment. "State backed racinos in the Twin Cities will

take away good jobs from rural Minnesota", said Fortune Bay Graphic Designer Bob Hedlund, "The state shouldn't support one business at the expense of another."

After helping deliver a strong, clear message about the importance of Indian casinos jobs in rural Minnesota, the Fortune Bay group departed the Capitol and returned home by way of the Running Aces Harness Park in Columbus, where they were able to see for themselves how a proposed Hibbing "racino" might operate.

Employees and Band members are encouraged to continue contacting Governor Mark Dayton's office to express their opposition to racinos. Supporters of Racino will continue to push the idea in a Special Session later this summer.

(See story on page 3 for more information



Fortune Bay's Player Development employee Jenna Villebrun, Jake Aune in Marketing, Cheyenne Boshey of Player Develop., Chris Lehti in Marketing, and Erika Jensen of Bar and Beverages Service, were among the 95 Fortune Bay and Bois Forte representatives that bused to the State Capitol on April 26 to rally to protect gaming jobs.

Spring Ceremony a blessing

Message inspires RTC's closer collaboration

To welcome the change of seasons, the Bois Forte Band held a traditional spring ceremony on May, led by Spiritual Advisors Gene Goodsky, with assistance from Calvin Ottertail and Gilbert Smith.

This special ceremony is giving the returning or waking up spirits their morning tobacco, breakfast and material offerings. In return we ask them for our natural resources, wild rice, berries, medicine plants, rebirth of all animals and birds. The gathering also included an additional ceremony for all our sacred items we keep.

These are our pipes, feathers, dance outfits, etc.

The ceremony was held during work hours and employees were welcome to attend with their supervisor's approval. Many people brought sacred items they wanted blessed as well as an offering to leave.

The ceremony was held during a pouring rain, which Goodsky said was a blessing. (cont. on page 3)



Karlene Chosa, Katie Laitinen, Rose Berens, Ernie Steel and Curt Goodsky place their offerings on a blanket as part of the Spring Ceremony.

**If you are a
Native American Farmer
or the heir of one who was denied a
USDA farm loan or loan servicing
between 1981 and late 1999,**

**You can get up to \$50,000 or more from
a \$760 million class action settlement.**

**To receive a payment you must file a claim
by December 27, 2011.**

**For more information about the Keepseagle Settlement
and how to file a claim:**

call 1-888-233-5506

or visit www.IndianFarmClass.com.

RTC News



Help needed to protect Bois Forte program funding

Even though the Legislature has adjourned, opponents of Tribal gaming are continuing to push the idea of a racetrack-casinos in our state as a way to offset the state's budget shortfall. These "racinos" would take money away from Indian casinos and almost every tribal government program.

All Band members are urged to continue contacting Governor Dayton and legislators that you oppose racinos and they should, too. Here are some points you can make:

- Almost every Bois Forte health, education, housing and cultural program receives gaming dollars to deliver services to Band members
- The issue is sure to be part of the Special Session negotiations and would hurt every tribal program funded by gaming
- Indian casinos are owned and operated by people committed to our area, not private investors or corporations from other states

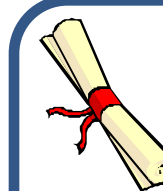
To contact the governor's office, call (651) 201-3400 or toll-free (800) 657-3717, or go to mn.gov/governor and click on *Contact us*. To find out who your legislators are and get their contact information, call (651) 296-2146 or toll-free 1 (800) 657-3550, or go to leg.state.mn.us and click on *How do I contact my legislator?*

VETERANS MEMORIAL DEDICATION AND POWWOWS

Thanks to all who worked so hard to make the Veterans Memorial Dedication on May 30 a great celebration. A special Mii Gwech to all the Tribal Government employees who gave up their holiday and worked on Memorial Day to help welcome and host all the guests who visited Nett Lake for this historic day.

Next month's issue of the *Bois Forte News* will include photos and stories about the celebration.

Don't forget to join us the two Bois Forte Powwows this month. The Nett Lake Saa Gii Ba Gaa Powwow will be June 3-5 and the Lake Vermilion Traditional Powwow will be June 17-19. See the last two pages of this paper for more information.



Honor your graduate in the Bois Forte News!

The July issue of the *Bois Forte News* will be honoring graduates at all levels. If you or a loved one are graduating this year, send the information to the newspaper so we can help you celebrate. (See pg 16 for information on where to send your news).

Graduates of all levels from Head Start through Graduate School, including Vocational Training are invited to be part of the Salute to Graduates issue.

(Spring Ceremony cont. from page 1)

He compared the way the rain washed the earth to the way people shower before putting on fresh clothing, as a way of feeling clean and refreshed.

During the ceremony, Goodsky noted that some people have been taken away from the Band in recent times. Goodsky said events like this can be linked to disrespect and unkindness being shown among Band members.

The ceremony's messages of renewal and respectfulness made a particularly strong impression on members of the Bois Forte Reservation Tribal Council, who said the ceremony has encouraged them to embrace a stronger spirit of collaboration.

RTC members plan to draft and sign together a proclamation commemorating their renewed commitment to working together in a positive and respectful way for the good of the Band.

Congratulations Graduates!

Orr High School Class of 2011



Bridgette Burr
Bridgette plans to attend Hibbing Community College and earn an Associates of Arts degree before transferring to Hamline University to prepare for Law School.



David Connor
David plans to attend Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College and then transfer to North Dakota State University.



Rhieanna Connor
Rhieanna is enrolled at Hibbing Community College where she will study to be a Multi-Media Specialist



Emiliano Connor-Rodriquez
Emiliano plans to study for his general courses at Hibbing Community College before transferring to San Diego State University.



Kateri Day
Kateri will attend Mesabi Community College for two years to complete her general classes, then plans to transfer to Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College to complete her degree in Early Childhood Development.



Parker Drift
Parker will be attending Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College to study Law Enforcement.



Kayla Fisher
Kayla is enrolled at the University of Tampa in Florida while she prepares for medical school. She will also play on the University softball team.



Patrick Hoffer
Patrick has enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and will be leaving for duty July 18. After his service, he plans to enroll at the University of Minnesota in Crookston.



Coty William LaRoque
Coty will be attending ITT Technical Institute in Apple Valley to study Drafting.



Sophia Lien
Sophia is enrolled at Itasca County College where she plans to earn a degree in Social Work.



Tiffany Skinaway
Tiffany is planning to pursue a music career by attending the Minneapolis School of Music.

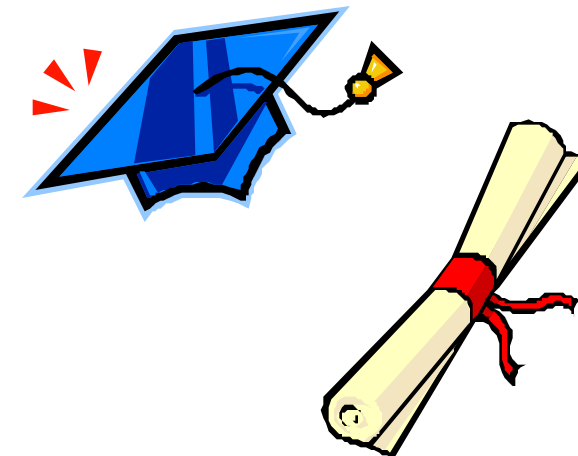


John Whiteman Jr.
John will be attending Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College this fall.

International Falls High School Class of 2011



Dylan Farmer
Dylan will either attend Mesabi Community College to train in Welding and Pipefitter, or attend Rainy River Community College to play Junior Hockey and study Welding.



Tower-Soudan High School Class of 2011



Corey Two Crow
Corey is enrolled at Haskell Tribal Nations University in Lawrence Kansas where he plans to play football and study Law Enforcement.



Brendin Villebrun
Brendin is deciding between attending Ely or Hibbing Community Colleges to study to be a Game Warden or Auto Mechanic.

Virginia High School Class of 2011



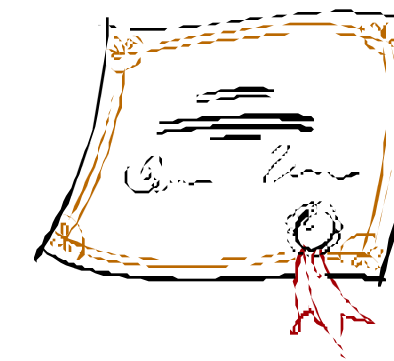
Christian Maki
Christian will begin classes this fall at Mesabi Community College. He is undecided on his major.



Katie Rock
Katie plans to attend Independent School District 2142 Life Skills Post Secondary Program.



Chandler Brown
Chandler plans to continue working at Fortune Bay's Tamarack Restaurant and attending Mesabi Community College for general classes. He would like to pursue a career in music using his talents as a cellist and bass guitar player.



Congratulations to the 2011 Daniel Morrison Scholarship Winners



Arianna Zapata
Orr High School

Arianna would like to pursue a career in dentistry. She will be attending the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.

Arianna is the Orr High School 2011 winner of the Daniel E. Morrison Memorial Scholarship for academic excellence and will be featured in the July *Bois Forte News*.



Cassandra Hartland
Tower-Soudan High School

Cassandra is enrolled at Hibbing Community College, where she plans to earn a degree in Nursing.

Cassandra is the Tower-Soudan High School 2011 winner of the Daniel E. Morrison Memorial Scholarship for academic excellence and will be featured in the July *Bois Forte News*.

Honoring Our Veterans

Unyielding commitment to the service shaped Chippewa war veteran's life

Editors Note: This month, in honor of the new Veterans Memorial Dedication, we reprint stories from Band member Veterans of World War II that were published in this paper in 2005. The first story is about Bill Light, a distinguished veteran who continues to serve as an active volunteer in the Nett Lake Community. The second story is a tribute to John Anderson, who passed three years ago.

Bill Light, 79, of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa has become a familiar face delivering newspapers. But the soft spoken World War II veteran doesn't just deliver a host of stories: he carries them deep within.

Light was only a teen when he stepped aboard the Sweetheart II plane in 1943 and served as the right gunner.

Enlisting in World War II had been on his mind for some time. Light was born on the shore of Rice Lake during rice season 80 years ago this August. When he'd come home from Flandreau School in School Dakota to visit his parents, Fred and Francis, he talked about enlisting.

"When the war broke out, I figured it was time to go," Light said. "I enlisted in the Air Force because I wanted to fly."

Light promptly took the bus to Fort Snelling for a physical and then spent 12 weeks at basic training in Shepherdsville, Texas, followed by 10 weeks at gunnery school in Arlington, Texas. There, Light joined the 388th Bomb Group. They trained for one year, shooting from the air over Utah's salt flats only 100 miles from Salt Lake City.

The landscape felt foreign to Light — "no trees or water, like I had grown up with in northern Minnesota," he said. But he knew he was preparing for something important.

Finally, Light's bomb group joined with six other bomb groups for four months of training in Massachusetts. Each group consisted of three squadrons with 15 planes per squadron.

At last, the 388th Bomb Group was prepared for its mission. They were a younger crew across the board. The eldest was the navigator in his early 30s; the pilot and co-pilot were barely in

their 20s; and the gunners and radio operators, including Light, were still teens.

They flew on a plane the pilot let his girlfriend name, Sweetheart II.

"He had been shot down in Sweetheart II" Light recalled.

When the crew flew in they were about 40 miles from Norwich. They could see Nettashaw, England and all the military bases. Thus began an intense lifestyle.

The British flew the night runs and the American men flew in the day. Light and his crew rose at four every morning for a briefing. Then they waited by their plane for departure. The men lived in real solidarity, Light said. "We ate, slept and drank together."

Light still clearly recalls the sounds of the enemy and the sense of their imminence.

"We heard the German planes at night," he said. "Fortunately, the Germans never hit the base. Often the British would knock them out. But they often hit near us."

The Germans pummeled London with "Buzz Bombs," bombs containing fuel that fly under they run out of fuel and then crash.

"There's a good chance Hitler might have won if he had enough gas for fuel," Light said.

At this point, Light explained, their purpose was to "soften up the enemy" before the big invasion at Normandy. The preparation was exhaustive. Light and his crewmates flew at least 25 missions — every day the weather permitted. First, over France, then they moved the targets to Germany and Belgium.

Light liked going on missions, though he'll admit that he was scared.

"All of us were [scared], but we didn't talk about it with one another because we saw other planes go down."

Light saw 20 to 30 enemy planes shot by someone in his group go down, too. "We took enemy fire on every mission," he said. "Usually



Bill Light, US Navy, was honored for his heroic service in World War II at the May 30 Veterans Memorial Dedication.

ground fire or flack hit us every time. There were often holes in the plane when we came back."

Crew members endured occasional injuries caused by shrapnel, Light said. But none of the young men died.

Half a year later, Light sailed back to the U.S. aboard Queen Mary I. Thousands of soldiers crammed into the ship for a seven-day trans-Atlantic journey. Shortly later, Light moved to Hartland, Texas, to train the next young group in gunnery use.

"I was only 20-years-old," he said. "But when they saw the combat medals on my uniform, they paid attention to me."

While training, Bill met a young Tennessee native named Elizabeth Perze who soon became his wife.

Light later decided to reenlist in the Army. He was stationed in England for the next two years, though he wasn't allowed to fly again, as a former member of a bombing group. Light was promoted to Sergeant and worked to bring crews back and forth from ships.

When his England tour was done, Light returned to his wife and their beautiful new daughter, whom they named after Light's mother Francis. The young family moved to a California air base 200 miles from Los Angeles.

Light's dedication to the service never wavered. In California, he trained young Air Force cadets and served as their barracks Sergeant. He was even compelled to return to England for a third tour of duty. *(cont. on page 8)*

South Pacific W.W. II service still influences John Anderson

John Anderson was born in Ely, a community that probably had as high a number of World War II enlistments per population as any community in the country.



Navy Hospital Corpsman John Anderson served in the South Pacific in WWII. John passed away in 2008.

And Anderson was among them.

He enlisted 62 years ago at age of 18. He had just graduated from Ely High School and, like most of his classmates, he wanted to serve his country.

"Native Americans have a strong commitment to military services," Anderson said. "I don't know why that is, but many of us feel it's important to serve and the guys try to stick together."

Anderson chose the Navy and was sent to Idaho for his initial training. Given the opportunity to indicate how he wanted to serve, Anderson requested the hospital corp. He was sent to San Diego for medic training and then assigned to the Navy Amphibious Force in the South Pacific.

As a corpsman, Anderson aided the Marines who were invading the islands in the region of the South Pacific east of the Philippines and south of Japan. He served extended periods on the islands of Saipan and Tinian. The Marines were aiming to dislodge the Japanese from those islands so the U.S. could use them as a stepping stone to eventually invade Japan.

Assisting his unit of 50 men challenged the young man. "At first the medical support was simple, but it got increasingly more complicated," Anderson recalled. "There were times all the corpsmen like myself were rushing around doing whatever we could, trying to help the doctors and nurses get very injured men sewn up so we could transfer them to a hospital ship for more extensive care."

Along with the expected bullet and shrapnel injuries, Anderson witnessed some horrific sights. "The guys that were burned were the hardest to see because they could be in such rough shape," he said. "Often a plane would crash landing on an aircraft carrier and the

plane or flight deck crew would be burned from the jet fuel fire."

Burn victims included men who had been in submarine accidents. "Sometimes they were battling physical as well as psychological wounds from being out too long and living underwater for such long stretches," Anderson said.

It pained Anderson to see young, naive men fall victim to injury. "The really young guys would volunteer for a lot of really dangerous stuff. I think many of them thought they were invincible. The older married men who had wives and kids back home to worry about had more experience with life and they were scared and probably exercised more common sense."

Anderson also treated injured Japanese soldiers. "Sometimes it was difficult for me because I'd seen what they had done to our soldiers and no one forgot Pearl Harbor," he admitted. "But we cared for them, too, and they were treated fairly."

Periodically, Anderson would visit the hospital ships, a trip he enjoyed for multiple reasons. "It was good to be able to move somebody who was badly injured to a place where they could get more medical help," he said. "And it also usually meant I could catch a good meal on the ship."



Many of John's classmates from Ely High School also enlisted in the Navy.

The war in the Pacific was not as well supplied as the one being fought in Europe, and American forces on the islands usually received fewer supplies. "Food was scare," Anderson said. "We lived for months on K-rations: spam, powdered eggs, etcetera."

Every now and then a ship would drop off a case of fresh fruit — an occasion Anderson still

recalls with pleasure. "An apple or orange would taste so good," he recalls.

Another treat American soldiers in the South Pacific were deprived of was contact from family and friends. "Mail reached us infrequently on the islands and we all missed having more communication from home," Anderson said. "One day in April I received a beat up old package that contained a fruit cake and a letter my Mom had sent to me the previous Christmas. By April it didn't taste very good."

Some letters never reached their intended recipients — including the one Anderson sent his parents about his injured hand. "It was a freak accident in which I broke a small bone in my hand reaching for a card in a poker game. A fellow card player didn't think I should take the card and slapped the back of my hand in mid-reach."

So when Anderson's parents received a later letter casually mentioning that his cast was coming off in a week, naturally, they were confused and worried about his injury.

Poker mishap aside, Anderson endured only one serious injury in the South Pacific. He was in a makeshift tent, operating a gas stove used for sterilizing bandages when the stove exploded. Most of the tent became enflamed, and though Anderson escaped, he lost his vision.

Doctors treated his eyes and bandaged them up. After three days, they removed the bandages, telling Anderson as they unwrapped his eyes: "If you can't see, you get to go home. Whatever medicine they had used did the trick," he said. "My sight returned."

Once the Americans completed their first campaign on the islands of Saipan and Tinian, they enjoyed a break at the Royal Hawaiian — one of the luxury hotels of the time.

"Although we couldn't use the beach much, which was run with barbed wire in case of an enemy invasion, they took good care of us whenever we had R and R on an island and staying at that beautiful hotel was great," Anderson said.

Soon he returned to Saipan to set up First Aid stations for the second wave of Marines arriving. The uncertainty of his work was unnerving. *(cont. on page 9)*

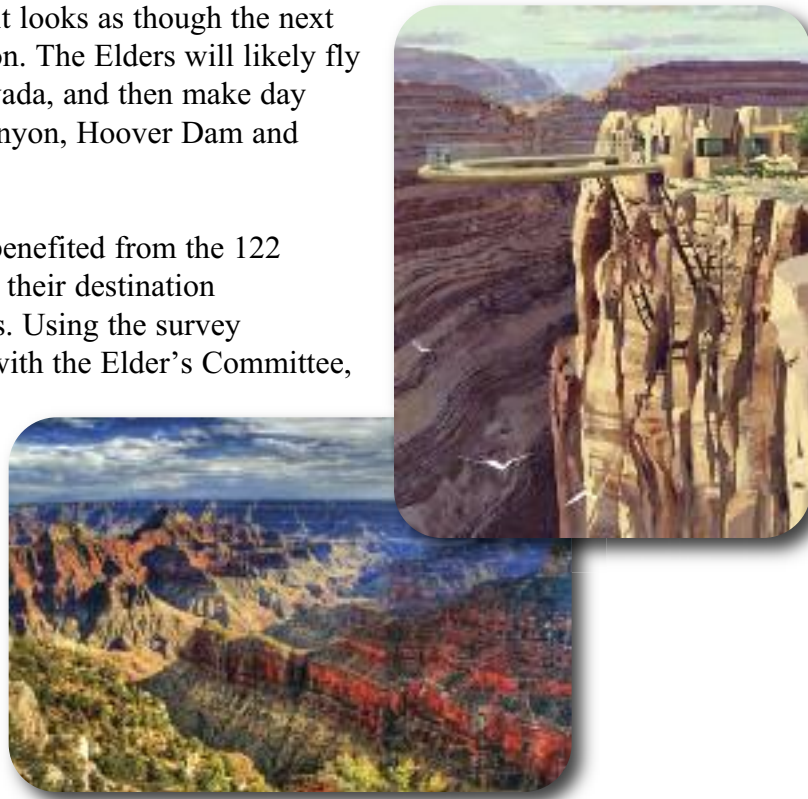
Elders

Elders Trip: Destination Grand Canyon?

Details are still being worked out, but it looks as though the next Elders' trip will be to the Grand Canyon. The Elders will likely fly into either Las Vegas or Laughlin, Nevada, and then make day trips to locations such as the Grand Canyon, Hoover Dam and nearby National Parks.

The staff working to plan the trip has benefited from the 122 surveys that Elders returned, providing their destination preferences, suggestions and comments. Using the survey information and subsequent meetings with the Elder's Committee, trip planners Jacque Wilson, Pam Hughes, and Theresa Drift will ensure a variety of activities, and there will be some outdoor activities that do not require a lot of walking. Elders will receive more information as details are finalized.

The spectacular Grand Canyon will be one of the highlights of the next Elders Trip.



Direct Deposit of your Social Security check soon to be mandatory



The U.S. Department of the Treasury announced a new rule that anyone applying for Social Security benefits on or after May 1, 2011, will receive their payments electronically, while those currently receiving paper checks will need to switch to direct deposit by March 1, 2013.

The Treasury says switching to direct deposit into a recipients bank account will extend the safety and convenience of electronic payments to millions of Americans and phase out paper checks for federal benefit and non-tax payments by March 1, 2013.

"Getting your Social Security or Supplemental Security Income payment by direct deposit or Direct Express is safer and more reliable," said Michael J. Astrue, Commissioner of Social Security. "You don't have to worry about your check being lost or stolen and your money is available immediately on your payment date. There is no need to wait for the mail to arrive."

To learn more about direct deposit or to apply, visit www.GoDirect.org.

(Bill Light cont. from page 6)

During that tour, Liz wrote to her husband requesting a divorce. Light consented.

As time passed, Light's work ethic remained strong. He volunteered to be a gunner on a B-29 — the type of plane that carried the atomic bombs dropped on Japan — and he was transferred from England to Hawaii.

"I would have flown to the South Pacific," Light said, "But the war ended."

Light returned home in a small cargo ship. During the 10-day voyage, he met Bois Forte Marine Ira Isham, also homebound. Light stayed in the service another year after the war's end and was discharged after 12 years of service.

Upon returning home, Light worked on road construction in Tower and northern Minnesota. He almost returned to service, harboring dreams of becoming a pilot, but Light drank heavily at the time, and his pilot plan fell by the way side.

In 1969, Light quit drinking. Three years later, he took a job as a conservation officer in Nett

Happy June Birthdays, Elders!

Lu Ann Drift	6-01
Marcella Drift	6-02
Mavis Drift	6-02
Jeneal Goggleye	6-04
Peggy Connor	6-15
Dorothea Kleschka	6-16
Eileen Barney	6-16
Maurice Champagne	6-16
Jennie Woodenfrog	6-18
Gary Strong	6-19
Jonathon Connor	6-21
Bernard O'Leary	6-24
Katy Laitenin	6-27
William Whiteman	6-27
Annabelle White Crow	6-30

RTC minutes available by mail for Elders

Minutes of the RTC meetings are available to everyone on the Bois Forte website.

Elders who have difficulty accessing the minutes online and would like to receive a print copy in the mail, may request them by calling Wicko at the RTC office 218-757-3261.

Lake where he worked for a decade.

Today, Light works for the state forest service in Cook, a position that involves projects for the Reservation Tribal Council. Light helps out in a number of ways, working on portages, assisting Elders and, yes, delivering newspapers — all the while carrying his stories that never before made it to print.

Spirituality

Insights and Inspirations: Respect

The Teachings of the Seven Grandfathers are gifts to help native people live *The Good Life*. Each teaching must be embraced equally. Bois Forte Elders have already shared some thoughts about the first teaching, wisdom. The second teaching is respect.

Showing respect for all people, all beings — "all that is," as some versions of the teachings tell us — is a way to honor all that the Creator has made. Respect is something that each individual must earn: you must give respect if you want to be respected.

What do Bois Forte Elders think about the teaching of respect?

"Respect is caring for another person. Respect yourself first in order to respect others." *Hank Goodsky*

"Respect depends on how you want to use it. Respect rights, respect their religion, and respect your wife, that's the main one. Muncidaagin — that was a person that harmed someone else, a woman or a child, they would be driven out of the camp, they would be banished." *Gene Boshey*

"The talking stick was used during meetings; it had an eagle feather on it. The person that wanted to talk picked it up and everyone else listened. They said something that was relevant. There was no interrupting. The stick was held in

(John Anderson cont. from page 7)

"One of the toughest parts for me was not knowing where we were going next," Anderson said. "We'd move from island to island and see where the Marines had been fighting and taken control of an area. We knew we were moving closer to Japan, but we were unaware of the exact plan for us or what would come next."

As the Marines inched toward Japan, their goal was to seize control of the islands from the Japanese, destroying the radar defense alerting them of US air attacks and setting up airstrips for US bombers to use to strike Japan.

Once in 1945, when the Marines had secured the island of Tinian for an airstrip, a "huge B29" called the Enola Gay landed. "We didn't know what its mission was, but I was aware of all the heightened security around the airstrip and the plane," Anderson recalled. "It took off on August 6 and dropped the atomic bomb on the Japanese

the left hand, the one closest to the heart. The speaker then passed it on to the next person who wanted to speak. Listening and waiting till it is your turn to talk not barging in or swearing.

I think that a lot of people need to respect their neighbors. Older people don't like a lot of loud noise. They don't like garbage dumped out of cans and drifting into their yards and not being picked up. Traditional values like respect need to be absorbed. It's like a swimming pool full of values. Respect is one of those values in the pool. In order to feel proud of your self and who you are you need to jump in to the pool until you absorb those traditional values." *Gary Adams*

"Respect mother earth. Respect your wife or woman. Never abuse her in any way. Respect Mother Nature, if you take from the earth, you need to give something back. Need to learn respect for all life. Respect for family, giving thanks." *Syd Adams*

"I think it's being treated the same way that you want to be treated. Elders should be respected. They have lived their life. They need help carrying things. There are a lot of things they can't do and they appreciate the help that they get from younger people." *Geraldine Hanks*

The third of the grandfathers' seven teachings, love, will be featured in an upcoming issue of the *Bois Forte News*.

industrial city Hiroshima. We were preparing to move to Iwo Jima a few days later when we heard on the radio that a big bomb had been dropped on Japan."

Three days later, Americans dropped a second bomb on Nagasaki. Within a month, the Japanese surrendered to General Douglas MacArthur, aboard the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay.

At last, Anderson could return to Minnesota. "By the time we got back to San Francisco, I was ready to get out of the service and return home to Ely," he said.

Anderson promptly enrolled in Ely Junior College under the GI Bill. There he met young Eleanor Berg, the daughter of a Forest Service pilot who had moved his family from St. Paul to Ely. The two married and Anderson began working in construction. Later he became Ely's Assistant Post Master, devoting more than two decades to postal work.

Respect



Dr. Linda Grover

At the very heart and foundation of all Anishinaabe teachings is respect. In our walk along the Good Road, the learning about this value and, even more important, the living a respectful life are what makes us Anishinaabeg.

The child who is taught respect and how to live it will one day teach the same to the next generation. We were children once; now as Elders we remember what we have learned, and with love those who taught us.

How can we try to ensure that our children and grandchildren will continue this essential aspect of being Anishinaabe? I believe the best way is to walk in the footsteps of the Elders who educated us. Like them, we can do our best to teach by example, through our words and deeds, to talk about and model respect with an awareness of the world today and the generations to come.

What are some of the ways that we model the importance of respect to younger generations? We do our best to treat others with consideration and to take care of the world around us. We show our grandchildren that the world is important. All people, animals, plants, the air, the water, the ground, were created by the Great Spirit.

Respect and thankfulness are intertwined with our spirituality. When I was a girl, my dad told me, "Every morning when you get up you should thank God for making you an Indian." I would like to say this to every child. I believe that being aware and remembering every day that we have received this gift of being Anishinaabe reinforces humility, thankfulness, respect for others, and self-worth. We have been created with purpose. The spirit of the Creator exists within all of us, and everything else.

Anderson and his wife still live in the house on Burntside Lake where they raised their five children. He can better appreciate family — from his wife to his grandchildren — because of World War II.

"The Navy was a good experience and taught me many things," he said, "including how much home and family meant."

Culture

June Powwows



June 3-4
Taylorville Black Horse Powwow
Taylorville, IL
217-528-9172
sevenhgawks@sbcglobal.net

June 4-5
MNI All Nations Gathering
Rockville, IN
317-372-9457
roger@trahinmiller.com

June 10-11
Will Rogers Annual Powwow
Marshfield, MO
417-581-7662
flyingsquirrel@cebridge.net

June 10-11
White Earth Powwow
White Earth, MN
218-983-3285

June 10-12
Jerry Fairbank's Scholarship Powwow
Sawyer, MN
218-878-8194
brendashabiash@fdlrez.com

June 16-19
Red Bottom Celebration
Frazer, MT
406-768-5155 Ext. 338

June 17-18
Dancers of the Plains Powwow
Kearney, NE
308-237-1000
robrien@archway.org

June 17-19
Grand Celebration
Hinckley, MN
320-384-4930
vkroschel@grcasinos.com

June 17-19
Lake Vermilion Traditional Powwow
Tower, MN
218-750-7772
murieldeegan@yahoo.com

June 24-26
Annual Traditional Powwow
Round/S Lake, Leech Lake
218-760-7955 or 218-368-3971
maang40@yahoo.com or
youthdriver_57@yahoo.com

June 3-5
Bois Forte Saa Gii Ba Gaa Powwow
Nett Lake, MN
Donald Chosa 218-757-3128

June 3-4
Seven Teachings Powwow
Elk Rapids, MI
231-709-2936
Toni.k.shananquet@gmail.com



Vern Connor talks with students about tapping trees.



Forestry crew Chris Cox, Ron Day and Ron LaRoque Jr teach the kids about fire safety.

Sugarbush



Gene Goodsky is always teaching young people.



Harvey Thompson and a group of inquisitive young students.



Nett Lake 6th grader Brice Roether and Cook 6th grader Adam Schelde work hard under Myra guidance.

Youth

New outdoor program will connect youth to outdoors and Ojibwe traditions

ATVs, jet skiing, camping and fishing offered this summer

As part of the Bois Forte Band's commitment to helping youth stay healthy and preserving its unique culture, the Band is launching a new program to get youth out of doors for activities that can ultimately lead them to traditional Ojibwe pursuits. The pilot program that organizers hope will grow into an annual event, seeks to provide training and opportunities for fishing, hunting, trapping, gathering and dog sledding, mixed in with opportunities to learn safety on motorized recreational vehicles like ATVs and jet skis.

Program organizers – District I Representative Cathy Chavers, DNR Commissioner Corey Strong, Education Programs Technician Leanne Hoffman, Heritage Center Executive Director Rose Berens, Band member Maurice Champagne and staff from the 1854 Treaty Office – hope participants will develop interests in traditional activities that will last a lifetime.

The training components will be built into the education days already scheduled as part of the Summer Youth program. First up for this new pilot program will be gun safety training scheduled for June 28th and 29th from 9:00 a.m.

to 3:00 a.m. for youth and adults ages 10 and up. Practicals will be held on June 30. Once this is complete there will be marksmanship events for the youth. Organizers are hoping the gun safety course will lead to some type of permanent marksmanship course for the community.

Canoe Safety and Jet Skis will be held on July 14, 2011 at Indian Point Beach. The Summer Youth crew are planning a clean-up, cook-out as part of the event. This training is open to all ages. For ATV safety training, the youth will receive a CD with instructional classes to review on their own and a practical exam will be held on July 28. This training is also open to the public as well as summer youth.

In late July or early August, the program will offer a camping trip for youth and adults to Basswood Lake, led by Band member Maurice Champagne. Participants will fish at Farmer John's and Lake Vermilion, experiencing the difference between fishing at a lake that requires a state license and one where 1854 Treaty Rights are involved.



Three year old Head Start students Kalvyn, Alana, Vincent, & David join front row: Rose Lee, Mya, Trajen, & Aki, in proudly displaying their craftwork. Thanks to Ruth Porter for sending the photo and student names.

Organizers are working to get fishing rods and tackle for the kids. The 1854 Office is providing life jackets who participate in the canoe safety training. Program participants can then put their life jackets and canoeing experience to use this fall during the wild rice harvest. Also in the fall, the youth will be offered gun safety training and then go hunting.

For more information about the new program, call Cathy at (218) 780-7106 or Leanne at (218) 757-3124.

Vermilion Head Start gets new bus

Just like the children in it, Vermilion's Head Start program is growing. With the addition of a second classroom this year, Head Start needed a bigger bus to transport its tiny charges.

The new, larger bus which arrived in early May, can transport 32 children, 10 more than the old bus held. Each seat is equipped with a five-point harness seat belt that safely covers a child up to 85 pounds, compared to the 50-pound limit on the harnesses in the smaller bus.

Bois Forte Head Start is currently accepting applications for the 2011-12 school year. Children must be three years old by September 1, 2011 to enter the program.

Funding for the new bus came from a grant from the federal Office of Head Start. The smaller Head Start bus Vermilion currently uses will now be used at Nett Lake, where fewer children need bus service because many parents drive them on their way to work in the village.

Do you know a child who could benefit from Head Start? Bois Forte Head Start is currently accepting applications for the 2011-12 school year. Children must be three years old by September 1, 2011 to enter the program. For more information, contact Christine Bloom, Director of Head Start, at (218) 757-3265 or cbloom@boisforte-nsn.gov.



A new set of wheels for Head Start students was delivered to Nett Lake in early May. The 32 passenger vehicle will be used by the larger Vermilion Head Start program, who will then send their smaller 22 passenger vehicle to be used by the Nett Lake program.

Urban Office

American Indian Month offered something for everyone

Minnesotans celebrated American Indian Month in May with a wide variety of events. Here is a sampling of the many choices that were available:

- Performance – the Young Native Pride Performance celebrated Dakota culture, traditions, and spirituality with a free dance exhibition and art show.
- Film – the Indigenous Peoples Task Force and Native CHAT hosted a native youth film festival where young filmmakers shared their views on HIV, AIDS, drugs and other issues that affect them.
- Music – the Spirit of our Music Festival featured world-renowned flutist Kevin Locke, classical guitarist Gabriel Ayala and Oneida soprano soloist Jennifer M. Stevens. Also, the Mankato Symphony Orchestra performed four concerts merging American Indian and western classical music.
- Art – works by Ojibwe artist Douglas Limon

were displayed at the Penny George Institute for Health & Healing in Minneapolis.

- Career fair – the American Indian OIC Career Fair included employers and job training programs.
- Readings – the Loft Literary Center invited 15 native writers to read their stories, poems and other writings, and the American Indian Center hosted “Ghost Stories: Five Writers Read Works on Historical Trauma” with African-American, Hmong, Japanese-American, Jewish and White Earth Anishinabe writers.
- Outdoors – canoeing, lacrosse, fresh water biology, and more were featured at the 3rd Annual Canoe Nations Gathering in Minneapolis.



Harold Lightfeather, Laura and Derick Geshick, and Gail and Lelan Leecy pictured here at the American Indian Center on Franklin Ave were part of the Bois Forte Delegation that walked in the May kickoff parade of American Indian Month in Minneapolis.

There were also feasts, craft sales, and open houses at organizations such as the American Indian Family and Children’s Services, the Division of Indian Work, the Minneapolis American Indian Center, the Indian Health Board, the Ain Dah Yung Center and the Minnesota Indian Women’s Resource Center.

First Annual Native Art Festival June 11-12 near Urban Office

The first annual Twin Cities American Indian Arts Festival will occur on June 11-12 just one block east of the Bois Forte Urban Office on Franklin Avenue in South Minneapolis.



Organized by the Native American Community Development Institute (NACDI), the event will bring together Indigenous artists, performers, and musicians from across Minnesota in celebration of American Indian cultural arts. Join the two day celebration and meet American Indian Contemporary fine artists, dancers, singers and exhibitors in the outdoor All My Relations Arts Plaza. For more info, see: <http://www.allmyrelationsarts.com/festival>.



Bois Forte’s Mental Health team met with the state Department of Human Services on May 12 and 13 and then stopped in at the Urban Office to tour and visit with Jacque Wilson. Standing behind Jacque is Clint Miller, Youth Homeless Program; Virgil Sohm, Adult Mental Health; Wendy Drift, Mental Health Practitioner; and Janelle Burton, Homeless Program Coordinator. Thanks to photographer Honore Lehtinen for sending the photo.

Tribal Gov’t News & Updates

Nett Lake Clinic now offering x-rays

Bois Forte Health Services is proud to announce that beginning June 1 we will be offering x-rays at the Nett Lake Clinic as a limited practice facility. X-rays will be performed on the following areas: head, chest, neck, shoulder, wrist, elbow, hand, spine, abdomen, pelvis, hip, femur (thigh bone), knee, tibia (shin bone), fibula (calf bone), ankle, feet and fingers.



In addition to the convenience of having your x-ray done locally by health care staff you know, Bois Forte’s health services will benefit financially from not paying another provider for x-ray services.

Contract Health Clerk Connie Harju practices using the new X-ray machine at the Nett Lake clinic with the help of LPN Dennis Coty. The new x-ray services will be available June 1.

The new machine cannot do MRIs, IVPs, dexacans, nuclear med studies, mammograms and CT’s. These x-rays will

continue to be done at outside facilities with a referral from a Bois Forte Clinic physician.

To schedule an appointment for an x-ray you can call the Bois Forte Medical Clinic at 218-757-3650. You must have a doctor’s order prior to scheduling.

If you have any questions regarding x-ray services, please contact Paula Hoover, at 218-757-3650.

CORRECTION:

Last month’s story on Marine Corporal Derek Goodridge incorrectly listed the date of his injury as February 3, 2010. Corporal Goodridge was injured in Afghanistan in February of this year, 2011.

New Public Works equipment arrives

The variety of projects Bois Forte Public Works crews will accomplish just increased thanks to new equipment picked up at St Joseph Equipment in Hermantown on May 10.



John Whiteman and Travis Morrison are pictured right cleaning up construction debris using the new excavator and hydraulic thumb as well as new attachments on the Bobcat Bois Forte already own.

Accessories for the new excavator include a brush head cutter and ditching bucket. The equipment will work on a variety of projects including digging water lines, clearing right-of-way, helping to replace culverts and demolition projects. The attachments for the Bobcat will be used for similar projects on a smaller scale. The equipment was purchased with dollars allotted through the federal American Reinvestment and Recover Act.

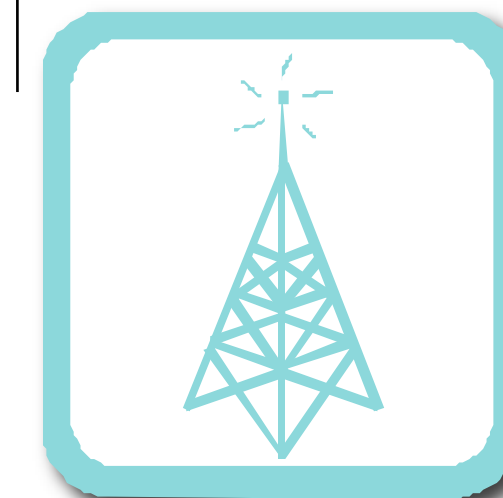
Bois Forte also recently acquired a used dump truck from MNDOT to use in road plowing and a compact track loader that will be delivered soon to Vermilion. The track loader is being purchased with a combination grant and loan from USDA. Facilities Manager Kevin Strong and his crew will use the equipment for several Vermilion projects including clearing ditches, landscaping, and road repair. Attachments will include a back hoe, broom, tree and brush grapple, and oversize bucket for snow. Vermilion’s existing snow blower is being modified to fit on the new track loader.

Bois Forte making health coverage easier to obtain

Bois Forte Contract Health Services (CHS) has partnered with the Minnesota Community Application Agent Program to help people enroll in publicly funded health care coverage.

The program allows organizations throughout the state, like Bois Forte CHS, to work with the Minnesota Department of Human Services and counties so that health care coverage applications can be processed much faster.

If you do not have health care coverage and would like to apply for state health care programs, please call Trudy King or Connie Harju at (218) 757-3295.



KBFT radio coming soon!

Visit our website for more information:
www.KBFT.com

Community News & Announcements

Ferdinand "Buck" Secola, Jr.



Ferdinand "Buck" Secola Jr., 61, of Orr, passed away on Friday, April 29th, at Essentia-St. Mary's Hospital in Duluth.

He was born in Virginia on May 16, 1949, to Ferdinand and Clara (Porter) Secola. He grew up in Virginia, graduated from

Virginia High School, and attended college in Minneapolis. "Buck", as he was known to all, was a charter pilot in Bismarck, ND, a conservation officer for Bois Forte, and a construction millwright who worked in nuclear power plants throughout the country.

Buck was a member of the construction Local 548 Union in St. Paul and a volunteer Fire Warden for the DNR for 25 years. He had a lifelong passion for hunting and fishing. He duck hunted-including guiding, went several times to Alaska for fishing, was on many successful moose hunting trips, and even adventured to hunt in England, Wales and Scotland. Buck was in the master class in sporting clay shooting, and earned many trophies for his skill.

He and Pam traveled extensively throughout the country in shooting competition, making long lasting friendships. He was a member of Udovich Sporting Clays of Greaney, Hibbing Trap Club, Zim Skeet Club and the Virginia Trap Club. He loved to tell stories, and had a natural gift to get people to chuckle and laugh and feel at ease. He was a great cook, and will be especially remembered for his excellent spaghetti. As in life, he continued to give after death, in that he was an eye donor that would give others the gift of sight.

He is preceded in death by his parents.

Buck is survived by his soul mate of 22 years, Pam Carlson of Cook; aunts, uncles and many other special relatives, along with many, many friends.

SERVICES: Funeral services will be at 12 Noon on Wednesday (May 4th) at the Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook, where visitation will begin at 11 AM. The Rev. Mr. Dennis Anderson will be the officiant. Special music will be provided by Keith Secola. The casket bearers will be Tom Cramer, Casey Sunsdahl, Mike Secola, Greg Padgett, Al Hanson and Mark Tomonovich. The honorary bearers will be Wes Plath, Joe McHenry and Jerry Palmer. Interment will be in the Field Township Cemetery. Lunch will follow at the Trinity Lutheran Church social hall.

Looking for Howard McClain or close relatives of Alec Pete

The family of Alec Pete is trying to get hold of any surviving relatives regarding executorship of his estate.

If you have an interest in the Pete estate, please contact Wendy Thompson at the Tribal Court 218 -757-3462 or email wynthompson@boisforte-nsn.gov.

Dunkley family thank you

Kelly and Michael Dunkley would like to extend a heartfelt mii gwech to the community for the love and support extended to their son Gewaden who was seriously injured in a car accident a year ago April.

Gewaden has endured 26 surgeries since the accident. But he continues to hold his head high and smile each day as he works through rehab and therapy sessions.

Gewaden is still planning to begin classes soon at St. Scholastica.

Please continue to keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Below: Theresa Morrison and Russell Columbus, Urban Office.



Above: Bob Hedlund, marketing.

Right: Amiel Talks, Marian Holmes, and Wicko Villebrun.



Above: Tristan Day, security; Keelie Shaw, guest services; and Jim Morrison, security.



Mark your calendar for the
5th Annual
JOSH RUTAR Memorial Golf Tournament
June 18, 2011 at Vermilion River Green

4-person scramble - 18 holes. Cost is \$200 per team.

1st Place - \$900; 2nd Place; \$600; 3rd Place - \$400; Consolation - \$200
 (Please note that prizes may change due to number of participants)

Prizes will also be awarded for the longest putt, closest to the pin, and skins game.

Rules: Limit of 22 teams, USGA Handicap 40+ (only 1 under 6), and you MUST pre-register. To do so, please call Vermilion River Green at 218-993-2246.

T-shirts are \$10.00 each and the order deadline is June 5th
 (you do not have to play to order a t-shirt).



Band member and recording artist Keith Secola gives instructions on playing the Cedar Flute to Jennifer Morrison. Keith played his flute as part of the Spring Ceremony and explained to the group, "This flute is the 'little brother of the drum'. It expresses what is in our heart, beautiful words of love and compassion. Our people had little pipes for all types of uses and ceremonies. Whatever is good in your heart, play when you feel that love."

CenturyLink offers telephone assistance to individuals living on Tribal Lands

CenturyLink is energizing its efforts to inform residents of two assistance programs that provide discounts on initial telephone installation and basic monthly telephone service to qualifying low-income consumers. Link-Up helps these consumers pay the initial costs of getting telephone service. Lifeline provides certain discounts on monthly service for qualified subscribers.

Lifeline and Link-Up are available to qualifying consumers in every U.S. state (territory and commonwealth). Qualifications for participation vary by state. States with their own programs have their own criteria. In states that rely solely on the federal program, the subscriber must participate in one of the following programs: Medicaid, food stamps, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Federal Public Housing Assistance or the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Head Start, the National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) or if the Household annual gross income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty level.

The amount of the discounts also varies by state. Link-Up helps qualified low-income consumers to connect to the telephone network. This federal program offsets 1/2 of the initial hook-up fee, up to \$30, for qualified households.

Residents of American Indian and Alaskan Native tribal lands may qualify for an additional \$25 of enhanced Lifeline support monthly and up to \$70 of expanded Link-Up support beyond current levels. An individual living on tribal lands may also qualify for Lifeline and Link-Up discounts if he or she participates in one of the above programs or one of the following federal programs: Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance or Tribally-Administered Temporary Assistance to Needy Families.

Individuals living in a CenturyLink service area should call 800-201-4099 or visit www.centurylink.com/lifeline to inquire about eligibility.

CenturyLink™

lifeline SAU www.centurylink.com

Bois Forte Saa Gii Ba Gaa Powwow

2011

June 3rd - 5th

Bois Forte Tribal Gov't Center

Friday: Warm-ups

Saturday: Grand Entry @ 1 pm & 7 pm

Feast @ 5 pm

Sunday: Grand Entry @ 1 pm

Feast @ 4 pm

Host Drum:

Robert Strong Traditional

Drift Traditional

Invited Drums:

Woodland Singers

TBA

MC & Co-MC:

TBA & Terry Goodsky

Spiritual Advisor:

Calvin Ottetail & Gilbert Smith

Arena Director:

Terry Goodsky

Specials:

To Be Announced.

Information call:

Donald Chosa 218-757-3128

This is a Commercial Smoke-Free Event (cigarettes, cigars, chew, spit, etc.) Designated Smoking area will be assigned.

Support Traditional Asemaa Use; Not Commercial Tobacco Abuse!

The Bois Forte Powwow Committee and Bois Forte Tribal Govt. are not responsible for lost or stolen property

The Bois Forte Powwow Committee and Bois Forte Tobacco Programs support **Traditional Tobacco Use**

Absolutely NO Alcohol or Drugs allowed!

Change of Address Form

Bois Forte regularly sends out important information in the mail. Per capita checks, community meeting notices and the RTC quarterly letters are examples of items that are regularly mailed. It is essential that we have your correct mailing address so that you can receive this information.

If you have moved recently, or are not receiving regular mailings, please fill out the change of address form below and mail to:

Toni Wakemup
Bois Forte Enrollment Coordinator
5344 Lake Shore Dr
Nett Lake MN 55772.

Please note, you must check the box below your signature if you want us to give your new address to the Bois Forte Newspaper.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/ State/ Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Yes, I would like this new address shared with the *Bois Forte News*

Please send us your email address if you'd like to begin receiving the *Bois Forte News* in your email box:

**LAKE VERMILION TRADITIONAL
POW WOW**

JUNE 17TH, 18TH & 19TH
LAKE VERMILION POW WOW GROUNDS

FRIDAY: Warm ups
SATURDAY:
Grand Entry 1 & 7pm.
Feast 5pm
SUNDAY:
Grand Entry 1pm

M.C.: George Strong & Terry Goodsky
HOST DRUM: Lake Vermilion Singers
LEAD DANCERS: Tom Fish & Vanessa Diver
ARENA DIRECTOR: Jeff Boshey Jr. & Doug Fuhrman
SPIRITUAL ADVISORS: Gilbert Smith & Calvin Ottertail
SECURITY DIRECTORS: Billie Deegan & Jimbo Boshey

CONTACT INFORMATION: Muriel Deegan 218-750-7772 or murieldeegan@yahoo.com
Tracey Dagen 218-550-6128 or tdagen@fortunebay.com

ABSOLUTELY NO DRUGS OR ALCOHOL ALLOWED 24/7 SECURITY & CAMPING AVAILABLE

The Lake Vermilion Pow Wow Committee & Bois Forte Tribal Government is not responsible for lost or stolen property.

The Bois Forte News

The Bois Forte News (BFN) is published monthly by the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa. The BFN encourages submission of articles, guest columns, community announcements, photos and personal announcements. Contributions are subject to editing for grammar, length and malicious/libelous content. BFN will attempt to include all material submitted by Band members and guests. Multiple contributions from the same source may be excluded or rotated to future issues to insure equal access to all. Paid ads are accepted. Visit www.boisforte.com for rates and insertion order.

The BFN is distributed for free to Band members and is available to others for \$10 per year.

Deadline for July issue:

June 10

Submit material to:

Bois Forte News
1101 Sibley Memorial Hwy. # 507
Lilydale, MN 55118
651-260-2420 phone; 651-452-1640 fax
Helenwilkie@comcast.net

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Secretary/Treasurer

Cathy Chavers
District I Representative

Brandon Benner
District I Representative

Ray Toutloff
District II Representative