

OJIBWE INAAJIMOWIN

JUNE 2021 | VOLUME 23 | NUMBER 6

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



SOBER SQUAD, RECOVERY CONNECTION TEAM UP FOR PEER RECOVERY TRAINING

Congratulations to new Peer Recovery Specialists from Minnesota tribes and counties who will make a difference for their communities. Peer Recovery Training, which was held at Mille Lacs last month through a partnership between Sober Squad and the Minnesota Recovery Connection, introduces participants to the key concepts, fundamental skills, and core functions of peer recovery support services delivered within a recovery-oriented system of care. Peer Recovery Specialists will promote progressive health, sustainable happiness, and pro-social living also known as long-term recovery from alcohol and other drug use. PRS is the process of giving and receiving non-clinical assistance that is fundamentally strengths-based, delivers or assertively links to individually tailored and culture-specific services, and most importantly, demonstrates hope. The primary goal is to facilitate each participant's progress toward mastery-level competence as a recovery coach. Below left: Trainers Julie Y, Colin C, Gary B, Cellie D, and Caddy F. Right: Nicholas C giving his elevator speech. Photos by Rhonda Mitchell.



BAND MEMBERS MUST RETURN FORM TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR PAYMENTS

Band members who want to receive economic support payments need to fill out a Band Member Attestation Form by June 14 to be considered for eligibility for future payments. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has not received an Attestation Form from the individuals listed.

If your name is on the list on page 15, please submit a completed form to OMB. If we do not receive your form at least 14 days prior to the next payment, you will be ineligible for that month's payment.

If you know someone on the list, please contact them and make them aware that OMB needs their form and current address. They may not have received a form in the mail because they recently turned 18 or because OMB did not have their address.

The direct link to the form is millelacsband.com/content/3-government/15-office-of-management-budget/attestation-form.pdf. Band Member Attestation Forms are also available on the Office of Management and Budget's page of the Band's website: millelacsband.com/government/office-of-management-budget. The form is the top document listed under "Downloads."

Completed forms are to be emailed to DaniJo.Harkness@millelacsband.com, or faxed to 320-532-5402, or mailed to: Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, Attn: Dani Jo Harkness, OMB, 43408 Oodena Drive, Onamia, MN 56359.

For the updated list as of May 25 and the Attestation Form, see page 15.



NEW JUSTICE IN DISTRICT I

David Sam was sworn in as Associate Justice for District I before Band Assembly on Wednesday, May 19. Justice Sylvia Wise presented the oath of office. For more on our Justices, see the July issue of Ojibwe InaaJimowin.

WALSH, LORGE LOSE IN APPEALS COURT

County Attorney and Sheriff sought help from state in lawsuit

Minnesota Court of Appeals Judge Theodora Gaïtas ruled against Mille Lacs County Attorney Joe Walsh and Sheriff Don Lorge on May 10, upholding a lower court decision to dismiss their claim that the state should pay their legal bills in the Mille Lacs Band's federal lawsuit against Mille Lacs County, Walsh, and Lorge.

The Band's lawsuit claims that Walsh and Lorge interfered with and refused to recognize the Band's law-enforcement jurisdiction. Walsh and Lorge say they performed their duties as "employees of the state," so the state should pay their court costs.

The district court granted the state's motion to dismiss, reasoning that county attorneys and county sheriffs perform their routine prosecutorial and law-enforcement duties on behalf of the counties in which they are elected, and not on behalf of the state.

The Court of Appeals judge upheld that ruling, saying county attorneys and county sheriffs do not act on behalf of the state within the meaning of the Minnesota state tort claims act.

The decision is not expected to affect the progress or the timing of the Band's lawsuit.

Judge Susan Richard Nelson entered an order on April 14 staying further proceedings in the law enforcement litigation pending resolution of an appeal in federal court by Mille Lacs County Attorney Joe Walsh and Sheriff Don Lorge. The effect of the order is that Judge Nelson will not make a ruling on the reservation boundary issue until after the appeal is decided, which is expected to take about a year.

MESSAGE FROM THE

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Boozhoo, Band members. The big news in May was that the Mille Lacs Band along with the State of Minnesota lifted COVID-19 mask restrictions. Commissioner Nicole Anderson signed Commissioner's Order 21-05 on May 14, which means Band members do not need to wear masks in Band-owned facilities with the exception of some parts of the clinic and the dental areas. Band members should continue carrying masks to any clinic or dental visit.

It has literally been a breath of fresh air to see so many smiling faces again at family gatherings, community events, and out-and-about, but the fight against this disease is not over.

With the vaccines now readily available, any Band member can get vaccinated and be protected against COVID-19. According to the Centers for Disease Control, the vaccines are nearly 99 percent effective. Vaccinated people can feel comfortable that we are protected against the vaccine, but anyone who has not been vaccinated is still at high risk of getting this disease and should continue wearing masks for their own protection.

Miigwech to the many Band members who have taken the vaccine. You are protecting yourself, your family, and our community. The work is not yet done, though, because we still have many Band members who are not vaccinated. I am asking that each of us do our part and encourage all of our family and friends to get vaccinated. Our clinic has all three vaccines available, including the Johnson and Johnson vaccine, which only requires a single dose. Call 320-532-1984 to make an appointment to get vaccinated.

Some very exciting news is that our new fitness center will open on June 19 in District I. The pandemic created many delays, and there were safety measures we had to ensure were in place before we could open this facility to the public. Miigwech to Band members for your patience and understanding. I hope everyone takes time to stop by the facility.

"I AM ASKING THAT EACH OF US DO OUR PART AND ENCOURAGE ALL OF OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO GET VACCINATED. CALL 320-532-1984 TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TO GET VACCINATED."

The Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe held its quarterly meeting on April 30. One of the issues discussed which generated the most discussion was about enrollment. The MCT is in the midst of a constitutional convention to consider revising the constitution, and each Band has delegates representing them during these constitutional convention meetings. Enrollment has been a big topic.

During the TEC discussion, delegate representatives provided an update about the process and how discussions about enrollment have been going at the delegate meetings. It was reported that, so far, a majority of delegates from the six Bands seem to favor a constitutional change that would allow each Band to determine for itself its own membership criteria. This topic is still very much in the discussion stage. If this is the direction MCT members want to go in, it will not happen overnight and will be a time-consuming process.

Miigwech to the Mille Lacs Band delegates, who have taken the lead in researching the MCT as an organization. Our delegates have also been working closely with the Band Assembly to write legislation for the Mille Lacs Band that would create a Sovereignty Commission to more fully analyze these issues and make recommendations to the Band Assembly. We appreciate all of their hard work.

The Minnesota Indian Affairs Council held an Executive session meeting on June 17 and a day-long quarterly meeting on June 18. We heard reports from the tribal liaisons in each of the State departments. One interesting presentation was from the Minnesota Department of Health. During the pandemic, MDH developed a close working relationship and collaboration with the 11 tribes in Minnesota. It is considering ways to make this relationship more permanent so as to prioritize the health of American Indians in Minnesota by creating an office that focuses on Indian health issues.

Speaker Sheldon Boyd has announced that as of June 1, 2021, Band Assembly meetings will be going live so people can watch Band Assembly proceedings from home. Congratulations to Speaker Boyd for bringing more transparency to how our government operates.

Many other meetings were held in May, including weekly cabinet meetings, meetings with the Band Assembly, and many other meetings held via Zoom with other tribal leaders and organizations. We also held our first in-person Cabinet meeting since the pandemic. On May 12, the Great Lakes American Indian Housing Association held its conference at Grand Casino Hinckley, and I was invited to provide welcoming remarks. With most in-person conferences canceled this last year due to the pandemic, this was the first time in 14 months that we hosted an in-person event of a tribal organization, and that made it very exciting.

Graduations are coming up in June, and it will be wonderful to be able to celebrate the educational success of our children and adults with in-person ceremonies and graduation parties. Congratulations to every Band member who is graduating this year, especially after dealing with the challenges of learning during a pandemic. We are very proud of every graduate!

Finally, I want to send Happy Birthday greetings out to everyone who has a June birthday.



FIRE SAFETY DEMONSTRATION

The National Fire Academy held a training in District I on May 18. The training included a dramatic side-by-side demonstration of the value of sprinklers narrated by former state Fire Marshal Tom Brace of the National Fire Sprinkler Association. Emergency Management Coordinator Monte Fronk welcomed the trainees, and the DNR's wildfire crew doused the flames.



SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM AT NAY AH SHING ABINOJIIYAG

Food for kids up to 18 will once again be available at Nay Ah Shing Abinojiiyag school this summer.

There's no registration required, and no forms to fill out. Just show up and eat!

Meals will be served Monday through Thursday, June 21–August 26, with the exception of Band holidays.

Curbside pickup is also available from 10:30 to noon.

Call at least one day prior to reserve meals.

Contact Deb Foye with questions at 320-532-4690 ext. 2213.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS

SECRETARY-TREASURER REFLECTS ON CHANGES

By Brett Larson Inaajimowin Editor

Secretary-Treasurer Sheldon Boyd is a patient man who understands that in politics, things take time. While campaigning for the post in 2018, he vowed to make the Legislative Branch more transparent and listed live-streaming of Band Assembly meetings as one of his goals if elected.

Although he attempted to move the issue forward in 2018, it met with some resistance from District Representatives, but he stuck with it, and in good time, it came to fruition. Beginning June 1, Band Assembly meetings will be live-streamed to Band members via millelacsband.com.

"There's a spectrum on government transparency, and I'm way down on the far end," said Sheldon. "Others with more experience, who understand the political minefields, had some concerns. The elected folks are intelligent people, and they stick to positions, but the needle can be moved, and we've been able to do that. If there's anything I'm really satisfied with, it's getting live-streaming. When they passed that, I went into my office by myself and stared out the window thinking, 'What have you done?' There's gonna be good and bad, but we've essentially changed the way we do things."

Sheldon came of age in Minneapolis during the turmoil of the 1960s, where he saw the American Indian Movement take shape. His grade school teacher, Miss Terry, brought protesters into his classroom to talk about their struggle for justice.

"Growing up in South Minneapolis, like a lot of people of color, you learn that the system wasn't really made for you. You gotta fix it."

Sheldon became an avid observer of politics, and his education continued in college political science classes. In 2000, he became Commissioner of Administration for the Band. "Suddenly you're 'the man,' a part of the system — but I've also been on the other side."

As Sheldon listened to fellow Band members and Elders, his belief in transparency deepened. He remembers when a million dollars was a lot of money, and the old guys would sit around and shake their heads. "A million dollars," they'd say. "What happened to it? Where did it go?"

Working as an IT professional for the Health and Human Services Department, Sheldon was well aware how technology could help make government more transparent, and as a Band member, he had the same questions as those old-timers.

In 2018, voters heard his message, and Sheldon was elected Secretary-Treasurer.

But that was just the beginning. Nearly three years later, several aspects of his vision have fallen into place, including the development of a Revisor of Statutes Office and adoption of new Rules of the Band Assembly to replace Robert's Rules of Order.

"It's about negotiation," said Sheldon. "I had something in mind, and everyone in the room has a different idea what it's going to look like, but it's not going to look like any of that. You just have to keep the conversation alive and make your case day in, day out."

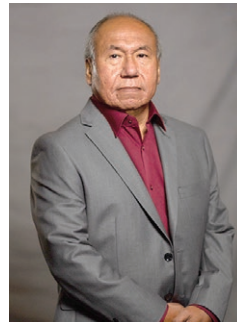
Surprisingly, one thing that helped move the ball forward on live streaming was the COVID-19 pandemic. "Talk about things lining up," said Sheldon. "The live-streaming and video meetings showed us how it could be done. It was trial by fire, and we adapted well. Our media guys are good!"

Sheldon won't be resting on his laurels; there's still more he'd like to accomplish before his term ends in 2022. "We can prepare the foundation for a larger Legislature with more representation," he said. Delegates to the Constitutional Convention will be looking at the issue as they consider changes to the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe's Constitution. "We need to find a way to get more representation in the Legislature, more than three."

Sheldon also continues to give attention to the Band's investments — the focus of his role as Secretary-Treasurer, whereas the live-streaming initiative is a function of his role as the Speaker of the Assembly.

"With the first-ever financial evaluation report by Sovereign Finance of the Band's investments, the needs are clear and there is a lot of work to do, including a Band statute concerning investments and an investment board," Sheldon said. "All these are needed to drastically improve the rate of returns and move toward economic security and sovereignty."

Sheldon gives credit to past and present elected officials and their staffs for the changes that have taken place. "None of this could have been accomplished without teamwork and collaboration," he said. "People in the past have done their work, and we're just picking it up and moving it down the road."



Sheldon Boyd

LEGISLATIVE BRIEFS

Wednesday, May 5, 2021 — After approval of the agenda and the minutes from the April 28 meeting, Band Assembly approved the following:

— Legislative Order 32-21: A Legislative Order Adopting Band Assembly Record-keeping Procedures

— Band Assembly Bill 19-03-39-21: A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation and Budget Revisions for Administration and Health & Human Services for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2021

— Band Assembly Bill 19-03-40-21: A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for Natural Resources for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2021.

— Resolution 19-03-57-21: A Resolution Approving the Submission of a Grant Application to the Minnesota Department of Human Services — Office of Economic Opportunity for the Community Services Block Grant and Minnesota Community Action Grant Package.

— A nomination, from Chief Executive Benjamin, for David Sam to serve as the District I Associate Justice position pursuant to 5 MLBSA § 5.b.

— Band Assembly Bill 19-03-38-21: A Bill amending Title 3 of the Mille Lacs Band Statutes ("MLBS") for the purposes of removing Robert's Rules of Order, adding a definition section, adding a section to clarify when a bill, order, and resolution becomes effective, and adding language to ensure clear language throughout.

Wednesday, May 12, 2021 — Band Assembly denied Resolution 19-03-58-21: A Resolution Declaring that the Band Assembly Will Not Consider for Approval Any Leases of Lakeshore Property Until the Enactment of a Fee Lands Leasing Code Consistent with the Best Interests of the Band.

Band Assembly approved Legislative Order 33-21: A Legislative Order Adopting Rules of the Band Assembly.

A contract addendum was approved for Jay Kanassatega to provide continued educational training with focus for Mille Lacs Band Delegates.

Wednesday, May 19, 2021 — After a Pre-Band Assembly meeting on May 18, Band Assembly occurred through conference call and zoom.

The Agenda and May 12 minutes were approved, followed by a presentation on transitional housing by Melissa "Baabiitaw" Boyd, Commissioner of Administration. Mille Lacs Band Delegates presented an update in Executive Session.

The following were approved:

— Band Assembly Bill 19-03-41-21: A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for Judicial for the Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2021.

— Resolution 19-03-61-21: A Resolution Supporting the Approval of the Integrated Resource Management Plan for 2020–2030.

A foster care license was tabled, and a hardship request was approved.

Secretary-Treasurer Sheldon Boyd gave an update on live-streaming, and Representative Wally St. John reported on the District III community meeting.

Pre-Band Assembly meetings were held on May 4, 11, and 18, and work sessions were held on May 6, 13, and 20.

For more information, see millelacsband.com/government/legislative-branch/legislative-news.

ORDERS CALL FOR DIGITAL STORAGE, ADOPT NEW RULES OF THE BAND ASSEMBLY

Last month, the Band Assembly passed two Legislative Orders adopting record-keeping procedures and new Rules of the Band Assembly.

Legislative Order 32-21, passed on May 5, adopts Band Assembly record-keeping procedures. The Order states that the Clerk of the Band Assembly shall store all records and other pertinent documents in a digital medium that is accessible to Legislative Branch officials, staff members, or employees. Original copies must be kept in Band Assembly offices for 20 years, after which they may be archived, but not destroyed.

The Order states that Band Assembly had not previously promulgated any record-keeping procedures designed for the preservation and accessibility of all approved bills, ordinances, minutes, and resolutions.

Title 3 of Mille Lacs Band Statutes requires the Clerk to record all minutes of the proceedings of the Band Assembly and makes the clerk responsible for safe keeping of all Legislative Orders.

On May 12, Band Assembly passed Legislative Order 33-21 adopting Rules of the Band Assembly.

The 28-page Rules of the Band Assembly document is attached to the Order and will govern "all regular and special sessions of the Band Assembly," the Order states.

Title 3 also gives Band Assembly the authority to establish rules to govern its proceedings.

The contents of the document include the following:

- Rule 1. Definitions
- Rule 2. Rules, Generally
- Rule 3. Convening
- Rule 4. Voting
- Rule 5. Order of Business
- Rule 6. Motions
- Rule 7. Debate and Decorum
- Rule 8. Bills, Generally
- Rule 9. The Clerk of the Band Assembly
- Rule 10. Publications and Records
- Rule 11. The Speaker of the Assembly
- Rule 12. Nominations
- Rule 13. Executive Sessions
- Appendix 1. Quick Reference for the Speaker
- Appendix 2. Quick Reference for Members
- Appendix 3. Public Testimony Form

The text of both orders and the Rules of the Band Assembly can be found at millelacsband.com/government/legislative-branch/legislative-news.

STATE AND LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS

Sacred scroll will return to White Earth: A birch bark scroll that Ojibwe people consider among their most important cultural items will be returned to the White Earth Nation after it was purchased at an auction last month. The scroll was noticed by several people, who started a campaign to pressure the auction house into giving it back to the Tribe. Eventually, another auction house paid full price for the item in order to return it to White Earth. More than 20 people stepped forward to help pay for the scroll. *Source: mprnews.org.*

Clean energy project threatens sacred site: A Virginia-based company is seeking to build a combination wind and solar plant five miles from Jeffers Petroglyphs. The facility is facing criticism from historic preservation officials and native tribes that are concerned the turbines will negatively impact how the Jeffers site is experienced spiritually and religiously. "You'd be able to see the whole project from anywhere on our property," David Briese, site manager of Jeffers Petroglyphs for the Minnesota Historical Society, said. "You would be looking at a forest of wind turbines." Indigenous groups are asking Apex to expand the solar part of its project and decrease the amount of turbines in the 8-mile buffer zone. *Source: grist.org.*

St. Thomas committee seeks to recognize Dakota land: St. Thomas University in St. Paul is taking steps to acknowledge that its campus was built on stolen Dakota land by drafting a statement recognizing Dakota history. The Dakota Land Acknowledgment committee has spent the last 18 months fleshing out a document that states the land acknowledgment. Justice and Peace professor Mike Klein said, "The university occupies Dakota homelands that were taken from the Dakota by white, American settlers through a series of colonial actions — and finally a campaign of genocide — over much of the 19th century." *Source: tommediacomm.com.*

COVID-19 still affecting Native Americans: Based on monthly data released April 30, Minnesota Department of Health researchers said American Indians and Alaska Natives (AIAN) represent about 1 percent of Minnesota's total population and currently account for 1 percent of all COVID-19 cases in Minnesota, 2 percent of hospitalizations, 2 percent of the more serious Intensive Care Unit (ICU) hospitalizations, and 1 percent of Minnesota's 7,144 cumulative deaths from the virus. Actual numbers may be higher since Native Minnesotans are known to be found across different ethnic and racial lines. *Source: thecirclesnews.org.*

U of M taps Diver to advise on Native American affairs: The University of Minnesota announced last month that Karen Diver, both a former chairwoman for the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa and Obama administration official, will soon serve in the newly created position of senior advisor to U of M President Joan Gabel. Diver will act as a member of Gabel's senior leadership team and report directly to the president on Native American affairs, which she said will include anything from how to better serve tribal nations and help them build their workforce, as well as determining respectful research relationships and attracting and retaining Native learners. *Source: duluthnewsstribune.com.*

WHITEFISH BRIDGE PROJECT CEREMONY PUTS RELATIVES TO REST

By Vivian LaMoore Public Relations Director

After two long years of tenacious activities — sometimes anxious, sometimes stressful, often emotional — centuries-old remains and artifacts were discreetly and delicately reburied during a formal ceremony on the banks of Whitefish Creek near the shores of Mille Lacs Lake on Tuesday, May 18. The following day, another ceremony of prayer, dedication, and gratitude was held that gathered Tribal leaders from the Lower Sioux Community, Sisseton, and Mille Lacs Band, along with Senator Mary Kunesch-Podein, staff from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) and the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council (MIAC), Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs), archaeologists, and others who have worked on the project.

Although not all parties involved were able to see eye-to-eye and agree on everything during the course of the project, Terry Kemper, Mille Lacs Band THPO, said the crew was always willing to listen to each other. "Listening is the most important," he said. "When we are willing to listen to each other, we can accomplish great things."

The Whitefish Creek bridge was originally built in 1921. It was redesigned and widened in 1939 as part of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) projects created through Franklin D. Roosevelt's "New Deal" legislation. The bridge has been listed in the National Register of Historic Places since 1998.

MnDOT identified the bridge as needing repair work, including rehabilitation and restoration of the granite stone masonry, rails, and granite sidewalks. Work also included the replacement of the road surface on the deck and road approaches.

The bridge is located on State Highway 169 within the federal boundaries of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe reservation. In 2016, prior to any work being done, MnDOT began consultation with the Mille Lacs Band THPO on the proposed work per the terms of the Federal Highway Administration's agreement with the Band. The Mille Lacs Band THPO, MnDOT, the Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA) and MIAC met initially. Subsequently, a Phase I archaeological survey was conducted in accessible areas around the bridge. Once human remains were discovered, additional tribal THPOs (whose ancestors lived in this region in the past) were consulted. The soils were very disturbed because of previous bridge and road construction and the numerous utilities located within the right-of-way. A few artifacts were discovered in the mixed soils near the bridge.

Continued consultation with the Mille Lacs Band THPO resulted in the decision to have monitors on site during the construction. MnDOT contracted with Jim Cummings, McFarlane & Associates, and Kate Blue, Mankato State Osteologist, to monitor the construction work in coordination with Terry Kemper, who was present during the monitor work as well.

During construction in May of 2019, the monitors reviewed the removal of soil from the top of the bridge deck and bridge approaches. No artifacts or bones were identified. However, along the west side of the bridge, human bone fragments were discovered. Additional human remains were also discovered between the bridge decks when the top deck was removed.

Following the discovery of human bone between the bridge decks, all work in the area ceased.

Following protocols by the Mille Lacs THPO, the human remains were carefully collected, wrapped in cloth, and placed in a secured area.

The human remains discovery plan, which had been prepared by MLBO THPO and approved by MnDOT, OSA, and MIAC, was put into action. Mille Lacs THPO, MIAC, OSA, FHWA, and the County Sheriff were informed of the findings.

In June of 2019, a meeting was held on-site with MIAC and the THPOs from Prairie Island, Mille Lacs, Upper Sioux, Lower Sioux, and Shakopee. MIAC decided all soils should be removed from the bridge and taken to the CCC set aside area and the soils. It was also decided the soils should be hand screened.

Screening work began in the spring of 2020 just as the COVID-19 pandemic was making its debut in the Mille Lacs Lake area. It was soon apparent that additional help was needed for the screening. MIAC brought in Florin Cultural Resources and the Mille Lacs Band crew for additional recovery work in



Terry Kemper of the Mille Lacs Band's Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) spoke at a ceremony on May 19.

"LISTENING IS THE MOST IMPORTANT. WHEN WE ARE WILLING TO LISTEN TO EACH OTHER, WE CAN ACCOMPLISH GREAT THINGS."

— TERRY KEMPER

the spring and summer of 2020. Ojibwe and Dakota spiritual leaders/Elders were also hired to help spiritually guide the crew in their work.

Luther Sam was a part of the crew and spoke of his profound emotional experiences while working on such a significant project. He said his involvement gave him a greater sense of culture, and the wisdom gained is something he will take with him the rest of his life. He was grateful to the spiritual leaders who prayed for the crew and ancestors on a daily basis.

The recovery work was completed in the spring of 2021. Kate Blue, MnDOT osteology contractor, conducted review of the remains and prepared a report of findings for the MIAC and THPOs.

The Mille Lacs Band identified an area of Band land near the bridge, and all agreed it was appropriate for a reburial site. Consultations among the THPOs resulted in the configuration and construction of the new burial mounds.

CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS

President Franklin D. Roosevelt established the Civilian Conservation Corps, or CCC, with an executive order on April 5, 1933. The CCC was part of his New Deal legislation, combating high unemployment during the Great Depression by putting hundreds of thousands of young men to work on environmental conservation projects.

Mille Lacs Band members and members of other tribes worked on the CCC's Indian Division crews.

Considered by many to be one of the most successful of Roosevelt's New Deal programs, the CCC planted more than three billion trees and constructed trails and shelters in more than 800 parks nationwide during its nine years of existence. The CCC helped to shape the modern national and state park systems we enjoy today.

The CCC built a number of structures around Mille Lacs in addition to the Whitefish Creek bridge, including the Garrison Concourse, the Kathio State Park fire tower, and other bridges.



REZ ROAD AND SHORELINE CLEANUP

Band members and employees cleaned shorelines and reservation roads on Friday, May 14, sponsored by the Executive Branch and District I Representative Virgil Wind. Among the 133 participants were (right) Samantha Cash, Michele Berger, Kayla Cash, (below) Mel Towle, Virgil Wind, and Tony Pike. District III held their clean-up on May 28, after this issue went to press.



SPRING HARVEST NETTERS HARASSED AT MILLE LACS

By Vivian LaMoore Public Relations Director

This year's spring harvest season was unprecedented in many ways. The Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) reported for the first time in two years, all eight treaty tribes participated in the harvest on Mille Lacs via spearing and netting. But it was not a pleasant experience for all visiting tribal members.

According to GLIFWC, at least two separate spearing parties reported being subject to various types of harassment from the same source, including yelling, rock throwing, indecent exposure, and threats of physical violence.

On the evening of April 10, tribal harvesters from Lac Du Flambeau, a father and two boys ages 13 and 17, were in a boat spearing along the shoreline on the east side (Isle area) of Mille Lacs Lake. The spearkers reported the harassment to law enforcement at roughly 10 p.m. that evening. GLIFWC Conservation Enforcement responded to a location marked with a smartphone app, and later to a local residence, along with the Mille Lacs Co. Sheriff's Department. The incident remains under investigation.

The mother of the boys said, "The boys are traumatized. They were so excited to be out there exercising their treaty rights, and now, they don't even want to talk about it. This makes me so very sad."

The Mille Lacs County Sheriff's Department has submitted a report of the incident to the Mille Lacs County Attorney's Office for an assessment of potential charges. A video was taken by another party present that evening. The video documented what appeared to be a several occupants of a shoreline household verbally taunting the boaters and issuing verbal threats of violence. In addition, GLIFWC reported that the Mille Lacs County Sheriff's Department verified rock throwing and inde-

cent exposure from the same property — all directed at tribal harvesters. The Sheriff's Office sent the file to the Mille Lacs County Attorney's Office where it is in review for possible charges.

According to the Mille Lacs Messenger, the Mille Lacs County Attorney submitted the case to the Minnesota Attorney General's office for review. The article further states the Attorney General's office is "waiting to receive more materials."

Hostile and violent acts of aggression, including rock throwing, racial slurs, and threats of physical violence, occur during tribal spearfishing every year. Obstruction or harassment of individuals practicing their federally protected rights can lead to fines and even arrest.

GLIFWC Chief Conservation Enforcement Officer Adam McGeshick reiterates, "If you hear or see anything that resembles harassment of tribal harvesters, please report it to us or the State DNR immediately. If it's a potentially life-threatening incident, please call 911. Everyone has the right to harvest safely." The non-emergency response GLIFWC enforcement line can be reached at 715-685-2113.

According to GLIFWC, the ogaa harvest, divided between daytime net-pulls and evening spearfishing, topped out at 50,523.4 pounds of walleye, representing 26,818 fish. In typical fashion, Ojibwe harvest totals came in well below the quota established by tribal and state biologists at 62,200 pounds. The remaining ogaa balance provides opportunities for fall netting and special harvests conducted by Mille Lacs Band members for ceremonies and funerals.

GLIFWC creel clerks stationed on Lake Mille Lacs also tallied 2,584 pounds of northern pike and 114.8 pounds of perch from tribal fishers.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Biden nominates Indigenous woman for federal bench: On May 12, President Joe Biden tapped Lauren J. King as a judge to the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington state. King, a Native American woman and member of the Muscogee Nation, would be the first Indigenous person to sit as a federal judge in Washington. King is currently an attorney at the Foster Garvey law firm based in Seattle. Currently, of the 890 federal judgeships, only two are occupied by Native Americans. King would be the third active Native American federal district court judge and the fifth in the history of the federal judiciary. *Source: thehill.com.*

Haaland responds to ignorant comments from former Senator: Interior Secretary Deb Haaland said it is "unfortunate" former Sen. Rick Santorum (R-Pa.) claimed that "nothing" was in America before white colonizers arrived. At an event with young conservatives, Santorum said, "We birthed a nation from nothing. I mean, there was nothing here. I mean, yes, we have Native Americans, but candidly, there isn't much Native American culture in American culture." Haaland responded, "The U.S. Constitution is based on the Iroquois Confederacy. Native Americans from some tribes here in this country have some of the oldest democracies in the world." Santorum was dropped by CNN later in the month. *Source: huffpost.com.*

Air Force creates Indigenous focus group to address diversity issues: The U.S. Air Force has put together a new team to address barriers and other issues affecting airmen and Space Force Guardians belonging to Native American communities. The service on April 26 also announced the formation of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer/Questioning Initiative Team. "With the addition of these two groups, we will have a better understanding of barriers to service, which allows us to enhance our diversity and inclusion," said Gwendolyn DeFilippi, assistant deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services. *Source: military.com.*

Republicans say no to Jan. 6 commission: The U.S. House of Representatives voted 252-175 in favor of legislation creating a bipartisan 10-person commission to investigate the January 6 attack on the Capitol by supporters of former President Trump. Minnesota's four Democratic Representatives voted in favor. While 35 House Republicans broke ranks in support, Minnesota's four Republican members — including 8th District Rep. Pete Stauber — voted against it. Rep. Dean Phillips, who was in the House chamber when insurrectionists violently stormed the Capitol, said, "If anything should be unanimous in this institution, it should be this." *Source: startribune.com.*

New 'Oregon Trail' game revisits westward expansion from Native perspective: The iconic video game "The Oregon Trail" is back with a more nuanced approach to the story of white settlers traveling across the American West in 1848. The new game opens with a message from developers acknowledging that earlier versions of "The Oregon Trail" failed to depict Native American perspectives and cultures. "For Indigenous Peoples, westward expansion was not an adventure but an invasion," they write. The game now features playable Native American characters. Developers hired three Native American historians to help design the virtual figures' appearance, speech, and roles. *Source: smithsonianmag.com.*

DISTRICT I NEWS

FITNESS CENTER GRAND OPENING IS JUNE 19

By Brett Larson Inaajimowin Editor



After a long delay due to the COVID-19 emergency, the new District I Aquatic and Fitness Center/Community Center opened to Elders on May 17 under the direction of Band member Rick Anderson, and on June 19, a grand opening celebration will open the doors to all.

In addition to a gym, a boxing ring, a walking track, and rows of fitness machines (with an excellent view!), the center has a lap pool, a therapy pool, and a children's indoor splash park — giving it the name “aquatic and fitness center.” It also has kitchen facilities, meeting rooms, and classrooms, locker rooms equipped with saunas, plus a beautiful indoor and outdoor lounge area where members can eat their lunch or read a book — and where Rick hopes to bring musicians for mini-concerts.

Although some of the details are still up in the air, membership will be free for Band Elders, affordable for all Band members, and open to tribal government employees and other community members as well. There will be rental space for parties as well as sports leagues, fitness classes, and pool tables.

Rick would like to have get-togethers for Elders soon to eat, talk, and play games, or watch movies like “Smoke Signals” and classic TV like “Hee Haw.”

“I’m not kidding!” Rick said with a smile, when given a skeptical look. “Us Elders like the old re-run shows for good memories.”

Rick also has plans for creative activities and programs in the creative arts, music, and potentially teaching filmmaking techniques.

Rick got his start in the sports and recreation business at age 14. His first job was with the Minneapolis Parks Department at Powderhorn Park in 1974, 1975, and 1987. “It feels good to end my career the way it began,” Rick said. “It’s like coming full circle.”

Rick has had a long career as a filmmaker and has worked for Corporate Ventures, Government Affairs, and most recently at the Minobimaadiziwin Hotel. He was first hired to work at the center by former District I Representative Sandi Blake in the fall of 2019, and after staff were furloughed due to the pandemic, Rick was chosen as site manager working for the

Department of Administration.

He is passionate about working at the center, in part because of his experience during the pandemic. After he was furloughed, he gained a lot of weight and became lethargic and tired. “I was completely weak,” Rick said. “I felt like I was 70 years old and had just run a marathon.”

One day while working at his computer, he collapsed on the floor in a seizure. When it happened again, his son convinced him to go the doctor, who diagnosed Rick with diabetes. His blood sugar was dangerously high, so Rick was rushed to the hospital.

“That was a real wake-up call,” said Rick. “It really did scare the heck out of me.”

Since then, he’s gotten his diet in order with help from the Diabetes Program. Working at the center has helped him get back in shape. “It’s a huge change,” he said. “Now I feel like I’m 55 — just from being here and eating right.”

Rick sees other Elders who are not active, and he’s glad there’s a place where they can find activities that are right for them. “We want the Elders to be here, to get out of quarantine,” he said. “For me, working here is personal, and being here is a blessing.”

Details on the June 19 grand opening will be shared in coming days. The date was chosen to give Band members a fun activity on the Saturday that is usually the date of the Grand Celebration Powwow in Hinckley, which was canceled again this year.

Watch facebook.com/millelacsband and millelacsband.com for announcements.

Rick Anderson has already welcomed Elders to the new Aquatic and Fitness/Community Center, and he’s looking forward to opening the doors to the rest of the community on June 19.



KUDOS TO CAROL!

Former District I ALU Manager and current super-crafter Carol Hernandez has been named to the board of the Elder Lodge in St. Paul. The Elder Lodge is a residential facility geared toward Native American Elders but open to all, and Carol was recruited due to her current experience with congregate living at the District I ALU as well as past experience as owner/operator of a residential facility for individuals with mental illness.

Carol is attending monthly meetings via Zoom while the board deals with staffing issues and recruits additional board members, but meetings will eventually be held quarterly.

Not one to take it easy during retirement, Carol has a part-time job at the gift shop at Grand Casino Mille Lacs, and she’s still helping fellow ALU residents stay crafty (see left). Carol is also proud of the ALU staff and residents, who took the pandemic seriously and have so far avoided contracting COVID-19.



A CRAFTY BUNCH

The ladies of the ALU (joined at times by Glen Bellonger from District III) have been busy this spring. Miigwech to Carol Hernandez for the photos.

STATE CAPITOL MMIW MARCH 'WE ARE THEIR VOICES'

By Vivan LaMoore Public Relations Director

Thousands of red dresses were set out on the State Capitol lawn on Wednesday, May 5, to represent what's happened historically to Native American women across the nation. This day is recognized as the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW).

The red hand print represents the stolen voices of countless murdered and missing Indigenous women and children. "We are their voices," said Nicole Anderson, Commissioner of Health and Human Services for the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, and a member of the MMIW Task Force.

The May 5 event was a coordinated effort between the MMIW Task Force of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, Minnesota Indian Affairs Council (MIAC), and Indigenous leaders in the House and Senate.

Though awareness for MMIW has increased in recent years, it still very much remains a crisis. According to the U.S. Justice Department:

- The murder rate of Native females is more than ten times the national average on some reservations.
- 84.3 percent of Native women experience violence and 56 percent experience sexual violence in their lifetime.
- The vast majority (96 percent) of Indigenous female victims of sexual violence experience violence at the hands of a non-Native perpetrator; 21 percent have experienced interracial violence.

"PRESIDENT BIDEN'S EXPANSION OF THE TASK FORCE — TO INCLUDE NOT JUST FEDERAL OFFICIALS BUT ALSO INDIAN PEOPLE WHO ARE MOST IMPACTED — IS KEY."

— CHIEF EXECUTIVE MELANIE BENJAMIN

In addition, homicide is the third leading cause of death among American Indian and Alaska Native women and children 10-24 years of age, and the fifth-leading cause of death for American Indian and Alaska Native women between 25 and 34 years of age, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In 2016, 5,712 cases of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls were reported, but only 116 of them were logged in the Department of Justice database.

"It is important to note that this is happening all around us. Domestic violence, substance abuse, trafficking — all lead to the crisis. People are just not aware that it is happening right here in our own backyards," Nicole said. "There is a lot of work needed to address the systemic issues and disparities, but we are facing the right direction now."

Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin was invited to a signing ceremony in Washington D.C. when the previous president



Kayla Nayquonabe, Heather Keeler, and Avery Nayquonabe were invited by Rep. Connie Bernardy, (41A) to attend an event at the Minnesota Capitol in support of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives. Bernardy is also an advocate for women's rights, empowering women of color, and justice for disparate populations who are under-represented and often forgotten within the justice system.

announced "Operation Lady Justice," which included a Task Force on Missing and Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives.

President Biden and Secretary Haaland have taken this work even further, with a Presidential Proclamation issued on May 5 that significantly expands this work. "President Biden's expansion of the Task Force — to include not just federal officials but also Indian people who are most impacted — is key," Benjamin said. "The president has also committed resources to support this work. With Secretary Haaland's leadership, I am hopeful that solutions are on the horizon."

Here in Minnesota, the task force through the DPS also includes a Bloomington, Minnesota office devoted to investigating cold cases involving missing and murdered American Indians. These are all signs of progress.

"Sometimes you don't think a day of awareness is a big deal, but this is big. A few short years ago the term MMIW didn't exist, and today it is well recognized," Nicole said. On MMIW National Awareness Day, social media was flooded with MMIW awareness posts, articles, and the iconic red handprint — standing in solidarity, showing support, and raising awareness.

Red is the official color of the #MMIW campaign, but it goes deep and has significant value. In various tribes, red is known to be the only color spirits see. It is hoped that by wearing red, we can call back the missing spirits of our women and children so we can lay them to rest, according to Nativewomenswilderness.org.

COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Emergency Management Coordinator Monte Fronk taught first aid and CPR to the staff at the Mille Lacs Indian Museum on May 24. For information on CPR/AED, Basic First Aid, Fire Extinguisher Training, Car Seat Training, and free car seats and fire alarms, contact Monte at 320-532-3430.



HHS COMMISSIONER RESCINDS MASK MANDATE

Mille Lacs Band Commissioner of Health and Human Services Nicole Anderson issued a Commissioner's Order on May 14 ending the tribal government's requirement that masks be worn in all Mille Lacs Band buildings.

"After careful consideration and updated CDC guidance, the decision has been made to end the facial covering mandate effective today, May 14th," said Commissioner Anderson. "However, we are still asking folks to wear their facial coverings in the clinic and dental portions of HHS."

Commissioner Anderson issued Commissioner's Order 20-04 on March 1 extending the requirement for individuals to wear masks or cloth face coverings in Mille Lacs Band government facilities and Band-owned businesses until May 31, 2021, but the new order rescinds that order in its entirety.

The initial order, Commissioner's Order 20-01, went into effect on May 27, 2020, and expired August 31. Commissioner's Order 20-02 extended the order through November 30, and Commissioner's Order 20-03 extended it through February 2021. Those orders are also rescinded by the new order.

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 Tuesdays at 6 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!

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.

Send your news tips to news@millelacsband.com.



WHAT WE ARE DOING EZHICHIGEYAANG

An update on the Ge-Niigaanizijig language program

By Memengwaakwe Mille Lacs Band Member

Boozhoo Giinawaa! Niinawind omaa endadanokiiyaang aanjibimaadizing wii-tibaadodamaang i'iw ezhichigeng owapii!

We want to share a little about what we have been working on here in the Ojibwe language department and what we are looking forward to in the upcoming summer. We have been having after-school Ojibwemowin sessions with the Ge-Niigaanizijig kids, grades k-12, and as each session passes, the students have become more comfortable using Ojibwemowin. In the beginning, our kiddos were a little more on the reserved side. Their pronunciation and usage of Ojibwemowin words continue to delight myself and my coworker, Ozaawaanakwad.

In our most recent session, we shared a video of an Elder explaining a ceremony known as "Wiiyawen'enyikaageng", in English known as, "When a baby is given an Anishinaabe name." Students were then asked to answer follow-up questions in regards to the video. They also displayed knowledge in different aspects of ceremony. We are also wanting to collaborate with the cultural grounds in District I, as harvesting season will soon be here.

As it is almost swimming and boating season, we will be reminding the kids to put tobacco before entering into the lakes, to pay respect to the manidoo that resides there and ask to be protected while out on the water. There is a senior manidoo that dwells in the Mille Lacs Lake. While her name is unknown, I was told that she does enjoy hard candies and gifts of tobacco. While putting tobacco, it is important to be mindful and offer it in a peaceful way.

We have recognized the amount of grief and loss in the community from the following year and will be sharing teachings and information to aid in our collective healing. One of our fellow employees, Dan Wind, has offered help in regards to receiving an Anishinaabe name. We are hoping to have a cultural workshop in the late part of summertime, depending on restrictions due to COVID-19, and will be providing more updates as they come.

The employee sessions that are provided every first and third Tuesday of the month have been going great. My fellow employees have been doing the great work of learning pronunciation and phonetic units, as well as becoming more familiar with conjugating in Ojibwemowin. They show great enthusiasm and willingness to engage.

Nigichi-apiitendaamin akina gaa-izhi-miinigoowiziyang anishinaabewiyang ge-apenimoyang, Weweni igo.



DOING THEIR PART

On Friday, May 7, Nay Ah Shing middle- and high-school students and staff "geared up" to do their part to keep our ditches clean. Transportation was kind enough to give them a ride down to Eddy's. Some of the group worked north from there, and some worked south. DNR vehicles with flashers accompanied the groups to ensure participant safety. A gallant effort was made by all of those involved, and root beer floats back at the high school were the reward for a job well done.

YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAM BEGINS JUNE 7

The Ge-Niigaanizijig youth program has a host of fun sporting events planned for this summer, including the following events in June:

June 7: Golf League at Grand National Golf Club in Hinckley, 5:30-8 p.m.

June 8: 3-on-3 basketball in District III — 5:30-6 p.m., K-2; 6-7 p.m., 3-6; 7-8 p.m. 7-12

June 9: Slow Pitch Softball in District IIa — 5:30-6 p.m., K-2; 6-7 p.m., 3-6; 7-8 p.m. 7-12

June 10: Slow Pitch Softball in District I — 5:30-6 p.m., K-2; 6-7 p.m., 3-6; 7-8 p.m. 7-12

June 14: Golf League at GNGC

June 15: Basketball in District I

June 17: Slow Pitch Softball in District II

June 21: Golf League at GNGC

June 22: Basketball in District III

June 24: Slow Pitch Softball in District III

June 26: Shotgun Style GNGC Tourney, Parents and kids. 8 a.m. to noon.

June 28: Golf League at GNGC

June 29: Basketball in District I

For more information, contact Tim Taggart at 320-339-6199 or tim.taggart@millelacsband.com.

A sports waiver and registration form are required for all students. You can access the form using the QR code above or by going to <https://millelacsband.com/news/sign-up-now-for-ge-niigaanizijig-summer-sports>.

Capacity Limits: Golf, 20 persons; Basketball, 30 persons; Softball, 20 each age group; Golf Tournament, 60 persons.



GE-NIIGAANIZIJIG LANGUAGE CLASSES

The Ge-Niigaanizijig program provides Ojibwe language classes with Memengwaakwe and Ozaawaanakwad. Due to the large class sizes, classes are now offered in each district.

Please attend according to your district schedule.

June 7: District IIa and II; June 14: Districts I and II; June 21: Districts IIa and III; June 28: Districts I and II.

If you need the Zoom link, reach out to your district coordinator. DI: Justin Eich, 320-674-0246; DII: Cheyanne Peet, 320-362-1608; DIIa: Jennifer Gahbow, 320-630-0968; DIII: Stan Nayquonabe, 320-364-3858; DIII: Mardell Thomas, 320-630-1710.



NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS FIND SUPPORT AT HINCKLEY-FINLAYSON

All Hinckley-Finlayson graduating Native American seniors were gifted hand-crafted birch bark medallions made by William Schaff in celebration of their graduation. William has been instrumental in promoting cultural resources to Pine County Native Youth. He has been active in Hinckley-Finlayson's Native American Student Association (NASA). He has also been active in the Mahkoonz Cultural Camp located East of Hinckley. Hinckley-Finlayson School District would like to give a shout out to the newly hired Pine County Cultural Community coach, Roberta "Birdie" Dunkley (right). Birdie has a wealth of knowledge and expertise in her cultural teachings and traditional crafts. Birdie has joined our team at HFHS after 28 years of working as a 911 police dispatcher in Minneapolis. She has certifications in Domestic Violence Intervention Programs and is active in our community's Wellbriety support groups.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2021 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES!



MIA SAM
Nay Ah Shing High School



BRAELYN HARRINGTON
Onamia High School



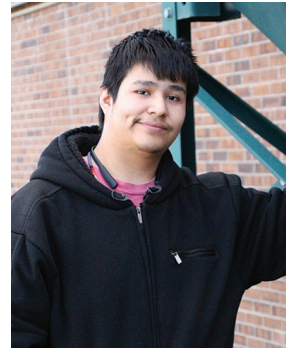
DEVIN GAHBOW
Onamia High School



ISABELLA BOYD
Onamia High School



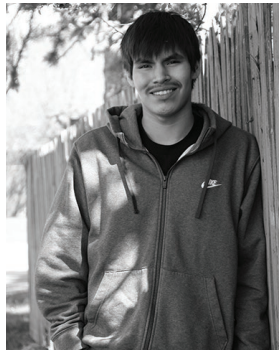
KAILA RYLE
Onamia High School



SHAUN JACKSON
Onamia High School



KEVIN HARRINGTON
Onamia High School



KYLE SMITH
Onamia High School



TRYSTEN BENTON
Onamia High School



DAWN WHITE
Onamia High School



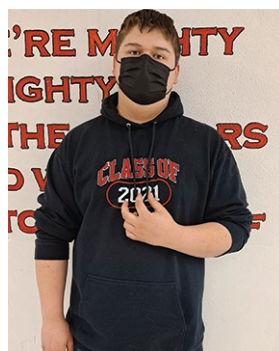
LAWRENCE NICKABOINE
Onamia High School



ROBERT SAM
Onamia High School



TALIYAH WILLIAMS
Onamia High School.



PARKER LEPPANEN
Hinckley-Finlayson H.S.

ALLIANA BENJAMIN
Hinckley-Finlayson H.S.
Alliana preferred not to have her photo in the paper but wants to share her good news. Congratulations, Alliana!

DO YOU KNOW A GRADUATE WHOSE PHOTO IS NOT IN THIS ISSUE? SEND SUBMISSIONS TO NEWS@MILLELACSBAND.COM AND WE'LL RUN THEIR PHOTO AND INFORMATION NEXT MONTH!

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR GRADUATES!

In last month's Inaajimowin and on the Band's website and Facebook page, we asked for information about our grads' activities, accomplishments, and plans. Here are the responses.

Kase Pike, Hinckley-Finlayson High School

Kase's high school interests are in Physics/Economics. Kase is active in his High School Golf Team and Bowling. Kase was HFHS 2019 All Conference Golfer. Kase has been on the Honor Roll. He was Runner Up at a golf meet. Kase will be attending Valley City State University for Sports Management. Kase's most memorable experiences at school were the pep fests, homecoming, and snow week.



Chris Stout, Hinckley-Finlayson High School

Chris is the son of Melanie St. John.

Chris enjoyed the opportunity and the experiences he had while attending the Empower Learning Center in Hinckley.

Chris would like to attend Business School after graduation.

Chris says his most memorable experience is his Elementary School years. He loved Track and Field day.



Kendra Benjamin, Hinckley-Finlayson High School

Kendra liked most about school being able to meet friends and socialize.

Kendra participated in the Wii Doo/Ge-Niigaanizijig program.

Kendra plans to explore her options after graduation including traveling the U.S.A.



Amelio "Asinaabe" Merrill, Isle High School

Activities: Baseball, Basketball, Ge-niigaanizijig

Interests: Exercise, computers, art, and being creative

Awards: B Honor Roll (11th grade), Varsity Letter winner

Future Plans: Attend the University of Minnesota-Duluth to major in Psychology and minor in Art



Jayden Wilson, Hinckley-Finlayson High School

Jayden is the son of Valerie Matrious.

Jayden's high school interests are Math, English, and Gym.

Jayden has been very active here at Hinckley-Finlayson High School. He is Co-President of the NASA Club, he is on the Baseball, Football and Basketball teams. Jayden is an Honor Student, and is active in band.

Jayden has received various medals for his band involvement, was awarded practice player of the year for basketball, and earned offensive player of the game for football.

Jayden plans to attend U of M Morris and major in Biology and pursue Sports Medicine.

Jayden's most memorable experience at HFHS is setting the 10th grade bench press record.



Derek "Giiwedini" Smith Jr., Isle High School

Activities: Football, basketball, baseball, AAU Basketball, Ge-niigaanizijig

Interests: Cars, sports, computers, driving around, and working out

Awards: B Honor Roll (9th, 11th, & 12th grade), Health Science Achievement Award for Bridges Career Academy, All Conference in basketball, Varsity Letter winner

Future Plans: Attend the University of Colorado-Denver to major in Biology and Neuroscience

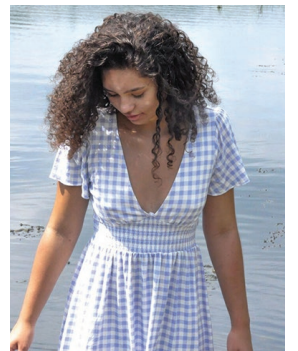


Roxann Emerson, Onamia High School

Activities: Basketball, Volleyball, and Track & Field

Awards: Basketball (Played for 8 Years): MVP, Most Improved, Panther Award, Sportsman Ship Award; Volleyball (Played for 3 years): All Conference, Most Improved, Panther Award; Track (Played for 3 Years): Ribbons and Medals will be presented at the end of the season.

Future plans: Roxann will be attending The University of Minnesota Morris in pursuit of a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. Starting in July, she will be attending the Gate Way Program to help her out before she officially starts college in the middle of August. Roxann was also recruited to the Track and Field team at Morris! (See page 11.)



SPEARING AND NETTING

HARVEST OF MEMORIES

By Rhonda Mitchell Mille Lacs Band Member

Band members remember their mentors

Spearers and netters had a successful spring harvest at Mille Lacs and other lakes this spring. As they gathered with friends and family, some were asked how they learned harvesting traditions.

Curt Kalk said, "My grandfather taught me. Grandpa Keggs used to run a resort, and he would pull a train of boats out because he had a motor on his boat. He would leave them out there for four or five hours and then pick them up. They would have wooden barrels full of fish back then."

Carmen Kalk said, "Kenneth Pardun introduced me to netting and spearing in Wisconsin many years before we were able to do it here in Mille Lacs."

Jamie Short was self taught. "I just went and did it," he said. Jamie has been happy to share what he's learned with others. Cameron and Coop Wind credit Jamie for sharing his knowledge with them.



Left: Matthew Hatfield and Richard Martin had a good night of netting. Right: Spearing is increasingly popular at Mille Lacs.



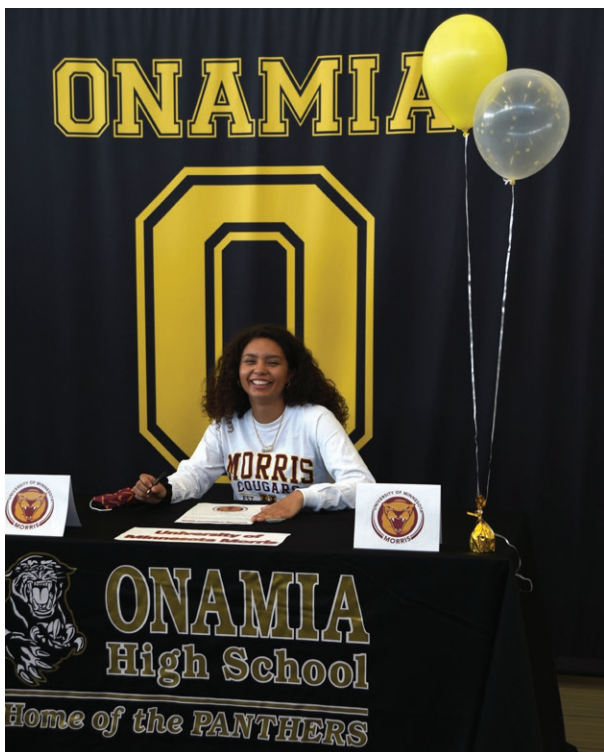
Left: Curt and Carmen Kalk thank their mentors for teaching them about the harvest. Right: Thumbs up from happy harvesters.



Left: Creel crews record each fish that's speared or netted. Middle: Elaine Rea is a netting "newbie." Right: Baabiitaw Boyd, Bianca Harrington, and Henry Harrington were ready for netting.



Coop Wind, left, and Cameron Wind, right, give credit to Jamie Short, center, for teaching them how to net. Jamie taught himself harvesting traditions. "I just went and did it," he said.



ATHLETE RECRUITED BY U OF M MORRIS

Roxann Emerson of Onamia High School will be attending the University of Minnesota Morris next fall and participating on the track team. "During my senior year, I got a phone call from the track and field coach at the University Of Minnesota Morris," said Roxann. "He gave me a call to tell me that he was recruiting me! It was a breathtaking and enjoyable phone call. My family is super happy and excited for me! Knowing I didn't have track for two years because of COVID, we were surprised I got recruited! I'm very thankful for the opportunity that I have attending the University of Minnesota Morris." Roxann plans to pursue her bachelor's degree in Business Administration. Congratulations, Roxann!

DUAL-LANGUAGE PICTURE BOOKS NOW AVAILABLE

Three bestselling picture books are now available in English and Anishinaabemowin from Orca Book Publishers. All three books are translated by Angela Mesic and Margaret Noodin. ***Gidagaashiinh (Little You)***, by Richard Van Camp with illustrations by Julie Flett, is a tender picture book that honors the child in everyone. ***Nijiikendam (My Heart Fills With Happiness)***, by Monique Gray Smith, is also illustrated by Julie Flett and serves as a reminder to cherish the moments in life that bring us joy. ***Gimanaadenim (You Hold Me Up)***, by Monique Gray Smith, illustrated by Danielle Daniel, is intended to foster reconciliation among children. For more information or to order the books, go to www.orcabook.com.



COME TO "THE REZ"

"The Rez" NA meeting meets in person on Fridays at 6 p.m. at the old Ne-Ia-Shing Clinic, 43500 Migizi Drive.

THE NEW MLBO SITE IS NOW LIVE — CREATE YOUR ACCOUNT TODAY!

The all-new Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe site is LIVE, and you can now create your account! With your Member Account, you'll be able to access live-stream and recorded meetings, view special notices, find forms and applications, update your contact information, and more.

To activate your account:

1. Visit millelacsband.com on your computer or mobile device.
2. In the upper-right-hand corner, select ANISHINAABE and follow the directions.
3. You will need to provide your name, email address (can only be used for one person), Tribal ID, date of birth, and last four digits of your social security number.

Remember: You can ONLY create an account for yourself with your email address. Band members must be 16 or older to create an account.

Create your account today and enjoy everything the new Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe site has to offer!



BINGO WITH THE BAND.



Every first Thursday of the month at 2 p.m.

Join us at Grand Casino Hinckley for a special bingo session exclusively for Mille Lacs Band Members.



Let your story begin.™

GRANDCASINOMN.COM



WAYEZHIMIND A'AW ANISHINAABE ANISHINAABE BEING DECEIVED

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

This article was originally published in the June 2016 issue of *Ojibwe Inaajimowin*. It is reprinted here to give Band members a chance to reflect further on Obizaan's teachings.

Gaawiin onjida niwii-ni-dazhindanziin noongom i'iw wezhibii'amaang omaa. Ayaawag ingiw akiwenziyag naa gaye ingiw mindimooyenyag gaa-pi-naazikawijig, geget owaniskwe'igoniwaa aanind a'aw Anishinaabe baandigadood omaa ishkoniganing bekaanak i'iw akeyaa ezchichiged a'aw Anishinaabe asemaaked.

I have a reason for addressing the topic I have chosen to write about in this article. There are some elders who have approached me saying that they are bothered by what some Anishinaabe are bringing into the reservation, those ceremonies that are not native to this area.

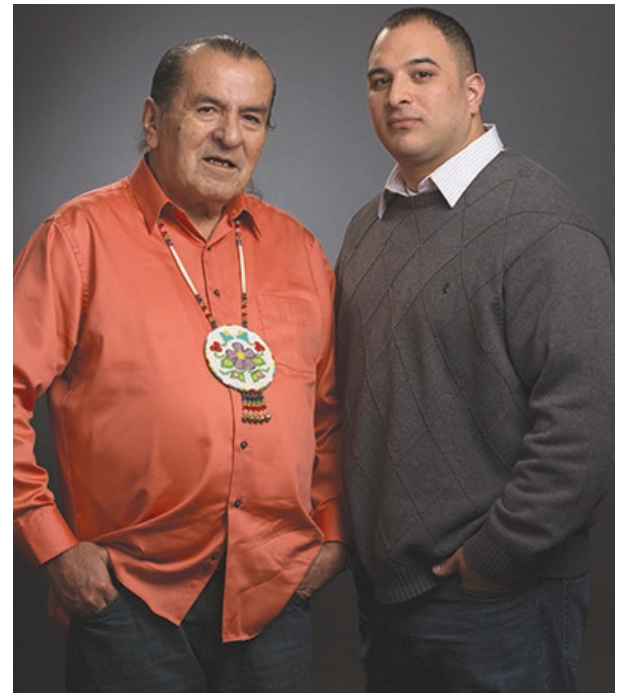
Odaa-wii-mikwendaanaawaa ingiw Anishinaabeg, gidaayamin omaa ishkoniganing i'iw akeyaa gaa-izhi-gikinoo'amaagoowiziyang da-asemaakeyang biinish da-ni- apenimoyang gini-gaaniiminaang. Ishke waasa ishweyaang onjikaamad i'iw

gaa-izhi-gikinoo'amaagoowiziyang da-asemaakeyang naa gaye ge-ni-apenimoyang gini-gaaniiminaang.

What people need to remember that here on the reservation we have been given those ceremonies through which we do our tobacco offerings and what we rely on for support or help in our future. These teachings come from way back and passed down from generation to generation instructing the manner or method through which we do our tobacco offerings and get our spiritual support in our future.

Ishke dash ingiw Anishinaabeg baandigadoodig i'iw anooj akeyaa eni-izhichigeyang asemaakeyang, odaa-wii-manajitoonaawaa gaa-izhi-miinigoowiziyang omaa ishkoniganing. Gaawiin oda-wii-aanawendanziinaawaa gaa-izhi-miinigoowizid a'aw Anishinaabe endanakiid omaa Misi-zaaga'iganiing ezhiwinjigaadeg.

For those that are bringing in ceremonies and ways to put tobacco that are not native to our region, they need to remember to be respectful to the ceremonies that are already in place here



on the reservation. They should not view what we have been given as being inadequate to us who live here on the Mille Lacs reservation.

Gaawiin gaye indaanawendanziimin baandigadoodaad omaa ishkoniganing, mii eta-go omaa wii-ni-wiindamaageyaan, gaawiin i'iw akeyaa gii-izhi- gikinoo'amaagoowiziimin da-izhichigeyang i'iw akeyaa. Geget nigichi- apitendaamin i'iw akeyaa gaa-izhi-gikinoo'amaagoowiziyang da-ondinamang i'iw bimadiziwin ge-naadamaagoyang.

We are not considering what is being brought in as being inferior, I am only saying that we have not been taught to do those spiritual things that are not native to our area. We have a lot of respect and faith for those teachings, which will give us the support, and life we need.

Gaawiin gaye nigii-michi-giizhitoosiimin i'iw anooj akeyaa ani-asemaakeyaang. Mewinza ishweyaang ingiw akiwenziyibaneg naa gaye ingiw mindimooyenyibaneg gii-gikinoo'amaagewag i'iw akeyaa ge-izhitwaayang miinawaa i'iw akeyaa ge-izhichigeyang da-ni-asemaakeyang. Booch igo iwidi ishweyaang a'aw Anishinaabe gii-shawendaagozigwen gii-pi-naazikaagowaad inow Manidoon ingiw akiwenziyibaneg naa mindimooyenyibaneg gii-gikinoo'amawindwaa ge-izhichiged a'aw Anishinaabe omaa endanakiid ge-ni-izhichiged asemaaked.

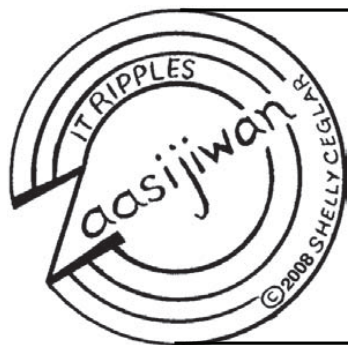
We did not just create out of the blue those ceremonies that we have here today. Way back our old men and old ladies of the past taught us our ceremonies and the ways to do our tobacco offerings. I am sure somewhere way back the Manidoog took pity on us as a people and approached our old men and our old ladies giving them the teachings on how the people in this area should go about in offering up their tobacco.

Ishke dash ingiw anooj baandigadoodig omaa ishkoniganing bakaanadini akeyaa izhi-gikinoo'amaagewag ge-izhichiged asemaaked a'aw Anishinaabe. Ishke dash gaawiin omoonendanziinaawaa ogikendanziinaawaa ani-aanawenimaawaad inow Manidoon akeyaa gaa-izhi-gikinoo'amawind a'aw Anishinaabe omaa endanakiid. Maagizhaa iwidi bakaan onjikaamadidog baandigadoodaad omaa ishkoniganing i'iw akeyaa gaa-izhigikinoo'amawind Anishinaabe bakaan endanakiid da-apenimod.

Those newcomers that are coming upon our reservation are bringing teachings and ceremonies that could be considered contradictory to what we have been originally given. They do not realize or know that they are saying to the Manidoog that what we were originally given is inadequate/ inferior. More than likely what they are bringing in onto the reservation is the ceremonies and teachings that were given to Anishinaabe living in a different area to rely on.

Gaawiin gaye da-aanawendamaan i'iw Anishinaabe bakaan endanakiid ezhitwaad ezchichiged asemaaked, mii eta-go ekidoyaan, Gaawiin i'iw akeyaa nigii-izhi- gikinoo'amaagoowiziimin da-izhichigeyang. Mii i'iw ge-ni-ayaangwaamitooyang da-ni-bimiwidooyang niigaan a'aw Anishinaabe endanakiid omaa ishkoniganing gaa- izhi-miinigoowizid da-apenimod.

I am not saying that I consider these new teachings/ceremonies as being wrong, what I am saying is that we who live in this area were not given these teachings. We need to concentrate on focusing on what we have been given ceremony-wise that gives us spiritual support in our future.



Niibin—It is Summer

"Aandi dash waa-izhaayan? Niwii-izhaa zaaga'iganing. Niwii-giigooyike. Niwii-mawinz megwaayaak. Niwii-mitose. Niwii-wiijiwaa na? Gaye, niwii-jiime ziibing. Niwii-pagiz imaa. Baanima, Giziibiisaginige-giizhigak niwii-izhaa niimi'idiming. Niwii-miziweshkaa niwii-onji-niibinish."

(Where thusly do you want to go? I want to go to the lake. I want to go fishing. I want to go berry picking in the woods. I will go on foot. Do you want to go with me? Also, I want to go canoeing in the river. We will go swimming there. Later, when it is Saturday I want to go to the dance. I want to go everywhere because I want to spend Summer somewhere.)

Bezbig—1

OJIBWEMOWIN (Ojibwe Language)

Double vowel system of writing Ojibwemowin.
—Long vowels: AA, E, II, OO
Aaniin—as in father
Miigwech—as in jay
Niibin—as in seen
Noongom—as in moon
—Short Vowels: A, I, O
Idash—as in about
Imaa—as in tin
Niizh—as in only

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

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

VTA's

The to him/her verbs. Verbs, Transitive, Animate
Root VTAs are in command form. Prefix and suffixes added to the <root> give meaning.

Banenim! Care for him/her!
Gi- <root> -in. I care for you.
Ni- <root> -aa. I care for him/her.
Gi- <root> -inim. I care for you all.
Ni- <root> -aag. I care for them.
Gi- <root> . You care for me.
Gi- <root> -aa. You care for him/her.
Gi- <root> -imaa. You care for us.
Gi- <root> -ag. You care for them.
Ni- <root> -ig. S/he cares for me.
Gi- <root> -ig. S/he cares for you.

Niizh—2

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

A. Animoshag idash animoonsag, ninzaagi'aag.
B. Inday izhinikaazo Niijii. Ozaawizi. Apane mgi.
C. Niijii, ozaashaagwandaanan nimakizinan imaa.
D. Eko-niizhing, gaazhigensag idash bebezhiigooganzhiig ninzaagi'aag.
E. Giganawenimaanaanig Migizi dash ma'ingan.
F. Noongom Aki-giizhidag. Ambe!
G. Miigwech GLIFWC ikwewag idash ininiwag!

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

Niswi—3

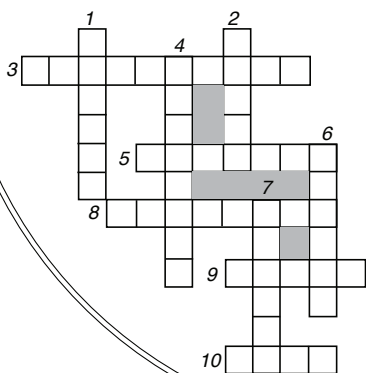
IKIDOWIN ODAMINOWIN (word play)

Down:

- friend
- S/he canoes.
- S/he is yellow or brown.
- eagle
- See him/her!

Across:

- S/he goes fishing.
- Care for him/her!
- Men
- Go get him/her!
- Come!



Niiwin—4

VTA Conjugation Practice

Gibanenimim.—I care for you.
Ganawaabam!—Look at him/her!
Ninganaawaabamaa.—I look at him/her.
Waabam!—See him/her!
Giwaabaminimim.—I see you all.
Mikwenim!—Remember him/her!
Nimikwenimaag.—I remember them.
Bizindam!—Listen to him/her!
Gibizindamaa.—You listen to h/h.
Naazh! <naan>—Go get h/h!
Ginaanag.—You go get them.

Goojitoon! Try it!
Translation below.

- _____naan_____.
- _____bizindam_____gaagiigidoyan, giday.
- Endaso giizhig, _____banenim_____.
- Gi-pi-izhaad omaa, Nindede gii-ikid, "_____mikwenim_____."
- Inashke! _____waabam_____ina? ingiw moozoog?

Translations:

Niizh—2 A. Dogs and puppies, I love them. B. My dog she is named Niijii (friend). She is golden. Always, she barks. C. Niijii (my Freind), she chews on my shoes there. D. Second, cats and horses, I love them. E. We need to take care of them, eagle and wolf. F. Today it is Earth-day. Attention! G. Thank you Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission women and men!

Niswi—3 Down: 1. Niijii 2. Jiime 4. Ozaawizi 6. Migizi 7. Waabam Across: 3. Giigooyike 5. Banenim 8. Ininiwag 9. Naazh! 10. Ambe!
Niiwin—4 1. I am getting them. Come here. Eat! 2. She listens to you, when you speak, your dog 3. Every day, I care for him. 4. When he came here, my Father said, "I remember you." 5. Look! Do you see them, those moose?

There are various Ojibwe dialects; check for correct usage in your area. Note that the English translation will lose its natural flow as in any world language translation.

This may be reproduced for classroom use only. All other uses by author's written permission. Some spellings and translations from *The Concise Dictionary of Minnesota Ojibwe* by John D. Nichols and Earl Nyholm. All inquiries can be made to MAZINA'IGAN, P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861 pio@glifwc.org.

EMPLOYEE GAMING LICENSE WAIVER PROCESS

WHY DO WE NEED LICENSES FROM THE GRA?? From Band Law, Mille Lacs Band Statute 15 – Gaming Regulatory Act: “[Vendors and Employees are licensed] to protect the morals, good order, and welfare of Band members and other persons on Band lands and to preserve the honesty, fairness, and integrity of [gaming activities].” We make every effort to get as many people licensed as possible for employment at the casinos, especially Band members. When the GRA Board denies ANYONE licensure, it is because our background investigation led us to believe licensing that person would be a risk to our community members, casino patrons, or the integrity of the gaming enterprises.

The GRA promulgates regulation including minimum criminal history requirements for licensure. All GRA regulations can be found on the Mille Lacs Band website at <http://www.millelacsband.com/government/gaming-regulatory-authority>. Employee gaming license regulations are DGR 7 and DGR 7b.

In the table below is a summary view of the minimum criminal history requirements for employee gaming licensure de-

tailed in DGR 7b.

The GRA Board has also established a separate set of minimum requirements, less stringent requirements, that an applicant can apply for via WAIVER. If an applicant can demonstrate sufficient rehabilitation since their charges, the GRA Board can elect to waive certain requirements to the standards outlined below. Sufficient rehabilitation is shown via a personal letter attesting to what you’ve done to get better (not required, but highly recommended), proof of compliance with any court-ordered treatment or aftercare program, proof of efforts towards paying any fines, and three (3) notarized personal reference letters attesting to rehabilitation. Finally, the GRA Board requires attendance to your scheduled waiver hearing.

While the waiver process can be daunting, we are here to help! Please contact the GRA Licensing Offices with any questions you may have. Call Krista at 320-532-8253 (Mille Lacs) or Lori/Sally at 320-384-4742 (Hinckley) for assistance.

The Mille Lacs Band Gaming Regulatory Authority (GRA) is an independent regulatory agency of tribal government estab-



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

	Class A		Class B			Class C		
NEVER Crimes	No Gambling Crimes		No Gambling Crimes			No Criminal Sexual Conduct		
	No Criminal Sexual Conduct		No Criminal Sexual Conduct			~~		
	No Fraud Crimes		No Embezzlement Crimes			~~		
	No Embezzlement Crimes		~~			~~		
	No Misrepresentation Crimes		~~			~~		
Pending Charges	No Active Warrants		No Active Warrants			No Active Warrants		
	No Pending Charges		No Pending Charges			No Pending Charges		
	No Stays of Adjudication		No Stays of Adjudication			No Stays of Adjudication		
	Minimum Requirement	Waiver	Minimum Requirement	Waiver		Minimum Requirement	Waiver	
		MLB ONLY		Non-MLB	MLB		Non-MLB	MLB
No Felony or Gross Misdemeanor Charges	Last 7 Yrs	Last 5 Yrs	Last 5 Yrs	Last 3 Yrs	Last Year	Last 2 Yrs	Last Year	Last 6 Mo
No Substantial Incarceration (> 365 Days)	Last 7 Yrs	Last 5 Yrs	Last 5 Yrs	Last 3 Yrs	Last Year	Last 2 Yrs	Last Year	Last 6 Mo

OJIBWEMOWIN from page 12

Aanind gaye a’aw Anishinaabe mii-go ezhi-michi-giizhi-tood i’iw akeyaa ge-izhichiged Anishinaabe da-ni-asemaaked. Gaawin omaa odoondinanziin omaa da- gii-gikinoo’amaagopan inow akiwenziyibanen naa mindimooyenyibanen iwidi gaa-ayaanijin gaa-tanakiid. Nebowa a’aw Anishinaabe geget manezi biinjina dibishkoo-go gaawin odapiitendanziin bimaadizid. Mii dash imaa apa’iwed anooj baa-izhichiged nanda-waabandang da-apiitenimigod dash inow owiij’anishinaabeman.

Some of our Anishinaabe have created out of the blue the ways and the manner in which we should put our tobacco. They did not get these teachings or knowledge from the old men and old ladies of the past in their home communities. Many of our Anishinaabe are lacking within and not having the self-confidence or self-worth. To make up for this deficiency they run around doing different things/ceremonies seeking the approval of their fellow Anishinaabe.

Ishke gaye niin endoodaagooyaan aaningodinong anooj igo ingoji babaa-izhaayaan ani-naadamawag a’aw Anishinaabe ani-asemaaked, niwii-ayaawigoog ingiw Anishinaabe nayaad-amawagig da-ni-aanjitooyaan i’iw akeyaa ani-izhichigeng ani- asemaakeng. Mii dash ezhi-wiindamawagwaa, gaawin indaa-aanjitoosiin i’iw akeyaa ani-izhichigeyaan. Ingiw akiwenziyibaneg naa mindimooyenyibaneg nigii-gikinoo’amaagoog ge-izhichigeyaan.

What also happens to me at times when I travel about in helping our Anishinaabe as they do their tobacco offering, the Anishinaabe that I am approaching to help in a particular ceremony will ask that I change how I do that particular ceremony. What I tell them is I cannot change the way I do a particular ceremony. The old men and old ladies of the past from our area taught me the teachings that I bring to the ceremony.

Ishke ani-aanjitooyaan i’iw akeyaa izhiwebinigeeyaan, ni-maazhi-doodawaag miinawaa nimbaapinenimaag ingiw gaa-pi-gikinoo’amawijig. Booch da-bimiwidooyaan i’iw akeyaa gaa-izhi-gikinoo’amaagooyaan. Oda-wii-ayaawaawaan awiya ge-ni-izhichigenid i’iw akeyaa gaa-izhi-gikinoo’amaagoowiz-

iwaad omaa endanakiwaad. Indaa-wii-manaaji’igoog, gaawin inda-wii-nanaandodamaagoosiig da-ni-aanjitooyaan i’iw akeyaa gaa-izhi-gikinoo’amaagooyaan niin. Mii-go dibishkoo omaa ishkoniganing gaawin da-wii-izhi-niigaanenimosiwwag bakaan wenjiijig da-nanaandomaawaad omaa endanakiinjin da-aanjitoonid i’iw akeyaa gaa-izhi-gikinoo’amaagoowiziyang da-ni-izhichigeyang.

“MII DASH EZHI-WIINDAMAWAGWAA, GAAWIN INDAA-AANJITOOSIIN I’IW AKEYAA ENI-IZHICHIGEYAAAN. INGIW AKIWENZIYIBANEG NAA MINDIMOYENYIBANEG NIGII-GIKINOO’AMAAGOOG GE-IZHICHIGEYAAAN.”

If I were to change how I do this ceremony I would be doing wrong and would be disrespectful toward those who gave me the teachings I have. I have to carry on in the way that I was taught. They need to have someone from their local area to do the ceremony in the way that they were taught in their particular community. These Anishinaabe need to treat me respectfully and not ask to change the way that I have been taught. The same goes for those newcomers that have come onto the reservation from different areas, they should not be so bold to ask the people living here to change how we have been taught when it comes to our ceremonies.

Ishke noongom a’aw gidanishinaabeminaan geget gid-amaagizi. Mii-go apane nanda-waabandang ge-wenda-minokaagod imaa biinjina. Mii imaa nebowa a’aw Anishinaabe wayezhimind. Ishke nebowa a’aw Anishinaabe ogii-wanitoon gidinwewininaan. Mii-go maa bangii ani-objiwemonid inow endazhimaanid inow asemaan echigaazonijin, mii-go imaa da-deb-

wetawaawaad. Ishke dash wiin a’aw wenda-nitaa-objiwemod, mii-go omaa ani-gikenimaad, gaawin ogikendanziwan ani-izhichigenid iniw genoodamaagenijin miinawaa ani-noondawaad ezhi-mamaazhigiizhwenid ani-objiwemonid. Mii dash i’iw noon-gom wenji-ayaad a’aw Anishinaabe genoodamaaged debinaak ani-izhichiged. Gaawin nebowa a’aw Anishinaabe ogikenindanziin ge-gii-izhi-aanawenimigopan gii-waabamigod gii-noondaa-god iniw akiwenziyibanen naa mindimooyenyibanen gaa-ayaan-ijin.

Today a lot of our Anishinaabe are pitiful; they are always looking for something to fulfill themselves on a spiritual level from within. Our people are vulnerable and are cheated in the process. A lot of our Anishinaabe have lost their language. They go to a ceremony and they hear the one conducting the ceremony haphazardly speaking Ojibwe for the tobacco getting deceived in thinking the speaker is doing a good job. For those that are fluent Ojibwe speakers and sit in on the ceremony, they will know that the one conducting the ceremony does not know what he is doing and they will hear him slaughter the language. That is why today there are Anishinaabe speaking doing a half-hearted job. A lot of our Anishinaabe that I am speaking of do not realize how inadequate our old men and old ladies would have viewed them if they were there and hear them as they do the ceremony.

Mii i’iw noomaya gaa-tazhinjigaadeg miinawaa gemaa gaye gii-inaakonigeng ingiw wedewe’iganijig iniw Manidoo-dewe’ig-anan genawendamaagejig, mii ingiw ge-inaakonigejig awenen ge-biindigadoonijin imaa ishkoniganing i’iw akeyaa ge-izhi-asemaaked a’aw Anishinaabe. Ishke noongom nebowa a’aw Anishinaabe omaa baa-ayaa omaa anooj izhichiged miinawaa baa-wayezhimaad iniw Anishinaaben omaa endanakiinjin.

It was just recently discussed and maybe decided that our drum keepers that take care of the ceremonial drums on the reservation will screen and decide who can bring a particular ceremony onto the reservation. Today we have a lot of Anishinaabe that we view as doing crazy things when it comes to ceremonies and preying on the vulnerability of the people and deceiving them in the process.

GIDINWEWINAAN — OUR WAY OF SOUND

By Nazhike Mille Lacs Band Member

Aaniindi ezhaayan? Aaniindi gaa-atooyan? Aaniindi wenjibaayan?

In Mille Lacs it is common to use “Aandi” in replacement to “Aaniindi,” but both are understandable. When determining “where,” we use the phrase “Aaniindi” (aah neen dih).

When noticing how informative an Ojibwe question can be just by asking “where?” the response regularly comes with a verb/location element.

The language contains so much depth and information that questions and responses are larger than English — paragraphs, in some instances. As we are learning, using “aaniindi” in regards to yourself and others will help build your vocabulary in a way that is applicable to other uses.

Aandi ezhaayan? = Where are you going? (Aahn dih ayzhaah yun)

Aaniindi gaa-atooyan? = Where did you put it? (Aah neen dih gah atoo yan)

Aandi wenjibaayan? = Where do you come from? (Aah neen up pee)

Aaniindi? = Where? (Aah neen dih)

“Aandi endanokiiyan?” = Where do you work?

“Nindanokii imaa ataagewigamigong.” = I work at the casino.

“Aaniindi ezhaayan?” = Where are you going?

“Indizhaa iwidi Grand Makwa Theater.” = I am going to the Grand Makwa Theater.

“Aandi gikinoo’amaagoowiziyaa?” = Where do you go to be taught by someone (school)?

Utilizing “Aaniindi” assists with pointing to certain directions or actions.

Miigwech.

Aazhawaakwasing Words:

Ezhaayan

Atooyan

Endanokiiyan

Aaniindi

Wenjibaayan

Indizhaa

Indanokii

Iwidi

Imaa

Aandi

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

Aaniindi ezhaayin? (Where are you going?)

Aaniindi wendaanimak? (Where is the wind from?)

Aaniindi gaa’-atooyaan indooshkiinzhigokaanan? (Now where did I put my glasses?)

Aandi ezhaad? (Where is she going?)

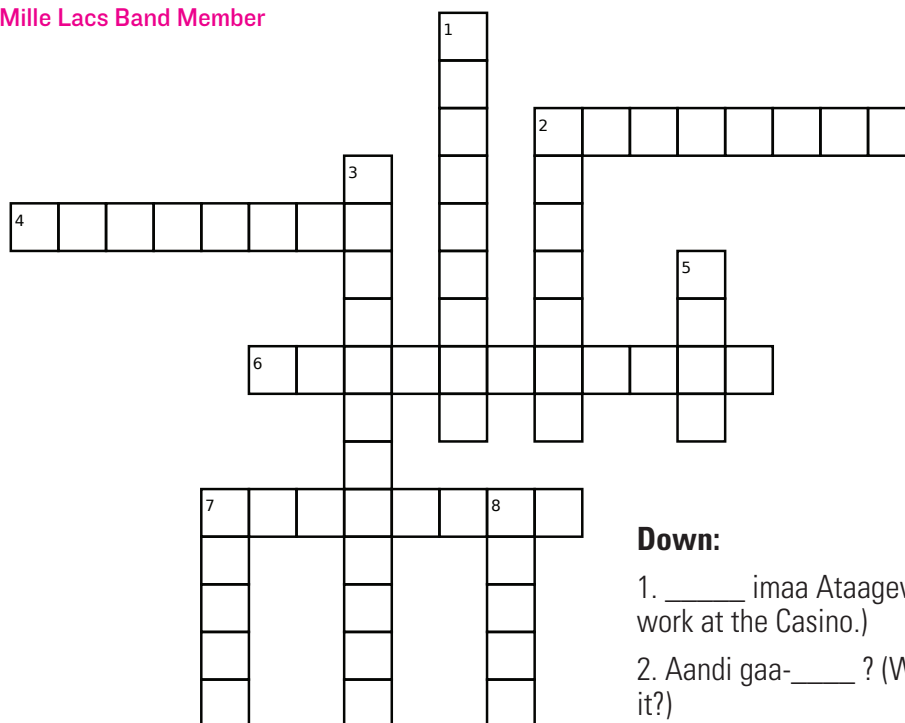
Aandi wenjiyan? (Where are you from?)

Aandi dash gaa’-onji-noondaman i’iwe? (Where did you hear that from?)

Ningikendaan aandi gaa’-atooyan. (I know where you put it.)

AZHAWAAKWASING ODE’IMINI-GIIZIS

By Nazhike Mille Lacs Band Member



Across

2. Where?

4. Aaniindi ____? (Where are you going?)

6. Aandi ____? (Where do you come from?)

7. ____ iwidi Grand Market. (I am going to the Grand Market.)

Down:

1. ____ imaa Ataagewigamigong. (I work at the Casino.)

2. Aandi gaa- ____ ? (Where do you put it?)

3. Aaniindi ____? (Where do you work?)

5. Indanokii ____ Ataagewigamigong. (I work at the Casino.)

7. Indizhaa ____ Grand Market. (I am going to the Grand Market.)

8. Where?

CULTURE COLUMN

SACRED GROUND

By Nazhike Mille Lacs Band Member

There has been plenty of talk about land acknowledgments, sacred places, and “land back.” I get asked about these topics frequently. When thinking about them, I sometimes wonder if somewhere back in the days, our ancestors were asked similar questions. I do remember reading some old articles and books where they reference being “on the land of the Chippewas” or “in Chippewa Territory,” so land acknowledgments were happening out of respect. Maybe. Or they could just be referencing these areas to build a sense of mystery in their work. Today, it seems they are trying out of respect but it feels like pacification. But, it is the beginning of societal change in regards to “Anishinaabe Country.” From Northern Minnesota to Michigan and into Canada is Anishinaabewakiing.



We are reminded that our stories hold knowledge, teachings, and history. For the Anishinaabe, they are one and the same. With the rise of our Aadizookaanan (Winter Stories) we are raising a generation that have had these experiences. We learn that in the beginning of time Wenabozho was floating on a log, remember? Many animals attempted to dive to the bottom for dirt but failed except one. Into a handful of dirt the Wazhashk (muskrat) gave his life for, Wenabozho breathed into it all four directions of the wind. The Turtle agreed to carry that dirt on his back to create land for the Anishinaabe, Turtle Island. That is where North America came from, that’s Anishinaabewakiing.

“Land Back.” I have a few different thoughts in regards to this phrase. It causes me to think of the Allotment Act of 1887

and the Nelson Act of 1889. Both Acts stole land from the Native People of America for the purpose of consumerism (sound familiar?). The U.S. wanted to let the timber companies have access to trees of Anishinaabewakiing. The thing about these Acts is that they are a legal way of stealing land. Legal theft. Where is this also happening? Oil, medicines, burial grounds. And for what? I encourage the reading of treaties that refer to your areas. The phrase “Land Back” to me means that if the U.S. is not going to honor the treaties anymore, we will be more than happy with getting the Land Back.

So for all of these references to land and places, I want to end it by saying wherever tobacco has been laid is sacred, whatever areas that offerings have been made for it are sacred. The trees, rocks, rivers, lakes, and the winds are here because of the Manidoog which make them sacred. Asemaa was used during the signing of the treaties, which makes them and the land they are about sacred. Wazhashk gave his life for and Wenabozho breathed all directions of the wind into the ground we walk on today. How much more sacred does it need to be? We must remember that our spirits, minds, and our physical beings weren’t confined by fences or boundaries. They go as far as our asemaa allows. Further and further each time.

Miigwech.

“THE PHRASE ‘LAND BACK’ TO ME MEANS THAT IF THE U.S. IS NOT GOING TO HONOR THE TREATIES ANYMORE, WE WILL BE MORE THAN HAPPY WITH GETTING THE LAND BACK.”

Band members listed must return the form below by June 14 to be eligible for economic support payments

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Miriam Renae Ackman | Katy Jade Hess |
| Jerome William Lee Anderson | Aiyana Aaliyah Hill |
| Mark Raymond Anderson | Darrick John Hill |
| Francisco Quontana Anderson-Villa | James Lee Hill |
| Margarito John Aubid-Lozano | Joseph Daniel Holmes |
| Von Shane Aune | Nicholas James Houle |
| Christine Gabrielle Ballinger | James Joseph Howard |
| Donald John Banks Jr. | Erin Lynnae Iaquinto |
| Brandi Rose Benjamin | Angela Jean Jentz |
| Brittani Rose Benjamin | Howard James Johnson |
| Corey James Benjamin | Gordon Nathaniel Jones |
| Gregory Alan Benjamin | Jennifer Lynn Jones |
| Micheal Neal Benjamin | Ronni Leigh Jourdain |
| Rebecca Lynn Benjamin | Emery Dean Kegg |
| Sebastian Lee Benjamin | Kalley Rose Kegg |
| Ricardo Wade Benjamin Fairbanks | Rose Mary Killspenty |
| Kassie Eloise Benjamin-Ficken | Carol Elizabeth Kornkven |
| Eva Dean Big Bear | Julian Alexander Koslowski |
| Mykel Deshawn Blake Bellecourt | Nicole Lyn Kruse |
| David Anthony Bonilla | Susan Marie Lane |
| Jonathan Alex Bonilla | Breanna Rae Larsen |
| Alise Kyra Rose Boyd | Joelle Naomi Lillemoen |
| Benjamin Lee Boyd | Nahar Marie Little |
| Bruce Allen Boyd | Gloria Jean Lowrie |
| Dante James Boyd | Brooklyn Marie Lundgren |
| Jeffrey Karl Boyd | Anthony Santino Lussier |
| Maranda Charlene Boyd | Sheldon Roger Lyons |
| Kiona Loshenay Bradford | Zoe Colette Maciel Strom |
| Anthony Thomas Bugg | Zane Andrew Madsen |
| Christopher Thomas Bugg | Brian Lee Martin |
| Lana Marie Burdette | Terence Lee Martin |
| Bobbie Lea Carpenter | David Lee McFarlane |
| Roxann Lynn Carr | John Michael Merrill |
| Dionne Jade Cash | Krissa Lanae Meyer |
| Larry Lee Day | Keith Edward Misquadace |
| Shannon Simone Day | Raymond Lee Misquadace |
| Richard Andrew Desantis | Brenda Mae Mitchell |
| Dallas Scott Donnell | Daniel James Mitchell |
| Devon Alison Dorr | Fredrick Alan Mitchell |
| Silver Marie Dorr | Lance Craig Mitchell |
| Sarah Vonne Douglass | Lindsey Damien Mitchell |
| Deron Alden Dunkley | Tyrell Thomah Lee Mitchell |
| Sasha Leanne Dzubay-Percy | Sadie Rae Montero |
| Toni Marie Eagle | Rebecca Joyce Moose |
| Tremayne Styles Eagle | Michelle Lynn Morrison |
| Thomas Rodney Evans | Opitchee Mushkooob |
| Jasmine Nichole Fetters | Delia Ann Nayquonabe |
| Janeeka Leay Fisher | Samantha Jo Nelson |
| Scott Allen Friend | Lester Lee Nelson (Woyak) |
| Troy Lawrence Friend | Cheyene Patricia Nickaboine |
| Michael Gerard Gagne | Dana Louise Nickaboine |
| Clara Batiste Gahbow | Karissa Leigh Nickaboine |
| Dorinda Fay Garbow | Katherine Kerri Kay Nickaboine |
| Gary Richard Garbow | Kelly Marie Nickaboine |
| Maurice Richard Garbow | Kimberly Mary Beth Nickaboine |
| Lamarr Allen Glenn-Machen | Lawrence Mark Nickaboine |
| Lisa Celeste Griffin | Marlin Dean Nickaboine |
| Kristin Kimberly Hacker | Melissa Joan Nickaboine |
| Alex Conrad Halligan | James Allen Norton Jr. |
| Douglas Happy | Irvin William OBrien |
| Basil James Harrington | Daniel Theodore Olson |



MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE

Band Member Attestation

I, _____ hereby certify
 (Last Name) (First Name) (MI)

that, since March 1, 2020: (Check **only ONE** box below)

I have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency in ways that have caused, or may cause, myself and members of my household to need economic assistance from the Band and from other sources in order to enable me and members of my household to mitigate or respond to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. These negative impacts may include, but are not limited to, occupational and household stress, personal health, and family economic impacts of telework, home schooling and distance learning, child care, food insecurity and higher food and transportation costs, loss of income, family caretaking, and other negative impacts or burdens caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and public health emergency. If requested by the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, I can and will provide documentation in support of my attestation of need.

OR

I have not, and will not be negatively impacted by COVID-19 and request no economic assistance from the Band. I understand that by selecting this box, I will not receive COVID-19 Economic Support payments and such payments I previously received might be treated by the IRS as taxable income. Furthermore, any \$500.00 per month amounts withheld from payments I previously received will not be paid to me.

 (Signature)

 (Date)

 (Band ID#, if known)

 (Phone Number)

Mail the completed form to Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians Attn: DaniJo Harkness, OMB, 43408 Oodena Dr., Onamia, MN 56359 OR fax the form to 320-532-5402 OR go to <https://millelacsband.com/government/office-of-management-budget>, download the Attestation Form at the top right, and email the completed form to: DaniJo.Harkness@millelacsband.com.

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Debra Jayne Otten | Donald Sam Jr. | Darian Robert Staples |
| Rayna Carol Ann Peake | Trevon Daniel Sam | Kathleen Marie Staples |
| Jacquelyn Page Pendegayosh | Troy Matthew Sam | Robert Charles Staples |
| Ravin Georgia Pendegayosh | Wyatt Wayne Sam | Patrick Shane Sullivan |
| Vincent Leonard Peoples | Bradley Thomas Sam Jr. | D. Leigh Thomas |
| Shelley Ann Pindegayosh | William Phillip Sayers III | Summer Rose Thomas |
| Marcel Anthony Potter | Alexander Laverne Schaaf Jr. | Zacharia Wyatt Thomas |
| Monica C Potter | Brandon James Shaugobay | Amy Sharon Thompson |
| Simon Gene Potter | Chavez Walter Jam Shore | Victoria Renee Villebrun |
| Kierra Monet Potter Christian | Chelsea Rose Ann Shore | Jennifer Susan Wadena |
| Robert Francis Premo | Daniel Richard Sipma | Daniel Robert Wahpepah |
| Robert Steven Premo | Jordan Allen Smith | Joshua Lydel Wandersee |
| Patrick James Provo Jr. | Miranda Rose Smith | Charlotte Elizabeth Waytashek |
| Alexis James Rea | Trevor Lee Smith | Cassandra Marie Weyaus |
| George Wayne Rea | Clinton Elliot Oray Smith Jr. | Derrick Lee Weyaus |
| Carter Lee John Regguinti | Darryl Gene Smith Sr. | Michael Scott Weyaus |
| Christian David John Regguinti | Andre Dylan Smith-Hill | Allen Lee Weyaus Sr. |
| Maximus Wayne Regguinti | Daniel Bradshaw Songetay | Harriet Ciara Wiejaus (Weyaus) |
| Elyse Bridget Roberts | Crystal Dawn Songetay-Anthony | Fred Arnold Wind |
| Kevin Robertson | Faith Angel Spaulding-Bradley | Jason Arlen Wind |
| Chad Russell Rojas | Nancy Jean Spittell | James Edwin Wind Jr. |
| Wendy Lynn Roske | Timothy Curtis St. Clair Jr. | Leona Katherine YellowHammer |
| Vincent Dean Ruschmeier | Orion Harry St. John | Marita Monique Jo YellowHammer |
| Austin Paul Sam | Shawn Samuel St. John | |
| Melanie Lou Sam | Alexis Marie Staples | |

MEKWENIMINJIG

THE ONES WHO ARE REMEMBERED

Nancy Gahbow

Nitamigaabawiiikwe, Nancy Gahbow, 52-year-old resident of Minneapolis, Minnesota, passed away on April 25, 2021. Visitation began at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, April 28, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Reservation. Funeral Ceremony began at 10 a.m. on Thursday, April 29, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Reservation with Obizaan officiating. Interment was in the Vineland Burial Grounds. Arrangements were with the Shelley Funeral Chapel of Onamia.

Nitamigaabawiiikwe, Nancy Gahbow was born on February 17, 1969, in Onamia, Minnesota, to Arthur and Lorena (Mitchell) Gahbow. She was a Big Drum member and enjoyed attending ceremonial powwows. Her grandchildren were her whole world, and she loved them dearly. Cooking, playing her scratch-offs, and being with family was how Nancy liked to spend her time.

Nitamigaabawiiikwe, Nancy is survived by her son, Albert Gahbow; daughter, Dakota Gahbow; grandchildren, Kyla Gahbow, Kyel Gahbow, Kyleah Gahbow; brothers, Kyle Cash, Archie Cash Jr., Pete Gahbow, Erik Gahbow, Jared Gahbow, Tommy Benjamin; sisters, Corrina Cash, Sheena Gahbow, Rayna Gahbow; and many loving relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Arthur and Lorena (Mitchell) Gahbow; sisters, Tami Gahbow, Alana Gahbow, Ruth Cash, Judy Gahbow, Janet Gahbow; brother, Bill Gahbow.



Wanda Weyaus

Asiniikwe, Wanda Weyaus, 82-year-old resident of North St. Paul, Minnesota, passed away on May 4, 2021, at Regions Hospital in St. Paul. Visitation began at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 7, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Reservation. Funeral Ceremony was held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 8, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Reservation with Nazhike officiating. Interment was in St. Therese Cemetery. Arrangements were with the Shelley Funeral Chapel of Onamia.

Wanda was born on February 9, 1939, in Pike Bay, Minnesota, to Violet and Louis Monchamp Sr. She recently retired after 40 years working in the Adult Basic Education Department for Saint Paul Public Schools. Wanda looked forward to going to the casino to play bingo. She liked to spend her time quilting, crocheting, crafting, and being with her family and friends.

She is survived by her son, Darrell (Roberta Merrill) Weyaus Sr.; grandchildren, Chelsea Hardy and Darrell Weyaus Jr.; brother, Louis Monchamp Jr.; and many aunts, uncles, relatives, and friends.

Wanda was preceded in death by her parents, Violet and Louis Monchamp Sr.; and many loving relatives.



Bradley Sam Sr.

Bradley Thomas Sam Sr. "Deydacom" died on Monday, May 10, 2021, at his home in McGregor. He was 58 years old.

Bradley was born on August 6, 1962, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, to Herbert and Bernadette (Murray) Sam. He moved to Isle in the Mille Lacs area and attended Isle High School and then served in the United States Navy.

After his service, he held positions as a table games dealer and pit boss at Grand Casino Mille Lacs and also taught at Isle High School. He then became a table games dealer at Mystic Lake Casino until his retirement.

He loved the outdoors and being in the woods, hunting,



fishing, snowmobiling, netting, four-wheeling, and ice fishing. He enjoyed bird and deer watching and hanging out with his buddies and family.

Bradley is preceded in death by his mother, Bernadette Murray; his father, Herb Sam Sr.; his "papa," Frank Sam; his grandma, Batiste Sam, and his brother, Gary Sam.

He is survived by his wife, Gretchen Berg of McGregor; his sons, Bradley Sam Jr. of McGregor, Jeff Sam of Mille Lacs; his daughters, Lesley Sam of Mille Lacs, Bernadette Sam (Willie Klenk) of St. Cloud; his siblings, Ruth Sam of Mille Lacs, Lisa Sam (Tyron Bjorgan Sr.) of Minneapolis, Herb Sam Jr. of Minneapolis, Laurel Sam of Hinckley; his grandchildren, Arianna, Trevon, Victoria, Quincey, Dehline, Maria, Krissy, Isaac, Skylah, Dannika, Cana, Xyler, and Faith, and his special auntie Rosalie Noonday.

Services were held at 10 a.m. on Friday, May 14, at the Chiminising Community Center in Isle with Chato Gonzales officiating. Visitation began at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 13, also at the center. Casketbearers were Rick Schwin, Aaron Straicha, Bradley Sam Jr., Willie Klenk, Dave Sam Jr., Tom Dahlheimer, and Rick Vivant. Honorary Casketbearers were Jeff Sam, Dave Sam Sr., Randy Pendegayosh, Rodney Pendegayosh, Ryan Pendegayosh, Herb Sam Jr., and Bradley's grandchildren. Burial was at Faith Lutheran Cemetery in Isle with military honors provided by the Isle Honor Guard.

Arrangements by Mille Lacs Funeral and Cremation Services.

Brian Eagle

Mino-inini, Brian Allen Eagle, 63-year-old resident of Aitkin, Minnesota, passed away on May 11, 2021. Visitation began at 8 p.m. on Friday, May 14, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Reservation. Funeral Ceremony began at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 15, at the District I Community Center with Nazhike officiating. Interment was in the Vineland Burial Grounds. Arrangements were with the Shelley Funeral Chapel of Onamia.

Mino-inini, Brian Allen Eagle was born on January 22, 1958, in Onamia, Minnesota, to Melvin and Delores (Weyaus) Eagle. He grew up in Mille Lacs and then attended the University of Minnesota. Brian settled down with his spouse, Ann Gordon, in Minneapolis, where they lived and started a family. Around 1996, they moved away from the metro area to a smaller city, Aitkin, Minnesota.

Brian was such a hard worker and was good at his job at Woodland Container, a woodworking shop. Always wanting better for his family, Brian attended and graduated from Central Lakes College as a mechanic.

He enjoyed spending time with his family where they would go on fishing trips and hang out with his grandkids. Brian liked to spend his time playing cards, going to the casino, and watching the Vikings. He was always there to help others in need. Brian will be greatly missed.

He is survived by his spouse, Ann Gordon; daughters, Alana Gordon, Brianna Eagle, Cheyenne Eagle, all of Aitkin, MN, Susan Butcher of Karlstad, MN; step-daughter, Stacy Gordon; step-son, James (Charli Renollet) Gordon; 4 grandsons, Jeffrey Azure Jr., Conner Gordon, James Gordon Jr., Kyle Gordon; 5 granddaughters, Ashlee Gordon, Ayana Gordon, Nevaeh Gordon, Emily Gordon, Abi Gordon; 3 great-granddaughters, Nova Wirz, Olivia Tuma, Vivian Tuma; great-grandson, Avan Wirz; sisters, Pam Eagle, Rose Eagle, Angie Eagle, and Sheila Benjamin of Mille Lacs, Janice Dorr of Minneapolis; brother, Roy Eagle of Mille Lacs.

Brian was preceded in death by his father, Melvin Eagle Sr., and his mother, Delores Eagle; brothers, Melvin "Rufus" Eagle Jr., James Dorr; sister, Robin Eagle; nephew, Thomas Eagle.



Richard Staples

Omakakii (Little Frog in the Tree), Richard Joseph Staples, 25-year-old resident of Hinckley, Minnesota, passed away on May 15, 2021, at his residence. A private family funeral ceremony will be held with Obizaan officiating. Interment will be in the Pennington Fineday Cemetery next to his mother, Sharon. Arrangements are with the Shelley Funeral Chapel of Onamia.

Richard was born on January 26, 1996, to Marvin Lee Staples Sr. and Sharon (Fineday) Smith.

Richard will join his mother, Sharon, and stepfather, Francis (Aggie) Smith; grandparents, Naomi (Leona) Fineday and Joseph Fineday Jr., (maternal grandparents); and George and Frances (Reynolds) Staples (paternal grandparents) in the spirit world.

Richard is survived by his parents, Kim McAlister and Nathan Drift; siblings, Marvin Lee Staples Jr., Temperance Staples, Shannon Staples, Jeremy Staples; adopted mom, sister, Caitlen McAlister; brothers, Draven Weston, Ethan Drift, and Trent Weston; many aunts, uncles and cousins from the Leech Lake and Mille Lacs Reservations.

Richard was hired as an assembler in Duluth and recently moved to Hinckley to live with his father, Marvin. Richard loved to hunt and fish and, like many of our young, play video games.

Submit memorials to news@millelacsband.com.



BAND MEMBER WANTED FOR CASINO POSITION

Grand Casino Hinckley is seeking a Band member to fill the Director of Talent Collaboration position. As Grand Casino Hinckley's Talent Director, you will be at the forefront of the organization's people processes. We are looking for a leader who has experience in sustainably growing business while maintaining the integrity and support operations with our businesses. The Talent Director for Grand Casino Hinckley will be involved in all aspects of the talent efforts. In this role, the Director will provide leadership and support to the Talent team at Grand Casino Hinckley to develop supporting systems, processes, and organizational habits that foster positive Associate experiences, maximize workforce effectiveness, and drive prioritization of the work to meet Grand Casino Hinckley's business strategies. For this and many other jobs, see mlcv.com/career-opportunities.

SUBMISSIONS WELCOME

Mille Lacs Band members and community members from other tribes can be paid for news stories published in *Ojibwe Inaajimowin*. For stories of 500 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 320-495-5006.

MEKWENIMINJIG

Mekweniminjig is offered as a service to those families who would like to share the news of their loved ones' passing with the Mille Lacs Band community. Photos are accepted but not required. Submit memorials to news@millelacsband.com.

Spay/Neuter Surgeries & Wellness exams with vaccines

\$20 suggested donation



PET CLINICS SCHEDULED FOR ALL DISTRICTS

Mark your calendar! Spay/neuter and pet wellness clinics are coming to Districts II, Ila, and III this summer and early fall. Supplies and meals will be provided at all events.

Call the community centers to sign up for surgeries. Wellness exams are first come, first served. District members are given priority. Remaining spots may be filled by members from other districts.

District II spay/neuter surgeries by MNSNAP are scheduled for July 24, with 1/2-day wellness checks by SIRVS on July 24 and 25 at East Lake Community Center, 20650 363rd Ln, McGregor, MN 55760.

District Ila surgeries will be August 7 and wellness checks on August 7 and 8 at Chiminising Community Center, 2605 Chiminising Dr, Isle, MN 56342.

Lake Lena surgeries will be September 4 with wellness checks on September 4 and 5 at Aazhoomog Community Center, 45749 Grace Lake Rd, Sandstone, MN 55072)

In Hinckley, surgeries will be September 18 and wellness checks September 18 and 19 at Meshakwad Community Center, 38043 Hinckley Rd, Hinckley, MN 55037.

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



MNDOT HIRING — DEADLINE IS JUNE 4

The Minnesota Department of Transportation, District 3, has three openings for an entry-level snowplow operator and roadway maintenance worker and encourages Mille Lacs Band members to apply. If you like to work outdoors and want to learn how to operate heavy equipment, apply today!

Starting wage for Transportation Associates is \$19.48.

Associates need a minimum of a valid Class B Commercial Driver's Permit with no air brake restriction and ability to obtain a Class B Commercial Driver's License with tanker endorsement (CDL) within five months and a Class A Commercial Driver's License with tanker endorsement within twelve months. MnDOT will provide training to obtain CDL license.

The Transportation Associate will be trained to perform skilled roadway surface and roadside maintenance activities (e.g., patching, snow and ice control, guardrail and fence repair, landscaping, shoulder and slope repair, culvert replacement).

The Transportation Associate drives and operates a variety

of heavy equipment to perform snow and ice duties. Maintains roadways for snow and ice control: removes snow from roadways and shoulders; applies anti-icing and de-icing chemicals on stretches of highway under slippery conditions; removes frozen ice and material from culverts.

For more information, or to submit a resume online, log onto www.mn.gov/careers and search for job postings:

1. Go to mn.gov/careers
2. Click "External Applicant" to display all current openings.
3. In the Keyword Search, search for: 45975
4. Scroll to the bottom of the posting and click the "Apply" button. You will then be walked through setting up an account and applying.

5. Questions on how to apply? Call 651-259-3637 or e-mail careers@state.mn.us.

Application Deadline is June 4, 2021. For more information, contact Melisa Bryant, 320-406-9572, or Kris Larson, 320-406-9615.

EVERY CHILD NEEDS SOMEONE... WILL IT BE YOU?

There is an immediate need for foster families in order to ensure that our children remain immersed in their community, culture, and family. Children and their families depend on us to provide support while they are working toward family reunification.

If you are interested in helping a child and family in need and want to learn more about the fostering process, call the Family Services Department at 320-532-4163, ext. 1743. For more information about MLBO Family Services, visit millelacsband.com/services/family-services.

BACK IN TIME

10 years ago — 2011

Todd Matha was sworn in as the new Solicitor General on May 2. Commissioner of Finance John Gerdener was sworn into office on May 16. Mille Lacs Band member David Sam Jr. carried the Mille Lacs Band flag at the Central Lakes College commencement ceremony on May 12 in Brainerd. David received a diploma of occupational proficiency in automotive technology, and Band members Michelle Benjamin and Michelle Palomaki graduated with associate of arts degrees. Marie Gudim was one of about 50 Band Elders who participated in a walking contest sponsored by the Wisdom Steps Healthy Living Activities Committee. "I've been walking, exercising, and eating right for years," said the 74-year-old Isle resident. Mille Lacs Band Elder Leonard Sam, a longtime Department of Natural Resources employee for the Mille Lacs Band, was honored by the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission for his 15 years of service on the Voigt Intertribal Task Force. Former Vikings player Ray Edwards made his professional boxing debut in front of a packed house at Grand Casino Hinckley.

15 years ago — 2006

On April 19, members of the Tribal Emergency Response Committee (TERC) met for an emergency preparedness tabletop exercise to discuss strategies to implement should a pandemic flu outbreak occur in the local area. The Band's elected leaders decided not to include a question about separating from the MCT on the general election ballot on June 13. Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin attended a meeting with Governor Pawlenty. Receiving their high school diplomas were Steven Aubid, Tommy Lee Benjamin Jr., Cameron Farah, Kayla Gahbow, Sasha Garbow, Jada Grapp, Arthur Greene, LeRoy Kegg, Robert Livingston Jr., Kelly Miller, James Nickaboine Jr., Brandy Oswaldson, Charles Sam, Serena Sam, Clarissa Smith, Nicole Lynn Smith, Emily Stevens, Evelyn Tippiw, Heather Virnig, Joshua Wilki, Brittany Wind. Band member Sharon Barton Peterson cut the ribbon to officially open Grand Makwa Cinema on May 12. Band member Sherry Deyhle placed fourth in her round at the North Central Speedway in Brainerd on May 6.

20 years ago — 2001

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe member Paul Day was sworn in as the District Court Judge in the Mille Lacs Band's Court of Central Jurisdiction. Band member Sam Moose was appointed Acting Commissioner of Health and Human Services. Isle High School changed the name of its teams from the Indians to the Huskies. Commissioner of Education Bill Hemming accepted an award from Hank Oltmann of the Corporation for National Service for the Mille Lacs Band's involvement in national service programs. Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin and Governmental Affairs Coordinator Tammy Miller met with Attorney General Mike Hatch at his home, along with representatives from Prairie Island, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux, Upper Sioux, Red Lake, White Earth, and Leach Lake communities, to discuss issues important to the tribes. Dan Boyd III was promoted from Director of Bingo at Grand Casino Mille Lacs to Director of Guest Services.

The information above is from the June 2001, 2006, and 2011 issues of Ojibwe Inaajimowin. Many back issues of Ojibwe Inaajimowin are available at millelacsband.com/news. Click on "Inaajimowin Archive."

TRIBAL NOTEBOARD

JUNE ELDER BIRTHDAYS

Mary Ann Ailport
 Donald Ray Anderson
 Randall Wayne Anderson
 Ronald Dale Anderson
 Ronald Roger Audie
 Von Shane Aune
 Shirley Ann Beach
 Sharon Lee Benjamin
 Rhonda Marie Bentley
 Bonnie Kay Boyd
 Shirley Jane Boyd
 Curtis Bradley
 David Bradley
 Gilda Elsie Burr
 Clifford Kenneth Churchill
 Sherry Elaine Colson
 Mary Louise Colton
 Simon Eugene Day
 Leana Kay DeJesus
 Ellagene Diane Dorr
 Peter Jerome Dunkley
 Pamela Jean Eagle

Rosetta Marie Eagle
 Steven Richard Firtko
 Bruce Wayne Frye
 Peter James Gahbow
 George Allen Garbow
 Kat Anne Garbow
 Melanie Raemel Garbow
 Marilyn Ann Gurneau
 Monica Louise Haglund
 Steven Jerome Hanks
 Bruce Duane Hansen
 Devona Lee Haskin
 Cheryl Renee Hietanen
 Shirley Ann Hillstrom
 Dorothy Jean Hofstedt
 Darryl Joseph Kalk
 Robert Dwaine Kegg
 Connie Lou Kevan
 Coleen Marie Lueck
 LeRoy Joseph Mager
 Robert Wayne Mayotte
 Kevin William Moose
 Barbara Jean Mulhall

Dana Lou Nickaboine
 Alof Andrew Olson
 Gordon Gail Parr
 Patricia Pindegayosh
 Brian Keith Pippett
 Alan Duane Ray
 Donald Gregory Shabaiash
 Charlene Ann Shingobe
 Charles Duane Shingobe
 Warren Skinaway
 Edward James St. John
 Pearl Anne St. John
 Wallace Ervin St. John
 Dean Ray Staples
 Julie Ann Staples
 Elvis John Sutton
 Judy Ann Swanson
 Ann Marie Thalín
 Arlene Rene Weous
 De Etta Marie Weyaus
 Judy Jo Williams
 Robin Lee Williams

HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday **Booty** on June 9 love your best cousin • Happy birthday **Galli** on June 16 love mom, dad, Braelyn, Payton, Eric, Waase, Wes, Bryn, Trin, Henry, Binesiikwe, Grannie, Papa Kyle, Papa Brad, Auntie Val, Dan, Kev, Pie, Ogimaa Binesiikwe Myla, Auntie Randi, Auntie Rachel, Rory, Bruce, Jayla, Lileah, Jay, Taylor and Adam • Happy birthday **Rory** on June 16th Rory love the Harrington Family • Happy birthday **Aidan James** on June 20 love the Harrington Family • Happy birthday **Kevin** on June 23 love Mom, Dan, Dad, Sister, Ogimaa Binesiikwe Myla, Gram, Papa, Auntie Randi, Auntie Rachel, Rory, Uncle Bruce, Jayla, Lileah, Jay, Taylor, Adam, Uncle Brad, Baabiitaw, Braelyn,

Payton, Eric, Waase, Wes, Bryn, Bianca and Henry • Happy birthday **Ravin** June 30 love The Harrington Family

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 two-hour video interview to share your memories, please email news@millelacsband.com or call 320-237-6851.

IMPORTANT TRIBAL GOVERNMENT PHONE NUMBERS

Please refer to the list below to reach the individuals or departments you need.

Additional numbers can be found at millelacsband.com.

Mille Lacs Band Government Center: 320-532-4181

Mille Lacs Band Tribal Police: 320-532-3430

Non-Emergency Phone: 320-630-2994

Commissioners:

Commissioner of Administration Baabiitaw Boyd: 218-670-0745

Asst. Commissioner of Administration/Community Development Peter Nayquonabe: 320-630-3118

Commissioner of DNR Katie Draper: 320-515-0846

Commissioner of Finance Mel Towle: 320-532-7475

Commissioner of HHS Nicole Anderson: 320-364-9969

Chief Executive Office

Maria Costello: 763-260-0164

Court Administrator

Gilda Burr: 320-532-7401

Legislative Inquiries

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

Band Assembly Inquiries

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

Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Inquiries

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

Aanjibimaadizing

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

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

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

Urban — Wahbon Spears: 612-360-5486

Housing Emergency On-Call

Districts I and IIa: 320-630-2498

District II: 320-630-2492

District III: 320-630-2497

Dan Boyd, Housing Director: 320-630-2620

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

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

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

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

Chad Dunkley, Earthworks: 320-630-4763

Health and Human Services

24/7 Nurse Line: 320-630-0855

Provider appointments: 320-532-4163 option #2

Nurse Line Clinic: 320-630-0397

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

Mental Health call line: 320-674-4385

Substance use assessments and counseling: 320-532-7773

Pharmacy: 320-532-4770

Dental emergencies: 320-532-4779

Commodities: 320-630-8362

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

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

Elder Advocate: 320-630-7666

Office of Management and Budget

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

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

NOTEBOARD AND CALENDAR GUIDELINES

The Tribal Noteboard welcomes Band member submissions, including birthdays, congratulatory messages, and memorial tributes. For birthday messages, send name, birthday, and a brief message that is **20 WORDS OR LESS** to news@millelacsband.com or **320-237-6851**. The deadline for the July issue is June 15. Photos may be included if space allows.

If you would rather not have your name included in the Elder birthday list, please contact the Government Affairs office at 320-237-6851 or email news@millelacsband.com before the 15th of the month preceding your birthday. Send calendar items to news@millelacsband.com or call 320-237-6851.

SEND US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS!

The Government Affairs Department, which is in charge of communications with Band members, is compiling a list of email addresses so we can send weekly news summaries and breaking news updates to Band members. Send your email address to news@millelacsband.com so we can add you to the list!

NATIVE AMERICAN ARTISTS WANTED

The city of Minneapolis is currently working on a riverfront park project dedicated to the Indigenous people of Minneapolis. The city's arts commissioner is looking for Indigenous artists to work on this big budget project. Please share with anyone interested in participating.

Learn more at <https://www2.minneapolismn.gov/business-services/planning-zoning/city-plans/public-art-long-range-planning/call-for-artists/>.

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>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 500 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 320-495-5006.</p> <p><i>Millelacsband.com is updated regularly with news, job postings, events, and information about programs and services.</i></p>		<p>1</p> <p>Safe Native American Passenger Training <i>See page 7</i></p> <p>Women's group 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Sa Miikana <i>See below</i></p>	<p>2</p> <p>Red Brick AA/NA Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Women's group breakfast fundraiser 7:30 a.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p>Men's group 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p>Wellbriety 6 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p>On the RedRoad <i>See above</i></p> <p>The Rez NA 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center <i>See page 11</i></p>	<p>5</p> <p>AA 2 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Wellbriety Talking Circle 10 a.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>AA 2 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery <i>See below</i></p>	<p>7</p> <p>Youth language class <i>See page 7</i></p> <p>Youth golf 5:30 p.m. Grand National Golf Club <i>See page 8</i></p> <p>Migizi Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Youth basketball 5:30 p.m. District III <i>See page 8</i></p> <p>Women's group 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Sa Miikana <i>See below</i></p>	<p>9</p> <p>Youth softball 5:30 p.m. District IIa <i>See page 8</i></p> <p>Red Brick AA/NA Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Youth softball 5:30 p.m. District I <i>See page 8</i></p> <p>Men's group 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p>Wellbriety 6 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>On the RedRoad <i>See above</i></p> <p>The Rez NA 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center <i>See page 11</i></p>	<p>12</p> <p>AA 2 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Wellbriety Talking Circle 10 a.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>AA 2 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery <i>See below</i></p>	<p>14</p> <p>Youth language class <i>See page 7</i></p> <p>Youth golf 5:30 p.m. Grand National Golf Club <i>See page 8</i></p> <p>Migizi Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Youth basketball 5:30 p.m. District I <i>See page 8</i></p> <p>Women's group 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Sa Miikana <i>See below</i></p>	<p>16</p> <p>District III Community Meeting 5:30 p.m. Grand Casino Hinckley</p> <p>Red Brick AA/NA Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Youth softball 5:30 p.m. District II <i>See page 8</i></p> <p>Men's group 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p>Wellbriety 6 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>On the RedRoad <i>See above</i></p> <p>The Rez NA 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center <i>See page 11</i></p>	<p>19</p> <p>AA 2 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>
<p>20</p> <p>Wellbriety Talking Circle 10 a.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>AA 2 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery <i>See below</i></p>	<p>21</p> <p>Youth language class <i>See page 7</i></p> <p>Youth Golf 5:30 p.m. Grand National Golf Club <i>See page 8</i></p> <p>Migizi Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Youth basketball 5:30 p.m. District III <i>See page 8</i></p> <p>Women's group 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Sa Miikana <i>See below</i></p>	<p>23</p> <p>Red Brick AA/NA Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Youth softball 5:30 p.m. District III <i>See page 8</i></p> <p>Men's group 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p>Wellbriety 6 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>On the RedRoad <i>See above</i></p> <p>The Rez NA 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center <i>See page 11</i></p>	<p>26</p> <p>Parents and Kids Golf Tournament Grand National Golf Club <i>See page 8</i></p> <p>AA 2 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>
<p>27</p> <p>Wellbriety Talking Circle 10 a.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>AA 2 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery <i>See below</i></p>	<p>28</p> <p>Youth language class <i>See page 7</i></p> <p>Youth Golf 5:30 p.m. Grand National Golf Club <i>See page 8</i></p> <p>Migizi Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Youth basketball 5:30 p.m. District I <i>See page 8</i></p> <p>Women's group 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Sa Miikana <i>See below</i></p>	<p>30</p> <p>First Aid/CPR <i>See page 7</i></p> <p>Red Brick AA/NA Meeting 7 p.m. via Zoom conference</p> <p>Zooming into Recovery NA 8 p.m. via Zoom conference</p>	<p>RECOVERY GROUP MEETINGS HELD VIA ZOOM</p> <p>Many recovery meetings are held via Zoom conference. The Sunday Wellbriety ID is 601 532 2869 and the password is 456 267. The Monday night Migizi meeting ID is 856 8473 0121, and the password is 56359. The Wednesday night Red Brick meeting ID is 895 631 97923, and the password is 56359. The Thursday Wellbriety meeting ID is 966 0395 9591, and the passcode is 944772. The nightly Zooming Towards Recovery code is 601-532-2869, and the password is zoom800. Urban recovery groups meet Tuesdays at 7 (Sa Miikana) and Fridays at 6:30 (On the RedRoad). ID: 214 608 6245; password: Redroad.</p> <p><i>Nay Ah Shing School's summer meal program begins on June 21. See page 2 for details.</i></p>		



MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE
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Onamia, MN 56359

millelacsband.com

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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 320-237-6851. The July issue deadline is June 15.

NEED HELP?

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

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

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

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

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

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

Women's Shelter: 866-867-4006.

Batterers' Intervention: 320-532-8909.

Heating, water, or other home-related maintenance problems: If you live in a Mille Lacs Band Housing-maintained home, call our Customer Service Representative at one of the following on-call numbers:

District I and IIa: 320-630-2498.

District II: 320-630-2492.

District III: 320-630-2497.

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



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



BLINDIGEDAA!

On June 19, Band member Rick Anderson will welcome the community to the District I Aquatic and Fitness/Community Center. See page 6.

**BAND MEMBERS
MUST RETURN FORM
TO RECEIVE PAYMENT**
pages 1, 15

**BAND ASSEMBLY
PREPARES FOR LIVE
STREAMING**
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**WISCONSIN NETTERS
HARRASSED AT MILLE
LACS**
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**CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR HIGH SCHOOL
GRADUATES!**
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