

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



By VIVIAN LaMOORE, INAAJIMOWIN EDITOR

The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe hosted a Tribal/County Relations Training on February 3 and 4 at Grand Casino Hinckley presented by the Association of Minnesota Counties in partnership with the Tribal Nations in Minnesota in an effort to help strengthen partnerships and knowledge between Minnesota tribes and counties.

Mille Lacs Band member Bradley Harrington gave the invocation to start the event off in a good way. He gave the invocation in Ojibwe first with an English translation stating, "You are all being offered a gift here today and I hope you accept it." He further explained that the goal was to be able to strengthen partnerships by working together. "We are all going to have to work together," he said.

Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin provided a powerful welcome speech stating, "I am so happy to see so many counties represented." Also adding, "We are very excited to spend this time with you to get to know you."

Chief Executive Benjamin offered an explanation of the Mille Lacs Band three-branch government, the various Districts of the Mille Lacs Band, and an overall briefing of recent tribal consultations between state and federal governments. "As sovereign nations it is our responsibility to protect our lands. County governments have their own responsibilities. We have found that when the tribe and the county are willing to sit down together, common ground



Bradley Harrington provides the invocation to start the event in a good way.

TRIBAL/COUNTY RELATIONS see page 9

IMPROVED RADIOLOGY SERVICES AT NE-IA-SHING CLINIC

Lance Roeschlein, Radiology Operator, demonstrates the precision radiology machine (x-ray) at the District I Ne-la-Shing Clinic. Technicians will now be able to take radiographs and electronically send images to have them read by radiologists at RDR. This will greatly increase diagnostic services to improve quality and access to services for Ne-la-Shing patients. See story on page 8.



STOCK PHOTO

WOLVES ARE UNDER PROTECTION

Feds re-list wolves under the Endangered Species Act

By VIVIAN LaMOORE, INAAJIMOWIN EDITOR

A judge restored federal protections for gray wolves across much of the United States on Thursday, February 10, 2022. U.S. District Judge Jeffrey White in Oakland, Calif., said the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service had failed to show wolf populations could be sustained in the Midwest and portions of the West without protection under the Endangered Species Act.

"As a protector of our brother Ma'iingan, this decision is a step in the right direction. Culturally we exist in a parallel universe with Ma'iingan and that relationship was given by the Creator," said Kelly Applegate, Mille Lacs Band Commissioner of Natural Resources. "We stand with Ma'iingan who fills important ecological and sacred roles to our people."

According to the Associated Press, wolves were wiped out across most of the U.S. by the 1930s under government-sponsored poisoning and trapping campaigns. Wolves were given initial federal protections in the late 1960s and listed as an endangered species in 1978, except in Minnesota where they were classified as threatened. A government-sponsored recovery effort had cost roughly \$160 million as of 2019.

Days before the 2020 Presidential election, the Trump administration removed wolves from federal protection under the Endangered Species Act leading to restoration of legal recreational wolf hunting in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan. Those three states were considered to be critical in the final days of campaigning between Trump and Biden.

While the Ojibwe tribes of Minnesota groups strongly opposed a wolf hunt in Minnesota, hunters and livestock

WOLVES see page 5

MESSAGE FROM THE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Aaniin, Boozhoo Band members..

I want to begin by inviting all Mille Lacs Band girls and young ladies age 12-24 to attend the free conference on March 19th at Grand Casino Hinckley called the "Oshkiniigijwe Leadership Conference." This conference has been designed by young Mille Lacs Band girls and young women for young women and girls with the goal of inspiring them to develop "super-powers" that will help them on their journey to servant leadership. We are asking all girls aged 12-15 to attend with a chaperone. I am very excited about this conference and know that every girl who attends will leave feeling inspired to lead! We have wonderful keynote speakers scheduled like Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan, and inspirational tribal leader Cecelia Fire Thunder. If you are an adult with a young lady in your household, please encourage her to attend this conference and help her to find a chaperone if she is between 12-15. You can read more about this conference on page 7 in this issue of the Inaajimowin.

During the month of February, the Joint Session of the Band Assembly met several times to complete election-related business for the upcoming Minnesota Chippewa Tribe elections. The Joint Session certified candidates running for the positions of Mille Lacs Band Secretary-Treasurer, District II Representative and District III Representative for the upcoming Minnesota Chippewa Tribe elections. Election judges were selected and polling places were also approved. Please read the article on page 3 of this edition for more information. The Primary Election will be held on April 5, 2022, and the General Election will be held on June 14, 2022.

The Mille Lacs Band was proud to host the first ever Tribal/County Relations Training at Grand Casino Hinckley on February 3 and 4. For many years, Minnesota tribes have partnered with University of Minnesota Dulluth and the State to host Tribal/State Relations Training for state employees. More than 4,200 state employees have gone through this training, which has resulted in improved relations between state agencies and the tribes and reduced incidents of misunderstanding and conflict. The Minnesota Counties Association invited the trainers to deliver a similar training to staff and county commissioners that

the Mille Lacs Band offered to host. The event went extremely well. All of the agenda and breakout sessions seemed to build stronger understanding among the counties about the benefits of partnering with tribes, rather than fighting the tribes. I left this meeting feeling hopeful that we can continue building bridges to improve life for all our citizens.

On Wednesday, February 9, I was honored to represent the Mille Lacs Band at a meeting at the University of Minnesota

"Be very skeptical if anyone promises you that they are going to create programs or change programs run by Education, Health and Human Services, Community Development/Housing, Natural Resources or Administration, or the Office of the Solicitor and the Judicial Branch. They do not have those authorities. I encourage Band Members to read Title 3 of Mille Lacs Band Statutes to review the authorities and duties of the Legislative Branch and its members..."

—Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin

with First Lady Jill Biden. First Lady Biden was here to talk about expanding early education and childcare in the United States through funding in the American Rescue Plan Act. She said that millions of women were forced to leave the workforce during the pandemic because child care centers closed. The Mille Lacs Band actually took advantage of federal child care funding through the American Rescue Plan Act and we were able to expand services.

My calendar was packed this month with meetings and some great outcomes were achieved. Some of these meetings and events included participating on a Tribal Sustainability Panel at an international conference about green energy, meetings of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, the Tribal Nations Leadership Council that advises the U.S. Attorney General, meetings on Minnesota Chippewa Tribe matters, several consultations with state and federal agencies, and sev-

eral media interviews about our new Rosetta Stone language partnership project.

It is always my goal to make sure that everything we do is about creating better outcomes and opportunities for Mille Lacs Band Members. As you talk to candidates running for office, many promises will be made. Please keep in mind that neither the District Representatives nor the Secretary-Treasurer have authority under Band laws to make decisions about the programs and services the Band government runs. Be very skeptical if anyone promises you that they are going to create programs or change programs run by Education, Health and Human Services, Community Development/Housing, Natural Resources or Administration, or the Office of the Solicitor and the Judicial Branch. They do not have those authorities. I encourage Band Members to read Title 3 of Mille Lacs Band Statutes to review the authorities and duties of the Legislative Branch and its members, and I hope all eligible Band Members will decide to participate in this election season by talking with your candidates so you will make an informed decision when you vote!

Miigwech



Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin (center) is flanked by Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services Xavier Becerra, and by First Lady of the United States, Jill Biden.

Gaa-ina'ooowewizid a'aw Anishinaabekwewid
What is your Anishinaabe Woman gift?

Here is the registration link, best to use CHROME:
[HTTPS://EVENTS.BIZZABO.COM/377572](https://events.bizzabo.com/377572)

OSHKINIIGIKWE
Leadership Conference

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2022

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

TRIBAL ELECTIONS

CANDIDATE FORUMS ANNOUNCED

The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe announced the Regular Tribal Elections will be held on June 14, 2022, on the Mille Lacs Reservation. This regular election provides for a primary election in the event there are more than two eligible candidates for a position. Candidate filing closed on January 24, 2022. More than two candidates were certified for the positions of Secretary Treasurer/Speaker of the Assembly and District III Representative. Therefore, there will be a primary election on April 5, 2022.

Candidates for the election are listed in the order they will appear on the ballot for the primary election on April 5, 2022 per the lottery held in Band Assembly Chambers and live streamed on Friday, February 18, 2022. Candidates are as follows:

Secretary Treasurer/Speaker of the Assembly: Wanetta Jo Thompson, Carolyn Marie Beaulieu, Sheldon Ray Boyd (Incumbent).

District II Representative: Wendy Megan Merrill, Thomas Lee Benjamin Sr., Iywawbance LaPrairie-Mushkoub, Daryl John Aubid, Michael Robert Aubid.

District III Representative: Harry Davis and Wallace St. John (Incumbent).



Please note the MCT Election Ordinance for District III states if there are only two certified candidates for a position, they will not be on the primary election. Wallace St. John Sr. and Harry Davis are the two candidates running for District III Representative. Since there are only two candidates, they automatically go to the General Election and won't need to go on the ballot for the Primary. There will be another "lottery" drawing for their names prior to the General Election ballots being printed. Please watch for more details.

Candidate forums will be held in each of the Districts and Urban area. See the forum information below.

TRIBAL ELECTION CANDIDATE FORUMS

Mille Lacs Band members are invited to the candidate forums to learn more about individuals running for the offices of Secretary/Treasurer, District II Representative and District III Representative. Dinner will be provided. Forums are anticipated to last two hours.

District I forum will be candidates for Secretary/Treasurer. The Urban area forum will include all candidates. The District II and IIA will include candidates for Secretary/Treasurer and District II Representative. The District III forum will include candidates for Secretary/Treasurer and District III Representative.

District I Old Community Center: Wednesday, March 11 at 5 p.m.

District II Community Center: Thursday, March 12 at 5 p.m.

District IIA Community Center: Tuesday, March 10 at 5 p.m.

District III Community Center: Friday, March 13 at 5 p.m.

Urban/All Nations Church: Monday, March 9 at 5 p.m.

For election-related questions, contact the Mille Lacs Band Election office: 320-532-7586. For more information about the candidate forums contact Government Affairs office: 320-362-1719.

GRA UPDATE

Recognize Fraud, Reject It and Report It!

Did you know the Gaming Regulatory Authority (GRA) maintains a hotline for reporting fraudulent, improper or suspicious activity at any Grand Casino property? Information can be reported 24 hours a day, seven days a week by texting or calling the GRA Fraud Hotline: 320-384-4519.

If you witness, suspect or know of fraudulent, improper or suspicious activity at any Grand Casino location, please contact the Fraud Hotline immediately. When you contact the hotline via text or call, be sure to provide as much detail as possible. We may need to contact you for additional information so we ask that you please include contact information though this is not required. All reports will be kept confidential.

You can also LIKE us on Facebook at Mille Lacs Band GRA. GRA Board meetings are open to the public. This month's meetings are at 9 a.m. on Thursday, March 10 and Thursday, March 24. Visit our website at: <https://millelacsband.com/home/indian-gaming-regulation>.

For more information on that or anything mentioned in this article, contact the Mille Lacs office at 320-532-8196 or the Hinckley office at 320-532-8196 or check the Band's website.

The Mille Lacs Band Gaming Regulatory Authority (GRA) is an independent regulatory agency of tribal government established to separate the government's regulatory function from the management function of the Gaming Enterprises. More information and contact numbers can be found at <http://www.millelacsband.com/government/gaming-regulatory-authority>. You can also LIKE us on Facebook at Mille Lacs Band GRA. GRA Board meetings are open to the public. Due to COVID-19, meetings are currently being conducted remotely using Zoom.

GAMING REGULATORY AUTHORITY



Dedicated to providing protection, value, and regulatory excellence in gaming for the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe.

LEGISLATIVE BRIEFS

February 4, 2022

Band Assembly Bill 20-01-22-22 : A Bill of Appropriation for Governmental Operations of the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Branches; Circle of Health; Economic Development; Department of Athletic Regulation; Supplemental Income Program for Elders; Tribal Employment Rights Office; and Band Member Legal Services of the Mille Lacs Band Tribal Government for fiscal years ending September 30, 2022, and September 30, 2023. This bill has been drafted based on formal documents submitted by the Office of Management and Budget and the Commissioner of Administration. Tabled 1/19/2022

Sponsor: District III Representative. Bill was taken from the table and denied.

As noted in the Legislative Weekly Update Messages in the Representatives section, District I Representative Virgil Wind discussed the budget denial stating Band Assembly has been working to come to a consensus with the Executive Branch within the budget. He added that with the continuing budget ordinance Band Government and Band Business continues to operate. "So this word out there that we can't operate and we're not going to provide services is not true," he said. Rep. Wind continued by stating, "Elected Officials are here for service to Band Members, right? That's our first and foremost duty. That's what we swear an oath to and sometimes decisions are made that might hinder those services to Band Members and the focus from at least the District I Office will always be that we focus on the services that we can provide for our Band membership. I don't believe it's on us to rule and not lead."

Tuesday, February 8, 2022: Legislative held a work session for the Band Assembly Members, and Legislative Staff.

Work Session Agenda: Workshop: Healing-to-Wellness Draft Bill – Adam Candler

Legal Counsel presented a second review of the Healing-to-Wellness red line draft version definitions and comments with acceptance or denial of revisions. Will move forward with second public comment notice.

Wednesday, February 9, 2022: Band Assembly occurred in Band Assembly Chambers and through conference call and zoom. a) Band Assembly Bill 20-01-26-22: A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures for the Red Willow Estates Project for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2022. This bill has been drafted based on formal documents submitted by the Commissioner of Corporate Affairs on January 21, 2022.

Sponsor: District I Representative. Bill was introduced, read, and approved.

b) Band Assembly Bill 20-01-27-22: A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures and budget revisions/transfers for the Executive Branch for the Fiscal Years ending September 30, 2021 and September 30, 2022. This bill has been drafted based on formal documents submitted by the Administration Policy Board on January 31, 2022.

Sponsor: District II Representative. Bill was introduced, read, amended, and approved.

STATE AND LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS

Minnesota Legislators Get Sports Betting Talks Rolling:

A group of Minnesota lawmakers is pushing a new sports betting effort to get the ball moving this session.

Sen. Roger Chamberlain led a press conference last week introducing a new bill for Minnesota sports betting. Chamberlain said sports betting could launch by fall 2023 if it passes.

"It's time to move Minnesota forward," Chamberlain said. "There are always challenges but there is momentum to get done."

The announcement comes as Rep. Zack Stephenson prepares to introduce a bill. Chamberlain's new bill will replace the language in legislation he filed last year. The bill provides for retail sportsbooks for the state's tribal casinos and the two racetracks in the state.

It will also allow for mobile sports betting through operators partnered with the tribes.

"The proposal here is good for the tribes, good for the tracks and good for the consumers," Chamberlain said. "This is not a big cash cow. This is about consumers and having some fun." *LegalSportsReport.com*.

Former Mille Lacs County sheriff announces run for Senate:

Brent C. Lindgren, former Mille Lacs County Sheriff Brent C. Lindgren announced his run in Senate District 10. "I am a 50-year resident of the district. I grew up in Morrison County, living in Mille Lacs for work. Having lived in the district for over 50 years, I understand the area and the people of the district," Lindgren said in a news release Thursday, Feb. 24.

"After talking with family and friends, I'm excited to run for Senate and continue serving the people once again in that elected capacity," Lindgren continued. "Having served Mille Lacs County for over 30 years as a deputy sheriff, D.A.R.E. Instructor, Civil Defense Director, Welfare Fraud Investigator and Criminal Investigator all before being elected Sheriff of Mille Lacs County. ... I served 16 years as sheriff until I retired from that position in 2019. I have the time, passion, and experience to serve our communities in St. Paul in the Senate."

Lindgren joined the Mille Lacs Sheriff's Office in 1987 and was first elected as Sheriff in 2002, and previously served as president of the Minnesota Sheriffs Association. He currently lives on Platte Lake in Hillman in Morrison County with his wife, Lisa. *Brainerd Dispatch*

New district maps drawn: New House, Senate and Congressional districts have been drawn in Minnesota upon the completion of the U.S. Census data. The district boundaries were released on Feb. 15, 2022 Rep. Sondra Erickson (R-Princeton), announced she will not seek re-election this November.

Under Minnesota's new legislative maps released last week, Erickson had been paired in the same House district with her former student, House Minority Leader Kurt Daudt (R-Crown).

Daudt has announced he will seek re-election in 2022. *Mille Lacs Messenger*

THE SACRED LAKE

RESPECTING THE GIFTS OF THE CREATOR

DNR asks for help to keep the lakes clean

By VIVIAN LaMOORE, INAAJIMOWIN EDITOR

There is a growing popularity of winter activity on area lakes. That is a good thing. It is encouraging to see so many Band members exercising their rights and participating in cultural practices of spearing and fishing according to Kelly Applegate, Mille Lacs Band Commissioner of Natural Resources. It is also a good thing to note that Band members are being mindful to be good stewards of the lake to keep it clean he added.

"As Anishinaabe, we honor and respect the Manidoog of the lake and take great care of the sacred gifts provided to our people," Commissioner Applegate said.

But with the growing number of anglers out on all Minnesota lakes, there seems to be a growing problem of garbage and trash that is being left behind when anglers exit the lake. The newly implemented Keep It Clean campaign focuses on leaving no trace, and in a sense is connected to respecting the lake according to the values of Anishinaabe.

The campaign began on Lake of the Woods over a decade ago, according to the Lake of the Woods tourism website. Recently Upper Red Lake and Mille Lacs Lake have joined in the efforts as well. The campaign focuses on education, awareness, enforcement, and cleanup efforts.

Band member Bradley Harrington is on the Mille Lacs Area Community Foundation that focuses on projects within the Mille Lacs Lake Watershed area. The committee recently adopted the Keep It Clean campaign for Mille Lacs Lake. Bradley said the campaign ties into the Adopt a Shoreline campaign hosted by Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures with support from the Mille Lacs Band DNR. The annual Adopt a Shoreline event encourages community volunteers to attend a cleanup day each spring in an effort to clean-up the shoreline after a long cold winter.

The amount of trash that is collected each spring can be reduced by doing a better job of cleaning up in the winter.

"We want to educate people on the effects of leaving garbage behind, but also it's about being a good harvester," Bradley said.

"There's trash out there alright — a lot of trash sometimes," said Carl Klimah, Mille Lacs Band DNR fisheries manager and biologist. Carl, along with many of the staff of the DNR fisheries department spends a great deal of time out on the lakes because let's face it — that is where the fish are. But that is also where the fisheries and wildland crews, who help maintain roads and fish/spear houses, are finding a lot of trash left behind by winter anglers.

"People need to remember, that when the ice melts in the spring, the trash either sinks or it floats creating what I call a 'trashberg,' which gets stuck in bays before washing up on shore," Carl said.

Items left behind by winter anglers run the gamut from cigarette butts to propane tanks to plastic bottles and aluminum cans, to slabs of wood used to prop up fish houses, and even cases of empty beer bottles and bags of human waste.



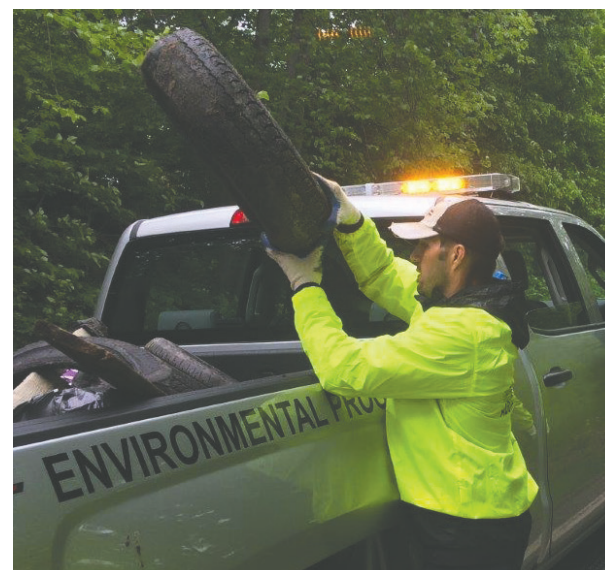
An archive photo from past clean up efforts on Hennepin Island.

Along with the unsightliness of the rubbish left behind it also poses a threat to birds. Terns and the double-crested cormorant who nest on Spirit and Hennepin Islands collect pieces of trash and use it to line their nests. But it can also cause the birds serious harm if they are tangled in it. Pelicans, gulls, and herons can also get caught and tangled in excess garbage, especially piles of loose monofilament fishing line. Over the years, Mille Lacs Band crews along with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) have picked up hundreds of pounds of trash off Spirit Island as well as along the shore.

"Being out among our gifts we were given as Anishinaabe it is up to us to leave the area better than what it was. That is a good teaching to follow," Bradley said. "Be respectful to the fish in their home, our relatives who use the lake, and be respectful of the Manidoog who have been placed in the lake to help the Anishinaabe."

As the fisheries and wildlands crews are out on the lakes doing their daily routines, they pick up these items and bring them back to shore to be disposed of properly. The DNR is asking for the help of every Band member and angler to help in the efforts to keep the lake clean which in turn will help out everyone who uses the lake. "Most people are very mindful to not leave trash and for some it's left by accident," Commissioner Applegate said. "So if we all work together, we can reduce the harmful effects of the trash left on the ice. If you happen to see trash on the ice that's not yours, please take a minute and pick it up. It may seem like a small thing to do to pick up a few empty cans, but you are showing an incredibly generous gesture and truly being a good steward of the lake."

The month of March marks the end of the winter ice fishing and spearing season for hard water. Something to keep in mind while exiting the frozen lakes is the only imprints you should leave behind on the ice are your own footprints and tire tracks.



ADOPT A SHORELINE PICS FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Adopt a Shoreline event is held each year around Mille Lacs Lake. The event is hosted through Corporate Ventures and the DNR. Volunteers and staff are encouraged to assist to pick up trash from around the lake.



STOCK PHOTO

WOLVES from page 1

farmers supported it.

According to MPR, attorneys for the Biden administration had defended the Trump rule that removed protections, arguing wolves were resilient enough to bounce back even if their numbers dropped sharply due to intensive hunting.

However, wildlife advocates took to the federal courtroom to argue that recreational hunting could quickly reverse the gray wolf's recovery in areas of the West and Midwest, including Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan. The lawsuit did not cover wolves in all or portions of six states in the northern U.S. Rocky Mountains. Gray wolves were removed from protection in those states over a decade ago.

When federal protections for the wolf were removed in 2011, Minnesota State moved quickly to authorize wolf hunts in 2012, 2013 and 2014, despite a plan that called for a five-year study. A federal judge reinstated protection for wolves under the Endangered Species Act late in 2014.

The wolf population report from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources estimated the Minnesota wolf population at 2,655 animals in 2020 at the time the restrictions were removed. Minnesota DNR chose not to have a wolf hunt in 2021, after the restrictions were removed in November of 2020. Officials stated they would be waiting until spring of 2022 to

complete a management plan that provides the framework that guides the state's decisions about wolf regulations, population monitoring, management, conflicts, enforcement, damage control, education, research and other issues.

According to the Minnesota DNR website, in the 1960s, the population in Minnesota was estimated to be as low as 350. Wolf numbers trended upward during the next 40 years, peaking at about 3,000 from 2002 until 2005. The wolf population survey results are not listed for 2021. Minnesota's wolf range has expanded significantly since the 1970s when wolf packs were found only in the far north. Today, wolf packs exist as far south as Center City, Milaca, Little Falls and Detroit Lakes.

Last season in Wisconsin hunters harvested 218 wolves in just four days — well over the state quota of 119, forcing an early end to the season.

And with the looser restrictions in the Rockies, this winter hunters have killed 23 wolves that wandered off the safe-zone of Yellowstone National Park.

"To the Anishinaabe, the Ma'iingan are our brothers. The legends and stories tell us as brothers we walk hand in hand together. What happens to the Ma'iingan happens to humanity," Marvin Defoe, an official and Elder with Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, said in the statement.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Chairman Calls on President Biden to Shut Down Dakota Access Pipeline Immediately:

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Chairman Harold Frazier sent a letter on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, to President Joe Biden that requests the end of the Dakota Access pipeline (DAPL). Citing the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868, Frazier tells the president that the United States agreed "that no white person or persons shall be permitted to settle upon or occupy any portion of the same; or without the consent of the Indians first had and obtained, to pass through the same." "The Dakota Access Pipeline continues to trespass on the territory of the Great Sioux Nation and endanger the lives of our people with the possibility of polluting land and water. This Project has been operating without a permit for a very long time and is in violation of your laws and our treaties. The Tribes intend to keep the lands in their original and natural state, reintroducing buffalo and other natural species, and preserving the area for traditional cultural and religious ceremonies. The time to end this threat to our people and honor the treaties is now," Frazier says in his letter. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is conducting an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) of the DAPL as ordered previously by the U.S. District Court of the District of Columbia. *NativeNewsOnline.net*

Hundreds Sign Petition Against Roosevelt Statue Relocation to Tribal Lands:

More than 200 academics, artists and allies have signed onto a petition to stop New York City's infamous Theodore Roosevelt statue from being relocated from a storage facility to the ancestral homeland of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara (MHA) people in North Dakota. The city removed the statue from the entrance of the American Museum of Natural History in the middle of the night last month, more than a year after then-Mayor Bill de Blasio backed protestor's rallying cries, stating that the "problematic" statue "explicitly depicts Black and Indigenous people as subjugated and racially inferior." *NativeNewsOnline.net*

American Indian boarding schools revealed at The James Museum in St. Petersburg:

The current special exhibition at The James Museum of Western and Wildlife Art is its most poignant yet. "Away From Home: American Indian Boarding School Stories" illuminates the federally run, off-reservation boarding schools that operated from the late 19th century through most of the 20th century, forcing Native American children to assimilate with the aim of eradicating their cultures. The exhibition tells the children's stories through photographs, text panels, artifacts, videos and audio.

The exhibition was adapted from a permanent installation at the Heard Museum in Phoenix. It reveals the largely hidden history of what the experience was at American Indian boarding schools. *Yahoo!News.*

Native American human remains found at construction site, police say:

The Stockton Police Department said the remains were found Wednesday afternoon near Hammer Lane and Maranatha Drive. According to Public Information Officer Joe Silva, construction workers found the remains around 12:30 p.m. near Hammer Lane and Maranatha Drive. "The Medical Examiner confirmed the remains were Native American," Silva told ABC10. "The remains were turned over to tribal authorities." STOCKTON, Calif. *ABC TV*



COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

The Nay Ah Shing nursing staff received a refresher course in CPR.

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.



PREVENTION, MAINTENANCE, AND PERSEVERANCE

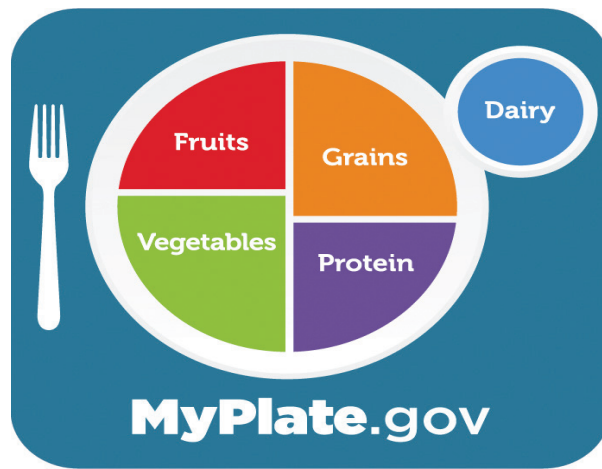
By MASHKODE-BIZHIKIGAHBAW — BENJI SAM

As we begin to hit cruise control on 2022 with the COVID-19 pandemic seemingly as bad as ever we have heard recommendations of vaccinations, quarantines, exposure likelihoods, and mask use change weekly, and even daily, throughout this pandemic. But something we haven't seen communicated effectively is the power of our own immune systems and the keys we hold in helping to prevent sickness. As Anishinaabe we are already at an increased risk for multiple diseases and comorbidities so it is important to understand what can impact our physical well-being. I wanted to take some time to share my own perspective on health and wellness as a licensed and practicing Doctor of Physical Therapy with a background in Exercise Physiology.

Something that often goes overlooked when it comes to building a healthy immune system is our diet and as a society, we tend to eat more fast food than quality food. The average American diet often consists of many processed, sugar, saturated fat, and sodium dense ingredients that have been linked to increased risk of diabetes, heart disease, kidney failure, obesity, etc. Many of these foods have also been linked to reduced immune response which weakens our body's ability to cope with new, and old, sicknesses. As Anishinaabe, we are told in our history that our bodies need wild rice, maple sugar/syrup, fresh fish, and deer meat to stay healthy but we also need to be sure to ingest a healthy number of greens, fruits, complex carbohydrates, and fiber to help keep us healthy.

Some foods have been directly linked to reducing inflammation and boosting our immune system but there is no magic recipe for everyone. We know that getting enough vitamin A through carrots, sweet potatoes, broccoli, etc., vitamin C through citrus fruits and berries, vitamin E in nuts, avocado, and other healthy fats, and maintaining a healthy amount of protein can all impact how the human body fights inflammation and sickness.

If you want more information on where to start with diet, visit myplate.gov to use the MyPlate Plan widget to explore the website for creative ways to curb hunger, fun and delicious recipes, and current recommendations for diet that fits your



body type, age group, and activity level. This is an amazing, free tool that most people don't even know exists and it can help guide us into healthier living.

Another factor in immune system building that falls within our control is simply getting enough sleep. Studies have shown that lack of sleep can contribute to increased inflammatory response and greater risk of sickness and injury compared to those who get a full night's rest. Tips for improving sleep include limiting caffeine intake after noon, decreasing screen time before bed, avoiding eating before bed, avoid nicotine and alcohol intake, and staying physically active.

The American College of Sports Medicine recommends getting at least 150 minutes per week of moderate to strenuous exercise. This means that getting your heart rate elevated to a steady state or intermittent bursts to challenge the heart and lungs can help keep the heart and lungs in better condition. They also recommend training major muscle groups at least twice per week and finding a healthy balance of stretching/mobility to round out our physical wellness.

This combination of activity can help build and maintain muscle, improve musculoskeletal function, reduce blood sugars, decrease risk of cardiac disease, and improve overall health. Studies have also shown that individuals who hit these

weekly exercise goals are at much less risk of injury and development of co-morbidities that contribute to compromised immunity. Exercise is one of the best tools we have to fight against sicknesses, reduce inflammation, reduce stress, and improve overall health and quality of life.

If you have questions on exercise and don't know where to start, visit your local community center and see one of our Tribe's many personal trainers to learn how to use our state-of-the-art facilities. Each community center has its own identity, and it can be very intimidating attending a gym alone to start. The trainers in each District have years of experience helping people find their way into health and wellness. Meshakwad in Hinkley offers multiple insurance or cash options that can fit any budget and allows 24-hour access to a state-of-the-art gym experience including basketball courts, track, cardio equipment, free weights, and boxing. If you have questions about where to begin, give them a call at 320-336-0220 to get started on your fitness journey.

Another great resource is the new Mille Lacs District I Aquatic and Fitness center, currently Monday-Friday between 8:00-5:00, where band members will have the opportunity to utilize free weights, basketball courts, cardio equipment, a track system, and soon both community and therapy pools. With questions regarding how to get your fitness journey started, please reach out to Clayton Foster at clayton.foster@millelacsband.com or call 320-532-7739 for personalized or group fitness training, nutrition planning, and other fitness needs. For more information on what's happening follow the District I Aquatic and Fitness Center Facebook page on membership/training packages as well as openings and special events to come.

These tools and resources are just a few ways to help keep our bodies, minds, and people healthy. COVID-19 is a different beast that seems almost unrelenting and has taken so much from so many of us, but our own bodies often carry the tools it needs to fight, rehabilitate from, and even prevent significant side effects from this virus. It is up to us to help unlock and use those tools to a healthier lifestyle.

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH

HOW THE DRUM HELPED ME WITH MY SOBRIETY

By JOE NAYQUONABE, SR.

This article was first published in the Mille Lacs Messenger. It is reprinted here to preserve his teachings and bring them to the next generation.

When I was 11 years old, I was put on my uncle's drum. My job as the "drum warmer" was to help set up the drum and take care of it. I was on my own to take care of this drum, but I asked a lot of questions. I would give people a chance to respect the drum. If they didn't, I would take it away and my uncle would announce that the dance was over.

I was very responsible and handled the drum well at that age. Later I was put on another drum known as the thunderbird drum. At this drum I mostly watched the older men take care of the drum, and they showed me things like which way the drum should sit and which way the sticks should face.

After my uncle passed away, I became the head drum keeper of his drum.

I was again on my own but had a lot of support from other people. They would help cook the food, help sing the songs, and answer any questions I might have about the drum.

Soon I had my own troubles, though. I felt I wasn't happy. I was using alcohol and not paying much attention to the drum. I was doing what I needed to do to support my family, but I felt like something was missing. I did my best to stop drinking, but it was difficult.

After five years of struggling, I started talking to Elders at the ceremonial dances about the way I was feeling. The Elders said they noticed me at dances and that I was a model drum keeper. "You know how to do everything," they told me, "but you don't know why you are doing it." I thought about it. Today I am still searching for the reasons.

As I get older, I grow more knowledgeable. I still talk to people and I learn from them. I am

able to see both sides now, and I know I am heading in the right direction. I also talk to a lot of Elders. They helped me grow as a person and make peace with myself.

I learned that we owe our grandparents and ancestors for everything they did for us. My grandparents are watching me, so I behave better. One day I will meet them, and what will they say to me? We owe it to our ancestors to be good, and I'm always trying to improve myself.

Recently I went to a ceremonial dance and the drum keepers asked me to say a prayer for the offerings and tobacco. I agreed, and I felt honored. On the way home from the dance, I talked to my sons about how things always come back around. Forty years ago, I was getting thrown out of dances, and now I was asked to speak at a dance. Since speaking at that dance, I feel respected and have been asked to sit on three other drums.

I've learned that there's always a reason why things happen. A while back I was looking for a namesake for my son. A white man's name kept coming to mind. I spoke with an Elder, and the Elder told me to choose this man even if he is not Indian because there was a reason his name came to me. So I picked this man to be my son's namesake. There was a reason the white man's name came to me, and there was a reason why I was picked to speak at the dance. It goes to show you that everything happens for a reason.

Sometimes it's tough living in this world, but we need to try. Go see someone you respect if you are in trouble — it's their duty to help you. With all the drum ceremonies, I am becoming a better person. I still get frustrated, but I can deal with my frustrations. And I'm trying to help people, just like the drum helped me.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE FOR YOUNG WOMEN SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2022

FINDING YOUR OSHKINIIGIKWE SUPERPOWER

By VIVIAN LaMOORE, INAAJIMOWIN EDITOR

Oshkiniigikwe means "Young Lady." If you are a young Anishinaabe woman, you are invited to attend the Oshkiniigijwe Leadership Conference. This is no ordinary youth conference. This conference has been designed from the ground up by young women for young women with the goal of inspiring young women and supporting them as they develop superpowers that will help them on their journey to servant leadership. Mark your calendar for March 19, 2022 and head on over to Grand Casino Hinckley. This event is open to youth ages 12 to 24. Those who are ages 12 to 15 must be accompanied by an adult.

The one-day conference is packed with events and breakout sessions for a full day of superpower training with inspirational motivational speakers such as Minnesota Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan, Cecilia Fire Thunder, Roxanne DeLille, and comedian Tonia Jo Hall. With breakout sessions that will include how to write your own music, create your own video game, and sewing a ribbon skirt. There is even a roundy for the finale of the day. You won't want to miss this exciting day of fun.

This even sounds like so much fun, probably because it has been developed from the ground up by many talented young ladies under the guidance of many talented adult women mentors including Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin, Beth Gruber, Baabiiitaw Boyd, Cheyanne Peet to just to name a few.

"As women of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, we have an amazing superpower. Our Elders say we have this gift and it is our responsibility to help that gift grow," said Chief Executive Benjamin.

Chief Executive Benjamin is a member of the The Young Women's Initiative of Minnesota which is a partnership between the Governor's Office and the Women's Foundation of Minnesota. This multi-year initiative elevates the leadership and solutions of young women, specifically young women of color, Indigenous young women, young women from Greater Minnesota, LGBTQ+ youth, and young women with disabilities.

The Executive Council for the Young Women's Initiative is committed to leading by example, holding themselves and their institutions accountable, disrupting the status quo, dismantling barriers, and advocating for gender and racial equity. By listening to and investing in young women they will drive social change and economic opportunities for young women in Minnesota.

The council has nearly 40 members under the the leadership of Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan, Gloria Perez, President and CEO, Women's Foundation of Minnesota, and Dr. Verna Cornelia Price, CEO, The Power of People Consulting Group. Lt. Gov. Flanagan initiated a goal for members of the council to go back to their communities and develop a leadership event that would inspire young women within each of their own communities. Chief Executive Benjamin dove into the project recruiting strong Anishinaabekwe to become involved and the ideas started rolling.

"We have a lot of young ladies who have been to conferences but never had an opportunity to know how they work and what it takes to set up an event or conference," Chief Executive Benjamin said. "Everything from setting a budget and sticking to it, to the theme, getting speakers, marketing, getting participants, all of that. So we thought we would find young women who were interested in this idea and match them up with mentors who could help guide them through the process. Now that it is coming to fruition, the young ladies are getting pretty excited."

Women mentors from the Mille Lacs Band WEWIN Chapter, Corporate Ventures and Minisinaakwaang Ge-niigaanizijig

were instrumental in the process.

"The youth worked with mentors who offered support and guidance," said Baabiiitaw Boyd. "The whole process allowing the youth to develop all of the details as they moved forward through the steps of event planning allowed the youth to gain immeasurable experience that they can take with them throughout their lives. Gaining this knowledge has helped them to feel empowered and builds their confidence. They will be able to make changes in society and contribute to the community with these skills and knowledge. This will benefit them individually and the community will see the benefits with the new emerging servant leaderships."

Cheyenne Peet, Program Coordinator for Minisinaakwaang Ge-niigaanizijig, said the program has not only motivated the youth of the community but it has strengthened her pride in the youth. "The focus is to help them understand, help them to be leaders, and figure out what their superpower is. I am so proud of the commitment these young ladies have proven and the excitement they are producing. They really are shining with their superpowers!"

Beth Gruber, Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures, agreed and was quick to add that the inspiration comes from the mentors who are leading by example. "Chief Executive Benjamin has really made an effort to be on every Monday night Zoom call — even if she is at a conference or something, she will find a quiet place to Zoom with the youth. That really means a lot to the young ladies. Not just because she is the Chief Executive, but also because she is an adult woman giving them her time and offering teaching moments along the way."

The inspiration and empowerment of this group is practically palpable as each one appears to be building the others up with support and encouragement.

"I am very proud of the adult mentors who have committed their knowledge with the young women and the young women themselves who are embracing this project," Chief Executive Benjamin said. "They will all be able to put this in their personal tool box for later in their lives. Who knows — they could end up being in the White House someday!"

Chief Executive Benjamin said she is proud to have had the opportunity to work with a group of polite, engaging and committed young ladies. And proud of the mentors who are equally committed and engaging.

"We want to remind our young women that they have so much potential and we want to encourage them to grow that potential for themselves and for the community," Baabiiitaw said.

Participating youth are: Shaylynn DeCoteau, Aleah Hill, Mercedes Misquadace, Jazlene White, Roylynn Benjamin, Nindaanis Benjamin, Joscelyn Skinaway, Tammy Gahbow, and Angeliqwe White.

Participating mentors are: Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin, Baabiiitaw Boyd, Valerie Harrington, Andrea Bolin, Beth Gruber, Cheyanne Peet, LeAnn Benjamin, Brandi Smith, Chandell Boyd, and Kim Sam.

Those interested in attending the event should register by clicking the link <https://Events.Bizzabo.com/377572>. "We will help you uncover your gifts as an Anishinaabe woman and how servant leadership starts with you. What is your superpower?"

TRIBAL RECOGNITION AND TRUTH-TELLING

TRUTH Project Goal is to correct the ills of the past

By VIVIAN LaMOORE, INAAJIMOWIN EDITOR

The Mille Lacs Band Department of Natural Resources and other tribal affiliates have teamed up with the University of Minnesota's Institute for Advanced Study and the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council (MIAC) for a collaborative project Towards Recognition and University-Tribal Healing (TRUTH).

"This is a very interesting project with the University with a goal of 'truth-telling' of some of the disservice done to the Indigenous people of Minnesota," said Kelly Applegate, Commissioner of the Mille Lacs Band DNR. He went on to explain that although he believes the intentions may have been to further expand higher education in a progressive way, the University was not always respectful of the cultural significance to the indigenous tribes regarding land grabs and allotments for some University buildings, infrastructure and archaeological studies. "Sometimes the quest for seeking knowledge was such a priority [for the University] it wasn't looked at with cultural respect to the Indigenous tribes."

Through some past archaeological studies performed by the University, and through the process of building infrastructure such as roads, the land that held gravesites for Ojibwe and Dakota ancestors was disturbed. Many artifacts and bones have been taken from the gravesites of Ojibwe and Dakota ancestors. "Now, this is a way for the University to expose the problem and address it and serve some meaning for tribes that have been traumatized," Commissioner Applegate said.

The disturbance of burial grounds is widespread across the state and the nation as a whole. It is not strictly an issue of the University. Here in the Mille Lacs Reservation area, it is a painful reminder of the past issues for Ojibwe and Dakota people. One example is the construction of State Highway 169, from Trout junction to Garrison, especially in the Wigwam Bay area.

According to the University's website, Minnesota Transform "will address transformational decolonial and racial justice in the University, Twin Cities, and state through public humanities

projects." It will strategically broaden and deepen previously established relationships with communities, and more importantly, hold the University accountable for its complicities in order to pave the way for redress, and build the University's capacity to be a site of racial justice.

The Mille Lacs Band is fortunate to have many working diligently to address the issues for the Band. The project was initiated by Tadd Johnson, former Solicitor General for the Band and professor at the University of Minnesota. He recognized the problem and brought it into view. "We are so appreciative of the work he has done, without him, this may have never come to fruition the way it has," Commissioner Applegate said.

Mike Wilson, Tribal DNR Archives has been working with the archaeology and medical teams at the University to identify bones and pieces of archaeological findings the University has found over the years. Mike is also working with the anthropology team to find out where the objects are and identify the objects with the hopes of being able to return items to the Band.

"The university is open to having discussions, with the possibility of returning the items to tribes. Our hope is they do decide to return items to where they belong, making it right and to correct these ills of the past," Commissioner Applegate said.

The TRUTH project falls under the umbrella of Minnesota Transform, a \$5 million higher education initiative grant funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The funding was divided among the Minnesota tribes to allow each tribe to participate and provide funding for tribal staff to conduct research and initiate policies. The Mille Lacs Band was awarded \$22,000 for this project.

Teams from across the state, tribal and University, meet weekly to discuss progress in each area and the Band's teams keep in constant contact to stay ahead of any issues and findings.

"What it boils down to when our people buried our loved

ones, it was with the purpose to never be disturbed. Our people back then could never imagine anyone would ever dig [graves] up in the future to put objects in trays for people to gawk at. That is so far off of what our people had in mind," Commissioner Applegate said. "We want to correct that ill to bring our loved ones back. We have a process in the Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) to bring our ancestors back to where they should be."

The TRUTH Project will continue for several months, according to Commissioner Applegate with a full report to be filed in the end.

"It will not solve all of the ills that have happened. Nothing can completely repair the destruction that has occurred, but we can heal from it. We will always be in a constant state of dealing with the trauma — we will have to carry the weight of that. And that can really have an effect on our people."

IMPROVED RADIOLOGY SERVICES AT NE-IA-SHING CLINIC

The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Health and Human Services has partnered with Regional Diagnostic Radiology (RDR) to provide x-ray services for patients at Ne-la-Shing Clinic with technology and radiologist support in a rapid turnaround timeframe for results.

"One of the key elements is we now have the capability to do on site radiology five days a week with radiologist support to our clinicians," said Jan Manary, Executive Director Health Services. "Prior, we only had two day a week coverage so many of our x-rays were sent out. Having this partnership improves quality and access to services. We are currently focusing on general radiology and as this builds the plan is to offer diagnostic radiology or referred procedures that are case-managed."

RDR radiologists possess radiology expertise in interventional, musculoskeletal, neuroradiology, body imaging, women's health, pain management, and more. RDR's radiologist experts have diverse specialties, many with radiology fellowship training in interventional, breast, neuro, and musculoskeletal imaging, and more.



STOCK PHOTO

MARCH 18, 2022

Treaty Rights Virtual Celebration

Follow us on Facebook for updates

www.facebook.com/mlbdnr

FLYERS WITH SPECIFIC RAFFLE DETAILS TO BE SHARED IN THE DAYS TO COME. STAY TUNED!



TREATY RIGHTS DAY CELEBRATION ON MARCH 18

On March 24, 1999, the United States Supreme Court ruled the Mille Lacs Band and seven other Chippewa bands will retain hunting, fishing, and gathering rights in the ceded territories. This day is celebrated each year by the Mille Lacs Band. The celebration this year on March 18 will once again be a virtual event. Watch for more details as information becomes available.

TRIBAL/COUNTY RELATIONS

From Page 1

can always be found.” She continued thanking Pine, Aitkin, Crow Wing, and Kanabec counties for their continuous positive relationships with the Mille Lacs Band, extending high praise to Pine County for being “outstanding and a good friend to the Mille Lacs Band.”

The speech also pointed to the strained and often tumultuous relationship between the Mille Lacs Band and Mille Lacs County citing the Band is currently “fighting over our existence.”

Chief Executive Benjamin added recognition to a new positive working relationship with Sherburne County citing the recent partnership project whereby members of Sherburne County invited the Band to be involved from the very beginning of project to protect and preserve cultural lands. “For two days in December Mille Lacs County and Sherburne County walked the halls of congress together,” Chief Executive Benjamin said. She added that the Band called on the relationships with the Department of Interior to establish listening sessions for the County and Band that proved, “together we are much stronger and there is so much potential when counties and tribes work together.”

Tim Sumner, Commissioner of Beltrami County and AMC Tribal Relations Chair, said he was proud to be a part of the event that day and expressed his gratitude. “This is pretty exciting to be expanding tribal relations. There are a lot of great relationships that we don’t often hear about. This is an opportunity to learn about each other and move forward in a good way. As a commissioner, we are always looking at how we can partner. We all have one common goal and that is to serve our people. It just seems right that we work together in a good way.”

The opportunities to learn more about each other became increasingly evident as Dr. Joseph Bauerkemper, Associate Professor, University of Minnesota Duluth Department of American Indian Studies facilitated the event with very clear expectations of “ultimately forging stronger relationships” with Minnesota tribes. One key message of advice to the audience was if they were ever unsure about what to do, what to say, or how to act, “just ask. That would be my guidance.”

He continued, “We are going to talk about the past, some history lessons. In order to understand the present, we need to understand the past — where and what we are. We are responsible for the future.”

He also requested that the audience focus on the presentations and think to themselves, “How does this connect to the work that I do? We want that always hovering over us thinking about what I can do now.”

The event was full of exceptional lessons in language and culture of the Mille Lacs Band, presented by Band member Bradley Harrington and history, presented by Tadd Johnson, Esq., Professor, University of Minnesota Duluth, and a powerful Indian Boarding School presentation by Mary Otto, Tribal State Relations Training Manager of MnDOT that left the audience reflecting in silence.

Day two of the event provided smaller breakout sessions with presentations on Human Services and the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), Law Enforcement and Tribal Courts, and Tribal lands and Land Use.

In summary, Dr. Bauerkemper said, “Minnesota shares the land with 11 federally recognized tribes. I hope you are able to leave here with a full understanding... I hope it strengthens your relationships.”



HONORING THE LATE JAMES CLARK

Central Lakes College Multicultural Center Opens “The Nest”

By MARY SAM — MAAJITAAZIBIIKWE

Central Lakes College hosted a grand opening of a multicultural center named “The Nest” on January 12, 2022. The late James Clark is featured on a stunning mural that spans the length of one wall. Jim’s son Randall was among many family members who attended the unveiling of the mural. Randall said “My father was a man who taught a lot of people about culture and language. He believed in building peaceful relationships with anyone he encountered. It was an honor to be here this unveiling of a mural that praised and recognized our dad.”

The mural, created by CLC alumni and local to the Mille Lacs community, Kira Moses, features prominent portraits of global diverse leaders, whose lives impacted race relations, civil rights, human rights, environmental rights, and social justice.

The late and honorable James Clark, was selected by the Central Lakes College Nest steering committee student leaders to have a place in this powerful mural. Others leaders include: Chief Hole-in-the-Day, Winona LaDuke, Jim Clark, Martin Luther King Jr., Angela Davis, John Lewis, Malala Yousafzai, Megan Rapinoe, Marsha P. Johnson, George Takei and Cesar Chavez.

The Nest will offer cultural and student support, events, a

cultural barbershop and student club activities.

CLC President Hara Charlier said “We’ve always known we needed a center like this to live up to our commitment in our heart to build futures. We needed to elevate our commitment to diversity, to equity, to social justice, and to anti-racism. We knew that. We needed this to be a place where every single student belongs and to be truly inclusive.”

Mille Lacs Band Elder Joe Nayquonabe, Sr., who is a parent of children who have attended Central Lakes College, also a former Ojibwe instructor at the college, provided a cultural welcome and invocation for the grand opening event. Joe talked about the importance of having a space that is welcoming

to students from different backgrounds, so they can get to know one another and build relationships.”

Like the late James Clark, who was a mentor to Joe, he noted “If we don’t know each other, there’s a lot of suspicions, a lot of fears, a lot of unknowns. You’ve got to get to know one another. We need one another. We

need to do this work together, and this place will help. This is really a good thing and so beautiful.”

“Anishinaabe have lived in this area for a very long time, but some people don’t really know much about us. And, I think when people know each other better, when they familiarize themselves with each other, they are more relaxed with each other. It’s like when you wake up in the morning and it’s snowed outside. Everything looks different, but we’ve seen snow all of our lives so we don’t worry about the difference because it is familiar.”

The late, James Clark



Randy Clark, and son Jason Clark (and other extended family members not pictured) attending the grand-opening of the student center, in honor of their father, uncle, respected elder.

SOLO ART EXHIBIT

PREMO PREMIERS 'AVENUES OF CREATION'

NEWS RELEASE

PHOTOS BY B. J. ROACHE, JR.

Avenues of Creation

The Native American Community Development Institute (NACDI) and All My Relations Arts is presenting Avenues of Creation, a solo exhibition from Mille Lacs Band member Steven Premo. The event is running now through April 16.

Through his lifelong artistic career, multi-disciplinary artist and designer, Band member Steve Premo has learned that there are many different avenues for creation, and each requires a particular medium. In his Twin Cities solo exhibition debut, Steve reflects his pride in his Ojibwe heritage through a variety of retrospective works highlighting narratives of the Mille Lacs Ojibwe people and the evolution of Ojibwe art forms.

A self-taught artist and designer, Steve's artistic practice takes many forms including graphic designer, illustrator, fine artist, muralist, and fabric designer, all contributing to the legacy of the Mille Lacs Band. His public work can be seen at the Hinckley Minnesota Fire Museum, in the Mille Lacs and Hinckley Casinos, Grand Makwa Cinema, in the Mille Lacs band Government Center and District 3 Health Care Center, and Lac Courte Oreilles Cultural Center. For Avenues of Creation, Steve examines and celebrates traditional Ojibwe art traditions in thoroughly contemporary ways.

"At Mille Lacs today, we are the descendants of Ojibwe leaders, men and women, who refused to leave our homelands at the turn of the century," said Steve. "They continued to harvest rice and maple syrup, hunt and fish, as we do today. My art takes its inspiration from our lifeways and history, and from those men and women who offered decades of consistent and strong leadership. If we cease our traditions, we cease to be Native people. Even though I work in contemporary arts forms—painting, illustrations, textile design—I hope to advance the idea that Ojibwe art forms are both old and new and are not limited to birch bark and the materials our ancestors used (though I also love those mediums), but rather have evolved just as we have evolved in the modern day. Ojibwe



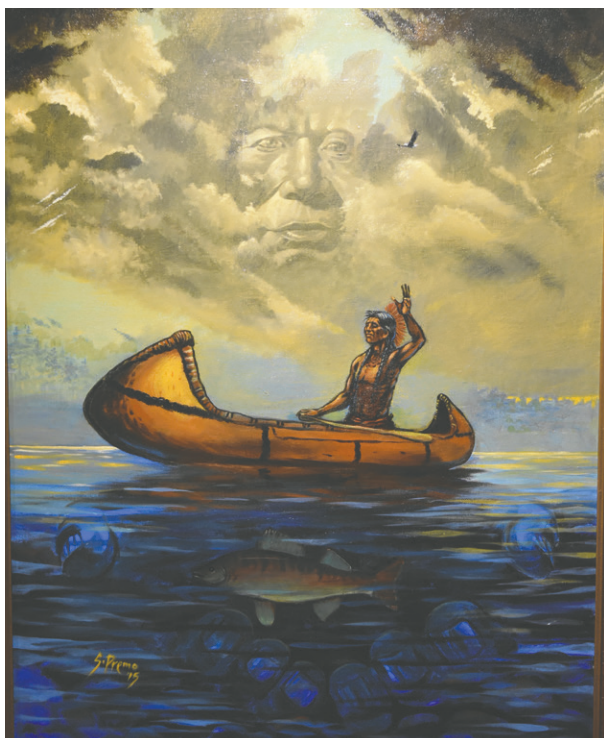
AVENUES OF CREATION

Band member Steve Premo's premier solo exhibition runs now through April 16, 2022 at All My Creations Gallery in Minneapolis.

art is just as relevant to the community today as ever, and our traditions can be passed on in thoroughly contemporary ways. My own art is a reminder of our history and the continuation of our existence and expresses our cultural influence across the community and beyond."

Steve is a proud enrolled Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe member who is nationally known for his paintings, murals, illustrations, and graphic design. Steve's concepts are prominently featured in educational materials utilized throughout public elementary, secondary schools, and private institutions. More than 500 of his illustrations and graphics have been published by the Minnesota Historical Society Press, Minneapolis Public Schools, Hazelden Treatment Center, Grand Casino Inc., and

the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe. He has designed logos for individuals, professional organizations and special events. His formal art training includes time at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design, the University of Minnesota-Minneapolis, and the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe (attended with recommendation by then Governor of Minnesota.) Steve has also provided art direction and instruction for the Minnesota State Department of Education, the Minneapolis Public Schools, Heart of the Earth Survival School, LCO Tribal School, and various art organizations. Steve's passion for art and for his people are reflected in all that he creates.



POWERFUL

Artwork by Steve Premo titled, "We Are The Custodians" currently on display at All My Creations Gallery in Minneapolis



CAPTIVATING

Artwork by Steve Premo titled, "Let's Walk" currently on display at All My Creations Gallery in Minneapolis.



This presentation is titled, "Indigenizing The Oval Office" with wall painting titled "Free the Slave, Slay the Free" by Steve Premo currently on display at All My Creations Gallery in Minneapolis.

1837 TREATY RIGHTS

HISTORIC LEGAL BATTLE ENDED ON MARCH 24, 1999

By DON WEDLL and TADD JOHNSON

TREATY RIGHTS OF THE MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE

The first Treaty to which the Mille Lacs Band signed was the Treaty of 1825 at Prairie du Chien. This Treaty noted the different locations for the various Minnesota Tribes at the time. It specifically identified the territories of Dakota, Ho Chunk, Menominee, Sauk and Fox, and the Ojibwe. The Ojibwe were to remain in the North – which by 1825 had become their homelands.

The Treaty of 1837 was a land cession treaty. This Treaty sold land in northern Wisconsin and East Central Minnesota to the United States and is now called the “1837 Ceded Territory”. It also noted that the Ojibwe had hunting, fishing, and gathering rights on all their lands identified in the Treaty of 1825. The 1837 Treaty expressly reserved the rights for the Treaty signatories to hunt, fish, and gather wild rice on the Ceded Territory. These rights were as important as the right to breath air or drink the water.

Next in 1855 there was another land cession in Minnesota and the establishment of several Reservations. The “Chippewa of the Mississippi” had six (6) reservations identified and they were Mille Lacs Band, Sandy Lake, Gull Lake, Rabbit Lake, Rice Lake, and Pokegama.

The next came the Treaties of 1863/1864. Article 12 of the Treaties noted that because of their good behavior in the Dakota War, the Mille Lacs Band would not be removed. They became known as the “non-removal” Mille Lacs Band, and later the “Non-Removable” Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe.

All of the treaties were about the land and control of it. Tribal people had to remind the Federal Government of the rights reserved by the signatories to the Treaties. This was the case of the Treaty of 1837 and the reserved right to hunt, fish, and gather wild rice. For many years, the State DNR and game wardens would penalize members of the signatory tribes for exercising their Treaty rights.


For many years tribal leaders wrote letters, talked with government officials, and met with elected officials to explain their concerns. The leadership at Mille Lacs Reservation did the same. One leader at Mille Lacs, Mou Zoo Mau Nay, a member of the wolf clan, spent his lifetime working on the rights for Mille Lacs Band members. In his obituary it stated the sad facts and yet provided hope for the future. It stated the following, “The old Chief lived to see this stipulation violated by the government, though he died firmly believing that eventually, the Mille Lac [sic] Indians would get their rights.” (September, 1897 obituary)

In the 1980s, Chairman Gahbow wanted Mille Lacs to join the Wisconsin tribe's fight for the 1837 Treaty rights. In 1984 Chairman Gahbow went to a meeting of the Wisconsin tribes who had won the Voigt Case, and he asked them if Mille Lacs could be included in the decision. The Wisconsin Ojibwe Bands agreed, and this was the first step in the implementation of the 1837 Treaty rights to hunt, fish, and gather.

The Mille Lacs Band members could exercise treaty rights in Wisconsin but could not use them in Minnesota. The State of Minnesota refused to recognize the right in Minnesota. Minnesota could do this because Minnesota was in the 8th Federal Circuit Court and Wisconsin was in the 7th Federal Circuit Court. This meant that Mille Lacs would have to litigate its rights in Federal Court.

Chairman Gahbow organized his staff and gave directives for how the Band should proceed. His first directive was to find the best legal firm in the United States to litigate the case. A Seattle firm was noted for fighting for tribal rights in the Pacific Northwest and winning. This firm hired a young lawyer, Marc

Supreme Court Upholds Mille Lacs Band's Treaty Rights!!



Chief Executive Marge Anderson and Secretary/Treasurer Herb Weyaus spoke to the media, Elders and others at a news conference shortly after the U.S. Supreme Court handed down its decision.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

On March 24, 1999, The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe held a press conference in front of the Government Center shortly after the United States Supreme Court ruled in favor of the Band and seven other Chippewa bands to uphold the Treaty of 1837, which grants the bands the right to hunt, fish and gather on land in east-central Minnesota.

“Today, the United States kept a promise — a promise that our rights are not just words on paper,” said Marge Anderson, the Chief Executive of the Mille Lacs Band at the time.

These photos first appeared on the front page of Mille Lacs Band newsletter, “The Mille Lacs Band News” April 1999.

Slonim, who was assigned the Mille Lacs case.

The firm did a legal analysis of the Band's Treaty rights and it was agreed that the 1837 Treaty was the best way to litigate the treaty rights of Band. The Band was also working through a reorganization of the government structure called Separation of Powers and creating Departments to provide services to the Band. The creation of the Band's Department of Natural Resources was assigned to litigate the hunting, fishing, and gathering rights.

It took the Band's DNR from 1984 to 1990 to raise the one-half million dollars to bring the suit. Each of those years Chairman Gahbow directed the Commissioner of Natural Resources, Don Wedll, to file the lawsuit. And finally, in August of 1990 the case was filed and the state of Minnesota requested to negotiate a settlement of the lawsuit.

Sadly, in 1991 Chairman Gahbow passed away without seeing the Bands rights acknowledged.

Marge Anderson became the new Chief Executive of the Mille Lacs Band. The Band and the State continued to negotiate for three years and arrived at a settlement in 1993. The Band held a referendum vote to approve the settlement. Prior to the referendum vote, there were public hearings held in the Band communities discussing the settlement and Elders were very concerned that the agreement would not be changed after the vote. This was promised and the settlement passed with about 60 percent of the members supporting the settlement.

Next the State of Minnesota had to pass the settlement. There were numerous public hearings held explaining the settlement. There were groups organized against the settlement. The Minnesota State Legislature failed to pass the settlement.

This led to the Band proceeding to Federal Court and in June 1994 the trial started. There were protests by anti-treaty groups. The case was heard in front of Federal Judge Murphy, with Marc Slonim and John Arum presenting the Band's case.

The trial lasted three weeks. The State of Minnesota and

Citizen groups presented their arguments.

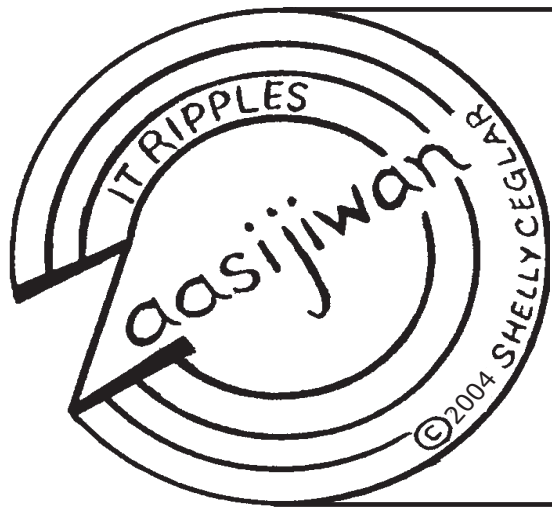
In October of 1994 the court ruled that the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe had retained the rights to hunt, fish, and gather within the 1837 ceded territory. The second phase of the case was to determine how the Band would implement these rights. This second phase was held in 1997 and determined how the Band would implement the rights were agreed to. The Wisconsin Ojibwe had intervened in the case asserting their rights as well. The second phase ruled on things like netting, deer hunting season, fishing, gathering, and how would the resources be shared.

After these two rulings by the Federal District Court, the State and Citizen groups appealed the decisions to the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals. This Court upheld lower court rulings. The State and Citizen groups then appealed to United States Supreme Court. The Band did not think that the Supreme Court would hear the case because there was not disagreement between the 7th Circuit and the 8th Circuit. However, the Supreme Court did accept the case, and hearing was held in Washington D.C.

The Band Governments conducted several ceremonies before the hearing. A run from Wisconsin to Washington D. C. was done. The three members of the Mille Lacs that made that run were: Donald Graves, Joel Shaugobay, and Eric Gahbow.

In March 1999 the Supreme Court ruled in a 5-to-4 decision affirming the rights to hunt, fish, and gather under the Treaty of 1837. The struggle to uphold the 1837 Treaty was fought by the ancestors of this generation, and rights have now passed on to the current generation, and future generations will always have these rights.

This fight to retain Treaty rights, and the people who fought for them, from the Chiefs of the 19th Century to the Tribal Leaders at the end of the 20th century, should be remembered and celebrated.



Biboon naawaakwaa.

Biboong, gidondamanokiimin. Gigotaamigiozimin.
 Gigizheb, gigwaaba'waawangwaanaan goon. Apane gibagidinise.
 Onaagoshing, gidadibaajimomin. Gigotaamigozimin. Ginaadamaagemin.
 Gibaamenimaanaanig abinoojiiyag. Gijiibaakwemin. Gibiinichigemin.
 Gimazingwaasomin. Gigizhaadigemin Akiing.

It is winter in the middle of the woods.

(While it is winter, we all keep busy with work. We are all good workers.
 In the morning, we shovel snow. All the time we put more wood on the fire. When
 it is evening, we tell stories. We are good providers. We help others.
 We care for the children. We cook. We clean.
 We do beadwork. We watch over things on the land/Earth.)

Bezbig—1

OJIBWEMOWIN (Ojibwe Language)

There are 4 distinct verb classifications, each with certain rules for sound changes for meaning. This column is written in the standardized double vowel writing system of Ojibwemowin.

—Long vowels: AA, E, II, OO

Waabang—as in father

Miigwech—as in jay

Anokjii—as in seen

Zoogipong—as in moon

—Short Vowels: A, I, O

Gaye—as in about

Nimi—as in tin

Omaa—as in only

—A glottal stop is a voiceless nasal sound as in A'aw.

—Respectfully enlist an elder for help in pronunciation and dialect differences.

VAI-First Person Plural—We & We all (includes you)

In the VAI (verb, animate, intransitive) verb class, conjugate for **we** (exclusive/me and others) & **we all** (inclusive/me, others & you).

Anokii.—He or she works.

Nindanokiimin.—We exclusive work.

Gidanokiimin.—We inclusive work.

Baapi.—He or she laughs.

Nimbaapimin.—We exc laugh.

Gibaapimin.—We all laugh.

Minwendam.—He/She is glad.

Niminwendaamin.—We are glad.

Giminwendaamin.—We all are glad.

Niizh—2

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

A. Gashkii-dibikak, goshkokaayaang, nindaazhikwemin.

B. Apane, waabamang a'aw migizi, giminwendaamin.

C. Waabang, onishkaayang gigiziiyaabide'omin.

D. Zoogipong agwajiing aangidinong ninzhoomingwenimin gema nimawimin.

E. Mikwamiwadamong, ninzegendaamin gaye.

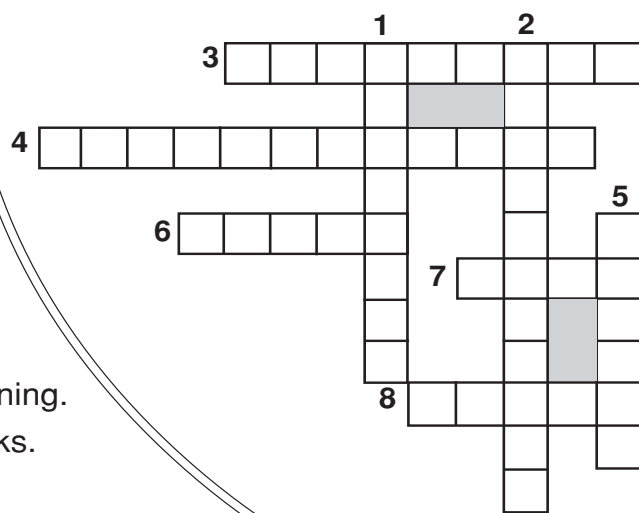
F. Maazhi-giizhigak, anokiwigamigong, gigashkendaamin.

G. Giiwendinong omaa, gidawazomin. Mii'iw, miigwech.

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

Niswi—3

IKIDOWIN ODAMINOWIN (word play)



Down:

- North
- When it is evening.
- He or she works.

Across:

- When it snows
- Children
- Always
- Snow
- He or she dances.

Niiwin—4

VAI—We and We all A & B form

A-form—(full sentence by itself)

Nagamo.—S/he sings.

Ninagamomin.—We (exc) sing.

Ginagamomin.—We (incl) sing.

B-form—(If, When, or While..., ...)

Nagamoyaang, niniimimin.

—When we (exc) sing, we dance.

Nagamoyang, gimiiminin.

—When we (inc) sing, we all dance.

Goojitoon! Try it!
Translation below.

1. Maamawi niimi____, minwendaagwad.

2. Zaaga'iganing biboong ____akwa'waa____.

3. Zhooshkwaada'e____, gisinaa.

4. Giiwe-biboong zhaawanong ____biboonishi____.

5. Noongom ____minwenda____, Ojibwemoyang.

nind...min

nim...min

gi...amin

yaang

yang

Translations:

Niizh—2 A. When it is dark as night, when we are startled, we scream. B. Always, when we all see him/her, that eagle, we all are happy. C. At dawn, when we get up, we brush our teeth. D. When it is snowing outside, sometimes we smile or we cry. E. When it is icy roads, we are nervous also. F. If it is a bad day at the workplace, we are sad. G. To the north here, we stay warm by the fire. That's it, thank-you.

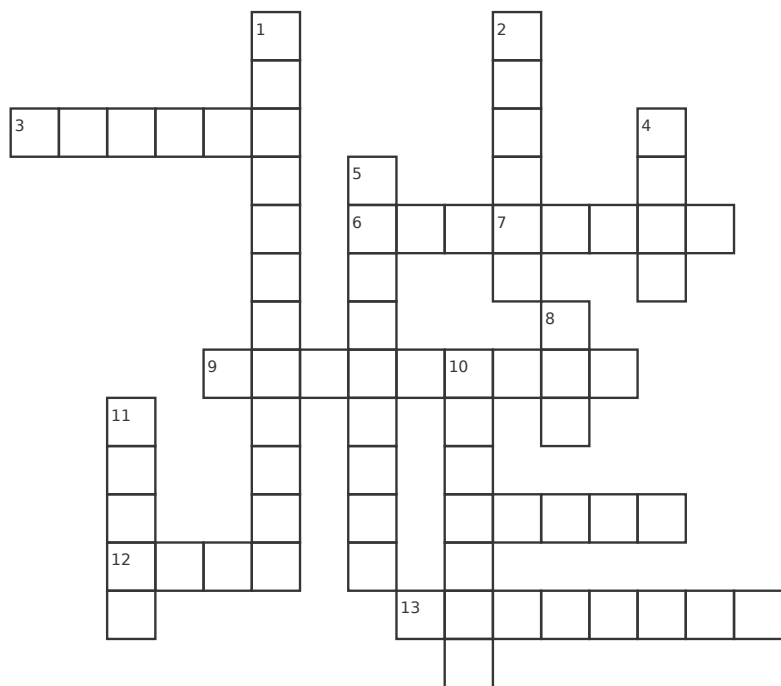
Niswi—3 Down: 1. Giiwedini 2. Onaagoshing 5. Anokii Across: 3. Zoogipong 4. Abinoojiiyag 6. Apane 7. Goon 8. Niimi

Niiwin—4 1. Together when we all (inc yang) dance, it is fun. 2. At the lake in winter we (exc nind...min) fish through the ice with a spear. 3. When we (exc yaang) go skating, it is cold weather. 4. When it is late winter to the south, we (exc nim...min) spend the winter. 5. Now we all (inc gi...amin) are happy when we all speak Ojibwe.

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 world 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.

AAZHAWAAKWASING ONAABANI-GIIZIS

By Nazhike Mille Lacs Band Member



Down:

1. I am cooking.
2. Giwii-___ ina?(Do you want to eat?)
4. Ninamadab ___(I am sitting here.)
5. S/he is cooking.
8. In___-wiisin (I did eat)
10. Mii ___ ji-azhe-giiweyaan(It is time for me to go home.)
11. Aaniin ___ (what way?)

Across:

3. ___ a'aw(who is that?)
6. I am going ___
7. S/he is going ___
9. Sit!
12. ___-giiwe(S/he goes home.)
13. ___ i'iw(what is that?)

GRATITUDE + LABOR + HONOR

By Nazhike Mille Lacs Band Member

When the world reawakens, the Anishinaabe expresses gratitude. There are ways that we were given to express our gratitude. As the trees bud or the ice opens or the sap starts flowing, we use our Asemaa. You can put as much gratitude into asemaa as you want. A little goes a long way. Using your Shinaabe name is the delivery method. Its like a return address on an envelope. The receiver of the offering knows who it came from. The manidoog can tell who it came from by hearing the message contained as well. There is nothing the manidoog can't do. Either way, please use your name. If you don't have one, find someone in our community that does give names.

Feasts are also a common way to express gratitude. We offer the food to the manidoog on behalf of our relatives and fellow Anishinaabeg. As we go around and eat the food, we are accepting the food on behalf of the manidoog and using our own spirit, transport the offering to the spirit world. Once again, a Shinaabe name is very helpful. We act as a sort of conduit utilizing our spirit to get offerings in the form of food to the manidoog.

Partaking in the cultural harvest is yet another great way to express gratitude. Remember, our people have done this for a very long time. Much like how intergenerational trauma is passed on throughout the generations, gratitude can. Our beings have been doing these activities since the beginning of time. Our spirits really enjoy performing these tasks and are nourished by these actions. Plenty of labor but as a very smart Shinaabekwe puts it that it is a, "Labor of Love and Healing." Having a nourished spirit counteracts negative energy.

Placing these together, we form a Shinaabe cycle of spiritual



energy. It's all connected as they say. The gratitude goes as far as how much we harvest. Take only what you need is the teaching. This gratitude is placed toward the beings that are allowing us to harvest them. Maple Sap, Fish, Animals and so on agreed to give life to the anishinaabe so long as we never take more than what we need.

As a community, our need for healing is high. It is a top priority. Getting back to gratitude and honoring the beings and nourishing our spirits as individuals contributes to the overall healing of us as Anishinaabeg.

Miigwech

GIDINWEWINAAN — OUR WAY OF SOUND

By Nazhike Mille Lacs Band Member

Gidinwewininaan- Our way of Sound

As the Anishinaabe goes out their day, common words come in to play. Whether we work, spend time with family or out by ourselves, there are words that are used regularly. Using these words will build and amplify your view of the world around you. Nourishing the spirit and honoring the manidoog, this perspective will aid us in bringing our language back.

Jiibaakwe = S/he is cooking. (Jee bah kway)

Ninjiibaakwe = I am cooking. (Nin jee bah kway)

Giwii-wiisin ina? = Do you want to eat? (Gih wee wee sin in nuh)

Ingii-wiisin = I did eat (In gee wee sin)

Indizhaa _____ = I am going _____ (In dizh zhah)

Izhaa _____ = S/he is going _____ (Izh zhah)

Namadabin = Sit! (Num mud dub bin)

Ninamadab omaa = I am sitting here. (Nin num mud dub oh mah)

Azhe-giiwe = S/he goes home. (Uh zhay gee way)

Mii azhigwa ji-azhe-giiweyaan = It is time for me to go home. (Mee uh zhig wuh jih uh zhay gee way yawn)

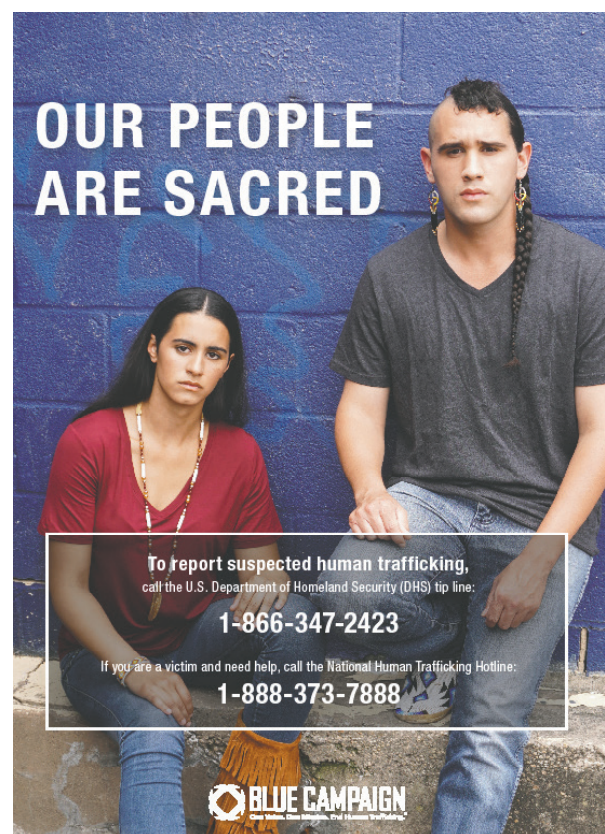
Awegonen i'iw = what is that? (Uh way go nayn ih ew)

Awenen a'aw = who is that? (Uh way nayn uh ow)

Aaniin keyaa = what way? (Ah neen kay yah)

Use everyday to build your Ojibwemowin!!
Miigwech

You can hear many words and sentences pronounced by native speakers at ojibwe.lib.umn.edu.





AROUND THE RESERVATION DECOY MANIA

By MASHKODE-BIZHIKIGAHBAW → BENJI SAM

Leading the life of a fisherman, I have always had to be creative in ways to lure and attract bigger and better fish. This is not a new concept as many companies often pour thousands of dollars a year into product development of lures, plastics, and decoys. I can remember in the not-so-distant past it was not uncommon to spend a few evenings every fall with my dad working on our own spearing decoys to attract the big one.

Our work began in the summertime while harvesting wiigob from the basswood tree on the first horribly warm, muggy day. After harvesting wiigob for our decorative wiigwaas canoes, baskets, etc. we always intend to use the entire tree. Once a tree was stripped of its bark, we would notch the bottom of that tree to fall and dry out for the remainder of the summer. We would then collect this wood during deer season to begin decoy making when the weather began to turn cold.

This basswood makes for great carving because it is light, soft, and often keeps its shape without splintering. Historically, white pine and cedar made for great carving wood for decoys as well due to their strength, water repellent nature, and great buoyancy.

I remember watching my dad and uncle Don Wedll as they both took a different approach to their carvings. Dad had the mind of an engineer and would measure, draw, cut, re-measure, draw, cut again, and sand until the shape took form while Uncle Don would sit down with a piece of wood, a vision, and a small pocketknife to complete the job.

Over the years we spent plenty of time playing around with the perfect size, weight, color, and action — spending hours on end in the spearing shack waiting for a curious, hungry fish to swim by. It wasn't uncommon for us to bring out five to ten decoys into the spear house each winter, but we always seemed to leave something with red/white or fluorescent tied on. As fishermen we often will spend so much time trying new attractants, but sometimes sticking to your guns seemed to produce year in and out.

Decoy making is a small piece of our culture's history and one that can help fill the winter months or kill time while boil-



QUITE THE COLLECTION OF DECOYS

Thirty plus years worth of making and collecting decoys cumulated into one picture. Many of these decoys were used year in and out by the Sam's and typically they found chartreuse, white, and red combinations often attracted the most fish. Northern and walleye both seemed to enjoy a smaller presentation as many modern decoys are longer than 10-12 inches.

ing sap in the spring. As I looked back through our collection of decoys, most homemade and some bought at auctions, each tells its own story and holds a memory as tall as the fishermen who used them. I came to the realization that I have not spent nearly enough time with a carving knife and sandpaper in my

hands these last few years. This is an art and skill I am going to spend more time on in the next few months with a growing love and appreciation for sitting in a spear house. This is just another way I can help keep our cultural crafts alive and I can't wait to add to our collection.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Victor Moctazuma, 16 years old from Onamia, District I, who speared this nice 36-inch ginoozhe on Saturday, February 12, 2022. This was his first time out spearing and this was his first throw of the spear. Victor is also the first Mille Lacs Band member youth to spear a pike in one of the Mille Lacs Band DNR spear houses.

"This is why biindaakoozh (our offerings) are so important," said DNR Cultural Resources Director Ga be giizhig — Todd Moilanen, "Victor put out his Asemaa and was honored with a ginoozhe."

Todd is just one of the many DNR staff who are assisting Band members to learn not only the skills necessary for spearing, but also the cultural significance.

"It is safe to say Victor will be back. He is pretty excited about it now," Todd added.



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Developed with guidance from the community, the American Indian Quitline from Quit Partner offers completely free and specially designed support to help you, or someone you know, quit commercial tobacco.

HOW WE CAN HELP
Please call the American Indian Quitline at 1-833-9AI-QUIT (1-833-924-7648). If you live in Minnesota, you can get the following free help to quit commercial tobacco:

- A dedicated team of American Indian coaches who understand your culture and respect your traditions.
- Up to 10 calls with the coaches, allowing you to get to know them.
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GRAND CASINO MILLE LACS

SUMMER JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH

JUNIOR AMBASSADOR

Calling all community youth ages 15, 16, and 17 to join our team at Grand Casino Mille Lacs!

We're on a mission to develop a strong team of future leaders, which is why we are offering various employment opportunities this summer. Now is your chance to jumpstart your work experience, gaining knowledge and skills in areas of interest to you, by learning about Grand Casino operations.

Our goal is for you to succeed, which is why we will guide

you throughout your career with us by offering training and development opportunities that match your future education and career interests. We strongly believe that connecting who you are with what you love will keep you moving forward.

If you're interested in more information, please contact Lana Oswaldson, Band Member Recruitment Manager, at Grand Casino Mille Lacs via email at LOswaldson@grcasinos.com or call 320-532-8202.

GRAND CASINO SUMMER JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Calling All Community Youth (Ages 15, 16, & 17)

Ready to earn some SUMMER CASH? Join our team at Grand Casino Mille Lacs!

We're on a mission to develop a strong team of future leaders, which is why we are offering various employment opportunities this summer. Now is your chance to jumpstart your work experience, gaining knowledge and skills in areas of interest to you, by learning about Grand Casino operations.

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Interested in learning more? Please contact Lana Oswaldson, Band Member Recruitment Manager at (320) 532-8202, to schedule a meeting via Zoom and/or in person.

Let your story begin.™

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AROUND THE RESERVATION

CEREMONIAL DANCE DATES SPRING 2022

Mic and Syngen

Mille Lacs, April 1 - 2

Andy and Steve

Mille Lacs, April 8 - 9

Lynda and LeAnn

Mille Lacs, April 15 - 16

Joe and George

Mille Lacs, April 22 - 23

Joe and Sheldon

Mille Lacs, May 6 - 7

Darrell and Skip

Lake Lena, May 13 - 14

Vince and Dale

East Lake, May 20 - 21

Lee and Mike

Lake Lena, May 20 - 21

Tim and Tom

East Lake, May 27 - 28

Niib and Iyaabens

East Lake, June 3 - 4

Bob and John

Mille Lacs, June 10 - 11

Vern and Russ

Sawyer, MN, March 18 - 19

Ladies Drum

Round Lake, WI, March 25 - 26

PET CLINICS SCHEDULED FOR ALL DISTRICTS

Mark your calendar for 2022 clinics!

Aazhoomog (Lake Lena): April 2022. MN SNAP surgeries Saturday, April 2. Second Hand Hounds (SHH) wellness Saturday and Sunday, April 2 and 3. District III Community Center.

Hinckley: April 2022. MN SNAP surgeries Saturday, April 16. SHH wellness Saturday and Sunday, April 16 and 17 at Meshakwad Community Center.

Minisinaakwaang (East Lake): May 2022. MN SNAP surgeries Saturday, May 7. SHH wellness Saturday and Sunday, May 7 and 8, at District II East Lake Community Center.

Chiminising: May 2022. MN SNAP surgeries Saturday, May 21. SHH wellness Saturday and Sunday, May 21 and 22, at District IIa (Isle) Chiminising Community Center.

The annual District I SIRVS Clinic will be held the second weekend in November.

AROUND THE RESERVATION

DISTRICT I PET CLINIC PHOTOS

Tails were wagging and cats were purring at the District I pet clinic in February. These events are made possible through Student Initiative for Reservation Veterinary Services (SIRVS) the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine, serving reservation communities throughout Minnesota.



MEKWENIMINJIG

THE ONES WHO ARE REMEMBERED

Jiiwegwegaabawiikwe

Paula Lynn Benjamin

Jiiwegwegaabawiikwe, Paula Lynn Benjamin, age 55 of Minneapolis, Minnesota died on January 27, 2022. Visitation was at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, February 2, 2022, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Reservation. A Funeral Ceremony was held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, February 3, 2022, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Reservation with Ombishkebines officiating. Interment will be in the Vineland Burial Grounds. Arrangements are with the Shelley Funeral Chapel of Onamia.



Jiiwegwegaabawiikwe, Paula Lynn Benjamin was born on September 3, 1966, in Onamia, Minnesota to Pauline Benjamin and Douglas Eagle. She loved being around her family, coloring, solving crossword puzzles, she was always laughing and joking around, and listening to music and watching TV. She will be greatly missed by all.

Paula is survived by her sons, Randy Belcourt Jr., Lawrence Sullivan; daughters, Angel Benjamin, Aimee Sullivan, Toni Sullivan; sisters, Andrea Leigh Mitchell, and Candace Eagle; brother, Paul Wayne Benjamin; aunt, Doris Kegg; her grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her son, Del Anthony Benjamin; parents, Pauline Benjamin and Douglas Eagle; uncles, Fritz, Oliver, Delbert, Gordon, Perry Benjamin; aunts, Louella Peel, and Susan Weyaus; niece, Cheyenne Mitchell, Nephew Trent Mitchell; grandparents, George and Hannah (Pendegayosh) Benjamin.

Zaagaajiw

Clarence "Tarz" Boyd

Zaagaajiw, Clarence "Tarz" Boyd age 81, of Brainerd, Minnesota died on February 2, 2022. Visitation was at 6 p.m. on Saturday, February 5, 2022, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Reservation. A Funeral Ceremony was held at 10 a.m. on Sunday, February 6, 2022, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Reservation with Nazhike officiating. Interment will be in the Boyd Burial Grounds.



Zaagaajiw, Clarence Roy Boyd was born on August 9, 1940, in Onamia, Minnesota to the late Daisy and Dan Boyd. He worked for Burlington Northern Railroad, the Scorpio Snowmobile Plant in Crosby, after 22 years with MN DOT from which he retired. Clarence then served as an Appellate Judge for the Mille lacs Band of Ojibwe. Clarence and wife, Irene were foster parents for the Band for several years. He enjoyed traveling, going to the casinos, and being with family. Clarence enjoyed telling jokes, making people laugh, and listening to classic country music.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Irene Boyd; his son, Dan Boyd; and his daughters, Bonnie Boyd, Shelly Boyd, Judy Boyd, Tanya Boyd; sisters, Bette Sam and Deloris Hegland; and grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Daisy & Dan Boyd; son, Clinton Boyd, brother, Dan Boyd Jr., Robert Boyd Sr., and William Boyd Sr. sisters, Juanita Weyaus, and Dinah Boyd.

Ahngokwe

Brandi Nikole Hill —

Brandi Nikole Hill "Ahngokwe" died on Friday, January 28, 2022. She was 32 years old.

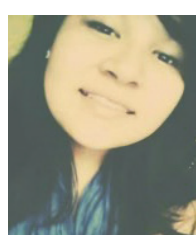


Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 2, 2022 at Aazhoomog Community Center with Skip Churchill officiating. Visitation was at dusk on Tuesday, February 1, 2022 also at the center. Burial was at Stevens Lake Cemetery.

Asin

Tahnisha Sam —

Asin, Tahnisha Sam age 25, died on February 9, 2022. Visitation was at 6 p.m. on Saturday, February 12, 2022, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Reservation. A Funeral Ceremony was held at 10 a.m. on Sunday, February 13, 2022, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Reservation with Ombishkebines officiating. Interment will be in Indian Point Burial Grounds.



Asin, Tahnisha Sam was born on August 16, 1996, in Saint Cloud, Minnesota to Vivian Sam and Kevin Stobb. She enjoyed being with her children, friends, and we'ehs. Tahnisha liked to spend her time on Facebook and Snapchat. She was always there for others and will be missed by all.

Asin is survived by her parents, Kevin (Marie) Stobb and Vivian Sam; significant other, Chaz Blake; sons, Kaelin White Eagle, Andrew Blake; daughter, Aria Blake; brothers, Austin Stobb, Rylee Stobb, Blake Stobb, Caleb Stobb, Michael Christensen, Dallas Sam, Clayton Benjamin Jr., Mason Sam; sisters, Gabriella Stobb, Christina Pike, April Weyaus, Savannah Boyd, Harmonie Boyd, Sally Sam, Joslyn Sam, Larissa Weyaus, Tes Sam; grandparents, Ron Smith, and Gladys Sam, and Joyce Stobb; and many brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, We'ehs and friends.

She was preceded in death by grandmother, Myrna Garbow; papa, Myron Garbow; great-grandmother, Nancy Ann Garbow; and uncles, Pete Sam, and Vince Stobb.

Ozaawaanakwad

Zachary Matthew Madsen

Zachary Matthew Madsen, of Hinckley, Minnesota, passed away on February 8, 2022. He was 35 years old.



Zach was born in Duluth and attended Barnum schools.

Zach loved gaming, animals, and children. Family was very important to Zach. He was exceptionally close with his mother Bonita Lucas, they were never far apart.

He is preceded in death by his mother Bonita Lucas.

Zach is survived by his father Jerry Madsen of Moose Lake, sister Tracey Gebhart of Isle, twin brother Zane Madsen of Morris, brother Jackson (Brandi) Locke of Grand Rapids, sister Corrin Locke of Minneapolis, nieces and nephews; Joe, Jack, Bella, Peyton and Lucas.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, February 12, 2022 at Aazhoomog Community Center with Brad "Nazhike" Harrington officiating. Visitation was at dusk on Friday, February 11, 2022 also at the center.

This page is offered as a service to those families who would like to share the news of their loved ones' passing. Please submit memorials for Mekweniminjig to news@millelacsband.com. Photos are accepted but not required.

Bebiskaneyaash

Todd Michael Sam

Bebiskaneyaash, Todd Sam, age 53, of Wahkon, Minnesota died on February 8, 2022. Visitation was at 6 p.m. on Friday, February 11, 2022, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Reservation. A Funeral Ceremony was held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, February 12, 2022, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Reservation with Ombishkebines officiating. Interment will be in the Indian Point Burial Grounds.

Bebiskaneyaash, Todd Michael Sam was born on May 20, 1968, in Minneapolis, Minnesota to Clarence Sam, Sr. and Patricia Sutton. He enjoyed traveling with family, going to car shows, and attending the fair. Todd liked to spend his time with his nieces and nephews, playing pool, listening to classic country music, and being with his fur baby, Sarge.

He is survived by his sisters, Rhonda (Fran Free) Sam, Jana Sam, Karen Sam; brother, Dustin Sam; nephews, Jayson Sam Sr., Matthew Chapel Jr., Derek Greenfeather Jr., Jayson Sam Jr; special nephew (son), Kelly Sam; nieces, Allison Jones, Kathy Jones, Tricia Jones, Nikki Sam, Tianna Sam, Alicianna Sam Jurnee Chapel; and special niece, Kinney "Beebs" Sam.

Todd was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Curtis, Clarence Jr. Robin, Kelly; and grandparents; aunts and uncles.



NaaWaaKweGiiZhig Douglas Rodney Sam

Naawaakwegiizhig, Douglas Sam, age 55 of Onamia, MN, died on February 22, 2022. Visitation was at 7 p.m Friday, February 25, 2022, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Reservation. A Funeral Ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, February 26, 2022, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Reservation with Nazhike officiating. Interment will be in the Vineland Burial Grounds. Arrangements are with the Shelley Funeral Chapel of Onamia.

Naawaakwegiizhig, Douglas Sam was born on July 29, 1966, in San Francisco, California to Doug and Christine Sam. He enjoyed visiting with friends and spending time with his grandchildren. Doug liked to spend his time driving his truck, listening to music, and going to the casino.

He is survived by his significant other, Ginger Weyaus; daughters, April Weyaus, Sierra (Gerald) Sam, Tes Sam; sons, Dallas Sam, Kort Lueck; sisters, Mickey (Phillip) Sam, Marsha Sam; grandchildren, Riley, Sean, Terrance, Arieauna, Michael, Kayloni, Jay, Lakota; and many aunts, uncles, relatives, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Doug and Christine Sam; daughter, Serena Sam; brothers, Dallas, Doran, Joseph; sisters, Rebecca, Maxine; nieces, Charlotte, Raquel, and Camille.



BACK IN TIME

March 2013

March is Colon Cancer Awareness Month

American Indians at higher risk of colon cancer than other populations

by Toya Stewart Downey Staff Writer

Joy Rivera knows firsthand how devastating a cancer diagnosis can be for a family. Her mother died of the disease and her aunt is currently battling brain cancer.

That's why Joy is determined to spread the word as far and wide as possible that one type of cancer is more prevalent in the American Indian population than other cancers. Joy belongs to the Snipe Clan of the Seneca Nation Haude-nosaunee People.

"Many people don't know this, but colon cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in American Indians," said Joy, a colon cancer screening navigator for the American Indian Cancer Foundation. "Sadly enough, the fact that we're Native Americans puts us at risk."

"Colon cancer follows lung cancer. Breast cancer is more common in women and prostate cancer in men, but overall, colon cancer is number two."

According to the American Indian Cancer Foundation, cancer is the leading cause of death in Minnesota of American Indian adults.

"In Minnesota American Indians, cancer recently passed heart disease as the leading cause of death," said Joy. "Part of this is due to better treatments for heart disease, but it is also due to many cancers being more common in Indians." A sobering statistic is that in Minnesota American Indians have a 55 percent higher incidence of colon rectal cancer.

While overall one in 17 will have colon cancer in their life, having a sibling or parent with colon cancer can mean there is a cancer gene in the family, and the lifetime risk can go up to one in six.

"There are different ways of getting screened, but the best way of being screened is actually getting it done. The method doesn't matter. Just get it done."

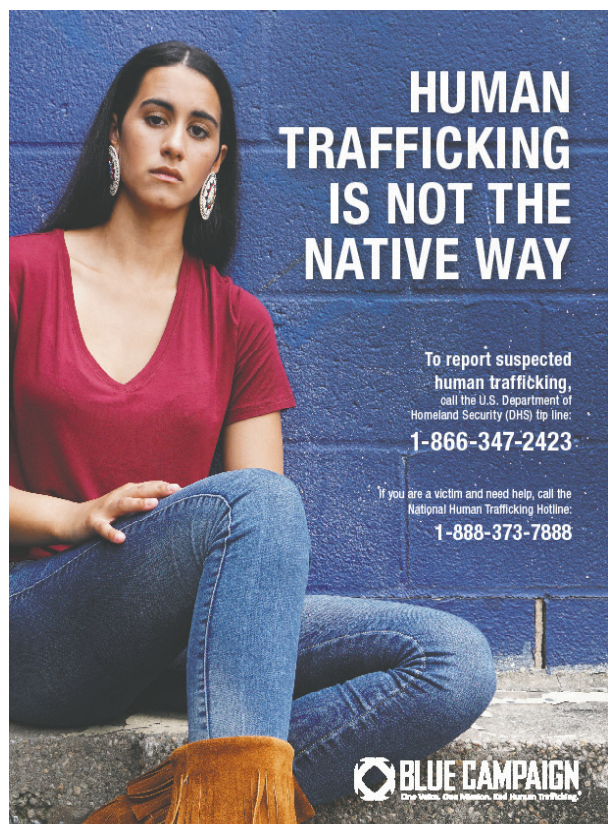
For more information: www.americanindiancancer.org and www.cdc.gov/cancer/colorectal

This article was originally published in the March 2013 issues of the Ojibwe Inaajimowin. Many back issues of Ojibwe Inaajimowin are available at Inaajimowin.com. Click on "Inaajimowin Archive."



CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Congratulations to Ashley and Eddie Searle on the birth of their baby boy, Carson Taylor Searle born on November 30, 2021. Carson weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces. He is welcomed home by his big brother Trey. Welcome to the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe District I Community.



FIGHTING FOR CHANGE — PART II

By DIBIKWE — VALERIE HARRINGTON,

Montana Davis fought for change for the first time entering The Grappling Industries Tournament which took place on Saturday, January 15, 2022 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Congratulations to Montana who won gold in Jiu-Jitsu during the event. He competed at 170 lbs. but weighed in at 164 lbs. He had four fights.

Montana did well for his first tournament with all the anticipation and excitement with this whole new experience. With all his sacrifice, his training, and visioning for his dream he humbly dominated every opponent and was also the fastest submission of the whole tournament.

This was Montana's first tournament since living his dream and intensively training for this opportunity. He was excited to say "Miigwech" to everyone who came out to support "The Kid." He thanks all of his training partners and his teammates

who all did extremely well and he's proud of all of them. He thanks everyone who has been supporting him from a far and he loves you all so much, he said. He wouldn't be who he is if it wasn't for them. He added that he will never forget the smiles on everyone's face when he won.

"It wasn't just for me. This was for my daughter and our people!" Montana said.

Montana stated he just kept showing up to the gym and felt extremely nervous and anxious before the fights, but it was a normal day. On January 19, 2022 NDN Sports shared Montana Davis' championship photo on their Facebook page at (20+) ndnsports.com | Facebook. That post had 1,200 reactions, 80 comments, and 101 shares.

We are excited to see more success and more of Montana's dreams coming to life.



STANDALONE PHOTO KICKER

Band member Montana Davis proudly takes center podium for first place in Jiu-Jitsu during the Grappling Industries Tournament which took place on Saturday, January 15, 2022.

TRIBAL NOTEBOARD

MARCH ELDER BIRTHDAYS

Gerald Applegate
 Ramona Anne Applegate
 Debra Rose Barge
 Cynthia Eileen Beaulieu
 Marie Ann Bengtson
 Laurie Marie Benjamin
 Randy Elmer Benjamin
 Robert Patrick Benjamin
 Andrew Clarence Boyd
 Patricia Lorayne
 Christofferson
 Curtis Anthony Cody
 Francis Charles Colton
 Dean Russell Davis
 Laureen Gay Davis
 Lucille Deborah Doffing
 Robert Allen Dorr
 Raymond Eugene Doust
 Bonnie Elaine Dumler
 Darrell James Erickson
 Dawn Renee Fahrlander-Peel
 Mary Flores
 Terry Duane Frye

Cheryl Darlene Garbow
 Donald Anson Graves
 Kathleen June Hill
 Bernadette Melissa
 Johnson-Clark
 Bradley Allen Kalk
 Curtis Leroy Kalk
 Leslie Roger Karsjens
 Sandra Arlene Kegg
 Jeffrey Jay Keller
 Gary Wayne Kuntz
 Barbara Jane LaBlanc
 Ursula Lynn LaFave
 Lorelei Lee LaFave-Nygren
 Mert Elaine Liebgott
 Wanda Roxane Mendoza
 Anita Ann Misquadace
 Wanda Kay Misquadace
 Lester Lee Nelson
 Jeffrey Sheldon Nickaboine
 Michael James Nickaboine
 Marie Esther Paschke
 Marlene Ruth Poukka
 George Wilbur Premo
 George Wayne Rea
 Debra Jo Sam

Fred L. Sam
 Kathryn Mary Sam
 Sharon Lee Sam
 Francis Dean Schaaf
 Susanna Lee Schaaf
 Thomas William Schleeve
 Merle Lee Skinaway
 David Smith
 Terrance Lee Smith
 Gloria Ann Starkey
 Tawnya Mary Lynn Stewart
 Toya Lynn Stewart Downey
 Sami Thomas
 Robert Tibbetts
 Bernard Leroy Weyaus

HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday **Jarvis Jr.** on March 5: with love from mom, dad, gram Tracy, Gram Karen, Auntie Val, Dan, Kev, Pie, Myla, Auntie Rachel, Rory, Auntie Shelby, Max, Aidan, Jacob, and Dusty

Happy Birthday **Jayla** on March 18 with love from dad, Lileah, Papa Brad, Grannie Kim, Papa Kyle, Auntie Val, Dan, Kev, Pie, Myla, Auntie Randi, Auntie Rachel, Rory, Uncle Jay, Taylor, Adam, Uncle Brad, Daphne, Braelyn, Payton, Eric, Wes, Waase, Brynley, Galli, Bam, and Binesiikwe.

Happy birthday **brother Bruce** on March 19 with love from Sissys and Brothers

Happy birthday Dad, on March 19 with Love from Jayla and Lileah

SHOUT OUTS!

Send your shout-outs to news@millelacsband.com!

NOTEBOARD AND CALENDAR GUIDELINES

The Tribal Noteboard welcomes Band member submissions, including birthdays, congratulatory messages, and memorial tributes. For birthday messages, send name, birthday, and a brief message that is **20 WORDS OR LESS** to news@millelacsband.com or **320-630-8195**. The deadline for the April issue is March 15. Photos may be included if space allows.

If you would rather not have your name included in the Elder birthday list, please contact the Government Affairs office at 320-630-8195 or email news@millelacsband.com before the 15th of the month preceding your birthday. Send calendar items to news@millelacsband.com or call 320-630-8195.

SEND US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS!

The Government Affairs Department, which is in charge of communications with Band members, is compiling a list of email addresses so we can send weekly news summaries and breaking news updates to Band members.

Don't worry — we will not share your email or overwhelm you with emails. This will be used for weekly news summaries and important updates that need to be shared immediately.

Send your email address to news@millelacsband.com so we can add you to the list!

IMPORTANT TRIBAL GOVERNMENT PHONE NUMBERS

Please refer to the following list to find answers to your questions or to reach the individuals or departments you need.

Mille Lacs Band Government Center: 320-532-4181

Mille Lacs Band Tribal Police: 320-532-3430

Non-Emergency Phone: 320-630-2994

Commissioners:

Administration: Peter Nayquonabe: 218-670-0745; Maria Costello: 320-630-7643

Natural Resources: Kelly Applegate: 763-221-0320

Community Development: Tim Jackson: 320-362-4245

Health and Human Services: Nicole Anderson: 320-364-9969

Finance: Mel Towle: 320-532-7475

Chief Executive's Office

Stephanie Dunkley: 320-532-7828

Court Administrator

Gilda Burr: 320-532-7401

Legislative Inquiries

Brianna Boyd, Legislative Affairs Director: 320-532-7536 (work); 320-630-8702 (cell); 320-532-7506 (fax)

Band Assembly Inquiries

Darcie Big Bear, Parliamentarian/Clerk of the Assembly: 320-532-7420; darcie.bigbear2@millelacsband.com

Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Inquiries

Deanna Sam at 320-279-0178 or 320-532-7498 to make an appointment.

Aanjibimaadizing

District I — Candace Benjamin, Director of Case Management: 320-362-0014; Kaari Weyaus, Case Manager: 218-316-2437

District II — Winona Crazy Thunder, Case Manager: 320-364-3049

District III — Renee Allen, Case Manager: 320-591-0559

Urban — Wahbon Spears: 612-360-5486

Housing Emergency On-Call

Districts I and IIa: 320-630-2498

District II: 320-630-2492

District III: 320-630-2497

Dan Boyd, Housing Director: 320-630-2620

Brian Schienost, Public Works Director: 320-630-2624

Tony Pike, Roads/Solid Waste Supervisor: 320-980-5367

Sean Racelo, Waste Water Supervisor: 218-838-8391

Mike Moilanen, Director of Planning: 320-630-2623

Chad Dunkley, Earthworks: 320-630-4763

Health and Human Services

24/7 Nurse Line: 320-630-0855

Provider appointments: 320-532-4163 option #2

Nurse Line Clinic: 320-630-0397

Mental Health appointments: 320-532-4163 option #2

Mental Health call line: 320-674-4385

Substance use assessments and counseling: 320-532-7773

Pharmacy: 320-532-4770

Dental emergencies: 320-532-4779

Commodities: 320-630-8362

Emergency Services: 320-532-1755 or 320-532-1756. After hours: 320-630-2432 or 320-362-4672

Family Violence Prevention 24/7 Crisis Line: 866-867-4006

Elder Advocate: 320-630-7666

Office of Management and Budget

Economic Support and Per Cap: Email address updates to: kathy.heyer@millelacsband.com or call Danni Jo Harkness: 320-532-7592

NOTE: The Office of Management and Budget will continue to provide essential services with further increased efforts toward a virtual and paperless environment.



DISTRICT I PET CLINIC

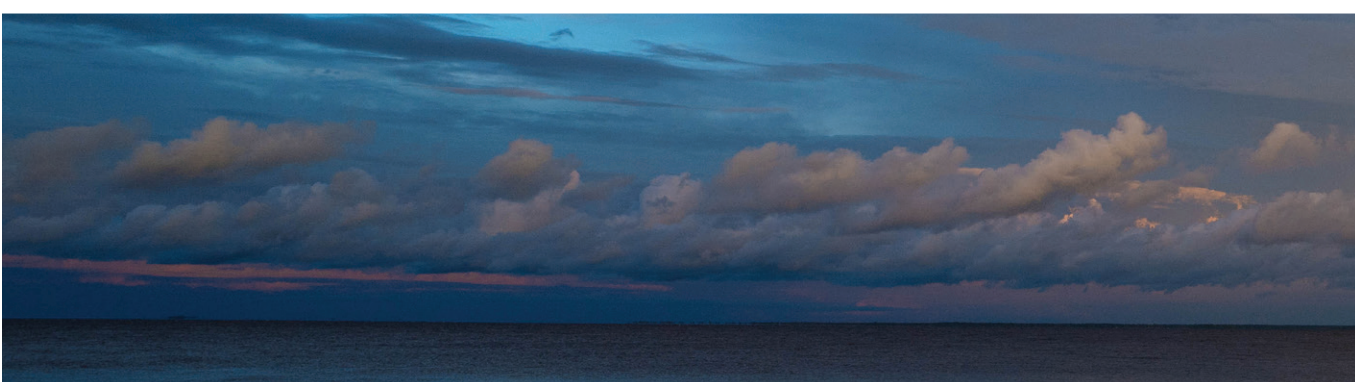
Happy pets and happy humans were treated to free pet care at the District I pet clinic in February. These events are made possible through Student Initiative for Reservation Veterinary Services (SIRVS) the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine, serving reservation communities throughout Minnesota.

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.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 First Tuesday SNAP see page 7 Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.	2 Red Brick AA/NA Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference. Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.	3 Men's group 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center Wellbriety 6 p.m. via Zoom conference. Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.	4 Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference. On the RedRoad See below	5 Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.
	6 Wellbriety Talking Circle 10 a.m. via Zoom conference. Zooming towards Recovery See below The Rez NA 6 p.m. Aanjibimaadizing building	7 Migizi Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference. Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference. Women's group 5:30 p.m. Old District I Community Center	8 Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.	9 Red Brick AA/NA Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference. Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.	10 Men's group 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center Wellbriety 6 p.m. via Zoom conference. Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.	11 Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference. On the RedRoad
13 Wellbriety Talking Circle 10 a.m. via Zoom conference. Zooming towards Recovery See below The Rez NA 6 p.m. Aanjibimaadizing building	14 Migizi Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference. Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference. Women's group 5:30 p.m. Old District I Community Center	15 Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.	16 Third Wednesday (check): District III Community Meeting 5:30 p.m. Grand Casino Hinckley	17 Men's group 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center Wellbriety 6 p.m. via Zoom conference. Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.	18 Treaty Day Celebration - Government office have Noon Closing Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference. On the RedRoad	19 Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.
20 Wellbriety Talking Circle 10 a.m. via Zoom conference. Zooming towards Recovery See below The Rez NA 6 p.m. Aanjibimaadizing building	21 Migizi Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference. Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference. Women's group 5:30 p.m. Old District I Community Center	22 Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.	23 Red Brick AA/NA Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference. Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.	24 Men's group 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center Wellbriety 6 p.m. via Zoom conference. Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference	25 Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference. On the RedRoad	26 Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference
27 Wellbriety Talking Circle 10 a.m. via Zoom conference. Zooming towards Recovery See below The Rez NA 6 p.m. Aanjibimaadizing building	28 Migizi Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference. Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference. Women's group 5:30 p.m. Old District I Community Center	29 Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.	30 Red Brick AA/NA Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference. Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.	31 Men's group 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center Wellbriety 6 p.m. via Zoom conference. Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference	RECOVERY GROUP MEETINGS HELD VIA ZOOM Many recovery meetings are held via Zoom conference. The Sunday Wellbriety ID is 601 532 2869 and the password is 456 267. The Monday night Migizi meeting ID is 856 8473 0121, and the password is 56359. The Wednesday night Red Brick meeting ID is 895 631 97923, and the password is 56359. The Thursday Wellbriety meeting ID is 966 0395 9591, and the passcode is 944772. The nightly Zooming Towards Recovery code is 601-532-2869, and the password is zoom800. Urban recovery groups meet Tuesdays at 7 (Sa Miikana) and Fridays at 6:30 (On the RedRoad). ID: 214 608 6245; password: Redroad.	



VISIT THE WEBSITE!
 Inaajimowin.com is updated regularly with news, photos, events, and information. Please check out the new photo galleries!



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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 320-630-8195. The April issue deadline is March 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 at one of the following on-call numbers:

District I and IIa: 320-630-2498.

District II: 320-630-2492.

District III: 320-630-2497.

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.

OJIBWE INAAJIMOWIN

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