

OJIBWE INAAJIMOWIN

August 2010

"The story as it's told."

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New Elected Officials Enter Office



Toya Stewart Downey

District I Representative Sandi Blake greets new District III Representative Diane Gibbs after the swearing-in ceremony on July 13. District II Representative Marvin Bruneau and new Secretary/Treasurer Curt Kalk are also pictured.

Curt Kalk, Marvin Bruneau, and Diane Gibbs were sworn into office on July 13. All three officials were elected in the Mille Lacs Band's general election on June 8 and will serve four-year terms in the Band's legislative branch. Joe Nayquonabe Sr. was elected to the Nay Ah Shing school board.

Curt Kalk, Secretary/Treasurer

Curt Kalk was sworn in to his first term as the Mille Lacs Band's Secretary/Treasurer. In this role, he authorizes all subpoenas and official documents on behalf of the Band Assembly and investigates financial irregularities. Kalk also serves as Speaker of the Band Assembly, which enacts laws that regulate the Band's affairs and appropriates money for tribal government programs.

Before being elected Secretary/Treasurer, Kalk served as the Band's Commissioner of Natural Resources for nine years.

He has also worked for the Band's Department of Natural Resources as a deputy registrar. Kalk graduated with honors from the Band's Nay Ah Shing High School in 1981 and served in the U.S. Marine Corps for four years. He is the first graduate from Nay Ah Shing to become an elected official for the Band.

Marvin Bruneau, District II Representative

Marvin Bruneau was sworn in to his fifth term as Mille Lacs Band District II Representative, a position he has held since 1990. He represents Districts II and IIa, which are located near the cities of McGregor and Isle. He has also served the Band as a member of the Housing Authority board of directors, a community health representative, and a drum society member. Bruneau graduated from McGregor High School and attended the College of Saint Scholastica.

Diane Gibbs, District III Representative

Diane Gibbs was sworn in to her first term as Mille Lacs Band District III Representative. She represents District III, which is located near the city of Hinckley. In addition to that role, Gibbs is a member of the Pine Grove Leadership Academy school board, the Blandin Foundation Community Leadership Program advisory board, and an Indian Child Welfare Act qualified expert witness.

Prior to serving as District III Representative, Gibbs served the Band in other roles for almost 20 years. Gibbs became interested in politics after she served as a legislative liaison in District III for six years. She has also worked for the Band's TANF program, as the Aazhoomog Clinic and Hinckley ALU office manager, and as District III program administrator. Gibbs attends Central Lakes Community College and is pursuing a bachelor's degree in political science.

Joe Nayquonabe Sr., school board member

Joe Nayquonabe Sr. was sworn in as the District I representative on the Nay Ah Shing school board.

More than 100 people gathered for the swearing-in ceremony, which was held in the Band Assembly chambers at the government center. The elected officials were sworn in by Chief Justice Rayna Mattinas and Clarence Boyd, Associate Justice for the Band's judicial branch.

Sign Up to Receive the *Inaajimowin* by E-Mail

Earlier this year, the Band surveyed members about their communication preferences. The survey found that an overwhelming majority of Band members (81%) wanted the option to receive the *Inaajimowin* and letters from the tribal government via e-mail.

The Band is now offering Band members the option to receive communications via U.S. mail, e-mail, or both. Only Band members will be allowed to sign up for the e-mail list.

To sign up for the e-mail list, visit the Mille Lacs Band website (www.millelacsband.com). At the bottom of the home page, click on "Sign-up to receive Band news via e-mail." You will be asked to provide your name, mailing address, and Band member ID number.

If you and your entire household no longer want to receive hard copies of the *Inaajimowin* or letters from elected officials, you must list your address as it appears on your *Inaajimowin*.

By choosing to receive these materials via e-mail, the Band will save paper and resources, and you will get the information faster than if it is sent by U.S. mail.

If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Sam at 651/292-8062.



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Yes! Camp Inspires Young Band Members



Toya Stewart Downey

The week-long Yes! American Indian Business Leader Camp included 15 Nay Ah Shing students who met influential leaders, learned about operating a business, created business plans, and explored their dreams of business ownership.

By Toya Stewart Downey

The Band's future entrepreneurs and business leaders were both encouraged and saluted recently as they wrapped up a week-long educational experience called the Yes! American Indian Business Leader Camp.

"I learned that when you're starting a business, you have to do research and find ways to make it better than other businesses," said senior Brandon Anthony, 17. This was Brandon's fourth time participating in the Yes! Camp. Brandon is also involved with American Indian Business Leaders (AIBL), a national organization committed to developing future leaders.

This is the seventh year that the Yes! Camp was offered to Nay Ah Shing students. It was sponsored by the Band, Nay Ah Shing, and Central Lakes College. Students stayed at the Breezy Point Resort during the program and spent their days at Central Lakes College.

"I wanted to learn more about being a business leader and entrepreneurship," said Brandon, who wants to open a car shop that "makes cars better looking, sort of like *Pimp my Ride*," the popular television show. After high school, Brandon plans to attend college and major in international business.

His grandmother, Marian Anthony, said she is very proud of Brandon's involvement in school and programs such as Yes! Camp. "He's a go-getter," she said, adding that he will accomplish whatever he strives to do, including owning a business.

Mary Sam, director of diversity at Central Lakes College, said the program was "enriching for our kids because they got to know so many people."

"The kids have really grown from this program and learned how to put our Ojibwe value of

community into the context of businesses that support one another," she told a room full of supporters who attended a luncheon honoring the students.

"No one in this room doubts your skills as leaders and entrepreneurs," said Mille Lacs Band Education Commissioner Dennis Olson. "You are a good example of bringing the youth voice forward and showing all of the positive things you want to do. Look around and see and feel the support of everyone in this room today. It is incredible."

Michael Garrow, Commissioner of Corporate Affairs, encouraged the students to think about the Band's future. "What businesses do you see that will help the Band diversify the economy? What is your future, and where do you want it to go?" he asked. "Develop and build a network, ask questions of people around you, learn to operate your own businesses, or use your talents to work for the Band."

Both Charisse Cash, 14, and Courtney Boyd, 17, say they are believers of the adage, "if you believe it, you can achieve it."

Courtney, a senior who has attended the Yes! Camp twice, wants to operate a veterinary clinic on the reservation, so that "people won't have to travel far to take care of their animals." Courtney said she has had this goal since she was a young child.

Charisse isn't sure yet what she wants to do, but wants "a big business that is known worldwide."

"I want to be successful," she said. "I know it's going to be hard work, but I'm willing to take that chance."

Chief Executive Marge Anderson told the students she was very, very proud of them. She stated that she will do whatever she can to provide support for them to follow their dreams.

Primary Election: August 10

Don't forget to vote in this year's state primary election on Tuesday, August 10. Absentee voting for the primary opened June 25 and will remain open through August 10.

This year's primary election races are highly contested, with as many as five candidates vying for one spot on the ballot. This means that your vote is crucial to help narrow the field of candidates for the general election. When voting in the primary, you can only vote for one political party. For instance, if you vote for a candidate in the Democratic gubernatorial primary, you cannot vote for a candidate in the Republican gubernatorial primary.

Primary elections for gubernatorial candidates will be held in all Minnesota legislative districts, and state representative and senate seats

will be held in those districts where more than one candidate from the same party is seeking the same office. The primary elections will narrow the field of candidates to one candidate per party per elected office for the general election ballot in November.

For a full list of primary elections in areas where a significant number of Band members live, please visit the Mille Lacs Band website (www.millelacsband.com).

Visit the Minnesota Secretary of State website (www.sos.state.mn.us) for information on voting districts, primary elections, absentee voting, voter registration, and more.

If you have any questions about the primary, contact Elizabeth Scott at 320/384-4661 or escott@grcasinos.com.

Mille Lacs Band Elder Celebrates Second Career Ace at Elders Golf Tournament



Photo courtesy of Sarah Barten

Joe Nayquonabe Sr.

The annual Elders Golf Tournament was held at the Grand National Golf Club on Saturday, June 19. The tournament generated more than \$20,000 for the Elders.

Tournament participants were treated to one of the most unlikely occurrences in golf: a hole-in-one. Joe Nayquonabe Sr. aced the 125-yard, par-3, sixth hole at the tournament for his second ace in his golf career.

"The wind was moving left to right and I hit the ball up into the air and let the wind take control," said Joe. "The ball hit about a couple feet to the left of the hole and the spin was just right as it moved right and fell in for the ace."

Joe hit his first hole-in-one at the Mille Lacs Golf Resort in 1995.

In the men's division, John Donahue, Jayson Churchill, and Greg Miller won first place; Kerry Funmaker, Jerry Cleveland, and Lorinda Funmaker won second place; and Gene Reynolds, John Fairbanks, and Shawn Fairbanks won third place.

In the women's division, Ashley Burr, Donna Burr, and Jenna Larson won first place; Loretta Burr, Samantha Burr, and Jane Weis won second place; and Sierra Sam, Vanessa Weyaus, and Ginger Weyaus won third place.

In the Elders' division, Joe Nayquonabe, Elmer Nayquonabe, and Pete Nayquonabe won first place; Marge Anderson, Ted Grindal, and John Dunkley won second place; and Bill Means, Gerry Auginash, and Mato Means won third place.

Prizes were donated by several businesses, including Warriors Fight Promotions, Grand National Golf Course, and Native General Contracting. Chief Executive Marge Anderson and Herb Weyaus also donated prizes.

Back-to-School Time

Nay Ah Shing

As the 2010-2011 school year is about to begin, the Band's Nay Ah Shing Schools are gearing up to welcome back students on August 31. Nay Ah Shing will hold an open house on August 30 from 4-6 p.m. to register students and let students and parents meet with teachers. If a student is unable to attend the open house, his or her parent or guardian can stop by Nay Ah Shing High School's front office to register and verify the student's address or call 320/532-4695.

You must bring along a copy of the student's birth certificate and Social Security card to register at any of the schools.

Minisinaakwaang Leadership Academy

Minisinaakwaang Leadership Academy's new school year started July 26. The charter school, which holds classes throughout the year, is still accepting enrollments. To enroll, call 218/768-3477.

Pine Grove Leadership Academy

Classes will begin on September 7 for Pine Grove Leadership Academy's 2010-2011 school year. The charter school will host an open house on Thursday, September 2, from 1-3 p.m. for students and parents to meet with teachers. To enroll in Pine Grove, contact Amiliya Zago at 320/284-7598.

Head Start for three- to five-year-olds

If you are looking for a fun, educational environment for your three- to five-year-old child, please contact the Head Start Program in your district for more information.

- District I: 320/532-4690
- District II: 218/768-3311
- District III: 320/384-7162

The first day of Head Start starts on September 1, 2010. Please note that your child must be age three by September 1 in order to register for Head Start.

Schedule your child's physical exam

Each child in Head Start needs to have a physical with immunization updates and a dental exam before starting school. When making the appointment, please state that

the exam is for Head Start to ensure that all requirements are met. A parent or guardian must accompany each child to these exams. For more information, contact one of the clinics:

- Ne-la-Shing Clinic: 320/532-4163
- East Lake Clinic/Community Center: 218/768-3311
- Aazhoomog Clinic: 320/384-0149

Each student who participates in a school sport must also have a physical before beginning practice for that sport. Sports physical forms can be picked up at the clinics or at the schools and must be filed with your child's school.

Immunizations required

The following immunizations are needed to start school this fall in all Minnesota schools.

Kindergartners must have:

- Five diphtheria, pertussis and tetanus (DPT) immunizations
- Four polio immunizations
- Two measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) immunizations
- Three-dose Hepatitis B series
- Varicella immunization
- Four doses of HiB vaccine, which protects against HiB disease that can cause meningitis, throat swelling, and infections (recommended, but not required)

Seventh graders need:

- Two measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) immunizations
- Updated diphtheria and tetanus (DT) immunizations
- Three-dose Hepatitis B series
- Varicella immunization

Parents: Please note that the varicella immunization, also known as the chickenpox vaccine, is not required for students who have already had chickenpox. If your child has had chickenpox, please send the school nurses an approximate date of when your child had it. Also, please contact your clinic to schedule Hepatitis B shots for any child who has not yet had them. If your child has started but not finished the series of shots, your clinic can simply finish the series.

All students must have their immunizations up to date and on record with their schools.

Moccasin Telegraph



Lee Staples

Relationships to the environment

By Lee Staples, Cultural Advisor

The following article appeared in the June 12, 2002, issue of the Mille Lacs Messenger. It is being reprinted with the Messenger's permission.

Aaniin. I am Lee Staples. I think the value of this column is to share some of our Anishinaabe teachings, because I believe we all need to have an appreciation for each other's cultures. Today, I'd like to share some of our teachings about the environment.

Indian people have a close relationship with the environment. For example, there is our relationship with Mille Lacs Lake. We recognize the lake as having a spirit, a power much greater than any human being, that we acknowledge. In our ceremonies, offerings are given to that spirit within the lake. When I was a child, the old people who raised me told me to make my offering of tobacco before I went out on Mille Lacs Lake or any of the other lakes. They told me, "Remember that there is a spirit or a power out in that lake that we need to respect as a people."

When we go out to fish, we do the very same thing – we make an offering before we go out on the lake. And before we go out to harvest wild rice on the lake, we do the same thing.

So we have a strong relationship with those powers

within the lake and, therefore we don't want to hurt the lake or the fish that are there. We are taught as a people to take only what we need, and maybe sometimes take some to share with others from the community who don't have any. We are taught to stay away from greed.

We have a similar relationship with everything in the environment. The trees, for example. There is a spirit within those trees that we call Mitigwaabi wi inini. That would probably translate into English as "bow man." Years ago, when the trees were used to build wigwams, the people would do an offering before they cut the trees, to respect that spirit in the trees. This is a practice that is continued to this day.

The same is true of the earth. We believe there's a power within the earth, in the center of the earth, that we do our offerings to – even to this day. For example, we have done offerings for new projects on the reservation, like the Conoco gas station in Ahzhoomog, near Hinckley. Before that project started, the Band had me come out there, and we did an offering of tobacco and food, especially for the earth where they were going to be digging and the trees that were going to be cut.

Our relationship with everything in the environment is an important part of our teachings. Our ancestors lived off the land, and so we had a lot of respect for things in the wild. There are foods we were given as a people to eat – the berries, the wild rice, the fish, the venison, the rabbits. We were taught to respect all of this.

If you take a look at environmental issues like pollution, I believe it would be good for people to learn from us. By sharing our appreciation and respect for the environment, I think it can help this world in the long run.

Naomi Weyaus Interns at the St. Cloud Times

Band member Naomi Weyaus is interning as a general assignment reporter for the *St. Cloud Times* this summer. Naomi became interested in journalism because she enjoys writing. Her goal is to travel the world and document her experiences living in different countries.

Naomi graduated from Onamia High School in June and will attend Marquette University in Milwaukee in the fall. Currently, she is a member of Central Lakes College's Upward Bound program, which is offered at the College of Saint Benedict.

Freedom Porter: Consummate Volunteer



Freedom Porter

By Toya Stewart Downey

When Freedom Porter joined the powwow committee 12 years ago, his motivation was purely strategic. He thought that if he volunteered he would avoid being scheduled to work the mandatory four-hour shift required of all Band employees.

Little did Freedom know that the committee job required much more of his time than he ever imagined, and it meant he was at the annual August powwow for what turned out to be the entire weekend.

"I was there like 24 hours a day, he said. "At the end, I saw how much fun the committee had, and I wanted to keep doing it. They were like a family, and I wanted to share that bond."

Since then, Freedom, 31, has been thrilled to serve on the committee and has served as the chairman since 2001 – a role he assumed after the previous chair, Kenny Weyaus Sr., had a heart attack.

When the committee decided to have co-chair positions in 2004, Freedom continued in his post. He shares the co-chair duties with Mary Jo Jennings.

Though it is with some sadness, Freedom said this will be his last year on the committee. He has a lot of great memories and owes a part of his exciting future to his work on the committee. That's because it's where he met his bride, Shannon Ramsey.

"The funny thing is when I met her, I couldn't stand her," he says with a little chuckle. "She kept pushing me the wrong way the whole time we were planning last year's powwow. Then, right before one meeting last year, I saw her in a different way...maybe it was the sun."

"After the powwow was over, I couldn't stop thinking about her, so a few days later I sucked it up and with some encouragement from my powwow family, I asked her out," Freedom said. "Our first date was at the Y Club in Garrison and all we talked about was the powwow...that was our crutch. But soon the

conversations came easily and naturally and we've been together ever since."

The couple married on July 31 at the powwow grounds. Band Elder Dorothy Sam officiated the ceremony. The newlyweds are expecting a baby in December.

Freedom says with his new wife and baby on the way, his life will be busier than ever before, and it is time to let someone else lead the committee.

Freedom will continue to volunteer with other groups, including the Big Brothers Big Sisters program, and serve as a mentor to Band youth. He will also continue to take the Band's youth royalty to powwows around the state and work with Elders through the Wisdom Steps program. "I love to volunteer," he said.

He will also stay busy in his role as the director of community support services. He oversees the Band's domestic violence program, food distribution to Elders, activities at the ALU, and the weatherization and energy assistance program.

"I really love this job," said Freedom, who became the director about eight months ago. "I see the progress we're making, and I'm so proud of my team. They are dedicated to their work, and we're making a difference."

Freedom has worked for the Band since 1997. He got his start in the Corporate Commission working in gaming compliance. Then he moved to Community Youth Services and stayed there for four years.

"It was a drug and alcohol prevention program, and it was hard work," he said. "We worked with high-risk kids. I left because I felt like I was approaching burnout."

Freedom said he left with some regret. "Even now, I still wonder if I made the right move," he said.

After leaving the youth program, he began working in Elder Services and worked there from 2003 to 2009. That's when he became the director of the program. "After working with the youth, and then working in Elder Services, I realized I missed working directly with people. When this job opened, I saw it as another opportunity to make a difference."

Freedom is a member of the Grand Portage Band. His mother is a Mille Lacs Band member. He grew up on the north shore of Lake Superior and stayed there with his father's family until his dad passed.

"After he died, it was hard to live in Grand Portage," he said. "I wanted to come here and learn more about my family and to work for the Band."

Carmen Green: District IIA Administrator and Entrepreneur



Carmen Green

By Toya Stewart Downey

It's not unusual to see Carmen Green cooking in the kitchen at the Chiminising Community Center. She might also be sitting behind the front desk answering phones or outside shoveling snow during the winter months.

That's because Carmen, the program administrator and licensing agent for the District IIA Community Center, makes it a practice to offer her assistance wherever it's needed.

She also makes a great effort to know as much as possible about the Band and its services, so that she can address questions when they arise.

"I see myself as a resource for every community member," she said. "About 99 percent of the time I'm able to answer the question or I know who to call."

"The community centers are like mini-government centers. People come here to get applications, ask questions, and get information about some of our programs, like loans or energy assistance."

Carmen has held her post since 2003. She started out as a receptionist and program administrator. At one time she oversaw both Chiminising and East Lake, going between the two community centers on alternating days. However, after a year, it was realized that each center is unique to that community and each needed a full-time administrator.

In 2005, Carmen added licensing agent duties to her job description, because residents expressed a need to have someone nearby who could assist them.

"In this role, it's my job to help keep the commissioners informed about what's happening here," she said.

She also takes care of paying the bills for the center, helps with community meetings, gathers information for the monthly newsletter, assists Elders, and attends monthly meetings at the government center.

"The best part of my job is helping community members," Carmen said. The most challenging, she said, is making sure the information she gets and delivers to Band members is both current and accurate.

Prior to her current role, Carmen worked at Grand Casino Mille Lacs for seven years in a variety of jobs, including inventory manager at the gift shop, slot host for high-end players, and area relations – a job that required her to do promotions in the community. Carmen has also worked in the retail industry and as a waitress.

Carmen had the chance to be a stay-at-home mom with her two sons, Ian and Jackson, when her ex-husband was serving in the military.

She grew up in Wisconsin, but lived in Oklahoma, Colorado and Germany before coming to live in Minnesota in 1995. "It was hard being away from my family, but it made me grow up," said Carmen, adding that she came home as often as possible to visit her family.

When she's not working, Carmen is busying running her own business, Ogechie Angus Farm. She currently has 19 black angus cattle on her farm. "I was looking for an extra source of income for my son's college expenses," she explained.

This is the first year of operation, so while Carmen is still getting accustomed to her role as an entrepreneur, she says things have gotten easier. "Initially, it was a lot of hard work, like getting the fencing up, but it's not so hard now. We just have to make sure the automatic waterer works and have bale feed for the winter months."

Carmen and her sons also have a lawn care service, whose main clientele are Elders.

While there is a lot of work to be done, Carmen makes sure she has time for fun. She's an avid outdoorswoman who likes to hunt, fish, and gather wild rice. "I bought my own boat specifically for netting," she said. "I did all these things with my folks, and I still love doing it."

Day Labor Pool Provides Employment Opportunities for Band Members



Photo courtesy of Connie Kevan

After the tornado in June, 20 Band members traveled to Wadena to help with the cleanup efforts. These Band members are part of the Day Labor Pool Program.

By **Toya Stewart Downey**

Days after the tornado tore through the City of Wadena, about 20 Band members took to the streets to help with the cleanup efforts. Since the June 17 tornado, thousands of volunteers have poured into the city to help rebuild the 268 structures that were destroyed. Wadena is located about one-and-a-half hours northwest of Mille Lacs Lake.

The Band members who traveled to Wadena are some of the 182 participants in the Day Labor Pool program sponsored by the Band's Administration Department. Any unemployed Band member can apply for the temporary work program. The program does not require any particular skills, training, background checks, or drug tests.

"This program is designed to give Band members an opportunity to work when other options aren't available," said Connie Kevan, the Band's Labor Pool Manager. "We started the program in May, and as of July 13 have 244 people signed up for the program."

Workers are paid \$10 an hour and can work up to 40 hours a week if there is work available. Most of the workers in the program are ages 18-25. The program is funded through the end of September, with hopes of extending it into the next fiscal year or as long as there is a need.

In addition to working in Wadena, the employees have helped with community cleanup efforts, lawn care, Elder care, worked at the cultural grounds and community centers, and other office work.

"We've had a lot of Band members request office work," said Connie. "We are encouraging departments to use our people rather than contract out."

Besides offering employment, the program also helps Band members become more self-sufficient. For example, one young man needed to get an identification card to complete his application.

"We gave him an advance on his pay so he could get a legal ID card. By doing that, we eliminated a barrier that was preventing him from working," said Connie.

She added that many people want to work, but they just need an opportunity.

When Stephanie Jamie Boyd heard about the Day Labor Pool program, she jumped at the chance to apply. She needed work, but was having trouble finding a job. She started working the day after she applied for the program.

"I like the growth opportunities this offers for me and for everyone," she said. "I'm gaining new skills and taking on new responsibilities."

Another Band member, Shawna Skinaway, got a job helping the Urban Office prepare to move. She is working 20 hours a week helping people pack boxes, shred documents, and organize materials.

"After completing American Indian Opportunities Industrialization Center (AIOIC) in June, I became a labor pool employee," she said. "The part-time flexible hours allow me time to enjoy the summer with my family. Plus I enjoy working for the tribe."

Barb Benjamin-Robertson, program administrator at the urban office, said she appreciates the Day Labor Pool program, "Employment is one of the strongest needs in the urban area," she said. "Searching for employment is challenging during these tough economic times, and this is one way people can help support their family and their household."



Toya Stewart Downey

Band member **Shawna Skinaway** is helping the Urban Office prepare to move to their new location.

The Day Labor Pool program employees are also helping different departments tackle projects that have long been on the to-do list.

Jeannie Reams, the office and financial coordinator for the Department of Family Services, is grateful to have Monty Staples on her team.

"He is a very project-oriented guy and has a good sense of humor no matter what task he is completing," she said. "He started a document-shredding project that seemed really overwhelming to say the least, but he has worked diligently at it and has managed to complete in four weeks what we hoped two workers could do in a couple months."

The program has been extremely successful, helping Band members improve their community and help each other.

"This program is an example of real Native pride," said Connie. "This program will help Band members change their lives and will have a huge impact on the Band now and in future generations."

Filmmakers Seeking Actors and Extras

Clearway Minnesota and the Mille Lacs Band Public Health Department are making a film about the effects and dangers of smoking and secondhand smoke. We are looking for Band members to serve in speaking and non-speaking roles. Auditions will take place in District I on Friday, August 6, from noon to 5 p.m. and Tuesday, August 10, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The filmmakers are specifically seeking:

- Five men and five women who are at least 18 years old and can attest to their nicotine addictions and struggles to quit smoking
- People who would like to participate in the film's background (non-speaking roles)

Please call Gloria Songetay at 800-709-6445, ext. 7760 to request the audition location. People who volunteer in the film will receive an incentive up to \$50.

The Band members and Band employees involved in making this film include:

- Rick Anderson, filmmaker/producer
- Gloria Songetay, Mille Lacs Band tribal education and policy initiative outreach coordinator for the Secondhand Smoke Project
- Roberta Ladd, Mille Lacs Band health educator
- Herb Sam, Mille Lacs Band traditional healer

The film is sponsored by Clearway Minnesota and the Mille Lacs Band Public Health Department. Clearway Minnesota is a nonprofit organization working to improve the health of Minnesotans by reducing tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke.

Fresh-N-Fit Fridays

By Shelly Foster, SHIP Coordinator

The Mille Lacs Band State Health Improvement Program (SHIP) is partnering with the diabetes program and the fitness department to sponsor "Fresh-N-Fit Fridays," a new nutrition series that will encourage Band members to increase their consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables and set fitness goals. Healthy lunches will be served at the District I Community Center from noon to 1 p.m. every Friday in August.

One of SHIP's goals is to reduce obesity through improved nutrition and increased physical activity. These three departments

have partnered up to present health-conscious options that are easy to incorporate into anyone's lifestyle.

Christine Kegg, diabetes nutrition education assistant, and I will offer organic food samples and present simple cooking tips and healthy recipes. Jim Ingle, fitness coordinator, will provide fitness evaluations and discuss training programs for those who may be interested in starting a new summer workout routine.

All of the wholesome food served during these sessions will come from the Band's community garden, Farm of Plenty (a local organic farm), or Grand Market.

Division I Champion to Run Volleyball Camp

Shelly Foster, Mille Lacs Band SHIP coordinator, will lead a three-day intensive volleyball camp for all tribal youth ages 10-17. The camp will be held at the District I Community Center on August 24-26 from 3-6 p.m.

Shelly played collegiate volleyball at Stanford University and was part of the Division I National Championship. Shelly has coached several youth teams throughout her career and has experience as a certified personal trainer.

Shelly was recently hired as the Mille Lacs Band SHIP coordinator. "I am very happy and thankful to have been hired

as the SHIP coordinator, because it gives me an opportunity to address issues concerning Native health and wellness and also provides me with an avenue to connect with other departments and persons interested in fitness and nutrition," she said.

SHIP will sponsor healthy snacks for the event, and the diabetes program will provide a workout t-shirt for each participant. Jason Long, dean of students at Nay Ah Shing, will assist with this camp.

For more information or to sign up for the camp, call Shelly at 320/532-4163, ext. 2538.

Band Youth Fish With the Pros



Several Band youth spent the day fishing with four pro anglers.

Fourteen Mille Lacs Band youth recently spent the day fishing on Mille Lacs Lake with four pro fishermen. Gary Roach, who has been a Minnesota fishing guide and walleye tournament angler for the past 40 years, led the group along with three other fishermen.

At the beginning of the day, Gary and officials from the Mille Lacs Band Department of Natural Resources taught the youth about safety and legal issues related to fishing.

All of the kids received a fishing rod-and-reel package and a tackle box. This fishing gear was quickly put to the test when the fishermen took the kids out in their boats. The youth were taught how to find fish and how to properly cast their lines.

"I think it's so important to teach kids about fishing. This was a fun experience – and the kids' faces were priceless when they actually had a bite," Gary said.

Margaret Anderson Kelliher Meets With Tribal Leaders



Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Scott

Leaders from several Minnesota tribes met with gubernatorial candidate Margaret Anderson Kelliher to discuss issues important to Indian Country. Participants included (front row from left to right) Molly Judkins, Gary Fuller, Nancy Wood, Sally Fineday, (back row from left to right) Elizabeth Scott, Jody Beaulieu, Kelliher, and John Dunkley.

Civic engagement leaders from several Minnesota tribes met with endorsed DFL gubernatorial candidate Margaret Anderson Kelliher on July 12. The group discussed issues important to Indian Country, including education, health care, gaming, and economic development.

Kelliher is well-versed in Indian Country affairs. While she was earning her master's degree in public administration from Harvard University's

Kennedy School of Government, she took several courses on Indian law and related issues.

At the meeting, Kelliher committed to working and governing in coordination with Indian Country.

Kelliher is a candidate in the state primary election on Tuesday, August 10. If she wins the primary election, she will compete in the general election on Tuesday, November 2.

Native Comedian to Perform at Grand Casino Mille Lacs



Don Burnstick

Native American comedian Don Burnstick will bring plenty of laughter to the stage at the Grand Casino Mille Lacs Events & Convention Center on Thursday, August 19, at 7 p.m.

Burnstick is a Cree Indian from the Alexander First Nation, located outside of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. The youngest of 15 children, Burnstick learned a variety of ways to defend himself, including the use of humor.

That trait has paved his way to success. Burnstick has established himself as one of

Canada's best comedians. His highly acclaimed comedy show – "You Might Be a Redskin – Healing Through Native Humor," is a comedic performance that humorously portrays First Nations people and their habits, likes and dislikes.

In addition to comedy, Burnstick has been involved with the healing and personal wellness movement for the past 20 years. He wrote and individually performs the play, "I Am Alcohol – Healing the Wounded Warrior." In this play, Burnstick presents a gripping dramatization of the addictive power of alcohol, drugs, and other destructive forces that have plagued Native communities.

Tickets to Burnstick's comedy show on August 19, which cost \$10, are on sale now. To purchase tickets, visit the Grand Casino Mille Lacs or Grand Casino Hinckley box offices, call Ticketmaster at 800-745-3000, contact any Ticketmaster outlet, or visit www.grandcasinomn.com.

Goals – and Three Jobs – Help Young Band Member Stay Focused on the Future



Ben Sam

By **Toya Stewart Downey**

Many youth fill their summer days with fun, friends, and frolicking in the sun.

Ben Sam is doing all of that and more.

The 16-year-old Band member is working three part-time jobs that combined give him the opportunity to nurture his love of sports, physical wellbeing, and creativity.

Ben is trying his hand at journalism as an intern at the *Mille Lacs Messenger*, is coaching Little League Baseball for the second year, and is working in a weightlifting program called "Bigger, Faster, Stronger" at Onamia High School.

"I like staying busy," said Ben, who has worked since he was 14 years old.

He got his first taste of journalism at age nine, when he wrote an article that appeared in the *Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC)* newspaper, and then was picked up by *Pastoral Life Magazine*.

He started in the working world as a volunteer at the Band's wastewater treatment plant and later as a paid employee in the Band's summer youth program. Volunteerism isn't new for Ben. He has enjoyed the opportunity to provide Elders with fish, deer meat, maple syrup, sugar cakes, wild rice, birchbark, basswood, and cultural crafts since he was a toddler. Today he is an avid fisherman and deer hunter.

Ben's summer job at Onamia High School is through the Band's summer youth program. His job at the *Messenger* is funded by the Pohlad Foundation Summer Youth Program. The Pohlad Foundation program began in 2004 to provide high school students with internship opportunities in the banking industry. Two years later, funding was added to include internships with newspaper and printing companies.

"I work a lot of hours each week, but I'm doing things I like to do."

Ben said he's participated in sports for so many years that coaching and working in the weightlifting program are natural fits for him. Writing for a newspaper is a new challenge.

"It's weird trying to write something from my notes that someone will want to read," said Ben, referring to the practice of interviewing sources, writing down what they say and think, and then having to cherry-pick information to create a newsworthy story.

The perks of his job at the paper are that "I like writing and I like meeting new people."

The first Band member to work at the *Messenger*, Ben had his first article published in June. Some of the topics he has written about include derby races, Little League, the Speed and Strength Fitness Program, cross-cultural summer school programs, DNR classes, fishing updates, and a summer play that features Nay ah Shing, Isle, and Onamia students. The biggest story that Ben is writing this summer provides youth perspectives on school consolidation – referring to the consolidation that Isle and Onamia are considering.

Already he is involved in Onamia High School's vocal group, has had leading roles in school musicals, and plays football, basketball and baseball.

"Of all three sports, I'm best at baseball, but I like basketball the most."

Ben said he is saving his summer earnings to pay off his snowmobile and add to his college fund.

He plans to participate in the state's Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) program to give him a jumpstart on college.

He then plans to attend either the University of North Dakota, North Dakota State University, or perhaps St. Scholastica. Although he is thinking about a career in sports medicine and physical therapy, he is also giving some thought to journalism.

Ben said he would encourage any young Band member to look for opportunities that can help them grow.

"If you have a goal, go for it," he said. "Get involved with your community, and don't get distracted by drugs or alcohol. Don't let those things get in your way. Distractions can slow you down or get in your way. Stay true to yourself...that's the punch line of life."

Circle of Health Updates

By *Circle of Health Staff*

Dental coverage plans

If you have any upcoming dental work scheduled, make sure you call your provider to find out what services are covered and how much remains of your benefits. This will help you figure out what costs will be your responsibility.

Because dental plans are a type of coverage, they should not be considered insurance. All plans have a maximum amount, and once you reach this maximum amount, nothing will be covered by the plan. The fees incurred are not considered a co-pay or deductible and will not be paid by Circle of Health.

Minnesota Comprehensive Health Association (MCHA)

The Minnesota Comprehensive Health Association (MCHA) is a high-risk pool for Minnesota residents turned down by the commercial insurance market due to pre-existing health conditions. By Minnesota law, MCHA premium rates are set between 101% and 125% of the weighted average of comparable individual policies in Minnesota.

Circle of Health currently has 132 Band members on this plan. The MCHA coverage is considered private insurance by our standards, so these plans

will be paid for a maximum of 12 months.

Each July, MCHA increases its rates, due in part to an increase in age. This may move you from one age bracket to another. The Circle of Health office will review each of your files to determine the use of your plan. A higher deductible plan option could bring significant premium savings to the program.

If you have any questions or would like to review your file, call our office at the numbers below. If we have reviewed your file and feel that you would be a good candidate to move from the low deductible to high deductible, we will send you a letter and form to complete.

Minnesota Care

Minnesota Care will send early update forms to Band members who are enrolled in the program in late July or early August. Because Minnesota Care requires an income verification form yearly to determine your eligibility, you may want to request that form from the per capita specialist now.

If you have any questions, please contact your claims processor, David Boyd (A-L) or Roberta Lemieux (M-Z), or Michelle Palomaki, director of Circle of Health, at 320/676-8214 or 800/491-6106.

Diabetes Program Updates

Free diabetes screenings available at powwow

Free diabetes screenings will be available at the Mille Lacs powwow on Saturday, August 21, from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. The Health and Human Services Department's diabetes team will screen blood pressure and glucose levels for people 21 years of age or older. Younger people can be tested with parental permission.

Blood glucose screenings can help identify those who have or are at risk for diabetes or pre-diabetes. Experts estimate that half of all people with diabetes are unaware that they have the disease. For example, at the June community health fair, 41% of the Band members who were tested and not previously diagnosed with diabetes had elevated blood glucose levels in the pre-diabetes or diabetes range.

Early detection of diabetes will decrease the likelihood of complications and related conditions, such as heart attacks and strokes. Studies have found that pre-diabetes can be reversed or delayed with lifestyle changes – including a healthy diet and exercise – if it is diagnosed early enough.

If you have any questions about the screening or diabetes in general, contact Sue Swanson at 320/532-4163, ext. 2527.

Diabetes class

The next diabetes education group class will be offered at the District I Community Center on Thursday, August 12, from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. The class will cover topics including healthy choices, diabetes medications, medical care, nutrition, and more.

Contact Arielle Beaulieu at 320/532-7852 to register by August 10.

Professional Boxing Returns to Grand Casino Hinckley

By Jim Erickson, Boxing Commission Executive Director

Fans will be treated to an intense night of action on August 6 when boxers vie for two World Boxing Organization/North American Boxing Organization (WBO/NABO) titles. The matches will be held at Grand Casino Hinckley at 7:30 p.m.

Chris Avalos (16-0 with 13 KOs) will defend his WBO/NABO Bantamweight title against Christopher Martin (18-0 with 5 KOs), a California State Super Bantamweight champion in the 10-round main event.

In the co-main event, Nigerian power-puncher Lateef Kayode (12-0 with 11KOs) will battle Alfredo Escalera Jr. for the vacant WBO/NABO Cruiserweight title.

Local fan favorite Andy Kolle will face rising star Javontae Starks, a former amateur national champion. Javontae is off to a fast start, racking up four KOs in his four starts since making his professional debut at Grand Casino Hinckley in November 2009.

The night will include three more bouts to be determined later. All bouts are subject to change.

Free Hearing Evaluations

To schedule an appointment for **Friday, August 13**, at Ne-la-Shing Clinic, call 320/532-4163. Walk-ins are welcome. We will do our best to serve you.

Hearmore Hearing has offices in St. Paul and Osseo. To schedule an appointment Monday through Friday, call the St. Paul office at 651/771-4019 or the Osseo office at 763/391-7433.

Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Tribal Government Monthly Financial Report

	Approved budget for FY 2010	Actual expenditures through 6/30/10	June 2010 % of budget expended
Administration (1)*	15,055,047	9,426,250	62.6%
Workforce*	12,435,562	4,103,857	33.0%
Judicial	708,232	478,705	67.6%
Law enforcement*	4,562,799	2,664,114	58.4%
Education*	17,500,933	11,763,314	67.2%
Health and human services*	26,593,553	17,603,627	66.2%
Natural resources*	5,148,765	3,609,403	70.1%
Community development*	37,913,187	11,894,706	31.4%
Gaming authority	4,827,653	3,382,860	70.1%
Per capita payments	38,556,178	25,364,503	65.8%
Economic stimulus	2,900,000	2,763,983	95.3%
Total expenditures	\$166,201,910	\$93,055,322	56.0%

Financial notes:

- (1) Administration includes Chief Executive, administration, finance, Solicitor General, legislative, government affairs, and district operations.
- (2) The amounts above do not include casino operations. However, they do include government operations funded by casino distributions.
- (3) The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe has its financial statements audited every year by an independent public accounting firm. Audit reports from previous years are available for review at the government center.
- (4) Economic development appropriations have been excluded as of October 31, 1997. As of October 1, 1997, the Band has separate accounting functions for the Corporate Commission from the tribal government.

* These departments include continuing appropriations from the 2009 fiscal year.

AMVETS and Ladies Auxiliary Float Wins Trophies



The AMVETS Post 53 and Ladies Auxiliary float took home trophies from the Mille Lacs Powwow in 2009 and most recently at the Onamia Days parade in June 2010. Pictured above is Bette Sam, president, AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary, with the trophies.

The Newspaper of the Mille Lacs Band

OJIBWE
INAAJIMOWIN

"The story as it's told."

Kelly Sam, Editor
Phone 651/292-8062
Fax 651/292-8091
kellys@goffhoward.com

Goff & Howard, Inc.
255 East Kellogg Blvd.
Suite 102
St. Paul, MN 55101

Please provide news tips and other information by the 15th of the previous month.

Tribal Noteboard

Happy August birthday to:

Rachel, 28 on August 2, with love from Kelly, Jay, Kellen, Mom, Taya, and Noah • **Taya Rose**, 10 on August 20, with love from Kelly, Jay, Kellen, Gramma, Mom, and Noah • **Sam Burr**, August 27, with love from Kelly, Jay, Kellen, Tracy, Rachel, Taya, and Noah • **Todd**, August 13, with love from Kelly, Jay, Kellen, Tracy, Rachel, Taya, and Noah • **Pinero**, August 5, with love from Karen, Gram AA, Val, Pie, Lil Kev, Brad, Tracy, Shelby, Max Dean, Jarvis, Jake, Jamie, Aiva, Marky, Rae, Sharon, Wally, Melz, Rave, Brad Eric, Kristy, Brae, Peyton, Eric, Wesley Bruce, Jayla, Lili, Jay, Kate, Adam, Peeps, and Randi • **Shar**, August 6, with love from Karen, Gram AA, Val, Pie, Lil Kev, Brad, Tracy, Shelby, Max Dean, Jarvis, Jake, Jamie, Aiva, Marky, Rae, Sharon, Wally, Melz, Rave, Brad Eric, Kristy, Brae, Peyton, Eric, Wesley Bruce, Jayla, Lili, Jay, Kate, Adam, Peeps, and Randi • **Kim and Brad**, August 15, with love from Valerie, Mariah, and Lil Kevin • **Jay**, August 16, with love from your sisters and bros • **Patricia Jones**, August 20, from Sandy, Erykah, Cheryl and kids, and Thomas • **Alisia**, 4 on August 22, from Mom, sisters, brother, aunty, cousins, and Grandma • **Shayna Dakota**, from your cousins in Minneapolis • **Masceo**, August 20, from your cousins in Minneapolis • **Tyrese**, 10 on August 20, from Gramma June, Papa Gushy, Dad, Ethan, Jazzy, Lydia, Charlie, Sam, Dan, Charles, Elvis, Hunter, Amber, Sunshine, Liz, Dylon, Leroy, Malerie, Keith, Chelsie, Sebastian, and Uncle Man • **Sam and Dan**, 14 on August 28, from Gramma June, Papa Gushy, Elliot, Ethan, Jazzy, Lydia, Charlie, Charles, Elvis, Hunter, Amber, Sunshine, Liz, Dylon, Leroy, Malerie, Keith, Chelsie, Sebastian, and Uncle Man • **Ethan**, 13 on August 29, from Gramma June, Papa Gushy, Elliot, Jazzy, Lydia, Charlie, Charles, Elvis, Hunter, Amber, Sunshine, Liz, Dylon, Leroy, Malerie, Keith, Chelsie, Sebastian, and Uncle Man • **Mickey Sam**, August 20, from Shawnee, Gabi, Phil, Nadine, Best Boy, Charlotte, PJ, Whitney, Renae, Leo, Nick, Papa Doug, and Chick • **Gabbi Jellum**, 8 on August 20, from Shawn, Mom, Troy, Alyssa, Ericka, Jacky PooPoo, Grandma Deb, Len, Carrie and family, Jeremy and family, Phil and family, and whole Harrington clan, Auntie LouLou, Cody, Fat Boy, and

Emmy • **Lisa Sam**, August 8, with love from Auntie Niss, Deondre, Tina, Jose, Jim, Dana, David, Tanya, Sarah, Prince, Trinity, Jaylene, Matt Sr., Rainy, Matty, Valerie, Lil Jay, Way Way, and the rest of your family • **Jaylene Rose**, August 10, with love from Mom, Jim, Deondre, Tina, Jose, Dana, Dave, Tanz, Sarah, Prince, Trin, Rainy, Matty, Val, Lil Jay, Way Way, and the rest of your family • **Bunny**, August 20, with love from Niss, Dana, Jay, Jim, Dalene, and the rest of your family • **Dana**, August 31, with love from Mom, Jim, Deondre, Tina, Jose, David, Tanya, Sarah, Prince, Trin, Rainy, Matty, Val, Lil Niss, Lil Sis Jay, Way Way, and the rest of your family • **Dawn Habeck**, August 3, with love from Auntie Mary, Jerome, Brenda, Roland III, Mom, Dad, Jay, your children, and the rest of your family • **Timmy St. Clair**, August 5, with love from Auntie Mary, Jerome, Brent, Taryn, Brenda, Roland III, Ed, Miss Veronica, Matt Hunt, Chell, Baby Cam, Auntie Nan, Larry, Dad, and the rest of your family • **Brenda Bedausky**, August 9, with love from Mom, Dad, Lucas, Roland III, Jerome, Brent, Taryn, Auntie Nancy, Uncle Larry, Ed, Johnny B, Tim, Miss Veronica, Chell, Baby Cam, Fran, Trista, Paris, JR, Roberta, Maria, and the rest of your family • **Grampa Tarz**, August 8, from Judy, Rod, Val, Sam, Sara, Sunny, and the grandkids • **Dayaunna Nadeau**, August 3, from Gram, Grandpa, Mom, Morgan, Tani, Max, Sarah, Sunny, Val, and Cass • **Kyrah**, 12, August 13, with love from Dad, Mom, Laikora, Tourrie, and Bonz • **Sharon Pendegayosh**, August 6, with love from Phillip, Mickey, Nadine, Best Boy, Charlotte, PJ, Whitney, and Renae • **PJ Harrington**, August 5, with love from Mom, Dad, Nadine, Best Boy, Charlotte, Whitney, Renae, Nick, Leo, Papa Doug, and Auntie Chick • **Carmelena Mitchell**, 8, with love from Mama Bear, Royce, Sam, Luciana, Mataoe, and Keira • **Destiny Mitchell**, 8, from Carmelena, Mataoe, Mitchell, Sonya, Royce, Luciana, Keira.

Happy August birthday to Mille Lacs Band Elders!

Diane Barstow
Frances Benjamin
Clarence Boyd
Marlys Bushey
Karen Clark
Geraldine DeFoe
Wesley Dorr

Dorinda Garbow
Samuel Garbow Jr.
Barbara Goodman
Diana Guizar
Mary Harpster
Blaise Hill
Robert Houle Jr.
George Jackson
Patricia Jones
Doris Kegg
Lorraine Keller
Patrick Matrious
Andy Mitchell
Lynda Mitchell
Gerry Mortenson
Margaret Premo
Bruce Ray
Clara Sam
John Sam
Theresa Schaaf
William Schaaf
David Shaugobay
Frank Shingobe Jr.
Bernadette Smith
Janice Taylor
James Thomas
Richard Thomas Jr.
Sylvester Thomas
Barbara Toth
Michael Wade
Diane Wadena
Juanita Weyaus
Kenneth Weyaus

Congratulations

The **Pewaush family** would like to welcome home their new baby girl. Pam adopted Mariyah on July 8. Special thanks to the Mille Lacs Band Family Services Department. *From Pam, Steve, Dan, Steph, and Sam Pewaush.*

Congratulations to **Michelle Nickaboine Saice and Chico Saice**, who were married on May 14. Congratulations from your family. Thanks to Harold Davis, who cooked all of the food, and everyone who helped celebrate their day.

In memory

Gary Sam – Gone but not forgotten on your birthday – August 13. *With love, Auntie Niss, Jim, Deondre, Tina, Dana, David, Tanya, Sarah, Prince, Trin, Jay, Matty, Rainy, Valerie, Lil Jay, Way Way, and the rest of your family.*

Obituaries

Sherrilyn Marie Mitchell
Born – 5-26-1995
Died – 7-15-2010
Resided in Onamia

Recipe of the Month

Monkey Milkshake

By Christine Kegg, Nutrition Education Assistant

This is a meal in a glass. Even those who don't like milk will ask for more.

Ingredients

- 1 cup sliced strawberries
- 1 banana
- 1 cup nonfat (skim) milk
- 2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 3 ice cubes

Directions

Combine ingredients in a blender container. Blend until smooth and fluffy. Makes 2-3 servings.

Per serving

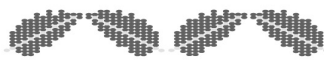
- 117 calories
- 5.2 g protein
- 24.6 g carbs
- 0.8 g fat
- 5% calories from fat

Bobby Anderson Wins Kickboxing Title



Photo courtesy of Bobby Anderson

Bobby Anderson scored a first-round knockout to win the pro world kickboxing championship. At one minute, 37 seconds, Bobby's opponent, Whitney Wadell, did not make the 10 count. Now Bobby is officially retired with three championships, including a world title. Special thanks to the Chief Executive's Office for sponsoring this title fight.



Ojibwe Culture and Traditions



Nay Ah Shing Schools to Implement New Method of Teaching the Ojibwe Language



Toya Stewart Downey

Stephen Neyooxet Greymorning (left) explains his method of teaching Native languages. Brianna Boyd (right) was one of dozens of Band educators, Elders and leaders who attended Stephen's three-day training session at Grand Casino Hinckley.

By Toya Stewart Downey

Elder Dorothy Sam has long been concerned with the dwindling number of people who understand Ojibwe and speak it fluently. There was a time, she said, when many first speakers weren't using the language or teaching it to their families.

"We were so busy surviving...trying to put food on the table that even the first language speakers didn't talk the language to their children."

Or if they taught Ojibwe, it was the words for simple things like numbers, colors and animals.

That's why Dorothy, other Elders, educators, and first speakers are thrilled about a promising new teaching method that could help preserve the language. Developed by Stephen Neyooxet Greymorning, professor of anthropology and Native American studies at the University of Montana, the method uses photos, images, and students' sense of association to help them learn the language. He spent three July days in Hinckley sharing his method, called Accelerated Second Language Acquisition with Band educators.

"We're still flying high about it," said Dorothy. "When I first saw this method, I fell in love with it."

Ruth Garbow, who teaches middle school and some high school classes, isn't a fluent speaker, but she knows a lot of the language and is often able to understand what's being said.

"I thought it was great. If it's going to help our students, I'm all for it," said Ruth, who has been teaching for five years. "I've tried to make it [the language] fun for them, but sometimes it's frustrating, because our language is complicated. Sometimes students just don't get it."

Attending the workshop provided Ruth with new tools that she can use in her classroom to help students learn Ojibwe.

That's exactly what Dorothy, Joe Nayquonabe Sr., and Josh Maudrie, the Band's director of higher education, hoped for when they were introduced to Accelerated Second Language Acquisition in February.

"This is one of the most profound and exciting things in language revitalization," said Josh. "If we use this method, it will produce fluent language speakers. It's proven."

Joe began using the method at the Band's tribal college this spring. He was so impressed by his students' progress that he shared the method's success with the Nay Ah Shing school board. Now educators at both the upper and lower schools are planning to use this method.

"The ultimate goal is to produce young fluent speakers, and this method gives the Band a better chance of accomplishing that than our current method," said Syngen Kanassatega, the Band's language policy analyst.

"Right now, pre-school to fourth-grade students learn the names of animals and colors, while the fifth-graders to seniors learn the language from a text book," he said. "Oftentimes, the material we teach is from a dialect that is slightly different than ours. For example, a word may mean one thing to an Ojibwe tribe in Michigan but might mean a completely different thing here in Mille Lacs."

This method gives us the opportunity to teach the language in a completely different way, Syngen said. "While many languages are taught from textbooks, this method does not require any textbooks."

Instead, it enables instructors to teach the language through pictures and emphasizes speaking and repetition. For instance, learners see an object in a picture and make the visual connection between that object and its Ojibwe word.

"This is more effective than seeing the English word on paper and translating it, because learners see the contents of the pictures in everyday life. It also eliminates the dialect issue, because we will be teaching through these pictures in our dialect," Syngen added.

By the end of one school year, Syngen said he expects that students will be able to see a situation in a picture and describe exactly what is happening in the picture. For example, they could see a picture of two kids playing and be able to describe what the kids are wearing, where they are in relation to each other, their emotions, and more.

Also, he added, it gives the Band the foundation for a potential Ojibwe immersion school where students will learn all subjects in Ojibwe rather than one subject on Ojibwe.

"If all students will be able to describe real-life situations in Ojibwe after one school year, imagine where they could be after four," Syngen said. "Imagine where our preschoolers will be by the time they graduate high school."

Mille Lacs Band Commissioner of Education Dennis Olson said the schools will fully implement the strategy and teaching method this upcoming school year.

"We look forward to positive results in how our youth use, speak and retain the Ojibwe language," Dennis said. "This has been one of the main goals for the community's youth for so long, and hopefully this will help us produce fluent speakers to keep the language alive."

Elaine Sam, who works in the Nay Ah Shing behavior room for grades 5 through 12, is also sold on the method. She started taking language classes at the tribal college and is excited to be retaining what she has learned.

"I'm excited to see the outcome for our kids," Elaine said. "School hasn't started yet, and I'm ready for the end of the year so I can see how they retain the language."

So is Dorothy, whose sister, Mildred "Zhaawan" Benjamin, used a similar method in teaching Ojibwe. "Zhaawan used objects instead of pictures, so when I saw Professor Neyooxet's method, I said, 'This is what Zhaawan was doing,'" said Dorothy.

Neyooxet Greymorning began developing Accelerated Second Language Acquisition in 1998. More than 40 Native communities throughout the United States, Canada, and Australia are using this method.

Upcoming Events at the Mille Lacs Indian Museum

Loom beading workshop

Participants will learn through hands-on experience the art of loom beading from Mille Lacs Band member Ruth Garbow. This two-day workshop will be held at the Mille Lacs Indian Museum on August 14 from noon to 4 p.m. and August 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The workshop costs \$50 for the general public and \$45 for Minnesota Historical Society members and Mille Lacs Band members. There is an additional \$10 supply fee.

Registration is required by August 11. A minimum of five participants is required for this workshop.

Porcupine quill jewelry workshop

Come learn to make necklaces, earrings, and hair ties out of quills during this two-day workshop. The classes will be held at the Mille Lacs Indian Museum on September 11 from noon to 4 p.m. and September 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The workshop costs \$50 for the general public and \$45 for Minnesota Historical Society members and Mille Lacs Band members. There is an additional \$10 supply fee.

Registration is required by September 8. A minimum of five participants is required for this workshop.

A light lunch and refreshments will be provided at both events.

Please call 320/532-3632 to register for these classes.

Calendar of Events

August 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 Talking Circles The Brick House 5:30 p.m. Contact: KC Paulsen, 320/532-4046	6 Grand Friday Night Fights* Grand Casino Hinckley 7:30 p.m.	7
8	9 Pine Grove Leadership Academy Meeting 5 p.m. Contact: Amiliya Zago, 320/384-7598 AMVETS Meeting Grand Casino Mille Lacs 6 p.m. Contact: Ken Weyaus, 320/309-6925	10 State Primary Election	11	12	13	14 Loom Beading Workshop Mille Lacs Indian Museum 12-4 p.m.
15 Loom Beading Workshop Mille Lacs Indian Museum 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Peter Frampton* Grand Casino Hinckley 6 p.m.	16	17 District II Leadership Academy School Board Meeting 4 p.m. Contact: Dawn Aubid, 218/768-2345	18 District III Community Meeting Grand Casino Hinckley 5:30 p.m. Contact: Monica Benjamin, 320/384-6240	19 Talking Circles The Brick House 5:30 p.m. Contact: KC Paulsen, 320/532-4046 Don Burnstick* Grand Casino Mille Lacs 7 p.m.	20 Mille Lacs Band Traditional Powwow Grand Entry 7 p.m.	21 Mille Lacs Band Traditional Powwow Grand Entries 1 & 7 p.m.
22 Mille Lacs Band Traditional Powwow Grand Entry 1 p.m.	23 All government offices closed for Mille Lacs Day	24	25 District IIA Community Meeting Chiminising Community Center 5:30 p.m. Contact: Lesley Sam, 320/676-1102	26 District II Community Meeting East Lake Community Center 5:30 p.m. Contact: Jenny Waugh, 218/768-3311 Urban Area Community Meeting All Nations Indian Church 5:30 p.m. Contact: Barb Benjamin-Robertson, 612/872-1424	27 Dick Fox's Golden Boys* Grand Casino Mille Lacs 7 p.m. both nights	28
29	30 District I Community Meeting District I Community Center 5:30 p.m. Contact: Judy Virnig, 320/532-7423	31 Nay Ah Shing Schools First day of school	September 1 Head Start First day of school	2 Pine Grove Leadership Academy Open House 1-3 p.m.	3 All government offices closing at noon	4
5	6 All government offices closed for Labor Day	7 Pine Grove Leadership Academy First day of school	8	9	<p>*To Purchase Tickets</p> <p>Visit a Grand Casino box office, call TicketMaster at 800/745-3000, or visit www.ticketmaster.com</p> <p>If you would like an event included in the community calendar, please contact Kelly Sam at 651/292-8062 or write to Kelly at kellys@goffhoward.com</p>	

Why Is It Important to Vote in the State Primary?

Arlene Weous



"The state primary affects our Band members' lives, the lives of their children, grandchildren, and our future generations."

Alvina Aubele



"It's an important process so we, the voters, can differentiate candidates and choose the right person for our community."

Carol Towle



"It's important to vote because it's the beginning of the process where you decide which candidate you will support in the general election."

Syngen Kanassatega



"It represents your views and opinions about how you want government to work for you."

Elizabeth Scott



"It's important to vote because it's our voice in the political process."

Jamie Edwards



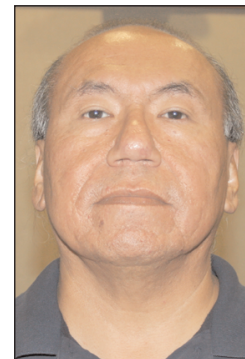
"Voting is a civic duty that should not be taken lightly. Primary elections are the way we decide which candidates will go on to the general election. Some elections do not have competitive primary races. This year the race for governor in Minnesota is competitive, with several democrats battling to face Republican candidate Tom Emmer."

Mel Towle




"It's important because the position state elected officials take on issues could have a significant impact on Band members. For example, expansion of state and/or commercial gaming in Minnesota is a topic that surfaces every year. Band members should understand the position candidates take on this topic and understand what the impact of that position would be on the Band and its members."

Sheldon Boyd



"It's important to me because in the early '60s, my mother stormed down to the public school because a teacher told my little brother he couldn't be President of the United States. My mother would come poke us with her cane to get us to vote, because we are somebody."



**MILLE LAÇS BAND OF OJIBWE
44TH ANNUAL
TRADITIONAL POWWOW
AUGUST 20-22, 2010**

**GRAND ENTRIES:
FRIDAY - 7PM
SATURDAY - 1PM & 7PM
SUNDAY - 1PM**

**LOCATION:
ISKIGAMIZIGAN POWWOW GROUNDS ON THE WEST SIDE OF
LAKE MILLE LAÇS, 12 MILES NORTH OF ONAMIA ON
U.S. HIGHWAY 100. FOLLOW SIGNS**

**EVENTS:
PRINCESS & BRAVE CONTEST
BEST PARADE FLOAT CONTEST
BEST REZ CAR CONTEST
HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT
MOCCASIN GAME
FUN RUN (SPONSORED BY THE MILLE LAÇS INDIAN MUSEUM)
FREE: ADMISSION, CAMPING, SHOWERS, FIREWOOD
(OFF-SITE FIREWOOD PROHIBITED)**

**ON SALE:
POWWOW T-SHIRTS & JACKETS
POWWOW BUTTONS
RAFFLE TICKETS**

**PRIZE 1: 2010 POLARIS SPORTSMAN 300 ATV
PRIZE 2: 52 WEEKS OF BINGO (GCML)
PRIZE 3: CHAR-BROIL 4-BURNER STAINLESS STEEL GRILL**

**DRUM MONIES:
DRUMS MUST HAVE A MINIMUM OF 5 SINGERS. ALL SINGERS MUST
PERSONALLY REGISTER WITH THEIR DRUM AND DESIGNATE ONE
INDIVIDUAL WHO WILL COLLECT AT PAYOUT. AT LEAST 5 REGISTERED
SINGERS MUST BE PRESENT AT THE DRUM DURING EACH ROLL CALL
IN ORDER TO BE PAID FOR THAT SESSION.**

**FOOD & CRAFT VENDORS WELCOME:
LIMITED SPACE-RESERVE EARLY
CONTACT ROBERT THOMPSON 320-532-7841**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:
FREEDOM PORTER 320-532-7539
MARY JO JENNINGS 320-532-5944**

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

**HOME OF THE JINGLE DRESS
ISKIGAMIZIGAN
Est. 1966**

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