

OJIBWE INAAJIMOWIN

THE STORY AS IT'S TOLD



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Joe Nayquonabe, left, and Tony and Christina Pike, right, with Native American World War II veteran Charles Shay and Marie-Pascale Legrand, the French host of the Native delegation.

Vets Remember the Fallen at Normandy

Brett Larson InaaJimowin Staff Writer

Seventy-four years ago, 19-year-old Charles Shay, a Penobscot Indian from Maine, found himself running ashore alongside thousands of other Americans at Omaha Beach, France — one of the landing sites for the Normandy Invasion on June 6, 1944. Best known as D-Day, that date and place have become synonymous with sacrifice.

Seventy-three years later, Charles was back at Omaha for a ceremony dedicating a memorial to Charles and approximately 500 other Native veterans who fought in the battle that marked the turning point in World War II.

Charles returned this year to mark the one-year anniversary of the memorial, and among those who joined him for the ceremony were two Mille Lacs Band members: Joe Nayquonabe Sr., a decorated Vietnam Vet, and Tony Pike, a 23-year member of the Army National Guard who was deployed overseas several times during his long career.

For Joe, the visit to Omaha and Utah beaches and several cemeteries and museums around France were especially meaningful. “Being a veteran and seeing all those vets — 10,500 at one cemetery and 4,500 at another — looking at those stones, most of those guys were 18, 19 years old. When I think of it now, they’re babies.”

The memory that stands out for Tony was visiting the grave of Charles Corbine of Lac Courte Oreilles, the uncle of District III community member Patty Sam. Tony called Patty from the

grave and let her listen to sights and sounds of the cemetery as he and Joe put down tobacco and said a prayer for Charles.

The week leading up to this year’s D-Day anniversary was a whirlwind of activity for Joe, Tony, Tony’s daughter Christina, and the other Native vets who had made the long journey to France.

On Friday, June 1, a welcoming of the delegation took place in Bretteville, followed by a ceremony in Carentan and a World War II film festival at the Utah Beach Museum.

The next day included a visit to the Dead Man’s Corner Museum, a ceremony honoring Native Americans, and a Liberty March in Carentan. At the museum, Joe and Tony were struck by a photograph of the 101st paratroopers, including one Native American wearing war paint and a Mohawk.

On Sunday, June 3, Joe and Tony joined a military parade in Sainte-Mere-Eglise, and on Monday they visited the Colleville U.S. Normandy Cemetery and the St. James U.S. Brittany Cemetery for a historic program and ceremonies.

On Tuesday, June 5, the group visited the Charles Shay Indian Memorial at Omaha Beach near the town of St. Laurent sur Mer. Charles helped dedicate the monument last year in honor of Native American veterans. The memorial includes a sculpture of a turtle representing Turtle Island — a Native American name for America.

Vets continued on 6

St. John, Bruneau Elected to Band Assembly

The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe’s general election on Tuesday, June 12, determined Marvin Ray Bruneau as the District II Representative and Wallace Ervin St. John as the District III Representative. Along with Sheldon Boyd, the Mille Lacs Band’s next Secretary-Treasurer, they will be sworn into office July 10 at 10 a.m. at Grand Casino Mille Lacs. Band members are welcome to attend a barbecue picnic luncheon immediately following the swearing-in ceremony.

Vote totals — District II Representative

- Marvin Ray Bruneau: 77 votes
- Raina Elaine Killspotted: 63 votes
- Total: 140

District II includes Band member communities in Minisinaakwaang (East Lake), Sandy Lake, Minnewawa, and the Dlla community in Chiminising. The outgoing District II Representative is David Aubid, who did not seek re-election.



Marvin Bruneau

Vote totals — District III Representative

- Wallace Ervin St. John: 107 votes
- Lauren Gay Davis: 79 votes
- Total: 186

District III includes the Aazhoomog (Lake Lena) community near the St. Croix River east of Hinckley, as well as a large community of Band members living in Hinckley. The outgoing District III Representative is Harry Davis, who did not seek re-election.



Wally St. John

In accordance with Minnesota Chippewa Tribe election law, any candidate who receives more than 50 percent of the vote in the primary election is declared the winner. Sheldon Boyd was the winner in the Mille Lacs Band Secretary-Treasurer contest in the April primary, and therefore no general election was held in this contest.

These three positions are part of the Mille Lacs Band Assembly, which is the Band’s legislative branch. The Band Assembly consists of one Representative from each of the reservation’s three districts and the Secretary-Treasurer, who presides over the Band Assembly as speaker.

Election continued on 2

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

MELANIE
BENJAMIN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



Aaniin, Boozhoo! This month began with the mid-year meeting of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), which was held in Kansas City, Missouri. The theme of this year's conference was "Lighting the Way: Tribes Leading Change." This year's focus was on identifying and sharing best practices for addressing the opioid epidemic in Indian Country. At NCAI's invitation, I participated as a panelist on a discussion about tribally-designed programs that incorporate culture and tradition in prevention and treatment.

One aspect of NCAI that many people don't realize is that nearly every top federal official in the U.S. government who has authority over matters in Indian country attends these conferences, so NCAI meetings are an excellent opportunity to obtain one-on-one time with some of the most powerful policy-makers in Indian country. As an example, there are two top officials in the administration who we wanted to meet with about our public safety issues. Ordinarily it would take up to a few months to schedule these meetings in D.C. Instead, I was able to get their immediate attention at NCAI and have a productive meeting there.

One of my favorite events this month was attending Nay Ah Shing graduation! It was wonderful to see our high school graduates and all the proud and happy families that evening. These young Band members have so much potential and are going to do great things in the world. Congratulations to all our Band high school graduates from Onamia, Isle, McGregor, Hinckley, Pine City, Sandstone, and the urban area, as well as from all across the rest of Minnesota and the nation, and congratulations as well to the many Band members who achieved their college and graduate degrees. Education is a key to success in the world, and it's something no one can ever take away from you!

On the topic of Band youth, please let your Native youth family members ages 14-24 know that they are invited by Governor Dayton to attend the first-ever Minnesota Tribal Youth Gathering on July 27 at the University of Minnesota, St. Paul campus. This gathering is open to all Native youth living in Minnesota and will bring youth together with tribal and state

leaders, civic and business leaders, and educational organizations to focus on challenges facing Native American youth. The gathering will also recognize and amplify the positive work that Native youth in Minnesota are doing to improve their communities and discuss topics including culture and language revitalization, health, education, history, self-sufficiency, sovereignty, youth engagement, and public leadership development.

The only eligibility requirement is that Native youth must first sign up for the Generation Indigenous (Gen-I) challenge, which is a pledge to make a positive difference in their community, by July 27. The Gen-I challenge is available at this link: <https://aspeninstitute.wufoo.com/forms/zkr0zsl1m6qyvp/>. Miigwech to Amanda Eagle and Roxanne Emerson for volunteering their time on the Governor's Steering Committee to help plan this event!

On a more somber note, like every other tribe in Minnesota, we are facing a crisis with out-of-home placement of Band children, but recent events created cause for greater concern about how placement is happening. To examine these issues, the Band has hired the Jacobson Law Group to conduct an investigation of Band processes involved with out-of-home placement of Band children. The two lead attorneys who will be handling the investigation are highly experienced with child welfare issues. At a certain point, families will be interviewed as well about their experiences. Miigwech to the Band members who bravely shared their story and prompted this investigation. We will keep Band members updated about this process as it unfolds.

On June 11, the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (MCT) held a special meeting at Mille Lacs to consider a censure motion regarding me that was brought up at the previous TEC meeting by Secretary-Treasurer Carolyn Beaulieu. I presented my response to the motion at the special meeting, and then the vote was taken. Secretary-Trea-

urer Carolyn Beaulieu voted "yes" to censure. Chairwoman Cathy Chavers (Bois Forte), Chairman Terry Tibbetts (White Earth), Chairman Faron Jackson (Leech Lake), Chairman Norman Deschampe (Grand Portage), Secretary-Treasurer David Morrison (Bois Forte), Secretary-Treasurer Ferdinand Martineau (Fond du Lac), and myself all voted "no" against censure, so the motion was voted down by 7-1, 0 silent. Miigwech to all the Band Members who attended this meeting.

Other meetings I attended this month include the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council (MIAC), a board meeting of the Minnesota Board on Aging, a quick trip to Cloquet to visit the Wisdom Steps Conference, and the National Leadership Conference sponsored by Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures. The National Leadership Conference was outstanding, and I was excited to see how our community values were reflected in the leadership philosophies shared. Miigwech to Commissioner Joseph Nayquonabe and the Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures team who did excellent work to make this conference happen.

Please mark your calendars for 10 a.m. on July 10 at Grand Casino Mille Lacs for the swearing-in ceremony of our new elected officials: Secretary-Treasurer Sheldon Boyd, District II Representative Marvin Bruneau, and District III Representative Wallace St. John. We are blessed to have many, many Band Members in our community who have stepped up as leaders in many ways over these past two years, which has had a significant and positive impact on our community. I hope to see all of you on July 10 so that we can welcome in our new elected leaders and celebrate leadership at all levels! Chi Miigwech!

"Please mark your calendars for 10 a.m. on July 10 at Grand Casino Mille Lacs for the swearing-in ceremony of our new elected officials."

Band Supports Fond du Lac in Opposing PolyMet Land Swap

Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin distributed a letter to key federal lawmakers on June 12 supporting the Fond du Lac Band's position against a land transfer to PolyMet Mining.

The letter, addressed to Senators Mitch McConnell, John McCain, James Inhofe, Jack Reed, and Chuck Shumer, requests that the Senate not approve an amendment transferring 6,650 acres within the Superior National Forest to PolyMet Mining, a Canadian-owned company.

"This provision is opposed by Indian tribes across the country, as illustrated by an NCAI resolution and letters from many other tribal leaders," Melanie's letter states.

"As explained by the Fond du Lac Band in its letter, the proposed transfer and the mining it may lead to are within an area subject to treaty-reserved hunting, fishing, and gathering rights. The Mille Lacs Band shares those concerns. The Mille Lacs Band is one of the Indian tribes that hold those rights, and the United States is the trustee of those rights.

"Congress should refrain from any action that would give the perception that it has chosen mining over other uses without regard for the real potential for harm to natural resources."

Election From page 1

Marvin served as District II Representative for 24 years and returns to office with an intimate knowledge of tribal government and the Mille Lacs Band's division of powers system.



Sheldon Boyd

Wally is an 18-year resident of Aazhoomog who has worked for the DNR and served as Boxing Commissioner in the Department of Athletic Regulation.

Sheldon is new to elected office but has served in tribal government in various capacities, most recently as Site IT Manager for Ne-la-Shing Clinic. He is also a Drumkeeper, pipe carrier, and avid runner.

The next District I Representative election will be held in 2020, along with the Chief Executive election. Enrolled Band members at least 18 years of age are eligible to vote, and Band members 21 and over are eligible to run for office.

Outgoing Assembly Marks Accomplishments from Last Year

As three of the four Band Assembly members complete their final days in office, they are celebrating accomplishments and the groundwork they've laid for the new members who will be sworn into office in July. Miigwech to Secretary-Treasurer Carolyn Beaulieu, District II Representative David "Niib" Aubid, and District III Representative Harry Davis for your years of service.

The past year has been a busy one, and following are just some of the priorities and projects the Band Assembly has led the way on. Band Assembly members emphasized that making sure their doors are always open to Band members has been their most important job, because that approach ensures that "Band members' priorities are our priorities."

— Band Assembly appropriated extensive funds for land acquisition, development, and property improvements. Many of these investments will directly improve services to Band members. For instance, a new District I clinic is in the middle of construction on the Sher property in District I, the Band broke ground on June 1 for the new District I Community Center, the new Meshakwad Community Center in Hinckley is about to open, and the Band purchased a dialysis facility in Isle earlier this year.

Additionally, the construction of Lady Luck Estates in Hinckley will provide affordable housing units for the casino workforce. For a portion of the project, Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures secured financing through the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program. The LIHTC program provides millions of dollars every year for the development of affordable housing. In the interim, Band Assembly provided a temporary loan to get the project off the ground.

Other Band investments are helping improve amenities for Guests at Grand Casinos and other Band-owned businesses, which are critical to our business success. Floor-to-ceiling improvements have been made to both casinos, from lighting to carpeting to the swimming pool at Grand Casino Hinckley. Some restaurants (like Grand Buffet) have been updated, and other new ones have debuted — like 1991 at Grand Casino Mille Lacs and The Grille House at Grand Casino Hinckley.

— In June, Band Assembly passed and the Chief Executive signed the Child and Family Protection Statute into law. As with any new law, the Solicitor General and elected officials have noted several amendments and revisions that this law will require. However, the Band's focus on child protection is timely and much needed.

— Band Assembly revised the Tribal Employment Rights Ordinance (TERO), and the new TERO Commissioners were ratified earlier this year, replacing the Administrative Policy Board as the TERO enforcement entity. The commission is working with the TERO Director to develop the policies and procedures for the TERO program, which is aimed at ensuring Band member and Native employment, a productive Band workforce, and a good workplace for all employees.

— In 2017, Band Assembly held Revenue Allocation Plan (RAP) meetings in all districts and the urban area to explain the current RAP, discuss the challenges in meeting budget needs, and receive Band members' questions and input. Forthcoming changes will need approval by Band elected leadership and will be shared with community members before going to the Department of the Interior for final approval.

— Also in the last year, the Office of Management and Budget undertook the major task of converting the Band's accounting software system — an improvement in technology and functionality that took over 15 months to complete.

— Starting in 2015, the Legislative Office hosted three annual legislative women's gatherings. The success of those gatherings led to monthly women's gatherings. Band Member Kim Sam has talked with the group about her Mothers of Traditions approach to wellbriety and life. Participants also play Ojibwe bingo to continue practicing the Ojibwe language. "Spending



The Band broke ground on the new District I Community Center June 1. Pictured with a representative of Nor-Son are Band members Caryn Day and Carla Dunkley, Secretary-Treasurer Carolyn Beaulieu, and Commissioner of Community Development Percy Benjamin.



Annual women's gatherings started by the Legislative Office in 2015 have developed into monthly opportunities for women to learn, share, and socialize.

time with fellow women of the Band talking about issues in our lives and how to cope with those issues has led to bonding in our community and empowerment," said Secretary-Treasurer Carolyn Beaulieu.

— The General Welfare Exclusion (GWE) Act allows American Indian tribes to establish tax-exempt benefit programs to care for their tribal members. Tribes are able to create non-taxable programs that address the unique needs of members from a social, cultural, economic, and community standpoint. In April 2018, Band Assembly approved a Joint Resolution adopting the GWE Act for implementation of general welfare programs for Mille Lacs Band members. The Joint Resolution is pending the Chief Executive's signature.

— The Mille Lacs Band redesigned its motor vehicle license plates last year and held a contest to find the new design. Band Assembly examined the submissions, voted, and selected the plate designed by talented young lady and Band member Simone Boyd-Evans.

— The Band uses the Minnesota Community Foundation to

invest and manage its foundation dollars and to use a portion of such funds for charitable purposes as determined by the Band. Band Assembly approved the following strategic donations from the Band's foundation in 2017 and 2018:

- Honor The Earth, \$15,000 (to oppose new fossil fuel pipelines, protect our water, and promote renewable energy)
- Pine County, \$25,000 (to pay for half of a community coach position)
- Ain Dah Yung Our Home Shelter, \$40,000 (to fund a youth shelter in the Twin Cities)
- Indian Legal Assistance Program, \$15,000 (to support pro bono legal services provided to Indian people)
- White Earth Land Recovery Project, \$5,000 (to support Indian Country radio broadcasting)

Band Assembly leaders want to say Miigwech to Band members for all of their ideas and support over the past four years.

State and Local News Briefs

Religious leaders oppose new Enbridge pipeline: On June 4, more than 500 religious leaders delivered a petition against Enbridge's proposed new Line 3 oil pipeline across northern Minnesota to Gov. Mark Dayton and state utility regulators. The letter, signed by Protestant leaders and ministers of several faiths, called the proposed new line a "moral issue" — a threat to the environment and Minnesota's Ojibwe. *Source: startribune.com.*

New children's book tells story of 'bowwow powwow': Ojibwe University of Minnesota professor Brenda Child has published a new children's book in both English and Ojibwe. "Bowwow Powwow" tells the story of a young Ojibwe girl named Windy Girl, who attends a powwow with her uncle and dog, Itchy Boy. Wendy falls asleep and has a dream of a powwow composed of performing dogs in traditional regalia. The book is illustrated by Jonathan Thunder, a member of the Red Lake Band. "I wanted to teach a little bit about Ojibwe history," Child said. "I also wanted it to be a bilingual children's book to help language educators and families. But some of the purpose of doing a children's book is just to have fun." *Source: mprnews.org.*

Governor vetoes wild rice bill: On May 30 Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton vetoed a second version of a so-called "wild rice bill" intended to simplify the state's water standards. In a letter to House Speaker Kurt Daudt, Dayton said the bill represents some progress but still has shortcomings. Said Dayton, "It appeared that the interests, who advocated for the initial bill, were principally concerned with rehashing disagreements with MPCA (the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency) on the scientific research supporting the sulfate standard, and with attempting to replace the MPCA's responsibilities under state and federal laws with the authority of the work group. Giving a work group the power to decide the state's wild rice water quality standard is an unlawful delegation of authority under the federal Clean Water Act, as well as offensive to the Native American Tribes, who place great significance on wild rice." *Source: Office of Governor Mark Dayton.*

PUC weighs Line 3 pipeline decision: The Minnesota Public Utilities Commission heard arguments for and against Enbridge's Line 3 pipeline in hearings starting June 18. The PUC was scheduled to make a decision on the certificate of need and the route of the pipeline June 28 (after this issue of *Ojibwe Inaajimowin* went to press). The decision could reverberate across the country and the world as oil and transport companies face off with environmentalists and Native American tribes who see oil pipelines as a threat to efforts to curb the burning of fossil fuels linked to climate change. *Source: mprnews.org.*

Grand Mound reopening considered: The Grand Mound, a 25-foot-tall American Indian burial site near the Canadian border, was designated a National Historic Landmark several years ago but has been closed to the public because of state budget cuts in 2002. After a series of meetings with various tribal groups, Minnesota officials said they will decide this fall whether to reopen the sacred site in some way or keep it closed for the foreseeable future. The Bois Forte Band recommends keeping it closed to tourists but open for Indian ceremonies. *Source: startribune.com.*

Community Activism Brings Awareness and Response to Foster Care Crisis

A petition signed by more than 300 Band members, a rally at the Government Center on June 7, hundreds of Facebook statements, and solidarity from Mille Lacs Band elected officials resulted in action last month on an issue of great concern: foster care for the youngest and most vulnerable Anishinaabeg — our children.

The issue arose after a Tribal Court judge granted guardianship of the daughter of a Mille Lacs Band member to an aunt in Florida she barely knew instead of to the Mille Lacs Band relatives she'd spent her life with.

With one day's notice, the young girl was taken from her foster home and flown to Florida without the opportunity to say goodbye to family and friends, according to her mother and grandmother.

Fortunately, the child was returned to Mille Lacs on June 10.

The young girl has spent her entire life in Minnesota and has attended Wewinabi Early Education in District I. Until the removal, she had been living with relatives at Mille Lacs while her mother worked to meet conditions for reunification. The child's father lives in Minnesota, but he has had little contact with his daughter over the last two years.

Family and community members sprang into action as the events unfolded.

On June 1, a petition circulating on Facebook and around the Districts was signed by hundreds of Band members and allies. The petition read as follows:

- *Aaniindi Gidabinoojiinhyiminaanig (Where are all our children). We, the undersigned Mille Lacs Band Community Members, demand the Band Government to find out "Where are all our children."*
- *Our children are SACRED to us! Our children are our FUTURE!*
- *The last child welfare review was done in the late 1980s under the leadership of Wewinabi (Art Gahbow) when he said "I want to know where all our Mille Lacs Band children are". (Where are they placed, who has them, are they with their families?)*
- *In the past the counties were taking our children today it is the Tribal Court and Tribal Family Services.*
- *Stop the legal kidnapping of [name removed to maintain confidentiality] and all the other Mille Lacs Band children that are being taken from their families, extended kin, culture and traditions.*

In response to the controversy and expressions of concern on Facebook, Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin said, "Our children are sacred. It is our cultural responsibility to take care of our children and our statutory responsibility as a Band government to protect our children. Like most tribes in the country, the out-of-home placement of our children has rapidly increased due to parents being incapable of caring for their children. However, when parents have made real and positive changes to their lives toward the goal of being reunited with their children, as a government we should be supporting the eventual reunification of families. Therefore, under my authority of Executive Inquiry in Band Statutes, I have ordered an immediate investigation of Band processes and programs involved with decision-making for out-of-home placement. A hearing officer with subpoena power will be conducting the investigation."

On June 5, Melanie signed an Executive Order providing for an Executive Inquiry into the Band's Department of Health and Human Services, in particular the Family Services office. In addition, the Inquiry will look at all aspects of the child placement process, including the roles of Band attorneys and the Tribal Court.

The Chief Executive ordered hearings into the current child placement system and the appointment of guardians, followed



A rally was held at the Government Center on June 7 to call for government action on foster care.

by recommendations for policies, procedures, and further steps for improving the operations and oversight of the placement of children.

The Chief Executive appointed the Jacobson Law Group — and specifically its attorneys Susan Allen and Joe Halloran — as hearing examiners who are experts on the subject of child placement and impartial third parties with no stake in the outcome of the investigation. Band officials will wait to comment until after the Executive Inquiry is completed.

As supporters rallied at the Government Center on June 7, the child's mother testified before the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches of the Mille Lacs Band government. Melanie came out to greet the protesters and share copies of the Executive Order she had signed.

Later that day, Band Assembly approved the Chief Executive's contract for an Executive Inquiry (see below) and made it clear that they were listening to the concerns of the community and would do all in their power to respond to the situation and others like it.

Executive Order

The Executive Order approved by Band Assembly reads in part as follows (for the complete order, see millelacsband.com):

WHEREAS, recent events have raised concerns among many persons and elected leaders of the Mille Lacs Band regarding the conduct and oversight of the placement of children; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Executive has determined that, in order to proceed in a prudent manner, it is proper and necessary to conduct hearings into the current child placement system and the appointment of guardians and to develop recommendations for policies, procedures and further steps for improving the operations and oversight of the placement of children; and NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED:

1. The Jacobson Law Group and its attorneys Susan Allen and Joe Halloran are appointed as a hearing officer pursuant to 4 MLSBA 13 for the purpose of investigating the Mille Lacs Band Health and Human Services Department, and related institutions on the matters of child placements and the appointment of guardians;
2. The hearing officer is hereby granted subpoena power to gather information and command the attendance and testimony of individuals in connection with its investigation and hearings contemplated by Sections 12 and 13; and
3. The Jacobson Law Group shall conduct any hearings in this matter consistent with the guidelines and principles set forth in the Band Statutes, including particularly 4 MLSBA 12, 13, and 14.

Dated: This 5th Day of June, 2018
Melanie Benjamin, Chief Executive

Former Tribal Judge Richard Osburn Running for Mille Lacs County Attorney

Brett Larson Inaajimowin Staff Writer

The Mille Lacs County Attorney's race was looking like a ho-hum contest between two members of the county establishment: current County Attorney Joe Walsh, and former County Attorney Jan Jude.



Richard Osburn

That was until June 4, the day before the filing deadline, when former Tribal Court Judge and Deputy Solicitor General Richard Osburn announced his candidacy.

"One reason I'm running is that the people of the Mille Lacs Band are tired of being viewed as the enemy by the county government," said Richard, who is now an unemployment law judge for the State of Minnesota. "The Band has a tremendous amount of resources that could be used to make the entire county a safer place. The county should partner with the Band and utilize those resources. Unfortunately, there are people in county government who view anything positive from the Band as a threat."

Decorated veteran, Indian law expert

Osburn, an enrolled member of the Cherokee nation of Oklahoma, received his law degree from the University of Oklahoma College of Law, where he was named Outstanding Senior Law Student in 1999.

He started his law career as a prosecutor with the Cherokee Nation from 2000 to 2007, when he took a position as Senior Deputy Solicitor General at Mille Lacs. From 2008 to 2014 he served as District Judge in the Mille Lacs Band Tribal Court. As an unemployment law judge for the State since then, he hears up to 22 cases per week.

Richard was raised in northeast Oklahoma and attended a majority Cherokee elementary school. He graduated from Tahlequah High School and enlisted in the Air Force Reserve to help pay for college.

He later transferred to the Naval ROTC and has served as a Surface Warfare Officer on two destroyers. During that time, he led sailors onto foreign merchant ships to search for contraband, earning the Southwest Asia Service Medal, the Liberation of Kuwait Medal, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal while in the Navy Reserve.

Richard is a third-generation veteran, and his son is also a veteran who served in the Army infantry in Afghanistan.

Candidates Walsh and Jude

Current County Attorney Walsh and former County Attorney Jude have both stood in opposition to the Mille Lacs Band over the years. Jan Jude, who was elected in 2002, 2006, and 2010, opposed multiple applications to put land into trust as well as the Band's application for federal law enforcement assistance under the Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA). On many occasions, her court filings stated that the 1855 Mille Lacs Reservation had been disestablished — a long-held position of the County and the State that stands in direct opposition to the U.S. government's position that the boundaries of the reservation are still intact.

Band members and government officials alike had high hopes that Joe Walsh would signal a change in the relationship between the County and Band when he was elected in 2014, but he supported the County Board's decision to rescind the law enforcement agreement with the Band in 2016.



Jan Jude



Joe Walsh

Mark your calendar: Minnesota primaries are August 14!

Band members can make their voices heard from Milaca to Washington by participating in Minnesota primaries on Tuesday, August 14. Primaries will narrow the field of candidates who will face each other in the general election Tuesday, November 6. In addition to the Mille Lacs County Attorney's race (see above), contested races include the following:

- **Minnesota Governor:** Several DFL and Republican candidates are hoping to receive their party's nod to run in the general election. On the Democratic side, Tim Walz and running-mate Peggy Flanagan, who were endorsed by the Mille Lacs Band, will face DFL-endorsed candidate Erin Murphy, with Erin Maye-Quade as her running mate, and Lori Swanson, who decided to leave her position as Attorney General to run for Governor, with 8th District U.S. Rep. Rick Nolan as her running mate. Lesser-known candidates Tim Holden and Ole Savior round out the DFL race. On the Republican side, former Governor Tim Pawlenty is running against Republican-endorsed candidate Jeff Johnson and Matt Kruse.
- **Minnesota Attorney General:** When Lori Swanson decided to run for Governor, several Democrats came forward to run for her seat, including 5th District U.S. Congressman Keith Ellison. The other Democrats in the race are Tom Foley, Debra Hillstrom, Mike Rothman, and Matt Pelikan, who was endorsed by the state DFL. On the Republican side, the candidates are Sharon Anderson, Robert Lessard, and Doug Wardlow.
- **Eighth U.S. Congressional District:** With Rick Nolan retiring, five Democrats, two Republicans, and Independence Party candidate Ray Skip Sandman are hoping to replace him. The Democrats in the race are Kirsten Kennedy, Michelle Lee, Jason Metsa, Joe Radinovich, and Soren Sorensen. The Republicans are Pete Stauber and Harry Welty.
- **Fifth U.S. Congressional District:** Keith Ellison's decision to run for Attorney General threw open the race for his seat representing Minneapolis in the U.S. House of Representatives. Six Democrats and three Republicans are seeking to represent their parties in the general election November 6.

It's not too early to make plans to vote in the August 14 primary! Stay tuned to Facebook and Ojibwe Inaajimowin for information on the elections and how to get involved to make Native votes count!

National News Briefs

New Mexico may send first Native woman to Congress: New Mexico has moved closer to electing the first Native American woman to the U.S. House of Representatives after Deb Haaland's victory in a June 5 Democratic primary for an open congressional seat encompassing Albuquerque. Native Americans from Washington state to Oklahoma celebrated the possibility of a landmark in U.S. political history. Haaland, a tribal member of the Laguna Pueblo, defeated a crowded field of mainly Hispanic candidates. "The Native vote has helped a lot of candidates win. The Native vote can sway a statewide election," she said. "I think if we keep working hard to get out to vote and to stay active, we can have a larger say in our politics." *Source: minnesota.cbslocal.com.*

Kentucky grave robber headed to prison: Gary Womack, who plundered Native American burial sites, was sentenced to 15 months in federal prison after another man said Womack mentioned having a vault in his house with skeletons in it. Police didn't find any skeletons during a raid, but the investigation showed he dealt in artifacts, such as arrowheads, removed from Native American grave sites in caves and rock shelters in south-central Kentucky, and from burial sites in other states, according to a news release and court records. *Source: kentucky.com.*

Wolves to be relocated to Isle Royale: The National Park Service announced last month that it will move ahead with a plan to move 20 to 30 wolves onto Isle Royale over the next three years beginning later this fall, Isle Royale Superintendent Phyllis Green said. The wolf population on Isle Royale, located about 15 miles off Minnesota's North Shore, has dwindled to two wolves, a father and daughter, due to inbreeding and genetic deformities. In recent years, new wolves have been unable to cross the ice to the island during the winters. Without more wolves on the island, the moose population is expected to increase, causing environmental damage, and the moose will begin to starve to death. *Source: Duluth News Tribune.*

Remains of Native children returned after 100 years: The remains of four Native American children who died at Carlisle Indian school in Pennsylvania were being disinterred June 14 so they could start the long journey home to their families scattered across the American west. The children included 10-year-old Little Plume, of the Northern Arapaho; George Eil, of the Blackfeet Nation; Herbert Little Hawk, of the Oglala Sioux; and Her Pipe Woman, also known as Dora Brave Bull, of the Standing Rock Sioux. *Source: theguardian.com.*

High voter turnout expected for primaries: Hotly-contested DFL and Republican primary races are expected to drive voter turnout in the August 14 primary to levels not seen in 20 years. In the Governor's race, Republican-endorsed candidate Jeff Johnson faces former Republican Gov. Tim Pawlenty, and DFL-endorsed candidate Erin Murphy is being challenged by U.S. Rep. Tim Walz and Attorney General Lori Swanson. A surprisingly contested attorney general's race was triggered by Swanson's decision to run for governor, which led to a scramble for U.S. Rep. Keith Ellison's 5th District congressional seat, which opened after he decided to run for attorney general. Up north, 8th District Democrats are facing a five-way primary for Rick Nolan's congressional seat. *Source: mprnews.org.*

Summer Gathering

By Beatrice Taylor

The late Beatrice Taylor wrote this for the Moccasin Telegraph series published in the Mille Lacs Messenger. It is reprinted to help preserve her teachings and pass them on to the next generation.

As the summer days become warmer, I remember the summer gathering I did as a child. A long time ago, berries were plentiful in central Minnesota. I grew up in Aazhoomog, near the Hinckley area. We could go almost anywhere to gather berries back then, because there weren't so many rules. When we found berries, we might build a shelter and make camp, staying two or three days while we gathered. But gathering was also a part of our everyday life. We ate berries all summer long, and not just blueberries. I remember when I was young, we would wake up in the morning and our ma would be reading or sewing. My sister and I would get a biscuit and tea and we'd head out back for the woods. Whatever we found that was ripe, we ate. We ate plums in the late summer, pincherries, blueberries, raspberries, strawberries, Juneberries, and the little wintergreen berries. We even ate the basswood leaves and the tender sumac tips. We would just chew on sumac. We ate everything, which is why we were so healthy.

I also have summer memories of gathering blossoms and plants for medicines with my grandma. We had medicines for any ailment. We would begin hunting special blossoms in the spring and go until the last month of summer, when we would end with the water lily and wild rice blossoms. I remember walking in the woods one time with my great-grandma and my great-aunt, looking for blossoms. We walked for two days from Aazhoomog to Cloverdale. When it began to get dark that first night, we came by a farmhouse. I thought we were going to go in and see if it was empty. But instead, Grandma and Auntie both unwrapped little quilts tied around their waists and we lay down right there, in a field next to the St. Croix River.

In the morning, I remember being a little chilly. Grandma told me to get up and wash in the river. While I was washing, Auntie found an old coffee can. She went through the field and picked some kind of purple berries. They were wonderful, but to this day I still don't know what they were. She made a little fire, mixed the berries with some river water, and cooked them. Grandma always had hard biscuits tied up in a bandanna around her waist. That morning, we had biscuits and berries for breakfast. We walked more that day. Grandma was always walking and walking, gathering medicines to use. I wish I knew what they were, and how to make them, but I never paid much attention. Our Elders tried to teach us, but I guess we thought we knew it all. But just gathering, being with my grandma, oh, it was the best time.

These days, there aren't many berries left in this area. So I savor my memories. Nearly each year, it seemed that fire would strike some area nearby. But the results the following spring were wonderful, because the blueberry bushes would come back thicker than ever. By summer, the branches would be laying flat against the ground, heavy with the weight of big sweet blueberries. I still dream of summer gathering. I'm walking through the brush, only to hit a little clearing. It is an ocean of blue in places, filled with the biggest blueberries. I rest there and begin picking, with the sweet taste filling my mouth. I dream this now. But it was real. That was something to see.

Vets

From page 1

At the time of the dedication, Charles Shay was quoted as saying, "There were mothers across Turtle Island [North America] praying for their brave sons. My heart breaks for those women who were never able to welcome their sons home again."

The ceremonies concluded on June 6, the D-Day anniversary, at the 1st U.S. Infantry Division Monument in Colleville sur Mer and the Ranville Gun Battery in Merville-Franceville-Plage.

"Everyplace we went we got treated like VIPs," said Joe. He and the other vets always had front row seats, and many people wanted photographs with them — including the daughter of General George Patton.

"It was good to see the French people's appreciation of our efforts," Tony said. "Each time the Natives walked in, we got an ovation."

The eagle staff carried by Joe and Tony received a great deal of attention. Tony created a new staff for the event with help from three Mille Lacs community members: Band member Steve Premo, whose floral design was used; Band member Terry Kemper, who harvested and shaped the wood; and Tony's partner Ramona Bird, who did the sewing. Tony wrapped 19 eagle feathers, representing the wars the nation has fought, the four branches of the service, Purple Heart recipients (including Joe), POW/MIAs, and the Mille Lacs Band.

Joe and Tony were told of the event by Band member Bill Schaaf, who heard about it from Joe Podlasek, an LCO Band member who runs Trickster Art Gallery in Schaumburg, Illinois, and was Tony and Joe's main contact stateside, letting them know what they needed to bring and what to expect, as he attended the ceremonies there last year.

Another highlight for Tony was bringing his daughter Chris-

tina along. Father and daughter visited the Eiffel Tower, the Louvre, and other sites around the city, including Disneyland, which Christina was able to experience on her 12th birthday.

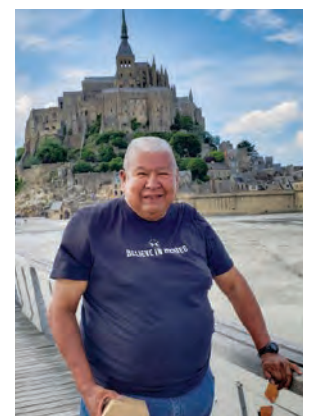
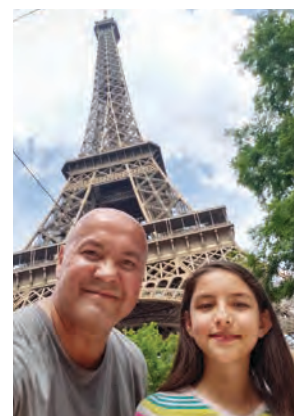
"She took care of us out there," said Joe. "She kept us in line."

Joe was impressed by Notre Dame, but also the French countryside and villages, and even the food. "The first day it was unusual, but by the end of the trip I was pigging out," said Joe. "I couldn't tell you what the dishes were, but it was good. And the desserts are incredible."

Joe and Tony are grateful to Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin who gave a donation allowing them to make their journey to France. They plan to return next year for the 75th anniversary of the D-Day invasion. They're buying their own tickets and hoping donations will cover the expenses of two more Mille Lacs Band veterans to join them.

Charles Norman Shay

Charles Shay was a Penobscot Indian from Old Town, Maine, who was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1943 and trained as a combat medic. He was assigned to an assault battalion in the first wave of the D-Day attack on June 6, 1944. He received the Silver Star for his valor in rescuing drowning comrades under fire. He was later captured and held as a prisoner of war until April 18, 1945, following which he received four Bronze Battle Stars. Facing unemployment on his reservation, he reenlisted as a medic and received the Bronze Star for service in the Korean War. He remained in the service until 1964.



Top left: Joe, Tony, and Christina at the grave of Lac Courte Oreilles member Charles Corbine. Top right: Tony at a ceremony at the Charles Shay Native American Memorial at Omaha Beach. Bottom and center left: Tony carried an Eagle Staff at several parades and ceremonies. Bottom right: Tony, Christina, and Joe were also able to enjoy some of the tourist attractions on their journey.



Shelly Diaz (pictured), Lee Obizaan Staples, Bradley Harrington, and Bobby Eagle are among those who have shared their stories about the use of traditional tobacco and commercial tobacco.



Keeping Tobacco Sacred is Theme of Digital Storytelling Interviews

Story and photos by Mikayla Schaaf, Makadegwanebiikwe Health and Human Services Employee

Mille Lacs Band members are giving back to the community by sharing their stories about the use of traditional tobacco and commercial tobacco through digital storytelling interviews.

Storytelling has been used to share values, wisdom, and knowledge to countless generations. Throughout history, Ojibwe people have passed down these teachings through oral tradition. Digital storytelling is a contemporary way to share stories through innovative technology and adapted media. Through this method, Band members are able to share personal stories, teachings, and history which will be documented and archived.

These interviews took place at the Mille Lacs Indian Museum in collaboration with the Clearway grant and the Tobacco Free Community grant through Mille Lacs Band Public Health. Several Band members participated in the interviews, and a common theme developed when participants shared their stories.

Commissioner Brad Harrington spoke about a teaching he

received about offering tobacco or Asemaake: "The tobacco being the physical representation of spiritual energy can hold anything and everything you put into it, so it gathers inside there, and then, how it was explained to me, when you go offer it, you put it in a lake, put it on a rock, put it by a tree or a clean place usually where no one would walk, and then as soon as you put it down it goes, like, 'poof' in all directions, and then it goes to where all the manidoo are."

There are several meaningful and powerful teachings that come about from recording the knowledge of our community. Another word for traditional tobacco is "apaakozigan" (uh-pah-ko-zigun), a chemical-free tobacco and bark smoking mixture from the red willow, also commonly referred to as asemaa in the Ojibwe language.

Eventually, interviews gathered from participants will be used to create a short documentary. This documentary will be screened at the Grand Makwa theater film festival in the fall of 2018.

Grassroots Group Hosts Picnic

Li Boyd Mille Lacs Band Member

On Memorial Day, grassroots organizers invited community members to gather together for a safe and sober holiday picnic on the shores of Lake Mille Lacs. Ogimaa Giniw provided most of the food after purchasing the beef of a whole cow.

On the weekend before Memorial Day, Ogimaa was preparing to grill at his home and invite a few friends to join him. As the list grew, he reconsidered and decided to postpone his barbecue and just invite everyone. Really, everyone. The announcement went out on Facebook and around 40 people joined him at the lakeside park in District I.

While Ogimaa and his son did the cooking, leaders from Sober Squad and Natives Against Heroin spoke about their eagerness to continue helping those struggling in the community and how much their support systems have meant to them. Ogimaa said it was important to have events like this that are safe, sober, and totally community-driven. Anyone could attend, and the incentives were eating good food and building new friendships.

Terry Kemper brought a drum, and a few songs were sung during the afternoon as well. A basketball game and the playground gave the younger folks plenty to do. Ogimaa and other organizers were pleased with the turnout for an event put together with such short notice, and they hope to have more barbecues as the summer goes on.



PHOTOS BY LI BOYD

The Sober Squad hosted a picnic in District I on Memorial Day, May 28. Ogimaa Giniw (Bob Eagle) and his son Bobby helped with the cooking.



Anishinaabe Values Motorcycle Ride Gears Up July 28

On Saturday, July 28, Mille Lacs Band members and friends will rumble and roll through all three reservation districts as they take part in the first-ever Anishinaabe Values Awareness Motorcycle Ride.

The purpose of the ride is to bring awareness to the Seven Values: wisdom, truth, bravery, honesty, humility, respect, and love.

To register or volunteer to help, visit anishinaaberun.org.

Riders and passengers can also register and join the ride at one of three registration points. The registration fee for rider and passenger will be a non-perishable item, such as a pair of kids' sandals, a backpack, etc. All items will be donated to charity.

At each registration point, riders will hear and speak about the Seven Values.

From 9 to 10:30 a.m., riders and passengers can register at the Mille Lacs Band Community Center in District I. A community brunch will be provided by District I Representative Sandi Blake and her staff. A prayer will be said and asemaa presented before riders depart. Asemaa will be provided by the Mille Lacs Band Public Health Department. Details of other activities at registration point will be added as they develop.

From 10:30 to 12:30 p.m., riders will head off to the second registration point: Aazhoomog Community Center at 45749 Grace Lake Road, Sandstone. Registration time will be 12:30–1:30 p.m. Community Development and Commissioner Percy Benjamin will provide a community luncheon during this stop.

From 1:30 to 2 p.m., riders will proceed to the new Meshakwad Community Center in Hinckley — the third registration point. Events will be shared as they become available. Registration will take place from 2–3:30 p.m.

From 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., riders will head to their final destination: the Gii-Ishkonigewag Powwow at the Minisinaakwaang powwow grounds just north of the East Lake Community Center at 36666 State Highway 65, McGregor. Riders will share in a community feast, enjoy the powwow, and speak about the purpose of their ride.

More activities at each registration point may be added.

This event is an alcohol- and drug-free event with designated smoking areas at each registration site. Please use commercial tobacco in designated areas only!

Organizers are inviting anyone who rides to participate — not just Mille Lacs Band members, not just Natives, and not just Harley riders! This is an opportunity for non-Natives to broaden their multicultural awareness and learn about Mille Lacs Band communities, and it is an opportunity for all riders to reflect on values that are present in their cultures.

All riders/passengers who register, as well as volunteers, will receive a patch of the logo.



Wewinabi Students Receive Head Start Diplomas

It's never too early to show children the importance of a good education. That message rang out loud and clear at the graduation ceremony for Head Start students at Wewinabi Early Education on May 24.

Little Otter Singers played as the students marched in, followed by welcoming remarks from Director Mary Fletcher and Joe Nayquonabe Jr. and an invocation by Joe Nayquonabe Sr.

In her keynote address, Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin shared an original poem for the occasion telling the children of the many types of hats they can wear when they become grown-ups.

As she spoke, she donned a firefighter's hat, a cowboy hat, a baseball cap, and a police hat — as Tribal Police Chief Sara Rice stood and showed off her matching hat.

Children entertained the audience with songs in Ojibwe and English before filing up to the stage and receiving awards from their smiling teachers and sharing lunch with proud family members and friends.



Pomp and Pride at NAS Graduation

Seven Nay Ah Shing seniors made their families, friends, teachers — and themselves — proud on June 6 as they donned caps and gowns and marched through the cheering crowd to receive their diplomas.

A song by Little Otter and invocation by Waabishkigaabaw started things off in a good way. Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin welcomed the graduates, Commissioner of Education Rick St. Germaine shared memories and inspiration, and the graduates impressed the audience with their Ojibwe language

skill and gave blankets to loved ones.

School Board Chair Kim Kegg and Principal Noah Johnson presented the graduates with their diplomas, and the school nutritional staff served up a wonderful dinner for all in attendance.

Congratulations to Nay Ah Shing graduates and all others who received a diploma this year. You make us all proud, and we wish you the best as you continue your education and career!



Nay Ah Shing graduates Thomas White, Tyler Nayquonabe, Misty Tiessen, Kali Sam, Teri Boyd, Dajatay Barnes, and Dylan Oswaldson celebrated their graduation with family and friends on June 6.



PHOTOS BY LI BOYD

Band employees and community members collected over 1,200 pounds of trash around Mille Lacs on June 1.

Heavy Haul of Trash at Adopt-a-Shoreline

Eighty-four employees and local community members came together on the shores of Mille Lacs Lake for the sixth annual Adopt-a-Shoreline (AAS) clean-up effort on Friday, June 1. They collected more than 1,200 pounds of trash, including lumber, tires, and carpet in addition to the usual litter of food and drink containers.

Each spring after ice out a troubling amount of trash washes ashore after being left behind on the ice and in the lake by ice anglers. The AAS program began in 2012 as an effort to preserve the beauty of the Mille Lacs shoreline but most importantly to ensure that it remains healthy for wildlife, tourists, and residents to enjoy.

This year's AAS event was sponsored by the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, Grand Casino Mille Lacs, and Mille Lacs Corporate Ventures.

Bradley Harrington, commissioner of the Mille Lacs Band Department of Natural Resources, said the lakeshore cleanup effort is an important way to show respect for one of the com-

munity's most important resources.

"The lake has a manidoo, a spirit within that cares for that ecosystem, and when people pollute it they disrespect that manidoo and the creatures that live in or near that particular manidoo takes care of," Harrington said. "Working together to clean up the lakeshore is a good way to show respect to those manidoog within the waters, and hopefully at the same time we can achieve a greater understanding of the need to avoid introducing pollution to our environment."

This year's AAS program was a success both in terms of the volume of trash collected and the amount of volunteer participation. Two students from Nay Ah Shing, Cedric Bearheart and Jada Wind, also participated, enjoying the morning outside to do a little good and get their toes wet.

All participants received a pullover wind jacket, and the event concluded with a provided box lunch. Department of Natural Resources staff ensured that all trash was collected from drop off sites around the lake and properly disposed of.



Active in the Language

Youth Learn Basketball, Ojibwe at Meshakwad Community Center

By "Amikogaabawiikwe" Adrienne Benjamin

On Friday, June 15, the Ge-niigaanizijig program held a basketball camp at the brand new Meshakwad Community Center in Hinckley. This was no ordinary basketball camp, however, as its main focus was not basketball but Ojibwe language acquisition.

Sure, there were professional coaches to work on skills and drills, but there were also two Ojibwe language speakers/staff on hand to teach not only the players but also the coaches. Commands were given to the youth by coaches in Ojibwe, and the campers were expected to return their speech with prompts given ahead of time by the language instructors.

This was all part of a new approach taken by the Ge-niigaanizijig program to weave in fun and unique activities with the Ojibwe language to garner further interest and usage. Ge-niigaanizijig Project Director Byron Ninham said, "Adrienne and I had been talking about new ways to get kids interested in the language while having fun, and once we got our heads out of the classroom style and thinking outside of the box, this idea came to be."

Language instructors Bagwajinini (Alex Kmett) and Waabishkigaabaw (John P. Benjamin) worked very hard on the curriculum for this unique event, and were able to create a teaching tool that deserves recognition and praise. They compiled the word pieces for a lay-up, dribbling quickly, running, shooting, and almost any terms one could need during a basketball game.

The basketball coaches were also top-notch:

Paris Kyles is currently the Education Director of Step by Step Montessori School in Brooklyn Park. He was the National Junior College Player of the year while playing at Minneapolis Community and Technical College. He graduated from Minnesota State Mankato and played professionally for a number of years in Lithuania after college.

Justin McCloud is currently the Assistant Coach at the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota. He is from the Turtle Mountain Ojibwe Tribe. He played his college career at Bismarck State and transferred to Illinois State (a Division 1 school).

Butch Sinette has been involved in Native basketball tournaments for nearly all of his life as a sponsor and player. He owns his own business, Iron Boy Security, and has been an active foster parent for over 15 years. He prides himself in raising up youth who are disadvantaged and proudly said that he has fostered 65 youth and graduated 15 of those.

This event was documented again by the Gigsy team (Oli Alexander and Chiron Wicker) from New Orleans, who will be providing the Ge-niigaanizijig program with photo/video content and social media short videos to celebrate and display these wonderful activities in the community in a fun and innovative way, and to instill a sense of pride into the youth. The final outcome of these events and partnership with Gigsy will result in a series of video documentaries and installations of photography flanked by Ojibwe language explanations of each photo in the gallery. These installations will be able to be seen in many of the Band's public buildings. For photos, see millelacsband.com.

Grand Celebration Powwow — The Weekend in Pictures

Photos by Chad Germann Mille Lacs Band Member





3RD ANNUAL GII ISHKONIGEWAG POW WOW
July 27th, 28th, 29th
2018

<p>MCS TERRY FIDDLER MURPHY THOMAS ADS DINO DOWNWIND SHERWIN OBEY</p> <p>Drum Specials 5 man Dance hall style 18+ \$1000 Winner take all 3 man Hand Drum \$500 \$400 \$300</p>	<p>HOST DRUM SWAMP NATION</p> <p>INVITED DRUMS IRON BOY PIPESTONE MIDNITE EXPRESS STANDING HORSE</p>	<p>HEAD WARRIOR ARCHIE SAROS HEAD MAN REUBEN CROWFEATHER JR HEAD WOMAN SHAY CROWFEATHER</p> <p>Committee Specials Tri Star Mens Grass Woodland and Chicken \$500 \$400 \$300 Womens Tri Star Fancy Old Style Jingle traditional \$500 \$400 \$300 Young men and women Tri star 10-17 all styles \$300 \$200 \$100</p>
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Shawn Boy Killspotted Drum Memorial Tournament
Bracket Style all 3 days
\$5000
Winner take all

<p>Head Man Special Mens Traditional Sponsored By Reuben Crowfeather JR Prizes TBD</p>	<p>Head Woman special Womans Jingle Sponsored by Shay Crowfeather Prizes TBD</p>
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<p>Outgoing Sr and Jr Brave Specials TBD</p> <p>3 on 3 Basketball tournament (co-ed) 12-17 1st Nike Elite Backpacks 2nd Duffel Bags 3rd Drawstring Backpacks 18+ 1st \$700 2nd \$500 3rd \$300</p>	<p>Woodland Relay 18-34 1st \$500 2nd \$400 3rd \$300 35+ 1st \$500 2nd \$400 3rd \$300</p>	<p>Outgoing Sr Princess Special Iron Womans jingle Dress \$1000+ Jacket winner take all</p>
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Taria
218-429-2682

Dancers and Non invited Drums paid daily
Drums must be present at roll calls
Dancers must be in full regalia
payouts will be at the discretion of payout staff
Please bring your own chairs
No alcohol or drugs will be tolerated
Not responsible for lost, stolen, and or damaged property.



Next Up: Minisinaakwaang

Powwow season continues July 29 with the 3rd Annual Gii Ishkonigewag Powwow in District II. As the name suggests, the powwow recognizes "What they left for us," honoring those ancestors who stayed in the Minisinaakwaang community and protected its resources in the face of intense pressure to relocate. Included in the busy weekend are a basketball tournament, a woodland relay, and the usual dancing and drumming contests. The powwow is also the final stop in the inaugural Anishinaabe Values Awareness Motorcycle Ride (see page 7).

Due to the timing of the event, coverage of the powwow will be in the September issue of *Ojibwe Inaajimowin*.

PHOTOS BY CHAD GERMANN

Singers like Tony and Vito Buckanaga will bring their passion and talents to the arena.

Anderson Shares Recipes for Success with Band Youth

Amikogaabawiikwe (Adrienne Benjamin) Mille Lacs Band Member

During the week of May 14–18, James Anderson (Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe) brought his energy, attitude, and zest for life to the Mille Lacs area. He visited Onamia Public Schools on May 14, East Lake on May 15–16, and Chiminising on May 17–18. A youth session and an adult session were held in both East Lake and in Chiminising, as an opportunity for personal and professional leadership development. The trainings were sponsored by the District II Representative, while gift card drawings and lunch (adult sessions) were sponsored by the Department of Administration.

James brings many years of experience in leadership development to his high-energy seminars. He has trained employees at big-name companies like Boeing and Famous Dave's, and has toured all over Indian Country and beyond spreading his message of self-love and success. He has written a book titled *Yesterday's Wisdom, Today's Success* co-authored a book with his father called *Recipes For Success*, and is in the process of working on his third book, *Great Results Begin with Great Thoughts*.

While James has definitely made a name for himself, his father is "Famous Dave" Anderson of "Famous Dave's BBQ" fame. Growing up, James took note of his father's "recipe for success," watching him stand over his stove night after night, tasting and re-tasting sauce recipes. He watched his father fail, and try and try again until he got it right, knowing he was onto something special. He then watched his father turn his passion for cooking into a multi-million-dollar business with restaurants across the globe, all of which started with the first Famous Dave's on the Lac Courte Oreilles reservation in Hayward, Wisconsin.

James teaches about developing habits that will boost your confidence and put you in prime positions to achieve your goals, no matter how small or large they are. One of his most important lessons is "Energy is everything!" He believes that no matter what the situation is or how you might be feeling that day, the energy that you bring to your passions, children, or workplace is everything.

"I'm happy, I'm healthy, and I feel terrific!"

For those who participated in the training, it may have come as a shock that the first thing they were asked to do at 9:00 in the morning was to stand up, clap wildly, and shout along with James saying, "I'm happy, I'm healthy, and I feel terrific!"

From there, James took the participants down a path of internal soul searching and goal setting. He challenged everyone to write a letter to the people who they would want to thank when they achieve whatever goal that they set for themselves in five years. In James's mind, his trainees need to visualize themselves having the success they envision, before they actually set out to achieve it, therefore making it more likely to occur.

Those who attended, young and old, left feeling energized and ready to take on the world. Chiminising attendee Jaylene White said, "I wish more community members would have signed up for this. It was so amazing and I learned so much from James!"

Participants who attended this training will have the opportunity to take on the second and more in-depth round of James's leadership training entitled "Leadership from the Heart" in June.

Congratulations to those youth and adults who took the initiative to attend this wonderful workshop!



PHOTOS BY GIGSY

James Anderson's infectious enthusiasm made a big impact on Mille Lacs Band youth during his visits to Onamia, East Lake, and Chiminising in May.



Hundreds of Pounds of Electronic Waste Recycled Through DNR Program

NATURAL RESOURCES **Li Boyd** Mille Lacs Band Member

Three times a year, Environmental Projects Manager Andrew Boyd of the Department of Natural Resources organizes a drop-off event open to all government offices for electronics and equipment that may include hazardous materials requiring special disposal. As household and business use of electronics has grown over the past few decades, so has the amount of waste they have created, along with dangerous elements such as mercury, lead, and cadmium that can potentially be released into the environment.

The processing of this trash also raises human rights concerns, as many electronic waste processing companies export their products to developing countries where workers still have few or no rights and protections. Underrepresented workers try to keep up with expectations, causing deplorable working conditions filled with exposure to multiple potential dangerous chemicals.

Proper disposal of electronic items is critical. The Band's drop-off event on Thursday, June 14, resulted in five pallet loads of old and broken electronics being collected at the DNR Main Building. That included 17 old box televisions from Minobimaadiziwin, the Mille Lacs Band Transitional Hotel. Computer monitors, both box and flat panel, along with desktop towers, printers, compact fluorescent bulbs, and other various electronic waste was stacked on pallets and wrapped in plastic by Environmental Initiatives Program (EIP) staff. By packaging the materials for transport, handling costs were offset, and the recycling company that picked up the waste only had to load it into their truck.

In four hours, EIP staff disposed of hundreds of pounds of potentially hazardous waste, keeping it out of landfills where it



PHOTO BY LI BOYD

The Environmental Initiatives Program's hazardous waste drop-off helped keep dangerous elements from being released into the environment.

could have leached dangerous chemicals into the environment. Andrew says that as long as he's been holding this event, there has always been a high turnout. In the future, other options, such as stockpiling these electronics and delivering them in larger loads, could be more cost-effective or even offer some return. For now, the Band continues to take every opportunity toward green initiatives.

iQuits Project Presents Final Report

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe partnered with the American Indian Cancer Foundation (AICAF) and their iQuits project beginning in August 2015 with the goal of increasing the number of Band members who give up smoking.

The iQuits interdepartmental team concluded May 29, with a final meeting conducted by AICAF Research Coordinator Delilah Robb. During this meeting, progress was reported and future goals outlined.

The collaboration between AICAF and the Mille Lacs Band has demonstrated the positive relationship between the two organizations and their effectiveness when working together.

Kristine Rhodes, CEO at American Indian Cancer Foundation, said, "It's really exciting to build this foundation to help decrease the high rate of smoking in Indian communities."

AICAF's iQuits project works with American Indian health systems to advance knowledge regarding systems-level approaches to smoking cessation. The project provides support for the integration of the 5 As model into every clinic interaction:

- **Ask:** Identify and document tobacco use status for every patient at every visit;
- **Advise:** In a clear, strong, and personal manner, urge every tobacco user to quit;
- **Assess:** Find out if the tobacco user is willing to make a quit attempt at this time;
- **Assist:** If the patient is willing to attempt to quit, use counseling and pharmacy information; and
- **Arrange:** Schedule follow-up, in person or by telephone, ideally within the first week after the quit date.

To work toward that large overall goal, the team focused



PHOTO BY BRETT LARSON

Back: Robyn Garcia, Donna Sutton, Brittany Smith, and Kristine Rhodes. Front: Delilah Robb, Colleen McKinney, and Barb Martin.

on increased quit attempts and the use of quit services (such as counseling) during the visit. It also included medication or nicotine replacement therapy and referrals to a cessation program or a quitline.

Activities for this project included a series of training sessions given across the entire Mille Lacs Band Health and Human Services Department. Training topics included an overview of the 5 As, motivational interviewing, cessation medication, electronic cigarettes, and treating commercial tobacco dependence in clinical practice.

The iQuits interdepartmental team also focused on a series of activities used to assess Ne-la-Shing Clinic's commercial tobacco workflow and develop systems changes specific to them.

Information provided by Delilah Robb, Research Coordinator, American Indian Cancer Foundation.

National Night Out

The Mille Lacs Band Tribal Police plan to organize a National Night Out on August 1. Stay tuned to Facebook and see next month's *Ojibwe Inaajimowin* for additional information.

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

Opioid/Heroin Awareness Community Outreach

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Office of Justice Services (OJS), Division of Drug Enforcement (DDE) will be holding an Opioid/Heroin Awareness community outreach meeting at Grand Casino Hinckley Ballrooms 2 and 3 on July 9 from 6 to 8 p.m. The presentation will include:

- Identification and effects of opioids/heroin drugs
- Fentanyl and causes of overdoses
- Combating opioids/heroin at the community level
- Investigation and prosecution of opioid/heroin drug cases

This community outreach will consist of the OJS Division of Drug Enforcement presenting information on national opioid/heroin trends that may affect the Mille Lacs Reservation. DDE would like to hear from attendees on local opioid/heroin trends, what is currently being done to address drug issues, and what they feel they need to address them.

This seminar should be attended by community members, tribal employees, community stakeholders, and law enforcement staff. Due to the nature of this content, parental discretion is advised. If you have any questions, please contact the BIA Division of Drug Enforcement office at 918-781-4650.

Emergency Management Update

The Mille Lacs Band Tribal Police Emergency Management Department had another busy month. Nay Ah Shing seniors in District I completed their high school CPR requirement, and Wii Du students in District II learned first aid with help from Emergency Management Coordinator Monte Fronk.

The Tribal Emergency Response Committee participated in a tabletop exercise simulating a norovirus outbreak, facilitated by Connie Giroux with the Bemidji Area Indian Health Service.



Students in District II learned first aid from Emergency Management Coordinator Monte Fronk.

National Veterans Exhibit Comes to Mille Lacs Indian Museum

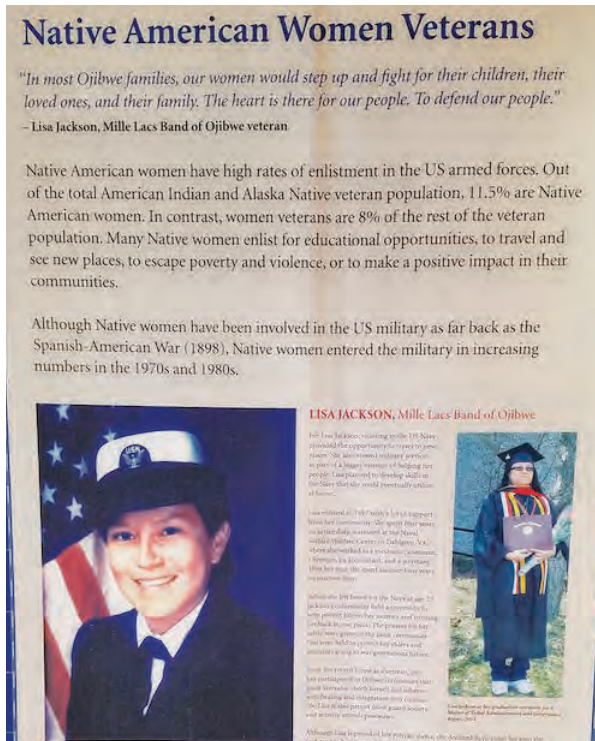
Story and Photos by Amikogaabawiikwe (Adrienne Benjamin) Mille Lacs Band Member

On Friday, May 25, four Band members — Anthony Pike, Arlyn Nickaboine, Quintin Sam, and Michael Mager — were honored during the opening of a new visiting exhibit at the Mille Lacs Indian Museum. Intricate wooden plaques with their names were added to the museum's existing wall of veterans from Mille Lacs. The museum wall holds the name of every Mille Lacs Band member who has served in the military from past to present.

Travis Zimmerman, Curator of the Mille Lacs Indian Museum and Trading Post, was excited about the new exhibit and the addition of the four local veterans onto the wall. "We want to keep this as up-to-date as possible. We even had Michael reach out to us from Arizona about wanting to be included on the wall."

"Patriot Nations" is the exhibit currently on loan from the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C., until September 3, 2018. The new exhibit shares information on Native American populations in the military. According to the Department of Defense, Native Americans serve in high numbers, and 24,000 of the 1.2 million enlisted, current, active duty service men and women are Native American.

A nod is given by the exhibit to the ceremonies of Native people and the deep root and power carried overseas with the troops who have left their homelands. Here in Mille Lacs, ceremonies are usually done before a person will go into war, just as they were done in the old days. One Elder (Amikogaabaw'iban) once told me a story about a group of men who were drafted in the Aazhoomog community long ago. All but one of them had this specific ceremony done for them for one reason or another, and all but one of them returned home after the war. He used to say, "I'm not saying you have to believe



Left: Lisa Jackson is featured in a display at the Patriot Nations exhibit at the Mille Lacs Indian Museum. Above: Site Manager Travis Zimmerman, right, visited with guests at the exhibit opening May 25.

difference here is another."

The opening had a unique visitor from St. Cloud in Mr. Lyle Rustad, who was eager to share his story with me about himself and what drew him to the event. He explained that he was a Vietnam veteran (1970–1971), came back, and served stateside in Fort Jackson, South Carolina. He became the director of a then all-white Boys Club in the heart of the south, and was proud to tell me that he was fired for hiring the first African American woman to his staff and allowing the first African American young men to attend the club on his watch. Mr. Rustad said he supports diversity and was proud to support this exhibit and the veterans of Mille Lacs.

The display will run until September 3, and can be viewed during the Mille Lacs Indian Museum's operational hours. Please visit the museum's website or stop in for further details.

Memorial Day Weekend at Indian Museum Features Music, Art, Powwow

Band members and guests enjoyed a variety of events at the Mille Lacs Indian Museum over Memorial Day weekend, May 25-28. In addition to an exhibit opening (see above), the museum hosted a film festival, art market, music festival, and the annual AMVETS Post 53 powwow. Photos by Adrienne Benjamin and Brett Larson.



Left: Pat Kruse and Joyce LaPorte. Center: Drummers, dancers, and vets enjoyed the annual Memorial Day powwow. Right: Terry Kemper, Max Blake, and Leah Lemm.



ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) drills were conducted at both Nay Ah Shing schools in May.

ALICE Prepares Schools for Emergency

The Mille Lacs Band Tribal Police Department conducted an ALICE drill at the lower and upper schools in late May. ALICE stands for "Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate." The Tribal Police Department has two certified ALICE Instructors: Officer Josh Hemsworth and Tribal Emergency Manager Monte Fronk.

ALICE gives employees options to keep themselves and their students safe during a threat situation. The ALICE Training Institute was founded by law enforcement officer Greg Crane after the shooting at Columbine High School in 1999. The Institute delivers online training blended with onsite instructor-led demonstrations, practical scenarios, and evaluation drills.

Prior to the ALICE Drill at Nay Ah Shing, all staff had to complete an online module on ALICE and educate their students on ALICE and what they would do if an active shooter threat was occurring in their school hallways or their classrooms.

Once student education was completed, a practice was conducted to determine how staff and students responded to a mock threat. In preparing for the actual ALICE live drill, letters were sent home with students to inform parents and caregivers of the day and time of the drill.

On the day of the ALICE drill, Mille Lacs Health Care System Ambulance Director Rich Dutcher volunteered to act as the "bad guy" for both school ALICE drills. Afterwards, Rich went to the students and introduced himself so they knew who he was



Tribal Police officers conducted the ALICE drill to maximize safety in the event of an emergency.

and why he volunteered to help that day.

Miigwech to Commissioner Rick St. Germaine, Principals Noah Johnson and Lehtitia Weiss, Officer Josh Hemsworth, and Tribal Emergency Manager Monte Fronk for their work on getting the staff and students prepared for the ALICE drill.



Percap Patrol Is Back in Action

In what has become a "percap day" tradition, District I community members provided information on drug abuse and recovery at the Grand Market parking lot June 7.

Kids: Learn to Make a Corn Husk Doll at Indian Museum

Kids can learn how to make a corn husk doll to take home on Saturday, July 14, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Mille Lacs Indian Museum in District I. Corn husk dolls are made out of the outer covering of an ear of corn. Allow an hour to make the craft. Recommended for ages 8 and up. Contact: 320-532-3632 or millelacs@mnhs.org. Cost: \$6/kit, museum admission not included.

A birch bark basket workshop will be held on Saturday, July 21, from noon to 4 p.m. This class is full, but there is a waiting list. Contact 320-532-3632 or millelacs@mnhs.org with questions.

Take back our health!

Community members Briana Michels, Monte Fronk, and Lanicia Fronk braved the 92-degree heat on May 24 to complete the Wanaiguni Hikurus Hajawi (Take Back Our Health) 5K at Lake Phalen in St. Paul. This free event was intended for American Indians who want to take action to prevent diabetes and childhood obesity and recognize that being healthy is a Native tradition. Each participant received a 5K t-shirt, finisher's medallion, raffle tickets for health-inspiring prizes, and a nutritious and delicious meal. Sponsors of the event were The Ho-Chunk Nation, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, and Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, the collaborating agencies in the Eliminating Health Disparities Initiative grant, and Hogen Adams LLC.



Monte, Lanicia, and Briana participated in the Wanaiguni Hikurus Hajawi 5K.

Child Safety Seat Clinic

The Mille Lacs Tribal Police Department-Emergency Management will be hosting a child safety seat clinic from 4 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, July 17, at the District I Bus Garage. There will be seven time slots available for families to sign up for seat inspection and installation education. There will also be no-cost child safety seats available to the first five participants in need. For appointments, contact Arlene Mock at 320-532-7592, ext. 4435. Contact Arlene or Monte Fronk at 320-532-3430 with questions.

Baby Moccasin Workshop

Learn how to make baby moccasins and the teachings associated with them. You can make these to share with other families as a donation, or make a pair for your baby. There is no cost for the workshop. Light beading is optional. Only 10 spots are available! Priority goes to pregnant women and new moms. For more info or to register, contact Sarah Andersen, MCH Coordinator, before July 12 at sarah.andersen@hhs.millelacsband-nsn.gov or 320-364-9515.

Painting Unveiled Featuring Mille Lacs Band Marine Veteran

Story by Mikayla Schaaf, Makadegwanebiikwe

A little over a year ago, U.S. Marine Corps Veteran Sergeant Quintin Sam sat down for a cup of coffee with community member Monte Fronk and artist Charles Gilbert Kapsner. The conversation was full of laughter and memories as Quintin and Charles got to know each other. This was the mark of a journey that would not only last for generations, but would go down in history.

Quintin was honored to be asked to appear in an 8-foot by 10-foot painting created by Charles. This painting is now the fourth of five paintings permanently displayed at the Committal Hall in the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery near Camp Ripley. The Committal Hall is significant because it is the place where families spend time with their loved ones before burial. The hall already displays other branches of the U.S. Armed Forces — Army, Navy and Coast Guard. The Air Force will be the subject of the final painting to complete the project, which was financed entirely by donations and has been in progress since 2009.

Quintin traveled many weekends to Charles' studio in Little Falls, Minnesota, where he served as a model in his "dress blues," which is a term for the Marine Corps uniform. Quintin would be required to be still for several minutes in one sitting for numerous ongoing sessions. "I wondered if I still had the discipline in me to not move a lot," Quintin joked.

The painting captures the rich history of the Marine Corps and contains the actual soil from Mt. Suribachi, on the island of Iwo Jima, where Marines raised the U.S. flag on February 23, 1945, at the highest point on the island. Charles had actually ground up the soil of Iwo Jima and mixed it into paint for the project.

In addition, Charles wanted to highlight images of the Vietnam War and Korean War to draw attention to the lives of individual service members, both active duty members and veterans. Keeping with that authenticity, Charles was aware that American Indians who serve in our country's armed forces have the greatest number per capita of any other ethnic group in the United States, and have served in every major conflict for over 200 years.

Charles wanted to recruit a Native American Marine, so he



TOP PHOTO BY CHARLES KAPSNER; BOTTOM PHOTOS BY MIKAYLA SCHAAF

Quintin Sam posed in his dress blues for artist Charles Kapsner as part of a painting that will be on display at Camp Ripley.

reached out to the Mille Lacs Band community and spoke with Monte Fronk. Monte instantly thought of Quintin, remembering when Quintin had raised the flags at grand entry during the Mille Lacs Band Powwow in his dress blues. He knew Quintin would be a great fit for the historical monument at Camp Ripley.

The historical painting was first displayed at the Duluth Depot and then was dedicated on Memorial Weekend to be

permanently installed in Little Falls at Committal Hall. The Committal Hall viewing began in June and is open to the public on Saturdays and Sundays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The doors will close on September 9, 2018. The Veterans Cemetery is located near Camp Ripley, north of Little Falls on Highway 115. Charles plans to finish the fifth and final painting of the Air Force in 2019.

End-of-School-Year Picnic Brings Urban Members Together

Toya Stewart-Downey Mille Lacs Band Member

This year marked the 19th annual end-of-the-school-year and community celebration for urban Band members.

Though it was a gray and rainy day, it didn't keep families away from the burgers, brats and other picnic food. Nearly 120 people — families and volunteers alike — showed up with umbrellas and rain gear to partake in the event.

One of the highlights of the event was the tour of the two fire trucks that represented both the City of Minneapolis and the City of New Brighton. Two Native American police officers from the Minneapolis Police Department's 3rd precinct volunteered, as did staff and Metro Transit officers.

Barb Benjamin-Robertson, program administrator for the urban office, said those who attended had a great time participating in the games, interacting with the police and firefighters, and enjoying each other's company.

"The kids enjoyed their creative zany balloon twists and the face-painting, even though by the end of the picnic, it was a paint and rain mix," she said.

Barb, who began working for the Band in 1998, said her vision was to energize the urban office by developing programming and new ways to celebrate the urban community. That's how the annual picnic and celebration came to be.

"In 1999 we had our first one at Brackett Park," said Barb. "We had a few hundred people show up and we had more

games... just fun stuff!"

This year's event was also held at Brackett as it has been for many years.

Barb said she hopes the impact of the event is to show people that the urban office strives to serve them as best they can. And that it helps connect the community by providing families with summer fun and a good time.

"The best gathering part was the comradeship," she said. "And that we could make it through the end of the picnic with the rain showers."

The picnic and celebration is always greatly anticipated by the community, she said.

A special thanks goes out to Barb's family, who always help "chef it up" at the grills and make sure that the food is abundant. She also wants to thank the volunteers who helped out in spite of the wet weather.



PHOTOS BY MONTE FRONK

Nearly 120 people came to the picnic at Brackett Park in spite of the rain on June 9.

Gikendandaa i'iw Ojibwemowin

Learn the Ojibwe Language

By the late Naawi-giizis (Jim Clark). Reprinted from *Living Our Language: Ojibwe Tales & Oral Histories, A Bilingual Anthology* Edited by Anton Treuer.

Mawinzowin

Anooj igo indinaajim, dadibaajimoyaan aaningodinong. A'aw-sh nookomisiban iniw indedebyan omaamaayan, mii i'iw nookomis, mii a'aw apane gaa-wiiji-ayaawangid, besho endaad apane gii-ayaayaang. Aanishinange ingii-saagi'aanaan sa go. Gii-indanita-awaadizooke a'aw mindimooyenh.

Miish ingoding iko awiyya gaa-kagwejimid aaniin gaa-izhi-chiged a'aw anishinaabe gegoo gii-atamaazod ge-miijid ishkwaa-ayaamagak, aaniish gaye iniw anooj editeg — asasaweminan, miinan igaye. Miish iniw gagwejimigooyaan iko aaniin gaa-izhitoowaad. Miish a'aw, dibaajimagwaa, anooj inaajimowin nimaamaanaaban, gemaa gaye gii-mawinzoyaang gaye niinawind dibi sa gaa-ondinamogwen iniw miinan. Ingoding igo aazhaa gaa-izhi-anoozhiyangid zhangaaesidooyaang omaa wagidigamig. Daa-bazakiteniwan endaaawaad. Oshtiwagidigamig gii-iningaatesidooyaang iniw. Mii miinawaa gii-kanawaabamangidwaa ingiw gii-koshko'angidwaa bineshiinyag ji-miijisigwaa. Omaa apiish igo gii-paatewan iniw miinan, wawiiziigiminagoon. Mii gii-paateg. Ishkwaa-izhi-mamood, ganabaj mashkimodensing, apagiwayaanimashkimodensing ogii-atoonan. Mii gaye agoodeg apane.

Baamaash ingoding ingiw, gemaa gaye gaa-piboonogwen, omaa apii gaa-izhi-mookinang iniw miinan gaa-paatenigin a'aw mindimooyenh. Nibiing gii-agwanjitood gemaa gaye gegoo omaa, gemaa gaye gegoo mashkikiwan. Mii sa omaa mayaajiging gaa-tago-atoogwen, gii-agwanjitood iniw miinan. Gomaa apii gii-siigobiigin imaa gii-agwanjitood. Gomaa godandamaang indagonaa geget oshki-miinan iniw. Oshki-ayi'in igo miinan gaa-izhinaagwak. Migwandagoon gaye wenda-minopogwadoon igo gaye.

Mii gemaa gaye aanawi gikinoo'amawiyangid gegoo. Aanishinange ingii-kagiibaadizimin. Mii gaa-onji-gikendanziswaang gaye niinawind awegonen imaa gaa-atood, gegoo aano-gikinoo'amawiyangid a'aw mindimooyenh, mindimooyenyiban.

Berry Picking

I speak about all sorts of things, telling stories from time to time. That grandmother of mine, my father's mother, that was my grandma, the one we always accompanied as we were always at her house. We really loved her. That old lady told stories there.

Then one time someone asked me about how the Indian people did things, how he stored away things he wanted to eat after [harvest]*, such as the variety of things that ripen — chokecherries and blueberries. These are the things I was asked about, how they customarily prepared things. Then I spoke about them, different stories of my grandmother, maybe about when we went berry picking ourselves and the different places she got blueberries. One time she had already told us to spread them out in the sun on the top of the house here. Their houses were built low to the ground so we spread them out on top of the roof. And whenever we saw those little birds, we startled them away so they wouldn't eat them. The blueberries were dried here at that time, wrinkled [like raisins]. They were dried. After they were retrieved she put them in a small bag, maybe a little cloth bag. And it was always hung up.

And sometime later, perhaps when it might be winter, at this time here that old lady brought out those dried blueberries. She submersed them in water here, kind of like some medicines. So they started to rehydrate as she added them in here, soaking those blueberries. Liquid was poured in for some time there when she soaked them. When we tasted them they were just like fresh new blueberries. They looked like [fresh-picked] blueberries. And it was like they were still growing and they tasted just good.

So in any event, that's how she taught us things. We really were foolish. That's why we don't know what all the different things were that she put in there, as that old lady taught us to no avail.

*Note: Bracketed information was added for clarity by the translator.



DNR, Tribal Police Host Fishing Tourney

A nice walleye chop and sunny skies made for a perfect day of fishing June 14 for Mille Lacs Band kids, cops, and DNR staff. And the catching wasn't bad, either!

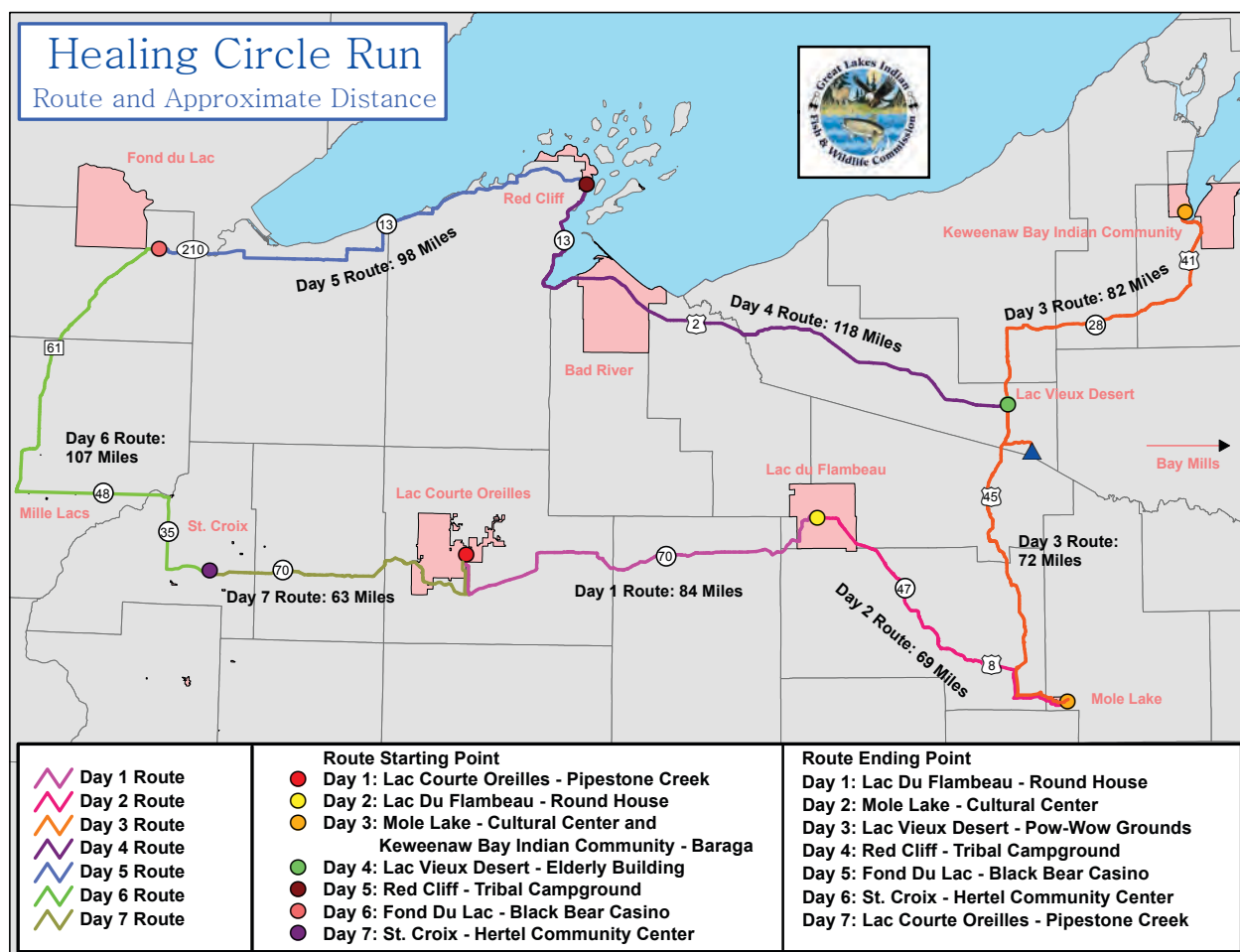


GLIFWC Healing Circle Run

The 2018 Healing Circle Run on July 14–20 connects 10 Ojibwe reservations in northern Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota. The 2018 Healing Circle Run/Walk is a prayer for healing.

It is an opportunity for people to come together to pray for healing for themselves, their families, their communities, their nation, Akii (the earth), and all our relatives. During the 2001 Healing Journey Run, participants were told of a teaching on healing — “for a nation to heal, it must begin with the individual. As a person heals, then that person can help heal his/her family. As a family begins to heal, they can help heal their community. As communities heal, they can help heal the nation.” As individuals, families, communities, and nations heal, they can help Akii and our plant and animal relatives to heal.

For more information, or if you are interested in participating as a core runner or a group of runners, please contact Jenny Krueger-Bear, Sue Lemieux, or Dylan Jennings at GLIFWC at 715-682-6619. All participants must assume personal liability, as well as responsibility for their own transportation and expenses. We encourage participants to bring their own dish bundle, water bottle, and for women, a long skirt for ceremonies.



The Healing Circle Run begins at Lac Courte Oreilles on July 14, and over the course of several days passes through Lac du Flambeau, Mole Lake, Lac Vieux Desert, Keweenaw Bay, Red Cliff, and Fond du Lac reservations. On the sixth day, July 19, the Mille Lacs Band and Fond du Lac Band will send runners down Highway 61 to Hinckley and across to St. Croix. The run finishes with a return to Lac Courte Oreilles July 20.

TRIBAL NOTEBOARD

Happy July Birthday to Mille Lacs Band Elders!

Robert Duane Anderson
David Niib Aubid
Cynthia Pauline Backora
Darline Ann Barbour
Jeffrey Allen Beaulieu
MaryAnn Sophia Belgarde
Faith Caylen Bellecourt
Anita Lynn Benjamin
James Oliver Benjamin
Roberta Joy Benjamin
Donna Marie Boodoo
Roxann Lynn Carr
Archie Dahl Cash
Kevin Scott Churchill
Randall Clark
Roger Erick Colton
Rosa Mae Colton
Christine Marie Costello
Gary Lee Davis
Martha Kathrine Davis
Michael Wayne Davis
Brian DeSantis
George James Dorr Jr.
Victoria Lynn Dunagan
Rosella Marie Eagle
Donna Lou Gilmore
Karen Harrington
Lawrence Gene Johnson
Debra Ann Kamimura
Dixie Marie Kamimura

Judith Joan Kanassatega
Vivian Roxanne Kegg
Richard Joseph Keller
Terry Bruce Kemper
Deborah Jean Kersting
Darlene Ann LaFave
Bonita Marie Lucas
Jennifer Carole Mancini
Virginia Mann
Brian David Matrious
Lucille Ann Merrill
Meskwanakwad
Doreen Kay Mitchell
Jo Ann Mitchell
Letitia Mitchell
Carol Jean Nickaboine
Alan Michael O'Brien
Debra Ann Olson
Kevin Dean Pawlitschek
Karen Peterson
Joseph Vincent Pewaush
Steven Edward Premo
Daryl Alan Quaderer
Louis T. Quaderer
Elfreda M. Sam
David Frederick Schaaf
Orretta Faye Sharlow
Valerie Jayne Shingobe
Alicia Lydia Skinaway
Geraldine Ellen Skinaway
Darryl Gene Smith
Loretta June Smith
Andrew Felix St. Clair
Ruth Anne St. John

Kevin William Sutton
Patricia Louise Thomas
Jollette Marie Zapf

Happy July Birthdays:

Happy birthday **Nicole** 7/2, love the Harrington Family • Happy birthday to my brother **Marvin** 7/3, miss you and wish you were here, love Tam • Happy birthday **Andre Sam** 7/4, love from Great Grama June, Papa David, Papa Elliot, and the rest of the Smith fam. • Happy birthday **Brody Smith** 7/2, love from grama June, Papa Gush, Daddy Elmo, Big Bro Ethan, Lil Bro Tyrese, Big Sis Jazzy, and the rest of the Smith fam. • Happy birthday to my brother **Byrd** 7/3, love your sis Tam. • Happy birthday **Max Dean** 7/12, love the Harrington family. • Happy birthday to my brother **Andy** 7/13, love your sis Tam. • Happy birthday **Karen** 7/13, love the Harrington family. • Happy birthday to **My Mother** 7/15, and many more to come from your Shingobe grand kids. • Happy second birthday **Rowan Wade** 7/16, love love Mommy and sissys Hayden & Cayleigh. • Happy birthday **Roro** 7/16, love HarvHarv, Ria,

AuntyBigMamas, and Wince. • Happy birthday **Rowan Wade** Big 2 on 7/16, love GrammaB, Papa, Cedez, Uncles Levi, Wade, Levin, and Sean. • Happy birthday **Rowan** 7/16, love Rico, Uncle Grant, and Kate. • Happy birthday **Rachel** 7/21, love your sissys and brothers. • Happy 4th birthday to my lil grand **Ahrianna Wiedewitsch** 7/23, love Gramma Tammy. • Happy birthday **Granny T** 7/23, with love from Shyla, Caden, Destanie, Carter, Bella, Jordan, Dilly Bar, and Mom. • Happy 3rd birthday **Caden Shingobe** 7/24, with lots of love from Mommy, Daddy, Auntie Destanie, Carter, Bella, Uncle Jordan, Uncle Dilly Bar, Granny T, and Great Gramma Gina. • Happy birthday **Caden Shingobe** 7/24, love from Great Grama June, Great Papa Gush, and Uncle Sam, Dan, Chucky, and the one & only Elvis, Auntie Amber, and Sunshine. • Happy birthday **Carter** 7/25, love from Great Gram June, Great Papa Gush, and the rest of the fam. • Happy birthday **Carter Anderson** 7/25, with lots of love from, Mommy, Daddy, Auntie Shyla, Caden,

Bella, Uncle Jordan, Uncle Dilly Bar, Granny T, and Great gramma Gina. • Happy birthday **Donevin** 7/30 from Mom, Dad, David, and Lucy.

Happy Belated Birthdays:

Happy birthday to my lil grand **Alizaya Jo Wagner** 7/1, Gramma loves you!

Other Announcements:

July 25: Mikwendaagoziwag Ceremonies at Sandy Lake. Remember the 1850 Sandy Lake Tragedy with morning ceremony at East Boat Landing followed by canoe/kayak paddle across lake for ceremonies and noon feast at Mikwendaagoziwag Monument at Sandy Lake Recreation Area. For more information, contact GLIFWC at 715-682-6619.

Submit Birthday Announcements

Send name, birthday and a brief message that is **20 WORDS OR LESS** to Brett Larson at brett.larson@millelacsband.com or call 320-237-6851. *The deadline for the August issue is July 15.*

Mille Lacs Band Recovery Groups

District I Mille Lacs

Wellbriety Mothers of Tradition

Mondays, 5:30 – 7 p.m., 17222 Ataage Drive, Onamia (Next to the Halfway House – Brown Building)
Contact Kim Sam at 320-532-4768

Wellbriety Migizi Meeting

Mondays, 7 p.m., Grand Casino Mille Lacs Hotel
700 Grand Avenue, Onamia, Minnesota

Wellbriety Celebrating Families

Tuesdays, 6-8 p.m., Mille Lacs Band Halfway House Group
17222 Ataage Drive, Onamia, Minnesota
Contact Halfway House at 320-532-4768

NA/AA Welcome

Hosted by Mille Lacs Band Halfway House
Wednesdays, 7 p.m., 42293 Twilight Road, Onamia (Red Brick Building) Contact Halfway House at 320-532-4768

Wellbriety Sons of Tradition

Sundays, 1 – 3 p.m., 42293 Twilight Road, Onamia
Contact Kim Sam at 320-532-4768

District II East Lake

AA Group

Mondays, 5 – 6 p.m., East Lake Community Center
Contact Rob Nelson at 218-768-2431

District III Hinckley & Aazhoomog

NA Meeting

Mondays, 7 p.m., Aazhoomog Community Center

Wellbriety 12 Step Group

Tuesdays, 12 p.m., Aazhoomog Clinic Conference Room
Contact Monica Haglund at 320-384-0149

Wellbriety 12 Step Group

Thursdays, 6 p.m., Hinckley Corporate Building

Please send changes and additions to brett.larson@millelacsband.com.

RECURRING EVENTS

Ojibwe Language Table: Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m., District I Community Center. Thursdays, 4:30 p.m., East Lake Community Center (3:30 p.m. on last Thursday).

Urban Language Tables at the Minneapolis American Indian Center: Youth intro, Tuesdays 5–7 p.m.; intermediate, Wednesdays 5–7 p.m.; adult intro Thursdays 5–7 p.m. For more information, see tworiversarts.com/events.

Healer Herb Sam is Available in the Urban Area: Fridays, 10 a.m.–noon. Call 612-799-2698 or stop by the Powwow Grounds (1414 E. Franklin Ave., Mpls.).

Anonymous 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.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Gii-Ishkonigewag Powwow: East Lake, July 27–29. Noon closing July 27. See page 11.

Mille Lacs Traditional Powwow: Iskigamizigan Powwow Grounds, District I, August 17–19. Noon closing August 17.

Midsummer Holiday: July 3–4. Government offices closed.

National Night Out: August 1. See page 13.

To add your event to the calendar, email brett.larson@millelacsband.com or call 320-237-6851.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>Wellbriety Sons of Tradition 1 p.m. <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>2</p> <p>Wellbriety, NA, AA DI, II, III <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>3</p> <p>Midsummer Holiday Government Offices Closed. Wellbriety DI, III <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>4</p> <p>Midsummer Holiday Government Offices Closed. NA/AA DI <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>5</p> <p>Wellbriety DIII <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>6</p> <p>Healer Herb Sam 10 a.m.–noon. Powwow Grounds</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Wellbriety Sons of Tradition 1 p.m. <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>9</p> <p>Opioid/Heroin Awareness Event 6–8 p.m., Grand Casino Hinckley <i>See page 13</i></p> <p>Wellbriety, NA, AA DI, II, III <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>10</p> <p>Swearing-In Ceremony DI 10 a.m., Grand Casino Mille Lacs <i>See below</i></p> <p>Wellbriety DI, III <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>11</p> <p>NA/AA DI <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>12</p> <p>Urban Academic Recognition 5–7 p.m. All Nations Indian Church</p> <p>Wellbriety DIII <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>13</p> <p>Healer Herb Sam 10 a.m.–noon. Powwow Grounds</p>	<p>14</p> <p>GLIFWC Healing Circle Run July 14–20 <i>See page 17</i></p> <p>Kids Craft: Corn Husk Doll 11 a.m.–3p.m. Mille Lacs Indian Museum <i>See page 15</i></p>
<p>15</p> <p>Wellbriety Sons of Tradition 1 p.m. <i>See page 18</i></p> <p>GLIFWC Healing Circle Run <i>See page 17</i></p>	<p>16</p> <p>Wellbriety, NA, AA DI, II, III <i>See page 18</i></p> <p>GLIFWC Healing Circle Run <i>See page 17</i></p>	<p>17</p> <p>Wellbriety DI, III <i>See page 18</i></p> <p>GLIFWC Healing Circle Run <i>See 17</i></p> <p>Car Seat Clinic 4–9 p.m., DI bus garage, <i>See page 15</i></p> <p>Moccasin Workshop 9 a.m.–3 p.m. 135 N Main St. Wahkon, <i>See 15</i></p>	<p>18</p> <p>DI Community Picnic 3–10 p.m. DI Powwow grounds</p> <p>NA/AA DI <i>See page 18</i></p> <p>GLIFWC Healing Circle Run <i>See page 17</i></p>	<p>19</p> <p>Wellbriety DIII <i>See page 18</i></p> <p>GLIFWC Healing Circle Run <i>See page 17</i></p>	<p>20</p> <p>Healer Herb Sam 10 a.m.–noon Powwow Grounds</p> <p>GLIFWC Healing Circle Run <i>See page 17</i></p>	<p>21</p> <p>Birch Bark Basket Workshop Noon–4 pm. Mille Lacs Indian Museum <i>See page 15</i></p>
<p>22</p> <p>Wellbriety Sons of Tradition 1 p.m. <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>23</p> <p>Sobriety Feast DII 5 p.m. East Lake Community Center</p> <p>Sobriety Feast DIII 5:30 p.m. Aazhoomog Community Center</p> <p>Wellbriety, NA, AA DI, II, III <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>24</p> <p>Wellbriety DI, III <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>25</p> <p>DII Community Meeting 5 p.m. East Lake Community Center</p> <p>Sobriety Feast DIIa 5:30 p.m. Chiminising Community Center</p> <p>NA/AA DI <i>See page 18</i></p> <p>Mikwendaagoziwag Ceremonies Sandy Lake <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>26</p> <p>Urban Community Meeting 5:30 p.m. All Nations Church</p> <p>DIIa Community Meeting 5:30 p.m. Chiminising Community Center</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Gii-Ishkonigewag Powwow East Lake Powwow Grounds, Grand Entry 7 p.m. <i>See page 11</i></p> <p>Noon Closing Government Offices Closed</p> <p>Tribal Youth Gathering U of M St. Paul Campus 7:45 a.m.–4:45 p.m.</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Gii-Ishkonigewag Powwow East Lake Powwow Grounds, Grand Entry 1 & 7 p.m. <i>See page 11</i></p>
<p>29</p> <p>Gii-Ishkonigewag Powwow East Lake Powwow Grounds, Grand Entry 1 p.m. <i>See page 11</i></p> <p>Wellbriety Sons of Tradition 1 p.m. <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>30</p> <p>Wellbriety, NA, AA DI, II, III <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>31</p> <p>Sobriety Feast DI 5:30 p.m. DI Community Center</p> <p>Wellbriety DI, III <i>See page 18</i></p>	<p>Want your event here? Email brett.larson@millelacsband.com or call 320-237-6851. Visit millelacsband.com/calendar for additional MLB events.</p> <p>Band Assembly meetings Band Assembly meetings are held at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at rotating locations throughout the districts. For locations and other info, call the Legislative office or visit millelacsbandlegislativebranch.com. Meeting dates, times, and locations are subject to change.</p>		<p>Summer Food Program: Nay Ah Shing Middle/High School will serve free breakfast and lunch to all kids 18 and under Monday–Friday through August 16 (closed July 4, July 27). Breakfast 8–9 a.m., lunch 11–noon. Busing for children ages 5–18 provided by Nay Ah Shing and Niigaan. Call 320-532-4690 to register your child(ren) for the bus.</p> <p>Swearing-In Ceremony: New members of the Band Assembly — Sheldon Boyd, Marvin Bruneau, and Wally St. John — will be sworn in Tuesday, July 10, at 10 a.m. at Grand Casino Mille Lacs. Band members are welcome to attend a barbecue picnic luncheon immediately following the swearing-in ceremony.</p>	

More events: See page 18 for Recurring Events, Upcoming Events, and Recovery Groups.



MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE
43408 Oodena Drive
Onamia, MN 56359

millelacsband.com

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THE STORY AS IT'S TOLD

OJIBWE

JULY 2018 | VOLUME 20 | NUMBER 07



SERVICE AND SACRIFICE

BAND MEMBERS TRAVEL TO FRANCE TO HONOR NATIVE WORLD WAR II VETERANS

NEW DII, DIII
REPRESENTATIVES
ELECTED

ACTIVISM
LEADS TO
ACTION

JUDGE RUNS
FOR COUNTY
ATTORNEY

BAND MEMBERS,
EMPLOYEES PITCH
IN TO CLEAN LAKE

Update Your Address

If your address on file with the Enrollments Office 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 at 320-532-7730. You can download a Change of Address form at millelacsband.com/services/tribal-enrollments.

About Us

Ojibwe Inaajimowin is produced monthly by the Government Affairs Department of the Mille Lacs Band's Executive Branch. Please send questions, comments, corrections, or submissions to brett.larson@millelacsband.com or call 320-237-6851. The August issue deadline is July 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 during regular business hours at 800-709-6445, ext. 7799. If you live in a home not maintained by the Mille Lacs Band and need assistance after hours with utilities or heating, please contact: 866-822-8538 (Press 1, 2, or 3 for respective districts).

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.