

O J I B W E

I N A A J I M O W I N

AUGUST 2019 | VOLUME 21 | NUMBER 08

T H E S T O R Y A S I T ' S T O L D

CULTURAL ROLE MODELS

A RITE OF PASSAGE — AND MORE — FOR DISTRICT II BRAVES



Destan and Chinoodin are following in their parents' footsteps — as powwow dancers and as traditional Anishinaabe.

By Brett Larson Inaajimowin Editor

Dancing at powwows and running for royalty is a tradition for the family of Harvey and Morningstar Goodsky of Minisinaakwaang. Morningstar started dancing at age 2 and served as Princess at Mille Lacs and Fond du Lac. Harvey started at 3 and was a Brave for 15 years at Bois Forte, Fond du Lac, and Mille Lacs.

"For us, it's a family legacy, a rite of passage," said Harvey. "My dad always wanted me to be in the Brave circle."

Harvey and Morningstar's sons Chinoodin, 14, and Destan, 6, have followed in their parents' footsteps, and in 2018 became Senior and Junior Brave at the Gii-Ishkonigewag Powwow in District II. (This year's powwow took place July 26-28, after this issue of *Ojibwe Inaajimowin* went to press. See the September issue for coverage.)

Over the course of the year, they have represented their community with respect for their culture and a healthy sense of fun. It's also a valuable learning experience for the boys.

Harvey remembers how important serving as royalty was to him. "When I was Brave, I traveled to Connecticut, Louisiana, Canada, and all over Minnesota and Wisconsin. We want our kids to know that there's more to life than Mille Lacs. There's a whole wide world out there."

Chinoodin has been dancing since he was seven, and he

served as Junior Brave at Mille Lacs. He has grown into and worn out his regalia in seven years as a dancer. His moccasins are held together with duct tape, and his beadwork has been repaired and re-repaired.

He wears his regalia proudly — and not just at powwows. McGregor Schools have opened up to Anishinaabe culture in recent years, thanks to involvement from parents like the Goodskys. At least once a year, tribal members are asked to do presentations of powwow dancing and to share about their culture.

"I wore my regalia in my sixth-grade yearbook picture," said Chinoodin.

On the road

In June, the four Goodskys, along with four-year-old Harvey the Third, traveled to the 1855 Treaty Rights Powwow and Rodeo on the Yakama Reservation in White Swan, Washington.

The lessons learned and memories made will last a lifetime: In the Dakotas, the boys saw the Badlands and dust devils.

In Montana, they swam in a crystal-clear mountain stream. The water was so pure they brought some home to drink later. They also stopped to harvest sage on the side of the highway — "But first we put out our asemaa," said Chinoodin.

Braves continued on page 4

A FISH STORY WITH ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES

DNR'S FISHERIES PROGRAM STOCKS WALLEYE FINGERLINGS IN LAKES AROUND THE REGION

By Vivian LaMoore Director of Public Relations

The Mille Lacs Band Department of Natural Resources Fisheries program has come a long way since casting a line in the development of the fish hatchery in 2015. This spring, Mille Lacs Band Aquaculture Biologist Keith Wiggins-Kegg has been working closely with Aquaculture Intern Harvey Goodsky at the hatchery and giigoonh (fish) ponds. This year's giigoonh-rearing efforts have resulted in some highly successful results so far with many months to go before winter takes hold of the rearing ponds.

The DNR launched the aquaculture (fish farming) program in 2015 by designing and building a hatchery using mainly donated equipment and by purchasing other needed equipment with a modest budget of \$10,000 from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). By fall of 2017, Band biologists successfully released an estimated 3,442,000 fry into area lakes.

Keith joined the MLB DNR fisheries department in 2018. "What we've done in the short time I have been here is nothing short of miraculous," he said.

Keith earned his degree from Mount Hood Community College in Oregon. He left Oregon on a four-day journey pulling his boat and drove straight through to Mille Lacs. "I was so tired," Keith recalled. "It is great to work with this group of biologists and staff. They are all very supportive. We are building on the existing hatchery and really establishing some very unique concepts with significant importance."

Keith went to work immediately using funds from the BIA to update the hatchery with new equipment. Keith removed excess tanks, engineered a new nine-bag filtration system to eliminate debris, built a new system to eliminate gas, made new tank screens to prevent fry from escaping, installed a wood heater, constructed an aeration system, and more.

Despite all of the new improvements, in the spring of 2019, the laws of nature intervened. During the final stages of the incubation phase, a passing storm overwhelmed the new filtration system. The flow was lost, causing an ogaa (walleye) fry mortality rate of 50 percent.

Hatchery continued on page 13



More than a million ogaa (walleye) fry have been stocked in rearing ponds this year.

M E S S A G E F R O M T H E C H I E F E X E C U T I V E

Boozhoo! July has been a busy month for new legislation and exciting policy discussions. The Band Assembly proposed several legislative amendments this month to Band Statutes for the Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) (Title 18) and our Judicial Branch (Titles 1 and 5). Chi Miigwech to Speaker Boyd, District 1 Representative Blake, District 2 Representative Bruneau and District 3 Representative St. John for their hard work on behalf of the Band. Both branches of government have roles to play in the legislative process, so I would like to talk a little bit about where we are at.

There are strong merits to amending (changing) certain Band Statutes to improve Band government's ability to serve Band members effectively. At the time of printing this newsletter, in the case of three of these bills, the Band Assembly members and I are currently in what our Band laws call a "compromise hearing," which means we are discussing this legislation together and working to perfect the language so the final versions that may eventually be signed into law will achieve the most benefit for Band members. Compromise hearings are a good thing, because more time is provided to ensure language is as effective as possible and that our Band laws and processes are precisely followed. These compromise hearings are an excellent example of our checks-and-balances system working as it was intended for the Band membership.

On July 8, the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT) held a meeting at Northern Lights Casino on the Leech Lake Reservation. The MCT is currently engaged in a Title Reconciliation Project regarding Band and MCT lands, which involves pouring through thousands of historical documents housed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. A previous TEC decision to pursue legislation that would transfer title of MCT lands to the individual Band that already exercises jurisdiction over those lands on its reservation was discussed. White Earth TEC members requested that this legislative process be halted for the time being, and have proposed that MCT membership be able to vote on this question during the next TEC election in 2020. This request will be further discussed at the next TEC meeting.

A very interesting development involved an Enrollment Impact Summary Report that was shared at this TEC meeting, resulting from White Earth's discovery that 1,089 tribal members

who were reported as White Earth full-bloods in the year 1910 were reported to have "lost" their full-blood status in 1920. During the Allotment Act era, which in Minnesota was called the Nelson Act, the federal government had a strategy to break up reservation lands and turn them over to timber companies and settlers. The Nelson Act allotted, or assigned, 160-acre parcels to each "eligible" Indian. After all the eligible Indians received their allotment, the remaining land on the reservation was called "surplus" land, and sold or given to non-Indians, timber companies, and mining companies. However, Indians who were less than full-blood were not eligible for a 160-acre allotment of land. Historians believe that government officials changed the full-blood status of thousands of Indian people in Minnesota from full-bloods to 7/8 or less during those years, in an effort to collude with timber companies and others engaged in land-grabbing at the time. Many Mille Lacs Band Members also have ancestors whose blood quantum was supposedly 7/8 – which is mathematically and genetically impossible.

White Earth Enrollments Office selected five names from the 1,089 people whose blood quantum was lowered from full-blood status to mixed-race in 1920 and conducted genealogical research to determine what impact it would have today, if those five people from 1920 were restored to full-blood status. Research determined that if the blood quantum for just these five people were restored to full-blood status, the number of enrolled tribal members today whose blood quantum would change is 1,992, potentially resulting in hundreds or thousands of new tribal members across the whole MCT. Imagine if the blood quantum of all 1,089 were corrected. This is a matter that could have a significant impact on enrollment across the entire MCT, and many of our Mille Lacs Band families as well.

On July 17, representatives from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development visited the reservation and we had a good meeting about the housing needs of the Mille Lacs Band. Deputy Assistant Secretary Heidi Frechette, from the HUD Office of Native American Programs in Washington D.C., spent time touring the reservation and learning about our programs. She was extremely impressed with our Home Loan Program and three-branch system of government, and she said it was well known that the Mille Lacs Band is one of the most progressive tribes in the country. She provided information about new fund-

ing opportunities from Opportunity Zones and Veteran Housing, which Commissioner Benjamin is following up on.

I was happy to be able to attend the all-graduate celebration on July 17 and be part of honoring all our Mille Lacs Band graduates. This was a wonderful event, celebrating the successes of Mille Lacs Band members from fifth grade all the way through completing a Ph.D. I reminded each graduate that they are role models to someone else — to a younger sibling, a friend, or even to people they may have never met, so it is important to make good choices and to also surround themselves with good role models.

We held our summer meeting of the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes (MAST) on July 18-19. This was a short meeting but very productive. Federal representatives from the Indian Health Service, the Census Bureau, and Congress attended this meeting and shared important information about everything from funding opportunities to new legislation.

One of the really great moments during MAST occurred when Tyler LaPlaut, Executive Director of the Great Lakes Area Tribal Health Board, was discussing substance abuse prevention and best practices. I had made a comment about Sober Squad being a powerful force in our community. Mr. LaPlaut launched into a long discussion about how effective Sober Squad has been not just at Mille Lacs, but across the region. He had invited Colin Cash and others to the Great Lakes Opioid Summit meeting the previous week. He talked to the MAST leadership about what a powerful experience this was, and he stated that people suffering from or recovering from addiction are seeking help and staying sober with the grassroots assistance of Sober Squad, and responding to Sober Squad more than they would have ever responded to outreach from any tribal government program in the four-state area.

Mr. LaPlaut encouraged every tribal leader in the room to request to join the Sober Squad Facebook page, and immediately after, MAST President Frank Cloutier announced to everyone that he had joined that very minute. So a shout out to our MLB Sober Squad members — your wonderful work is being held up at regional and national meetings as the model for battling addiction in Indian Country! We are very proud of the work you are doing, and very grateful for your community service. Chi Miigwech!



CUCUMBER CRUNCH

On Wednesday, July 17, more than 30 youth in grades K-12 as well as the kindergarten camp kids participated in the Niigaan Farm to Summer Cucumber Crunch lunch program. The special lunch event was a collaboration between the SHIP (Statewide Health Improvement Partnership) program and Deb Foye, the Nay Ah Shing/Pine Grove Nutrition Services Coordinator. Farm to Summer is a food initiative promotion of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Also on hand to participate and observe were Jeanette Johnson-Reed of the Minnesota Department of Education and Samantha Burrington of the Farm to School and Farm to Summer Program. Students and adults alike enjoyed a delicious lunch complete with cucumbers fresh from a local farm. As part of the lunch activity, students made cucumber snakes using slices of cucumber for the body and tomatoes for the eyes and tongue.

JASMINE SCHWENSEN

A ROYAL YEAR FOR POWWOW PRINCESS

By Brett Larson Inaajimowin Editor

Jasmine Schwensen, the 2018 Mille Lacs Traditional Powwow Princess, has had a busy year. She's already traveled to the Gathering of Nations in New Mexico as well as powwows in Colorado, Washington, Wisconsin, and all across her home state of Minnesota. Along the way, she's made new friends and grown into a confident and enthusiastic young woman.

The honor is not the first for Jasmine, a jingle dress dancer who will be a senior at Onamia High School. She has already served as Mille Lacs Junior Princess and as Senior Princess for Onamia Schools.

She also learned to sew this year, taking a class from Band member Adrienne Benjamin. "That was my first time making a dress by myself," said Jasmine.

She was planning on keeping the dress she made, but then decided to sell it when she was in Washington to help pay for travel expenses.

The young girl who bought Jasmine's dress was all smiles. "It made me happy to see her happy," said Jasmine.

To run for royalty, candidates need to fill out an application packet and prepare a speech — preferably in Ojibwe. At the Mille Lacs powwow, they are expected to participate in the Saturday morning parade to show the committee that they can represent the Band at a variety of events.

One of her favorite roles as Princess is to serve food to Elders. "It makes me happy to see them happy," said Jasmine.

You can see a theme emerging: Jasmine loves to see others smile, and as a powwow dancer, she has many opportunities.

Hearing the beat

Although jingle dress dancing may look simple to the uninitiated, there's a lot to it. "You have to make sure you dance in time to the drum and your feet are on the ground during the honor beats," said Jasmine. "And you have to make sure your



jingles are in time with the drum, so you have to listen carefully to your jingles and the drum at the same time."

Jasmine's sense of rhythm will help her in college, too, where she plans to pursue music. Jasmine loves to make new beats on her phone, write lyrics, and listen to hip hop and K-pop. She's looking at music programs in Chicago, St. Louis, and Minneapolis.

Jasmine's advice to young dancers is to watch the women who dance the style they're interested in, whether it's traditional, fancy shawl, or jingle. "I like to see what they do and then put my own twist on it," said Jasmine.

Growing in confidence

"One thing that has changed is that I'm more confident speaking out," said Jasmine. Her mom, Christine Pewaush, has encouraged her to step forward and speak in a loud voice.

Christine couldn't be prouder of her daughter's accomplishments. "I'm happy that she chose to follow in her mother's footsteps as a jingle dress dancer," said Christine, who was also a Mille Lacs Powwow Princess. "Her dad (Sheldon Schwensen) and I are behind her 100 percent."

Jasmine will crown her successor at this year's powwow at the Iskigamizigan Powwow Grounds in District I. "It will make her happy, and that will make me happy," Jasmine said, repeating her mantra. "I just hope I'm tall enough!"

After growing into her role over the last year, Jasmine has nothing to worry about.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

The Mille Lacs Band Assembly has had a busy month, working on updating statutes, amending the Band's 477 Plan, and hearing reports on the Band's finances.

Band Assembly is considering changes to Title I and Title 5 of Band Statutes to allow for the hiring of additional judges to help with cases in Tribal Court.

Band Assembly is also considering changes to the 477 Program. The 477 Program, established by U.S. Public Law 102-477, authorizes tribal governments to consolidate programs from the Department of the Interior, Department of Labor, Department of Education, and Department of Health and Human Services into a single plan, approved by the Secretary of the Interior, to foster employment and economic development in Indian Country.

The Band's plan is up for reauthorization and contains a new wrinkle designed to help families and individuals through development of language-learning materials. The plan, which requires approval by Band Assembly, uses federal dollars to develop a Rosetta Stone language-learning application for Ojibwe.

Commissioner of Administration Baabitaw Boyd, who has been advocating for the change, said the proposal grew out of conversations with Elders, native speakers of Ojibwemowin, and community members.

She was also influenced by 15 years of experience working at funerals. She has witnessed many Band members participating in ceremonies with little understanding of the culture and language.

Band Assembly has also heard reports on the Band's investments from Merrill Lynch and Morgan Stanley.

Band Assembly meetings are open to all Band members. Your representatives encourage you to attend! See the calendar on page 15 for details.

REPRESENTATIVE BLAKE HOSTS COMMUNITY PICNIC

It's a summer tradition in District I: An old-fashioned summer picnic with games, music, and a barbecue, hosted by District I Rep. Sandi Blake. This year's event on July 10 drew hundreds of Band members to the powwow grounds. Photos by Band member Rhonda Mitchell.



STATE AND LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS

Ancient mounds in urban conflict: American Indian groups are in favor of a St. Paul park plan to reroute trails, but neighbors aren't so supportive. The city plans to realign paths away from mounds at Indian Mounds Park in an effort to treat the mounds with respect. Franky Jackson, compliance officer with the Prairie Island Indian Community, said, "In our community, Indian Mounds Park is a cemetery and should be treated as one," he said. Marjorie Pitz, who enjoys walks on the paths, said, "It's the power of the place that made those burial mounds be placed there. The power of the place should be available to anybody who visits the park." Source: [startribune.com](#).

Mille Lacs Band recognized at annual Humphrey School awards: A collaboration between the Minnesota DNR, the Mille Lacs Band, the University of Minnesota, and the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council was one of 10 winners in the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School State Government Innovation Awards. The project created a recurring annual workshop called Tribal Cultural Landscapes and Natural Resources Management. Over the last two years, 60 state, county, federal, tribal, industry, and private natural resources managers and educators have attended the workshop. Source: [twin-cities.umn.edu](#).

State launches landmark law to fight opioid crisis: A new Minnesota law is expected to raise \$20 million a year to fight opioid addiction by raising fees on companies that make powerful prescription painkillers. The legislation directs state funding to a number of programs and services in the coming year, including continuing education for providers who prescribe painkillers and a state grant program for overdose prevention. About \$670,000 will go to law enforcement efforts. Programs aimed at non-narcotic pain management, including traditional healing services in American Indian communities, will receive millions of dollars in new funding. Source: [startribune.com](#).

Tribal leaders say Walz and Flanagan have lived up to promises: Tribal government leaders, American Indian legislators, and advocates say that so far, the administration of Governor Tim Walz and Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan is living up to its vow to partner with tribes. Among their accomplishments: millions in annual funding for tribal contract schools, a Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Task Force, and \$2 million a year for traditional healing to combat opioid addiction. Source: [startribune.com](#).

Story of possible record muskie draws attention to tribal fisheries: A post shared by the Mille Lacs Band DNR on its Facebook page drew over a quarter million views — 10 times more than any previous social media post by the Band. The post included a photo of a 61-inch muskie stunned by Mille Lacs Band biologists during electrofishing surveys this year. The story was covered by dozens of media outlets across the country, including all four major television news stations in the Twin Cities. The muskie was released unharmed, and if caught by hook and line could set a new world record. For the complete story, see [millelacsband.com/news](#).

Stay up to speed on news from Indian Country at [millelacsband.com/news](#).



Left to right: Shay Bilchik, Director of the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform at Georgetown University's McCourt School of Public Policy; Stefanie Youngberg, East Central High School Principal; Sydney Silko, Assistant Pine County Attorney; Heather M. Wynn, District Court Judge; Terry Fawcett, Pine County Probation Director; Carla Big Bear, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe; Reese Frederickson, Pine County Attorney; Andrew Almos, East Central Schools Superintendent; Jill H. Adams, Senior Research Fellow with the Center for Juvenile Justice Reform. Not pictured: Mille Lacs Tribal Police Chief Sara Rice.

PINE COUNTY WINS JUVENILE JUSTICE AWARD

Band members Carla Big Bear and Sara Rice attended a July 15 awards ceremony in Washington D.C., where Pine County's juvenile justice program, Project R.I.S.E., received the 2018 Capstone of the Year Award from Georgetown University. The ceremony was held in the historic Riggs Library at Georgetown University in Washington DC.

Carla and Sara were instrumental in the development of Project R.I.S.E.

Project R.I.S.E. was created by a team from Pine County, East Central Schools, and the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe. The goal of the project, according to Pine County Attorney Reese Frederickson, is to keep juveniles in the county systems from becoming adults in the criminal system.

The team spearheaded many initiatives, including juvenile restorative justice, in-school truancy court, hiring a cultural

community coach, writing data-sharing protocols, rewriting school discipline policies, identifying and addressing the needs of cross-system youth, and forming an evening reporting center.

Other jurisdictions have wanted to learn about the success of Project R.I.S.E. Reese and Probation Director Terry Fawcett have spoken about the program around Minnesota and in other states. "I've considered my involvement in Project R.I.S.E. as one my proudest accomplishments," said Reese. "It's been a lot of work, but it's also been an adventure — one where we've changed lives and I've formed many great friendships with team members."

He expressed thanks to the community, the schools, the Band, and the county.

Braves continued from page 1

In Idaho, they visited the Coeur d'Alene Reservation, the setting for the film "Smoke Signals." (Chinoodin ordered the Grand Slam at Denny's.)

The powwow itself taught the boys about the culture and language of other tribes. Dancers went counter-clockwise around the circle, parents carried children as they danced, and women sang with men at the drum.

Destan learned to sing some songs in the Yakama language. He's become a gregarious young Brave, sitting in with drum groups and talking with other children as well as adults. He even got to sing with the Black Lodge Singers.

The meaning of powwows

Destan has been working on an essay stating why he is running for royalty. "I want to be Brave so I can travel to new places," wrote Destan.

"I like making friends, too," Chinoodin added. "We talk when we're waiting behind the veterans and the head dancers. Sometimes somebody will say, 'Hey, weren't you at that

other powwow?'"

Most importantly, traditional powwows are all about giving, according to Harvey. "Powwows were part of our system of commerce," he said. "Someone from another tribe might come and take home some wild rice, and leave behind something from his land."

That spirit of giving led Chinoodin and Destan to give away their regalia after last summer's powwow.

"I like seeing the smiles on the Elders' faces when we bring them food," said Chinoodin. Destan said he likes carrying the heavy plates — two at a time!

"We want them to be role models of a traditional lifestyle," said Morningstar.

Chinoodin has seen some of his friends go down a dangerous path of drinking, drugs, and inflicting harm on others. To him, those aren't traditional ways. "As Anishinaabe, we take only what we need, and we have respect for all people, all Nations," said Chinoodin. "I want to show that to others. That's another reason why I want to be Brave."

COMMISSIONERS RECEIVE 2020 CENSUS UPDATE

Shelly Diaz, the Band's Urban Liaison, gave an update to Mille Lacs Band commissioners on July 15 about the 2020 Census. Shelly is working to ensure that all Band members are counted in the census, which determines how much federal funding goes to the Band. "We have the right to be counted," said Shelly. "If we're not counted, we're not exercising our sovereignty."

Native American tribes and other historically under-counted groups are working together by sharing important facts about Census 2020:

- The census is one of the ways that we can hold the government accountable for erasing us by showing them that we exist and getting the resources we deserve.
- The census proves our existence. If you are not counted, you are invisible. Invisibility means fewer resources are distributed in your area. Your participation in the census helps your neighbors and community as well.
- We hear you: Our government has misused information in the past. BUT it is currently illegal for anyone's individual information to be shared.

Shelly was featured with other Census 2020 activists in an article in the July 2019 issue of *Minnesota Monthly*.



DELEGATES RECEIVE TRAINING IN MCT CONSTITUTION

MCT Constitutional Convention delegates received a crash course on the MCT Constitution from Tadd Johnson and Syngen Kanassatega in July. The purpose of the training was to give the delegates a better understanding of when, how, and why the Constitution was created.

"It is a lot of information to wrap your head around," said Tadd Johnson. "It is a challenge to take hundreds of years of information and sum it up in a few hours."

Understanding the current Constitution is necessary as delegates consider whether or not amendments should be made. The constitution training was given to provide knowledge to the delegates so they in turn will be able to explain it to whom-ever has the desire to know.

"We know we are not going to be experts," said Birdie Roberts. "We want to learn so we can tell others and add to the conversation. We want to get a pulse check from the community to see what the community wants and understands so that they can make an informed decision."

The delegates are formulating ideas to "get the community engaged" so the community can then "inform us as to how they want us to proceed," Birdie said.

Background

The Constitution was written in the 1930s by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and approved by members of the six member bands of the MCT.

It was later revised, but in recent years, members of the MCT Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) agreed to hold a Constitutional Convention to consider amendments to the existing Constitution or a new Constitution.

The Constitutional Convention officially began last fall with the choosing of 10 delegates from each reservation. Meetings are held at rotating locations on the six MCT reservations on the third Friday of each month.

For ongoing updates, links to helpful materials, and copies of the MCT Constitution and other documents, visit <https://millelacsband.com/government/statutes-policies/constitutional-convention-information>.



Syngen Kanassatega and Tadd Johnson provided training for the delegates at two sessions in July.

Or simply go to millelacsband.com and look for the link to Constitutional Convention Information.

Please share your ideas with the delegates from your district: District I, Danielle Smith and Curt Kalk; District II, Michael Davis and Tom Benjamin; District III, Birdie Roberts and Maria Costello; Urban, Al Olson.

See the article below and future issues of *Ojibwe Inaajimowin* for more information on delegates.

"WE WANT TO GET A PULSE CHECK FROM THE COMMUNITY TO SEE WHAT THE COMMUNITY WANTS AND UNDERSTANDS SO THAT THEY CAN MAKE AN INFORMED DECISION."

— DISTRICT III DELEGATE BIRDIE ROBERTS

MEET YOUR DISTRICT III CONVENTION DELEGATES!

In this issue and upcoming issues of *Ojibwe Inaajimowin*, Constitutional Convention delegates will share information about themselves and why they choose to participate in the Conventions. This month, District III delegates Bernadine 'Birdie' Roberts and Maria Costello are featured.

Bernadine 'Birdie' Roberts — Secretary

Why did you decide to be a delegate? I saw this as a great opportunity to learn our government's history — how and why we became part of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe.

What was the Constitution's original purpose, and does it serve our purpose today? The committee is working diligently to put together information about the Constitution. Our goal is to provide this information to every Band member so we as a community can determine what parts of the Constitution should be revised and what parts can stay the same.

This was done the same way back in the 1980s. The Mille Lacs Band created a committee to revise the Constitution and included all Band members by holding public hearings for three years. The final version was a consensus of the Band community, done in a traditional way by asking for input from the community.

And what did the community revise within the MCT Constitution? The outcome of that effort in the 1980s was our form of government. We went from an RBC (Reservation Business Committee) form of government to a division of powers government with Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches.

In a speech to the MCT's Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) in 1980, Chief Executive Art Gahbow said, "Mille Lacs Band leadership felt there were inherent limitations and risks of the Business Committee structure, with all power vested with one body. Band leadership wanted Band government to be more

responsive to the needs of the people, to allow the people to participate, to report to the people, and, ultimately, be accountable to the people."

Maria Costello — Assistant Secretary

Why did you decide to become a delegate? I would like to help create something that will benefit my children and generations to come. I want to make sure my children will have a future and that their children will too. I am eager to learn and understand the MCT Constitution and how the Mille Lacs Band fits within it. I want more Band Members to be involved with this process. The people are the power.

It is very important for me to fully understand the MCT Constitution, how the Mille Lacs Band fits into the MCT, and what is working and not working for our community under the Constitution.

Personally, I also feel that our current Constitution is outdated, and it needs to be updated to match the modern time we live in with a focus on our traditional beliefs.

What do Band members need to know about the Constitutional Convention? People are the power; with everyone's voice, we can make change where it needs to happen. We need Band member involvement; this will make the Constitutional Convention successful. We have a very organized delegation, but without the people we will not get anywhere, so I encourage everyone to get involved, ask questions, voice your concerns, and help us make the changes necessary.

The biggest issue I have experienced is that the Band members don't really know what the MCT constitution does for the Mille Lacs Band, so we as a delegation will need to educate our communities first.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Insulin bill aims to bring down cost: A bill introduced by Minnesota Senator Tina Smith aims to help those who need insulin now and can't afford to pay for it. The Emergency Access to Insulin Act, which was co-sponsored by Sen. Kevin Cramer, R-N.D., sets up a grant program that states and tribes can apply for. The grant program will give federal money to the state or tribe that sets up its own program to allow its residents or members to receive emergency access to insulin. The bill also sets up a fee for companies that overcharge for insulin. The funds created from the fee will sustain the grant program. *Source: Duluth News Tribune.*

Bill seeks to strip Medals of Honor from soldiers who massacred Native Americans: Three House members have introduced a bill calling on Congress to strip Medals of Honor from 20 soldiers who participated in the Wounded Knee Massacre of 1890. Rep. Deb Haaland, a member of the Laguna Pueblo and co-sponsor of the Remove the Stain bill, said the trauma and pain of Wounded Knee run deep, as tales of the massacre are passed down. She said the legislation "shows that our country is finally on its way to recognizing the atrocities committed against our Native communities." *Source: washingtontimes.com.*

California governor apologizes for genocide: California Governor Gavin Newsom formally apologized to the state's Native Americans and pushed the state to reckon with California's dark history of violence, mistreatment, and neglect of Native Americans, saying it amounted to genocide. The Democratic governor met with tribal leaders at the future site of the California Indian Heritage Center, where he also announced the creation of a council to examine the state's role in campaigns of extermination and exploitation. Mark Macarro, tribal chairman of the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians, said, "To hear an apology like that today from the head of this state sets a new tone." *Source: pressdemocrat.com.*

Infrastructure in Indian Country needs to be 'fair and equitable': The Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States held a hearing yesterday on "Tribal Infrastructure: Roads, Bridges, and Buildings," which began more than an hour after the original start time due to a larger than usual number of votes needed to be taken on the House floor. Chairman Ruben Gallego, D-Arizona, said roads in Indian Country rank among the most underdeveloped and under-maintained roads in the United States. Red Lake Nation Chairman Darrell G. Seki Sr., discussed how the BIA has failed to assist his tribe in repairing public safety buildings and their tribal roads system. *Source: Indian Country Today.*

Beth Drost sworn in as first female chair of Grand Portage: Beth Drost, a 41-year-old former park ranger, was elected chair of the Grand Portage Band in a July 1 special election. Drost received 173 to 121 for Vice-Chair Marie Spry. "What motivated me to run was that I felt I could step up," Drost said. "I had the experience to perform some of the leadership duties that the Band needs right now." The special election was called after the passing of Chairman Norman Deschampe, who had served on the Council for 45 years. Drost was sworn in on July 11. *Source: Indian Country Today.*

COLE PREMO

MAKING HIS MARK IN MUSIC, TV

By **Toya Stewart Downey** Mille Lacs Band Member

Mille Lacs Band member Cole Premo is one of the few Native American journalists who work for one of the daily news organizations in the Twin Cities.

It is a professional achievement that is especially notable considering that Cole has been in his post for more than a decade — even as the number of Native journalists working in the mainstream media has declined during that same time frame.

Cole, 32, got his start as a journalist when he participated in the Emma L. Bowen mentorship program, which was designed to introduce media careers to students who come from diverse backgrounds. He landed a spot at WCCO-TV in the summer of 2005 and participated in the program for four summers while enrolled at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. During that time, while majoring in English literature and new media studies, he learned how the news business works, and then landed a job at the station.

Now, more than 10 years later, Cole says, “I’ve written stories about everything, and I’ve witnessed the evolution of social media.”

In his role as a web producer, Cole writes breaking news stories, edits scripts for reporters, edits and cuts videos, and engages social media audiences.

Cole is also dedicating his time and talent to Indian Country with his freelance work for Minnesota Native News and a new podcast he hosts with his sister, Leah Lemm, “Native Lights: Where Indigenous Voices Shine.”

Cole says the work he has done for the past year with Minnesota Native News “keeps him accountable and allows him to engage with the Native community.”

“I’ve done stories on the homeless encampment, missing and murdered Indigenous women, and other five-minute stories for the site.”

Cole’s work and contribution to telling the stories of Native people hasn’t gone unnoticed. He recently took second place for Minnesota Native News for his story, “Minnesota Historical Society Works With Tribes on Historic Sacred Site.”



Cole Premo recently won 2nd place in the hard news category (radio) at the Minnesota Society of Professional Journalists’ 2019 Page One Awards.

At the 2019 Midwest Journalism Conference, Cole served on the panel “Covering Indian Country: How is Indian Country being covered in mainstream media in 2019?”

The early years

Cole was born in Minneapolis — where he still lives today — but was raised in Anoka. He graduated from Anoka High School, where he was active in the district’s Indian Education program. It was there he learned about the Emma Bowen Foundation and began to explore a career in journalism.

While he wasn’t certain that becoming a news guy was the path for him, he was always into writing poetry and creative writing. That led to songwriting and allowed Cole to indulge his passion for music.

He started playing guitar when he was 10. He played the blues — an interesting choice for a kid — and classic rock. He loved Jimi Hendrix and Stevie Ray Vaughan. He took lessons and he taught himself both electric and acoustic guitar.

He got pretty good and as a teen played in local bars with his music teacher. He continued to play with original bands while in high school and throughout college.

He honed his singing skills in middle school and high school and was talented enough to land a spot in the all-state choir.

SIBLINGS LAUNCH PODCAST

Cole Premo and his sister Leah Lemm were featured in *Minnpost* July 18 in an article about the July 16 launch of their new Native Lights Podcast. The show, a production of Minnesota Native News and the radio network Ampers, spotlights personal stories from Native American guests.

In the first episode, the hosts interview Leech Lake comedian Rob Fairbanks, known as the “Wiener Water Soup Man.” Leah told reporter Tiffany Bui that she thought her father (District III Elder Bill Premo) was a professional comedian growing up because of his spot-on humor. “I’m always thankful when people share themselves with me,” Leah said. “It’s more than looking for a story or something entertaining, it’s sitting down and visiting with people ... drinking coffee, eating lunch. The story will come, but putting the person first is my goal.”

Cole added, “I just think this is a podcast where you’re going to listen to stories and people in a more intimate way than you have before, and you can’t get that anywhere else.”

You can find the podcast at <https://www.blubbry.com/nativelights/>.

Cole still plays in bars and other venues in both his own band and cover bands. He plays the lead guitar and sings for his own music, as well as joins in on other Twin Cities groups, like “The Teddy Holidays” and “Sexy Delicious.”

In 2013, Cole finished his first album, which included a full band and has a distinct soul/R&B vibe. His second album was recorded with a friend and has a more electronic flavor. Up next is his work recording a single that will turn into a full-length album.

Cole loves when his two worlds — journalism and music — come together. Such is the case now as he’s working on a Bob Dylan documentary with work friends at WCCO.

Lessons learned

Like other Band members who live away from the Reservation, Cole had to learn how to navigate in two different worlds. In Anoka he was one of the few Native students and when he was on the “rez” he was considered a “white boy” by some.

“You have to learn how to find your voice and use it in some way,” he said. “Find a way to contribute to your community and your family. We all have to be aware of our own resources and find a way to use them.”

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH

ALWAYS MOVING, ALWAYS CAMPING

By **Jim Clark**

This article by the late Jim Clark was first published in the Mille Lacs Messenger. It is reprinted here to help preserve his teachings for the next generation.

The Anishinaabe — what we Indian people call ourselves — were sometimes referred to as nomads, and for a good reason. Before the arrival of the Europeans, there was a lot of area for animals and people to live. Making a living was no problem for the Anishinaabe. They lived in one area until their sources of food, animals, wild plants, material for dwellings, and wood for heating was getting scarce. Then they would move to where these living sources were better.

When the European people arrived, the Anishinaabe had to find a way to make a living. That was to work for the white man. When the Anishinaabe found a job, they would move and camp closer to work. Very few Ojibwe Anishinaabe had horses. Lack of transportation was another reason they had to camp out.

Camping out for a whole season went something like this: first it was the sugar camp. When that was over, it was home for a little while to clean around the house and prepare for planting. Around that time, the ceremonies would start, so they would move to the ceremonial site for a couple of weeks. Then it was pulpwood time. They would move to the wood pulp camp and remain there until the blueberries ripened. During this time, the

people would go check on their homes on weekends and maybe do some work on their gardens. Sometimes after blueberries were done, the people would move home and stay for a couple of weeks or until the rice was ripe. Then it was off to the ricing camp. After ricing, instead of going home, they looked for work helping the farmers harvest their crops. There they camped on the farmers’ land. By the time crops were harvested, it was too cold to camp anymore, so at last they moved home to work on their gardens and for the kids to go to school.

During the winter, the men hunted. Sometimes they would carry a blanket and stay out in the woods all night. A blanket, a small pot for tea, and bread — it’s nice by a big fire all night. No one does that anymore. Too bad!

Of course, the Anishinaabe spoke their own language during this time. Now we have a written language, too. To give you an idea of what our written language looks like, here is the first paragraph of this column again, this time in Ojibwe:

Eniwek isa apane gaapimigozid a’aw Anishinaabe. Misa waago imaa besho endaad gego wii ano kaadang giishpin igo niizho gon wii tazhii kang waa ina no kiid miigo booch iwidi kawe gaa izhi gozid iwidi wii nibaad. Maagizhaa i’wii g’aa zig bemiwingod mii apane gaa onji bimi gozid.

KIM SAM

BREAKING THE CYCLE

By Brett Larson Inaajimowin Editor



Kim Sam has been part of the recovery movement at Mille Lacs for nearly 15 years.

“YOU HAVE TO BE WILLING TO SURRENDER, TO ADMIT YOU HAVE A PROBLEM. CHANGE HAS TO COME FROM INSIDE YOU.”

— KIM SAM

Kim Waabiishkebiikwe Sam has been a central figure in the recovery movement at Mille Lacs since she set off on her true path — the Red Road to Wellbriety — on February 5, 2005.

Although back surgery four months ago put her on the sidelines, she is now back at work at the men’s halfway house and planning to pick up where she left off.

When Kim accepted a three-year grant position as Prevention Specialist in 2015, the main goal was to bring the teachings of Wellbriety to the reservation. She recalls meeting Don Coyhis, the founder of the White Bison/Wellbriety movement, who came to Mille Lacs to introduce his philosophy. Kim was impressed. “I was just drawn to him,” she said.

Kim was telling her story to Don when his assistant came up to tell him his microphone was still on. Kim had been telling her story to the whole crowd.

“Are you okay with that?” asked Don.

Kim laughed. “The moccasin telegraph is strong!” she said.

The good old days

Kim was raised in District I on both sides of Highway 169. She attended elementary school at Vineland until the school closed and students were bused to Onamia. Kim’s grandparents, Frank and Starry Skinaway, helped raise her, along with her mother Roberta and father Leonard Sam.

In those days, the roads were gravel and the streetlights few and far between. No one locked their doors. Kim remembers dancing at Fort Mille Lacs, where she spent a lot of time with O’mudwe, Lucy Clark, in the cool of the wigwam. “She would put me in the ‘baby’ swing even though I was teased that I was too big for it,” said Kim. When she’d get mad at her parents or grandparents, she’d say, “I’m going to run away and live with O’mudwe!”

One night she was staying at the home of a friend, whose mother sent Kim home after dark due to their alcohol use. Kim was followed by a bear, and she got so scared she put her fist through the window in her mother’s door. “I think he was just curious,” she said, “but I thought he was chasing me!”

She also remembers saving up a dollar with her Auntie/Sister Wanda so they and their friends Bonita and Beverly could dance at the old dance hall during Big Drum ceremonies.

Fond memories aside, things weren’t ideal on the reservation. “Children see, children do,” said Kim. “There was a lot of alcohol abuse.” Like many of her peers, she experimented early, going out drinking during her teenage years. Kim earned the trust of her grandparents through earning great grades in

school. That led to a lot of free time, and a teenage pregnancy.

In 1975, she was part of a group of students who walked out of Onamia High School to protest the unequal treatment of Native students. “That is how Nay Ah Shing schools were created,” she said. “It started with a full-time school on the reservation called the Cultural Learning Center, which eventually became a ‘school within a school’ as part of Onamia High. We stood up against what was happening, including physical abuse from staff and administration.”

Kim returned to Onamia for her junior and senior years. She played powderpuff football and basketball, with her baby girl watching from the sidelines. After graduating in 1979, she worked as a Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) bookkeeper with Marge Anderson as her boss. When these programs were closing, she moved to find work in the Twin Cities, California, and Las Vegas, where her mother was living.

Loneliness and pain

As the years passed, Kim’s use and abuse of alcohol continued due to her own unresolved and unspoken pain.

Kim has learned that most people who become addicted to alcohol or drugs are dealing with pain, guilt, loneliness, and unresolved trauma. For Kim, it was her parents’ divorce, “continuing the cycle” by having her grandparents take care of her daughter, and many deaths of family and friends that caused her to turn to alcohol.

She quotes addiction specialist Gabor Mate, who says the question is not “Why the addiction?” but “Why the pain?” Kim’s other favorite Wellbriety quotes are “Hurt people hurt people” and “When sleeping women awake, mountains move.”

Kim remembers an early intervention attempt by her family, but she wasn’t ready to admit she had a problem. During those years of alcohol abuse, she was always making excuses and blaming others for her behavior, Kim said. She went through treatment, but her sobriety didn’t last. Eventually, DWI convictions resulted in two years at Shakopee women’s prison.

At a support group while she was still in the Mille Lacs County Jail, Kim recruited her sponsor Kelly, who visited her in prison and sent her recovery books and letters.

Still, prison was a lonely and difficult experience. When her daughter and grandchildren came to visit, prison rules only allowed two hugs per person: one when they entered and one when they left. It was especially tormenting when Kim’s grandma Starry passed away and Kim was denied furlough to attend

the funeral.

Kim graduated from a program called “Changing PATHS” (Prisoners’ Attitudes Toward Healthy Sobriety). “That was my wakeup,” she said. “Mothers week and confrontation group especially strengthened my recovery.”

The value of recovery groups is that you learn you’re not alone, and you learn to talk about your own grief and sadness as you hear others tell their stories. Kim is grateful to people like Carol and Lloyd, Doug Eagle, and Pat Provo for their involvement in Alcoholics Anonymous meetings on the reservation. Those leaders who came before her laid the groundwork for the contributions Kim has made.

“Giving back is an important part of the program,” she said. “I believe in paying it forward.”

Paying it forward

Two Elders who paid it forward for Kim were O’mudwe’s daughter Dorothy Wewenabiikwe Sam and Skip Churchill, who helped her return to her culture and traditions. “Getting back to my culture has helped me maintain sobriety,” said Kim. “Dorothy is the one who helped me to take care of a pipe. The sweatlodge teachings I share come from her.”

Skip led her through Mide ceremonies at Aazhoomog. “Once you meet him he’s your friend forever. You see how invested he is in our way of life, teaching how our traditional medicines help our people.”

Kim has given back in countless ways. Her calendar over the years has been full. Before her back surgery, Kim was attending meetings, support groups, sobriety feasts, and sweat lodges on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Kim pursued and received training from the Minnesota Recovery Connection, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA), and Mille Lacs Area Partners for Prevention (MAPP), which have provided education and networking.

The Wellbriety Institute and White Bison teachings are her main guide as she facilitates Mothers and Daughters of Tradition, Fathers and Sons of Tradition, Mending Broken Hearts, and Celebrating Families. The programs are rooted in Native American traditions and have helped countless people find healing.

For Kim, the key to recovery is internal: “You have to be willing to surrender, to admit you have a problem. Change has to come from inside you.”

That change has broken the cycle for Kim and her daughter Valerie, whose story ends with a valuable lesson: “It’s never too late for those seeking help today!”



EAST LAKE PET CLINIC

The District II pet clinic at East Lake Community Center on June 29 and 30 was another huge success! Fifty surgery slots were filled each day, and many pets received wellness checks. Thanks to Mission Animal Hospital, Second Hand Hounds, Emergency Management Coordinator Monte Fronk, and Morningstar and Amanda at the East Lake Center, who helped with registration. The next clinics will be in October in District III and November in District I.



GRADUATION CELEBRATION!

High school, college, graduate school graduates honored at luncheon at Grand Casino

Photos by **Bradley Roache Jr.** *Mille Lacs Band Member*

Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin was the keynote speaker at a luncheon for graduates held at Grand Casino on July 17.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2019 GRADUATES!

High school diploma: Nicole Smith, Isabelle Rushmeier, Carlos Saice, Thomas Trail Jr., Grace Doffing, Alexander LaFontaine, Alyssa Potter, Jewel Davis, Danita Kegg, Cordell Anderson, Taylor Nadeau, Rachel Wind, Lonnie Bellecourt Jr., Shaina White, Raquel Maurstad, Hazel Buckanaga, Molly Bohanon, Enrique Perez, Frederick Mitchell, Stefanie Smith, Tierra Day, Rhea Eagle-Cash, Meghan Merrill, Katelyn Mitchell, Amanda Eagle, Bailey Woommavovah, Taylor Woommavovah, Dezerrey Greenleaf Gordon, Lia Weyaus, Ronni Jourdain, Kelly Hill, Jonah Hill, Sandra Smith, Sergio Romero, Chaska Spears, Kendra Benjamin, Mykal Garbow, Kayana Bearheart, Marlana Staples, Jennie Mitchell

GED: Tes Sam, James Eubanks, Terrell Sam, Marvin Staples Jr., Tanya St. John, Matthew Smith, Khasiti Day, Jerry J. Benjamin, Michael Azure Jr., Susan Potter, Anthony Nesseff Jr., Yolanda Boyd, Raymond Sayers

Associate's: Ellen Roth, Amy Kubat, Ashley Goldrick, Patricia Hill-Potter, Kyrah Thompson, Morningstar Goodsky, Colin Eagle, Charice Eubanks, Melissa Goede, Ariel Swist, Jayvon Garbow

Bachelor's: Travis Earth-Werner, Keith Modglin, Sean Dorr, Nathan Sutton, Michelle Emery, Simmi Faamamafa

Master's: Rosa Colton, Mary Colton, Chandell Boyd, Sandra Christmas

Doctorate: Benjamin Sam, David Mager

Certificates: Jennifer Smart, George Pendegayosh, McKenzie Reynolds, Howard Johnson, Joseph Nadeau, Tanya Bruneau, Ryan O'Brien, Anthony Costello, Jenny Waugh, Robert Sam Jr., Christine Smith, Heather Benjamin, Shannon Garbow



MLCV SUMMER INTERNS LEARN BUSINESS SKILLS

On Monday, July 8, 17 Mille Lacs Band students from Onamia, Isle, and McGregor began a summer internship workshop with Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures (MLCV). The program teaches business skills to the interns as they learn about career paths that are within their own community.

The student interns are learning new business topics each week and practicing a more group-focused approach to enhance team-building skills, communication skills, and presentation skills.

The internship will wrap up with each summer intern giving a final presentation as part of their teams to share what they have learned and applied throughout the workshop. All the presentations will happen on Tuesday, August 6. More information about these students will be shared in future issues of *Ojibwe Inaajimowin*.



Students are learning about team-building, presentations, and communication at Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures this summer.

NINHAM NAMED INTERIM NAY AH SHING PRINCIPAL



Byron Ninham said he appreciates the support of the Education Department leadership.

Byron Ninham, director of the Band's Niigaan program since 2014, was named interim principal of Nay Ah Shing High School on June 29. The additional duties of Nay Ah Shing Principal will be added responsibilities during the interim period along with Niigaan restructuring.

"I am extremely honored to take on a more defined leadership role within our tribally controlled schools on an interim basis," said Byron. "The opportunity we have to make a continuous impact in our community is knocking at the door. I plan to support attainable goals and establish benchmarks within academic and leadership teams in both schools. We plan to assess our school culture while also aligning within the school's overall plan. I'm looking forward to the opportunity and will be diligent in my efforts."

Byron is an enrolled member of the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin. He grew up in Bemidji and attended college at the University of Minnesota Duluth, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies with an emphasis on policy and management. Byron has spent the majority of his adult life working in education supporting the development of young people in and around Minnesota.

Byron said he greatly appreciates the support of the Education Department leadership, including Commissioner of Education Joyce Shingobe and Nay Ah Shing Abinooyiyag Principal Lehtitia Weiss. Byron lives in Pierz with his wife, Amy Ninham, and three children, Arianna (19), Adeline (4), and Miles (1).



REDUCING RISK

The Tribal Emergency Management program provided CPR/AED training at an all-day training at Wewinabi Early Education on July 12, at District I Community Center on July 16 (pictured), and with Family Violence Prevention Program staff on July 18. For information on CPR/AED, Basic First Aid, Fire Extinguisher Training, Car Seat Training, and free car seats and fire alarms, contact Emergency Management Coordinator Monte Fronk at 320-532-3430.



GAAWIIN INGA-MAAJAA'AASIIN A'AW ANISHINAABE JAYAAGIZOND I WILL NO LONGER BURY ANISHINAABE THAT ARE CREMATED

By Lee Staples Gaa-anishinaabemod Obizaan
and Chato Gonzalez Gaa-anishinaabebii'ang Ombishkebines

This article was originally published in the April 2014 issue of *Ojibwe Inaajimowin*. It is reprinted here to give Band members a chance to reflect further on Obizaan's teachings.

Mii dash o'ow noongom waa-ni-dazhindamaan, eshkam ni-noondawaa a'aw Anishinaabe a'awsa ani-dazhindang i'iw misawendang-sa da-jaagizond azhigwa eni-ishkwaa-ayaad. Ishke mii a'aw wayaabishkiwed ezi-wiindang i'iw cremation.

What I want to talk about today is that more and more I hear Anishinaabe express their desire to be cremated upon death.

Ishke ogotanaawaa imaa anaamakamig wii-nanaa'ingagaazowaad naa biinish gaye inow manidoonsan ogosaawaan da-amogowaad imaa megwaa imaa anaamakamig ayaawaad biinish gaye imaa da-ni-wenjisewaad, mii o'ow wenji-misawendamowaad da-jaagizondwaa.

They are afraid to be buried underground and also afraid of

the bugs that will eat them while they are underground. They also view it as being less expensive to be cremated. These are reasons why people want to be cremated.

Ishke dash omaa niwii-wiindamaage iko ani-maajaa'iweyaan gaawiin indizaasiin iwid i'ijibayakiing. Mii-go imaa gii-ni-giizhiitaayaan imaa ezi-anonigooyaan i'iw akeyaa da-niizhichigeyaayan. Mii o'ow gii-ni-maajaa'imag inow ojichaagwan a'aw gaa-ishkwaa-ayaad. Mii iwid azhigwa ani-bima'adoonid i'iw miikinsens gaa-miingooviziyang anishinaabewiyang geniizhaayang gegoo eni-izhiwebiziyang.

I want to talk about when I do funerals. When I complete the ceremony I do not go to the cemetery for a reason. I have completed what I have been asked to do. After I have completed the ceremony, the spirit of that individual leaves and is on his way down that path that we as Anishinaabe take when something happens to us.

Ishke dash iwid azhigwa ani-ningwa'igaazod a'aw Anishinaabe, mii eta-go o'wiyaw imaa anaamakamig eyaamagadiginig.



Gaawiin imaa ayaasiwan inow ojichaagwan. Mii iwid animba'adoonid inow ojichaagwan i'iw miikanens. Gaawiin a'aw Anishinaabe oadaa-gotanziin imaa manidoonsan da-amogod. Ishke gaawiin imaa ayaasiin, mii iwid inow ojichaagwan giini-maajaanid gii-ni-maada'adoonid i'iw miikinsens gaa-miingoowizid a'aw Anishinaabe da-bimiyaad biinish iwid da-ni-dagoshi-moonod ayaawaad gidinawemaaganinaanig.

When Anishinaabe is buried it is only their physical body that is underground. Their Spirit is no longer there. Their Spirit is traveling down that path. Anishinaabe should also not be afraid of the bugs that will eat them. Since in actuality they are not there. Their spirit has left and is going down that path that we were given as Anishinaabe to follow until that point we arrive where our relatives are.

Ishke niwaabandaan moozhag imaa ani-dazhinigaadeg imaa mazinaatesijigang anawhiikobinind a'aw bemaadizid o'ow akeyaa da-ni-jaagizond azhigwa gegoo izhiwebizid. Ishke dash omaa niwii-ayaangwaamimaa ingiw niiji-anishinaabemag o'ow-sa gegoo da-ni-izhichigesiwaa i'iw akeyaa. Gego da-debetawaasiwaanaan a'aw wayaabishkiwed. Ishke gaawiin gidaaaniwendanzimim i'iw akeyaa gaa-izhi-doodaagooyang ishkweyaang Anishinaabe gegoo giini- izhiwebizid. Mii-go ge-ni-ayaangwaamitooyangiban gego gidaa-wii-wanishkwe-bidoosiim gaa-izhi-gikinoo'amaagoowiziyang. Mii dash i'iw weweni-go iwid da-ni-dagoshimoonoyang eniizhaawaad ingiw gidinawemaaganinaanig.

I have seen advertisements on TV promoting cremation. I strongly encourage Anishinaabe not to be cremated. We should not believe the white man. We should not view the way that we have been given as being inadequate and to continue what our ancestors have always done. We should not disturb the teachings we have been given, which assures us that we will go where our relatives go when they leave this world.

Ishke nigotaan niin da-wanishkwebidooyaaambaan i'iw akeyaa gaa-izhigikino'amaagoowiziyang anishinaabewiyang da-nanaa'ingazaoyaaambaan omaa akiing. Ishke a'aw Manidoo ayaa omaa akiing. Naanaawayi'ii imaa nanaamadabiwan inow Manidoo apane ani-asemaakawaad a'aw Anishinaabe. Ishke dash mii inow Manidoo gaye ani-mino-doodawaad imaa ani-achigaazod imaa anaamakamig azhigwa gegoo eni-izhiwebizid a'aw Anishinaabe.

I am afraid to disturb the way we have been taught as Anishinaabe to be buried in the earth. See, there is a Manidoo there in the earth. He sits in the center of the earth and is the one that Anishinaabe frequently offers their tobacco to. Anishinaabe is being respectful to this Manidoo by being placed in the ground when something happens to him/her.

Mii dash omaa wii-ni-wiindamaageyaan, gaawiin geyaabi niwii-maajaa'aasiin a'aw Anishinaabe gayat gaa-chaagizond maagizhaa gaye waa-chaagizond azhigwa omaa anigizhiitaang maajaa'iweng. Mii imaa ani-jaagizond awiya mii imaa ani-wiindamawangwaa ingiw Manidooq ani-aaniwendamang gaa-izhi-gikinoo'amaagoowiziyang da-ni-izhichigeyang. Gaawiin niin niwanishkwebidoosiin i'iw gaa-izhi-gikinoo'amaagoowiziyang.

This is where I am letting it be known that I am no longer going to do funerals where a cremation is involved, whether the body is cremated prior to the funeral or will be cremated after the funeral. When we cremate our Anishinaabe relatives we are telling the Manidoo what they originally taught us is insufficient. I will not disturb our teachings.

Niibing...

nimawinzomin. Aabita-Niibino-Giizis gemaa Miini-Giizis izhinikaazo w'aw giizis. Ninandawaabamaag ingiw gozigwaakominagaawanzhiig, miskominagaawanzhiig, ode'iminagaawanzhiig, bawaa'iminagaawanzhiig, bagesaanimagaawanzhiig, idash miinagaawanzhiig. Niimigwechiwendamaag.

When it is Summer...

we pick berries. Halfway-Summer-Moon or Blueberry Moon (July) she is called this moon. I look for them those juneberry bushes, raspberry bushes, strawberry bushes, pincherry bushes, plum bushes, and blueberry bushes. I am thankful for them.



Bezbig—1

OJIBWEMOWIN (Ojibwe Language)

Double vowel system of writing Ojibwemowin.
—Long vowels: AA, E, II, OO
Gemaa—as in father
Gaye—as in jav
Gaawin—as in seen
Adgopowin—as in moon
—Short Vowels: A, I, O
Idash—as in about
Imaa—as in tin
Omaa—as in only

Particles

Add these with no inflections. They're adverbs, conjunctives or exclamatory!

- A glottal stop is a voiceless nasal sound as in A'aw.
- Respectfully enlist an elder for help in pronunciation and dialect differences.
- dash: idash—and gemaa—or ganabaj—maybe, perhaps baanimaa—later, not until a certain time gaye—also apii—when, at the time geyaabi—yet, still mamaawi—together miinawaa—again mewinzha—long ago gego—don't

Niizh—2

Circle the 10 underlined Ojibwe words in the letter maze. (Translations below)

- A. Waabigwaniin, oginiin, ogininagaawanzhiig.
- B. Nimaamiganaanan iniw miinan idash bawaa'iminan.
- C. Niwii-chiibaakwaadanaan iniw baashkimiinisiganan.

A G E D
P F A S A O
I K T Y L G R
S G U N E I B I
I I M I I N A N Q
I I G V M J I I B
N N I N C I B W H L X
H D E W F N X I A G K Z
W A A B I G W A N I I N
O S G E Y A A B I G J Y
I H N I N G I T I G E D

- D. Nawaj waabigwaniin, apisiin, nesobagak, idash anaaganashkiin.
- E. Gaye ningitig dash ninaajimijime niibing.
- F. Mindimoyeyag geyaabi manash-kikiwesag.
- G. Giin dash? Ganabaj gaye giwii-ktitge.

Niswi—3

IKIDOWIN ODAMINOWIN (word play)

Down:

- Together
- S/he is named so
- More
- Sit!

Across:

- Raspberry
- Here
- Long ago
- Flower
- Blueberry
- Far

Niwiin—4

Nawaj Particles & Phrases

apane—always, continually
Ambe.—Come.
Amanj idog.—I am not certain.
Bekaa!—Wait!
gaawin wiikaa—never
omaa—here imaa—there
waasa—far
bangi—a little bit, few
Inashke!—Look!
Miigwech!—Thanks!

Goajitoon! Try it! Translation below.

- Mamaawi Ojibwemowin _____!
- _____ waasa iwid! Giwaabamaa na maang?
- Anishinaabeg, miigwech _____!
- _____ omaa! Namadabin imaa adoopowining.
- _____! Daga ikidon miinawaa, miigwech.

- Bekaa!
- miinawaa
- Inashke!
- apane
- imaa
- Ambe!

Translations:

Niizh—2 A. Flowers, roses, rose bushes. B. I gather up those blueberries and pincheries. C. I will cook them preserves. D. More flowers: violets, clover, and ferns. E. Also I garden and go get food when it is summer. F. Elder women still gather medicine. G. And you? Perhaps also you want to garden.
Niswi—3 Down: 1. Mamaawi 2. Izhinikaazo 5. Nawaj 7. Namadabin Across: 2. Miskomin 4. Omaa 6. Mewinzha 8. Waabigwan 9. Miin 10. Waasa
Niwiin—4 1. Together speak Ojibwe always! 2. Look far over there! Do you see the loon? 3. Ojibwe people, thanks again! (can be "you're welcome" too) 4. Come here! Sit there at the table. 5. Wait! Please say it again, thank you.
There are various Ojibwe dialects; check for correct usage in your area. Note that the English translation will lose its natural flow as in any foreign language translation. This may be reproduced for classroom use only. All other uses by author's written permission. All inquiries can be made to MAZINA'IGAN, P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861.

AROUND THE RESERVATION

AUGUST EVENTS AT MILLE LACS INDIAN MUSEUM

Kid Crafts — Dream Catcher: Saturday, August 3, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Learn how to weave a dream catcher to take home. The dream catcher is a woven web believed to protect the dream world of the person who sleeps beneath it. Please allow an hour to make the craft. Recommended for ages 8 and up. Cost: \$5/kit, museum admission not included.

Ojibwe Moccasin 2-Day Workshop: Saturday and Sunday, August 3-4, 2019. Make a pair of Ojibwe-style leather moccasins in this two-day workshop. A light lunch will be provided on Sunday only. The workshop runs Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This workshop is recommended for ages 14 and up. Children under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required. Cost: \$75 (Minnesota Historical Society and Mille Lacs Band members save 20 percent), \$40 supply fee.

A small number of tickets may be available for this workshop. Please contact the museum at 320-532-3632.

59th Birthday Celebration: Saturday, August 10, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Help celebrate the Mille Lacs Indian Museum and Trading Post's 59th birthday! Explore the exhibits, including the popular Four Seasons Room with life-size dioramas, then head next door to shop for American Indian arts and crafts at the Trading Post. Refreshments will be provided. Cost: Included with \$6-10 museum admission/MNHS members free.

Fun Run: Sunday, August 18, 9-10:30 a.m. Iskigamizigan Powwow Grounds. Head to the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe's Annual Powwow to join the Mille Lacs Indian Museum's annual one-mile Fun Run. Run or walk a mile across the powwow grounds to claim a free T-shirt. Cost: Free.

Open House: Sunday, August 18, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Explore the Mille Lacs Indian Museum and Trading Post during the annual open house when the historic site is open for special Sunday hours and offers free admission. Visit the exhibits, including the popular Four Seasons Room with life-size dioramas, then head next door to shop for American Indian arts and crafts at the Trading Post.

OFFICE OF SPECIAL TRUSTEE AT DISTRICT I POWWOW

Representatives of the Department of Interior's Office of Special Trustee will be available to meet with Band members and other tribal members at the Mille Lacs Powwow on August 16-18.

The informational booth will provide services to Mille Lacs Band members and other MCT Band members in attendance. Services will include:

- On-site IIM (Individual Indian Money) Account lookup/verification.
- Locate potential IIM account holders that have Trust Money/Trust Land Interest(s) attached to an IIM account that are on our whereabouts-unknown list.
- Information on the Land Buy Back Program to any MCT band member as well as non-band members that may hold land interest(s) in Fond du Lac or Bois Forte.
- Information on Estate Planning, Probates, IIM Accounts.

Fond du Lac Land Buy Back Tribal staff will also be present to address any land buy back questions for Fond du Lac land owners who may be in attendance.

FAMILY SPIRIT HOME VISITS HELP GROWING FAMILIES

Helping first-time families navigate the realities of parenting is the goal of the Family Spirit Parental Maternal Child Health program conducted through home visits with the Mille Lacs Band Public Health department. The program has grown in the last year due in part to the passion for public health brought by Claudia Muntiferung, RN, PHN.

Claudia graduated from nursing school in 2001. She began her full-time nursing career as a public health nurse in 2002. "I have been a public health nurse ever since then," she said. "I love my job," Claudia said. "It is my passion."

Claudia is a registered nurse and a public health nurse. While she has worn many hats in her career, she is most proud of her role as coordinator of the Maternal Child Health Program and Family Spirit Program for Mille Lacs Band Public Health.

"When I started here in November 2018, there were only four clients at first," Claudia said. "Now we are at capacity of 25 clients."

The work on the MCH program began for Claudia at the ground level by developing and building relationships with Pine County and Mille Lacs County public health teams as well as growing her already established relationships with Minnesota Public Health teams to obtain the Trifecta grant — a partnership with the Mille Lacs Band and Pine and Mille Lacs counties.

The curriculum used for the Family Spirit Parental Maternal Child Health program was developed by Johns Hopkins Center for American Indian Health. The program is broken down into 64 models that can be customized to individual client needs, Claudia explained. "There are various lessons clients can choose, such as Infant Care; Your Growing Child; Toddler Care; My Family and Me; and Healthy Living; for example," Claudia explained. "The best part for the clients is they get to choose which lessons most fit with their needs."

Claudia conducts the initial assessment of the client's needs and what they would most like to concentrate on from the evidence-based home visiting. "The curriculum is structured to delineate everything we need to teach a growing family starting from infancy," Claudia said. "For instance, scheduling. Often times new parents/mothers have a difficult time with infants' eating and sleeping schedules. The program helps them to track daily activities by the hours — when baby sleeps, when baby eats, when baby is awake, and so on. By tracking this, the

family has a vested interest and can then focus on meal times, weight, diet, sleep, and creating a schedule. They are proud of what they have learned."

After the first assessment visit, the program is turned over to the home visits. "We are very lucky here. Our Home Visit counselors are great at what they do. In District I, Renee Bayerle does the home visits; District II home visits are done by Kathy Nelson; and we have an opening in District III."

The home visit counselors have built strong relationships with the clients they serve, according to Claudia. Building relationships based on trust is key to success in the program.

Educating teens

On the horizon for Claudia and the Mille Lacs Band Public Health team is conducting presentations in the schools. Education is key for making good choices. "This program doesn't tell kids they are bad. It just helps to educate them to give them the tools they need to make good choices to lower the risks of sexually transmitted diseases and teen pregnancy," Claudia said.

Also to be included in the school programming is information on where teens can find help if they need to.

She also sees mobile immunization clinics to be able to go into each district and help families with immunizations to get them compliant with all wellness checks. Also available are car seats and booster seats, car seat clinics, and pack-and-play cribs for kids.

Her ultimate goal for presentations in the schools? "There are so many health discrepancies in Native American communities. One issue leads to another issue. Truancy for instance. When kids don't go to school, they find other things to occupy their time, which can lead to recklessness and take them down a less-than-desirable path. Education is key. If you don't have the tools to make informed decisions, you can't take care of yourself. If you can't take care of yourself, how can you take care of a baby? The ultimate goal is education."

The fundamental pillar of Public Health is prevention. "We are here to teach and educate with a goal of preventing a crisis situation. Clinics take a more crisis-oriented look at situations and health. Both avenues are important for the health of our communities," Claudia said.

REGISTER NOW FOR A FAMILY GOLF OUTING IN AUGUST!

Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures is currently accepting registration for its sixth annual family golf outing. This 9-hole scramble will take place on Sunday, August 11, with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. at the Grand National Golf Club in Hinckley.

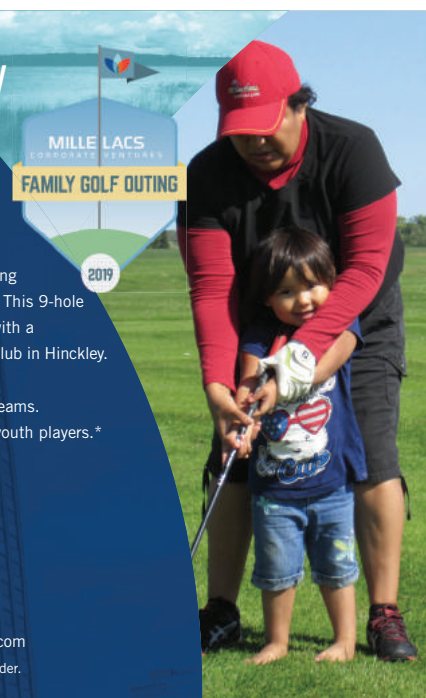
Registration is free and is limited to the first 36 teams. Teams must be comprised of two adults and two youth players.*

Here's a look at the prizes:

- Youth games
- Cash prizes
- Golf balls, tees and MLCV water bottles!

To register your team, please contact
Beth Gruber at 320-532-8810 or bgruber@mlcv.com

*Youth players are considered those 17 years of age and under.



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT IS AUGUST 6 AT INDIAN MUSEUM

Following last year's successful National Night Out event at Eddy's Resort, organizers were eager to offer a followup at a new locale — the Mille Lacs Indian Museum in District 1. The event begins at 5:30 p.m. and ends at 8 p.m.

Site Manager Travis Zimmerman has also offered free admission to the museum for the evening.

This free event includes inflatables, food, and the chance to visit with friends from the Mille Lacs Tribal Police Department, Mille Lacs Tribal DNR, Mille Lacs Area Partners in Prevention, Tribal Government Affairs, Onamia Police Department, Onamia Fire Department, Mille Lacs Band Wildland Fire Fighters, Mille Lacs County Sheriff's Department, Niigaan, and more.

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. This is a drug- and alcohol-free event.



Food, games, and inflatables are all free at National Night Out.

THE URBAN OFFICE IS ALSO HOSTING A NATIONAL NIGHT OUT EVENT AUGUST 6 FROM 4 TO 7 P.M. SEE PAGE 13.

FIFTY-THIRD ANNUAL

MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE TRADITIONAL POWWOW **AUGUST 16, 17, & 18, 2019**

ISKIGAMIZIGAN Powwow Grounds
WEST SIDE OF LAKE MILLE LACS
12 MILES NORTH OF ONAMIA, MN.
ON HWY 169, FOLLOW SIGNS!

CO-MC's
Mike "Migizi" Sullivan LCO
Bradley "Nazhike-awaasang" Harrington MLB

Host Drum
Red Willow East Lake

Co-Host Drum
Pipestone LCO

Invited Drum
Badgers LCO
Stonebridge Grand Portage

Arena Directors
Eric Gahbow MLB
Dino Downwind MLB

Specials
Womens Old Style Jingle Dress
Women's Bagesi "Dish Game"
Men Woodlands
3 on 3 Basketball Tournament
Moccasin Tournament
Horse Shoe Tournament
Funrun Hosted by the Mille Lacs Indian Museum

ZIIBAASKA'IGANAGOODAY: The Jingle Dress at 100
An Exhibition at the Mille Lacs Museum. Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the "Healing Dress", and its powerful impact on our communities.

Royalty
Sr. Princess
Jr. Princess
Sr. Brave
Jr. Brave

Grand Entries
Friday - 7 p.m.
Saturday - 1 & 7 p.m.
Sunday - 1 p.m.

For more information contact:
Co-chair
ANTHONY "ZHAAWANOSE" PIKE:
Tony.Pike@millelacsband.com

Food & Craft Vendors Contact:
Co-chair
Tammy "Ogimaagiihigookwe" Smith:
Tammy.Smith@millelacsband.com

WHY HOUSING MATTERS

By Berni Johnson-Clark
Mille Lacs Band Member



Growing up in an apartment most of my childhood, and living in rentals most of my adult life, owning a home wasn't something I ever thought could happen. Honestly, I wasn't sure I wanted to be a homeowner anyway because of the responsibilities.

While I write this I'm thinking about our list of house repairs and projects: the sewer guy was here recently to clean out our basement drain and kitchen drain — something we need done every few years; the plumber is coming to replace our outdoor water spigots; the garage person is coming to replace our opener; and last fall we replaced our garage door. This summer we have plans to update our kitchen (counter tops, sink, and appliances only because a complete kitchen remodel isn't in the budget), and we will be replacing all windows and patio door (this is why we can't do a complete kitchen remodel — priorities!). Sounds like fun, huh? Maintaining a home isn't always fun, but it is necessary. I've lived in this home for 15 years! It's been the longest I've lived anywhere. It's home to me.

That's a benefit of owning your own home. Stability. Responsibility. Home. That's why housing matters. We are fortunate to have a Home Loan Program that provides us with a very reasonable mortgage and a Home Renovation Loan Program for when we need to make expensive repairs or want to renovate our current home. I used the renovation loan 11 years ago to replace two major mechanicals (furnace and water heater), replace the rooftop deck, completely remodel the main bathroom, and update light fixtures.

As a licensed real estate agent with Keller Williams Integrity Realty, I enjoy helping buyers and sellers. Who knew that this girl who grew up living in rentals most of her life, who became a homeowner in her late thirties, and who didn't see herself owning a home, now helps people with the biggest financial decision of their lives? When I moved into my home and brought my sister over, we were sitting in the basement and she looked at me and said, "Mom would be so proud of you." I think she would be, too. If you have a dream to own your own home one day, let's talk. I work in the Twin Cities metro area but can connect you with great realtors wherever you live. I'd love to help you make your dream come true!

Berni@KorbyHomeTeam.com or my cell phone: 651-226-2275

If you are a Band member who owns or runs a business, or if you would like to share your expertise with other Band members, please submit your story to news@millelacsband.com.

DROP US A LINE!

News tips are always welcome, and *Ojibwe Inaajimowin* now has an easy-to-remember email address: news@millelacsband.com. Submit stories, photos, corrections, and suggestions by email, or call 320-495-5006.

Ojibwe Inaajimowin is produced monthly by the Mille Lacs Band's Government Affairs Department.

GRAND CASINO EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

BAND MEMBERS SHARE WHAT THEY LOVE ABOUT WORK

Name: Wanetta Thompson,

Waabishkaanakwadookwe

Clan: Marten

Length of service with Grand Casino: 28 years

Position: Assistant General Manager

Education: Bachelor's in Business

Family: Husband Anton, daughters Laikora, Kyrrah, and Tourrie.

Hobbies: Bingo, spending time with family.

First Job: Summer youth, Casino blackjack dealer.

Previous Job: Dishwasher at Country Kitchen.

What is the one thing you would rather do instead of going to work on Monday? I love my job! I love working for Grand Casino.

What are you most proud of as a Band member working for Grand Casino? That the work we do has helped our tribe build infrastructure and has taken care of all Band members through distribution (per cap).



Name: Raenelle Jolene Weyaus, Bebaamaashiikwe

Clan: Waabizheshii

Length of service with Grand Casino: 4-1/2 years

Position: Blackjack dealer

Family: Husband Jereck, daughters Larissa and Lia, son Corbin, and beautiful twin grandbabies Saya and Jaisen.

Hobbies: Beading, spending time with family, snuggling.

First Job: Summer youth worker.

Previous Job: Receptionist at Community Development.

Other than your current position, what would be your dream job? To own a photography studio.

What is the one thing you would rather do instead of going to work on Monday? Spend time with all my family.

What are you most proud of as a Band member working for Grand Casino? Just being a Band member and able to have numerous opportunities.



50th Annual Minnesota Indian Golf Classic

August 10-11 2019
Tianna Country Club
Walker | MN
8:30AM Tee time
Registration \$150.00
Increased Payouts

- Saturday Night Shootout
- Master Skins

Men and Women Categories for:

- Longest Putt Scotty Cameron Putter
- Longest Drive \$250.00
- Closest to the Pin Set of Irons

Register Online at: tinyurl.com/MNIGC2019

Minnesota Indian Junior Golf Classic

FREE Entry for Juniors
August 9, 2019
Sandtrap Golf Course
Cass Lake | MN

For more details on the MN Indian Golf Classic:
leroy_fairbanks_jr@yahoo.com or search "Minnesota Indian Golf Classic" on Facebook

For more details on the MN Indian Jr. Golf Classic:
levi.brown1231@gmail.com or call 218.308.0806

Hotel Room Block available at:
Northern Lights Casino Hotel and Event Center
call **1.844.554.2646** for reservations.

EARLY EDUCATION OPEN HOUSE, WELLNESS EVENT

Mille Lacs Early Education is hosting a Wellness Event and back-to-school open house on August 27, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Wewinabi Early Education building in District 1.

Programs and services in attendance include SHIP, WIC, vision screening, hearing screening, lead screening, hemoglobin screening, well child checkups, immunizations, and more.

Current and up-to-date well child checkups are requirements for the state of Minnesota, Early Head Start, and Head Start.

If you need a well child checkup or immunizations at the event, please contact Arlene Selander at 320-532-7590, ext. 4435, or arlene.selander@millelacsband.com. Appointments are limited and on a first-come, first-served basis.

TELEMETRY OPEN HOUSE DURING WAHKON DAYS

The Mille Lacs Band's Fisheries Program will share information about its telemetry study on August 17 from noon to 3 p.m. at the Government Affairs Office at 135 North Main St. in Wahkon.

Stop by for lunch and to visit with the fisheries team. Fisheries equipment will be on display, and telemetry study presentations will take place at 1 and 2 p.m.

CREATIVE NATIVE CALL FOR ART

The Center for Native American Youth (CNAV) in partnership with the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) and Indian Country Counts is excited to launch the 2nd Creative Native Call for Art!

This year's theme focuses on the Census, and what 'belonging' and 'counting' means to Native youth.

For eligibility requirements and submission guidelines, go to <https://cnay.worldsecure.com/docs/Rules%20%26%20Guidelines.pdf>. Submissions are due at 11:59 p.m. EST, August 9, 2019. If you have any questions, please contact Tashia Arnold at tashia.arnold@aspensinstitute.org or call 202-464-4332.

MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES AND FINANCING USES:	APPROVED BUDGET FOR FY 2019	EXPENDITURES THROUGH 6/30/19	% OF BUDGET EXPENDED
Administration (1)	20,696,617	12,724,771	61%
Department of Labor	22,256,153	3,328,380	15%
Judicial	2,395,725	914,497	38%
Department of Justice	7,960,844	3,959,661	50%
Education	19,407,875	12,587,182	65%
Health and Human Services	35,014,741	20,480,666	58%
Circle of Health Insurance	5,720,000	3,708,073	65%
Natural Resources	11,012,548	7,388,013	67%
Community Development	65,414,521	24,447,262	37%
Gaming Authority	5,332,641	3,283,437	62%
Bonus Distribution	38,028,247	35,483,230	93%
Economic Stimulus Distribution	3,299,000	3,295,332	100%
TOTAL	236,538,912	131,600,504	56%

(1) Administration includes chief executive, administration, finance, legislative, government affairs, and district operations.

(2) Casino operations are not reported above; however, they do include government operations funded by casino operations.

(3) The financial statements of the Band are audited every year by an independent public accounting firm. Audit reports from previous years are available for review at the government center upon written request.

(4) Economic Development appropriations have been excluded as of October 31, 1997.



Harvey Goodsky and Keith Wiggins have been working at the Band's hatchery this spring and summer. The stocking process is delicate in nature, Keith said. Captured by 4-by-6-foot fyke nets, the young ogaa are transferred to a quarantine tank for 24 hours. "We need to make sure that no invasive species are introduced to the lakes and ponds we are stocking," Keith said. Keeping the young of the year ogaa isolated in fresh water will ensure filtration of any spiny water fleas and other possible invasives.



Hatchery continued from page 1

Despite the loss, 1,000,000 ogaa fry still survived. These fry were successfully stocked into three of the six rearing ponds and are currently 1.5 to 2.5 inches long.

Keith was mainly assisted this spring by Harvey Goodsky, the DNR's aquaculture intern. Harvey was attending Fond du Lac Tribal College fulfilling basic academic courses. He knew his ultimate goal was to gain an education and work in a field that was culturally significant such as education or language study. When he saw the aquaculture internship position open up, he said he thought it would be a good opportunity for the summer.

"I come from a very culturally traditional family. I sing and dance, my children all dance. Our Ojibwe culture is very important to me and my family. I was drawn to the job description because of the word 'culture,'" Harvey said. "I really didn't know what to expect. But I really enjoy it. I am learning something every day. I know all of these things are important because walleye and the lake are such an important part of our culture."

Keith and Harvey have been busy this spring and summer keeping the hatchery healthy and studying specific issues that affect the health of not only Mille Lacs Lake, but other area lakes as well.

"I have assisted with sub-sampling for aquatic invasive species to work towards preventing the spread of AIS," Harvey said. "At the hatchery, I work with maintaining egg jars and have learned how to keep out ICH (a fish disease caused by the ciliate protozoan *Ichthyophthirius multifiliis*), fungus, and mold. The hatchery and all projects and equipment associated with it, such as jars, tanks, and filtration, have to be monitored every day." Keith, Harvey, and the fisheries team attend to the hatchery and ensure all projects are monitored multiple times a day, every day, even on weekends.

After the fertilized eggs hatch, 1,000,000 fry were stocked into three of the six rearing ponds as well as 1,000 muskie fry.

Fathead minnows were also stocked into the ponds to feed the growing fish. Starting in July, fingerlings were stocked into area lakes within the 1837 Ceded Territory lakes. Stocking of the lakes and ponds will continue into the fall. Lakes that have been stocked include Mayhew, Pierz-Fish, Lehman-Hidden, and Captive. If time allows, Shakopee, Sullivan, and Platte may be stocked as well.

The netting process has been successful. Survival rates of ogaa fingerlings after harvest can vary from 50-70 percent in the summer due to the heat; however, the fisheries team is seeing greater success having roughly a 95 percent survival rate. "I actually need 100 non-living ones so I can dissect them to study under a microscope for any invasives. But it makes me happy so many are surviving," Keith said. The invasive species studies are being conducted with help from other DNR interns as well.

The fishery team is helping to ensure sustainability of the ogaa for future generations. In addition to the Elder and youth pond in D1, they are formulating plans for a fishing pond at East Lake stocked with ogaa. The East Lake fishing pond would provide fishing opportunities to Elders and youth.

By the end of the internship, Keith explained, Harvey will have been a part of the entire ogaa-rearing process, including sampling, egg and milt harvesting, fertilization, hatching, and releasing fry and fingerlings this fall. Harvey said he has found something he is really excited about. He is now considering a career in the environmental science field and possibly fish and wildlife conservation and biology.

"This is important to our culture. I will be able to bring what I learn back to help our community," Harvey said. "Plus, it is really cool."

For more information, visit the fishery team at an open house on Saturday, August 17, in the backyard of the government affairs office in Wahkon from noon to 3 p.m. Presentations on the fisheries telemetry study will be given at 1 p.m. and again at 2 p.m.

WEWINABI INC. UPDATE

GRINDSTONE LAUNDRY IN DISTRICT III IS HIRING

Last month, we introduced you to our fast-paced laundry facility located in Hinckley. We continue to recruit employees for all shifts, and on July 22, 2019, we increased the entry level wage to \$12 an hour for the first shift and \$12.50 for the afternoon shift.

We currently only have a few Band members who work at this location, so we would love to see new team members from the community. As a Band member, you still remain eligible for an incentive program that provides a bonus payment after every 500 hours you complete. This is comparable to making \$15 an hour.

SUPER MENU AT SUPER STOP

Did you know we have pizza options at our Super Stop location? Simply call ahead and we can arrange for you to pick up your to-go pizza along with many other options. We also have breakfast options, which include our top seller, Cinnobabies. We hope to see you at the store, and don't forget that we can add you to our text alert program, where you can be notified when we have pizza specials like 2 for \$20. Please call our office at 320-738-1039 to provide your information.



August 2019 Coupon PLU 3001

Redeem this coupon for

1 – Everyday Essentials Loaf of Bread

or

1 Bag of Buns Everyday Essential Hot Dog or Hamburger

**valid with any order of \$50, not to include cigarette sales

AROUND THE RESERVATION

URBAN OFFICE NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AUGUST 6

The Urban Office is partnering with Aanjibimaadizing for a carnival-themed National Night Out event from 4 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 6. There will be a dunk tank, bouncy castle, popcorn machine, cotton candy machine, face painters, book bingo, color wheel, plinko, grilled hotdogs, basketball pop-a-shot hosted by Minnesota Timberwolves reps, door prizes, and more. The Fire Department and local police are expected to attend as well.

WEEKEND WOODLAND CONFERENCE

Learn to find and use wild plants for traditional food and medicine with Ethnobotanist Linda Waataa'b Bishop at Chiminising Community Center on Friday and Saturday, August 23 and 24. The event kicks off with a presentation, demonstration, and discussion Friday evening and concludes with a plant walk on Saturday at 10 a.m. A buffet meal will be provided on Friday and a continental breakfast on Saturday.

For more information or to register, email colleen.mckinney@hhs.millelacsband-nsn.gov. Please remember to bring asemaa/tobacco for your personal ceremonial use. This event is funded by the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe/Minnesota Department of Health SHIP grant.

HEALTH FAIRS COMING IN SEPTEMBER

Dates have changed for Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Health and Human Services Health Fairs. Save these dates!

Tuesday, September 17, Meshakwad Community Center, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wednesday, September 18, East Lake Community Center, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Thursday, September 19, District 1 Community Center, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Friday, September 20, Chiminising Community Center, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information, email colleen.mckinney@hhs.millelacsband-nsn.gov.

BATTERER'S INTERVENTION PROGRAM

The Batterer's Intervention Program, part of the Mille Lacs Band's Domestic Violence Program, is working to create change in our community.

The Mille Lacs Band Behavioral Health Department offers group programming for men and women. Programming is free to Mille Lacs Band members and those meeting the Band's Direct Service Policy. Programs meet criteria for supervised release, probation, and Mille Lacs County Domestic Violence Court.

Meetings take place weekly at the Public Health Building. Contact Desiree at 320-532-8909.

WATCH FOR GLIFWC, DNR AT MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

The Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission and Mille Lacs Band DNR will have a booth at the Minnesota State Fair to share information about the tribal harvest, the Band's telemetry study, and other topics. Watch for more information at facebook.com/millelacsband.

SUBMISSIONS WELCOME!

Ojibwe Inaajimowin is always looking for submissions from Band members! Compensation is available for stories and/or photographic coverage of tribal events. If you're interested in submitting a story or covering an event, please call 320-237-6851 or email news@millelacsband.com.

TRIBAL NOTEBOARD

HAPPY AUGUST BIRTHDAYS TO MILLE LACS BAND ELDERS!

James Monroe Ballinger
Diane Marie Barstow
Barbara Jo Bearheart
Frances Jean Benjamin
Wendy May Benjamin
Clarence Roy Boyd
Clayton Jay Boyd
Debra Elaine Brooks
Marlys Louise Bushey
Myrna Joy Ceballos
Karen Marie Clark
John Dewey Colsrud
Geraldine DeFoe
Shelly Arnell Diaz
Edward Ernest Dunkley
Roxanne Julie Emery
Samuel Garbow
Dorinda Fay Garbow
Diana Guizar
Rosalie Noreen Hallaway
Mary Jean Harpster
Bradley Harrington
Robert Martin Houle
George Ben Jackson
Patricia Clarise Jones
William Allen Jones
Doris Kegg
Joseph Franklin Knudtson
Carol Elizabeth Kornkven
Andy Mitchell
Lynda Lou Mitchell
Robert James Mitchell
Gerry Warden Mortenson
JoAnne Sue Nail
Delia Ann Nayquonabe
Duane James Pawlitschek
Denise Mavis Pike

Margaret Rose Premo
Linda Christine Quaderer
Bruce Anthony Ray
Terry Lee Ray
Sharon Marie Rogers
Kimberly Ann Sam
Bradley Thomas Sam
William David Schaaf
Theresa Joy Schaaf
Alexander Laverne Schaaf
David Duane Shaugobay
Janice Marie Shaugobay
Daniel John Staples
Janice Louise Taylor
Connie Jean Taylor
James Martin Thomas
Sylvester W Thomas
Richard Henry Thomas
Barbara Ellen Toth
John Wayne Towle
Michael Laverne Wade
Alick George Wadena
Carmen Denise Weous
Donna Jean Wind
Eloise Betsy Wind
Franklin John Woyak

HAPPY AUGUST BIRTHDAYS:

Happy birthday **PJ** on 8/5 love the Harrington family • Happy birthday **Sharon** on 8/6 love the Harrington family • Happy birthday **Gram Kim and Papa Brad** on 8/6 love Pie and Kev • Happy birthday **Mom and Dad** on 8/15 love Val • Happy birthday **Jay** on 8/16 love your brothers and sissys • Happy second birthday nephew **Antonio "Tone"**

Skinaway on 8/17. Uncle loves you. • Happy birthday **Gabbi** on 8/20 love the Harrington family • Happy birthday **Mickey** on 8/20 love the Harrington family • Happy 3rd and 4th birthday to my two special boys, **Gordon** on 8/21 and **Joey** 8/30! You are the greatest gifts Daddy ever received in life! Love you now and forever! Dad. • Happy birthday brother, uncle, and dad **Jesse Skinaway** on 8/22, from your Fam! • Happy birthday **Sam and Dan Shingobe** on 8/28 love Grandma June and Papa Gush, Elvis, Chuck, Sunshine, Amber, Hunter, Shyla, Caden, and the Smith and Shingobe families • Happy birthday **Ethan Smith** on 8/29 love Grandma June and Papa David, and the Smith and Shingobe families

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAYS:

Happy birthday **Brody Smith** on July 2 love grandparents June and David, Dad Elliot • Happy birthday **Andre Sam** on July 4 love Great-Grandma June and Papa Gush and the Smith and Shingobe Families • Happy birthday **Andrea** on July 8 love Great-Grandma June and Papa Gush and the Smith and Shingobe Families • Happy birthday **Caden** on 7/24 love Great-Grandma June and Papa Gush, dad Hunter and mother Shyla, Elvis, Sunshine, Amber, Elliot, Manny, and the



SECOND ANISHINAABE VALUES RIDE

The Anishinaabe Values Motorcycle Ride for Recovery visited Four Winds Lodge and Mash-ka-wisen Treatment Center on the way from District I Community Center to St. Croix Tribal Hall in Danbury. Photos by Rhonda Mitchell.

Smith and Shingobe families • Happy birthday **Carter** on 7/25 love Great-Grandma June and Papa Gush, and the Smith and Shingobe families • Happy birthday **Loretta Smith** on 7/15 love Lydia, Liz, Elliot, Manny, grandkids Keith, Sebastian, Dylan,

Leroy, Mallory, Amber, Sunshine, Sam, Dan, Chuck, Hunter, Elvis, Ethan, Jasmine, Tyrese, and Brody, and great-grandkids Lily Ann and Elijah, Christopher, Emma, Henry, DeAdrian, Caden, Carter, Andrea, and Andre

MILLE LACS BAND RECOVERY GROUPS

District I Mille Lacs

Wellbriety Mothers of Tradition

Mondays, 5:30–7 p.m., 17222 Ataage Drive, Onamia (brown building next to the Halfway House). Contact Kim Sam at 320-532-4768

Wellbriety Migizi Meeting

Mondays, 7 p.m., Grand Casino Mille Lacs Hotel, 777 Grand Avenue, Onamia, Minnesota

Wellbriety Celebrating Families

Tuesdays, 6–8 p.m., Mille Lacs Band Halfway House Group, 17222 Ataage Drive, Onamia, Minnesota. Contact Halfway House at 320-532-4768

NA/AA Welcome

Wednesdays, 7 p.m. Hosted by Mille Lacs Band Halfway House,

42293 Twilight Road, Onamia (Red Brick Building) Contact Halfway House at 320-532-4768

Wellbriety Sons of Tradition

Sundays, 1–3 p.m., 42293 Twilight Road, Onamia. Contact Kim Sam at 320-532-4768

District II East Lake

AA Group

Mondays, 5–6 p.m., East Lake Community Center. Contact Rob Nelson at 218-768-2431

District III Hinckley & Aazhoomog

Wellbriety Talking Circle

Mondays, 6 p.m., Aazhoomog Community Center

Wellbriety 12 Step Group

Tuesdays, 12 p.m., Aazhoomog Clinic Conference Room. Contact

Monica Haglund at 320-384-0149

Wellbriety 12 Step Group

Thursdays, 6 p.m., Meshakwad Community Center

DRUG TIP HOTLINE

The Mille Lacs Band Tribal Police Department's anonymous drug tip line is 320-630-2458. Feel free to leave voicemails and/or text messages. If you would like a call back, be sure to leave your name and phone number. In case of emergency, dial 911.



RECURRING EVENTS

Language tables: Tuesdays 6–8 p.m. District I Community Center, Thursdays 6–8 p.m. Meshakwad Community Center

Co-ed Volleyball: Tuesdays, Meshakwad Community Center

Co-ed Basketball: Wednesdays, Meshakwad CC

Volleyball: Thursdays, noon, District I CC

Zumba: Wednesdays, noon, District I CC

Open Gym: M-Th 5–9 p.m., District I CC

UPCOMING EVENTS

Labor Day: September 2. Government offices closed. Offices close at noon on August 30.

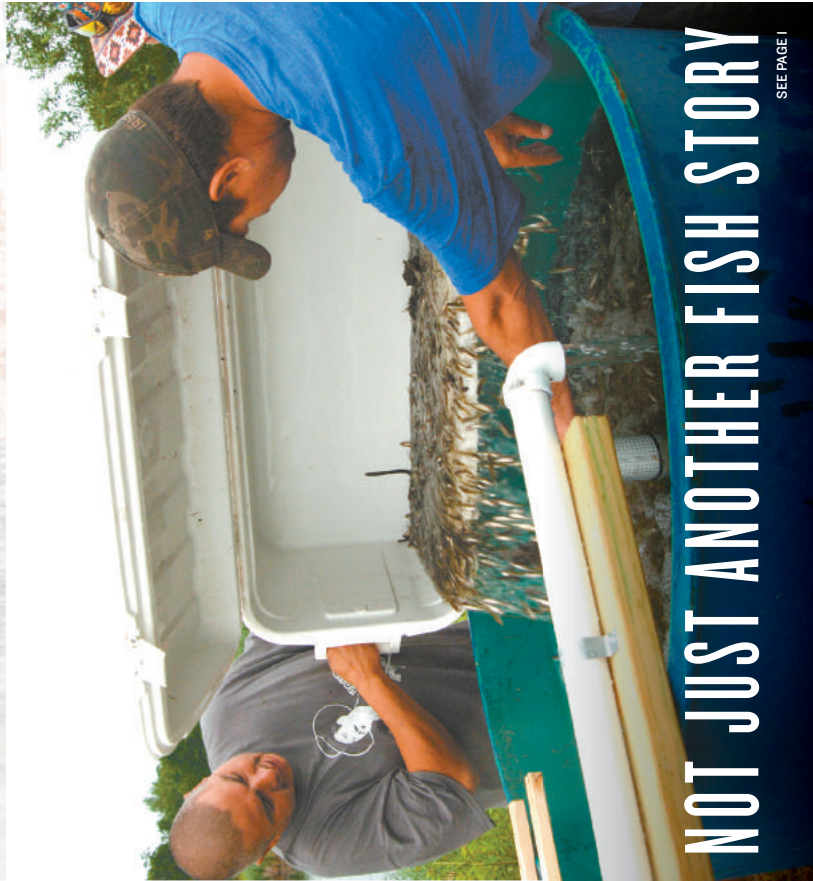
Health Fairs: September 17-20. See page 13.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>BAND ASSEMBLY MEETINGS</p> <p>Band Assembly meetings are open to the public at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at rotating locations throughout the districts. Dates, times, and locations are subject to change. Call the Legislative office at 320-532-4181 with questions.</p> <p>VISIT THE WEBSITE!</p> <p>Millelacsband.com is updated regularly with news, job postings, events, and information about programs and services. The homepage, millelacsband.com, has links to all of those pages as well as government departments, programs, and services.</p>				<p>1</p> <p>Wellbriety 12-Step <i>See page 18</i></p> <p>Band Assembly East Lake ALU</p>	<p>2</p> <p><i>Check for events at millelacsband.com/calendar!</i></p>	<p>3</p> <p>Kids Craft — Dream Catcher 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Indian Museum <i>See page 10</i></p>
<p>4</p> <p>Wellbriety Sons of Tradition 1–3 p.m. District I <i>See page 14</i></p>	<p>5</p> <p>Wellbriety, AA, NA District I, II, III <i>See page 14</i></p>	<p>6</p> <p>National Night Out 5:30–8 p.m. Indian Museum <i>See 11</i></p> <p>National Night Out 4–7 p.m. Urban Office <i>See page 13</i></p> <p>Band Assembly Aazhoomog</p> <p>Language Table 6–8 p.m. District I</p> <p>Wellbriety <i>See page 14</i></p>	<p>7</p> <p>Free Movie for Kids 1 p.m. Grand Makwa</p> <p>NA/AA Welcome District I <i>See page 14</i></p>	<p>8</p> <p>Band Assembly Meshakwad</p> <p>Language Table 6–8 p.m. Meshakwad Community Center</p> <p>Wellbriety 12-Step <i>See page 14</i></p> <p>Inaajimowin Meeting 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Government Affairs, Wahkon</p>	<p>9</p> <p><i>The deadline for the September issue is August 15. Send submissions to news@millelacsband.com.</i></p>	<p>10</p> <p>59th Birthday Celebration 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Indian Museum <i>See page 10</i></p>
<p>11</p> <p>Wellbriety Sons of Tradition 1–3 p.m. District I <i>See page 14</i></p>	<p>12</p> <p>Wellbriety, AA, NA District I, II, III <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>13</p> <p>Band Assembly Government Center</p> <p>Language Table 6–8 p.m. District I Community Center</p> <p>Wellbriety <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>14</p> <p>Free Movie for Kids 1 p.m. Grand Makwa</p> <p>NA/AA Welcome District I <i>See page 14</i></p>	<p>15</p> <p>Band Assembly Government Center</p> <p>Language Table 6–8 p.m. Meshakwad Community Center</p> <p>Wellbriety <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>16</p> <p>Mille Lacs Powwow Grand Entry 7 p.m. Iskigamizigan Powwow Grounds <i>See page 11</i></p> <p>Government offices close at noon.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Mille Lacs Powwow Grand Entry 1 and 7 p.m. Iskigamizigan Powwow Grounds <i>See page 11</i></p> <p>Fisheries Open House Noon–3 p.m. 135 N. Main Wahkon</p>
<p>18</p> <p>Mille Lacs Powwow Grand Entry 1 p.m. Iskigamizigan Powwow Grounds <i>See page 11</i></p> <p>Fun Run 9–10:30 a.m. Powwow Grounds <i>See page 10</i></p> <p>Open House Indian Museum <i>See page 10</i></p> <p>Wellbriety <i>See page 14</i></p>	<p>19</p> <p>Mille Lacs Day Government Offices Closed</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Band Assembly Chiminising</p> <p>Language Table 6–8 p.m. District I Community Center</p> <p>Wellbriety District I, III. <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>21</p> <p>District IIa Community Meeting 5:30 p.m. Chiminising Community Center</p> <p>District III Community Meeting 5:30 p.m. Grand Casino Hinckley</p> <p>NA/AA Welcome District I <i>See page 14</i></p> <p>Free Movie for Kids 1 p.m. Grand Makwa</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Language Table 6–8 p.m. Meshakwad Community Center</p> <p>Wellbriety 12-Step <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>23</p> <p>Weekend Woodland Conference 5 p.m. Chiminising Community Center <i>See page 13</i></p>	<p>24</p> <p>Weekend Woodland Conference 10 a.m. Chiminising Community Center <i>See page 13</i></p>
<p>25</p> <p>Wellbriety Sons of Tradition 1–3 p.m. District I <i>See page 14</i></p>	<p>26</p> <p>Wellbriety, AA, NA District I, II, III <i>See page 18</i></p> <p>District II Sobriety Feast 6 p.m. East Lake Community Center</p> <p>District III Sobriety Feast 5:30 p.m. Meshakwad Community Center</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Band Assembly All Nations Church</p> <p>Early Ed Open House 10 a.m.–6 p.m. <i>See page 12</i></p> <p>District I Sobriety Feast 5:30 p.m. District I Community Center</p> <p>Language Table 6–8 p.m. District I Community Center</p> <p>Wellbriety District I, III. <i>See page 14</i></p>	<p>28</p> <p>District II Community Meeting 5:30 p.m. East Lake Community Center</p> <p>Free Movie for Kids 1 p.m. Grand Makwa</p> <p>NA/AA Welcome District I <i>See page 14</i></p>	<p>29</p> <p>Urban Community Meeting 5:30 p.m. All Nations Church</p> <p>District IIa Sobriety Feast 5:30 p.m. Chiminising Community Center</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Government offices close at noon.</p>	<p>31</p> <p><i>September 2 is Labor Day. Government offices closed.</i></p>

More events: See page 14 for Recurring Events, Upcoming Events, and Recovery Groups.

OJIBWE INAAJIMOWIN

AUGUST 2018 | VOLUME 21 | NUMBER 08



NOT JUST ANOTHER FISH STORY

SEE PAGE 1

REMEMBERING GOOD
TIMES, LEARNING
FROM HARD TIMES
page 7

BAND MEMBER
MAKES HIS MARK IN
BROADCASTING
page 6

POWOW PRINCESS
REFLECTS ON HER
YEAR
page 3

DISTRICT II FAMILY
HAS ROYALTY IN
THEIR BLOOD
page 1

UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS

If your address on file with the Enrollments Office or Office of Management and Budget is incorrect, you may not be receiving important mail from the Band. Each time you move, you need to fill out a Change of Address form from Enrollments (320-532-7730) and OMB. You can download a Change of Address form at millelacsband.com/services/tribal-enrollments.

ABOUT US

Ojibwe Inaajimowin is produced monthly by the Government Affairs Department of the Mille Lacs Band's Executive Branch. Please send questions, comments, corrections, or submissions to news@millelacsband.com or call 320-495-5006. The September issue deadline is August 15.

NEED HELP?

If you or someone you know is injured or in immediate danger, call 911 first.

Tribal Police Department dispatch:
888-609-5006; 320-532-3430.

Emergency Management Services:
24-hour fire, disaster, and emergency management response: Monte Fronk, Emergency Management Coordinator: 320-362-0435.

Addiction/Behavioral Health: 800-709-6445, ext. 7776.

Community Support Services: For emergencies related to food and nutrition, Elder services, Elder abuse, sexual assault, or emergency loans, call 320-532-7539 or 320-630-2687.

Domestic violence: (c) 320-630-2499.

Women's Shelter: 866-867-4006.

Batterers' Intervention: 320-532-8909.

Heating, water, or other home-related maintenance problems: If you live in a Mille Lacs Band Housing-maintained home, call our Customer Service Representative during regular business hours at 800-709-6445, ext. 7799. If you live in a home not maintained by the Mille Lacs Band and need assistance after hours with utilities or heating, please contact: 866-822-8538 (Press 1, 2, or 3 for respective districts).

Mille Lacs Band Family Services: Foster Care: 320-630-2663; Social Worker: 320-630-2444; 800-709-6445, ext. 7588; Family Violence Prevention: District I 320-532-4780; East Lake 218-768-4412; Aazhoomog 320-384-0149; Hinckley 320-384-4613; Toll-free 24-hour crisis line 866-867-4006.

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
TWIN CITIES MN
PERMIT NO 30308

MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE
43408 Oodena Drive
Onamia, MN 56369
millelacsband.com

