



National Vietnam War Veterans Day
 Sunday, March 29, 2020 - National Vietnam War Veterans Day is a way to thank and honor our nation's Vietnam Veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice. Veteran's Spotlight on Page 2.

Tribal Election Information
 Page 4 - 9



Obituaries
 A New Journey
 Page 10



Bois Forte News

Volume 44 Number 01 - March 2020

www.boisforte.com



Bois Forte News 5344 Lakeshore Drive Nett Lake, Minnesota 55772

2020 Bois Forte Tribal Election Dates

March 31: Primary
 June 9: General

PRESORTED
 STANDARD
 US POSTAGE PAID
 DULUTH, MN
 PERMIT NO. 1946

Bois Forte 2020 State of the Band

Not just for information but a place to connect with friends and family.

This year's State of the Band was held Thursday, January 23, 2020, at Fortune Bay Resort Casino.



Chairwoman Cathy Chavers, delivers the 2020 State of the Band Address.

The event was blessed with a full ballroom and over 150 views on the Tribe's YouTube Channel. They had 40 plus booths, which included information from Bois Forte's Health and Human Services, Housing, Human Resources, Urban Offices, Veteran Services, Education and Scholarships, and more. A remote viewing station was set up in the Eagle room of the Tribal Government building in Nett Lake. The

viewing station was available to those who have limited access to the internet and who were unable to attend the event at Fortune Bay.

The opening ceremony was led by Spiritual Advisor Gene Goodsky and 'Makade Bikone Binesi' Black Eagle drum - in care of Chaz Wagner. The Bois

Forte Honor Guard, guided by George Mihelich - brought in the colors and staffs.

Chairwoman Cathy Chavers, presentation covered a wide-range of topics and issues.

- Continue moving forward with guidance of past leaders, enhancing programs and services, being persistent, proactive, fiscally responsible, transparent, and accountable.

- Federal Government Shutdown - The Senior Management along with the Tribal Council have devised a standardized plan, set up in phases to



Brent Villebrun and Brady Boutto from Forestry, were the smiling friendly faces greeting everyone at registration. Brady is sporting this year's State of the Band T-shirt.



deal with future shutdowns.

- Implemented a financial emergency fund by utilizing the

Wayfair tax that was applied to the State of Minnesota in 2018.

...continued on page 2.

Note from the Editor: I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season! I send many apologies to you for the absence of the December 2019, January and February 2020 issues. For this issue of the Bois Forte News we are combining the months of December 2019 to March 2020.

State of the Band

continued from page 1.

- Financial Report: We organized a 15-year report covering monies received from the revenue of Fortune Bay and explaining how they were paid to the Tribal Government programs and services. These reports will be mailed to Band members who were unable to get their copy at the State of the Band. This revenue disbursement will be provided every year at the State of the Band financial presentations.

- Purchasing Power Initiative - We are collaborating with the Minnesota Area Indian Chamber of Commerce. The initiative will allow Tribes to have access to vendors to help reduce costs for both Fortune Bay and the Tribal Government.

- Tribal Code: The Bois Forte Tribal Code has been updated and posted for 30-day public comment.

- Code of Ethics: The Bois Forte Code of

Ethics is currently being updated. A committee of Band members have been working on the code since 2017. The updated code will be posted for Band member input.

- Cobell Land Buy Back Program: Bois Forte had approximately 53% Band member participation, returning over 2,800 acres of fractured land interests to Bois Forte.

- MCT Title Land Transfer: The 2018 Tribal Executive Committee passed a resolution to transfer "Title" back to the perspective Tribes. A Bill has been drafted and is now the responsibility of legislation of Congress to make the land transfer. If the bill were passed, Bois Forte would acquire approximately 32,800 acres of land.

- Nett River Dam: Our dam is in crisis and to ensure the life of the "Best Wild Rice in the World," it needs immediate attention. We are currently researching and

actively seeking funds for a feasibility study.

- Wild Rice: The rice crop was the best in years and the Tribe purchased 26,130 pounds of green rice. The State of Minnesota and the 11 Tribal Nations are working together, creating a Wild Rice Group that will monitor wild rice including the sulfate issue and how it affects wild rice.

- Fiber to the Home Project: This project is getting closer to the end, with an estimate of implementation within the next two years. The Bois Forte Tribal Government will solely own the Fiber to the Home network. It will allow Band members to determine its own telecommunication future:

- Provide high speed internet and voice capabilities
- Put our students on equal technological ground as those in larger cities and rural communities
- Provide economic opportunities to companies either

seeking to relocation or do business with the Reservation

- Enhance our medical facilities
- Allow Band members to telecommute to work
- Help reduce the telecommunication costs to our existing businesses.

- Strategic Plan: We are reviewing and revising the Tribes Strategic Plan, seeking funding for feasibility studies and economic development.

- Expanding H&HS: We are in the early planning stages of opening access to our H&HS for all employees of the Tribal Government along with the public. This will not affect Band member's access to services.

- Honor Guard: We are revitalizing our Honor Guard.

- Elderly Housing: We are in need and working on Elderly housing in Vermilion and Nett Lake. The current facilities were constructed in '70's, and our Elders

deserve better.

- DNR Building: The current facility is inadequate for staff and is a safety issue. We need new technology, a new water quality lab, plus a new storage facility for our wild rice.

- Johnson Lake Property: The plan for this property near Ely is for a Cultural Immersion site. We are currently implementing phases of funding applications for grants to transform and upgrade the location. Our first phase is to acquire funding for generators, road upgrades and more.

- Jail Agreement: The agreement between St. Louis County and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to utilize Hibbing and Virginia jail facilities instead of driving over 5 hours to our current jail facility in Sherburne County is in the hands of the legal teams.

- MCT Constitutional Reform: We are continuing to support the MCT Constitutional Reform

process and our Bois Forte delegates.

-Northern Eagle Federal Credit Union

- We have partnered with the Embarrass Vermilion Federal Credit Union. This will increase access to their services.

-Minnesota Missing & Murdered Indigenous Task Force - We have taking action and are proud to be part of this task force that was signed into resolution by Governor Walz and Lt. Governor Flanagan.

- Youth, Elders, Language & Culture

- Continue to keep, support, and revitalize our people. The State of the Band 2020 wrapped up with a delicious dinner and closing ceremony. This year's and previous State of the Band events are available to watch at your convenience on the Tribes YouTube channel, search keyword "Bois Forte Tribal Government."

Miigwech for your Service!



Veteran Spotlight

Do you have a loved one who has served or is serving in the U.S. Military? Shine the spotlight on them! Send us a photo and include the name and branch of service of the person you are spotlighting and tell us why they are special to you. We will be spotlighting Veterans every month! Send to Louise at lisham@boisforte-nsn.gov.



Bois Forte Veterans Memorial Monument

We are inviting individuals to submit their names for the Bois Forte Veterans Memorial Monument.

Who is Eligible? Bois Forte Band members who have served in the military. Individuals who have a dishonorable discharge are not eligible.

What Documentation is Needed? A copy of your DD2-14 (or other acceptable proof of service and discharge).

Who Do I send it to? Bois Forte Veterans Memorial Monument Attention: Louise Isham Bois Forte Tribal Government 5344 Lakeshore Drive Nett Lake, MN 55772 P: 218-757-3261 | lisham@boisforte-nsn.gov



National Vietnam War Veterans Day Sunday, March 29, 2020

National Vietnam War Veterans Day is a way to thank and honor our nation's Vietnam Veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice.

DID YOU KNOW?

According to the Department of Defense, they recognize that today's military successes depend heavily on Native Americans:

31,000

American Indian and Alaska Native men and women are on active duty today, serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere around the world.

140,000

living Native Americans are Veterans. 11.5% of these Veterans are female, as compared to 8% of all other ethnicities.

18.6%

Native Americans served in the post - 9/11 period in a higher percentage than Veterans of other ethnicities, 18.6% vs. 14%, respectively.

Many Native American Veteran's are Purple Heart recipients, Bronze Star medal honorees, and many have been recognized with the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest military award of the United States. Learn more here: www.americanindian.si.edu/nnavm/heros



Ernest Steel Bois Forte Tribal Veterans Service Officer / Field Operations Duluth, MDVA Direct 218-725-5284 Cell 651-238-0334 Fax 218-725-4678 Amendola Building 405 East Superior Street Suite No. 130 Duluth, MN 55802

Have veteran related questions?

Call 1-888-LinkVet (1-888-546-5838)

www.minnesotaveteran.org or www.mn.gov/mdva

BOIS FORTE TRIBAL ELECTION 2020

ELECTION CALENDAR 2019-2020 REGULAR ELECTION

March 27:
Notify MCT on choice of appellate forum.

March 31:
Primary (Polling places open from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.)

April 1:
General Reservation Election Board certifies Primary Results. (Prior to 8:00 p.m.)

April 2:
General Reservation Election Board publishes Primary Results.

April 3:
Deadline for Request for Recount. (Filed with General Election Board prior to 5:00 p.m.)

April 3:
Deadline to Post Regular Election Notice without Primary.

April 7:
4:30 p. m. - Deadline for Contest of Primary Election. (Filed with Reservation Election Judge and Executive Director of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe).

April 8 (Results, if Allowed or 6th or 7th If

earlier request):
Deadline for Decision on Request for Recount and Results of Recount, if allowed.

April 17:
Deadline for Decision on Contest

April 20 (or within 3 days of decision on Contest):
4:30 p. m. - Deadline for Appeal to Court of Election Appeals. (Filed with the Executive Director of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and with Reservation Tribunal rendering Decision).

April 23 (or within 3 days upon receipt of Notice to Appeal):
Record of Contest forwarded to Court of Election Appeals.

April 27 (hearing within 7 days notice of appeal):
Last Day for Hearing on Appeal

May 7 (10 days from hearing on appeal):
Last Day for Decision on Appeal

May 8:
Notice of General Election.

May 8:
TEC provides ballots for General Election

June 9:
General Election (Polling Places open from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.)

June 10:
General Reservation Election Board certifies results of Election. Prior to 8:00 p.m.

June 11:
General Reservation Election Board publishes Election results.

June 12:
Deadline for Request for Recount. (Filed with General Election Board prior to 5:00 p.m.)

June 16:
4:30 pm. - Deadline for Notice of Contest. (Filed with Reservation Election

Judge and Executive Director of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe.)

June 17 (or 15, 16, if request for Recount is filed before deadline):
Decision on Request for Recount and Results of Recount, if allowed.

June 26th:
Deadline for Decision on Contest for General Election.

June 29th (or within 3 days of decision on Contest):
4:30 p.m. - Deadline for appeal to Court of Election Appeals. (Filed with executive Director of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and Reservation Tribunal rendering Decision).

July 2nd (or within 3 days upon receipt of Notice to

Appeal):
Record of contest forwarded to Court of Election Appeals.

July 6th (hearing within 7 days notice of appeal):
Last Day for Hearing on Appeal.

July 14th:
Winning candidates assume office by operation of law, unless sooner seated, or the election is subject of appeal to the Court of Election Appeals.

July 16th (or Ten days from Hearing on Appeal):
Deadline for decision of the Court of Elections Appeal. Day following

Decision of Appeal:
Winning candidate prevailing on appeal takes office.

2020 POLLING LOCATIONS



District I
Nett Lake Government Center
5344 Lakeshore Drive
Nett Lake, MN 55772
Hours: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.



Vermilion Government Center
1610 Farm Point Road South
Tower, MN 55790
Hours: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.



Duluth Urban Office
206 West 4th Street #204
Duluth, MN 55806
218-336-1048
Hours: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.



Minneapolis Urban Office
1308 East Franklin Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-871-6618
Hours: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

BOIS FORTE TRIBAL ELECTION 2020

Bois Forte Election Board Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. Do I need identification to vote?

Yes, we accept a valid photo identification card such as a Driver's License, Tribal ID, Military ID, or Pass Port.

2. If I am a new voter, do I need to state who my parents are?

No, you must present valid identification/proof of Band membership.

3. As a new voter, how do I select what district I vote in?

As a new voter YOU will choose which district you vote, District I is Nett Lake and District II is Vermilion. Once you choose your home district, the only way to change your district will be to prove you relocated to another district by presenting proof; such as but not limited to; USPS mail in your name from a utility company, a bank account, a mortgage company.



Notary Public

These people can assist notorizing absentee ballots.

NETT LAKE AREA:

Government and Community Services Building
5344 Lakeshore Drive
Nett Lake, MN 55772
218-757-3261

- Alanna Drift
- Frances "Nikki" Irving
- Sidra Starkovich
- Victoria "Wick-o" Villebrun

Health Services
5219 St. Johns Drive
Nett Lake, MN 55772
218-757-3295

- Ericka Cote
- Destinie Villebrun

Family Services Building:
13071 Nett Lake Road
Nett Lake, MN 55772
218-757-3295

- Jackie Villebrun
- Whitney Humphrey

ENP/ Ambulance Garage
5322 St Mary's Drive
Nett Lake, MN 55772
218-410-2347

- Jill Schuchard

Bois Forte Tribal Court
12907 Palmquist Road
Nett Lake, MN 55772
218-757-23462

- Janell Smith

Northern Eagle Federal Credit Union
5342 Lakeshore Drive
Nett Lake, MN 55772

Nett Lake Branch: 218-757-0299
Vermilion Branch: 218-753-7878

- Adrianna Day

VERMILION AREA:

Vermilion Center
1610 Farm Point Road
Tower, MN 55790
218-753-4542

- Barb Brodeen
- Jill Schuchard
- Kristin Hendrickson

CD/New Moon
218-753-2347

- Pam Hughes

Health Services
1613 Farm Point Road South
Tower, MN 55790
218-753-2182

- Cheryl Debelak
- Belinda Fazio

Fortune Bay
1430 Bois Forte Road
Tower, MN 55790
800-992-7529

- Lynell Yancey
- Vera Branstrom
- Iris Isham

DULUTH AREA:

Duluth Urban Office
206 West 4th Street #204
Duluth, MN 55806
218-336-1048

- Wendy Drift

METRO AREA:

Minneapolis Urban Office
1308 East Franklin Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-871-6618

- Jacque Wilson

Candidates Running 2020 Election - Bois Forte

Tribal Chairperson

Cathy Chavers *Incumbent
Miranda Villebrun-Lilya

District I Representative

Gordy "Jonsey" Adams Jr.
Tara Geshick
Mildred R. Holmes
Renika Love
Travis Morrison *Incumbent
Charles "Chaz" Wagner



ALL ABSENTEE VOTING REQUIREMENTS APPLY

As provided in Section 2.2(B)(1) of the Election Ordinance, the General Reservation Election Board will accept signed written requests from eligible voters. Voters must be at least 18 years old on the date of the election. The requests must be hand-delivered, mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to the Board.

ELECTION QUESTIONS & CONTACT

Direct ALL election related questions to the General Election Board by telephone or e-mail.

Phone: 218-757-0276

Fax: 218-757-0116

E-mail: electionboard@boisforte-nsn.gov

BOIS FORTE TRIBAL ELECTION 2020

Candidate for District I Gordy “Jonsey” Adams Jr.

Boozhoo my fellow Band members. My name is Gordy Adams Jr and most everyone knows me by my nickname “Jones.” I have lived and worked here in Nett Lake most of my life and am proud to have served the country in the Marine Corps. My wife and I have 4 grown children that brought us 4 beautiful grandchildren that we love and adore. I am very proud of my family as they love their Tribe and all it has to offer.



are mutual and are important to all of us.

It is of great importance that as an elected official, that these issues are addressed and resolved and not pushed to the side. There are numerous unresolved issues that need the attention and feedback for all members to fully understand ways of resolving these. There are too many unresolved issues to address in this article to mention. It is my hope to meet as many Band members as I can so that I can hear your concerns and to let you have confidence in my leadership and

speaking abilities to assure you that I can represent you effectively, efficiently and fairly.

I have learned a lot from my previous jobs as Business Development Coordinator, Executive Director, and District 1 Representative to mention just a few. Past leadership positions have taught me to be an effective leader by speaking, writing, listening, and resolving issues. This is the type of leadership that I will bring to you and to Bois Forte. I have testified numerous times before state and Indian Gaming, Education, and other issues. I have vast experiencing lobbying legislatures on numerous issues. I am not shy about telling off-reservation leadership our positions or opposition on matters effecting not only Bois Forte, but for all of Indian Country.

During my past tenure as a District Rep., I gained the

respect of many other Tribal leaders throughout the region as well as the nation. They had the confidence in my leadership that they elected me to the National Congress of American Indians as the Mid-west Regional Vice-Chairman. My leadership abilities also helped get me elected as Vice-Chairman to the National Indian Gaming Association. If these leaders had the confidence in my leadership capabilities, then my goal is to gain your respect and confidence in my leadership capabilities.

Our off-reservation Band members truly matter to me, as they feel the only time they get attention and promises is during election time. This has

to stop! There should be another Band office in Bemidji or Cass Lake. They should all be treated the same and represented. There are so many needs for all of our people that need to be addressed such as homelessness, addiction, housing and employment just to name a few. Our off reservation Band members deserve a true leader that will address these issues and not make promises that they cannot keep.

So in closing this article, I want you to know that I love and care for Bois Forte and our people, our culture, and the Lake. And especially the direction and future Bois Forte takes. We deserve an experienced elected leader that will bring forth true

representation and fairness to all and who will lead the Tribe in a positive direction. Please be aware that this Presidential election year could bring back Trump and his anti-Indian policies. We need a true leader that will fiercely defend our Sovereignty, Treaties, and rights as Anishinaabe people.

I respectfully ask for your vote and will be proud to serve as your District 1 Representative. I look forward to speaking with and hearing from you about what issues you want to see addressed. Feel free to contact me on my cell at 218-404-5834 or by email gordyadams57@gmail.com. Hope to see you on the campaign trail. Respectfully, Gordy (Jones) Adams Jr.

NETT LAKE STORE 218-757-3268
 SAT - SUN...8 AM - 6 PM & MON - FRI...7 AM - 6 PM

 A photograph of the exterior of the Nett Lake Store. The building is a large, single-story structure with a white roof and blue accents. There are several gas pumps in front of the store, and a sign for "Spirit" is visible. The store has large windows and a sign that says "NETT LAKE STORE". The ground is covered in snow, suggesting a winter setting.

BOIS FORTE TRIBAL ELECTION 2020

Candidate for District I Tara Geshick

Boozhoo Bois Forte
Band Members!

My name is Tara Geshick and I'm running for the District I (Nett Lake) Representative for the Bois Forte Reservation. I am the daughter of Ronald "Moots" Geshick and Marilyn Geshick, a mom to three grown children Jordan, Marissa, Alexa (Goodsky) and one at home, my 11 year old Bryleigh (Drift).

I have an extremely strong work ethic and learned that from my mother in my early years and cut my teeth in the heavy workforce of the Twin Cities. Employers such as the U of M, Northern States Power (now Xcel Energy), and First Bank downtown Minneapolis, has given me invaluable experience in community, business and the trades. Since moving back home I've worked for Bois Forte Natural



Resources for the past 19 years, starting as a technician in Environmental and working my way up to director, the position that I hold today.

The reason I am running for a council seat is I see an opportunity to work directly with decision makers on:

- Housing issues- fix the dilapidated structure, fill the empty homes, work with funding agencies to adjust requirements for our demographics here, and abatement or replacement of the meth tainted homes. People need

safe and affordable housing to come home to.

- Drug epidemic- healthier and faster access to rehabilitation care and a stronger enforcement element to combat it. We've all had someone close to us who is suffering drug or alcohol addiction, we need to help heal our family and neighbors.

- Establish a stronger connection- reacquaint off reservation band members with their heritage, hunting & gathering rights, and services offered right here at home; reinvigorate the elders guidance with community- we need to slow down enough to listen to the lesson- they've been ignored too long and its affecting us.

- Leadership influences us all- leading change begins with the Tribal Council: a time study to

provide effective & efficient time management, monthly report requirement, and training in strong communication skills as to focus, implement and complete projects, and relay their message clearly to you, the band members.

With my experience in applying real change and improvement to people and programs, I have a goal to better Bois Forte in every avenue. I am motivated, a researcher by nature, a doer by practice and will forever be a life long learner! No one does this work alone, so I need you to help me get the best for Bois Forte! I wish the other candidates good luck and I look forward to hearing from you on the campaign trail. Please vote for Tara Geshick in the primary on March 31, 2020, you will see true progress! Miigwech

Bois Forte Dot Com Receiving a Makeover

Early in January 2019, the Tribal Council began the process of updating and restructuring the Tribe's website www.boisforte.com. The current website was originally launched in 2009, developed by FirstScribe – a Twin Cities based company. This time around, the Council opted to utilize a local business, WA Fisher for the development and design of the new website.



In the development of the new website, one major change will be the structure. It will be device responsive so no matter what device you use, it will display properly for you to view. It will have improved navigation which will be 'Services' orientated - making it easier to find information. The new design will allow updates to be made on a timelier basis and will offer searchable archives. Job applicants will be able to apply and submit all the forms required to Human Resources online. A store will be open as well, allowing easier access to Nett Lake's Wild Rice with options to expand to other products.

A launch date has not been set yet, other than a general time frame of early 2020.

FREE Download!
Bois Forte
Language App
Search "Bois Forte"

BOIS FORTE TRIBAL ELECTION 2020

Candidate for Chairperson Miranda Villebrun Lilya

Hello Bois Forte Band Members:

My name is Miranda Villebrun Lilya and I am a candidate for Tribal Chair for the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa in the upcoming election on June 9, 2020. I am a lifelong resident of the Bois Forte Reservation. My husband Tim and I are currently raising our three children on the Indian Point sector of Bois Forte.



medical, pharmacy, etc. I will work hard developing and improving public services by focusing on new ways to serve the community.

- The concerns from Band Members are the base of my platform and have driven my decision to run. Primarily, are the services to the Band Members in which there are many missed opportunities and lack of services for our people. For instance, Tribal Government Offices will close, which always leaves folks without many services including, but not limited to,

- As with every organization, communication is paramount in making progress. In the example above, when offices have been closed, the communication delivered to Band Members is poor.
- Another issue is our current financial status and the limited funds available. I will work hard seeking ways to

save money and cut frivolous spending, and leading efforts to actively seek funding through grants and initiatives that will enhance the services provided to our Band Members.

- Another matter of concern are the decisions surrounding employment practices at both the Tribal Government and Fortune Bay Resort Casino. Band Members are applying for employment with the Band but Indian Preference is not consistently applied. Our Band must use our sovereign inherent rights by following Indian Preference. Our people deserve to be represented by leaders that will provide equal employment opportunities. I will support our Band Members seeking employment and other employment rights.

Please follow me on the various social media: Facebook Page- Miranda Villebrun Lilya; Instagram- mirandavillebrunlilya; Twitter- @VillebrunLilya; and Snapchat- Miranda VillebrunLilya. Feel free to chat with me when you see me out and about. You

may also email me at mirandavillebrunlilya@gmail.com, or call/text me at (218) 404-6355.

Please keep a look out on dates for meet and greets in the Twin Cities, Bemidji, Duluth, Virginia and Vermilion areas. I appreciate the many visits and calls, and

I am excited about meeting with you-the Band Members! I am respectfully asking for your VOTE on June 9, 2020. VOTE- Miranda Villebrun Lilya!

Best regards,
Miranda
Villebrun Lilya
For Bois Forte Chair

Bias Buster, Christina Woods Makes the 2019 50 Over 50 List



In earlier this October, Bois Forte Band member Christina Woods was recognized as one of the most inspiring and accomplished leaders in Minnesota making the 2019 50 Over 50 list. The 50 Over 50 list celebrates and recognizes Minnesotans over the age of 50 who have made significant contributions and achievements in their communities.

Christina Woods Bias Buster

A member of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Nation, 51-year-old Christina Woods of Duluth is executive director of the Duluth Art Institute, where she uses her leadership skills to promote inclusive community participation, especially in the area of underrepresented cultural narratives. Under her leadership, the Institute has celebrated the area's finest artists while simultaneously challenging viewers to learn more about missing cultural narratives not typically available in gallery spaces. But the Institute isn't the only place Christina is making a difference. She has created symposiums to help hundreds of people in Northeast Minnesota unpack social identity barriers that lead to unconscious biases. Christina also advocates for raising awareness of sex trafficking, an issue that exponentially affects Native women and girls. She has served on several nonprofit boards and helped the League of Women Voters, the Duluth Police Department and other organizations reduce implicit bias and become more inclusive. <https://www.pollenmidwest.org/stories/2019-50-over-50/>

BOIS FORTE TRIBAL ELECTION 2020

Candidate for District I Charles "Chaz" Wagner

Traditional
Anishinaabe
Leadership
Boozhoo
Indinawemaaganidog
Giniw Giizhig
Indizhinikoz
Asibikone
Zaagaa'igan
Indoonjibaa Migizi
Nindoodem



Hello all my relatives. My name is Charles "Chaz" Wagner (my tribal/spirit name is Golden Eagle Day), I'm from Nett Lake Indian Reservation Minnesota, I'm from the Eagle Clan.

I'm immersed in the beauty of our culture - I'm a Bois Forte Dum Singer, a drum keeper, a traditional pipe carrier, a traditional dancer, and an Ojibwe language speaker.

I am the son of Sharon Columbus, Grandson of Cecilia and Charles Gonier, Great Grandson of Effie Day.

I'm announcing Candidacy for District

I Representative for the Bois Forte Reservation in this year's election 2020. I decided to run, because I would like to see changes in how our tribal government and businesses operate. Through government, I believe I can make necessary changes to better the future of the band. I would also like to see cultural traditions brought back to politics and how we run our businesses. Right now, there are many issues that threaten the tribe including: our financial situation, the loss of language and culture to name a couple. I will work diligently to

find solutions on revitalizing both! I would like to share a little on my background. I've resided in Nett Lake for most of my life. I've been employed by the Bois Forte Band my entire career - starting at Fortune Bay Casino, where I worked my way up the ladder into a supervisory position of Pitboss for 8 years. During my time at Fortune Bay, I learned all aspects of Casino Gaming. I also have experience in Construction and Forestry trades. I currently work as an Event Coordinator for KBFT Tribal Radio - I love my job! It has given me the opportunity to improve the quality of life for those who live on/off the reservation by setting up culturally based arts, entertainment, and educational events here in Bois Forte! I support: Open/Honest Government Building Our Financial Reserves Working closely with our Elders and Veterans

Building Urban Area based Cultural Infrastructure The Children, they are the future of Bois Forte I will always stand up and defend the rights of our people, our beautiful lakes, our tribal lands, and our ancestors! Please consider voting for me in the upcoming elections. For further information on my campaign, you can reach me on my cell 218-780-3755. I will always listen to the concerns of the people. Mi'iw, Miigwech, Bizindowiiyeg Giniw Giizhig Charles "Chaz" Wagner

Native Hearts
FITNESS CENTER

24-HR ACCESS
218-757-0087
13085 Nett Lake Rd.
Nett Lake, MN 55772

Bois Forte Tribal ID'S are Traveling to the Urban Offices

Stop in and Get your ID or renew it!

March 11, 2020 | 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Minneapolis Urban Office:
1308 East Franklin Ave
Minneapolis, MN 55404
Jacque Wilson-(612) 871-6618

March 12, 2020 | 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Duluth Urban Office:
Damiano Building
206 West 4th Street #204
Duluth, MN 55806
Wendy Drift-(218) 336-1048

Please bring one of the following to get an ID:

- Original certified birth certificate (No Photocopies)
- State Issued Driver's License (No Photocopies)
- State Issued Identification Card
- Passport
- For Replacement Cards and for any changes made before the expiration date, there will be a \$12.00 fee.

For a complete list of acceptable forms of identification per our Tribal ID policy, please contact Alanna Drift, Tribal Enrollment Coordinator at (218) 757-3261 ext. 162, or e-mail her at alanna.drift@boisforte-nsn.gov.

To view the full Tribal ID Policy, visit www.boisforte.com, click on the enrollment tab on the right side of the screen.



Obituary

Lorraine Elizabeth Connor, 75

Lorraine Elizabeth Connor, 75, of Nett Lake MN, passed away on Friday, November 8, 2019.



Lorraine was born to Lawrence Conner I and Ida Mae Day on July 21, 1944. Lorraine grew up and attended school in Nett Lake and Orr; graduating from Orr High School. She furthered her education by attending Bemidji State University. She became a seamstress and tailor at 18; working for Liberty Garments in Minneapolis. She had a natural talent and was a quick study. She could fashion any kind of garment or professional suit from a pattern and then construct them with machine and hand tailoring. Lorraine lived and worked in Georgia for a short time before returning to Minnesota. Lorraine loved to boat, both in Minnesota and Georgia. She also loved to cook large meals for her family when they would visit. Lorraine loved to watch the birds and placed several bird feeders in her yard so that she could enjoy them all year long. Lorraine also enjoyed growing many types of flowers.

Lorraine was preceded in death by her parents; brothers: Henry Connor and James Connor; sisters: Gloria Connor and Joyce Skadsheim; and 1/2 siblings: Ruth Isham, Lawrence Connor II, and Gladys Gogleye.

Lorraine is survived by her siblings: Jonathan Connor, Daniel Connor, Paul Connor, David Connor, Marybelle Isham, Laura Isham, and Esther Connor; and many nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, November 16, 2019 at 10:00 AM at the Nett Lake Baptist Church, Nett Lake, MN. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church. There will be a meal to share by all immediately following the service.

To leave an online condolence visit www.mlakerfuneralhome.com.



Obituary

Cynthia Eileen (Schuster) Aune, 62

Cynthia Eileen (Schuster) Aune, 62 of Cook, MN passed away on Monday, January 27, 2020. Cynthia was born to Henry and Marion (Lumbar) Schuster on August 22, 1957 in Cook, MN.



Cynthia attended school in Orr, and then Loman High School where she graduated in 1975. Soon after graduating, she met and married William Steinbach; they were blessed with two sons, Richard and James, and the family lived in International Falls for a time before Cynthia's path led her in a different direction. Cynthia attended college in Hibbing and earned her Certified Nursing Assistant certificate; working for several nursing homes in the Hibbing area. She also worked at the Vermilion Hotel in Cook, MN and for Bois Forte as an Indian Child Welfare advocate.

Cynthia liked to stay busy in her free time; she loved going out to the "shack on the farm" during hunting season. She was also an avid, and successful, fisherwoman. She was very patient while fishing and would often out fish her family; her family teasingly nicknamed

her "Butch Furtman" after a famous angler. Cynthia also enjoyed her day trips to the Casino.

Cynthia was an easygoing soul who loved to joke around and have fun. She had a kind heart and was a very giving person; even though she did not have much, she would do anything she could to help someone in need. She loved her family with all of her heart; a family that included her dog Daisy whom she called "the love of her life".

Cynthia was preceded in death by her parents; her beloved son Richard Steinbach, and her dog Daisy.

She is survived by her son James Steinbach; brother Bruce Schuster; sister Roxanne Weatherton; granddaughters: Cassandra and Madison; and a great grandson, Jaxson.

A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, February 7, 2020 at 11:00 AM at Mlaker Funeral Home, Cook, MN. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service. To leave an online condolence visit www.mlakerfuneralhome.com

HOW CAN I HELP MY FRIEND...

text **LIFE** to **61222**

I FEEL SO ALONE AND OVERWHELMED

"I am not sure who to talk to."
"I need help sorting things out."



Obituary

Jane Verna (DuPree) Villebrun, 78

Jane Verna (DuPree) Villebrun, 78, of Nett Lake, MN passed away on Sunday, February 9, 2020. Jane was born to John and Vera (Day) Dupre on July 28, 1941 in Nett Lake, MN. Jane grew up and attended school in Nett Lake. She was united in marriage to Milo Villebrun. Sadly, Milo passed away in 9/16/1999.



Jane loved going to the Bay and she went every chance she got; she often called it her "home away from home". The center of Jane's life was her family, she loved spending time with them especially when they would get together for cookouts and the holidays. Jane adored watching her children and grandchildren play sports; especially watching Lakota "her baby" play basketball. Jane was preceded in death by her husband Milo Villebrun Sr. and

her son Raymond Villebrun Sr.

Jane held many titles during her lifetime: test car driver, worker for Anderson Construction, RTC receptionist and payroll accountant, and was also on the Nett Lake EMT crew. The jobs that she was most proud of were Cultural Teacher at Mille Lacs and an Art Teacher for Nett Lake Elementary School.

Jane led a full and happy life. She enjoyed bingo, golfing, ricing and picking strawberries and blueberries. She enjoyed having company over just to visit. She was talented and very creative when beading. She would make jewelry, earrings and outfits, and would often sell them at craft stands. Jane used her sewing talents to make her children and grandchildren Halloween costumes. Jane enjoyed going to pow wows and would often set up a food stand where she made and sold the best fry bread this side of the Mississippi.

Jane is survived by her children: June Villebrun of Virginia, MN; Milo Villebrun Jr. of Nett Lake, MN; David "Tines" Villebrun Sr. of Nett Lake, MN; Effie "Dolly" Villebrun of Nett Lake, MN; William "Teb" Villebrun of Nett Lake, MN; Terrie "Toddy" of Virginia, MN; Earl Villebrun of Vermilion, MN; Jennifer "Juice" Villebrun of Vermilion, MN; and a ton of grandkids and great-grandkids.

A Traditional Wake will be held on Friday, February 14, 2020 at 5:00 PM at the Nett Lake Government and Services Center. The Traditional Native Service will be held on Saturday, February 15, 2020 at 10:00 AM also at the center. To leave an online condolence visit www.mlakerfuneralhome.com

Bois Forte News

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

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. For information on paid ads, please contact us. The BFN is distributed for free to Band members and is available to others for \$10 per year.

Bois Forte News
5344 Lakeshore Drive
Nett Lake, MN 55772
Phone: 218-757-3261
Text: 218-404-6545
lisham@boisforte-nsn.gov
www.boisforte.com

April
submission
DEADLINE
is
March 13, 2020

The Bois Forte Tribal Offices will be closed on the following dates:

- March 31st - Closed All Day/Primary Election
- April 10th - Closed at Noon/ Good Friday
- April 13th - Closed All Day/ Easter
- May 25th - Closed All Day/ Memorial Day
- June 9th - Closed All Day/ General Election

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



www.boisforte.com

Bois Forte
PHARMACY
Direct: 218-757-0230
Nett Lake

Bois Forte
INDIAN CHILD
WELFARE
218-757-3295

DID YOU KNOW?
It's free to submit obituaries, pet corner, and announcements. If you are unsure, give us a call at 218-757-3261.

BOIS FORTE FOOD DISTRIBUTION
MON - FRI | 8 AM - 4 PM
218-757-3504

THE Y-STORE
5AM - MIDNIGHT
7-DAYS A WEEK
218-753-3868

KBFT 89.9 FM
BOIS FORTE TRIBAL COMMUNITY RADIO
www.KBFT.org

Veterans Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255 **PRESS 1**

Birth Announcement
Celina Priscilla Morrison



Darian Morrison and Kristen Holmes would like to welcome to the world, Celina Priscilla Morrison. Born October 21st, 2019 at 1:31p.m. Weighing in at 7 lbs, 13.9 ounces and 20 inches long.

Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Finance Corporation

First-Time Homebuyer Education Class

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2020

Time: 8:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Location: Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Building
15542 State Hwy 371 NW, Cass Lake, MN

First-time Homebuyer Education

is a requirement of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Finance Corporation for qualified buyers.

Course Topics

- Budgeting for a Home
- Obtaining a Mortgage with MCT
- What to look for in an Existing Home
- Procedures for New Construction
- Fee Land/Lease Land
- Working with a Real Estate Agent
- Closing your Loan
- Maintaining your Home
- Avoiding Delinquency



Reserve your spot in this FREE class with Cyndi Cwikla at (218) 335-8582, extension 150 or ccwikla@mnchippewatribe.org



Bois Forte Tribal Offices

Bois Forte Tribal Government
5344 Lakeshore Drive
Nett Lake, MN 55772
Phone: 218-757-3261 or 1-800-221-8129
Fax: 218-757-3312

Bois Forte Tribal Government
1610 Farm Road South
Tower, MN 55790
Phone: 218-753-4542
Fax: 218-753-4055

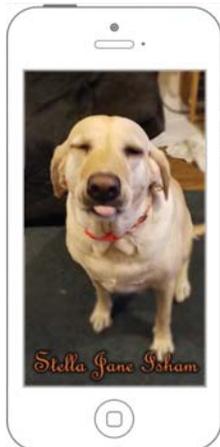
Bois Forte Urban Office - Duluth
206 West 4th Street, Suite 204
Duluth, MN 55806
Phone: 218-336-1048 or 218-206-5629
Fax: 218-336-1049

Bois Forte Urban Office - Minneapolis
1308 East Franklin Avenue, Suite 112
Minneapolis, MN 55404
Phone: 612-871-6618 or 612-747-5247

Welcome to the Pet "Selfie" Corner

CONGRATULATIONS WINNERS!

Thank you for participating in our 2nd Annual Bois Forte News Halloween Pet Costume Contest!



Is your pet PAWSITIVELY photogenic?

Send us their photos & we will get them the attention they deserve. **There is no cost to submit a photo!** You can email, text, or if you prefer, swing by the office & drop it off.

Email to:
lisham@boisforte-nsn.gov

Text to:
218-404-6545



First Place Winner!
Bella Kornezos
Parents Mike and Brenda



Second Place Winner!
Russell Villebrun
Parent Marjorie



Third Place Winner!
Artie Villebrun Jr.
Parent Ray