



OJIBWE INAAJIMOWIN

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



EDDY'S IS BACK AND BETTER THAN EVER THE VIEW CONTINUES TO REEL IN GUESTS

By **VIVIAN LaMOORE**, INAAJIMOWIN EDITOR

After roughly two years of closure due to the pandemic, Eddy's on Mille Lacs Lake is once again open seven days a week, ready to reel in guests, hooking them with genuine hospitality in both hotel and restaurant service. "It's been a whirlwind!" said Ginger Weyaus, Eddy's Resort Manager.

The resort reopened on May 12, 2023, the Friday of Minnesota fishing opener. Weyaus took on the role as Resort Manager on April 26. With slightly over two weeks before the grand reopening, Weyaus said she was accepting of the challenge and ready to cast a line into the waters of Eddy's. "We were focused on getting the property back to the way it was, making it successful, and figuring out how we were going to make it all happen," she said.

Weyaus brings with her comprehensive training and experience and a network of team players to help navigate the waters of the hospitality industry.

"Ginger joining Eddy's Resort is a positive placement for our team," said Tracy Sam, General Manager of Grand Casino Mille Lacs. "Her extensive knowledge and experience brings a valuable perspective to her new role."

Previous to her position at Eddy's, she was the Director of Hospitality for Grand Casino Mille Lacs. She had joined the Grand Casino Mille Lacs Development Directors cohort. The kickoff to the program was in 2021, with the goal of placing an emphasis on Mille Lacs Band members in leadership for gaming operations. Since the program began, 16 Band member participants are now in key leadership positions. One of the most beneficial elements of the program for Weyaus was the "opportunity to sit in at high-level meetings to listen in and learn all of the moving parts, like marketing, accounting pieces, employment pieces, hospitality, and everything," she said.

Of all of the moving pieces to management, Weyaus said

probably her favorite part is hospitality. Weyaus emits a genuine warm, welcoming presence herself, with a natural and pure smile that radiates a feeling of approachability. She truly loves people, and that is paramount in the hospitality industry. "I love greeting guests and talking with them, really getting to know them," she said. "Everyone has a story and I am interested in listening to them all."

Building excellence in hospitality

Weyaus has been instrumental in the recent surge of success Eddy's is currently experiencing. A success she envisions as a continuum. She gives credit to all of the teams at Grand Casino Mille Lacs, including but not limited to Hospitality, Digital Marketing, Group Sales, Banquets, and more. "We are all a great team," she said.

"With her comprehensive understanding of both the business and the resort's significant impact on local tourism, Ginger's expertise will be crucial in driving our future success," Sam said. "Her exceptional management skills and deep

EDDY'S page 16



Adobe photo.

LEGALIZING ADULT RECREATIONAL POT

General overview of the new Minnesota state cannabis law

By **VIVIAN LaMOORE**, INAAJIMOWIN EDITOR

By the time this issue reaches your mailbox, Minnesota will become the 23rd state to legalize recreational use of marijuana. Effective August 1, 2023, possession for adults 21 and older will be lawful with limits and certain restrictions. It will no longer be a crime for Minnesotans to have up to two pounds of marijuana at their home, and they can transport two ounces while in public. Keep in mind, this new law is a state law and cannabis is still classified as a Schedule I drug, making it unlawful at the federal level.

The Mille Lacs Band is currently reviewing all policies to determine what will be necessary to update and add to Band statutes. The Legislative Branch is currently in the process of drafting a cannabis bill. The draft bill has exceeded the 22-day public comment period and is currently under further review. That bill can be found on the Band website under the Registrar tab on the Anishinaabe side.

While the law has already passed, don't expect to find marijuana immediately available at retail locations around the state. Bill authors anticipate it will be 12 to 18 months before someone can go into a store and purchase new, regulated marijuana products in Minnesota. That is about how long it will take to set up the Minnesota regulatory framework necessary.

Minnesota's new cannabis law has been characterized as greatly protecting Minnesota adults 21 years of age and older who want to engage in use of marijuana during their own personal time. But there are some restrictions on where a person can consume cannabis products and how much volume a person can have on their property, including, as mentioned previously, transporting cannabis in their vehicles.

NEW MINNESOTA STATE CANNABIS LAW page 3

ELDER ABUSE — SEE PAGE 7

MESSAGE FROM THE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Aaniin, Boozhoo Band members.

July has been a very busy month, including meetings of the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT), meetings of the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes (MAST), and a board meeting of the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, to name a few. The Mayo Clinic also visited the Reservation for a tribal leaders meeting, where we talked about meeting the unique health needs of Native people in Minnesota, and I spoke at the Tribal-State Relations training to educate state workers about how to work with us as sovereign nations. My role at these intertribal meetings is to advocate for tribal support of our priorities. When tribes can band together on an issue they agree on, we are able to accomplish so much more for our people.

One such topic includes our focus on protecting our environment and resources from the threat of pollution from nickel mining. Many meetings were held in July informing legislators and others about our concerns and encouraging them to visit the website, www.waterovernickel.com. Water Over Nickel is a Mille Lacs Band initiative supported by many allied organizations to protect our people, natural resources, and cultural sites from the negative impact of nickel mining. I encourage all Band members to visit that site, where you will learn about this initiative.

As I write this column, many Band women are returning home from the annual Women Empowering Women for Indian Nations (WEWIN) conference. This was an incredibly exciting, educational and uplifting week for our Band women who attended. WEWIN conferences have always provided outstanding professional development opportunities for Native women, and this year was no different. Workshops on topics like leadership, financing Native-owned businesses, and tribal-state relations were on the agenda. The Band women who attended are bringing new skills and knowledge back that will contrib-

ute positively to their work, our community, and help each person with her own professional growth and with achieving her goals. This conference was particularly focused on empowering the next generation of young women, so I decided to invite one of our emerging young leaders, Jenesis Fonder, to describe the WEWIN experience in her own words and share my column space with her.

"WATER OVER NICKEL IS A MILLE LACS BAND INITIATIVE SUPPORTED BY MANY ALLIED ORGANIZATIONS TO PROTECT OUR PEOPLE, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND CULTURAL SITES FROM THE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF NICKEL MINING. I ENCOURAGE ALL BAND MEMBERS TO VISIT THAT SITE [WATEROVERNICKEL.COM], WHERE YOU WILL LEARN ABOUT THIS INITIATIVE."

CHIEF EXECUTIVE, MELANIE BENJAMIN

This is what Jenesis shared:

"This year I attended my first ever WEWIN Conference. This conference is spoken of highly and fondly by all the women I know who have attended it in the past, but I still wasn't sure

what to expect: Was it going to be essentially an oversized girls' weekend full of glam makeovers and girl talk, like some skeptical men seem to think? Was it going to be a rigorous program consisting of workshop after workshop of professional development catered specifically to Native women to help us grow as leaders and contribute to our tribe? The answer is that 90 percent of our time was spent in serious professional and leadership development, with a very small amount of entertainment time built in, just like you would experience at any conference or trade show that both men and women attend. It was fun in the best way possible — though only a few of us walked in the fashion show. And it surpassed my greatest expectations by far for an event of this caliber.

"One thing that struck me was the presence of influential, knowledgeable, and incredibly wise women at every turn. There was never a room (and they were all packed full) without at least three women that had impacted their tribe in substantial and formative ways through their work. On several occasions when there was a complication with workshop host being called away at the last minute, accomplished women who were so knowledgeable in their fields stepped up to teach a workshop, without any preparation, and delivered amazing presentations. These women handled this situation with grace, humor, and a confidence that we can all aspire to. I learned so much by listening to their stories, learning about their roots, and listening to their "why" behind their work. All of these women went from thinking, "I wish this would change" to, "I'm going to do something about this." The message I took away from all of these workshops was that you do not have to be perfect at every point in your life, but you should stay open and receptive to opportunities that will allow you to use your specific skills and medicines to better your nation and people. I have so many new role models to look up to.

"Mille Lacs Band Ikwewag got to listen to women like Cecilia Fire Thunder, an activist and the first woman elected as leader of the Oglala Sioux, illustrate how important it is to find our roots and represent them in our work. They got to hear about the necessity of having women in leadership and tribal consultation positions from Kathy Kitcheyan, the first elected woman leader of the San Carlos Apache Nations (who never thought she would end up in a leadership position). We heard the story of Glenna Wallace, the first elected Chairwoman of the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, who went from sleeping on hay bales as a child to conducting foreign relations with other countries on the matter of resources. And so on and so forth. I think I can speak for all of us when we say *chi-miigwech* for supporting our time at WEWIN and that we are ready and inspired to bring our newly gained knowledge to our work and communities!"

Miigwech to Jenesis for sharing her experience with Band members.

And miigwech to Band members for spending a few minutes reading this column each month. I hope that you have stayed healthy and comfortable in July, which just broke the world-wide record as the hottest month in recorded human history. If weather predictions are true, August is on track to break records as well. Please look out for one another, stay hydrated and have an enjoyable summer!

Miiwech.



MLEE HEAD START SUMMER SCHOOL KIDS

Mille Lacs Early Education students and staff presented a mid-summer parade right before the official mid-summer break. See more parade photos on page 9.

NEW MINNESOTA STATE CANNABIS LAW from page 1

Generally speaking, Minnesota businesses can't include cannabis testing as a basis for pre-employment screening with the exception of some jobs such as law enforcement, emergency management, some medical professionals and child care services, and positions that require a commercial driver's license (CDL). However, Minnesota businesses can authorize random testing when marijuana consumption during working hours is suspected.

The Minnesota bill authorizes growing up to eight flowering plants at a private residence for personal use without having a state license. No more than four of the plants can be mature at a single time. And a person cannot sell any of the plants or products to another person without a business license.

What about a business license? Well, it is not going to be cheap. And different avenues of the market require different licenses. The new Minnesota law created more than a dozen types of licenses for growing and cultivating, extraction, dispensaries, testing and research, and more. Getting a license to operate a cannabis/marijuana business involves a ton of paperwork. Some of the paperwork will include but not be limited to providing a complete business plan, security plan, background check, and details of previous industry-related experience. And then be prepared to shell out a chunk of cash. A cultivator license, for example, is expected to cost \$30,000 up-front: \$10,000 just to apply, then \$20,000 for the initial license. That will be followed by a \$30,000 annual renewal fee. Fees will vary for different licenses.

There are some restrictions for engaging in recreational use. For example, it is legal to consume cannabis in your own

private home, or the home of another person with their permission. It is not legal to smoke weed on a balcony of a multi-family housing unit.

Cannabis is legal to have in your vehicle if it's unopened in the package it came in. The new state law also says you cannot drive while under the influence of cannabis. It's considered a DWI, like alcohol, with the same penalties. The same passenger laws apply as well.

The new Minnesota cannabis bill provides funding for drug recognition training for law enforcement and establishes a pilot project to study oral fluid roadside tests that determine if someone is high. Right now, there is no such reliable test that's similar to a breathalyzer for alcohol.

There are, however, some roadside swab tests that are being evaluated. One example is the Dräger DrugTest 5000. This test has already been used in parts of California, New York City, Arizona, Nevada, and other states. The device can also detect the presence of cocaine, opiates, methamphetamine, amphetamine, methadone, and benzodiazepines in the bloodstream, though it can't detect the amount. Similar devices may be incorporated in Minnesota law enforcement in the future.

As with any bill that becomes a law, this new Minnesota state cannabis law is 300 pages of useful information. If you plan to engage in recreational use of cannabis, it is highly recommended (pun intended) to review all 300 pages of the law to fully understand what is and what is not considered legal. You can find the law HF100A at https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=HF100&version=A&session=ls93.0&session_year=2023&session_number=0&type=ccr.

LEGISLATIVE BRIEFS

Workshop July 20, 2023

Legal staff facilitated a workshop for the elected officials, staff, and Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures Vice President of Strategic Growth regarding Cannabis Code draft revisions from the Cannabis Code comments.

Band Assembly Meeting July 19, 2023

The District Representatives received a GRA FY2023 Quarter 1-3 Budget Review from Teresa Kozumplik, Executive Director of OGR&C for Gaming Regulatory Authority, an Executive FY2023 Quarter 1-3 Budget Review from Percy Benjamin, Deputy Assistant to the Chief Executive.

The District Representatives conducted a Confirmation Hearing for Housing Board, District I Position for Richard Hill, Nominee.

Band Assembly Meeting July 18, 2023

The District Representatives received a Cannabis Business Project Funding Request from Joseph S. Nayquonabe, Commissioner of Corporate Affairs in executive session, prior to the presentation. The need for executive session was shared by the Solicitor General and Commissioner of Corporate Affairs, and a Shareholders Report FY23, Quarter 2 from Joseph S. Nayquonabe, Commissioner of Corporate Affairs in executive session District II Representative Wendy Merrill shared a thank you to Commissioner of Corporate Affairs for the presentation.

Band Assembly Meeting July 12, 2023

The District Representatives amended and approved Band Assembly Bill 20-04-43-23 (A Bill Authorizing a Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures and budget transfer(s)/ revision(s) for the Executive and Legislative Branches for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2023).

In the "Messages from the Representatives" portion of the agenda, District I Representative Virgil Wind opened with bidding Legal Counsel, Joe Jensen a fond farewell. Joe was very instrumental and we appreciate his leadership and processes he put into place with the rules of Band Assembly. Wish him the best of luck with what he is doing moving forward.

Joint Session Band Assembly Meeting July 7, 2023

The Joint Session of the Band Assembly received a presentation from the Mille Lacs Band Constitution Reform Delegation regarding the alignment between the committee and Band Government.

Band Assembly Meeting July 7, 2023

The District Representatives amended and approved Band Assembly Bill 20-03-42-23 (A bill amending Title 15, Chapter 1 of the Mille Lacs Band Statutes ("MLBS"), to make comprehensive reforms to the Gaming Regulatory Act. This bill reflects the compromise between the Chief Executive and the Band Assembly on vetoed Act 32-23).

In the "Messages from the Representatives" portion of the agenda, District II Representative Wendy Merrill opened with Miigwech to all the Band members in attendance at the community meetings that she presented and helped with Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures presentation the cannabis bill. As the sponsor of the cannabis bill, from what she can tell, there is a huge support.



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YOU WANT IS
WITHIN REACH.
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GRAND CASINOS HOTEL
PROJECTS!**



We're seeking individuals who are passionate, driven and eager to learn and grow in the construction industry. We are looking to fill the following positions:

- Laborers
- HVAC Technician
- Carpenters
- Carpet Layers
- Tile Setters
- Furniture Installers
- Plumbers
- Painters
- Electricians

Whether you're an experienced tradesperson or looking to kick-start your career, this is your chance to be a part of something extraordinary. Don't miss out - contact Lori Trail for more information.

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▶ **TOGETHER WE BUILD SUCCESS**

STATE AND LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS

DNR ups walleye size limit for Lake Mille Lacs

According to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, those fishing Lake Mille Lacs can now keep a walleye that is 20 inches long starting August 1. Although, the one-fish limit will remain in place. The DNR states that the reason why it changed the length was because of this year's low catch rate. During the yearly fall test netting, the organization found an increase in yellow perch. The rules are that now anglers may take one walleye between 20-23 inches long or one over 28 inches long. This adds just one more inch to the smaller range of walleye. Source: *WCCO*

No cannabis sales in Wahkon for now: Until 2025, Wahkon will not have any cannabis-related businesses opening within city limits, according to the moratorium the city council recently passed. At their regular meeting, the council held a public hearing regarding adoption of a moratorium on all cannabis sales within the city. No residents commented on the proposed interim ordinance at the public hearing. City Clerk-Treasurer Karrie Roeschlein told those present that the moratorium would be effective until Dec. 31, 2024 and would allow time for the state to figure out exactly how cannabis will be regulated. She noted that the moratorium will be in effect for a little over a year, a little different than standard moratoriums — the language of it came from the city's attorney. The state will be collecting a 10% cannabis tax in addition to sales tax. The act authorizing cannabis sales "expressly allows" local entities to consider adoption or amendment of "reasonable restrictions" on cannabis businesses, according to the proposed interim ordinance. Source: *Mille Lacs Messenger*.

Local View: Is Talon Metals chasing the wrong minerals? From the column: "Nickel-based batteries will completely lose the fixed-battery market as lower-cost lithium ferrous phosphate (LFP) batteries capture that market." Opinion by Lynn Anderson: New data indicate that Talon Metals/Rio Tinto is chasing the wrong metal for electric-vehicle batteries. Lithium-sulfur batteries under development now would have two to three times the energy density of nickel-based batteries and would be much safer. Sulfur sells for \$100 to \$200 per ton, compared to nickel at \$20,000 to \$30,000 a ton. So, new lithium-sulfur batteries would likely be much cheaper as well. LG Energy Solution plans to commercialize a lithium-sulfur battery in 2025. A German startup called Theion intends to bring a lithium-sulfur battery to market before 2025. And Lyten Corp. plans to build a "respectable lithium sulfur battery cell" in 2024. These are just the public announcements. Since a lithium-sulfur battery blows away any nickel-based battery in capacity and cost, all the battery and electric-vehicle companies have them in their plans. In addition, nickel-based batteries will completely lose the fixed-battery market as lower cost lithium ferrous phosphate (LFP) batteries capture that market, followed by newly developed sodium-ion batteries that have no lithium and iron air batteries. Source: *Duluth News Tribune*.

AANJIBIMAADIZING SECOND YEAR SUCCESS

Ge-Niigaanizijig Summer Youth Internship program

The second year of the Ge-Niigaanizijig Summer Youth Internship Program through Aanjibimaadizing engaged 22 youth interns ranging in age from 15 to 20 years old who were paired with volunteer career mentors throughout all three districts of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe.

Youth are paired with a career mentor in fields of work they the youth expressed interest in. Some of those fields included DNR Fisheries, Population Health Management, Aanji Auto Garage, Aanji Maintenance Department, Ge-Niigaanizijig, and the District II Representative's office. The interns are on the job with their career mentors from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Some of the interns have the opportunity to work additional hours with their mentor.

The number of youth participating has grown to over twice the youth participating in the first year. The program kicked off last summer with nine teenagers ranging in age from 15 to 19 years old. After the first two weeks of work, the number declined to a total of seven participants. The number of career mentor volunteers increased this year as well going from 14 volunteers to 19.

On Mondays the interns attended career training classes put on by the Aanji Education Department. Jen Gabrio developed the career training that is being taught and she is taking the lead on educating the interns on a variety of subject matter. Some of the subject matter covered is:

- Identifying wants and needs
- Developing a spending plan
- Financial literacy
- Banking 101
- Taxes
- Budgeting
- Job Searching
- Choosing your path (military, higher education, trades)
- Job descriptions
- Applications
- Resume preparation

Each week there is a guest speaker that would go along with the subject matter being discussed. Guest speakers in-



cluded: Tammy Wickstrom, Executive Director of Aanjibimaadizing, Tony Pike (military), Michele Berger (higher education), Craig Hanson (trades), and Virgil Wind, District I Representative. Each speaker is very knowledgeable in the subject matter they are presenting.

On Thursdays, interns work on a community service project such as building dog houses for community members and making moccasins for the upcoming powwows. The interns have built two dog houses for community members already this summer with plans to build two more. They learned to measure out cuts, use a drill, use a chop saw, and use a jig saw.

Another fun community service project has been all about moccasins. They have cut out about 20-30 patterns for moccasins. The moccasin patterns that were cut out were used for a moccasin making course taught by Roberta Dunkley from District III. The students also had the opportunity make their own moccasins, by cutting their own patterns and sewing them themselves.

The program is also teaching the youth the importance of balancing work and fun. Along with the community service projects this summer there has also been some fun in for the interns. The community building events include go-karting, golfing, fishing, and some other fun activities.

"I believe we can safely say our second annual summer youth internship so far has been a success, said Knute Peterson, Youth Facilitator.

Ge-Niigaanizijig activities and regularly scheduled meetings are designed to inspire and motivate youth to embrace a traditions-based pro-social lifestyle free of chemicals, anti-social or risky behavior, promiscuity and dependency. These activities are offered to all eligible reservation service area youth from kindergarten through age 20.

REMEMBERING THE SANDY LAKE TRAGEDY

By CHARLIE RASMUSSEN
GREAT LAKES INDIAN FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Honoring the sacrifice of Ojibwe ancestors in the 1850s, people gathered by the hundreds for the annual Mikwendaagoziwig Memorial Ceremony at Big Sandy Lake near McGregor, Minnesota on July 26. The event included a commemorative paddle across Sandy Lake to the Mikwendaagoziwig Memorial site located at the Army Corps of Engineers Recreation Area.

An illegal government plot hatched in 1850 sought to remove Ojibwe tribes from their eastern homelands to territory west of the Mississippi River by moving the annual annuity payment site from Madeline Island to Sandy Lake. The annuity payment was delayed into the winter of 1850-51 in an attempt to trap the Ojibwe over the winter and coerce them to take up residence. Disease and hunger spread through the confined camps of 5,000 Ojibwe who traveled to Sandy Lake and the people ultimately left for home in the midst of harsh winter conditions. At the lake and the difficult walk home — as the riverways were frozen over — 400 Ojibwe men, women and children died.

Ojibwe tribal members from Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan declared that sacrifice in 1850-51 would always be remembered. Following the Sandy Lake Tragedy, the 1854 and 1855 Treaties established homeland Ojibwe reservations ending the removal effort led by Alexander Ramsey.

Read more about the history of the Sandy Lake tragedy at https://glifwc.org/publications/pdf/SandyLake_Brochure.pdf.



Photo by Charlie Rasmussen

Niib Aubid (seated) listens as Robert Buffalo shares his words while speaking with the staff during the Mikwendaagoziwig Memorial Ceremony at Big Sandy Lake on Wednesday, July 26, 2023. Buffalo is a direct descendant of Chief Buffalo and a hereditary chief for Red Cliff Band.



Photo Monte Fronk

Paddlers arrive at the Mikwendaagoziwig Memorial site.

WIIGOB — A TRADITIONAL TIE TO THE LAND



Maude Kegg, Naawikamigookweban (Middle of the Earth Woman), featured in the Minnesota Historical Society and new Women of the Big Lake exhibit at the Mille Lacs Indian Museum, great-grandmother of the author.

Harvesting basswood

By MASHKODE-BIZHIKIGAHBAW, BENJI SAM

As Anishinaabe, we have always been known as stewards of the land and to have utilized our resources with respect and unbelievable ingenuity. Throughout the course of time, one of the most precious and innovative resources has been the development of rope/tying material for home building, basket making, etc. so that our relatives were able to master every resource available to them. In our world today, we have been passed down the knowledge of how to gather and process some of this material in the form of wiigob, commonly known as basswood, for tying together birch crafts and making grass dolls.

When the sun is hottest, and the air is dense with moisture, basswood bark can be harvested for making strands, ribbon, grass, and tying materials. You begin with a small vertical cut at the base of a young basswood tree, with hand-sized and nearly heart-shaped leaves, roughly two inches in size. Repeat this cut about two inches over and square the bottom of the section. Next, you must take the blade or a small chisel to pry the beginning of the bark from the inner wood. If done at the right time of year, this bark will release without difficulty as the inner lining of the inner bark is very moist and can be stripped up to the very top of the tree. Repeat this process around the tree and roll the wiigob into rolls, using the top end of the tree to tie the roll together.

Next, we must process much of the bark and separate the inner bark from the outer bark. You can distinguish each layer individually easily as the inner bark will feel damp and will be very pliable while the outer bark is more of a dry, spongy texture. We take each length and split, split, and split again until all the inner bark is separated into very fine, shoelace-sized material. We finish many of these rolls into individual packed spools of asigobaan, processed basswood fibers, for future



Mary Sam picking wiigon on their family property.



Benji Sam, since the age of 5, spent time harvesting wiigob for his grandmother to complete cultural projects. .

projects through the summer, fall, and winter.

The same process can be completed with the few remaining strands of wiigob which we leave whole when separated from the outer bark to be soaked in Lake Mille Lacs for at least one month. The waves and water cleanse the inner bark and help dissolve the plant fibers so they become even more flexible and strong. This is how traditional ribbon was made, by splitting the inner bark even further into thin, ribbon-like strands of material that can be dyed, stained for art projects or tying together reed mats, or shaped in bundles down into grass dolls for children to play with. These dolls are known as asigobaani-mazinichigan, or grass dolls.

Like all other teachings in our culture, the work does not end here, as removing the bark from the basswood tree does eventually kill the tree. However, young basswood is incredibly pliable and dries very light and strong and makes for the perfect carving wood for decoys, spoons, and wooden toys for children to play with. What's left over each summer from harvesting wiigob is turned into more art or cut into firewood to maintain our wood supply for boiling maple syrup, parching wild rice, and supplemental heat for our home. We owe the earth our complete use of these materials when they so politely allow us to use their resources. If we can help it, nothing goes to waste.

If you are interested in learning more about the uses of traditional materials and how these were gathered, processed, and used historically, I invite you to keep a watchful eye on activities at the Mille Lacs Trading Post and Mille Lacs Indian Museum for annual demonstrations that celebrate the teachings of our relatives and are open to our community. You can find more information on their Facebook page or Instagram page, or you can give them a call to learn more about upcoming events on our Reservation.



The final product, ready for making baskets, canoes, or spinning into twine and rope to last into the future.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Biden-Harris Administration Announces Nearly \$21 Million in Grants to Improve Road Safety on Tribal Lands: The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) announced \$20.9 million in grant awards for 88 Tribal projects that will reduce roadway fatalities and serious injuries on Tribal lands. The grants, from the Tribal Transportation Program Safety Fund for proven countermeasures such as pavement markings, rumble strips and better pedestrian infrastructure, are one way in which the Biden-Harris administration is investing in communities across the country and addressing the unacceptably high number of roadway deaths, as laid out in the Department's National Roadway Safety Strategy. Source: *U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration.*

Cherokee tribe in Western NC to vote on expand legalization of adult use of marijuana:

Members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians will vote in September on whether they want to legalize marijuana possession and sales on tribal lands for anyone 21 and older — not just for those seeking it for medical use that the North Carolina tribe had already authorized. The Tribal Council agreed to place the question on the ballot during the tribe's Sept. 7 general election. In 2021, the tribe decriminalized possession of small amounts of marijuana within the Eastern Band's 57,000-acre (23,000-hectare) Qualla Boundary. It also formed a medical marijuana structure that includes a tribe-created business to grow cannabis and sell it in a large dispensary that remains under construction - making it the first and only place to legally purchase marijuana in North Carolina. The original plan was to issue medical cards for eligible adults to purchase from the dispensary. If the expansion of sales is approved in a referendum, it's unclear whether such cards will be needed. Tribal leaders suggested approval of the referendum question will lead to recreational marijuana sales, The Charlotte Observer reported. Source: *WTVD-AP.*

President Biden Announces Key Nominees:

Tadd Johnson is one of 11 individuals nominated by President Biden to serve as key leaders in his administration. Johnson has served as a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation since December 2017. He is the first Native American on the University of Minnesota Board of Regents. Prior to that, he was the first Senior Director of American Indian Tribal Nations Relations for the University of Minnesota system. An enrolled member of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Professor Johnson served as a tribal attorney for more than 30 years, but has also served as a tribal court judge, a tribal administrator, and is a frequent lecturer on American Indian history and federal Indian law. Johnson spent five years with the U.S. House of Representatives, ultimately becoming Staff Director and Counsel to the Subcommittee on Native American Affairs. In 1997, President Clinton appointed Johnson to Chair of the National Indian Gaming Commission. Johnson earned his B.A. from the University of St. Thomas and his law degree from the University of Minnesota. He has served as faculty member of the National Judicial College and has served on the Board of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce. Source: *Whitehouse.gov.*

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM IS MORE THAN STEPPING STONE TO FUTURE

By AIYANNA MITCHELL, BAND MEMBER DESCENDANT



Aiyanna Mitchell, HHS Intern.

Hands-on participation provides transformative experience

My name is Aiyanna Mitchell, a Mille Lacs Band member descendant, and I am currently an intern at Mille Lacs Band Health and Human Services for one of my college requirements to graduate for my bachelor's degree. I really enjoy interning with HHS because it opens doors for more opportunities, and every day, I learn something new. My internship is currently paid, and it gives me good insight on what type of job I may want in the future. The internship also gives me the opportunity to complete school work and attend training towards my education. I have been working in a wide range of different fields and seeing the different places I may want to continue my education.

Internships serve as stepping stones towards a fulfilling career, as it allows the intern to gain hands-on experience in their chosen field. As an intern, I have become an integral part of a dynamic and multifaceted organization dedicated to improving the well-being of individuals and communities. Through assignments and projects, I have gained first-hand experience in various departments, such as public health, social services, and health care policy.



Interning at HHS exposes interns to a wide range of programs, initiatives, and services aimed at improving the well-being of individuals and communities. This exposure broadens their understanding of the diverse needs and challenges faced by society, enhancing their empathy and compassion. By working alongside professionals in the field, interns gain a comprehensive view of the vital role of HHS.

This hands-on experience allows interns to apply knowledge gained in their academic studies and develop practical skills. Every new task or challenge brings a chance to learn, grow, and develop a deeper understanding of the field. One of the most rewarding aspects of interning at HHS for me is the opportunity to make meaningful contributions that positively impact individuals and communities. Whether it's participating in public health campaigns, assisting in the development of health care programs, or supporting initiatives to address social disparities, efforts as an intern can create a lasting difference.

My internship has also provided the opportunity to connect with professionals from diverse backgrounds. These connections can prove invaluable in the future, both for job opportunities and for accessing a supportive network within the field. Building relationships with professionals during the internship can lead to mentorship opportunities, references, and even potential job offers down the line. The internship program allows opportunity to interact with experienced professionals who are passionate about their work and eager to guide and support your growth. Engaging with mentors who have diverse backgrounds and expertise can provide invaluable insights into various career paths.

One of the most significant benefits of interning at HHS is gaining insight into potential career paths. This first-hand exposure helps to identify interests, strengths, and areas for further development. It also offers an opportunity to network with professionals, potentially opening doors to future employment or references.

Internship at HHS provides a structured environment for professional growth. Interns receive mentorship, guidance, and feedback from experienced professionals, allowing development of essential skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and time management. Interns also gain exposure to the ethical considerations and professional standards in the field, which are crucial for their future careers.

From opening doors to future opportunities to providing hands-on experience and personal growth, these internships play a vital role in shaping the careers of individuals in the field of health and human services. An internship at the Department of Health and Human Services is more than just a stepping stone towards a career; it is a transformative experience that allows you to make meaningful contributions, grow both personally and professionally, and develop a deep sense of purpose. By immersing yourself in this dynamic environment, you gain the tools necessary to navigate the complexities of the health care and social services landscape, empowering you to shape a brighter future for individuals and communities in need.

MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH

RICING AND FISHING

By LEONARD SAM, MILLE LACS BAND ELDER

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

When we were young, we were taught to harvest wild rice. After my mom got done ricing, she would let us go out on a boat. Eventually we turned into pretty decent ricers. My sister soon turned into one of the best ricers around. Ricing even became a contest for all of us. I still rice today, although I don't do it as quickly as I used to.

When my mom got older, she knew she had to pass down everything she knew about ricing to the next generation. I'll never forget the day she broke down and told us she couldn't rice anymore. She admitted she was too old.

Today it's difficult to find someone to continue the ricing tradition. The younger generation is busy with their jobs, so I guess they just don't have the time. Ricing is not being passed down from one generation to the next anymore. Back in the early days, we did ricing as an income. Now we do it to keep the culture alive.

Ricing is hard work. It's dirty, but it's good. After you get done, you really feel like you accomplished something. Ricing has become a part of my life, a part of who I am. Even when I was in the service, I would come home to rice. I missed it.

Ricing is very strenuous. It usually takes two people: one to push the boat around and one to knock the rice.

One can do it, but it's hard work. You get off the lake, sack it all up, and take it home, where you dry it out and get it ready for parching. To parch the rice the old-fashioned way, you need a fire and a kettle, stirring the rice constantly. Rice always tastes better if it's done by hand. Depending on how hot the fire is, you parch the rice about 20 minutes a batch.

Usually I can do about 24 to 28 batches a day by myself, so parching takes time. The old-fashioned way is difficult, but that's how we did it when I was growing up. When we were old enough to thrash the rice, we would tie a piece of cloth on a stick or thrash it with our feet. Now most thrashing is done mechanically since it's more economical. After the thrash, the final step is to winnow the rice by throwing it up and down in a basket.

It takes time to learn how to rice properly. Kids have to watch grown-ups to learn how to do it.

Just like any other tradition, you have to pass it on. Today I sell the rice to our tribal people as much as I can, since I know a lot of them don't pick rice. It's a way to keep our culture alive.

Another important tradition is fishing. My father taught me how to fish, and I still do all my own fishing today.

When I go fishing, I usually fish with a net instead of a rod and reel since that's how I learned to do it with my dad. After I get my fishing permit, I try to throw out my net as early as possible in the evening and pull it out early in the morning. For the best catch, you have to spread your net close to shore.

Fishing and ricing will always be a part of my life. My mother taught me how to rice, and my father taught me how to fish. Back then, we did everything as a family. I hope I can pass on what I learned from my parents to the next generation to keep our traditions alive.

ELDER ABUSE IS MORE THAN DISRESPECT

Speak up — Silence allows neglect and abuse to continue

By **MAAJIITAAZIIBIKWE, MARY SAM**

The National Indian Council on Aging (NCOA) defines Elder abuse as a single or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an exploitation of trust which causes harm or distress to an older person. Neglect is the most frequent form of Elder abuse.

According to NCOA, tribal social service providers estimate that nearly 80 percent of those abusing American Indian Elders are immediate family members and 10 percent are extended family members.

According to Commissioner of Health and Human Services Nicole Anderson, Elder abuse is an issue on the Mille Lacs Band Reservation. "This is a real concern in our community, and has been for a very long time," she said. "We need to help Elders and family members access our services and help them find their courage to speak up, which we understand can be difficult. Victim Services, Tribal Court, and Tribal Police will assist."

What does Elder abuse and neglect look like?

Elders can face abuse in many different facets of their lives. While physical abuse can often be seen such as bruises, pressure marks, broken bones, cuts, burns, bed sores, and unusual weight loss, it isn't always physical abuse. Other forms of abuse may include:

- Financial exploitation.
- Living with the Elder — when the adult is fully able to live on their own — and the Elder doesn't want them there.
- The adult living with the Elder is not paying any bills or providing any financial assistance.
- Stealing, selling, taking their funds, or using their bank cards.
- Stealing or trading their medications.
- Dealing illicit drugs out of the Elder's home.
- The adult living with the Elder is using drugs and/or alcohol and the Elder wants to live in a chemical-free environment.
- Leaving grandkids with the Elder to take care of without the Elder's permission.
- Emotional. Signs can include unexplained withdrawal from activities, depression, anxiety, or fears.
- Belittling, name calling, or threats.
- Sexual violence.
- Being denied access to ceremonies or traditional healing.

Why don't Elders speak up or seek help?

Sometimes Elders want to protect the person who is hurting them. Enabling this behavior ends up hurting everyone. Trusting the systems to help takes courage. One local Elder who requested to remain anonymous said, "Sometimes co-dependency is so strong that the person doesn't want to make the change. For intervention to take place, the Elder needs to admit the abuse is occurring and ask for help, which often leads to learning tough lessons to get the help to have supports in place to keep the abusive family member out of their home."

Another anonymous Elder said, "Unless the Elder speaks up and files a complaint or agrees to legal assistance, nothing can be done. My parent was not willing to say anything to anyone but me."

Elders shared the following reasons they are afraid to speak up:

- Afraid of being hurt worse than they already are.
- Afraid of losing their grandkids.
- Afraid of being alone.
- Afraid the adult living with the Elder will go back to jail or treatment, or they will lose custody of their kids, leaving the Elder alone, which may lead to not being able to see the kids, or the Elder may have to raise the kids themselves.
- Elders don't want their kid to be hungry or homeless.
- Embarrassed or feeling ashamed.



An anonymous mother shared this about her mom: "It's hard. My parent did follow through and filed a complaint. When authorities got involved, my parent lied. She told them everything was okay. It wasn't okay and we all knew it. It is so hard, to feel so powerless."

Another daughter shared, "Watching family deal pills to my Elder mom and not being able to stop it was painful. Having to make a decision to not allow family to visit our mom was most hard on her, but also the entire family system."

According to Mille Lacs Band Victim Services, Elders often use the term disrespect over the word abuse, as it makes talking about the subject easier. Many Elders don't believe their loved ones would abuse them, but will use the term disrespect. Paying attention to the words they use to describe what is occurring is important.

What to do, how to help

According to Victim Services Director Kristen Allord, "Silence allows abuse and neglect to continue. Finding the courage to speak out and ask for help is the first step. Victim Services will assist family members to create a safety plan for the Elder."

Victim Services will provide an advocate. Over the course of weeks or months, the advocate will work with the Elder on their goals for safety and their well-being. Advocates will try to increase the Elder's confidence and assertiveness so that those being victimized can start speaking out for themselves. Victim Services has support groups that have been helpful to victims. Those support groups are there to help relieve the tensions and resentments that often accompany Elder abuse.

Peter Charpentier, Elderly Disability Services Supervisor, said that his department tries to use the least restrictive means of offering support to Elders. A full guardianship and conservatorship may be needed, but sometimes starting with a Power of Attorney can be a less invasive way of offering assistance. The process for petitioning for guardianship is available on the Tribal Court website, and Charpentier is willing to assist families in this process.

Commissioner Anderson and her team encourage families or community members to step in when abuse or neglect is suspected. "We know it can be difficult, but supports are in place to stand by and with Elders and family members asking for help," Anderson said.

Who to Call

Mille Lacs Band Victim Services: 320-532-7793
Mille Lacs Band Elderly Disability Supervisor: 320-292-2283
Tribal Police Department to request a Welfare Check on the Elder: 320-532-3430
Band Member Legal Aid: 320-532-7798
Minnesota Adult Abuse Reporting: 1-844-880-1574 (confidential reporting)
StrongHearts Native Helpline: 844-762-8483

BRIEFS

PASSENGER SAFETY IS A SNAP

SNAP — safe Native American passenger training — is held on the first Tuesday of each month from 1 to 5 p.m. Contact Kristina Abear at 320-532-7814 or kristina.abear@hhs.millelacsband-nsn.gov to sign up.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S GROUPS

The Women's Healing Group meets on Mondays at 5:30 p.m., and the Men's Empowerment Group meets Thursdays at 6 p.m. Both groups meet at the old District I Community Center across from Grand Casino Mille Lacs. All are welcome!



COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

FIRST AID AND CPR CLASSES AT HHS BUILDING

As part of the Band's Community Risk Reduction or CRR efforts, First Aid and CPR classes are held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the last Wednesday of the month in the Family Services training room at the Health and Human Services building in District I. Family Services staff and foster parents have priority, after which it is open to other departments and community members. There is a \$10 fee for certification cards if participants would like them. Cards are free for Family Services staff and foster parents. Contact Kristina Abear at 320-532-7814 or kristina.abear@hhs.millelacsband-nsn.gov to sign up.



COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

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.

SUMMER FIELD TRIP

ONAMIA STUDENTS ATTEND NATIONAL UNITY CONFERENCE

Students spend part of their summer in Washington, D.C.

By SARAH BARTEN, MILLE LACS CORPORATE VENTURES

A group of students from Onamia High School had the incredible opportunity to attend the National Unity Conference in Washington, D.C. from June 30 to July 3, 2023. The conference brought together Indigenous communities from around the United States, providing a space for them to celebrate their cultures, share stories, and heal from the challenges faced by tribal youth.

Attending the Unity Conference was a transformative experience for youth. Keith King, Max Blake, Emma Wind, Phoenix-Rose Nayquonabe, Xiana Nayquonabe, and Emma Barnett were able to connect with other youth who share their passion for preserving their heritage and advocating for tribal rights. Also at Unity was Mille Lacs Band member Bella Nayquonabe, who attended in hopes of starting a chapter at Berkeley. Learning from each other's experiences, they built a strong network of support.

One of the highlights of the conference was hearing from inspiring leaders such as Matika Wilbur, who sold everything in her Seattle apartment and created Project 562, which reflects her commitment to visit, engage with, and photograph all 562-plus Native American sovereign territories in the United States.

They also heard from Marilyn Malerba, the Treasurer of the United States, who is the first Native American to hold the office.

And lastly, they heard from Norma Baker-Flying Horse, a Grammy Award-winning Hidatsa, Dakota Sioux, and Assiniboine Woman. Her work is high in demand from many of Indian Country's dignitaries, and she regularly makes appearances on the red carpet or at some of the most prestigious events celebrating Native people.

The speakers' stories of resilience and strength left a lasting impact on the students, inspiring them to take pride in their heritage and work towards a better future for their communities. The importance of unity among Indigenous peoples was



Attendees of the Unity Conference navigated Washington, D.C.'s Metro, one of the busiest public transportation systems in the country.



FOSTERING A SUPPORTIVE AND INCLUSIVE EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Students and chaperones at the Unity Conference in Washington, D.C. Chaperones are Virgil Wind, Charmaine Shivers, Christina Clitso-Nayquonabe, and Joe Nayquonabe Jr.

emphasized throughout the conference, reminding everyone that by standing together, they can create meaningful change.

Workshops, panel discussions, and cultural performances allowed the students to celebrate their diversity and express themselves freely. Here's what some of the attendees had to say:

"Attending Unity empowered me to become an advocate for our communities," said Bella Nayquonabe. "We learned about land rights, environmental concerns, and cultural appropriation." Bella said she is returning to her community and University of California, Berkeley this fall with a renewed sense of purpose.

"Unity provided a fun space for us to express ourselves and be proud of our identities," said Max Blake. Max shared that the sense of belonging and camaraderie that was felt at the conference was really empowering and gave all of them confidence to just be themselves.

"Attending Unity was an experience that I'll be forever grateful for," said Emma Wind. "Seeing the strength and resilience from other leaders showed me that it is okay to dream big and that I can do whatever I put my mind to."

The cost of this trip is paid for by fundraising through the Misi-zaaga'iganing basketball tournament the Onamia Indian Education program hosts each year. The students expressed

their gratitude for individuals like Chris Nayquonabe, Charmaine Shivers, and Virgil Wind, who have played a significant role in fostering a supportive and inclusive educational environment. Through advocacy and creating opportunities like the Unity Conference, they have provided a safe and enjoyable learning experience that celebrates the youth and their cultural heritage.

"As a past attendee of the Unity Conference myself, I wanted my students to experience the same empowerment and motivation that I felt. The trip was driven by the desire to inspire them to bring action back to our community," said Chris Nayquonabe, Director of Indian Education at Onamia Schools. "Witnessing their growth and enthusiasm throughout the conference reaffirmed the importance of providing opportunities for our youth to connect, learn, and become advocates for positive change."

During their free time, the students were able to explore the city with their chaperones, further enriching their experience at the conference. Overall, attending the Unity Conference was a truly transformative journey, leaving everyone with a renewed sense of purpose and a deeper appreciation for their identities and cultural heritage.



Day two of the Unity Conference in Washington, D.C., at the General Assembly.

FUTURE GENERATIONS NEED YOU NOW

More staff needed at MLEE

By VIVIAN LaMOORE, INAAJIMOWIN EDITOR

The COVID-19 pandemic had limited the number of students allowed in Mille Lacs Early Education programs for the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe. When restrictions started to lift, some families were still hesitant to bring their children back. Now that all of the restrictions have been lifted, there are spots available for more children. But it is sort of a conundrum. MLEE also needs more staff in order to have more children enrolled.

It has been said that children are the most important assets of any community because they are the future of the community. And Education of the children is the most important position of honor. Wilma Mankiller said, "I don't think anybody anywhere can talk about the future of their people or of an organization without talking about education. Whoever controls the education of our children controls our future."

There are currently several teaching positions open in District I and III. MLEE is working to build staff. The more staff there is available, the more children can be brought in also. "We need big people to be able to bring in more little people," Saboo said. "We need people to come forward, come to work and take care of the babies. Help us to raise the next generation," Saboo said.

Exciting changes are happening within the MLEE. District II is fully staffed and construction is nearly complete on the new addition. Details on the grand opening will be forthcoming as the opening is still to be determined.

District III is in the beginning stages of building an Early Head Start Building for ages 0-3 years old with construction to begin in 2024. But even before the tables and chairs are deliv-

ered, Early Head Start can begin in-home services for District III families.

In-home Early Head Start includes having a teacher meet with the child and family in the home and the provide educational services following a curriculum and work with parent/caregiver in a structured play situation, screenings, diapers, wipes, snacks, and arrange times for children to socialize with other in-home participants.

"If we can bring on staff, we can provide in-home services to children and families," Saboo said. "The education and socialization makes a big impact on the children. And the diapers and wipes provided for the time the children would be in school, is a huge savings for families," Saboo said.

The goal is for the in-home Early Head Start participants to transition to the new building once it is complete.

MLEE is also looking for parents, caregivers, and community members to be a part of the Policy Council. "They are who drives our program and approve everything we do from budgets, grants, child care licenses, and more," Saboo said.

Currently have five on the council and ideally, Saboo would like to see eight to 10 individuals.

MLEE currently provides educational services for Early Head Start for ages 0-3, Head Start for ages 3-5, and Wrap-around child care 7:30 to 8 a.m. and after school 4 to 5:15 p.m. to families on a limited basis.

If you would like more information on positions available within MLEE or with enrollment questions, please contact Nancy Saboo, Mille Lacs Early Education Director, at 320-532-7590 or email Nancy.Saboo@millelacsband.com.

BACK TO SCHOOL PREPARATION

Plan ahead and be prepared for preK to high school

By MAAJIITAAZIIBIKWE, MARY SAM

It's August and the new school year is right around the corner. For some kids, going back to school is exciting and they have so much to look forward to. For some, it's a mixture of excitement and nervousness. For others, the transition is a huge adjustment and raises fear and anxiety. As parents, grandparents, and others raising kids, being prepared and helping with the transition will help children be more successful. Being prepared takes time, but the payoffs are important. Below are a few tips to help with the transition from summer to school.

1. Talk about school starting. Speak about school in a positive way. Your positive attitude and excitement about the year ahead will help them to be more successful.

2. Encourage participation in extra-curricular activities at the school and after-school programs.

3. Getting kids to bed at their regular school bedtime and getting up early can help make that first day of school easier. Trying to establish a routine early helps.

4. If your child is transferring schools, get registered now.

5. Are required vaccinations up to date? If not, schedule an appointment soon.

6. If the kids aren't reading books now, encourage fun reading to get them away from screen time.

7. Ask for help before the first day of school. If your child has experienced a medical issue, crisis or loss, or is struggling with anxiety, depression, addiction, or another issue, reach out to a trusted support person at the school to explore support options for your child. Modeling and teaching our kids that it's okay to ask for help provides our kids with a great life skill. Never hesitate to call or email the school. Lean on the Indian Education staff, social worker, or counseling staff.

8. Develop and talk about your expectations around homework. Where will they do their homework where they won't be distracted? If there isn't a quiet space, can they stay after school to find a quiet space?

9. If there is an open house, it is recommended to attend. Meeting Indian education staff, teachers, principals, and support staff can help reduce some nervousness, and kids will

have a familiar face to look to that first week of school. Tour the school, see the classroom, and know where they will spend their days.

10. If you can print the school calendar, try putting it on your refrigerator. Knowing upcoming school events can help with your planning.

11. If time permits, get your kids' vision checked and dental work done early.

12. If your child is interested in sports, make sure they sign up on time. Middle and high school students are required to have a sports physical done prior to the sport starting.

13. Do you have before- and after-school daycare arranged?

14. Part of the fun can be shopping for school supplies. Getting some supplies or school clothes early can help create some excitement.

AREA SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES

Nay Ah Shing/Pine Grove: August 31 from 3 to 5 p.m. High School Office: 320-532-4695. Contact Lehtitia Weiss or Sarah Pylvanen. Both schools will be open.

Onamia: August 30 from 1 to 7 p.m. School District Office: 320-532-4174. Indian Education Program Director Chris Nayquonabe: 320-532-6839.

Isle: August 31 from 5 to 8 p.m. School District Office: 320-676-3146. American Indian Student Liaison Kate Raverty: Kraverty@isle.k12.mn.us.

McGregor: August 30 from 12:30 to 7 p.m. School District Office: 218-768-2111. Cultural Liaison Rachel Moose, 218-768-5155.

Hinkley/Finlayson: August 30. Contact the school for specific times for elementary, middle, and high school open house hours. Phone number: 320-384-6277. Bruce Williams, Indian Education Department: Bruce.williams@isd2165.org.

Brainerd School District: Website: ISD181.org or call 218-454-6900. Contact the district for specific times for elementary, middle, and high school open house hours. District Indian Education Coordinator Shayla Schubert: 218-454-6142.

Minisinaakwaang: August 23 from 4 to 6 p.m. Phone number: 218-768-5303. Contact Mary Sue Anderson for more information.

EDUCATION BRIEFS

MILLE LACS EARLY EDUCATION IS A FUN PLACE TO BE

Mille Lacs Early Education District I Early Head Start/Head Start celebrated summer with a mid-summer parade. The children and staff made refreshments of popsicles and popcorn which the parents and community members attended enjoyed.



SAVE YOUR RECEIPTS

It is time to shop for school supplies! Families, if you are stocking up on essentials like pencils, pens, paper, notebooks, calculators, crayons, and backpacks, make sure to SAVE YOUR RECEIPTS! The Minnesota Department of Revenue says that most school supplies qualify for valuable K-12 tax benefits on the 2023 Minnesota income tax returns.

"Save those receipts from school supply purchases and claim the K-12 Education Credit or Subtraction," said Commissioner Paul Marquart. "This will help save some money when it comes time to file taxes and is something that nearly every parent or caregiver in Minnesota can do."

More families now qualify for valuable K-12 tax benefits.

For more information, please visit the Minnesota Department of Revenue at

<https://www.revenue.state.mn.us/qualifying-expenses>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQ1ZtZdV-JM>

Send your news tips to news@millelacsband.com.

POWWOW SEASON — JULY 21 — 23

EAST LAKE GII-ISHKONIGEWAG POWWOW

PHOTOS BY VIVIAN LaMOORE AND CHAD GERMANN



VIVIAN LAMOORE PHOTO



VIVIAN LAMOORE PHOTO



VIVIAN LAMOORE PHOTO



VIVIAN LAMOORE PHOTO



VIVIAN LAMOORE PHOTO



VIVIAN LAMOORE PHOTO



VIVIAN LAMOORE PHOTO



CHAD GERMAN PHOTO



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CHAD GERMAN PHOTO



VIVIAN LAMOORE PHOTO



VIVIAN LAMOORE PHOTO



VIVIAN LAMOORE PHOTO



VIVIAN LAMOORE PHOTO



VIVIAN LAMOORE PHOTO



Friday, August 18

5:00 Registration Opens
 6:00 Flag Raising
 7:00 Grand Entry
 8:00 Royalty Contest
 9:00 Old Style Jingle
 10:00 Mens Woodland

Saturday, August 19

9:00 Parade Line Up
 10:00 Parade
Rez Car Contest
 Parade Float Contest
 11:00 Registration Opens
 1:00 Grand Entry
Moccasin Games Begin
 Horse Shoe Tournament Begins
 2:00 Royalty Speeches
 Royalty Contest
 3:00 Outgoing Royalty
 Specials
 5:30 Feast
 7:00 Grand Entry
 8:00 Royalty Crowning
 9:00 Old Style Jingle
 10:00 Mens Woodland

Sunday, August 20

7:00 5K Run
 1:00 Grand Entry
 2:00 Old Style Jingle Finals
 3:00 Mens Woodland Finals

Host Drums

Little Otter
 Cedar Creek

Invited Drums

Little Bear
 Crazy Elk
 Rockin Bear

Announcers

Michael Sullivan
 Joel Syrette

Arena Directors

Les Gahbow
 Percy Benjamin

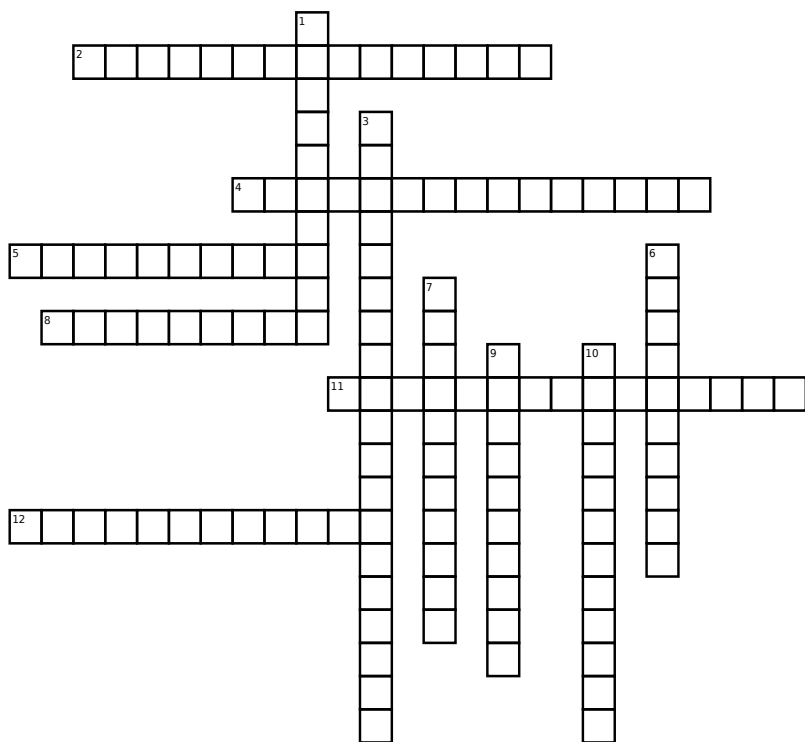
Committee Specials

Old Style Jingle Dress
 Mens Woodland
 Moccasin Games
 Horse Shoe Tournament
 Parade Float Contest
 Rez Car Contest

Iskigamizigan Pow Wow Grounds
 16501, 16587 Zhaaboshkang Neyaashiing Miikanaans
 Onamia, MN 56359

AAZHAWAAKWASING MANOOMINIKE-GIIZIS

By NAZHIKE, MILLE LACS BAND MEMBER



Down:

1. it is a bad movie, is a poor movie
3. The theater screen
6. Popcorn
7. it is a movie
9. the movie or show starts
10. Pop

Across:

2. it is a funny movie, is a comedy
4. it is a movie for children, is a kid's movie
5. it is a good movie; it flashes nicely
8. it is a scary movie
11. s/he shows a movie, watches a movie
12. a ticket

ARE YOU USING WHAT WE WERE GIVEN?

As Anishinaabe, there is talk about western science and how we rely on that rather than our own teachings. Society will tell us that math never lies, physics rule the world, and history is bound to repeat itself if not known. What we are learning today is that math isn't always true, the laws of physics don't always apply, and history will repeat itself, even if known. What these concepts don't take into account is the spiritual realm of the world in which we live. The "truths" we rely on have only been known for a few centuries. Our spirituality has been tried and proven true since the beginning of time. With these truths today, they have been used for the last few centuries, and the world in which we live is now in a critical state in regards to world power, food, energy, and climate. With the known knowledge that is applied to the world, we are coming close to ruining it. The water, the air, the environment, and our collectiveness of survival is in danger. Anishinaabe were able to live on the land from the beginning of time and maintain a safe, secure and beneficial connection to the world.

The Elders of the Elders of our Elders' wisdom has been passed down to rely on our teachings and way of life. That is the constant message in what we are told as Anishinaabe. In every plight, rely on our teachings. In a hardship? Rely on our teachings. Things critical? Rely on our teachings. Things are going well? Rely on the teachings. In our teachings, there is a sense of comfort. A sense of everything being okay — even if it doesn't seem so. A sense of trust, hope, and gratitude. A similar message will be given if you've ever sought out a person with teaching from our area. These teachings have been embedded in the words of our Elders.

"You shouldn't go around trying to be like the chimookomaan," Obizaan says, "You have an Anishinaabe spirit within you need to nourish and no matter how much you try to be like the chimookomaan, you'll always still be Anishinaabe."



Regardless of what your story is, you will be Anishinaabe. Didn't grow up with the ceremonies? Family was relocated? Drugs, mental health, and crime? No matter what, we still have a way of life to gain access to enrichment that is unexplainable. Power that can transform your life. Albeit, it may not be the life you seek but it will be the life that is meant for you. As our elders are passing, teachings are being lost all of the time. In the same instance, teachings are being revitalized for use today. We all know something. Some statement, outlook on life and/or action has been saved in all of us. Our shinaabe spirits were listening and held onto that particular nourishment. Take part in our ceremonies, seek out those teachings within and we can unleash the power of the manidoog for our future generations.

Miigwech.

GIDINWEWINAAN — OUR WAY OF SOUND

BY NAZHIKE, MILLE LACS BAND MEMBER

Mazinaateseg, a movie, is a time when we can also use our language. The description of the world around us is what our language uses and movies fit into this world around us. They help give us experiences that we otherwise would not have been a part of, they present perspectives that we may not have been exposed to and they demonstrate the do's and don'ts of the world around us. A natural fit for how we as anishinaabe learn.

Mazinaatese = it is a movie

(Muh zin nah tay say)

Gaapizigan = Popcorn

(Gah piz zig gun)

Maanaatese = it is a bad movie, is a poor movie

(Mah nah tay say)

Menwaagaming = Pop

(Mayn wah gum mig)

Gagiibaadaatese = it is a funny movie, is a comedy

(Guh gee bah dah tay say)

Mazina'igaans = a ticket

(Muh zin nuh' ih gahns)

Chi-mazinaatesijigan = The theater screen

(Chih muh zin nah tay sij jig gun)

Odaminoowaatese = it is a movie for children, is a kid's movie

(Oh dum min new wah tay say)

Minwaatese = it is a good movie; it flashes nicely

(Min wah tay say)

Maadaatese = the movie or show starts

(Mah dah tay say)

Zegaatese = it is a scary movie

(Zay gah tay say)

Mazinaatesijige = s/he shows a movie, watches a movie

(Muh zin nah tay sij jig gay)

Miigwech.



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

WAABISHKIBINES ENENDAANG — JOE'S THOUGHTS

MEWIZHAA PII DASH NOONGOM (LONG TIME AGO VS. TODAY)

GAA-TIBAAJIMOD (told by) JOE NAYQUONABE SR.,
WAABISHKIBINES
GAA-TIBAAJIMOTAWAAJIN (transcribed by)
JAMES CLARK, OZAAWAANAKWAD

This month, I would like to touch on some differences between today and a long time ago. Sometimes there are questions that we're afraid to answer, either from family or friends. I am not sure if it's fear or not wanting to strain the relationship. Correcting someone nowadays has truly become an insult, rather than back in the day when it was a way to help the individual and community. When we try and critique our community, it is not an attack, but an act of love that we want to see our community be the best it can be. As Elders, we get a lot of things taken care of for us, like our lawn gets mowed, our lights and heating get paid for, our driveways get plowed, and many others that our Elders didn't have when I was growing up.

I remember when an HHS commissioner and I were sitting at a meeting quite a few years ago. While we were sitting at the meeting, someone had asked, "What is life like now that you have the casino?" He responded, "I think it's a lot better than how we lived a long time ago." But when they came to me I told them, "I think it's one of the worst things that ever happened to us as a people."

Everyone was in an uproar over my answer, to which I had to explain. "When I was young, a lot of the jobs people worked were seasonal, but we were still community. We showed love and compassion for one another, helped out one another, and most important, we listened to them no matter if we were mad at them." Whereas, compared to today, we hate each other; now everything is practically money- or hate-based. It just seems like the things we did back then were communal; they truly showed care.

I remember listening to my grandparents visiting with other Elders. I would hear them talk about nothing but facts, no rumors or lies told at the table. If someone was not doing well, they were asking sincerely of how they were and things that they could do to help with the little that they had. If things were doing better or good with that person, they were always relieved to hear, because that's a fellow community member.

Today, in contrast, there's a lot of rumors and things that aren't true that we talk about with each other. I am unsure if it's to impress or make conversation with one another.

I was talking to a non-Native guy some time ago; he lives close to the Rez. He cuts everyone's grass that lives on his road because he knows some are seasonal residents. He did it because he could and he cares for his neighbors. This was similar to what we did a long time ago. If a household wasn't able to mow their lawn, someone would come and help out and did not expect to get anything back for it because we were a community. Maybe you could give them a meal or blanket, or even just a miigwech would go a long way back then.

That also is reflected in our language. The language is non-threatening and we use it to not only communicate but to help one another. You wouldn't be lectured or talked down to just solely being spoken to by people who care about you. Basically, if people did something they maybe shouldn't have, we let them know in a constructive way that was non-shaming. Perhaps it is again talking about the boarding schools; what did they take away? Maybe they took away how we inherently parent and that we help each other because shaming and punishing isn't truly who we are as Anishinaabe people.

I think another thing that shows that we have changed is the value of cooking. It's much easier to go out to eat or grab something at the market, but back in the day, a home-cooked meal was the way we did it, either brought over somewhere or arriving at someone's home. That's where we eat, laugh, talk, help each other. Seeing dishes that were store-bought that are brought to the funerals, feast, or dance halls are something that isn't us.

To follow off of that, I see that a lot of the time we aren't taking care of the things that we are putting into our body, because it is so easy for us to just go to the clinic and get taken care of at no cost to us. Having health care and clinics versus eating healthy and using natural remedies as we did it when we were kids.

Overall, I believe that we are trying to keep up with the Joneses and that is not who we are as Anishinaabe people. Just because we have money in the community, does not mean

NOTES FROM JOE:

Aaniin Anishinaabedog! Waabishkibines omaa. (Hello fellow Anishinaabe!) Joe Sr. here. With the times we live in, I must tell you about the article I have submitted. This article is full of my words, observations, and experiences that I have encountered throughout my life, and it is time to have these subjects written down. Understand not everything needs to be written, but various teachings cannot be lost.

That being said, as Anishinaabe, we all experience life differently. This disclaimer is needed for all intents and purposes as the goal of this article is: to better equip our people who'd like to learn, and for topics people may not have the ability to ask an Elder about. If these teachings are not as you learned them, that is okay. It is not our way to blame and criticize but to teach and show compassion.

Any comments, questions, or further discussion, please feel free to reach out to me and I'd be happy to have a conversation. Miigwech.



that we can give up on taking care of each other physically, mentally, and spiritually. It just means we should be the best Anishinaabe that we can be. Our ancestors made do with what they had and they lived happier lives than we do nowadays, no matter if they got a check every month or once a year. They had their community that took care of them and they took care of us.

Just a thought, I wonder if there is a correlation between the quality of our lives changing when we all spoke Ojibwe to now that we all speak English? What did we lose?

Miigwech, mii iw.

GRA UPDATE

THE GRA NEEDS YOUR HELP ON TRADITIONAL GAMING AT THE MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE

The Gaming Regulatory Authority ("GRA") regulates different forms of gaming that we all expect to see in a casino: blackjack, poker, slot machines, bingo. But did you know that the GRA is also required to oversee what is called "Class I gaming" on Band lands, that is, traditional forms of Anishinaabe games?

Federal and Band law say that traditional Class I gaming is only regulated by the tribes where those games are played. There is no state or federal involvement. To that end, the GRA periodically consults with a committee of Elders to determine what games qualify and what the rules are, consistent with tribal custom and practice. Right now, there are two games listed under detailed gaming regulations as traditional Mille Lacs Band games: the Moccasin Game and Bageswin (the Fish Game). The last time these regulations were reviewed was nearly 20 years ago.

The GRA is currently updating all detailed gaming regulations. They are seeking community input on traditional games of chance. Do you know of any other traditional games of chance that have been played at Mille Lacs during ceremonies, powwows, or community meetings? If so, the GRA would like to hear from you.

Contact Executive Director Teresa Kozumplik if you have suggestions or questions: TKozumplik@mlbgra.com or 320-384-4811.

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 <https://millelacsband.com/home/indian-gaming-regulation>. You can also LIKE us on Facebook at Mille Lacs Band GRA.

GAMING REGULATORY AUTHORITY



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

GRA Board meetings are bimonthly and open to the public except for discussions involving sensitive personal data. Meetings are currently being conducted remotely using Microsoft Teams.

EDDY'S

EDDY'S from page 1

insights into the food and beverage industry will undoubtedly contribute to the resort's continued growth and excellence as well."

One key element has been staff and attitude, which go hand-in-hand, Weyaus said. "We just came on board and kept telling people, 'If you were going to come home, how would you want this place to look? How would you want to feel when you walk in?' and that is what we all keep in mind," she said. "I am really grateful for the dedicated staff we have now."

The staff continues to impress Weyaus. "I don't have to ask, they just do it. All of the little details that are so important. They make sure windows are washed, grills are filled and ready, lawns are cut, property is maintained, wood bundles at cabins, food and service consistent, everything. They take pride in what they do. And that is really important."

Her welcoming attitude is contagious and is palpable from all of the staff at Eddy's. "I just love working here," said Sherry Linder, sitting at the front desk. "I used to think working at Grand Casino Mille Lacs was the best job ever. Until I came here. I love this even more. And the view! Just look at that view!" she added with a sweeping hand towards the large window that overlooks Mille Lacs Lake.

Weyaus agreed, the view is one of the perks of the job and is one of the charming characteristics that draws guests to the resort and the Launch Bar and Grill.

Customer service is paramount

Weyaus not only expects the staff to deliver the highest level of customer service, but the staff is eager and willing to deliver and meet those expectations with calm and welcoming attitudes. The staff is intent on creating a guest experience that is impressive and consistently delivering top-notch service. That begins with the impeccable maintenance of the lawns, the docks, all landscaping, and more to create a well-maintained curb appeal and carries through to the charming, clean, and well-maintained hotel rooms to the consistent quality of food presentation, taste, and service.

Heading into the Launch, Jeremy Seagren is the Eddy's Restaurant Operations Manager. The menu items were thoughtfully chosen to feature shareable appetizers, sandwiches, burgers, and signature entrées. The full-service bar is complete with craft beer and popular cocktails. The atmosphere is charming and boasts 20-foot-high exposed ceilings, 15-foot windows that offer great views, and a number of large-screen TVs for entertainment and a great place to catch your favorite sporting events. But the key ingredient is consistency in quality of food, presentation, and service. "Jeremy is outstanding at making sure all of the cooks are all trained to make sure the food every day is consistent and top quality — day in and day



out. That makes a big impact and lasting impression on the guests," Weyaus said.

Guest rooms are cozy and welcoming, clean, and fresh for each new guest. Eddy's offers 64 guest rooms, one parlor suite, and four private cabins, each uniquely designed and enhanced with contemporary décor. The lakeside rooms are especially in high demand.

One of the features Eddy's is known for, aside from the five-star view, is the launches. Unfortunately, the historic wooden boats were unsalvageable as sound lake-going vessels. As Mille Lacs is a world-class fishing lake that attracts thousands of visitors annually, Eddy's staff is currently making recommendations to the guests on other options for launch services for the guests who wish to fish. The Eddy's team is also planning for other amenity options for the future, such as pontoons and fishing boats, as well as featuring other water entertainment, such as paddleboards, kayaks, canoes, water toys, and more.

Eddy's is open seven days a week with the restaurant open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and open Friday and Saturday until 10 p.m. They offer shuttle service to Grand Casino Mille Lacs from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. Eddy's can accommodate everyone, including someone traveling alone or groups of up to 150. Through the casino's Group Sales and Banquet Services, Eddy's can easily accommodate family reunions, weddings, business meetings, and so much more. Eddy's will be open throughout the winter, providing hospitality needs for all guests, including the Launch restaurant and ice fishing accommodations. As Grand Casino Mille Lacs begins to go through the remodeling of guest rooms floor by floor and tower by tower, Eddy's will be a "quiet place" option for guests, Weyaus said.

Eddy's is more than just a great view. It is a place where one can go to lose themselves or find themselves and a place where people can go to enjoy themselves with friends and family and make memories that will last a lifetime. "Everyone has a story. And I love to listen," Weyaus said.

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORS PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS AND THEIR POSITIONS NOW

- Kelly Sam, Assistant General Manager, Grand Casino Hinckley
- Dayna Pearson, Director of Marketing, Grand Casino Mille Lacs
- Danielle Smith, Special Project Director, Grand Casino Hinckley
- Chris Staples, VIP Services Intern, Grand Casino Hinckley
- Charlie Sam, Director of Guest Experience, Grand Casino Hinckley
- Ezra Sam, Senior Projects Manager, Grand Casino Hinckley
- Shannon Porter, Director of Guest Experience, Grand Casino Mille Lacs
- Kate Kalk, Assistant General Manager, Grand Casino Mille Lacs
- Jereck Weyaus, Table Games Manager, Grand Casino Mille Lacs
- Ginger Weyaus, Eddy's Resort Manager, Grand Casino Mille Lacs
- Nate Sutton, Business Partner, Grand Casino Hinckley
- Arielle Shaw, Director of Finance, Grand Casino Mille Lacs
- Craig Beaulieu, Gaming Director, Grand Casino Mille Lacs
- Kate Davis, Director of Finance, Grand Casino Hinckley
- Patrick Sam, IT Security Architect, Professional Services
- Jenny Buchholz, Director of Talent Collaboration, Professional Services

AROUND THE RESERVATION



Hi Auntie,

This fall I will be a senior. I am excited to graduate and attend cosmetology school. I enjoy doing hair, manicures, pedicures, make-up, skin care, and massage. I want to do everything related to beauty and I feel like my path is to help people find their inner and outer beauty.

I don't really have a question, it's more of a thank you. I want to thank the people sending in questions and for your answers. I was wondering what is the purpose of "Ask Auntie" and what is the reason for it? Are there questions that you wouldn't respond to? Are there difficult questions?

Thank you,

Beautiful Miikawaadizi

Aaniin Nishimis,

Beautiful! I love the Ask Auntie message and I am so proud of your career plan. I think you have a great plan and I can feel your excitement for beauty, and wanting to help people find their inner and outer beauty is true passion. Thanking people for submitting questions is admirable. I also thank everyone for submitting their questions.

I haven't had any questions that I wouldn't answer yet. I hope there wouldn't be any questions that I wouldn't want to respond to. I think any and all questions our people have is important. I think if a question is unable to be printed in our Inaajimowin it would be due to it being explicit or slanderous; however, I would still try to answer the question, and I would work with the editor on how we can get the question printed with being respectful of the editing process and the question submitter.

There have been difficult questions that I think have been the most needed for our community. The questions are helpful to all of our people and our community. The purpose of "Ask Auntie" is to have a safe space for people to ask questions and share what they need to. I value the questions and I value the answers. This holds a special place in my heart and I want to help as much as I can. If there ever is a time — which there has been — where I don't have the best answer, I research and speak with as many Elders and community leaders as I can to learn and respond with as many solutions and resources as I can. We have amazing resources and support in our community.

I love the positivity of this safe forum and I look forward to answering and sharing as much as I am able to. This Ask Auntie column is not mine. It is for all of our community to be able to ask any question and share for our community.

Keep sharing your gift and passion, and I wish you a successful senior year Miikawaadizi!

Auntie

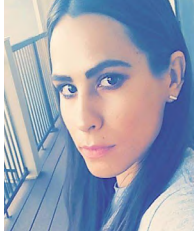
If you have a question for Ask Auntie, please send an email to News@millelacsband.com. Or feel free to use the USPO and mail to: Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, Inaajimowin, 43408 Oodena Drive, Onamia, Minnesota, 56359.

MEKWENIMINJIG

THE ONES WHO ARE REMEMBERED

RAINA SIPMA

Raina Sipma, age 37, passed away on June 22, 2023. A memorial service was held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at the Vineland Native American Church with Pastor Joe Boeringa officiating. Visitation was held one hour prior to service at church.



Raina Sipma was born on March 13, 1986, in Willmar, Minnesota, to Verne and Vanette (Bush) Sipma. She attended and graduated from New London Spicer High School. She enjoyed driving around and finding new places to eat. Watching movies and spending time with friends was how Raina liked to spend her time.

Raina is survived by her mother, Vanette; son, Braxton Behrend; brother, Daniel Sipma; sister, Alicia Willer; aunts, Beverly Jones Bush, Edith Bush, Arvilla Sipma; uncles, Terry Bush, Loren Sipma, Calvin Sipma, Ronald Sipma, Rodney Sipma, Delwin Sipma, and George DeGroot.

She was preceded in death by her father, Vern Sipma; sister, Brianna Sipma; aunt, Sharon Todd; uncle, Wayne Sipma; grandparents, Ray and Catherine Sipma.

BANZOO GEBECH, NATALIE WEYLAUS

Banzoo Gebech, Natalie Weylaus, age 76 passed away on June 29, 2023. Visitation was held at 7 p.m. on Sunday, July 2, 2023, at the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Community Center on the Mille Lacs Reservation. A funeral ceremony was held at 10 a.m. on Monday, July 3, 2023, at the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Community Center on the Mille Lacs Reservation with Nazhike officiating. Interment will be in St. Therese Little Flower Cemetery.



Natalie was born on November 25, 1946, in Cloquet, Minnesota, to John and Nancy (Benjamin) Garbow. She graduated from Saint Cloud State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education along with many certifications. Throughout her life, Natalie has been a role model not just as a working woman but also as a responsible and traditional member of the community. She thinks that's why she was chosen to be a judge and a drum society member by her Elders Art Gahbow and Marge and Merlin Anderson.

She was always interested in learning and teaching others. Natalie was a math and science teacher and a Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, where it was her purpose to protect the land and water until her retirement in 2019. She was elected to be a Chief Justice and was a director for the Iowa State Biizindadidaa Prevention Program. She was loved by many and will be dearly missed by all.

Natalie is survived by her daughters, Ginger, Vanessa; son, Travis; sisters, Letitia, Alicia, Dorinda; grandchildren, April, Dallas, Sierra, Tes, Cassandra, Harmonie, Savannah, Aiyanna, Wyndessa, Ira, Jancy, Giyanna; great-grandchildren, Riley, Sean, Terrance, Kayloni, Jay, Arieauna, Michael, Tristan Jr.; and many loving nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Weylaus; parents, John and Nancy (Benjamin) Garbow; sons, Christopher, Timothy; sisters, Cordella, Delia, Myrna; brothers, Reginald, Myron; granddaughter, Serena; grandparents, John Garbow Sr. and Cobay Bedausky, John Benjamin, and Hattie Merrill.

GITIGEBINES, ADRIAN THOMAS WADE SR.

Gitigebines, Adrian Wade Sr., age 45, passed away on July 5, 2023. Visitation was held at 7 p.m. on Saturday, July 8, 2023, 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, July 9, 2023, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Reservation, with Nazhike officiating. Interment is in the Vineland Burial Grounds.



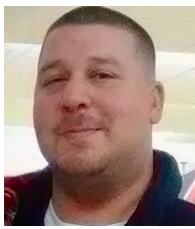
Gitigebines, Adrian was born on August 11, 1977, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, to Nadine and Lawrence Wade II. He enjoyed telling jokes, gambling, and playing scratch-offs. Adrian was an active member of the Men's Group and participated in the sweat lodge ceremonies. Being with his family, cooking, and watching the Minnesota Vikings was how he liked to spend his time. He enjoyed basketball and taught Tehya and Adrian Jr. how to play.

Adrian is survived by his wife, Jessica Rock; sons, Adrian Wade Jr., Duane Wade, Woodrow Wade, Jesse Wade; daughters, Tehya Wade and Jenda Wade; brothers, Phillip Wade Sr., Lawrence Wade III, Maurice Garbow Sr., Brandon Wade Sr.; sister, Laurie Chase; grandchildren, Ali Rose Garbow and Arabella Wade; and many loving nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lawrence Wade II and Nadine Wade; brother, Arnold Wade, Adrian Burris Sr.; sister, Mussette Wade; and niece, Marika Anoka.

GIZHIBAANODIN, DARRIN JERMAINE SAM SR.

Gizhibaanodin, Darrin Sam Sr., age 42, passed away on July 4, 2023. Visitation was held at dusk on Monday, July 10, 2023, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Reservation. A funeral ceremony was held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Reservation, with Nazhike officiating. Interment is in Faith Lutheran Cemetery in Isle, Minn. Funeral arrangements are with the Shelley Funeral Chapel of Onamia.



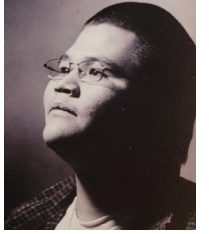
Gizhibaanodin, Darrin Jermaine Sam Sr., was born on September 19, 1980, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, to Cindy Perry and Phillip Sam. As a child, Darrin liked to ride his Big Wheel, go fishing, and wrestle. As an adult, he enjoyed hanging out with his family and friends. He always wanted to have a good time joking and laughing. He enjoyed listening to music. One of his favorite things to do was spend time with his children. They would swim, wrestle, play Beyblades, Roblox, and just hang out together. Asharra and DJ were very special to him and being a dad was the greatest achievement of his life. He also loved cats; any cat he met he loved.

He is survived by his mother, Cindy Perry; lifelong partner, Michelle Ives; son, Darrin Sam Jr.; daughter, Asharra Ives; brother, Ralph Richards; sisters, Jessie Elmborg, Tinisha Elmborg, Loretta Elmborg, Devonna Sam; aunts, Ruth Sam, Nichole Sam; uncles, and many loving nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his father, Phillip Sam; grandmother, Donna Sam; and many family members.

WAABISHKI-MAKWA, DONEVIN SAGATAW

Waabishki-Makwa, Donevin Sagataw, age 33, of Onamia, Minn., passed away on July 7, 2023. Visitation was held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Reservation. A funeral ceremony was held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Reservation, with Nazhike officiating. Interment is in the Vineland Burial Grounds. Arrangements are with the Shelley Funeral Chapel of Onamia.



Waabishki-Makwa, Donevin was born on July 30, 1989, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, to Toni (Sagataw) and Raymond Doust Jr. He loved working for the Mille Lacs Band. He liked to spend his time listening to music, playing scratch-offs, and watching TV, especially Family Guy. He loved being with his family and friends. Donevin will be remembered for his laughter and smile.

Donevin is survived by his father, Raymond Doust Jr.; sister, Athena Sagataw; grandparents, Delores and Larry Hegland; special cousin, Cilla; and many loving cousins, relatives, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Toni Doust; brothers, Eric and Daniel; grandparents, Edgar and Charlotte; uncles, Kevin and Don; aunts, Luann and Celeste; and many relatives.

OBAAAWANTIKWE, KIMBERLY RAE MOOSE

Obajaawantikwe, Kimberly Rae Moose, died on Saturday, July 8, 2023, at her home in Hinckley. She was 42 years old.



Kimberly was born on September 4, 1980, in Grantsburg, Wisc., to Sylvia and Lawrence Moose. In spite of her health challenges, her life was filled with love and joy. She had the biggest, kindest heart and love for everyone she encountered. Kimberly had a very fulfilling spiritual life for her 42 years with us. She will be greatly missed by all her loved ones.

She is preceded in death by her father, Lawrence L. Moose; auntie, Pauline Moose; sister, Linda Moose, and many close relatives.

Kimberly is survived by her mother, Sylvia J. Wise; sister, Pamela Moose; stepfather, Don Wise, and many uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at the Aazhoomog Community Center with Lewis Taylor officiating. The wake was held at dusk on Monday, July 10, also at the center.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS!

Mille Lacs Band members and community members from other tribes can be paid for news stories published in *Ojibwe Inaajimowin*. For stories of 600 words or more, compensation is \$400. The deadline for stories is the 15th of each month. If you have a story to submit or would like more information, please email news@millelacsband.com or call 320-630-8195.



THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

BY HANNAH TORKELSON, MILLE LACS CORPORATE VENTURES SENIOR COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGIST

The National Leadership Development Conference (NLDC) is an annual event hosted by Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures (MLCV) at Grand Casino Hinckley in June. This year, the conference was held June 20 through 22 and included speakers ranging from “The Evolution of Dance” creator Judson Liapply to comedic speaker Mark Mayfield. It was another sold-out affair.

By the numbers, the 2023 NLDC hosted 99 organizations, with over 450 participants from 23 states. There were 21 tribes represented and 96 tribal member participants. Not to mention 124 participants in the golf outing.

The NLDC 2015 origin stems from a bounty of conveyed interest through the success of the internal Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures Leadership Conference (MLCV LC), which began a few years prior in 2013.

After a positive workplace culture response to the Servant Leadership curriculum, the gathered perception was that the MLCV LC was working. Leaders and Associates could feel the change, noting that it’s about looking at things through the lens of others. Tribes and companies outside MLCV soon witnessed the transformative shift and wanted in. That’s when the NLDC was born.

Annually, NLDC participants leave having gained career-building insight, more robust relationships with colleagues, and motivation to be better leaders than the day before. But at the core, participants leave with a deeper understanding of who they are through the teachings of Servant Leadership.

Because of the fulfilling performance of the internal conference, each year, the NLDC speakers match those of the previous year’s MLCV LC. The doors are open to anyone, and its attendance and impression have continued to prosper — selling out for five years.

The inaugural year brought in around 200 participants, while the following year hit nearly 450. Tribes that enter the door just once become constants. Like the Sioux from North Dakota, sending in 50 attendees each time. Or the Kansas Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, who shared with Joe Nayquonabe, MLCV’s CEO, that they rebuilt their entire curriculum around the Servant Leadership philosophies learned from the conference.

The effect reaches non-tribal organizations, too. Minneapolis’s Federal Ammunition, the leading ammunition seller nationwide, continues to add guests since first attending in 2019. With nearly 40 in attendance, they pull the experience — ev-

erything from the kickoff party to the down-to-earth hospitality — and embed it within their teams. Exceedingly, they hosted Def Leppard and Sawyer Brown for their 50-year associate party, inspired by takeaways of the NLDC.

The NLDC isn’t just about the curriculum or the entertainment. It’s about connecting with other people. MLCV intentionally creates a networking environment where open, honest, and educational conversations can transpire. During the three-day conference, MLCV hosts a private CEO networking event to build relationships over leadership strategy for business owners and CEOs, including ours.

The conference outcomes are intended to have a trickling effect on the community. The curriculum, experience, and those crucial conversations are sent with guests to share and exchange insights with others.

Andrea Bolin, MLCV’s Chief of Staff and Chair of the NLDC Committee, describes the conference as a chance to give back. “It’s a gift back to other tribes to share about Servant Leadership and help them with their development.”

SERVANT LEADERSHIP

When considering the definition of Servant Leadership, it’s important to remember that we are all different. We have different backgrounds, personalities, learning styles — just different styles all around. Investigating those contrasts is what makes Servant Leadership so personal and so affecting.

It is best to think of it as a two-fold process. First, it’s only effective if the person using it feels connected and can do so in a way that compliments their background, personality, and style. Only once we know how to serve ourselves best can we best serve others. Secondly, Servant Leadership is about the other person. It’s about honoring those differences and offering Leadership in a way that makes the most sense for all involved, resulting in cultivating relationships.

THE FUTURE OF THE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

The NLDC wouldn’t be possible without the behind-closed-doors work of the NLDC Committee. Made up of 12 MLCV Leaders, who plan and set the tone for the future of the conference.

For example, the committee has a vision to expand the celebration, opening the door for those on the waiting list per sold-out event year after year. However, their goal to ensure a personable, all-inclusive occasion guides their moves — staying true to who the NLDC and MLCV are.

BACK IN TIME

10 years ago — 2013

MARGE ANDERSON: SHAPING A LEGACY

The impact of one of Minnesota’s most important American Indian leaders

In the early days of Indian gaming, Marge Anderson showed up at a Washington D.C. congressional hearing with a group of Indian children.

Donald Trump also showed up — to oppose Indian gaming in general and the proposed Indian Gaming Regulatory Act in particular. Trump saw the Connecticut casino operated by the Pequot as a threat to his own casino empire.

He should have been more afraid of Marge and her kids. With television cameras focused on the packed hearing room, Marge and others assured congressional leaders that Indians could develop and run their own gaming enterprises.

A full-page advertisement in the popular “Roll Call” Capitol Hill publication showed one of Trump’s yachts next to a Mille Lacs Reservation school and health clinic. The text read that Trump’s profits bought him yachts and made shareholders rich. Indian gaming profits paid for paved roads, schools and improved healthcare services.

Tadd Johnson, special counsel to the Mille Lacs Band, was working as a lawyer for the U.S. House of Representatives in 1993 when the drama unfolded. He said the Mille Lacs Band became a “poster child” in the ensuing battle that Trump lost.

With Marge Anderson at the helm, the Mille Lacs Band became a poster child for many good causes as Marge and her staff took on local, state and national leaders over the years. She was so well known state-wide and nationally that people referred to her by her first name only. When someone in Washington wanted an Indian perspective on any matter, he or she picked up the phone and called Marge in Minnesota.

None of this is to suggest that her job was easy. When the Mille Lacs Band fought in the court system for the continuation of its traditional fishing and hunting traditions, Marge received death threats from opponents. For a decade, a group of powerful non-Indians, spear-headed by former Vikings coach Bud Grant, attempted to remove the Ojibwe hunting and fishing rights on ceded land.

The issue brought out the “ugly side” of midwesterners, Tadd said. Anti-Indian sentiment flourished as many public figures expressed doubt about the treaties and their modern day influence.

The Mille Lacs Band win at the Supreme Court level was Marge’s finest triumph, Tadd said. “It’s hard to top a Supreme Court victory,” he said in a telephone interview.

Tadd was with Marge and a few others on a cold day when the Supreme Court decision was announced in 1999.

They were standing in the reception area of the Band’s government center. Marge asked Bonnie, the receptionist, to use the intercom and tell all employees the outcome of the case. The building exploded with cheers, Tadd recalled. Marge could have grandstanded, preferring a press conference to make the announcement by way of a canned speech. But no. That wasn’t her way.

Her way was usually quiet and thoughtful. She adopted a consensus-building style, took strong positions, and did not back down.

(Continue reading at tinyurl.com/3cchh6jw)

The above article is reprinted from the August 2013 issue of Ojibwe Inaajimowin. Many back issues of Ojibwe Inaajimowin are available at Inaajimowin.com/archives.



NATIONAL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

Joe Nayquonabe, CEO of Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures, delivering a keynote speech to a packed ballroom at the National Leadership Development Conference..

TRIBAL NOTEBOARD

AUGUST ELDER BIRTHDAYS

James Monroe Ballinger Jr.
Diane Marie Barstow
Barbara Jo Bearheart
Raymond Benjamin
Ruby Gayle Benjamin
Shiela Marie Benjamin
Wendy May Benjamin
Clayton Jay Boyd
Debra Elaine Brooks
Myrna Joy Ceballos
Albert Joel Churchill
Karen Marie Clark
Catherine Lynn Colsrud
John Dewey III Colsrud
Karen Lee Davis
Caryn Arlene Day
Shelly Ann Day
Shelly Arnell Diaz
Edward Ernest Dunkley
Jamie Sutton Edwards
Roxanne Julie Emery
Dorinda Fay Garbow
Leonard Paul Garbow

Samuel Jr. Garbow
Diana Guizar
Rosalie Noreen Hallaway
Mary Jean Harpster
Bradley Harrington
Richard Dee Hill
Stephanie Ann Houle
Valerie Lee Jiminez
Patricia Clarise Jones
William Allen Jones
Carmen Marie Kalk
Doris Kegg
Manfred Lynn Kegg
Joseph Franklin Knudtson
Carol Elizabeth Kornkven
Michelle Marie Lilly
Alberta Lynn Loso
James Jr. Matrious
Sydney Leigh Miller
Andy Mitchell
Bridget Marie Mitchell
Caryn Annette Mitchell
Lynda Lou Mitchell
Robert James Mitchell
Trisha Lynn Moose
Gerry Warden Mortenson

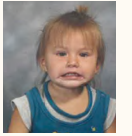
JoAnne Sue Nail
Delia Ann Nayquonabe
Ole Nickaboine Jr.
Michelle Rae Pagel
Duane James Pawlitschek Herbert
Jay Pawlitschek
JoMarie Ann Potter
Margaret Rose Premo
Linda Christine Quaderer
Sandra Jean Reynolds
Sharon Marie Rogers
Curtiss Lee Sam
Kimberly Ann Sam
Todd Leonard Sam
Alexander Laverne Schaaf Jr.
Theresa Joy Schaaf
William David Schaaf
David Duane Shaugobay
Janice Marie Shaugobay
Jamie Allen Short
Penny Lou St. Clair
Daniel John Staples
Janet Rose Swierczek
Connie Jean Taylor
Janice Louise Taylor
Richard Henry Thomas Jr.

Sylvester W. Thomas Jr.
Monica Joy Tobar
John Wayne Towle
Louise Annette Villebrun
Michael Laverne Wade
Alrick George Wadena Jr.
Carmen Denise Weous
Twyla Lee Weyaus
Donna Jean Wind
Franklin John Woyak

Family • Happy Birthday to my brother **Gary Davis**, and Grand daughter **Destiny** who is 15 years old! Love, Harry Davis

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY

Happy belated birthday to my grand daughter McKayla from Grandma Dee. I love you very much and miss you. Thank you for giving me my first great grand baby.



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

If you would rather not have your name included in the Elder birthday list, please call 320-630-8195 or email news@millelacsband.com before the 15th of the month preceding your birthday.

HAPPY AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday **PJ** August 5, Love the Harrington Family • Happy birthday **Mom/Gram/GG & Dad/Papa/Baba** August 15, Love Val, Dan, Ogimaa Binesikwe, Pie, Kev, and Lily • Happy birthday **Jay** August 16, Love your sissys and brothers • Happy birthday **Gabbi** August 20, Love the Harrington Family • Happy birthday **Mickey** August 20, Love the Harrington

IMPORTANT TRIBAL GOVERNMENT PHONE NUMBERS

Mille Lacs Band Government Center: 320-532-4181
Mille Lacs Band Tribal Police: 320-532-3430
Non-Emergency Phone: 320-630-2994
Chief Executive's Office
320-532-7484

Commissioners:

Administration: Sam Moose: 320-630-2607; Assistant Commissioner: Maria Costello: 320-630-7643, or 763-260-0164
Community Development: 320-630-7643, or 763-260-0164
Education: Niiyogaabawiikwe, Brooke Mosay Gonzalez: 320-362-4245
Finance: Mel Towle: 320-532-7475
Health and Human Services: Nicole Anderson: 320-364-9969
Natural Resources: Kelly Applegate: 763-221-0320

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

Public Works

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: 320-362-4672
Family Violence Prevention 24/7 Crisis Line: 866-867-4006; or Kristen Allord: 320-630-2677
Elder Advocate: 320-630-4395

Other frequently requested phone numbers

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.

Aanjobimaadizing Case Managers

District I — Candace Benjamin, Director of Case Management: 320-362-0014; Kaari Weyaus: 218-316-2437, Rosa Sam: 320-364-3187; Julie Peterson: 320 290 8729; Camille Smith: 320-982-0836
District II/IIa — Winona Crazy Thunder: 320-364-3049; Autumn Ballinger: 320-674-0655; Mary K Boyd: 320-630-1307
District III — Renee Allen: 320-591-0559; Kathy Nelson: 320-630-2671
Urban — Winona Spaulding: 612-360-7219

Office of Management and Budget

Economic Support and Per Cap: Katy Radunz: 320-532-7471, or Per Cap: 320-532-8928

Enrollments: 320-532-7730

Do you have a news tip or story idea?

Send your ideas to news@millelacsband.com or call 320-630-8195.



ELDERS NEEDED!

The Government Affairs Department is seeking Elders to tell their stories for a new Moccasin Telegraph series as well as to preserve video and audio in the Mille Lacs Band archives for future generations. If you are willing to participate in a video interview to share your memories, please email news@millelacsband.com or call 320-630-8195.

PLEASE JOIN US!

MLCV MONTHLY ELDER GATHERING

Grand Casino Mille Lacs
Events and Convention Center
Thursday, August 31
10:30 a.m.

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
<p>The Rez NA 6 p.m. regularly held in the Aanjibimaadizing building is temporarily being held at the 17222 Ataage Drive location while Aanjibimaadizing is under construction.</p> <p>All Community Meetings are subject to change. Please check the Facebook page for updates and cancellations.</p> <p>Send calendar items to news@millelacsband.com or call 320-630-8195.</p>		<p>1</p> <p>First Tuesday SNAP see page 7</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p>Women's group 5:30 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Red Brick NA Meeting 6 p.m. at Red Brick.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Wellbriety 6 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom.</p> <p>On the RedRoad</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Wellbriety Talking Circle 10 a.m. via Zoom.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Migizi Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA</p> <p>Men's group 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p>Women's group 5:30 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Red Brick NA Meeting 6 p.m. at Red Brick.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Wellbriety 6 p.m. via Zoom.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom.</p> <p>On the RedRoad</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom.</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Wellbriety Talking Circle 10 a.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Migizi Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA</p> <p>Men's group 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p>Women's group 5:30 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Red Brick NA Meeting 6 p.m. at Red Brick.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>District III Community Meeting 5:30 p.m. Grand Casino Hinckley</p> <p>Wellbriety 6 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Mille Lacs Powwow</p> <p>Government Offices closed at noon</p> <p>Grand Entry 7 p.m.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom.</p> <p>On the RedRoad</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Mille Lacs Powwow</p> <p>Grand Entry at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>
<p>20</p> <p>Mille Lacs Powwow</p> <p>Grand Entry at 1 p.m.</p> <p>Wellbriety Talking Circle 10 a.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Mille Lacs Day</p> <p>Government Offices Closed</p> <p>Migizi Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA</p> <p>Men's group 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p>Women's group 5:30 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p>	<p>23</p> <p>District IIa Chiminising Community Mtg. 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Red Brick NA Meeting 6 p.m. at Red Brick.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>District II Minisinaakwaang Community Mtg. 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Wellbriety 6 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom.</p> <p>On the RedRoad</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>
<p>27</p> <p>Wellbriety Talking Circle 10 a.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Migizi Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA</p> <p>Men's group 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p>Women's group 5:30 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Red Brick AA/NA Meeting 6 p.m. at Red Brick.</p> <p>Last Wednesday first aid CPR see 7</p> <p>District I Community Meeting 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Wellbriety 6 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p>Zooming towards Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p>	<p>CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS!</p> <p>Mille Lacs Band members and community members from other tribes can be paid for news stories published in <i>Ojibwe Inaajimowin</i>. For stories of 600 words or more, compensation is \$400. The deadline for stories is the 15th of each month. If you have a story to submit or would like more information, please email news@millelacsband.com or call 320-630-8195.</p>	





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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 **September issue deadline is August 15.**

NEED HELP?

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

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

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

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

**Community Support Services:
Family Violence Prevention.**

District I: 320-532-4163 ext. 7793

District II: 320-630-7666

District III: 320-630-2691

24 Hour Crisis Line: 866-867-4006

Batters Intervention: 320-532-4163 ext. 7793

Elder Services: 320-532-7854

Emergency Services Loans: 320-532-4163 ext. 1755 or 1757

Food Shelf: 320-362-4672

Waivered Services: 320-362-0027

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: 320-532-4163, ext. 1714

On-Call Social Worker/After Hours Emergency 320-630-2444.



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

EAST LAKE GII-ISHKONIGEWAG POWWOW

POWWOW PHOTOS. See pages 10 AND 11



**HARVESTING
BASSWOOD**
page 5

**NATIONAL UNITY
CONFERENCE IN DC**
page 8

**BACK TO SCHOOL
PREP TIPS**
page 9

**NDLV DRAWS CROWD
OF 450**
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