

Nah gah chi wa nong (Far end of the Great Lake – Fond du Lac Reservation) Di bah ji mowin nan (Narrating of Story)



From top left:
• FDL veterans move through the gift line at the annual Veterans Powwow, July 2007 • Vanessa Northrup, first female member of the Law Enforcement Division, is shown in the Tribal Chambers on July 26, the day of her swearing in ceremony. Vanessa is walking toward Michael Himango, Executive Director. • Roberta Welper was winner in the “Most Unique Chili” category at the FDL Chili and Frybread Cook-Off held on Oct. 28.
• Seasonal changes: Fall at Jay Cooke State Park; late summer just outside the Sawyer Community Church on Mission Road.

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RBC approves salary recommendations

At the February 2007 FDL Open Meeting, Band Members asked that the Reservation Business Committee salaries be reviewed. A professional salary review by an outside consultant, Practical Leadership, LLC, was conducted.

Below are the results of that study. The recommendations were adopted by the RBC, and the information from the salary review was presented at the Dec. 20 Open Meeting held in Brookston.

Introduction

The Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa has contracted with Practical Leadership, LLC, to provide services in the development of an appropriate salary range and compensation plan for Fond du Lac elected officials. Participating members of a FDL Focus Group were responsible for the recommendations for consideration and acceptance by the Reservation Business Committee.

Members of the RBC identified individual FDL Band members to serve on the Focus Group that would meet to discuss issues and make recommendations relative to compensation for elected officials. The Compensation Focus Group identified for the consultant team was comprised of the following FDL citizens: Harry Bassett, Elwin Benton, Debra Malory, Mike Murray, George Himango, Chuck Walt and Jerry Fairbanks. Focus Group members Bryan John Macceiwski and Charlin Diver completed the survey only, since most meetings conflicted with work schedules.

The first meeting was held in July 2007. During meetings of the Focus Group a number of compensation

and related performance issues were identified and discussed. This report will highlight key points of those discussions. This report will also summarize a survey that was conducted of Focus Group members and identify discussion points related to the survey questions.

The Focus Group also identified certain management processes that they believed would either advance progress for the Reservation, encourage efficiency of operations, or provide constituents with a means of measuring the effectiveness and productivity of elected officials. These processes will be identified in the section following the summarization of survey results.

Underlying principles of elected official compensation plan

Discussions by the Focus Group identified underlying principles of compensation planning for FDL elected officials. To the greatest extent possible these principles were incorporated into the compensation options developed by Practical Leadership. To this end Practical Leadership surveyed various Minnesota Indian tribes for their compensation plans for elected officials. The consultant team also looked at other compensation models for elected officials and shared that information with the Focus Group.

The underlying principles for the development of the compensation plan for FDL elected officials is as follows: (1) The pay for FDL elected officials should be comparable to elected officials of similar Native American tribes/bands in Minnesota. (2) While skill levels, job performance, achievement of measurable

goals, acquisition of new skills, and similar factors have intuitive appeal, measurement of these factors for elected officials is not easy or practical. (3) Long tenure of an elected official is an indication (by the voters) of satisfactory performance by the official. (4) The compensation system should be updated periodically to reflect changes in compensation practices in the market. (5) How much any elected official might reasonably expect to earn in any other capacity is not relevant as to how they are paid as an elected official of FDL.

Compensation Process for Elected Officials

Pay ranges

A pay range for three different levels of FDL elected officials will be determined based on median pay at other Bands. Each pay range will have a minimum pay rate, a midpoint, and a maximum pay rate. The midpoint is intended to approximate the median pay for elected officials from other similarly situated Native America Tribes/Bands in Minnesota. The minimum is at 80 percent of the midpoint, and the maximum is at 120 percent of the midpoint (each rounded to the nearest \$100).

The recommended pay ranges for elected officials effective January 1, 2008 are:

<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Midpoint</i>	<i>Maximum</i>
District Representative		
\$92,000	\$115,000	\$138,000
Secretary/Treasurer		
\$105,300	\$131,600	\$157,900
Chairperson		
\$105,300	\$131,600	\$157,900

Pay range adjustments

Pay ranges will be adjusted every two years, starting in 2010, based on the Social Security Cost-of-Living Adjustments. After the adjustment has been determined, each minimum, midpoint, and maximum and tenure break points (86 percent, 92 percent, etc) will be rounded to the nearest \$100.

Pay increases - COLA increase

The pay rate for elected officials will be adjusted on their service anniversary based on the increase (change) in the Social Security "Cost of Living Adjustment" as published by the Social Security Administration.

COLA increases will not be made in those years that there is a Progression In Range Increase. As such, the COLA increase will be on the first anniversary of their assumption of their duties, and every other year thereafter.

Progression in range increase

Progression through the appropriate pay range for any one individual will be based on their tenure in elected office.

The progression in range for each position is:

- Newly elected officials starting pay will be the minimum of the pay range for that position.
- At the 25th month of service (after 2 years), the official's pay will be changed to 86 percent of the midpoint as of that time.
- At the 49th month of service (after 4 years), the official's pay will be changed to be 92 percent of the midpoint as of that time.
- At the 73rd month of service (after 6 years), the official's pay will be

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Nah gah chi wa nong Di bah ji mowin nan

Translation: Far End of the Great Lake - Fond du Lac Reservation; Narrating of Story

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The mission of this publication is to provide the Anishinaabeg community of the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Fond du Lac Reservation, with news and information that will be of help to them in their everyday lives. In addition, our goal will be to highlight many of the honors, accolades, accomplishments and awards that are earned by community members but are mostly overlooked by the mass mainstream media.

It is our hope that through greater information about the activities of our people, this publication can be an instrument of true community. It is not

our intention to be a vehicle of divisiveness. To that end, we do not publish editorials, opinion pieces or letters to the editor. There is an abundance of opportunity for the publishing, airing and dissemination of material of personal opinion in other communication vehicles available throughout the area, region and state.

Our mission is to provide for Fond du Lac Anishinaabeg a publication that will not dismiss their culture, heritage, hopes and dreams. We are striving to make this newspaper fill that role.

Member of the Native American Journalists Association

- changed to be 98 percent of the midpoint as of that time.
- At the 97th month of service (after 8 years), the official's pay will be changed to be 104 percent of the midpoint as of that time.
 - At the 121st month of service (after 10 years), the official's pay will be changed to be 110 percent of the midpoint as of that time.
 - At the 145th month of service (after 12 years), the official's pay will be changed to be 116 percent of the midpoint as of that time.
 - At the 169th month of service (after 14 years), the official's pay will be changed to be 120 % of the midpoint as of that time (maximum).
 - Beyond 14 years of service the pay rate will only change as the maximum pay rate permits a change in pay.

Newly elected officials with prior service in an elected office will still start at the minimum pay rate for that position. If there is a break in service for an individual, if reelected, the individual will start at the minimum of the range of the specific position.

Pay increases will be effective on the first full pay period after new officers are seated.

An example of tenure based compensation for elected officials, with periodic pay range increases to reflect cost of living changes

George began service as a District Representative on 7/1/08. His starting pay would be at minimum for the District Rep, or \$92,000. George's pay rate would be "reviewed" on 7/1/09. At that time, he has 12 months of service as a District Rep. At that time, he would receive a COLA increase in his pay. Assuming that the Social Security Cost of Living Adjustment for 2008 was 2.3 percent, his rate of pay would increase to \$94,100.

George's pay rate would be reviewed one year later, on 7/1/10. As of that date, he is starting his 25th month of service, so he will receive the Progression in Range Increase. At 25 months of service, pay is increased to 86 percent of the midpoint. If the midpoint adjustment made on 1/1/10 increased the midpoint to \$120,600, his pay rate would increase to \$103,700.

George's pay rate would be reviewed again on 7/1/11. At that time, he would receive a COLA increase

in his pay. Assuming that the Social Security Cost of Living Adjustment for 2011 was 3.0 percent, his rate of pay would increase to \$106,800.

George would continue to receive an increase in pay on 7/1 of each year as long as he continues to be re-elected. Since his service start is in an even year (2008), he will get a COLA Increase in 2009 and every odd year following, and a Progression in Range Increase in 2010 and each even numbered year.

He does not get a COLA increase and a progression in range increase each year, because the range increases every other year. In those years the range increases, the COLA increase is built into the range increase.

Recommended management processes

The Focus Group recognizes the value of community support for a compensation plan for elected officials. The Focus Group also recognizes that there is not one single plan that would satisfy all constituents. The Focus Group offers the following suggestions as management processes that would be beneficial to the FDL Reservation. These processes will provide either information, or certain representative milestones, to help constituents make informed judgment and decisions at the time of tribal elections.

The compensation model recommended by the focus group has increases driven by either A) longevity, or B) an increase in the salary range itself. If the model is implemented by RBC approval, reelection is not only constituent approval of a job considered "well done", but also the key to a salary increase as an incumbent.

The processes identified below by the Focus Group are intended to nurture and encourage the productivity, efficiency and effectiveness of elected officials. If implemented through RBC approval the various management processes will either assist tribal members interested in pursuing elected office or will assist tribal members in determining their candidate choices in future elections. These benefits are presumed to follow the public availability of the information of and through the implementation of these management processes.

Salary range implementation

The Compensation Focus Group has reviewed market data, alterna-

tive compensation models for elected officials, and discussed at length applicable issues before submitting the compensation ranges cited earlier for consideration and approval. Not only does the Focus Group recommend a specific ranges but further recommends the following implementation guidelines:

- Implementation Date -- the Focus Group recommends that the wage ranges proposed for elected officials be implemented January 1, 2008, and
- Incumbent Salary Adjustments -- effective January 1, 2008 elected officials' salaries be adjusted to the midpoints of their respective new salary ranges.

Progression within the proposed salary ranges and the method for receiving increases within those ranges is based on longevity. The Focus Group was not interested in seeing the incumbents negatively affected by returning their salaries to the minimum of the proposed ranges.

However, in fairness to future elected officials the Focus Group is recommending an implementation compromise in terms of salary reduction. Unless there is a change based on the cost of living adjustments or market adjustments to the salary ranges, increases in incumbent wages would be based on the longevity formula.

Job descriptions

The Constitution of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe identifies specific responsibilities for the Chairperson and Secretary/Treasurer positions on the various reservations. However, the Constitution does not provide any detailed set of responsibilities for representatives elected by MCT constituents.

The Focus Group would like to see the RBC develop job descriptions or responsibility guidelines for the various individual elected positions. It is hoped that to these job descriptions or responsibility guidelines will be made available to FDL constituents.

Quarterly public reports

Ongoing accountability of elected officials has been a long-standing concern for constituents. Compensation Focus Group recommends that the RBC implement and mandate quarterly disclosure for elected officials. Each disclosure should contain

the following:

1. A travel log and travel expense summary for each elected official,
2. Compensation received from the FDL Reservation during that quarter,
3. Compensation received from all other sources during that quarter, to include board membership fees and any other meetings fees received.

If compensation is received because of elected official status and the elected official is participating as a paid representative of the FDL Reservation, such compensation should be turned in to the FDL Finance Department.

Annual public strategic business plans and reports

The RBC should develop annual strategic business plans for itself and each organizational component. The plan should include input from the FDL community and approved plans should be made public.

The RBC should manage progress on the plan and be prepared to make quarterly adjustments to those plans. The RBC should prepare a formal report for Fond du Lac Band Members on an annual basis on the status of progress for the plan.

Code of conduct

The RBC should develop and implement a Code of Conduct for FDL Elected Officials. The Code of Conduct should be based on a concept of positive role model leadership. The Code should contain mechanisms for censure up to and including public disclosure of Code violations.

Acknowledgement

The consultant team of Practical Leadership, LLC. wishes to express appreciation to the FDL Reservation Compensation Focus Group. The Focus Group worked diligently to provide a fair and viable compensation model and options for FDL Reservation elected officials. The Focus Group's opinions and recommendations contained within this report reflect the honesty, courage and willingness to tackle difficult issues by the members of the Focus Group. Regardless of the heat of any exchanges during the process, the best of Ojibwa Traditions, Respect and Humor, were maintained at all times.

FDL big game hunting season roundup

By Mike Schrage,
FDL Wildlife Biologist

Final results were not yet available for the 2007 fall hunting seasons by the deadline for this issue of the FDL newspaper. Seasons were still open for deer, moose and turkey, and all of the harvest data still needs to be double-checked for accuracy. However, we have collected registration data through the end of November, which points to some preliminary results.

Reservation deer

As of Nov. 30, tribal members from the Fond du Lac Reservation had registered 125 deer kills. Typically, December brings in another 20 to 30 deer registrations. At a comparable time in 2006, Band Members had registered 120 deer, so 2007 may exceed 2006 totals.

Ceded Territory deer

At the end of November, 295 deer kills had been registered from the 1837 and 1854 Ceded Territories. December will bring another 30 to 40 deer registrations if history repeats itself. At a comparable time in 2006, Band Members had registered 382 deer so the 2007 Ceded harvest is likely to be less than the 2006 totals.

Band members hunted in three special state park hunts in the 1837

Ceded Territory. In an October “youth only” hunt at St. Croix State Park, five young FDL hunters harvested five deer. At Wild River State Park the first weekend of November, 26 FDL hunters showed up and took 15 deer. In mid-November at St. Croix State Park, 26 hunters again took 15 deer.

Moose

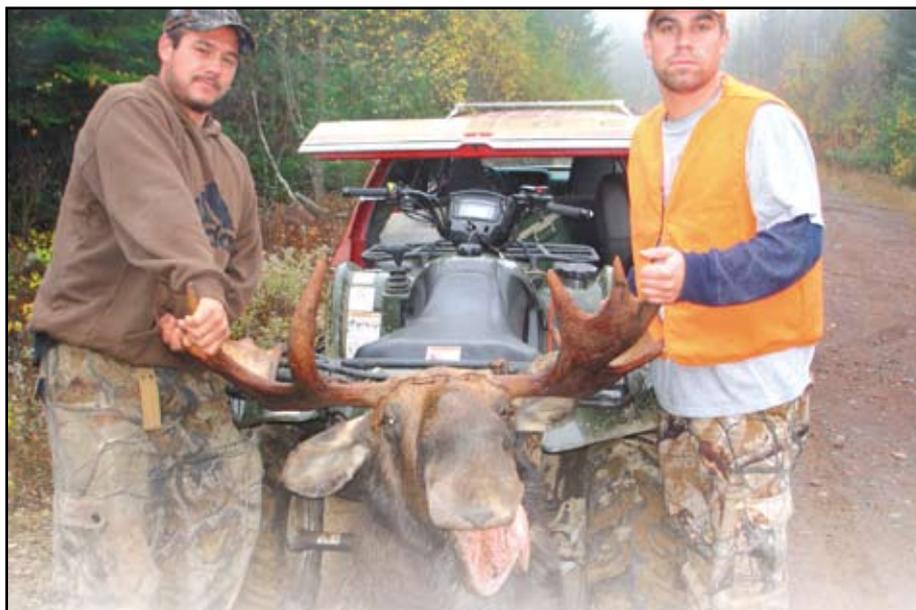
By the end of November, 20 moose had been registered by FDL hunters. This compares to 29 by December 3, 2006. In 2007, for the first time in recent years, moose season is open until December 31, and it’s unknown how many Band Members tried to take a Christmas moose. In the 16-day October season, state hunters took 115 moose and 1854 Treaty Authority hunters took 26 moose.

Bear and turkey

Active participation in these seasons is usually light and the harvest is small. As of this writing, three bear kills have been registered from the Reservation and one from the 1854 Ceded Territory. A total of five turkeys were harvested during the past spring season in the 1837 Ceded Territory.

Furbearers

The pelts of many species are reaching prime status as this article is written, and much of FDL’s fur



On Oct. 2 at 6:45 a.m. hunters brought down this 900-pound moose with an antler spread of 44 inches. Band Member Mike Diver used a birch bark cow call to lure the moose. The hunting party consisted of Diver, Matt Defoe and Adam Thompson. Defoe and Thompson are shown in this picture, which was taken by Diver.

registration comes in from November through January. Prices are not expected to equal levels of two years ago but much depends on weather and auction house demand. Cold weather sells fur coats. Strong economies in Russia and China help, also.

Prices for raccoon, red and grey fox, marten and fisher are expected to be strong. Prices for otter are likely to be down, and other species are a bit uncertain. The Resource Manage-

ment Division only requires registration of four species, bobcat, marten, fisher and otter, and last year eight FDL trappers registered 100 pelts.

We’ll report later this winter on the final results of Fond du Lac’s hunting and trapping seasons. A complete harvest report will be issued in the spring.

Red Cliff artist displays work at UMD Tweed Gallery

An exhibit of the paintings and drawings of Rabbet Before Horses is on display at the Tweed Museum of Art at the University of Minnesota – Duluth through Feb. 24, 2008. The exhibit is entitled “From Dreams May We Learn.” Horses is a member of the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

The exhibit consists of eight mural-size paintings and 12 small scale paintings and drawings. Horses is regarded as a masterful figurative painter whose works narrate elements of Ojibwe mythology and creation stories, as seen through the lens of the artist’s dreams.

The paintings introduce viewers to Nanabozho, who appears to the artist first in his dreams, and then in his art.

Nanabozho is a complex character in Ojibwe mythology, with supernatural powers manifesting in both savior and trickster aspects. The paintings present a chronological continuum from Nanabozho’s birth in ancient times to his interactions with the Ojibwe before and after the arrival of the Europeans. (FDL owns “Sharing the Medicine” by Rabbet Before Horses, which is displayed in the Minneapolis Pharmacy on Franklin Ave.)

Admission to the Tweed exhibit is free. The Tweed Museum of Art is located in Ordean Court at the UMD campus. Museum hours are Tues. 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Wed. through Fri. 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Sat. and Sun. 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Picture at right: “Searching for Nokomis”





On the left: The 7th annual FDL Head Start and Community “Baby Shower” was held on July 19. The event focuses on providing information to expectant and new parents. More than 1,000 people attended. Fourteen sessions were held on subjects such as infant/toddler development, Native traditional ways and encouraging curiosity in young children.

Seventeen cooks entered the Oct. 28 Chili and Frybread Cook-Off contest with their favorite chili recipes; eight cooks brought in frybread. Bunny Jaakola won in the “Simply the Best Chili” category; Shirley Bassett won the best frybread contest and Damion LaPrairie Sr. won the People’s Choice category. The Cook-Off was held in recognition of Domestic Violence Month (October). Cook-Off samplers in the bottom picture from the left are Les Northrup, Emily Smith and Darwin Bishop.

The Annual Gitagaan harvest feast was held Sept. 21 at the Tribal Center. FDL gardeners gathered to share their seasonal bounty. Pictured is Leah Savage and her daughter, Delilah, 2





The FDL Forestry Program conducted prescribed burns in April as a way to improve and encourage growth in the reservation forests.

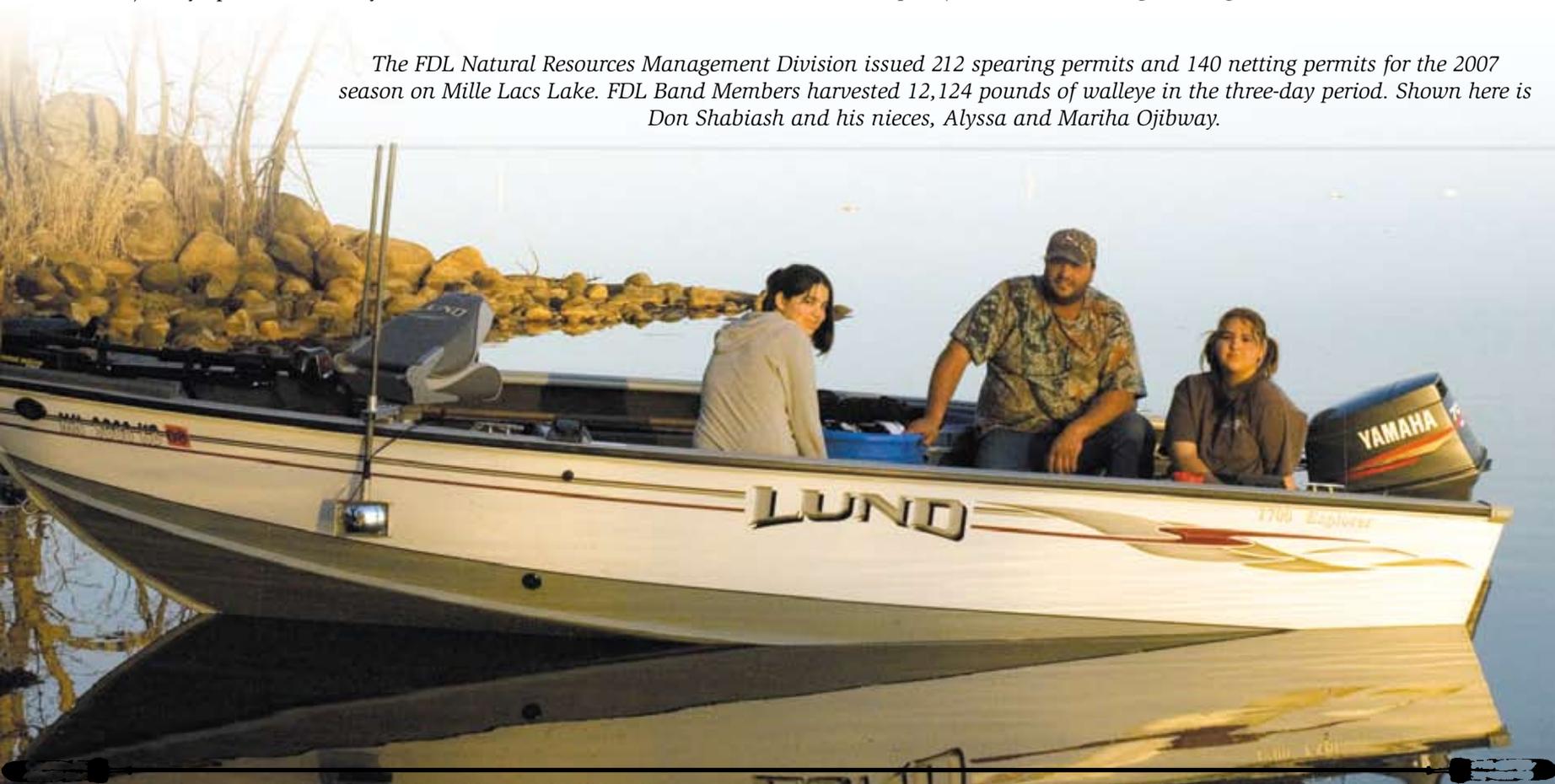


Phase Two of the FDL Black Bear Casino Resort construction project ends in May 2008. Phase one included auditorium construction; phase two includes casino/hotel construction. The new facility opens in February.



Band Member Linda Nelson's green thumb became apparent to all readers of this newspaper with its August photo display. She grows about 50 varieties of flowers both in and above the ground. An example of Linda's container gardening is shown here.

The FDL Natural Resources Management Division issued 212 spearing permits and 140 netting permits for the 2007 season on Mille Lacs Lake. FDL Band Members harvested 12,124 pounds of walleye in the three-day period. Shown here is Don Shabiash and his nieces, Alyssa and Mariha Ojibway.





Page top: one of Linda Nelson's many area gardens. **From the left:** Actor Adam Beach and Golf Pro Notah Begay III chat at an August golf tournament fundraiser held at the Black Bear Golf Course. • Almost 3,000 people attended Enrollee Weekend in June. Shown here is the giant slide located at the Tribal Center parking area. **Below left:** The Sawyer Community sponsored a summer youth program from June 11 to Aug. 26. In this August picture, Emmanuel Sandoval listens to a speaker in the lobby of the St. Paul Science Museum. • The 33,000 pound "Harvester" can saw through a tree with a 25-inch diameter in three seconds. The vehicle went into operation last summer; FDL sells its wood products to six area mills. • From Enrollee Weekend: Julie Abramowski holds her daughter, Jezlyn. Shown also is Tori and Trent Anderson. **Below:** FDL property along St. Louis River, Fall 2007



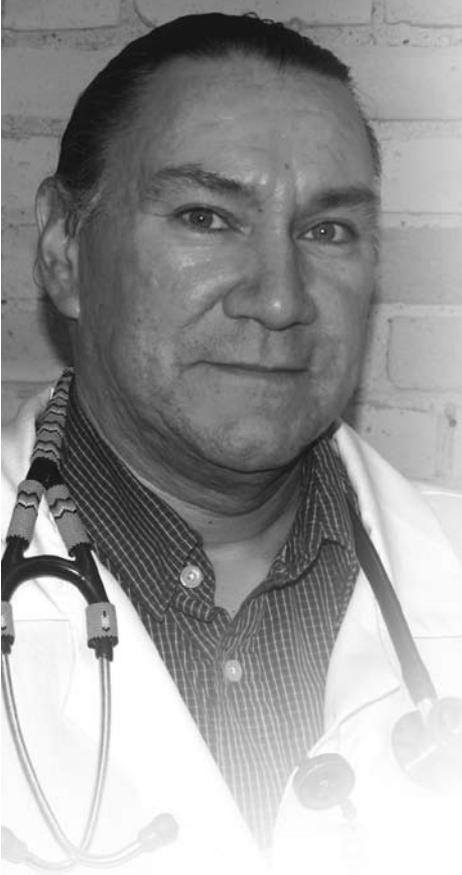
From the left: Head Start children assemble in Tribal Center for the annual Halloween Trick or Treat tradition.

Ojibwe School football practice, September 2007

FDL Elders and guests board the Vista Star in the Duluth Harbor for dinner and a harbor tour on July 18.

Below: Ojibwe School teacher Heidi Ojibway reviews that day's reading lesson with her students.





Cutting short his rides with Albert

Doc treats patient who becomes part of this statistic: two of every five American Indians die from tobacco misuse including exposure to second hand smoke

sure it was cured. Every time he got pneumonia, he became worried that his lymphoma would return. I ended up doing multiple CT scans on Harold during his pneumonias. Except for his worsening emphysema, these always came out OK. According to the pulmonologist (lung specialist) I referred Harold to, smoking put Harold at an extremely high risk of getting lung cancer.

Worst fears confirmed

About six months before I finished residency, Harold was in the hospital again for pneumonia. This time his chest x-ray showed a worrisome area in his left lung. A CT scan showed this to be likely cancerous. He was sent to the pulmonologist and had a bronchoscopy – a camera on a thin tube is passed into the lungs through the mouth. A biopsy (tissue sample) was taken, which showed evidence of lung cancer. Harold refused surgery and wished to try other options.

He started chemotherapy, but became very sick from it and was unable to finish. There are many types of chemotherapy, usually combinations of medicines based on exactly which type of cancer is diagnosed. Chemotherapy works by going after rapidly dividing cells. This means it can attack the cancer, but other cells in our bodies are rapidly dividing, including gut, bone marrow and hair. This is why chemotherapy patients can get nausea, weakened immune systems and hair loss. Harold was given morphine for his pain and quickly started to abuse it. He ended up in the hospital twice with overdoses of morphine. By this time he was getting thinner and had lost almost 85 pounds. Even the

skin on his face hung down in leathery folds.

Subsequently, he was started on radiation treatment. Multiple treatments of radiation are targeted to the area of cancer. This caused scarring of his esophagus (swallowing tube) and he had a very hard time swallowing. He kept losing weight, but he continued to smoke.

I didn't see Harold for several months as he refused to come in for clinic visits, although he did occasionally see the cancer specialists. He was admitted to the hospital for back pain. X-rays showed that the cancer had spread to his spine, and a bone scan showed that the cancer spread to scattered areas of his spine and pelvis. His cancer was widely metastatic (spreading) and he went home

with hospice care to spend his last days with Albert as there were no treatment options left.

Heart broken pooch

I left Seattle for Minnesota before I learned what happened to him, but Harold's condition was terminal. I hoped one of the hospice nurses found someone to adopt Albert, but he was an old dog and totally dedicated exclusively to Harold. If Albert did have to be put down, I

took comfort in believing they were together again and driving with the windows down.

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in both men and women in the USA. There are 175,000 new cases each year in the USA, consisting of two major types, small cell and non-small cell lung cancer. About 80 percent of new cases are non-small cell and 50 percent are metastatic (spreading) by the time of diagnosis. This is the most com-

mon cancer world-wide, and usually occurs between the ages of 50 to 70. Tobacco use is involved in 87 percent of lung cancer cases.

According to the American Indian Community Tobacco Project (www.AICTP.umn.edu) three out of every five American Indian adults smoke, and nearly two out of every five American Indian deaths are due to cigarette smoking and breathing secondhand smoke. Teens whose family members smoke are three times more likely to smoke themselves.

Solution?

Question: So what do we do about this?

Answer: Prevention!

Does anyone see a pattern here? We need to keep our kids from smoking, and we need to continue to get current smokers to quit. This is a very difficult problem as nicotine changes receptors in the brain so they only work when nicotine is present. This is why smokers need to have their "fix" and why people can get so crabby when they try to quit.

Using patches and gum help by giving a decreasing dose of nicotine over time. There are medicines to help with cravings. There is a new medicine out that blocks the nicotine receptors in the brain. Hypnosis and acupuncture are also helpful (with no side effects).

All of these should be considered in combination with counseling. Quitting with a partner also helps.

Smokers can ask for help to quit. Ask for help at your clinic or by calling 1-888-354-PLAN.

Again, from AICTP: We've survived too much as a people to allow ourselves to be conquered by cigarettes.

Look around. Our kids tend to do what we do. Don't let smoking be one of them.

Dr. Arne Vainio, who practices medicine at the FDL Min No Aya Win Clinic, writes about his experiences for this newspaper. He can be reached at a-vainio@hotmail.com

By Arne Vainio, M.D.

Seattle is a beautiful city and was a great place to do my residency. I spent 3 years at the Seattle Indian Health Board and Providence Hospital and have many stories from there.

This is one of them.

Harold lived alone with his dog, Albert. Albert was a big, happy, slobbery dog who loved riding in the car with Harold. Albert stuck his head out the window at every opportunity. It was clear that in his eyes, Harold could do no wrong.

Harold hardly ever came to the clinic. I usually saw him when he was in the hospital for pneumonia. I had repeatedly tried to get him to quit smoking, but he never wanted to go to the classes or take the medicines. In the three years I'd been at the clinic, I had admitted Harold five or six times to the hospital for pneumonia (a bacterial infection in the lungs).

Two of those times Harold ended up on a ventilator. His pneumonia was complicated by his smoking and resultant emphysema. Emphysema is a breakdown of the air sacs in the lungs, making it hard to get oxygen. It's a chronic condition with no cure. It's almost always caused by smoking, and preventing it is the only real solution.

In addition to this, ten years earlier Harold had lymphoma, which is a cancer of his lymph nodes (part of the immune system). The lymphoma had been treated with chemotherapy, but Harold never went back to make

We need to keep our kids from smoking, and we need to continue to get current smokers to quit. This is a very difficult problem as nicotine changes receptors in the brain so they only work when nicotine is present. This is why smokers need to have their "fix" and why people can get so crabby when they try to quit.

- Dr. Arne Vainio

More rez adventures with the Indian Scout

Story and photos by Deborah Locke

You can't separate Ojibwe history from Ojibwe land. It would be like separating the skin on your hand from its bone. The two form one whole.

A thumbnail of pristine land jutting into Lake Superior, maybe 10 acres, makes up Wisconsin Point. If the land could speak, it would scream its head off.

That's because for three generations, Wisconsin Point was the center of a heated battle between Fond du Lac Band Members and land and steel companies. A 1924 story in the Milwaukee Journal describes Frank Lemieux and other Band Members defending the land at gunpoint to prevent the building of ore loading docks.

The pictures on these pages show the outcome of that conflict. A Superior tourist plaque boasts that over a billion tons of ore had been shipped through the Burlington Northern Ore Docks. Why, 32.3 million tons were shipped in 1953 alone!

Late one sunny December afternoon the Indian Scout steered the Monster Truck north and east on Interstate 35 toward the big lake. From the Bong Bridge we passed massive grain elevators, empty warehouses and open pools of lake water. Now on the Wisconsin side, we zoomed to Hwy. 53 south from Belknap Street. A Chinese restaurant came into view, and a Perkins restaurant near Barker's Island.

"What's nice about the Wisconsin side is it isn't overdeveloped, like Minnesota," observed the Scout. We passed more giant elevators holding taconite, and a curious lack of fish houses in the bay areas. The ore docks

dominated the environment, which ticked off the Scout. "That ore was a gift of the Ojibwe nation!" he snorted. "It was a gift from Fond du Lac, Grand Portage, Nett Lake, and Leech Lake." The Scout snorts a lot.

It may have been a gift, but it took three generations to grant. As the Scout mourned the lost mineral resources, a bald eagle circled broadly in the near western sky.

We stopped again near the elevated train platforms where deer tracks led to a gated entrance. This was Superior's "Old Town," and we took a side road toward Wisconsin Point.

Ahead a dump truck led the way.

Who decided to put a dump site practically on Wisconsin Point, the Scout exclaimed, his voice rising. The Scout slipped into a new funk about ill-placed garbage.

We turned down a narrow built-up road surrounded by snowy wetland. Another tourist plaque reported that starting in 1666, and for 200

more years, explorers, fur traders, miners and missionaries came along the south shore of the lake in bark canoes. No mention was made of the earliest explorers who came through more than 12,000 years ago and settled into villages. No mention was made of the barrel of Frank Lemieux's gun.

The Monster Truck stopped at a "Chippewa Indian Burial Ground Site" dating from the 17th Century. A sign stated that the remains were removed in 1918 to St. Francis Cemetery in Superior.

Yet it was clear that recent visitors stopped by the burial area. Over near a large stone marker the Scout noted a sprinkling of tobacco and added one of his own. I took a picture of ribbons attached to tree branches. Scout specu-



Late afternoon sun off the breakwater at Wisconsin Point

lated that the orange ribbons on a pine tree near the entrance were from the state Department of Natural Resources.

A 1925 Milwaukee Journal story, “The Curse of Wisconsin Point,” described a visit to a litigation attorney in 1916 by an Ojibwe man. The attorney worked on the Indian land claim case against the steel corporation.

The Ojibwe man predicted that if the graveyard was disturbed, the resting place for his father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, a mighty Chippewa chief, then fire and plague and war would break out. In the fall of 1918 men went to Wisconsin Point to move the graveyard, and noticed a cloud of smoke in the distance, today known as the Cloquet fire. That same year the flu broke out at epidemic levels. The country was mired in World War I. The “triple prophesy” came true.

Back in the truck we passed snow crusted pine along the still, narrow roadway. We reached the roadway end and hopped from the truck.

Scout pointed out two homes owned by the Coast Guard, perhaps once the site of Frank Lemieux’s home. The Fond du Lac Band is in negotiations now to repurchase some acreage. If that deal goes through, the homes could be converted into cultural centers.

We walked along the breakwater leading to a lighthouse. The sun cast warming rays over the blue-white snow. From a distance came the sound of Duluth’s Interstate 35 traffic. The Scout’s frown deepened.

I told the Scout that my mother’s family’s name was Lemieux, and that I grew up with knowledge of a Great Aunt Maggie and a Great Uncle John and a Great Grandfather, Frank Lemieux.

The Scout gestured again to the two white homes on Wisconsin Point, once occupied by the U.S. Coast Guard. Maybe they still are.

See those, he said. They’re probably yours. Take them back.

Deborah Locke can be reached at deborahlocke@fdlrez.com.



Fenced iron ore dock area

Ice buildup on the shore



Area News Briefs

Preliminary development begins on Mpls American Indian corridor

The Hennepin County Board approved \$200,000 in funding to create an American Indian corridor on Franklin Ave. in Minneapolis. The money will be used to create a master plan that will take about a year and a half to develop. An area of 2.2 acres at 1845 E. Franklin Ave., adjacent to the Hiawatha Line light-rail transit station has been targeted for development.

Plans are at a very preliminary stage now, but the Tillicum Village in Seattle has been suggested as a model for the site. That means the American Indian Cultural and Economic Corridor could feature a dinner theater and cultural center, as well as job training facilities.

The corridor, adjacent to the light-rail line, would give train passengers to the Mall of America another shopping destination.

The predevelopment planning includes engineering, environmental and marketing studies to be conducted throughout 2008.

The story was reported in the Dec. 6, 2007 issue of Finance & Commerce.

Talented high school football player with FDL connection to play on U.S. Army All-American Bowl team

Star football player Kavario Middleton, 18, of Lakewood, Wash., will play on the U.S. Army All-American Bowl team representing the West Coast division on Jan. 5, 2008. The game, with an estimated audience of 3 million viewers, will be broadcast on NBC from noon to 3 p.m. It will take place at the San Antonio Alamodome.

Kavario plays at the tight end position. He is regarded as the number one football high school recruit in Washington State. Kavario is ranked nationally as the number two tight end recruit in the United States, according to a report from Scout.com. which is affiliated with the U.S. Army Bowl.

At 6'7" in height, and at 247 pounds, Kavario has long been a

powerhouse on his high school football team. He has also excelled in basketball, and served as captain on both teams.

Kavario has played football since the second grade, said his dad, Reginald. The U.S. Army Bowl selects top recruits from the east and west coasts. Kavario took part in a week-long competition with other top college recruits and won a spot on the Army team. The Army game will include profiles of the players.

He has received about 21 offers from colleges across the country for his athletic ability. The attention from colleges began when Kavario was a high school sophomore. The four-year fully paid college offers have arrived from Oregon, USC, Arizona State, Miami, Michigan, Ohio, Minnesota, Washington, LSU, and the University of Washington, to name a few.

Will he play ball in Minnesota? "He's been there to visit," Reginald said. But it looks more likely that Kavario will attend the University of Washington in Seattle and play for the Huskies.

His parents are FDL Band Member Tamera (Diver) Middleton and Reginald Middleton.

Red Lake parents of suicide victims form support group

A "We Care. We Love." support group initiated by two parents of suicide victims formed early this winter at the Red Lake Nation. The purpose is to provide emotional as well as some financial support to families who have lost a family member to suicide. The co-founders, Lisa Beaulieu and Maureen Lyons, are mothers of daughters who took their own lives.

The women have held taco sales and raffled off a used car to raise money.

Sioux to decide future of UND's use of "Fighting Sioux"

A lawsuit settlement gives the University of North Dakota three years to convince the state's two Sioux communities to approve of the "Fighting Sioux" nickname and logo, or select a new nickname.

That decision comes after decades of controversy, most recently between the University and the National Collegiate Athletic Association. The NCAA threatened to punish the school for using the Sioux logo in post-season play. A NCAA spokesperson said that the image of the Sioux mascot had no place in college athletics. The settlement makes it clear that the Sioux people themselves will decide if their name will be used by the UND athletic department, and how their name is used.

If the University doesn't win approval from the two Sioux communities within the three-year period, it would need to choose a new name and logo by Aug. 15, 2011, according to the agreement.

The controversy has created problems for some American Indian students who attend UND, who are expected to defend their opinions, whether they have one or not. The October story was reported in the Star Tribune.

Now casino-bashing T-shirt enters the UND/mascot war

A T-shirt poking fun at the University of North Dakota "Fighting Sioux" controversy has added another layer of controversy to the long-standing issue. The shirt includes the words "No Sioux Logo No Sioux Casinos!" The shirt also describes tribal casinos as "destructive and addictive."

A UND spokesperson said the University's licensing company has written to the Jamestown-based company that makes the shirts to stop using the UND logo on the shirt.

The company founder, Len Orr, who is a UND hockey fan, said he might remove the University symbol but will continue selling the shirt. He said that American Indians use their names in identifying their casinos, which is "ironic." The December story was reported in the St. Paul Pioneer Press.

By healthy margin, Foxwoods dealers agree to representation from UAW

Dealers at the Foxwoods Resort Casino, the largest casino in the world, voted to join the United Auto Workers in November. The election victory came on the heels of a UAW campaign based on employee concerns about pay, health insurance and exposure to second-hand smoke from casino customers. The vote was 1,289-852. The Connecticut casino is operated by the Mashantucket Pequot.

Early in 2007 a federal court ruled that the National Labor Relations Act applies to employees at tribal casinos. The decision rejected arguments from a California tribe that as sovereign nations, tribes should not be subject to federal labor rules.

Union officials are now negotiating a collective bargaining agreement and will form a negotiating committee. The Mashantucket Pequot will file an objection to the election with the National Labor Relations Board, said a tribal spokesman.

The Foxwoods Casino Resort consists of six casinos, and is visited by more than 40,000 guests each day. The December story appeared in News From Indian Country.

Bills introduced to pave way for repairs to tribal schools

Politicians in North and South Dakota have introduced legislation requiring the federal government to repair, renovate and replace tribal schools. Sen. Tim Johnson, D-S.D. and Rep. Earl Pomeroy, D-N.D. introduced the "Indian School Construction Act".

The U.S. Interior Dept. acknowledges a \$2.4 billion backlog of repairs and replacements to tribal schools that should have been funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The proposed legislation will allow individual tribes to issue 15-year bonds. It would authorize the federal government to appropriate funds and create an interest bearing escrow account to repay the principal owed on the bonds. It also provides tax credits that are transferable to tribal financial partners to pay off the interest on the bonds.



A few thoughts from RBC members

From Chairwoman Karen Diver

Secretary-Treasurer Ferdinand Martineau and I have been trying to be very open with the members of the Fond du Lac Band about the status of the tribe's finances. In the interests of continuing this practice, Band members should be aware of what we discovered two weeks ago. In order to bring in the Black Bear project within the \$119 million loan package, many of the needed items to open the new project were removed from the budget. These items include things needed to open the steakhouse, convention center and the remodelled portion of the hotel. Black Bear management staff have estimated the cost for these items at near to \$20 million.

The unbudgeted items include the basic things needed to make these portions of the project ready for operations, for example: chairs,

lighting and sound systems for the convention center, new beds and other furniture for the hotel, and dishes, etc. for the steak house. The most expensive item not budgeted for were the slot machines needed to fill up, and pay for, the new casino. Black Bear management staff are working hard on the budget to see what we can lease instead of buy, and what are the basic items needed to become operational. While the previous thought was that we had at least two years to refinance the loan package, this new information makes moving that process along even more critical so we have access to the Band's loan collateral to fill any gaps needed to



Karen Diver

open the project. Please remember that these challenges were created over two and half years ago, but that this RBC is committed to trying to find solutions.

While last month I was fairly optimistic that tribal operations would not be affected, \$20 million in additional expenses is too much to come out of the tribes cash flow. Additionally, the majority of our reserves are tied up as collateral for the loan. The Reservation Business Committee is in the process of reviewing budgets for 2008, and all of the divisions are being asked to minimize the amount of money they are requesting from the tribal council. 2008 will be a time for all Band members to understand

that the success of the Black Bear project has to be a main priority for the long-term financial stability of our community. We will keep you updated.

Thanks to the many Band members who have been in touch with me, and other council members, over the last month or so. I appreciate your words of encouragement, and your support of the work of the tribal council as we try to improve the management and operations of the Band. In a perfect world, things could move along with the support of everyone involved. The fact that it cannot always happen that way makes things difficult, but should not mean that we fail to make needed decisions.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service to the people of Fond du Lac. I can be reached at: office (218) 878-2612, cell phone (218) 590-4887, email karendiver@fdlrez.com.

From Ferdinand Martineau

Happy Holidays. This time of year always remind me of younger, less hectic times. I remember being excited about all the gifts that were starting to accumulate in the back closet. The smell of the just-cut tree that was decorated in the living room.

But, the best thing was this: we were on vacation from school for the next few weeks and all that I had to worry about was keeping warm outside and where I would play tomorrow.

Today, things are not as simple as those times. Most of my time is spent reading budgets and making cuts to them. During our construction project the budget was the Bible. Nothing could exceed the budget and nothing did. We have been ahead of construction schedule for almost the entire time of the project,

and well below budget.

The problem, I discovered last week, is that the previous council did something that is very unusual in a project of this type. They value engineered out costs that are associated with opening the new casino. Some costs included the new hotel furniture, new slot machines and chairs as part of the casino expansion. This means that by the time the new project is ready to open, we have to come up with about \$20 million dollars more.

I am very concerned about this as most of our money is tied up in the collateral for the construction loan package. I have been talking to the bank and other financial institutions



Ferdinand Martineau

to discuss our options but have not come up with one that makes me happy or that I would recommend to the Council at this point. I am torn between making payments for four more years and then having to make a balloon payment of \$100 million at the end or liquidating our portfolio, paying the loan off now and saving the interest charges and being able to purchase the rest of the equipment to properly open the new casino. As I collect more information, I will keep you

updated.

My last column touched on housing a little. I have an update to share with you this month. The director was let go and we will be posting

for that position as soon as the job description is updated and approved. If you or someone you know is interested in housing, watch for the postings and make sure you apply. On a bit of a sadder note, with the passing of Bill Smith, we are looking to find a replacement for him also. He ran our home improvement program for many years and will be missed tremendously.

I hope you had a safe and happy holiday season and that your wishes come true in the coming year!

Again, I am always interested in hearing any new ideas, so please feel free to call me. My home number is (218)879-5074, Office (218)878-8158 or you can e-mail at ferdinandmartineau@fdlrez.com Mitgwich!



Etc.

Fond du Lac Transit officially launched its service on Dec. 17, with two buses, each able to hold 16 seated passengers plus two wheelchair passengers. For now, the buses run weekdays from 6:00 am to 7:30 pm. Weekend service may be added at a later date. Buses run on the Reservation and in Cloquet for \$1 per person per ride. To ride the bus, call (218) 878-7500 the weekday before you need the ride to request a pickup. In addition to the on-demand service, FDL Transit makes two scheduled runs to Duluth each day, one in the morning and one in the early evening. The Duluth service is by scheduled run only and costs \$2 per person per ride. To see an updated schedule, go to the transit link at fdlrez.com.

FDL law enforcement joins other bands in collecting/sharing criminal data

Law enforcement agencies have jurisdictional boundaries and just as commonly, informational boundaries. In October five Minnesota bands and four Wisconsin tribes have agreed to gather and share criminal information thanks to a federal grant known as the Indian Crime Awareness, Research and Evaluation (I-CARE) project.

The U.S. Dept. of Justice funded the project; Fond du Lac is among the Minnesota bands that will benefit from the initiative.

It's important for American Indian law enforcement divisions to share information – often bands are located in remote areas and may not have good communication systems with other law enforcement agencies.

To the remote locations add unique cultures among tribes, and differing budgets for law enforcement. One band may possess state-of-the-art communications equipment; another may not.

I-CARE will establish a common resource center that collects and evaluates crime data. FDL Police Chief Wally Dupuis said that members of his department were looking forward to participating in the data-sharing initiative. He said that with time, the data collected will help the department address some specific long-standing issues.

“At the same time, we will be working with, sharing, and gathering data with state and tribal law enforcement agencies throughout a

broad area as well as with the local agencies,” he said.

The partnership is between Minnesota and Wisconsin tribal, state and federal crime agencies and the Fox Valley Technical College – Criminal Justice Center for Innovation in Appleton, Wis. The sharing of critical information among a number of law enforcement agencies will be enhanced through the project, said James Warren, administrator for the Wisconsin Dept. of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation.

Police Chief Mark Waukau of the Menominee Tribe said that the sharing of information will help develop a targeted response to specific criminal activity. Once information is shared, the various agencies can

better understand and address the quality of life concerns and make communities safer for future generations.

The I-CARE project has been called a “historic event for Indian Country,” that protects the sovereignty of each community through a confidential reporting system.

“Tribal communities have come a long way by hiring professional, dedicated police officers and the I-CARE program will support their community policing endeavors, along with providing information for officer safety,” said Chief Robert Rabenort of the Prairie Island Police Dept.

Fond du Lac Boys Basketball Schedule 2008

January 03	LCO	(A&B)	Home	5:30 p.m.
January 07	East Lake School	(A)	Away	5:30 p.m.
January 10	Nay-Ah-Shing	(A&B)	Home	5 p.m.
January 14	Bug* School	(A&B)	Home	5 p.m.
January 18	Four Directions	(A&B)	Away	6:30 p.m.
January 22	Hill City	(A&B)	Away	5:45 p.m.
January 29	Lake View Christian	(A&B)	Home	5:45 p.m.
February 01	Ely	(A&B)	Away	7:30 p.m.
February 04	Bug* School	(A&B)	Away	5 p.m.
February 07	Nay-Ah-Shing	(A&B)	Away	5 p.m.
February 12	East Lake School	(A)	Home	5:30 p.m.
February 16	1st Nations Tournament	(A)	Bug* School	10 a.m.
February 29	Four Directions	(A)	Home	6:30 p.m.
March 03	Lake View Christian	(A&B)	Away	5:45 p.m.

* Bug-o-nay-ge-shig

Fond du Lac Girls Basketball Schedule 2008

January 2	East Lake	(A)	Home	5:30 p.m.
January 8	Circle of Life	(A&B)	Away	1 p.m.
January 10	Nay-Ah-Shing	(A&B)	Away	5 p.m.
January 11	OH DAY AKI	(A)	Home	6 p.m.
January 15	Lake View Christian	(A&B)	Home	5 p.m.
January 17	East Lake School	(A)	Away	5:30 p.m.
January 18	Indus	(A&B)	Home	6 p.m.
January 23	Red Lake	(A&B)	Home	5 p.m.
January 24	Bug* School	(A&B)	Home	5 p.m.
January 29	LCO	(A&B)	Away	5 p.m.
January 31	OH DAY AKI	(A)	Home	6 p.m.
February 05	Bug* School	(A&B)	Away	4 p.m.
February 07	Nay-Ah -Shing	(A&B)	Home	5 p.m.
February 13	LCO	(A&B)	Home	5 p.m.
February 15	South Shore	(A)	Away	6 p.m.
February 19	Red Lake	(A&B)	Away	5 p.m.
February 23	1st Nations Tournament	(A)	Bug* School	10 a.m.
February 26	Faith Christian School	(A&B)	Away	5 p.m.
February 29	Four Directions	(A)	Home	5 p.m.

The effect of tobacco use on the aging process

On Nov. 29, 2007 about 25 FDL employees and onlookers participated in the “Great Native American Smoke Out” at the Tribal Center. Participants learned about the physical long term effects of tobacco use through an age progression software program provided by Clearway Minnesota.

Clearway is a non-profit organization dedicated to reducing the harm caused by tobacco use. Clearway Minnesota is funded from settlement money won by the state in its suit against Big Tobacco in 1998.

Other FDL activities on Nov. 29 included a tobacco-related trivia game with questions about cigarette mascots and advertising.

The most interactive feature was the photography software that showed how tobacco affects facial skin into old age. Mike Sheldon, a communications manager from Clearway, took a picture of Band Member Debra Johnson-Fuller, who is a cancer health educator at FDL’s

Min No Aya Win Clinic.

The picture was sent into the software program that advanced the image of Debra (a non-smoker) to age 72. It showed how smoking would affect her face and skin through an increased amount of wrinkles, a darker complexion, deeper bags around her eyes and droopy skin.

If what was described above sounds like a typical aging process, and a lot of it is, Sheldon pointed out that those who smoke increase certain signs of aging based on medi-

cal research. In other words, people who smoke age harder and faster because of the chemicals they introduce into their body each time they smoke. Second-hand smoke has the same effect.

The picture on the right shows Debra as a non-smoker now. The picture on the left shows pronounced wrinkles around her mouth and eyes.

Statewide 18 percent of Minnesotans smoke, but the percentage rises



On the left: Johnson-Fuller before the simulated tobacco use software program.



Mike Sheldon with Clearway Minnesota shows FDL employees Nate Sandman and Debra Johnson-Fuller the software program used to demonstrate a smoker’s aging process.

to 50 percent in the state’s American Indian communities.

Sheldon said that people who finally decide to quit smoking do so with a number of motivating factors. An accelerated aging process could prove to be one more motivation to quit. One of the participants at Fond du Lac on Nov. 29 said she was more encouraged to quit after seeing the photograph that showed the way she would age if she kept smoking cigarettes.

ClearWay Minnesota offers “Quit-plan” services which are free to

all Minnesotans who want to quit smoking. For more information, see this Web site: <http://mpaat.nonprofitoffice.com/>

The Fond du Lac Public Health Nursing Dept. also offers a smoking cessation program that is free of charge. Individuals meet with a tobacco cessation educator for several sessions, followed by use of nicotine replacement therapies that may include patches or chewing gum. For more information, call (218) 878-3707.

Education excellence – FDL students on the Honor Roll; FDL students with perfect attendance

Cloquet School District
Trimester No. 1
Middle School High
Honor Roll GPAs 3.8 to 4.0
Grade 7
 Jade Mullen

Grade 8
 Tatianna Pollak

Honor Roll GPAs 3.0 to 3.7
Grade 6
 Jaiden Cofield
 Bradley Durfee
 Alexis Kettlehut
 Amber King
 Tayden Savage
 Gerard Sordelet Jr.
 Brandt Struab
 Zachery Strom

Grade 7
 Karlee Thompson
 Landen Straub
 Joseph Hedman
 Alycia Erickson
 Dakota Defoe
 Alexis Brown

Grade 8
 Courtney Thompson
 Samantha St. Germaine
 Tanaya Smith
 Travie Saice
 Christina Roy
 Cassandra Roy
 Shana Peacock
 Randi Nikko
 Dana Houle McFatrige
 Cody Erickson
 Cheney Barney

Perfect Attendance
Grade 6
 Bradley Durfee
 Dillon Johnson
 Levi Mullen
 Tayden Savage

Grade 7
 Kyle Dion
 Cheyenne Hunt
 Derrick Reynolds

Grade 8
 Nicole Sloan
 Cheyenne Moore
 Saydee Lanes
 Alexis Brown

Carlton School District
Grade 7
“A” Honor roll
 none

“B” Honor roll
 James Councillor
 Mitchell Houle
 Aubrey Lundquist
 Justice Lundquist
 Lindsey Oleary
 Cedar Savage
 Spencer Walton

Grade 8
“A” Honor roll
 none

“B” Honor roll
 Kyle Robinson

Perfect Attendance
Grade 7
 Juel Hisgun
 Mitchell Houle
 Kayla Jackson
 Aubrey Lundquist
 Justice Lundquist
 Jaelisa Northrup
 Amelia Steves
 Summer Thomas
 Trinity Curnow

Grade 8
 Jessica Blacketter
 Kaitlyn Reponen
 Sage Savage

AlBrook School District
 No FDL students were on the “A” or “B” Honor Rolls.

Community news

These community pages are yours, the members of the Fond du Lac Band. We welcome family news. Please send us information about births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries and deaths.

Also, we will include news of graduations (high school and post-high school) and military service. Memorials to loved ones or notes of appreciation are also welcomed.

Please submit materials during the first two weeks of the month. Information may be sent by U.S. mail to the editor, Deborah Locke, FDL News, 1720 Big Lake Rd., Cloquet, Minn. 55720, or by email to deborahlocke@fdlrez.com

The telephone number is (218)878-2628. You may also drop off items at our office at the Cloquet Tribal Center. Always include your daytime phone number and name with anything you submit. Materials will be edited for clarity and length.

Notes of gratitude

A big “thanks” to the members of the Reservation Business Committee for purchasing 32 wreaths as part of a fundraising effort for the FDL/Carlton County American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life campaign. The \$640 will be donated on behalf of FDL’s Wiidookaage (“They help each other”) team. The wreaths were distributed to elders at the Sawyer and Cloquet elder housing complexes. The RBC’s generosity will further the important work necessary to eliminate cancer as a major health problem for native people. In addition, FDL’s elders became the recipients of beautiful, festive wreaths. Thanks again.

Debra Susienka and members of the “Zack Attack” team.

The family of Bill Smith would like to say thanks for all the love and support, cards, flowers and kind words that have been shown and given during Bill’s illness and passing.

To the entire medical staff at the Min No Aya Win Clinic, thank you for always greeting Bill with a smile on your face, and for taking such wonderful care of him. Dr. Arne Vainio – your compassion and con-

cern for Bill was always there and Bill felt it. You meant a lot to him and he respected you. You and your colleagues helped reinforce Bill’s attitude, which was this:

“Positive is how I live.”

Sincerely, Marcy, Velvet, Ray, Veronica, Richie, Monica, Rachel and Mariah

Homes for sale

Located in Sawyer area, on leased land. Newer home in great neighborhood. Three bedrooms, one bath, large deck, detached garage. Many updates, including new roofs on house and garage. Asking \$136,000. Any questions or to view, call (218)348-7521 or (218)590-8541

Asking \$110,000 for this 3-bedroom, 1-bath home built in 1972. Full basement, central air, newer furnace, rainsoft water filtration system, 2-car garage, large storage bldg. with attached fencing for large dog kennel, paved driveway with turnaround. Property on leased land located at 2737 Hwy. 210, Cloquet. Call Crystal or Chris at (218) 879-7522 for viewing.

West Duluth 3-bedroom home located on quiet dead end street across from Keene Creek. New paint, flooring, furnace, and other updates. Recently appraised at \$118,000. Call Crystal or Chris at (218) 879-7522 for a viewing.

Memorial

To my Grandpa Bill Smith – We know you are still watching over us and keeping us safe. We also know that you were a great dad, husband, grandpa, great-grandpa, and brother. You will always be in our thoughts and prayers. Our family lost a great man but the memories will always be there. We love and miss you, Grandpa.

Love from Eleanor and Davis

In memory of Richard “Waa se ya na quad” Smith (“Clouds separating to let in light”), who passed away on Jan. 16, 2005. You are missed and loved. My little Ogichidaa marine – semper fi.

Until we see you again, with love from your dad J.R. Smith

and your brother, Donald.



In memory of Stella Berglund,

June 6, 1920 – Dec. 4, 2006.

Mom, you are always in our thoughts and forever in our hearts.

Sadly missed by Bergie, Ruth, and Marilyn

New arrivals

Welcome to **Jeramie Allen, Jr.**, who was born on Nov. 10, 2007. His parents are Ashley Diver and Jeramie “Chicago” Allen. The baby was 19 inches in length and weighed in at 7 pounds, 3 ounces.



Welcome to Joanna Grace St. John-Shabaish, who was born Oct. 24, 2007.

Joanna weighed eight pounds, 15 ounces. She was 19.9 inches in length. Her parents are Dustin Shabaish and Christina St.

John. Her brothers are Christopher Starbuck-St. John and Matthew St. John-Shabaish.

Obituaries

Raymond W. “Bill” Smith, age 69 of Cloquet, passed away peacefully after a courageous five-year battle with cancer on Nov. 29, 2007 in St. Mary’s Medical Center surrounded by his loving family. He was born on June 19, 1938 in Cloquet to Jay and Liz (Bear) Smith.



Bill served with the U.S. Marine Corps from 1955 to 1963, was employed by the Fond du Lac Reservation for the last 25 years, and previously worked for the Duluth Entertainment Center in security for 13 years.

His military service had an impact: throughout his life, Bill was an excellent problem solver and rarely gave

up, in the spirit of a Marine. He faced his illnesses with quiet courage and dignity, choosing never to retreat, not even from the cancer that eventually took his life.

He lived that life fully, said his wife, Marcella. As FDL’s housing improvement coordinator, Bill worked hard to serve Band Member needs. He arranged for new furnaces, siding, handicap facilities and more. Bill had high standards, following each job from the acceptance of a bid to the completion of a project.

He worked hard, but he also knew how to play. Bill, along with his nephew Chuck Smith -- and Chuck’s sons -- made deer hunting an annual ritual. He also loved to play golf. This year for his birthday, his sister Audrey bought Bill new golf clubs. “Oh my gosh, he was so happy with those!” Marcella said. “Chuck and the boys would meet him at the Black Bear course. It made the last few months he had left pretty special.”

Bill enjoyed snorkeling off the St. Croix, Virgin Islands beaches. He even had prescription snorkeling glasses so he could see what he looked at under the water. Bill liked having dogs as pets; often he and Marcella returned from St. Croix with a small stray dog to be adopted in the U.S. He loved the warm climate, and the warmth of the people, Marcella said. The couple made several trips to St. Croix to enjoy the turquoise water, fish, shells, and early morning walks.

Bill always liked to walk, and usually walked two miles to work each day. An avid reader, he favored news magazines like Newsweek, and he always read the daily newspaper. At home in the Smith household, the television was often tuned to CNN or FOX news so Bill could keep up with events. He also enjoyed watching boxing on a sports channel.

Family members held a special place in Bill’s heart, and he had lifelong friendships with his siblings.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers -- Roger, Clarence and Rupert; and a sister, Theresa LaPrairie.

Bill is survived by his wife Marcella (Wallner) whom he married on Feb. 5, 1995; children, Velvet (Ronald) Linden, Ray Jr. (Michelle), Veronica (Reggie) Smith, Richard (Ann Marie), Monica, Rachel and Mariah;

Community news

grandchildren, Amanda, Joshy, Jared, Cherokee, Stephen, Toby, Ray III, Eleanor, Emily and Diandra; two great-grandchildren, Baagwaj and Lilliana; brothers, Ronald "Chic" and Rollin (Peggy); sisters, Bernice Jarski of Newtown, ND, Audrey Smith and Valerie Ross; in-laws, Robert and Helga Wallner; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

A prayer service was held on Dec. 3 at the Handevidt Funeral Home. The funeral service took place on Dec. 4 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Cloquet. Interment will be at the Old Holy Family Cemetery, Cloquet.

Esther "Ogima Geshig Gwok Quay" Nahgahnub

(Head woman in the sky) died from cancer on Nov. 29, 2007 at her home in Sawyer. She was 66.

Esther's influence on treaty and environmental causes stretched to the far corners of the country. She became a staunch defender of tribal sovereignty, the inherent rights of indigenous people everywhere, and for environmental protection.

Esther was born in Superior, Wis. on Dec. 31, 1940 to Chester Nelson and Esther Nahgahnub. Esther's mother died shortly after she was born, and missionaries raised her children until Chester Nelson remarried. In an October profile of Esther in this newspaper, Esther reported that she remembered the missionaries with fondness.

The family lived in North Dakota and then Montana. The family moved to Fairmont, Minn. where Esther met and later married her high school boyfriend who joined the Navy. With her husband and infant son, Esther moved to Hawaii. When she was pregnant with her daughter, Kim, Esther's husband abandoned the family. With her children, Esther moved home to Duluth. She earned a B.A. from the College of St. Scholastica and later attended the University of Arizona in pursuit of a M.A. She taught at the FDL school, and in the Floodwood School District.

"For as long as I can remember, Mom traveled to different reservations to get people to reclaim their

treaty rights," said Kim. "She used to say that people were so concerned about the land we lost. She'd say we need to make sure we keep what we have left. What they took is over and done with."

When non-Indians in Minnesota and Wisconsin challenged the Ojibwe fishing and hunting traditions in the 1990s, Esther was there. She joined the 2000 "Walk to Remember" around Lake Superior to call attention to pollution. In 1989, Esther was charged with violating federal law by selling dreamcatchers in a Duluth store made with eagle feathers. The case went to the state Supreme Court. Esther won.

One of Kim's earliest memories of her mother's persistence occurred in the early 1970s when the family went to Jay Cooke State Park for a picnic. A park ranger demanded a permit from Esther.

"Mom said how dare you charge me for property you never even finished paying for!" Kim said. "The poor ranger had no idea what she was talking about. She got out of the car, shaking her finger at him until she backed him up to his car." The park ranger changed his mind about the permit.

Most of Esther's adversaries had a

"healthy fear" of her, Kim said. "They knew that if she got her teeth into something, it wouldn't be over until she said it was over." Esther never relied on rumors for information. She attended meetings, asked questions, did research, and sought the truth.

About 18 months ago, she learned a harsh truth: Esther had cancer. She had surgery followed by chemotherapy and radiation, recovered, and then displayed a burst of energy. About six months later, the cancer returned. Esther prepared for her death, and asked her son to make a pine casket.

An online sympathy note to Esther's family said this: Thank You Esther for being. Your wisdom, power and friendship were like seeds that created changes in others. Now in the Spirit World your walk will be lighter but more profound.

Survivors include her son Charles "Charlie" Nahgahnub (Pamela), daughter, Kim Nahgahnub; grandchildren: Kaley, Gimiwon, Joseph, Kruze, Alexis, Charles, Jr., and Nicole Isham, (Charlie's daughter from a previous relationship); one great granddaughter, Elaina; and adopted brother Al Hunter.

She was preceded in death by her sister, Johanna, her father Chester Nelson, and her mother, Esther

Nahgahnub. A traditional service was held at Esther's home beginning Dec. 3 that extended to the 10 a.m. ceremony on Dec. 4. Burial was in Sawyer.

Eleanor L. Beargrease, 81, a long-time resident of Cloquet, died Dec. 6, 2007 in a Duluth nursing home. She was preceded in death by her husband, Clement Beargrease, her mother and a sister and brother.

Eleanor worked for the FDL Elder Nutrition Program as a kitchen aid for more than 17 years.

She is survived by her daughter, Cathy (Ben) Sanderson; grandsons Jon, Cris, Matt and Sam; eight great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held Dec. 13 at the ENP lunch rooms. The services were arranged by the Cremation Society of Minnesota.

Donations needed

FDL families who lost household items in the December fire in Carlton still need donations. If you have lightly used furniture and appliances, please call Eleanor LaFave at (218) 878-2327.



The RBC purchased 32 wreaths as part of a fund-raising effort for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life campaign. Above are Debra Susienka, Carrie Connors and Brittany Pfisthners who made the wreaths, which were donated to FDL elders. The picture was taken in Susienka's back yard.

Briefs

52-plus Elders 2008 meeting schedule set

The 52-plus Elders will meet on the following dates in 2008: Jan. 9, Jan. 23; Feb. 13, Feb. 27; March 12, March 26; Apr. 9, Apr. 23; May 14, May 28; June 11, June 25; July 9, July 23; Aug. 13, Aug. 27; Sept. 10, Sept. 24; Oct. 8, Oct. 22; Nov. 12; Dec. 10.

The meetings are held at 5 p.m. in the Elder Nutrition Program meeting room.

Cancer Society needs more fundraising volunteers

Any Carlton County resident who would like to become involved in efforts by the American Cancer Society to eradicate cancer is invited to join or form a team. Since 2002, FDL community members have formed fundraising teams to benefit the ACS in its efforts to find a cure for cancer. Teams or "clans" may consist of any number of participants, and form to honor cancer survivors or to honor the memories of cancer victims. American Indians are disproportionately stricken with cancer.

If you are interested in helping this worthy cause, please contact Deb Susienka at (218) 878-2126.

Grant money available for emerging creative artists

The Jerome Foundation in St. Paul is offering travel and study grants to emerging creative artists in literature, film/video and dance. The deadline for proposals is Feb. 13, 2008.

Poets, fiction and nonfiction writers and "spoken word" (performance poetry) artists are eligible for the grants. Applications must be post-marked on or before the deadline; fax and e-mail submissions are not permitted.

The travel and study grant program emphasizes individual exploration and growth. It is not a grant program that supports the production of new work. Grantees may choose to travel outside of Minnesota for a

time of reflection and individualized study. They may work on the development of collaborations, participate in training programs, or do research leading to the creation of new work.

To receive an application, see www.jeromefdn.org. Applications may also be mailed. To receive one, write to Jerome Foundation, 400 Sibley St., Suite 125, St. Paul, Minn. 55101. The phone number is (800) 995-3766 or (651) 224-9431.

The Jerome Foundation, created by artist and philanthropist Jerome Hill (1905-1972), makes grants to support the creation and production of new artistic works by emerging artists living in Minnesota and New York City.

The Foundation supports programs in dance, literature, media arts, music, theater, performance art, the visual arts, multidisciplinary work and arts criticism. It also provides financial assistance to nonprofit, tax-exempt arts organizations that support emerging creative artists who are residents of Minnesota and New York City.

The ABC's of starting your own business and info on getting a business loan

The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe's Native American Business Enterprise Center (NABEC) provides management and technical assistance to American Indians who are thinking about going into business, or current business owners in Minnesota. Assistance from NABEC includes help in the creation of a business plan, market feasibility research and planning, financial package, loan package, and procurement. American Indians from any federally recognized tribe are eligible for assistance from NABEC.

In addition, the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe provides financing for business loan, micro loans, and commercial real estate loans to MCT members for businesses within Minnesota. The MCT loans are available

exclusively to MCT tribal members.

Visit the on-site Tribal Business Information Center for access to computers, Microsoft software, business development and management software, Internet access, and more than 200 business start-up manuals. The Business Information Center is located at MTC headquarters, 15542 State Highway 371, Cass Lake, Minnesota.

For further information about NABEC or the MCT loan program, Call 1-888-322-7688 or (218) 339-3117. Visit the website at www.nabdc.org or www.mctfc.org.

FDLTCC business instructor receives statewide award

Bryan Jon Maciewski, Business Instructor at Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College, received the Bear Award from the Minnesota American Indian Chamber of Commerce during the organization's 20th annual awards dinner held in November at the Mystic Lake Entertainment Center in Prior Lake.



The statewide award is presented to an individual who shows dedication and commitment toward the development and success of American Indian businesses. The Bear Award represents the warrior, a person who is given strength and power to protect people.

Maciewski was nominated for the award by administrators at the college. He lives in Duluth, and grew up in the Brookston area. He has taught Business, Management, Entrepreneurship, and related courses at the college for ten years. Maciewski is also the faculty advisor to the

college's American Indian Business Leaders student organization.

The Chamber creates opportunities for American Indian entrepreneurs to gain economic parity, and to position members as advocates for American Indian businesses. The Chamber has approximately 160 member businesses.

Snowshoe, ski instruction offered to youth in January

The FDL Human Services Division Prevention Department will be holding snowshoe and skiing activities in January 2008 for American Indian youth ages 6 to 17. To be eligible to participate, either the young person, a parent or grandparent must be enrolled in a federally recognized tribe and live within the FDL service area. Transportation is available, if needed.

Snowshoe activities, that start on Jan. 5, will be limited to 40 participants. Skiing at Mount du Lac starts on Jan. 6 and will be limited to 50 participants. A signed permission slip is required. Parents may join in the activity.

If you are interested in joining one or both of these activities, please call the Prevention Dept. at (218) 879-1227.

Wanted to publish: stories of health from recovering addicts

Did you kick the nicotine habit once and for all? Maybe you left behind harder drugs, or a gambling addiction. How did you do it?

The FDL Human Services Division is seeking FDL enrollees who are willing to share their recovery stories. We would like to interview adults and youth who are in recovery from any type of addiction. We have already completed several interviews and published the stories in this newspaper.

The accounts of overcoming addictions have helped others who walk the same difficult paths to recovery. If you would like to share your story,

continued next page

Briefs

please contact the Prevention Dept. at (218) 879-1227.

CPR/First Aid classes offered at CAIR and Min No Aya Win

Classes in CPR and First Aid will be offered at the Min No Aya Win Clinic and the Center for American Indian Resources starting in January. Pre-registration is required and may be done by calling (218) 878-2128. The CPR and First Aid training is available to American Indians living within the FDL Reservation service area.

The twelve full-day classes take place once each month. Classes at the Cloquet Clinic take place on Tuesdays, beginning on Jan. 8. Classes at CAIR take place on Thursdays, beginning on Jan. 3. Class times are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Late arrivals will not be admitted.

The CPR and First Aid training is sponsored by the FDL Human Services Division, and the FDL Public Health Nursing Dept.

Fundraising efforts for elders at NICOA conference

Fundraising meetings continue into 2008 to raise money for FDL Elders age 55 and over who attend the National Indian Council on Aging Conference to be held Sept. 4-10,

2008 in Tacoma, Wash.

The money that is raised will go into a pool and be divided as “pocket change” for all who have helped raise the money. At the Dec. 10 bake sale, more than \$500 was raised.

The meetings are held from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Tribal Center ENP meeting rooms. The meeting dates are Jan. 18, Feb. 15, March 14, April 18, May 16 and June 20. If you have questions, call Greta Klassen at (218) 345-6304, or Debra Topping, Elder Advocate, at (218) 878-8053.

Start New Year with Great American Health Check

An online tool from the American Cancer Society provides easy-to-understand tips on eating right, quitting smoking, and reducing alcohol intake, as well as information on cancer, diabetes, heart disease, and stroke.

Features like simple questionnaires to help assess your risk for certain diseases, follow-up questions to ask your doctor, and other helpful medical and lifestyle resources will help you move towards a healthier lifestyle. The “Great American Health Check” website even lets you create online reminders to notify you when you’re due for various medical check-ups throughout the year.

For more information on how the Health Check can help you get the new year off to a healthy start, visit www.cancer.org/healthcheck, or call the American Cancer Society anytime, day or night, at 1-800-ACS-2345 for free cancer information and support.

Reward

The Fond Du Lac Reservation is offering a \$200 reward for information leading to the arrest of any individuals responsible for graffiti and/or property damage on the Fond Du Lac Reservation and surrounding area.

Please call the Fond Du Lac Reservation Police Department at 878-8040 M-F 8:00-4:30. Or call 911 if you witness such damage in progress.

Your anonymity will be respected. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Wally Dupuis
Director of Law Enforcement

Public Notice To FDL Owners of Allotment 405-32A

I, David W. Couture Sr., co-owner, would like to lease ten acres of land on Fond du Lac Allotment 405-32A. I need 51 percent consent from the heirs to this allotment. I would like to ask permission from the heirs to use this land for hunting. The heirs

are as following:

David A. Dufault Martin, Laura M. Ahlgren Stillman, Larry J. Couture, Steven L. Couture, Eva C. Dufault Martin, Lavonna M. Dufault, Elizabeth Labarge, Donald Petite, Walter Petite, John A. Smith, Ruth a. Barney Two Stars, Derrick G. Barney, Nathan Couture, Jeremy Couture, Heidi Flynn, Frances O. Barney, Walter A. Barney, Justin Couture, Bobbie Kangas, Henry Hendrickson, Jean Center Couture, Joseph L. Quesnelle, Irene Kosloski Couture, Susie Willis. Estate of: Cecelia Barney Callas.

I have placed all heir’s names in the Fond du Lac Reservation newspaper so you may contact me so I can send the proper paperwork to you.

If you have any questions, please feel free to write to me or call me at the address or phone number listed below. Thank you.

David W Couture Sr.
7215 Waseca St
Duluth, MN 55720
(218) 628-2075

An open letter to FDL residents from Police Chief Wally Dupuis:

The crime problem within the Fond du Lac communities is both costly and demoralizing to us as a community. Directly or indirectly, we are all affected by crime that has caused injury, financial loss and intimidation. These situations demonstrate vividly the need for community involvement and assistance in crime prevention and reporting within the Fond du Lac Reservation.

Because the prevention of crime is a responsibility that must be shared

equally by law enforcement and private citizens, we are proposing that your specific community establish a Neighborhood Watch program. Neighborhood Watch is a community-based crime prevention program. Neighborhood Watch is a simple and direct approach toward protecting our community from criminal attacks.

The Neighborhood Watch program involves the reduction of criminal opportunity through citizen partici-

pation in crime prevention measures, such as being alert and aware, reporting suspicious and criminal activity to the police, and initiating actions which reduces criminal opportunity.

Fond du Lac Law Enforcement in partnership with Fond du Lac Human Services have willing and qualified personnel available to assist in initiating a neighborhood watch program in your community. Fond du Lac Reservation Law Enforce-

ment and FDL Human Services are planning to hold a community watch start-up meeting in your community in early February. The RBC has endorsed the creation of a Neighborhood Watch.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (218) 878-8087 or by email at wallydupuis@fdlrez.com.

Gratefully, Wally Dupuis,
Fond du Lac Police Department

Gichi Manidooo Giizis (Great Spirit Moon) January

Cloquet Community Center in black* 218-878-7510 • Sawyer Community Center in blue 218-878-8185 • Brookston Community Center in red 218-878-8033 • Ojibwe School in brown
 *The information from the Cloquet Community Center was not available because the activities budget for 2008 had not received RBC approval as of our publication date.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		Holiday- All centers closed	Kids Crafts 5pm	GED 6-9 PM OTM Collection 3-4 PM Adult Lingo 6pm	Movie Night	Warmer by the Lake trip 4-5:30pm
		1	2	3	4	5
Spirit Mountain skiing 10am-6pm Premiere Theatre 9:15am	Girls Connection 5-7 PM Girls & Boys Club	GED 6-9 PM Sawyer Helpers 5-7 PM GED 1-4 PM Book It 5pm School Board Meeting	GED 1-4 PM Free Day & Kids Choice	GED 6-9 PM FACE/Bentleyville Kids Lingo 6pm	Language 6-8 PM Movie Night	Pinehurst Sliding 2pm
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Spirit Mountain Skiing 10am-6pm Omnimax 2pm	Girls Connection 5-7 PM Girls & Boys Club	GED 6-9 PM Sawyer Helpers 5-7 PM GED 1-4 PM Book It 5pm FACE/Winter Wellness	GED 1-4 PM Kids Crafts 5pm Parent Meeting	GED 6-9 PM OTM Collection 3-4 PM Adult Lingo 6pm	Language 6-8 PM Movie Night Early Release	Community Birthday 3pm
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Spirit Mountain Skiing 10am-6pm Pinehurst Sliding 12pm	Girls Connection 5-7 PM Girls & Boys Club No School	GED 6-9 PM Sawyer Helpers 5-7 PM GED 1-4 PM Book It 5pm	GED 1-4 PM Adult Crafts 7pm Parent Meeting	GED 6-9 PM Kids Lingo 6pm Parent/Teacher Conference Early Release	Youth Program Closed Movie Night	Youth Christmas Ball Mont du Lac Tubing 1pm
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Spirit Mountain Skiing 10am-6pm Free Day & Kids Choice	Girls Connection 5-7 PM Girls & Boys Club	GED 6-9 PM Sawyer Helpers 5-7 PM Book It 5pm	Kids Crafts 5pm	GED 6-9 PM OTM Collection 3-4 PM Adult Lingo 6pm		
27	28	29	30	31		

How to send an announcement for this monthly calendar

When submitting calendar items, please include the name of the event, the time, date and place. The deadline for submitting calendar events for the February, 2008 issue is January 15, 2008. Also, please clarify the District where the event will take place, Cloquet, Sawyer or Brookston.

Calendar items may be sent by email to deborahlocke@fdlrez.com or by U.S. mail to FDL News Calendar, Tribal Center, 1720 Big Lake Rd., Cloquet, MN 55720

Fond du Lac G&G Meat Department

Regular everyday prices for January 2008

- Pork Chops \$1.79/lb**
- USDA Choice Beef Chuck Roast \$2.49/lb**
- T-Bone Steaks \$6.09/lb**
- Porterhouse Steaks \$6.49/lb**
- Lean Ground Beef (85%) \$2.29/lb**
- Our own Potato Sausage \$1.99/lb**
- Our Slab Bacon Sliced to Order \$2.99/lb**
- Our Own Wild Rice Bratwurst \$2.79/lb**

Have a Happy New Year (We accept EBT)

218-878-1960 • 1510 Big Lake Road, Cloquet, Minnesota 55720