

OJIBWE INAAJIMOWIN

THE
STORY
AS IT'S
TOLD

APRIL 2016 | VOLUME 18 | NUMBER 04



ZIGWAN POWWOW!

CHIMINISING HOSTS INAUGURAL YOUTH POWWOW

Serenitie Morin was chosen Princess of the first-ever Ziigwan Youth Powwow in Chiminising March 12. Photo by Bill Jones.

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SCENES
FROM THE
SUGARBUSH

LANGUAGE
TEACHER
SHARES GIFT

SPEARING,
BOATING RULES
AND REGS

PRIMARY
ELECTION
IS APRIL 5

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MELANIE
BENJAMIN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Aaniin! March was another busy month, filled with meetings and progress on many different issues critical to the Band. My calendar in March included the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Legislative Dinner in St. Paul, hosted by the Mille Lacs Band at our Doubletree Hotel; meetings with the Band Assembly; Executive Branch strategic planning meetings; Treaty Rights day and many meetings with Band members. I also meet with the School Board, who are very concerned about ensuring our kids are educated in the best way.

The opiate crisis is an issue that I know weighs heavily on the minds of every Band family, because we have all been touched by tragedy resulting from this epidemic in some way. We truly are making progress, although we must do more. The U.S. Attorney General's Heroin Task Force recently released its national recommendations. Remarkably, prior to release of this report, the Band had already addressed or instituted nearly every recommendation through our Opiate Community Response Plan. More about that plan is in this newspaper.

With our educational campaign and help from families, more expectant women have come forward seeking medical help with addiction, and some have even delivered babies who've tested drug-free at birth, which is monumental progress. Also, we will soon open a residential home for expectant women suffering from addiction, and we are about to become the first Indian Tribe in Minnesota to take over an in-patient recovery facility where our Band Members can go for treatment and recovery.

On the national front, President Obama recently announced \$1.1 billion in new funding to fight opioid abuse and the heroin epidemic, and the Mille Lacs Band is being credited by lawmakers with being instrumental in getting these tribal provisions included. Further, Congress recently introduced federal legislation to fight the tribal opiate crisis, and several provisions in the bill came directly from recommendations we made when I testified before the Senate Indian Affairs Committee last summer. This is an uphill battle and we are still in a crisis state, but I'm not aware of any other tribe that has fought as hard as the Mille Lacs Band to beat this epidemic.

We must do much more, and we must never give up, but together we are going to beat this. Chi Miigwech to our HHS and Judicial Branch team, the other elected officials and the many Band Members who have devoted themselves to working on this critical issue in our community.

March is not typically a month when we think about ricing, but manoomin seemed to be the central theme of the month. The biggest news came on March 15, when Governor Dayton announced his proposal to expand the rights of Band Mem-

bers who harvest wild rice throughout the state — including off-reservation and outside treaty-ceded territories — without a state license. In his proposal, Band Members who possess valid tribal licenses would be allowed to harvest manoomin statewide! This was a huge victory for the tribes and Anishinaabe people in Minnesota, and one result of our hard work in building a relationship with Governor Dayton that is based on mutual respect, understanding and education about our culture and rights. Chi Miigwech to Governor Dayton!

About ten days earlier on March 4th, manoomin was also a central theme for the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council (MIAC). At this meeting, Commissioner John Stine of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency discussed with us his plans for designation of lakes and rivers that would be subject to new wild rice water quality standards, which of course is a critical issue for the Mille Lacs Band. Manoomin is extremely sensitive to sulfate levels, so mining and pipeline activity can have a drastic impact on the rice beds.

Next up was Commissioner Rothman of the Department of Commerce (DOC) who shared his Tribal Consultation Policy, which grew out of the Mille Lacs Band's efforts to require the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and DOC to consult with Indian tribes about the Sandpiper Pipeline Project. A focus of the pipeline discussion has been the risk to manoomin of an oil spill. Commissioner Rothman credited the Mille Lacs Band with working with him and his staff on the policy, so his announcement of this work at MIAC was exciting. I asked Commissioner Rothman to ensure that DOC uses our tribal experts in developing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the Sandpiper, rather than consulting with us after the EIS is developed.

The Sandpiper came up again moments later, when two State representatives, Honor the Earth and advocates of indigenous water rights requested that MIAC write a letter Governor Dayton asking him to assign development of the EIS on the proposed route of the Sandpiper to the Tribes, the Department of Natural Resources and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, instead of the Department of Commerce. I'm happy to say that MIAC agreed to write this letter. This makes sense because as tribes, we have the best experts in Minnesota and should be involved with developing the EIS. Also, the DNR and MPCA have more expertise than Commerce to work on the EIS, and both agencies have expressed serious concerns about the proposed Sandpiper route. We will continue doing whatever we can to stop this pipeline from going through our territory.

With Presidential elections around the corner, I've been thinking a great deal about the opportunities and challenges

that lay ahead of us as a Band. Under Band law, the Chief Executive is charged with conducting external relations with other governments, so much of my time is spent educating and generating support for our needs, as well as ensuring the federal government is living up to its legal obligations under the federal trust responsibility toward tribes.

President Obama's Administration has been one of extraordinary respect and support for Indian Nations. We have accomplished so much as a Band over the past three years of President Obama's second term, and none of that would have been possible if the Administration were unsupportive or hostile toward tribal governments. Most Presidents and their appointees tend to find more courage during a second term, because they don't need to run for re-election, so I've worked very hard to focus on getting as much done for the Band as I can in Washington D.C. during this three-year window of opportunity. Yet even with a friendly administration, it still requires great skill, strategy and a winning team to get things done in Washington D.C.

Securing approval of our application under the Tribal Law and Order Act and obtaining the federal government's support for our reservation boundary are two of the major initiatives we were able to successfully achieve during President Obama's second term. With the Violence Against Women Act, President Obama has also done more to help tribes combat crime than any other president. Permanent funding for Pine Grove is also an outcome of the President's commitment to education, and he has transferred more lands into trust than any other President, which has also been our focus.

During the next nine months of the President's Administration, the Band will continue to leverage resources and support for other matters critical to our interests. We also must be engaged and involved in the Presidential elections coming up, and ensure that whomever is elected continues the pro-tribal sovereignty legacy of President Obama.

Miigwech to all the Band Members who have come forward to help advance these critical issues for the Band at the grassroots level. Band government is only successful when Band Members get involved; the Mille Lacs Band is blessed with some of the smartest, most committed and hard-working people I've ever known. Chi Miigwech to all of you who work hard every day for your families and our community!

Melanie Benjamin

Attention Veterans and Families

A mural is nearly finished at the government center; we are seeking 3-inch-by-5-inch Band member service portraits of yourself or a family member to incorporate. If you only have one copy, we can make a high-quality copy, and even in some cases digitally enhance those that are fading. If you have any questions, please call Administration offices at 320-532-7478.



Tainted Heroin, Overdoses Renew Concerns About Drugs

Police and medical agencies in the Mille Lacs area are warning citizens that tainted heroin may have been distributed in the area.

Sam Moose, Commissioner of Health and Human Services for the Band, said a local health system emergency room responded to 11 overdoses in three days over the weekend of March 5–6. In addition, a Band member passed away of a suspected overdose, but the cause of death has not been confirmed.

Sam and Mille Lacs Tribal Police Chief Jared Rosati released a statement on Tuesday, March 8, warning of the tainted drugs and asking individuals to turn in heroin — with the assurance that they would not be prosecuted.

Tribal Police officers and other personnel have also been trained in the use of naloxone (Narcan), a medication used to counteract the effects of opioid overdose.

Authorities in Fargo and Bemidji have also warned resi-

dents of tainted heroin in those areas. In Fargo, three died and two were injured from overdoses during the same week in March.

Media reports stated that the heroin was laced with fentanyl or morphine, making it up to 50 times more powerful than usual.

Four men from the Twin Cities area were arrested in Fargo on March 13 and charged with possession of heroin with intent to distribute, as well as other charges.

In Bemidji in late February, one person died and three others were hospitalized for heroin overdoses.

Any community member can surrender Heroin or any other controlled substance to the Mille Lacs Band Tribal Police Department, and turn it in to Tribal Police with no questions asked. Please call the Mille Lacs Band Tribal Police at 320-532-3430 for more information or help with substance disposal.

Band members seeking treatment for drug addiction are encouraged to call the Band's Behavioral Health Department at 800-709-6445 ext. 7776 or 320-532-4754 or 320-532-7776.

Public Safety Warning

Recent events in our community point toward the fact that the supply of heroin currently being distributed in our community may be corrupt and more dangerous than normal heroin. We urge anyone who is using to stop immediately, as this altered heroin may cause severe medical issues or even death.

Our goal is to get this dangerous stock of heroin and all heroin or other illicit drugs off of the streets of our community.

Please call the Mille Lacs Band Tribal Police at 320-532-3430 for more information or for help with substance disposal.

Any community member who wants help with addiction please call 320-532-7773, and

Health and Human Services will render assistance.

Current Minnesota "Good Samaritan" laws protect community members from criminal prosecution for anyone who renders aid to a person or persons having an overdose from controlled substances. We ask that you call 911 immediately when you are involved in this type of situation.

Please help us in our efforts to make this community a safer place for everyone.

Chief of Police, Jared Rosati

Commissioner, Sam Moose

Sandpiper, Tribal Consultation on Agenda

The government of the State of Minnesota is taking tribal consultation more seriously than ever, thanks in part to the Mille Lacs Band's ongoing battle against the Sandpiper oil pipeline.

At the March 10 quarterly meeting of the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council (MIAC), Minnesota Commissioner of Commerce Mike Rothman informed tribal leaders that his department had developed a tribal consultation policy, which he shared at the meeting.

The meeting was held at the Band's Double Tree by Hilton hotel in downtown St. Paul.

Rothman gave credit to the Mille Lacs Band for educating him on the importance of tribal consultation. He said the Department of Commerce would follow the new policy when preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Sandpiper Pipeline project.

Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin, who is on the board of MIAC, thanked Rothman and advised him to take advantage of tribal expertise in preparing the EIS.

Background

In 2013, Gov. Mark Dayton signed an executive order requiring state agencies to develop tribal consultation policies.

The Band was critical of the state's permitting process for the Sandpiper Pipeline because tribes were not consulted. The pipeline, proposed by Enbridge Energy of Canada, would cross through the Rice Lake and Sandy Lake watersheds, which are home to wild rice beds of cultural and economic significance to Band members in District II communities of Minisinaakwaang, Sandy Lake and Minnewawa.

The Band also criticized the fact that the state did not hold hearings on tribal land. In response, the Band held its own

hearing at the Minisinaakwaang (East Lake) Community Center last June.

Commerce or DNR?

The MIAC also heard from a panel of five women, including two state representatives and three tribal members, who asked MIAC to sign a letter objecting to the Department of Commerce conducting the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Sandpiper pipeline.

The letter recommends that the EIS be completed by the Minnesota DNR, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the tribes.

Melanie made a motion to sign the letter. The motion was seconded and passed by the MIAC board.

The Public Utilities Commission initially approved the certificate of need for the pipeline last June, but the state Court of Appeals determined that the PUC had violated the Minnesota Environmental Protection Act (MEPA) by granting the certificate prior to the EIS.

After the EIS is conducted, the PUC will reconsider the Sandpiper certificate of need application.

Treaty Day

Treaty Day was celebrated on March 25, after this issue of *Ojibwe Inaajimowin* went to press. Please see the May issue for coverage of Treaty Day.

Primary Election Scheduled for April 5

The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe will hold a primary election April 5 and a general election June 14 to choose elected officials for the six MCT member bands, including Mille Lacs.

The following individuals were certified on February 11, 2016 as candidates for elective office in the 2016 MCT Election:

Chief Executive (in alphabetical order): Melanie Benjamin, Sheldon Boyd, Clifford Churchill, Lisa Jackson, George LaFave, Michelle Pagel, Wanetta Thompson.

District I Representative: Sandra Blake, Irene Benjamin, Arlene Weous, Ginger Weyaus, Suzanne Wise.

District I School Board: Semira Kimpson. District II School Board: No candidates filed. At-large School Board Chair: Kim Kegg.

If any of the candidates receive more than 50 percent of the vote, a general election will not be required. Otherwise, the top two finishers will face each other on June 14.

Polling Places

There are five polling places where Mille Lacs Band members can cast ballots from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.: District I (Neyaashing) Community Center; District II (Minisinaakwaang) Community Center; District IIa (Chiminising) Community Center; District III (Aazhoomog) Community Center; All Nations Church, 1515 E. 23rd Street, Minneapolis, MN 55404.

National News

Federal Health Funding

The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs held a hearing on March 9 to focus on the fiscal year 2017 budget request for tribal programs. The hearing came after Sen. John Barrasso (R-Wyoming), the chairman of the committee, expressed strong support for funding increases to programs that enhance self-determination, economic development, education, health care, housing and public safety. In a statement Sen. Barrasso said, "The funding provided to Indian people and Native communities is an important federal responsibility. The president's FY 2017 budget request calls for increases for tribal-related programs, including the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service."

Resources Needed to Stop Domestic Violence

Tribal leaders and advocates gathered in Washington, D.C. in late February to brief Congress on implementation of a provision in the 2013 Violence Against Women Act, which affirmed tribes' ability to exercise special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction over non-Natives who commit domestic assault, or engage in dating violence, on tribal lands. Recognizing that the Department of Justice's 2014 decision to grant special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction under VAWA was a "historic" step toward upholding tribal sovereignty, advocates and tribal leaders say that the law should be expanded upon to grant greater protections to tribal citizens at risk of assaults by non-Natives, and that Nations should receive adequate resources to implement the law.

Juvenile Justice

Furthering President Obama's efforts to support American Indian and Alaska Native families and protect tribal communities, the U.S. Justice Department, Health and Human Services and Bureau of Indian Affairs have announced a draft revised BIA Model Indian Juvenile Code. The federal departments are seeking public comment on the draft, which will be the subject of listening and consultation sessions scheduled for March and April. Lawrence S. Roberts, Acting Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, said, "The Bureau of Indian Affairs' Model Indian Juvenile Code provides federal guidance for tribal governments to help protect the rights of Indian juveniles and their parents, guardians or custodians while also respecting tribal governments' need to modify juvenile codes to fit each unique tribal community."

See You on the Tube?

American TV could soon see more programming created for and by native peoples. While many minorities have made huge strides in network TV with shows like *Black-ish* and *Jane the Virgin*, network representation of American Indians is nearly nonexistent. That's why the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network, a Canadian cable channel dedicated to indigenous peoples, is planning to launch All Nations Network in the U.S. sometime soon.

Statewide Graduation Rates Increase

Toya Stewart Downey Staff Writer

In 2013 the U.S. Department of Education ranked Minnesota last in on-time graduation rate for Native American students.

Since then tribes, states, school districts and the U.S. government have taken steps to change that dismal statistic and better support Native American students.

There's no quick fix that can reverse this depressing trend, yet there was a glimmer of hope this year when the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) released its 2014-2015 graduation rates.

The results showed that more Minnesota students were graduating from high school, including Native American students and students of color. The graduation rates were the highest in the past decade.

According to the MDE the graduation rate for Native American students was 51.9 percent, which is an increase of 7.7 percentage points since 2010. Other student groups — Black, Hispanic and Asian/Pacific Islanders — saw increases too, which helps to close the achievement gap between white students and others.

Brenda Cassellius, the Minnesota Commissioner of Education, said, "While we celebrate this forward momentum, there is still work to do. As long as we see inequities, we must remain diligent, working each day to fulfill our promise that every student deserves the chance to succeed."

Suzanne Wise, the Band's Commissioner of Education, agrees. "Our graduation rate hasn't changed much, but we have seen growth in the attendance (numbers) of students," said Suzanne.

"One of the largest obstacles to graduating has been attendance," said Suzanne. "If a student is not in school, they fall behind, and for many, they lack the support to get caught up. As the attendance rate goes up, we will have higher gradua-

tion rates in the near future."

Last year Suzanne directed staff to work on truancy issues among MLB students.

One result was the move to have Niigaan Youth Program staff working in public schools to ensure support for students and staff.

Suzanne said the number of students in the after-school programs has also increased.

"Every student who participates in Niigaan gets a snack or a meal, gets homework help, gets mentoring and is able to attend incentive trips based on their grades and attendance," she said. "It has made a night-and-day difference for our students."

The Niigaan program is in all districts, but not in the urban area.

Recently, the Band received a grant from the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council to operate a youth leadership program that focused on Ojibwe language and culture, mentoring band members and being a leader.

Further, the Band is going to apply for a collaborative grant with public schools to be able to hire more staff to work in public schools.

Band officials are also discussing a change in statutes in order to keep students up to age 18 in school. Currently, students can quit when they are 16 with a parent's consent. Some would also like to require a high school diploma — not just a general education diploma (GED) — to receive money that is held in trust for minors.

"These things, while they are still in discussion and nothing is official, would help keep more students in school," Suzanne said. "I know it would."

Addiction and Recovery Act Passes

The federal Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA), which is designed to combat the prescription drug and illegal opiate epidemic, passed the U.S. Senate by a wide margin on March 10.

The bill was co-sponsored by Sen. Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota, who authored a provision to combat drug abuse by enhancing prescription drug monitoring programs.

The House of Representatives has not acted on its version of the bill, HR953. If the House passes the bill, President Obama is expected to sign it.

Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin testified in the Senate on July 29, 2015, about the devastating impact of opiate addiction at Mille Lacs, after which some provisions aimed at Indian Country were added to the bill.

Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT) filed an amendment that would make technical corrections to include tribes and the Indian Health Service (IHS) in more CARA provisions, as well as create tribal set-asides within grant programs so that tribes can better access funding and address opioid addiction in their communities. Sen. Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND) has also filed an amendment that would coordinate prescription drug monitoring programs with the IHS.

CARA would establish a number of new initiatives aimed at combatting opioid addiction, including the establishment of an inter-agency task force within the Department of Health & Human Services to develop best practices for pain management and authorizes the Justice Department to make grants to state, local, and tribal governments and law enforcement agencies in order to:

- Create a demonstration law enforcement program to prevent opioid and heroin overdose death
- Dispose of prescription medications and to expand or

make available disposal sites for unwanted prescription medications

- Implement medication assisted treatment programs through their criminal justice agencies
- Support alternatives to incarceration programs for juveniles
- Support educational programs for incarcerated offenders

The 94-1 victory was a rare example of bipartisan cooperation in Washington. However, Republicans and Democrats disagree on the funding required to implement the law's provisions.

Republicans say \$400 million from last year's Omnibus bill can be used to fund the programs, but Democrats say additional funding is needed. An amendment to provide an additional \$600 million was defeated.

Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), who introduced the bill, said, "Let's not pretend there is money for this."

Among the other provisions of CARA:

- Expand prevention and educational efforts — particularly aimed at teens, parents and other caretakers, and aging populations — to prevent the abuse of opioids and heroin and to promote treatment and recovery.
- Expand the availability of naloxone to law enforcement agencies and other first responders to help in the reversal of overdoses to save lives.
- Expand resources to identify and treat incarcerated individuals suffering from addiction disorders promptly by collaborating with criminal justice stakeholders and by providing evidence-based treatment.
- Expand disposal sites for unwanted prescription medications to keep them out of the hands of our children and adolescents.

Community Development Seeks to Clean Up Communities

Brett Larson Staff Writer

The “broken windows theory” states that when communities address small crimes like vandalism, they create a positive atmosphere that reduces more serious crime.

Community Development Commissioner Percy Benjamin and his team are hoping to clean up the reservation communities by getting rid of some abandoned buildings — not just to prevent crime, but also to reduce accidents.

“These abandoned buildings can be a danger to the public,” Percy said. “If a fire starts in one of these buildings, it can spread to others in the neighborhood.” He said kids are known to explore the buildings, where they can be exposed to broken glass, drug paraphernalia, holes in the ground and other dangers.

Community Development’s proposal is to absorb the cost of demolition for Band members who agree to give up their leases on abandoned or dilapidated properties.

The cost to demolish a home is approximately \$10,000 plus labor, depending on the size.

The Band has the legal authority to condemn the property, take the lease and bill Band members for the cost of demolition, but Percy said his department prefers not to use the condemnation process.

“We’d like to see people do it voluntarily,” he said. “If you have ownership rights in a lease, we’re willing to work with you to get it cleaned up at little to no cost to you in exchange for giving up the rights to the property,” Percy said.

The earthworks crew has been taking down several houses each year, but now with the Band’s new excavator, they can step up their efforts.

Percy thinks there are as many as 50 properties in the three districts that are beyond repair and should be demolished. These include homes, garages, outbuildings and public facilities.

If you hold a lease to a dilapidated or abandoned home and are interested in helping to create a cleaner and safer community, contact Percy at 320-532-7508 or percy.benjamin@millelacsband.com.

Community Development Master Project List

See progress and plans below for our communities

District I Community Development Schedule

Project	% Complete
Commercial — New	
#11014: New Roads Garage Design	100%
#11016: DI Roads Garage Construction	0%
Commercial — Remodel	
#12065: Budget Host Remodel	75%
#12071: Legislative Mailroom Expansion	90%
#12073: DI Comm. Ctr. Exterior Door	0%
#12075: DI Pow Wow Electrical Upgrades	0%
Residential — New	
#13053: 47735 Swing-a-Way Rental	98%
#13054: 6047 Edgewater Circle Tamarack w/o Garage	98%
#13055: 47165 Partridge Pass Demo & Replace	0%
#13056: 18332 Baffie Bend Tamarack	95%
Residential — Remodel	
#14094: 17429 Noopiming Lane	95%
#14096: 43422 Mosey Drive	40%
#14097: 45757 US Hwy 169	95%
#14109: 45447 US Hwy 169 Septic Replace	0%
#14111: 15979 Nay Ah Shing Drive	0%
#14112: 16052 Hwy 27	40%
#14113: 45881 US Hwy 169	10%
Infrastructure/PublicWorks	
#15000: Sher Property Engineering	85%
#15001: Sher Property Development Construction	55%
#15003: Vineland Safe Roads to School Sidewalks	0%

District II Community Development Schedule

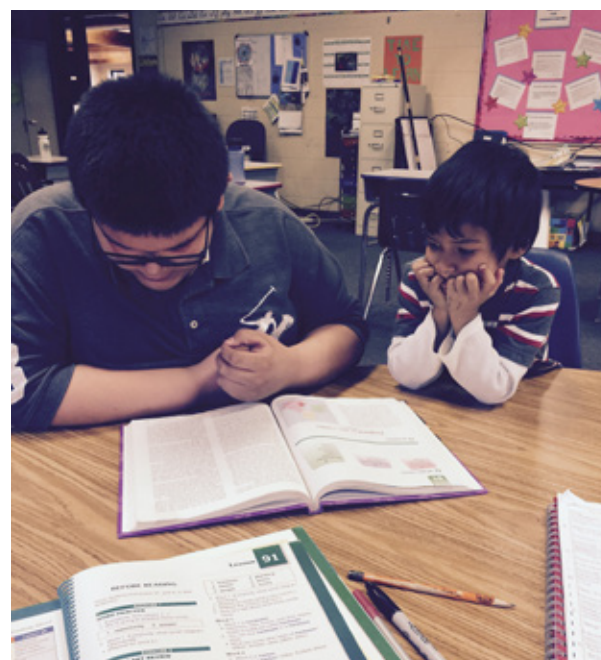
Project	% Complete
Commercial — New	
#21000: DII Pow Wow Arena Design	90%
#21002: DII Pow Wow Arena Construction	20%
#22016: Galloway Old College Demolition	0%
Residential — New	
#23047: 1930 Moose Dr. Butternut Elder	20%
#23048: 1920 Moose Dr. Walnut Rental	20%
#23056: 2240 Moose Dr. Butternut Elder	30%
#23050: 20982 363rd Lane Butternut Elder	98%
#23051: 19632 364th Lane Alder Rental	98%
#23052: 20209 380th St. Blue Spruce Rental	99%
#23057: 20023 380th St. Alder Rental	99%
Residential — Remodel	
#24022: 21842 Goshawk	0%
#24023: 90 N. Main St. McGregor	0%
#24026: 37904 207th Place	0%
#24043: 37921 207th Place	0%
#24044: 2545 Naawaakwa St.	0%

District III Community Development Schedule

Project	% Complete
Commercial — New	
#31001: Rutledge Grounds Facility	20%
Commercial — Remodel	
#32018: Community Center Flagpoles	50%
Residential — New	
#33044: Zhingwaak Playground and Park	92%
#33067: 2490 Oshki Odena Street (Alder Rental)	70%
#33070: 2428 Oshki Odena Street (Alder Rental)	95%
#33068: 1290 Oshki Odena Placa (Tamarack walkout)	95%
#33069: 1285 Oshki Odena Place (Blue Spruce Elder)	95%
#33071: 2660 Zhingob Ave. Sugar Maple Rental	35%
#33072: 2651 Zhingob Ave. Alder Rental	50%
#33073: 1120 Zhingob Ave. Blue Spruce Rental	60%
Residential — Remodel	
#34089: 62264 Grouse Trail	0%
Infrastructure/PublicWorks	
#35000: Zhingwaak Oodena Phase III Engineering	85%
#35001: Zhingwaak Oodena Phase III Construction	60%
#35002: Evergreen Drive Extension Engineering	95%
#35003: Evergreen Ct. Extension Construction	85%

All Districts/Misc. Projects

Project	% Complete
#50000: Community Center Generators	100%
#50001: All Districts Bathroom Renovations	10%
#50003: HI Driveway Paving	50%
#50004: Ceremonial Bldg Upholstery	40%



Study Buddies!

Pine Grove Leadership Academy in Aazhoomog is a close-knit community of students, where the younger kids can get help from their older and wiser friends. On a March day at Pine Grove, Byron Benjamin and Xzavier St. John did some reading together.

Young Wrestler Finds Success, Learns Lifelong Lessons

Toya Stewart Downey Staff Writer

Grant Hendren had his first experience of wrestling competitively when he was just six years old.

He was in the first grade, and while his heart was in it to win, he got crushed while participating in his first tournament, recalls his dad, Band member Joe Hendren.

"He went out there and got killed. I thought he was going to quit, but he didn't," said Joe. "We reminded him that he wanted to sign up and that we paid the money so he needed to finish the season, and after that he could quit."

But young Grant, who is now 14 and a freshman at Lakeville South High School, was determined to become a wrestler.

In mid-March he wrestled in the USA Wrestling Dominate in the Dells National Tournament held in Wisconsin Dells. Unfortunately, he was injured in his second round, but that didn't dampen his excitement about participating in the tournament or for his teammates' success.

"I was disappointed," said Grant. "I thought I would do well, but got hurt in the second match."

Still, as an experienced athlete who has played team sports including hockey, football and baseball, Grant knows there's always another chance to improve and to win.

The tournament wasn't Grant's first time in the big show, and he knows what it's like to take home a win. In his young life he's had a number of accomplishments in his wrestling career.

In the fourth grade he took third place at the Minnesota

USA Folkstyle in state, first place in Greco Roman, first in Freestyle, and fifth place in the national regional for Greco Roman and free style.

He has been a starter on the Lakeville South High School varsity team since he was a seventh grader. That same year he placed fourth in the high school sections. By eighth grade he earned third place in the high school sections, and in the ninth grade he was the section 1AAA champion.

He advanced to the Minnesota High School State Tournament this past February. Last year he was the first place Freestyle MN USA Champion.

Grant was also selected as a member of the Minnesota Storm National Schoolboy team. In 2015, Grant represented team Minnesota in the National Dual Tournament in Indianapolis.

"Wrestling is all you," said his dad. "It's physical because it's just you and another kid on a mat during the battle."

Athletes like Grant learn lessons in discipline, teamwork and dedication. They learn to work hard, persevere and accept disappointment.

During the wrestling season Grant maintains a strict diet of fruits, vegetables and proteins, like eggs. He doesn't eat meat and avoids foods laden with salt, such as pasta. That also means no hamburgers or french fries — a typical teenager's dream meal.

He also works out and does a variety of exercises such as Cross Fit.

"I don't do a lot of weight lifting, but I do more explosive stuff like pull-ups, jumps and footwork."

Wrestlers have to maintain a certain weight because they compete against others who are in the same weight class because it makes the match more balanced. This year Grant is in the 126-pound weight class.

Over the years, Joe has watched his son grow in his confidence and ability.

"He became confident, and once he had the technique he learned how to push through it whether he was winning or losing," said Joe. "He doesn't always like it, but at the end of each season he sees progress."

Grant agrees and knows that he's representing both himself and his team. Part of being on a team is "helping them, pushing them and encouraging them," he said.

"Wrestling is fun, but it's also hard with all of the physical contact," Grant said.

Still, it's a sport he would recommend to other young people who are looking for a challenge.

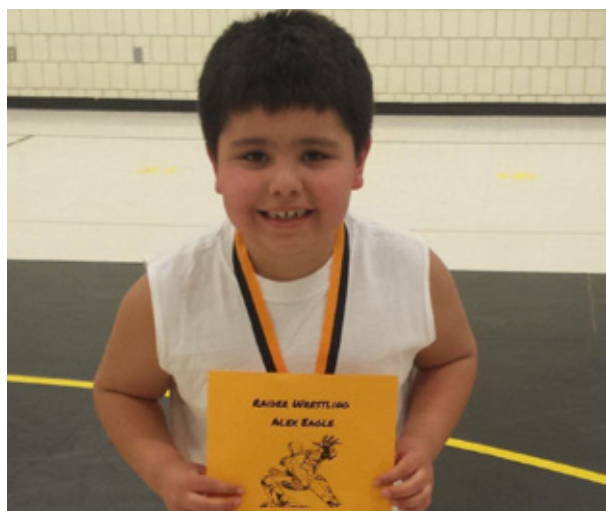
"My advice is don't quit, work hard and you'll get to your goal."



Grant Hendren advanced to the state tournament by winning sections. In the first round of state, he won his match with an overtime takedown.



Good Sports
Minisinaakwaang Leadership Academy basketball players took to the road on Feb. 25 to face their counterparts at Nay Ah Shing. After a good time competing on the court, they sat around the drum and sang a few songs together.



Left: First grader Alexander Ray Eagle, age 6, won the state tournament in Albany, Minn. with the Mille Lacs Raiders wrestling team on Saturday, March 19.



HHS Implements Opiate Response Plan

Sam Moose, Commissioner of Health and Human Services (HHS), has been providing the tribal government and Band members with updates on his department's implementation of the opiate crisis response plan developed last year.

At the Band Assembly on Tuesday, March 15 and the District III Community Meeting on Wednesday, March 16, Sam listed several new policies, procedures, programs and projects designed to address the problem of addiction.

The following are some of the steps HHS has already taken:

- Formation of a multidisciplinary response team facilitated by the Wraparound Program. The Neonatal team has had 17 mothers referred to the program, with eight currently working with a facilitator. Since the program started, there have been seven babies born — six with healthy medical screens and only one with Neo Natal Withdrawal Syndrome.
- Assessment of chemical dependency programming to ensure better response time, coordination of care, and improved supports for those returning from treatment.
- Strengthened outpatient services by addition of Rule 25 assessors in all districts. A continuum of care is being designed to connect assessment to treatment and halfway house options. A hybrid outpatient service is being considered for those awaiting in-patient treatment. A culturally-based curriculum is being developed and implemented.
- Improved residential treatment options. The Band is working with the State to take over operations of the Four Winds program in Brainerd. Gov. Dayton has proposed funding for the transition in his supplemental budget. HHS is also updating a proposal for a Family Healing Center.
- Development of a program for women and children. HHS is planning residential treatment centers for pregnant women and mothers in treatment and a monitored sober housing program in each district.

The update concludes, "These initiatives are the framework for the coming several years in order to begin to address the level of addiction in our communities and prepare for a future where the children of the Mille Lacs Band are under less of a threat than they are today."

In addition to all of the projects updated above, additional activities within HHS are in part or in full being driven by the crisis of opiates and other drugs in our communities, including drug agreements protocol, pharmacy restrictions, a public safety workgroup, a pharmacy monitor program, addiction management training for providers, and expansion of Family Services.

HHS Needs Band Members to Provide Proof of Eligibility

The Health and Human Services Department (HHS) is asking for cooperation of beneficiaries to provide proof of eligibility in order to receive services. Proof of eligibility is required by Federal law and the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe/Health and Human Services Direct Services Policy.

To be sure Federal Law and the Direct Services Policy are followed, beneficiaries will be asked to provide the following:

- Tribal Member: Tribal Identification or CIB
- First Generation Descendants/ Minor child of an enrolled Mille Lacs Band Member: Parent's Tribal Identification or CIB and birth certificate
- Tribal Member/ Non-Tribal Spouse: Tribal Spouse's Tribal ID or CIB, Photo Identification, Marriage Certificate
- MLBO Employee: Employee Identification
- MLBO Employee's Dependent or Child: Parent's Employee ID, Birth Certificate.
- MLBO Employee's Spouse: Spouse's Employee Identification, Marriage Certificate.

Any beneficiary who is eligible for direct services through MLBO Health and Human Services and has provided required eligibility documentation may receive care at any of the District Clinics.

As of April 1, 2016, if you are unable to provide the required documentation, MLBO Health and Human Services will be unable to see you until the required documents are provided.

Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Health and Human Services will see any individual in emergency circumstances.

For questions or concerns please contact:

Jeff Larson, Executive Director Health and Human Services

Cheri Hample, Health Services Director

320-532-4163.

State & Local News

Games On!

The Northern Indigenous Games will take place for a week in April, from Minneapolis to Bemidji. The events feature indigenous athletes and coaches presenting traditional games played by various cultures throughout North America. "These games are centuries old, and are continuing to be played by the indigenous people," said event director Dan Ninham of Red Lake. "We are providing an outstanding opportunity for people of all races to actively participate in and observe these games." Minneapolis South High School will be the first to host the tour of Northern Indigenous Games on April 17. Other locations will be Upper Sioux Community, Granite Falls on April 18; Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, Onamia School District on April 19; White Earth Nation on April 20; Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Walker Hackensack Akeley School District on April 21; Red Lake Nation, Red Lake on April 20 and Red Lake Nation, Ponemah on April 21.

Good Run for Red Lake

Judging by all the red shirts packed into Williams Arena, Red Lake must have been a ghost town when the Red Lake High School boys basketball team made yet another trip to the state tournament. However, the Warriors' successful season began with intense sadness. Coach Roger White's 15-year-old son Aaron, an inspiring player and teammate, lost his battle with cancer on Nov. 1. With an arena full of fans there to cheer them on, the emotional season came to an end when the Warriors lost in the Class A semifinals. "This is all for our little brother Aaron," senior forward Jeremy Martin said. "He'd be so happy for us giving it our all and not giving up, playing through everything."

Grand Portage Band Studies Moose

While some, including Governor Mark Dayton, have said that collaring of moose is putting too much stress on the population, Grand Portage Band Director of Biology Seth Moore is finding the data derived from collaring to be invaluable in determining the cause of the moose decline. Over the last 26 years, the moose population on the Grand Portage reservation dropped 64 percent, and the herd in northeast Minnesota has plummeted from 9,000 to around 4,000 in 10 years. Data shows that 80 percent of the collared moose that have died have succumbed to health issues caused by parasites and ticks. "I think that's important," Moore said, "because public perception originally was that wolves were hammering moose populations, and at least with our data that hasn't been the case."

Twin Cities Health Care

Dr. Patrick Rock, CEO of Indian Health Board (IHB) medical and dental clinic in the heart of Minneapolis' Phillips Neighborhood, says every year it's the same thing: the federal government woefully underfunds urban Indian medical facilities in violation of its treaty obligations. Rock, an 18-year IHB employee and member of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, says clinics like IHB must seek alternative funding sources as they strive to provide quality care to a population facing steep health challenges. With the 2010 passage of the Affordable Care Act, Rock saw an opportunity for funding just the kind of patient-centered innovation IHB had on its wish list for over a decade. With nearly \$1 million in capital provided under the ACA, the clinic has been revamped to improve patient outcomes and satisfaction, while reducing costs by using preventative medicine to keep patients out of emergency rooms.

1855 Treaty Citations

Two members of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe are defending their right to hunt in off-reservation areas of Minnesota. Tony Lee Morris and Randy Gregg Finn shot a deer just outside of reservation boundaries and were cited by the state DNR officials for killing a deer out of season, on private land. Tribal attorney Frank Bibeau argued that the case should be dismissed. He said the 1855 Treaty gives tribe members the right to hunt, fish and gather across most of northern Minnesota. Bibeau plans to ask a federal court to step in and mediate a deal between the tribes and the state. He believes a federal judge will force the state to acknowledge treaty rights. Last year, other tribal members were cited for harvesting wild rice and fishing on off-reservation lands.

New Aazhoomog Language Teacher Loves to Share the Gift

Brett Larson Staff Writer

In Canada, where Tom Jack was raised, children were removed from their homes and sent to boarding schools until the late 20th century.

Tom has vivid memories of the experience. As a five-year-old in the early 1960s, he was taken by plane from his home community on Lake of the Woods to a Catholic school in Kenora, Ontario. He lived there for the next 10 years, with no visits home, and a strictly regimented life filled with a foreign religion, French and Latin lessons, and harsh treatment from priests and nuns.

"The whole idea was to disconnect children from Anishinaabe customs, traditions, families and language, so we would be brown white kids," said Tom.

Tom credits his parents and his home community for saving him after those dark years. When his mom and dad came to get him in 1969, he didn't know who they were, but they soon gave him back his language and culture, ensuring that the efforts of the boarding school were ultimately unsuccessful. "That was the best summer of my life," he said. "The love and understanding of my parents and culture got me through the hard times."

Reversing the brainwashing process has been a lifelong struggle for Tom. He still hears those critical voices from the

past giving him negative messages about his culture. His response has been to help others learn the language he was given as a child — and given again when he returned home as a young man.

Tom became a single parent at the age of 18, which gave him the determination to make a good life for himself and his son. Tom took advantage of a program at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, earning a degree in education.

He put teaching on hold for 16 years, making a living as a truck driver. Eventually he felt called to preserve the language and culture his family had given him.

He took his first teaching job in Nipigon, Ontario, then taught in Thunder Bay and Grand Portage before coming to Mille Lacs, where he works at Pine Grove Leadership Academy and holds language tables twice a week — Wednesdays at 6 p.m. at Aazhoomog Community Center, and Thursdays at 6 p.m. at the Corporate Commission building in Hinckley.

Tom describes his teaching style as informal. "It's a social situation that alleviates apprehension," he said. He begins by asking students what they want to learn and why so he can gear his teaching to his students' needs.

Tom is working towards developing or acquiring other resources for community use, including Anishinaabemowin



Tom Jack is the new language teacher in District III.

dictionaries, various reading materials and CDs. He is also available for tutoring, and professionals can receive continuing education credits for taking his classes or independent study.

So far Tom feels welcome in the District III community, and he hopes to finish his career here. He is grateful to the folks at Pine Grove, including Duck White and Skip and Donna Churchill, for making him feel at home.

He hopes to return the favor by making others feel at home and eager to learn at the language tables, while having fun in the process.

Culture is Important Part of Minisinaakwaang Curriculum

Cameron Farah Guest Writer

"Aadizooke," or storytelling, has found its way in to the curriculum at the Minisinaakwaang Leadership Academy. The oral traditions of Anishinaabeg take place in the winter between maple and spring harvest. It is through these stories that traditional values and life lessons are taught.

Waynaaboozhoo is a great teacher to the Anishinaabeg and as such should always be regarded with respect. Through

his folly we learn what effect quick and disrespectful decisions and actions can have on all beings and things.

Aaron Buckanaga, an Ojibwe language intern at the Academy, told two stories on February 18. The first through third grades listened to the creation story and Waynaaboozhoo and the Geese. Both stories are well known, with the latter being added to the Indian elementary curriculum project of

Wisconsin in 1978.

Grades four through six are rehearsing a play based on the creation story. It is a great way the pass on the story and develop the students' conversational and social skills.

If you are interested in sharing your traditional Anishinaabe stories, contact the Minisinaakwaang Leadership Academy in East Lake in District II.



Early Ed Powwow

Wewinabi Early Ed in District I holds a powwow every month, and the kids love it! As soon as the drum starts, they rush into the circle, dragging family members and caregivers along for the ride. The powwow is generally held on the third Thursday of each month at 10:30 a.m.



Contratulations, Candace!

Candace Killspotted, pictured with some of her family members, graduated from Minisinaakwaang Leadership Academy recently. The May and June issues of *Ojibwe Inaajimowin* will include photos of high school and college graduates. If you know any graduates, please have them send a photo to myles.gorham@redcircleagency.com.

Two-year College Occupational Program Grants Available

The MnSCU Two-Year Occupational Grant Pilot Program provides financial assistance to students enrolled in qualifying career and technical programs at MnSCU two-year colleges so that students can complete the program within two years or less and find employment in a high-demand occupation. The grant will cover any remaining tuition and general fee charges after the student's Federal Pell Grant and MN State Grant have been applied to the student's account. To qualify, students or their parents (if the student is a dependent) must have an adjusted gross income (or wages for non-filers) of \$90,000

or less for the 2015 tax year. The pilot program will be implemented for the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 academic years. Because this program listing is subject to change, students should check with the college to make sure the program is still offered. In order for the student to participate, the student must be admitted into and start the occupational program during fall term 2016. For information, see ohe.state.mn.us/mPg.cfm?pageID=2163. For information on other scholarships available to Band members, see millelacsband.com/tribal-government-home/education.



Meet Bill Jones

You may have seen Mille Lacs Band member Bill Jones at recent events, wielding a fancy-looking camera, and looking like he knows how to use it.

That's because Bill has been a professional photojournalist for almost 30 years.

"I've worked almost all my time in Minnesota," said Bill. "I love what I do because I get to tell people's stories, and I've never had one day like any other day."

Bill got his start as a staff photographer and photo editor at St. Cloud State University, where he received his Bachelor's Degree.

Then, from 1989 to 2009, he worked as staff photographer for Minnesota Sun Publications.

Since 2009, he's been a freelance photographer based in St. Cloud. He's taken photos for ABC Newspapers, *IQ* Magazine, Pioneer Place Theater, the Minnesota Department of Commerce and others.

Bill has enjoyed shooting events for *Ojibwe Inaajimowin*, including the Minisinaakwaang Christmas Party, the District I Sobriety Powwow, the Polar Plunge and the Zhigwaan Youth Powwow at Chiminising Community Center.

"I like shooting for the Band because it is a form of pay back for all they have done for me over the years," Bill said. "My college education and my home are the direct results of Band programs, and I am grateful."

For more of Bill's photos from the Polar Plunge and the Zhigwaan Youth Powwow, see the Mille Lacs Band's Facebook page.

Spring Dance / Photos by Bill Jones

The first-ever Ziigwan (It is Spring) Youth Powwow took place at Chiminising Community Center in District Ila on March 12. It was a successful debut, with many dancers from around the region. Serentie Morin (pictured on the cover) was named Princess, and Waylon Mitchell (bottom center) was named Brave.

Mille Lacs Polar Plungers Raise More Than \$40,000

Bill Jones Photographer



Last month 250 individuals registered and plunged at the fifth annual Lake Mille Lacs Polar Plunge to benefit Special Olympics Minnesota. Given the unseasonable weather and ice conditions, organizers were able to get more than 250 plungers through.

On March 4, Joe Nayquonabe and Tracy Sam also braved the waters of Lake Calhoun in Minneapolis for the Executive Challenge. Grand Casino was the major sponsor of this event which involved top executives in the state taking the plunge. In total, this event raised more than \$200,000!

This year's involvement reached new heights. Below are the details of what Grand Casino's sponsorship brought the organization this year:

- \$42,000: raised by plungers and donors at the Mille Lacs Plunge
- \$3,427: raised by Grand Casino and MLCV Associates

during the popular Denim Days promotion

- \$10,000: donated by MLCV
- \$5,373: raised by Joe Nayquonabe and Tracy Sam to bring to the Executive Plunge

In total, Grand Casino Mille Lacs' sponsorship and MLCV's involvement raised \$60,800 for the organization.

Since the first Mille Lacs plunge in 2012, more than \$223,000 has been raised from this plunge, and nearly 1,200 people have plunged into Mille Lacs Lake — all for a great cause.

Miigwech to all of the plungers who raised money, for all of the supporters who donated money for Special Olympics Minnesota and for the help of local law enforcement (Mille Lacs Band Tribal Police, Mille Lacs Band DNR, Mille Lacs County Sheriff's department, Mille Lacs County Search & Rescue and Mille Lacs Health System Ambulance).



An Afternoon at the Sugarbush

Brett Larson Staff Writer

Tapping the maples is a rite of spring and a rite of passage in Anishinaabe country, and a new generation of Mille Lacs Band members learned the art this season.

During the month of March, Nay Ah Shing students and others had several opportunities to make taps, tap trees, collect sap, process syrup and eat maple sugar at the Izkigamizigan Powwow grounds — named for the sugarbush that has sweetened Mille Lacs life for hundreds of years.

The first step was to make traditional wooden taps. Students cut branches from a stand of sumac at the District I cultural grounds and were taught by the staff how to whittle the taps and hollow out the core.

Next they drilled holes in the trees and gently pounded in the taps — traditional wooden ones as well as some of the fancy metal type.

Sap was collected around the sugarbush by a variety of methods: metal buckets, 5-gallon pails, and plastic bags. Traditionally, birch bark baskets were used to transport the sap from the tree to the fire.

On March 8, a group from Center School in Minneapolis learned that the sugaring season begins with an offering of tobacco to thank the spirits for the sweet gift of the maples. Carmen Butler, an Anishinaabe elder known throughout the region, arranged for the students to come and participate in the maple harvest.

The cultural grounds staff, led by Jim Mitchell, brought them to their camp, where sap bubbled in a black kettle suspended over a hot fire. Quentin Moose and Fawn DeWitt had an ample supply of oak to keep it burning as they watched and stirred the thickening brew.

Whenever the boiling sap foamed up, they used the age-old trick of dipping a pine bough into the kettle, which brought the sap back to a rolling boil.

The unusually warm spring weather made the sugaring season unpredictable this year, but one thing can always be counted on at Mille Lacs: Come early spring, the sugarbush will be buzzing.

Izkigamizigan: The Sugarbush

Aninaatig, ziinzibaakwadwaatig: Maple tree

Ziinzibaakwadwaaboo: Maple sap

Ziinzibaakwad: Maple sugar

Zhiwaagamizigan: Maple syrup

Negwaakwaan: a tap, a spigot

Negwaakwaanike: S/he makes taps for sugaring

Ozhiga'ige: S/he taps trees.

Nindoozhiga'ige: I tap trees.

Giinawind giga-ozhiga'igemin:

We'll put in the taps.



Ceremonial Drum Protocol — What to Know Before You Go

Editor's note: This article was originally written by Gloria St. John and published in the April 2002 Ojibwe Inaajimowin. It was based on protocols established prior to that by Mille Lacs Band Drumkeepers. The article has been reviewed and revised by Lee Obizaan Staples.

The Mille Lacs communities of Neyaashing, Minisinaakwaang and Aazhoomog bring their ceremonial drums out every spring and fall. These drums were a gift from the Manidoog, given to help us individually, to assist our families and our Community. This is an opportunity for our Anishinaabe to come in with their offerings of tobacco, food, blankets and money. These offerings go to the Manidoog, giving each of our relatives and us help and assistance. The Manidoog like hearing the sound of these drums and songs across our reservation, since it was a gift to us from them. As each spring and fall goes by, these offerings from the eleven ceremonial drums we have on our reservation collect where those Manidoog sit — and it is from there we receive our help.

The following information is being shared so we know what is expected of us at these ceremonial drum dances:

- You do not need a formal invite to attend these dances. These ceremonial dances were given to benefit all Anishinaabe people.
- Your full attention and respect for the speakers at these dances is requested when they talk for our Asemaa (Tobacco) or when explaining other information.
- Please come prepared with your own Asemaa. Show your respect for this ceremony, which has been with us for generations. Come prepared with your own Asemaa and do not borrow it from others. If you wish, you may bring food for the Friday meal offering, and/or the Saturday food offerings for breakfast and the evening. Times for these meals may vary in each community, so ask for details from those attending. You can also bring a blanket as a part of your offering on Saturday afternoon.

- Ojibwemowin must be used when on the floor and speaking to those in attendance. If you are not able to speak Ojibwemowin, please offer Asemaa to a fluent speaker who can speak on your behalf.
- Parents are asked to control their children at these ceremonies. Please do not allow your children to run around the drum or roll around on the floor. We were told as youngsters, if we were to fall while running around the drum, we could really get hurt. This is a particularly important time to teach your children to be respectful, especially around these drums. Drum members may step in and ask that your children hold down the noise level or return to their seats. Parents need to remain calm and respectful if this happens.
- When meals are served, please remember that people should eat in the following order:
 - Guests/visitors from a distance. At this time, plates of food can be prepared for those who are disabled or have difficulty walking. If there is a seat open, invite a local Elder.
 - Elders/adults from the local area. Parents may also feed very small children at this time. An adult at the table should accompany small children, if at all possible.
 - Older children.
- Anyone under the influence of alcohol or drugs is asked not to attend these dances. The Manidoog are present just above the area near the location of the ceremonial drum. If there is anyone present under the influence or there is negative behavior at the dance site, the Manidoog will just up and leave.
- Items to be exchanged megwaa Ikwe-Niimi'iding (during the Ladies Dance) are clean blankets, cloth or money. You can exchange a blanket for a blanket; cloth for a cloth or you may just use money. An amount from \$6 to \$10 is considered appropriate. Cloth should always be at least 2 to 3 yards in length, sufficient in size to be utilized toward

- quilt-making later. Cloth should not be offered to Men.
- Local Tribal Governments and others are discouraged from scheduling events on weekends that may conflict with the ceremonial dances. The dances are usually scheduled every Friday evening and Saturdays during the months of April through June and October through December.
- If at all possible, please try to stay until the dance is over. A lot of effort and preparation goes into these dances. Your presence until the dance is over is a way to show your appreciation for the work that drum members put into these dances. (Of course, Elders can come and go as they please.)
- We are encouraging that people do their cigarette smoking outside of the building due to the harm of second hand smoke and the fact that so many of our people have lung diseases, because of smoking cigarettes. Smoking of the drum's pipe will continue inside as usual.

Ceremonial Dance Dates

Spring 2016

- Merlin & Mick: Mille Lacs — April 1 & 2
- Ralph & Andy: Mille Lacs — April 8 & 9
- Niib & Iyawbance: East Lake — April 15 & 16
- Lynda & Joyce: Mille Lacs — April 22 & 23
- Skip: Lake Lena — May 6 & 7
- Elmer & AJ: Mille Lacs — May 6 & 7
- Lee & Larry: Lake Lena — May 12 & 14
- Dale & Vincent: East Lake — May 13 & 14
- Joe & George: Mille Lacs — May 20 & 21
- Tim & Tom: East Lake — May 27 & 28
- Bob & Perry: Mille Lacs — June 3 & 4

Spring Spearing and Boating Rules and Regulations

Conservation Officer Anthony Erholtz

Spring is just around the corner, and we at the Mille Lacs Band DNR Enforcement Office would like to talk about our upcoming seasons. As I write this, the sun is out, the weather is unusually warm, and the geese are migrating back north. That means open water is almost here, and so is the spring harvest.

First of all, please remember that if you are going to exercise your hunting, fishing and gathering rights, you need to have the appropriate Mille Lacs Band Licenses/Permit and your Mille Lacs Band Identification card with you any time you are out in the woods or on the water.

If you are out on the water in any type of watercraft, you need to have that watercraft registered with either the Mille Lacs Band or the State of Minnesota, and that watercraft must have a current registration tag along with identification numbers in the proper areas. You also need the proper safety equipment on board. Each watercraft must have one Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Device (life jacket) that is in excellent working condition for each person in that watercraft, and it is mandatory that children under 10 wear their life jacket at all times while on the water. Watercraft sixteen feet or longer must have an audible horn or whistle, a fire extinguisher in good working order, and a minimum of one U.S. Coast Guard approved type IV throwable safety device. We at the Mille Lacs Band DNR recommend that every watercraft have a throwable device on board and that everyone wear their life jackets at all times. Between sunset and sunrise, all watercraft must have a minimum of one white light that is distinctly visible under

Reminder: Egg/Milt Collection during Spearing Season

This spring, in response to a Joint Resolution from the Band Assembly and Chief Executive, the Department of Natural Resources will undertake a pilot project to explore the feasibility of a walleye hatchery at Mille Lacs Lake.

Commissioner Susan Klapel's DNR staff will collect eggs and milt (sperm) from this spring's tribal spearing harvest. The eggs will be fertilized in large jars, and once hatched, the fry will be transferred to tanks and then rearing ponds.

If all goes as planned, they will eventually find their way to Mille Lacs Lake and Namachers Lake in District III.

The biologists are looking for Band members to assist them this spring by donating the eggs and milt from speared walleyes. The DNR plans to set up an egg- and milt-collecting station during the spearing season at the landing by the powwow grounds.

If you are interested in spearing near the landing at the powwow grounds and are willing to donate eggs and milt, please contact the DNR at 320-532-7439

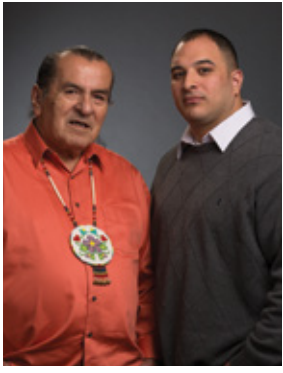
clear weather conditions for a minimum of three hundred feet in all directions, and that light must be on at all times while on the water. Remember to check your watercraft trailer to make sure it has current registration and all lights are in proper working order.

If you plan on netting or spearing one of the other declared lakes inside the 1837 Treaty area, you need to know where the designated launch/landing area is. If you have any questions, please stop in or call one of the Mille Lacs Band DNR licensing agents to assist you with a map.

If you are going to be netting or spearing this year, please remember to clean off all visible plant material, mussels or any

other items on your watercraft, motor, trailer, or net. Drain all water-related equipment and keep your drain plug out on all watercrafts while in transport. We at the DNR highly recommend you take the following steps to ensure that you are not spreading aquatic invasive species: 1. Spray all water-related equipment (watercraft, trailer, nets, etc.) with high pressure water; 2. Rinse with very hot water (120 degrees for two minutes or 140 degrees for 10 seconds) to kill all zebra mussels and some of the other aquatic invasive species; 3. Dry all equipment for a minimum of three days.

Continued on p. 16



Gimaji-Doodaag Awiya A'aw Anishinaabe Anishinaabe Has Put Bad Medicine On You

Lee Staples Gaa-Anishinaabemod Obizaan Chato Gonzalez Gaa-Anishinaabewibii'ang Ombishkebines

Gaawiin awiya omaa ningagwe-zegi'aasiin omaa noongom waa-ni-dazhindamaan. Mii i'iw maji-mashkiki waa-ni-dazhindamaan. Ishke dash noongom wenji-misawendamaan wii-tazhindamaan i'iw eni-maji-doodawaad awiya inow owiiji-bimaadiziiman miinawaa eni-dazhindang a'aw Anishinaabe maazhi-doodaagod awiya, geget niwenda-wanishkwe'igon noongom ingiw bebaa-ayaajig omaa ishkoniganing nenaandawi'iwekaazojig, mii-go gaabige enaawaad iniw ba-naazikaagowaajin baa-nandawaabandamowaad isa da-naadamaagowaad mino-ayaasigwaa, "Gimaji-doodaag awiya a'aw Anishinaabe."

I am not out to scare anyone with the topic that I have selected. I am going to talk about bad medicine. The reason I desire to talk about people putting bad medicine on others and about Anishinaabe talking about how others put bad medicine on them, it bothers me that these so called medicine men that we have here on the reservation, they right off the bat tell people that come to them for doctoring, "Someone has put bad medicine on you."

Mii dash omaa wii-ni-dazhindamaan wenji-wanishkwe'igoyaan isa i'iw akeyaa inind a'aw Anishinaabe. Ishke a'aw niwawiinge-maamaayiban, mii i'iw gaa-nisigod gii-tebwetang gii-maji-doodaagod inow bezhig inow akiwenziyibanen. Aana-gii-waawaabamaad iniw mashkikiwininiwan, mii-go gaawiin gii-naadamaagoowiziisin. Geget gii-mashkawendam gii-anaamimaad inow akiwenziyibanen gii-maji-doodaagod.

I am going to tell you why I am bothered by our Anishinaabe people being told this. I believe that my mother believed so strongly that one of the old men had put bad medicine on her and it eventually killed her. She would go see the doctors and none of that was able to help her. She really thought strongly in her mind that it was this old man that brought on her health problems.

Ishke dash a'aw bemaadizid mashkawaamagadini eyaang imaa onaanaagadawendamowining. Ishke ani-debwetang miinawaa ani-ayaangwaami-minjiminang isa inendang maazhi-doodaagod awiya, mii imaa wenjikaamagadinig i'iw wenji-mino-ayaasig, mii-go eshkam ani-aayaakozid. Gaawiin odani-ikowebinanziin i'iw akeyaa inendang.

You see people have really powerful minds. If someone believes strongly and hangs on tightly to the idea that someone has put bad medicine on them, it is from there that their health will become worse. They do not discard or part with the idea that someone put bad medicine on them.

Ishke noongom niwaabamaa a'aw Anishinaabe ani-debwetang maji-doodaagod awiya, mii imaa eshkam ani-ayinigaanaagozid eshkam ani-aayaakozid. Ishke dash mii a'aw niwawiinge-maamaayiban gaa-izhiwebizid eshkam gii-ni-aayaakozid biinish gii-nisigod i'iw, gii-mashkawi-debweyendang geget ani-maji-doodaagod inow akiwenziyibanen gaa-anaamimaajin.

Today I see some of the Anishinaabe that believe strongly that someone has put bad medicine on them, they begin to look more and more pitiful as they get sicker. This is what happened to my mother; she progressed in her illness to the point that it killed her, because she believed so strongly that this old man was out to do her in.

Mii i'iw niin wenji-babaamendaziwaan i'iw maji-mashkiki. Gaawiin i'iw akeyaa niwii-ni-izhi-naanaagadawendanziin da-anaamingeyaan gaabige gegoo eni-izhiwebiziyaan. Naniizaanad igo akeyaa a'aw Anishinaabe izhi-naanaagadawendam. That is why I am not bothered or think about bad medicine. I do not want to think that way to suddenly blame someone for what has happened to me health wise. It is dangerous for Anishinaabe people to think this way.

Ayaamagad ina i'iw maji-mashkiki? Maagizhaa mewinza gii-ayaamagadidog gemaa. Ishke bezhig a'aw akiwenziyiban besho gaa-inawemag nigii-wiindamaag odaana-wii-gikinoo'amaagoon inow omaamaayibanen i'iw maji-mashkiki gaa-gikendaminid inow mindimooyeyibanen. "Mii gaawiin", gaa-izhi-inaad. Nigii-wiindamaag idash a'aw akiwenziyiban, "ani-aabajitood awiya i'iw maji-mashkiki ani-maazhi-doodawaad inow owiiji-anishinaaben obi-azheshkaagon awiya."

Does bad medicine really exist? Probably long ago it existed. There was one old man that I was closely related to that told me that his mother wanted to teach him the bad medicine that she

knew. "No," he said to her. That old man told me, "if someone were to use that bad medicine on someone, it would come back on them."

Mii dash imaa aabiding gii-paa-minikweyaan, mii a'aw bezhig a'aw mindimooyeyiban ningii-nandomig da-bi-wiidabimag, mii dash imaa gii-wiindamawid, "Giwii-miin inow mashkiki ge-aabajitooyan ani-maazhi-doodook a'aw giwii-anishinaabem. Ishke dash waa-onji-miininaan, ingii-pi-waabandaan ishkweyaang gaa-izhi-mino-doodawad miinawaa gaa-izhi-zaagi'ad a'aw nimaamaayiban." Gaawiin dash ingii-odaapinamawaasiin gayat ingiw gaa-nitawigi'ijig ningii-igoog, "Gego mamooken i'iw meji-ayi'iiwang."

Also at one time when I was out drinking there was this old lady that asked me to come sit with her. It was then that she told me, "I want to give you this medicine that you can use on Anishinaabe people that may have done you wrong. The reason I want to give you this medicine is because I saw in the past how good you were to my mother and showed her a lot of affection." I did not accept that offer from her, because those old people who raised me warned me not to take bad medicine.

Mii gaye iko ingiw Anishinaabeg gii-tazhindamowaad, basikamawind awiya, mii imaa wenjikaamagadinig maazhi-doodawind gaye. Biinish gaye ingii-wiindamaagoo da-naniizaanenimag aanind a'aw Anishinaabe maji-mashkiki odayaaton imaa menikweyan baa-dazhibiyan. Ishke gaye ingiw Anishinaabeg gaa-ikidowaad, mii ingiw mayaazhi-doodawinjig, mii imaa wenjida izhinaagwadiginig biimidoonowaad.

Our old Anishinaabe used to talk about walking into bad medicine and that is where something bad was done to the person. I was also warned in my drinking day that there were Anishinaabe that can put bad medicine in my drink. Our old people also said that those who were victimized by bad medicine had crooked mouths.

Mii gaye gaa-izhi-wiindamaagooyaan a'aw bezhig a'aw nitaawisiban imaa agwajing naaniibawid niibaadibik gaa-izhi-waabandang imaa ishpingim ishkode ani-babiskaakoseneyaamagadinig ani-bimi-ayaamagadinig.

Na'idaa dash baashkizigan ogii-takonaan, mii imaa gii-paashkizang i'iw ishkode bemi-ayaamagadinig azhigwa gaa-miikwa'ang gaa-izhi-noondawaad imaa gii-noodaagozinid awiya, "YIY!" gaa-inwewetoonid gaa-noondawaajin mindimooyeng gii-initaagoziwan. Wengish wiin inow ogookomisan baamibizonid gaa-paashkizwaagwenan. Mii dash imaa azhigwa ani-gigizhebawagak, mii imaa gii-noondang gii-chi-aakozinid ogookomisan. Mii gaye gaa-aabaji'aawaajin gookooko'oon naa gwiingwa'on gii-paa-maji-doodawaawaad awiya.

I was also told that one of my cousins was standing outside at night when he saw a fireball flickering by. He happened to have a gun on him at the time and he shot that fireball. As soon as he hit that fireball with his shot he heard an old lady scream out, "YIY." Here it must have been his grandmother that he shot who was flying by. It was then the next morning that he heard that his grandmother was really sick. They also used owl and whip-poor-wills when they went using about bad medicine on people.

Misawaa-go i'iw akeyaa gaa-izhi-noondamaan ani-dazhinjigaadeg i'iw maji-mashkiki, gaawiin nimbabaamendanziin i'iw da-ni-anaamingeyaan da-doodawid awiya mino-ayaasiwaan. Mii iko omaa ikidoyaan, "Aaniin danaa ge-izhiikawid awiya nebowa wiin a'aw Anishinaabe odayaan wendami'igod. Gaawiin niin indaanaanaagadawenimigosiin."

No matter what I have seen or what I have been told about bad medicine, I do not think about it and sit there and blame someone for doing harm to me when I am sick. It is here that I say to myself, "Why would anyone want to bother with me, our Anishinaabe people have plenty on their mind, why would they be thinking about me?"

Nebowa wenaajiwang gigii-miinigoowizimin anishinaabewiyang ge-apenimoyang. Mii iw ge-wenda-apiitendamang, gego wiin i'iw gidaa-babaamendanziimin i'iw mayaanaadak meji-ayi'iiwang. Ishke aanind a'aw Anishinaabe owenipanendaan wii-anaaminged ani-maazhised miinawaa mino-ayaasig. Mii iw ge-ni-ganawaabandang a'aw Anishinaabe, maagizhaa gaye enanjiged, mii imaa wenjikaamagadinig

enaapined maagizhaa gaye de-minik mamaajisiin biinish gaye ani-minawaanigwendanzig bemaadizid mii gaye i'iw wenjikaamagadinig mino-ayaasig a'aw Anishinaabe.

We have been given a lot of teachings and ceremonies as Anishinaabe that we can rely on. We need to give power to all that positive stuff, and not give power to that which is bad and evil. A lot of our Anishinaabe find it easier to place blame when things do not go right in their life, or they are sick. Our Anishinaabe need to take a look at what they are doing to themselves, it could be the food that they are eating is not healthy for them, or maybe they are not getting the proper exercise, or possibly just not enjoying life can bring about illness.



Gikendandaa i'iw Ojibwemowin

John P. Benjamin Waabishkigaabaw

Learning Ojibwe Lesson 3: Going Places

This month's lesson focuses on the word for "go there": izhaa. The basic form means "S/he goes there" and can be combined with prefixes and other words to show who goes where, and when. "Iwidi" means "over there."

Ojibwe	English
Indizhaa iwidi ataagewigamigong.	I'm going to the casino.
Niwii-izhaa iwidi adaawewigamigong.	I want to (will) go to the store.
Ningii-izhaa iwidi Aazhoomog.	I went to Aazhoomog (Lake Lena).
Gidizhaa ina iwidi Minisinaakwaang?	Are you going to Minisinaakwaang (East Lake)?
Giwii-izhaa ina iwidi Eshkwegamaag?	Do you want to go/Are you going to go to Onamia?
Gigii-izhaa ina iwidi iskgamiziganing?	Did you go there, to the sugarbush?
Izhaa Frank iwidi Oshkii-odenaang.	Frank is going to Brainerd.
Wii-izhaa Frank iwidi Chi-minising.	Frank wants to go/is going to go to Isle.
Gii-izhaa Frank iwidi Neyaashing.	Frank went to the point (District I).

Other place names: **Ozaagiziibing** (St. Cloud); **Gaa-zhigwanaabikokaag** (Hinckley); **Mazhii'iganing** (Garrison); **Chi-odenaang** (The Cities); **Onigamiinsing** (Duluth); **Gete-odenaang** (Superior); **Bebashkojiishkiwagaag** (Aitkin); **Asinikaaning** (Sandstone).

A note on place names used in Ojibwe Inaajimowin

We are attempting to use Ojibwe names as much as possible rather than District I, II, Ila and III. District numbers will still be used on the calendar to save space and may be used in other places for the sake of clarity. We will use the double-vowel system with the following spellings:

- District I: Neyaashing. This word, which means "the point," will be used to refer to the District I or Vineland community. "Nay Ah Shing" will still be used for the school and "Ne-la-Shing" for the clinic.
- District II (East Lake): Minisinaakwaang. The school in District II will be referred to as Minisinaakwaang Leadership Academy.
- District Ila (Isle): Chiminsing.
- District III (Lake Lena): Aazhoomog.



New Wheels for Wewinabi

The wheels on the bus go round and round — all through the reservation. On February 24, 2016, Wewinabi Early Ed received a new bus that will serve the East Lake community. To most it is a big yellow bus used to transport children to and from school, but to the staff and students, it is much more. This bus serves as a connection from home to school and then school to home. It is the child's first interaction of the day with activities the school provides. Besides the driver, there is also a bus monitor on each bus to ensure each child is secured safely in his or her seat. That way the driver can be attentive to the road and traffic and the monitor attentive to the child and his or her needs. Parents and grandparents are grateful to have more adults caring for their children's and grandchildren's needs and safety. So as you pass a bus, remember they carry our most precious cargo, our children and grandchildren.

Spring Cleanup 2016

District I, Vineland

Saturday, April 30, through Friday, May 6

Hours of operation: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every day.

All roll-off dumpsters will be located at the Mille Lacs Band Old Transfer Station Site off of U.S. HWY 169.

District II, East Lake, McGregor, Minnewawa, Sandy Lake and Isle

Saturday, May 14, through Friday, May 20

Hours of operation:

Monday – Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Roll-offs will be placed at the following locations: East Lake Maintenance facility for District II; Isle Community Center for District II-A.

District III, Lake Lena and Hinckley

Saturday, May 7, through Friday, May 13

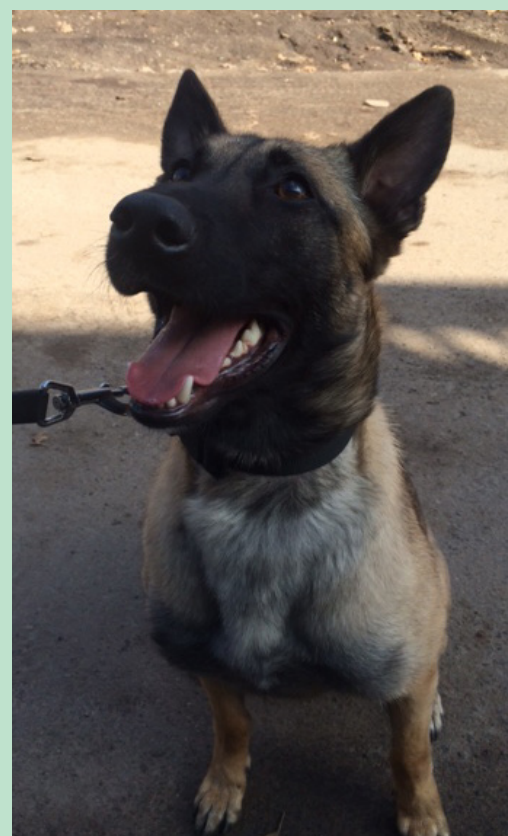
Hours of operation:

Monday – Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Roll-offs will be placed at the following locations: Four Plex on Evergreen Dr.; Earthworks building located on Hwy 48, 2 miles east of Hinckley Casino; Maintenance building in Lake Lena across from Community Center; the cul de sac at Wise Owl.

Mille Lacs Band Elders in all Districts will receive free curbside pickup for their community cleanup items. Elders must call the Public Works office at 320-532-7433 by Friday, April 10, to be placed on the list for pickup. Anyone receiving curbside pickup must have their pile at the end of their driveway. Please contact Public Works at 320-532-7448 if you have any questions or concerns about the 2015 spring cleanup! Thank you.



K-9 Sparta is the newest addition to the Mille Lacs Tribal Police. Sparta is a Belgian Malinois who is now finishing up her certification training. She will be riding with her partner Officer Cook.

TRIBAL NOTEBOARD

Happy April Birthday to Mille Lacs Band Elders!

Roland Lee Anderson
Susan Mary Antonelli
Dorothy Ann Aubid
Terry Louis Beaulieu
Jerry Jonas Benjamin
Donivon Leroy Boyd
Russell Edward Boyd
Wayne Theodore Boyd
Debra Lynn Ceballos
Sharon Lee Chavarria
Rayna Joyce Churchill
Raymond Charles Daly
Wesley Dorr Jr.
Rhonda Kay Engberg
Nancy Mae Foster
Duane Wallace Haaf
Gwendolyn Marie Hanold
Douglas Happy
Darryl Vernon Jackson
Evelyn Kegg
Raymond Kegg
Victoria Jean Kroschel
Bruce Marvin LaFave
Glenda Marie Landon-Rosado
Ada Mae Merrill
Louis Kevin Merrill
Gregory Allen Mishler
Bonita Louise Nayquonabe
Russell Daniel Nayquonabe
Donald John Nelson
Gloria Jean Nickaboine
Sherry Marie Nielsen
Jeannette Oswaldson

Ricky Harold Pardun
Gregory Allen Pawlitschek
Solita Efigenia Reum
Laurie Jean Rogerson
Lorraine Diane Sam
Darlene Rae Savage
Ruth Anne Schaaf
George Augustus Sharlow Jr.
Perry Don Skinaway
Debra Ann Smith
Marvin Lee Staples
Carmen Marie Tyler
Gail Marie Tyson
Brandon Lynn Vainio
Deanna Louise Weous
Duane Lee Wind
Eloise Alice Yanez

Happy April Birthdays:

Happy Birthday **Bear & Brandon Stuart Bearheart** on 4/1. Love, Mom! • Happy 9th birthday to **Elias Wagner** on 4/4, with love from TANK, Alizaya, Rico, Gramma Tammy, Uncle Brandon, Auntie Chantel, Jazmin, and Ahrianna. • Happy 4th birthday **Lorena "LoLo" Gahbow** on 4/8, with lots of love, hugs & kisses from Mommy, Daddy, Gammy, Benny, Joshy, Sissy, Fred Fred, Tammy, Buzz, & Jerron. • Happy Birthday **Trina Sasthorse** on 4/9, from Auntie Barb. • Happy 23rd birthday to my beautiful

baby girl, **Lisa** on 4/12. We love you, from Mom and the rest of your family! • Happy Birthday to **Juice** on 4/14, with love from Tammy, Brandon, Chantel, Jazmin, Ahrianna, Elias, TANK, Alizaya, and Rico. • Happy Birthday to **Deb Smith** on 4/15, with love from Tammy, Brandon, Chantel, Jazmin, Ahrianna, Elias, TANK, Alizaya, and Rico. • Happy Birthday to my grandson **Brandon Stuart Jr.** on 4/15, from, Grandma Barb. • Happy Birthday **Lindsay Sam** on 4/20 from Auntie Barb. • Happy Birthday **Nick Sam** on 4/22 from Auntie Barb. • Happy 10th birthday to **Sheila Marie** on 4/23, with love from Mom, Dad, Joey, Simone, Simon, Mary, Selena, Dante, Maysun, Shawsha, Soul, and Daymon. • Happy Birthday **Jada** on 4/24, love the Harrington family. • Happy Birthday **Aiva** on 4/26, love Auntie Val, Mariah, and Kevin. • Happy Birthday **Aiva** on 4/26, love Dad, Mark, Emery, Gram CC, Gram Karen, Papa Bear, Uncle Brad, Shelby Max, Aidan, Jacob, Auntie Val, Pie, Kevin, Auntie Rachel, Waylon, Rory, Jarvis, Miranda, and Jarvis Jr. • Happy 9th birthday to **Aiva Doust** on 4/26 with love from, Daddy, Grandma

Tracy, Papa Bear, Auntie Shelby, Uncle Jarvis, Miranda, Jarvis Jr., Jacob, Max, Aidan, Auntie Sharon, Uncle Wally, Melodie, Auntie Maria, Auntie Val, Baby Kevin, Uncle Brad, Uncle Bruce, Jayla, Lileah, Auntie Nicole, Jimmy, Buddy, Cordell, Ravin, Auntie Rachel, and Uncle Waylon. • Happy Birthday **Keaona** on 4/27, love the Harrington family. • Happy Birthday to my sister **Lu** on 4/27, love you! From Anna and family. • Happy Birthday to my other beautiful daughter, **Priscilla** on 4/28. Love you, from Mom and the rest of your family!

Happy Belated Birthdays:

We just want to give a special shout out to **Tammy Miller** and apologize for not having her birthday announcements for her friends/family. • Happy 5th birthday to **Cici Bugg** on 3/14. With love from: Mommy, Daddy, Grandma Tammy, Grandma Joyce, Poose, Putin, all of your cousins and aunts. • Happy 4th birthday to **Marcus Jr.** on 3/16. With love from: Mommy, Daddy, Grandma Tammy, Grandma Joyce, Cici, Putin, all of your cousins and aunts. • Happy 1st birthday **Ella Marie**

on 3/21. Love Grandma Tammy, Grandma Joyce, all of your aunts, uncles and cousins. • Happy Birthday **Daddy Marcus Bugg Sr.** on 3/21, from Cici, Marcus Jr., Donnie, Jessica, Ma Tammy, and Granny Joyce.

Other Announcements:

Graduates will be featured in the May and June issues. If you know any Band members who are graduating from high school or college, send their photos to myles.gorham@redcircleagency.com.

Submit Birthday Announcements

Send name, birthday and a brief message that is **20 WORDS OR LESS** to Myles Gorham at myles.gorham@redcircleagency.com or call 612-465-0653. *The deadline for the May issue is April 15.*

Commissioner on Call

Several years ago the Band government had a dedicated phone line for members to call during the weekend. Since that time, all Commissioners carry a phone and are reachable during the evening and weekends. Commissioners' cell phone numbers are provided below and will continue to be included in future newsletters near the monthly calendar.

Catherine Colrud, Commissioner of Administration	320-292-0258
Michele Palomaki, Assistant Commissioner of Administration	320-630-7415
Percy Benjamin, Commissioner of Community Development	320-630-2496
Suzanne Wise, Commissioner of Education	320-630-9226
Sam Moose, Commissioner of Health & Human Services	320-630-2607
Susan Klapel, Commissioner of Natural Resources	320-362-1756

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mental Health First Aid Certification Training

Tuesday, April 26 | 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
To register go to clcmn.augusoft.net or call 218-855-8118.

Grand Celebration Powwow

June 17-19
Grand Casino Hinckley

Second Annual Gii-Ishkonigewag Powwow

July 22-24
New Powwow Grounds in Minisinaakwaang (East Lake) in District II

The 50th Annual Mille Lacs Band Traditional Powwow

will be held August 19-21, 2016, at the Iskigamizigan Powwow Grounds in District I. To learn more, follow "Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Traditional Powwow" on Facebook.

Kids Crafts: Make a God's Eye

April 2, 2016, Mille Lacs Indian Museum

Time: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday

Fee: \$4 per kit (museum admission not included).

Learn how to weave a God's Eye to take home. The decorative designs are used on ceremonial shields of American Indian tribes of the southwestern United States. Allow an hour for the craft. Recommended for children ages 8 and up. For more information please call 320-532-3632 or send an e-mail to millelacs@mnhs.org.

Warrior Nation by Anton Treuer

April 16, 2016, Mille Lacs Indian Museum

Time: 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday

Fee: Free

Come by the Mille Lacs Indian Museum & Trading Post for an author talk and book signing by MNHS Press author Anton Treuer on his new book, *Warrior Nation: A History of the Red Lake Ojibwe*. For more information please call 320-532-3632 or send an e-mail to millelacs@mnhs.org.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Want your event here? Email myles.gorham@redcircleagency.com or call 612-465-0653.</p> <p>Visit millelacsband.com/calendar for additional Mille Lacs Band events</p> <p>Also see below for recurring events.</p> <p>Band Assembly meeting locations were not available when this issue went to press. Call the Legislative branch or see the calendar at millelacsband.com for information.</p>					<p>1 MN Spay and Neuter Assistance Program Aazhoomog Community Center Monthly Veterans Coffee & Treats 8:30-10:30 a.m. Minneapolis American Indian Center</p>	<p>2 Peacemaking Ojibwe Presentation 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. All Nations Indian Church Youth Powwow Dancers Potluck 12-4 p.m. DI Community Center</p>
<p>3 <i>Niswi: Three.</i> <i>Nisimidana: Thirty.</i></p>	<p>4 <i>Abinoojinh: Child.</i> <i>Abinoojiyag: Children.</i></p>	<p>5 Onamia Public Schools Parent Committee Meeting 12 p.m. ROC Band Assembly Meeting 10 a.m. PRIMARY ELECTION DAY!</p>	<p>6 <i>Aabitoose:</i> <i>It is Wednesday</i></p>	<p>7 COH Outreach (Urban Area) 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Urban Office Band Assembly Meeting 10 a.m.</p>	<p>8 <i>Bimibattoo: S/he runs.</i> <i>Gego bimibatoonken!</i> <i>Don't run!</i></p>	<p>9 Urban Elder Luncheon Meeting and Bingo 11 a.m.-2 p.m. All Nations Indian Church</p>
<p>10 <i>Izhaa: S/he goes there.</i> <i>(See page 13)</i></p>	<p>11 <i>Aaniin ezhichigeyan?</i> <i>What are you doing?</i></p>	<p>12 Band Assembly Meeting 10 a.m.</p>	<p>13 DI Community Meeting 5:30 p.m. DI Community Center</p>	<p>14 COH Outreach (DII) 9 a.m.-12 p.m. DII Community Center COH Outreach (DIIa) 1-4 p.m. DIIa Community Center Band Assembly Meeting 10 a.m.</p>	<p>15 <i>Niwiisin: I am eating.</i></p>	<p>16 Warrior Nation by Anton Treuer See p.14</p>
<p>17 <i>Nindanokii:</i> <i>I am working.</i></p>	<p>18 DII Sobriety Feast 5 p.m. East Lake Community Center</p>	<p>19 COH Outreach (DIII) 11 a.m.-2 p.m. DIII Community Center Band Assembly Meeting 10 a.m.</p>	<p>20 DIII Community Meeting 5:30 p.m. Grand Casino Hinckley</p>	<p>21 MN Spay and Neuter Assistance Program Chiminising Community Center Band Assembly Meeting 10 a.m.</p>	<p>22 <i>Miinawaa:</i> <i>And, also, again</i></p>	<p>23 <i>Omaa: Here.</i> <i>Imaa: There.</i></p>
<p>24 <i>Wiingashk:</i> <i>Sweet grass</i></p>	<p>25 <i>Waaseyaa:</i> <i>It is bright/sunny.</i></p>	<p>26 Healthy Heart Class 12-1 p.m. DI Community Center Sobriety Feast 5:30 p.m. DI Community Center Band Assembly Meeting 10 a.m.</p>	<p>27 DIIa Community Meeting 5:30 p.m. Chiminising Community Center</p>	<p>28 Urban Area Community Meeting 5:30 p.m. All Nations Indian Church Band Assembly Meeting 10 a.m. DII Community Meeting 5:30 p.m. East Lake CC</p>	<p>29 <i>To work independently on Anishinaabemowin, you can use</i> ojibwe.lib.umn.edu</p>	<p>30 Loom Beading Workshop 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Mille Lacs Indian Museum</p>

RECURRING EVENTS

Healer Herb Sam is Available in the Urban Area

Fridays, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.
 Call 612-799-2698 or stop by the Powwow Grounds, 1414 E. Franklin Ave., Mpls.

Ojibwe Language Tables

- District I Community Center
 Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.
- Aazhoomog Community Center

- Wednesdays, 6 p.m.
 – Hinckley Corporate Building
- Thursdays, 6 p.m.
 – Division of Indian Work, 1001 East Lake St., Mpls.,
 Saturdays, 10 a.m.

The First Gift Moccasin Making

Mondays, 4 p.m.–8 p.m.
 Mpls Am Indian Center — Two Rivers Gallery
 Seeking community members to join others in creating baby

moccasins for Am Indian families at Children’s hospitals & clinics of MN. Call 612-879-1700.

Open Gym

Mondays – Thursdays, 5:30–9 p.m.
 District I Community Center

Tabata Workout Sessions

Mondays & Wednesdays, 6–7 p.m.
 Chiminising Community Center



Wanted: Youth Powwow Dancers

- 6–18 years of age
- Mille Lacs Band Member or direct descendant of a Mille Lacs Band Member

Be a contestant at the 50th Annual Mille Lacs Band Traditional Powwow Royalty Contest

August 19–21, 2016

- Do you love to dance at powwows?
 - Would you like to represent your community at other powwows for a year?
 - Would you like to be a role model for other youth?
- If yes, you could be a great candidate to run for Royalty.

- Jr. Brave & Jr. Princess: 6–12 years of age
- Sr. Brave & Sr. Princess: 13–18 years of age

Deadline to sign up is August 1, 2016, but we recommend that you sign up early so you have plenty of time to complete your required hours for cultural activities.

For more information and application packets, please contact: Chasity Gahbow at 320-532-7486 or Jennifer Ballinger at 320-532-7512.

Heating, Water, and Maintenance Problems?

During normal business hours: tenants in Band rentals and Elders living within the service area should call 800-709-6445, ext. 7433, for work orders. **After business hours:** tenants with maintenance emergencies should call 866-822-8538 and press 1, 2, or 3 for their respective district.

Text Alert System Now Available

At the February community meetings, Commissioners were present to discuss the new text system that is still targeted to begin April 2016. The current listing is for general messages, such as reminders of community events. The lists are separated by district, but if you would like updates of community events for all districts, please indicate so when you call to 320-532-4181 Sara-Janie Miller ext. 4742 or Brandi Smith ext. 7709 — both are employees of Human Resources.

When you call, the following questions, may be asked:

- Do you only want your district messaging?
- Would you like to be on an Elder Band Member alert?
- Would you like to receive closing of government center, clinic, pharmacy & medical transportation alerts?
- Would you like to receive alerts about missing paperwork from other areas such as OMB and Circle of Health who routinely seek annual updates?

All divisions plan to expand upon this service, so please offer other suggestions.

Once the system is set up, you will receive a text that says something similar to: “Thank you for joining!” and you will be asked to accept this group. You will need to respond with a CONFIRM; another text will indicate you have been confirmed. This system will also allow you respond back to the department who generated the text, but you may not be replied to the same business day. If you wish to be removed at any time, just call the numbers previously provided.

Safe Harbor Tribal Summit

Mark your calendar! On May 24–25, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community will host a free conference at Mystic Lake Casino & Hotel to address the sexual exploitation and sex trafficking of Native youth in Minnesota. Featured topics include Working with Survivors, Area Resources and Coordinated Community Response. The keynote speaker is Sarah Deer, a Muscogee Nation member who teaches law at Hamline Mitchell College of Law. For questions, contact Arianna Nason at Minnesota Indian Women’s Resource Center anason@miwrc.org or 612-728-2026.

Spring Spearing and Boating Rules and Regulations Continued from p.11

Remember we are here to protect Mother Earth, so please do your part and ensure that you leave the land and water in better shape and cleaner than you found it.

SPEARING

This year, as most of you know, there will be no netting on Mille Lacs Lake; however, you will still be able to partake in the spring harvest by spearing on Mille Lacs. Here are a few rules that go along with the harvest method of spearing. As per the treaty code, a “spear” means a pole tipped with a minimum of three barbed tines which are a minimum of 4-1/2 inches long and each tine having a barb extending perpendicular which is greater than 1/8 of an inch. If you have spearing equipment on your watercraft, it is illegal to have any type of net or netting-related device onboard that watercraft. So this means please leave your nets and even your watercraft’s landing nets at home or on shore. Only registered band members that belong to the 1837 Treaty area or their immediate family members are allowed to be in the boat while spearing. In the Mille Lacs Indian reservation on Mille Lacs Lake, only Mille Lacs Band Members may harvest fish.

If you are planning on spearing or netting on a certain day or night, you must go into one of the Mille Lacs Band DNR Licensing agent offices and declare what landing you are going to be using by 11 a.m. that day. If you declare a landing and do not plan on being at that landing, please contact the on-duty Mille Lacs Band DNR Conservation Officer as soon as possible to inform us that you are not planning on coming. The landings are closed at 10 p.m. by the conservation officer if no one has showed up at that landing or has made prior arrangements with the on-call conservation officer. If a landing has been declared by someone that day, that landing is open for all Band members to utilize. If you want to go out and harvest that night, you must get your permit from a MLB DNR licensing agent or from a conservation officer, who can issue you one at the landing.

The Mille Lacs Band DNR Conservation Officers would like to wish everyone a happy spring, and we hope that everyone will have time to get out on the water or in the woods in the near future. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at the following numbers:

Mille Lacs Band DNR Office: 320-532-7439

Mille Lacs Band DNR Enforcement Office: 320-532-7439

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Circle of Health Board

Circle of Health Board is seeking new members for a financial board. The board will be comprised of one representative from each district, and two at large. We seek individuals with a strong financial background and skills to be able to make well-informed decisions regarding the financial health of the Circle of Health Program.

The board should meet at a minimum quarterly, and the meetings are rotated across all districts. If you are interested or have any questions, please call Michele Palomaki, Assistant Commissioner of Administration at 320-532-7530. The names, once collected, will be submitted to your District Representative and the Chief Executive, who will then submit names to be ratified.

Interested in submitting to the *Inaajimowin*?

Send your submissions and birthday announcements to Myles Gorham at myles.gorham@redcircleagency.com or call 612-465-0653. *The May issue deadline is April 15.*