The April 3 certified primary election results advanced two political newcomers out of a close race for District I Representative, and two experienced Tribal Chairmen will run against one another again in the general election.

In the contest for Tribal Chair, incumbent Kevin Leecy bested a crowded field of six candidates, drawing slightly more than 43% of the votes. Former Tribal Chair Gary Donald came in second with 21%, earning a spot on the ballot for the General Election scheduled for June 12.

First-time candidate Tracey Dagen had a strong showing in her bid for Tribal Chair, almost knocking off Donald for the number two position. Dagen drew over 19% of the vote, and a swing of just seven votes would have had her moving on to the General Election to face Leecy.

Rounding out the ballot for Tribal Chair were Gary Adams, Marty Connor and Stan Day, who each drew less than 10% of the vote total.

Voter turnout continued the growth trend of the previous two primaries. This year 682 voters cast ballots for Tribal Chair. That is an 18% increase over the 2008 Primary, which in turn was an 11.5% increase over the 2006 Primary.

Turnout was also up 14% in the tight District I Primary race, where four of the six candidates each drew over 20% of the vote. Travis Morrison emerged on top with 29%, followed by Karlene Chosa with 23%.

Morrison and Chosa are first-time candidates for the Tribal Council. They narrowly beat former District I Representatives Gordy Adams and Ray Villebrun, who garnered 22% and 20% of the vote respectively. A three-vote swing would have put Adams ahead of Chosa, and only 25 votes (a swing of 13), separated Chosa from the leader Morrison. Rhonda Hoagland and Robbie Chosa each received a little over 2% of the vote.

The General Election is scheduled for Tuesday, June 12. All Bois Forte voters will choose between two experienced leaders, selecting either incumbent Kevin Leecy or former Chairman Gary Donald to serve as their Tribal Chair from 2012-2016. District I voters will elect a new representative to replace Cathy Chavers who decided not to run again after one term on the Tribal Council.

**Election Results**

**Tribal Chair**

- Gary Adams: 56
- Marty Connor: 17
- Tracey Dagen: 134
- Stan Day: 34
- Gary Donald: 146
- Kevin Leecy: 295

**District I**

- Gordy Adams: 96
- Karlene Chosa: 101
- Robbie Goggleye: 12
- Rhonda Hoagland: 11
- Travis Morrison: 126
- Ray Villebrun: 89

As this issue went to press, an election recount has been requested by candidates in both the District I Representative and Tribal Chair races. Watch the Bois Forte website, www.boisforte.com for the latest developments.
Praise for Indian author’s latest work

Editor’s note: StarTribune writer Pamela Miller recently reviewed Rez Life: An Indian’s Journey Through Reservation Life by teacher and anthropologist David Treuer, the son of Bois Forte Tribal Judge Margaret Treuer. Following is an excerpt of her glowing praise for David Treuer’s work:

Rez Life is important in the word’s best sense – [a book] you’ll want to read if you’re at all curious about contemporary American Indians…a well researched mix of history, memoir and commentary that uses reservations to show how Indians got where they are today. Treuer loathes sentiment and stereotypes, and the people whose stories he tells are layered and complex, hard to pin down.

Yet he allows the book to draw one solid, hopeful conclusion – that what best defines, binds and inspires modern Indians is the aboriginal languages they are reviving, and the wisdom that springs from this “new traditionalism”….He also has a lot of good, often witty, things to say about treaty rights and casinos and how they’ve empowered Indians.

In the end, he concludes: “We might just make it.” This impassioned, important book may well help make it so.

Tribes create Native Youth Alliance of Minnesota

When a 2008 statewide summit on afterschool opportunities did not even reference Native youth due to “insignificant” data, Minnesota Tribes took action. The result is the Native Youth Alliance of Minnesota (NYAM), a new organization committed to ensuring that Native youth are prepared for a lifetime of choices, not circumstances.

NYAM will engage Minnesota’s 11 tribal nations and natives living across the state through development of community-based youth councils including a statewide council linked to a national organization, addressing statewide education concerns, and the development and implementation of an Indigenous Youth Research Center. Youth participants will work with researchers, side-by-side with tribal elders, tribal leaders and members of their communities as they learn about and participate in research projects. Enriched by tradition in this way, the youth will become leaders in their own right as they seek new paths of strength and purpose.

The Tribes have worked with Full Circle Community Institute, a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit that specializes in community building and cross-cultural dialogue, to organize NYAM. During 2009-2011, Full Circle hosted facilitated five separate gatherings of tribal leaders, native youth, and researchers to help Tribes gather information and consensus on how to better prepare Native youth for a lifetime of choices, not circumstances.

Leecy reelected NIGA Vice Chair

Kevin Leecy was unanimously re-elected at Vice Chair of the National Indian Gaming Association at the 21st Annual Convention and Trade Show in San Diego on April 4. Delegates from 184 Tribes across the country re-elected Leecy as Vice Chair for a fourth term.

Due to threats of committee action on gaming expansion in the final weeks of the Minnesota legislature and the April 3 Bois Forte Election, Leecy was not at the Convention in California for the election voting. In a letter mailed to delegates he wrote:

“Our successes have been nothing short of astonishing. Indian gaming is a model that other sectors of the economy would be wise to follow. The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act is also a model of success. Unlike many federal government policies affecting Indian Country, IGRA actually does what it was intended to do: promote economic development, self-sufficiency and strong tribal governments.

Despite our tremendous record of success, there are still those who threaten Indian gaming and our rights as sovereign nations. We continue to fight on many battlegrounds, like taxation, labor laws, and proposals for Internet gaming that don’t honor our sovereignty. And if history teaches us anything, it is that the attacks will keep coming.”

Leecy was first elected NIGA Vice Chair in 2006. He will serve a two year term with NIGA Chair and Oneida Nation member Ernie Stevens, Jr.

NIGA, established in 1985, is a non-profit organization comprised of 184 Indian nations with other non-voting members representing organizations, tribes and businesses engaged in tribal gaming enterprises from around the country. NIGA’s overarching goal is to advance the lives of Indian people.
RTC News

Notice to the Community

Hello! My name is Josh Villebrun, a Police Officer with the Bois Forte Police Department. I am also an Emergency Medical Technician with the Bois Forte Volunteer Ambulance Service. I am writing this letter to the Community Members of the Nett Lake Village and Tower areas of the Bois Forte Reservation. On behalf of all Emergency Services: Police, Ambulance, Fire, and Wild Land Fire (Forestry) we are requesting your help during emergencies in our Communities.

We are requesting that during an emergency in which Emergency Services Personnel are carrying out their duties to prevent and treat injuries, as well as preserve life that if you are not directly involved that you please keep your distance away from the Emergency Scene. For example: a car accident, structure fire, or even a wild land fire that you may see or hear about, that you please stay back. We do understand that we all live in small communities within our reservation and that you may be concerned if the injured or involved people are relatives or friends of yours. However, the more people that show up on an Emergency Scene raises the danger level of another person getting injured, quite possibly yourself. Whether it’s an inattentive driver passing by, a fire spreading faster that can be controlled, or simply getting in the way when Emergency Personnel are caring for the injured and don’t see you where you’re standing.

We ask that you please refrain from driving to an Emergency Scene or standing nearby watching. This not only puts yourself at risk of getting hurt, but you are also raising the dangers for the Emergency Personnel, and possibly getting in the way. You may also be making the injured uncomfortable and invading their privacy. If an Emergency Services Personnel asks or directs you to stay back or to leave the scene of an Emergency, please don’t take offense and comply. Many of us are there voluntarily to serve the Community as a member of the Ambulance or Fire department and are performing our duties to the best of our abilities. Please do not hinder the performance of our duties. If an injured person is not able to notify their family themselves, an Immediate Family Member of the injured person will be notified promptly when appropriate. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

Thank You from all EMERGENCY SERVICES PERSONNEL

PS: Emergency Services are going to be performing a large scale training in Nett Lake. We are asking if anyone would like to donate a vehicle(s) for training purposes instead of “junking” it. The vehicle(s) would be used in a mock crash scene, practicing extrication of victims in a car accident, and also using tools like the Jaws of Life for gaining entry in an emergency. Please Contact any Emergency Responder(s) you know if you would like to donate or even be part of this event (Ex. Role Player). Thank You

Chi mii gwech to the Candidates

By David Morrison, Sr., Secretary/Treasurer

Congratulations to Karlene Chosa and Travis Morrison who received the most votes in the District I race, and to Kevin Leecy and Gary Donald who received the most votes for Tribal Chair, in the Primary Election. These four will now run in the General Election scheduled for June 12.

I’d like to thank all of the candidates who ran for office (Gordon Adams Jr., Robbie Gogglye, Rhonda Hoagland, Raymond Villebrun Sr.; Gary Adams, Marty Connor, Tracey Dagen and Stanley Day). We had twelve good campaigns to choose from in selecting our future leaders.

I appreciate those who put forth the time and energy it takes to run a good political campaign. The next time you see one of the candidates, congratulate them on their efforts and thank them for their willingness to serve the Bois Forte people.

Happy Mother’s Day!
Elders & Culture

By J. Kay Davis, kaydavis1936@hotmail.com

At a meeting held with Special Indian Agent Christie on February 1, 1914, in response to complaints about Agent Albert Reagan written by several of the same people who testified, Mr. Christie told the Indians assembled that they could say anything they wanted.

Moses Day, son of Ogemah (which means chief in Ojibwe), age about 80 years, born “right over here in Nett Lake on an island; it is about 700 feet from this shore to the island.” began, “First I want to talk about the school building. It has been 20 years since we had a talk about the school at Sucker Point, Vermilion, Minn.” He went on to tell about the Nelson Act Commission people who came to meet with the Tribe and the promises they made. They talked about the boarding school, and “after we all voted on this what we talked about, God overheard us, what we had said. We signed for what we had talked about, a boarding school is what we signed for.”

Mr. Christie then asked the interpreter, Walter King, to ask the other chiefs if these statements were true.

In response, Doctor Drift, over 70, born at Pelican Lake, stated, “What Moses Day has said is true. We were all present – we old people- we were all there.”

In response, all present agreed to this, that they were there at the time, and they held up their hands. Andy Fields, brother to Moses Day, stated he was 74 years old, born “over here at the agency point,” and added, “Our young boys around here are not lazy; they will work if they are given a chance.”

O.M. (Old Man) Johnson, age 84 or 85 years old, born at Nett River, and talking for Peter Goodsky, who got charged $240. for helping build the county road. Then he spoke for himself, stating he never asked the agent for anything for himself.

Tom Farmer, age 74, born at Nett Lake, stated he received government rations, and then Albert Reagan cut him out of them unless he worked for them.

Steve Benner, age 41, born at Nett Lake, stated the Mr. Reagan used him, buying things from him. He paid the government farmer 50 cents to plow his 4 acres of land. He received $75 a year previously, and built a home with it, and improved his place where he lived, “so that my children could go to school. It keeps me digging all of the time to support my family. I wish the government would give us a chance and give us what is due us, so that we will have all the privileges and rights of our citizenship.”

James Martin, age 65, born at Nett Lake, told that the previous summer, his son had been taken to a hospital at Duluth. He had given his son, $10, which Agent Reagan made him use for his return trip “So I went to him at the end of the month. He didn’t give me back the boy’s fare. He did give me $3.50, but it was my son’s own money.” When he asked for help with the government team of horses, he turned him down saying the teams were busy, but never let me use them.

John Nett Lake worked on old peoples’ homes Charley Burnside is 34, born at Pelican Lake, told about the things Albert Reagan sold him. He related how the agent asked him to sign a paper for the use of the government team, but he would not. It would have taken money out of his wages for the use of the team.

Charley Soreyes, said that he previously lived at Crane Lake, but this first winter, he lived at Nett Lake so his children could attend school, and it was harder to make a living at Nett Lake than Crane Lake. He had been to his allotment at Nett Lake, where he built a 16x16 foot house, but it was not on his allotment. He told more of his life at Crane Lake as well.

Jim Smith told of making a road to his allotment, about 5 miles from the village, across the lake. It took 21 days for him, his wife and his son to make it. “Why doesn’t our agent do business in that way after we have signed for these things. But instead of that, he turns around and makes us work for all these things.”

Frank Day, age 46, born at Cloquet, Minn. listed the things he bought from Agent Reagan, paying by working himself and his son.

O.M. Lightfeather, age 70, born at Pelican Lake, stated, “I am going to tell the truth and God will overhear what I say. I am getting pretty old and this team that this Indian Agent has here I have never used it as much as a day.” Albert Reagan had refused to let him.

(continues on page 5)
The wedding shower, and a four-year-old girl

To welcome the bride-to-be, we aunts and cousins decided to give a wedding shower.

We brought chicken salad tarts, petit-four, a green salad, breads and dips. My sister Gail had spent that afternoon piping filling into cherry tomatoes that she garnished with tiny leaves and presented on frilly confectionary papers; her daughter, my niece Julie, had done something similar with several dozen chocolate dainties topped with pale green mints. The table looked lovely.

The youngest guest was my sister Jeanne’s granddaughter, a four-year-old girl who was put in charge of giving out the flower-topped pens for the shower games. She did that with a shy, big smile and then sat on the floor, on a teenage cousin’s lap, to watch the guest of honor and the festivities.

The little sweetheart clearly enjoyed herself and was taking it all in, watching everything and occasionally turning her head to see how her older cousin reacted to a joke, a prettily wrapped gift, a sidebar conversation between a cheerfully kind aunt and the engaged girl, whose husband would be leaving for an overseas military deployment soon after the wedding.

When I was a little girl I spent quite a bit of time in the company of my mother and aunts as well as many other female relatives, and the fun my great-niece was having reminded me of those days.

Children learn a great deal by watching the people around them. What did that little four-year-old girl learn from us that evening? We, her female relatives and friends, cannot of course know for sure exactly what she thinks about what she sees, but I remember well how I felt when as a little girl I was allowed the privilege of attending and, especially, helping at one of our gatherings.

To paraphrase from Dorothy Law Nolte’s inspirational poem, “If children live with sharing, they learn generosity. If children live with kindness and consideration, they learn respect.” The little Anishinaabe-kwesens looked so happy and pleased to be part of welcoming the new bride. She even cleaned up and put things away after the games.

Children do, indeed, learn what they live.

William Johnson; Charley Farmer, 24, born at Sucker Point; George Otter; Peter Fields, 46, born at Nett River; Boney Wright, about 50, who did not know where he was born; George Farmer, 55 years old, born at Nett Lake; O. M. Benner, over 70 years old, born at Moose Lake; Tenclaws Drift, about 60 years old, born at Nett Lake; George Strong, age 18 or 19 years, born at Black Bay and not married; Johnny Sucker, father of 5 children; Johnny Roy, 47 years old, born at Namakan Lake, Minn.; Peter Redday, 63, born at Nett Lake; H. A. Connor, born in Wisconsin age, 61, all testified about their allotments and how they lived, and most of all about the agent here.

From the many Tribal people who testified, we get a glimpse of the past, revering our elders, and read how they felt, where they were born, and most of them were full bloods. These glimpses into the past are a delight to me. Moses Day concluded by stating, “We are trying to tell you the truth, and the only truth. And wish you would compare all this what we have said with the Agent’s reports at Washington and see which is true. This was all our work, most of this clearing off on this point. We all worked before this agent came here, and our Agency Building or the agent here. This was all hard work.”

Until next month…..

(Meeting Minutes cont. from page 4)

Mission statement read by Justin Boness.

Motion to approve Minutes of December 12, 2011 meeting made by Rose Lien, seconded by Gloria Drift. Motion carried.

Discussion on how soon a fire at Palmquist was responded to. We will write a letter to Fire Department on how the procedures were taken. This will be addressed to the tribal council on January 28, 2012.

A Copy of the Tribal Constitution and the Bois Forte Elders’ Committee By-Laws were requested by an Elder.

A number of suggestions came up as to what cultural traditions to do at the Elders’ Meetings. Smudging and Pipe Smoking.

Invite R.T.G. Legal counsel to explain/interpretation of the Minnesota Constitution and By-Laws of Minnesota Chippewa Tribe to our February 13, 2012 meeting.

Ask Tribal Council what the road naming committee is.

Motion made by Rose Lien to adjourn meeting at 12:45om. Seconded by Justin Boness. Motion Carried.

Next Meeting at Nett Lake, February 13, 2012.

Kay Davis cont. from page 4

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Dr. Lynda Grover
Youth & Education

Boys & Girls Club 2012 Youth of the Year

By Sunnie Martin, Vermilion Boys and Girls Club

This year the Vermilion and Nett Lake Boys and Girls Clubs both competed in the Boys and Girls Club of the Northland Youth of the Year Competition. Jessica (Nett Lake Club) and I were so happy to get involved in this great event which promotes and celebrates service to Club, community and family; academic performance; moral character; life goals; and poise and public speaking ability.

The competition starts small in local clubs, but the winner moves onto a state competition. State winners each receive $1,000 scholarships. Five regional winners each receive an engraved plaque and a $10,000 scholarship. The National Youth of the Year receives an additional $50,000 scholarship and is installed by the President of the United States.

Henry Guenther represented the Vermilion Boys and Girls Club. He has been a member since he was 6 years old, and is currently now in 9th grade. He has been a junior staff and member of the month many times. Henry enjoys many sports, basketball being his favorite and would currently like to become more skilled in hockey. Henry is very helpful around the Club, especially with the younger members. This summer Henry attended a Native youth leadership conference through the Boys and Girls Club in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Molly Deatherage, who is 15 years old and also in 9th grade was the representative for the Nett Lake Club. Her hobbies include baking, cake decorating and drawing. A major accomplishment she has had was putting together a Breast Cancer Awareness Walk, at the age of 15! At the Club she enjoys playing in pool tournaments, art/creative drawing program, all SMARTmoves programming, and tutoring homework help. She also enjoys spending time with younger Club members.

Molly and Henry did a wonderful job with their speech and interviews during the youth of the year event. Jessica and I were very proud to have them represent our Clubs. Even though neither Molly nor Henry won the competition, it was a wonderful opportunity and something we will make sure to always be represented in.

Summer fun and cash

It’s not too late to apply for a fun summer job with one of the Bois Forte Businesses. Fortune Bay is especially in need of good workers to help with the extra amenities they offer guests in the summer.

Grill and deli helpers, marina workers and housekeeping help are just a few of the jobs that will put cash in your pocket, good work experience, and an opportunity to work with Bois Forte Band members and other great people.

Visit www.boisforte.com or www.Fortunebay.com for descriptions of the available jobs or to download an application.

Bois Forte to partner on Native Studies Workshop for Educators

Sixth annual workshop will be at Fortune Bay June 18-22, 2012

The Native Studies Summer Workshop for Educators (NSSWE) is designed to increase the knowledge, sensitivity and awareness of educators on the 11 federally recognized Tribes and Bands in Minnesota.

The professional development program will promote a greater understanding of American Indian issues and provide opportunities to critically evaluate educational materials and resources. The goal of the Native Studies Summer Workshop for Educators is to facilitate learning among teachers, administrators, and student service providers in order to increase the effectiveness of working with American Indian students.

The program is open to K-16 teachers, students in teacher training programs, instructors involved with the education of American Indian students including classroom teachers, aides, curriculum specialists, library/media specialists, guidance counselors, home-school coordinators, Title IX/JOM coordinators and administrators, tribal education staff, college and university faculty, staff and administrators, and all others with an interest in American Indian Studies.

Undergraduate or Graduate credit is offered for this course for an additional fee through the SCSU Department of Ethnic Studies and Women’s Studies. For additional information on the course or course credit, contact Professor Darlene St. Clair at dstclair@stcloudstate.edu.

For more information visit http://www.stcloudstate.edu/aic/documents/NSSWE2012InformationPacket.pdf

To register: http://www.stcloudstate.edu/aic/documents/NSSWE2012RegistrationForm.pdf

Sponsored By:

American Indian Center
Multicultural Resource Center
Center for Continuing Studies
Ethnic Studies Department
History Department
Not all college students choose beaches, swimsuits, and frothy drinks for their spring break excursions. Some are actually looking to give in order to receive.

For the third year in a row, 1st year medical students from Dartmouth College in New Hampshire have spent their spring break obtaining clinical experience and offering services to Native Americans living on Minnesota reservations.

Of this year’s ninety freshman students, 16 signed up to serve. Four teams of 4 students each are at Bois Forte, White Earth, Red Lake and Leech Lake Reservations.

From March 12-16, they spent their spring break shadowing health care providers at the medical clinics in Vermilion and Nett Lake as well as going into band member homes with Community Health Representatives.

The four students at Bois Forte this year were; Mai Nitta of Japan, Sara Kibrom of Ethiopia, Mildred Lopez Pineiro of Puerto Rico, and Tony Pang of China.

The program is run by Bois Forte Band member Shawn O’Leary who was born in Hermantown near Duluth. His father is Bill O’Leary and grandmother is Susan Day O’Leary. Shawn has been working at Dartmouth’s Medical School for 10 years as the Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs. Before Dartmouth, Shawn worked at the University of Minnesota Duluth’s Center for American Indian and Minority Health.

“I really like the way this program gives 1st year medical students some exposure to clinical practices as well as an opportunity to serve to the community that is offering them the experience,” shares Shawn.

“This week we experienced the differences between rural health and what we are taught in the classroom,” expressed Mai of Japan. “I like the access to health care services that people have on the reservation. If the clinic can’t meet their needs, practitioners see that patients get to a specialist. Access to health care is a primary need and it seems to be a priority at Bois Forte.”

“The Elders Council seems to have a strong influence here,” reports Tony of China. “I appreciate the respect shown to them and that their knowledge is sought. I also find it interesting that state laws don’t always apply on the reservation.”

“I’ve experienced a strong sense of community here. The patients and care providers have common family backgrounds and seem to be a close knit community,” observes Sara of Ethiopia. “The clinic staff appears to have good cross training and know how to assist one another in doing their job.”

Bois Forte is grateful to Shawn and these budding medical professionals for their efforts and welcome additional Dartmouth students in the years to come.

**Honoring your graduate in the Bois Forte News**

The June 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 12 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.
Transit bus service begins

Bois Forte’s new bus service began as a pilot program in April. Here are the answers to some frequently asked questions about the new transit system.

When will the transit service begin?
A trial scheduled bus route from Virginia to Vermilion began in late April for weekly grocery runs for residents to determine the level of interest. Continue to visit www.boisforte.com for the official start date.

How was the route determined?
Planning and Community Development Staff surveyed Band Members to determine where transit services are needed. They will continue to take suggestions and determine where the services are needed.

Who can use the transit services?
The new transit system will serve everyone in the region, not just Band members.

Is there a fee to use this service?
There will be a nominal fee for this service, but it will remain affordable to all riders. Continue to visit www.boisforte.com for fee information once it is determined.

Why was this service created? How is it helpful?
To start with the transit service will help all residents not just Band Members, with weekly grocery runs, services will be added based on suggestions including getting to work, getting to doctor and clinic appointments, and bingo nights.

(continues on page 9)

KBFT 89.9 radio studio up, Programming Manager to be added

Construction of the new KBFT 89.9 radio studio in Nett Lake is complete and station manager George Strong is moving in furniture to prepare for the community open house he plans to host this spring.

Listeners in the Nett Lake area or over the internet will notice a difference in programming thanks to the new studio and the addition soon of a programming manager.

“There will be more structure and regularity in the program line-up”, explains Strong. “The new schedule with programming information will be hosted on the website soon.”

Strong is still hoping the new Program Manager will help gather input from the Elders on programming and organize more volunteers to help run the station and possibly host some shows. Band member Bob Hedlund has talked with Strong about hosting a Blues show and other Band members have come forward with ideas that are still being developed.

Live coverage of local sports and community meetings are also planned.

In addition to original local programming, the station will continue with Under Currents, the contemporary native music now playing and add syndicated Native American Talk, National Native News, and Native Voice One. Strong is also looking into news programs from Public Radio International and Pacifica, which produces, The World, Democracy Now.

Why so much variety? Strong explains, “Some people like Country, others prefer traditional or pop music, then there are those like me that like a little rap. Our lineup of programs will be eclectic, reflecting the people that live here.”

Stay tuned to 89.9 FM and watch for the new developments on the website www.kbft.org.

Meet Tonya Connor, new Environmental Health Specialist

By Tonya Connor

As the new Bois Forte Environmental Health Specialist since January 30th, 2012, my job is to help our community have healthy homes and indoor public spaces. Indoor air quality is the main focus. Since air is all around us and touches almost everything, the services offered cover many subjects. A few examples include how to get rid of the mold growing behind the kitchen sink, fixing moisture problems, assuring adequate ventilation, and helping create asthmatic-friendly indoor spaces.

Through our program, we offer indoor air quality audits upon request to Bois Forte Band Members living primarily on the reservation, but also to those living within a 60-mile radius of Nett Lake. These audits often include visual inspection, air quality testing, and blower door testing. Blower door testing involves use of a large fan that reduces indoor air pressure and measures air leakage. At the same time, we use a special infrared camera to visually identify air leaks and to find areas where weatherization could be improved. The best time to do blower door testing is during the colder months of late fall through early spring.

In the coming year the program will renew efforts for asthma education and intervention. We will offer home products to relieve asthma along with in-home training in their use. In another outreach program, Bois Forte has been selected to host a regional tribal conference on the topic of reducing health effects of environmental tobacco smoke in casinos. We will also continue expanding our collaboration with tribes in our region and across the United States, making every effort to promote clean air and healthy indoor spaces.

(continues on page 9)
Meet Theresa Drift, Oshki-Dibikii Giizis’ New Tenant and Project Coordinator

With the Oshki-Dibikii Giizis (New Moon) Supportive Housing project for homeless Band members scheduled for summer occupancy, there is a lot on Theresa Drift’s “to do” list.

Drift was recently hired as the Tenant and Project Coordinator for the 20-unit Vermilion project, which includes apartments and duplexes. She said her goal is to create “a sense of community for people who have been suffering from long-term homelessness – we really want them to feel welcome and at home.”

“The availability of these services offered on site greatly impacts the ability of residents to get the help they need to be well and self-sufficient with out having to travel great distances,” she explained. “That could include anything from cooking and grocery shopping to tapping into the services of the Virginia Workforce Center.”

New Moon will partner with many other entities to assist residents, including Mental Health, Chemical Dependency, Contract Health, Victim Services, Veterans Services and Fortune Bay Resort Casino. Drift said there would also be a committee of residents who will work on community building activities.

Drift, who grew up in St. Paul and graduated from the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington, said having a job that allows her to serve others has always been important. She is especially proud of her seven years as a Nutrition Educator for Bois Forte teaching healthy eating, food safety, wild gathering and cooking. “We have a salad bar in Nett Lake School, and an organic community garden/orchard. I’ve even encouraged the Head Start kids to eat broccoli. The main thing is to try to get kids and adults to try new foods. The surprise when they like something is wonderful!”

Now she looks forward to helping long-time homeless Band members establish their roots.

(Transit Q&A cont. from page 8)

Where will the stops be and what time will they be at?

Although there is not an official schedule yet, the service will run Monday to Friday with 4 pickup spots in Virginia (2 stops and 2 park-n-rides) arriving at Fortune Bay by approximately 7:45 – 7:50 am. With stops for pre-arranged pick-up at the Vermilion Social Center and Elders’ housing. The reverse route will be leaving Fortune Bay by approximately 4:15 pm. with the same drop off locations ending in Virginia. Continue to visit www.boisforte.com for an updated schedule.

Can I request a special pickup or drop off?

Along with a fixed route of set pick up times and places, dial-a-ride options will be available once the route has begun. To arrange a pick-up call the dispatch at 218-757-0280 or 1-888-757-1540.

How is Bois Forte providing this service?

Bois Forte is collaborating with Arrow Head Transit to provide transit services to a larger amount of residents interested in using the services.

Who do I contact if I have more questions?

Contact Transit Coordinator Jennie Rowland at 218-757-0280 or jrowland@boisforte-nsn.gov

Interested in a new home?

Don’t forget to update your contact information, or add your name to the housing list.

Call Carol, Lela, Patsy or Troy at 218-757-3261.
Viola Villebrun

Viola “Vi” Villebrun, 92, the oldest resident of Nett Lake, passed away at the Cook Nursing Home on Saturday, March 31, 2012.

She was born in Nett Lake on May 29, 1919, the daughter of Edward and Anna Porter. She attended Indian boarding school in Toma, Wisconsin, after which she returned to Nett Lake. Vi married Frank “Bronc” Villebrun in 1936, they made their home and raised their family in Nett Lake. She retired as a social worker for St. Louis County, employed for many years based in Nett Lake, where she helped many people. She also went to carpentry school, and not only learned to build structures but also personal family items, such as bassinettes for babies. Her family fondly recalls her being a great cook, making the best cinnamon rolls. She loved to travel, enjoyed bingo and charitable gambling. Vi was a avid reader, liked working crossword puzzles and had an exceptional memory, especially the history of the early years. She had made her resident at the Cook Nursing Home the past year and a half. She was known and loved by all, and will be dearly missed.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Frank "Bronc" Villebrun in 1986; 2 daughters, Ramona Villebrun in 2009 and Patricia Villebrun in 2011; numerous other siblings also preceed her in death.

Vi is survived by 1 son, Frank (Elaine) Villebrun of Indian Point, MN; 3 daughters, Olive Connor of Cook, Eileen (Kenny) Barney of Indian Point, MN and Jacquelyn K. Villebrun of Nett Lake; 1 sister, Josephine Chavers of Nett Lake; numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren and 4 great-great-great-grandchildren; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

SERVICES: Funeral services will be held at 1:00pm Thursday, (April 5th) at the Nett Lake School Gymnasium, Visitation will begin after 5:00 p.m. Wednesday at the school. Rev. Arthur Dale will be the officiant. Jackie F. Villebrun will sing, accompanied by Julie Whiteman. The casket bearers will be: Lawrence “TeJon” Connor, Frank Villebrun Jr., Rodney Villebrun, Henry Villebrun, Nicholas “Nick” Villebrun and Frances “Tuna” Connor. The honorary bearers will be: Darrell “Pete” Connor, Clayton Villebrun, Mike Villebrun, Ken Villebrun, Donny Villebrun, Clarence Roy Jr., Aern Hofmaster, Scott Rutar, Javan Villebrun, Bradley Day Jr., Andrew Day, Cody Anderson and Brent Villebrun. Interment will be in the Bois Forte Cemetery. Funeral arrangements are with Mlaker Funeral Home in Cook.
Super Mom

Mom, you’re a wonderful mother,
So gentle, yet so strong.
The many ways you show you care
Always make me feel I belong.

You’re patient when I’m foolish;
You give guidance when I ask;
It seems you can do most anything;
You’re the master of every task.

You’re a dependable source of comfort;
You’re my cushion when I fall.
You help in times of trouble;
You support me whenever I call.

I love you more than you know;
You have my total respect.
If I had my choice of mothers,
You’d be the one I’d select!

By Joanna Fuchs

Congratulations to Perry and An’tonyse on the birth of their beautiful baby boy, Perry Lee Drift Jr.!

He was born on Thursday, March 22, 2012 at 6:15 p.m. and weighed 6 pounds, 10 ounces and was 19 inches long.

We Love You Very Much!

Very proud Grandparents, Lori & Peter Drift Sr.; Great Grandparents - Lester & Karen Drift; Uncles - Peter Jr. and Parker; and Auntie Paige.

Healthy Generations

Prenatal Program at NACC

You and your baby are important to our Twin Cities Native American Community!

NACC Maternal Child Case Manager will assist you with:
- Prenatal Classes
- Parenting Classes
- Breast Feeding
- CD or DV issues
- Visiting Home Nurses
- WIC, SIDS
- Car Seats
- Labor and Delivery

You are invited to attend:
- Early Childhood Education
- Nutrition
- Safety
- Health and Wellness

Positive Support and Education!

Regular Prenatal Care is scheduled with our Dedicated Providers

Dr. Lori Banasik
Dr. Kari Rabie
Katie Bickel, CFNP
Rebekah Forrest, CFNP

Contact
Shannon Bad Warrior-Petersen,
Maternal and Child Case Manager,
612-872-8086 ext. 114

KALLEIGH JAMES GOODSKY
MAY 17

We celebrate with you today,
The Anniversary of wombs dismay,
She screamed and yelled, with a lions roar,
Her cries were silenced, with a baby’s snore.

You crawled and fell your way upright,
We smiled with joy, a gorgeous sight!
And now you’re one, on this special day,
We love you more, than we could ever say.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Taneesha,
and Talise
6th Annual
JosH Rutar
Memorial Golf Tournament
Proceeds Benefit the “JosH Rutar Scholarship Fund”

Place: Vermilion River Greens - Buyck, MN
Date: June 16, 2012  Shotgun start: 10:00am
Format: 4 Person Scramble - 18 Holes.
Entry: $200.00 Per Team

TOURNAMENT PRIZES:
1st-$900  2nd-$600  3rd-$400  Consolation-$200

-DRAWINGS FOR DOOR PRIZES-

Prizes for: Longest Putt, Closest to the line,
Closest to the Pin and Skins Game

Rules: Limit of 22 Teams, USGA Handicap 40+ Rules Available at Golf Course

Pre-registration only: Vermilion River Greens at 218-993-2246.
Carts are limited so please call early to reserve one.
Sign up by June 3rd if you would like to order a T-Shirt.

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 and photos. There is a $10 charge for 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 June issue:
May 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

Tribal Council
Kevin W. Leecy
Chairman
David C. Morrison, Sr.
Secretary/Treasurer
Cathy Chavers
District I Representative
Brandon Benner
District I Representative
Ray Toutloff
District II Representative

New housing almost complete!
Band members are working to put the finishing touches on the beautiful new homes in Pineview. 1. Walt King Jr. installs a bathroom mirror. 2. Billy Isham touches up the paint in the hallways. 3. Amber Geshick and Merrilee Littlewolf clean up construction dust.

If you are interested in a home, be sure you are on the Housing list with current information. Contact Carol Burr, Troy King, Patsy Adams or Lela Goodsky at 218-757-3261 for more information.