



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



## MURDERED AT 24

### Father shares story of missing and murdered Indigenous daughter

By Vivian LaMoore Director of Public Relations

When Jenn and Monte Fronk first fell in love with two darling little girls, the sisters Nada and Lanicia were 9 and 2 years old. They were living in a closet and sleeping on ratty old mattresses in a foster home with unkind foster parents. Monte and Jenn began the adoption process to give the girls a forever home — with real beds and a mom and dad who loved them. But forever ended for Nada on May 26, 2021. She was murdered at the age of 24.

Before meeting Monte and Jenn, Nada and Lanicia had been in and out of foster homes and abandoned at homeless

shelters more than 10 times. The adoption process was tangled and knotted. The girls' social and medical history was not fully disclosed, and the Indian Child Welfare Act and other laws were inaccurately interpreted.

Monte and Jenn were committed to the new family and creating a lifetime of happiness. The girls were enrolled Leech Lake tribal members, and when the Leech Lake social workers stepped in at the request of Monte and Jenn to advocate and educate, the process finally moved forward. The adoption was transferred to the Leech Lake Family Services and Courts.

**MURDERED AT 24** see page 7



David Sam has been Plant Manager of ML Wastewater for more than 17 years.

## ELDER NAMED TO COURT OF APPEALS

### David Wayne Sam is newest addition to Tribal Judicial Branch

David Wayne Sam was sworn in as Associate Justice for the Mille Lacs Band Court of Appeals on Wednesday, May 19, after many years of service to the Band. He replaced Elmer Nayquonabe, who passed away earlier this year.

Since then, David has prepared for new cases and sworn in new Commissioners while getting up to speed on the workings of the Judicial Branch and the responsibilities of Appeals Court justices. He looks forward to presiding over wedding ceremonies as well.

As he began to consider retirement from his position as Plant Manager of the ML Wastewater treatment facility in District I, David expressed interest in becoming an Associate Justice. He saw the position as a way to use his skills, experience, and values to serve the Band in a new role.

"I am a sober Mille Lacs Band Elder, considered first speaker, and I live to the best of my ability to practice the seven teachings of our ancestors," said David. "I have practiced as many of the teachings in my everyday life for the past 46-plus years that I have been fortunate enough to maintain my sobriety. I strive to practice integrity and am committed to our community's healing."

He brings to the table years of experience dealing with issues related to addiction, recovery issues, as they pertain to family function. "I have had the opportunity to act as a representative on behalf of other Natives that were unfortunate enough to find themselves entangled in the court systems in the Metropolitan area of Minneapolis, Minnesota," said David. "I continue to mentor and support those in our community that are struggling. My wife, Mary, and I have taken in Band youth in need of care, so we are very familiar with the needs, struggles, and barriers within our community. I am a parent, grandparent, great-grandparent, and uncle, who knows the struggles many of our own family members face."

**DAVID SAM** see page 5

## ON THE COVER — THREE COMMISSIONERS SWORN IN

Three commissioners were sworn in June 30 in a ceremony at the Biidaabinookwe Government Center in District I: Nicole Anderson began her second term as Health and Human Services Commissioner, Peter Nayquonabe took on a new role as Commissioner of Administration, and Maria Costello became the newest cabinet member as Assistant Commissioner of Administration. Associate Justice David Sam administered the Oath of Office.

Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin reminded the three of the seriousness of their role in service to Band members: "I have already assigned these leaders with their first task of working on making government more efficient and creating more Band member employment opportunities," said Benjamin. "These commissioners are hard-working Band members who are dedicated to our community, and I am excited about what we will achieve together."

Peter thanked those who came in support as well as Melanie for nominating him and Band Assembly for ratifying the nomination. "I'm always available and willing to work hard," he said. "To the Band members out there, yes, I am a servant, so I will do my best to make sure we get everything done. Again, I'm grateful and excited for this position."

Nicole also thanked the Chief Executive and Band Assembly for their vote of confidence. "It's really important to me to help people and to be a servant," she said. "I'm always available, my phone number's out there, and I'll do my best to fulfill the office of the Commissioner."

After saying "miigwech" to elected officials, in particular Representative Wally St. John for taking her on when she was just out of school, Maria said, "I look forward to serving everybody for the next four years. I'm here for the community." For more on Maria, see page 5.

MOTORCYCLE RUN BRINGS AWARENESS TO ANISHINAABE VALUES. SEE PAGE 6.

# MESSAGE FROM THE

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Aaniin, Boozhoo! I hope everyone is enjoying the summer. This month began with a meeting on July 7 on the topic of Indian boarding schools, which has been a topic of significant attention in the media in recent weeks. Tribal leaders in Minnesota wanted to get together to talk about this as a group, and I volunteered the Mille Lacs Band to host this first meeting as the most centrally located tribe for the northern Anishinaabe and southern Dakota tribes.

Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland recently announced a Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative, which will include an investigation of unmarked cemeteries near the sites of federal boarding schools. There were also a large number of church-run boarding schools, which will not be included in this investigation.

Tribal leaders discussed the desire for the investigation to go beyond just cemeteries. The leaders also determined that the federal government should provide more funding to support culture and language programs, since a central purpose of boarding schools was to replace tribal languages with English. The outcome of that meeting is that a letter has been sent signed by elected leaders from the 11 tribes requesting a meeting with Secretary Deb Haaland and President Biden in August to discuss these matters.

On July 12, the Mille Lacs Band also hosted the regular quarterly meeting of the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT). Subcommittee meetings were held in the morning, and the full TEC met that same afternoon. At this meeting, we discussed our concern about recent actions by Enbridge regarding construction of the Line 3 pipeline project.

Enbridge received approval from the State of Minnesota to take 510 million gallons of water from shallow aquifers that are 10-15 feet deep so the water doesn't drain into the trench of the pipeline during construction. A few weeks ago, Enbridge requested to take an additional 5 billion gallons of water, more than 10 times the original request, which the State

of Minnesota just recently approved. Unfortunately, the State did not consult with tribal governments about this change prior to approving it. With the severe drought conditions already impacting wild rice, this is very concerning. The Mille Lacs Band will continue our legal actions against Enbridge as long as is necessary.

During July, I also attended meetings with the congressional leadership of the House Ways and Means Committee as well as the U.S. Department of Treasury about a very important issue that directly affects the pocketbooks of our youngest Band members. For the past several years, the Mille Lacs Band has been advocating for the Congress to end what is called "the Kiddie Tax."

**"FOR THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS, THE MILLE LACS BAND HAS BEEN ADVOCATING FOR THE CONGRESS TO END WHAT IS CALLED 'THE KIDDIE TAX.' THIS IS A FEDERAL TAX THAT OUR YOUTH BAND MEMBERS PAY WHEN THEY RECEIVE PAYMENTS FROM THE BAND AFTER THEY BECOME ADULTS. THE MILLE LACS BAND AND OTHER TRIBES ARE ADVOCATING FOR A BILL CALLED THE TAX FAIRNESS FOR TRIBAL YOUTH BILL, WHICH WILL END THE UNFAIRLY HIGH TAX PENALTY ON TRIBAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO YOUTH."**

This is a federal tax that our youth Band members pay when they receive payments from the Band after they become adults. The Mille Lacs Band and other tribes are advocating for a bill called the Tax Fairness for Tribal Youth bill, which will end the unfairly high tax penalty on tribal assistance provided to youth. I have been working on this issue for several years and am hopeful that we might finally have the support we need from the Congress and the White House to get this done.

After a year and a half of not meeting due to the pandemic, both the National Indian Gaming Association and the National

Center for American Indian Economic Development met from July 19–22 in Las Vegas, Nevada. We focused discussions on rebuilding our tribal economies and economic recovery for Band members. A big part of this discussion included looking at the American Rescue Plan as it pertains to tribal governments, and the importance of strategic planning to protect the interest of the Band and our members.

June 30, 2021, brought about the end of the four-year terms for several of those serving in commissioner-level positions with the Band government. Every four years, the Chief Executive is required to nominate new commissioners subject to approval of the Band Assembly. This month, three Band members were ratified for new terms.

Peter Nayquonabe is now serving as Commissioner of Administration, and Maria Costello is now serving as the Assistant Commissioner of Administration. Nicole Anderson will continue to serve as Commissioner of Health and Human Services. Congratulations to Pete, Maria, and Nicole.

I hope Band members are able to stay cool in this heat, and that those who have breathing difficulties are taking care of themselves with the smoke in our air due to Canadian forest fires. Please take good care of yourselves and enjoy the summer! Miigwech.



## COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Emergency Management Coordinator Monte Frank showed visitors to Garrison's Fire Fest how to properly use a fire extinguisher. 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.



## SUMMER MEAL PROGRAM — JUST SHOW UP AND EAT!

Food for kids up to 18 is once again available at Nay Ah Shing Abinoojiiyag school this summer.

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

Meals are served Monday through Thursday through 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

# ORDINANCE 52-21 ENSURES INDEPENDENCE OF BAND MEMBER LEGAL SERVICES

By Joseph E. Jensen Legislative Staff Attorney

Title 24 of Mille Lacs Band Statutes establishes the members of the Department of Justice. The Solicitor General exercises day-to-day supervision over the Department of Justice, which previously included both supervisory and administrative control over Mille Lacs Band Legal Services ("Legal Services"). This meant that the Solicitor General, the prosecution, controlled Legal Services, the defense. This control created an inherent conflict of interest and, if left unchanged, could have resulted in unethical abuse or undermining of the justice system.

On July 21, 2021, the Band Assembly passed Ordinance 52-21 to eliminate this conflict of interest and ensure the independence of the organization on which many Band members rely. The bill removed Legal Services from the control of the Solicitor General and established it as an independent organization governed by a board of directors. This board of directors is appointed by the three District Representatives, the Chief Executive, and the Chief Justice for three-year terms. Among other duties, the board of directors is required to develop standards governing the provision of legal representation to indi-

gent clients and to work with the managing attorney to ensure that Legal Services continues to have a positive impact on the community.

Under this new ordinance, Legal Services will be able to represent Band members in any civil matters, whether it be in an administrative hearing, tribal court, state court, or federal court. Additionally, Legal Services can represent Band members in criminal matters. However, Legal Services will be prohibited from representing clients who are charged with an act against a fellow Band member or specific crimes relating to the use, possession, and sale of illicit drugs, unless the representation is for a first-time possession offense of second or lesser degree.

This new system will come into effect on August 30, 2021. The effective date was set out by approximately a month from the date of passage to provide time for the required administrative reorganization and appointment of the members of the board. This will help ensure a smooth transition and no interruption of services to Band members.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY SEEKS MEMBER INPUT

Travis Zimmerman, Site Manager at the Mille Lacs Indian Museum, came to the District I Community Meeting June 30 to let Band members know that the museum is currently developing an "Interpretive Framework Plan," which will guide the creation of new educational experiences at the site.



Travis Zimmerman

Travis said he is putting together an advisory board of Mille Lacs Band members to help with the plan and continue to provide input to the Historical Society in the future.

The Historical Society values input from Mille Lacs Band members and community members and asks them to fill out a short survey to help create new goals for the site.

The survey can be completed online at <http://MNHS.Mille-Lacs-Community-Survey.alchemer.com/s3/>.

Responses are anonymous and will help the museum to determine a new mission and vision, as well as identify the interpretive themes for the museum.

You may choose to enter your name into a drawing for a \$25 Walmart gift card.

### Additional presentations

District I Representative Virgil Wind gave a brief update on the new community center hours, Title 21 & 24, the Iskigamizigan Powwow, and live-streaming. He announced that his office would sponsor community events instead of a Valleyfair trip, and he said speed bumps will be installed on Nay Ah Shing



drive.

Lori Trail gave a brief update on the Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO), including a summary and history of TERO, what TERO offers, and what TERO can help with.

Michele Berger gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Scholarship Program with a complete walkthrough of how to apply online. She invited anyone who needs help to reach out to her at [mlb.scholarships@millelacsband.com](mailto:mlb.scholarships@millelacsband.com).

Shelly Day provided a Circle of Health update with information on the program and details of program benefits.

At information tables, Grand Casino Mille Lacs promoted employment opportunities and the Family Violence Prevention Program shared materials and resources.



Lori Trail



Shelly Day of Circle of Health, Michele Berger of the Scholarship Program, and Cynthia Guernsey and Marlene Poukka of the Family Violence Prevention Program shared information at the District I Community Meeting on June 30.

## LEGISLATIVE BRIEFS

### Band Assembly meeting highlights

**Wednesday, June 30:** Members approved the Band Assembly Record for June 23 and passed three bills:

Band Assembly Bill 19-03-48-21: A Bill amending Title 21, section 306 of the Mille Lacs Band Statutes ("MLBS") for the purpose of adding an emergency writ of restitution and amending Title 24 to add a subchapter where an individual acting in good faith who seeks medical assistance for another individual who is experiencing a drug-related overdose may not be charged with or prosecuted for the possession.

Band Assembly Bill 19-03-49-21: A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures for Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2021.

Band Assembly Bill 19-03-50-21: A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures for the Executive Branch for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2021.

Band Assembly also passed four resolutions, a foster care license address change, and a contract for LawVisory to provide legal services.

District Representatives and Secretary-Treasurer Sheldon Boyd shared updates.

**Tuesday, July 6:** Legislative attended an MCT Delegation training presented by Mr. Jay Kanassatega and hosted by the Office of the Chief Executive.

**Thursday, July 8:** Legislative held a work session on proposed amendments to Title 3 — Legislative Branch. The proposed amendments would establish legislative and special session procedures in order to improve the lawmaking process.

Legislative Counsel Adam Candler presented a draft bill that would establish a Sovereignty Commission within the Mille Lacs Band government.

**Friday, July 9:** Joint Session of the Band Assembly occurred to approve and deny enrollment applications.

**Monday, July 12:** Legislative attended the Tribal Executive Committee Subcommittee Meetings & Tribal Executive Committee Regular Meeting.

**Wednesday, July 14:** Joseph S. Nayquonabe, Commissioner of Corporate Affairs, gave a presentation on the Red Willow Estates Project, followed by questions and comments.

Band Assembly passed Band Assembly Bill 19-04-51-21: A Bill of Supplemental Appropriation for the purpose of authorizing expenditures and budget revisions/transfers for the Executive Branch for the Fiscal Year ending September 30, 2021.

Band Assembly also passed several contracts and resolutions, including a resolution ending the COVID-19 State of Emergency. Later in the meeting, Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin expressed her disappointment that they hadn't consulted with her first. Representatives apologized for the lack of communication and said the issue was on the public agenda and posted prior to the meeting.

**Thursday, July 15, 2021:**

Legislative held a work session on the Band Member Legal Services bill.

## STATE AND LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS

**Red Laker is Suns coach:** Ben Strong, Red Lake Nation, is in his second season as the development coach for the Phoenix Suns, meaning much of his time is spent on working to improve the skills of each player, including all-stars Chris Paul and Devin Booker. But it's perhaps Deandre Ayton who is benefiting the most from Strong's work ethic and expertise. Both are 6 feet, 11 inches tall, and both have a soft touch around the basket. Ben played professional basketball across the world and for the NBA's development league before turning to coaching in 2016. *Source: indiancountrytoday.com.*

**Fond du Lac submits elk restoration proposal:** The Fond du Lac Band hopes to start transplanting elk into northern Carlton County and southern St. Louis County in 2025 with animals taken from a wild herd in northwestern Minnesota. Mike Schrage, biologist for the Fond du Lac Band, said, "This is a proposal on what to do and how to do it. But we're still going to be taking input from the public and government agencies on how we manage elk once they're here." The proposal calls for moving up to 150 elk into the area over 3-5 years with an eventual goal of a sustainable population of about 300 elk. *Source: twincities.com.*

**Rice crop looking good:** Wild rice is showing stress from dry conditions, but for now, observers say the outlook is positive. "I think in most cases, years that have slightly below average precipitation tend to produce the greatest rice abundance," said Peter David, a biologist with the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission. Darren Vogt, resource management director for the 1854 Treaty Authority, said, "Generally drier years or lower water on a lake favors wild rice." A Minnesota DNR lake specialist in Aitkin county said reports from around the state indicate strong potential for a good wild rice harvest this year. *Source: mprnews.org.*

**Minnesota forms nation's first state office on MMI:** Minnesota's newly passed public safety budget includes funding to create the first state office in the nation with a focus on missing and murdered Indigenous relatives. Forming the office was a recommendation of a task force focused on the same issues. The bill also funds a new task force on missing and murdered African American women. "You work so hard on a piece of legislation that really matters, and you just don't know — is it going to be in that final cut? So it's quite a relief," said Sen. Mary Kunesch, DFL-New Brighton, who helped lead the effort. *Source: mprnews.org.*

**COVID-19 risk persists for the unvaccinated:** While Minnesota continues to make progress in beating back COVID-19 and vaccination levels continue to rise, Minnesota Commissioner of Health Jan Malcolm said the risk of COVID-19 disease still exists for those who are not vaccinated and in those areas of the state where vaccination rates are low. Minnesota Department of Health Infectious Disease Director Kris Ehresmann said, "The best way to end this pandemic pain is for everyone to get vaccinated when they are eligible, but if you are not fully vaccinated yet, it's incredibly important that you protect yourself and others by doing those things we know can slow or stop the spread of the virus, such as masking, social distancing, staying home when sick, and getting tested when appropriate." *Source: www.crowwing.us.*

## BOARDING SCHOOLS TRIBES SEEK TO ADDRESS WRONGS

*Minnesota leaders met at Grand Casino Hinckley on July 7*

**By Vivian LaMoore Director of Public Relations**

Hundreds of unmarked graves of Indigenous children have been recently discovered at former Indian boarding schools in Canada. This raised the attention of American Tribal leaders across the United States and in Minnesota.

American Indian boarding schools are a dark subject with a painful history. Minnesota Tribal leaders gathered at Grand Casino Hinckley on July 7 to discuss the history, to plan how to uncover the truth about Minnesota boarding schools, and to address the wrongs of the system.

For more than 150 years, Indigenous children were taken from their families and brought to off-reservation federal boarding schools, often far away from their homes. This led to trauma, abuse, and the deaths of many American Indian children.

Brenda J. Child is an associate professor of American studies at the University of Minnesota. She spoke to the Tribal Leaders group via Zoom conference call and gave a brief history of boarding schools.

Professor Child said 1879 marked the beginning of the boarding school era. The first boarding schools helped lay the foundation for a new era of dividing up reservation lands.

In her opinion, the spread of Indian boarding schools was politically motivated by the General Allotment Act of 1887, which was applied in Minnesota as the Nelson Act of 1889. These Acts allowed the president to break up reservation lands held in common by the tribe into individual parcels for certain tribal members, with the hope that Indians would become farmers. In Minnesota, in most cases the federal government's strategy was to pressure Band members to sell their individual parcels to timber companies for a small fraction of what the land was actually worth. After the timber barons had pillaged reservations of their old-growth forest, they would sell the lands to non-Indians for a much higher price. This is how so much of the interior of the Mille Lacs Reservation boundary came into non-Indian ownership.

Boarding schools were an attempt to segregate Indian children and train them to reject their traditional ways and fully participate in western society. "If we didn't need our land anymore, what are Indians to do?" she said. "That is the rhetoric of assimilation and the background to the land policies. Boarding schools were set up so the government and the missionaries could feel good about themselves. Native people needed to be retrained and assimilation kicked in. Boarding schools were about land policies more than about education."

For the next 50 years, Indian children were taken away from their families. Schools required that they cut their hair and wear European-style clothes. The children were not allowed to speak their Native languages or practice cultural activities. They were subject to deplorable living conditions, and malnutrition and illness were rampant. "Yet more children died of influenza and tuberculosis than they did of neglect," she said. "People of the time did not know how tuberculosis was spread from person to person. They thought Native people were genetically susceptible."

Generally, family visitations were very few and far between

if allowed at all. Parents worried about their children, and children were often lonely. Many children attempted to run away. Runaways were generally well documented as there was often a reward offered to bring them back, Professor Child said. Students could be harshly punished for running away, and many schools had jails.

By the 1930s, the Nelson Act had achieved the government's goal of dividing up reservations in Minnesota. The federal government had less "need" for boarding schools so there was very little political resistance to sending Indian children to public schools. However, some students wrote letters asking to go back to the boarding schools because they were treated so poorly in public schools, where racism was rampant.

The Minnesota tribal leaders had many questions with few answers. "We want the truth," said Chairwoman Cathy Chavers of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa. "Many stories have been passed down from generation to generation; it wasn't written on a piece of paper"

Mille Lacs Band Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin said, "I do remember my mom talking about this. She told stories of Aazhoomog where I grew up. She said that when the agents came by the first house, a whistle would be blown to warn other families to hide their children so they wouldn't be taken away."

The tribal leaders decided to continue the discussions on an ongoing basis to determine a plan of action that includes research and investigations of boarding schools, among other ideas. A letter was sent to President Biden and Secretary Haaland signed by all 11 Minnesota Tribal leaders respectfully requesting a meeting in Minnesota to begin a dialogue with the elected tribal leaders regarding the federally supported American Indian boarding schools in Minnesota and the tribal leaders' expectations of a federal response to their concerns.

The letter states in part: "Whether by coercion or force, having taken Native children from their homes and communities and held them in federal custody, the United States is obligated to account for the fate of these children under federal responsibilities pursuant to treaties and agreements with the Tribes, the federal trust obligation to honor and protect the children of the Tribes, and principles of international human rights law regarding Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances that require governments to account for the fate of all persons taken into governmental custody who have not yet been returned to their families and communities...."

"As tribal leaders, a majority of the socio-economic struggles our communities face that we must fight every day can be traced back to the boarding-school era, which went hand-in-hand with federal schemes to displace and dispossess us of our homelands. It is time for the United States to hold itself fully accountable for these genocidal policies intended to strip Native children of their family ties, culture, language, and identity that still ravage our communities today."

The tribes have plans to meet again in August. It is unknown whether the invitation will be accepted by President Biden and Secretary Haaland.

## MOCCASIN TELEGRAPH — BOARDING SCHOOL MEMORIES

The late Jim Clark shared his memories of boarding schools in the Moccasin Telegraph:

"I remember I went to a boarding school in Hayward, Wisconsin, that was run by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. I went there for four years. On Saturdays, we'd walk into town — the boarding school was about a mile away — and we'd go to a show Saturday afternoon, maybe buy some popcorn. And some kids used to tease us, and some kids would try to fight."

"When I was a boy, our boarding school tried to teach us that our religion was false, that it was nothing, that we should not believe in it. They tried to baptize all the Indian children who attended school there."

"But we would go home for the summer. If you had real Anishinaabe relatives, like my grandmother, you would learn the Indian ways all over again. My grandmother would get after us, insisting that we speak Ojibwe, even when we wanted to practice our English. And she made sure we didn't forget our ways. We were the lucky ones, because some schools succeeded in wiping out the Indian from many Indian children."



Maria Costello, who was sworn in by Justice David Sam on June 30, hopes to do her part to make tribal government more effective.

## COMMISSIONER HITS GROUND RUNNING

Maria Costello, the Band's new Assistant Commissioner of Administration, first met Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin at the National Congress of American Indians back when Maria was still a teenager.

"Her laugh was so contagious," Maria recalled. "So I asked my mom, 'Who is that lady?'" Maria's mother, Christine, introduced the two, and Melanie became Maria's "mentor" at the conference.

Two decades later, in September of 2020, Maria received another opportunity as Melanie's Deputy Assistant, and this spring, she was asked to fill a position once held by her mom: Assistant Commissioner of Administration.

Maria brings to her new role the same kind of infectious positivity as her mentor. "I was super excited, and I felt honored that she wanted to nominate me," said Maria.

Melanie had seen Maria's skill set, work ethic, and positive attitude during the stressful fall of 2020 and spring of 2021. As Deputy Assistant, Maria helped organize the first-ever virtual State of the Band event, while coping with furloughs, Zoom meetings, and the usual duties involved in working for the Chief Executive.

"I was nervous, coming in when I did, but we have a good TERC (Tribal Emergency Response Committee), and the commissioners were helpful in keeping the community and workforce safe, while continuing to offer services and keep programs running efficiently."

After Melanie nominated her for the Assistant Commissioner job, Maria was confirmed by the Band Assembly and sworn in on June 30.

As Assistant Commissioner, Maria works with Commissioner of Administration Peter Nayquonabe to manage several departments in tribal government, including Human Resources, Aanjibimaadizing, Grants, and Self-Governance.

"Pete and I are a team," she said. "We work very well together. Pete has been nothing but very helpful in this position, sharing his experience."

Currently, there are three commissioner vacancies — Natural Resources, Education, and Community Development —

which means Maria has been busy not just learning her new responsibilities, but also overseeing the Department of Natural Resources.

"That's my main focus right now," she said. "It's a complex department — not just hunting and fishing." In addition to harvest regulations, the DNR is in charge of enrollments, real estate, tribal archives, and protection of natural resources, including the water, air, plants, and animals.

Maria grew up in the District III area and graduated from Pine City High School in 2002. While raising her four children, she worked at Grand Casino Hinckley, the Cultural Grounds in Rutledge, and as Legislative Assistant to District III Representative Wally St. John.

She credits her grandma and her mom for helping her to pursue a career and education while raising a family. "I wouldn't be able to do any of this without my mom," Maria said. "She helps with the kids, and she has always been supportive of me. She was a big influence on my career choice."

Maria received her associate of arts degree from Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College and a Certificate in Tribal Administration and Governance. She is currently working toward a bachelor's degree in the same field, which has given her a strong foundation and vision: "I believe in building a better government so our community can thrive and we can all do better," she said.

Another experience that has shaped her has been serving as a delegate to the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe's Constitutional Convention, a role she took on in 2018. Learning about the Constitution, tribal history, and issues like enrollment has made her think seriously about making government work for future generations.

"My children are my biggest influence; they help me be a better person and give me the strength to want to make a difference," she said. "I wanted to make a difference for them, to give them a better life. My oldest is very proud of me. She's 17, and we grew together through this long journey. She said, 'I'm so proud of you, Mom. You've worked so hard to get here.' That makes me feel great. I know I'm doing something right."

### DAVID SAM from page 1

David and Mary have a long tradition of work involving Restorative Justice practices and values, which will help guide him in his new role.

"Creating change starts with ourselves, our families, and sometimes involves tough decisions, holding our loved ones accountable, while still loving and supporting them the best we can, without enabling them," David said.

David was raised in the Chiminising community (District IIa) and attended Isle High School. He and Mary have five children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and many we-enhs.

He has also attended Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University and is a Bush Leadership Fellow and Boston Fellow. He has served on many leadership boards over the last 50 years and has 45 years of experience in Indian Education programming, chemical dependency initiatives, and community leadership.

For the past 17-plus years, he has managed the ML Wastewater Management Wastewater Treatment Facility on behalf of the Mille Lacs Band. "When I began my career as a Certified

Wastewater Operator, our Band was involved in much controversy with neighboring sports groups over our inherent rights to hunt, fish, and gather on our lands," said David. "I have demonstrated an ability to function under that adversity. ML Wastewater was not welcomed with open arms by our neighbors. Today we are viewed as a trusted ward of our precious resource, water. My ability to manage difficult situations and conversations will serve as an asset in this role."

Among the responsibilities of the Associate Justice:

- Preside over cases appealed from the lower District Court
- Preside over election disputes
- Preside over Unlawful Detainer cases
- Administer swearing-in oaths
- Assist with the annual State of the Judiciary Address
- Provide wedding vows to Band members
- Appoint an Elder for cultural causes of action cases.
- Assist the Chief Justice in prescribing general rules
- Appoint Special Magistrates, as needed
- Assist with hiring of Court Administrator and other staff
- Ensure confidentiality of court cases and information

## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### Canadian boarding school crisis reverberates

**across border:** The discovery of unmarked burial sites in Canada holding the remains of nearly 1,000 people, mainly Indigenous children, has reverberated worldwide. But it has hit a particularly resonant note in the United States. The United States had a similar, and larger, network of institutions known as boarding schools, named "Indian industrial schools." The discovery of one of the burial sites in Canada in June prompted Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland, a member of the Laguna Pueblo, to launch an investigation into the federal government's boarding school program. *Source: csmonitor.com.*

### COVID-19 still killing more than guns, cars,

**flu combined:** Even with half the U.S. vaccinated, COVID-19 continues to kill people faster than guns, car crashes, and influenza combined, according to a review of mortality data. The situation has improved dramatically since January, when COVID-19 deaths outpaced heart disease and cancer as the country's top killer, according to a Bloomberg analysis. Still, for the month of June, coronavirus was responsible for 337 deaths a day. For comparison, the historic average deaths from gunshots, car crashes, and complications from the flu add up to 306 a day. *Source: startribune.com.*

### Tribes brace for ransomware attacks:

Six Lucky Star casinos operated by the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma were forced to shut down following a ransomware attack that crippled computer systems. The closure was the latest in a string of tribal ventures that have been affected by ransomware attacks. The Nez Perce Tribe in Idaho closed its casinos following a successful cyberattack in October 2020. In that same month, the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation's Cache Creek Casino in Brooks, California, also fell victim to an attack on its networks. Another Oklahoma tribe, the Seminole Nation, had to close its casinos temporarily because of a cyberattack in May 2021. *Source: tribalbusinessnews.com.*

### First Nations elect first woman chief:

Canada's Assembly of First Nations (AFN) has elected RoseAnne Archibald to be its new National Chief, becoming the first woman to hold the post. Throughout her 31 years of experience in First Nations politics, Archibald has broken new ground as the first female Chief for the Taykwa Tagamou Nation, Deputy Grand Chief for Nishnawbe-Aski Nation, Grand Chief for Mushkegowuk Council, and Ontario Regional Chief. Archibald replaces outgoing National Chief Perry Bellegarde. *Source: nativenewsonline.net.*

### BIA awards \$6.5 million in energy grants:

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has awarded more than \$6.5 million in Energy and Mineral Development Program (EMDP) grants to 27 federally recognized tribes and seven Alaska Native corporations in 15 states. The funding will aid tribal efforts to identify, study, design, and develop projects using energy, mineral, and natural resources. The BIA Office of Trust Services' Division of Energy and Mineral Development (DEMD) assists tribal governments and American Indian Allottees with evaluating energy and mineral resource potential on their lands. Recipients use this information to determine whether or not they wish to develop energy projects, or extract and market commercially, or strategically, valuable minerals. *Source: nativenewsonline.net.*

## 4TH ANISHINAABE VALUES RIDE

# SHARING STORIES, RAISING AWARENESS

Photos by Aiyanna Mitchell  
Mille Lacs Band Member



For Richard Hill, who helped organize the 4th Annual Anishinaabe Values Ride on July 2, the Seven Grandfather Teachings are helpful and life-changing guidelines that all people can learn from.

"We're in the seventh generation of healing from generational trauma," said Rich. "For a long time, we lost the ability to freely practice our culture, so it had to go underground. We're trying to get that back — our language, the powwows, the drums. Our focus is on raising awareness of the Seven Grandfather Teachings. These are values that many cultures have adopted — everyday norms we should live by."

Each year, Joe Nayquonabe Sr. and Dan Wind have been offered tobacco to start the ride off in a good way, with prayer and song.

New this year were the seven flags flown from the bikes to draw awareness of the values of respect, love, truth, bravery, wisdom, honesty, and humility.

This year's ride went first to Four Winds Lodge in Brainerd, where riders presented personal stories about how the seven values helped them on their road to recovery. Participants who gave presentations included Perry Staples, Gary Branchaud, Raymond and Tina Bagart, Sharon and Art Dewey, Rusty Thomas, Brad Harrington, Curtis Rainey, and Clarence Rainey.

Rich said the stories were powerful — for the presenters as well as the audience. "Telling stories is part of the healing," said Rich. "It makes you vulnerable, and you need to be vulnerable to be humble."

An enthusiastic group of riders participated in the 4th Anishinaabe Values Awareness Ride on July 2. New this year were the flags flown from seven bikes representing the Seven Grandfather Teachings.



A common comment from the riders, Rich said, was "I probably got more out of it than they did."

The ride concluded in Danbury for the first-ever "Come Together" feast, making connections between the St. Croix and Aazhoomog (District III) recovery communities.

Riders spent the night at the St. Croix Casino before head-



ing up to the Red Cliff Wellbriety Powwow, where they were recognized by the master of ceremonies.

Although the ride is a sober event, riders do not need to be in recovery to participate.

Plans are already in the works for next year's ride, possibly including rides from other reservations around the state.



## REGISTRATION OPEN AT FOND DU LAC

Loretta Hansen and Michele Berger of the Higher Ed Department and Karen Pagnac of Aanjibimaadizing joined Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College staff for registration events in Districts I, II, and III in July. The Scholarship Program is accepting Electronic Applications for the 2021-2022 academic year, which are available on the Band website. Tribal members need to create an account and look under SERVICES for the EDUCATION dropdown and click on SCHOLARSHIPS. For those not enrolled (descendants), find Scholarships under RESOURCES, and scroll past the Aanjibimaadizing information. Under Electronic Forms, look for the MLB Scholarship Application (needed annually for college students), the Educational Enrichment program (to be used for conferences, trainings, community ed, and education-related camps), the Award Request (Academic Achievement for diplomas, degrees, and certifications), and Scholarship Semester/Quarter report (for college students to submit their next quarter or semester billing, class registration, and previous term grades). As always, please update your mailing address, and call if you have submitted forms or requests and did not receive a response, a check, or the help you were requesting. You can reach Michele at [mlb.scholarships@millelacsband.com](mailto:mlb.scholarships@millelacsband.com) or 1-800-709-6445, ext. 4775.

## MURDERED AT 24 from page 1

Monte is the Emergency Management Coordinator with the Mille Lacs Band and a Red Lake tribal member. Jenn has over 20 years of service as a social worker with Mille Lacs County. Finally completing the year-long adoption process was a dream come true for the family.

Not long after the adoption, Monte and Jenn began seeing behavior issues escalate in Nada. She appeared to be an average young girl under regular daily activities, but when she became stressed or confronted, her emotional demeanor would digress to that of a 4-year-old. According to Monte, Nada was diagnosed with second-generation fetal alcohol syndrome. She had a voracious hunger for attention and no impulse control, which led to dangerous situations for herself and her family members. "She also had a reactive detachment disorder and became very physically aggressive," Monte said.

It is not unusual for young children to search for attention from parents, siblings, teachers, family, and others. But for Nada, it was different. "One of her attention-seeking habits was threatening to hang herself," Monte said. "Yes, at 10-and-a-half years old. Her reactions became a safety issue. Often when confronted about owning her behavior, she would react by coming at us with knives or scissors."

Monte and Jenn were left with the difficult decision to resort to out-of-home placement for the safety of Lanicia and the family.

Nada started running away at the age of 12. She had been placed in facilities in Duluth, Little Sands, Austin, and Backus, and she ran away from each of them. Each time, authorities were contacted.

Nada found her way to the Twin Cities metro area where she would hide out with family members, who would often assist in hiding her from law enforcement, social workers, and Monte himself. "As Native people, you do not know what kind of a response you are going to get when a daughter, or mother, or auntie, or grandmother goes missing. When you call law enforcement, a typical response is not much attention. They say, 'Oh, she'll come back. She is just on the run again. She is hanging out with family,' etc. Native families feel powerless."

Monte eventually found two organizations that took every call seriously: the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's Network and the Patty Wetterling Foundation. With their support, as well as the "brother/sisterhood" of public safety workers in the metro area, Monte was able to get help locating Nada — most of the time.

At the age of 14, Nada ran away from a home in St. Cloud. She connected with her biological mother in the Twin Cities area. Here, she began a life that is inconceivable to most. Nada's biological mother was a prostitute, and sex for survival was her life. The biological mother's pimp worked hard at advertising in the adult back pages of the dark internet and social media sites — "exploiting them and pimping them out as a mother/daughter twosome," Monte said.

Still, Monte didn't give up.

Almost every public safety responder Monte knew had a photo of Nada, and they looked for her. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's Network and the Patty Wetterling Foundation were looking for her as well. "These networks were my lifeline," Monte said. "They were tracking her whereabouts the best they could but could never get close."

After about a year and a half, everything went black. No more back pages. No more social media. No more postings for services from her. No more leads.

"Patty Wetterling called and said, 'When this happens, you better plan for a funeral.' I was waiting for the call to identify her body. The unfortunate fact is, most of the time, Native Americans gone missing are never found," Monte said.

Posters of Nada from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children were displayed all over the Twin Cities. Several more months went by with no sightings and no phone calls. Then one day, Monte got a call from the St. Paul police. They had a grainy surveillance photo from a flower shop that indicated a girl who could be Nada. "The flower shop worker called the police because of the poster she saw. The worker thought it could be Nada," Monte said.

Officers showed Nada's picture to a girl at a house they had been monitoring. She denied knowing anything about Nada,

**"SHE SAID TO ME, 'YOU KNOW, DAD, THE ONLY REASON I'M HERE AND ALIVE IS BECAUSE OF YOU. YOU ALWAYS HAD A WAY TO FIND ME. FOR EVERYTHING I DID, I WANTED YOU TO GIVE UP ON ME, BECAUSE EVERYONE ELSE ALWAYS GAVE UP ON ME. BUT YOU AND MOM NEVER DID.'"**

but they could tell by her body language that something was up. The girl let them in, and one officer spotted a pair of shoes in a vertical position behind a curtain. A young girl was found and was taken into custody.

It was Nada. "I got my daughter back alive," Monte said.

That day was a turning point. Nada was 16 years old at the time and had been exploited for almost two years.

Monte and Jenn located a group home in Bemidji for older Native teen girls. Nada attended the ALC in Bemidji and did well. She also approached the School Resource Officer who had received extensive training from Corner House. The investigator brought Nada to Hope House, a sexual assault interviewing center set up for safety and trust. Nada spent the next day and half providing the full graphic details of her human trafficking life from the last two years. It's a report no father should ever have to read about his daughter.

When Nada turned 18, she returned to the Twin Cities. Nada had not finished high school, so she entered a program through Hennepin Technical College for adults 18-25 and completed her high school diploma requirements. "She was very proud of herself," Monte said. "She found a group of adults who were all survivors on life's cruel journeys, but they fit together and bonded. Nada felt like she belonged."

After graduation, Nada worked a few retail jobs and got an apartment. On her 20th birthday, Nada invited Monte to dinner. She had an insatiable love for food, and the two of them went to a restaurant and talked for hours. This was the first time they were able to talk as father and daughter.

"She said to me, 'You know, Dad, the only reason I am here and alive is because of you. You always had a way to find me. For everything I did, I wanted you to give up on me because everybody else always gave up on me. But you and mom never did.'"

Nada was on her own path now. At 21 years old, she landed a full-time job with a retirement package, full benefits, and a livable wage. She had one on-and-off-again relationship for three years, but her dark moments and lack of impulse control were eventually too difficult for Nada's boyfriend.

Nada moved to the Garden Gates apartment in Brooklyn Park. Neighbors reported that 23-year-old Cordell Alexander Page Jr. had been seen around Nada's apartment a few times.

Brooklyn Park Police were called to the apartment complex at about 6 a.m. on Wednesday, May 26, on a report of shots fired. Officers found evidence of gunshots through walls and tracked the shots to an apartment that had its door barricaded shut.

A SWAT team was at the scene for over two hours before entering the apartment and finding both Nada and Mr. Page dead inside, police said.

According to the Hennepin County Medical Examiner's Office, Nada died from multiple gunshot wounds, and Page died by suicide.

Monte then had to prepare Nada for her four-day spiritual journey. Nada's Ojibwe name is Aakwaadizi Neshkaadizhikidikwe, meaning she is a "fierce passionate woman" and she needed a strong ikwe to send her on her journey, Monte said. Baabitaw Boyd accepted asemaa to officiate the wake and funeral.



"The hardest calls I had to make were to her grandparents," Monte said. "How do you tell them their granddaughter has been murdered?"

The wake and funeral were on Memorial Day weekend, making it challenging for many who wanted to attend. "Still so many of my brothers and sisters in fire, EMS, and emergency management attend in uniform to support my family in our loss and to bring food to feed everyone each day," Monte said.

After Nada had gone on her journey, Monte went to the apartment where Nada had taken her last breath.

"We had done everything we could culturally. And then I went to her apartment. I saw the broken window where the SWAT team breached the apartment. I saw the bullet holes in the wall and the stain on the floor where she bled out. I needed to see the scene," Monte said. "In my field of work I have seen multiple crime scenes, but this was my own daughter. I need the final pieces. I gathered her belongings. I closed the door and walked away. I had closure."

All of the trauma she lived through would have plagued her for the rest of her life, Monte said. "As her story was being told, each of those traumas get washed away. She is at peace with her relatives now."

The constant thread woven into the fabric of Nada and Lanicia's lives was bound by undying love of family and a father who never gave up.

Monte was approached by advocates in MMIW who attended the wake and funeral wearing their red skirts. "They came to me in a good way asking me to tell my daughter's story so that her murder will not just be another statistic or a check in the box that occurs too often in Indian Country," Monte said.

Monte has become an advocate for MMIW and for missing children's networks nationwide. He has participated in national panel discussions and has spoken on radio and podcasts to bring awareness to MMIW. "When someone you love goes missing, it is a difficult path ahead. But never give up — until you know it is the end."



DEANGELO SAM

# FOLLOWING A MUSICAL VISION

By Brett Larson Inaajimowin Editor

Many people take years to find their passion and their goals, but DeAngelo Sam knew what he wanted when he was 12 years old. Since then, he's been learning and refining his craft while regularly releasing ("dropping," as the kids say) new songs on his SoundCloud page. At age 17 (as of August 15), he already has years of experience, learning, and growth as an artist under his belt.

DeAngelo was raised with rap music, thanks to his father, Robert Sam — a big fan of old school rap/hip-hop artists like Biggie, Tupac, Wu Tang Clan, Kid Cudi, and Kanye West.

"My dad is my biggest supporter," said DeAngelo — who goes by the name DeVibez. "He's been there for me since the beginning."

The beginning for DeAngelo came early.

"I was 12 when I was listening to a song, and I had the idea that I wanted to make music, wear the rapper chains," he said. "I was scared to write music, but I'd write down two little bars and think, 'That's cool! It rhymed! I didn't think anything of it, but as soon as I hit 13, I said 'I'm gonna start taking this seriously now.' I was dedicated."

He started writing lyrics and sending them to friends who would suggest beats. It was rough at first, but he got better with time. "Being 12 to 14 years old making music, I didn't know how to rap on beat," he said. "I would listen to rappers, try to get flows, the cadences. I'm still new to it, but I've started getting used to it."

His first single, 15 Years, dropped on his 15th birthday and tells the sometimes sad story of his life up until then. A year later, he released a mixtape, then an EP, then an album, and another album, and another.

He's had some successes and some setbacks along the way, but with every project, he takes another step toward his dream. One change in direction came after a conversation with Ace Collie, the Parent Coordinator at Nay Ah Shing. "He told me to create my own lane, so I took that as something I needed to focus on. Ace said all that rapping about guns and drugs, that's lame. At first, I wanted to hop on that wave, but when I listened back to my old songs, I thought, 'This don't sound right,' so I deleted all my old songs."

His second album, "A @\$%&!-ed-up Love Story 2" was a high point. It continues a story of love and heartbreak that he started on his first album. "The whole experience was to



be something more than a rapper," he said. I wanted to be known as an artist. Kanye, T-Pain, Kid Cudi, early 2000s rap, that's what inspired the album. When I dropped the album, everybody loved it."

Now he has dozens of songs on his SoundCloud page and dozens more in progress.

His favorite at the moment is called "Hood Love," with the refrain, "That's how it go, the hood don't love you for no reason." He raps about young kids getting mixed up with drugs and gangs, and how the end of the story is often violence and death.

"People think the hood loves you, but it keeps you away from your dreams," he said.

His first recordings were done in a studio in St. Cloud, but now DeAngelo does his own recording and mixing. Lately, DeAngelo has been branching out into R&B, and he plans to start creating his own beats.

Some of his songs are under his DeVibez name, and others are created with the help of two friends, Seth Benjamin and Jarshawn Machen. His first group was called YMTS and his current group is FTR, which stands for "for the real."

They're working on an album called "Street Prayers, Volume 1." He says it's taking him out of his comfort zone. "It's something for people to relate to, real life situations, like being broke, living off percap, having to pawn everything to pay the rent, moving house to house. I think it's gonna boost all of us up as artists."

For DeAngelo, it's not just fun and games, but work. He'll stay up until the middle of the night recording songs. "It's not a two or three-hour journey to make music," he said. "It takes all night to record something. Sometimes it's one take, sometimes 3, 4, 5, 6 takes. I'll listen to it and save it if it's good, or do it over again until it's perfect."

DeAngelo's own words are the best summary of his work as an artist.

On his first SoundCloud page, where he dropped 15 Years, DeAngelo says, "I'm a young Native American repping my nation in high school...a local hip hop artist looking for a living for my passion to make music."

On his new page, FTR DeVibe\$, he says, "I'm just here to make music and gain fans. Life's not about the money but the people that care for you and love you."

## YOUTH SPORTS CONTINUE IN AUGUST

Band youth have enjoyed a host of fun sporting events this summer with the Ge-Niigaanizijig youth program, with more to come in August. For softball, basketball, and kickball, grades K-2 play from 5:30 to 6 p.m.; grades 3-6 from 6 to 7 p.m.; grades 7-12 from 7 to 8 p.m.

August 2: Golf at Grand National Golf Course in Hinckley.

August 3: Basketball in District I; Football skills camp in District I, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

August 4: Kickball family league in District III.

August 5: Football skills camp in District III, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

August 7: End of year softball tournament in District III, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

August 9: Golf at GNGC; basketball camp in District I, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

August 10: ND24 basketball camp in District I, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

August 11: Volleyball skills camp in District III, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

August 12: Volleyball skills camp in District I, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

August 13: End of year basketball tournament in District I, 5:30-8 p.m.

August 14: End of year kickball tournament, staff vs. students in District I, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

August 16: Golf league at GNGC.

For more information, contact Tim at 320-339-6199 or [taggert@millelacsband.com](mailto:taggert@millelacsband.com).

A sports waiver and registration form are required for all students. You can access the form using the QR code above.

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







William Premo, Byron Ninham, and Shirley Boyd are three of the "stars" of Rosetta Stone videos shot last month.

# ROSETTA STONE READIES FOR LAUNCH

*Film crew puts final touches on level 1, due out in October*

By Amikogaabawiikwe (Adrienne Benjamin)

Mille Lacs Band Member

The Mille Lacs Band Aanjiibimaadizing/Rosetta Stone project began filming in Neyaashiing (District I) on Friday, June 25, with a series of scenes shot in different community locations. There were scenes at Neyaashiing High School with adult community member extras portraying an Ojibwe language class, scenes with teenage community members in a school setting, and a sweet scene filmed at Neyaashiing Abinoojiiyag focusing on the sewing of ceremonial dancehall quilts.

Several Band members have starring roles, including Jaeden King, Shirley Boyd, and Willie Premo. Other Band members are featured in cameos throughout this production including Melissa Boyd, Bradley Harrington Jr., Darcie Big Bear, Amanda Nickaboine-Meyer, Carrie Sam, and Jason Sam.

The filming is directed by David Wingfield of Rosetta Stone. Red Circle Agency (owned by Band member Chad Germann) led production, with the help of Executive Producer and Minnesota photographer/videographer Bob Pearl. The Assistant Producer for this project is Adrienne Benjamin. Chato Gonzalez is the lead Ojibwe language expert assisting Rosetta Stone on the project.

The concept of the filming is to create curriculum using Rosetta Stone's tried and true methods for language learning. Today's technology helps greatly in language acquisition, and both the Mille Lacs Band Aanjiibimaadizing program and Rosetta Stone are eagerly anticipating the end result. The language-learning program will include situational storytelling with actors depicting different scenes and aspects of life as

we know it as Anishinaabeg.

The second week of filming took place at Big Sandy Lodge in District II with many "home" scenes shot in one of the cabins at the resort. Some of the scenes included a first deer ceremony, youth ricing, and a family dinner. Nay Ah Shing Schools Assistant Principal Byron Ninham, who has a starring role in the project, enjoyed the experience.

"When I think about the lasting impact that this project is going to have on the Ojibwe language, it makes me emotional," said Byron. "I feel like we are doing the work that so many others before us set out to do, and that is to preserve, revitalize, and to continue speaking our languages. I feel honored and blessed to be a part of something so special and vital." The project also features Hannah Orie, Preston Sullivan, and Ava Pettibone in starring roles.

Many laughs were shared between shots, and there were plenty of behind-the-scenes shenanigans enjoyed by the crew. Aside from curriculum filming, there will be behind-the-scenes footage featuring interviews with the wise and wonderful Elders that we are blessed to have involved with this project.

The Aanjiibimaadizing/Rosetta Stone partnership will continue for six years, as six levels of the learning program are developed. Level 1 is due out in October.

More filming is scheduled for the upcoming months, starting as early as September 2021. The upcoming production will feature the traditional processes of ricing, including parching, winnowing, and jigging. Stay tuned to the *Inaajimowin* for the latest updates and behind-the-scenes photos of the production!



## EDUCATION BRIEFS

### NATIVE FITNESS INSTRUCTOR TRAINING

The Native American Fitness Council will offer Native American Fitness Certification in Hinckley from August 23 to 27.

NAFC empowers Native Americans — youth, adults, and Elders — to improve their fitness through a variety of cutting-edge programs. The program builds confidence in everyone who attends, including those with physical limitations and emotional obstacles.

All programs are motivational. Highly skilled instructors use hands-on practice, storytelling, simple language, and visual demonstrations to teach fitness principles. These same principles have been used successfully with top fitness companies, Olympic athletes, and professional sports teams.

Cost for personal trainer certification is \$645 and for functional exercise trainer is \$445. Receive both certifications for \$955. Sponsored by the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe.

Download registration, agendas, and travel info at [www.nativeamericanfitnesscouncil.com/trainings.html](http://www.nativeamericanfitnesscouncil.com/trainings.html).

### FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR TEACHER TRAINEES

The Miskwaadesi Partnership is an alliance between Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College and two tribal Head Starts, Fond du Lac and Mille Lacs Early Education, through the Administration of Children and Families, Office of Head Start.

Students pursuing a Child Development Certificate, Diploma, AS, or AAS Degree are eligible for stipends.

For more information, contact Alyxis Feltus at 218-879-0715 or [alyxis.feltus@fdltcc.edu](mailto:alyxis.feltus@fdltcc.edu) or Govinda Budrow at [govinda.budrow@fdltcc.edu](mailto:govinda.budrow@fdltcc.edu).

### SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM NOW PROCESSING FUNDING

The Mille Lacs Band Scholarship Program has started processing funding for the Fall 2021 term. Students need to remember that Scholarship Program applications are due every fall. Returning students will also need to submit grades from their previous term.

Along with the application, Michele needs a copy of the student's class schedule that shows credit load and a bill for tuition that indicates student ID numbers and remittance information.

Also note: FAFSA funding is a requirement for all students taking 12 credits or more per term, and there are deadlines to keep in mind. See [studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/afsa](http://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/afsa) for more information.

The Scholarship Office has additional resources for tribal members and descendants as well, and students/parents can still reach Michele easiest via email at [mlb.scholarships@millelacsband.com](mailto:mlb.scholarships@millelacsband.com).

Michele will also return calls if voicemail messages are left at 1-800-709-6445, ext. 4775.

Make sure your address is up to date with Enrollments and OMB. The Scholarship Office has had mail returned, including GED/HD academic achievement awards.

Send your news tips to [news@millelacsband.com](mailto:news@millelacsband.com).

# HEALING CIRCLE RUN

# HEALING CIRCLE, TALKING CIRCLE

The Mille Lacs Band's leg of the 2021 Healing Circle Run began at Meshakwad Community Center at 1 p.m. on July 15 with lunch and a talking circle led by Terry Kemper of the Department of Natural Resources.

Runners, walkers, and guests, including residents at Four Winds Lodge, were welcomed by Director of Resource Management Kelly Applegate and Assistant Commissioner of Administration Maria Costello, who is overseeing the DNR in the absence of a commissioner.

Kelly talked about the origin of the Healing Circle Run as a way to heal from the negativity and racism that accompanied the treaty rights battles in Wisconsin in the 1980s and Minnesota in the 1990s.

"This is a way to remember and continue to heal," said Kelly. "To say 'We're here, we're on this land, we're strong, and we're always gonna be here.'"

Harvey Goodsky, who also works for the DNR, shared a hand-drum song.

Terry, the DNR's Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, spoke eloquently of the Anishinaabe tradition of running. Runners had a crucial role as messengers — *michitweg* — between communities bringing requests for help and news of important events.

He celebrated the growing participation in traditions and ceremonies that he has witnessed but added that Anishinaabe also need to spend time in nature. He encouraged runners and walkers to talk to the trees and the birds along their way.

As the talking circle commenced, many spoke from the heart about their struggles with addiction and their journeys toward healing.

## Healing Circle Run history

The Healing Circle Run began in 2001, following the path of the 1989 and 1990 Anishinaabe Solidarity Relays.

The run also evolved in part as a response to the runners' pipe given to the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) after the Waabanong Run, which went from Lac du Flambeau to the Supreme Court building in Washington, DC, in support of the Mille Lacs Band's treaty rights case. The pipe was given to GLIFWC by Tobasonakwut Kinew, Elder and spiritual leader from Ojibways of Onigaming, Ontario, Canada.

One of the runners on the 2021 Mille Lacs leg, which went from Hinckley to Danbury, Wisconsin, was Sharalane Staples-Skinaway, whose grandmother, Eva Connor, ran in the first Anishinaabe Solidarity Relay in 1989. A GLIFWC publication describes Eva's run: "At another juncture in the relay, an elder from St. Croix and a core team member Eva Connor faced a stiff upward climb during her leg. Others offered to do the leg for her, Ernie (St. Germaine) said. But Eva refused the relief. As a gesture of support, the entire team ran with her on the uphill trek. At the top of the hill, Ernie sang an Honor Song recognizing her effort."

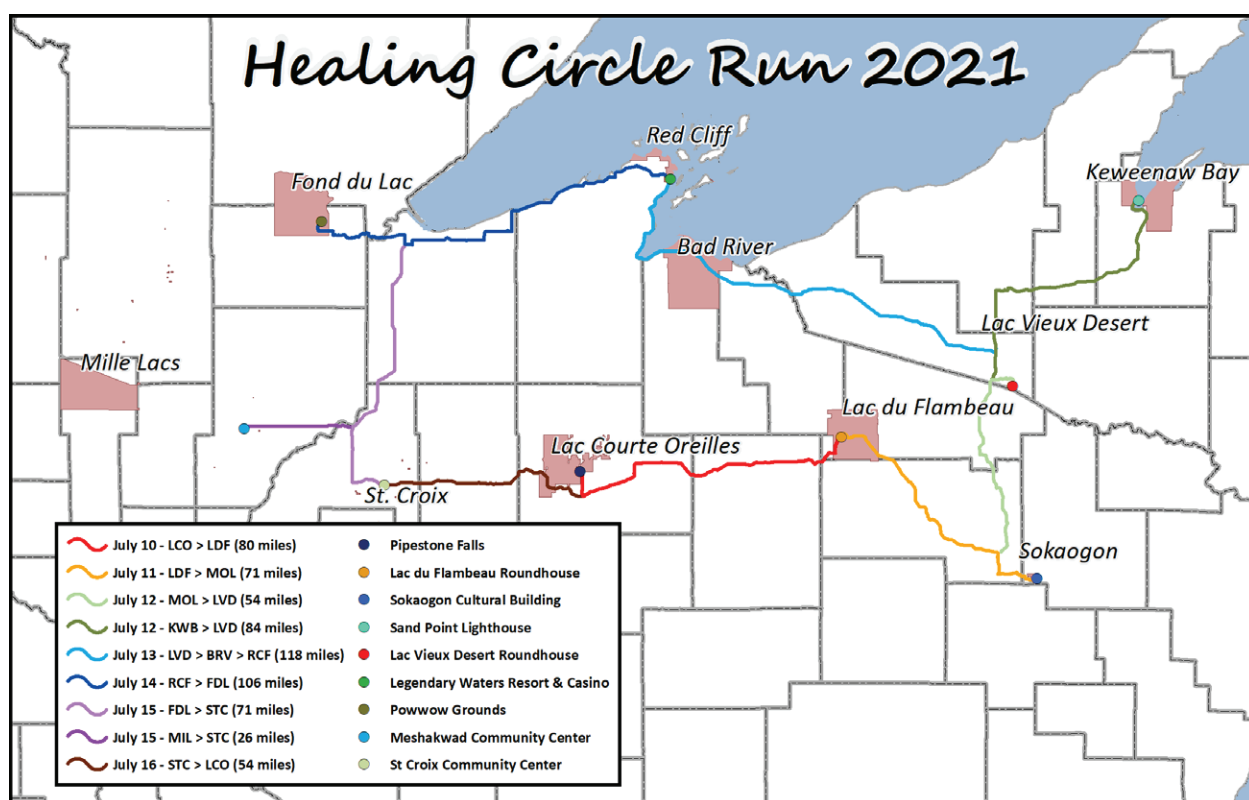
On her Facebook page, Sharalane recalled her grandma's feat: "Healing run here I come with Eva Connor's spirit running through my veins, give me strength Grandma!"



Sharalane Staples-Skinaway



Above: Some of the runners, walkers, and support staff for the Hinckley-to-Danbury leg of the 2021 Healing Circle Run. Below, clockwise from top left: Adriana and Monica Benjamin, Tim Taggart and Cayman Audie, Jamal Baird and Clarissa Wilson, Carl Klimah, LeRoy Day, Jalyn LaBine, Steven Aubid.



## HEALING CIRCLE RUN

The Healing Circle Run is a prayer for healing that has taken place since 2001. It is an opportunity to pray for healing for ourselves, our families, our communities, our nation, Aki, and all our relatives. This 7-day run connects 10 tribal nations throughout the Ojibwe Ceded Territory. This year's Healing Circle Run took place from July 10–16 and included a 26-mile run from Hinckley to St. Croix on July 15.



### POP-UP POWWOW — THE SEQUEL

Not to be outdone by District III Representative Wally St. John, who hosted a "popup powwow" June 16, District I Representative Virgil Wind followed suit on July 14 with a powwow at the new District I Community Center. Despite the short notice, turnout was high, with over 400 in attendance. Dinner was served by Smoke Lodge BBQ, and invited drums were Little Otter, Timber Trails, Vineland Singers, and Pipestone. The emcee was Deanna StandingCloud. Head Dancers were Luther Sam and Darcie Big Bear. "Thank you all for coming out and for making tonight's event such a success," said Virgil. "It was a great way to break in the new center — the first of many." He thanked the Legislative staff, his family, dancers, drums, volunteers, and former elected officials and staff who brought the new community center project to fruition. Photos by Mille Lacs Band member Aiyanna Mitchell.



**Host Drums**  
PIPESTONE & RED WILLOW

**VETERAN'S FAMILY FLAG RAISING,**  
FRIDAY, 5 P.M.  
WILL BE FLOWEN  
ALL WEEKEND.

**ISKIGAMIZIGAN**  
Est. 1966

**MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE**

**WELCOMES YOU!** **TO OUR** **55<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL TRADITIONAL POWWOW**

**AUGUST 20, 21 & 22, 2021**

**GRAND ENTRY**  
FRIDAY 7 P.M.  
SATURDAY 1 P.M. & 7 P.M.  
SUNDAY 1 P.M.

**EMCEE'S**  
"NAZHIKE"  
BRAD HARRINGTON MLB  
"MIGIZI"  
MIKE SULLIVAN LCO

**AREA DIRECTORS**  
DEAN SMALLWOOD MLB  
DUCK WHITE LCO

**SATURDAY MID MORNING**  
• PARADE  
• REZ CAR  
• HORSESHOE  
• MOCCASIN GAMES

**POWWOW COMMITTEE SPECIALS**  
WOMEN'S  
OLD STYLE JINGLE DRESS  
MEN'S  
WOODLAND STYLE

**ALL DANCERS MUST BE IN APPROPRIATE REGALIA AT EACH GRAND ENTRY AND EXHIBITIONS, IN ORDER TO BE PAID**

**NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS FOR LOST/STOLEN ITEMS.**  
**NO ALCOHOL, DRUGS, OR FIREWORKS ALLOWED!**  
**SECURITY & MEDICAL STAFF ON PREMISES**

**FREE:**  
ADMISSION, CAMPING,  
SHOWERS, & FIREWOOD  
**OFF-SITE FIREWOOD PROHIBITED**

**ISKIGAMIZIGAN POWWOW GROUNDS**  
WEST SIDE OF LAKE MILLE LACS  
12 MILES NORTH OF ONAMIA, MN AND NORTH OF GRAND CASINO ON HIGHWAY 169, FOLLOW SIGNS!

**PUBLIC WELCOME!**

**Don't drink, begone drink!**

# MIIGIWE — SHARING

This article was originally published in the June 2002 issue of *Ojibwe Inaajimowin*.

By a Mille Lacs Band Elder

## Miigiwe

Gaawin wiikaa gii kashka kwa ige siin Anishinaabe. Ayaan na gad igo gaa onji gash ka kwa ige sigwa Anishinaabeg.

Nitam, odish kwaandem mii etago giiki baa bii gagodenig odish kwaandem. Awe sii wayaanan giiki bagojige odish kwaandem ming, nomaya wiin inendaa gwadinig begiwayaa niiga dinig ogii aabaji toon. Gaa onji gibii giniged jida kaa sinzi noog miinawaa anooj awesii yag, ji biindi gesigwaa.

Bebii wizhii yijig awesii yag biigwanji gewag, miinawaa dash miigo gaakina Anishinaabeg naa saab gego eyaamo waad gaawin dash memwech gego gegi modimin diban miinawaa dash awiya gegoo wii aabaji tood miigo ezhi awi aazod. Aanind iko ge goo mamowaad ogii nagadaan gegoo mesh kwaj gemaa gaye ingoding bi izhaa bimiiigwe chi iwed dibaa ji mod gamamod.

Ingiw gaye bwayaa na wi ojig, gaye awiya zhii ga wid. Chi aya aag gaye miigo gakina giapa gi zo waad waad wiido kazo waad awiya ji mane zisigwaa, gaawin gaye abinojiyag wiika giwaashi zii wag migo odina we magani waan giipiindi gani gowaad giini taa wi gi igo waad miina waa aw zhagga wid gi-wiido ka waa nita wi gi aad onijja nisan gaawin memwech giiti ba igesiin waado kawind.

Miinawaa dash giiaaang awiya ge bana dadinig jibwaa abaji tood miigo gazhi bima okiid jibwa banada dinig, giishpin gegoo bannada dinig me gwayaak ogii izhi wodoon awesii yag, bine shiyag ji miiji waad. Giwii doko dadi Anishinaabe.

## Sharing

The Anishinaabe people never had locks on their doors. There are several reasons why there were no locks.

First, on wigwams, the doors were made with only a flap made from animal hides, or in more recent times flaps were made from canvas or old blankets. These were only to keep out the cold and keep small animals out. When people were gone, the door flaps were weighted down so the wind wouldn't blow them open.

Secondly, people didn't have any more than other people had, so there was nothing to steal. And other people were welcome to use whatever they needed. Most of the time, whoever took something from these homes either left something of equal value or later returned with a thank you.

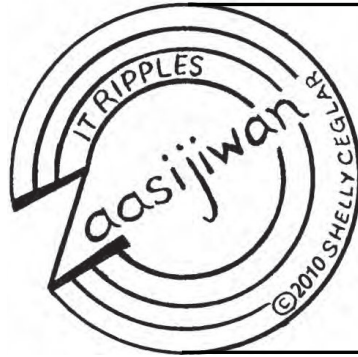
Disabled people, Elders, and widows were provided for. There were no orphans. If children lost their parents, they were taken in by relatives. If they lost one parent, the remaining parent never lacked for help raising the children, volunteers helped.

If a person had perishables he could not use before spoiling, he gave them away, and any unusable food was taken into the forest for animals or birds to eat. Everything was shared.



## SUMMER SPLASH

Richard Vanwert and his family enjoyed cooling off on a hot day last month at the Meshakwad Community Center splash park.



# Niibing—When it is Summer

Niibing, izhaa zaaga'iganing. Aanjigozi i'iw niibino-gabeshiwining. Gabeshi. Onaagoshing boodawe. Waabang, goshkozi. Jiimaaning giigooyike. Naawakweg, noodin, izhi-mawinzo. Abwe, wiisiniwin. Mawadisidiwag omaamaa dash wiin. Niimi'idiwin o'ow. Miish niimid idash nagamod. Ayaan ziiabaaska'iganagoode. Ayaan bimoonjigan. Mino-bimaadiziwin. Gakina-awiiya ayaawag imaa.

(When it is summer, s/he goes to the lake. S/he moves to that summer-camp. S/he camps. In the evening s/he builds a fire. At dawn, s/he wakes up. In the canoe, s/he goes fishing. At noon, it is windy, thusly s/he picks berries. S/he cooks on a fire, food. They visit with each other, him/her mother and him/her. This is a traditional dance. And thusly s/he dances and s/he sings. She has a jingle dress. He has a dance bustle. The Good Life. Everyone they are there.)

### Bezhiq—1

#### OJIBWEMOWIN (Ojibwe Language)

Double vowel system of writing Ojibwemowin.

— Long vowels: AA, E, II, OO

Waabooz—as in father

Miigwech—as in jay

Aaniin—as in seen

Mooz—as in moon

— Short Vowels: A, I, O

Dash—as in about

Ingiw—as in tin

Niizho—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.

#### "She/He" VAls—Verbs, Animate, Intransitive

Verbs do not take an object. Conjugate from root.

Gwaashwani.—S/he jumps.

Ningwaashwanimin.—We jump.

Gwaashwaniwag.—They jump.

Bagizo.—S/he swims.

Nimbagizomin.—We; Bagizowag. They

Agomo.—S/he floats. Nindagomomin.—We float.

Agomowag.—They float. Googii.—S/he dives.

Ningoojimin.—We dive. Googiiwag.—They dive.

Dakwanjige.—S/he bites. Aamiwag.—They spawn.

Miigaazo.—S/he fights.

### Niizh—2

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

A. Aamoog, Eya', makadewiziwag idaaah waabishkiziwag.

B. Ezigaag. Babaamoodewag idash dakwangewag.

C. Oboodashkwaanishiiyag, odamwaawaan zagimen.

D. Ojiiig, Babaamisewag, Mindigowag, Gaye agaashiiniyiwag.

E. Inashke! Zagimeg dakwangewag. Gaawin ninzaagi'asiig zagimeg.

F. Asabikeshiiyag bi-izhaawag dash namadabiwag.

G. Giigooyag ozaagi'aawaan iniw moosen.

O A E B  
O J M Y C A  
E Z I G A A G  
A A N I A ' D F  
G I D N G S O E G  
B I I Z H A A W A G  
O P G I I G O O Y A G  
M O O S E N A A E Z H I  
H B W J A Z K O O I L I  
A A A M O O G I D A S H  
I N G G I N O B M T ' O

### Niswi—3

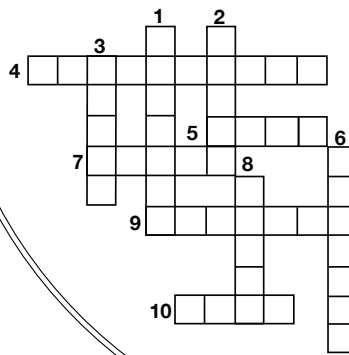
#### IKIDOWIN ODAMINOWIN (word play)

#### Down:

- S/he builds a fire.
- S/he has it.
- S/he goes.
- mosquitoes
- S/he floats.

#### Across:

- S/he fishes.
- S/he cooks on a fire.
- S/he has it.
- woodticks
- this (inanimate thing)



### Niiwin—4

#### Giigooyike.—S/he fishes.

Walleye (s)—Oгаа (wag)

Sturgeon (s)—Name (wag)

Northern Pike (s)—Ginoozhe (g)

Sunfish (pl.)—Agwadaashi (wag)

Crappie (s)—Gidagagwadaashi (wag)

Perch (pl.)—Asaawe (g)

Whitefish (pl.)—Adikameg (wag)

Bass (pl.)—Ashigan (ag)

Bullhead (s)—Awaazisii (g)

Sucker (s)—Namebin (ag)

#### Goojitoon! Try it!

Translation below.

- Ginoozhi \_\_\_\_\_ miigaazowag debibinadwa jiimaaning.
- Namewag googii \_\_\_\_\_ zegiziwaad idash bakadewaad.
- \_\_\_\_\_ gwaashwani \_\_\_\_\_ idash gwaashwaniwag debibinadwa ingiw agwadaashiwag.
- \_\_\_\_\_ bagizo \_\_\_\_\_ zaaga'iganing. Aabawaa na?
- Ashigan \_\_\_\_\_ aamiwag jiigibiig ziiwang.

#### Translations:

**Niizh—2** A. Bees. Yes, they are black and they are white. B. Woodticks. They crawl and they bite people. C. Dragonflies they eat them mosquitoes. D. Flies. They fly about. They are big. Also they are small. E. Look! Mosquitoes they are biting people. I do not like mosquitoes. F. Spiders they come and they sit. G. Fish they love them those worms.

**Niswi—3** Down: 1. Bookawe 2. Ayaan 3. Izhaa 6. Zagimeg 8. Agomo Across: 4. Giigooyke 5. Abwe 7. Ayaan 9. Ezigaag 10. O'ow

**Niiwin—4** 1. Northern Pikes (g) they fight when you catch them in the boat/canoe. 2. Sturgeon they dive (-wag) when they are scared and when they are hungry. 3. We jump (Nin-...-min) and they jump when we catch them those bass. 4. We swim (Nim-...-min) in the lake. Is it warm weather? 5. Bass (pl.) they spawn by the shore when it is spring.

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](mailto:pio@glifwc.org).

Originally published in *Mazina'igan* Spring/Summer 2011. Reprinted by permission. Miigwech to GLIFWC and Shelly Ceglar.



## BECOME A LIFEGUARD!

Lifeguard skills training will be offered from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. August 10, 11, and 12, at the District I Aquatic Fitness Center Pool.

Upon successful completion, students will receive Life Guard certification through the American Red Cross.

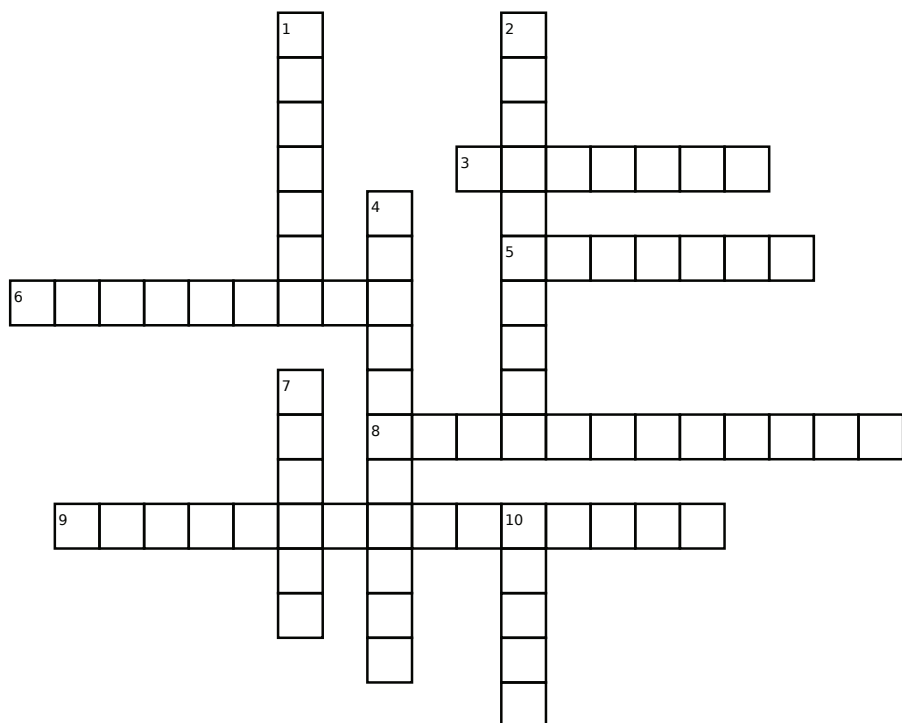
Pre-requisites: Must be 15 years old by the last day of class; be able to swim; be able to tread water; retrieve object from 7'-10' deep.

Cost: \$35. Free for Aanjibimaadizing Clients. Ask about applying when you register!

For more information or to register, contact Karen at 320-362-4139 (call or text) or [karen.pagnac@millelacsband.com](mailto:karen.pagnac@millelacsband.com).

# AAZHAWAAKWASING MANOOMINIKE-GIIZIS

By Nazhike Mille Lacs Band Member



## Down:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ = it is night.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ = I want to sleep.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ ina? = Do you hear h/her?
7. \_\_\_\_\_ nibaayaan. = While I was sleeping.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ = S/he is sleeping.

## Across

3. \_\_\_\_\_ = When it is night.
5. \_\_\_\_\_! = Hear H/her!
6. \_\_\_\_\_! = See it!
8. \_\_\_\_\_ i'iw babagiwayaan. = I see the shirt.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ ina i'iw babagiwayaan? = Did you see that shirt?

## CULTURE COLUMN CONNECTION

By Nazhike

Mille Lacs Band Member

As Anishinaabe, keeping a connection is fundamental in preserving language, customs, and teachings. It keeps us culturally aware and able to maintain understanding.

But what about different teachings? Find the roots. Things that seem a lil off usually are, and they tend to have a colonial essence to it.

It is a way of adapting. They are also physical actions to represent spiritual energy.

This is where Anishinaabe have held roots. Gifts and offerings may have changed, but the energy can still be transferred. Transfer is a keyword. It shall go somewhere. Albeit that you can transfer energy on your own behalf by offering your asemaa, growing your connection.

In a ceremony, there is a reliance on your fellow Anishinaabe to help you out. You find someone that gives a name, sends tobacco on your behalf, and so on. Of course, when our recent ancestors had to hide our way of life, the amount of people seemingly able to do such things shrunk. Our ancestors fully relied on one another to help with transferring spiritual energy. Everybody had the ability to give names because everybody went through cultural protocols to achieve the ability. They were connected. They were connected culturally, spiritually, and relied on each other's physical existence to assist with such matters.

Nowadays, you will see the different adaptations. Different



ways of naming, different ways of making offerings, different ways to hold sweatlodge. What I have noticed is that there are nuances particular to different teachings. Some shinaabe have diverted from our teachings and taken on others, some have a small amount and hold them dear, while others completely have a void through relocation, oppression, and all the above.

I do encourage those that know some to share what they know. Our ancestors have embedded teachings in all of us that when put together would build the cultural understanding many of us seek. There are caveats and misnomers to keep in mind, though. Some teachings were made due to complete void, and some were made to adapt, while others were made to bring relevance to an individual. If a teaching is without a reliance on others or of service to others, it may have been an adaptive measure.

The one thing that seems to be exemplified is the use of the language. The Ojibwe Language must be used in all ceremonies. That is a constant throughout all areas. I believe this is so because the language is not man-made. There is nothing else that can replace it. Like having a deer feast but using chicken instead. It does not quite meet the necessary requirements. Nothing can replace the language, and it is a fundamental component to ceremonies.

Connection. Our connection is due to our reliance on one another to help each other. To help us stay connected, to be aware, to maintain cultural understanding. Which is why we are communal people. Communal people keep each other in mind. As communal people, we can use the language to keep each other culturally competent and spiritually connected.

## GIDINWEWINAAN — OUR WAY OF SOUND

By Nazhike Mille Lacs Band Member

As we keep practicing our pronunciation, our face may feel weird. This is our facial muscles telling our brain that we are not using the normal syllable combinations and to correct it.

There will also be what is called "blood memory," where our DNA remembers past events to keep us safe today. Our blood memories from the boarding school era have hindered the generations since to believe that our language is unsafe, inadequate, and should be avoided.

As we learn, identifying our intergenerational trauma will help in a few ways. It will help us learn Ojibwe but also help us avoid passing those traumas to our future ancestors.

Keep practicing! Our collective Spirit, Bimaadiziwin, depends on it!

Nibaa = S/he is sleeping (Nib bah)

Niwii-nibaa = I want to sleep (Nih wee nib bah)

Noondaw = Hear H/her (Noon dow)

Ginoondawaa ina? = Do you hear h/her? (Gih noon dow in nuh)

Waabandan = See it! (Wah bun dun)

Niwaabandaan i'iw babagiwayaan. = I see the shirt. (Nih wah bun dawn ih' ew bub bug gih wuh yawn)

Dibikad = It is night. (Dib bik kud)

Dibikak. = When it is night. (Dib bik kuk)

Gigii-waabandaan ina i'iw babagiwayaan? = Did you see that shirt? (Gih wah bun dawn in nuh ih' ew bub bug gih wuh yawn)

Megwaa nibaayaan. = While I was sleeping. (May gwah nib bah yawn)

Utilizing Ojibwemowin assists with spiritual healing and powers up future generations. Miigwech.

*You can hear many words and sentences pronounced by native speakers at [ojibwe.lib.umn.edu](http://ojibwe.lib.umn.edu), including the following:*

Gichi-noonde-nibaayaan gaa-izhi-gawishimoyaan wii-nibaayaan. *I was so sleepy I lay down to go to sleep.*

Gaawin aapiji gii-nibaasii dibikong gaa-onji-noondeshing i'iw ezhichigepan. *He didn't sleep much last night so that's why he couldn't go on with what he was doing.*

Awasigakiiw gidaa-ani-nibaamin. *We can go sleep on the other side of the portage.*

Gaa-naningowed igo naa 'a nebaad. Ganabaj maanaabandam. *The sleeper is whimpering and sobbing. I think he's having a bad dream.*

Ani-dibikad. Waasakonebidoon i'iw waasakonenjigan. *It's getting dark. Turn the lamp on.*

Onjida go gotaaji awe abinoonjii dibikadinig. *That child is naturally scared of the night.*

Giwii'-awi-ganawaabamaag ina giin gaa-wii-kagwejiwaanidiwaad noongom gaa-dibikak. *Are you going to go watch the wrestling tonight?*

Ogii-minwaabandaanaawaa gaa-waabandamowaad iwe gichi-mandaamini-gitigaan. *They liked the huge cornfield they saw.*

Wegonen gaa-pi-waabandaman gii-bi-bimibizoyan. *What did you see on your drive here?*



Drone footage of Lake Ogechie shows extensive growth of manoomin since the Buck Moore dam was removed in 2015.

## MANOOMINIKE

# OGECHIE RICE IS READY FOR HARVEST

*DNR will host manoomin meeting August 6 at District I powwow grounds*

Five years ago the Mille Lacs Band Department of Natural Resources (MLBDNR) along with Kathio State Park and other stakeholders completed the Ogechie manoomin restoration project. This project lowered the Ogechie Lake level in hopes that the sacred manoomin would restore itself. This year the Mille Lacs Band plans to once again declare Ogechie Lake open for Manoomin harvest after 5 decades of closure.

“This is a joyous time for our people, coming off the pandemic year, raging gas prices, and rising food costs, our people can celebrate the return of our most precious food source — manoomin,” said Maria Costello, Assistant Commissioner of Administration.

This year the manoomin beds on Onamia and Ogechie Lakes appear to be plentiful and in some areas even ahead of schedule. The Mille Lacs Band DNR as well as the Mille Lacs Band Manoomin Ogimaa has in the past declared Lake Onamia open for harvesters on August 15 to coincide with the statewide opening date.

The DNR and community members will meet on August 6 at 2 p.m. at the District I Ishkigamizigan grounds to discuss this upcoming Lake Onamia and Lake Ogechie Manoomin season, as well as other related topics such as the Swamp Lake project and the status of Dean Lake, Mallard Lake and other Manoomin water bodies.

**Swamp Lake project update:** Spring 2021 the Minnesota DNR cleared out large chunks of bog and other vegetation from the outlet of Swamp Lake in hopes that the lake level would drop to support the growth of manoomin, which will be closely monitored in the upcoming years.

**Dean Lake:** The Manoomin looks healthy and abundant, the water levels are low and the water is accessible from the

MLBDNR maintained dock.

**Mallard Lake:** The Manoomin looks healthy and abundant, the water levels are low and the water is accessible from the MLBDNR maintained dock.

**Onamia Lake:** Manoomin is bountiful; water level is low at the MLBDNR maintained access at the Conservation Officers old headquarters so please use the MNDNR access on the south end or the MLBDNR maintained dock at the end of Emmons Road.

**Minnewawa Lake:** Manoomin is abundant, and the lake can be accessed from the MLBDNR dock at the Minnewawa landing. MLBDNR also maintains landings at Flowage Lake and Sandy River Lake.

For Manoomin harvest permits and information, please contact Mille Lacs Band Department of Natural Resources Licensor offices:

District I — Leroy Day 320-532-7896

District II — Steven Aubid 218-768-5316

District III — Vanessa Gibbs 320-384-3230

### Buck Moore Dam history

In 1950, Mille Lacs Band Chairman Fred Sam expressed fears that the rice crop on Lake Ogechie would be destroyed by the construction of a concrete dam downstream from the lake. The dam was built anyway, and Sam’s fears were realized, as wild rice was almost completely eradicated from the lake.

During the summer and fall of 2015, Landwehr Construction of St. Cloud removed three feet from the Buck Moore Dam in Mille Lacs Kathio State Park. As a result, the lake level was lowered by three feet, bringing it back to its natural level and creating the right conditions for wild rice production.

## LINE 3

# BAND BRINGS LINE 3 APPEAL TO STATE SUPREME COURT

*Petition comes after June 14 Court of Appeals decision*

While the opposition to the Line 3 pipeline has faced setbacks in recent weeks, the Mille Lacs Band continues to work through the courts to fight the project, which would carry oil from Canada’s tar sands through Minnesota to Superior, Wisconsin.

Most recently, the Band appealed the adequacy of the environmental review (which the Band asserts does not adequately address the potential impacts on Lake Superior) and the order by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) granting the route permit. On June 14, the Minnesota Court of Appeals issued an order affirming the PUC’s approval of the environmental review and the orders granting the Certificate of Need and Route Permit for the Line 3 Project.

Following the ruling, the Mille Lacs Band and several other parties (White Earth Nation, Red Lake Band, Honor the Earth, Friends of the Headwaters, and Youth Climate Intervenors) petitioned the Minnesota Supreme Court to review the case. The Minnesota Department of Commerce, which had appealed the grant of the Certificate of Need, chose not to seek further review of the Court of Appeals decision.

The Band has been fighting the project for six years. In 2015, the Band retained the Minneapolis law firm Lockridge Grindal Nauen P.L.L.P. to represent the Band in connection with the Line 3 Project and the proposed Sandpiper Pipeline which would have followed the same route. Enbridge withdrew its application for the Sandpiper Pipeline in 2016 after acquiring a controlling interest in the Dakota Access Pipeline.

The Band was active in the environmental review process, the contested case hearing conducted by the Minnesota Office of Administrative Hearings, and the proceedings before the Public Utilities Commission. As a result of the Band’s efforts, the Commission required changes to the proposed route for the Line 3 project so that it no longer passes through the East Lake Community and near Big Sandy Lake. Instead, it continues to head east (north of East Lake and Big Sandy Lake) before turning southeast across the Fond du Lac Reservation.

In addition to the petition to the Minnesota Supreme Court, there are several other challenges to the Line 3 project.

First, several parties appealed the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency’s certification that the project would not violate the State’s water quality standards. This certification was required for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ permit approving the water crossings by the Line 3 project. This appeal was heard by the Minnesota Court of Appeals in early June, and a decision is expected by mid-September.

Second, the DNR recently approved a request from Enbridge to increase the water appropriations for the temporary dewatering for the line from 510 million gallons to up to 4.98 billion gallons. The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe recently submitted a letter objecting to this approval due to the potential impacts on wild rice stands and the local hydrology.

In June, President Biden’s Justice Department argued in a legal filing that the Army Corps of Engineers permitting process followed its legal obligations to consider the pipeline’s environmental impacts.

Enbridge said on July 20 that work on the final portion of the pipeline in Minnesota is 70 percent complete.

Also on July 20, seven women were zip-tied and arrested as they prayed at Shell River near Park Rapids while protesting the Line 3 project. Line 3 will cross under the Shell River in five places.

To date, over 500 people have been arrested expressing opposition to Line 3.

## MILLE LACS CONVENIENCE STORE CLOSURE

By Wewinabi, Inc.

Many industries have faced challenges since the COVID-19 pandemic. Wewinabi, Inc. and its businesses have felt an impact. We made the decision last April to close the Mille Lacs Convenience Store (Tesoro) and the Subway franchise to help mitigate the risk of the pandemic.

Unfortunately, due to regulatory concerns, which include EPA, and much-needed capital investments at the location, the risks of continuing to operate the Mille Lacs Convenience Store outweigh the rewards of reopening the location after the shutdown last year.

Wewinabi, Inc. has made the decision to temporarily close effective July 14, 2021. Mille Lacs Super Stop and Taco Johns are located only 4 miles further south for all your convenience store needs. It was our pleasure to serve our community with the Mille Lacs Convenience Store, and we look forward to continuing our work with the Mille Lacs Super Stop, the East Lake Convenience Store, and the Crossroads Convenience Store.

# Did You Know?

YOU MUST NOTIFY LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT BEFORE TAKING / POSSESSION OF A DECEASED ANIMAL. THE LOCAL AGENCY WILL MAKE DOCUMENTATION WHICH WILL REDUCE THE LIKELIHOOD OF SOMEONE BEING CITED OR CHARGED FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF AN ANIMAL.



MILLE LACS TRIBAL POLICE DISPATCH  
CAN BE REACHED AT  
320-532-3430.



INCIDENTS OUTSIDE THE MILLE LACS BAND RESERVATION AND WITHIN THE 1837 TREATY AREAS CAN BE MADE TO THE LOCAL SHERIFF'S OFFICE OR STATE DNR. FOR FURTHER QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT THE MILLE LACS BAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AT 320-532-7439.

## HEALTH BRIEFS

### FOOT CLINICS IN ISLE, ONAMIA

The Mille Lacs Band's Public Health Department offers free foot clinics to anyone who needs assistance with foot care and is unable to do it on their own. The service is available on the first Thursday of every month from 9 to 11 a.m. at Isle Senior Apartments, 205 1st Ave N, Isle, and from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at the Onamia Depot Library, 204 Roosevelt Street, Onamia. The service is first-come, first-served and is provided by Crystal Roeschlein, RN, certified foot care specialist with the Mille Lacs Band. Call 320-362-1710 for more information.

### COVID-19 VACCINATION CLINICS AUGUST 4 AND 5

The Public Health Department is hosting COVID-19 vaccination clinics at the District I Health and Human Services Building from 8 to 10 a.m. on August 4, at the District II Clinic from 1 to 3 p.m. on August 4, and at the District III ALU from 10 a.m. to noon on August 5. Get ready for the new school year with a COVID-19 vaccination. Let's do this for the kids!

Moderna and Pfizer vaccines are available. Call 320-532-1984 to be put on the list. Walk-in patients will also be accepted. Pfizer is available for ages 12 and up. Those who are under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Call 320-532-1984.

### REGISTER NOW FOR WISDOM STEPS GOLF TOURNEY

The 17th Annual Wisdom Steps Golf Tournament will be held Friday, September 3, 2021, at Fond du Lac Black Bear Golf Course in Carlton, Minnesota.

All proceeds will go to Wisdom Steps, a Minnesota statewide 501C3 Non-Profit preventative health program that relies solely on fundraising, donations, and volunteers to support their health promotion incentive plan. Elders participate year-round in healthy living activities and health screening and are recognized at the Annual Wisdom Steps Conference.

Registration will be at 8 a.m. with a shotgun start at 10 a.m., lunch at 2 p.m., and social hour at 3 p.m.

To learn more or print out a registration form, go to [www.wisdomsteps.org/events/2021-golf-tournament/](http://www.wisdomsteps.org/events/2021-golf-tournament/).

### MEN'S AND WOMEN'S GROUPS

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

### 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](mailto:kristina.abear@hhs.millelacsband-nsn.gov) to sign up.

Send your news tips to [news@millelacsband.com](mailto:news@millelacsband.com).

## RAFFLES NOT ALLOWED ON BAND LAND

Over the years, the Gaming Regulatory Authority (GRA) has been asked about conducting raffles on Band land for fundraising purposes. We would like to remind community members why raffles are prohibited and provide possible legal solutions.

BY DEFINITION, "GAMING" REQUIRES THREE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS: CONSIDERATION, CHANCE, AND PRIZE.

Basically, if a person pays to win a prize, and the winner is predominantly determined by chance, that person is gaming. Standard raffles require entrants to purchase a ticket. The winning ticket is then drawn randomly, and the entrant who purchased the ticket wins the prize. All three elements of gaming exist in a standard raffle. Therefore, raffles must be considered gaming.

Raffles are considered Class III gaming and must be conducted in conformance with a Tribal-State compact. The Band would have to enter a compact with the State of Minnesota to allow raffles on Band land. No such compact currently exists. Therefore, any raffle taking place on Band land violates the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA).

Title 15 permits community charitable gaming. However, Title 15 only allows for two forms of charitable gaming: pull tabs and bingo. Therefore, any raffle taking place on Band land violates Band law.

### POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Other than compacting with the state and amending Title 15, several options exist for charitable organizations seeking to raise money through a raffle.

1. Conduct the raffle entirely off Band land. IGRA and Title 15 only apply on Band land. IGRA defines Band land as all lands within the limits of the Reservation and any lands held in trust. Therefore, raffles can take place outside the Band's Reservation, so long as they do not occur on trust land. However,

### GAMING REGULATORY AUTHORITY



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

organizers would have to comply with applicable Minnesota raffle laws: <http://mn.gov/gcb/raffles.html>.

2. Solicit suggested donations. Organizers could remove the consideration element of gaming by taking "suggested donations" instead of requiring participants to pay to play. This would require allowing people to participate without paying. Organizers should articulate that "no purchase is necessary" on the sign advertising the raffle. Organizers should also limit the raffle to one ticket per person, as non-paying participants would otherwise be able to take an unlimited number of tickets.

For questions, please contact Compliance Director Becky Majzner at 320-384-4807.

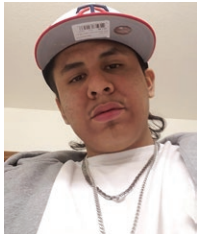
The Mille Lacs Band Gaming Regulatory Authority (GRA) is an independent regulatory agency of tribal government established to separate the government's regulatory function from the management function of the Gaming Enterprises. More information and contact numbers can be found at [www.millelacsband.com/home/indian-gaming-regulation](http://www.millelacsband.com/home/indian-gaming-regulation). You can also LIKE us on Facebook at Mille Lacs Band GRA. GRA Board meetings are open to the public.

# MEKWENIMINJIG

## THE ONES WHO ARE REMEMBERED

### Jamie Solis

Jamie Roy Solis, 29-year-old resident of Onamia, Minnesota, passed away on July 3, 2021, at his residence. Visitation began at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 6, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Reservation. The funeral ceremony began at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 7, at the District I Community Center with Baabiiyaw officiating. Interment was in the Vineland Burial Grounds. Arrangements were with the Shelley Funeral Chapel of Onamia.



Jamie Roy Solis was born on August 18, 1991, in Onamia, to Maria Kegg and Mark Solis Sr. He enjoyed writing and listening to music, playing video games, and being with family. Jamie loved to spend his time with his daughter.

Jamie is survived by his father, Mark (Leann) Solis Sr.; daughter, Kylie Solis; brothers, Damon Solis, Devon Solis, Mark Solis Jr., Antonio Solis; sister, Nena Solis; and many loving aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, "brothers & sisters," and friends.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Maria Kegg; grandparents, Maggie and Jessie Kegg, and Nancy Solis.

### Grant Garbow

Chinoodin, Grant Garbow, 33-year-old resident of Onamia, Minnesota, passed away on July 4, 2021. Visitation began at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 7, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Reservation. The funeral ceremony began at 10 a.m. on Thursday, July 8, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Reservation with Nazhike officiating. Interment was in the Vineland Burial Grounds. Arrangements were with the Shelley Funeral Chapel of Onamia.



Chinoodin, Grant, was born on December 12, 1987, to Beverly Kegg and Harvey Garbow. He enjoyed his job working at the Grand Market and being with nieces and nephews. He loved going on walks with his son and sharing his favorite candies. Grant will be greatly missed by all.

He is survived by his son, Rico; mother, Beverly Kegg; step-father, Gerald Nickaboine Sr.; brothers, Sean Garbow, Sheldon Garbow, Levi Kegg, Gerald Nickaboine Jr., Levin Nickaboine; sisters, Kacie Garbow, Erica Garbow, Darian Kegg, Jodi Nickaboine, Natalia Kegg; we'eh, Joan Littlewolf; and many loving relatives and friends.

Grant was preceded in death by his father, Harvey Garbow; grandparents, Maggie and Jesse Kegg, and Lillian Garbow; brother, Jamie Solis; Aunt, Maria Kegg; nephew, Dennis Solis; uncles, Dennis, Conrad, Gerald Kegg.

### Yvette Garbow

Bezhiogoobaawiiikwe, Yvette Garbow, 52-year-old resident of Onamia, Minnesota, passed away on Sunday, July 4, 2021, at her residence. Visitation began at 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 8, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Reservation. The funeral ceremony began at 10 a.m. on Friday, July 9, at the Community Center with Obizaan officiating. Interment was in the Indian Pointe Burial Grounds. Arrangements were with the Shelley Funeral Chapel of Onamia.



Bezhiogoobaawiiikwe, Yvette Garbow, was born on February 26, 1969, in Onamia, to Reginald and Mary (Benjamin) Garbow. She liked to spend her time with the grandchildren, playing bingo, and watching movies. Yvette enjoyed cooking and visiting and laughing with family.

She is survived by her daughters, Geraldine Garbow, Shayelee Jackson, Izannia Nickaboine; sons, Quentin Garbow Sr., Antonio Garbow-Hanks; brother, Leonard Garbow; and

many loving grandchildren, special aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, grandparents, aunts, and uncles.

### Nada Fronk

Nada Rene Monique Fronk, Aak-waadizi Nishkaadizshkiwin ikwe, age 24, began her journey to the spirit world on May 26, 2021, in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota. Nada was born in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on January 16, 1997.



Young, beautiful, and wise beyond her years, Nada lived her life with every fiber of her being. Nada loved her family and friends with an unwavering loyalty. When Nada wasn't busy fulfilling her life's purpose of helping homeless youth and those in the foster care system, she doted on not only her sister Nici but her two fur babies, Nimbus and Nala.

From the time Nada was little, she could always be found checking herself out in front of a mirror, making sure every hair was in its place, her makeup still on point, and her smile warm and inviting.

Nada was a master thrift shopper, combining her fashion sense and sassitude, seen most as she worked for that "perfect selfie."

Nada opened herself to many new things, even going with her dad to a Mavericks concert, surprising them both with how much she enjoyed the experience.

Nada was a true foodie, loving all cuisine. Whether it was her mom's tater tot hot dish, Finnish oven pancakes, or the finest dining experiences she could want, she savored it all.

Nada's Native name, meaning "she is a fierce, passionate woman," was most fitting of her. Any challenge faced, circumstance met, or struggle fought were unmatched compared to her. A true survivor and member of the bear clan, Nada was protective and instinctual when it came to those she loved.

An enrolled member of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, Nada was preceded in death by her birth mother, Billy Jo Burnette, and her Grandma, Lori Hietala.

Nada is survived by her sister and best friend, Lanicia "Zhooming Migizi ikwe" Fronk; her mom, Jenn Hietala Fronk of Isle, Minnesota; her dad, Monte "Awan" Fronk of Isle; grandparents Marv Hietala of Cloquet, Minnesota; Tom and Luonna Fronk of Alexandria, Minnesota; Bonnie and Ron Wallace Hagland of the Fond du Lac Reservation in Cloquet; Lee and Patti Cook of Cass Lake, Minnesota, as well as countless aunts, uncles, cousins, family, and friends.

A traditional Ojibwe wake and funeral were held at the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe District II Minisinaakwaang Community Center starting at dusk on Sunday, May 30, and concluding with a funeral on Monday, May 31, with Baabiiyaw Boyd as Spiritual Advisor. Interment was at Isle Faith Lutheran Cemetery, tribal segment immediately following the funeral.

Pall bearers were the tribal emergency managers from the White Earth, Leech Lake, Fond du Lac, Boise Forte, Grand Portage, and Shakopee-Mdewakanton Nations.

Honorary pall bearers were Chris Hietala, Bill Bunnell, Tom Cook, Jason Searcy, Griffin Trevino, Derek Hietala, Mason Hietala, Curtis Bunnell, Theo Hanson, William Hanson, Oliver Hanson, Warren Hietala, Lucas Bunnell, and William Bunnell.

### Zachary Smith

Bagonegiizhig, Zachary Simon Smith, 29-year-old resident of Minneapolis, Minnesota, passed away on July 15, 2021. Visitation began at 8 p.m. on Sunday, July 18, at the District I Community Center on the Mille Lacs Reservation. A funeral ceremony was held at 10 a.m.



on Monday, July 19, at the Community Center with Obizaan officiating. Interment was in the Faith Lutheran Cemetery in Isle, Minnesota. Arrangements were with the Shelley Funeral Chapel of Onamia.

Bagonegiizhig, Zack enjoyed hanging out with his friends, long walks to beautiful Minnesota views. He loved long talks and conversations with his loved ones. Zack had a great sense of humor and was always cracking jokes and clowning around. Most of all he loved spending time with his son, Oden.

He is survived by his son, Oden Zachary Smith; siblings, Kelsey, Sandra, Sammy, and Charlie Smith; nephew, LeRoy; cousins, Nikki, Stefanie, Missy, Makaia, Mia; aunt, Chris; great aunt, Edna Day; and other family members, Kaw-lija, Kalil.

Zack was preceded in death by his mother, Carrie Smith; father, Arnold Sayers; sister, Jenni Smith; grandmother, Char Smith; grandfather, Sam Smith.

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

## AROUND THE RESERVATION

### NON-FILERS CAN APPLY NOW FOR CHILD TAX CREDIT

The Child Tax Credit in the American Rescue Plan provides the largest Child Tax Credit ever and historic relief to the most working families ever — and most families will automatically receive monthly payments without having to take any action.

If you've filed tax returns for 2019 or 2020, or if you signed up to receive a stimulus check from the Internal Revenue Service, you will get this tax relief automatically. You do not need to sign up or take any action.

If you did not make enough to be required to file taxes in 2020 or 2019, you can still get benefits.

Non-filers can sign up at [www.whitehouse.gov/child-tax-credit/sign-up/](http://www.whitehouse.gov/child-tax-credit/sign-up/).

### PET CLINICS SCHEDULED FOR ALL DISTRICTS

Mark your calendar! Spay/neuter and pet wellness clinics are coming to Districts IIa 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 IIa 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. District II clinics were held on July 24 and 25 at East Lake Community Center.



# REGISTER NOW FOR OUR SEPTEMBER FAMILY GOLF OUTING!

Come out and have fun on the green!

This year's Family Golf Outing is on September 18, beginning at 9 a.m., at the Grand National Golf Club in Hinckley. Your family members will each get a sleeve of balls, cool Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures swag, morning donuts, and coupons for food at Grand Casino Hinckley.

If your team gets one of the top three places — or wins a door prize drawing — you'll win gaming devices, backpacks with school supplies, or other big surprises.

Registration is FREE and limited to the first 36 teams. Teams must include two adults and two youth players age 17 or younger.



**Golfer Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Golfer Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Youth Golfer Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Youth Golfer Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Return completed registration forms by September 10 to: Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures Attn: Beth Gruber, 700 Grand Avenue, Onamia, MN 56359  
For questions, contact Beth Gruber at 320-532-8810 or bgruber@mlcv.com.



## BACK IN TIME

### 10 years ago — 2011

Straight-line winds on July 1, 2011, caused devastation in the Aazhoomog community. More than 1,000 American Indian youth, including 15 from the Mille Lacs Reservation, attended the 2011 UNITY conference in Minneapolis. Mille Lacs Band Elder Dorothy Sam was recognized in July for her commitment to the Band as a lifelong advocate for American Indian rights. The Mille Lacs Area Human Rights Commission presented Dorothy with its Human Rights Award, honoring her dedication to helping others and preserving the Ojibwe language and culture. Mille Lacs Band member Arlene Weous shot her first career hole in one during the Black Bear Annual Golf Tournament on July 16. She was rewarded with a 2011 F150 Ford pickup truck for her ace. The Mille Lacs Band broke ground in July on a new building for the early education department.

### 15 years ago — 2006

The Minnesota Department of Education approved two charter schools to open on the Mille Lacs Reservation in the fall of 2007: Minisinaakwaang Leadership Academy and Pine Grove Leadership Academy. Mille Lacs Band School Board Chairs Clifford (Skip) Churchill and Dawn Aubid led a team of parent volunteers to research, plan, and apply for the two charter schools. The Band's Commissioner of Education, Joycelyn Shingobe, also provided skillful direction in the year-long planning and application process. The Band Member Development Department partnered with Teamworks, Inc. to bring training to Band Member Associates at Grand Casino Mille Lacs, Grand Casino Hinckley, and the Corporate Commission. The training was offered to first-time supervisors and those interested in becoming supervisors. Participants in the Skills Training to Achieve Resourceful Supervisions (STARS) program included Cherie Bryngelson, Michael Loso, Roberta Martin, Sandra Mishler, Melanie Stout, Crystal Tiessen, Brian Mitchell, Stacey Sanchez, Nicole Peterson, Terri Kretzman, and Denise Day. About 30 Mille Lacs Band members took part in the North American Indigenous Games held in Denver, Colo., on July 2-8.

### 20 years ago — 2001

Five new commissioners were sworn in on June 29: Curt Kalk (Natural Resources), Sam Moose (Health and Human Services), Duane Dunkley (Education), Christine Costello (Assistant Commissioner of Administration), and Sheldon Boyd (Administration). After ongoing talks with the Band, Mille Lacs County set a deadline of November 1 for a settlement of the dispute over the existence and boundaries of the Reservation. Given three options for the tribal government's 2001-2002 budget, 83.4 percent of the who voted chose the option with the highest individual distribution payments: \$3,750 per year. Elders Amy Day and Marie Gudim traveled to Washington D.C. with Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin and met Congressmen Jim Oberstar, Patrick Kennedy (Rhode Island), and George Miller (California). The Band's first Assisted Living Unit opened in District II. Joe Nayquonabe Jr. and Kateri Schaaf participated in an internship program at American University in Washington, D.C. Fifth-grader ValaReya Leecy won a Presidential Fitness Award. Terry Vidal was the new site manager for the Mille Lacs Indian Museum and Trading Post.

*The information above is from the August 2001, 2006, and 2011 issues of Ojibwe Inaajimowin.*



## A LOOK BACK TO 2006 — MILESTONES REACHED AT NEW HOTEL

Commissioner of Corporate Affairs Mel Towle, Grand Casino Hinckley General Manager Catherine Colsrud, and Facilities Vice President Jim Lincoln celebrated milestones reached in the construction of the casino's new 12-story hotel. On July 14, Grand Casino Hinckley and Mille Lacs Band officials joined those working on the project for a "topping-off ceremony," in which dignitaries signed and included messages on the last structural beam for the hotel before it was hoisted to the top of the building and fastened in place.

# TRIBAL NOTEBOARD

## AUGUST ELDER BIRTHDAYS

James Monroe Ballinger  
Diane Marie Barstow  
Barbara Jo Bearheart  
Wendy May Benjamin  
Clarence Roy Boyd  
Clayton Jay Boyd  
Debra Elaine Brooks  
Marlys Louise Bushey  
Myrna Joy Ceballos  
Albert Joel Churchill  
Karen Marie Clark  
Catherine Lynn Colstrud  
John Dewey Colstrud  
Karen Lee Davis  
Geraldine DeFoe  
Shelly Arnell Diaz  
Edward Ernest Dunkley  
Roxanne Julie Emery  
Dorinda Fay Garbow  
Samuel Garbow  
Diana Guizar

Rosalie Noreen Hallaway  
Mary Jean Harpster  
Bradley Harrington  
Richard Dee Hill  
Stephanie Ann Houle  
George Ben Jackson  
Valerie Lee Jiminez  
Patricia Clarise Jones  
William Allen Jones  
Benjamin John Kegg  
Doris Kegg  
Manfred Lynn Kegg  
Joseph Franklin Knudtson  
Carol Elizabeth Kornkven  
James Matrious  
Sydney Leigh Miller  
Andy Mitchell  
Lynda Lou Mitchell  
Robert James Mitchell  
Trisha Lynn Moose  
Gerry Warden Mortenson  
JoAnne Sue Nail  
Delia Ann Nayquonabe  
Ole Nickaboine

Michelle Rae Pagel  
Duane James Pawlitschek  
Herbert Jay Pawlitschek  
Margaret Rose Premo  
Linda Christine Quaderer  
Terry Lee Ray  
Sandra Jean Reynolds  
Sharon Marie Rogers  
Kimberly Ann Sam  
Todd Leonard Sam  
Alexander Laverne Schaaf  
Theresa Joy Schaaf  
William David Schaaf  
David Duane Shaugobay  
Janice Marie Shaugobay  
Daniel John Staples  
Kathleen Marie Staples  
Connie Jean Taylor  
Janice Louise Taylor  
Richard Henry Thomas  
Sylvester W Thomas  
Barbara Ellen Toth  
John Wayne Towle  
Michael Laverne Wade

Alrick George Wadena  
Carmen Denise Weous  
Donna Jean Wind  
Eloise Betsy Wind  
Franklin John Woyak

## HAPPY AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday **PJ** on August 5 love the Harrington family • Happy birthday **Sharon** on August 6 love the Harrington family • Happy birthday **Papa Brad** on August 15 love Myla • Happy birthday **GG** on August 15 love Myla • Happy birthday **Jay** on August 16 love your brothers and sissys • Happy birthday **Gabbi** on August 20 love the Harrington family • Happy birthday **Mickey** on August 20 love the Harrington family • Happy 2nd birthday **Jaden Shingobe** on August 24

with lots of love from Mommy, Daddy, brothers Caden and Carter, Auntie Destanie, uncles Jordan and Dallas Jr. and Great-Gramma Gina • Happy 17th birthday to granddaughter **Erika** on August 27 and wishing you the best year ever! Love, Granny Batanni, Grandpa & LucyLoo! • Happy birthday **Wendy Benjamin** love always, Cassie, Tony & Grandkids • Happy 18th birthday **Alliana 'Sweetie' Benjamin** love Mom and Family • Happy birthday **Dustin Benjamin** Love Auntie Cass and Family • Happy birthday **Adriana Benjamin** love Mom and Dad

## SHOUT OUT

Congratulations to Rodney Dorr for retiring from Centerpoint Energy/Minnegasco after 32 years. Love lots, Alicia and Mom

# IMPORTANT TRIBAL GOVERNMENT PHONE NUMBERS

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

**Mille Lacs Band Government Center:** 320-532-4181

**Mille Lacs Band Tribal Police:** 320-532-3430

**Non-Emergency Phone:** 320-630-2994

### Commissioners:

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](mailto:news@millelacsband.com) or **320-237-6851**. The deadline for the September issue is August 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](mailto:news@millelacsband.com) before the 15th of the month preceding your birthday. Send calendar items to [news@millelacsband.com](mailto: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](mailto:news@millelacsband.com) so we can add you to the list!

## 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](mailto:kristina.abear@hhs.millelacsband-nsn.gov) to sign up.

## COVID-19 VACCINATION CLINICS

Get your vaccination at the District I Ne-la-Shing Clinic from 8 to 10 a.m. on August 4, at the District II Clinic from 1 to 3 p.m. on August 4, or at the District III ALU from 10 a.m. to noon on August 5. Call 320-532-1984 to be put on the list. Walk-in patients also accepted.

## 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><b>1</b></p> <p><b>Wellbriety Talking Circle</b> 10 a.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>The Rez NA</b> 6 p.m. Aanjibimaadizing building <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>Youth golf</b> 5:30 p.m. Grand National Golf Club <i>See page 8</i></p> <p><b>Women's group</b> 5:30 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p><b>Migizi Meeting</b> 7 p.m. <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>Youth basketball</b> District I <i>See page 8</i></p> <p><b>Youth football skills camp</b> District I <i>See page 8</i></p> <p><b>Safe Native American Passenger Training</b> <i>see page 18</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>Sa Miikana</b> 7 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>District I and II Vaccination Clinics</b> <i>See page 19</i></p> <p><b>Youth kickball</b> District III <i>See 8</i></p> <p><b>Red Brick AA/NA Meeting</b> 7 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>District III Vaccination Clinic</b> <i>See page 19</i></p> <p><b>Youth football skills camp</b> District III <i>See page 8</i></p> <p><b>Men's group</b> 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p><b>Wellbriety</b> 6 p.m. <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>Manoomin meeting</b> 8 p.m. <i>See page 14</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>On the RedRoad</b> 6:30 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p><b>District II Pet Clinic</b> 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Chiminising Community Center <i>See page 16</i></p> <p><b>End of year softball tourney</b> District III 11 a.m.–4 p.m. <i>See page 8</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>District Ila Pet Clinic</b> 9 a.m.–2 p.m. Chiminising Community Center <i>See page 16</i></p> <p><b>Wellbriety, Zooming towards Recovery</b> <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>The Rez NA</b> 6 p.m. Aanjibimaadizing building <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p><b>Youth golf</b> 5:30 p.m. Grand National Golf Club <i>See page 8</i></p> <p><b>Youth basketball camp</b> District I <i>See 8</i></p> <p><b>Women's group</b> 5:30 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p><b>Migizi Meeting</b> 7 p.m. <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>Youth basketball camp</b> District I, 9 a.m.–4 p.m. <i>See 8</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>Sa Miikana</b> 7 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p><b>Youth volleyball skills camp</b> District III, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. <i>See 8</i></p> <p><b>Red Brick AA/NA Meeting</b> 7 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p><b>Youth volleyball skills camp</b> District I, 10 a.m.–1 p.m. <i>See 8</i></p> <p><b>Men's group</b> 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p><b>Wellbriety</b> 6 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p><b>End of year youth basketball tourney</b> District I <i>See 8</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>On the RedRoad</b> 6:30 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p><b>End of year youth kickball tourney</b> District I, 11 a.m.–3 p.m. <i>See 8</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p><b>Wellbriety Talking Circle</b> 10 a.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>The Rez NA</b> 6 p.m. Aanjibimaadizing building <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p><b>Youth golf</b> 5:30 p.m. Grand National Golf Club <i>See page 8</i></p> <p><b>Women's group</b> 5:30 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p><b>Migizi Meeting</b> 7 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>Sa Miikana</b> 7 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p><b>District III Community Meeting</b> 5:30 p.m. Grand Casino Hinckley</p> <p><b>Red Brick AA/NA Meeting</b> 7 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><b>Men's group</b> 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p><b>Wellbriety</b> 6 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p><b>Iskigamizigan Powwow</b> Grand Entry 7 p.m. <i>See page 11</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>On the RedRoad</b> 6:30 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p><b>Iskigamizigan Powwow</b> Grand Entries 1 and 7 p.m. <i>See page 11</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p><b>Iskigamizigan Powwow</b> Grand Entry 1 p.m. <i>See page 11</i></p> <p><b>Wellbriety Talking Circle</b> 10 a.m. <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>The Rez NA</b> <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p><b>Women's group</b> 5:30 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p><b>Migizi Meeting</b> 7 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>Sa Miikana</b> 7 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>Native Fitness Training, August 23–27.</b> <i>See page 9.</i></p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>District I Community Meeting</b> 5:30 p.m. Old District I community center</p> <p><b>First aid and CPR</b> <i>See page 15</i></p> <p><b>Red Brick, Zooming</b> <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p><b>District II Community Meeting</b> 5:30 p.m. East Lake Community Center</p> <p><b>Urban Community Meeting</b> 5:30 p.m. All Nations Church</p> <p><b>Men's group</b> 6 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p><b>Wellbriety, Zooming</b> <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p> <p><b>On the RedRoad</b> <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See below</i></p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p><b>Wellbriety Talking Circle</b> 10 a.m. via Zoom conference <i>See right</i></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See right</i></p> <p><b>The Rez NA</b> 6 p.m. Aanjibimaadizing building <i>See below</i></p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p><b>Women's group</b> 5:30 p.m. Old District I Community Center</p> <p><b>Migizi Meeting</b> 7 p.m. via Zoom conference.</p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> <i>See right</i></p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p><b>Zooming towards Recovery NA</b> 8 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See right</i></p> <p><b>Sa Miikana</b> 7 p.m. via Zoom conference <i>See right</i></p>	<p><b>RECOVERY GROUP MEETINGS HELD VIA ZOOM</b></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><b>'THE REZ' MOVES TO SUNDAYS</b></p> <p>The new day for 'The Rez' Narcotics Anonymous meeting is Sunday, from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Aanjibimaadizing building (old Ne-la-Shing Clinic) in District I. Call Randell with questions or concerns at 650-273-2214.</p>			



**MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE**  
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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](http://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](mailto:news@millelacsband.com) or call 320-237-6851. The September issue deadline is August 15.

## NEED HELP?

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Women's Shelter:** 866-867-4006.

**Batterers' Intervention:** 320-532-8909.

**Heating, water, or other home-related maintenance problems:** If you live in a Mille Lacs Band Housing-maintained home, call our Customer Service Representative 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.



MANOOMINIKE-GIIZIS 2021 | VOLUME 23 | NUMBER 8

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



## PUBLIC SERVANTS

BAND MEMBERS TAKE ON NEW ROLES IN TRIBAL GOVERNMENT. SEE PAGE 1.

**FATHER SHARES  
STORY OF MURDERED  
DAUGHTER**  
page 1

**DISTRICT I ELDER  
IS NEWEST APPEALS  
COURT JUDGE**  
page 1

**TRIBAL LEADERS  
DISCUSS BOARDING  
SCHOOLS**  
page 4

**NAY AH SHING  
STUDENT FOLLOWS  
MUSICAL VISION**  
page 8